





Mr Ian Margetts
Principal

15th May 2020

Principal's Report

Dear Parents & Carers,

It was great to see some of our Year 11 and Year 12 day students return to school on Monday. We know that this Friday this arrangement will be reviewed, and we hope that low COVID-19 transmission rates will see our students in Years 7 – 10 able to return to school from Monday 25 May 2020.

We would love to see our boarding students back as soon as possible. Our process for this is:

- 1. Provide a risk minimisation plan to the local Public Health Unit this was completed on Friday
- 2. Public Health Unit to approve/provide feedback this is scheduled for early next week
- 3. Once approved, contact families individually to discuss when they would like their son/daughter to return
- 4. College requests travel through ABSTUDY

College staff are working hard to ensure the College is safe for increased student numbers by creating detailed risk assessment documents.

In day school this includes promoting (and enforcing) risk minimisation strategies around:

- Physical distancing

- Risks to vulnerable populations in schools
- Hygiene

- Environmental cleaning
- Management of suspected and confirmed cases
- Carpark drop off and pick up procedures

In boarding this includes promoting (and enforcing) risk minimisation strategies around:

- Accommodation and sleeping arrangements
- Dining & mealtime processes
- Study structure

- Weekend leave and visitors
- Cleaning regimes
- Other daily routine processes (eg. laundry)

We are confident that we can provide a low risk environment in both the day school and boarding environments.

Historically we have had a student free week at the beginning of Term 3 to allow Boarding students additional time with their families (3 weeks total). Given the time students have been absent from class we have decided to cancel the student free week (Monday 13th July – Friday 17th July) and commence classes in Week 1 of Term 3.

The new details are:

Monday 13th July – Boarder Travel Student Free Day Tuesday 14th July – Classes resume

The rationale behind this is to assist our students to get 'back on track' after the disruptions of Term 2. If this change causes any concern then please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

It was great to see those parents who were able to join our Zoom information sessions earlier this week. We certainly do want to work in conjunction with family wishes during this time.

The College is pleased to announce two new staff appointments. Kieran Ryan has studied a Post Graduate Certificate in Education and a Bachelor of Arts - Physical Education and Sport. He has taught for Five Years at Trinity School, Teignmouth, in the UK. Kieran is well regarded by his referees with one stating 'He is well organised, embraces challenge, and has a great rapport with staff and pupils alike'. Nicola Chambers holds a degree in Mathematics and worked in the city as an analyst prior to embarking on her post graduate teaching qualification at University College London in 2017. Nicola has held a variety of contract positions in London over the last two years. One referee stated 'she is a very capable Maths teacher, in her first year in teaching she taught proficiently across the full age range at our school. She developed her practice and was always willing to ask for advice and act upon it where necessary. She is an engaging teacher who relates well with her students'. We look forward to welcoming Kieran and Nicola on 1st June.

Ian Margetts - Principal



Deputy Principal - Curriculum & Administration

Greetings MSB Community,

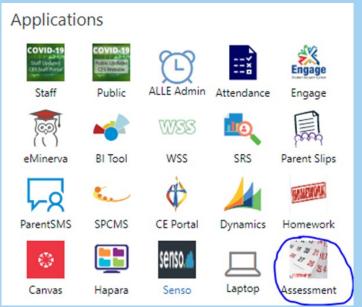
This week we welcomed many of our senior students back into the college, after a lengthy period of absence. I'm pleased to report a smooth transition back into a structured classroom learning environment. Although not all seniors could return this week, teachers will continue to support students in their continuity of learning, through maintaining some form of contact over the coming weeks.



Mr Matt Brauer

Student uptake in Remote Learning has been strong, with many students actively collaborating with peers, seeking teacher feedback and participating in learning experiences. It is strongly encouraged that students who are studying offsite continue to engage remotely.

As learning progresses teachers will seek opportunities to assess students on their progress. Learning and Teaching Programmes have been modified to accommodate for the current context, therefore this may appear in a different format than previously. Students are encouraged to access the Year level Assessment Calendars via the Student Portal for specifics surrounding upcoming assessment. In addition students should also maintain close communication with classroom teachers around subject expectations, including assessment.



