Principal’s News

As a school community, we are very proud of our Mission Statement. When it was formed, it was meant to be something that all of us, students, parents and staff could all aspire to. In Marilyn McCarthy, we have seen how our Mission Statement can be lived. Learn. In 43 years as a teacher, can you imagine how much Miss McCarthy would have needed to learn, and how things have changed from blackboards to interactive LCD screens, from slates to iPads. When we committed to a 1:1 iPad program, Marilyn was one of the first teachers to put up her hand, and ask to have a class. What a great example of being a life-long learner.

Love God, Live the Gospel and Witness the Faith. Marilyn devoted the first 16 years of her adult life to being a Nun in the order of the Sisters of St Joseph. She received no pay – no money for holidays or personal belongings. If she needed something as basic as new shoes, she would have to ask to be given the money for them. As a nun, she served in many remote places where no-one else would go. Tara, St George, Julia Creek, Burketown, Cloncurry and Mt Isa – just to name a few. It was a different time. Marilyn’s first class was Year One. It had 41 students – and no Teacher Assistant. If that wasn’t hard enough, after her school day, Marilyn would have to work to do in the Church, assist elderly nuns, or assist in the Mission communities. After leaving the Order, and working for Catholic Education, Marilyn moved to Bundaberg. She brought her aged mother with her, so that they could live together and Marilyn could support her.

I can think of no better example of someone who has loved God, Lived the Gospel and Witnessed our Faith. Celebrate Life. I think Marilyn excels in this area. Whether it is with family celebrations, being a very vocal Broncos fan, or cheering on a champion race horse she has a great time, and ensures those with her do the same. The staff room is no exception. It is often brought to life with laughter, after Marilyn makes one of her quiet, often brought to life with laughter, after Marilyn makes one of her quiet, and I suspect sometimes highly inappropriate, comments. George Bernard Shaw offered the following reflection upon his own life. I believe the same sentiment has been expressed in the way Marilyn has lived her life.

This is the true joy in life, the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one; the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy. I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no “brief candle” for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

Mrs Cook and Year 5, with a team of wonderful supporters, arranged a beautiful tribute to Marilyn McCarthy before she finishes up with our school, and with teaching, at the end of this term. We all offer our sincere thanks and best wishes for the future. Thanks for a great term. We look forward to seeing you at Shrek.

Mark Fox
Wanted: Girls to come and try basketball.

Are you born in 2006, 2007, 2008 or 2009?

Looking for a new summer sport? Try Basketball. It builds fitness and improves coordination and it’s loads of fun. It’s okay if you have never played before—coaching is available. If you would like more information please drop me a line at kymhaworth@gmail.com.

Basketball is a great family sport for everyone.

For more information on senior or other age groups contact Bundaberg Basketball at secretary@bundybasketball.com.au

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**Sport News**

**BUNDABERG ZONE CRICKET REPRESENTATIVE**

Congratulations **REUBAN COLEMAN, WILL HAMILTON & LUCY HAMILTON** who have been selected to represent Bundaberg Zone to compete at the Wide Bay Cricket Trials to be held in Maryborough this month. We wish Reuben, Will and Lucy an enjoyable and rewarding carnival.

**FRASER COAST SCHOOLS EQUESTRIAN**

Last weekend, **MAKAYLA COOK** (Year 6), **TORI BOWDEN** (Year 5) and **CHARLIE THORNE** (Year 3) represented St Patrick’s at the Fraser Coast Schools Equestrian competition. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the event and were very excited about their experiences. All three girls were amazing ambassadors for our school, proudly wearing the school vest in competition. Congratulations Makayla, Tori & Charlie!

**MILO T20 CRICKET**

After three weeks of competition in the Milo T20 cricket competition the St Patrick’s team defeated Woongarra in the Bundaberg final. Well done to all the boys who showed great team spirit and behaviour throughout the competition. Congratulations to coach Matt Plumb, to Mr Woodland who supervised the team last week guiding them into the finals and to all parents who supported the boys. Very proud of you all!

**WIDE BAY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVES**

Congratulations to **JAYCE HARGREAVES & CHARLEIGH McNAMARA** who have been selected to represent Wide Bay at the upcoming Queensland Championships to be held in Brisbane in October. We wish both Jayce and Charleigh an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

- **10yrs** Jayce Hargreaves – 100m
- **11yrs** Charleigh McNamara – Long Jump

**Student of the Week**

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TENNIS HOLIDAY CLINIC for children, will be conducted at Rotary Park Tennis complex, 69b George Street, South Bundaberg by Bundaberg Tennis Academy Coaches, Murray Whitbread and Kevin Banner, Tuesday 27th, Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th September. Times: 8.30am – 10am or 10am – 11.30am (Junior Beginners 5-12 years); 8.30am – 11.30am (Beginners/Intermediate)

Enquiries please phone Kevin: 4152 0753 or 0409 520753. Bookings are essential!