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31 May 2018

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

May is traditionally the month dedicated by the Church to Mary and as today is the last day of May, I wanted to share with you a few of my thoughts on Mary our Blessed Mother.

Through the gospels, we come to know of Mary, of her love for God and her desire to do His will in accepting to become the Mother of Jesus our Saviour. She was a strong woman who had faith in what God wanted of her, a perfect example of motherhood and the first of the disciples of Jesus.

I encourage all members of our Marymede Community to ask Mary to intercede when we find ourselves in need of consolation and to follow her example of trust and love of God.

Victorian Catholic Secondary Principal's Conference

Last week I attended that annual Catholic Secondary Principal's Conference which was held in Creswick. The presenter was the very well-known Dr. Thomas Groome from Boston College in Massachusetts. The theme of the conference was "Education From and For Faith".

Dr. Groome stressed the importance of Catholic schools today having a faith culture where everyone in the school community feels welcomed and respected. We want our students at Marymede Catholic College to know that our staff are a real presence in their lives and help shape their outlook on life in a positive way.

I really enjoyed Dr. Groome's presentation as he challenged me in my role as a Principal to ensure that Jesus is at the centre of all we do at our college.

St. Marcellin Champagnat

Next Wednesday 6 June is the feast day of St. Marcellin Champagnat – founder of the Marist Brothers Order.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge Marcellin's significant contribution to Catholic education and the values expressed by Marcellin of humility, simplicity, modesty and love of work and hope they are as valuable to our students today as ever.

Xanadu

I congratulate staff members Ms Angie Bedford, Mrs Judita Kafetzis, Mr Sava Djukic, the support staff and our students who performed on stage, worked backstage or played in the band. Xanadu was a high-quality production which clearly our students loved being involved in.

Thank you to the many students, parents and relatives of our Marymede Community who attended. I hope you enjoyed the show as much as I did. We have a number of very talented Performing Arts students at our college.

Prep 2019 Enrolment Interviews

This afternoon we will be interviewing families wishing to be part of the 2019 Prep intake. Letters will be posted within the next week and we ask that parents please return the acceptance form as soon as possible to help the college finalise our Prep enrolment offers for next year.

Early Learning Centre

Our first full week of the ELC in operation has been very successful. Our Director, Mrs Naomi Rigney, has been delighted at the way our three and four-year-old students have settled into the new centre.

If you know of friends interested in sending their children to the Marymede Early Learning Centre in Term 3, please ask them to contact Mr. Matthew Luczek as we have a limited number of vacancies.

Crunch Time

It is now Week 16 of the semester which some may call crunch time with our Years 9-11 students sitting their end of semester exams in a little over a week. It is also a time where major pieces of assessment are due from our Unit 3 & 4 students.

Students will reap the rewards of their dedicated study as they work through this peak time without too much stress and hassle. I encourage students to plan carefully and seek their teachers' help when problems arise.

Principal's Review

Over the last two days Ms Victoria Myers (CEM Consultant), Mr. Mark Murphy (Principal, Marcellin College Bulleen) and Mr. Terry Cooney (Principal, Our Lady of the Way Wallan) have interviewed a number of staff, students, Board Chair Mrs Jo-Anne Mazzeo and parents as part of my Principal's Review.

The panel will then write a report which will be made available to Mr. Rob Clancy (President, Association of Delegated Canonical Administrators) before the end of this term.

I look forward to receiving the feedback from our school community on my first three and a half years in the role.

Kind Regards

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

Students with Disability Funding

Each year, Catholic schools receive additional funding to assist with supporting students with a variety of disabilities. Until recently students in Catholic schools could receive funding under seven disability categories: physical disability, chronic health impairment, severe language disorder, intellectual disability, hearing impairment, vision impairment and social-emotional disorders.

Since 2015, all schools have also participated in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). This an annual data collection counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment with which they are provided. This data collection groups students under four disability categories: physical, cognitive, sensory and social-emotional.

From 2019, there will be a change to the process for funding for students with disabilities, with the NCCD to be used to inform funding. For more information about the NCCD and the new approach to funding, please read through the attached fact sheet, or contact our Secondary Learning Enhancement Coordinator, Ms Maureen O'Hara or Primary Learning Enhancement Coordinator, Mrs Sue Kift.

