



10 March 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends of our Marymede Community,

In the week beginning Sunday March 13, all Catholic schools in Victoria will be celebrating Catholic Education Week. The theme of the week is "Be the face of Mercy".

Our Acting Head of Faith & Mission Prep – Year 12 Mrs Melinda Muir and a group of both primary and secondary students will join 2,000 students in a Mass to be celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral next Thursday March 17.

We at Marymede Catholic College take seriously our primary purpose of nurturing our students' faith. Christian teachings are central to our work and the challenge for us is to continually ensure that they are included in all we do.

Extension of the South Morang Rail Line

The Premier of Victoria Daniel Andrews announced last week that in 2017 work will begin on extending the South Morang line through to Mernda. The project is expected to be completed in 2019.

He also stated that as part of the project, a railway station will be built across the road from our College. This is wonderful news for our Marymede families.

House Welcome Barbeques

Thank you to those families who joined our staff at the Chanel and Chisholm House Welcome Barbeques this week. I hope our parents enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with staff and other parents in their House.

Romero and McAuley Houses will have their barbeques next Tuesday March 15 and McCormack and Marcellin Houses on Wednesday March 16.

Year 7 2017 Enrolment Interviews – March 9

Yesterday afternoon a core of experienced staff members interviewed families applying for a place in Year 7, 2017. We were most impressed with the quality of the Year 6 students we interviewed.

I am delighted to report that Marymede will again be running six classes at Year 7 next year. First round offers will be posted home in the last week of April.

Secondary Interim Reports

Next week, our secondary staff will begin collating their data to write their interim reports. While it is difficult at this early stage to report on all areas of our students' progress, it is important that parents are informed about how their children are performing. Reports will be available for parents via PAM from Thursday March 24.

Staff News

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Laura Wilcox recently gave birth to a baby daughter, Amelia Rosanne Fiona. Mother and baby are doing well.

Term 1 Holidays – March 24

The College will close for the first term holidays on Holy Thursday March 24. Classes resume on Wednesday April 13. Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews for all of our Prep –Year 12 students will take place on Tuesday April 12 from 10.00am to 8.00pm. More information will be provided in our next newsletter.

Kind Regards,

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

Is It Too Early To Start Studying?

If you are in Year 12, by the time you are reading this you are already 20% of the way through your final year of schooling. In other words, you have already learned a fifth of what you will need to know for the final exams.

It is a great time to begin establishing and testing your study technique in preparation for the practice examinations in June and September, and for the VCAA examinations in October and November.

Sitting an examination is a specialised skill. Your ability to perform at your best in an examination is partly a reflection of your understanding of the subject matter; but it is also greatly dependent on your capacity to work within time limits, construct the types of responses required, perform under pressure and handle anxiety, and the countless other skills called upon by this type of assessment.

Practising examination technique is the only way to ensure you can perform at your best. For our Year 12 students, the VCAA website provides past examination papers for students to use in their revision (link below). Now is the time for students to begin a regular revision program and to download examinations in their studies and start practising applying their knowledge to the types of questions asked.

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/pages/vce/exams/examsassessreports.aspx>

Learning and Teaching Initiatives

In the last newsletter, we began outlining the exciting new initiatives that will be further strengthening students' learning at Marymede; this week's highlighted initiative is particularly exciting, as it offers fantastic opportunities to consolidate and extend our students' numeracy in the upper primary and junior secondary years.

Initiative #2: This year, we have injected additional teachers into our Year 5-7 Maths classes to provide additional opportunities for students to get the support they need and to be challenged to extend their skills. In Years 5 and 6, a sixth teacher will be involved in the Maths blocks, to enable the classes to work in smaller, targeted learning groups; while at Year 7, we have allocated three teachers for every two classes. We anticipate this support being extended to Year 8 in 2017, providing the opportunity for an accelerated mathematics program going forward.

ACER Testing

On March 16, our Year 6 classes will participate in a trial testing program being developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research. The testing take approximately 45 minutes and will be completed in their classes; students will complete a single multiple choice test comprising tasks in English, Mathematics and general reasoning.

