



THE MARIAN

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SEYMOUR

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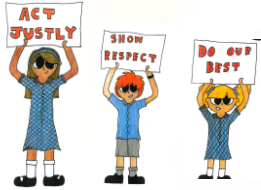
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No. 39



(14/12/18)



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:-
8 of 11

Dear Parents & Friends of St. Mary's,

Thank you and Farewell

What a fantastic farewell for Mr. Brian O'Dwyer and me last Thursday! Not even the first really hot day of the summer could compete with the beautiful mass and the amazing assembly and presentations that followed. On the weekend, as I relived all the various parts of the day I recalled fondly Fr Tony Doran's heartfelt homily, Mr. Andrew Allen's rendition of 'Meet Me in the Middle of the Air' and Ms. Zine Dovara's beautiful reflection after communion.



Later, at the College assembly, there was the performance of the opening number from *Suessical the Musical*, Mr. Gary Hawkey's power point taking us all on 'a trip back in time', Mrs. Gen Gordon's hilarious Elf skit, the countless messages and 'reflections' from the kids, the 'Front Bar' interview with Ben Postill, catching up with so many friends from the past and, of course, the very special message from Richmond legend Bachar Houli! Indeed, so many staff and students must have been involved, all of which is deeply appreciated. And again, may I extend our genuine appreciation from Brian and me, to Mrs. Rochelle Gough and Mrs. Catherine Evans who brought together so many elements that made up the day.

The past weeks have seen a number of farewells and celebrations.

I wish to thank all students and their families who will be leaving St Mary's at the end of the year. May your new schools and homes bring you much happiness.

I also wish to acknowledge the following staff who will be leaving at the end of year:

Farewell to Mr Sean O'Brien who will be taking up a fabulous position in 2019 as head of the Yr 9 Emmaus Campus at Notre Dame Catholic College Shepparton. As a past student of St Mary's College, having been a teacher here and having led the school as a deputy principal for the past 6 years, Sean is like 'one of the family' and he will be sadly missed. Thank you Sean for all your leadership, care and loyalty over the many years and good wishes for you on the next phase of your journey.

Mrs Lisa Creak is also leaving St Mary's. Lisa and her family are relocating to Ocean Grove. Lisa has been an amazing contributor to our school over the time here. Her expertise in Literacy and early years learning has been the driving force behind so many of the best practices in place at our school. All JP staff would agree that Lisa has had a positive impact on their teaching practice throughout her time here. Thank you Lisa for your contribution to our school and wishing you and your family all the best in your new life on the coast!

Mrs Lynn Bullen is leaving St Mary's after 13 years in her role as a primary teacher. Lynn's vast experience and more recently her role as a Literacy team leader in our school has seen the implementation of key programs that have improved learning outcomes for students and strengthened teacher practice across the MP and SP particularly. Thank you Lynn for all of your great work at our school. Lynn and her family are relocating to Albury where she hopes to continue to teach. Best wishes Lynn.

Mr. Brian O'Dwyer is leaving St Mary's after 34 years of service. This incredible commitment to our school was celebrated last week at a special farewell and highlighted some of his amazing achievements and contributions. His general involvement in all things 'community' has been the hallmark of his life here at SMC and he will be missed by everyone. Just as significant, in his role as the Careers Adviser in our school, Brian's impact on the older students and their pathways has been incredibly important and I thank him on behalf of the students and their families. Cheers Brian, let's hope you still pop in for a visit from time to time! Good luck in your retirement.

Orientation Day

Blessed with a beautiful day, Orientation Day was a great day for us all last Tuesday. After weeks of practice and preparation all students spent the day with their new teacher and class for 2018. Congratulations to all the students who stepped up and made the very best of their day. A huge thank you to our fabulous staff who ensured such a successful day for all.