Semester 2

On June 18, Semester 2 begins across the College. For any students studying a one-semester subject, they will move into their second semester subjects from this date. Single semester subjects occur for:

- Prep to 4 students in Visual Arts and Performing Arts;
- Year 7 students in Languages, Visual Arts and Drama;

- Year 8 students in the Digital Technology, Food Technology, Visual Arts and Dance;
- Year 9 students' elective studies; and
- Year 10 students in most studies.

In the final two weeks of this term, there will be some changes to the fortnightly program for students in Prep to Grade 6 to allow for the teachers in each year level to participate in a planning day in preparation for Semester 2. Details of the changes to your child's classes over these two weeks will be communicated by your child's teacher prior to June 18.

VCAA Examinations

Students enrolled in Unit 3 & 4 studies can now access the 2018 VCE Examination timetable for the October & November VCAA Examinations via the link below. It is required that all students sitting VCAA examinations read and understand the VCAA Rules for the conduct of VCE Examinations and the GAT.

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/exams/timetable.aspx>

These rules are available via the link below. All students should be aware that ignorance of the rules is not accepted as excuse in the case of a breach of conduct. With particular reference to Rules 18 & 19, please be advised that it is the policy of Marymede Catholic College – as authorised by the VCAA - that all students remain in the Examination/GAT venue for the entire duration of the examination/GAT. Early finishes are (strictly) not permitted.

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/exams/examsrules.aspx>

Finally, as mentioned in the newsletter on May 17, students enrolled in Unit 3 & 4 studies will sit the General Assessment Test (GAT) on Wednesday June 13. Details about the materials and equipment authorised for use in the GAT and VCE written examinations are available below.

<http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vce/exams/authorisedmaterials.aspx>

Ms Tracey Kift
Deputy Principal – Learning & Teaching Prep – Year 12

HEAD OF FAITH AND MISSION

2018 Winter Warmers Appeal

Pope Francis calls us to be merciful like our Father and through our actions be of service to others.

It is with this message in mind that we are delighted to launch the College's annual Winter Warmers Appeal. All students are asked to come together in support of our local community and give a 'hand up' to those doing it tougher than ourselves by donating food, toiletries items, socks, gloves, beanies, scarves and blankets.

Please see the attached advertisement for what each Primary year level and Secondary House group are asked to bring.

Catholic Man Breakfast: Thursday May 24

Each year Archbishop Denis Hart, the Archbishop of Melbourne, hosts the Catholic Man Breakfast Series for males who attend Catholic Schools across Melbourne. Marymede was delighted to escort 8 students to this function. The students had the opportunity to hear champion AFL Footballer and Catholic husband and father Daniel Wells who told his story in an interview.

Reflections from our students:

'The breakfast gave us an opportunity to gather as men and be encouraged and inspired by our faith. This was further influenced by the talk from Daniel Wells, who talked to us about his development of faith and background. His love of work, and his patience and wisdom are some of the things that stuck with me after him being interviewed in front of us.'

'This was different from school or Sunday mass because it was directed at men, primarily of my age.'

'After breakfast, we were introduced to North Melbourne and Collingwood football player Daniel Wells. As he was interviewed, he shared an insightful story about his family, football, and how he introduced faith into his life. It was interesting to hear from personal experience some of the issues he has encountered throughout his career, and how faith played a massive role in his life.'

'We all managed to enjoy a fantastic morning with all of us gaining valuable life lessons from champion AFL footballer Daniel Wells, who spoke to us about his conversion to Catholicism and how we as young people can make the best choices for our future.'



Year of Youth Catholic School Forum: Friday May 25

Marymede Catholic College was invited to join in a wonderful opportunity with students across the Archdiocese to celebrate the Year of Youth.

The School Forum featured Bishop Mark Edwards and international guest Steve Angrisano and was an opportunity for students to discuss issues that are important to them, raise questions and share stories with Church leaders.

