



s

6 June 2019

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Today is the feast day of St. Marcellin Champagnat – founder of the Marist Brothers Order. I take this opportunity to acknowledge Marcellin's significant contribution to Catholic education and the values expressed by Marcellin of humility, simplicity, modesty and love of work, and hope they are as valuable to our students today as ever.

### Reflection Days

Last week our Years 6, 8 and 10 students were involved in their annual Reflection Day. The feedback I have received has been very positive about the experience as we continue the journey of helping our students to be more aware of the needs of others less fortunate in our community. At the Years 8 and 10 levels, we also focussed on the importance of respectful relationships and the impact social media has on teenagers as they move through their adolescent years. Thank you to Ms Julia Wake, Ms Laetitia Malusu and the staff who engaged with the students in the group discussions.

### Semester 1 Reports

Our teaching staff are busily analysing their data as they begin preparing their Semester 1 Reports. The reports will give parents a clear indication of their children's progress thus far and from Year 5 upwards, their contribution to the co-curricular life of the College.

### Prep Enrolments 2020

Yesterday, senior members of staff interviewed families wishing to be part of the 2020 Prep intake. Letters will be posted home in the next fortnight and we ask that parents please return the acceptance form as soon as possible to help the College finalise our Prep enrolment offers for next year. I am delighted

that so many families want to be a part of the Marymede Catholic College Community.

### School Review 18-20 June

On Tuesday 18 June, Marymede will be involved in a School Review, which takes place every four years. Two reviewers from the Australian Council for Educational Research, Mr. Trevor Gordon and Mr. Tony McGruther and Catholic Education Melbourne Co-reviewer, Ms Denise Mugavin, will make up the panel. They will use the National School Improvement Tool which has its focus on the quality of Learning and Teaching taking place at the College. A number of teaching staff will be interviewed over the three days. Our Student Leaders (both Primary and Secondary) and a handful of parents will also have the opportunity to meet with the reviewers.

I am looking forward to the review as the report will give the College an insight into where we are placed on the school improvement journey. It will also help us in our forward planning as to what areas the school needs to prioritise.

### School Uniform

I appreciate that the cold and wet weather we have been recently experiencing has proved to be very challenging as we all endeavour to stay warm. I have noticed that a handful of our students have started wearing beanies to and from school. Beanies have never been part of our winter uniform. I encourage our students to wear the College scarf and the College cap if they wish to have items to keep warm. I thank parents for your support of our uniform expectations.

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

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

### Student Forum #2

On May 23, students from Year 5 to 12 gathered for our second Student Forum to be updated on how their feedback

from the first forum had been implemented and to discuss their experiences and ideas on a range of topics. The forum generated a range of key suggestions that will be followed up over the coming weeks included a list of topics that the students wanted future forums to address. It has been fantastic to see the mature way in which students have engaged in these forums and the quality of the ideas, suggestions and solutions students have contributed. We plan to have student forums held each term to continue to foster opportunities for students to play in part in continuous improvement of all aspects of the College.

**Ms. Tracey Kift**  
**Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12**

## DIRECTOR OF FAITH AND MISSION

### Sunday Mass at Marymede – your input invited!

Fr Anthony Girolami, from our Parish of St Francis of Assisi, met with Michael Kenny recently and discussed arrangements for offering a monthly Sunday Mass in our Chapel of the Annunciation during Term time. We recognise that Marymede is a church community for many of our families and we are looking forward to offering a monthly mass. Before we set a calendar, we would like your input in setting a time of day for the mass. Please click on this link and complete the two survey questions.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SundayMassMarymede>

We will set-up a calendar ready for Term 3 and invite you all to attend.

### Vinnies Winter Appeal 2019 – Social Justice Group and Mini-Vinnies

Ms Malusu has launched Mini-Vinnies this term and we have our Social Justice Captains, supported by Mary and Emily Selar, leading the Social Justice Group with our focus for this term being on the Vinnies Winter Appeal. The Marymede Community is relied upon by our local St Vincent de Paul Conference for generous donations of the following items:

- Non-perishable food items
- Toiletries
- Clothing – socks, gloves, scarves
- Bedding items – sheets, blankets.

Any student / family can bring in any item from the above categories. **Simply add something into your shopping trolley for Vinnies** over the next few weeks and bring them into school. Donation points include:

- Primary House areas
- Founders Building
- Chapel
- Main Administration

### House Feast Days for McCormack, Chanel and Marcellin

Fathers Martin and John have celebrated House Masses for each of these Houses P – 12 over the course of this term.

Students have participated beautifully in each mass, with many taking on a special role. As we move away from providing lunches, student leaders have co-ordinated activities to raise awareness for their House Charity, inviting all members of the community to join in.

The patrons of these Houses offer an example of faithfulness, courage and dedication – articulating what our children can aspire to in being their best selves.

### Year 6, 8 and 10 Reflection Days

Throughout last week our Year 6s had a reflection day facilitated by 'Bahay Tuluyan Philippines Australia' on social justice and inequity in our world, and our Year 8s and 10s had a day facilitated by 'Realtalk' presenters on love and life. Students were asked in a survey what 'take-away' idea they had from these experiences; these are their responses:

- That the socially accepted image of beauty is wrong and that everyone is beautiful.
- Although life has many bumps in the road, it can be an amazing experience
- How to be safer when growing up
- To always value myself
- That people can achieve anything if they believe
- Yes, that all people including children have rights!
- Our relationship is important
- Everyone is equal!

