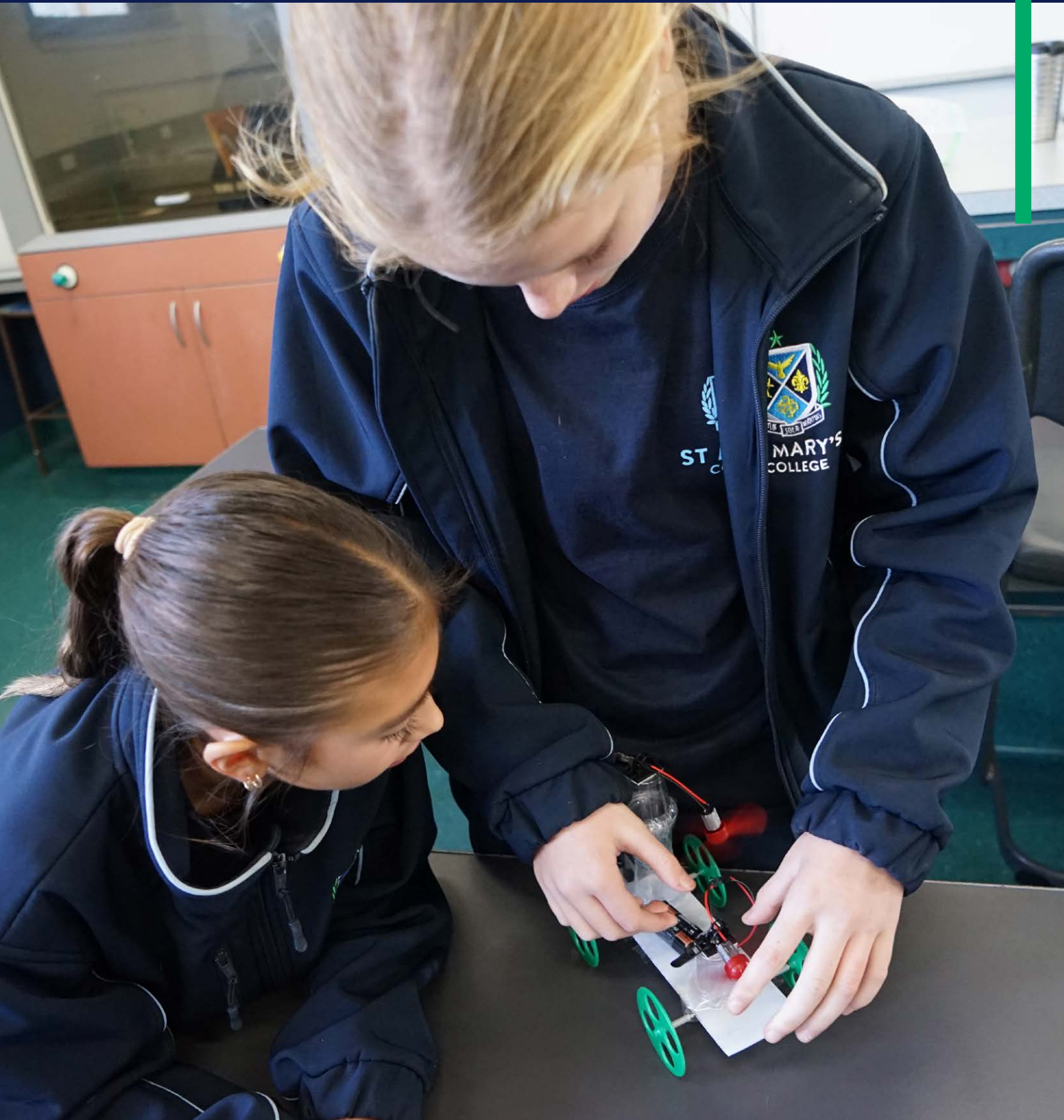




ST MARY'S
COLLEGE

LIBERATIONS



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WELCOME TO THE SECOND EDITION OF **LIBERATIONS**, THE MAGAZINE OF ST MARY'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY.

Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice tradition strive to offer a *Liberating Education* based on a *Gospel Spirituality* within an *Inclusive Community* committed to *Justice and Solidarity*. Our school is built upon a foundation of liberation through education, so poignantly illustrated by Edmund Rice who started his ministry from hedge schools to lift up the marginalised of his time. From these faith filled beginnings we take our calling to provide our students and the St Mary's College community with liberation through education and look forward to sharing with readers amazing stories of *Liberations* in coming editions of this publication.

We would love to share your alumni story, celebration, obituaries and other news.

The Editor – *Liberations*
Elaine Doyle
St Mary's College
edoyle@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au



PRINCIPAL'S *Welcome*

A SCHOOL THAT BELIEVES THAT **TOGETHER = BETTER**

AS YOU READ THROUGH THIS PUBLICATION, I HOPE YOU **DISCOVER** THE SAME **ENERGY, SPIRIT** AND **WELCOME** THAT I HAVE FOUND SINCE MY ARRIVAL ON ANZAC DAY.

This small, new school stands on two Millennia of Catholic education, is a natural and proper evolution of the fabled CBC St Kilda, and belongs to the Edmund Rice tradition of Respect, Justice, Compassion, Inclusivity and Courage, always.

You will find here a place with a responsive, dynamic and modern approach to learning. At St Mary's the Catholic tradition of pastoral care is found in ideas, policy and practice of safety first, intellectual and emotional robustness and in meeting challenges together with a sense of place, context empathy and perspective. Our belief is that pastoral care is to support our students as learners.

As a Catholic co- educational school across the adolescent years in the inner city of Melbourne, St Mary's can really be a place that fosters much needed qualities of diversity, inclusion and where we can foster our belief that self efficacy, confidence and worth is found in being welcomed as our selves. Opportunities for tailored learning, leadership and extracurricular endeavours foster the chance for each member of our community to prosper as their authentic best self, possessing a deep sense of shared identity and belonging without becoming the corporate product which values reputational branding over agency, voice and character.

I am enormously positive about the possibilities St Mary's College offers the young people who are here ,and those joining us every day.

MR MICHAEL LEE
Acting Principal



TERRY BLIZZARD *Farewell*

STUDENT WELLBEING AT THE FOREFRONT

AS WITH SO MANY OTHER AREAS OF COLLEGE LIFE, **TERRY** HAS MADE A SIGNIFICANT **POSITIVE IMPRINT** ON STUDENT WELLBEING.

Our vision for wellbeing, anchored in creating a sense of belonging and establishing positive relationships across the school, came out of seeing how respectful and fair he was in every conversation he had with students and his vast work in this area in previous roles. On the ground, he always seemed to know something about each student, had a question to ask, a point of praise to deliver. The pressures of Principalship – often diffuse, exacting and vexing – were never permeated in these exchanges. Indeed, most Principals talk belonging and respect; some consistently exhibit it; few always exhibit it. Terry sits comfortably in the last bracket – he was always decent and fair and, through both word and action, established these markers at our College. We are a kinder and better place with these enshrined and evident in what we do.

Our pastoral care has seen a huge uptick during Terry's time here. He re-wrote the pastoral teacher role, played a crucial role in establishing on-line wellbeing check-ins and created an environment where students know that teachers were there to care and support them. In our conversations, Terry always espoused the importance of positive relationships with students. We cannot be the school we wish to be unless these are in place. This statement is both evolved and compassionate but also grounded in logic. Once the relationship is set, once respect is consistently evident, once real care is on display, the vast majority of conversations would be constructive and positive and there is no conversation that is too difficult. Again, this is a significant cultural change and one that we have all benefited from.

Our transition programs have improved significantly during Terry's tenure. Students know the history of the precinct, the values and the vision and aspirations for our new school. These programs connect students to the College and to each other. Terry would often say that students who feel part of something – especially something really positive – will invariably find their way and enjoy their time at school. These programs were built by Terry with both reference to the evidence-base but authentic to the atmosphere and spirit of our College.

