



THE MARIAN

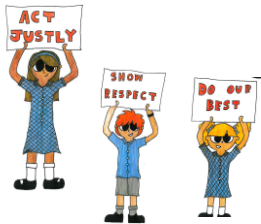
ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SEYMOUR

www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au
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<https://pam.smseymour.catholic.edu.au>



No. 31

Term 4 Week 1 of 11 11/10/19)



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.*



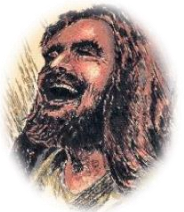
From the Principal

Dear Parents

Winter seems to be hanging on, just!



During the break a good friend came down from Tamworth to watch the AFL Grand Final. Michael comes from Rugby League territory but over the years he has seen the light and now is an avid follower of the AFL. Michael could not believe how green the landscape is along the Hume. He told us that up Tamworth way there is no green...none. They are on Level 5 water restrictions and from Tamworth up to and over the Queensland border there is no green.....none. The reflection below 'Mosquito Bites' reminds us that the simple things in life like (green hills) are often the best. So let us not allow those annoying moments in life (just like mosquito bites) to colour our judgement or attitude. *But rather allow grace to enter and encourage each one of us to enjoy the dance!*



Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs Tampion on the passing of her dear mother Vera. Blessings also to Megan Lomax and family on the passing of Megan's father, Peter Cox.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

"Grace is not part of consciousness; it is the amount of light in our souls, not knowledge nor reason." Pope Francis.

When Mosquitoes Bite *"When grace enters, there is no choice - humans must dance."* W. H. Auden wrote those words and, beautiful as they sound when grace enters a room we should dance but mosquito bites can blind us to grace's presence. Mosquitoes can ruin a celebration:

"We are celebrating with family and friends. The weather is perfect and everything is an invitation to be joyful and grateful. This is "Sabbath" in the biblical sense: We are celebrating life - healthy, surrounded by loved ones, enjoying togetherness. Grace has entered, everything is wonderful, except for mosquitoes. As night comes, mosquitoes inflict bites until everyone loses focus, preoccupied with covering up. Eventually the irritation at the mosquitoes ends any inclination to 'dance.' The picnic is brought down by a series of little bites."

Given the business within our everyday lives, mosquitoes of some type are invariably present. Life rarely comes to us pure, free from all shadows and from mosquitoes. And so it is not always easy to dance, even in the clear presence of grace. Mosquito bites can cause us to lose the big picture, the picture that would have us see and celebrate grace, even in the face of some minor irritation. A minor irritation can make us lose sight of a huge grace. There is rich spiritual literature that challenges us to try to live more fully inside the present moment and not let heartaches or anxieties cheat us out of each day's joys...easier said than done. The present moment never comes to us pure. And yet the challenge remains,

an important and healthy challenge: Don't let mosquito bites within life blind us to the larger presence of grace! David Rast articulates this message:

"We think this is just another day in our life. It's not just another day; it's the one day that is given to us today. It's given to each one of us; it's a gift and the appropriate response is gratefulness. If we do nothing else but cultivate that response to the great gift that each day is, then we will have spent that day very well."

But that is a grace that does not come easily, it must be fervently prayed for. Mosquitoes will make their presence known in our lives. That's a given. The challenge is to not lose sight of the larger presence of grace because of minor irritations but rather, *'allow grace to enter and encourage each one of us to enjoy the dance.'*

Office Team We welcome Mrs Tanya Oakley to the Office Team as from this term. Tanya has moved into the role of Communications Officer. A role that is critical for the day to day operations in many areas of College life. Tanya and Mrs Stacia Read (Business Assistant) have moved into the Principal's Office. The principal has taken up a spot closer to the staff and students.



