PRAYER:

As the year slips by we are reminded that Ash Wednesday is upon us and will be celebrated at school on Wednesday 5th March. The Power and Bayley students will gather in the Chapel and Cooper students in Rooms 1,2,&3. Parents and guardians are welcomed to attend.

This is a day in Christianity that marks the first day of the season of Lent which begins 40 days prior to Easter.

Lent is a time when many Christians prepare for Easter by observing a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and spiritual discipline. During the service on Ash Wednesday, the sign of the cross with ashes will be gently placed onto the foreheads of the students. This is a reminder to us all of our humanness.

A Reflection: The Forgiving Stone

Two men once visited a holy man to ask his advice. “We have done wrong,” they said, “and our consciences are troubled. Can you tell us what we must do so that we may be forgiven and feel clear of our guilt?”

“Tell me of your wrongdoings, my sons,” said the old man. The first man said, “I have committed a great and grievous sin.”

“What about you?” the holy man asked the second.

“Oh,” said he, “I have done quite a number of wrong things, but they are all quite small, and not at all important.”

The holy man considered for a while. “This is what you must do,” he said at last. “Each of you must go and bring me a stone for each of his misdeeds.”

Off went the men, and presently the first came back, staggering with an enormous boulder, so heavy that he
could hardly lift it, and with a groan he let it fall at the feet of the holy man. Then along came the second, cheerfully carrying a bag of small pebbles. This he also laid at the feet of the saint.

“No,” said the holy man, “take all those stones and put them back where you found them.”

The first man shouldered his rock again, and staggered back to the place from which he had brought it. But the second man could only remember where a few of his pebbles had lain. After some time, he came back, and said that the task was too difficult.

“You must know, my son,” said the old man, “that sins are like these stones. If a person has committed a great sin, it lies like a heavy stone on his or her conscience, but if there is true sorrow, there is forgiveness and the load is taken away. But if a person is constantly doing small things that are wrong, he or she does not feel any very great load of guilt, and therefore is not sorry, and remains a sinner. So, you see, it is important to avoid little misdeeds as big ones.”

NOTE: The South East Deanery is also having a number of discussion evenings to support the community through this Lenten journey and I encourage you to consider attending. The flyer of information can be found on page 13.

Peace and Blessings
Helen McNamara APRE

**from the Principal...**

Dear Parents, Staff and Students

This week we farewell Mr Tom Dowden, the Deputy Principal, who will be on leave of absence for the rest of the year. As previously mentioned Tom and his wife Terryll will be serving for one year as missionaries in WA as part of the neocatechumenal movement within the church. We pray that it will be a year of fruitful service for them. In his absence, Mrs Helen McNamara will be acting as Deputy Principal and we welcome her to her new role. In turn, Mrs Alison Gilbert will take on the role of APRE for this year. We congratulate her on this appointment and welcome her to this role.

The **College Swimming Carnival** was a wonderful community event. It was good to see so many parents present to support the students. Thanks to Mrs O’Dwyer-Mazur and her team for another very well run carnival.

We had a very large team compete at the **District Swimming Carnival** held at the Chandler Aquatic Centre yesterday. Congratulations to the many students involved and the wonderful spirit in which they competed. It was very impressive to see our swimmers compete vigorously with no thought as to where they might be placed in a race!

*The students excelled at the carnival winning the “percentage points” trophy. This is despite competition...*
against very large schools in the district. I congratulate the entire team and teachers involved for this outstanding achievement.

**Year 8 Parent Night/ Laptop Program**

*Tuesday 25th February is the Year 8 Parent Information Night.* On this night you will have an opportunity to speak to one of your child’s PC teachers. This is not meant to be a formal talk but rather an informal meeting with one of the PC teachers. Importantly on this night you will be provided with information on the College’s laptop program. It is an important night and I request that each family be represented with your child.

**Interactive TV Program**

Last year the College began the process of introducing 55 inch Interactive LCD TVs in the classrooms. We presently have 9 classes with these installed and plan to add 4 more this term. The P & F Association have kindly paid for some of these and will continue to support the program. I ask you to be generous in supporting the P & F Association Easter Chocolate Drive this term.

