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Lumina

Issue 13 · 16 Sep 2022

We are excited to announce the upcoming Arts Showcase on the 11 October 2022.

This will be a wonderful evening where you will experience the best that The Arts at St Mary's College has to offer. More details in this edition.

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From The Principal

College Principal | Terry Blizzard

As we come to the end of the term, I would like to wish all members of the St Mary's College community every blessing, and hope the gifts of spring warm and nourish our souls. This Term has certainly been a challenging one in schools. The media has been awash with news of schools being understaffed due to COVID and the flu outbreak, and we have been no different. In keeping the school open we have been challenged on a daily basis to find sufficient staff to cover classes. I have been so proud of all of our teaching and non-teaching staff who have gone above and beyond to keep some semblance of normality intact on a day to day basis, so important following the last two years. Their commitment to supporting our students must be recognised. We must also acknowledge our students who have been so welcoming of our relief staff and our altered circumstances.

ACCent on Music

It was a privilege to be at Hamer Hall on Tuesday evening to see the ACC combined school's concert. Musicians from all of the Associated Catholic Colleges came together in a spirit of joyous collaboration to perform to a packed concert hall. I was thrilled to see our talented musicians and singers from all year levels feature on stage, sharing their amazing talents with us. I would like to acknowledge Mrs Louisa Lawless and her Music team, along with Mr Tollit and Mr Wantrych who supported the students throughout the day.



Thank you to all the staff and families who supported out St Mary's music students this Tuesday at the ACCent on music concert at Hamer Hall.

Congratulations to our wonderful and talented students who represented St Mary's College with excellence through all the rehearsals and the event this Tuesday. - Louisa Lawless | Director of Music

Year 12

We wish every blessing on our Year 12 students as they enter the busiest time of their year. No doubt the upcoming term break will be for many a time of catching up, finishing off work and undertaking the important trial exams made available to them. They do this knowing that as a community we walk beside them through this stage of their journey.

With apologies to Robert Louis Stevenson, I share with you the Evening Prayer for our soon to be graduating students:

Lord, behold our Year 12's here assembled.

We thank you for this place in which we dwell,

For the love that unites us;

For the peace accorded to us this day;

For the hope with which we expect tomorrow;

For the health, the work, the food and the bright skies that make their lives delightful;

and

For our friends in all parts of the earth.

Amen.

Terry Blizzard

College Principal



Deputy Principal Report

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

As we reach the end of the term, I would like to thank the dedicated teaching staff at St.

Mary's College for all that they do to seamlessly provide educational and pastoral support to the students in their care. Our learning community is entirely for our students, though relies heavily on the professionalism and commitment to professional learning of our staff. I have many conversations with parents that reference specific examples of the wonderful care and support, as well as academic challenge their daughter or son has experienced at school.

This is due in no small part to the quality of teaching and dedication to continuous improvement. I hope the staff, students and families of St Mary's College have a wonderful, restful school holiday period. For the Year 12s gearing up for everything coming to an end, remember one important message you hear from us all the time – ask for the help you need.

Please find below a summary of the fourth 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 4: Family engagement

Schools must ensure that families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing

 Involving families and communities in decisions relating to their children's safety and wellbeing:

- recognises the important role they have in monitoring children's safety and wellbeing and helping children to disclose concerns
- o creates an open and transparent culture
- o promotes a greater understanding of child safety
- o encourages them to raise concerns or ideas for improvement.
- Providing accessible and inclusive child safe information encourages families to engage in child safety and wellbeing discussions.

At St Mary's College, we are working towards the implementation of Standard 4, by:

- · Parent surveys.
- Child Safety discussions at Parents and Friends Association meetings.
- Child Safety information available to parents on PAM.
- Newsletter
- Email, including the opportunity for parents to provide feedback via the College dedicated Child Safety email address: childsafety@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au
- Social media.
- · Public website.
- Parent/Teacher interviews.
- Parent meetings.
- Easy English versions of child safety information available for families from CALD backgrounds.

Shaun Lancashire

Deputy Principal



College Business

College Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien

2023 Enrolments

Please note that St Mary's College has commenced our planning for 2023 and 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 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 the 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. Recent works include:

- Concrete pour for the Equal Access Ramp at Entrance A of the Corbett Wing
- Continuation of the installation of fire services.

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. as soon as possible to discuss a payment plan.

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.

Mr Andrew O'Brien

College Business Manager



Faith and Mission

Director of Faith and Mission | Paul Quinn

Retreats

We conducted year levels retreats in the last two weeks. The students in Years 10 and 11 participated in a program designed and led by our staff. The title of the retreat was "Just do it anyway".

