Principal’s News

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The opportunity to stop and reflect upon some of life’s bigger questions is a rarity in the day to day running of a packed school environment. However busy, it is vital that our students are given the opportunity to ponder such questions as “Who am I?” and “What do I believe in?” The opening of the Labyrinth by the Year Fives last week is a step in the quest for “me” time.

Through the process of guided reflection and a structured program, the students were given the opportunity to link their understandings to the development of a more personal philosophy. The students’ liturgy provided the perfect opportunity to reflect upon their personal beliefs and values, their wishes for the future and the challenges faced by themselves and the wider community in today’s rapidly changing society.

Across the years of schooling, the Personal Development Curriculum focuses on developing social and emotional wellbeing. It means having a balanced program for self-renewal in the four areas of life: physical, social/emotional, mental and spiritual.

Links to the History, Geography, Science, English and Religion curriculums, have enabled students to reflect upon some of life’s bigger questions in the peace and tranquility of living in Roma. Below, are the reflections from some of the students: who have experienced this time of quiet:

I learnt that I can stay quiet and still, meditating for 20 minutes and that if I put my mind to something, I can achieve it.

I learnt that others do not judge my thoughts or opinions. I will take away that I can value myself as a trusted person and that a little bit of meditation each day would do me a lot of good.

Something that I learned about myself is that I am an authentic person and that I am different to all others. I also learned that I should relax and slow down my busy lifestyle more as it can prove to be very refreshing and invigorating.

I learnt that I am open to other people’s ideas and I appreciate other people’s patience.

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to wish our school community a safe and Holy Christmas. I thank all who have made St John’s such a wonderful place, parents students and staff. I hope the true spirit of Christmas and the peace and tranquility it can bring will be with all of you. For those who travel, a safe trip, and may the blessings of God be with you all.

Events in this month

Wednesday, December 2
Last day of school, Prep- Year Nine

Thursday, December 24
All Saints Parish Christmas Mass

Monday, January 25
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday, January 26
Public Holiday

Wednesday, January 27
School Resumes 2016
**Current NEWS!**

**UNIFORM SHOP HOURS**

January 11-15,  
open 10.00 am - 2.00 pm  
January 18-22,  
open 12.00 pm - 4.00 pm  
January 25,  
open 10.00 am - 2.00 pm  
January 28,  
open 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm  

Then it’s back to normal  
Monday  
8.00 am- 9.00 am  
Thursday  
2.00 pm - 5.00 pm  

Cheers  
Gabby Barron

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**Reflection**

Jesus is the vision of what we can each be, and are meant to be. Christmas is not a fairy tale; Christmas is a gift of new life. Christmas is a mandate to be more than we have been before. Christmas is the vision of the Vision.  
(The radical Christian life – Benedict year 540)

Regards  
Nicholas Lynch

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**Primary Choir Combined Churches Christmas Carols.**

Thank you to the generous members of Primary Choir and their parents! They made it possible for Primary Choir to participate in Roma’s Community Carol Service, run by the Combined Churches of Roma. Eleven students (Jessica Angus, Samara Bonsey, Jayrold Bugarin, Chelsea Cranston, Cadence Ogilvie, Mia Otto, Eaden Pavia, Paige Reimers, Noah Rogers, Samuel Rogers and Chloe Rose) performed to a packed hall with confidence and flair! We thank Bridget Treasure for accompanying the choir on the piano. This is something that Bridget has done for us many times over the last few years, and we will miss her very much now that she has left St John’s.

Carmel Treasure

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**Prep’s Special Visitor**
Primary Choir enjoyed a whirlwind visit to Toowoomba last week. Eighteen students from Years Four and Six left Roma at 5am on Monday morning, accompanied by Mrs Carmel Treasure and Mrs Donna Barsby. We thank our bus driver Mr Bill Mulcahy.

First stop was the University of Southern Queensland, where we met with one of the senior lecturers in the Drama Department. The students participated in Drama games, and enjoyed touring the performing spaces at the University. The Japanese Gardens were a beautiful space to stop for lunch. The Toowoomba Regional Gallery in Ruthven Street is usually closed on a Monday, but Primary Choir were able to take a private tour with Tiffany, the Educational Officer at the gallery. This was a rewarding and enjoyable experience, as the students examined different styles and types of art works, and learnt a little about the history of Art in the Toowoomba Region.

Our visit to St Patrick’s Cathedral was next. Mrs Gabrielle Saide, an archivist with the Toowoomba Diocese, took the students around the Cathedral, explaining much about the building and its history.

