



17 June 2021

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

It has been a real joy to see all of our students back on campus this week. Our buildings have become alive once more. Some of our younger students commented to me on how much they have missed being at school.

I take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers for the support you gave your children in their online learning. You have become teachers, problem solvers and working from home coordinators and we are all aware of how difficult the juggling requirements have been. I am proud of how our students have again managed home schooling.

I also acknowledge our staff who have provided great support to our students in these uncertain times.

### Semester 1 Reports

Our teachers are busily finalising their Semester 1 Reports which will be able to be accessed from the Parent Access Module next Friday, 25 June. The reports will give parents a clear indication of their children's progress in the first semester. I thank staff for their efforts in preparing the reports.

### Mid-Year / Trial Exams

Our Years 9-12 students will be receiving their exam results before the end of term. I hope those students who worked consistently throughout the semester reap the rewards they deserve. Some students may not have been focussed on their approach and need to reflect on how they can improve on their performance in Semester 2.

### P-12 Mass of the Sacred Heart

Next Tuesday morning 22 June, the Marymede P-12 Mass of the Sacred Heart will be held in the Fitness Centre. This celebration is one of the most significant school events in the

College Calendar as we come together to think about those in the wider community who are in need of our support.

### Staff Professional Development Day: 25 June

The last day of school this term is Thursday 24 June as the staff will be involved in a Professional Development Day on the Friday. Classes resume on Monday 12 July.

Advance notice that our annual Staff Spirituality Day will take place on Tuesday 20 July. This will also be a student-free day.

### Student Grooming

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

### Upcoming Holidays

I hope that all members of our College Community find time to rest and relax. With the social restrictions about to be further relaxed this allows families the chance to move freely around Victoria and hopefully will open up more interstate travel opportunities.

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

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STAFF AND OPERATIONS PREP – YEAR 12

### Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

Marymede Catholic College has begun the journey to implement Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L). PB4L has been facilitated by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) over a number of years with many schools being trained. A core team of 17 Marymede staff – including leaders, primary and secondary classroom teachers, specialist teachers and wellbeing staff – have begun their training as PB4L coaches and already conducted two professional learning sessions with the whole staff

## What is PB4L?

PB4L stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning. PB4L is a whole-school framework for behaviour support used by hundreds of Australian schools that promotes positive behaviour and helps schools to develop safe and supportive learning environments.

## What are the benefits of using the PB4L framework?

- PB4L helps schools to be consistent in the way they support and respond to behaviour.
- PB4L enables schools to develop clear expectations and boundaries for behaviour and ensures that behaviour support is differentiated according to need.
- PB4L assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

### What is PBL?

PBL is short for **Positive Behaviour for Learning**.

PBL is a plan for schools to



- be a positive place to learn



- teach students how to behave at school



- tell students when they do the right thing



- help students when they make mistakes



- work together with parents.

## Why is PB4L recommended to schools?

PB4L has a strong international research base and has been shown to improve student outcomes, increase staff and student wellbeing, and reduce behavioural incidents. PB4L helps schools to select evidence-based practices which have been shown to improve student behaviour and establish safe and supportive learning environments. PB4L consolidates current programs such as Restorative Practices and Respectful Relationships under a single umbrella.

## Where can I find out more about PB4L?

Click here to watch a 7-minute clip about the PB4L framework.

## What role do parents and carers play in PB4L?

Parents and the wider community play an important role in creating a safe and supportive school environment. Schools involve parents and the school community in developing the Student Code of Conduct. This helps to align the behaviour expectations of the school to community expectations and means everyone shares an understanding of what is expected.

Early in Term 3 we will send parents an online survey for your input on the core positive behaviour expectations for Marymede Catholic College. These expectations will become the foundation of PB4L practices at Marymede.

Adapted from: <https://behaviour.education.qld.gov.au/supporting-student-behaviour/positive-behaviour-for-learning>

## Parking in marked disabled bays

Parents and carers are reminded that the marked disabled parking bays are only for use by those with a clearly displayed Accessibility Parking Permit. Unfortunately, we have recently received complaints that some parents & carers are inappropriately parking in the clearly marked disabled parking bays within the college.