On a personal note, I have found Terry to be a great person to work for. He is both fun and incredibly fair-minded. I will never forget him singing 'Never Tear Us Apart' and hoisting a make-believe Port Adelaide scarf in the air when I asked him if he was supporting the Tigers or Port in a game a few years ago! He is a real support when times are tough and a great source of optimism during those humdrum, middling days. It's the consistency, however, that is most admirable. He was unfailing in his respectful interactions with everyone. This requires a decency, a self-regulation and a genuine determination to be of service and benefit to others. He was in the role for the students – their betterment, their happiness. I, and the Pastoral Team, deeply admire him for this.

Our school is better for his leadership and we are grateful for his time here. We are sad to see him leave but understand the need to support his family. We wish Terry, his wife Sue, and his wider family, happiness and health in the future.

Thank you, Terry.

CHRIS PYE
Director of Students



“SOMETIMES WE DO THINGS BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

TERRY BLIZZARD

In a deeply moving assembly and Easter Liturgy on Thursday I had the opportunity to express to our community the privilege it has been to lead St Mary's College and the challenge the heart wrenching decision to resign has been. It was lovely to hear messages of affirmation from students, parents, EREA and from staff.

On reflection I see the assembly as a snapshot of our school, a deeply caring community, a diverse community where everyone belongs and feels welcome, and of course a coeducational community. It has been such a joy to know that I have had the honour of playing a small part in this. We are such a new community, yet we are forging our culture and history, sharing it together.

I am reminded though at this time of something I have shared with our young people in numerous forums – “sometimes you have to do things because it is the right thing to do”. This is that moment for me and it is time I followed my own mantra, I must do this because it is the right thing to do.

I am not sure what the future holds for me, but I need to turn my energies to my family. Please know that this is a decision made with the heaviest of hearts and always with the school and our young people at the forefront.

This has been a time of reflection for me on the incredible gift it has been to work with the St Mary's community towards the end of my career. What a blessing it has been, but I must now change my focus, as sad as I am to be moving on. Please know though that you will remain very deeply in my heart.

Every day our young people make our school great and have made my life a joy.

God Bless

TERRY BLIZZARD
College Principal





AN EXTRAORDINARY ANNOUNCEMENT OF *Great Joy*

IT IS WITH A **TREMENDOUS SENSE OF JOY** AND PRIDE THAT I WRITE TO YOU TO ANNOUNCE THAT **AUDREY SMART**, 2023 COLLEGE CAPTAIN, ST MARY'S COLLEGE, IS A RECIPIENT OF A **TUCKWELL SCHOLARSHIP**, COMMENCING IN 2024 AT THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (ANU), CANBERRA.

This is a most sought after, prestigious, and rich scholarship!

As the details below confirm, the Tuckwell scholarship offers financial support, personal enrichment and development opportunities, and requires applicants to demonstrate intellect, character, leadership and their commitment to Australia.

The Tuckwell Scholarship – A 'Transformational Scholarship'

- 3 – 5 year undergraduate degree scholarship
- Valued at \$136,000
- Approximately 2000 applicants Australia wide.
- 50 applicants shortlisted to attend the interview weekend at ANU during the last school holidays.
- 25 scholarships are offered each year, equating to 1.5% (approx.) of all applicants.
- Relocation allowance, an allowance for parents to attend commencement weekend and an allowance to visit home twice per year.
- A range of opportunities in community engagement, mentorship, networking, camps and scholars community dinners.
- Live in arrangement – residential hall with shared community spaces for meals for at least the first year.

In my first conversation with Audrey, she made the following remark about this achievement:

“

I ATTRIBUTE A GREAT DEAL OF MY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT AS A STUDENT AND AS A PERSON TO THE INFLUENCE OF ST MARY'S COLLEGE. I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO EVERYONE AT THIS SCHOOL WHO HAVE GUIDED ME IN RECENT YEARS.

