



13 February 2020

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

### The Year So Far

Classes are well and truly underway and new staff and students are getting on with the business of learning. In the early days, our upper Primary and Secondary students should be organising their studies by doing homework, background reading and forward planning.

The level of time commitment varies with each year level, but the valuable skills of time management, organisation and task completion are pertinent to all students.

### Coronavirus

All families have received advice from the College regarding recommendations from the Government in relation to the coronavirus and attendance at school. Any child returning from mainland China (not including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) who was in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020 is to be isolated at home and not to attend school until 14 days after they were last in mainland China.

This recommendation applies only to children in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020. It does not apply to students who left mainland China before 1 February 2020.

### Opening of the School Year Mass

Our Opening School Mass on Thursday 6 February was a wonderful celebration of welcoming. Our College Chaplain Fr. Martin Ashe talked in his homily about the importance of everyone at Marymede feeling that they are a part of our Christian and Catholic Community. We continually talk to our students about belonging and getting involved in the life of our College.

Thank you to staff members Ms Julia Wake, Mr David Broadbent, Mr Thomas Broadbent, Mr Matthew Carpenter, Ms

Natalie Oman and Mrs Stacey Brice for their work in preparing this whole school spiritual celebration.

### Year 12 Retreat

Our Year 12 Retreat will take place at Phillip Island in the week beginning Monday 24 February. Students are encouraged to leave behind the everyday issues of study, work and sport to focus on the important relationships in their lives. It is an opportunity of great value to our young people as they begin preparing for life after school and students regularly say it is the highlight of their Year 12 year. I wish our students and staff a peaceful, rewarding and enjoyable time away.

### Colour Run

Our Parents' and Friends Committee have organised a Colour Run after school on Friday 28 February. This event was held two years ago, and it was an outstanding success with many students and some of our more energetic parents and staff running the course. I encourage all members of our Marymede Community to come along and enjoy what will be a fun community event.

### RIP

I ask the Marymede Community to please keep in your prayers staff member Gary Hickey and his family who lost their father recently.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord  
And let perpetual light shine upon him  
May he rest in peace  
Amen*

**Mr. Michael Kenny**  
**Principal**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STAFF AND OPERATIONS PREP – YEAR 12

### Communication with Teachers

At Marymede Catholic College we value our partnership with parents as the first educators of their children. A vital aspect of any partnership is maintaining positive and constructive communication, centred on the welfare of our students. While direct face-to-face and phone communications are often the best ways to clearly communicate, most teachers have scheduled duties both in and outside the classroom for the greater part of their day and thus have limited scope to meet in person or answer phone calls at times that also suit parents and guardians. As such, email is usually the best way to communicate with teaching staff. This can be most easily accessed via PAM, where you will find email links to relevant teachers under each child's profile. Teacher emails follow the format of `firstname.surname@marymede.vic.edu.au`; e.g. Ms Jane Doe would be `jane.doe@marymede.vic.edu.au`. Should you be unable to locate a teacher's email, please call the college on 9407 9000.

In order to appropriately manage the workload of staff, the College policy is that staff are encouraged to only access their emails between 7.00am and 7.00pm on their designated days at the College. Due to the aforementioned duties of teaching staff, we ask parents to please be patient in the time expected for email responses, which may take up to two school days. We thank you for your understanding and look forward to continuing to work in partnership with parents and guardians to ensure the best learning experience for each student at Marymede.

### Carpark Safety

With the continuing growth of our College Community has come a consequent increase in traffic flow, particularly in the drop off / pick-up zones and carpark within the College. While we can appreciate the frustration of slow-moving traffic, the safety of our students is paramount. Please keep in mind that as a P-12 school, we do have very young students whose road-sense is yet to fully develop.



With this in mind, we ask parents and other carers who drive into the College grounds to please be mindful of the following:

- Obey the signposted 10km/h speed limits
- Do not stop on pedestrian crossings:
  - If you cannot drive clear of the crossing, please wait until sufficient space is present on the other side of

the crossing

- If there is a student or staff member on the crossing, please wait until they have completed the crossing before driving across.