Parents with prams are not permitted to use the disability parking bays, which are required for parents, carers and students with disabilities and who have the legal right to use those marked bays. Those without a permit parked in those bays will be asked to move their vehicle.

We thank-you for your cooperation and consideration of those families with the legitimate right to use the marked disabled parking bays.

## COVIDsafe restrictions

In accordance with the School Operations Guide following the recent lockdown (released 10 June), parents and visitors are currently not permitted on-campus. While we hope this advice will change when other restrictions are eased for Greater Melbourne, we are obliged to await advice from the Victorian Government and MACS for the staged lifting of restrictions and will communicate with families once we are provided with and change in the details.

The recent lockdown is a reminder of the continuing importance of the ongoing COVIDsafe protocols, whether or not there is a known active case. The most important action school communities can take to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 is to ensure that any unwell staff and students remain at home and get tested, even with the mildest of symptoms. These symptoms include: fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose; and/or loss or change in sense of smell or taste. Parents and carers eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine are also urged to follow the lead of the many Marymede staff who have received either the AstraZeneca or the Pfizer vaccine.



We are making some simple steps to **help stop the spread.**



#### BE COVIDSAFE

For more information about Coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit [health.gov.au](https://health.gov.au)



To monitor both the current and future situations, all parents & guardians are urged to regularly check the Victorian Department of Health publishes the 'public exposure' sites at the link below:

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites>

If your child has visited one of the listed sites, they need to stay at home and obtain a COVID test in accordance with the guidelines provided on this site, then provide the result of the test to the College prior to returning to school. Any student required to isolate will have schoolwork provided by their teachers to minimise the impact on their learning.



Parents and carers are reminded that under the current conditions **all secondary students and all adults must be wearing a face mask when indoors and when using public transport or school buses** (unless they have a lawful exemption).

We thank parents and carers for your continuing support and understanding of the measures taken to protect all community members.

**Mr David Broadbent**  
**Deputy Principal Staff & Operations P-12**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP – YEAR 12

### Student Reporting

With the extended period of Home Learning this term as a result of COVID-19, our usual ways of working and engaging with students looked very different. Included in this change has been how we assess and report on student learning. Our school, teachers, students and families have all had to adapt, change and respond to the landscape and this was sometimes daily. There were also countless positive opportunities and new learning, but there were also challenges. All our students have achieved and contributed during this time and we thank every family member and member of our staff for their encouragement, feedback, patience and willingness to protect learning continuity for all.

Given the nature of most of Term 2 our reports will not contain a reference to progression points, as the usual assessments undertaken in the everyday classroom have not been possible. The end of year report (December) will provide details around your child's learning progression. The Semester 1 reports will be published Friday 25 June via PAM.

### VCE – Seminars and Holiday Homework

With Unit 3 concluding this week, our Year 12 and accelerated Year 11 students are now past the halfway point of their scored studies for this year. Over the upcoming holidays there are a number of externally facilitated VCE seminars that your son or daughter may wish to attend. Whilst some of these incur a cost, there are a number of free sessions. During these workshops students are often given a range of revision strategies and the common mistakes made in previous exams will be highlighted. The programs are often structured to assist students with learning activities that can reinforce the key knowledge and will enable students to plan and implement good study skills for the end of the year. Some of the VCE seminar providers include ATAR notes, TSFX – The School for Excellence and TSSM

### Save the Date – Subject Selection

The Subject Selection process is an annual event that involves students in Years 7-11. Throughout the process students are asked to consider their areas of interest and future pathways, in order to select suitable subjects for the forthcoming year. The Subject Selection Evening will take place on **Tuesday 27 July**. Given the current restrictions on gatherings the format of the Subject Selection Evening will alter this year. Further information about the evening and process will be distributed next term. In the meantime, if you have a child in Year 8 – 11, please save the date in your calendar.

