UPCOMING EVENTS
TERM 4, 2014

WEEK 8
Thursday, 27
November
Year 10 Excursion to
Wet ‘N Wild

Friday, 28
November
Year 10 Final Day

WEEK 9
Thursday, 4
December
Years 8 & 9 Final Day
Assembly at 9AM

Friday, 5
December
Years 8 & 9 Final Day
Students finish at 12 noon

Summer Break
Monday 7 December 2014 -
Tuesday 27 January 2015

School Resumes
Wednesday 28 January 2015 for
Years 7 & 8
Thursday 29 January 2015 for Years
7, 8, 11, 12 and new students of all
year levels
Friday 30 January 2015 for all year
levels

Reflection

The Word Became Flesh – A reading from the Gospel according to John
John 1: 1 – 5; 10 - 18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into be-
ing.
What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not
know him.
He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who
received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who
were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the
glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all
received, grace upon grace.

AT THE END OF THE YEAR

Loving Father,
as we come to the end
of another year
we turn to you in confidence
and place any difficult relationships
into the healing hands of Jesus, your Son.

Enable us to leave behind
any pain of the past
and any regrets or bitterness,
entrusting the past to your mercy,
the present to your love,
and the future to your providence.

Help us appreciate more
the need to keep a good balance
in our lives.

May the holiday be for us
a time of rest and recreation
to help restore us
and recreate us
in your image and likeness,
as we enjoy
more of the love and presence
of our families,
on whom we ask your blessing.

Amen.
Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Our school year is fast coming to a close. This week we have been saying farewell to our Year 10 students. On Monday they had a Leadership Development/Retreat day to prepare them for their leadership role as senior students in 2015.

On Tuesday evening they joined with parents and staff to celebrate the completion of Year 10 at a Dinner Dance at the Abruzzo club. It was a wonderful evening and our thanks must go to Mrs. Sarra, Mr. Green and Mrs. Dunnett, Heads of House for their leadership roles and to the many members of staff who attended the night. Thanks also to Mrs. Gilbert and Mrs. Haworth for preparing and directing the Liturgy.

On Thursday the students will enjoy a day at Wet ‘n’ Wild.

Finally on Friday at 9:00am, their Farewell Assembly. The Year 10 students will be dismissed at the conclusion of this assembly at 10:30am.

Next week, our Year 8 & 9 students will have their excursion to The Plantation and then their final Assembly on Thursday at 9 am. School finishes at 12:00 midday on Friday 5th. December.

Staff News

We farewell from the staff:

**Ms. Katie Price** who is moving to the Sunshine Coast to live and work. We thank her for the work she has done with the students over the last four years and wish her well for the future.

**Mr. Greg Egan** who has also been at the College for four years, working with the staff to improve their eLearning skills. We thank him and wish him well as he takes up a full time teaching role on the Northside of Brisbane.

**Mr. Bill Holmes** who has been the Lab. Assistant at the college for the last four years and wish him and long, happy and healthy retirement. We thank him for the work he has done in setting up the new labs and preparation room.

**Ms. Cassandra Rotolone** who has been the part-time School Counsellor this year. We thank her for her work with many students and wish her well for the future.

We welcome back to the staff next year **Mrs. Annette Thrum** who will be returning to the staff on a part time basis after a year of sick leave.

Enrolments

Next year our numbers in the senior school will rise to over 110. In Year 12 there will be approximately 54 students who will be joined by over 57 students entering into Year 11. A full group of Year 7 students will be entering the college, and a slightly smaller group of Year 8 students. Our overall school student population will be approximately 330.

Uniforms

As previously advised all Senior students will wear the college hat with their dress uniform next year. They will also wear the college blazer in the winter terms.

Important Dates for 2015

**Monday 12 January:** School Office opens

**January 20 to 23:** Uniform Shop opens for new students (8:00am – 3:00pm). Uniform fittings require an appointment time which can be made through the office.

**January 27:** Uniform Shop opens for continuing students to buy uniforms. Uniform fittings require a shorter appointment time which can be made through the office before school finishes for 2014.

**Wednesday 28 January:** Years 7 & 8 students only attend.

**Thursday 29 January:** Year 8 students, senior students and all new students attend.
From the Principal (contd.)

Friday 30 January: All students attend.

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to thank all our parents and families for their support. As always, it has been a busy year full of hopes, joys and sorrows. It is my sincere prayer that whatever the successes or failures that we have experienced this year, they are seen as part of God’s plan of love for each of us and that we can see that God does not make mistakes but works everything to our good so that we might continue our journey towards him. My hope is that 2014 has been a happy year and that you are pleased with your student’s progress in both their schoolwork and their development as a person. A special “Thank you” to the families leaving our community this year - may you have fond memories of your association with the College.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the hard work and commitment of all the staff at Seton College throughout the year. They are tireless in their endeavours to provide the very best education for the students.