ACER is a leading supplier of school testing materials designed to provide schools with reliable information on student ability

and this is an invaluable opportunity for the College; following the testing, the school will receive the results from ACER and these will be used to further inform your son or daughter's learning program.

If you have any questions or concerns about this testing, please don't hesitate to contact me at tracey.kift@marymede.vic.edu.au

VET Studies

VET studies are sometimes incorrectly perceived as subjects studied only by VCAL students as part of a pathway into an apprenticeship or the workplace. And while VET studies are an important part of the VCAL certificate, they can also be a fantastic – and often highly beneficial – addition to a students' VCE program.

Amongst our outstanding results in 2015, was Year 11 student Eliza Edwards, whose study score of 48 in VET Dance will no doubt have a significant impact on her ATAR at the end of this year.

This year at Marymede, with the expansion of VET offerings, we have 199 students completing a VET study – either in our Trade Skills Centre completing a Certificate III in Engineering or Building and Construction; or completing VET Sport and Recreation, VET Interactive Digital Media or VET Business as part of their timetabled studies; or studying off-campus one day a week.

For students in Year 9 this year, considering applying to study an accelerated VET study next year or for current Year 10's beginning to think about their VCE program for next year, our 2017 offerings will expand even further, with plans to offer VET Music and VET Dance on campus, amongst other new Cert II and III options.

The range of VET studies students can include in their VCE program – either as accelerated studies completed in Year 10 and 11, or amongst a regular program of study – is long, highly varied and incredibly personalised ranging from Applied fashion design to Aviation, from Engineering to Equine studies.

For students or parents interested in finding out more about VET, you can contact our VET Coordinator, Mr Gary Hickey, or visit:

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/pages/vet/programs/index.aspx>

Ms Tracey Kift

Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching Prep – Year 12

CAMPUS CO-ORDINATOR PREP – YEAR 12

Clean Up Australia School's Day

Our Environment Leader, Emma Wardell, co-ordinated clean-up efforts for the College on Friday March 4. Marymede has participated in this initiative since 2013 and there is noticeably less litter in the Grounds. Given that the student population is greater, this is wonderful progress. The photos below show the significant difference from 2013 to 2016. There is still work to be done to ensure that chip packets and snap lock bags make their way into the bin, so please keep

encouraging your children to bring in wrapper free lunches and putting what rubbish they do have in the bin.



Emergency Evacuations or Lockdowns

Our full College emergency drill which took place on February 29 was successful, with all students evacuated safely and in a timely manner. This drill was a planned emergency evacuation and our local Fire Authorities were also in attendance to undertake their own drill and become familiar with the College layout. There will be future drills that will either be partial evacuations or lockdowns. These will be unannounced to ensure that all members of staff and students are able to respond to any emergency in an effective manner.

Ms Julia Wake

Campus Co-ordinator Prep – Year 12

HEAD OF FAITH AND MISSION PREP – YEAR 12

Year 12 Retreat

Year 12 Retreat: During week 5 the Year 12 students embarked on a three day retreat to the CYC The Island Centre in Phillip Island. The focus of the retreat was around 'Relationships,' those we share with our friends, parents, family, teachers and God. The retreat was an opportunity for the students to reflect on their goals and dreams for the future and reinforce that good relationships can help you on your journey. The students were spoilt with intimate talks from guest speakers; Mr Michael Kenny who shared the story of his best friend who chased his dreams to become a famous opera singer, Mr Sava Djukic and his band Suede who shared their hard work and achievements of taking their group all over the world for A Cappella championships and Fr Rob Galea who shared his story of how he embraced the negative and turned it into a positive and the importance of his relationship with God.



Community Mass

Community Mass: Community Mass is celebrated every Wednesday in our Chapel of Annunciation from 8am. All within the community and welcome and invited to attend. We are

lucky to have Fr Martin Ashe, Fr John Murphy, Fr Anthony Girolami, Fr Joseph Truong, Fr George Feliciouz as part of our team to celebrate mass. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Upcoming Faith and Mission Events:

- Weekly Community Mass in the Chapel of Annunciation – Wednesday 8am
- Romero Feast Day – Tuesday March 15
- Chisholm Feast Day – Wednesday March 16
Please see the attached Feast Day letter for further details.
- St Patrick's Day Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral – Thursday March 17
- 10 students will represent the school to celebrate Catholic Education Week.