**Mrs Jessica Hall**  
**Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12**

## 2022 MARYMEDE ELC ENROLMENTS

### 3YO and 4YO Enrolments 2022

We are excited to announce that Marymede Early Learning Centre will be part of the State Governments funded 3YO



kindergarten program rollout, commencing in 2022. Applications for 3YO and 4YO places at Marymede ELC close on Friday June 25th for all first round offers. Application forms can be found at our website [melc.vic.edu.au](http://melc.vic.edu.au) and can be submitted by emailing them through to [kindergarten@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:kindergarten@marymede.vic.edu.au)



**Ms Naomi Rigney**  
**Marymede ELC Centre Director**

## FAITH & MISSION

### Please give to those in need

As our Sacred Heart Mass is fast approaching on June 22, we are calling out for your support for our Vinnies Winter Appeal. If you could please help, these are the items, we are requesting:

**McCormack, Chanel** and **Romero** food donations (long life products only)

**Chisholm, McAuley** and **Marcellin** toiletries

Vinnies representatives will be present at our Sacred Heart Mass to accept these items. Thanking you in advance.



**Mrs Mary Selar**  
**School Chaplain / Pastoral Associate**

**Miss Sheryl Varghese**  
**Youth Ministry**

## PRIMARY WELLBEING

Once again, the Marymede community needs to be congratulated on how we all pivoted to remote learning and then transitioned back to onsite learning in such a short timeframe. Teachers and parents have all worked together to support student's wellbeing during these challenging times.

It does remind us that education has changed significantly over time and how, in partnership with parents, schools focus on the whole child's development not just their academic journey. Historically, we have been proactive when providing academic assistance for students who require support and we now understand the importance of providing interventions for emotional and behavioural concerns.

A famous quote by Tom Hener highlights this:

"If a child doesn't know how to read, we teach  
If a child doesn't know how to swim, we teach

If a child doesn't know how to multiply, we teach  
If a child doesn't know how to drive, we teach  
If a child doesn't know how to behave... we teach"

At Marymede our whole school initiatives, such as START Up and Respectful Relationships, support our student's ability to be self-aware, self-manage, have social awareness, develop relationships and decision-making skills. These are often called the "soft skills" that we know are so important in our everyday lives.

Even with these excellent initiatives, some of our students at Marymede may need further support in this area. Therefore, we have several interactive and engaging evidence-based programs that target specific social and emotional skills to support students' development in small group scenarios.

Some of these include:

### Zones of Regulation Year 1 - 6

This engaging program helps students gain skills in self-regulation, also known as self-control, self-management, and impulse control. Students learn to recognize when they are in the different zones (emotional states) and learn how to use strategies to change or stay in a zone if that is appropriate. They develop perspective about how others see and react to their behaviour, insight into events that trigger their behaviour, calming strategies, and problem-solving skills.



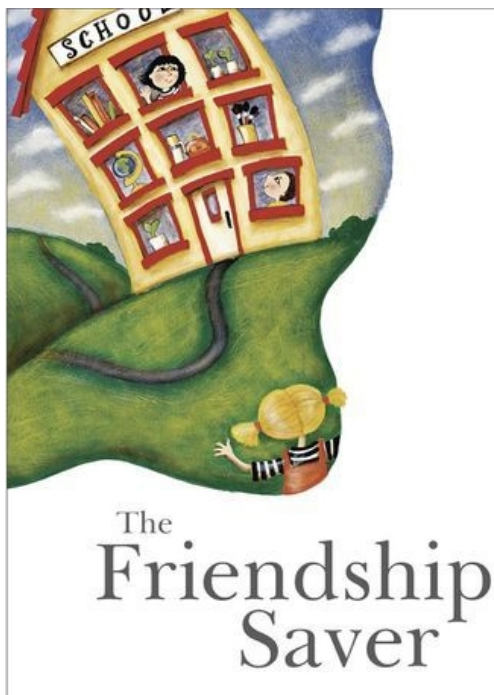
### Peaceful Kids Year 1 - 6

'Peaceful Kids' is a Mindfulness and Positive Psychology-based program to lessen anxiety and stress while increasing resilience in children. The program has been created to offer all children a developmentally appropriate program that provides the skills, practice and support to utilize coping strategies that decrease the symptoms of anxiety and stress.