The program started with a brief visual review of some of the issues that we confront in our world. A movie titled the *Good Lie* explored the life experience of some young Sudanese people who suffered war. As refugees they experienced many hardships, much loss and a sense of dislocation. Their family fractured and some members did not survive the encounter. The story centered on their faith, family bonds and enduring hope.

A case study on the monks of Tibhirine allowed small groups of students working with Year 12 prefects and teachers to explore the lengths some will go to stay true to their vocation. Even in the face of extreme danger, commitment to the good outweighed the desire for personal safety.

After a lunch in Alma Park the day concluded with a Liturgy of the Word in the Chapel at Presentation campus and a prayer from Mother Teresa. The final video clip showed a kayaker on a lake. The students were left with the image of steady, rhythmic action, one paddle stroke at a time. Just put your paddle in the water.

The message that we are people of hope, fully aware of the world in which we live, but determined, even against the odds to make a difference.

Food Drive

Thanks to all who contributed to the food drive. The casual clothes days was a great day for relaxed clothing and generous hearts. Congratulation to the Social Justice group worked to make the drive successful.

Paul Quinn

Director of Faith and Mission



Student News

Director of Students | Chris Pye

Three Words

Our dear friend Google tells me that there are 171,146 words in the English language. Strangely, there are 47,156 words that were used in past years but are no longer part of modern lexicon. Many of these words are, or were, arbitrary - strictly part of a functional parlance. However, some words, seemingly small in stature, actually have distinct resonance. Through the prism of our work here at the College, I wish to look at three today: well done and striving.

As many of you know, Sir Alex Ferguson was a very successful manager of Manchester United. With his red hue, booming Scottish voice and unmatched ability to issue a withering look over the top of his glasses, he embodied of the Machiavellian axiom that it is better to be feared then loved. Or did he? When asked about what he thought were the most important words in his career, he stated the term well done. He would use this refrain in training sessions on cold, windswept Manchester days, deploying them both as praise and a lever to set standards and challenge players to be better. It wasn't over the top – praise is usually best served medium rare – but it certainly had its impact.

On a day that was (marginally) warmer, it was great to issue the first of our Commendation Gold Badges at our recent College Assembly. The students who were awarded them are kind, community-minded, hard-working and filled with light. Above all, they are consistent: there wasn't much difference between a great, good or not so good day.

It was wonderful to say well done for all the great things they do at our College.

Secondly, let's have a look at the word striving. My understanding is it has a French origin and came into being in the 13 century. It comes from the word strife, which, in turn, has etymological links to words like struggle and quarrel. To strive is to try really, really hard. It invariably involves trying to the point where one doesn't think they have any more to give. This word is one that our Year 12s, and some Year 11s, are acquainting themselves with as they prepare for their exams. When one strives, sacrifice is being made and character being built. This is indeed a time of challenge – a great thing for young people, all people really. We wish them well during this important period.

In Term 4, we look to say well done to students who are striving to do their very best.

Chris Pye

Director of Students



Year 8 Positive Gender Relations

Year 8 Pastoral Leader | Simon Hawkins

Year 8 Respectful Relationships: Positive Gender Relations Unit

In Term 3 for our Pastoral Periods, our Year 8s have been exploring the theme of Positive Gender Relations, which stems from our 'Respectful Relationships' Unit. The main goal being to improve the way we treat and speak to one another. In my time here in this co-educational setting, I've noticed many positive interactions between the different genders. We are, however, looking to continuously improve the dynamic and working relationships between our students through a concerted effort to build relationships via formal and informal programs.

In this unit, the students worked in their Pastoral Care Classes on a fortnightly basis to discuss crucial terms and develop empathy through class discussions. Each session would start with 5 minutes of Mindfulness, before getting into the session.

Throughout the unit a combination of content, where students had to learn different terms, participate in class discussions, demonstrate groupwork, and most notably exhibit a mature attitude. It is not easy for Year 8s to talk about gender-based violence if they have never experienced it.

As a starting point, it was important that we had students introduced to the topic and explain why this topic is so important in our school and the consequences around it. Following this,

it was great for the students to take part in a survey and then analyse the results. This opened some vital conversations for the students that lead to a broad understanding of how others feel.

As a result, our SRCs collated our values from each class and designed what we thought would make up our 6 gender values as seen in the poster below. This Poster has been put up in the Year 8 Corridors, visible for all to see.