Reflections from our students:

'At the Year of Youth school forum, my mind was opened to the true meaning of Catholicism and religion. I learnt that religion isn't necessarily being able to feel the presence of God, but to

BE the presence of God in other people's lives by serving them and the community faithfully. This introspective and reflective experience has positively changed my perspective on what it means to be religious and spiritual.'

'The Youth Forum was a delightful experience and had enlightened me with information on the Catholic Church and faith.'

Upcoming Marcellin Feast Day

Marcellin House will be celebrating its **Feast Day on Thursday June 7**.

Marcellin House is excited to be celebrating its Feast Day as it is an opportunity for students across the College to come together as a community, honouring their Patron, Saint Marcellin Champagnat, build House Spirit and get to know one another.

To promote House spirit and identity, we ask that all students in Marcellin students wear their yellow house top and sports uniform on this day.

Students in Marcellin House will celebrate Mass in the Chapel of Annunciation with our College Chaplain Fr Martin Ashe.

During lunchtime the students in Marcellin House will gather to enjoy a meal and lunchtime activities together. A pizza lunch and juice box will be provided by the College.

Marcellin Community Mass

Marcellin families are also invited to attend **College Community Mass on Wednesday June 6 in the Chapel of Annunciation at 8am**. This is an opportunity to celebrate what is great about Marcellin House as a community. We hope to see you there with your families.

Mrs Melinda Muir

Director of Faith and Mission Prep – Year 12

DIRECTOR OF PRIMARY

It is hard to believe that we are already in Week 7 of this term! The cold weather is well and truly upon us, however our students remain happy, engaged and energetic in all that they do at school.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We ask for your prayers for our Year 3 students who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation on either Thursday June 7 or Wednesday June 13. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of all our Year 3 teachers, Mrs Muir and Ms. Malusu in preparing the students for this Sacrament, and I would also like to thank our College staff for their efforts in supporting the preparation and celebration of this Sacrament.

Use of Social Media

Technology is a wonderful thing when used correctly, respectfully and thoughtfully. We encourage it's use as a learning tool, reflected in the school's commitment to provide the most up to date technology for our students to use.

STUDENT WELLBEING

Wellbeing Element: Meaning and Purpose Wellbeing Builder: Valuing Other People

As kids get older, they come across strong language in everything from ads on TV, movies, YouTube videos to online comments. And lately, the amount of swearing on some of their favourite TV shows seems to have bumped up a few notches. Many TV and radio ads and programs are chock full of easily identified censored or bleeped words. Parents can take advantage of these moments by explaining how shows (and other media) get attention for profanity -- a strategy that's part of selling a product.

Kids' fascination with taboo words isn't new, of course. Around the age of 5 or 6, most kids get a big thrill out of potty language (hello, *Captain Underpants!*) or any word that gets a rise out of parents. This age is a great time to help kids understand that there are places where certain language is OK (like in silly books) but not in others (like at the dinner table or at school).

What kids intuitively understand is that words are powerful, and certain words make a big impact. Often, children do not even understand the meaning or context for the language they use other than the effect they see in others to know it is 'bad' or 'offensive' and will send a negative message to others.

Here are some tips for talking to kids about strong language:

1. **Think time and place.** What might be no big deal at your house could be offensive at your best friend's place. Remind kids to keep their audience in mind when they're speaking. Your family may consider some words acceptable that are not swearing by definition, but are considered not nice or hurtful in other families. The language you use when texting your best buddy, or on the football field on the weekend can be a bit looser than the words you use in a classroom or when speaking to Grandma on Skype.
2. **Expand your own vocab.** You can almost always find a substitute for a curse word. Encourage kids to find some creative alternatives to common curses or different ways to describe the feeling that's making them want to curse. Children need to guidance to discover the language to use when they are feeling disappoint, angry or frustrated.
3. **Words can hurt.** Being called a name like "stupid" or "jerk" can sting. And just like it's not OK to hit someone or bully them, it's not OK to curse at someone to hurt them. Point out when TV characters call each other names, and ask kids how they could have handled the situation differently. Rehearse different scenarios with your child so they can try alternative ways of dealing with feelings and responding appropriately to others' actions.
4. **Language reflects on you.** Maybe some of your kids' friends think cursing makes you cool, but the reality is that someone who curses a lot tends to look

However, we are aware that a number of students are subscribing to social media sites, games and apps. at home that may be deemed inappropriate for their age and/or stage of development.