Parent - College Relationships Code of Conduct Policy All schools are required to have in place a Parent Code of Conduct. The College Board has been reviewing draft policies and has finalised the policy for our St Mary's College community. The Policy is included with this week's Marian. Please read the policy – it is in place for the benefit and welfare of all within our College community. The policy focuses on respectful relationships. Thank you to our College staff and Board members for adding their insights into drafting the policy. The Policy's Introduction states, *'At St Mary's College we are committed to nurturing respectful relationships and active partnerships with you as parents. We believe that our students' learning journeys are enriched through positive and reciprocal home and school relationships. As parents, you act as one of the most influential role models in your child's life. We therefore seek your support in promoting and upholding the core values of the College community and its culture of respectful relationships within a Catholic faith tradition.'* When home and school work together our students and children are the winners! The caring and joyful greeting visitors and parents receive on their entry to the College Office or from a phone call is a reminder that St Mary's is a very welcoming and respectful community. See attached, there is also a copy available on the college website.

Drop off Pick Up – The Final Outcome From the beginning of 2019 when the parish car park was closed due to child safety it has taken time to ensure we investigated all options thoroughly. The Mitchell Shire Traffic Department and Catholic Education Melbourne Planning and Facilities were consulted; parents were surveyed and an independent Traffic Management and Analyst Company O'Brien Traffic (OBT) were also engaged to review parking needs around the College with a report provided by Peter Eady the OBT Senior Traffic Engineer. The report concluded with major recommendations:



- *The operation of the parking and road network during the peak pick-up period performs to a level which is acceptable and typical of similar sized schools;*
- *There is more than sufficient car parking available to parents/carers within a short walk of the subject site, with this car parking either on the same side of the road as the school, or across from a supervised school crossing;*
- *The parking supply surrounding the school is greater than many other comparably sized schools that we have previously reviewed;*
- *It is our opinion that it is unnecessary to reopen the parish car parks during drop-off/pick-up, especially with the identified safety issues;*
- *It is recommended that the on-site car park is not used for student drop-off/pick-up to help avoid pedestrian and vehicle conflicts;*
- *A reminder to parents/carers and students to use supervised school crossings is recommended to help minimise conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles on Crawford Street and High Street.*

Thank you to parents for your patience. It was important that we investigated the parking issue fully, particularly with the College Master Plan to be developed. If required the survey results and Traffic Management Report are available from the College Office. The College Board, Fr Eugene and I support the report's recommendations.



Behaviour Management Policy (BMP) This term Ms Dovara (Deputy Principal Wellbeing) Mrs Spencer; Mr Allen; Ms Tampion (Level Coordinators) and I will meet to update the College Behaviour Management Policy. The policy will also have staff and student input. The policy will not be a wordy and long winded document but provide a transparent statement and steps for inappropriate behaviours. There is caution with any Behaviour Management Policy – the policy alone does not 'fix' misbehaviours. An effective policy that includes consequences (welfare measures) and promotes positive behaviour growth with priority for restoring relationships is the key.

Indonesian Immersion Thank you to Mrs Molinaro and Mrs Cullum for leading the tour to Indonesia/West Borneo/Bali. Our students had a hectic schedule but they and we thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to visit the land of Indonesia. Our First World worries would be dreams for many in West Borneo. The students experienced a different view of the world, especially the happiness that can be found from having so little. More from me on the Indonesian in next week's Marian.



M(mission)2020 Committee During the last week of Term 3 committee members visited primary schools to look at different building designs. The committee met again this Monday to discuss the visits. We also welcomed Stephanie Wood CEM Capital Project Delivery Officer, Infrastructure and Capital Funding to Monday's 3.30pm M2020 meeting.

Bus Stop The bus stop is a vast improvement on what there was in the past. A letter of thanks from our College community will be sent to the Mitchell Shire for the priority given to the upgrade. It is pleasing to see the area entering the rail underpass has also received some TLC. The owner of the land between the oval and the road will be contacted to have the block mowed.



Mercy Centre Thank you to all involved in cleaning up the storage room upstairs in the Mercy Centre. There was a lot of 'items' in the room. A cleanup was required in case the room is needed for an extra classroom in 2020.



Strategic Plan 2020-23 The first step for this journey will be a meeting with the College Leadership team and Catholic Education Melbourne staff Tuesday 29th October to plan the pathway for the 2020-23 Strategic Plan. The plan will require community input, especially from the staff and students. More information on the plan will be provided in the Marian after the upcoming meeting.