AUDREY SMART

There is merit in Audrey's generous remarks about the College and I thank her for acknowledging it. Her successful application for a Tuckwell reflects deeply on her qualities of intellect, respect, commitment, generosity and hard work. It also reflects on the role her parents Amanda and Tim have played in her upbringing – parents after all are the first and best teachers of their children.

As a graduate of the ANU myself, I recognise the transformational impact that the ANU had on me and still does. I am sure this will now be the case for Audrey.

There are many fabulous students in this school – Audrey is one of them.

I invite all of you to join with me in congratulating Audrey Smart on this remarkable and rare achievement and to share in the pride that we certainly have in her. This is the happiest email I have sent to any school community for some time.

Congratulations Audrey!

MICHAEL LEE OAM
Acting Principal



**Australian
National
University**



YEAR 7 FORMATION *Day*





FEAST DAY 2023

ON THE **FRIDAY 5TH MAY** OUR COMMUNITY CELEBRATED THE FEAST OF BLESSED EDMUND RICE.

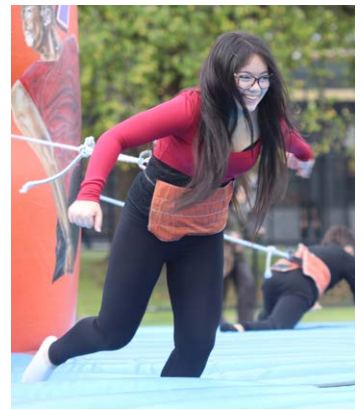
The day commenced with a liturgy led by our Chaplain, Fr Jerome Santamaria and students Patricia Susanto, Raj Johnston, Audrey Smart, Ruby Fitzgerald, Monique Panozzo, Aidan Catherall, Ged Gibney, Maddy Gournas, Thomas Stedman, Alex de Jung, Luc Bunde and Maya Jess.

The liturgy was an opportunity to remember Edmund as a man of great faith, with a generous heart who had a vision of how the world could be more inclusive, more just, more respectful, more compassionate, and more courageous. These are the values of our College today. The values call on us to create a world where respect is the basis of all our relationships. A world where we stand in solidarity with those on the margins and act with justice and fairness. A world that enables compassion and empathy to change lives where all are welcomed because we celebrate diversity. A world where we act with courage.

After the liturgy, we all shared companionship through a number of activities such as a talent show, rides, ice-creams, challenges, games, BBQs and dunk tanks. The day was an opportunity for us to continue building our community after the hiccup of lockdowns etc. Our students conducted themselves with the values I mentioned above. It was a magical day.

KATE JOHNSTON
Director of Identity







ANZAC Day

AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF THIS TERM, OUR STUDENTS PROUDLY REPRESENTED THE COLLEGE ONCE AGAIN AT THE **ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIONS** AT CAULFIELD RSL.

Thanks to Mrs. Lawless, for her tireless commitment to our music program. The College provided marching drummers, music to the major hymns and national anthems of an ANZAC service, and our choir were also in full voice.

The very next day, we also dedicated our College assembly to remembering those who served our country in war. Thank you to Ben Marshman President of the Caulfield RSL for addressing our students, and all of our Alumni Veterans who attended. It was lovely to welcome back our old collegians, who were able to take part in the service for the first time since 2019.

SHAUN LANCASHIRE
Deputy Principal





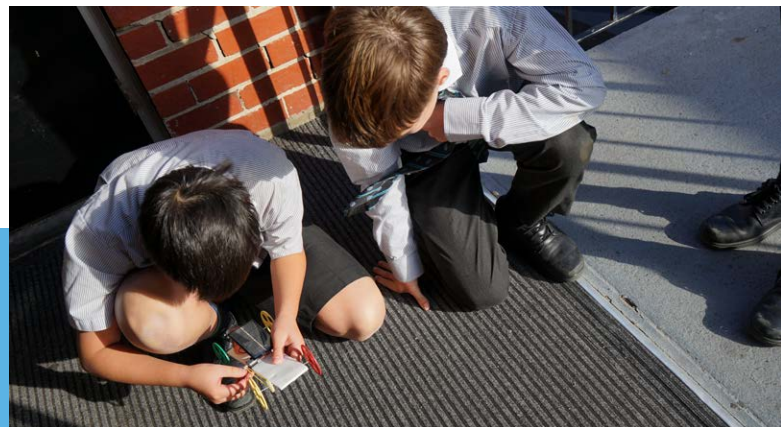
STEM

RECENTLY OUR YEAR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS TOOK PART IN A **STEM AFTERNOONS**.