The school strongly recommends that parents:

- Adhere to age restrictions on all social media sites, games and apps.
- Consider carefully the age guidelines given for sites, games and apps.
- Consider whether their child is emotionally and socially equipped to manage the game, app. or site they are using, despite them being in the recommended age range.
- Actively supervise their child when accessing these sites, apps and games.
- Monitor their child's online behaviour regularly, including email.
- Block sites or delete games and apps immediately if a problem occurs.

Conduct at School

I would like to remind parents that it is never appropriate to speak to another student with the intention of 'telling them off' for behaviour incidents. Refer matters to staff for follow up.

Additionally, I ask that you do not ring or speak to the parents of another student in regards to behavioural or social issues between students. Again, refer the matter to staff who are best placed to respond to and manage issues.

Use of Strong Language at School

We have seen a growing incidence of students using strong language at school in response to situations and the feelings that result from these situations. As a school we seek to promote respectful relationships between all members of the community and as such, have a zero tolerance approach to swearing, name calling and the use of words to berate another person racially.

We ask for your support in this matter. I strongly encourage you to read the article by Ms.Nicole Pegler and Mr. Anthony Montemurro in relation to students' use of strong language at school in this newsletter and to address the matter with your children.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Sacrament of Reconciliation or around the school in the mornings and afternoons. As always, we thank you for your co-operation and also for your support of the important work we do with your children.

Ms Rosemary Bennett
Director of Primary

immature and not at all classy. Remind kids to keep that in mind, especially when they're sending their language out into the world at school, on social networks, online communities, etc.

5. **Limit exposure.** Check out the "language" sections of our media reviews to help select TV shows, movies, games, etc. that keep the language within your comfort level. Movie and TV classifications and ratings are there for a reason! Check out the website <https://childrenandmedia.org.au/movie-reviews/> for suggested age suitability and details of scene by scene content to make an informed decision before allowing your child to watch a movie you have not seen yourself first. Find out how to turn off comments or access to chat rooms if kids are seeing inappropriate language on the web.

Home Task

Discuss different feelings and emotions each family member has felt this week. You might like to use the guide in the Student Planner (Upper Primary pg 145 or Secondary pg 152) Be respectful and acknowledge each person's response. In any given situation, feelings identified are OK and acceptable even if we don't agree, however the way we respond and behave may not be acceptable.

Brainstorm alternatives and write a list of positive phrases and for members of your family to use to help deal with disappointment, frustration and anger. Role Play some scenarios children come across to

Complete this week's wellbeing builder to reflect on your positive coping strategies

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK;

"From a little spark may burst a flame." **Dante Alighieri**

Ms Nicole Pegler **Mr Anthony Montemurro**
Wellbeing Coordinator **Director of Secondary**
Prep – Year 6

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

'Xanadu'

Thank-you to all the staff, students, families and wider Marymede Catholic College community who came along to support Xanadu. Putting on a show on this scale is a huge effort, and the three performances were the results of months of planning and hard work by over 100 staff and students. At Marymede Catholic College, we are blessed with experienced and talented staff.

There are too many to mention here, but I would like to acknowledge the Artistic Team of Mrs Judita Kafetzis, Ms Stephanie Tonietto, Mr Sava Djukic and Mr Jai Cameron. Off-stage I thank Ms Marisa Bortolotto, Ms Anna Liggieri, Mr Jeremy Guzman and Ms Alana Smith.

After Saturday's performance, I presented the following awards in recognition of students who went above and beyond in the rehearsal process.