P&F Update

Christmas Raffle Winners

- 1st – Kirsty Smith
- 2nd – Brett Thompson
- 3rd – Leigh Macdonald
- 4th – Olivia Leary
- 5th – David Homewood
- 6th – Chris Freeman
- 7th – Simone Thompson
- 8th – Ruby Cook
- 9th – Craig Ashworth
- 10th – Adam Martin

The P & F AGM was held on Wednesday and the new team was elected.

President - Karen Glen

Secretary (Minutes) - Barb Canty

School Liaison Officer - Cath Evans

Treasurer - Louisa Munro

Thanks to all members for their support throughout 2018.

School Fun Run Colour Day

In our recent P & F meetings the members reviewed our fundraising and social events planning for 2019. Next year in conjunction with the staff and students we plan to offer a Colour Run as a major fundraiser for the school. The date is anticipated to be in March and will also be our welcome to new students and their families. More information will be provided about the Colour Run Day once the new school year has commenced.

Important Dates 2019

- The College Office will reopen on Wednesday 23rd January.

- Staff will return on Tuesday 29th January.
- All students will commence on Thursday 31st January.

College Year Book - Odyssey

This year's edition of the Odyssey magazine is expected to be distributed on Tuesday 18th December.



from the... *Business Manager*



Reminder:

YEAR 7 (2018) LAPTOP PROGRAM Families are reminded that the introductory session for the 2019 Year 7 Laptop Program will be held on **Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 7.00pm** in the **Science Wing**. The laptops will be available for collection on this night. **This introductory session, which includes an e-Smart presentation is compulsory for parents and students.**

Payment of the first instalment of **\$230** is also due prior to this session to avoid cash handling on the night. If payment is made by EFT, payment must be received in the College bank account by Friday 1st February 2019.

The College bank details are as follows:

BSB: 083-890 Account No: 629 211 120

Reference: LTOP (Surname)

Payments may also be made by cash, eftpos or cheque at the College.

All new families, and returning families, are advised that payments can be made any time from now and throughout December and January for the Year 7 laptops. Please ensure you reference your payment, as indicated above, if paying by EFT.

CareMonkey NEW FAMILIES JOINING THE COLLEGE IN 2019 At St Mary's College we take the health and safety of our students very seriously. As such some years ago we adopted a new health and safety application named CareMonkey. CareMonkey is an innovative parent controlled electronic medical form for schools, clubs and other groups with a duty of care.

We use the CareMonkey app in the best interest of the children whilst also reducing the burden on parents to fill out the same information on multiple forms throughout the year.

Users can use a PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone to enter the details including: Emergency &, medical contacts, medical checklist including:- asthma, allergies, seizures, diabetes, health and ambulance insurance details, notes and other care instructions from parents and more...

As a parent/guardian you will receive an invitation to join CareMonkey and enter details for your child/children. By following the instructions you can create your own free CareMonkey account and control all data about your child/children.

The CareMonkey system stores the information on your behalf and you will be able to grant (or deny) access to your data with our school. You are also able to share this data with any other group or individual you choose (eg. Your child's grandparents, their child-minder, their sports club, school camp providers etc). From the schools perspective, this information will only be visible by the relevant staff for your child and will be managed in accordance with the Privacy Act.

You don't need to do anything until you receive the email requesting the information. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions. You can also visit the CareMonkey website for more information: www.caremonkey.com

FEE AND LEVY PACKAGE 2019 With the aim of giving families a clearer understanding of their fee obligations for next year, I will be emailing the packages to those families with an email address before the end of the year.

Please note that the package contains at least one form (the Payment Instalment Form) which needs to be completed and returned to the College in the new year. Again, please contact the College if you require a hard copy of any of the forms. I urge all parents to take the time to read the contents of the package and if they have any concerns or questions please contact me. Fee statements will be generated and sent home in February.

REMINDER P-6 have their Stationery Requirements levied and provided in the classrooms. The secondary student Stationery List was listed in issue no. 38 of The Marian and has been uploaded to the College website site (follow the news & Events Tab, 'The Marian' then click on the more button).

