Welcome back to everyone in the St. Martin's community to a very busy 10 week term. This term importantly reinforces the learning from terms 1 and also gives a timely opportunity to provide summative reports on student progress to parents. Term 2 also provides many great contextual teaching opportunities and in this year of 'Community Events', opportunities for socialisation as well as great memories for our children. These include Anzac Day; Interschool Sport; Mother’s Day Stall; Wynnum Manly Eisteddfod; and Mother’s Luncheon. We also have NAPLAN testing and a variety of class/ year level Celebrations of Learning. We will also provide parents with an opportunity to comment on our Behaviour Support Policy and Procedures this term which we will then embed in the remainder of 2014. This includes a 6 Step Behaviour Policy to clarify for all in our community when non-belonging or disrespectful behaviours are occurring and dealt with.

Contemporary Learning Village

This combination of three teaching spaces offers so much potential for teachers to create memorable learning experiences for the students is already being well utilised. The Buzz has been a Café; professional learning area for school officers and teachers; an ‘industrial’ kitchen and laboratory. We have a grant submission in for an Anzac Garden to enhance the courtyard of this lovely upper school precinct.

Climbing Cove Up and Operating

Thank you so much again to the proactive Parents and Friends of St. Martin’s who have supported both philosophically and financially this project. This enhancement to playground offers opportunities for gross motor development. Most recently it is now being used at lunch plays as well. This area will be well used by all children.
School Review and Principal Review

Thank you to all community members who participated in either reporting to panels or simply by completing surveys to well and truly inform these two periodical processes. The outcomes were very positive in both reviews. This reinforced for me that the school’s overall direction and provision of Catholic Education is deemed both within and from outside agencies seen as contemporary and of a high level. Proof of this is high demand for places within the school with more than 180 applicants for Prep in 2015.

Meetings Trial for 2014

The first of the ‘Day’ P&F meetings proved to be successful with numbers similar to an evening meeting and a variety of participants including grandparents which was great to see. This variety offers good breadth of feedback and consultation for leadership.

School Board will discuss the 2014 Budget as a key agenda item for the May meeting.

Mick Kelleher