



ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SEYMOUR

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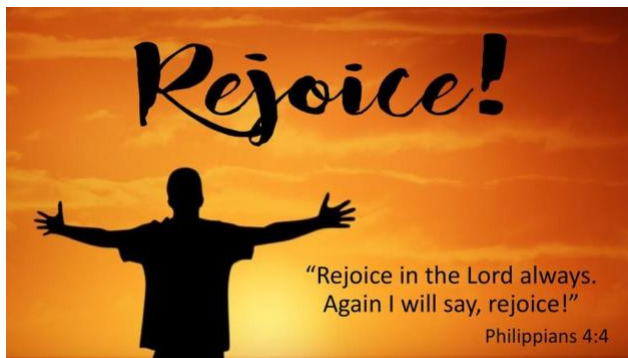


Gracious God, give us ears to hear, eyes to see, hearts to love, and hands to act; so that 'we are shining lamps, giving light to all around us'.

Covid-19 Update No.20

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,



***'Let us rejoice
the students are returning.'
(St Mary's students take a bow).***

Pope Francis often comments with, *'We are called'* to offer our gifts. He speaks of the *'joys and sufferings'* that people experience. Back in March our College community began a journey that none of us hopefully

will ever experience again. For all its joys and sufferings during the past two terms so much has been done by so many. There has been little time to reflect – every day was busy; every day non-stop. Yet we learnt more about our students, perhaps even about ourselves when new ways of working were required and flexibility became a daily event. That old saying, *'It takes a village to raise a child'* was more than evident.

I can say with a sincere heart that St Mary's College Seymour stood and walked tall over the past few months. Many schools (for whatever reason) had very few students on site. St Mary's was well above that average and we did so out of respect for family and student's needs.

Wellbeing and mental health were high on the Colleges agenda as was ensuring families who needed IT device and connectivity support received that support so much so that Telstra were hounded. There was even an early morning car trip to a Melbourne suburban warehouse to load up as many Chrome books as could fit on the seats and in the boot. There was also constant vigilance around support for the wellbeing of students, staff and parents.

Did everything work perfectly – no such thing as a perfect world. Were their tough decisions required – at times yes but we got there and St Mary's was one of few schools who offered parents teacher progress meetings to discuss student outcomes during the time of remote learning.

There are no excursions in Term Four with an emphasis to focus on learning and teaching; student socialization and ensuring as best we can to sign off 2020 in celebration whether that be in person or on line!

Your understanding, patience and resilience is a reminder that in Catholic education we walk this road together.

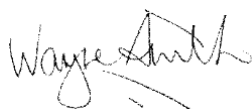
And let us remember Fr Eugene who has quietly gone about supporting families and holding funeral services during the difficult time of Covid-19.

Please be aware the following information can be subject to Victoria State Government and Catholic Education Victoria change pending Covid-19

College Operations Term Four	
Please be aware the following information can be subject to Victoria State Government and Catholic Education Victoria change pending Covid-19	
Week 1 Monday 5 th October From Tuesday 6 th October From Tuesday 6 th –Friday 9 th October	Staff return – no school for F-10 students All F-6 students return onsite Year 7-10 Remote Learning from home. If there is a secondary student who requires onsite supervision (within the criteria) then please email the College Office with your request by Friday 2nd October office@smseymour.catholic.edu.au Please be aware that F-6 students will return on Tuesday 6th October and not Thursday 8th October
F-6 Borrowed Devices Return	As from Monday 5th October . More information will be emailed to parents.
Week 2 From Monday 12 th October TBC: Awards Presentation; Other term dates.	All F-10 students return to onsite

A further update will be emailed to all families as from Monday 28th September to begin Term Four.

Stay well and best wishes.



Wayne Smith
Principal

*DipEd (ACU) DipREd (ACU) Bed (ACU) GradCertEdAdmin (Edith Cowan)
GradDipRE (ACU) MEdAdmin (Charles Sturt) MTheoSudies(BBITAITE)*

Grade 1-2 Marble Mazes





The Blue Dragon Marathon Charity Walk is run by the Intrepid Foundation.

Blue Dragon supports street kids and victims of human trafficking in Vietnam.

They offer a social worker and provide them with training and education to get into work and build a new life.

They hope to help 500 young people out of poverty.

Here is a link to their site: <https://www.bluedragon.org/latest-news/walking-to-give-youth-a-future/>

The marathon walk is an annual event for the Intrepid Foundation but this year they are doing it virtually meaning that anyone can walk it wherever they are. Mrs Angela Molinaro decided to participate with Mrs Lorna Hooper and it has grown into **Team SMC**. Some of us will do the full 42 km from Cheviot (just outside Yea) to Tallarook on Sunday 20th September. Some will do a half-marathon 21km and others are coming along for as much as they can manage!

We have raised over \$1,000 for the charity. <https://bdmarathon.raisely.com/t/teamsmc>

Indonesian



School Holiday Activities



PRECIOUS PLASTIC
MONASH UNIVERSITY

Hello from Precious Plastic Monash!

We are emailing to inform you about our **FREE** school holiday workshops that we will be running these coming holidays! Please pass on this information to any students who might want to attend!

We will be running two different workshops this school holidays:

Plastic Pollution

Primary school workshop: Friday 25/9, 11am

Secondary school workshop: Friday 25/9, 1pm

In this workshop we will be delving into the world of plastic pollution, exploring why it is a problem and the ways that we can fix it. The interactive presentation will follow a story narrative set in Port Phillip Bay, explaining how plastic can escape the waste stream and touching on topics including microplastics and bioaccumulation.

Plastic Recycling

Primary school workshop: Thursday 1/10, 11am

Secondary school workshop: Thursday 1/10, 1pm

Understanding where our plastic goes and what happens to it once we put it into our kerbside recycling bin is important for thinking about ways to improve the recycling system. In this workshop, we will explore how Precious Plastic Monash recycles plastic into new products, and play games to test students' knowledge of at-home recycling.

All workshops will run for around 1 hour, and there will be an opportunity for Q&A with the presenters (University students involved in Precious Plastic Monash!) afterward.

To sign up for the workshops, [please fill out this google form](#) so we can send you a zoom link!