



16 February 2017

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Opening School Mass

Our Opening School Mass on Friday 3 February was a wonderful celebration of welcoming. Our College Chaplain, Fr. Martin Ashe explained in his homily the importance of our relationship with God and that we are all unique and special to God. Thank you to staff members Melinda Muir and Julia Wake for their work in preparing this significant whole school celebration.

Induction of Student Leaders

We recently inducted our Student Leaders at a Yrs. 5-12 assembly. I congratulate the students on being appointed to lead the student body. The greatest responsibility of our leaders is to serve. This service includes tasks such as providing a listening ear or helping someone feel safe. It also includes the responsibility of making our school a better place for those who will follow us.

I spoke to the students encouraging them to set goals for the year ahead. Our staff will always be there to offer support.

Secondary Swimming Carnival

Our Secondary House Swimming Carnival was held at Northcote Aquatic Centre last Tuesday 14 February. Congratulations to all students who competed, Marcellin House on winning the carnival. I congratulate our Head of Sport Ann-Marie Kane and House Coordinators for ensuring the carnival was such a success.

Year 12 Retreat

Our Yr. 12 Retreat will take place at Phillip Island in the week beginning Monday 27 February. Students are encouraged to leave behind the everyday issues of study, work and sport to take time 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. I wish them a peaceful and enjoyable time away together.

Prep Parents Morning Tea

Last Friday morning, a large number of Prep parents attended our welcoming morning tea which was held in the new primary shade area. Thank you to the parents who were able to come. The Senior Leadership Team enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with our new parents.

Prep Parent Reading Information Night

It was wonderful to see so many of our Prep parents attend the Reading Information Night which was held recently. We see your children's education at Marymede as a partnership between school and home. A big thank you to our Literacy Coordinator Elizabeth Milani for organising this event.

Student News

Last year one of our current Yr. 11 students, Ajay Jay entered the Spirit of ANZAC competition. He was shortlisted as a finalist, had a follow-up interview and this week was informed that he won selection to participate in the Canberra Study Tour in July. We congratulate Ajay on this achievement.

Year 7 2018 Enrolments

A reminder to parents who have Yr. 6 children or know of families considering Marymede for the start of their child's secondary education next year, that enrolment applications close tomorrow, Friday 17 February.

The Year So Far

Classes are well and truly underway and our staff and students are getting on with the business of learning. In these 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 of course varies with the year level but the valuable skills of time management, organisation and task completion are pertinent to all students.

Uniform and Grooming

I remind all parents of their responsibility to please ensure that your children have the correct uniform as set out in the 2017 Student Diary (pages 13-14).

Parents who accept enrolment at the college do so on the understanding that they support the Dress Code. There is therefore no excuse for students coming to school dressed or groomed in a manner that contravenes our requirements.

I thank parents for your support with regard to this matter.

Kind Regards,

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

New in 2017 – PMP Program for Preps, 1's and 2's

In our last newsletter, I referred to the significant number of new learning and teaching programs we have introduced this year to expand the opportunities for our students to fully realise their potential. Over the next few weeks I look forward to sharing some more details about these programs and bringing you updates on the experiences of our students in these new programs.

PMP (the Perceptual Motor Program) is the first of these exciting initiatives. Specifically designed for students in their early years of primary school, PMP exposes students to a range of movements that aim to develop their perceptions of themselves and to build the range of skills required to manage the demands of schooling.

Students in Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 will have one PMP lesson with a specialist teacher once a fortnight and will follow this up with shorter sessions in between with their classroom teacher to reinforce and continue to master the skills taught each cycle.

We are delighted to have Mrs Stacey Brice stepping into the role of PMP specialist this year. Having coordinated the PMP program in a previous school, Stacey is a strong advocate for the benefits of PMP in fostering students' capacity as learners and giving them opportunities to developing perception, judgement, focus, eye movement, fine motor skills and the range of other abilities they need in the classroom and beyond.

To be effective, the PMP program does require many hands and we are seeking parent helpers to support this important program. The tasks for parent helpers are straightforward and do not require previous experience or special training. If you are willing and able to support the PMP program, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Year 12 Information Evening

It was fantastic to see so many Year 10 and Year 11 parents attend our recent VCE/VCAL Information Evening earlier this week. Next Tuesday, the Year 12 Parent Information Evening will be held in the Auditorium from 7pm and will provide parents

with key information to assist them to support their sons and daughters through this final – challenging – year of secondary schooling. It would be great to see all Year 12 parents on the night.