- Park only in marked bays
- Drive only in the directions indicated on the road
- Respect indicators of single lane traffic areas



- Respect the directions of staff on duty
- Do not park in areas signposted as "Staff parking only" between 7.00am – 4.00pm
  - Some spaces may appear vacant; however, staff often return from off-campus meetings and professional learning during these hours and require these reserved spaces
- Do not stop in the driveway unless your child is quickly exiting the car.
  - If your child needs to unpack or load extra equipment from the boot or other parts of the car, please park in a marked bay or drop them off at the oval (entry via Gate F) where traffic flow will be minimised



**Mr David Broadbent**

**Deputy Principal Staff & Operations P-12**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP – YEAR 12

### P-6 Learning

Students have settled in well to their new classes, establishing new routines and making connections with their teachers and peers. The inquiry for this term is "Community" with a focus on either the local community, first contact and settlement or democracy. Parents were emailed the curriculum overview for the term and I would encourage you to regularly discuss with your child their learning using questions such as "What do you know today that you didn't know yesterday?", "What is something new for you?", "Can you teach me how to...?". You can further support your child's learning growth at home

through ensuring homework is complete, whether this be their regular home reading, the use of Reading Eggs and Mathletics or through assisting them in the completion of tasks on their Homework grid (if applicable). The homework requirements for each year level can also be found on the curriculum overview document.

## Parent Access Module – Learning Area Tasks

Parents will find details of all Year 7-12 Assessment Tasks that are allocated to their children via the Parent Access Module (PAM) under Learning Area Tasks. You are encouraged to check this regularly to identify overdue tasks, in addition to assisting your child in planning their time where they have multiple tasks due for completion. PAM is linked to **1 email account** per family. Please ensure this email address is validated when you login to PAM as communication from your children's teachers may be generated via PAM and will therefore be missed if this is not the email address most frequently checked. You can change your registered email address via PAM at [pam.marymede.vic.edu.au](http://pam.marymede.vic.edu.au)

## VCE High Achievers Assembly

On Monday we welcomed back some of our high achievers from the Class of 2019. Students heard from our College Dux Jordan Talevski about his experiences at Marymede and he stated *"The key to success in VCE is simple and is most easily expressed as an equation – What you put in is equal to what you get out."* Students heard about the need for balance and to select subjects based on interest and passion, not scaling. We again congratulate our class of 2019 and look forward to the ongoing commitment and dedication of our class of 2020 as they work towards achieving great success and fulfilling their learning potential.

**Mrs Jessica Hall**

**Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12**

## DIRECTOR OF FAITH AND MISSION

### Opening College Mass

Our College Community was welcomed to Wurundjeri Land by local Elder, Uncle Ian Hunter and our student leaders with Fr Martin and Fr John, processed into the rich sounds of the Didgeridoo played by Gnarnayarrahe (Nunua) Waitairie. The reverence and awe shown by our students and staff was beautiful and it set the tone for a beautiful opening mass. A number of our senior student leaders joined the choir and with staff accompaniment, sang our new College Theme song with pride and joy. We welcomed and Fr Martin Blessed our new staff and our Student Leaders. Such a celebration of Eucharist wholly recognises the significance of our Christian Catholic Tradition – inclusive, distinctive and with God's love for us foremost. Many thanks to all who played a part in bringing our Fitness Centre to life as a Holy and Sacred space.



## New Youth Minister – Term 1, 2020

We are blessed to have employed College Alumni (2019) Sheryl Varghese in a new position of Youth Minister. Sheryl was our 2019 Faith and Mission Captain and has significant liturgical and ministry experience through our Parish of St Francis of Assisi and many other Parishes, participation in REMAR and Community Service with ShalomWorldTV and aged care. Sheryl will support the Faith and Mission team with Liturgy, Sacraments, REMAR/Gamechangers and encouraging our young people to participate in the Faith Life of the College. Welcome, Sheryl!

## Support for Marymede Family

One of our families will be having a 'Garage Sale' to fund **family needs** for a serious illness on Saturday 29 February, 9.00am – 1.00pm.

Address: 100 – 102 Darius Terrace, South Morang.

Many as new household items, clothing and shoes, children's toys plus more will be on sale, prices as marked.

Please pop in and show your support.

## Sunday Mass@Marymede

We welcome all community members and friends to Sunday Mass at Marymede in our beautiful Chapel of the Annunciation on the following dates for Term 1:

**Sunday 16 February 10.30am.**

**Sunday 15 March 10.30am, followed by our College Open Day**

Supported by our priests from our Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Fr Anthony Girolami or Fr Anthony Cruz will celebrate mass at these times.

We will have tea and coffee available and if we bring a plate to share (biscuits / slice) we can chat together for a short time after mass for those who are able. Please email [Julia.Wake@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:Julia.Wake@marymede.vic.edu.au) if you would like to play a part in the Mass.