Boundary Fence The area is being cleaned up of dead trees; fallen limbs so that Nick (Maintenance Manager) has far better access to mowing and keeping the boundary tidier and free of long grass. The same will be done around the area across from the basketball courts and surrounding the old chicken pen so that these areas are free of rubbish; dirt mounds; falling limbs etc. Importantly, we need to ensure these areas are clear of snake habitats.

College Website The College is currently considering website providers as we plan for a significant upgrade of the College website. It is abundantly clear that school websites are critical in promoting, showcasing and providing an efficient and quick way for parents and the wider community to access important information. Once the decision is made for a preferred provider, Mrs Oakley will work closely with the website provider and the College community to begin the upgrade. To become more environmentally conscious, we intend to become more e-Document centric.



board **Board Update** Our College Board met on Wednesday evening and it is always a pleasure to work alongside such dedicated and passionate parents and colleagues. Please note the information in this week's Marian from our Board Chairperson Andrew Graham. St Mary's is blessed to have Andrew's wisdom and insightfulness in the Chair.

Andrew and indeed all Board members are conscious of ensuring that St Mary's is true to our Catholic ethos and focuses on the common good of all families - this belief is very much at the heart and the mission of Catholic education. Andrew is asking parents to consider if you would like to think about putting your name forward to be considered for the College Board.

I encourage the parents of younger students to think about what you could offer? What skills and wisdom you could bring to share for the Board team? A College Board focuses very much on the future as much as it does on the here and the now. St Mary's has an exciting future ahead and we would welcome your interest if you would like to put your name forward. We all stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us.

End of Year Please be aware of the end of year conclusion for classes: see *Dates to Remember*.

Staff will have curriculum meetings; professional development days and be organising class rooms for 2020 before concluding on Thursday 19th December. The College office closes on Wednesday 18th December.

Best wishes for Term Four.

Wayne Smith
Principal

*DipEd(ACU) DipRed(ACU) BEd(ACU) GradCertEdAdmin(Edith Cowan)
GradDipRed(ACU) MEdAdmin(Charles Sturt) MTheoStudies(BBITAITE)*

Mr Wayne Smith - principal@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



from the... Business Manager



Lost Property We have a couple of winter coats in Lost Property. Please contact the Office if your child has misplaced theirs.

Reminder: Fees and Levies Families are reminded that the due date for payment of all fees and levies is Thursday 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 who are leaving the College at the end of the school year, are requested to contact me by Friday 18th 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 2019 and into 2020. Information regarding the fees and levies for next year will be posted or emailed to all families in January 2020 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.

accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au
Mrs Felicity Melville



Education in Faith & School Community

from the Deputy Principal ...



Welcome back to all of our families and students after a lovely spring time break. As we enjoy this beautiful spring weather, we think of all those in New South Wales and Queensland who are in the midst of terrible bushfires.



We pray for those who have lost their homes, for those who have been fighting the fires and for all those who have been affected by the fires.

It is truly devastating for these communities and we will continue to keep them all in our thoughts and prayers.

St Mary's Community extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Mary Tampion. Mary's mother, Vera Kelly, passed away last week and was farewelled from St. Mary's church on Monday.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to Megan Cox, Noah (SPO) and Jack (JPP). Megan's father, Peter Cox, passed away last week after a short and brave battle with MND.

Both families have had long connections with St Mary's College and we hold Vera and Peter in our thoughts and prayers.

Welcome We welcome new students Kyanna'lee Solomon - Yr2 (JP-F) and Rui Han Qiao - Yr7 (7A) and their families to St Mary's College. We hope that they will feel very welcome at St Mary's and the students will settle in quickly to life here at school.

Art Show The Art Show is fast approaching!!! Next weekend we celebrate our fabulous bi-annual Art Show which is held in the MPH.

Opening Night on Friday 18th October, promises to be a great night, including performances by the St Mary's Choir. Mr. Peter Read, from Seymour Performers Workshop, will be opening the Art Show. Please come along on Opening Night (7-9pm) or on Saturday 19th October (10am-2pm) and enjoy the wonderful artistic talents of the students of St Mary's College.

A special thanks to Mrs. Loretta Duncan, Mrs. Kerrie Aldous, Mrs. Cobie Morris, Mrs. Liz Mazurka and Mrs. Janice Kerris for all their hard work to make this Art Show a reality for the students and families. Thanks to Nick Fairbairn for all his help in setting up the exhibits.