Thank you to all the staff who supported the students and facilitators for each of these days.



### National Sorry Day Commemoration – Whittlesea Council

Marymede was represented by a group of students from Year 5 to 10 at the annual 'Sorry Day Walk' on Monday, May 27. They heard the stories of impact on the family life and community of those who are members of the Stolen Generation. They acknowledged the sacred and ancient land we walk upon and the need for practical reconciliation for our indigenous brothers and sisters.

"We say sorry."



## Upcoming Faith & Mission Events

- Community Mass – First Holy Communion recipients blessed (Wednesday 5, 12 and 19 June).
- First Eucharist Family Evening – Wednesday 12 June.
- Year 4 Reflection Day (Eucharist) – Monday 17 June.
- Refugee Week – Sunday 16 June – Saturday 22 June
- Sacrament on First Holy Communion – Saturday 22 June.
- Mass of the Sacred Heart – Thursday 27 June.

**Ms Julia Wake**

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

## SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

### Ancient Civilisations Day and Medieval Day

Feedback from our Year 7s and Year 8s was glowing about their experiences on our two incursion days this month during Humanities Week. Getting a feel for what life was like in the past by being interactive and by simulating experiences of historical times enabled our students to enjoy learning in an innovative way.

#### Students' opinions

"The teaching was fun and engaging."

"It was really fun. We learned about games and entertainment of Vikings."

"It was cool to see how instruments have evolved over the years."

"Shoguns and Medieval Japan are interesting and I will use this in Japanese."

"The activity was fun. It was interesting to learn how they built pyramids."

"Gladiators was fun to experience, watch and learn about."

"I enjoyed doing the puzzle and finding the message."

"I really enjoyed Daily Life because I got to dress up and I also got to learn some things about clothing in Ancient Times."



**Mrs Jane Darrou**

**Head of Humanities**

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

### Primary Sport

#### Hoop Time Minis

A great day was held at the Hoop Time Minis' Basketball Day. Our Year 2 students participated in a 2-hour clinic followed by some fun games.



#### Primary Cross Country

Congratulations to the 34 students who competed in the 2nd round of the School Sport Victoria Cross Country. Eleven students progressed to the regional event which is to take place at Bundoora Park on June 19.

**Mr Gerard Large**

**Head of Primary Sport**

## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

### Knit-A-Square Is Back For 2019

What a great start with 19 students joining our Knit-A-Square club

We have already received hand warmers, beanies, squares and wool, a big thank you to those mothers and grandmothers.

In November last year, our 800+ knitted squares were packed into water-tight shipping envelopes, sent to Kascare's branch in South Africa and stitched into lovely blankets. The Marymede community contributed enough squares to warm children in the South Africa who would otherwise have been freezing. We feel extremely proud that our small contribution will become wonderful blankets, used to keep orphaned, abandoned or children with AIDS, warm.

#### Where To From Here

Knitting club is every Tuesday lunch time, Students are currently being sought to learn to knit or crochet 20cm squares that will be sent Zimbabwe, officially the poorest country in the World and Kascare's expanding branch.



With nearly 1,000,000 orphans alive in 2009, Zimbabwe has the highest number of orphans, in proportion to its population, than any other country in the world, according to UNICEF. As many as one in four children in Zimbabwe are orphaned as a result of parents dying from AIDS.

#### How Can You Help

You can become involved in two very important ways.

If you have the skills to knit or crochet a 20cm by 20cm square, please call Mrs Jenny Priest at the school or via email:

jenny.priest@marymede.vic.edu.au. Alternatively, we are welcoming all wool or knitting needles donations of any colour, size or type, with the drop off of wool or squares to be made at the Student Reception area.

For more information log on to:

<http://www.knit-a-square.com/>



**Mrs Jenny Priest**  
**Student Reception**

## PATHWAYS

### Careers

You will find information in the attached Careers Newsletters about Experience Days that Universities hold for students over the school holidays. I strongly encourage students in Year 10,11 and 12 to register to attend these. It is a great way to experience what University is like and the different feel of different institutes. There is also a list of the Open Days.

Happy reading.

**Mrs Carol Fisher**  
**Careers Practitioner**

## ST MARY'S COLLEGE FOR THE DEAF

### U14 Victorian Softball Squad

We have had a notable sporting achievement from St Mary's College student Jorja Fernando Year 7, McAuley House who has been selected for the U14 Victorian Softball Squad. With only 15 players she beat out many other competitors to secure her place. The team is training every week in the build up to the State Championships in Perth in early 2020. Well done Jorja.



**Narelle Stone**  
**Deputy Principal St Mary's College**

## PARENTS AND FRIENDS

The Parents and Friends Committee would like to put forward an expression of interest for our next fundraising events.

Please use the email below and let us know which one of these events or both that you would be interested in attending.

1. Shopping Tour (Oct or Nov)
2. Wine Tour (Sep)

Please send your expression of interest to [paf@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:paf@marymede.vic.edu.au)

We welcome any feedback.

**Ms Michelle Williams**  
**President**

## COMMUNITY MASS

