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# Lumina

Issue 11 · 19 Aug 2022

*12 students from St Mary's College had the opportunity to experience the Lake Mungo Immersion.  
6 days of story telling, reflection and understanding the cultural and spiritual significance of Lake Mungo to its traditional owners and all who visit.*

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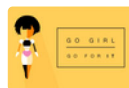
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# From The Principal

College Principal | Terry Blizzard

## Immersion - A whole new classroom.

I was delighted to hear such positive feedback from the participants in the Indigenous Immersion to Lake Mungo who returned this week. Under the guidance of Red Earth, 12 students from St Mary's College together with 12 students from Parade College spent 6 days of storytelling, reflection and gaining an understanding of the cultural and spiritual significance of Lake Mungo to its traditional owners and all who visit.

Our students were privileged to be immersed in over 40,000 years of history at Lake Mungo, home to Mungo Man and Mungo Lady – the oldest human remains ever found in Australia. Under the guidance of qualified supervisors our students were exposed to the deep spiritual connections the Barkindji, Muthi Muthi, and Nyampar people continue to have to the Willandra Lakes region north of Mildura.

Cultural immersions such as this are the act of being surrounded by a specific culture or language, providing students a rich learning experience, giving a greater understanding of a subject. My own experience supports research that says these kinds of experiences open doors to a deeper understanding of the unfamiliar, often challenging previously held views, perhaps more so than can be achieved in a mainstream classroom.

To truly understand other cultures, particularly our own indigenous culture is a blessing. This Lake Mungo experience has supported the young men and women who attended to see the world from a perspective quite different to the one they may have previously had, like seeing the world through someone else's eyes.

Our College Vision calls us to be a school that inspires one another to shape a better world for all, and to do this we need to have a better understanding of that world. My hope is that these 12 students can now contribute to our deeper understanding and appreciation of our indigenous culture, to be leaders and to be the shapers in our community.

I would encourage all students to see school as more than just the classroom, to be involved in the range of opportunities offered, to grow in understanding and to inspire others.

Terry Blizzard

**College Principal**



# Deputy Principal Report

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

## Parent Teacher Interviews

A big thank you to all parents / caregivers, students and staff that have taken part in or witnessed Year Level specific subject and pathway selection presentations over the past few weeks. Our intention is always to provide you with as much information as possible (without overload!) and invite you into a conversation about this important process.

We often speak at these nights about partnering with families to make the best decisions possible. Now is that time. Please ensure that you contact the College as needed, be it Bev Pettit (Director of Learning & Teaching), Mandy Ellwood (Careers), Sylvia Pastore (VCE), Grant Godbold (VCAL) or myself. Another important resource for students to be in contact with are the subject teachers, particularly in the senior years. A conversation with a teacher or two may be enough to clarify and confirm with a student that their selections are best for them or need to be modified.

Our next round of Parent / Teacher interviews are on Thursday 25 August (not March!). As always, this is a great opportunity to be in direct contact with teachers and gain their personal perspective on areas of success and areas for future growth. The flexibility that comes with interviews being held online is met with the challenge of incidental and unplanned interviews or quick catch ups not being possible as they might be when we are together in the hall. Please bear in mind that each interview is strictly 5 minutes in length.

Should this not be enough time, we encourage you to schedule a second interview at another time.

This week all Year 11 students received the information they require to consider nominating for the senior Prefect Team. This is an exciting time of the year, where Year 11 students begin to see themselves as senior leaders in the College and formulate plans to be of service to others. I look forward to receiving the applications, which are due on Friday September 2.

Please find below a summary of the second of the new Child Safe Standards, which came into effect from July 1 2022, and a summary of our action plan for this standard.