We all enjoyed our time at Sunset SuperBowl. We discovered some future stars, as the pins were sent flying! This is a great place to go for dinner and entertainment!

The highlight of our tour was a visit on Tuesday morning to the Toowoomba Grammar School where Mr Neil Roche-Kelly and Mrs Eylece Blaike generously organized a performance for us. It was inspiring to hear 50 boys, aged between Years Seven and Twelve singing such a wide variety of songs. The Grammaphones, a smaller singing group who specialise in acapella singing, also performed for us. These boys will be touring the USA next year, and will be performing for the directors of the television show “Glee”. We enjoyed performing for the boys as well.

We thank St Anthony’s School, especially the library staff and Mrs Anne-Maree Spalding who made us comfortable for our overnight ‘camp-out’!
SECOND HAND UNIFORM
SELL, SWAP & BUY DAY

If you have any second hand uniforms to Sell, or you would like to buy some second hand uniforms we are holding a stall at the school on Friday 4th December from 3.30pm until 6.00 pm in front of the Primary Toilet block. Should you have uniforms to sell, it is your responsibility to label the uniforms individually (for a sample of information required please see below) and it is solely your responsibility to pick up any unsold items. (We will phone you if your items are not sold – No unsold items are to be stored at the school. All proceeds of the sale of any donated uniforms will go the P & F and used for a nominated charitable fund, SHOULD YOU WISH TO COME AND SELL YOUR UNIFORMS AND KEEP THE MONEY FROM THE SALE OF YOUR UNIFORMS, THEN YOU MAY DO SO BUT YOU WILL NEED TO STAY AT THE STALL UNTIL YOUR ITEMS ARE SOLD, we will not be responsible for these sales.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

WHEN: FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER, 2015
3.30PM – 6.00PM
IN PRIMARY AREA – IN FRONT OF TOILET BLOCK

| ITEM DESCRIPTION | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| (Sports Shirt)   |                  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>(Medium)</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>($5.00)</th>
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<tr>
<th>REVERSE SIDE OF FORM</th>
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<tr>
<th>YOUR NAME</th>
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<tr>
<th>PHONE NO</th>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<th>I AM HAPPY TO DONATE FUNDS FROM THE SALE OF THIS ITEM TO THE P&amp;F</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

SOME FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY TO FILL OUT.

Should you wish to check if a certain size is available please ring 0428837585.
All Saints Parish Christmas Mass

Thursday 24th December

6.30pm

We’d love to see as many St John’s students as possible at All Saints Church this Christmas, and we really need help to make our Christmas celebrations special!

We’d like to perform a Christmas Play during our Mass celebration, and need young people to take part. **We need actors and narrators** – so students in both Primary and Secondary school would be **very welcome**!

Please email allsaints@hwy54.com.au or phone the Parish Office, (Fr Jamie or Margie 46 221 075, or Sr Nora 46 223 831) if you are going to be in Roma for Christmas and would like to take part.

We will practice at the Church on the below dates

1. Monday 14th Dec 12 – 1pm
2. Thursday 17th Dec 12 – 1pm
3. Wednesday 23rd Dec 12 – 1pm
Happy holidays and safe travels.

School Resumes
Wednesday, January 27

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

**What is the cost?**
Young people between the ages of 10 to 25 years. Some activities are open to younger children; however, children under 10 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Children under 12 years visiting a Maranoa Regional Council Library at any time throughout the year must be accompanied by an adult. Age restrictions have been set for safety reasons and must be strictly adhered to. It will be taken that any child under the age of 18 who participates in any programmed activity has parental/guardian permission to do so. **What is the cost?** Please bring correct money if possible as change may not be available. CODE OF BEHAVIOUR for the enjoyment of all, participants will be expected to behave in an appropriate and respectful manner. Activity Coordinators have the right to ask any person to leave their activity if they feel it is necessary. **IMPORTANT** Participating in all activities is at your own risk and Maranoa Regional Council does not take any responsibility for any loss of personal items or injuries incurred. Activities may change or be cancelled at any time due to weather or staffing. It is recommended to contact the Activity Coordinator prior to the commencement of the activity.

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### Important
- For the enjoyment of all, participants will be expected to behave in an appropriate and respectful manner. Activity Coordinators have the right to ask any person to leave their activity if they feel it is necessary.
- Age restrictions have been set for safety reasons and must be strictly adhered to. It will be taken that any child under the age of 18 who participates in any programmed activity has parental/guardian permission to do so.
- Please bring correct money if possible as change may not be available.
- CODE OF BEHAVIOUR for the enjoyment of all, participants will be expected to behave in an appropriate and respectful manner.
- Activity Coordinators have the right to ask any person to leave their activity if they feel it is necessary.
- **IMPORTANT** Participating in all activities is at your own risk and Maranoa Regional Council does not take any responsibility for any loss of personal items or injuries incurred. Activities may change or be cancelled at any time due to weather or staffing.
- It is recommended to contact the Activity Coordinator prior to the commencement of the activity.