As a follow up and final lesson, we ran a 'mutual respect' session in Week 9. This was conducted by the Year 12s (Gianfranco F, Nicholas, H, Christian G, Anouk T, Matt N, Aliya G, Isabella D,Noah L, Abbey W) in small groups. Year 8 students discussed what respect is and highlight times where they have been disrespected.





Student Account on the session:

"For our last pastoral lesson of the term, the Year 12's ran a 'mutual respect' session in groups. We discussed how it feels to be respected by others and what the word respect means to us. My group had many diverse types of people sharing, all from different genders. Many people had the same view on what respect means; caring, loyalty, and kindness. When it came around to the scenarios, we all wrote times where we have been felt disrespected by another person weather it was a teacher, coach or friend/peer. Sports, learning classes, and extracurricular activities were brought up, while friendships and friend groups were also mentioned. It allowed us to see how our words or actions could affect others and if something is happening to another person and they aren't being respected we could try to help them or make sure they feel ok. We thank the year 12s and Ms McMahan for running the session for us."

Overall, this unit had great engagement from the students. We were also fortunate to have quality teaching from our Pastoral Care teachers. These are great life lesson particularly for our younger students which will pay dividends for them later down the track. Hopefully, Respectful Relationships units like these can help pave the way for optimal student wellbeing at St Mary's College in the future.

Simon Hawkins

Year 8 Pastoral Leader

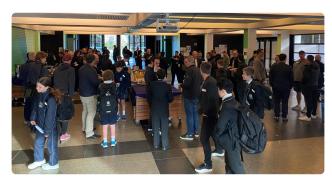


Parents & Friends

Parents and Friends Chair | Jane Leroi

Fathers Breakfast

After a two year hiatus, we were very pleased to host the much loved Fathers/Mentors Breakfast for our students and their Fathers/Mentors on Friday 9 September. Delaying this event so that it did not compete with primary events seemed to work well, as we had over one hundred registrations. Dads were spotted swapping phone numbers with each other, which is one of the outcomes we aim to achieve with such events. Bacon and egg BBQ rolls, fresh coffee, tea, juice and fruit were enjoyed by all, as well as some delicious Gozleme's prepared by our students with the help of our Food Technician, Ms Sandie Saundry. Thank you also to our wonderful volunteers, Patrick Silveira, Sandra Gantzos, Jane Leroi and Shaun Lancashire. This event was sponsored by our P&F – and we also received a generous \$556 in donations from attendees for our St Mary's College Social Justice Walkathon, which supports The Father Bob Maguire Foundation as well as schools in India through our Immersion Tours there.







Parent Engagement - Dinners and Meetings

During the year our St Mary's College P&F plan several informal meals for parents, together with members of our Leadership – wherever possible supporting our families with restaurant businesses. Our next parent meal together is on Wednesday 26 October at 6:00pm. Please use this booking link to RSVP and reserve your place.

Another opportunity to increase community engagement, enhance school/parent partnerships, and meet new people along the way is to drop by any of our twice per term P&F meetings. These meetings provide an opportunity to be involved in decision-making and participate in relevant discussions. Everyone is welcome. Feel free to contact Jane Balme at jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au with any queries you may have.

P&F meeting dates for the remainder of this year to put in your calendar are:

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

College Uniform

Uniform Shop Openings

A reminder that <u>all students are required to wear the St Mary's College Summer Uniform in Term 4</u>. We are fortunate to have two on-site uniform options at St Mary's College. To support families with their uniform needs, both the Midford Uniform shop and the P&F Recycled Uniform shop have extended their opening hours during the upcoming school holidays.

Midford Uniform shop:

- Thursday 29/09 from 9:00am 12:00pm
- Saturday 01/10 from 9:00am 1:00pm.

P&F Recycled Uniform shop:

Saturday 01/10 from 9:00am - 1:00pm.

During school terms, the P&F Recycled Uniform shop is run by P&F volunteers from 12:00pm-2:00pm on the first Saturday of the month (donations of uniform items are always gratefully accepted).

During school terms, the Midford Uniform shop is also open from 9:00am-1:00pm on the first Saturday of the month, as well as from 8:00am-4:00pm on Tuesday and Thursday during school terms. 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 opening days by calling 9520-8519. A reminder also that all Midford full uniform fittings require an appointment, which can be made at, Uniform Booking. 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

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

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

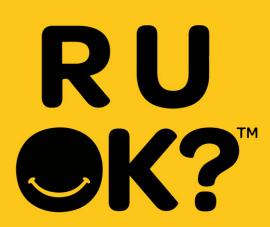
8.00 am - 4.00 pm

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

Jane Leroi

Thursday

Parents & Friends Chairperson



RUOK? Day

Student Counsellor | Catherine McMahon

RUOK? Day

This year there were a variety of activities to mark RUOK? Day at St. Mary's College. Pastoral leaders led their Year Levels in hearing about the meaning behind RUOK? Day and viewing a film on how to go about asking someone if they are OK.