**Child Safe Standard 2: Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in leadership, governance, and culture**

*Schools must ensure that child safety and wellbeing is embedded in school leadership, governance and culture*

- School leaders and governing authorities have a vital role in establishing:
  - a culture where child abuse and harm is not tolerated
  - effective systems and processes to implement child safe policies and practices and manage child abuse risks
- Schools must take deliberate steps to promote child safety and wellbeing and protect children by:
  - embedding and promoting a child safety culture at all levels
  - school leaders actively modelling such a culture
  - ensuring transparent governance arrangements

**At St Mary's College, we are working towards the implementation of Standard 2, by:**

- Promoting our child safety policies and practices in assemblies, staff induction and training, the College website, newsletters, staff, parent and student portals.
- Explaining our Child Safety Code of Conduct to all staff, contractors and volunteers.
- Creating student friendly versions of Child Safety policies.
- Displaying student designed child safety posters.
- Communicating and demonstrating that mistreatment of students and racism are not tolerated and that students who speak out are listened to and taken seriously.
- Regular meetings of our Child Safety Team.

- Promote regular, open discussion on child safety at all meetings. All child safety concerns raised are referred to the Child Safety Team.

Shaun Lancashire

**Deputy Principal**



# College Business

College Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien

## 2023 Enrolments

Please note that St Mary's College has commenced planning for next year and is confirming places for new students to start in Term 1, 2023. We are presuming, unless we have been advised otherwise in writing, that all current students will be returning to the College in 2023.

If a student, other than Year 12, is not returning to the College in 2023, in line with the College Enrolment Policy, one term's notice in writing is required. If the notice is not received in time, one term's Fees & Levies in lieu of notice will be charged. This requirement is clearly noted in the General Terms and Conditions of Enrolment which forms part of the Enrolment Form that parents/guardians signed when their child(ren) was enrolled.

To assist with our 2023 planning we ask you to advise the College in writing by Friday 16th September 2022 if a student is not returning to the College in 2023. The notice should be addressed to the College Registrar and can be sent via email [registrar@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au). It will be helpful to receive this notice as soon as possible as it will allow us to offer any vacant places to other students.

Please do not hesitate to contact the College Registrar, Elsie Daddow, if you have any questions regarding this information or if you need further clarification.

## Capital Works

The Capital works on the McCartney Wing and Corbett Wing are continuing. The lift and stair's structure is slowly taking shape as the formwork and concrete pour for the mid-level landing and stairs has been completed and the blockwork for Levels 2 and 3 is continuing.

### **2022 Fee Accounts**

If you have an outstanding Fee Account balance and you do not have an approved payment plan with the College, we encourage you to contact Marina Gutnik in the Finance Office on 9529 6611 or [fees@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:fees@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au) as soon as possible to discuss a payment plan.

We appreciate your assistance in settling outstanding Fee Account balances as soon as possible.

### **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program**

If you are looking to upgrade or for a new device for school or home, Parents are reminded that you can purchase one of the specified devices through the St Mary's College BYOD Portal. It will be the Parents' responsibility to make sure the device is insured under their Home and Contents insurance.

The advantages of purchasing the device through the St Mary's College BYOD Portal is that all devices have 3 years warranty, supported onsite at school. Any warranty issues can be reported to the St Mary's College IT Helpdesk and will be resolved onsite at St Mary's College by CompNow or their Service Agents. Families who purchase from a retailer will typically receive a 12-month warranty that is supported "return to base" meaning families would need to go back to the retailer for support. Families also have the option of purchasing CompNow Accidental Damage Insurance, an insurance policy that covers for all accidental damage or outright loss (due to theft) that is not covered by the warranty.

Please note that due to a new Government Regulation, CompNow and other providers are not able to sell or package ADP solutions at the same time as the purchase of your new device. You will receive an email 5 days from your purchase asking you to do so, we recommend taking up this option for peace of mind.

Please refer to the BYOD website <https://shop.compnow.com.au/school/stmarys-college> for more details and device specifications.

Andrew O'Brien

**College Business Manager**





# Student News

Director of Students | Chris Pye

## Opting In

This morning, the yard at the Edmund Rice Campus was alive and, frankly, loud when I wandered out about 8:10am. What is causing this commotion I wondered? Well, a group of students – a sizeable group – were heading out to Mazenod College for the ACC Public Speaking and Drama Competition. Their energy for that time of morning was such a fillip for all those who were around. Students were chatting in an animated way, teachers mingling, there was some acting definitely taking place and much, much public speaking occurring. The greatest thing about it? There was a bit of joy in the air. Positivity and connectedness enmeshed and warm interaction pierced the grey morning.

To think that at the same time last year, there wouldn't have been one student in the yard.