It is also Tastes of the Goulburn weekend which is a wonderful time for Seymour and district. Let's hope the weather stays fine for the weekend.

Seymour Show Last weekend, many of our students entered competitions at the Seymour Show. Today's Marian has a phototroph of some of the children as many of the SP students were at sports events and the MP are on camp.

Next week, we will have a photograph of the other children.

Well done to everyone for supporting our fabulous Seymour Show!!

Camp Jungai Our Middle primary campers are having a wonderful time up in Rubicaon. I spoke to Mrs. Spencer on Thursday afternoon and they were all having a wonderful time. There will be a full report and photos in next week's Marian.

Grandparents Day We look forward to welcoming our grandparents on Friday 25th October at 9.15am for a prayer, some entertainment and time with the students while enjoying a cuppa.

An invitation will come home with the youngest child on Monday.

Thank you for all the support and participation in Faith and community events this term.

Please watch for upcoming events on our Facebook page and in the Marian.

Mrs Catherine Evans

catherine.evans@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Student Wellbeing

from the Deputy Principal ...



WOW...Welcome back to our final term of 2019. We hope you all had a wonderful break and are ready for another exciting, busy term. Once again, we have a term filled with many wonderful events and experiences to enjoy as a whole College, especially our Art Show.

Uniform As we now are in the summer season, we encourage you to ensure your child is in the correct SUMMER UNIFORM. Previously, we've had a 2 week grace period for Summer Uniform. The reasoning behind this is we sometimes experience unseasonal weather on the return from term breaks. During the first two weeks, our students may wear either FULL Winter or FULL Summer uniform. NOT a mixture of both.

We are noticing the wrong track pants for PE, incorrect socks and sports uniform being worn on normal uniform days, as well as sports jumper instead of College jumper. If for any reason your child is not in the correct uniform, please write a note explaining this to the homeroom teacher, to avoid being sent to the Deputy Office. However, ongoing offenders will need to be spoken to by the Level Coordinator.



Please encourage your child to also be wearing sunscreen as part of being SunSmart. We are happy for the students to have water bottles in class, away from laptops, but only to be filled up during break times and not interrupt learning times.

Hats As per our SunSmart Policy ALL students are required to wear our Blue Broad Brimmed Hats during Term 1 and Term 4. There is NO GRACE PERIOD for hats so students need to get back into the habit of bringing and wearing their hat everyday. ***We need to ensure we all have our hats next week. In P-4 the students without a hat will be asked to sit under the verandah and our Yr 5 -10's will have time in to look at our SunSmart Policy.***

Attendance Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6-17 years unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted.

Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally. Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Yr 12 or an equivalent qualification, have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.

I understand that sometimes getting your child to school may be difficult. We are here to work in partnership with you to improve your child's attendance. I also understand that, even with a concerted effort, this pattern of non-attendance may

continue. Under these circumstances, in accordance with the Victorian legislation for School Attendance, it may result in a referral to the School Attendance Officer at the Catholic Education Office in Melbourne for further action.

Pastoral Care As part of our Pastoral Care sessions this term, we will continue to discuss our School Wide Positive Behaviour Program and how our TAG values of Show Respect, Act Justly and Do your Best continue to strengthen. We will also be discussing our Student Management Procedures and asking students to contribute to the overall discussions on how this Policy may be further developed, as we have many new staff and students. We look forward to working with you once again this term in partnership, to ensure your child's best interests are being addressed for successful learning and overall wellbeing.

Ms Zine Dovara

zine.dovara@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Learning & Teaching



from the Deputy Principal ...

Welcome to term 4! The action packed term because we see the end of the year coming soon! Teachers and students need to complete the learning for this year whilst having to make planning reflections and considerations for the incoming year.

Due to some restructuring and planning for 2020 we have made some decisions regarding learning and teaching and transition for this term.

In particular, for our secondary students going into Yrs 8, 9 and 10. The information nights will now be held early term 1 2020.

I refer to Mr. Smith's letter of the 2nd September 2019, addressed to current Yrs 8 & 9 parents – the proposed information session for Tuesday 15th October 2019 will not be running.