**Home work**

As the school year settles into its routine the matter of homework needs to be addressed. I have requested the teachers to be sure to set Homework in each lesson in all the core subjects within the curriculum. Homework remains an important aspect of success in school. Not all the work covered in class can be reinforced in class time alone. While we may hear comments from students along the lines of “we didn’t get any homework” this does not provide an excuse to not do homework. “Homework” includes revision of class work from the day’s lessons, reorganizing lesson notes, reprocessing information into more easily understood formats, undertaking set assignment tasks, reading the novel being studies. All of this needs to be done in a set routine each day that should be about 1 hour for Year 8 students increasing to 1.5 - 2 hours for Year 9-10 students. The Homework folder should assist students in being organized with their homework tasks. In addition a supervised quiet area is available to students at lunch times each school day to receive help with set homework and assignment tasks.

**The Senior School**

As I outlined at the Senior School meeting last week, this year we have expanded the Senior School curriculum to include the first QSA Authority subject Maths A [4 Credit points]; the Certificate 2 course in Business and Live Smart, a school based course. The **singular advantage** of the Seton Senior Course is that it allows our Year 11-12 students to continue their education with a higher level of support than would be provided in most other schools. The class sizes are smaller than you would find in other senior High Schools. The courses are aimed at continuing the students’ general education, particularly in English and Mathematics, together with a mix of skills and practical based subjects and electives, including VET certificate courses. This Senior course helps prepare students for life and work.

**Work Placement** continues to be a very important part of the Senior program and remains an essential criterion for inclusion in the senior
The aim of the Work Placement Program is to introduce students to the work environment; to enable them to experience what work is like; the expectations of employers; the importance of dress, punctuality and responsibility and to learn how to relate with others appropriately in a work social context. Work placement has been a very successful aspect of the senior program and has enabled many students to obtain full time work, traineeships and apprenticeships. We presently have 23 students on School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships or Associated external TAFE Certificate courses.

**Reading Program**
The school runs a number of reading programs designed for different purposes and the needs of individual students. One common goal of these is to have all students reading for pleasure while improving their reading skills. **Each school day, two 15 minute blocks of time for individual quiet reading are set aside. At these times, immediately following morning tea and lunch, all students and staff read quietly.** In order to do so, all students are required to borrow appropriate books from the library or bring books that they may be reading at home. Parents are encouraged to talk to your children about what they are reading at these times. In the next few weeks reading tests will be conducted in the junior classes. In addition all Junior students have one scheduled lesson within the English Program for reading and Comprehension testing.

**Drop Off/Pick Up Area**
As you may be aware, picking up and dropping of students creates quite a bit of congestion in the car park, especially in the afternoons. You are requested, if it is possible, to drop/pick students up in Nightingale Street so that they can cross at the pedestrian lights. This might save more time, especially if you are heading north rather than lining up in traffic along Cavendish Road. Also please **do not** drop off children in the top car park in the morning unless it is to use the disabled car parks. When entering school, proceed to the drop off point adjacent to the Chapel. Please leave the 2 disabled car parks free and ensure that parents have clear access to these spaces. Please **do not** park in the designated “drop off” zone. We have also had a request from the bus companies for parents to avoid using the bus parking bays to drop off students as this holds up buses on tight morning/afternoon schedules, besides being a health hazard for students. Your assistance in these small ways is appreciated.

Best wishes for the weeks ahead

Chris Raju
Principal
It was smiles all around when Seton families and staff got together on Valentines Evening for the annual Parents and Friends Welcome Barbecue. Putting faces to names and getting to know teachers and other parents outside class times helps build strong relationships between home and school.

Julie Whitehouse
Art Coordinator

P and F News

The P & F executive for 2014 is:

President: Ms Robyn Jone
Vice President: Mr Tony Brown
Secretary: Ms Caron Reid
Treasurer: Mr Mark McCarron
Parent Representative MS Bikeathon: Mrs Jan Rosevear

Parent Representative Mater “Little Miracles”: Mrs Lisa Midwood

The Parents and Friends Association AGM was held last night. Decisions were made to support the Easter Chocolate Drive in Term 1 and the Entertainment Books in Term 2. The P & F also support the annual MS Bike-a-thon that will be held on Sunday 22nd June and the Mater Hospital “Little Miracles” Appeal that will be held on Sunday 1st June.

Please put these dates in your diaries/calendar and join the “Seton Team”.

The Association also passed a motion to buy new Interactive TVs to support the College Program to update the Interactive Technology being installed in the College.

from the Sports Dept...

INTERHOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2014

On Friday 7th of February the annual Seton College swim carnival was held in splendid weather conditions. It was pleasing to see the number of students who were involved and willing to do their best in order to support their house. After the final points tally Bayley House claimed 3rd place with 355 points, Cooper House 2nd with 458 points and Power 1st place with 642 points. Congratulations go to all students who participated, be they a 25m swimmer or someone who swam every event possible. Special congratulations go to Christina Lopez who was awarded the girls aggregate trophy and Josh Ebzery the boys.

The age Champions were as follows:
Girls 13 years: Maddison Ballhause  
Boys 13 years: Bailey Stewart  
Girls 14 years: Lauren Holcroft  
Boys 14 years: Seth Parry  
Girls 15 years: Christina Lopez  
Boys 15 years: Keegan Smith  
Girls 16 years: Jane Hindle  
Boys 16 years: Jack Furlong  
Open girls: Kacie White-Otto  
Open boys: Josh Ebzery

Well done to all those students who gave their best on the day.

Anne O’Dwyer-Mazur  
Sports Master

from the Counsellor’s Office…….

Why it’s Important to Attend School Every Day and Not be late  
By: Michael Grose from Parentingideas.com.au

One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day – and get there on time.

The correlation between school attendance and children’s achievement levels is well-established. The more time kids spend at school, the more likely they are to experience school success.

Conversely, according to a report from the Victorian Auditor General, students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of dropping out of school early, and of experiencing long-term unemployment.

When kids miss school, not only is their academic progress impeded, forcing them to catch up on missed work (which some never do), they often miss important interactions with their peers which can compound issues of social isolation and low self-esteem. Also, many teachers report, it’s often the kids who can least afford to take time off school who are most likely to be serial absentees.

Of course, most people know this intuitively, yet school absenteeism is a huge problem in Australian schools – and much of it is parent-condoned.

It appears that Australian students miss an average of between 12 and 15 days per school year. That adds up to a year’s lost schooling over the school-life of a child. In today’s highly competitive world, this rate of absenteeism is alarming, putting our kids at a distinct disadvantage.

It’s now commonplace for children to stay away from school for reasons that would have been unheard of just twenty years ago. These include staying away to celebrate their own or a sibling’s birthday; being absent because they stayed up too late watching television; going shopping for clothes; an extended long weekend; and kids not wanting to take part in a sports day or special school event. This type of absenteeism sends a strong message to kids that parents don’t really value learning or their children’s school experiences.

Australian kids only spend 15% of their total time at school. So we need to maximise every day to get full value. That means turning up to school every day, on time. Missing a
few minutes each day may not seem like a big deal but your child may be missing more than you realise if he or she is continually late.

Current research shows that mornings for most children are the most productive time of the day, with 10:00am the peak period for productivity. **When children arrive late and take time to settle as they inevitably do, valuable learning time is lost.**

Children can be persuasive when it comes to taking a day off school. It takes strong will to resist the persistent pressure that kids can bring to bear, particularly if they play the guilt card. But the answer should still be “No!”

As parents we need to make a commitment that our kids make the most of their precious time at school. That means that we send them to school every day, on time and ready to make the most of their school day.

Of course, there will be times, such as illness or genuinely extenuating family circumstances, when kids should be away. But these need to be a rarity rather than the norm. It’s reassuring to know that you increase your child’s chances of future success just by making sure they turn up to school every day and on time. And of course regular school attendance also helps kids prepare for the workforce, where it will be expected that they turn up each day work-ready. The real world is unforgiving of those who stay away with no excuse.

**from the Campus Minister……..**

In a couple of weeks we will enter into Lent – which is a time to prepare for Easter by praying, fasting and giving to charity. This term, our charity focus is Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion. Important events:

- March 4th - **Pancake Tuesday Stall** at morning tea. This will operate out of the tuckshop and no other food will be available for purchase during morning tea (lunch will operate as normal). All the proceeds will go to Project Compassion.
- March 5th – **Ash Wednesday Liturgy**. This marks the start of lent. During this liturgy we will be when we receive the sign of the cross on our foreheads with ashes. This is to remind us that we are weak (like ashes) without God and that we need God’s help.

We currently putting together a **School Liturgy Team** for students who would like to help to run selected assembly prayers (about one per term). We are looking for people to join the team to help with readings, prayer writing, environment set up, drama and candle lighting, etc. We have received a lot of interest far but we still have room for any other interested students. If your child is interested in stepping out in this area of leadership, please see Mrs Haworth to join the team.

I would also encourage participation in the St Vinnies school group which meets every Monday at lunchtime in Room 15. At the meetings we learn
through multimedia and activities, reflect upon how we can help others and organise appeals and fundraisers.

