



THE MARIAN

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SEYMOUR

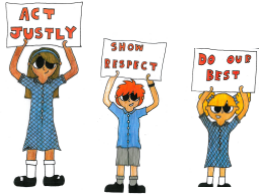
www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au
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No. 14

Term 2 Week 11 of 11

26/06/20



St. Mary's College Vision Statement

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

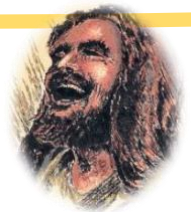
We inspire learning excellence, resilience and service to others.



St Mary's College Seymour is a **Child Safe School**. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

From the Principal

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'.



Mission 2020 **Primary Learning Centre**



Dear Parents and Carers,

The final design for the Primary Learning Centre is now for public view. ROAM Architects have provided an animated walk through, which will be available on the College Facebook page and Website along with a picture gallery. Like all building projects keeping within the cost of budgeting is always a challenge - human nature always wants that little bit more. The plans are now with the State Government for sign off so the Tender process can begin.

The Primary Learning Centre includes:

- Six learning areas that can be closed as separate classrooms or partially opened for team teaching.
- A common gathering area.
- Two meeting rooms.
- Opening verandah, appropriate landscaping and fencing.

ROAM Architects (Rod Allan & Amanda Robinson) are a pleasure to work with. They listen; they understand tight budgets and if it is required challenge the status quo to think beyond the norm in a creative and well thought through way. Stephanie Wood (Catholic Education Melbourne) has been outstanding in her guidance, support and advising on the intricate natures of school buildings. Stephanie's CEM role: *Capital Delivery Officer Capital Program Delivery Infrastructure and Capital Funding* provides the College with wise and knowledgeable counsel for the M2020 Primary Learning Centre Project. There is still more to do and the College community will be updated with further details as announced.

"Try to meet all with peace." (Catherine McAuley December 9 1838)

How does one describe the year has been and the unknowns of the months to come? I mentioned at the beginning of Term Two that Covid-19 brings questions followed by more questions. We live in tricky times at present but life could be far worse.....as my father said, "If you are healthy and have a job then you are doing OK". Hats off to the Medical Officers, those who work in Emergency and Critical work places and all those who are working away in background yet have vital roles to ensure our society deals with all the issues surrounding Covid-19.

To parents and carers, throughout Term Two you have been gracious in coping with change. Thank you for honouring College guidance requirements during these challenging times. The students have coped well and their resilience and resolve can never be under estimated. Many students are missing their sporting club connections and team competitions for physical and psychological outlet. Considering the constant change; the up and down year we are experiencing our St Mary's students have shown strength of character. The year thus far has been challenging in so many different ways. College staff need the break to rest, as most have worked non-stop since 23 March. May we all continue to meet the challenges of this year with the grace of peace.



Covid-19 Victoria

In light of the increase in Covid-19 activity in recent days, the Victorian Catholic Education Commission (CECV) will release an updated School Operations Guidelines before the beginning of Term Three. Families will receive a **College Covid-19 Update No.11** during the Term Two break if there are any changes to current College practices and or other daily operations.

Rug Up Day



Today we reflect on the life of those who do not have those simple comforts such as warmth. Thank you for donating food items in support of the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal.

Semester One Reports

Please appreciate that the content on which this Semester One Report is reduced, as the usual assessments undertaken in the everyday classroom have not been possible this semester. Our teaching staff have used a broad evidence-based approach to make their own balanced assessments of each student's progress at this point in time. Such evidence includes student-led conversations and teacher observations, Term One assessments, notes and work samples.

Camps and Excursions

Due to Covid-19 and associated Camp onsite factors the Year 3/4 Phillip Island Camp (Week Two, Term Three) for 2020 has been cancelled. Parents were informed yesterday of the cancellation. Excursions will be an ongoing conversation for Semester Two in light of current circumstances. The Year 5/6 Camp to Ballarat; Year 7 Outdoor Ed Camp up at Marysville and Year 9 Trip across Bass Strait to Tasmania are anticipated to go ahead pending Covid-19.

