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Lumina

Issue 2 · 18 Feb 2021

Introducing Lumina the new name for the St Mary's College fortnightly newsletter. Lumina is Latin for Lantern and our Newsletter is an important communication source engaging our community with what is happening at the College, events, dates to remember, and a regular way to keep in touch with School Leadership, students, and the community.

This cover image comes from our House Swimming Carnival, with all its colour, camaraderie and team spirit, a memory of our first whole College Carnival, a fun day.

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle

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From the Principal

Terry Blizzard

On Wednesday this week we celebrated Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the Season of Lent and our journey to Easter, a time of penance and preparation for Easter.

For members of a Catholic community, this symbolic beginning of our Lenten journey is most significant. This period marks the lead up to when Jesus makes his ultimate sacrifice for us on the cross on Good Friday. Jesus spends the forty days in the lead up reflecting on his life and the sacrifice he is about to make.

This period challenges us to reflect on Jesus ultimate sacrifice and the possibility of looking at how we can make some positive changes in the way we go about our own lives. On this day ashes are blessed and used to make a sign of the cross on the forehead as a sign of penance. Sadly, due to the circumstances of the COVID lockdown we were unable to conduct the formal ceremony that we would normally do. This public ceremony, which features the message “turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel” is a reminder that we are about to commence Lent and has been a part of the Christian tradition for many centuries.

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

Project Compassion demonstrates how love for our neighbours can transform lives. This message of justice is at the very heart of St Mary's College.

As we begin this Lenten journey, I strongly encourage your support of our Caritas appeal by raising funds through Project Compassion. This seems more important than ever in these times of COVID. Small donations can make a great difference in the lives of those in the poorer communities of the world, and in an era where our young people are sometimes wrongly viewed as being more concerned about themselves than others the opportunity to advocate on behalf of others can only be a good thing. A wise man once said to me that advocating for the poor and marginalized such as this is "doing God's work".

There is a collection box in each class and students are encouraged to donate when they can.

Principal | Terry Blizzard

Around the College

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire



Over the past week we have inducted our Senior Leaders – the St Mary's College Prefect Team – as leaders in the College for 2021. The Prefect Investiture itself was a wonderful occasion, providing the opportunity for the families of each of our Prefects to witness them being formally inducted into this significant role in the life of the College. Leadership is about serving others.

On multiple occasions already this year our Senior Leaders have shown that service is natural to them – a built in component of being a leader. Last week the annual ACC (Associated Catholic Colleges) leadership launch was held for the captains of all member schools. At this event, Darcy Lynch and Campbell Oldham (Co-College Captains for 2021) represented the College with pride and passion. At the event, they spoke about St Mary's College, with inspiring words of who we are and what we dream of becoming.

The House Swimming Carnival last week and the House Athletics Carnival taking pace later this term are opportunities for our leaders to honour tradition and build culture through their words and actions.

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire





Wellbeing

Student Counsellor | Catherine McMahon

On Friday last week, we were thrust into yet another sudden COVID change. As a school community, we really are getting used to change. We have learnt to be flexible, adaptable and problem solve as we plan how things will be managed, albeit for five days at this stage. Maybe when you read this, the circuit breaker lockdown will be over.

So how do you manage sudden change? Firstly, there is the shock of it and handling the emotions that the sudden change can elicit. There might be anger and disappointment over cancelled sporting commitments or social activities. Or there might be joy over not having to travel to school for three days.

Eventually there is acceptance and from that, planning and making short term adjustments to manage the change. Our students seemed to manage the sudden change very well on Friday – arranging to take all their necessary belongings home and bidding farewell to their friends and teachers. I guess in their minds and in the minds of the whole community, there comes a time when we all become resigned to the fact that we just have to do what we are told.

For many students, there may have been the concern that the lockdown might extend beyond the five days or that lockdowns might happen again. This creates a sense of unease and worry as they fear that things might become worse and the way they were before. The

best way to support our students is to encourage them to talk and to listen to how they are feeling. Knowing that things will be better in the future, really helps them not to wallow in negativity. Reminding them that the experts know what they are doing and that lockdowns work in stopping the pandemic, can be very reassuring and help them plan for better days ahead.

Let's hope that we continue to manage change as well as we have already!

