



23 June 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

The highlight of the past fortnight was the Marymede P-12 Mass of the Sacred Heart which was held this morning in the Fitness Centre. It was a wonderful sight to see the amount of food items donated by our College community which were brought up to the altar during our mass. The St. Vincent De Paul Society is very appreciative of the generosity shown by our Marymede families. Thank you.

Year 5 Camp

Reports from staff and students who participated in the Year 5 Camp last week have been very positive. I congratulate both students and staff for the way they embraced the physical challenges of the camp.

Semester 1 Reports

Semester 1 Reports are available to be accessed on our College website from tomorrow. The reports will give parents a clear indication of their children's progress in the first semester.

Parent/Teacher/Students Interviews in the Secondary School for Year 10 students undertaking a Unit 1/2 subject and for all Years 11 and 12 students will take place on Monday 18 July from 4.00pm to 7.00pm in the College Fitness Centre. I urge parents to make bookings to meet with their sons'/daughters' teachers.

Staff News

I ask that you please keep one of our staff members, Michelina Portelli, in your prayers. Mickie's father recently passed away and may he rest in eternal peace.

Our Year 6 teacher, Ms Maj O'Neill is finishing up at the college tomorrow. We thank Maj for her three years of service at Marymede and wish her every happiness and success in the future.

Another staff member who will be finishing up tomorrow after 18 months of service is one of our nurses, Ms Kate Harland. Kate has decided to explore a different pathway and we wish her all the best for her future endeavours.

Student Grooming

During the holidays, some students may experiment with hair colours and styles. I ask parents to please ensure that your children return with their hair neat and tidy and if coloured, of one natural tone.

School Holidays

I wish all staff and students a relaxing holiday. Our staff will be involved in Professional Development in-services on Monday 11 July. Classes will resume for all students on Tuesday 12 July.

At Term's End We Pray

Lord, bless all in the school
as we set to end our school term with the grace you so
generously provide.

We give thanks for the students, the teachers, the support and
administrative staff
and all who have contributed to the school year thus far, of
nurturing and growth.

We affirm all the positive moments,
of insight, of the excitement of learning,
of accomplishment, of creativity,
of laughter, of a sense of community.

We recognise the times of struggle,
of difficult work, of misunderstanding,

even of failure and we give these to you for transformation so they become seeds that will find fertile soil.

As we leave for the term break, may we take with us the knowledge that You will keep us all in Your embrace so we may rest and be restored.

And so we can continue in the ongoing discovery of Your Love.

Amen

**Kind Regards,
Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal**

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

Report Survey

To coincide with the opening of the Semester 1 Reports on Friday this week, we will be sending an invitation to all families to contribute feedback about our current report format, with a view to identifying opportunities to improve our approach to student reporting from P-12.

The survey will invite parents to identify the strengths and areas for improvement in our current report format and to identify the information they want included in semester reports. We will aim to use this feedback, along with comments and suggestions already collected from the teaching staff, to develop an enhanced format for reporting to be implemented in Semester 2.

The link to the survey will be emailed to families tomorrow and I would encourage all families to contribute their responses in the interests of developing reports that are meaningful and effective.

VCE Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

On Friday, parents of students enrolled in one or more VCE study will receive communication about booking Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews. I would encourage all parents of VCE students – or Year 10 students completing one or more accelerated study – to book in with the relevant teachers to discuss their child's progress and approach to their studies. For students enrolled in Unit 3 & 4 studies in particular, there will be just 14 weeks left after the Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews before the beginning of the final VCAA exams, so it is an opportune time to discuss the kind of revision and preparation program that needs to be put in place in the 'final stretch' of Year 12.

Examination Resits

Our Years 10 & 11 students completed examination resits in after school sessions this week and some of our Year 12 students will complete their resits in the first week of Term 3. I would like to thank the parents of these students for the overwhelming support of this new initiative and the positive way in which they have encouraged the students to see the resits as an opportunity to consolidate and address gaps in their learning and preparation. It has been fantastic to see students seeking

feedback from their teachers, reflecting on their study strategies and taking positive steps to improve their results.