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



Education in Faith & School Community



from the Deputy Principal ...



Third Sunday of Advent

We light the 3rd Advent Candle as a sign of joy — a testimony to the Light of God coming into our world that will shatter the darkness and bring healing to all who suffer and mourn

Isaiah 61:1-2a; 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VHmdcg3lgA>

St Vincent de Paul Christmas Giving Tree Thank you very much for all the donations for our Vinnies Christmas Tree. Final donations will be collected tomorrow and the baskets passed on St Vincent de Paul.



Final Primary Prayer and Christmas Play On the final day of the school year for our primary students, Tuesday 18th December, we will be holding a simple prayer celebration. This will include a Nativity play from JPC and JPP and Christmas carols from the other classes. Come and join us at 2.00pm in the MPH.

I would like to finish by thanking all the staff, students and families for all their support of our faith and community events this year.

A special thank you and farewell to Peter and Brian. Their support and never ending enthusiasm for all things Faith and Community has been such a wonderful help to me over so many years. We will miss them both very much and send them every best wish in retirement.

Farewell and best wishes to Mrs Creak, Mrs Bullen and Mr O'Brien as they all take on new adventures and challenges next year. Thank you for all your help and support.

Merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming all of our families and students and Mr Smith next year!

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



P- 4 News

from the Level Co-ordinator ...



In my roles, I have the privilege of interacting with so many wonderful people that make my life much richer. I am able to have daily interactions with parents who care about their child's wellbeing and education. I can have some tough and distressing conversations about a student and still manage to support and be supported, by the family. I have been incredibly busy and wondering how to get through it all, when a student will start recognizing words, make a new friend or write their

name for the first time and that moment is like a moment in time ... priceless!! That is my reward for any effort put in. I have been privileged to be a part of families' darkest times, their achievements and successes and their everyday lives. All in all, I have one of the greatest jobs in the world! I have wonderful parents and grandparents that enjoy being involved in our school. I work with amazing colleagues that make every day a pleasure to be here and I have a family, with whom I couldn't imagine spending Christmas without. As I wait for my favourite Mass of the year, I ponder what Jesus would be thinking...and I hope he smiles at the positive choices so many people make in His Name every year.

Take care everyone over holidays and on the roads if you are travelling. Remember what Christmas is really about and be kind to yourself and those around you. Enjoy the simple things and I look forward to seeing everyone in 2019.

Orientation Day What a fabulous Orientation Day we had on Tuesday. Our students are so well organized on the day when they go straight to their new class. It is all settled and quiet within minutes of the bell ringing. Thank you to parents and carers for your support and interest in Orientation Day.



Collaborative Activities In preparation for Orientation Day, JPP and JPC did some collaborative activities including biscuit making and sharing their Christmas cooking with JPF and JPR.



End of Year Activities Middle Primary will be celebrating the end of the year with a morning of rolling around and plenty of bumps with Bubble Soccer. They are asked to wear their sport uniform on Monday. This will be followed by a lunch of pizza and lots of water to drink.

Junior Primary JPP and JPC have swimming on Monday. They began their 'End of Year fun' with biscuit making and will continue with a movie afternoon next week.



Thank you everyone As always, it is not without the support of parents, grandparents and carers that enables our year to run as smoothly as it does. We appreciate all that you do on the frontline and behind the scenes. It is always beneficial for our kids when home and school environments support each other. Thank you.

Until next year, continue to ACT JUSTLY, SHOW RESPECT and DO YOUR BEST. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to see your classroom teacher or myself – you know I love visitors!

Mrs Anne Spencer

anne.spencer@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Yr. 5-7 News



from the Level Co-ordinator ...

Well what another fantastic year in our Middle School 5-7. We have celebrated many wonderful events as a level and it all comes to another end. We continue to keep our primary students productive and engaged in their learning. We would like all parents to ensure their child is attending each day and to be both physically and mentally present in order to finish the year on a high.