Student Counsellor | Catherine McMahon



Identity

Director of Identity | Kate Johnston

Year 7 Formation Day and Welcome Mass

The tradition of our College is to welcome new Year 7 students into our community by gathering for Mass at St Mary's Church. This year was no exception although COVID did limit the number of family members we could celebrate with.

This is an exciting time for our Year 7 families as the journey of secondary school begins. It is always a big year for the students, however this year it is also a big year for us, the reimagined St Mary's College. A time to acknowledge the treasures of our past as we create new traditions and opportunities for our co-educational College.

Unlike previous years, the day began with sessions around Blessed Edmund Rice, getting to know each other and how we make our Touchstones come alive at St Mary's College. We then moved over to the Parish Church where Fr Jerome, our College Chaplain and Parish Priest of St Mary's inducted all into the traditions of our Catholic faith.



The highlight of the Mass was each student receiving a St Mary's College Bible. The first group to ever receive this gift who will be forever remembered as the inaugural group. The Bible is a sign of our Christian hospitality and our community pray that the students experience wisdom, comfort and God's unending love as they reflect on the passages.

Director of Identity | Kate Johnston



 Stay on Country with Traditional Owners and their families

Lake Mungo

St Mary's College Year 9, 10 and 11 students have an immersive opportunity to learn and experience indigenous culture and history.

The Lake Mungo Indigenous Immersion will be held on **9 - 14 August 2021**. Our students will travel to Lake Mungo (about 760 km west of Sydney) with students from Parade College (EREA school) to learn from our First Nations Peoples.

Cost \$2090 - 2165 (dependent on student numbers)

Download the brochure and itinerary

 [Parade St Marys Lake Mungo Brochure.pdf](#)

How to find out more

Student information session Tuesday 23 February 9am, Presentation Campus Lecture Theatre

Parent information session via zoom, Tuesday 16 March 7pm (meeting link will be published in our next College Newsletter)



Learning

Director of Learning Development | Bev Pettit

Remote and Online Learning

We had all hoped that remote and online learning would remain as a 2020 phenomenon. However, with only a few hours notice on Friday we were able to organise our students and teachers to be prepared for three days of remote learning.

It is a credit to our teaching staff and how they managed the remote learning last year, how seamlessly we were able to transition back to online, even for this short period. The heroes are, as usual, our students who remain flexible and continue to engage in lessons and take ownership of their learning.

Parents can keep track of what students are learning through their PAM accounts using the lesson plans and learning tasks tabs. They can also see their son or daughter's timetable to know what lessons they have for the day and can use the email tab to contact the subject teachers.

We welcome our staff and students back onto campus on Thursday 18 February.

Director of Learning | Bev Pettit



Sport & House News

Sports Co-ordinator | Simon Hawkins

Swimming Carnival Results

On Friday the 5 February we held the St Mary's College inaugural House Swimming Carnival. It was a great day for the St Mary's College community where students' house spirit shone through with high enthusiasm and maximal participation. Thanks to all staff and students for making the day run so smoothly.

The points tally was tightly fought to the end. Congratulations to **McMahon House** for taking home the glory!

McMahon	978
Tevlin	976
O'Shea	975
Corbett	660



Girls Twilight Swimming Carnival

Thank you to all girls and parents that attended last Thursday's (11 February), Swimming Carnival. It was a great evening for all. All students represented their houses proudly in what was a great experience for the community.

Congratulations to the girls from **Tevlin House** for leading their House to victory!

Tevlin	164
McMahon	160
O'Shea	110
Corbett	96



House Athletics Carnival

Our Athletics Carnival has been moved from Thursday 18 February to the 18 March to adhere to COVID Safety measures.

ACC Sport

Round 1

Cricket

St Mary's 2/140 def Emmanuel 5/139

Volleyball

De La Salle A def by St Mary's A

De La Salle B def by St Mary's B

Round 2

Cricket

St Mary's 3/112 def Whitefriars 5/109

Volleyball

St Bede's A def St Mary's A

St Bede's B def St Mary's B

Round 3 Senior ACC Cricket will take a break this week due to new Government Restrictions. We hope to be back next week.

