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25 July 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to what promises to be a very busy and exciting term. Already we have had a number of significant events take place since we have returned to school and these are covered elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Year 4 First Holy Communion

Last Sunday our Year 4 students received their First Eucharist at a beautiful Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. I would like to congratulate all of the students and their families on this significant event in their lives. I would also thank our Head of Faith and Mission Primary Mrs Nicole Pegler, Year 4 Level Coordinator Miss Aisling Gormley and the Year 4 teachers on the preparation of the students.

The Mass was celebrated by our College Chaplain Father Maurie Cooney and we thank him for his ministry to our students. I would also mention our College Choir led by our Head of Music Mr Kevin Carville who sounded so beautiful on the day.

Scholarship Interviews

This week interviews have been held with the shortlisted applicants for the Marymede Catholic College Academic, General Excellence and Music Scholarships. The Interview Panel has been most impressed with the standard of the applicants. Successful applicants will be notified in coming weeks.

Staff News

Welcome back to Mrs Robyn Roberts, Deputy Principal Secondary who has returned from Long Service Leave.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Mrs Negra Nenadic on the recent passing of her much loved Father after a lengthy illness and Ms Jacqui Tjorpatzis on the passing of her Grandmother, or Baba.

Today we farewell the Head of Student Welfare P-12, Mr Anthony Stockwell. I would like to thank Anthony for his contribution to the College and wish him well in his new position at Hazel Glen College.

College Community Member News

The Mastrilli family, Alex (Year 7) and Carina (College Captain 2012) lost their home in a fire last week. Alex awoke and saw the smoke consuming his home and woke his older brother,

Adam and sister Carina. The young people made it out safely, but the remains of the family home lay in ashes before them.

The Mastrilli family have been wonderful supporters of Marymede, involving themselves across all aspects of College life. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Mastrilli family at this most difficult time. The Marymede community is offering support to the Mastrilli family in the form of Gift Vouchers.

All donations will be welcomed and greatly received. If you would like to donate please see Mrs Yvonne Upton in the Main Reception Accounts Office who will be collecting all monies. Our money collection will continue until Friday August 8. We will then change the money into Gift Vouchers for the family.

If you have any questions regarding the donations for the Mastrilli Family please contact Mrs Robyn Roberts.

Welcome to our Italian Exchange Students

Last week we welcomed 12 Italian students from Giovanni Pico in Mirandola; they will be joining us for the next 5 weeks. I am sure that they will be made most welcome. I would like to express my thanks to our Head of LOTE Mrs Maria Daniele for organising the exchange. A big thank you is also extended to the families who are hosting the students and have taken them into their homes for the period of the exchange.

The Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2014-2015

We celebrate Social Justice on Sunday September 28. This year's Social Justice Statement is titled 'A Crown for Australia: Striving for the best in our sporting nation'.

The Statement celebrates the place of sport in our national life, especially the way in which it brings individuals and communities together and contributes to our health and wellbeing. At the same time, the Statement challenges to look at sport's darker side – the potential for violence abuse and corruption that blemish its image and disillusion those who love it most.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website: <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au> or call (02) 8306 3499.

Paul D'Astoli
Principal

FAITH AND MISSION NEWS

Last Sunday's readings at Mass from Matthew's gospel (Mt 13:24-43) contain Jesus Christ's teachings grounded in His immediate environment: an agricultural and fishing society. The parable of the mustard seed is an old favourite because it gives us great hope for what can be achieved even when the odds might seem stacked against a successful outcome. Jesus emphasises the minuscule size of the mustard seed and contrasts this with the outcome: a large tree overflowing with abundance, providing shelter and refuge for all who need it.

As a growing Catholic school, we can take great comfort from this parable, in knowing that our daily efforts are surely accumulating towards a successful outcome each year and building collectively, in the years to come.

In a shorter version of the Gospel (Mt 13: 24-30), Jesus speaks about the sower who sows good seed but whose work is partially undone by the enemy who comes in the night and sows weeds among the good seed. Jesus emphasises the wisdom of the first sower who tells his servants not to uproot the weeds because this may result in uprooting the good plants. He reassures them that at the time of harvest all will be well; the weeds will be separated and burned and the good crop retained.

The message again, is one of hope for us. We are called to keep doing our daily work and doing it well, like the action of sowing good seed, nourishing it and watching it grow into a healthy crop. Distractions and temptation (weed) will come our way and threaten the healthy growth of our efforts and intentions. However, if we keep to the promise of the message of Christ and resist these temptations, then our efforts will be rewarded in good time. This is not as easy as it may sound. It requires the ability to trust in God's plan and provision for our life; God's promise to "prosper us". However, God requires our co-operation and good intentions in persevering towards a successful outcome.

What's Happening in Faith and Mission

Last term ended on a high note as we continued to respond to the call to extend ourselves through faith in action, culminating at our Primary and Secondary Masses of the Sacred Heart, an extra special occasion for all to experience the unconditional love of Jesus Christ. The food collection drive throughout the College was a testimony to the hallmark generosity of our families to reach out to the needy, supported by the wonderful work of St Vinnie's. Annie Sprague our Captain of Social Justice writes at length about the Secondary School Mass under Student Voice.