Mrs Melinda Muir

Head of Faith and Mission Prep – Year 12

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

The Wedding Singer Tickets on Sale Monday March 14



Ticket bookings for *The Wedding Singer* open this Monday March 14 at 8am. All bookings must be made via Trybooking: <http://www.trybooking.com/KSHN>. Any unsold tickets will be available cash only at the theatre on the night.

There are three performances: Thursday May 26, 7.30pm; Friday May 27, 7.30pm; Saturday May 28, 5pm at Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre, South Morang. We encourage you to book early, as our last College Production sold out.

The Wedding Singer Cast Rehearsals

The Artistic Team have become concerned about some students who are missing rehearsals for *The Wedding Singer*. Cast members are reminded to carefully check the rehearsal schedule which they received via email (also attached to this newsletter) and note the dates/times in their diaries. Unfortunately there is not enough time to reteach music, choreography and blocking so it is essential students are present. On the rare occasion of a known absence, students should email Simone.McGill@marymede.vic.edu.au with as much notice as possible.

The Wedding Singer Backstage Crew

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as members of the backstage crew of *The Wedding Singer*:

Shanae Alabakis; Grace Diliberto; Emily Maney; Laura Mantagaris; Gemma Parsons; Jesse Azzopardi; Hayden Cox; Alec Prestia-Cook; Evan Papaioannou; Jack Roach; Massimo Sartor; Deepal Singh; Hannah Falzon; Marian Fernando; Shakira Heerah; Maria Joseph; Sheryl Varghese; Julia Ilczynski; Jacob Leddin; Jade Adolph; Jarryd Cairns; Darcy Jack; Grace Demarte; Nuwin

Fernando; Chelsea Harrop; Tiwanhya Konara-Mudiyansele; Zara Milankov; Claudia Pironi; Cassandra Rukweza; Jarrod Taylor; Brittany Zahra; Kristen Lando; Carly Pizzato.

Our Stage Management team of Ms Marisa Bortolotto and Ms Alana Smith look forward to working with the crew next term. Crew members should ensure they check their emails for their specific roles.

Ms Angie Bedford
Head of Performing Arts
Director/Producer of The Wedding Singer

DIRECTOR OF PRIMARY

Parent Information Night

Thanks to the many parents who came along to the information workshops on Tuesday February 23. Despite the extremely hot weather, it was great to see you there taking an interest and finding out what your child is learning, how you can help at home and for also showing a commitment to building home school partnerships which will go a long way to supporting our children.

For those of you who had said they would like to revisit some of the information presented or for those who may have been unable to attend, most of the information is available on PAM in the Parent Information Evenings / Primary section.

Resilience

Resilience is a 21st Century parenting concept that every parent needs to understand.

Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn't faze them. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience.

The good news is that most of the research shows that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and they actively foster it in their kids.

Resilient kids share four basic skill sets- independence, problem-solving, optimism and social connection.

Building Resilience

From a resilience perspective parents need to coach kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time. Avoid solving all their problems for them.

You can promote a lasting sense of resilience in your kids by:

- Having a positive attitude yourself. Your attitude as a parent impacts on their ability to bounce back from some of the difficulties they face. Make sure you model a 'you can do it' attitude for your child when he meets some of life's curve balls.
- Look for teachable moments. Many kid's learning opportunities are disguised as problems. Make the

most of these opportunities so that kids can grow and learn from some of the challenges they face.

- Make kids active participants in the family. Active participation in a family develops the self-help, problem-solving and independence skills of kids that are necessary for resilience.
- Build kid's coping skills. There are plenty of strategies you can pass on to kids to help them cope when life doesn't go their way, including acceptance, getting away for a while, and normalisation.

Promoting resilience in kid's is a not a single event but a continuous process that requires adults to be supportive and empathetic when things don't go their way. It also requires you as a parent to have an understanding of resilience, so you have faith in yourself, and your child's ability to cope.

