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# Lumina

Issue 17 · 28 Nov 2022

*As we bid farewell to the class of 2022, we pray that the spirit and the light from their time at St Mary's College burns bright for many years to come. May the friendships they formed throughout their secondary school journey be ones of strength and connectedness.*

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# From The Principal

College Principal | Terry Blizzard

## The Call of Advent

On Sunday we began a new liturgical year with the commencement of Advent, a time when we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. It is a time when we reflect on what has been and attend to the demands of the present. It is natural that we spend much of our time looking back as our history informs our present and helps us in shaping our future. Advent though invites us to look forward and to dream of a just and compassionate world for all. Our College Mission calls us to be inspired by the Gospels, and in this time of Advent let us all act for justice and solidarity with open hearts and minds.

The ebb and flow of schools is ever present and no more evident than in the last weeks of the year. Last Thursday we had the pleasure of hosting the Year 12 graduates and their families for a farewell Mass followed by the Graduation Dinner. It was such a lovely occasion to share with staff and families. The irony of this farewell is that it is done as we plan the Orientation Day welcome for next year's incoming Year 7 students. The cycle of school.

Last Friday the Year 10 and 11 students completed two weeks in their 2023 classes in Headstart. This stage of the year presents an opportunity to set an academic tone in readiness for the following year, for teachers and students to "get a head start" on their subjects for the 2023 school year and for teachers to commence a relationship with their learning groups for the following year. We shared a beautiful Liturgy to mark the end of the year for these young men and women. The thrust of the Liturgy was inspired by an ancient

text considering who is an insider and who remains on the outside. It reminded us that we are an inclusive community where we should all feel included.

## Enrolments

We are still receiving enquiries about enrolments for 2023. Sometimes families can get to this stage of the year and assume that an enrolment place is assured, tending to be places for siblings. Can I please ask any members of the community who are aware of any such instances to encourage contact with the school.

Terry Blizzard

**College Principal**



# Deputy Principal Report

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

## Final Week

The final few weeks of the academic year are full of events and activities that mark and conclude the end of classes and courses of study. Our Year 12 VCAL class have been finished for some time now, though they are now joined by their VCE classmates, with VCE exams now completed. Congratulations to the whole Year 12 cohort on this significant achievement. Results are still to come, and whilst they are important, the endeavour shown by all engaged in exams was admirable.

We celebrated the end of exams with the Graduation Mass and dinner for the families of the graduating class. Students were presented with a personalised St Mary's College candle at the Mass, with the message to take the light of Christ with them out into the world. At the dinner we had a number of meaningful speeches from the Year 12 Pastoral Care teachers, Year 12 Pastoral Leader, Alex Luscombe, Terry Blizzard and Year 12 students. All were very impressive in their summary of the 13 year educational journey now completed by the 2022 graduates. Congratulations to all involved in this evening and best wishes to all members of the class of 2022.

We recently had the great pleasure of our dramatic and artistically minded students presenting three consecutive nights of the inquisitive, thought provoking play, Dark Wonderland. Congratulations to all students on stage and behind the scenes, and our thanks

to Mr Brendan Tollit (and Alexander De Jong) for all that went in to writing, rehearsing, and directing this play.

Our Year 11 and 12 2023 'Headstart' classes come to an end on Friday 25 November, with a liturgy at the start of the day. All students involved in this program have been given an authentic opportunity to commence their 2023 studies. This gives teachers the opportunity to set up routines, expectations and meaningful holiday work to be completed before the commencement of these two most important year levels in 2023.

All the best to teachers and students involved in the Year 9 learning portfolio conferences next week. These conferences enable students to present the work they have completed across the semester to their parents and teachers, as they continue to take responsibility for their learning in the Nobilitas Program.

As the year ends for the Year 7, 8 and 9 students next week, I wish all families in the St. Mary's College Community a very safe, happy, healthy and holy Christmas break.

Please find below a summary of the eighth 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 8: Child safety knowledge, skills and awareness**

Schools must ensure that staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training

- By delivering tailored training to all staff and volunteers, everyone will share an understanding of:
  - what child safety means
  - the importance of child safety
  - what to look for and what to do
- This provides staff and volunteers with the knowledge and skills they need to create a schoolwide culture of child safety
- Appropriate training and supervision helps keep staff and students safe and helps schools meet their child safety and occupational health and safety legal requirements.

### **At St Mary's College, we are working towards the implementation of Standard 8, by:**

- Induction training for new staff and direct contact contractors and volunteers.