What caused this cacophony of sound? It was students opting in to an extra-curricular activity. It can be argued that such activities have never been more important yet, strangely, more difficult to actually reach in 2022. As you have no doubt read, coming back to a full life has been a difficulty for many of us. Fear of missing out – a familiar refrain pre 2020 – has seen a rival spawn: okay with missing out. To a certain extent, many of us are still in a mode of stymied socialisation – being (slightly) less communal and outward looking in our mindsets. Some of our students are probably in this state too. Whilst it is understandable, the joyous din of this morning – the sound of community – proffers an enlightened advertisement on the benefits of joining in, of going for it, of engaging.

We look forward to our students opting in to College life. Opting in, I believe, is trying hard in the classroom and taking on – enjoying - extracurricular pursuits. Perhaps most importantly, it is also taking the time to genuinely enjoy each other's company.

Chris Pye

**Director of Students**



# Music

Director of Music | Louisa Lawless

## ACC Music



There has been a bit going on in music over the last few months. 35 of our students are down to the last preparations for our big performance at Hamer Hall in Melbourne. Most recently, 3 of our string players spent the day at Mazenod College, Cameron Hoad and Lila Charewicz in the Junior Strings and Georgia Le-Hunt in the Symphony orchestra. Seven students spent the day at St Bede's College; Ted McMahon, Gus Norton and Jude Pitchforth in guitar ensemble, Vinh Nyguen and Charlie Nolan in the drum line and Richard Chen and Christian Grawe in the Rock Band. These are just a few of the ensembles combining 13 ACC schools getting

ready to present on Tuesday 13th September. All students involved have represented our college with pride.

Below is a direct link to purchase tickets. Let's support our St Mary's participants and celebrate our contribution to this huge concert.

### **Ensembles**

Students turn up for band and choir at 7.30am! Yes, it's true! These amazing, committed students have continued to show leadership in building a vibrant music department all through the winter months. Thank you to the families supporting their wonderful efforts. We currently have 8 active ensembles and a growing number of students becoming involved in the music program. Email or see Mrs Lawless directly for more information.

### **Music Tuition**



Did you know we have some of the finest music tutors in Melbourne?

If you are interested in learning an instrument/voice, email Mrs Lawless for more information

[llawless@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:lawless@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au)

Performance band members in photo: Cameron Hoad, Lachy Cameron, Tom Cusack, Alexandar Grivicic, Oscar Fantini, Jerome Linnell, Charlie Rayson, Richard Chen, Jack Prentice-Evans, Shane Park, Mathew Dellas, Christain Simmonds, Tom Taylor.

### **Music Dates**

11 September (Sunday) - ACC Music rehearsal @ Mazenod College

13 September (Tuesday) - ACC Music rehearsal @ Hamer Hall all day

13 September - ACCent on Music concert @ Hamer Hall

Date TBC - Music showcase 2022

Date TBC - Christmas Carols 2022

Louisa Lawless

**Director of Music**



# Careers News

Careers Counsellor | Mandy Ellwood

## WHAT IS THE POINT?

I spend a lot of time in my Careers Counselling meetings discussing the differences between types of further study and what tertiary courses provide. There is some expense involved for the student, even if paying it back is delayed until they are earning a living, so it is worth doing some research and reflection to find what works for you.

Apart from the nuts and bolts of Certificates, Diplomas, Degrees, majors and minors, there is the bigger question of what we get from tertiary study. Why do we bother? In my role, I have many myths to bust and expectations to question. Certainly, there are a few salient facts, such as the fact that further study (Certificate 3 and above) increases your earning power over a lifetime. Whilst earning money is unquestionably important, I believe only forms part of the question of what to do next. I am more interested in the thinking, the personal development around career paths.

Whilst many see a university degree as a ticket to a secure job and great wealth, this is seldom the case. What will earn you the job, is the person you are, your employability skills, especially communication, and how you will “fit” in the organisation. What you will be paid, whilst we like to think it is the result of hard work, it is more often a matter of society’s values or even just luck. This is a hard truth, but it is borne out by statistics. Think of the male/female pay gap we are trying so hard to eradicate!