Cricket Senior T20 Division 2

RANK	TEAM	P	B	W	L	D	WKTS LOST	RUNS FOR	WKTS TAKEN	RUNS AGST	PTS	%
1	St Mary's	3	0	2	0	1	5	252	10	248	15	2.03
2	St Bede's 2	2	1	1	0	1	8	132	8	125	15	1.06
3	St Bernard's 2	2	1	0	1	1	7	85	8	100	9	0.97
4	Whitefriars 2	3	0	1	1	1	13	209	10	197	9	0.82
5	Mazenod 2	3	0	1	1	1	14	204	11	198	9	0.81
6	Emmanuel	2	0	1	1	0	7	228	9	228	6	1.29
7	De La Salle 2	3	0	0	2	1	17	234	15	248	3	0.83

Volleyball Senior A

Blue Pool

RANK	TEAM	P	BYE	W	D	L	SF	SA	PF	PA	POINTS	%
1	Mazenod	3	0	2	1	0	6	0	150	79	10	189.87
2	St Bede's (Mentone)	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	113	113	6	100.00
3	De La Salle	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	126	135	6	93.33
4	Whitefriars	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	117	132	6	88.64
5	St Mary's	3	0	1	1	1	2	4	102	133	6	76.69
6	St Bernard's	3	0	0	1	2	1	5	128	144	2	88.89

Senior Volleyball B

Blue Pool

RANK	TEAM	P	BYE	W	D	L	SF	SA	PF	PA	POINTS	%
1	Mazenod	3	0	2	1	0	6	0	150	79	10	189.87
2	St Bernard's	3	0	1	1	1	4	2	128	102	6	125.49
3	St Mary's	3	0	1	1	1	3	3	114	115	6	99.13
4	St Bede's (Mentone)	3	0	1	1	1	2	4	102	127	6	80.32
5	Whitefriars	3	0	1	1	1	2	4	110	138	6	79.71
6	De La Salle	3	0	0	1	2	1	5	84	127	2	66.14

Coming up: ACC Athletics Championship – Thursday 25 February



VCE

VCE Co-ordinator | Sylvia Pastore

The start of the year has seen the students very focused on their studies and their goals. It is wonderful seeing them utilise the study hub to focus on their studies very early in the year. If this is any indication, we have a very goal orientated and motivated group of VCE students.

Students should have arranged a **home study plan** to ensure that they keep up to date with their work as when the SACs commence it may feel overwhelming. It is really important that there is an open dialogue with teachers who are always willing to offer extra assistance after school or during lunch times. The staff are all experienced in VCE and ensuring that the students achieve their full potential is of paramount importance.

Year 12 students are encouraged to remain on campus on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to focus on their studies and form study groups or speak to their teachers. Throughout the term we will use this time to provide students with important study strategies and seminars so they are prepared for the year ahead. In the next week, the **SAC calendar** will be distributed to all VCE students and uploaded onto PAM. Please note that while it may be subject to change this provides students with an opportunity to plan their study schedules.

It was great to see a large turn out of parents and students at our **VCE information evening** where we presented some informative details pertaining to VCE and VCAL. Please

remember our partnership continues throughout the year and if there are any concerns, questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me, or any other relevant staff.

As discussed in the evening, if your child is completing a Unit 3 & 4 subject and needs to apply for special provisions, please send me an email so we can get the application process started. We look forward in working closely with your children to ensure that they achieve their full potential.

