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Lumina

Issue 9 · 03 Jun 2021

Welcome to Issue 9. At the time of publishing this edition we received notification of an extended lockdown. Much flexibility and creativity in learning has been required as we support each other through this time. Stay safe and we hope by the time the next edition of Lumina arrives we will all be back on campus.

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle

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From the Principal

Terry Blizzard

There is something all too familiar today as I write this in the midst of Lockdown 4. These are again troubling times that require a united approach, informed by the best information available. We continue to receive advice from the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria who are being advised by the Victorian Chief Health Officer and any developments will be communicated immediately to our community. While this is no longer new to us, it is still less than ideal for schools and families.

I would like to commend our staff who have entered into engaging our students in their learning in the remote setting, many living this with their own families. Their calm and professional demeanour has been wonderful. We also have reason to be proud of the way our students have moved into this form of learning. We know the impact the remote model had on the learning of some students last year and we pray it will soon be over. Moving into remote learning once again highlights community divide and the capacity for some families and young people to cope. I am aware that for many families this is a very challenging period indeed.

In recent weeks I had the privilege to attend the national Edmund Rice Education Australia Principals Conference. This gathering encouraged us to “look out the window at the quay”, the call made to Edmund Rice when he was questioning the purpose of his life, challenging him to look at what is around him, and do something about it. As we look out the window at the quay at this time, we are reminded that our mission is the formation of the hearts and

minds of the young people in our care. Challenging times such as these remind us as parents and educators to use a language that speaks to the heart of our young people, to build in them resilience and a genuine sense of hope for the future.

In Matthew's Gospel Jesus assures us:

'Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them!'

Jesus doesn't stipulate where or how we gather: it could be on our phones, on Teams or via email. So in this time when we are not gathered in the usual way, let's take Jesus' assurance into our hearts: his abiding presence with us in our community.

Musical Production

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, online rehearsals have gone well. Limited with what they can do but wonderful resilience. Where there's a way...!

Sport

We say good luck to the intermediate ACC football and soccer teams as they qualified for the semi-finals, and also to the girls in the SCSA cross country competition, hoping that within the constraints of COVID restrictions the competitions will go ahead in a rescheduled format.

Congratulations to Zayne Galea and Jackson Daley who kicked 10 goals each in school football games recently.

My thanks to Mr Kaufman who has commenced the documenting of the St Mary's College girls' athletics records. No doubt some records to be broken in future!

Principal | Terry Blizzard



Around the College

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

The College and wider community this week are responding to increased local COVID cases and returning to strategies and 'ways of working' that we believe have worked well in the past. With every aspect of what we set in place during remote and flexible learning, we are looking to preserve quality learning opportunities and balance that with what makes things manageable for students, parents and staff. I say this to highlight that it is possible that we will not get it right for all people all of the time.

Feedback from our students and parents therefore becomes vitally important. The easiest way for this to occur, and probably the most impactful way, is for students to be in close communication with their subject teachers and Pastoral Care teachers. Raising issues or highlighting the positives on a regular basis will ensure that teachers and students remain connected with each other. It is human connection that we need to preserve where possible when faced with this situation. Our experience with this form of schooling has certainly taught us all to be on the front foot in naming our struggles and seeking help to overcome them. I encourage all students to speak with family members and those at school that they know and trust. Ultimately, let's hope and pray that we are back together at school very soon.

Prior to the events of late last week, we were able to hold a fantastic student-led reconciliation assembly in the Presentation Campus Hall on Tuesday morning pictured above. Year 9 students contributed to the preparation, rehearsal and running of the assembly, which focused on the story of Australia's indigenous people and the many activities now and in recent history designed to bring about reconciliation in this country. Congratulations to all students that took part, even in some small way, in this important event on our College calendar.

Finally, please be assured that St Mary's College will keep you well informed as the events of this current period of remote and flexible learning unfolds. In addition, we will be revising our COVID safe plan upon our return to school in line with the requirements and directions of the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria.

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire



Identity

Director of Identity | Kate Johnston

Last week, Masses were held across the country to mark 200 years of Catholic education in Australia. Representatives from St Mary's College attended the Mass held at St. Patrick's Cathedral which coincided with the feast day of Our Lady Help of Christians, May 24.