- Ongoing and refresher training briefings.
- Completing DET Mandatory Reporting eLearning Module.
- EREA / St Mary's Staff Learning System training.
- Additional training for Child Safety Officers.

Shaun Lancashire

**Deputy Principal**



# College Business

College Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien

## 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.

**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.

Mr Andrew O'Brien

**College Business Manager**



# Thanksgiving Liturgy

Director of Faith and Mission | Paul Quinn

Thursday evening 17 November students, parents and staff gathered at St Mary's parish Church for a thanksgiving Liturgy. The celebrant was Fr Jerome Santamaria.

This was our first opportunity to gather as full graduating class in recent years. Students gathered outside the Church in pastoral care groups and Mr Alex Luscombe welcomed everyone present. The students then processed into the Church led by their pastoral teachers, Ms Rachel Montalto, Mr Rosario Genovese, Mr Terry Sweet and Mr Russell Wynne.

Ms Louisa Lawless, accompanied by our musicians and choir members led everyone in singing the hymns.

At the end of the Liturgy Mr Blizzard gave each student a candle with the College Crest, student name and the phrase "A School for All". As each student was called by name to collect their candle they proceeded out of the Church and onto the dinner to continue the celebrations.

Thanks to all who prepared for and participated in this special event.

Paul Quinn

**Director of Faith and Mission**



# Student News

Director of Students | Chris Pye

## Transition

We tend to have a complex relationship with change, don't we? On one hand, change can be exciting – a chance to reimagine and reinvent ourselves or a part of our lives. It can be emancipating and liberating. Conversely, it can be daunting and worrisome because, often, it means an end to something that was predictable and comfortable. Often, to be honest, it is a bit of both. Strangely, at the onset of change, even something that wasn't a great part of your life can be romanticised. Thoughts can be: It wasn't that bad or, in fact, it was a pretty good thing even though at the time it probably wasn't! Change, both wanted and unwanted, can cause our minds to create shadows, mirages and unreliable narratives. However, this very thing – our minds – is our key resource in order to ensure that change, either wished for or forced upon us, actually leads to development.

Over the past week, our Year 10 students commenced Year 11 and our Year 11 students stepped into Year 12. Seeing both these groups of students stepping into the higher reaches of the College initially made me yearn for the simpler times. *Remember when the Year 10s were in Year 7? That Year 8 class was good wasn't it?* However, once this sentimentality washes through, you focus on the job at hand – making a good start. Those students who have mirrored the rise in year-level with a rise in expectation of themselves have set forth with purpose and positivity. On time to classes. Correct materials at the ready. Uniform resplendent. Getting the basics right, moving habits from rote to reflexive. I congratulate all

the students who have attacked Headstart and have embraced change and ensured it has been a time of progress.

Next Thursday, our Years 7-9 students have their step-up afternoons. Throughout, they will meet their new Pastoral Care Leader and some of their teachers. They will become acquainted with the new expectations commensurate with the rise in year-level and will participate in some activities to connect them with their teachers and their class-mates. It is a positive afternoon, designed to plant the flag of change down at the centre of the year-level and encourage students to walk towards it. We thank you for your support of this activity.

*The American author James Baldwin writes that “Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”*

Let's encourage our student to use this time of change to actually make positive change. This is the way to get a real headstart on next year.

Chris Pye

**Director of Students**



# Careers News

Careers Counsellor | Mandy Ellwood

## Career Development

### ***Mindflight7 Year 9 Career Taster Incursion***

It is often said about young people and careers that *"you cannot be what you cannot see."* So this week we were able to immerse our Year 9 students in a Virtual Reality experience that had them exploring all kinds of careers opportunities.

Using virtual reality headsets, the students could choose to follow a tradesperson during their working day, explore scientific research, design in a 3D world, drive a forklift or a Mars rover or even perform open heart surgery!

The capable team from Mindflight7 led this experience and ably encouraged students to explore their areas of interest, but also try out some career areas they know nothing about. The world is changing so quickly. I recently heard of a young person who missed out on a Marketing position with a large company because they did not have VR experience! The Flight Crew also encouraged students to check out the VR games that KFC are currently using in their marketing. This is not to encourage game-playing as such, but to see the way VR, combined with humour and fun are just a part of modern marketing and communications. All these experiences offer a peek at where the world of work might be heading for our Gen Z (born 1997-2012) family members.