Matt Brauer - Deputy Principal - Administration & Curriculum

Attention parents/guardians,

If your son or daughter is considering attending James Cook University (JCU), the following information will provide greater insight around the options available.

There is a new website outlining options for Year 12s heading to University in 2021 or deferring till 2022.

https://www.jcu.edu.au/year-12

New Adjustment Factors (previously referred to as Bonus Points) https://www.jcu.edu.au/year-12/adjustment-factors

- Regional Preference Scheme The ATAR score is adjusted by two bonus points (+2) for students living in regional and remote Queensland.
- Subject Adjustment Scheme (NEW) points added to ATAR for studying Unit 3 & 4 Math Methods, Specialist Math, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Languages
- Special consideration for adverse circumstances JCU participates in QTAC's Educational Access Scheme (EAS) which
 recognises applicants who have been educationally disadvantaged due to: financial hardship, home environment and
 responsibilities, English language difficulty, personal illness and disability or educational disruption. This scheme does not
 apply to courses with special application requirements. Applicants apply for this scheme through QTAC

Guaranteed Admissions Plan (NEW) https://www.jcu.edu.au/year-12/guaranteed-admission

If you receive an ATAR of 90 and above you are guaranteed entry into most JCU courses with all subject prerequisites waived.

Applicants awarded an ATAR of 73 and above will be guaranteed entry into most JCU courses, but need to meet the course subject prerequisites. Some courses are excluded from the Guaranteed Admissions Plan.

Residential News

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of MSB,

We hope and pray that all our families continue to stay safe and healthy throughout this time.

Residential staff continue to work hard on improving the quality of facilities within the Boarding Houses and throughout the College.



Mr Scott Whitters

We are hoping to have students returning to Boarding in the next few weeks. Both boarding houses are being readied for students in accordance with government regulations.

All students with present to our Health Clinic upon return for a health assessment and will continue to be monitored daily throughout this time of Covid-19.

Boarding House and Dining Room procedures have been adjusted to abide by social distancing and hygiene regulations.

All students will be explicitly briefed on how to manage the new expectations and behave in a manner that promotes best practice of health and hygiene.

MSB has completed a comprehensive Risk Management Plan for the entire College which will be endorsed by Queensland Health prior to students returning.

All aspects of boarding have been analysed and procedures established to ensure our students are safe and healthy.

Please watch the following videos with your children to ensure they understand the Covid-19 situation and how best to stay safe and healthy.

Scott Whitters - Assistant Principal - Residential

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3mn 42dAmk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3r3ilquilqo

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WCtGFNENYU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tU8TB6FsfyA







Assistant Principal - Mission

A Year of Celebrations next year...

Astute readers will notice the years in the flyer below and think: "hang-on, in 2021 the College should be celebrating its 101st birthday, not its centenary!" But as we explored the historical records of MSB, we discovered that the College was formally opened and received its first students "on the feast-day of Our Lady of Mercy" (24th September) 1921. So indeed, it turns 100 years old on 24th September 2021.



Deacon Michael Lindsay

As this day is both the date of the formal opening of MSB and the patronal feast-day of the Sisters of Mercy all over the world, the weekend commencing 24th September 2021 will be the culmination of almost 10 months of centenary celebrations. As you will note from the flyer below, our centenary celebrations will formally begin with the College Commencement Mass at the beginning of the school year. Between this and the weekend celebrations of the 24-26th September 2021, the College will continue to celebrate its centenary in many ways both within the College and further afield. Stay tuned for further details as they become confirmed for MSB's centenary celebrations next year—via MSB Facebook, College Newsletters and the College website.

Important note regarding centenary updates and the big weekend (24-26 September 2021): please register your interest by sending an email to msbcentenary@cns.catholic.edu.au with your preferred contact details. If you are (or someone you know is) a past-pupil of MSB, please also include the details of when you attended MSB and any staff or Sisters you recall.

Please pass this on to anyone you know who is a past-pupil of MSB, especially if they do not get this newsletter.