In the early days of the Catholic Church in Australia priests were very scarce so to keep the faith alive the Rosary was taught, recited and prayed regularly. As a result of this faithfulness to Mary, she was chosen as Australia's Patroness. In the prayer for Our Lady Help of Christians, we pray that through Our Lady's intercession God will *grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens, so that under her protection Australia may be granted harmony, justice and peace.*

The Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli and over fifty Catholic schools from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne were in attendance. The Acting Premier of Victoria and Minister for Education the Hon. James Merlino was present and a message from our Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP was also shared....*I recognise the contribution of Catholic Education to Australian life and I join you in celebrating this anniversary!*



Mr Paul Vassiliou with students from Years 9, 11 & 12. Athena A, Gianfranco F, Nick H, Chelsea L, Noah L, Manon S, Shaynne S, Kenny T, Sebastian U, Audrey G, Jackson G, Steffie K and Tyra W on the steps of the Cathedral.

Reconciliation Assembly

We were very fortunate to be able to hold our annual Reconciliation Assembly before the lockdown. Our Yr. 9 students presented to the whole school on their recent learnings from a local Indigenous group Bunjil's Biik that had worked with the cohort on the Presentation

campus. Jaeden, the Director and Founder of Bunjil's Biik and a Yalukit Willam man presented a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony that the students shared with the College.

As part of the assembly we also heard from Courtney Ugle. Courtney is a proud Noongar woman from Bunbury in the South West of Western Australia. Courtney's speech was heartfelt and touched on many important topics. Of interest was her different experiences of living in WA vs Victoria and her desire for less talk, more action when it comes to reconciliation as a nation. Courtney is a current player in the VFLW league playing for the Essendon Bombers. [Click here to read more.](#)



Reconciliation Action

Students baked Lemon Myrtle Cookies which were delicious! Many of these were also donated to the Footscray Mall Community Support Group.

Year 9 Students also made over 500 Indigenous ribbons for students and staff to wear as a sign of our solidarity with our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

Mason W cooked 100's of sausages on our Reconciliation Action Day at lunch time. The Year 12 Community Service class donated their time and money to put this event on for the College community.

Director of Identity | Kate Johnston



Wellbeing

Director of Students | Chris Pye

With the fourth iteration of remote learning taking place, I thought it was timely to highlight some wellbeing strategies and support mechanisms we have in place for our students. You may wish to go over these with your sons/daughters in the coming days.

Wishing you all the best over the coming weeks.

Director of Students | Chris Pye

10 Wellbeing Tips for Remote Learning

- **Connect:** talk to friends and family. Share with them your successes and challenges. Use a variety of platforms for these conversations (phone, email, social media)
- **Growth Mindset:** accepting and even embracing the challenges is a good starting point to this period of remote learning. See [here](#) for an article on the benefits of having a growth mindset

- **Practice Resilience:** when you have setbacks and difficult periods, with the help of others, look to process them and focus on the positive steps you can take to move on
 - **Positive Routines:** establish, and stick to, positive routines that allow you to feel calm and settled throughout the day
 - **Celebrate successes:** when something goes well for you, be kind to yourself and acknowledge it. Let mum or dad or your guardians know about it, too!
 - **Be Active:** do some physical activity, like go for a walk or run. Try and spend some time outside in the fresh air and sunlight
 - **Limit Screen Time:** have set time away from screens so as to relax and unwind
 - **Check In:** ask others how they are going. This is not only a kind thing to do but will cultivate a sense that most people are facing the challenges you are
 - **Gratitude:** write down things that you are grateful for. Please find article [here](#) on the benefits of doing this
 - **Sleep:** have a routine so that you are getting plenty of sleep and feel rejuvenated at the start of next day
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Support Structures

Wellbeing

Our school is committed to student wellbeing during this time. All of our teachers will be able to be reached via email if a student needs to communicate how you are feeling. Your Pastoral Care Teacher will be available for you, again, via email. Pastoral Care Leaders are also available for support.