As advertised: we welcome students and parents for Yr 7 2020 to an information evening to be held on Tuesday 22nd October at 7pm in the College library.

And our Prep 2020 cohort at 5pm on Tuesday 22nd October in the College library.

Major events that help develop student knowledge, skills and capabilities are the camps being held this month, Division Athletics and our magnificent Art Show, to be held next week.

Secondary students need to be supported by their families during this term as assessment task due dates are critical. Use your access to PAM to help your child monitor and plan for time to complete work and revision. Students in Yr 9 and 10 also sit end of year exams. All teachers have to meet marking requirements and the Semester two reporting deadline. Semester 2 reports will be released on Monday 9th December.

Primary students have a more leisurely approach to learning as they continue to participate and make progress in smaller units than the secondary students. Yr 6 students are building independence and taking more and more ownership of their work as they approach their secondary schooling.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the Art Show dressed as your favorite Alice in Wonderland character!

Mrs Christine Buhler

christine.buhler@smseymour.catholic.edu.au.



College Board

As we fast approach the end of another year the St Mary's College Advisory Board is seeking expressions of interest from members of the College community to join the Board.

The role of the Board is to directly support the Principal and Parish Priest through the provision of timely advice on matters pertaining to the future planning of the College, development and review of College policies, budget planning and promotion of the Catholic ethos of the College and Religious Education programs.

During recent years the Board has actively overseen the development and review of the College's Master Plan which has seen the delivery of infrastructure works including the Administration building that was officially opened in 2018. The

Board has also been successful in securing a grant for the construction of new General Learning Areas that will be delivered throughout 2020.

The future success of the College starts with an engaged College community and it is important that the Board is reflective of the diverse community that it represents. I would therefore challenge all members of the College community to consider how they can contribute to the future success of our College and get engaged.

Expressions of interest should briefly outline your skills and experiences and how you can contribute to support the College in its mission to provide quality Catholic education. Expressions of interest close the 11th November and can be emailed to principal@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

If you are interested in finding out more about the role of the Board or how you could contribute please contact Andrew Graham on 0432 536 728.

Community



Free entry – donations to help the Seymour Girl Guides.



BYO bean bag/cushions
to enjoy the movie in comfort.



Saturday 12 October 2019

Doors open 6:30pm for 7pm movie start.

Venue: Seymour Uniting Church, 11-13 Crawford St.



Snacks including pop corn and drinks available for purchase.

Come enjoy a movie on a big screen. Due to our license, the movie title can be found on our Facebook page, Seymour Uniting Church.

For more info contact:
Michael (Uniting Church): 0458 742 362 or Jimi (Seymour Guides): 0407 472 900

Facebook: Seymour Avenel/Nagambie Uniting Church.



Seymour Uniting Church serving our community.





It's time to enjoy the seventh annual
Avenel fun run and walk up Lovers
Hill – 2.5 km

Everyone welcome and we have
included a Friendship Walk with a
mate or a canine mate (on a lead)
Entry includes open, primary and
secondary sections

Enter by phoning 0438 678 323 and
you can also enter on the day 8.30am
at Jubilee Park (Tennis Courts)
Avenel
Gold coin donation

Avenel Market on the same day

THE LARGEST RIDES OUTSIDE OF MELBOURNE!



RURBAN



DON'T MISS OUT!

KILMORE 2019

**Thrilling Rides,
Festival Atmosphere,
Paddock-to-Plate,
Gourmet Food Vans,
Live Music, DJs,
Fireworks & More!**



FRIDAY 1 NOV
FROM 4PM

SATURDAY 2 NOV
FROM 11AM

SUNDAY 3 NOV
FROM 10AM

Tickets on Sale Term 4

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Triv?a

NOV 9TH

DOORS OPEN FROM 6:30pm TRIVIA

STARTS @ 7:30pm

\$20 PER PERSON/TABLES OF 8 PLAYERS

DRINKS @ BAR Prices BYO Table Snacks Finger Food Provided

PRIZES TO BE WON & FUN TO BE HAD

**Gather your SMARTEST Friends, Family &
Colleagues together for the TCCs Trivia Night!**

BOOK NOW

Secure Your Teams Table

CONTACT SHANNON: 0452034128

EMAIL: SHANDUNDON@GMAIL.COM

Tallarook Recreation Reserve
Sanctuary Rd, Tallarook.

