Principal’s News

I’ve often wondered why bad news dominates the media. I’m sure I’m not the only one who has noticed. Open our local paper or look at the top stories on your news app and I’ll bet about four of the top five stories are about things like crime, corruption and incompetence.

According to a BBC article by Tom Stafford I read, it could be our own fault. It would seem we, the media consumers, are far more likely to read a bad news story than a good one. It is hardly surprising then, that those who want our ‘business’, promote and sell bad news. We have what has been called a ‘negativity bias’. That is, we have a collective hunger to hear, remember and share bad news. The theory is that we have evolved as a species to react quickly to potential threats. As a result, we deliberately seek bad news because it is a signal that we need to change what we’re doing to stay clear of danger.

I sadly have to admit this makes sense to me. It explains why gossip is so common and why bad news dominates headlines. What doesn’t make sense is that we haven’t moved to counteract this bias. We know people seem to be more anxious, overwhelmed, depressed and stressed than ever before, and yet we continue to immerse them in even more bad news at a prodigious rate.

I hope in many ways, we are a “Good News” School. This week I’ve watched kids have a great time at Maths Extension, really enjoy an AFL clinic, join other Catholic Schools at Holy Rosary for a Catholic Education Week celebration, have a Fire Engine visit, participate in Random Acts of Kindness, be entertained and inspired by Lorin Nicholson, take part in Shrek musical rehearsals, be part of choir, ensembles or guitar groups and raised money for Cancer Research through free dress and a sausage sizzle just to name a few.

Have we had issues? Absolutely! However they are minor, dealt with, and few indeed, compared to the countless good things that happen. As parents and educators, we have an obligation to find and share good news and speak positively about our children, our families and friends, and our world. If we want to support optimistic young people - share books with them that inspire. Take them to movies that show how good people can be. Talk about news stories where people help each other or overcome adversity. (The ABC News app actually has a section called Good News. It’s just a shame how far down you have to scroll to find it.)

As I reflect on Lorin Nicholson’s presentations today, we could sit and feel sorry for ourselves and the way things are, or we can step forward and do something to improve it. Like most things in life, it’s simply up to us.
Sports News

BUNDABERG ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Forty-six students have been selected to represent St Patrick’s at the 2016 Bundaberg Zone Primary Athletics Carnival. The carnival is held over two days with program details outlined below.

1. Thursday, 4th August – St Luke’s Anglican School
   Long Jump    Shot Put    High Jump  Discus  200m Heats/Finals  800m Heats
   Private transport to St Luke’s is required. Supervision will be provided for students from 8:15am – 3:30pm at St Luke’s. Students may arrive for their event and leave once it is completed, although it is asked that students check in with the teacher in the St Patrick’s tent and check-out upon departure. Please advise via email if you have difficulties transporting your child to St Luke’s, therefore allowing the school to assist with transport arrangements if required.

2. Friday, 5th August – Salter Oval
   80m/100m Heats/Finals  4 x 80m/100m Relay  800m Finals  Ball Games
   Students can be privately transported to Salter Oval where supervision will be provided from 8:15am – 2:30pm. Alternatively, a teacher will walk students from St Patrick’s to Salter Oval leaving the school at 8:00am and returning before 3:00pm. Students walking to Salter Oval are to assemble in the MPS at 8:00am for immediate departure to Salter Oval.

Competitors are required to wear their school sports uniform on both competition days. Shade will be provided for St Patrick’s students at each venue. Canteen facilities will be available for students at St Luke’s and Salter Oval. Please ensure your child has adequate food, water and sun protection for their competition day(s).
Please note that St Patrick’s is a Section A school. It would assist with team organisation if your child could be at the appropriate venue at least 20 minutes prior to their event. Please contact me if you have any concerns regarding the Bundaberg Zone Athletics Carnival (annettehammermeister@rok.catholic.edu.au).

BUNDABERG ZONE RUGBY LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE
Congratulations KATIE SMITH who has been selected to represent Bundaberg Zone at the upcoming Wide Bay U12 Girls Rugby League Trials to be held this weekend in Bundaberg. We wish Katie an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Finance News

SCHOOL ACCOUNTS
Term 2 Fees were issued this week and are due payable Wednesday 10th August 2016, if you do not already have a payment plan in place. Please be aware that statements serve as a tax invoice payable by a due date if you do not have a payment plan in place or merely as a statement if you do have a payment plan in place which reflects what payments are being receipted and what charges you have incurred. Please take time to check your statements when they are issued to ensure your account is correct and query any discrepancies you may have. If you have any queries regarding your school account, please do not hesitate to contact Finance Secretary Maria Davies.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY SURVEY
Thank you to all parents who participated in the Catholic Identity Survey. A PARL credit of $15.00 was applied to term 3 fees for all those who participated and provided a copy of their certificate with their name on it.

STUDENT BANKING
In Term 3, two new reward items become available to redeem!
   Jump and Skip Rope
   Backtrack Eraser Pen
A reminder due to popular demand, Commonwealth Bank have exhausted all stock of the FLYING SNAKE TAIL and MUD SPLAT BALL and will no longer be available to order. Dollarmites are giving those who demonstrate regular savings behaviour the chance to win spectacular prizes. Students must simply make three or more School Banking deposits during Term 3 for a chance to win one of the Star Saver prizes including 50 camping kits, 90 instant cameras and 200 magazine packs. What’s more, students who complete the fun Stargazing online activity, along with making their three deposits during Term 3, will also go in the separate draw to win one of 50 Supernova prizes – PlayStation 4 packs. Students can complete the Stargazing activity online at any time during Term 3 by visiting commbank.com.au/prizelights
Music News

We have two big events on the music calendar during the next two weeks. Please read notes and information sent home carefully for full details.

**BUNDABERG MUSIC EISTEDDFOD**

- **Junior Choir Tuesday 2nd August approx. 10:30am**
- **Senior Choir Tuesday 2nd August approx. 1:20pm**
- **Senior String Ensemble Wednesday 3rd August approx. 10:10am**
- **Junior String Ensemble Wednesday 3rd August approx. 10:40am**

**Students will travel to the Civic Centre by bus.**

Please see the information below for uniform requirements. Parents and family members are invited to watch their child’s performance, entry to the Civic Centre is by gold coin donation.

**QUEENSLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL (QCMF)**

12th August in Brisbane St James Church 165 Old Cleveland Road, Coorparoo and Villanova College – Augustine Centre and Tolle Lege - 24 Sixth Avenue, Coorparoo

A note confirming bus travel arrangements and how to make payment of $30 per bus seat will be sent home on Monday.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Arrival</th>
<th>Performance</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12th</td>
<td>Senior Choir</td>
<td>Villanova Tolle Lege</td>
<td>10.15am</td>
<td>11.20am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12th</td>
<td>Junior Choir</td>
<td>St James Church</td>
<td>11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12th</td>
<td>Senior Strings</td>
<td>Villanova Augustine</td>
<td>11.10am</td>
<td>12.20pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12th</td>
<td>Junior Strings</td>
<td>Villanova Tolle Lege</td>
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**Junior Choir Students**

Junior Choir Students must wear their formal school uniform. Prep students must wear their Prep Uniform.

**Senior Choir, Senior Strings and Junior String Ensemble**

Students must wear black performance uniform

**Please send your child to school dressed in their black performance uniform**

String ensemble students must bring their instruments and music on Wednesday

- Black long sleeved button up shirt with collar
- Long black dress pants (no tights, tight pants or jeans please)
- Black socks
- Black school shoes

**Lorin Nicholson visit**