Finally, my appreciation goes to the School Board, the P & F Association, the other members of the Administration Team, the Office staff and all volunteers who have made the year the success it has been.

My very best wishes to you for the Christmas Season and the New Year. May the Advent of the Christ-child bring Peace to each heart and to the homes of the Seton Community and may the holidays be a time of relaxation and recreation.

Prayers and best wishes

Mr Chris Raju
Principal

From the Acting Deputy Principal

As we come to the conclusion of 2014 we reflect back and see what a fun filled year we have just lived.

I would like to thank all the staff for their support in this challenging year of transition into my new role. I would also like to thank those very patient parents who waited for the return phone call and may have had to wait just that little bit longer than expected. I would also like to thank the amazing students at our college who have worked tirelessly to improve themselves striving towards the best people they can become. Their ability to follow our SETON rules, to keep our community a peaceful and happy place, is to be congratulated.

I hope that you have a happy and safe holiday with the opportunity to reflect on what this year has provided to your family and where the journey is headed in 2015.

It seems fitting to finish the year with some words of advice from Pope Francis on how to live a happy life. Something to ponder over the break. **God Bless**

1. ‘Live and let live.’ Everyone should be guided by this principle, he said, which has a similar expression in Rome with the saying, ‘Move forward and let others do the same.’
2. Generosity. ‘Be giving of yourself to others.’
3. ‘Proceed calmly’ in life. Have ‘the ability to move with kindness and humility, a calmness in life.’
4. Leisure. The pleasures of art, literature and playing together with children have been lost, he said. He suggests families must also turn off the TV when they sit down to eat - having it on during mealtime 'doesn't let you communicate' with each other.
5. Sundays. These should be holidays. Workers should have Sundays off because ‘Sunday is for family,’ he said.
6. Young people. Find innovative ways to create dignified jobs for young people.
As we draw to the end of the term and the calendar year we look forward to the celebration of Christmas and the coming of Jesus into our lives. We are reminded in John’s Gospel (on the front cover of the Newsletter) that we celebrate the Word made flesh and living amongst us. In the busyness of ending the year and Christmas shopping Christians are asked to stop and instead of presents; reflect on the significance of the Incarnation and Jesus presence with us always. God became flesh through Jesus and He will always be with us.

A saying that you may have heard is “Charity begins at home”. I find this difficult at this time of year when there are so many who go without. We teach our children to share with others and I encourage you and your families to donate what you can to those less fortunate than ourselves - those who will not have lavish Christmas dinners or gifts in abundance. We are accepting St Vincent de Paul Hamper donations until early next week so please give generously to ensure that others in our wider community have a Happy Christmas also. To help and embrace all people in love and kindness will show to the world that Christ’s birth made a difference in our lives and assists us to become closer to God. “The Word was made flesh and lives among us”.

I attended a conference earlier this year where I was privileged to hear Australian Artist, Jan Hydes speak about her contemporary art work based on the Gospel stories she remembers being told in her childhood. The image to the left is her version of the Nativity. You may wish to reflect on the symbols and imagery she has used. See the three wise men carrying oil, a light and a sheep; contemporary Mary carries a shopping bag with bread and wine; three weeds in the gutter symbolising the Trinity. I particularly like the way Jan Hydes has included Joseph, who is often absent from paintings of the Nativity, who is a real hands-on and attentive Dad to baby Jesus.

The Seton College staff wish you and your families a very Happy and Holy Christmas. We hope that during the extended break you allow time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas for Christians today. May you have time to rest and renew as you move forward positively into 2015.

Mrs Alison Gilbert
Acting APRE

Mrs Helen McNamara
Acting Deputy Principal

From the Acting APRE

From the Acting Deputy Principal (contd.)

7. Respect nature.
8. Positivity. ‘Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem. That means, "I feel so low that instead of picking myself up I have to cut others down," the pope said. 'Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy.'
9. Respect others' beliefs.'
10. Peace. 'We are living in a time of many wars,' he said, and 'the call for peace must be shouted. Peace sometimes gives the impression of being quiet, but it is never quiet, peace is always proactive' and dynamic.

Source: Catholic News Service

Mrs Helen McNamara
Acting Deputy Principal

From the Acting Deputy Principal (contd.)
Message from the Uniform Shop

As per the current Uniform Policy, Seniors in 2015 will be required to wear the Senior uniform which consists of a white blouse/shirt, and a senior badge.

The Uniform Shop holds limited supplies of the white blouses/shirts. Therefore please organise your senior uniform as soon as possible as we may need to order sizes in.