VCE Co-ordinator | Sylvia Pastore



VCAL

VCAL | Grant Godbold

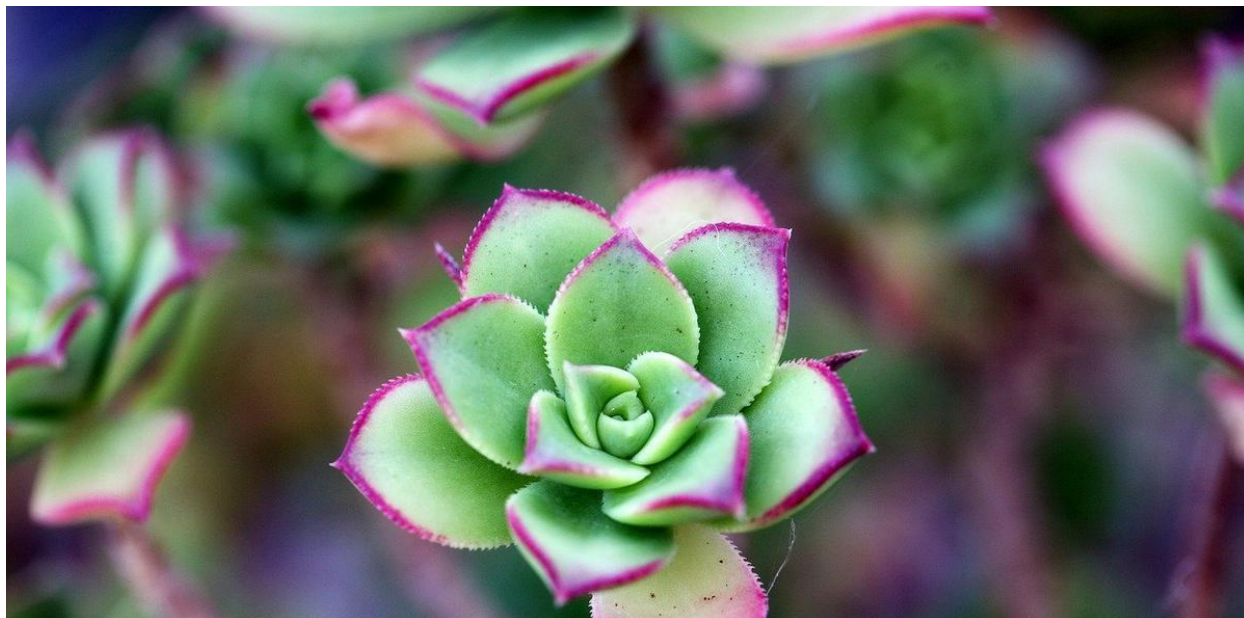
VCAL Students' learn all about how to apply academic skills in real life situations, their classroom often involves excursions. Last Thursday 11 February was our first VCAL excursion to Melbourne CBD for a scavenger hunt which drew upon the use of students Mathematics skills.

On Thursday, the VCAL students went on a school trip with both year levels for a scavenger hunt for "Uoouoo" sculptures around the city. We had a short time to plan ahead of time, to decide the fastest route, so that we could find as many as possible. The only problem was that they were scattered across Melbourne which meant it would take quite a while to finish.

Despite being difficult, it was fun trying to find the Uoouoo sculptures, writing down all the geographic coordinates. The name itself "Uoouoo" was pretty funny too.

Eventually when you get to the end and you see the last "Uoouoo", you think to yourself where it all began, thinking of the plan that we laid out, the mistakes that we made along the way, but in the end it was a lot of fun and we will continue to do work on this in Numeracy Class.

Oliver R, Year 12 VCAL



Pathways

Careers Counsellor | Mandy Ellwood

This lockdown weekend had been remarkably productive. Sensing the approach of summer's end, I settled on finishing the weekend in a flurry of gardening.

One task was to replot some leggy succulents. Having consulted YouTube for guidance, I lopped the heads off perfectly good plants, leaving about 10cm or so of stem. I set the bottom leaves aside in a dry corner, where they are expected to miraculously sprout some roots, and plunged the bare stalks into pots of new, somewhat dry, potting mix, tamping firmly to hold them upright.

As I replaced these tiny potted heads in their preferred positions about the house, I was struck by what a harsh transition I had given them. Yet transitions are a bit like that. Whilst we have tried hard to be caring and nurturing gardeners in our new school, it does take some time to put down roots, to establish oneself and begin to flourish.

From the Year 7, for whom all is new, to each other year level, even staff, change is both unsettling and inspiring. Everyone has been planted in new soil. In particular, our CBC graduates have made the greatest transition of all, as they step from the familiar, secure environment of College into the unknown realms of further study and employment. We all

have to find our way, adapt to new routines, new rules, new ways of working and to establish new relationships.

Change is Constant

This is the first of the five key messages of Careers Education. As we follow our paths through life, we will be often reminded that little stays the same in our fast-changing world. Embrace change; work with it.