Director's Excellence Awards: Benjamin Cole (Year 12) and Jarnai Brancaleone (Year 9)

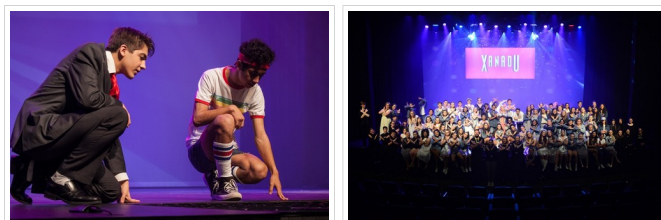
Best Newcomer Award: Harrison Coombes (Year 11)

Director's Awards:

Adam Argyros (Year 11)
Angelina Pavlovski (Year 8)
Daniela Maiorana (Year 8)
Ebony Perera (Year 9)
Ella Rudge (Year 9)
Emma Beel (Year 12)
Helsen Cross (Year 12)
Madison Ackland (Year 7)
Nuwin Fernando (Year 9)
Tess Motley (Year 7)
Vironnica Mudaliar (Year 8)

Stage Manager's Awards: James Gurtler (Year 9) and Naomi Petrovska (Year 12)

Please enjoy the attached gallery of images taken by our Media and Design Guru, Mr Jeremy Guzman and leading man Helsen Cross (Year 12)



Ms Angie Bedford
Head of Performing Arts Prep – Year 12

Legal Studies

On May 18, the year 11 VCE Legal Studies students headed to the medium security Karreenga Prison. The students departed at 7am sharp. The long one-hour bus trip consisted of several students snoring away. When the students arrived at the prison, one of the many correction officers instructed the students to leave all their belongings behind.

As they entered, they went through a security check followed by a glance of the prison grounds. The students spoke with a panel of prisoners regarding their crime, their family, their victims, the court system (the trial process) and their experience in prison. They were given an insight on how prison operates and how different the life of a prisoner is compared to an individual living in the outside world.

All the students would guarantee this experience can be perceived as life changing and remind us that even a little mistake can result into profound consequences. The Year 11 legal studies students would like to thank Ms Carla Esposito for organising this fantastic excursion and for Mr Ndanema for joining us on the day. We would highly recommend for any future legal studies students to take part in this astounding experience.



Ms Chloe Vann and Ms Arman Shergill
Year 11 Legal Studies Students

VCE Visual Arts and Technology Excursion to Top Designs

On May 2, the Senior Media, Visual Communication Design and Textiles students travelled to the city to find inspiration for their folios and final pieces.

The Media students first visited the Australian Centre for the Moving Image to watch 'Terror Nullius', a sample-based film that confronts the ideologies that are held in Australia. Ideologies presented in the film, such as feminism and capitalism, have been discussed and analysed in class through other media products.

The Visual Communication Design students participated in a workshop at GDJ Advertising and learnt about the design process, while the Textiles classes viewed the 'You Can't Do That' exhibition and sought inspiration from the unconventional designs on display.

The next place we all visited was Top Designs at the Melbourne Museum. This exhibition showcased the work of high-achieving VCE students of the previous year and it helped us to better understand how to layout our research and design folios. This excursion allowed our classes to be inspired to achieve higher standards with our work.



The GDJ Advertising workshop

Mr Andrew Skenderis
VCE Media Student

#nofilter | Photography Exhibition

If you have walked through the Calthorpe Gallery in the Library foyer recently, you may have noticed a colourful display of photographs by the Year 9 Media class. The students have worked hard curating and installing the exhibition over the past few weeks. Titled '#nofilter', the exhibition features experimental photos and photographic narratives in a range of genres, all taken with manual camera settings and without any filters! Be sure to have a look at the amazing work when you next visit the gallery.



Image by Fern Hughes

Mr Jeremy Guzman
Head of Visual Arts

PATHWAYS

Parents as Career Advisors

Parents play an extremely important role when it comes to careers and pathways for their children. It is via the parents that children can learn about love of work, work ethic and work life balance. My Futures has developed some assistance for parents in this area. You can access it via this link.

<https://myfuture.edu.au/footer/assist-others/assist-your-child>

Tertiary Information Session

On Tuesday May 22, our Year 12 students went to La Trobe University to attend a tertiary information session. Students listened to information about making a VTAC account and important dates to be aware of as well as SEAS (Special Entry Access Scheme). Many universities were present as well as TAFE and Private Registered Training Organisations. Students were able to speak to representatives and collect information about future pathways and the open days that will be coming up.

Ms Carol Fisher
Head of Careers

COMMUNITY MASS