Spiritual Life Events

In Week 1, with much enthusiasm, we plunged into exploring our spirituality through our Year 10 Mass and our Year 8 Reflection Day followed by our Year 10 Reflection Day in Week 2. We can look forward to the following events during another term of robust spiritual life:

- Year 7 Reflection Day – 30 July: Eltham Community Centre and Holy Cross Retreat Centre Templestowe

- Year 12 seminar *Inspirational Catholic Speakers* followed by Mass – 8 August, 9.00am- 11.00am: Chapel
- Marymede Day Mass – 13 August, 9.30am: Fitness Centre
- McAuley Guild Mass – 23 August, 11.30am: Chapel
- Year 11 Mass – 27 August, 2.00pm: Chapel

Staff Professional Learning Day

At Marymede Catholic College we set high standards for Staff Professional Learning across all the key areas of school life: Learning and Teaching, Student Wellbeing, Leadership and Management and Community Engagement. As a Catholic College, all of the Professional Learning that takes place in these areas stands firmly on the bedrock of Education in Faith. We are pleased to share with our students, families and the wider community that a combined staff Professional Learning event *relooking at our stories: Deepening our spirituality*, took place on Friday July 25 hosted by our school. Staff from Catholic Regional College, North Keilor attended a full-day seminar presentation by world-renowned Scripture scholar Dr Amy-Jill Levine from Nashville, Tennessee, USA, who is in Melbourne at the invitation of the Catholic Education Office, to present similar Professional Learning seminars to a number of Catholic schools across Victoria. There will be more details in our next newsletter.

Judeline Wadhwani

Head of Faith and Mission (P-12)



Student Voice

On Thursday June 26, our annual Mass of the Sacred Heart was held for both the Secondary and Primary School where the divine love of Jesus for all of humanity was celebrated. Father Maurie Cooney led a wonderful Mass with the lively participation of many students and the liturgical choir. Each year at our Sacred Heart Mass we set the scene with an overflowing display of donations from our College that have been collected throughout the term to St Vincent de Paul in support of their campaign and this year was no different. We were lucky enough to be joined by two guests from St Vincent de Paul who attended our Mass and were then presented with our donations. They were both extremely thankful for our continued generosity and recognised our efforts with a certificate. I would like to extend their thanks to our College for their endless support for Social Justice at Marymede and to thank all of the teachers and students who donated their best, which will go a long way to help those in need.

Annie Sprague

Captain – Social Justice

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL SECONDARY

Our College community, along with the world, mourns the deaths of the 298 men, women and children who perished on flight MH17 last Friday. It is difficult to find the right words to express and describe this shameful act of violence against innocent families.

In Tutor Groups on Monday, our staff and students prayed, reflected and participated in a minute's silence to honour and remember the victims of this disaster. We will continue to pray for the families who have lost their loved ones so tragically in the coming weeks through the Tutor Groups and our Religious Education Programs.

Semester 1 Reports

I trust that you and your son/daughter have read, with interest, the Semester One Reports that were posted at the end of Term 2. The Secondary School Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will take place on Wednesday August 6 from 10.00am-8.00pm. I strongly encourage all families to attend these critical conversations with our staff. Discussions should centre on performance improvements necessary for further success.

We are serious about education at Marymede Catholic College and we believe that parental engagement in our student's education is essential in propelling forward successful educational outcomes. I ask that you keep this date free and available to attend the interviews. Please watch out for more details regarding the Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews in the coming weeks.

Student Uniform

My thanks and gratitude to all parents who support the College vision and ethos regarding school uniform. We are proud of our endeavours to ensure our students value and recognise the importance of pride in self and school.

I seek your continued support in ensuring your son/daughter has all of the correct College uniform items and it is worn correctly every day.

Parents' and Friends Gala Night

Tables are still available for the very special Parents' and Friends Marymede Catholic College Gala Night on Friday August 22 at Manor on High in Epping. It will be a wonderful event for our community and I hope that you will be able to join us.

Finally, I wish all families a successful term and look forward to catching up with you during the course of the Term.

HEAD OF SECONDARY

Our Children Know How To Pray...

Our Year 7 Captains, Jackson Mansell and Tharani Kumarasena, prepared their own prayers for the Year 7 2016 (current Year 5's) transition evening on Wednesday:

Tharani: *Dear Lord, we pray for the families, friends and communities of those who lost their lives in flight MH17. May we work towards peace in our community and throughout the world. Let it be done...According to your word.*

Jackson: *Dear God, we bless this group of Year 5 students; that they prepare well in readiness for Year 7. We know that Year 7 is a great experience and full of opportunities. We pray that all here take on the positive opportunities that are available. May God walk with you. Let it be done... According to your word.*

Semester 1 Reports and Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

Through an analysis of student results, students who are achieving above expected results and below expected results have been identified. We anticipate that all parents and students meet with teachers on Wednesday August 6 to ensure communication is strong between school and home. Mrs Andrea Agnew has detailed more about the reporting process elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Year 4 Eucharist – Liturgical Choir

We are proud of Mr Carville and members of the Liturgical Choir who gave the gift of their voices at the Year 4 First Eucharist at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Their voices added to the 'specialness' of the occasion.



Term 3 Reminders

1. Uniform is to be worn as per the regulations explained in the Student Diary. We have had issues with skirt length, make-up and hair and require parental and student support so that conflict is avoided and time not taken up dealing with uniform issues. We require that our students present themselves in a well groomed manner and we will hold them to account for this. Presentation and meeting the expectations of a workplace are transferable skills. We appreciate all those who meet our uniform expectations.
2. Subject Selections due in on web-preferences.
3. Secondary Parent/Teacher/Student interviews on Wednesday August 6: No classes. Students are expected to attend with parent/s in full Winter Uniform.
4. The first Assembly for the term will be on Thursday July 31 from 10.00am to 11.00am. Our Concert Band will be launched and student achievement recognised. Students are to be in full Winter Uniform, as it is a formal occasion and will need to bring their PE uniform to change into.