MOUNT ST BERNARD COLLEGE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS

SAVE THE DATE – We look forward to you joining us at these celebrations in 2021

Friday 5th February 2021

Centenary Year Commencement Mass and Commissioning of 2021 School Leaders

Friday 24th September – Sunday 26th September 2021 Centenary Weekend – More details coming soon





Building a Museum—Our Mercy Heritage Rooms

Among many other displays and events we are preparing for the centenary year, one is our *Mercy Heritage Rooms* (name yet to be confirmed). This project begun in the old Convent Chapel which served as a chapel until the current Chapel of St. Patrick was consecrated and opened in 1963. After that time, it served a variety of purposes within the Nuns' residence. Only a couple of years ago, the old convent chapel underwent a restoration sympathetic to its original design and over the last year or so we have collecting historical artefacts such as items of old convent furniture, framed pictures, statues, utensils and some other curiosities from convent life. During this period of COVID-19, we have turned our energies to gathering-up artefacts and memorabilia from student/boarder life at MSB across the different decades. Consequently, we have two large rooms where we are building up displays of both convent life and student/boarder life over the decades. But we are going to need donations or loans of more items.

If you or a past-pupil of MSB whom you know has any MSB memorabilia or artefacts that you or they are happy to either loan to the College or donate to the MSB Heritage Rooms, please let us know via the email **msbcentenary@cns.catholic.edu.au** or by contacting the College Office on 4096 1444. We have a register in which all items (loaned or donated) are recorded along with the name of the person/family loaning them or donating them. You can be assured that for any items loaned to the College or donated to the MSB Heritage Rooms they will be properly cared for and proper recognition can be made of the person/family loaning or donating them. Examples of items that would be highly appreciated for the displays could include:

- Photos of past students and College life
 - Videos (eg: of any significant events or achievements)
- Uniforms, especially from different eras
- Trophies, certificates, awards
- Badges, banners, other memorabilia
 - Older (antique) report cards, if the student of the report is happy to share
- Year books or the likes from the decades 1920s—1980s (we have some Year books for the 1990s—2000s)
- Other?



The Centenary Book

For the College's 75th anniversary, a book was produced containing recollections and histories from across the years from 1921 until 1996. Many older past-pupils would have a copy. I am told that around 1,000 people attended the 75th anniversary celebrations here at MSB, also held on the weekend nearest 24th September that year.

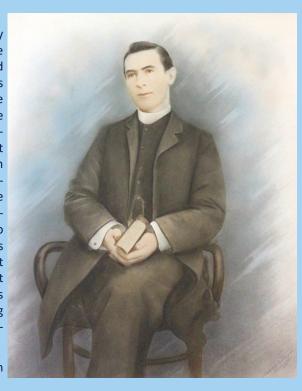
1960'S

We are developing a book to commemorate our centenary in which we hope to present not just histories or recounts of events but hopefully also a variety of funny, quirky and/or other interesting stories unique to MSB. If you have or know of past-pupils who have such stories (funny, quirky, interesting or unique) you/they can send them as a Word document of between 100-300 words to **msbcentenary@cns.catholic.edu.au** or contact Deacon Michael on 4096 1444 if you/they don't have email.

A little-known MSB character—Fr. Bernard Doyle

Most of us have heard much about the Sisters of Mercy who served in pretty much every way possible at MSB over most of its 100 years, and rightly so. But little is known of the person whose dream this great college was and who mustered up the resources and people to make it happen. Fr. Patrick Bernard Doyle, in whose honour MSB is named, was the parish priest of Herberton from 1909 to 1924. He died in 1924 and is buried in the Herberton cemetery. It was Fr. Bernard's dream to build a boarding high school to serve his parish and the surrounding districts. After many negotiations and wrangling of logistics and huge efforts in raising capital, eventually during the 1920s building of the current Administration building (Convent of Mercy) began and the College formally opened on 24th September, 1921. Bernard must have been a man of great vision and determination—the completed building would have been arguably the most imposing on the Herberton landscape. Even the land on which the College is built involved some considerable negotiations—a road had to be closed and the land transferred for College use. To the ongoing work of the daily operations of schooling, boarding and administration of his dream, Bernard invited the Sisters of Mercy and they took up his invitation with great diligence. In the midst of a community built almost entirely around the individual pursuit of personal wealth through mineral mining, Bernard was a man whose primary focus was the spiritual welfare and expanding the future horizons of others, especially the young who would have had very little other options. Mount St. Bernard College-In honour of Fr Bernard.