While Year 9s have not been required to resit examinations in which they struggled, we would encourage families to discuss the examination results received by students in Year 9 and to make contact with Tutor Teachers or Subject Teachers for feedback if their son or daughter struggled with their preparation or with demonstrating knowledge in the examinations.

**Ms Tracey Kift
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching Prep – Year 12**

CAMPUS CO-ORDINATOR PREP – YEAR 12

Two Years of I CAN at Marymede

Marymede can take great pride in being the pilot school for the strengthening I CAN network. In June 2014 we hosted the first workshop of young people on the Autism Spectrum by young adults on the Autism Spectrum. Here is a snapshot of what that opportunity has given rise to.

At Marymede:

- Reduced instances of bullying of students on the Autism Spectrum;
- Greater awareness amidst staff and students of the characteristics of Autism;
- Greater resilience of our young people who have experienced isolation and misunderstanding;
- Platforms within both the College and broader community for young people on the spectrum to showcase their strengths and talents, including participation in I CAN Camps, tailored Work Experience opportunities; Council Community events and Marymede Assemblies;
- Past students returning to Marymede as Mentors whilst at university.

Across Victoria and Beyond:

- I CAN Schools mentoring is in a dozen schools (Primary and Secondary) across the state of Victoria;
- I CAN Teens Camps and Young Adult Camps have enabled young people to thrive in a safe environment with their peers, with many feeling comfortable about Autism for the first time;
- I CAN Networks strengthening in Universities and workplaces such as Coles, Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Foundation for Young Australians;
- Both South Australian and Queensland Departments of Education investigating the strengths of the I CAN Mentoring Program.

As a community, we can be very proud of the way in which we have pioneered such a creative approach to supporting our young people on the Autism Spectrum, ensuring that their strengths and talents are uncovered as well as providing as safe

and engaging environment as possible. It has been an amazing two years thus far.

“EVERY PERSON ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM HAS INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS. WE ARE AUSTRALIA’S FIRST SOCIAL ENTERPRISE FOUNDED BY PEOPLE ON THE SPECTRUM. THROUGH OUR MENTORING AND AWETISM RETHINK, WE CREATE THE SOCIETY THAT WE ALL DESERVE.” Chris Varney – Chief Enabling Officer, I CAN Network.

If you would like any further information on I CAN, please access their website: <http://icannetwork.com.au/schools/> or contact myself here at Marymede.

Parent Volunteers for BBQ Cooking and Serving on Friday 12 August - Marymede Day

Parent Volunteers are sought to assist with cooking a BBQ lunch for 1800 people on Friday 12 August. If any member of our community is able assist please contact Julia Wake on 9407 9000 julia.wake@marymede.vic.edu.au . We will need a parent army of helpers on this day, as all our staff and students will be attending mass at the Cathedral.

Pre-Service Teacher Placements

Each year Marymede hosts a number of Pre-Service Teachers across the College, ensuring that those who are undertaking studies in the profession gain a positive and realistic experience of the profession. Marymede hosts pre-service teachers from Australian Catholic University and La Trobe University primarily and is currently investigating a partnership with Melbourne University. Each pre-service teacher is directly supervised by an experienced member of staff in the delivery and management of lessons. We have hosted six pre-service teachers so far in 2016 and will be hosting another six at various times for the remainder of the year.

Healthy Together Children’s Evaluation (HTCE) 2016 – Year 8 and Year 10 Students

Following on from participating in this evaluation in 2014, Marymede will continue its participation with Year 8 and Year 10 students in Term 3.

This study will examine influences on healthy weight and related behaviours (physical activity, sedentary behaviour, diet quality, sleep and quality of life) among children and adolescents across Victoria. We ask that you please read the information carefully (attached to this newsletter), so that you can make an informed decision about your child’s participation. We ask that you only return the **OPT-OUT** consent form should you and or your child decide **NOT TO** participate. We are using an OPT-OUT consent process whereby your child’s participation in this study is assumed unless you indicate via the return of the signed OPT-OUT consent form that you do not wish for your child to participate.