The staff on both campuses enjoyed a special morning tea and a well-earned opportunity to chat with one another.



At lunchtime, students were offered free mini muffins while at the same time being asked if they were OK. In the photo, members of Student Voice, Gianfranco, Jack, Will, Mitchell and Lachie were among the students who helped set up the stand at Edmund Rice Campus and

hand out the cakes to the students. Girls and boys from Student Voice and other student leaders did the same at Presentation Campus.

Marking a day like RUOK? Day is a team effort. Many thanks to the staff and students who helped make this a meaningful whole school event.

It is great to be reminded that taking time to check in with each other allows us to embrace everyone in a supportive school community.

Catherine McMahon

Student Counsellor



Arts Showcase

VAPA Learning Leader | Raoul Chapman

Arts Showcase

We are very excited to be able to present to the St Mary's College Community the Arts Showcase on Tuesday 11 October in Logue Hall.

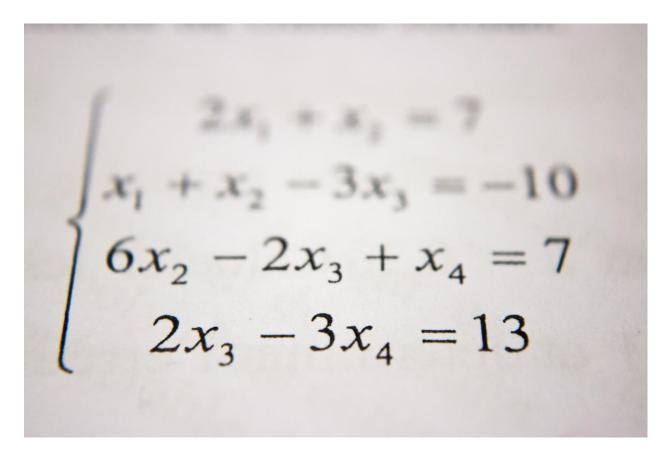
The evening will highlight the very best of the Arts at St Mary's College.

- Art Exhibits
- Music Performances
- Short Movie Viewing
- Food Tasting
- Textile Exhibits
- Design Tech Displays
- Visual Communication Exhibits

When: Tuesday 11 October 2022

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Where: Logue Hall (Edmund Rice Campus)



Anchor Maths Lessons

Learning Leader Mathematics | Cathryn Quigley

Anchor lessons in Maths

Year 7, 8 and 9s have 'anchor lessons' once a week. This is a time when classes at each level are blocked together so that we can be more flexible in planning the learning opportunities. Students choose what they would like to do: they can opt for more challenging lessons, or to join a workshop on a particular skill or concept, or they may choose to engage in some activities that reinforce what they are learning in class.

The nature of learning activities is more experiential and hands on. Students have:

- conducted a probability simulation
- matched cards representing linear equations with graphs and tables of data
- decided if some algebra statements are sometimes, always or never true, and provided their reasoning
- played a factors and multiples game, focussing on winning strategies

 linked percentage increase and decrease cards, then worked out matching fractions and decimals

The activities generate a great deal of discussion about maths concepts and encourage students to develop reasoning and problem-solving skills. Students enjoy the choice, the variety and getting to know more students in their year level. Anchor lessons are an important part of our 7-9 Maths program.

Probability Carnival







Cathryn Quigley

Learning Leader Mathematics



Languages Week

Head of Languages | Rosario Genovese

Languages Week Celebrations

Languages week at St Mary's College allows our students to be further immersed into the languages they study through a series fun and engaging activities.

Our gallery highlights the enjoyment students get from the variety of experiences.





























Rosario Genovese

Head of Languages



Music Spotlight

Director of Music | Louisa Lawless

Music Tutor Spotlight

Each newsletter, we will be setting the spotlight on each of our fabulous music tutors at St Mary's. These are incredible musicians and people. Definitely worth a read!

Mr Charlie Rooke

Instruments taught at St Mary's College:

- All guitars/bass guitars
- All strings violin, viola, cello, double bass
- Theory
- Yrs 7, 8 & 9 Rock projects (Extra curricular)



Mr Rooke has been with us for 10 years! He has inspired many great young musicians and continues to do so as one of the most sought-after guitar teachers and performers in Victoria. He has a rather amazing biography and below is a very reduced list of his world class achievements. It is incredible to think we are lucky enough to have someone of his talents on our staff.