Mrs Melissa Haworth,
Campus Minister

from the VET dept……

Sustainability

Seton College has a commitment to environmentally sustainable practices. The Eco Science Program students have committed to assist with the recycling within the school.

Other ways students can assist with environmentally sustainable practices include: turning off lights, fans, air conditioners at the end of the day, make sure the air cons are set at 24 ° in their PC rooms, keeping doors closed if air cons are on to retain the cool air inside. Students are encouraged to double side print, send the teacher a draft rather than print it out, keep the laptops closed unless they are using them, this saves their battery.

Mrs Sue Oxley
Sustainability Committee

Careers

There are ten steps to resilience which are relevant to anyone entering the workforce. These include:

1. Stay inspired - the key to your future is you! Develop you own skills by reading and listening to music which inspires you. Find out what your passion is.
2. Be yourself – be open to help and advice from others.
3. Talk to yourself – try to talk positively to yourself rather than negatively.
4. Associate with positive people – smile and have a go at tasks, don’t get stuck in negativity.
5. Don’t take it personally – it isn’t what happens to you but how you respond to situations that makes the difference.
6. Look on the bright side – find the silver lining.
7. Build your network – reach outside your comfort zone and talk to people, sell yourself.
8. Learn life long – grow your career through learning, challenge yourself to do more.
9. Be healthy – the key is being fit and healthy for a fit mind.
10. Celebrate – enjoy your work, enjoy the journey, set goals and celebrate when you achieve them!

My Career Advisor Website

Sometimes it can be difficult to know what you want to do in the future and what courses are available to you. My Career Advisor has been designed to assist you with your career choices and to help give you some direction. On this website you can work through some of your choices and do some of your own careers research.

Before you start your journey through the website you may like to download and print off the My Career Advisor – Action Plan. This is a place where you can write down things that you see that interest you. Often when we do research, we see things then move on and forget what we saw. The answer is - use the Action Plan to jot down some notes as you navigate your way.
through the website.
If you are in Years 10 & 11 or in Year 12, you may also find it useful to download and print off the Pathways Plans, which are available via the main menu.

You can access My Career Advisor at www.mycareeradvisor.com.au and use the username and password specific to our school.

Username: seton.qld.edu.au
Password: Seton 412

Uniform Shop
Orders for tracksuits will need to be placed with the Uniform Shop by the end of February for an approximate April delivery. The Uniform Shop does not carry a large stock of tracksuits on hand, so please consider placing your order.

The Uniform Shop is open on a Tuesday morning, 8am till 8.30am and again at lunchtime; 12.45pm till 1.25pm

TAX FILE NUMBER APPLICATION FORMS

A letter and tax file number application form is available for YEAR 9 AND 10 students in relation to students applying for a tax file number through the Australian Taxation Office. Applying through the school is a much easier process than applying from home.

Please note: a birth certificate number or passport number MUST be supplied on the form.

If there are students in classes other than year 9/10 who require a tax file number and wish to apply through the school, they will need to collect a form from Mrs Sarra in Rm 7.

This service is provided ONCE A YEAR only. If you think your child may be working this year (part time), applying for a bank account or getting a traineeship or apprenticeship they WILL need a tax file number. Students from Years 8-12 are eligible.

The tax file number will be sent directly to your home. The school DOES NOT receive a copy of these numbers.

These forms need to be returned by the 5th March please.

Caroline Sarra
Power Head of House

Now You See It
Seton School Officer, Mrs. Christine Sutton, is presently sporting a good head of hair but has volunteered for her crowning glory to be SHAVED OFF at Seton College during a lunch hour in March to promote awareness for those suffering from leukaemia and raise money for research that the Leukaemia Foundation undertakes. How to financially support Chris in this brave gesture will appear in the next newsletter. Look in a future newsletter for the ‘Now You Don’t!’ pictures.
Laptop Information

A fresh start for 2014 has been made with student laptops. All students in years 9 - 12 with a laptop, have had their laptops reloaded with Windows. Useful software has been added along with the latest Windows updates. Students have the ability to backup their schoolwork on the provided SD memory card or an external USB device. A clean laptop without downloaded junk and malicious software from the internet will ensure students spend more time on schoolwork and less time on computer issues. Laptops now have a sticker above the keyboard with the username and another on the back of the screen with the DELL Service ID number.