We'll share more about Fr. Bernard Doyle and other noteworthy MSB figures in subsequent newsletter as we approach our centenary year.



Deacon Michael Lindsay - Assistant Principal - Mission

Assistant Principal - Student Wellbeing Report

The College has been signed up to the Resilience Project and will begin delivering the course to students starting from Term 3. The Resilience Project is backed by the Toyota Cowboys, who are funding the cost of the course enrolment and online materials for the College. The Resilience Project is run in over 700 schools across Australia and helps build wellbeing throughout a school as an evidence based positive mental health program geared towards building resilience and happiness. The program focuses on Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness and includes a mix of digital lessons, engaging videos and reflective journals for students to work through. The Resilience Project will be taught to students from Years 9 to 12 during the home form on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week.



Mr Dan Niemerg

You can learn more about the program by visiting: www.theresilienceproject.com.au

Students in year 7 and 8 will continue to work through school prepared PBS lessons on those days. These lessons are prepared by staff and target concepts to help support students just starting in high school and preparing for the teenage years. It includes concepts to support wellbeing, planning, studying strategies, communication and various other aspects to lead a student towards understanding the MSB way.

Dan Niemerg Assistant Principal Student Wellbeing



FINDING HAPPINESS THROUGH GRATITUDE EMPATHY & MINDFULNESS

HUGH VAN CUYLENBURG



MS JENNY ROSSITER



2020

STUDENT PROTECTION CONTACTS









ITERS MS KERRIHOBSON

No tissue?



Do the Sleeve Sneeze.

- ✓ Cough or sneeze into your sleeve
 ✓ Keep your hands clean
 - ✓ Stop the spread of GERMS
 - (



College Nurse Report

Winter is coming!

As the days begin to get colder we need to ensure our students are coming to school with weather appropriate clothing. I will be working closely with student reception to ensure all students are keeping warm during these cold winter days. As we all know COVID-19 symptoms are very similar to the common cold and therefore it is extremely important that we protect our bodies by making sure we do the following:



Stef Henebery
College Nurse

- Keep warm—wear the MSB winter uniform
- Wash our hands regularly
- Cover our sneezes and coughs with a tissue or our sleeve
- Drink plenty of water
- Eat healthy
- Stay home if you feel unwell

Let's keep our MSB community safe and healthy!

Nurse Stef



BUSINESS & IT NEWS

All business and digital technology students have access to our online learning platform Canvas. Canvas is accessed through the student portal found on the MSB website. Once in Canvas, students can access their subject by clicking on the coloured boxes.

Clicking on the different titles, such as Social Issues, presents readings and activities for students to complete during their time in isolation. Paper versions of the work will also be sent via email for those who have requested it.

It is a difficult time for digital technology as much of the subject is practical so we hope that students try their best to learn at home however do not panic if you are unable to complete all the work. **Brendan Akers - Middle Leader - Business & Information Technology (IT)**

Year 7 Digital Technologies

All year 7 students can check out their Canvas course by following the instructions sent to their school email account. Email Mrs Belkessa-Wood if you need a call for help sbelkessaw@cns.catholic.edu.au











Mr Brendan Akers

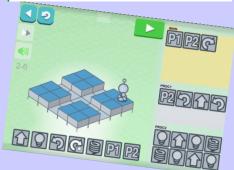
Social Issues

The Best and Worst of the Internet
May 8 | 8 pts

E-Waste Survey

May 8 | 5 pts

Your Digital Footprint
May 8 | 10 pts





VISUAL ART, MUSIC & BUSINESS NEWS



In the art room, Miss Tray made an appearance on Zoom to discuss Business Booklets with Year 9. She then had double art with Year 8 where they looked at visual arts elements and principles of design and completed their booklets. Whilst this was happening Ms Edwards and her music students visited the art room to spray paint old guitars. Enjoy the photos. We are very grateful to those students who have been photographing their work. Please send photos of your work to:



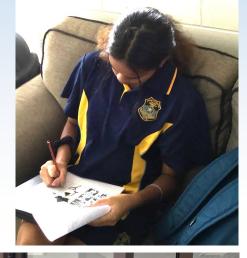
Ms Traylea Sexton

tsexton@cns.catholic.edu.au

Traylea Sexton -Middle Leader—The Arts











CAREERS & VOCATIONAL PATHWAYS NEWS

Careers

National Careers Week 18-24 May

Year 13 Digital Careers EXPO May 18-22 Finding what you want to do made easier! Through a series of **live chats, webinars and online 'booths'**, the Year13 Expo will help you figure out what it is you're passionate about and what you need to do in order to get there. Hear from experts, chat with influencers and explore all of your post-school options. Watch an overview video, see more information and click to attend at https://year13.com.au/expo

<u>Jobs related to school subjects – is there a link?</u>

An early step in career exploration is to develop a list of jobs you are interested in. One way is to start thinking about the school subjects you most enjoy. Accessing the subject Bullseye Posters from the myfuture website will help you find jobs that are related to the subjects you like. There are over 30 Bullseye Posters to check out. Each poster groups jobs into four qualification levels. You can also download a booklet from the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training website, School subjects you like and what they can lead to, that includes the Bullseye Posters.

QTAC & Tertiary Entry

Time is passing Year 12s - but don't panic

Although this has been a challenging year, time is moving quickly and you will need to be sorting your course preferences for your QTAC application. You need to begin serious planning for 2021 if you haven't already started. If you haven't a clue where to start or aren't aware of your options, make an appointment with your school Leadership or Career Guidance Counsellor ASAP. Some opportunities to assist you are:

From May to September most of the institutions have <u>open days</u> where you can get information about courses and check out the campuses.

- * You will receive the *QTAC Guide* in June/July. It contains information about courses you can apply for through QTAC and application processes.
- * From August 2020, you can access a range of up-to-date information about the 2020/21 QTAC application and offer processes and the courses offered from the **QTAC website**.

Take advantage of all these opportunities to plan your immediate future. 30 September 2020 is the final date to apply for some courses so check your QTAC book carefully for critical dates.

VET News

All Vocational Education and Training students are working on line on theory based units. When you return to school be ready to put your learning to work through practical lessons. Trainers will have been in contact to explain what units would be best for you to work on. The courses are:

MEM20413 Certificate II in Engineering Pathways offered through TAFE Qld North

ICTO115 Certificate I in Information Digital Media and Technologies

SIT10216 Certificate I in Hospitality

SIT20416 Certificate II in Kitchen Operations

SIS20115 Cert II in Sport and Recreation

HLT23215: Certificate II in Health Support Services and CHC22015: Certificate II in Community Services

HLT33115: Certificate III in Health Services Assistance

Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Apprenticeship Support Australia services are focused on lifting apprenticeship commencement and completion rates by providing support at every stage of the employment cycle. Job seekers, school students and apprentices can all receive ongoing support including career advice, job matching, and ongoing mentoring. Visit the Apprenticeship Support Australia website and clicking on 'Apprentices' you will find information about apprenticeship wages, get free career advice, qualifications, apprenticeships that might suite you, school-based apprenticeships, how to get started, where you will study, advice and support and more. On the site, you can also schedule a free career consultation with a career adviser.

Scholarships

Bond University is offering the following Indigenous Scholarship plus links to support programs . Applications for January 2021 are now open online and close Sunday, 6 September, 2020.

These scholarships, valued up to 50% of tuition fees for any single undergraduate degree (excluding the Medical Program) or 100% tuition for any diploma program, are awarded to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students who have demonstrated extracurricular involvement, leadership potential and academic achievements.

https://bond.edu.au/scholarship/bond-university-indigenousscholarships

https://bond.edu.au/current-students/services-support/studentsupport/indigenous-students

MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE NEWS

Over the past week teachers of year 7 classes have developed and posted or emailed work books for weeks 3 to 10. Parents are requested to check the mail regularly as these materials will arrive at various times over the coming 2 to 3 weeks.

Parents are strongly encouraged to contact the school if your child is having any issues what so ever.

Parents are also requested to ask students to join into zoom lessons. Year 10 Maths has Zoom lessons every Monday and Wednesday however only about 50 % of students have been attending to date.



Mr Malcolm Fahey

Parents with students in Biology, Chemistry or Physics are asked to remind students that a research assignment will begin in week 6, June 2 and will continue to week 9, June 22. Any student doing these courses should be researching various associated topics now.