## Upcoming Faith & Mission Events

- **Weekly Wednesday Community Mass:** begins Wednesday 5 February, 8.00am, Chapel of the Annunciation.
- **REMAR Gold Embarkation Camp:** Friday 14 February to Sunday 16 February.
- **Sunday Community Mass:** 16 February, 10.30am.
- **Year 12 Retreat:** Monday 24 February to Wednesday 26 February.
- **Ash Wednesday:** Wednesday 26 February – Season of Lent begins.

Please note that there will be no meat-based items for sale in the school canteen on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent (commencing from Friday 28 February and concluding end of Term 1), which are days of fasting and abstinence. Students will have the option of receiving Ashes or a Blessing at the Liturgies on this day.

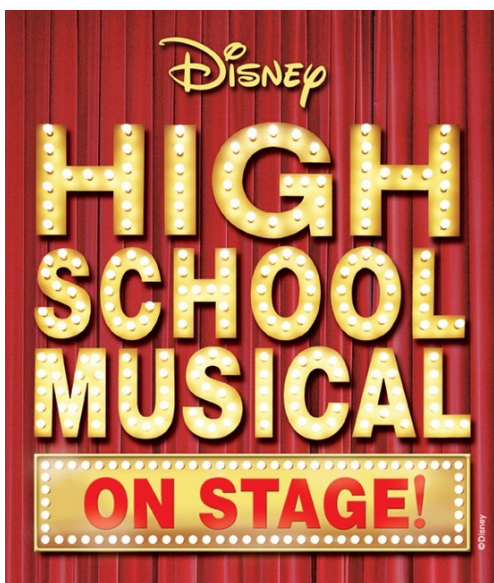
- **Gamechangers Formation Camp:** Friday 28 February to Sunday 1 March
- **Catholic Education Week:** 15 March to 22 March
- **Sunday Community Mass:** 15 March, 10.30am.
- **Romero House Mass & Feast Day:** Monday 16 March
- **St Patrick's Day Mass (selected students):** Tuesday 17 March, St Patrick's Cathedral.
- **Lent Liturgies:** Thursday 26 March.

**Ms Julia Wake**

**Director of Faith and Mission P-12**

## STUDENT LIFE

### High School Musical Cast



After two big weeks, the Artistic Team are pleased to announce the cast of *High School Musical*. On behalf of the team, I would like to thank all students (and their supportive families) for the time you put into preparing for the auditions. I say with confidence that this has been the highest level of preparation we've seen for a show. We laughed, smiled, cried and had goose bumps on so many occasions!

Rehearsals start this week.

### 2020 Co-Curricular Program

This year, the Co-Curricular Program is back, and it's bigger and better than ever.

Co-Curriculum is learning and opportunities that occur outside of class time. Some successful programs at Marymede Catholic College have included Tournament of Minds and the RPF. Co-Curriculum can complement classroom learning, as well as allow students to pursue different interests.

In the coming weeks, a P-12 Co-Curricular Handbook will be distributed on SIMON. In the meantime, some activities like the Primary Choir and *High School Musical* have just started. Keep an eye on SIMON for announcements of activities. In 2020, we are also excited to award House Points to student for their participation in Co-Curricular activities, allowing further opportunities to students to contribute to the House Shield.

**Ms Angie Bedford**

**Cultural Co-Curricular Coordinator P-12**

### Year 7 – 12 Students – Setting up for success in the classroom and at home

There has been a great buzz of excitement around the school from both students and teachers in the first few weeks of school. Students have successfully navigated their 2020 timetable, met their subject teachers and spent time getting to know their new classmates. In class, teachers and students have been working together to set classroom and learning expectations. This supports students in striving for personal success in a safe but challenging environment.

At home, it is important that students take responsibility for their learning, with the support of their guardians. All students should set aside designated time for homework and study each day, and balance this with their recreational activities and family time.

Homework expectations:

<b>Year 7</b>	1 hour per day
<b>Year 8 &amp; 9</b>	1 – 2 hours per day
<b>Years 10 - 12</b>	2 – 3 hours per day (minimum), with up to 6 hours on a weekend during peak assessment times

During homework and study sessions, students should be sitting at a table/desk in an open area, and not accessing electronic devices such as smartphones and watches or listening to music, which are often distractions. For subject specific learning strategies, students are encouraged to speak with their subject teacher or the Domain Leader.

Year 7 students have been tasked with 20-30 minutes of reading per day by their English teacher for the first two weeks of the year. From February 17, they will be expected to be undertaking 1 hour of homework per day as set by various subject teachers.

For any learning and teaching matters, in the first instance please contact your child's class teacher who will endeavour to get back to you within 48 hours.