The students were given tasks such as building a rocket, building a solar/battery powered car, designing an engraving or creating a hand that was operated by a string pull system. The activities were designed to challenge them to think laterally, be creative and collaborate with each other.

The students were given the opportunity to design, test and finally present an operational product.

CATHRYN QUIGLEY
Learning Leader – Maths





“ FR BOB ATTENDED CBC ST KILDA FROM 1948 TO 1953. HE WAS A PASSIONATE SUPPORTER OF OUR SCHOOL AND RELISHED THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME AND TALK WITH OUR STUDENTS.

VALE FR BOB. *Maguire*

MY FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH **FR BOB** WAS OVER A DECADE AGO, AND LIKE MANY WHO CAME ACROSS THE UNCONVENTIONAL CATHOLIC PRIEST, IT WAS A **MEMORABLE** EXPERIENCE.

At the time I was working in another Catholic secondary school and the occasion was our end of year Mass and Christmas function. Mass was celebrated at St. Peter and Paul's Church in South Melbourne where Fr Bob was the parish priest.

As I entered the church I walked past a series of trestle tables, set up for a meal. As school staff began to slowly arrive, we sat and chatted. During this time Fr Bob was talking with parish folk regarding a community luncheon being held after our Mass. From a distance I watched a man who was energised by those he spoke with. He gesticulated wildly and laughed loudly. He embraced those dressed in their finery the same as those who had appeared to have fallen on hard times. This all happened on the sanctuary. I was spell bound.

Mass began and was proceeding as we would all expect when suddenly a mobile phone started ringing. The staff all looked around for the culprit, only to see Fr Bob reaching into his pocket to answer his ringing phone. He didn't just turn it off as we expected, he stopped mid homily to advise the caller about the time the chickens needed to be delivered for his community lunch that day.

Fr Bob apologised for the interruption and explained the importance of his community coming together. He spoke with love and compassion for those some might find hard to love.

As our Mass was coming to an end people started to gather at the back of the church around the tables which were all

beautifully decorated with Christmas cheer. Some felt they were intruding on our Mass, but Fr Bob waved them forward. They were his people, they belonged, we were the outsiders.

Fr Bob attended CBC St Kilda from 1948 to 1953. He was a passionate supporter of our school and relished the opportunity to come and talk with our students. He would often talk longer than planned as he challenged everyone's view about God, the church and our love for each other. The resounding response from students afterwards was always...*when is he coming back?* In recent years 50% of our Walkathon donations have gone to the Fr Bob Foundation who work to support local families in times of crisis.

I was downhearted when I learnt of Fr Bob's passing. He had been a welcoming embrace for so many and I wondered who would advocate and love the unlovable in the future.

So much has been written about Fr Bob's passing yet one that resonated with me, printed in the Herald Sun recently, was written by an old friend, Rev Kevin Burke.

Vale comrade Bob Maguire, quintessentially a sage prophet as well as imaginative philosopher and creative poet. Bob was a radical disruptor of Trumpian proportions, a creator of chaos and confusion. He thrived on the mystery and paradox that is life and he spoke in riddles, parables and enigmas. Tapping into his linguistic code was a mountainous challenge. Bob Maguire had a wicked sense of humour which he utilized to delightfully disarming effect.

