



17 April 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

The first week of Term 2 has been very different this year compared to how we normally begin a new term. Students are usually excited to be back at school and the buildings come alive once more with our students ready to engage in the classroom with their teacher(s).

This week, the vast majority of our students have been engaging with their teacher(s) online from their home as mandated by the State Government. We have missed the presence of our students at school, but I feel comforted by the number of parents who have contacted the College to express their appreciation of the efforts made by the staff to provide a meaningful Home Learning Program for their children. We all hope and pray that the coronavirus continues to flatten in Victoria so that our students will be given permission from the State Government to return to school.

School Fees Update

During these unprecedented times, the College will continue to provide the best possible education for your son or daughter using all the tools we have at our disposal. This will involve predominantly online learning, traditional classroom learning in some cases or a combination of both.

The introduction of alternate methods of learning and teaching does not necessarily lead to a reduction in our costs and therefore our fees. Marymede Catholic College relies heavily on school fees to supplement Government Grants. A significant proportion of our total revenue pool is allocated to staff salaries, with many other expenses being fixed or contracted prior to the beginning of the school year.

As we are currently reviewing all variable expenses with the aim of identifying any possible savings, such savings will enable the College to provide as much financial support as possible to those families impacted by COVID-19.

We again urge families concerned about meeting their payment commitments as a result of COVID-19, to contact fees@marymede.vic.edu.au in the first instance to discuss the options available.

The College must plan for a sustainable future and we remain committed to supporting students, parents and staff in these unfamiliar times. We will keep you informed of developments as more information becomes available.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College via the Business Manager should you have any questions.

Term 2 Calendar

Unfortunately, we have been forced to cancel many events which had been planned to take place up until 11 May. We hope that some of these events will be rescheduled when students are permitted to return to school after the restrictions have been lifted.

Prep 2021 Enrolments

We are now taking Prep enrolments for next year. A reminder that the closing date for submission of applications 22 May 2020.

Student Dress Code

Students who are attending school this term are reminded that the winter uniform requirements begin on Monday 27 April. I thank families for their support regarding this matter.

Staffing Matters

We welcome the return of Christie Ramaekers and Laetitia Malusu from leave.

We ask you to keep in your thoughts and prayers Rosemary Bennett and her family on the passing of Rosemary's Mother during the term break.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STAFF AND OPERATIONS PREP – YEAR 12

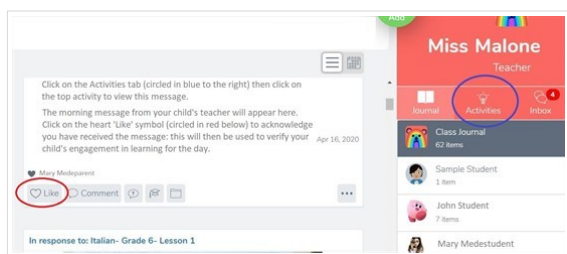
Morning Tutor Group for all Home Learning days

In this ever-changing landscape due to government measures to restrict the impact of COVID-19, a new requirement for attendance marking for Home Learning has just been announced by the VRQA, the governing registration body for all schools. This requirement is that all schools must now record attendance for Home Learning Programs for the vast majority of students who are engaged in their learning from home.

For Marymede, this means an amendment to our earlier advice on the Home Learning Program. In order to record attendance each day, **from Monday 20 April:**

- All Secondary students must attend their 'virtual' Tutor Group from **8.45am – 9.00am** (link to be sent by their Tutor Teacher).
- All Primary students or parent/guardians must access Seesaw 'morning message' by **9.30am** every day on the Seesaw website or the Seesaw Class App. Under Activities, click on the heart-shaped 'Like' button (at the bottom left of the notification); if the teacher cannot determine access has been made, an email will be sent to parent/guardians to verify student engagement in learning.

Access to Seesaw is via the QR Code mailed home to all families: if you have misplaced your access code please contact Ms Debra Molloy (Primary Learning & Teaching Coordinator) at debra.molloy@marymede.vic.edu.au or phone the College



Students who fail to log in at the appropriate time will be recorded as absent from school for the day and parents/guardians may receive contact from the College regarding their child's lack of engagement in Home Learning Program. As advised earlier, if your child is too unwell to log in to their Home Learning, please email absentees@marymede.vic.edu.au by 8.00am.

'If You Can Learn From Home, You MUST Learn From Home'

As you will be aware, the Victorian State Government has announced that all Victorian Schools will be implementing the Remote Schooling program effective 15 April 2020. This means that from the start of Term 2, the vast majority of students will be learning from home and **there will be no learning conducted by teachers on-campus**. Most of the adults engaged in supervision on-campus will not be teachers: most of the teachers are off-campus and are actively engaged in conducting and preparing Home Learning programs. Students will not be supervised by their own teachers and no active teaching nor assistance is provided on-campus except in some exceptional cases for a small number of students who are already on a Personalised Learning Program. Students on-campus will be engaged in the exact same Home Learning Program as students learning from home.