**Ms Nikole Cymbalak**

**Learning & Teaching Coordinator 7 - 12**

## WHOLE SCHOOL

### Absentee Notification

When your child is going to be absent from school, will be arriving late or leaving early, parents and guardians are reminded of the following process:

- Ring the absentee line on 9407 9090 and leave a clear voicemail with your child's full name, year level and House, together with the reason for the absence. Parents/guardians can also send an email to [absentees@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:absentees@marymede.vic.edu.au) with your child's name, date of absence and the reason for the absence.
- If your child is going to be late for school, please re-iterate to your child that they **must sign in** at Student Reception where Mrs Jenny Priest and Mrs Leanne Easdon are located.
- If your child is leaving school early, parents/guardians are to write a note and your child will be required to present the note to their Tutor Teacher or House Coordinator in order to obtain an early leave pass. Students **must sign out** when leaving early and present the early leave pass to Mrs Priest or Mrs Easdon for recording purposes.

Please note that communication of your child's absence/late arrival **must be received no later than 9.30am** on the day of the absence/late arrival. If you do not communicate your child's absence/late arrival by 9.30am and your child does not sign in upon late arrival you will receive an SMS message advising that your child is absent and requesting you to call the school to confirm the absence/late arrival.

**Mrs Mandy Sloan**  
**Student Attendance Officer**

### Student Services – Counselling

We would like to introduce you to the College's Counselling/Mentor team whose role is to support students to improve mental health and educational outcomes.

- **Morgan Cree:** Psychologist
- **Jessica Murphy:** Psychologist
- **Jackie Freeman:** Psychologist
- **Stephen Christofakakis:** Wellbeing Mentor

Our College Psychologists provide initial assessment, short-term counselling, cognitive-educational assessments, consultations with parents and teachers, and referral to external/specialist services. Our Wellbeing Mentor provides group and individual social-emotional support with a focus on prevention and fostering positive relationships with students. Our team offers support on a short-term basis but can link students and families with appropriate external services who require further support.

All students can be referred by a parent or teacher. Secondary school students can self-refer by email or dropping in to the Wellbeing Centre, and do not require parent consent to access support. Information discussed during counselling is kept confidential and is not disclosed to other people without the consent of the student and, where applicable, the parent.

You can contact our team by dropping into our offices located in Wellbeing Centre (next to the Chapel) or via email: [counselling@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:counselling@marymede.vic.edu.au)

### For Secondary Students

- Check your child's diary on a regular basis to support with due dates, notes and messages.
- Set up routines for checking what subjects are planned for the next day to ensure your child is planned and ready for the day ahead.
- Find time for work and play. A balance is vital in the social and emotional development of all students.
- Help your child pack their bag the night before. A visual checklist can help them remember what they need to take. Lay out their clothes so everything's ready for the morning.
- Allow some extra time to get ready so you're not rushing

**Ms Lisa Murray**  
**Student Wellbeing P-6**

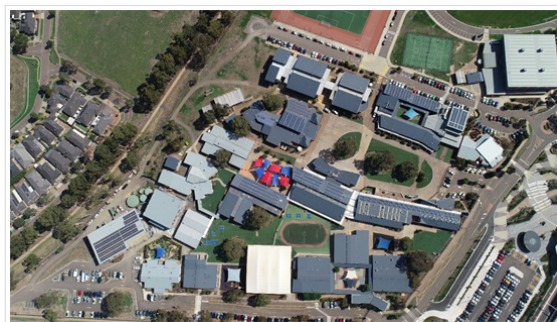
## BUSINESS OFFICE

### Additional Solar Panels @ Marymede

In 2017 Marymede Catholic College commenced its journey towards implementing meaningful solar generation across our growing South Morang campus.

At the beginning of 2020 the college added an additional 217 solar panels to the existing 981 farm solar panels, which brings the total of solar panels to 1198. These additional panels will increase our electricity generation to 348kwh, which equates to a consumption saving of approximately 60%.

Below a map of where solar panels have been installed to date:



The college is ensuring environmental awareness of the carbon footprint of operating our facility and providing a positive role model for students at the college.

### Plenty Road Upgrade - McDonalds Road to Highview Drive works

*The following information has been provided by Major Road Projects Victoria:*

The Plenty Road Upgrade will help you get home safer and sooner. We'll add a lane in each direction and upgrade 12 intersections between Bush Boulevard and Bridge Inn Road.

#### What we're doing and when

From **Sunday 23 February** (weather permitting) until late 2020, we'll start building the new lanes on Plenty Road between McDonalds Road and Highview Drive.

