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# Lumina

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*This week, we celebrated and bid farewell to our Year 12 students, as official classes ended today. These students will become the second Year 12 group to graduate from St Mary's College. We wish them every success in the days, weeks, months and years ahead.*

*We hope they will stay connected as group and with there soon to be Alma Mater.*

## In this issue



From The Principal



Deputy Principal Report



Student News



College Business



Intensive Drama Workshop



Arts Showcase



Parents & Friends



Family Camp



ACC Tennis Report



Fortnight in Photos



# From The Principal

College Principal | Terry Blizzard

At this week's Graduation Assembly, we farewelled our Year 12 students as they conclude their classes and enter the next phase of their journey towards the end of their secondary school years. In the assembly we reflected on the significance of the week and what was a big occasion in many students lives. This time, for many students ranks alongside those other key moments that we have in our lives, like the first day at primary school or starting a first job.

These are events that suggest we are moving to the next stage of our lives that are transitional and memorable. And so, we acknowledged our Year 12 students as they commence the next stage of their life journey. They will of course be back for exams and graduation events so our time together has not come to an end.

I have long subscribed to the belief that the purpose of schools is more than just grades and results, important as they are. Whilst our aim is always to actively engage our students in such a way as to realise their academic potential, our desire is to develop in young men and women a willingness to take up challenges intellectually, physically and socially, with a sense of purpose and responsibility. Schools are about character forming, I think there has been no time when this is more apparent than in our post lockdown world. I shared with our graduating class my belief that their time at school will be measured by those around them for:

- Their influence on others.

- Their treatment of others.
- Their willingness to learn from experiences; and
- Their service to others.

Everything else is everything else.

So to the graduating class of 2022, we are very proud of you, congratulations, good luck and may God bless you all.

## Updates

Owing to COVID and the subsequent lockdowns we never fully had the chance to launch our new Co-educational venture. With this in mind, we have enlisted marketing company JWB and Co to guide us through a rebranding relaunch process. Over the last few weeks, they have conducted a range of information gathering/focus groups and are coming towards the end of this process. Can I thank all those parents who gave their time to one of the focus group sessions.

We have also enlisted Spectrum Analysis (Geodemographic Modelling and Analysis) to conduct an analysis of student demographic data, enrolment, GeoMapping etc. The aim of this work is to support any ongoing marketing and promotions to inform any capital development (building) that we do.

Terry Blizzard

**College Principal**



# Deputy Principal Report

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

We have now formally bid farewell to our Year 12 class of 2022. There is of course sadness, though a great sense of anticipation, hope and optimism, as each of our graduands embark on their final exams or begin to see the planning of their post-secondary lives come to fruition. Over the past few days, we have celebrated their achievements, and often remarked on the significance of what this group have overcome in recent years to be a united graduating class. It was fitting in the final assembly that they paid tribute to themselves as a peer group, their teachers, who have worked tirelessly to support them this year and previously, and to their families. The below quote is the last part of the speech made by Luca Carboni, one of the senior Prefects graduating this year, at the assembly:

***"Year 12 is not just tough on students and teachers, but also for our families. I'd like to extend an appreciation to our parents and guardians for their continual support as well, we truly wouldn't have been able to do it without you. Drop offs, pick-ups, running around to make sure we are fully prepared for SACs, the list is endless. The end is close, and it is important to remind ourselves of our achievements thus far, but it is not time to relax. The final push is here, and I believe each one of you has what it takes to do something amazing. You have one chance, make it count. As for the rest of the school in here front of me today, I wish you all the best for the rest of your educational journey and whatever life has in store for you beyond. Work hard, relax when required but most importantly give it your best shot and put yourself out there. We can't go back now!"***

Thanks Luca, and thanks to the graduating class of 2022. You have enriched the lives of all that you have shared your time with here at St. Mary's College.

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

**Child Safe Standard 5: Diversity and equity***Schools must ensure that equity is upheld, and diverse needs respected in policy and practice*

- Schools need to create environments where all children and young people feel welcome
- Children and young people have unique abilities, skills and life experiences. Differences in backgrounds, personality and beliefs shape a child's experiences and needs. Their individual identity and sense of self can be fundamental to their wellbeing
- Children have better opportunities to fulfill their potential when diversity is valued
- Negative experiences like exclusion and discrimination can be harmful. They increase the risk of harm and abuse to a child and decrease the likelihood of them telling someone and receiving an effective response

**At St Mary's College, we are working towards the implementation of Standard 5, by:**

- Creating student versions of Child Safety policies.
- Child Safety information translated into students' preferred languages.
- Ensuring LGBTIQ+ students, students with disability and students from CALD backgrounds are aware of appropriate actions to be taken if racism, discrimination, harassment or victimisation occurs.
- Differentiated curriculum to suit individual needs of CALD students and students with disability.
- Non-gender specific uniform.
- Ensuring gender diversity and equality is reflected in our student voice and student leadership programs.
- Development of a gender-inclusive, anti-discriminatory culture within the College community that promotes students' dignity and privacy.
- The use of gender-inclusive examples when discussing families, relationships or professions and vocations.