Term 2 VCE and VCAL Information Evening

Congratulations to Mrs Andrea Agnew, our Heads of Domain and our VCE and VCAL teachers for presenting their learning areas so well for our Years 10 and 11 students at the end of last term at our VCE and VCAL Information Evening. Our students have had every opportunity to be well informed.

Julia Wake

Head of Secondary

HEAD OF SECONDARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

I would like to thank the following parents for taking time out of their busy schedules and attending the Growing Good Men father/son weekend Parent Information Evening last week: David Balazsy, Luigi Chiodo, Henry D'Souza, Jonathan Brown, Tony Zaccari and Pat Gomatos.

Thank you also to the menALIVE team who attended and spoke to parents about what this experience will provide for our young men and their fathers. I would also like to thank Mr Michael Chesser and Mr Conor Fennell for their support and involvement as we plan for this significant event in September.

Thank you also to the parents who have since contacted me with their expression of interest wanting to know more about the Growing Good Men weekend and who want to take up this opportunity with their sons.

If you were unable to attend the parent information evening and would like to know more about this event, please contact me at your earliest convenience & I will provide you with the weekend's program & registration information.

The Growing Good Men weekend offers fathers and their sons the time and opportunity to discuss an understanding of masculinity. The weekend offers fathers and their sons the time to discuss issues of male acceptance, affirmation and affection. The weekend is a wonderful time to reaffirm the importance of this central relationship.

God Bless,

Riccardo Iuele

Head of Secondary Religious Education

Marcia Riordan – Guest Speaker

Here is a passage that some Year 12s wrote together about their guest speaker presentation:

"To reinforce our studies in RE regarding the ethical issue of abortion and the use of the abortion drug RU486, we had the pleasure of meeting the Marcia Riordan - Executive Director of the Life, Family and Marriage Office Melbourne. Marcia works to raise awareness of the Church's positive message on life issues, to bring healing and hope to all those suffering after abortion and to stand in radical solidarity with all those facing unexpected pregnancies. We were informed that many women are pressured into resorting to having an abortion and often face ongoing trauma. We also learnt that it is not only the women who suffer both physically and mentally from an abortion, but it equally affects the men in the relationship. Marcia highlighted that there is always support available

for those facing unexpected pregnancies, not only through the Catholic Church, but also through friends, family and support groups.

**Madeline Lancaster, Navjit Sidhu, Nicholas Musto, Natasha Pieri, Breanna Gatto and Anton Basanisi
(Year 12 Students)**

SECONDARY LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

Semester 1 Report

Semester 1 Reports were mailed home during the holidays. I am sure this has led to important discussions with your son/daughter about their goals for 2014 and how they intend to continue to work towards achieving them in Semester 2. Parent/Student/Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday, August 6. This is an important opportunity for you to discuss any concerns you might have with subject teachers and discuss how your son/daughter can continue to make progress this term. A letter and access information will be posted out next week so that you can make appointments.

Students in Years 9-11 sat exams last semester and these results were reported using the same scale in all subjects and in all year levels. These grades are aligned to the following percentages:

Percentage	Grade
90 – 100	A+
80 – 89	A
75 – 79	B+
70 – 74	B
65 – 69	C+
60 - 64	C
55 -59	D+
50 – 54	D
40 – 49	E+
30 – 39	E
Below 30	Ungraded (UG)

Subject Selection 2015

In Week 1 of Term 3 students in Years 8-11 met with me so that I could demonstrate how they use online web preferences to make their subject selections for 2015. The process must begin at this time so that the College can prepare a timetable based on student preferences, look at staffing implications and prepare resources for the year ahead. The due date for submission of subject selections is **today**.

In a few weeks I will be speaking with Year 7 students as they have had the opportunity to study both Italian and Japanese this year. In Years 8 and 9 they will study only one of these languages so this decision needs to be made shortly. Their

Language teachers will assist them with this decision as clearly, they have had a much shorter time studying their second Language this year but to ensure that all selections are possible on the 2015 timetable. This decision must be made soon as we begin constructing our timetable from Prep to Year 12.

VCE Acceleration: Later this term students in Year 9 will be invited to apply to study a VCE subject while in Year 10. Students must be achieving high scores in all subject areas to be successful and meet the criteria, which is outlined on the application form. I will advertise when these forms will be available but offers will not be made until late in the year when final results are known. The subjects offered for acceleration are Units 1 and 2 Accounting, Legal Studies and Psychology. If a student is successful in their application for one VCE subject, it will replace one of their elective subjects and generally they will have at least one Period 6 class (from 3.00pm-4.00pm).

Computer Use in Class

I am concerned about the number of students who are not taking their slate or notebook to every lesson. It is a requirement that they bring a charged device to every lesson (unless advised otherwise by the teacher), just as they bring their text books, pens and diary. Too many students who are having problems with their device have not even taken it to the IT Helpdesk. This cannot continue as we communicate with our students via email on a daily basis and provide vital teaching resources on Learning Areas – via Simon. If your child has a problem accessing Simon, email or the internet, we need to know immediately. Unfortunately, we will have to apply significant consequences for any students who continue to leave their device at home or regularly bring an uncharged device to class as it is an integral part of teaching and learning in the 21st Century.