This decision has been made to increase physical distancing across the population and prevent the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). Therefore, all students who can learn from home must learn from home. While we are aware that this is a challenging and unprecedented situation, education Minister Mr James Merlino surmised it succinctly when responding to journalists on 11 April:

"If you can work from home, your children must learn from home"

As noted in previous correspondence, the only students on campus should be young children (mostly Primary school aged) who cannot care for themselves and who do not have an adult in the house to supervise them. We do not expect student from Year 9 and above to be on-campus except in truly exceptional circumstances that prevent them from engaging in their Home Learning Program at their own house.

As required via government instruction, parents with students on-campus (or requesting to send their child) will be required by Friday of each week to fill in a form with the following details prior to their child be permitted on-campus to be supervised the following week:

- Verify that your child is in perfect health
- Explain which category of essential worker or vulnerable situation prevents your child from engaging in their Home Learning Program at home
- Verify that none in your residence has had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- Verify that none in your residence has been in self-isolation in the past 14 days (*i.e. beyond the 'social distancing' requirements*)

Students whose parent fail to fill in the survey will not be accepted on-campus.

Instrumental Music Lessons During Home Learning

We are currently investigating ways to maintain the College's Instrumental music program for students currently enrolled in individual and small group lessons. This may involve the

additional availability of College instruments to enable home practice. Parents with students engaged in instrumental lessons during Term 1 are asked to please regularly check your email for correspondence about the possibilities of maintaining your child's instrumental lessons through remote learning and the opportunity to contribute your feedback and intentions for such a program.

Restricted Entry & Procedures For Students On-campus

Please note that entry and exit points to the campus will be limited as a further measure for protecting the health of our staff and students. Parents will not be permitted to drive in through the usual Gate E or F entrances.

Secondary students must be dropped off outside the College grounds and enter via the pedestrian gate near the Chapel. Primary school parents may park in the Primary carpark and must accompany their child into the College to sign them in each day. During morning arrival and afternoon pick-up, only the following gates will be open:

- **Gate D** – pedestrian access only (near the Chapel)
- **Gate C** – pedestrian access only
- **Gate B** – primary school car-parking only. Pedestrian access for Primary students and parental sign-in is via the gate near the Finance Office.

For the small number of students who will be on-campus, please see the correspondence regarding the procedures for signing into campus each day. All Primary school parents must personally sign-in their children at the front of House 1 (through the gate near the Finance Office) each day and all Secondary students must sign-in at the House Leaders' office in the Founders' Building upon arrival each day.

We Are An Easter People

While this year may seem a very different Easter experience, it may be worth reflecting upon a few details from the biblical accounts of Easter and the days that followed. One of the key encounters with the risen Jesus was a pair of disciples walking together on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), just as we in our current 'socially distancing' are permitted to walk in groups of two. How do we encounter and lift each other on our walks to enable the presence of love and light in an uncertain time?



Easter also marked a fearful time for followers of The Way: a 50-day period where many locked themselves away fearing the same fate as their Lord. It was the coming of the Spirit in

Pentecost (Acts 2) that then filled them with the courage and joy to leave their isolation to spread the Good News.

May our isolation have a similarly joyful end, one that prompts us to want to bring new life and love to others when we emerge and re-connect.

Mr David Broadbent
Deputy Principal Staff & Operations P-12

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP – YEAR 12

Home Learning Program

We are now a couple of days into our Home Learning Program and I hope that parents and students are now beginning to establish new routines and are feeling more comfortable with what the term ahead will look like. Teachers will continue to work hard to best support students in this new environment and we encourage open communication as we all navigate this new style of learning. I have every confidence in the program that has been developed and wish to thank and acknowledge the work of teachers and support staff.

I would also like to extend my thanks to parents for their support in the implementation of this program, as a community we have appreciated your feedback and the trust that you have placed in us to guide you and your children through these times. Should you have any questions, concerns or feedback please feel free to contact your child/ren's teachers, the relevant Learning and Teaching Coordinator or myself. You will find additional key contacts within the Advice to parents which was distributed via email and can also be found on PAM – Knowledge Banks – Home Learning Program.

Please ensure we have an accurate email and postal address on record to assist with communication throughout this term.

Assessment and Examinations

During the period of Home Learning assessment of student learning will still occur as this will enable us to continue to track student learning growth, and further inform our teaching and learning program.