Paul Connolly

Lost Property

Maddison Ballhause lost her Bayley sports shirt, size small, on the swimming carnival day. It has only been worn twice and is clearly labelled with her name. Can all Bayley house families please check their sports shirts to see if they have their correct shirts. If it is found can you please return it to the front office or to Mrs Dunnett. Thank you.

Mrs Dunnett
Bayley Head of House

Please ask your child to check the lost property box located in the school reception. There are lots of towels living in there at present. If your child has anything missing this is the place to send them.

Tuckshop News

We are now making Chicken burgers & Sweet Chilli Chicken Wraps at lunch time. As I need time to prepare these can you please place your order at Morning Tea as I will not be making any extra.

Thank you,
Elisha Cornell.

| CALENDAR |
|----------|----------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday  | 25 February | Yr 8 Parent Night (7pm) |
| Tuesday  | 4 March   | Open Day (9am – 10.30am) |
| Wednesday | 12 March | Yr 8/9 PD Day |
| Thursday  | 13 March  | Yr 8 Retreat/Yr 9 Excursion |
| Friday    | 14 March  | Yr 8 Retreat/Yr 9 Excursion |
| Wednesday/Friday | 12-14 March | Yr 10 Camp |
| Wednesday/Friday | 12-14 March | Yr 11 & 12 Camp |
Join Team Seton

A 12 year School Tradition!! Building School Spirit!!
and get a Team Seton T Shirt to ride with
at this year’s
BIKEATHON

Sunday 22 June
Free Sausage Sizzle & Soft Drink at Seton Tent
It’s great fun with great community spirit

Early Bird Discount ends 22nd March so don’t delay signing up to support this great cause.

http://www.brissietothebay.com.au

Get in contact Ph: 07 3840 0828
E: events@msqld.org.au

The MS fundraising goal this year is

$1 200 000.00
**Year 10 Bowling Afternoon**

**When:** 4:00pm Saturday, 8 March

**Where:** AMF Bowling Centre, Tingalpa

**Cost:** TBA

**RSVP:** Friday 28 February on ozmadian@bigpond.com

*** All students who attend must be supervised by an adult ***

For further enquiries, please contact **Madonna** on ozmadian@bigpond.com
Grant to us O Lord a heart renewed
Brisbane South Deanery Lenten Pilgrimage.

WEEK 1 Thursday 6 March 7pm
THEME: Choose Life: The Journey of Faith
SPEAKER: Archbishop Mark Coleridge
“I set before you life or death, blessing or curse. Choose life, then, so that you and your descendants may live in the love of the Lord your God, obeying his voice, clinging to him; for in this your life consists…”
(Deut 30:15-20)
VENUE: St Agnes' Church
Cnr Logan Rd and Tudor St Mt Gravatt

WEEK 2 Thursday 13 March 7pm
THEME: What is Evil?
SPEAKER: Fr Augustine Obi
“Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.”
(Matthew 4:1)
VENUE: Our Lady of Lourdes Church
121 Mains Rd Sunnybank

WEEK 3 Thursday 20 March 7pm
THEME: The Beloved Son
SPEAKERS AND PRAYER LEADERS: Sr Monica Carragh SSJ & Erica Marshall
“This is my Son, the beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him!”
(Matthew 17:5)
VENUE: Marymac Community Centre
Ipswich Rd Annerley

WEEK 4 Thursday 27 March 7pm
THEME: The Springs of Life
SPEAKER: Fr Orm Rush
“The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.”
(John 4:14)
VENUE: Aspinall Centre
4 klumpp Rd
Upper Mt Gravatt

WEEK 5 Thursday 3 April 7pm
THEME: Called to see: Who do we not see?
CHAIRPERSON: Rick Sheehan
PANEL: Peter Arndt
(Indigenous People)
Sr Margaret Robertson RSJ
(Poison Chaplain)
Camilla Cowley
(Refugees/Asylum Seekers)
Larry Stapleton OAM
(Mental Health)
Anthony Ryan
(Homlessness)
“As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world”
(John 9:5)
VENUE: St Pius X Catholic Primary
Owen Hall
73 Golds Avenue Salisbury

WEEK 6 Thursday 10 April 7pm
PILGRIMAGE: Chrism Mass
The Cathedral of St Stephen
“Unbind him, let him go free”
(John 10:9)
BUS FARE: $5.00 return

For more information visit
www.parishes.bne.catholic.net.au/south
or phone 07 3849 7158 or mobile 0419 642 490

Brisbane South Deanery Banner: WORD OF LIFE
A scroll unfolds with colour and variety – the living Word of God