Holidays in School Time

May I advise you again that we do not provide work for students who are on holidays during term time. In addition, if a VCE student misses an assessment task while on holidays, they will receive zero. Your son/daughter will be able to access emails and the Learning Areas while they are absent but they will miss vital information and discussions which take place in class. Please seek permission from Mrs Robyn Roberts, Deputy Principal Secondary if you are considering a holiday in school time and then advise your child's Head of Guild who will be able to inform his/her subject teachers.

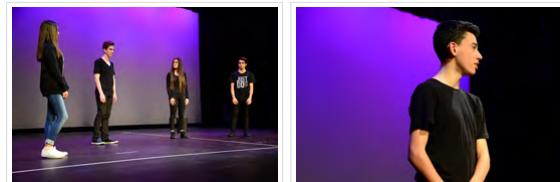
Andrea Agnew
Head of Learning and Teaching 7-12

Performing Arts News

CEOM Student Wellbeing Drama Festival

On Tuesday June 24, the Year 9 Drama students performed at the CEOM Student Wellbeing Drama Festival at the Whitehorse Centre, Nunawading. The judges praised the performers on the content of their performances, awarding them for their effective communication of wellbeing messages and ensemble work.

Thank you to Miss Emma Kiely and Mr Jeremy Guzman for supporting the students. Attached are some fantastic photos taken by Mr Guzman.



CEOM Student Wellbeing Drama Festival at the Whitehorse Centre

Angie Bedford
Head of Performing Arts

LANGUAGE NEWS

Marymede has welcomed 12 students and their teacher Marina Marchi from Mirandola, a city in the northern region of Emilia Romagna in Italy.

The students and their host families are:

For 5 weeks:

Alberto Benatti - hosted by Bianco family

Leonardo Benatti - hosted by Icaro family

Francesco Botti - hosted by Grasso family

Laura Guerzoni - hosted by Sovereign-Smith family

Anna Laura Manfredini - hosted by Einsdel/Castles family

Alessia Listo - hosted by Chiodo family

For a semester-

Alice Veltet - hosted by Rizzi family

Lisa Fini - hosted by Salerno family

Nisha Thakur - hosted by Sidhu family

Melany Prandini - hosted by Miller family

Giorgia Diazzi - hosted by Kiahna family

Andreas Schoen - hosted by Prestia - Cook family

The purpose of the stay is for the students to experience the Australian lifestyle and to improve their English.

The Italian students were warmly welcomed by their allocated Guilds and have been busy both at school and experiencing Melbourne by visiting the Italian Immigration Museum in Carlton, Melbourne University, ACMI, SBS Radio Station where they were interviewed and visiting the "Space Centre" at Strathmore Secondary College. Students were also invited to Reflection Days and excursions planned for the subjects they had chosen.

Host families have been wonderful in welcoming the Italian students into their everyday lives and looking after the students as their own. They have been very supportive of the program recognising the importance of establishing links with extra-curricular activities and creating global citizens.

We look forward as a community to sharing the experience with our Italian guests and forming new life-long friendships and memories.

On Friday July 18 the following students competed in the finals of the Dante Poetry Competition/ Discorso Competition: Ross Phlorides, Mary-Grace Nicolazzo, Clarissa Pollifoni, Jacinta Trantino, Nicholas Musto (both poetry and discorso), Anton Basinisi, Breanna Gatto and Natasha Pieri. The students represented our College well by being well prepared and confident in their delivery. I would like to congratulate all students who competed this year. We are waiting for the final results which will indicate if we have state finalists.



Maria Daniele
Head of Languages

Year 8 AFL Carnival – July 29

On a wet and bitterly cold Melbourne afternoon and in preparation for the upcoming Year 8 AFL Carnival, our boys played hosts to St Monica's in a practice match earlier this week.

Captained on the day by Steven Alabakis, the boys followed our wet weather game plan to a 'T' with true grit and spirit, leading at every change.

Oliver Potter was inspirational through the midfield and Lucas Vasilevski did not miss a tap in the ruck. Jason Pannam playing forward pocket was hungry for his 5 goals and got them with impressive precision kicking.

With a final scoreline of 13-16-94 to 0-0-0 we should be well placed to be competitive against much tougher opposition come the carnival on July 29. The calibre of our Year 8 boys also gives the senior coaching staff great enthusiasm for the Year 9 AFL Premier League and beyond. Bring on July 29.

The Kanga Cup

Over the school holidays, 3 of our Year 8 boys competed in a prestigious Soccer Tournament called 'the Kanga Cup'. James Tsafkas, Jacob Talevski and Nick Naskovski along with their soccer team, Heidelberg United U14's, competed in the

competition over the second week of the school holidays. The Heidelberg United U14's team won The Kanga Cup undefeated in all games played over the tournament. We are very proud to have these boys at our College and we know that these boys are going to make the future of the Marymede soccer program very bright! Well done boys.



Jordan Sorani
AFL Trainee

Education through Art

During the recent July holidays, I attended the 34th World Congress of the International Society for Education through Art. The Congress was held at the Melbourne Cricket ground, ran for a week and was attended by 500 delegates from around Australia and internationally. I have been a member of this International Society for many years and on this occasion I was representing Marymede Catholic College. During the Congress I delivered a paper that looked at the way design thinking can be used to improve student outcomes in Art. This study was developed from my recent experience teaching in Australia and the UK. I also led a group of delegates on a visit to the Victorian College of the Arts studios to see the work of students at one of Australia's top Tertiary Art Colleges. Overall, the Congress provided me with the opportunity to meet Art educators from around the world and to learn of contemporary research into effective Art teaching practice.