Thanking you

Mrs Nicole Pegler
Director of Primary

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

National Young Leaders Day

On March 2, 2016, the Year 6 leaders were invited to attend the National Young Leaders day at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

Megan, our host for the day, introduced Nathan 'Dubsy' Want. Dubsy is a motivational speaker and personal trainer whose message was to set goals and overcome challenges by never giving up.

Next up was Dylan Parker. We gasped when we found out he was the paper plane maker and inspiration for the movie 'Paper Planes'. We learnt that he had folded 4,000 paper planes in 3 months and he'd won the world competition of flying paper planes. He taught us that we have to try new things, even if it seems small, because you never know what opportunities might come to you.

Following this we had a friendly welcome to an 11-year-old boy named Winter Vincent. Winter provided clean water for more than 14,500 people by fundraising in his school community and supplied water filters for those in disadvantaged counties.

Our next guest was poetry slam world champion, Harry Baker. Harry recited some of his poems and told us that don't let anyone tell you, you can't do it.

Next we met a crazy lady named Kate Austin. Kate has a business called 'Pinchapoo'. Kate was in the shower one day and she picked up her shampoo bottle (one of those mini ones you pinch from the hotel) and came up with an idea to help homeless and displaced persons, gain access to personal hygiene items. Kate's message was "Get over the word 'no'. It's bullet proof. Turn it into a 'yes'!"

Finally we listened to a panel of guests. Paul McIntosh works on super computers, Alan Duffy is an astronomer, Anita Loughran is a co-owner of a cat café and Elliot Costello helps people who are less fortunate with the '5cent campaign'. They all explained why they loved their job. Their words to us were "Your Passion

will lead to a purpose.” Overall we all had a brilliant time and we learnt many things which have inspired us to become great leaders.



Miss Imola Tavella
SRC Representative. Year 6.3

Camp Quality Incursion

On Monday February 29, the Preps – Year 3’s took part in an incursion facilitated by Camp Quality. Camp Quality are a non-profit organisation that provide programs for Schools to help build supportive communities for children affected by Leukaemia. They use puppetry to provide a fun, interactive and engaging way to dispel common myths and misconceptions about the disease, and encourage peers to be supportive and understanding towards students who have been affected by the disease. We have a number of students at Marymede who have been affected by Leukaemia in one way or another, so this was a great opportunity to help support them.



Ms Rita Casonato
Prep 1 Teacher and Year Level Coordinator

Bridge Inn Swimming

Congratulations to our Swim team who won the Bridge Inn Swimming Carnival at Northcote on February 15. A consistent performance across all age groups ensured we went back to back for the first time. The students should be commended on their dedication to attend early morning training sessions. Many have competed since in the Whittlesea/Woodlands Division February 29 and Northern Metropolitan Region on March 9.



Bridge Inn Weekly Sports Results

Our students have had a successful start to our Weekly T-Ball and Soccer. If we continue to have strong performances we will qualify for the Grand Finals. Please refer to the Marymede Facebook page regarding potential Grand Finals on March 18.



Walk to School Day

It was great turnout for our first Walk to School Day for the year. Thanks to all those who attended. Parents and younger siblings were added to the tally for the first time with Marcellin having the most walkers. Well done Marcellin.



Auskick

Marymede is running the NAB Auskick Football Program in Term 2.

This is a 6 week program which will run on Friday nights on the oval 3.30-4.30pm

As it is an after school program the cost has been reduced to \$65 per student.

This year we will again offer the program to Students in Prep, Year 1 and 2 only. The more coaches we have the better program we can deliver for our students. We will require coaches to run this program. Should you be in a position to assist in coaching please contact me via email, Gerard.Large@marymede.vic.edu . All coaches will receive an auskick program manual to assist them as well as a Year 6 student. To register your child for this program please go to:

<http://www.aflauskick.com.au/>

and search Marymede Catholic College.

Payment is required online when you register on the Auskick website. All students Auskick packs will be delivered to the school and handed out at the commencement of the program.

T-Ball Clinic

This term in House sports our Year 6 students are participating in a T-ball clinic run by Melbourne Sports Institute. The clinic is designed to sharpen catching, hitting and throwing skills and to improve their knowledge of the game and the rules.



