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ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SEYMOUR

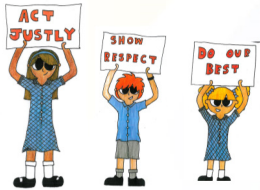
www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au
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No. 32



(18/10/18)



St. Mary's College Vision Statement

A welcoming Catholic community that respects our heritage and looks to a sustainable future.

We inspire learning excellence, resilience and service to others.



Term 4.
Week:-
2 of 11

Dear Parents & Friends of St. Mary's,

Optional Parent/Student/Teacher Learning Conversations

Last Tuesday evening we conducted optional Parent/Student/Teacher Conversations. These meetings are provided so that staff and families may continue to support the learning of students, especially those who need some additional support and encouragement. Thank you to those who attended on such a wet and stormy evening.

ECSI Project

Last week I attended an RE meeting about the project titled Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI). This meeting was convened to assist Mrs. Rochelle Gough, Mrs. Catherine Evans and me to unpack the survey results from the recent ECSI surveys conducted at our school last term. This information will become an important part of a whole school Review in 2019 and will require us to be familiar with the ECSI report and to ensure we are proficient in interpreting the various data and acting on it appropriately.

Briefly, the report recognizes the changing context of faith and spirituality in families and their children and the implications for schools, particularly on how students and their families view a Catholic education. This survey information will inform us about the types of responses we are called to make within our school community as we continue to strive to enrich and strengthen the heritage and traditions that make up the Catholic identity of our great school.

College Production 2018...

Wednesday 24th Thursday 25th & Friday 26th October

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Seymour Community Arts Centre, Cnr Anglesey & Loco Sts Seymour

Tickets On Sale From the College Office...

Admission: \$ 5.00: Student/child \$15.00: Adult \$30.00: Family





from the... Business Manager



Reminder:

Fees and Levies

Families are reminded that the due date for the payment of all fees and levies is 31st October. Thank you to all those families who have been making regular payments or have already paid their fees in full.

All families, particularly those families who are leaving the College at the end of the school year, are requested to contact me at the College by 19th October if they need to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

It is also a good time for those families who have direct debit or direct deposit arrangements in place to review their payment instalment amounts in order to meet their commitment in 2018 and into 2019. Information regarding the fees and levies for next year will be posted or emailed to all families in January 2019 but if you require any assistance before then regarding fee payment calculations please feel free to ask.

If you wish to discuss any matter relating to Fees and Levies, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Mrs Meryl Connell
accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Student's Art Works in Exhibition

from the Art Department...



Art Beyond The Divide Exhibition This Weekend

This coming weekend, the 19th, 20th and 21st October, there is an art exhibition being held in Seymour as part of the 'Tastes of the Goulburn' festival. It will be held at 'Wine X Sam' 69-71 Anzac Ave Seymour and will include artwork by several students from St. Mary's College. These students include **Erin Lawrence, Denby Gardner, Ishwin Kaur, Harry Homewood, Jasper Radobuljac, Rebecca Leech, Tenisha Raymond, Maggie McSpeerin, Isabella Hutchins and Scarlett Jenkins.**

Opening night is this Friday and starts at 7.00pm and the exhibition opens at 10.00am on Saturday and Sunday. There will be many local artists works on display as well as artists from further away and the artworks are for sale. Hopefully you will get a chance to look at the exhibition if you're in Seymour this weekend!

Mrs. Loretta Duncan & Ms Kerrie Aldous

Thank you

The ***Art Department*** has now got plenty of small boxes for the Junior Primary art classes. Thank you for the donations!

Ms Kerrie Aldous – Art Teacher



Education in Faith & School Community



from the Deputy Principal ...

Year 7 have just completed a unit on prayer and have looked at all the different types of prayer - from traditional to contemporary, from formal to informal. The students have used the voice of writers such as John Marsden and Michael Leunig to look at different ways of expressing prayer as we try to make prayer relevant and meaningful for our young people.

Our prayer this week is for our friends - both here in Australia who face drought and tornados that have brought destruction to many places and across the seas in Indonesia, Florida and many other places.

Prayer for friends

by Michael Leunig

I have also been fortunate to be able to share in the morning prayer of different classes over the past week. I was present in JP-F for prayer last Thursday and what a privilege that was. The children were so respectful and reverent as they prayed together and shared their concerns and thoughts. I was also present on our first day back with all of the Middle primary children who had prepared a special prayer service to begin the term. Thank you to Ms. Fuhrmeister (JP-F) and to the MP staff for the wonderful support and opportunity they gave to the children last week.