For our Primary students there are a range of assessments that may be undertaken online. Teachers will make parents aware of any upcoming assessments and we ask for parental support in ensuring these assessments reflect students' learning.

For our Secondary students all assessment will be documented on SIMON and due dates and assessment information is accessible to parents via the Parent Access Module. Please check PAM regularly to help monitor your child/ren's progress during Home Learning.

Mid-year examinations for students in year 9-11 will not be occurring this term. The Unit 3 trial examinations will be rescheduled for Term 3. The dates for these will be distributed once we have confirmation of the return of students onsite.

Mrs Jessica Hall
Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12

DIRECTOR OF FAITH AND MISSION

Community Mass on Facebook Live – 8.00am Wednesday

Fr John is becoming technology savvy and will be celebrating Eucharist in a virtual way via Facebook Live. This will likely be a shorter ritual; however, Jesus is at the centre of our community, so we are blessed to be able to come together virtually with this sacrament.

Alerts and links will be emailed to the community via Marymede News.

Daily Prayer on SIMON & PAM

Staff, Parents and Students will be able to access daily prayer as part of their daily routine from SIMON and PAM. Prayer will continue to reflect the themes of the year and acknowledge significant awareness campaigns such as *Family Week*; *National Sorry Day*; *May the month of Mary*; *ANZAC Day etc.*

Vinnies Winter Appeal

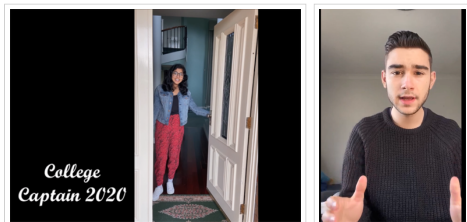
The social justice focus of Term 2 is St Vincent de Paul and the Vinnies Winter Appeal, which ordinarily culminates in our Whole College Mass of the Sacred Heart in June. This year's appeal will look very different, with many more members of our community experiencing vulnerability. The link below provides up-to-date advice on how to access support from Vinnies:

https://www.vinnies.org.au/page/News/VIC_News/COVID-19_-_Vinnies_Victoria/

More broadly for 2020, we will focus on financial donations for our local Mernda Conference. More advice on this will be provided later in the term.

Easter Isolation Message from our Year 12 Student Leaders.

On Holy Thursday our College Captains, Ann and Dimitri, Faith and Mission Captains Rachel and Jacob and Youth Minister, Sheryl Varghese put together a video message for the community. It was posted on the Marymede Catholic College Facebook Page and a link sent to all staff and students. If you haven't had a chance to have a look, please do so. It is wonderful how technology can be used to collaborate from different geographical locations!



Sacramental Program – Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation - Update

Our Reconciliation program for Year 3 will be postponed until the beginning of Term 3.

Hopefully our Confirmation program can still progress as planned, culminating in the Sacrament being celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 13 September with Bishop

Curtin; however, there may be restrictions on numbers. We will keep you posted on any alterations to these arrangements.

Our Sacrament of First Eucharist will likely be rescheduled to Term 4, the format of which will be determined based on COVID-19 updates and the availability of the Cathedral.

Ms Julia Wake

Director of Faith & Mission P-12

PATHWAYS

Careers Update

This update contains Information on the following:

- Tertiary Course Guides 2021
- Early Entry/Offers Programs
- Careers Website
- Careers for Parents
- VTAC 2021/2022 Prerequisite booklet
- Booking Careers Appointment
- Year 10 Morrisby Online Testing

Tertiary Course Guides 2021

Year 12 students have been emailed an updated list of where to locate all the Victorian tertiary course guides for 2021.

Early Entry/Offers Program

Tertiary institutions offer a range of early entry programs and scholarships students are encouraged to apply. Latrobe University's Aspire Program and Australian Catholic University – Community Achievement Program are two of these programs more information is provided below.

ASPIRE Latrobe University

<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/aspire>

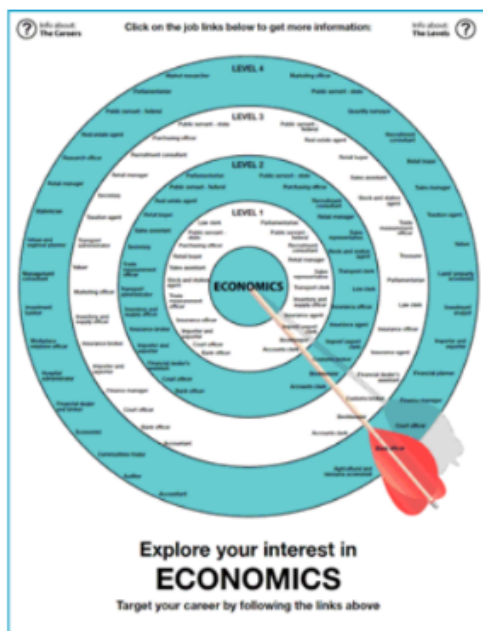
Community Achiever Program (CAP) Australian Catholic University

<https://www.acu.edu.au/study-at-acu/admission-pathways/i-volunteer-regularly>

Careers Website

The Careers website provides a range of information for both parents and students. It can be accessed via this link This is a good starting point for students in Year 9-12 who are exploring their interests and future job prospects.