The Uniform Shop will be open to current students on Friday 23rd January and Tuesday 27th January 2015 by appointment only. Please call the Office on 3291 5333 to book an appointment. The Uniform shop is also open on the normal Tuesday morning (8 – 8.30am) and Tuesday lunchtime (12.45 – 1.15pm) before the end of the year.

Elisha Cornell

From the Campus Minister

As we end this year, I would like to thank you all for the generosity you have displayed in contributing to our charity appeals and fundraisers throughout the year. In particular, thank you for making this year’s Christmas Hamper Appeal such a success. The donations will be sent to the St Vincent de Paul Conference at St Catherine’s Wishart who will then distribute the hampers to those in need this Christmas.

If you interested in connecting with volunteering opportunities or finding out more about Christian youth events over the holidays see http://setoncampusministry.weebly.com/whats-on.html for details.

Melissa Haworth
Campus Minister

Kokoda Challenge Youth Program 2015

The KCYP is run by a not-for-profit organisation called the Kokoda Youth Foundation that is based on the Gold Coast. We have been running this youth program since 2004. The 14 month youth program provides the opportunity for young people to realise their full potential by learning the values of Kokoda Spirit – Endurance, Courage, Sacrifice and Mateship.

The program is open to young people who are 16 by or 18 after the 30th of June 2015.

The program sees the young people commit to a six-month Sunday training regime that teaches life skills like tolerance, discipline, respect, purpose, teamwork and self worth through bushwalking. Not only does this develop physical fitness, but prepare participants for the Challenge of a lifetime –having the opportunity to travel to Papua New Guinea to walk the Kokoda Track or participate in a cultural/community service trip and to experience another culture. This amazing experience is followed by a further 8 months community service where participants regularly volunteer to help in their local community.

The Kokoda Challenge Youth Program is seeking applications NOW! for 15 – 17 year olds (you must be 16 by or 18 after the 30th of June 2015) Applications open until the end of February 2015. Best part is that registration is FREE!

For more information go to www.kokodachallenge.com from the main page click on the youth program tab and choose details or apply.

Please don’t hesitate to contact Kathryn Flint if you would like further clarification before applying on 3291 5309.

Mrs Kathryn Flint
Glamorous Senior Graduation

Year 12 girls dazzled in evening gowns, sparkling jewellery and gorgeous coiffures while the boys looked suave and sophisticated fresh out of a Bond movie.

What a fabulous finale to a great year - see a collection of photos below.

Sports News

Over the past few weeks students have been competing in lunch time aquathlons. This involved running two laps of the oval followed by a quick transition into swim gear and swimming 150m in the pool.

The open boys’ race was hotly contested with Josh Ebzery taking the lead to win in the last 5 metres of the swim. Ryan Bidner placed a commendable 2nd and Jake Michel 3rd. The open girls’ event was won by Claudia Jones.

The 16 year old boys’ race was won by Isaac Samuels, Joshua Marshall was 2nd and Jack Gaffney 3rd. Stephanie Londy was the winner of the girls’ race.

Seth Parry Johnson was the winner of the 14-year-old boys’ race, with Ben Hernandez coming 2nd and Zac Borechi 3rd. Lauren Holcroft was the first girl home.

On Tuesday the 25th the 13 and 15 year old boys and girls will have their race.

Touch Football friendly match

On Wednesday November 19th a group of our year 10 boys were collected from the College to travel in a bus provided by St. Thomas More College to their grounds in Sunnybank in order to play a friendly Touch Football game. The students involved were: Jack Morrison, Jed Vine, Jacob West, Tyler Gersbach, Liam Murray, Kayenn Otti, Jared Hammond, Matthew Neergaard, Isaac Samuels, Jordan Byrne and Bryson Corkhill-Hodge. The boys were enthusiastic but very well behaved.

Jed Vine scored the opening try for our team. The biggest challenge of the game was the weather which decided to be very inclement unleashing the fiercest storm so far this summer. The game had to be abandoned as everyone rushed for cover...with the promise of a rematch.

Mrs Anne O’Dwyer-Mazur
Work Experience

Congratulations to the Year 10 students for their excellent attendance at Work Experience this term. We would like to remind students that they need to keep up to date with handing in diaries and forms on time; both are an important aspect of the working world.

For workers who feel they are not up to scratch you can always ask your boss if you would like to upskill, but you will need to determine how it will improve your productivity and performance on the job first. Training will give you confidence and motivation to put things into practice.

Building networks is an important part of job seeking. We can email our contacts asking if there are any vacancies, but there is also a place for personal contact. Cold calling organisations by actually walking into a business to ask if there are any vacancies can be beneficial to both the job seeker and the business. The job seeker has the opportunity to have a look at the workplace and the business owners can see what the job seeker looks like and if s/he has the right image for their workplace.