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SEYMOUR

Coffee & Chat

Term 4 2019 dates:

Friday 25th October & Friday 22nd November

10.00am

Café 96, 96 Station St. Seymour

R.S.V.P. essential to

manager@inspiredcarers.org.au or Ph: 5831 7157

The Strengthening Parent Support Program provides

Coffee & Chat groups as an opportunity for
parents/carers who have a child with a disability to
come together, share experiences and learn in a
supportive environment.



Health
and Human
Services



Carers Week 2019

MONDAY 14TH OCTOBER 12.00PM
LUNCH AT MYTIME PROGRAM
COBRAM COMMUNITY HOUSE

FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER 10.00AM
BRUNCH AT HOCK THE RUBY, 2 MAIN
ROAD TALLAROOK



CARERS 13-19 OCTOBER
WEEK 2019



Cost: \$5 per person

R.S.V.P. Essential for both events to

manager@inspiredcarers.org.au or call 5831 7157



“The second edition of Healthy Schools Mitchell has been released. It is an eNewsletter for school staff, parents and students covering news, resources and local events on eating well and being active. bit.ly/HealthySchoolsMitchell2”

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 4		
Wk 2B	Wed 16	Prep Transition – RE Focus (2.30pm-3.00pm)
	Fri 18	Primary Regional Athletics_Albury (All Day)
		Whole College Assembly (2.20pm-3.10pm)
		Opening Night SMC Art Show (7.00pm-9.00pm)
	Sat 20	SMC Art Show (10.00am-2.00pm)
Wk 3A	Tue 22	Prep 2020 Parent Information Evening (5.30pm-6.30pm)
		Yr 7 2020 Parent Information Evening (7.00pm-8.00pm)
		Art Show Awards (8.45am-9.15am)
	Wed 23	Yr 7 Immunisation (9.00am-10.00am)
	Fri 25	Grandparents Day (9.00am-11.00am)
Wk 4B	Mon 28	Yr 5/6 Camp_Canberra (Mon 28 – Fri 01/11)
	Tue 29	Yr 9 Camp_Tasmania (Tue 29-Thu 31)
	Wed 30	Prep Transition – Numeracy Focus (2.30pm-3.00pm)
Wk 5A	Mon 4 Nov	Mid Term Break
	Tue 5	Public Holiday_Melbourne Cup
Wk 6B	Tue 13	Transition SMC Students (8.45am-11.15am)
Wk 7A	Mon 18	Preps – Prayer in PJs (5.30pm-6.30pm)
	Tues 19	Yr1/2 Faith Night (5.30pm-6.30pm)
	Wed 20	Transition Kinder and SMC Students (9.00am-10.30am)
Wk 8B	Mon 25	Yr 9 & 10 Exams Week
	Wed 27	Transition Kinder and SMC Students (9.00am-1.00am)
	Thu 28	Yr 10 Farewell Assembly (10.00am-11.00am) and Last Day
	Fri 29	Yr 10 Graduation Mass & Dinner (6.00pm-10.30pm)
Wk 9A	Wed 4 Dec	P-9 Christmas Concert (1.30pm-3.00pm)
	Thu 5	Yr 5-9 End of Year Liturgy and Awards (1.30pm-3.00pm)
	Fri 6	Last Day Yrs 7, 8 & 9
Wk 10B	Mon 9	Reports released to parents (3.00pm-3.15pm)
	Tue 10	Orientation Day 2020 (8.45am-3.15pm)
	Fri 13	P-6 Last Day
Wk 11A	Thu 19	Staff Last Day

Term Dates 2019

Term 4: 7/10 – 28/11 (Yr 10s)
06/12 (Yrs 7-9)
13/12 (Prep-6)

Student Free Day Mon 4 Nov

CANTEEN ROSTER

14-18 October
(10.45am-2.30pm)

Mon 14 Jaime Farrell
Tue 15 Elise Smart
Wed 16 Catherine Plessey
Thu 17 Jessica Manderson
Fri 18 Catherine Plessey
Nirmala Rathnayake

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

90-High-Street, SEYMOUR
TELEPHONE: (03) 5792 2611
PO BOX 269, SEYMOUR 3661
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



St Mary's College Seymour

Parent – College Relationships Code of Conduct

Introduction

At St Mary's College we are committed to nurturing respectful relationships and active partnerships with you as parents. We believe that our students' learning journeys are enriched through positive and reciprocal home and school relationships.