- College dedicated Child Safety email address.

Shaun Lancashire

**Deputy Principal**



# Student News

Director of Students | Chris Pye

## World Mental Health Day

As you might know, World Mental Health Day took place on Monday October 10. This year, a focus area was doing what matters in a time of stress. This, of course, is very relevant to our students as they enter the preparatory period for exams. In a broader sense, managing stress is a crucial life skill as stress is an entrenched part of the working world and the human condition. It rarely goes away on its own but, with skills to combat it, rarely stays for too long either.

Whilst 'doing what matters' is quite a neat phrase, what exactly does matter in a time of stress? Here are a couple of thoughts on this question that might be relevant to our students.

1. Ground your thoughts. This, really, means to try and slow our thoughts down. Sitting still, being calm, focusing on something unthreatening can really help. The problem, or problems, won't go away but they are unlikely to be churning with the same velocity.
2. Talk, talk, talk. It is so important. Once we talk about a problem, it often downsizes from something immovable and unsolvable to, well, a problem that can be fixed or managed. The College's Pulse Wellbeing Problem is expressly designed to open these communication channels. Talk to a trusted person punctures the notion that

- we are on our own, can lead to good ideas re how to manage the problem, can simply be a positive distraction.
3. Make a plan. Once we have settled the mind, talked through the problem, we are in a better position to manage, or even solve, the problem. Plans are great. They create focus and instil confidence. Even if they don't work, they are better than the outcomes that occur without a plan. When they work, they are beautiful.
  4. Positive self-talk. It's a skill – something that can be learnt - to be kind to ourselves. And, once you start doing it, positive self-talk becomes quite a pleasant undertaking. Focus on the things that you are good at, that you enjoy, that illuminate your values. A pat on the back is the antithesis of stress and a sure-fire sign that you are pushing through the challenge.
  5. Celebrate the small achievements. Focus on how things are improving through your efforts. When you look for the positive, it is surprising how many things you find.

Wishing all our students and families the best during Term 4.

Chris Pye

**Director of Students**





# 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 should have already been provided in writing to [registrar@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au) by the end of Term 3. If the notice has not been received, 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.

## Capital Works

The Capital works on the McCartney Wing and Corbett Wing are continuing.

Recent works include:

- Installation of the Oculus at the top of the Stairs
- Installation of the new fire pump

## 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.

## 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**



# Intensive Drama Workshop

Pastoral/Drama Leader | Brendan Tollit

## Drama Workshop

Today we had the pleasure of welcoming Rachel Griffiths who is a current parent to the College. Rachel kindly gave her time to run an intensive drama workshop with students from Years 8-11.

Rachel worked with the students on the finer points of both stage and film performance, encouraging them to live their character in order to project their character's persona to the audience.

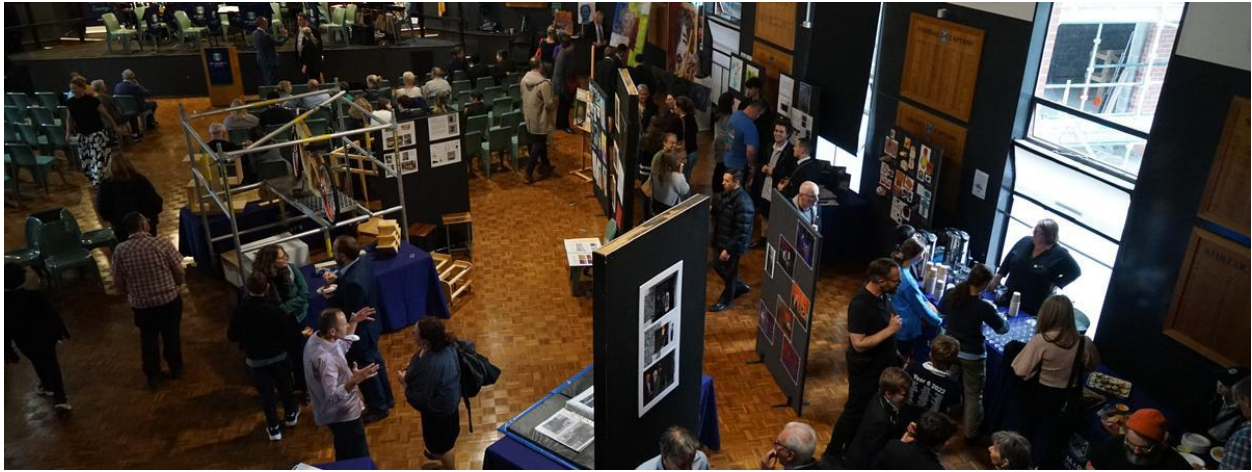
We hope this workshop will not only help our students in drama, but encourage others to become involved in this subject area.