Rev Kevin Burke

KATE JOHNSTON
Director of Identity



WALKATHON

ON **FRIDAY 2 JUNE**, THE ANNUAL COLLEGE SOCIAL JUSTICE **WALKATHON** WAS HELD. THE SCHOOL WAS BLESSED WITH PERFECT WEATHER AS THE SUN SHONE FOR THE ENTIRE DAY.

The Social Justice walkathon is an opportunity for our school to walk the 13km trail as one, in solidarity with the poor and marginalised in our community. We raise awareness and money for a variety of different causes whose work is with those who are less fortunate than us or shunned by parts of our society.

As an Edmund Rice school we uphold and emphasise the four EREA touchstones Liberating Education, Gospel Spirituality, Justice and Solidarity and Inclusive Community.

Whilst our walk is done, our work at ensuring we continue to support these people is on-going.

KATE JOHNSTON
Director of Identity





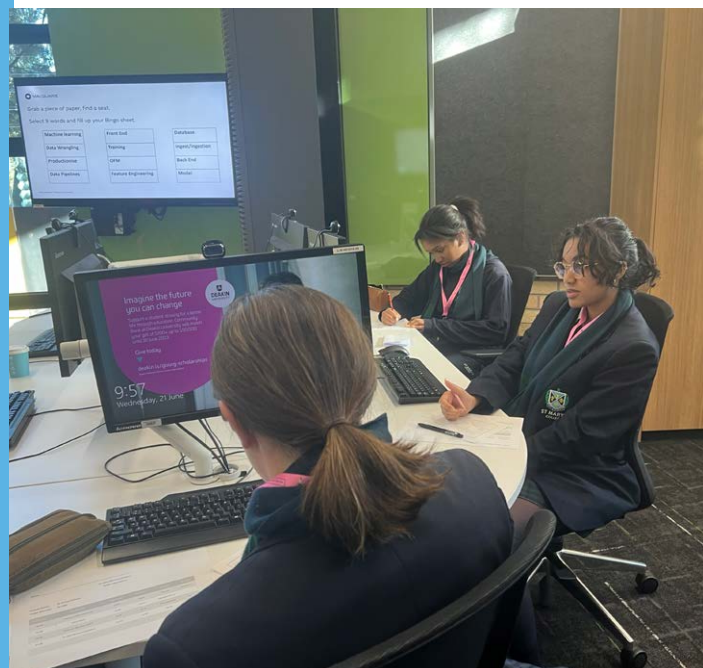
GO GIRL, *Get Real With It*

ST MARY'S COLLEGE STUDENTS WERE PART OF "GO GIRL, GET REAL WITH IT". A NEW EVENT LAUNCHED BY VIC ICT FOR WOMEN.

The day was designed for Victorian students and aimed to inspire and encourage girls aged 10 to 18 to pursue careers in ESTEAM (environmental, science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) fields. The event took place at Deakin University's Burwood campus.

Our girls took part in a number of different activities, including practical and hands-on immersion sessions, an interactive trade show, a careers fair, and small group workshops showcasing ESTEAM careers and pathways.

SYLVIA PASTORE
VCE/Digitech Coordinator





MOTHER'S DAY

Breakfast

WE WERE PLEASED TO SEE SO MANY MOTHERS, CARERS, STUDENTS AND STAFF AT OUR **MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST** AT THE COLLEGE THIS WEEK.

The students were given tasks such as building a rocket, building a solar/battery powered car, designing an engraving or creating a hand that was operated by a string pull system. The activities were designed to challenge them to think laterally, be creative and collaborate with each other.

The students were given the opportunity to design, test and finally present an operational product.

DAVID FORMOSA
Director of Development





CULINARY *Success*

FOR THE FIRST TIME ST MARY'S COLLEGE COMPETED AT THE **ACC CULINARY COMPETITION** HELD AT PARADE COLLEGE. OUR TEAM PERFORMED EXTREMELY WELL FINISHING SECOND OVERALL.

Congratulations to Mavi Di Pietro, Talia Di Pietro, Grace Kingston and Jude Fitzgerald. Their silver medal winning meal was a crispy skinned snapper with white bean ragu. It was accompanied by gremolata and flat bread, baked quince with crème anglaise and a spiced meringue shard. This meal scored a 91/100 with the winners scoring 94/100.