The Marymede Catholic College Mid-Year Visual Arts and Design Technology Exhibition

During the months of July and August, Marymede Catholic College is exhibiting work by many students who have worked extremely well to create fine pieces for their Visual Arts and Design Technology studies from Years 7 to 12. Work on display includes Art, Media, Visual Communication Design, Wood/Metal/Plastics and Textiles. Unfortunately due to space constraints, we have been unable to exhibit the work of every child and therefore a limited selection of work has been chosen to be a part of an exciting celebratory event.

All parents, staff and students are welcome to attend this event on:

Monday July 28 from 5.30pm to 7.00pm in the Foyer of the College's Auditorium

As the Head of Visual Arts and Design Technology, I will formally open the Exhibition at 6.15pm. Please RSVP your intention to attend via email to rsvp@marymede.vic.edu.au .

mailto:reception@marymede.vic.edu.au

If you are unable to attend on this evening, you are welcome to visit the foyer exhibition at any time by first signing in as a visitor at the Main Office. The exhibition will remain on display through July and into the first two weeks of August.

I hope that you will join us in celebrating the fine creativity of our students.



Adrian Montana
Head of Visual Arts and Design Technology

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL PRIMARY

Incident Reports

Further to the article published in the last College Newsletter ('Incident reports') I would like to draw to your attention the practice of some parents or guardians watching students during playtime, lunchtime and outside lessons through the College perimeter fences. This practise is providing some confusion and anxiety to students as they do not know these people and consider them to be strangers as these people may gesture to them and call out to them. Apart from recess and lunch times, students engage in many learning experiences in the grounds of our College and the presence of people looking at them through the perimeter fences is a distraction from their learning. At Marymede Catholic College we encourage students to implement responsible 'Stranger Danger' practices and unfortunately this practice of observing students through the perimeter fences is blurring the lines of 'Stranger Danger'.

In order that our students continue to feel secure and safe at Marymede Catholic College, I ask that you refrain from

observing students in the College grounds through the perimeter fences. This will avoid unnecessary reporting of 'strangers' observing students and embarrassing conversations between College staff and parents or guardians.

In advance, I thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

Term 3

It has been wonderful to welcome students, teachers and families back to school after the Term 2 holidays. It would appear that the holidays have provided time for re-energising and the Primary School has been abuzz with enthusiasm and activity.

During the holidays considerable work was done laying new carpet in House 2 and House 3. Thanks to the contribution of our wonderful Parents' and Friends Committee, a new surface has been laid on the Primary School Basketball Court. These upgrades have further enhanced the facilities that we have and provided great interest when students entered the school on the first day of Term 3.

Term 3 promises to be another busy term of learning and fellowship and what a wonderful way to get the Term started with the First Eucharist at Saint Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday.

Alison Besselaar
Acting Deputy Principal Primary

HEAD OF PRIMARY

Parents on School Grounds After School

Parents please be advised that in order to minimise disruption to lessons, the school gates to the Primary School Courtyard will not be opened until 3.10pm if a class is there using that area.

The gates to the Basketball Court and Prep Lawn are opened by 3.00pm, however it is asked that for safety reasons and also to minimise disruption that parents refrain from entering the grounds whilst classes are using those areas for Physical Education lessons.

Gerard Large
Acting Head of Primary

PRIMARY LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

Numeracy in Year 4

The Year 4 team have been trialling a new way of differentiating learning for their students. Teachers have assessed students to identify specific skills and challenges and then grouped children with similar needs across the year level. Each Year 4 teacher is then better able to provide students with explicit learning activities targeted towards their needs. While all teachers teach to the specific needs of all the children in their classrooms, this different way of working across grades is proving to be beneficial as it targets a greater number of students within the lesson, as the range of abilities is not as wide. Students may be paired with students and teachers from different grades. This opportunity is not only exciting for the students but helps to

develop confidence in Mathematics, as well as providing more opportunities for children to experience success.



Year 6 Camp - Canberra (Group 1)

After a successful inquiry unit learning about Australian democracy and Government, the first group of Year 6 children returned from Camp tired but full of knowledge, excitement and memories.

Their day and night was jam-packed full of opportunities to explore the unique places and features in Canberra. Students visited Parliament House, The National Archives, The Australian War Memorial, The High Court of Australia, The National Gallery, The National Museum of Australia, The Australian Institute of Sport, An Embassies and High Commissions Tour, Questacon Science and Technology Centre, Mt Ainsley Lookout, Black Mountain Tower, Canberra Sports and Aquatic Centre and an enjoyable night at AMF 10-pin Bowling. Children enjoyed lunch and a play in one of the local parks each day. Here are some photos of Group 1's experience. Group 2 return on Friday and will also have plenty to share about their trip.



the activities were: wandering around the farm and answering questions, meeting Garry the chicken, answering questions, taking off our shoes to do some saving water activities, taking off our shoes 'again' to do some things on recycling phones and recycling batteries and we even got lucky enough to have a tour around CERES! It was a great experience for all of us. We had had a great time and were sad to leave, but the bus driver had to go, so we boarded the bus and went back to school.

Laurence Portella and Nuwin Fernando

Year 5.4

On Thursday June 5, the Year 5s experienced an educational day at CERES. We investigated the future we would create if we continued to have everything we dreamed of owning. Most of us were a little bit greedy and wanted expensive homes, cars and luxuries. But in the end, when we all learnt about the 2030 world we were going to then have to live in, we were shocked and realised that we have to change and live a more eco-friendly lifestyle.