Our Orientation Day on Tuesday was another successful experience for our students and staff. This special day enables our students to engage in new activities in a new classroom environment and with new peers. These days are filled with much excitement and activity. Our students experience a range of tasks associated with being in the next level of

schooling, as well as meeting new teachers. This program runs smoothly due to such a wonderful group of staff that support and encourage one another. We welcomed our new students to St. Mary's College. As we are yet to finalise staffing for 2019, there may be some changes to some classes at the beginning of 2019.



Congratulations to:

Sophie Munro, Adison Thornberry,

Sophie Allen and Remy Hare

who have made it through to Goulbourn Murray Netball League.

As we continue to prepare for the season of Christmas through Advent, we donate to St. Vincent De Paul and have the 'Giving Tree' in the library for students to choose a card off the tree that suggests an item for the St. Vinnies basket. This is our opportunity to 'make a difference' to those in our wider community who are less fortunate than us.

We would like to thank all our students for being well mannered and respectful. It has been a pleasure teaching them and we look forward to seeing them all progress through to 2019 as more confident, mature and well mannered young ladies and gentlemen. I would like to thank all the Year 5-7 staff for their ongoing care and commitment to the children and looking after their wellbeing and learning.

On behalf of the Year 5-7 Team, we would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and families for their continued support and participation in the learning and wellbeing of their children. We look forward to working in partnership once again in 2019 and wish you all a safe and happy festive season and holiday. ☺

Ms Zine Dovara

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Yr. 8-10 News



from the Level Co-ordinator ...

Transition Week Congratulations to all those students who made transition week such a success.

There was much excitement as students moved over into their new homerooms and officially changed their lockers as well. The enthusiasm of our students and organization of staff made this rite of passage a fun but organized time for all of our students.

'Farewell' Mr Kelly and Mr O'Dwyer Last Thursday 6th December the College and wider community came together to celebrate mass and a farewell gathering for Mr Kelly and Mr O'Dwyer.

The mass was beautiful with a past staff member who became a priest, Father Tony Doran, concelebrating with Father Ashkar. This was followed by morning tea and an emotional but entertaining farewell for both of these LEGENDS. The highlight for me was 'The Front Bar' segment led by one of our year ten leaders Ben Postill. Goodbye and good luck to both of you... you will be greatly missed by us all. Well done to everyone who was a part of this day!

Mr O'Brien We also say goodbye to Mr Sean O'Brien – our Wellbeing Deputy Principal and English and Drama teacher to our Year 9s and 10s. You and your amazing creative talents will be missed by all here at St Mary's. Good bye and good luck at your new school!

Graduation Celebrations Graduation night was a wonderful celebration for all our year 10 students and their families. All of the students looked resplendent in their formal dresses and suits on the night and each carried out their various roles in such a mature and confident manner. Good bye and good luck to all of you in your future endeavours. We are so proud of you all!

End of Year PICNIC DAYS Our year 8s and 9s finished off their school year with a Picnic Day last Friday 7th December.

The Yr 8s were here at school and had a fun day organized by their teachers participating in an Amazing Race and Scavenger Hunt around the school grounds followed by a movie and water fight. Huge thank you to all teachers who were a part of organizing this day.....the students loved it!

Our year 9s all boarded the train for the long (10 minute) train ride to Tallarook where they spent the day swimming and having fun at the local pool.

Lunch was pre-ordered from the local Tallarook Store and delivered on the day (chips and potato cakes) thanks Mr Carter and to all staff who attended and helped organize this day.

On behalf of the students and staff in the B4W program I would also like to say a special thank you to Mrs Kellie Giannarelli who has been involved in this program for the last two years. Kellie is moving into another role next year and we wish you well and thanks for organizing our VLine tickets for every trip and being such a positive and generous member of this team. We welcome Mrs Pauline Black onto the team next year as she will be working in the year 9 classes!