Learning is Ongoing

*In a fast-changing world of work, as in life in general, we must be constantly learning new things, absorbing new skills, adapting to changing facts and discoveries. Pivoting, to use a term brought to you by COVID-19. Eighty percent of our CBC Class of 2020 applied for a Tertiary Study place and **all** of these received offers. The remainder have found or are seeking apprenticeships and other employment. The value of further education and training is well-understood in our community.*

Follow your Heart

To do this, you need to know yourself and believe in yourself. You need to actively find ways to combine your passions with career opportunities. Fulfilment is a path to success. The Class of 2020 chose a broad range of courses, both in Vocational and Higher Education. The majority of graduates are pursuing courses in Business, Humanities and Creative Arts, with sizable groups also in IT and Engineering, demonstrating that they are indeed following their hearts.

Focus on the Journey

Whilst it is a good idea to have goals, single-mindedly pursuing them can mean that you miss out on engaging with great people and new opportunities along the way. The career is the path, not the destination. Each year, a number of graduates will change course or institution, finding more suitable and satisfying options as they learn more about the opportunities and themselves. This is a positive and does not mean they have chosen poorly. Education is never wasted.

Access your Allies

Find the people who support you to fulfil your dreams. Those who understand you and have your best interests at heart. Those with the knowledge and expertise to help you on your way. When considering career options, there is a huge amount of information to sift through. The processes are complex. Your Careers Counsellor is certainly one of your best allies in the senior years. I can assist you to find the most relevant information, explain the processes and support you in your decision-making.

Making an appointment for a careers meeting is as simple as clicking on the link on Simon.

Careers | Mandy Ellwood



From our Students

Presentation Campus

Being at the Presentation Campus, at first, was a brand-new experience. It was one thing to have classes at this campus, however, to be permanently on the campus was a whole different feeling for students. However, even with the short period of time the Years 9,11 and 12 students have spent on this new Campus, we all already love it thoroughly.

For each year-level, being able to have their own space to learn in has served as a great benefit to the students. The Year 12s love being able to study in their own study zone, on the right as students enter the Presentation Campus. The Year 11s enjoy the collaboration with teachers, and one another, as it allows them to prepare for Year 12 (which isn't too far away for them!). The Year 9s love having new facilities which they had never experienced before.

The classrooms and layout of the Campus is astounding, it will serve as memories for staff and students. Although this change is big, it is a change we can get through together, allowing us to become united as one College, where, slowly but surely, boys and girls get along as if to be no different from one another. The more time the students spend on this Campus, the more connected students become with each other and the College Campus itself.

This Campus will create wonderful moments for us all. Indeed, it will further the sense of pride that swells within our hearts here at this proud school of St Mary's College.

Year 12 Student | Lachlan S



New Uniform

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle

Our reimagined College will have a new uniform designed in consultation with our College community.

At present we are formulating a small Uniform Committee including College Leaders, parents, students and Midford our Uniform supplier. This Committee will meet regularly and be the conduit to gather community ideas and communicate design options.

Although this may be a small committee there will be the opportunity for all to contribute and have their say. Early on in the process we will be sending out a survey to all parents, students and staff to provide input to what they like about our current uniform and would like to change. This consultative process will help us develop a uniform that best meets our College community's needs.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me edoyle@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle



Our Community

It was great to meet many of you all in person last Monday and be so warmly welcomed to the St Mary's College community. It filled my heart with joy experiencing the enthusiasm in the room and the energy and drive of each person wanting our College to be a success. I feel together we will build a strong and supportive community. We had the opportunity on the evening to celebrate the birthdays of our Principal Mr Blizzard and Sr Mary Kavanagh.



Sr Mary and Principal Terry Blizzard



Many people spoke to me wanting to help with our promotions. Some of you have sent me copies of marketing material you have received from other schools. Whilst we have a marketing plan in place, it is greatly appreciated having eyes and ears in your local or online community, to share with us how other schools are presenting themselves.

Those of you who are active on social media would have seen posts go out last week on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. There will be more postings leading up to Open Day. I remain optimistic that COVID will not disrupt our Open Day this year and continue to promote it. You can help us spread the word by sharing these with your social media networks. Paper versions of flyers are available at both Campuses Receptions if you would like to share with family, friends or your child's primary school, a digital version is available upon request.

Never underestimate the positive effect of your enthusiasm and involvement in the Parents and Friends Group has for your child(s) attitude toward school. The research shows that students whose parents are actively involved with their school achieve better results. So inadvertently, you are helping your children thrive (*and having some fun along the way too*). I am very excited about our future and look forward our journey together.