The Career Target Tools is a great starting point to explore jobs and pathways.



This chart shows a selection of jobs that have some relation to the current subject.

It also shows the different training levels required for each job.

You can click on each job to be shown information on that job, including:

- a summary of what that job is about
- the duties and tasks that you normally do
- the working conditions
- the personal requirements needed to do the job
- the courses that are available that lead into that job

Summary of training levels:

Level 1:

Usually has a skill level equal to the completion of Year 10, the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education, Certificate I or Certificate II qualification. Australian Apprenticeships may be offered at this level.

Level 2:

Usually has a skill level equal to a Certificate III or IV or at least three years relevant experience. Australian Apprenticeships may be offered at this level.

Level 3:

Usually requires a level of skill equal to a Diploma or Advanced Diploma. Study is often undertaken through TAFE's or Registered Training Organisations. Some universities offer studies at this level.

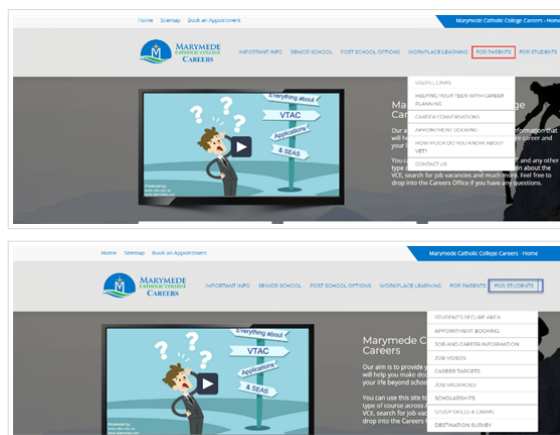
Level 4:

Usually requires the completion of a Bachelor's Degree or higher qualification. Study is often undertaken at university.

The four education and training levels are to be used as a guide only. These levels indicate the most common education and/or entry requirements for these jobs.

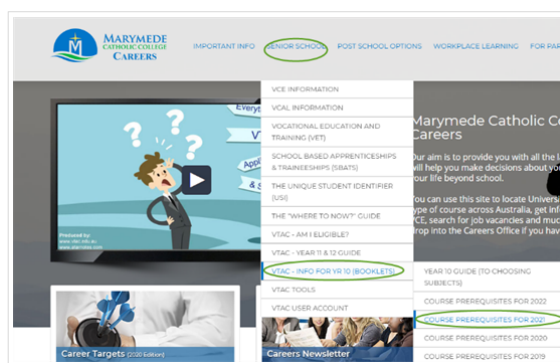
Careers For Parents And Students

The Careers website has some useful information for parents to promote discussions around careers planning. There is a specific link parents and students as shown below.



VTAC 2021 Prerequisite Booklet

The VTAC 2021 and 2022 Prerequisite booklets can be found on the Careers website. This is a good starting point for current Year 11 and 12 students to see what courses available and what prerequisites are required.



Booking Career Appointments

Students are encouraged to book an appointment via the Careers website

Morrisby Online Testing For Year 10 Students

Year 10 students and parents have received an email this week with login details and instructions regarding the Morrisby Online Testing. This testing assists in identifying a student's strengths across academic, technical and practical areas. These aptitudes are combined with measures of career and study interests, motivations, preferences and temperament to form a comprehensive personal profile. The profile provides the student with personal insights, raising self-awareness. The analyses highlight directions for the future, helping to boost motivation and aspiration.

Ms Stavroula Tsembras
Careers Coordinator

PARENTS AND FRIENDS COMMITTEE

School Colour Run Prizes

We come to that time of the Colour Run when prizes should be selected. You have until the Friday 17 April to select your prizes

for the colour run. The prizes were due to come around May, but due to the situation we find ourselves in, we are unsure of when the delivery will happen: this could occur in term 3. In any case, please make sure that you have selected your prizes for those of you who have fundraised through the School Fun run website. We thank everyone for their support. The P&F will endeavour to get the prizes to your children. We apologise for the inconvenience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact us on pnf@marymede.vic.edu.au

P&F Committee