We give thanks for our friends.
Our dear friends.
We anger each other;
We fail each other.
We share this sad earth, this tender life,
this precious time.
Such richness. Such wildness.
Together we are blown about.
Together we are dragged along.
All this delight.
All this suffering.
All this forgiving life.
We hold it together.

I hope to visit more classes over the coming weeks.

Seymour Show

Over the school holidays many of our students entered the Seymour Show. Our Show was celebrating 160 years - what an amazing achievement!!

Congratulations to all of the students who entered one of the sections in the Show. We had entrants from art works to horse-riding, from handwriting to needlecraft and everything in between!!! We had many first prize winners and even Best exhibitors in their section.

A special congratulation to **Kayla, Holly** and **Dustin Bender, Eric Parker, Evelyn Krammer, Ella Hayes** and **Olivia Cleave** for their awards.



It's hard to believe but our **Year 9** students are preparing to take on leadership roles for 2019.

The year has gone by quickly and the students met with us on Monday to discuss the process of applying for a leadership positions for 2019. We were so impressed by their maturity and willingness to take on leadership roles - we already know that our College is in excellent hands next year!!

The next step in the process is for the students to write a letter of application to Mr. Kelly before presenting to the whole College community on Friday 9th November. Please keep all of these students in your thoughts and prayers over the coming weeks.

Our current amazing leaders and students in **Year 10** are also beginning to prepare for their **Graduation Mass** and **Dinner** on **Friday 30th November**. Please keep our Year 10 students in your prayers as they commence their last term at St Mary's College.

Young Vinnies

Our Young Vinnies were invited to attend the St Vincent de Paul Regional Conference for the Central Highlands Mass and lunch on Sunday 23rd September.

Thanks to Mr. Brian Dwyer for organising it all.

Four of our students - Polly Duff, Alanah O'Connell, Ben Postill and Lara Martin - were able to attend as well as Keegan Grant and Ebony Marshall (2017 College Captains).

There were apologies from Lucy Eagles, Chloe Copeland, Eden Cater and Madison Albers.



The students read the readings and Prayers of the Faithful and took up the offertory procession. They were excellent representatives of the College.

Thank you for your continued support of the Faith and Community events.

Mrs Catherine Evans
catherine.evans@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Student Wellbeing

from the Deputy Principal ...



So very busy working with around 60 students and a fantastic behind the scenes crew to bring together an amazing College Production – Suessical!!!

Please get your tickets quick as they are running out the door.

- Cybersafe -

It is always timely to address Cyber Safety issues as we all acknowledge the ever growing amount of social networking platforms. It seems just as we think we understand one platform, ie SnapChat we find out that is old news and our teens are using a platform we have never even heard of. Regardless of what platform they are using the safety rules should remain.

The following article comes from Bullystoppers and provides parents with key information and advice on inappropriate content. Visit education.vic.gov.au and follow links to this informative site.

What is inappropriate content?

The internet offers the chance to explore a virtually limitless world without the constraints of the 'real' world. Content on the internet is not broken into age or developmentally appropriate areas. Without supervision and guidance, a young child can either unintentionally or purposely find content that is disturbing, explicit or inappropriate.

Just as you would ensure that the books you read to your child are age appropriate and the TV shows they watch are suitably rated, you should monitor what your child is doing, and where they are going, online.

Most internet users will at some stage come across confronting content online and in the majority of cases this will not cause long-term harm. Problems can arise when this exposure is constant and is not discussed with a parent who can provide a balanced view.

Some specific examples of potentially damaging content for children and teenagers include sites which encourage eating disorders or self-harm. For young people with mental health issues such as depression or an eating disorder, these sites can be damaging as they create an environment where users may normalise behaviour which is harmful (for example encouraging self-harm, or extreme calorie restrictions). Be aware that young people looking for these websites will find them.

Many disturbing websites are not 'illegal' which means that it is up to a parent to monitor and manage. You would not feel safe allowing your child to wander aimlessly through a large city, alone and in the middle of the night. The internet is like a large city, full of good and bad and a place that a child needs to be supervised.