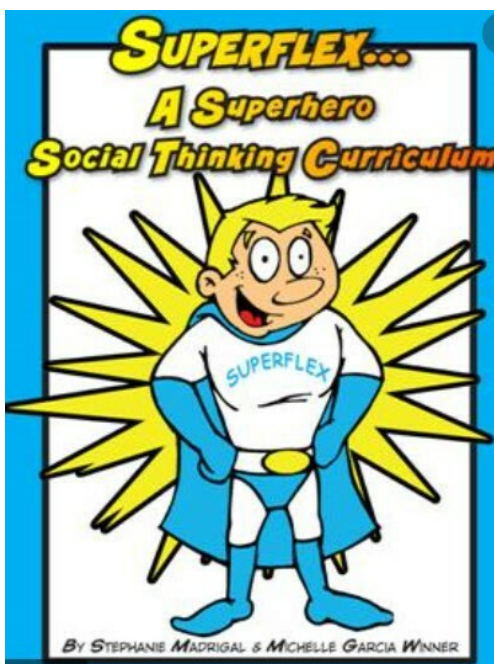
### The Friendship Saver Program Year 3 - 6

This is an interactive and fun program that is designed to enhance students' friendships and reduce conflict among peers. The focus is on social skills and independent conflict resolution through group work activities and real-life challenges.



## Superflex: A Social Thinking Curriculum Year 4 -6

This is a fun social thinking program that assist students to be aware of social expectations, their own behaviour and how to modify their own behaviours with super-flexible strategies.



We are constantly reviewing our interventions to assess if they meet the needs of our students. Students are identified by teachers and parents besides and these groups are facilitated by Lisa Murray as the Student Wellbeing Leader during prearranged class times with parental consent.

If you would like more information about these programs or you feel your child could benefit from participating in one of these programs, please reach out to your child's teacher or email me at [lisa.murray@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:lisa.murray@marymede.vic.edu.au)

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

## CO-CURRICULUM

### Student Success at Rostrum 'Voice of Youth'

We're delighted to report on Marymede's continuing success at Rostrum 'Voice of Youth' Public Speaking Competition. We had two entrants for 2021, Ashna Sajeev in Year 9 and Pranav Khullar in Year 8, who both spoke beautifully. Ashna's exceptional elocution and empathetic discussion of the ANZAC story saw her progress to the semi-final, and Pranav's speech and presentation were also excellent, covering the significance of Australia's contributions to science over the years. Below is a photo of the students with Kylie Campbell, who co-ordinates VOY and was thrilled to see a new generation of Marymede junior public speakers.



**Ms Corinne Niall**  
**Staff & Student Transition Coordinator P – 12**

**Mrs Laura Wilcox**  
**Secondary Teacher**

### Sessional Dance Semester 2

New enrolments for **Sessional Dance Semester 2 2021** are now open and will close on **Wednesday, June 23**. If your child is in Years 5 – 12 and is interested in developing their dance talents, please contact Performing Arts Assistant -Ellen Lane, [ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au) for more information and enrolment procedure.

Those students already enrolled in Sessional Dance who no longer wish to continue please submit this request in writing to [ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au) or simply click **decline** on the Operoo (CareMonkey) online enrolment form by no later than **Wednesday, June 23**, otherwise the College assumes students will be participating under the same agreement for a full year and Semester 2 fees will be payable. The information sheet outlining costs, terms and conditions can be accessed for those already enrolled via Operoo (CareMonkey) for reference.

**Ms Ellen Lane**  
**Performing Arts and Co-Curricular Assistant**

## SECONDARY SPORT

### Individual Higher Honours

A number of students have been recognised outside of school for their excellence in representative squads:

**Joshua Opasinov** School Sports Victoria Softball  
**Christian Mardini** Victorian Metropolitan AFL Squad  
**Isabelle Spiteri** Young Matildas training squad.

We wish them all the best in their teams.

## Grand Finals

A number of games were missed during the lockdown but through their strong performances and position on the ladder, both our Senior AFL Boys and Girls teams have made their respective Grand Finals. The games will hopefully be played on Tuesday 22 June with times and venues yet to be confirmed.

## Year 7 Premier League

Year 7 Premier League is hopeful of playing their final round on June 23. No finals will be conducted this year.

**Gerard Large**  
**Head of Secondary Sport**