### Bookings
- Limited Numbers - BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
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### Attendance
- Preference given to young people.
- Preference given to young people.
- Preference given to young people.

### Payment
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.
- Money for drinks/snacks.

### Equipment
- Footwear & long pants to join in this activity.
- Footwear & long pants to join in this activity.
- Footwear & long pants to join in this activity.
- Footwear & long pants to join in this activity.
- Footwear & old clothes.
- Footwear & closed in footwear.
- Footwear & closed in footwear.
- Footwear & closed in footwear.

### Additional Info

### Dates
- Saturday, 5 Jan - Saturday, 23 Jan
- Tuesday, 19 Jan
- Wednesday, 20 Jan
- Thursday, 21 Jan
- Friday, 22 Jan
- Saturday, 23 Jan
- Saturday, 30 Jan - Saturday, 6 Feb
- Saturday, 13 Feb - Saturday, 19 Feb
- Saturday, 20 Feb - Saturday, 26 Feb

### Activities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Age*</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>What to Bring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 5 Jan - Saturday, 23 Jan</td>
<td>Rugby League Coaching Sessions Development for young rugby league players for the 2016 season.</td>
<td>9.00am - 12.00pm</td>
<td>Roma State College Middle Campus Entry via Miscamble St</td>
<td>12 - 15 yrs</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle, facemask &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 19 Jan</td>
<td>Christmas Cook Day</td>
<td>11.00am - 12.30pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; old clothes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 20 Jan</td>
<td>PCYC Garden Day Activities at PCYC followed by a light lunch</td>
<td>12.00pm - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; old clothes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 21 Jan</td>
<td>Laser Ballistic Challenge</td>
<td>12.00pm - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC Middle Campus Entry via Miscamble St</td>
<td>10 - 17 yrs</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 22 Jan</td>
<td>Girls’ Outing of the Water Play Park</td>
<td>11.00am - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 142 McDonald St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 23 Jan</td>
<td>Fire Safety</td>
<td>12.00pm - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, 24 Jan</td>
<td>Blue Light Dazzle</td>
<td>9.00am - 11.00am</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>14 -17 yrs</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 25 Jan</td>
<td>Ponta Station Watch House Day</td>
<td>12.00pm - 2.00pm</td>
<td>Roma Ponta Station 44-46 Queen St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 27 Jan</td>
<td>Roma Girl Guides Day Camp</td>
<td>9.00am - 11.00am</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 29 Jan</td>
<td>Friday Night Out</td>
<td>7.30pm - 10.00pm</td>
<td>Roma Auditorium 142 McDowall St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle, face mask, earwear, towel &amp; money for lunchdrinks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 30 Jan - Saturday, 6 Feb</td>
<td>Court Safety</td>
<td>11.00am - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 6 Feb - Saturday, 12 Feb</td>
<td>Girls’ Outing of the Water Play Park</td>
<td>11.00am - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 142 McDonald St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 13 Feb - Saturday, 19 Feb</td>
<td>Pool Safety</td>
<td>10.30am - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, 20 Feb - Saturday, 26 Feb</td>
<td>Pool Safety</td>
<td>10.30am - 1.15pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 38-44 George St</td>
<td>All ages*</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle &amp; enclosed footwear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 27 Feb - Saturday, 2 Mar</td>
<td>Australian Day Celebrations Awards &amp; Citizenship Ceremonies at Roma</td>
<td>11.00am - 4.00pm</td>
<td>Roma PCYC 142 McDonald St</td>
<td>10 - 17 yrs</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Water bottle, face mask, earwear, &amp; Aussie spirit!</td>
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For more information visit www.maranoa.qld.gov.au or phone your Local Development Officer on 1300 007 662. Download the ‘MyMaranoa’ App from the Apple or Google Stores to have the holiday program at your fingertips!
READING OPENS DOORS

THE ILF
GREAT BOOK SWAP

Thursday, December 17
from 10.30 am
Knowledge Walk
State Library of Queensland

Bring along a gold coin
and a book to swap or buy a book!
Your donations help raise funds
for ILF literacy projects in
remote Indigenous communities

INDIGENOUS LITERACY FOUNDATION

indigenousliteracyfoundation.org.au