As this is my final article for 2018, I finish off with this quote and thank all the students in years 8, 9 and 10 for being such a fantastic and inspiring group of young people to work with.

I also thank all of our parents, guardians and staff who have supported me in carrying out my role of level coordinator in partnership with you, to benefit the wellbeing and learning of all of your children.

On behalf of all staff in our Year 8 – 10 level, we wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy and safe summer holiday break (with lots of sun and swimming) and look forward to seeing you all again in 2019.

Mrs Mary Tampion

mary.tampion@smseymour.catholic.edu.au





DATES TO REMEMBER... 2019

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



DEC

Wk 11:

Tue 18th

JP-C & JP-P Nativity Play (2.00pm) M/P Hall

P-6 End of School Year (3.15pm)

Wed. 19th

College Office Closes (3.30pm)

JAN

Tue 22nd

College Office Re-opens



Wk 1: [A]
Term 1

Sat

Australia Day

Mon 28th

Australia Day – Public Holiday

Tue 29th

School Year Commences for Staff

Wed 30th

Staff Planning Day

Thu 31st

School Year Commences for Students (Homeroom 8.45am)

FEB

Wk 2: [B]

Tue 5th

Yr. 7 Lap Top 'Roll Out' Evening (7.00pm-8.00pm)

Frid 8th

Opening College Liturgy & Induction of Leaders (9.00am)

Wk 3: [A]

Mon 11th

Parent/Teacher 'Meet & Greet' (3.30pm-8.00pm)

Tue 12th

Parent/Teacher 'Meet & Greet' (3.30pm-5.30pm)

Fri 15th

College Swimming Carnival (Yr.3-10) – Seymour Outdoor Pool

Wk 4: [B]

Wed 20th

Yr.10 Leadership Camp – D1 of 3

Primary District Swimming

Primary Division Swimming



MAR

Wk 5: [A]

Wed 27th

Primary Division Swimming

Fri 1st

College Athletics Carnival (Yr.3-10) – Kings Park Seymour

Wk 6: [B]

Wed 6th

Ash Wednesday

Yr. 8 'Halls Gap' Camp – D1 of 3

Yr. 7 Retreat Day

Student Free Days 2019

Tue 12th March

Fri 7th June

Mon 12th August

Mon 7th October

CANTEEN ROSTER

**31st Jan / 1st Feb
(10.45am-2.30pm)**

Thu 31st Catherine Plessey

Fri 1st Catherine Plessey

Log into your PAM Account and...

- Access your child's Semester 2 Report
- **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'**

*Login issues/concerns with your PAM account...
email: ictsupport@smseymour.catholic.edu.au*

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

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Office Hours: 8.15am-4.30pm

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



SJNA play in the Kilmore Broadford Netball League (KBNA) which is a Saturday morning netball competition for boys and girls* for age groups:

9 & Under* 11 & Under*

13 & Under* 15 & Under* 17 & Under

Season starts Saturday 27th April

competition runs for 14 weeks plus finals over school terms 2 and 3 (excluding school holidays and long weekends).

We play other clubs in the league such as:

Broadford, Pyalong, Kilmore, St Pats Kilmore, Wandong.

Training

Most likely Wednesday afternoon indoor at Seymour Sports and Aquatic centre

[Registrations open February](#)

[Preseason Training March](#)

Register your interest via Facebook



Enquiries email: seymourjuniornetball@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY 15TH DECEMBER
7.00PM

7.30PM VISIT FROM SANTA - XMAS RAFFLE - ROAST DINNER - LIVE MUSIC

\$35 FAMILY (2 ADULTS 2 KIDS) - \$15 ADULT - \$5 KIDS - KIDS UNDER 5YO FREE

TALLAROOK REC RESERVE - SANCTUARY RD - TALLAROOK