Tennis Hot Shots

Great to see our newly resurfaced tennis courts are getting a lot of use at our Hot Shots Tennis Program which is held at Marymede on Wednesday mornings at 7.45am. If you are interested in joining please email Paul Vassallo info@vassallotennis.com.au



Football Star Academy

Marymede offer a paid parental Soccer program on Thursdays afterschool 3:30-4:30pm for all Primary School ages. Please refer to the website for further details:

<http://www.footballstaracademy.com.au/>

Chisholm and Romero Feast Day

Students from Chisholm and Romero will celebrate their Feast Days with a Mass and shared lunch. Students in those Houses are to wear their House uniforms on the following days; Romero 15 March and Chisholm 16 March.

Easter Extravaganza

Students in Prep – Year 5 are to wear their House uniforms on the last day of term Thursday March 24.

They will take part in a fun Easter activities throughout the day.

Our Year 6's will again pass on the Easter tradition by performing the Easter play Preps and Year 1's are having an Easter bonnet parade Period 1 in the Fitness Centre. Students need to make an Easter inspired hat at home with their parents. Prep and Year 1 parents are more than welcome to attend.



Mr Gerard Large
Head of Primary House Sports

Sewers Wanted

The Primary Learning Enhancement Department is asking for any adult helpers that are willing to give up some time to help sew some weighted pillows for some of our Primary students to use in the classroom.

If you are willing to lend some help, please contact me via: laura.gazeas@marymede.vic.edu.au

Thank you for your support,

Ms Laura Gazeas
Learning Enhancement Coordinator Prep – Year 6

REGISTRAR NEWS

New Students

Marymede Catholic College welcomes the following new students who commenced this past fortnight and their families to the College:

Joshua Janev – Year 9
Nina Malinova – Year 10

2017 Enrolments

Applications for Year 7 2017 are now closed. This past Tuesday the College met and interviewed prospective families applying for positions at the College next year. First round letters of offer will be posted home to successful applicants on Friday April 22.

Applications for Prep 2017 are now open and will close on May 2, 2016.

School Bus Service

Students who have paid in full for their 'FULL' or 'ONE WAY' Bus ticket will receive their formal Bus passes this week. Any student without a formal Bus pass will no longer be permitted to travel on the Bus under any circumstances – this includes students who have paid their deposit but not submitted final payments to the College.

10th Year Anniversary Pins

Students will be handed out their commemorative 10th Year Anniversary Pin at our upcoming House BBQ's across March. We strongly encourage all students to wear their pin with pride.

Mr Matthew Luczek
Registrar

CANTEEN NEWS

Volunteers

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following volunteers who have given up their time and have assisted us in the Canteen in the last few weeks. Thank you Rosanna Ragona, Inoka Diaz, Mariam Naguib, Prashanthi Sudarshan and Rita Savanjika.

We would also like to acknowledge the following students who willingly give up their lunch time on a regular basis to assist us when needed. Thank you Cameron Hughes, Ivana Moicic and Rebecca Hancy.

The Canteen is always looking for volunteers. If you think you might be able to help in any way please feel free to contact us by calling 9407 9000.

Ms Kate Quinn and Mrs Connie Ibrahim
Canteen Managers

OSHC NEWS

Going Green

During our recent 'Going Green' initiative, the children learnt about recycling and keeping the environment clean and healthy. Also we focussed on eating healthy, creating our own food pyramid and making multicultural green salad.

This week, we are working on the colours of autumn. The children decided to have natural resources to create own garden

Congratulations to Natalie for being nominated as the OSHC leader for the week. Natalie showed great leadership skills by helping the children in their art and helping the staff organising the program.

Camp Australia Holiday Clubs are now open online, Please log online to book your child

<http://www.campastralia.com.au/holidayclubs>

To find out more about our program and to register and book visit:

<http://www.campastralia.com.au/>

If your child is not attending the program on the day or if they are away from school, it is important to give us a call on the OSHC direct number: 0401054844 and leave a message so staff will be aware of the child's absence.

The Camp Australia Team