## CLASS OF 2022

Remember to make your appointments for Change of Preference assistance from 12 – 14 December at <https://calendly.com/mellwood/20min>

And – of course – I am available to help our graduates who are seeking employment and other pathways as well, prior to these dates. Go to <https://calendly.com/mellwood/30min>

## VET 2023

This year it has been quite tricky to find VET places for all interested students. VET Confirmation of Place letters should be ready soon and will be emailed to families next week. Students, please check your emails regularly for messages from your VET Provider too! If you have not yet applied and need a VET subject, please email me this week!

Mandy Ellwood

**Careers Counsellor**



# Dark Wonderland

Drama Co-ordinator | Brendan Tollit

## Dark Wonderland

On the 14th – 16th of November, Logue Hall morphed into *Dark Wonderland*, where over twenty students from years 7-12 participated in bringing this production to life.

The following names of those in the cast and crew should be applauded for their creative integrity, their incredible performances and their confidence to bring a two hour production to life in front of three different captivated audiences:

The Amazing Cast and Crew	
Alexander De Jong	Addy Taylor
James Cappola	Allanah Hager
Jeremy Baxas	Mitchell Hoskin
Alison Rae	Arthur Georgakakis
Noah Douglas	Ted McMahon
Bayley Penna	Gus Norton
Tomasz Tamowicz	Maya Taifernopoulos
Maddy Gournas	Elliot Brenner
Jerome Linnell	Liam Craig
Kleo Kalloniatis	Georgia Le Hunt
Vinh Nguyen	Maksymilian Kaplon
Lila Charewicz	

A special thank you to Rachel Griffiths for supporting our students and leading them in pre show vocal and physical warm up.



My thanks to all the cast and crew for their invaluable contributions to the Performing Arts at the College.

Looking forward to presenting *The Wizard of Oz* in 2023!

Brendan Tollit

**Drama Co-ordinator**



# Year 8 Beach Excursion

Teacher | Simon Hawkins

## Year 8 Beach Excursion

As a part of our Year 8 HPE unit: *Healthy Communities and Environments*, on Friday the 18th of November, the Year 8 cohort travelled to South Melbourne Beach in the afternoon for our Year 8 Beach Excursion. After a horrid week of weather, the clouds parted, and blue skies were upon us! This was a great way for us to give back to the community, but also celebrate the year that was. This type of excursion was run years ago, and we are so glad to be bringing it back to St Mary's College. As a part of our Excursion, we spent time collecting rubbish along the beach and then playing a Beach Volleyball tournament together!



Year 8 student, Ted McMahon summarises his experiences of the excursion below:

*On Friday the 18th, the whole year eight year level went on an excursion to the beach. We had lots of fun picking up rubbish, helping the environment, and having a bit of downtime playing beach volleyball. We split the homerooms up and had a volleyball tournament where my team and I managed to make it to the final, but unfortunately lost. Nevertheless, there was a lot of smiles and positivity the whole excursion. Kids scavenging for rubbish, playing volleyball, and overall having a good time. I also quickly wanted to thank Mr Hawkins, Mr Paul and every teacher/sports assistant that took time to help out, set up for volleyball and made the experience better for everyone.*

Overall, it was a great experience and we want to thank the Year 8's for their participation and positive attitude on the day!

Simon Hawkins

Teacher



# Giving Back

Students cooking for charity.

Last week our senior students spent time in the kitchen to prepare and cook 78 meals that would go out to people less fortunate.

One of the St Mary's College values is Compassion. We encourage our students to live true to to this value, with an understanding that compassion and empathy can help change lives.

Sandie Saundry

**Food and Tech Assistant**



# Parents & Friends

Parents and Friends Chair | Jane Leroi

## College Carols – Thursday 01 December, 6:00pm

We are looking forward to our annual St Mary's Christmas Carols next week – with a change of venue to the Edmund Rice Campus Entrance B, 11 Westbury Street, St Kilda East. This is always a lovely event for both our St Mary's College and St Mary's Primary School students and community – everyone is welcome, so please feel free to bring your families and friends. This change of venue provides us with an undercover option if the weather isn't kind, however hopefully the weather will be favourable so that we can all sit under the Sails area and enjoy the beautiful Carols. As it can be a bit of a rush to get here, the P&F will provide some light snacks and drinks for sale at this event. A reminder also that this is an alcohol free event.