Malcolm Fahey - Middle Leader—Mathematics & Science

Year 11 Physics Prac

Year 11 students, Renee Edwards, Denison Hilla and Zac Christie are completing a mandatory practical to investigate Snell's Law.

As light enters a different medium other than air it refracts at the interface of the material. Students are to calculate the refractive index of Perspex using a semicircular block.

The data is tabulated and entered into Excel and a line of best-fit is drawn. From the gradient of this line they can calculate the

refractive index.

This shows that education can continue through the pandemic by observing all health protocols.

Andrew Jamieson - Physics Teacher







English and Humanities online resources

We have a great range of online resources available for students working from home and a few of them don't require regular internet access.





Mrs Sarah Rihe

Resource	Details	How to access it
Reading Eggs NABC Reading (998)	Reading Eggs is a fun and effective online literacy program. Most students enjoy doing the activities while making progress in spelling, comprehension and grammar.	All students have a unique login to our school account. Students are either in Reading Eggs or Wordflyers, depending on their literacy level. Please email me at sriber@cns.catholic.edu.au and I will send you your child's login details.
Wordflyers	Wordflyers is the more advanced version of Reading Eggs with higher-level activities.	
Storyboard That StoryboardThat	Create comic strips to tell a story with this great website. Students enjoy using the huge range of pictures as an alternative to writing.	We have a school subscription to this — email me at sriber@cns.catholic.edu.au to get a link. It's also worth emailing your child's teacher as they may already have a Storyboard That class.
Sora audiobooks and eBooks	Audiobooks and eBooks available to borrow. You can download them onto your device when you have Wi-Fi available and then listen/read when you're offline.	We have a subscription through Catholic Education The app is on the school portal – you need to choose 'ACEN member collection' as your library and then use your school login.
Audible stories audible an amuse company Stories help.	Audible has a range of free audio- books available to stream. No downloads, unfortunately, so you need continual access to the inter- net.	https://stories.audible.com/start-listen
ABC ME	If you don't have internet, there is a great range of educational programming on ABC ME through the day.	Regular TV or iView – no login needed.
Vocabulary.com Vocabulary.com	Vocabulary and spelling games. Some teachers have assigned vocabulary lists for students to learn, but you can just log in and improve your world knowledge by picking from the thousands of word list available.	We don't have a subscription to this because they have an excellent free version. Students can create a free account at Vocabulary.com (we recommend logging in using Google and their school email address.) Email your child's teacher to see if they have created a class.

MSB College Board working for our College Community

Catholic College Boards in the Diocese of Cairns provide the opportunity for members of the college, parish and diocesan communities to support the mission of Catholic education in the college.

Mr Tim Jackson has been a member of the MSB Board since 2005. Prior to that, in 1987, he was an inaugural member of the Diocesan Education Board and in 2001 a member of the diocesan school board taskforce. We value his commitment and knowledge brought to our college community. Tim has provided us with the following reflection on the work of the board.



Mr Tim Jackson

"The aim of all secondary schooling is to create world ready graduates. At MSB we endeavour to equip our students with the life skills for an ever-changing world. To achieve the best outcomes for our students, it is essential that the College Principal and staff work together with parents in a spirit of collaboration to support the College's vision and educational aims.

A college board is considered the most appropriate means of creating a Christian educational community. We do this by combining the educational and administrative talents of the Principal and staff with the knowledge, experience and expertise of the parent body and the wider community.

The Board provides strategic direction in the development and implementation of the college Mission Statement and acts in an advisory capacity to the Principal in relation to specific decision-making responsibilities. A shared wisdom model of discernment is the basis of the Boards' decision-making process.



Fr Michael Szymanski, Principal Mr Ian Margetts and Mr Tim Jackson

Another important function of the College Board is to support the Principal and advice on matters of existing policy and in the formation of new policies. Essentially, a good policy states what is to be done not how, when or by whom."

We are calling for expressions of interest from parents, carers and any interested community members who would like to join our Mount St Bernard College Board. Our board usually meets once per term for an evening meeting. If this sounds like it could be for you, or you would like more information please contact Hillary O'Brien, PA to Principal on PH: (07) 4096 1485.