So, what do you get from that university degree? Some degrees are clearly vocational, such as Nursing or Engineering. These give you skills and knowledge that you will use in the practice of your profession, alongside those employability skills already mentioned. Much of the knowledge will be outdated within a few years of graduation, but you will have gained the *ability to learn*, and you *will* be constantly learning new skills, techniques and theories throughout your career. You will also have gained a way of thinking, learning and applying knowledge and skills that will be with you for life.

Other degrees are generalist, such as Law, Science or Arts. These supply the full range of knowledge, skills and interests, just as a vocational degree, however they also allow you to plan your own journey, so that you study the things you love, as well as trying out new areas you might not yet know about. You will gain those transferrable skills so valued by employers: communication, critical analysis, creative thinking, problem solving, teamwork and more. You will learn and experience, be amazed and inspired, you will learn to argue your point of view, and rub up against opposing points of view. You will learn how to make a difference in yourself and in the world.

These things are true of any university degree. This is your chance to develop as a person, a thinker, a questioner. You will make friends for life who share your passions. You will experience travel, exchanges, internships, work integrated learning, short- and long-term assignments, research, the best and worst of lecturers and tutors (something to laugh about later), meet students young and old, from all walks of life. You will take off the blinkers and expand your world. You will develop your mind in readiness for work and for life-long learning.

Many young people are not so interested in or ready for this experience. This is where vocational education serves a real purpose. If you are an applied learner, more interested in doing a task than knowing the theory behind it, you would certainly get more out of completing a certificate or diploma. These vocational qualifications make sure you are work-ready for one of many thousands of jobs available in a wide range of industries. It is a different style of learning, just as valuable as a degree, and you will be learning the actual

skills you need to earn your living within a year or two. They can also be a great place to consolidate your skills and prepare for university study, as they form pathways, often with credit into most degrees. They give you time to grow and mature whilst you consider the next step.

Finding the right course and institution to begin this journey is a matter for you – you need to research, investigate and reflect. You need to find the people who will help you with this and who will support and encourage you to find your path, your journey, your *ikigai*!\*



\*remember *ikigai*? Your happy place in the world.

Mandy Ellwood

**Careers Counsellor**



# Learning Diversity

Learning Diversity Leader | Chris Sodaitis

## Learning Diversity

### **NDIS Victorian Pathway to Post School Life**

Monday 17 October 2022, 7.00-8.30pm

Tuesday 25 October 2022, 7.00-8.30pm

MACS have alerted us to the following **free**, on-line, information session coming up in October.

The National Disability Insurance Agency would like to invite Victorian students with a disability in Years 9 -12, their parents, carers, and education professionals, to attend a virtual information session about building skills and paving a pathway to post-school life.

We'll discuss a range of NDIS-funded supports and other assistance to help young people build skills to prepare for their transition, and support them in achieving employment and other goals, post-school.

You can find more information, and register your interest and book tickets, via the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ndis-victorian-pathway-to-post-school-life-tickets-324437971707>



Chris Sodaitis

**Learning Diversity Leader**



# Parents & Friends

Parents and Friends Chair | Jane Leroi

## 50's Style Social & Trivia Night

On Saturday 6 August we jumped in our time machine and zoomed back to the 1950's for a well overdue evening of fun for our community. A great time was had by all and the P&F raised over \$10,000 to enhance the resources and experiences of our students. A huge shout-out to those who were able to support us with their time, energy and donations. The generosity of our wonderful community was very evident at this event. It was great to see so many families there, members of our Leadership and Advisory Council - as well as staff helpers who provided support with the bar - and even provided a drive-free option with the St Mary's College bus for those attendees travelling from the inner west (thank you, David Joyce).