Homework

Homework remains one of the perennial issues for parents and teachers, with the concerns that arise varying depending on the year level.

1. 'My son/daughter is getting too much homework'

A concern most common to Year 7 parents, this can be the result of a number of things. In some instances, the desire of a Year 7 student to put do their best can sometimes result in them investing too much time in every task they are given. For these students, they will need support from parents and teachers to develop the ability to prioritise and discern how much time and 'presentation' to give to tasks. Encourage them to ask their teachers: 'how long should this task take?'

Using the recommended homework/study times advertised in last week's newsletter, set a regular time for your son or daughter to complete their homework (including a firm finishing time), and encourage them to spend a few minutes planning out how they will use the time and how long they will spend on each task.

If concerns arise with homework or if you believe your son or daughter is receiving too much homework from one or more subjects, we would encourage parents to contact the relevant subject teacher, Tutor Teacher or House Coordinator.

2. 'My son/daughter doesn't get enough homework'

A concern more common to parents of Year 9-11 students, this is easily resolved by changing the question you may be asking.

Typically, parents ask their children: 'Have you got any homework?' Instead, using the study/homework times published in the last newsletter, set a regular time for your son or daughter at home and begin to ask the question: 'What are you going to work on tonight?'

If your son or daughter has nights when they have not been allocated specific tasks to complete, they can use the time profitably by:

- Completing additional or extension tasks eg. Maths exercises
- Reading or re-reading their English texts
- Reviewing notes or preparing revision notes
- Pre-reading for upcoming topics
- Wider reading/research about a topic currently being studied
- Beginning preparation for upcoming assignments
- Writing practice essays for English
- Using Maths Space
- Teaching a younger sibling something they are currently learning

Where possible, have your son or daughter complete their homework in a family space, rather than isolated in a bedroom

or separate area. If they are using technology during this time, ensure that the screen is visible to you; escaping onto social networking or internet browsing during this time will be a hard habit for your son or daughter to try to break in VCE.

Ms Tracey Kift

Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching Prep – Year 12

DIRECTOR OF FAITH AND MISSION

Project Compassion:

Project Compassion, Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of the Catholic congregation and caring supporters throughout Australia to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Marymede Catholic College is proud to annually support Caritas during Lent.

This year the theme is LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR. 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' (Matthew 22:39)

Starting on Ash Wednesday, March 1, students across the College will work on promoting justice and supporting our brothers and sisters around the world who are living in poverty.

Over the next few weeks students will learn more about how to donate to the Project Compassion Project.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=828oyxrAiYM>

Sacrament of Confirmation:

The Blessed sacrament of Confirmation is a Catholic sacrament celebrated by students baptised within the Catholic Church. If your child is baptised within the Catholic Church they are invited to celebrate this Sacrament. Confirmation is a strengthening and deepening of the grace of Baptism. In the Catholic Church, Confirmation is usually celebrated when a person is old enough to respond consciously and participate in the rite. This sacrament invites the candidate into a stronger and more explicit participation in the Church by the rite of laying on of hands and sealing with chrism. A bishop or authorised priest administers the sacrament.

In Orthodox Churches and in the Eastern Rites of the Catholic Church, Confirmation is administered by the priest immediately after Baptism. It is not a sacrament that is repeated.

At Marymede Catholic College Confirmation is celebrated at Year 6.

Confirmation Dates For The Diary:

Sacrament of Confirmation

Date: Sunday April 23, 2017

Venue: St Patrick's Cathedral. 1 Cathedral Pl, East Melbourne VIC 3002

Time: 2.00pm for a 2.30pm start. Photos from 12.30pm

Family Confirmation Workshop

Date: Thursday February 23

Venue: Chapel of the Annunciation

Time: 5.00pm and 7.00pm

Pre Confirmation Reflection Workshop

Date: Monday March 27

Venue: Chapel of the Annunciation and Year 6 classrooms

Time: 9.00am – 3.15pm

Confirmation rehearsal at St Patrick's Cathedral

Date: Thursday April 20

Time: 9.00am – 3.00pm

Attending: Only student celebrating Confirmation.

If you have not responded to the CareMonkey form, can I ask that you do so as soon as possible.

Any questions relating to Confirmation please direct to melinda.muir@marymede.vic.edu.au.