If you and your child agree to participate we would like your child to complete the following activities:

- Complete a brief physical activity, sedentary behaviour, food intake, sleep behaviours and health and wellbeing questionnaire;

- Have their height, weight and waist circumference measured in a private and professional manner with trained researchers;
- Some children will be asked to wear a match box sized activity monitor (accelerometer) on their right hip during waking hours for seven days. They will need to return this monitor to school at the end of the week.

All activities will be conducted throughout a normal school day, in school time.

All information obtained in connection with this research that can identify your child will remain confidential. Your child’s data will be made anonymous during analyses, therefore, you child will not be identified in any report, publication or presentation. Results of this study will provide information about the effectiveness of current efforts to improve the health of Victorian children and adolescents. This information will be used by educators, policy makers and researchers in future efforts to improve the health of Victorian children and adolescents.

If you require further information or have any problems or concerns regarding this research, you can contact Dr. Claudia Strugnell, Research Fellow, World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Obesity Prevention, Deakin Population Strategic Research Centre.

Geelong Waterfront Campus, Deakin University
PH: (03) 5227 8483

Ms Julia Wake
Campus Co-ordinator Prep - Year 12

ACTING HEAD OF FAITH AND MISSION PREP – YEAR 12

St Vincent de Paul Winter Food Appeal

Thank you to all the families who donated and contributed to the 2016 St Vincent de Paul Winter Food Appeal. Members of our local St Vincent de Paul Chapter collected the food during the week and again were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Marymede Community. The food and household items will be distributed to members of the local community who are extremely grateful and thankful for our support.

Year 11 Justice Awareness Day

On Tuesday 14 June, the Year 11 students embarked on a day of justice awareness within the community. On this day students visited various charities and organisations who in different ways support those in need. The students gave of their time to be of service and to find out more about how they can support the marginalised within our communities.

Some activities of the day included: taking on a profile of a homeless person on the streets of Melbourne, embarking on the Fitzroy Aboriginal Heritage walk, supporting the Exodus community with community service duties, visiting a food bank that feeds the homeless and needy, meet asylum seekers and share lunch together.

The staff who attended this day were very proud of the manner in which the students at Marymede conducted themselves, displaying compassion, solidarity and a desire to be of service.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can also be known as the Sacrament of Penance. At Marymede Catholic College, our students celebrate their First Reconciliation in Year 3. The emphasis in preparing our students for this sacrament is based on reflecting on times when they did not live as Jesus asked them to. The students reflect on their actions and how they can be the best person possible with Jesus as their guide. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation the children receive the grace of forgiveness.

The Year 3 students will be celebrating their First Reconciliation in our Chapel of Annunciation during Term 3. The liturgies will be held on Wednesday 24 August and Thursday 25 August at 5:00pm and 7:00pm.

Term 3 Upcoming Faith and Mission Events

- Weekly Community Mass – Wednesdays at 8.00am in the Chapel of Annunciation.
- Year 9 Reflection Day - Wednesday 20 July.
- Prep – Year 12 McAuley Feast Day – Thursday 4 August.
- Prep – Year 12 Marymede Mission Action Day – Monday 8 August.
- Prep – Year 12 Marymede Day Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral – Friday 12 August.
- Year 11 Christian Leadership Retreat – Monday 22 August to Tuesday 23 August.
- Year 3 Reconciliation Liturgies – Wednesday 24 August and Thursday 25 August.

Mrs Melinda Muir

Acting Head of Faith and Mission (Prep – Year 12)

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Public Speaking

On Sunday 22 May and Monday 23 May, Marymede Catholic College students had a very successful two days of Public Speaking. Olivia Hughes, Year 12 and Ajay Jay, Year 10, competed in the Senior Regional Finals of the *Rostrum Voice of Youth*. Olivia addressed the State Government’s failure to see ‘*The Bigger Picture*’ in relation to infrastructure in Melbourne’s outer suburbs; Ajay spoke about how ground-breaking men and women have ‘*Broken the Mould*’ in their quest to contribute to our changing world. At the conclusion of this event, Olivia was advised that she will progress to the State Finals.