Many thanks to Rachel for her generosity.





Brendan Tollit  
**Pastoral/Drama Leader**



# Arts Showcase

VAPA Learning Leader | Raoul Chapman

## Arts Showcase

Congratulations to all of the students and staff who contributed, performed and helped with the Arts Showcase held in Logue Hall on Tuesday 11 October.

Over 150 guests attended the event to view the visual art and textile displays, listen to our College musicians and watch short films created by our media students.

It was truly a celebration of the Arts for St Mary's College, and showed the amount of talent we have amongst our students.

The Arts Showcase would not be made possible without the assistance of Louisa Lawless the entire VAPA staff and students. I would also like to pass on my thanks to our wonderful maintenance team who helped with set and take down.

Many thanks to those who attended this inspiring event.



Raoul Chapman

**Learning Leader VAPA**



# Parents & Friends

Parents and Friends Chair | Jane Leroi

## 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.

There will also be an end of year Parent Dinner at The Dick Whittington Tavern. Details and reservation link to be advised in the next newsletter.

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](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au) with any queries you may have.

P&F final meeting for 2022 will take place on:

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

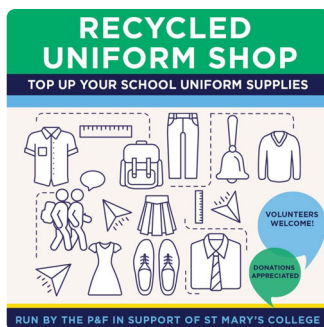
## College Uniform

### Uniform Shop Openings

A reminder that all students are required to wear the St Mary's College Summer Uniform in Term 4. 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. Below are the times these shops will be available in the coming weeks

### **P&F Recycled Uniform shop:**

- Saturday 05/11 from 12:00pm - 2:00pm.



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).

### **Midford Uniform shop:**

- Saturday 05/11 from 9:00am - 1:00pm (times TBC & all full uniform fittings by appointment only).
- Extended trading hours from 29/11/22 (more details in next newsletter)

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

Thursday 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:

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

**Parents & Friends Chairperson**



# Family Camp

Outdoor Education Convenor | David Joyce

Over the last weekend of the September School Holidays sixteen St Mary's family members joined us for a spectacular weekend of Rafting on the Mitta Mitta River near Omeo. We were blessed with high river levels and beautiful Spring sunshine- perfect conditions to hit the water and raft the Mitta Gorge. The intrepid group Warmed up with smaller rapids before taking on 'The Graveyard', 'Big Stopper' and 'Dislocation'. Following a relaxed lunch in the sun we headed off again, entering the Gorge to raft through 'S-Bend', 'The Waterfall' and 'The Gobbler'!

*"What a great opportunity to spend time with my son, experience the absolute beauty of the high country and be surrounded by wonderful people. Dave and the team were exemplary in their service, skills and knowledge."*

*"The family camp on the Mitta Mitta was a fantastic fun weekend of adventure, camping and beautiful scenery. Such a fabulous opportunity to be able to share this experience with my teenager and other parents and students."*



David Joyce  
Outdoor Education Convenor



# ACC Tennis Report

Russell Wynne | Coach

Round 1 6/10/22 Vs St Bernard's (A)

St Bernard's 8 sets 47 def St Mary's 4 sets 40 games

On a blustery spring day that emulated Melbourne's infamous epithet, "four seasons in one day" the minnows of the ACC tennis world ventured out to play one of the behemoths.

Even although our opponents were mainly year 8 boys and St. Mary's were all Year 7s in the top division, the minnows acquitted themselves rather well. The doubles was an entertaining event and St. Mary's drew with their more favoured opponents with honours going to the pairs of Seb Maddams/Bayley Penna (6-1) and Thomas Taylor / James Kemp (6-1). This must have been a shock to the St. Bernard's fraternity. In the singles St. Bernard's were able to turn the tables and win 6 sets to 2. Our winners in the singles were: Bayley Penna (6-4) and Thomas Taylor (6-3). An honourable mention goes to Seb Maddams who put up a great fight against the St. Bernards number one going down 4-6 after a ding-dong battle. I commend the boys for their spirit and their sportsmanship and for never giving up on the day.

Better players were: Bayley Penna, Seb Maddams and Thomas Taylor.

We have a good little team and we hope for more fun in the sun in the weeks to come!

Regards

Russell Wynne

**Coach**



# Fortnight in Photos

Images of our school in action.













