Dear Parents,

This week was the 25th anniversary of the release of Nelson Mandela from Victor Verster Prison after he was imprisoned for 27 years.

Mr Mandela stated that, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”.

Education is so highly regarded in hundreds of countries around the world where it is not always available, and yet in many western societies our youth take it for granted and sadly, some consider it a nuisance rather than a privilege.

In Australia we are extremely lucky to have the opportunity to receive an education and the ability to gather skills which can be used to help better the world. Coincidentally it was 50 years ago this week (12 February 1965) that St Philip’s College opened its doors for the first time with a total student enrolment of 56 students.

As many of you know, St Philip’s started as a residential college only, with all the boarders attending other schools in the town and it was only in 1989 that the day school opened. St Philip’s is still unique in that we still accept boarders who attend other schools.

No matter where you are in the world, never take education for granted. No matter your age or gender, everyone has the right to learn.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Leesong
Acting Headmaster

An English teacher once told me that a good article must cover the who, what, where, when, why & how of an event.

Year 12 Business & Enterprise students were each allocated a specific section to explain our most recent business related endeavour….here goes! Continued on page 4.
Friday night was a fun night in Girls’ Boarding as we played one of our traditional games ‘Fashion Stakes’. It’s a dressing up game that was introduced to our boarding house many years ago by the first boarder from the Sullivan family and we’ve played it once or twice every year since.

The themes this year were aliens, vampires, rappers and finally boarding house staff. Nikita made a great Cindy, Zara was outstanding as Nick from Boy’s Boarding, Emily made a great Deb and we had several different Rhiannans. The star of the show though had to be Kate who gave a scarily realistic impersonation of me complete with glasses. Oh dear – am I really that old!

At the end of Round 3 all of the teams were totally level, but Kate’s performance was the clincher and her team won some early Valentine’s roses – edible ones!

Afterwards, there was still time for a late night swim which they really enjoyed. On Saturday, we were back in the pool again in the afternoon and evening and in between the swims was an energetic hour or so in the stadium playing volleyball with the boys. The boarders particularly seem to enjoy elimination volleyball and at one point it was down to only Keirah against a strong opposing team. Against all the odds she managed to get one of her team members back into play and then Nikita carried on the good work and they went on to win the whole game.

On Sunday afternoon a group of boarders made some rocky road with Libby, many thanks to Jordan for initiating this activity and for giving us the recipe, and then of course there was swimming again.

When it got cooler, Josie and Chelsea went to our community plot with me to plant silverbet, cucumber, peppers and sage. The community garden is a great initiative and if any of you would like to come and see our plot when you are next in town please let me know.

Just a reminder that Friday 27 February is Exeat Weekend. The Boarding House will close at 5pm on the Friday and re-open at 4pm on Sunday 1 March.

· Have you bought your Topsy Smith, McKay & Partridge Welcome Breakfasts yet?
· Photos from the Topsy Smith, McKay & Partridge Welcome Breakfasts now at www.stphilips.nt.edu.au

The plate’s canteen will be available on the day for students to purchase some food and drinks.

Above: A bunch of Boarding House rappers!

Above: Fun in the kitchen making Rocky Road with very patient cook Cel

Above: Enjoying the warm weather

Mr Prasad Nair is seeking out Year 12’s from last year who are looking to sell their Graphic Calculators at a reasonable price.

You can contact him at prasad.nair@stphilips.nt.edu.au
WHO: The Year 12 Business & Enterprise class

WHAT: During class, we have been learning about a range of internal and external factors which have the potential to affect new businesses in their establishment phase.

We were afforded the opportunity to analyse Page 27 and prepare a SWOT analysis; evaluating strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the local café. This was presented to Page 27 Manager, Nathan Bergan, on behalf of St Philip’s College.

To ensure the authenticity of the task, Miss McCowan thought it important that the Business Department cater our lesson. We ate delicious sandwiches, chocolate croissants and brownies – definitely a strength of Page 27!

WHERE: We presented Nathan with our framed SWOT analysis on site and ate food in the courtyard at school during our lesson.

WHEN: Thursday 5th February, Week 2, Term 1.

WHY: Why not?

HOW: Students split up into different groups, contributing to each aspect of the SWOT in a round-robin type fashion.

Next time you dine at Page 27, be sure to look for our contribution to the café’s ambiance.

A special shout-out to Dylan Tuckwell who was the first student to point out my error in taping the SWOT together. From this point forward it will now be known as a SOWT analysis! WHOOPS.

Miss McCowan and the Year 12 Business & Enterprise Class
Chaplain’s Message

GOD LOVES TEACHERS

On the 6th day, God created men and women. On the 7th day, he rested. Not so much to recuperate, but rather to prepare himself for the work he was going to do on the next day. For it was on that day, the 8th day, that God created the FIRST TEACHER.

This TEACHER, though taken from among men and women, had several significant modifications. In general, God made the TEACHER more durable than other men and women. The TEACHER was made to arise at a very early hour and to go to bed no earlier than 11:30 p.m. with no rest in between.

The TEACHER had to be able to withstand being locked up in an air-tight classroom for six hours with thirty-five “monsters” on a rainy Monday. And the TEACHER had to be fit to correct 103 term papers over Easter vacation.

Yes, God made the TEACHER tough…but gentle too. The TEACHER was equipped with soft hands to wipe away the tears of the neglected and lonely student… those of the sixteen year old girl who was not asked to the prom.

And into the TEACHER God poured a generous amount of patience. Patience when a student asks to repeat the directions the TEACHER has just repeated for someone else. Patience when the kids forget their lunch money for the fourth day in a row. Patience when one-third of the class fails the test, and patience when the text books haven’t arrived yet and the semester starts tomorrow.

And God gave the TEACHER a heart slightly bigger than the average human heart. For the TEACHER’s heart had to be big enough to love the kid who screams, “I hate this class, it’s boring!” and to love the kid who runs out of the classroom at the end of the period without so much as a “goodbye,” let alone a “thank you.”

And lastly, God gave the TEACHER an abundant supply of Hope. For God knew that the TEACHER would always be hoping. Hoping that the kids would someday learn how to spell… Hoping not to have lunchroom duty… Hoping that Friday would come… Hoping for a free day… Hoping for deliverance.

When God finished creating the TEACHER, he stepped back and admired the work of his hands. And God saw that the TEACHER was good. Very Good!

And God smiled, for when he looked at the TEACHER, he saw into the future. He knew that the future is in the hands of the TEACHER.

Anonymous
Sarah Pollitt
Chaplain

What’s happening in Week 4?

Monday
16 Feb.
- Year 8 (2016) Round Square National Exchange Information Night - 6pm, Fred McKay Education Centre

Tuesday
17 Feb.
- Year 10 Mittagundi Information Night - 6pm to 7pm, The Minnamurra Hall

Wed.
18 Feb.
- Flynn House Assembly
- P&FA Meeting - 7.15pm, Fred McKay Education Centre

Thursday
19 Feb.
-

Friday
20 Feb.
- Inter-House Swimming Carnival - Town Pool
- Library and Homework Centre Closed
- Year 10 Mittagundi deposit due ($600 non-refundable)

Library hours:
- Monday to Thursday: 8am to 6.30pm
- Friday: 8.00am to 5.30pm

Exchange Info Night

The Year 8 2015 Round Square National Exchange Information Night (originally 19 February) has been rescheduled to Week 4, Monday 16 February.

If you are thinking of going on exchange, it is imperative that you attend.

Joke of the Week

Why didn’t the Shrimp and the Crab leave a tip for the waitress?

Because they were “two shellfish.”