Upcoming Faith and Mission Events:

- ROMERO Prep – Year 12 Feast Day Mass and Celebration: Friday February 17
- Year 12 Residential Retreat: Monday February 27 – Wednesday March 1

Group 1: Students in Chisholm, McAuley, McCormack CYC The Island
41 – 53 Church Street, Cowes, Vic. 3922

Group 2: Students in Chanel, Romero, Marcellin The Island Accommodation
10 – 12 Phillip Island Tourist Road, Newhaven, Phillip Island, Vic. 3922

- Ash Wednesday: Wednesday March 1

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 March 3 and concluding on Friday April 7) which are days of fasting and abstinence.

Mrs Melinda Muir

Director of Faith and Mission Prep – Year 12

DIRECTOR OF PRIMARY

Primary News

It has been a wonderful start to the 2017 school year, with children smiling and happy. Most are very excited to be in a new classroom with a new teacher and friends. I thank you for your support in helping the children feel positive and safe in their new environment. We welcome many new students and families to the College and hope you feel a part of our vibrant College community.

We encourage you to support our students to comply with College expectations regarding uniform, footwear, jewellery, hair and grooming regulations which apply to all students within the College. Staff will be vigilant in following up students who may be in breach of the regulations and issue Primary students

an infringement notice informing you of the College regulations so you can make the necessary adjustments. Please read the following document which specifies College regulations, which can be found on the College website and also on Page 12 of the Primary Student Diary (Years 4-6). Also attached is a flyer indicating appropriate school footwear. If you have any questions or need clarification please do not hesitate to send me an email.

INFORMATION DIRECTORY

UNIFORM REGULATIONS

- The College hat for Primary girls and boys must be worn during the summer months (Term 1 and Term 4), travelling to and from the college, during recess and lunchtime and is compulsory for all PE and sport activities.
- No garments other than those stated on the uniform list are to be visible. This includes coloured T-Shirts or singlets which are visible through shirts, boxer shorts under dresses, compression clothing (ie: skins), and socks beneath or over tights.
- Girls' dresses or skirts must be knee length.
- When the full uniform cannot be worn for some good reason, parents are asked to notify the Pastoral Teacher in writing.
- Primary students are permitted to wear their College House uniform on House sports days, Marymede Day, House Athletics Carnival and on other House occasions as advertised in the College Newsletter / Calendar.
- The College tracksuit pants and windcheater may be purchased and worn in the cooler months of the year, over the top of the College sport shorts and top.
- The only sport uniform items that students are permitted to wear is uniform bearing the Marymede Catholic College logo. This includes House polo shirts.

JEWELLERY

- At Marymede, students are permitted to wear one small silver or gold stud.
- The sleeper or stud must be worn in the bottom part of the ear lobe, no stones and only one sleeper or stud.
- Any other visible piercing of any form is not permitted. Clear plastic plugs or band-aids over piercings are not acceptable.
- No other jewellery may be worn with the exception of watches, and the only Christian symbol permitted is a simple gold or silver chain and cross around the neck; this is not to be a fashion accessory, but rather an expression of faith.

HAIRSTYLES

The College expects students to be well groomed in appearance at all times whilst wearing the College uniform. Hair, in general terms, must be clean, neatly styled and tied back off the face. Accessories must be in College colours of either ink blue or maroon. Hairstyles which are outside of the following guidelines are unacceptable:

- Hair which is shoulder length or longer must be tied back at all times so that the hair does not touch the collar.
- No hair should be allowed to fall across the face.
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted. This includes dreadlocks, shaved hair less than a number 3 blade, severe variations in hair length and/or colour, etc.
- Hair must be natural in colour in the student's natural tonal range. Unnatural hair colours are never permitted. Tips and streaks that are different from the natural colour are not permitted.
- All fringes must be above the eyebrows and away from the face.

MAKE-UP

- Make-up is not acceptable at any time. Coloured nail polish, nail extensions and false nails are not permitted. Students will be asked to remove make-up.

SCHOOL SHOES

- Regulation leather lace-up with a heel are the regulation school shoe. Girls have the option of a T-Bar shoe which must be buckled at all times. Due to safety reasons, the regulation lace-up shoe is the preferred shoe for both boys and girls.
- The Sport shoe must be a proper sport shoe with ankle and heel support. No fashion shoe or canvas sport shoe is acceptable, nor should they be worn at any time.