Year 12 student Julia Cavasinni and Year 10 student Kamaria Brancato competed for the *VCAA Plain English Speaking Award*. Julia’s bold topic titled ‘Stop taxing women. Period.’ drew congratulations from around the room and she was awarded the runner-up place at this heat. Kamaria spoke about why feminism is actually about equality. Although Ajay and Kamaria have not progressed in their competitions, both presented themselves in a manner which the Marymede community can be very proud of.

Public_Speaking_1.JPG

Overall the standard of speeches in both competitions was quite outstanding. It was uplifting to hear such passion on a diverse range of topics from young people.

Olivia Hughes will compete in the *Rostrum Voice of Youth State Finals* in late June. In July, four of our Year 7 students will compete at the *Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competition*. We wish all of our students the best of luck.

Mrs Laura Thompson
Secondary Teacher

Year 11 Justice Awareness Day – Romero House

On Tuesday 14 June, Year 11 students from Romero House had the opportunity to visit our House Charity, St Mary’s House of Welcome. St Mary’s House of Welcome help the less fortunate people by providing breakfast and lunch six days a week, along with many fantastic activities that individuals can take part in which give them a sense of belonging. Hearing the stories of people who attend the St Mary’s House of Welcome regularly gave us a sense of appreciation for the facilities that we have at school, the homes we all live in and the opportunities that we have as young adults. After playing a few games of pool and sharing stories with these people, we then set out on the Fitzroy Aboriginal Heritage Walking Trail. This walk took us around the streets of Fitzroy and we were able to learn about the history of Aboriginals and the connection that they had with certain buildings. Year 11 Romero students would like to thank the teachers involved in planning the Justice Awareness Day as it really opened our eyes to the effort that St Mary’s House of Welcome put into creating better lives for the less fortunate. We look forward to continuing the connection with St Mary’s House of Welcome and Romero House. We would also like to thank Ms McGill for coming with us on the day.





Miss Chelsea Ford
Year 11 Student and Romero 3 House Tutor Leader

Miss Milly Turner
Year 11 Students and Romero 4 House Tutor Leader

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

An Attitude of Gratitude

As the end of the term approaches, maintaining a positive mindset can be tricky for both the children and adults. One strategy which can help improve our mind is adopting each day an attitude of gratitude. It can help to refocus the mind on what's going right, instead of what's going wrong. Research has shown that people who express gratitude have more positive emotions, joy and show increased levels of happiness and resilience.

Here are three strategies which you can use at home to help adopt an attitude of gratitude:

1. **Share gratitude daily** – make time in the morning, during dinner or even when you pick your child up from school to share at least one thing that they're grateful for.
2. **Keep a gratitude journal** - set aside a few minutes and write down or draw at least three positive events that happened today. Reflect on how it made them feel (this can instill anchors for positive moments). The journal is really great because it can help them remember a time when things went right, especially when things might be challenging for them.
3. **Model gratitude** – find the small moments to extend gratitude. Emotions are contagious.

Adopt an attitude of gratitude.

Thank-you.

Ms Jacqueline Tjorpatzis
Student Wellbeing Coordinator Prep to Year 6

Interschool Football

Congratulations to the Primary Football Team who were Bridge Inn Premiers for 2016. They were undefeated all season and had a great win in the grand final 66 to 7 against Hazel Glen College. The team will now go on and represent Whittlesea in the second round division competition on 15 July.

A special thank you to all of the Years 10 and 11 students who have officiated the games throughout the season.



Interschool Netball

It was great to see the 'A' Netball Team make the 2016 Bridge Inn Grand Final. They were up against Hazel Glen College who had beaten Marymede once during the home and away season. It was always going to be a tough game to win though the girls played a very tight defensive game and managed to minimise Hazel Glen's shooting opportunities. Unfortunately Marymede were beaten by a stronger team on the day though they played hard right to the end.



Northern Metro Regional Cross Country

Congratulations to the nine primary students who made it through to the NMR Cross Country Carnival. They were all very committed to their training schedule and it was great to see Matthew Sabatino has progressed to the State Finals which will be held on 14 July.



Prep House Sport

It is great to see the Marymede Year 10 Fitness Industry students working with the Prep students in House Sport, highlighting the benefits of a Prep to Year 12 College. The Prep students are learning a variety of gymnastic skills as well as many other skills focusing on hand eye coordination.