The issues of curiosity and exploration are the same for every generation, but the internet means there is far more information which is far more easily accessible. Parents may once have looked up a 'rude' word in a dictionary - children today will Google the word instead. Rather than looking up pictures of nude bodies in a biology textbook at the library, today kids can get videos rolling online very quickly.

What can I do to protect my child online?

The most important thing you can do is engage in open and honest communication. Use the internet together and make it part of your family's activities. You do many other activities with your child: walking the dog, going to the movies, and playing in the park - so spend some time online as well. The more you explore together, the more you will learn about their online behaviours and interests.

More options include:

Have a home-based 'Acceptable Use Agreement'.

You have rules in the real world about what your expectations are, you can have similar rules and consequences for the internet.

Use an internet filter.

These can be downloaded for free, or purchased from an IT retailer. Remember that sometimes filters fail, and they can be bypassed - for example, by using the neighbour's unsecured Wi-Fi.

Use parental controls.

You may not be aware that most computers, net browsers, tablets, smartphones and gaming consoles have some level of parental control - for example, the ability to block access to certain categories of websites. These are not the default settings, so you must activate them yourself.

Talk with your child

Ensure that you regularly talk with your children about their online experiences.

Ask them what they have seen or done, and if they have had any problems.

If you hear about a site which concerns you, have a look for yourself.

Make sure that you continually reinforce to your children that nothing is so bad that they can't talk to you about it. Let them know that they should come and tell you when they have any problems online, see something that they know is wrong, or anything that upsets them.

Children often fear telling a parent about an online issue as they think this will result in blocking their access to the computer and internet. Don't threaten to disconnect your child - this will only cause them to keep online problems hidden from you.

'Wellbeing Words of Wisdom'...



If any parent has any concerns relating to the wellbeing of their child please contact me by phone or email.

Mr Sean O'Brien

sean.obrien@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Learning & Teaching



from the Deputy Principal ...

Seussical!

Congratulations to all the students who will be participating in the College Production. You have all been dedicated and responsible for your learning as well as developing your skills and talents in performing arts. Lets all support them and the staff involved by getting our tickets as soon as possible.

Making the most of every lesson

This is the message that I have been giving to students from prep to year 10! The focus on transition, the last stages of the year, looking ahead to holidays, and Christmas are all in the forefront of our minds.

It's my duty as leader of learning and teaching to maintain the reality that every day for the rest of the school year is for a positive mindset towards learning more: applying the College Tag – Act Justly, Show Respect and Do Our Best. Teachers are maintaining a high level of expectations in all classes at all times.

Teachers will also be considering assessments and reports for students and the end of year report will be available by the 10th of December. Parents and students who attended meetings this week were able to plan for effective learning goals and a clear focus for the rest of the term.

Learning Places and Spaces

As the weather improves and the days get longer, many classes will now take the opportunity to consolidate their learning knowledge by completing a number of incursions and excursions. It is a College expectation that participation is part of the learning program and all these activities are connected to work in the classroom.

Recognising Achievements for 2018

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the formal awards that will be presented at the end of the year.

~ 2018 College Awards ~



During Level assemblies, students from all classes share their work in many ways. They receive certificates and are acknowledged by their teachers and peers for their effort and achievements.

More formal awards are presented at the end of the year, especially at the Year 10 level.

At year levels 6, 7, 8, and 9 awards will be presented in the following three categories:



Academic, Creative Arts and Tag/Citizenship to a student in each homeroom

These three awards will be presented at the End of Year Liturgy – Wednesday 5th December.

The criteria in each category include:

- that work habits and behaviour meet College expectations;
- that classroom activities and homework are completed on time and to an expected standard;
- and that achievements in assessment tasks and exams are of a high standard.

Other awards at these levels include:

Sportsperson Awards

These awards are provided to a boy and girl at the following levels:- Senior Primary - Year 7/8 - Year 9/10.

The student will have participated in College based sporting events, shown good sportsmanship at all times and represented the College at Regional or State competitions.

Monsignor Anthony K. Toms Science Awards

These are given to two secondary students, one from the Yr.7/8 level and one from Year 9/10 level. The students must have demonstrated excellent academic and practical results throughout the year and have shown a keen interest in all areas of Science. The students must have excellent exam results.

Lions Club of Seymour Award

Two awards are presented to a male and a female student in Year 6. The students have demonstrated active participation in community events.

Year 10 Awards

These include College awards and awards from other sponsors.

