St John’s School continues to provide excellent life-changing experiences for its students. Twenty-two Year 12 students experienced the journey of a lifetime when they visited France and Belgium in Weeks One and Two of this term, partaking in a 14 day historical, artistic and religious tour of both countries. The journey began with a few days recovery (from 24 hours of travel) at Normandy. Here, our group engaged in World War 2 history which really contextualised modern day France for the students. Onwards they travelled to The Somme Region where the students stayed in Albert (Al-bear), beginning their analysis of Australian ANZAC’s involvement in World War 1. Whilst making a connection here with the Marie Curie Middle School, the students were able to visit the towns of Amiens, Viller Bretonneux and La Hamel. However, the pivotal reason for journeying to this region was to attend the 100 year ANZAC Day Service at Villers Bretonneux, where four students were directly involved in speaking roles in the ceremony. The touring party braved minus temperatures and constant rain to endure what was an amazing and apt reflection of ANZAC. The students then moved to Belgium where they visited Polygon Wood, Tyne Cot Commonwealth Cemetery, VC Corner, Fromelles, Menin Gate and Hill 60. It became very emotional and apt to reflect on the devastating effects and toll of war and the loss of Australian life. After the business end of the trip, students were able to relax, returning to Paris to engage in French Culture and unwind from what was a very emotional and engaging pilgrimage.
Thanks to everyone involved in making this experience possible.

More photos on the Gallery.

Our Trip to France and Belgium.
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

**Winter Uniform**
It is wonderful to see all of our students in their Winter Uniform. Thank you to all parents and guardians for supporting the high standards of our school by ensuring our students are well presented whenever they are in the St John's uniform. Sometimes, it is simply the outward and visible signs that determine the reputation of the school. I hope that students want to wear their uniform with pride wherever they are, as it represents all of us now, our past students and our future students.

Staff members enjoy our students’ manners and courtesy. Often, teachers, parents and support staff share stories with me about the consideration for others our students demonstrate. Many of our students will open doors for teachers, say thank you at the end of lessons and say please when making requests. They smile, make eye contact and speak politely to adults.

"Manners maketh the man," is still true in our modern fast-paced world. As staff, we will strive to reinforce the exemplary values that have been instilled in our students by their parents and families who are the first educators of their children. One of the desirable characteristics of the St John’s graduate will always be “an ability and a desire to relate to others in a polite way.” We develop this attribute through our pastoral program and our School values of compassion, excellence, justice and respect.

Parents of prospective Prep students frequently comment to me during their enrolment interviews that they would love their children to grow up like the St John’s Students they see in their interactions in the community. They choose St John’s because similar values are held by the school as at home. They talk about our students being well behaved, how proud our students are of their school and how comfortable they are in conversing with adults.

While we would love all of our students to be Nobel Prize Laureates or brilliant musicians, the main thing that we want is for our students to become fine Christian citizens. This means treating others as they would like to be treated, no matter how difficult the situation. A smile and a pleasant tone will open more doors than a brilliant OP on its own.

**Reflection**

In “Man’s Search for Meaning”, Victor Frankl writes about his experience in Auschwitz, the Nazi death camp. He was in awe at the grace of prisoners who went to the gas chambers reciting the Lord’s Prayer, while supporting one another or sharing their last piece of bread. He realised then the powerful truth; when nothing else is left, we can still choose our own disposition. This is our last freedom, ours that no-one can take away from us. We are not a simple collection of reactive cells, reacting dimly to the trouble and strife of life, but rather we are wise beings who can choose how we act at all times. This says to me that because we have the power, we also have the responsibility to brighten someone else’s day by being polite and respectful every day.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Lynch
 Principal
Prep Mathematics

Throughout Mathematics this term, the Prep children have been extremely busy building on all the things they learnt last term. We have been revising our numbers to ten and learning different ways to represent these numbers. We have begun learning the concept of addition by counting on and the children are being challenged to have a go at writing their own number sentence an activity at which they think that they are really clever.

Year Four Science

What is beneath our feet? This is what Year Four is investigating this term in Science. We have started examining soils from around our homes. We will also be looking at different types of rocks. We are looking forward to exploring the types of erosion and how erosion affects places where we live or holiday. Year Four will be designing their own investigation to explore erosion which will involve spending some time in the sand pit.

Year Eight Mathematics

This term, we will see the Year Eight cohort study a variety of Mathematical concepts. These include exploring angles, triangles, congruency, similarity, area and volume. All of these areas have great applications in construction and Science. The assignment (draft due on June 4) will compare the area of a number of playing fields that are used by different sports.

Futsal

Futsal is running every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon (except this Wednesday 6th May for Primary Students due to Enrichment Night). Secondary Students will run this Thursday as usual.

Primary Students - Wednesday 4:30 - 5:15 pm
Secondary Students 4:30 - 5:30 pm
Futsal is held in the P&F Building.
During the year, the students in Years Seven and Eight travel a five week journey through cooking, sewing and textiles. During this journey, they learn a little about the advantages of being able to cook and sew, essential safety and hygiene in the kitchen, some basics about fabrics, how to ‘drive’ a sewing machine and importantly, learn some cooking and sewing skills making for themselves tasty food delights and – in most cases – a functional pencil case.