Special thanks to Kavindi, Sara and Jess

Year 5.5



Year 5 Excursion to CERES

On Thursday June 5, the Year 5s went on an excursion to CERES. The activities that we participated in were E-Waste, Action Planning, 2030 Trail and Organic Gardening. Our favourite activity was 2030 Trail because we found that if we change our way of living, we could help the environment in the future. We had a brilliant time at CERES; it was an educational trip and we learnt lots of new facts.

Avneet Kaur, Amisha Murugathas, Jasmine Vinci

Year 5.1

At CERES we participated in the following activities: The crops, The Eco House, 2030 trail and The Mini Project. I liked the Eco House because you learnt about how much water we have and how little water there is in other countries. After going to CERES, I learnt how much water we have and how other countries have very little water. I also learnt that Australia is one of the driest countries in the world.

Charlotte Nicolaou

Year 5.2

On Thursday June 5, all the Year 5 students were very excited because they got to go on their first excursion of the year. The place they were going to was called CERES. When we were lining up to go on the buses the teachers pointed out that it was World Environment Day; what a coincidence! When we got to CERES we had a snack and did some activities. Some of

Guild News

A reminder that Walk to School Day is on Friday August 1. Please meet at the corner of Great Eastern Way and Williamson's Road at 8.00am.

Sport Code of Conduct and Selection Policy

Term 3 is a very busy one for Interschool Sport. Unfortunately not all students can make the Interschool Teams. If you have any queries regarding selection please refer to the Selection Policy and Sport Code of Conduct that is on the College Website.

All students in Years 5 and 6 participate in regular Intra School Sport each week during Guild times.

Sporting Results

Congratulations to Mr Dara Blake and the Boys Soccer Team on making the final of the Whittlesea/Woodlands Region. They went down 3-2 to excellent opposition in Plenty Parklands.

Congratulations to Miss Sinead Fitzpatrick and our girls who won their final against Plenty Parklands. They have now progressed to the Northern Metropolitan Regional Finals to be played at Banyule on Tuesday August 19.

Gerard Large
Head of Primary Sport and Guild

Year 2 Incursion The Zoo Comes To You Wild Action

On Thursday June 12, the Year 2 students enjoyed a fun interactive experience with some wildlife joining them in House 2. As part of our Australia inquiry unit, students learnt about some of the amazing wildlife that are in our very own back yards. The students enjoyed a visit from a fruit bat, kookaburra, owl and echidna, just to name a few.



Michael Pahoff
Primary Chess Club Coordinator

2014 Book Week - Primary School

We will be celebrating Book Week at Marymede Catholic College during the week beginning Monday August 16 until Friday August 22. Book Week is the longest running children's festival in Australia, celebrating its 69th birthday this year. This year's theme is 'Connect to Reading'. Connect to Reading is about enjoying the experience of exploring story and travelling to other worlds.

The Book of the Year Awards for 2014 Short List and Notables have been announced and can be found on the 'The Children's Book Council of Australia' website.

We will be celebrating Book Week in all Primary School classrooms and in the Calthorpe Resource Centre throughout the week in a variety of ways including opportunities for students to become familiar with this year's short listed books. We will also celebrate with a Character Parade where children can dress up as a book character of their choice. The date, times and venue have yet to be decided and further details will be published in the next Newsletter.

Each year many public libraries from all over Australia spend a week celebrating books and Australian authors and illustrators. As a family you may also like to visit your local library to explore various Australian authors and illustrators. Have fun!

Maree Mullen
Head of Primary Literacy / Book Week Committee



The Year 2 Team

Primary Chess Club Term 2

In the last week of Term 2, eight Marymede Primary School students competed in an independent Chess tournament hosted by Lalor Primary. The participating students in the photo attached are: (back) Shiraan Kuganesan, Ewan Prendergast, Abhay Sharma, Max Zaharopoulos and Adrian Cardamone, (front) Jessica Bahen, Imogen Garland and Vithusha Sureshkumar.

As a team, Marymede finished 4th of 10 schools located in the greater Whittlesea area. Ewan Prendergast was Marymede's highest ranking player, finishing 4th of 104 students.

In Term 2, sixteen students participated in the Primary Chess Club.

At Year 6 level, Charlie Orum was placed first, with Shiraan Kuganesan second.

At Year 5 level, Abhay Sharma placed first, Isabel Francisco second, and Max Zaharopoulos third.

Primary Chess Club continues in Term 3, Wednesday lunchtimes in Room 505. New members are welcome.

There will also be another two independent tournaments: the first at Alphington Primary on August 7 the second at Mill Park Heights Primary on September 8.

Please see me if you wish to participate in these tournaments.

Primary School Numeracy Intervention Program



Senior students measuring nets and constructing shapes

For some years now at Marymede catholic College, we have had an active Numeracy Intervention Program to assist students with their Mathematics learning. This Program has been a flexible tool and has been available to students at all levels of the Primary school at various times.

The Intervention Program has provided extension for students who require a challenge, support for those who have gaps in their Mathematical understanding and also a boost for those who would benefit from a little extra input.

Last Semester 70 students from Year 3 and Year 5 were involved in five Numeracy Intervention classes. These students worked with peers at a similar level, in small class settings exploring and developing understanding of Mathematics concepts in-line with the Australian Curriculum.