- Queensland Conservatorium of Music (Brisbane)
- Specialisations Guitar, Double Bass, Music Theory; Twentieth Century Harmony,
 Counterpoint, and Orchestration.
- Recording artist for Warner Music Australia and overseas.
- Founding and current member of pop group 'The Sharp' (songwriter, producer, arranger, guitarist and vocalist)
- 7 ARIA awards & MTV Gold Record for debut album: This Is The Sharp 1995
- Performed on The Today Show and Hey, Hey It's Saturday
- Guitarist on movie soundtracks for Polish-Australian film composer and AFI award winner Cezary Skubiszewski; "Red Dog" "Bootmen" "After The Deluge" (TV Movie)
 "The Rage In Placid Lake"
- Studio guitar sessions for cinema, TV, and radio advertisements: Mazda, Qantas, and many more.
- EMI/Universal Publishing published approx. 50 songs

- Founding member of Corduroy Lounge: a jazz trio
- Toured extensively in Australia, including Germany, Sweden, United States, and Great Britain.
- Member of APRA and PPCA
- Regular local gig performances in Melbourne

Louisa Lawless

Director of Music



St Mary's College Sport

Director of Sport | Lucy McKeown

Term 4 Preparations

As we draw to close of Term 3 our sporting teams begin their preparation for Term 4 sports. The boys will be competing in ACC Cricket, Tennis and Volleyball, whilst the girls will be taking part in SCSA Table Tennis and Softball.

Last week our Boys Cross Country teams competed in the ACC Cross Country meet.

Some of the stand top 50 overall performances

U13

James VARTULI ST MARY'S - 29th Overall in a time of 11:54 Noah CHAPPLE ST MARY'S - 33rd Overall in a time of 11:59

U15

Ged GIBNEY ST MARY'S - 6th Overall in a time of 10:23 Charlie ROSSI ST MARY'S - 49th Overall in a time of 11:27 Rafi SAYER ST MARY'S - 50th Overall in a time of 11:28

U17

Leftheri DROSSOS ST MARY'S - 34th Overall in a time of 20:29 Gabriele BEAINI ST MARY'S - 40th Overall in a time of 20:40

Senior

Sam O'BRIEN ST MARY'S - 6th Overall in a time of 18:15
Ethan TAIFERNOPOULOS ST MARY'S - 45th Overall in a time of 21:07

Well done to all who competed









Best Wishes and Congratulations

Best wishes to Elly Liew (Year 10) who will be representing Victoria in the U15 Girls National Lacrosse tournament in Perth from 28/9/22 until the 4/10/2022.

Victoria has 2 teams in the tournament - FIRE and ICE. Elly will be playing in the ICE team. Teams from Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria and New Zealand will be competing in the competition.

Congratulations to Stella Ligudzinski (Year 8) who finished 11th out of 64 competitors in the Giant Slalom National Competition. Fantastic Effort! Stella is off to Colorado in December for some summer training and back to tackle the slopes again in 2023.



2022 ACU School Leavers Program

The Australian Catholic University has offered us the opportunity to be involved in a program they have been running for a number of years in partnership with the Catholic Schools Office in Sydney. The program is for **Year 11 students** and offers them the opportunity to travel to Rome and London for a three-week immersion in the Catholic tradition and the story of Western civilisation.

Students will be accompanied by supervising teachers and will join with colleagues in New South Wales who will form the majority of those participating in the program. ACU staff will deliver the program.

The program is directed to students with a commitment to their faith and a record of leadership and service to their school, parish, or the wider community. Students who participate in the program do not need to be strongly academic, but they do need to be willing to read the course materials, engage positively with the discussions and site visits, and to have an interest in the ideas and influences that have helped to shape religion, arts, politics and society in the West.



2022 ACU School Leavers Program flyer.pdf

Nominations will be assessed on:

Demonstrated commitment to the Catholic faith

- An interest in the history of the Catholic Church and the West
- A desire to sharpen their intellectual curiosity about the traditions to which they belong
- Leadership qualities the nominee does not need to be in a formal position of leadership but it is desirable that they have demonstrated some qualities of leadership
- Application to learning whilst the student does not need to be a high academic achiever, they must have demonstrated a consistent application to their learning
- Community service (to school and the wider community)
- Other reasons that make this student a worthwhile nominee

If you feel you have what it takes to be considered for this experience, please forward your name to Mr Quinn by 14 October.



Fortnight in Photos

Images of our school in action.







