### Supporter Donors

Grace & Jenny Pace

Ekaterina Xanthopoulos & Family

Carolina Horky & Serritello Family

Miche Majcen & Family

Liz Lam Sam & Family

Naomi Haywood, Toorak Village Podiatry

Grace Park & Family, Park Bar Balaclava

Tania Krizek & Family, The Olive Tree South Melbourne

Moonee Valley Racing Club

Scotchman's Hill Winery

Vasilevski Family, Yarraville Square Fresh Market  
Sonia Tripolitano & Family  
Louise McVay & Family  
Jane Leroi & Family  
Iain & Clare Munro & Family, Cornershop Yarraville  
Susanna Dimiropoulos, Susanna's Cakes  
Cecilia Todd, Made With Love by Cecilia  
Alex Giannakopoulos & Family  
Jane Siddell & Family  
Domenica & Frank Forti, Biggin & Scott Sunshine  
Narelle Ryan & Family  
Felicity Forrester, Sun Shiny Design  
Leah Lloyd-Smith, Leah Lloyd-Smith Architecture  
Kelly & Daniel Kaplon, Mineral Springs Farm Truffles  
Diane at Midford Uniform Shop at St Mary's College  
Kellie Bird & Family  
Phil & Staff at Armadale Cellars

**Families who went above and beyond**

Cathy Dekievit  
Felicity Forrester  
Jane Leroi  
Sonia Tripolitano  
Leah Lloyd-Smith  
Sandi Tuddenham  
Louise McVay  
Sheridan Manley  
Caro McEnroe  
Sharon Fitzgerald  
Kellie Bird  
Gerry Liew  
Simon Chard  
Naomi Haywood  
Alex Giannakopoulos

**Staff who went above and beyond**

David Joyce  
Sandie Saundry

Avril Martinelli  
 Amy Fitzpatrick  
 Grant Godbold  
 Michael Essing  
 Alex Warren  
 Sam Babakhani  
 David Formosa  
 Phil Soumilas



## Parent Engagement

Our St Mary's College P&F is your opportunity to increase community engagement, enhance school/parent partnerships, and meet new people along the way. Please feel free to come along to our meetings so that your voice can be heard. Everyone is welcome. P&F meetings are held twice a term, and we also plan to have a parents catchup and meal together each term – wherever possible supporting our families with restaurant businesses. Feel free to contact Jane Balme at [jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au) with any queries you may have.

P&F meeting dates to put in your calendar are:

- Mon 05/09/22 at 7:00pm (in the Presentation campus Staffroom)
- Mon 10/10/22 at 7:00pm (in the Presentation campus Staffroom)
- Mon 14/11/22 - *Incl. AGM* at 7:00pm (in the Presentation campus Staffroom)

## College Uniform

We are fortunate to have two on-site uniform options at St Mary's College. The Recycled Uniform shop is run by P&F volunteers from 12:00pm-2:00pm on the first Saturday of the month during school terms - with more options available with the changeover of Winter and

Summer uniforms (donations of uniform items are always gratefully accepted). The Midford Uniform shop is also open from 9:00am-1:00pm on the first Saturday of the month during school terms, as well as from 8:00am-4:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday during school terms. Saturday 3 September is the next Saturday opening for both uniform shops.

As we transition to a St Mary's uniform, new items are available at the Midford shop, including:

- Pants in two styles/cuts (a traditional cut and a more tailored cut)
- Sports Jacket - Soft-shell (popular/warm with PE gear)
- St Mary's College Sports Uniform available
- Jumpers in new wool blend (made in Tasmania)

Midford uniform shop purchases can also be made at your convenience from their online uniform shop (using the code SMC2021) and your order will be filled when the store is next open. **If required, the Midford uniform shop can also be contacted on those dates by calling 9520-8519.** A reminder also that all Midford full uniform fittings require an appointment. *Location: On-site at 11 Westbury St, St Kilda East - enter gate D.* Throughout the school term the Midford Uniform Shop opening hours are:

Tuesday 8.00 am - 4.00 pm

Thursday 8.00 am - 4.00 pm

First Saturday of month during school terms 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

Towards the end of this term we will call for the next batch of blazers to be submitted for changeover from CBC/PCW logo pockets to St Mary's College logo pockets, although the Midford uniform shop does sell individual pockets for \$18 each if families prefer to make their own arrangements to have this done. Please feel free to contact Jane Balme at [jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au) with any queries you may have.

Jane Leroi

**Parents & Friends Chair**



# Lake Mungo Immersion

Learning Support Officer | Anna Huntley

## An Experience to Behold

12 students from St Mary's College met 12 like minded students from Parade College and friendships were formed quickly whilst cooking, walking and laughing together for 6 full day. Students had 6 days of story telling, reflection and understanding the cultural and spiritual significance of Lake Mungo to its traditional owners and all that visit.