For additional support, the following contacts are also available:

Student Counsellor – Catherine McMahon

cmcmahon@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au

Students may email Catherine directly. Then Catherine will make contact to arrange a time to talk to the student. Please note this service is available to all St Mary's College students, not just those who have accessed it before.

Director of Students – Chris Pye

cpye@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au

If students email Chris directly, he will make contact to arrange a time to talk and provide support.



Sport

SCSA BASKETBALL REPORT

Junior Girls

On Wednesday 26 May, with the threat of lockdown looming, the 2021 SCSA basketball tournament went ahead at MSAC. It was my pleasure to coach the small but determined Junior team. The team consisting of Alexandra Dimiropoulos, Maya Jess, Georgia Le Hunt, Saoirse Gallagher and Maya Taifernopoulos trained 4 times. Having only 5 players and no “talls” it was always going to be a challenge to get a win. But win they did! Twice!

Game 1: loss to Clonard

Game 2 WIN against St Aloysius

Game 3 loss to Mercy

Game 4 WIN to Marion (by just 1 point).

Well done girls and I look forward to next year.

Senior Girls

The seniors were a team of 10 strong players, and they proved very difficult to defeat. They clouted Clonard, smashed St Aloysius and made minced meat of Marion and Mercy. Everyone played well but Adelaide Taylor topped the scoring, rebounds and assists to become MVP. Unfortunately, a 1-point loss in the semi-final meant missing a coveted spot in the grand-final. The team were nearly all year 11s so they will be even harder to beat next year.

A special mention to one of our most talented players, Aliya Gray who couldn't play but became our super-coach. Thanks Aliya and well done to the team: Adelaide Taylor, Perry Burke, Hope Fratzekos, Susannah Green, Alyssa Reinoga, Macy Vicino, Chelsea Le Hunt, Maia Giles, Rose Tappy and Michaela Gavanoas.

Coach Kaufman

ACC SENIOR SOCCER REPORT MAY 26

ROUND 6 – PARADE v ST MARY'S

PARADE COLLEGE.

0-0

This match saw the top two teams face one another in what was a physical and at times scrappy affair in Bundoora. The loss through injury of our goalkeeper Orion Sparrow Cooper meant that Sam Paradisis had to be moved from the midfield into goals. St Mary's opened the game strongly but lacked finishing in their front third. Parade's offensive ball movement and transition looked threatening at times but the St Mary's defence was well organised as usual and shut down the Parade forwards.

The second half saw the rain and wind arrive. Both teams enjoyed some scoring opportunities with St Mary's definitely the more creative and dangerous team. Our inability to finish meant that the game ended in a 0-0 draw. We look forward to our Round 7 clash with Salesian College.

Best players – Yianni Drossos, Jesse Zbrovsky, Kenny Truong, Zac Zborovsky, Nick Christodolou, Matt Luxford.

Mr Genovese



New Uniform

Community Consultation - 2 survey was emailed to all staff, students and parents of the College to gain insights into preferences on colours of the uniform. We thank the 409 people who have responded so far, almost half of our College community.

If you have not had a chance to complete the survey it is open until 10 June.

Finalizing the base colour will inform much of our choice and look of the uniform. We want to ensure we stay on target to have the new uniform ready for purchase prior to the start of the 2022 school year.

By incorporating our first round of Community Consultation we have narrowed this selection down and have sourced some materials as concept samples. A small concept sample display was set up prior to lockdown at the Presentation Campus Reception and will remain their until the end of June, for people to come to see the fabric in the light and touch.

In mid to late June we will analyse all responses and meet with the Uniform Committee, P & F and student focus groups. We are in the process of sourcing further uniform samples to share with you and establishing a process for replacement blazer pockets. Keep reading Lumina for updates.

Thank you again for your contribution it's great to be a part of this strong community.

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle



Our Community



**ST MARY'S
COLLEGE**

Walkathon 2021

DONATE NOW

Sponsor our students

Congratulations - we have currently raised almost \$20,000.00

Our 2021 Walkathon will be rescheduled and we will advise the date when this is confirmed. It will be the 53rd Walkathon for our College community. Every year we put into action our commitment to support those in our society who are living on the margins by raising funds and advocating for justice.