In the Cooking and Kitchen Safety unit, the students tested their cooking skills and taste buds making Chocolate Slice. There were many comments the next day about how nice their slice was. We then moved on to making pizza and discovered how to make the base from scratch. The enjoyment of this experience is getting the pizza out of the oven and eating it for lunch. Apple Crumble is our next culinary delight and a great dessert to take home. Our final dish is cooking fried rice which will make a delicious addition to dinner that night.

At the beginning of our Sewing and Textiles unit, many students have reservations about the ability to use a sewing machine and be able to complete their task of making a pencil case. However, they soon find that it is almost as easy as driving a car. Just as a car is a machine with many operational parts and requires fuel, so too a sewing machine has many moving parts and needs thread to work effectively. When learning to drive, it is necessary to begin slowly and learn to coordinate starting, changing gears and accelerating. The same applies when sewing; it is necessary to start off slowly, knowing how the various parts work together and gradually build confidence to safely steer the fabric to complete a garment or project.

As when going on a journey, a road map is needed, when cooking or sewing; recipes and instructions must be followed to avoid the crashes of cooking disasters or the sewing detours of retracing steps, unpicking and getting back on track.

At the end of their five week journey, the students have gained many skills that will help them in the kitchen to be safe and hygienic and maybe even help with cooking at home. They are surprised at what they have been able to achieve and can rightly be proud of their culinary delights and completed pencil case.
Primary Choir will be performing on Wednesday night 6th May as part of the school Enrichment Night program. Enrichment Night starts at 5.30pm with presentations from various senior students and class groups. Choir will be performing at approximately 6.30pm and students will need to meet with Mrs Treasure at 6.15pm. Students can wear appropriate free dress. If parents are not able to attend and wish to drop students at school into the care of Mrs Treasure, the form below needs to be returned prior to Wednesday night. (This can be returned to Front Office, or email carmel.treasure@twb.catholic.edu.au)

Choir will also be singing at the annual Mad Week “Battle of the Choirs”. This will take place during a special assembly on Thursday 7th May starting at 1pm. Parents and friends are invited to attend this assembly – it should be lots of fun.

My child ___________________________ will attend Enrichment Night, and will meet Mrs Treasure in front of the Library entrance at 6.15pm. I will pick my child up from school at 7pm in the Bowen Street carpark near the Front Office.

My mobile number is: ___________________________

Signed ___________________________
Marian House Report

Welcome back to Term Two! We hope you all enjoyed your holidays and are ready to get back into your school work for this term. This term is a very eventful term for the Marian cohort with various events including ANZAC Day, enrichment Night, Cross Country, The Spectacular Showcase and MAD Week. Firstly, we would like to thank all the Marian students who participated in the ANZAC Day March. The turnout from St John’s was excellent and the respectful behaviour displayed by the students was exemplary.

On 6th May, Week Three, St John’s School will be hosting Enrichment Night. This is an evening to showcase students interests, subject highlights and outstanding performances in extra-curricular activities. We encourage all of you to come along and support your peers and see what they have to offer. Also in Week Three we have our annual MAD Week. This is where students have the opportunity to showcase their cultural talents by participating in different activities and competitions such as: the Lip Sync battle, photography competition, Battle of the Choirs and much more. The more participants from Marian, the more House Points are up for grabs. So get on board the MAD Week train and speak to our Head of House, Miss Topic, about participating in this amazing week.

It’s that time of year again. Get those running shoes on and get keen for Cross Country in Week Four, Friday 15th May. Every participant gets house points for running. So come on Marian, let’s lift our game and get as many house points as possible. Just remember, “Nothing great is ever achieved without enthusiasm!”

We hope to see the whole Marian house at all of these upcoming events earning as many points as possible. We are quickly approaching the middle of Term Two, which means the work load will be weighing many of us down and assignments and exams are coming up fast. We need to make sure that we are staying on top of our work and are always putting in our best efforts to get the best result.

“You are more than what you have become, you must take your place in the circle of life.” – The Lion King

We are ‘The Mighty and Glorious’ Marian Lions!

Miss Topic

Mother’s Day Stall

Don’t forget the Mother’s Day Stall this Thursday; there will be a $2, $5, $8, $10 and $15 table and cards for $1. The children will be able to go shopping Thursday morning. A big thank you to Gis, Anna and their team of ladies who have done a wonderful job putting this event together.

Apex Mother’s Day Multi Draw Raffle

Apex Mother’s Day Multi Draw Raffle; Prizes range from return flights Roma to Brisbane to pamper packs from local businesses. $2 per ticket or 3 for $5. Drawn before the Fireworks at the Roma Show Saturday 9th May 2015 Tickets being sold at the Optometrist in the plaza or any Apex member.
St John’s School

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Edition
Term Two Week Three

In the next issue

Prep - Year Six
Year One - Science
Year Three - History
Year Five - Religion
Enrichment Night

Year Seven - Twelve
Year Ten - Drama
Senior Modern History
Theresian House Report

We acknowledge the original inhabitants of this land, the Mandandanji people, and show our respect for their ancestors and traditions.