Sunrise and sunset over Lake Mungo were impressive but nothing could outdo the fossils found and stories told by traditional land holders. We witnessed a kaleidoscope of colour representing the different ages of sand and fossil discoveries dating back 250,000 years ago, and we walked in the same footsteps like Mungo Man and Lady Mungo did approx 60,000 years ago.

We made 'clap sticks' from red gum wood and stripped and sanded them down to create a percussive instrument to use for years to come. Many students also showed their artistic side by creating 'dot art' masterpieces too.

The stars were incredible and many clear nights allowed us to watch in awe before too many marshmallows and a hot chocolate around the campfire beckoned us all to our tents for a blissfully quiet nights sleep under the stars.



Anna Huntley

**Learning Support Officer**



## Save the Date

### Father/Mentor and Student Breakfast

Fathers/Mentors and their students are invited to attend our annual Breakfast. This event provides a great opportunity to spend some quality time with each other, whilst enjoying a delicious breakfast. We know that families come in all shapes and sizes, so if students would like to invite a significant mentor, such as a relative, family friend or staff member, this is welcomed.

When: **Friday 9 Sep 2022**

Where: **Edmund Rice Campus Plaza**

More details on how to book coming soon.





# GO for IT

VCE DigiTech Co-Ordinator | Sylvia Pastore

## GO Girl GO for IT Conference

Some of our students had the opportunity to take part in this free 1-day technology conference for girls in years 5-12 across Australia.

A common perception is that 'IT' means coding. Go Girl challenges that view by showcasing different STEM careers and alternatives. It aims to excite and engage female school students by introducing them to this world.

The one-day event focuses on inspiring students with fantastic role model speakers, showcasing technology of the future and challenging any preconceptions of what a career in IT might look like. It opens up the possibilities of following careers in everything from analysis to user design to development to data science (just to name a few!).



Sylvia Pastore  
**VCE DigiTech Coordinator**



# St Mary's College Sport

Director of Sport | Lucy McKeown

## St Mary's College Sport

In what was an extremely busy fortnight in sport both our girls and boys team represented the College with pride.

Congratulations to all of our teams who took part in ACC and SCSA competitions throughout the last two weeks.

St Mary's College had teams represented in the following sports -

### **Associated Catholic Colleges**

Basketball

Hockey

Table Tennis

Debating

Chess

Drama Workshop

Special mention to the intermediate ACC basketball teams who have made the semi finals next week. We wish them the best of luck.

### **Secondary Catholic Sports Association**

Soccer

AFL

Netball

Aerobics

Congratulations to the senior and junior netball teams who made it through to the grand final of their division.

Also a great performance by our aerobics teams one which finished third. This was the first time this event was held in person so a great effort.

### **SCSA Football Report**

On Tuesday the 16th of August, we had our Girls footy team represent the school for the second time this year in the St Kilda Lightning Premiership at Trevor Barker Oval in Sandringham. We had a range of girls from Years 7-11 competing against schools with very experienced footballers.

Our first game against Mordialloc College was an eye opener. After a tough first half, our girls slowly came out of their shells and started to embrace the challenge in the second half. We kept them goalless in that half due to overcoming the fear and elite tackling pressure.

We faced a strong opposition in our second game against Sienna College. The girls competed bravely, working really well together. Maddie Leroi battled it out in the ruck all day, Maya Jess demonstrated her talents defensively, Janella Manalo gave us plenty of run and carry in the midfield and lastly it was good to see fantastic tackling from Sabrina L, Amelia W & Charlotte R.

Overall, it was great to see some development in the girls football skills, knowledge and understanding of the game. Our success was not determined by the score, but rather by their effort and attitude. Most importantly, it was great to see the girls come together. I was very proud of how they applied themselves, tried playing in different positions and supported one another on and off the field!



Well done to the all the girls who competed. Thanks to Brigette Jackson for being our skipper on the day. Thanks to the St Kilda Football Club for facilitating the event! And lastly, thanks to Mr Williams and Mr Harper for their assistance in coaching on the day!

Simon Hawkins



# Fortnight in Photos

Images of our school in action.