This Semester Numeracy Intervention is about to start for 80 Year 4 and Year 6 students. Again students will be working in small class settings exploring Mathematical concepts relevant to their stage of learning.

Look out for further snippets about student activities from the Numeracy Intervention Program in subsequent Newsletters.

A few problems to share at home....

- How many mls of liquid does a teaspoon hold?
- Find a cup which holds exactly 250mls
- ...and something that weighs exactly 100gms.
- Make a batch of scones using a recipe.

Kaylene Wright
Primary Numeracy Coordinator

Reading Stars

50 Nights

Aleena Thomas, Neha Sojan, Divinia Kihara, Noah Carusi, Noah Alberti, Katia Alipan, Luke D'Agostino, Matthew Elkomos, Lara Flammea, Jovia Joseph Jeyasingh, Gemma MacDonald, Mollie MacDonald, Ava Petrides, Fiona Polfroni, Manas Regi, Donna Roy, Joshua Sadza, Umaiaran Thievanesan, Max Trajkovski, Ria Valder, Marcus Vinci, Shreeya Sreejith, Shaurya Sharma, Shayla Campbell, Claudia Karmiste, Ava Rechichi, Luca Sabol, Jacob Tawadros, Adrian Viero, Hannah Kocev, Bianca

Alessandrino, Olivia Bartlett, Jack Bourke, Emma Hancy, Caleb Pollard-Edwards, Oscar Csaszar, Dion Roe, Julian Spiteri, Tayla Emsoovski, Olivia Ensabella, Ashmtha Murugathas, Sofia Overmars, Kaitlin Rizzo, Jack Cardamone, Dylan De Amicis, Tyger Dias, Sienna Klein, Isaac Sassone, Grace Tran, Christian Cavar, Daniel Falcone, Angus Menta, Abby Mueller, Zara Sheens, Con Karakassis, Kiara Longo, Tobenna Obani, Madison Stojkovska, Damien Rades, Danae Yankos, Leah Preziuso

100 Nights

Marcus Gospic, Lily Karakassis, Oliver Large, Ciara Marino, Marama McGinty, Ryan Martin, Chantal Kirolos, Hudson Mueller, Cooper Williams, Luciana Pastrana Martinez, Suchiti Sangwan, Julia Patricio, Eliana Cavar, Brianna London, Chloe Montagnese, Joshua Berry, Luca Grillo, Nirvan Iozzo, Jaida Talevski, Samantha Talevski, Jennifer Vrkic, Johnathon Grgas-Bego, Charli Reading, Ashna Sajeev, Mikayla Spagnolo, Marcus Barrasso, Johnathon Grgas-Bego, Charli Reading, Ashna Sajeev, Mikayla Spagnolo, Marcus Barrasso, Jason Metelovski, Jeremy Michail, Taneisha Carusi, Sarah Fernando, Senushi Kumarasinghe, Tamara Novakovic, Evangelina Tuimaseve, Marnie Carton-Rigney, Elli Cullen, Alec D'Este, Austin Guarino, Oliver Karamalis, Sienna Scire, Sara Ilczynski, Jye D'Agostino, Jonah Puthanpurackal, Hanna Sojan, Tania Santhosh, Jude De Nittis, Fiona Laiju, Elizabeth Jay, Jessica Ebrall

125 Nights

Kristina Jakovac, Rachel Moawad

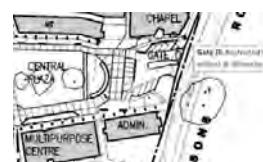
150 Nights

Briana Portella, Luca Porchia, Briana Portella, Luca Porchia, Mackenzie Newport.

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

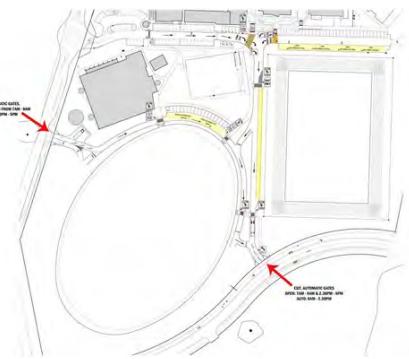
Gate D - Main College Administration Restricted Access to Visitors and Deliveries Only

From Monday July 28, boom gates will be in operation to restrict access to Parents using Gate D as a drop-off and pick-up area. This gate will now only be used by visitors and deliveries to the College.



New Drop Off and Pick-Up Zones Via Gates E and F

From Monday July 28, the new drop-off and pick-up zones will be operational for all parents to use when transporting their child to the College. These areas are designated for this purpose, to reduce the congestion at Gates A to C. Please refer to the following map for more details. (drop-off and pick-up in yellow)



Paul Romanin
Business Manager

Finance News

As you may be aware; the government provides Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) to assist families on a low income with the cost of education. EMA is a means-tested payment and the family must meet the following criteria:

- The student must be below the age of sixteen.
- The student must be enrolled at a Primary or Secondary Government or registered school in Victoria at February 28, 2014 for the first instalment and August 1, 2014 for the second instalment.
- Is a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or an eligible Health care card (HCC) or Pensioner.
- Concession Card (PCC) holder.

If you fit the criteria to receive EMA and have **not** yet submitted an application, please ensure you complete the required documentation and forward to the College no later than Friday August 1, 2014.