As parents, you act as one of the most influential role models in your child's life. We therefore seek your support in promoting and upholding the core values of the College community and its culture of respectful relationships within a Catholic faith tradition.

This Code of Conduct is intended to guide you in your dealings with staff, other parents, students and the wider College community. It articulates the College's key expectations of both staff and parents with regard to respectful relationships and behaviours. It also specifies the College's position with regard to unacceptable behaviours that breach our culture of respect.

This Code of Conduct is to be read in conjunction with the College's:

- Child Safe Policies
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy
- Complaints Resolution Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Communication Protocol

Our Culture of Respectful Relationships

Among students, staff and parents we strive to develop the following:

- A respect for the innate dignity and worth of every person;
- An ability to understand the situation of others;
- A cooperative attitude in working with others;
- Open, positive and honest communication;
- The ability to work respectfully with other people;
- Trusting relationships; and
- Responsible actions.

In Promoting & Upholding this Culture, we Expect that Staff will:

- Support the College's Catholic ethos, traditions and practices;
- Communicate with you regularly regarding your child's learning, development and wellbeing;
- Provide opportunities for involvement in your child's learning;
- Maintain confidentiality over sensitive issues;
- Relate with and respond to you in a respectful and professional manner; and
- Ensure a timely response to any concerns raised by you.

In Promoting & Upholding this Culture, we expect that Parents will:

- Support the College's Catholic ethos, traditions and practices;
- Treat staff, students and other parents with respect and courtesy;
- Support the College in its efforts to maintain a positive teaching and learning environment;
- Maintain confidentiality over sensitive issues;
- Understand the importance of healthy parent/teacher/child relationships and strive to build the relationships; and
- Adhere to the College's policies, as outlined on the school website.

Raising Concerns & Resolving Conflict

In raising concerns on behalf of your child, or making a complaint about the College's practices or treatment of your child, we expect that you will:

- Listen to your child, but remember that a different 'reality' may exist elsewhere;
- Contact your child's teacher in the first instance to discuss any concerns;
- Follow specified protocol for communication with staff members, including making appointments at a mutually convenient time and communicating your concerns in a constructive manner;
- Observe the College's stated procedures for raising and resolving a grievance/complaint; and
- Refrain from approaching another child while in the care of the College or at home to discuss or chastise them because of actions towards your child. Refer the matter directly to your child's teacher for follow-up and investigation by the College.

In responding to your concerns or a complaint, we expect that staff will:

- Observe confidentiality and a respect for sensitive issues;
- Ensure your views and opinions are heard and understood;
- Communicate and respond in ways that are constructive, fair and respectful;
- Ensure a timely response to your concerns/complaint; and
- Strive for resolutions and outcomes that are satisfactory to all parties.

Safety & Wellbeing

The College places high value and priority on maintaining a safe and respectful working environment. We regard certain behaviours as harmful and unacceptable if they compromise the safety and wellbeing of a member of our College community. These behaviours include, but are not limited to:

- Taking photographs/videos in the school premises is not permitted without prior consent;
- Shouting or swearing, either in person or on the telephone;
- Physical or verbal intimidation;
- Aggressive hand gestures;
- Writing rude, defamatory, aggressive or abusive comments to/about a member of the College community (emails/social media);
- Racist or sexist comments; or
- Damage or violation of possessions/property.

When an adult behaves in such unacceptable ways, the Principal or a senior staff member will seek to resolve the situation and repair relationships through discussion and/or mediation.

Where an adult's behaviour is deemed likely to cause ongoing harm, distress or danger to a member of our College, we may exercise our legal right to impose a temporary or permanent ban from the adult entering the College premises. In an extreme act of violence that causes physical harm, the matter may be reported to the police for investigation.

Revised: **October 2019**

Review: **October 2020**