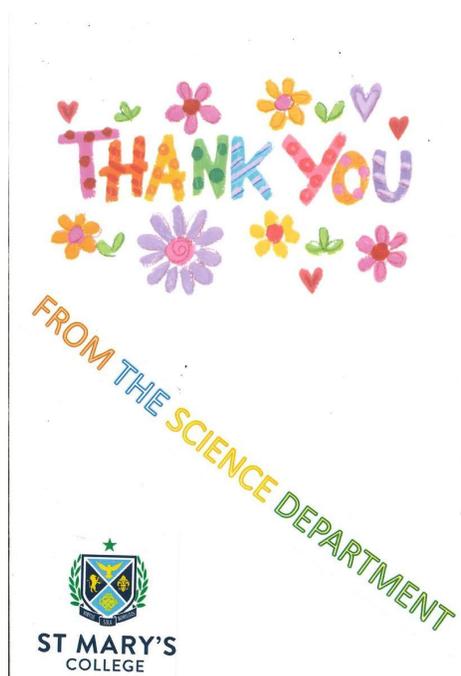
## Parent Engagement – Meetings and Dinners

We held our final P&F meeting for the year, including AGM, on Mon 14/11/22, instigating for the first time opportunities to attend either face to face or online. It was agreed by all that it was valuable to have both these options available for attendance. At the AGM, all 2022 office-bearer positions were declared open and 2023 office-bearers unanimously voted in. Our twice per term P&F meetings are an opportunity to increase community engagement, enhance school/parent partnerships and meet new people. These meetings also provide an opportunity to participate in relevant discussions and be involved in decision-making. Our College leadership attend these meetings and everyone is welcome. We thank the parents and the College Leadership for their generous and enthusiastic support throughout this year.

During the year our St Mary's College P&F also plan several informal meals for parents, together with members of our Leadership. Our recent end of year dinner was well attended by current families, former families (our P&F Alumni) and Leadership members. We also took the opportunity to thank and farewell some of our Year 12 parents as their students move on to the next phase of their lives and learning.

## P&F Donations to the College

During the year, our P&F support the learning opportunities and experiences of our students and staff by sponsoring various resources. A recent purchase for the Science department was for Water Baths and Carbon Dioxide Sensors. These were very much appreciated by our Science Department staff and students. We are all looking forward to a trip to the Science rooms for a practical demonstration of these at an upcoming P&F meeting.



07/11/2022



Carbon dioxide Sensor

To the Parent &amp; Friends Committee

The Science department would like to formally

**THANK** the P&F committee  
For their generous donation of  
2 constant water baths and  
2 Carbon dioxide sensors.



Constant water bath

Peggy Blassis  
Science Domain Leader

Marcia Rogerson  
Senior Laboratory Technician

## Textbook Recycled Purchases and Sales

Recycled textbooks and school items can be bought and sold via the Sustainable School Shop, who have copies of our St Mary's College booklists. They can be accessed via <https://www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au/>

**Second-hand textbooks are needed for sale, especially at this time of the year, so please consider advertising yours for sale as other families will be most appreciative.** The textbook stocktake is updated once every 24 hours to include all newly listed items for sale. **To sell books/items:** Log-in to the Sustainable School Shop website, click **Sell Books**, then **follow** the prompts - where price and condition guidance is also provided. ***Please also remember to delist your advertised items as these are sold.***

**To buy books/items:** Log in to the Sustainable School Shop website, click **Find Books**, then click on the items you need to get the contact details of the seller. Buyers make direct contact with sellers.

Please also note that the College P&F have previously paid a bulk subscription membership fee on behalf of our families when they registered to trade on the site. This year it was decided to utilise these funds elsewhere for our student needs. This decision will be reviewed again by P&F towards the end of next year. Options for trading on the Sustainable School Shop are:

- If you have items you wish to buy, you can register and manually search all the 'for sale' ads from the main search page and gain sellers contact details for free.

- If you have 3-5 items you wish to sell – you can purchase 3-5 single ads at \$1.50 each.
- If you have 3-5 items to buy & have 3-5 items to sell – you can purchase an annual subscription at \$21.95. NB: The Sustainable School Shop advises that experience has shown families usually find more items to advertise, so most decide to upgrade to an annual subscription.

## Textbook Donations

Our P&F have also decided to support the Les Twentyman Foundation Back to School Program, which recycles and redistributes educational resources to students who would otherwise be unable to afford them. They currently require:

- Year 7-12 textbooks and study guides published since 2021,
- English novels and literature texts (i.e. novels / plays / poetry / DVD's)
- Atlases, dictionaries (English and foreign language), and thesauruses
- Calculators
- Laptops
- Stationary (either physical donations in new condition, or via the purchasing of vouchers from companies like Officeworks)

These items can be dropped off prior to the end of the school year at either of our campus Receptions, otherwise directly to the Les Twentyman Foundation drop off point at (the Bunbury Street gate at the rear of) 56 Whitehall Street, Footscray, Mondays-Thursdays, 0491 218 082. Please refer to the attached flyer.