Ms Nicole Pegler
Director of Primary

CAMPUS CO-ORDINATOR PREP – YEAR 12

Transitions at Marymede 2017

From Prep to Year 11, new students and families have been welcomed into the College Community. It was beautiful to the Preps, some with smiles, some with tears, settle into their classrooms last week. Believe me, any tears dried up quickly as our wonderful Prep teachers engaged them in activities and assisted them to feel comfortable. Thankyou to all those Prep parents who attended our morning tea last Friday. It was a lovely community connection under the Primary Multi-purpose shelter.

Our Year 7's have found the soccer pitch and the oval and are making their way around the Secondary School confidently. Each of our new students in Year 1 – 11 have settled with a buddy and close monitoring by Pastoral teachers. Tutor Teachers will also be making contact with parents in the coming week, if you have any concerns or questions, please contact your child's Pastoral/Tutor teacher in the first instance.

Prep – 12 House Welcome BBQ's 2017

If you have perused the College Calendar ahead of time, you may have noticed that we have dates for House BBQ's. These will be opportunities for families and teachers to come together in an informal environment and get to know each other better. As per the email sent out, please 'Save the date' for your family's House:

Tuesday 14th March: Chanel, Chisholm and Romero Houses

Wednesday 16th March: McAuley, McCormack and Marcellin Houses

The BBQ's will take place in the around the Primary Oval, Shelter and Courtyard outside House 7 and will be from 5.30 – 7.00pm. Our Year 7 Students will be presented with their Year 7 badge on these evenings. Further details will be provided in an invitation that will be emailed out.

Assembly Day Timetable

In our 10 day timetable we have an 'Assembly Day' scheduled, rotating through different days of the cycle across the year. What this means is that when an assembly day is scheduled we have 6 periods in the day instead of 5, ensuring that subjects/classes are not missed on the day due to the assembly period. This applies P – 12 and provides for our House Masses, House Assemblies, Year Level Assemblies and other opportunities for students from P – 12 to gather without missing class time. Each period of the day is shortened to accommodate the assembly time, there is no change to the start and end times of the day.

Year 9 Challenge Camp Parent Evening

An information evening for Year 9 Parents will take place on Tuesday February 28, 7:00 – 8:00pm in the Auditorium. It is expected that at least one parent for each family attend. Our OEG Co-ordinator will be facilitating. Year 9 Students will have been briefed during the day, therefore do not need to attend.

Ms Julia Wake

Campus Co-ordinator Prep – Year 12

REGISTRAR NEWS

2018 Enrolments

Applications for Year 7 2018 are now closed. Enrolment interviews will take place on Wednesday March 8 between 4.00pm – 7.00pm. The College will be sending all applicants formal correspondence in the coming days.

Applications for Prep 2018 are still open and will close on May 1, 2017.

2019 Enrolments

Applications for Year 7 2019 are now open and will close on August 25, 2017.

Open Day 2017

Please be reminded that our 2017 Open Day will take place earlier this year on Sunday March 26 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.

Family Contact Details

Should you have a change in contact details such as home address, phone numbers or email address, please contact the Main Office on 9407-9000 to submit the new information, alternatively you may also wish to email the change to registrar@marymede.vic.edu.au.

Email Addresses

The College sends a large number of bulk emails to all families each week. Occasionally, we receive some bounce backs as a result of invalid or old email addresses, full inboxes and spam filters. Can I please encourage all families to submit a valid and updated email address to the College. If you have an old email address no longer in use please inform me that I can remove it from our database. If you change your email address in CareMonkey please also contact the College to inform them of this change directly.

School Bus Service

It is not too late to sign up for our chartered bus service. This year the College is running bus services through the suburbs of Kinglake, Whittlesea, Eden Park, Wollert, Epping North, Mernda, Doreen and South Morang. The final payment for all Semester 1 Bus fees is due by the end of this month after which point your child will be handed their formal bus pass. Any family interested in using the College Bus service should visit the school website to gain information on the service, or alternatively contact the Main Office on 9407-9000.

Mr Matthew Luczek
College Registrar

ST MARY'S

St Mary's College for the Deaf is a school situated on the campus of Marymede Catholic College and together the two schools work in partnership with each other to support students with language development, classroom acoustics, social and emotional skills and general academic support.

We would like to invite parents with students Year 4-6, in the area, who have a hearing loss or in need of extra language support to come along to a St Mary's Taster Day on Thursday March 2 at 9am at the St Mary's Room (opposite the Main Reception office). Staff will hold a tour of St Mary's, tell the history of how St Mary's began and answer any questions. Your children will be involved in an engaging learning activity.

Ms Janelle Price
St Mary's St. Mary's College for the Deaf