The College is very grateful for the support of the local community for their sponsorship of the awards. It is a great way to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our students. The Year 10 awards will be presented at the graduation dinner.

Mother Maurice Ryan Citizenship Award

These two awards are in memory of Mother Maurice Ryan, a former Principal of the College. It is awarded to one student from each homeroom. These students have constantly contributed to the College community and have put others before themselves.

Seymour Hospital Award

This award is presented to a student who has contributed to the health and wellbeing of the College Community.

Performing Arts Award

This award is provided by the Seymour Performers Workshop, in recognition of a student who has made an excellent contribution to the Performing Arts in College activities and in the wider community.

McEwen Award

This award is for a student who has demonstrated over a period of time that they have been an involved, co-operative and contributing member of the College community, who has also been willing to take leadership roles when required.

Vocational Education and Training Award

This award is for a student who has shown dedication, perseverance and has excelled in their school-based apprenticeship. The College sponsors this award.

Mitchell Shire Award

This award is presented to a student who has demonstrated consistent academic improvement during the year.

Long Tan Award

This award is presented to a student who demonstrates leadership and teamwork within both the school and the broader community, and who display strong values, such as doing one's best, respect for others and 'mateship'.

Dux for Academic Excellence

This award is given to a student who has consistently excelled in all areas of study throughout the year and has achieved to a very high standard in exam results.

All Rounder

This College award is presented to a student who works with others to a high level of excellence in academic, sporting and service activities.

Mrs Christine Buhler

christine.buhler@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Scholastic Book Club: Issue 7 is out now. Please return orders by Friday 26th October

Orders via LOOP Update: Placing late orders via LOOP, which will be delivered to your home address will now incur a postage and handling charge. This has no effect on orders placed through the Library.



DATES TO REMEMBER... 2018



Term FOUR

*These dates are subject to change.
Any changes will be noted in red. Watch this space!*

OCT

Wk. 3 Monday 22nd Production Rehearsals (all day) M/P Hall
 [A] Tuesday 23rd Production Rehearsals (all day) Comm. Arts Centre
 Wed. 24th Production: Opening Night (7.30pm)
 Thurs - Fri Production (7.30pm)
 Friday 26th Level Assemblies (2.30pm)



Wk. 4 Monday 29th 2019 Information Nights: (Prep: 5.30pm); (Yr.7: 7.00pm)
 [B] Wed. 31st Yr.9 Urban Camp (D1 of 3)

NOV

Wk.5 Monday 5th Mid Term Break
 [A] Tuesday 6th Melbourne Cup – Public Holiday

Wk.6 Tuesday 13th Science Incursion Yr. 10 & 7
 [B] Wed 14th Science Excursion Yr.9 & 10 (selected group)
 Transition: Levels P-6

Friday 16th Yr. 7 Market Day Stall
 TAG Outdoor Games


Class Mass
(9.00am)

Term 4:
 24/10: SP
 31/10: JP
 7/11: MP
 14/11 Yr 7&8

Remembrance Day 11th November
 Poppy's and other items are available from the College Office.

Log into your PAM Account and...

... notify the College of Student Absences (instead of ringing the Absentee line)

(To do this go to the top right of your screen and click on the symbol  to access the Parent Notified Absent Tab)

... View the 'Live Parent Calendar'

T4 Swim. Program:
 JP Weekly (Thurs): JP-P: 1.00pm; C: 1.45pm
 (Fri): JP-F: 11.15am; R: 12.00pm

7A Weekly (Mon): 1130am-1.20pm

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

90 High Street, SEYMOUR,
 TELEPHONE: (03) 5792 2611
 PO BOX 269, SEYMOUR 3661
 Office Hours: 8.15am-4.30pm



CANTEEN ROSTER

22nd – 26th October
 (10.45am-2.30pm)

Monday 22 th Oct	Jamie Farrell
Tuesday 23 rd Oct.	Jenna Fairbridge
Wed. 24 th Oct.	C. Plessey
Thursday 25 th Oct.	Kate Martin
Friday 26 th Oct.	Jenny Page Sue O'Keefe

ST. MARY'S PARISH SEYMOUR ~ ST. JOSEPH'S TALLAROOK

Parish Priest: Father Eugene Ashkar

TELEPHONE: (03) 5792 1064 / 0455 123 509

MASS TIMES: St. Mary's: SAT 6.00pm, SUN 10.00am; St. Joseph's: SUN 8.30am