Works during this period will involve:

- Line marking
- Installing safety barriers
- Digging
- Relocating underground services such as communications and electrical
- Concrete kerb and channelling works
- Asphaltting
- Upgrading traffic lights at intersections including installation of new poles and lights

We'll be doing night works between **7pm and 5.30am, from Sunday 23 February to Wednesday 26 February**. All other works will take place between **7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday and 7am to 3pm, Saturdays**. At times we may need to continue work outside of these hours. If this needs to happen for any reason, we'll keep you updated.

### What to expect construction impacts

During the day shifts, we'll be undertaking activities that are expected to generate medium to high level noise and vibration at times, and you may also notice some dust during excavation. We'll be monitoring noise, dust and vibration to ensure these are kept to a minimum.

### Traffic changes

We'll be doing these works in sections to minimise disruption to traffic. So that we can complete them safely, we'll close two of the four lanes and move traffic over, keeping two lanes open in each direction at all times.

We'll also need to temporarily restrict access to Old Plenty Road and Bellevue Boulevard.

We'll temporarily reduce the speed limit and there will be short detours in place. Please follow the signs and traffic controllers' instructions. Electronic signage will be in place ahead of traffic changes to let you know what's coming up.

You'll notice the following changes from **Sunday 23 February**.

- Bellevue Boulevard will be closed at Plenty Road until mid-March. There'll be a detour at Stagecoach Boulevard.
- The right turn will be closed at Old Plenty Road for approximately six months. Detours will be available via U-turns at McDonalds Road and Stagecoach Boulevard. The Old Plenty Road pedestrian crossing will remain unchanged.
- The citybound bus stop at Bethany Court will close temporarily until mid-June 2020. If you use this stop, please follow the directional signage along the pedestrian path 420 metres north to the relocated Highview Drive bus stop. There will be no changes to bus route 382.

### Other works in the area

Roadworks associated with a private development on Plenty Road are expected to start in early February between McDonalds Road and Old Plenty Road. These works may involve some changes to traffic conditions. We're working closely with the developer to ensure minimal disruptions.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families.

The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students.
- \$225 for secondary school students.

**Please see attached CSEF application form or download from the link below:**

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

**Applications Close: End of Term 2**

**Mr Paul Romanin  
Business Manager**

### Student Banking

Marymede Catholic College is excited to offer Commonwealth Bank School Banking Program to all students.

School Banking is fun, interactive and an engaging way for young Australians to learn about money and develop good savings habits. Children who deposit money into their Youthsaver account through School Banking earn Dollarmites tokens, which they can save up and redeem for exciting rewards.

School Banking commenced on Monday February 10 and will continue each Monday throughout the year. There won't be School Banking if Monday is a Public Holiday.

**For more information please click on the link below:**

**Mr Suresh Gangadharan  
Finance Manager**

## PARENTS AND FRIENDS COMMITTEE

### Fun Run

We're holding the School Fun-Run as a major fundraising event this year! The event will be held on **Friday 28 February**. We're three weeks out! This is a sponsorship-based fundraiser.

Keep your eyes peeled for the sponsorship forms, which will be sent home with your child shortly and if you do not receive the form, please log onto the following website to start your [schoolfundraising.com.au](http://schoolfundraising.com.au)

Once you have the form, jump online at [schoolfundraising.com.au](http://schoolfundraising.com.au) and create a student profile page. Once you do this and raise at least \$1 online, you will be entered into the \$20,000 Ultimate Family Experience!

Students who raise \$10 or more will receive a reward, and the more money you raise the better the reward and the more you help the school!

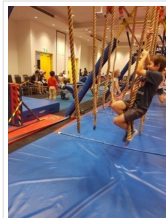
The School Fun-Run is a healthy fundraiser that we hope you'll get behind. The event sends a message to students about having fun while being healthy; all while helping the school raise funds.

We're looking for **ALL** students to participate and we're organising a great day for our community, so we'd love everyone to come down to support the kids. There will be a fantastic obstacle course for both the younger kids and the older kids. If you do not wish to fundraise, but would like to run the course there will be a \$10 cover charge in which you can register on the day or go to Marymede colour run Trybooking

If you have any questions about the Fun-Run please contact the P&F on [paf@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:paf@marymede.vic.edu.au).

We **NEED** Volunteers for the event, if you would like to volunteer for the event and be part of our colour zone, please email us on [paf@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:paf@marymede.vic.edu.au) with your name, and your WWC number and expiry date.

Here's a sneak peek of what sort of obstacles will be there.



Thanks for supporting the school and we hope to see you at the event!

**Parents and Friends Committee**

## COMMUNITY MASS