We look forward to being part of this again next year and hopefully taking out the top prize.

AVRIL MARTINELLI





ACC SENIOR Soccer

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ST MARY'S COLLEGE **SENIOR SOCCER TEAM** WHO TOOK OUT THE ACC DIVISION 2 CHAMPIONSHIP..

After finishing the season as minor premiers, the team performed superbly throughout the finals. A strong 5-0 performance in the semi final against St Patrick's College Ballarat set our team up well to face De La Salle in the final.

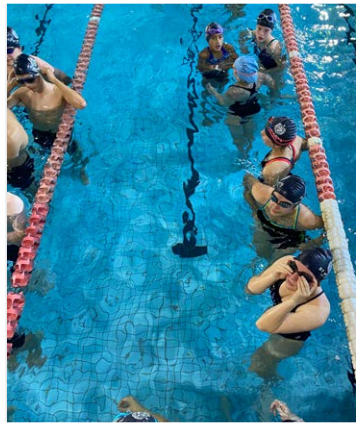
The game was always going to be an even battle, however to the credit of players and coach St Mary's College was able to slot two goals and take out the grand final.

Well done to all players who's commitment and team ethic proved to be the telling difference.

ROSARIO GENOVESE
Coach



SPORT







1961-1962



1982



1972



1978

REUNIONS

Throughout last year and this year, we saw several alumni groups of both previous schools CBC St Kilda and PCW celebrate milestone reunions. It is always great to be in touch with former students of both schools to find out what they are up to. We often get many updates from alum throughout the year.

We have established a new platform for Alumni to keep in contact with each other and help groups to stay connected. Simply use the link below to register for your details, to stay in touch.

CBC – cbc.alumny.com

PCW – pcw.alumny.com



2000



2002



2007



2010



2011



2012



“WE’RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD!”

St. Mary’s proudly presents the timeless classic ‘The Wizard of Oz’ this September.

Set in Kansas at the turn of the twentieth century, this beloved story sees Dorothy and her dog Toto whisked away to the wonderful land of Oz where she meets a host of characters including the Scarecrow, Tinman, Lion and of course, the Wicked Witch of the West!! With memorable songs such as ‘If I Only Had a Brain’, ‘Munchkin Land’ and ‘Somewhere Over the Rainbow’, this production ensures that families of all ages will enjoy their journey through Oz.

Over the last two months, our cast of 34 students and student orchestra have been working tirelessly to ensure our production is a magical experience for all.

Performance dates are 7th, 8th and 9th of September in Logue Hall at Edmund Rice Campus. Tickets will go on sale in early August.

We look forward to following the Yellow Brick Road with you in September!

www.trybooking.com/CJIUJ

ST MARY’S COLLEGE
P&F COMMITTEE INVITE YOU TO

ELVIS

To The Extreme

CELEBRATING THE 46TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KING! FEATURING AUSTRALIA’S CROWNED CHAMPION ULTIMATE ELVIS TRIBUTE ARTIST

MARCUS JACKSON

It's Now or Never — Book Now!

SATURDAY
19th August
2023

EARLY BIRD PRICE
\$40 PER PERSON
 UNTIL 31 July
 \$50pp from Aug


DRINKS AT BAR PRICES

PERFORMING AT
ST MARY’S COLLEGE, LOGUE HALL
 Entrance C, 11 Westbury St, St Kilda East

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

VIVA LAS VEGAS VIP TABLES * **DRESS UP!**
 TABLE of 10 \$600 Limited Ticks! * (optional)
 * Includes THE VIP EXPERIENCE TO MEET * *****
 * AND GREET, AND BE PHOTOGRAPHED * *Event's Strategy*
 WITH THE KING HIMSELF * **18+**

BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS





ST MARY'S COLLEGE

*A Catholic secondary school in
the Edmund Rice tradition in
St Kilda East and Windsor*

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