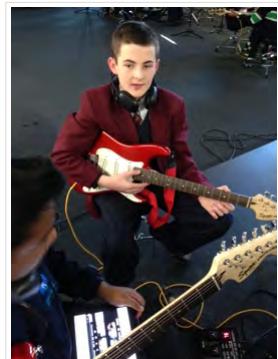
Parents can contact the Main Reception for information about EMA payments. Information is also available on the EMA website: www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/financial/ema.htm

EMA forms can be collected from the Main Reception. Applications are to be made and submitted by parents/guardians.

Yvonne Upton
Finance Office

Junior Jammers

On Thursday July 17 we had our first Junior Jammers session after school. Junior Jammers is a co-curricular activity for students who are particularly enjoying the new Musical Futures approach to learning Music and would like the opportunity to extend their knowledge and repertoire. We had 33 students turn up! The Music Domain was ‘alive’ with sound. Students arranged their own groups and worked collaboratively on their chosen songs. A huge thank you goes to Mr Jeremy Guzman who popped in to assist the students with their work. Have a look at some of the pictures from the session below.



Congratulations

To Morgan Brand, Laura Daniele, Arusha Dhawan, Alexander Kosmas, Sarah Mizzi, Nicholas Musto, Joshua Newton, Hannah Nowak and Kiana Rigney for representing the Liturgical Choir at the Sacrament of the Eucharist Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday July 20. You all sounded amazing.

Upcoming Performances / Events

The College's Concert Band will be making their debut performance at the upcoming Secondary School Assembly during Week 3 of this Term. They will be playing 'Miramar Fanfare' for the opening procession. Good luck to the following students: Paul Nicolaidis, Sheryl Varghese, Emil George, Hannah Falzon, Aagaash Murugathas, Alana Mardegan, Marian Fernando, Lakshana Shantos Kumar, Nikitha Nagpur, Sarah Mizzi, Shamal Krishnan, Daniel Prezioso, Adam Argyros and Laura Daniele.

All the best also to Steven Azzopardi, Joel Crocitti, Aaron D'Souza, Joel Motley, Chloe Radovic and Paulene Roflo who will be performing 'Best Day of My Life' by American Authors and Jordan Conte, Matthew Distefano, James Henderson, Daniel James Paul and Nanette Mangoba who will be performing 'Next to Me' by Emeli Sande.

The Instrumental Program Concert will be held on the evening of Monday August 25. More details to follow.

Kevin Carville
Head of Music

REGISTRAR NEWS

New Students

Marymede would like to welcome and acknowledge the new students and families who recently commenced with us in Term 3:

Mina Gebraeel – Year 10
Sarah Gebraeel – Year 9
Samer Jibraeel – Year 2

Open Day and Creativity Festival 2014

Marymede's Open Day and Creativity Festival 2014 will be held on Sunday August 31. We anticipate this year's Open Day to be even bigger and better than last year whilst our Creativity Festival gives children an opportunity to learn new concepts, have fun and be as creative as possible through a range of interesting displays and **free** interactive workshops. We encourage all families to visit the College on Open Day. Further details regarding the Open Day and Creativity Festival can be found by visiting www.marymede.vic.edu.au/news/openday2014.

Year 5 Secondary School Experience

On Wednesday July 23, our Year 5 classes took part in an exciting Marymede event titled the Secondary School Experience. This day saw Year 5 students spend a day in the Secondary School taking part in specialist subjects including Woodwork, Food Technology, Science, Visual Communication and Design and Sport. This gave our students an excellent opportunity to meet Secondary School teachers and learn about what is available to them in the coming years as they move from Primary School into Year 7 at Marymede Catholic College.

New College Website

Our current College website which launched through Term 2 is currently best viewed on a laptop or desktop device; however we anticipate a mobile device version of the website to be up and running 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.

Enrolments

Applications for Prep have since closed with acceptances having been submitted to the College. We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of students into Prep in 2015. Details regarding the Orientation and Transition Program will be sent to families in the coming months.

Applications for Year 7, 2016 are now open and will close on February 27, 2015. In the coming months, current Year 6 students will be sent home an Intention Form which will need to be completed and returned to the College. The Intention Form is different to the 'Application for Enrolment' form. Current Year 6 families will only be required to fill in the Intention Form.

We will be in contact with families shortly regarding the transition process for Year 7, 2015 which will take place in the coming months. We look forward to welcoming a new cohort of families into Secondary School in 2015.

College Facebook Page

To keep up with exciting news and events at the College, be sure to 'like' the official Marymede Catholic College Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/marymedecatholiccollege

The page is updated regularly and is a great form of communication between the College and community. Please be reminded that it is **not** a requirement for a parent to have their own Facebook account in order to view the College page. Information and news can be read by simply visiting the above link.

Email Addresses

Our College uses email as a major form of communication to families. Please ensure that your family has supplied the College with a valid and current email address to avoid missing out on valuable information regarding news and events. It is a College requirement for all families to have a minimum of one valid, working email address. To submit an email address or check your existing email address, please contact the College or email registrar@marymede.vic.edu.au.

School Bus Service

Marymede Catholic College is now taking bookings for our chartered Bus Service in Semester 2. In Semester 1 we ran three chartered buses to and from the College each day. This is continuing in Semester 2. Bus passes are available at a cost of \$575.00 (Semester 2 daily AM and PM run), or \$330.00 (Semester 2 daily AM **or** PM run). These will be allocated to students on a first come, first serve basis. Additionally casual passes will be available subject to availability at \$4.00 each way. Bus timetables and routes can be found on our College Website. For further information regarding the School Bus service please contact the College on 9407-9000.

Matthew Luczek

Registrar