Top Tips for Networking

Give and you will receive – build a relationship before you need it.
Be clear about what networking isn’t – it is not promoting or selling goods or services, extracting a donation, stalking or trying to gain advantage.
Move out of your comfort zone – make new connections.
The make-or-break handshake – body language is 70 per cent of our communication power.
Always have an introduction planned – include your name, where you fit and what you can do for others.
Contribute to a conversation – no one will remember the silent bystander.
Take your Resume – make sure you take an up to date resume to leave.
Little things count – keep your drink in your left hand so your handshake is not clammy.
Follow up – send a card or make a phone call to meet again.
It’s not all face-to-face – contribute to blogs in your area of expertise.
Remember – social media is part of the employment mix today, ensure your Social Media Profile is appropriate.

VET

Within the VET courses offered here at Seton, we have had the following successful course completions (for most students) this year:
Certificate I in Business, Certificate II in Business, Certificate I in IDMT Certificate I in Agrifood Operations, Certificate II in Active Volunteering, Certificate II in Retail. Congratulations to the students of these courses, they are to be commended for their commitment to their studies.

Kathryn Flint and Sue Oxley
VET Coordinators

Chess Championship

This year once again saw a very competitive Seton College Chess Championship. Twenty-two competitors were seeded into a single elimination knockout tournament culminating in a best-of-three final. Seedings proved true with three of the top four meeting in the semi-finals. A pleasing feature of this year’s tournament was the strong performance of some of the Year 8 students, which bodes well for the depth of the competition in future years.
Students compete for the perpetual Flanders Trophy (named for a Former Deputy Principal), and individual trophies and vouchers kindly donated by Mr Wayne Hansen, the college groundsman. The Seton College Chess Champion 2014 is Josiah de Brueys (Bayley). Second place goes to Kurtis Benyon (Cooper), 3rd place to Trent Moger (Cooper) and 4th to Kyle Gillam-Findlay (Cooper). Congratulations to Josiah and the placegetters, and to all who participated in this year’s competition.

The Margaret Thompson Reading Trophy
The Margaret Thompson Reading Trophy is awarded to the student who achieves the greatest percentage of their Accelerated Reader points target for the year. Each student at the college is given an individual points target reflective of their reading level. This target is achievable for each student.

At final year level assembly 24 students have received or will receive achievement certificates acknowledging success in reaching their points target for the year. A further 27 will be acknowledged for their commitment to the Accelerated Reader program.

Three students this year have set themselves apart in achieving over 300% of their individual points target, and deserve special recognition. Liam Murray (Bayley) is the winner of the 2014 Margaret Thompson Reading Trophy; Cheyenne Crombie (Bailey) receives 2nd place and Jack Gaffney (Bailey) comes 3rd place.

Mr Brendan Page
Teacher Librarian

Seton College has agreed to participate in the ecoBiz (http://www.cciqecobiz.com.au/) assessment of our organisation to determine if we can reduce our energy, waste and water usage. To reduce these costs will enable us to provide better resources within the College community. We are active participants of the Brisbane Catholic Education ‘Creation We Care’ initiative which encourages all schools to commit to sustainable practices.

Energy: Throughout the day staff and students are asked to turn off lights, fans and air conditioners at the end of Lessons 2, 4 and 6, to ensure the blinds are drawn and keep the door shut to retain the cool air within the rooms. Setting air conditioners to 24 degrees during summer allows for minimum energy use. Turning off power points when equipment is not being used also assists with saving $25 per power point pa. Use energy saver mode on equipment whenever possible if turning off the equipment is not a viable option. If you follow these principles at home, then your costs will also be reduced.

Waste: We have two large industrial bins for our general waste and cardboard waste. Additionally, we have had our recycling program operating for recyclable items purchased from the tuckshop with students receiving a re-fund. This has been successful this year and reduced the amount of plastic litter in the grounds.

Water: Our water tanks are a little dry at present, due to the lack of rain, however, when they are full, the water is used to top up the pool, water the ovals and gardens and for use in the new toilets. All toilets are dual flush.

As the year draws to a close, we are also reminded of the valuable work the Environmental Science and the Agrifood Operations courses have provided to the Seton College community.

The staff (teaching, school officers and groundsman) and students have developed gardens – edible and flower, planted trees and shrubs and maintained the existing gardens. The grounds are well-cared for and a credit to the teams who have worked tirelessly to keep them looking immaculate.
The Aquaponics Project is progressing with the roof trusses attached, ready for the roof to be added to the structure. We are very grateful to BCC for the grant which has allowed this project to progress this year.

Sustainability Committee