Football Star Academy

Football Star Academy are now taking enrolments for their Term 3 Soccer Program which is held at Marymede on Thursdays after school. Please see attached flyer for details.

Upcoming Events

- 15 July: Division AFL Football
- 18 July: Division Soccer
- 19 July: Division T-Ball
- 22 July: Years 3 & 4 Hoop Time

A special thank you to Alicia who has completed work experience in the Primary Sport Department. This week gave her a great insight into the busy and rewarding life of a Primary PE teacher.



Mr Gerard Large **Head of Primary Sport**

Year 5 Lady Northcote YMCA camp

This term the Year 5s went to Lady Northcote for our first school camp. Everyone had an amazing experience on the camp.

Firstly, the Years 5s and some teachers arrived at Lady Northcote very excited about all the animals, activities and space around the camp. We settled into our cabins and got to meet all the amazing staff that work there. We learnt about all the activities and participated in two activities on Tuesday. In the evening, we watched 'Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs' and then went to bed.

On the second day, we woke up ready to have another excellent and fun day. We had a choice from cereal, toast and pancakes on Wednesday morning and muffins for morning tea. We went off to our activities with our activity group and teacher. The activities were canoeing, the giant swing, orienteering,

camp fire cooking, hut building and low ropes and initiatives. For lunch we had salad rolls and for afternoon tea we had fruit platters. At night we had chicken and vegetables. Then we did a night walk, trivia and roasted marshmallows on the camp fire.

On the last day, we packed up and had bacon and eggs. Then we played the Toon Challenge which was basically like a scavenger hunt all around camp (it was really fun). We got our bags, had lunch and loaded up ready to go home.

In conclusion, all of the Year 5s had an amazing time at school camp.



Miss Gemma Bzdel **Year 5.1 Student**

Year 3 Caritas Hearts Event

On Friday 17 June, Year 3 students were visited by The Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Suburban Development as part of their 'Caritas Hearts Event'.

Students discussed the ways in which they would help the environment and asked Ms D'Ambrosio questions about her role and the environment. The Year 3 students are following in the footsteps of Pope Francis through determining ways in which they can protect 'Our Common Home'.



Mr Scott Byrne **Year 3 Year Level Co-ordinator**

REGISTRAR NEWS

New Students

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

- Isabella Yousif – Year 8
- Jaymee Robertson – Year 11
- Christina Pappas – Year 10

2018 Enrolments

Applications for Year 7 and Prep in 2018 are also now open and will close in February and May respectively. Additionally, applications for Year 7 2019 are open now and will close in August 2017. This is a significant change to previous enrolment processes and will affect students who currently attend an

external Primary School and are a sibling of a current Secondary student at the College.

Current Years 4 and 5 students at Marymede Catholic College will be advised of the re-enrolment processes for Year 7 in the coming months.

School Bus Service

Information regarding the Semester 2 bus service has now been emailed to current users of the service. Deposits for your child's Semester 2 bus fee will be due on Friday 15 July with final payments due on Friday 19 August.

The cost for bus passes in Semester 2 is as follows:

FULL PASS: \$630.00 (Deposit: \$170.00)

ONE-WAY PASS: \$375.00 (Deposit: \$95.00)

For further information regarding the School Bus service please do not hesitate to contact the College on 9407-9000.

10th Year Anniversary College Reunion

As part of our 10th Year Anniversary Celebrations, the College will be holding a reunion for all past graduates on Friday 2 September 2016 at Sagi Bar in Northcote. We will be reaching out to our Alumni in the coming weeks with invitations. In the meantime, if this event is of interest to a member of your family who graduated Year 12 at Marymede Catholic College, please advise them to contact me.

Open Day

I am excited to inform all families that our 2016 Open Day will take place on Sunday 28 August between the hours of 11.00am-2.00pm. Open Day continues to be a great Marymede Community annual event which offers plenty to both new and existing families. Further information regarding school tours and activities on offer on the day will be communicated to families in the coming weeks.

Mr Matthew Luczek
Registrar