We are still collecting donations and this year our donations will go to the Fr Bob Maguire Foundation and our continued support of charities for school children in India who so desperately need our help during these COVID times.

Walkathon ID Numbers:

Students and staff please use your Walkathon ID number

Parents & Friends use ID **709**

Alumni and Community use ID **708**

Did you know you can order online uniforms from the Midford Uniform Shop?

Online orders are welcomed and provide a COVID safe way to purchase uniforms

<http://www.midford.com.au/>

(enter **SMC2021**).

Ph **9520 8519**



Parents & Friends Association

P & F Committee Meeting

Monday 7 June, online by Teams.

Click on the link below to join the meeting.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+61 2 7208 4605,,319103921#](#) Australia, Sydney

Phone Conference ID: 319 103 921#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#)

[Meeting options](#)

Fifties Style Trivia Night

BOOK NOW!
www.trybooking.com/BRLIB

ST MARY'S COLLEGE
Parents & Friends

Fifties Style

TRIVIA NIGHT

SATURDAY, 24TH JULY 2021

\$35 PER PERSON

DRESS UP 'Fifties Style' (Optional)

AUCTIONS & PRIZES

TRIVIA FUN & GAMES

Drinks at Bar Prices
BYO Food

ST MARY'S COLLEGE
Edmund Rice Campus, Logue Hall

WANT TO HELP ORGANISE AND GET INVOLVED?
JOIN THE TRIVIA NIGHT SUB-COMMITTEE CONTACT: jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au

Can you help with the donation of goods, services or experiences for raffles and prizes?

SUGGESTIONS INCLUDE:
Vouchers for services, gift cards, a bottle, tickets, behind the scenes experiences, money can't buy experiences, memorabilia, etc. What about contributing a couple of hours of your valuable business skills? (e.g. legal service, an electrician/plumber/handy man house call, or a hairdresser/beauty treatment voucher)

Contact jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au with offers or ideas.

ALL DONATIONS APPRECIATED!

Saturday 24 July 2021 @ Logue Hall, Edmund Rice Campus, 7-11pm.

Get ready to shake your tail feather, twist and shout at our annual Social Event and fundraiser. Online ticket sales: <https://www.trybooking.com/BRLIB>

Parents; past or present, staff, alumni, are all welcome! Tables of 10 or join a table allocated to your child's year group.

Want to help organise and get involved? All help appreciated. Decorating, donations, set-up, idea generation or whatever you can offer.

Recycled Uniform Shop

Join the team of helpers at our recycled uniform shop on the first Saturday of each month. Please email Julie on gallagherja@hotmail.com to find out more. It is a great opportunity to meet other St Mary's College parents and to make a meaningful contribution to our College community.

Please note the Recycled Uniform Shop will not operate on: 5 June Due to COVID restrictions

Walkathon 2021



Unfortunately due to COVID restrictions the 2021 Walkathon that was due to be held on Friday 28 May will now be rescheduled and we await confirmation on the new date.

We look forward to having as many parents involved on the day and invite all St Mary's College parents to put your walking shoes on (and your apron) to participate in this whole community event.

A BBQ at the finish line will be supported by the P & F. On the day we need volunteers to set up, cook and help pack up. See the volunteer sign on sheet if you are able to assist on the day. At this stage, register your interest to assist by clicking on the link below and we will contact you to confirm your availability on the rescheduled day.

Walk with the P & F



We hope to meet up on the day prior to the start of the Walkathon for a quick coffee and start the walk and will send more information out on this when the rescheduled Walkathon plans have been confirmed.

Looking forward to seeing you

Enquiries: Jane Leroi 0412632527



Notices

Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien

Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund

2021 Applications Close 25 June 2021

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 is available through the above link.

Please note that 25 June 2021 is the last date that St Mary's College can lodge an Application Form on your behalf for the current year.

2021 Fee Accounts

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

All families wishing to enter a Payment Plan arrangement should have already completed, signed and lodged a 2021 Fee Payment Agreement Form with the Finance Office. If you have not done so, please lodge the relevant documentation as soon as possible.

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)

Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien



Dates & Events

Click the button below to view upcoming events and our
College Calendar