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle

Parents and Friends Meeting

Next Meeting Monday 15 March - all welcome

Uniform Shop

Recycled Uniform Shop

Saturday 6 March 9-11:30am Entrance B - Edmund Rice Campus

Midford Uniform Shop

Saturday 6 March 9-1:00pm Entrance D - Edmund Rice Campus

This will be a great opportunity for families to prepare for their Term 2 Winter uniform needs. As always, donations of uniform items, cleaned and in good condition, are gratefully accepted – either at shop openings, or to both Campus Receptions.

Parent Helpers for Open Day

Our annual College Open Day is on the afternoon of Sunday 21 March. We will be providing Refreshment areas over both Campuses. Guests find these valuable areas to visit and also chat with our existing families, so we are looking for helpers to volunteer some time there. If you are able to help, please contact Jane Balme at jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au.

The poster features a photograph of a young woman and a young man in school uniforms standing outdoors. To their right is the St Mary's College crest, which includes a shield with a cross and a star, surrounded by a laurel wreath, with the text 'ST MARY'S COLLEGE' below it. The main text on the poster reads 'CREATE YOUR Tomorrow' in a mix of white and green fonts, followed by 'OPEN DAY 2021' in large white letters on a green background. Below this, a white box contains the date 'SUNDAY 21 MAR' and the time '12PM - 3PM'. To the right of this box, it lists the locations: 'Across our two adjacent campuses', 'EDMUND RICE CAMPUS 11 Westbury St, St Kilda East VIC 3183', and 'PRESENTATION CAMPUS 187 Dandenong Rd, Windsor VIC 3181'. At the bottom, a dark blue box contains the text 'MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION AT: STMARYSCOLLEGE.VIC.EDU.AU'.

Remember to invite friends and family to visit us on Open Day.

Registrations for the event can be made at

<https://www.stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au/enrolments/open-day>



Notices

Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien

2021 Fee Accounts

All 2021 Fee Accounts are due and payable by **31 March 2021**, unless an approved Payment Plan is in place by this date.

Where a family pays the entire Family Fee Account balance prior to 31 March 2021 a \$350 Early Payment Discount will be credited to the Family Fee Account.

**Please note that the Early Payment Discount does not apply to Scholarship, Bursary and Fee Assistance Accounts.*

Pay the entire Family Fee account balance prior to 31 March 2021	Eligible for \$350 *Early Payment Discount
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*Families making a full payment of Fees before 31 March 2021 may deduct the \$350 amount from the payment. Please note that in order to receive this discount the entire Family Fee Account balance for all students within the Family attending St Mary's College must be received into the St Mary's College bank account by **31 March 2021**.*

For the sake of clarity, deposits received in the St Mary's College bank account on 1 April 2021 will not be eligible to receive the Early Payment Discount.

Where Families elect to pay by instalments, a 2021 Fee Payment Agreement Form must be completed, signed and lodged with the Finance Office by **28 February 2021**.

All payment arrangements must be finalised by **31 October 2021**.

Documents in relation to Fees and Payment Arrangements can be found in the Parent Access Module PAM (SIMON)

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund

2020 Applications are now Open

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Funding (CSEF) is a \$225 annual payment to schools that can be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of eligible students.

To qualify for the CSEF your family must satisfy the following criteria or be an eligible beneficiary of one of the following cards:

- Veterans Affairs Gold Card
- Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC)
- Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, or
- be a temporary foster parent, or
- the student is 16 years or older and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card).

A special consideration eligibility category also exists.

For more information, see:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

The CSEF is paid directly to St Mary's College and will be credited against your Fee Account at St Mary's College to contribute towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. If you believe that you may be eligible for the CSEF, please complete and return the CSEF Application Form, which can be found towards the end of the newsletter.

Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien



Dates & Events

Feb	
22	College Advisory Council Meeting 7pm
23 – 26	Year 7 Anglesea Camp 1
23	Lake Mungo Student Information Session 9am Year 8 Father Child Evening 7pm (Logue Hall)
24	ACC Senior Sport
25	ACC Athletics Carnival
Mar	
2	St Mary's College Opening Mass Period 1
3	ACC Senior Sport
3-5	Year 10 Outdoor Education Marine Studies Camp