LES TWENTYMAN  
FOUNDATION

## BACK TO SCHOOL DONATION GUIDELINES

### WHAT WE DO?

The Back to School Program redistributes used educational resources to students who would otherwise be unable to afford them. In 2022 we were able to assist 650+ students to access the supplies required to attend school.

### WHAT WE NEED:

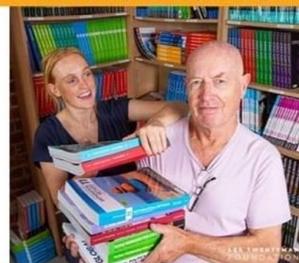
- Year 7-12 textbooks and study guides **published since 2021**
- English novels and literature texts (i.e. novels / plays / poetry / DVD's)
- Atlases, dictionaries (English and foreign language), and thesauruses
- Calculators
- Laptops
- Stationery (either physical donations in new condition or via the purchasing of vouchers from companies like Officeworks)

### OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- Donate directly to our program at <https://www.ltfoundation.com.au/donation>
- Volunteer to coordinate second-hand book collections at your school or home, or volunteer your time by working with us in our library for the 2022/23 program.

### WHERE/WHEN TO DROP OFF DONATIONS ?

Address: **56 Whitehall Street, Footscray 3011**  
(Please enter via rear gate Bunbury St).  
Hours: **Monday-Thursday 10am-5pm.**



### ANY QUESTIONS?

Please call Back To School on: 0491 218 082  
or email us at [backtoschool@LTFoundation.com.au](mailto:backtoschool@LTFoundation.com.au)

Jane Leroi

**Parents & Friends Chairperson**



# College Uniform

## Uniform Shops

### TRADING HOURS FOR END OF YEAR TERM 4 2022 & TERM 1 2023

The St Mary's Uniform Store will close for the school holidays on Saturday 10th December at 1:00 pm 2022 and will re-open for Term 1 on Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 9.00am.

New families can make early fittings in November & December on any Tuesday & Thursday during the shop operating hours between 9.00am -3.00pm - up until 9th December

All new families must make their own uniform fitting appointments using the link below

#### **Extended Term 4 Holiday Trading Hours 2022**

Tuesday 29th November to Friday 2nd December	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday 3rd December	9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Tuesday 6th December to Friday 9th December	9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday 10th December	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

#### **Extended Term 1 Holiday Trading Hours 2023**

Tuesday 10th to Friday 13th January	9:00 am to 4:00pm
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Saturday 14th January	9:00am to 1:00pm
Tuesday 17th to Friday 20th January	9:00 am to 4:00pm
Tuesday 24th to Wednesday 25th January	9:00am to 4:00pm

### **Please note Thursday 26th January - Closed Australia Day**

The store will resume normal trading hours on Tuesday 31st January 2023

Throughout the year we are open **Tuesday & Thursday 8.00am to 4.00pm**

 [St Marys College Melbourne Price List.pdf](#)

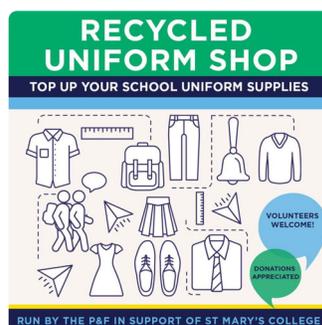
## P&F College Uniform Shop

### **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 03 December 2022 from 12:00pm - 2:00pm.
  - Tuesday 06 December 2022 from 10:00am - 2:00pm.
  - Tuesday 31 January 2023 from 10:00am - 3:00pm
- Edmund Rice Campus, Entrance B.



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).



## Carols Under the Sails

St Mary's College, Warmly Invites all of our families to join us for

### **Carols Under the Sails**

**When: Thursday December 1 2022**

**Time: 6:00pm Start**

**Where: St Mary's College Edmund Rice Campus (Under the Sails)**

**11 Westbury Street, East St Kilda 3182**

Bring along some nibbles and your best singing voice.

To assist with logistics we ask that you RSVP by [CLICKING HERE](#)

***Please note this is an alcohol free event.***



# Fortnight in Photos

Images of our school in action.