Thank you, Kate



Thank you to Kate Loweke who oversees the second hand Uniform Shop on behalf of the P&F. Every Monday at 3.30pm Kate is at St Mary's to assist any parents who require uniform clothing. Kate goes quietly about the role and gives of her time generously to support the College. Contributions great or small build a special community!

The Office will be closed during the Term Two break. If any urgent matters arise and you need to contact the College, please email office@smsseymour.catholic.edu.au



"Do. Don't think, don't hope, do." (Hawthorn Coach John Kennedy 1975 Grand Final)



He was sitting in the corner of the viewing room watching the Hawks train before the 2014 Grand Final. I felt out of my depth as I walked across the room to introduce myself to the great John Kennedy Senior. John Senior turned towards me and I thought, what do I say? He made it easy and said with a beaming smile, "here comes Isaac's dad. "I love that boy," said the Master. "I love Isaac because he is always smiling and plays the game with so much joy." We sat together for 20 minutes or so. Not much said but I soaked up every word from the great man. John Senior then got out of his seat and said, "time to go Wayne, I'm off to meet Dulcie for a cup of tea." Vale John Kennedy.

Congratulation!

Congratulations to Jade Osborne on completing a successful teaching placement with Mrs Williams this term. Jade was dedicated in all she did with the students and will return next term to volunteer in primary. How blessed St Mary's is to have a young dedicated student teacher willing to commit to gaining more experience.

If you are travelling over the break stay well, stay safe and go gently on the roads.

Best wishes

Principal

principal@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

DipEd(ACU) DipREd(ACU) BEd(ACU) GradCertEdAdmin(Edith Cowan)

GradDipREd(ACU) MEdAdmin(Charles Sturt) MTheoStudies(BBITAITE)



Parish News



Dear Parents,

We have been living through challenging times, psychologically, physically and emotionally as we watch the world and our own backyards suffer moments of great fear and deprivation. The most common joke going around is the amount of comfort food many are turning to relieve our levels of stress. For the aged and frail, those with chronic disorders and reduced immunity, this is not only a moment of stress but of genuine fear for their lives. At such times as these we reconsider what our priorities are and where we could and should be with our lives.

It has occurred to me that many are considering their own place and their children's place in eternity and that there are some among you who desire to have your school-aged children baptised. For various reasons or unforeseen circumstances, the opportunity or the conditions may not have been right until now.

To allow for the most convenient preparation, I am proposing to hold a series of three baptism information and preparation sessions in the half hour prior to you collecting your children. The sessions will be held in the Parish Hall. This way, you only need arrive at the school at 2:30pm on each Tuesday of those three weeks for that session. Each session will be completed in time for you to collect your children. In order to avoid unnecessary delays, but also knowing that this term is too early, I am hoping to start these sessions on Tuesday 21 July. Should you, however, wish to attend the regular single one-hour baptism preparation session within the parish, you may do so without appointment on the First Thursday of any month at 7:30pm at the parish presbytery (house).

It is hoped that during this time of preparation you, as parents, will also enter into discussions with your children so that they too will grow in the understanding of the gift which they are about to receive.

I wish to join with St Mary's College in encouraging you and commending you for your desire to pass on the faith to your children. If there are any questions please feel free to approach me or to phone me. Could those parents who are interested in baptism for their school aged children please fill in the form at the bottom of this page.

May God bless you and keep you always.

Fr Eugene Ashkar
Parish Priest

Please return the slip below to the College Office by Tuesday 14th July

I _____, will be attending the 3 baptism preparation sessions on Tuesday 21st, 28th July and 4th of August at 2:30pm for my child.

I understand that this does not bind me to have to have my child baptised but it will assist me in my decision and understanding of what I am considering to undertake.



Learning & Teaching



from the Deputy Principal ...

Reports

Student Reports were released yesterday, (Thursday 25 June).

Please log into your PAM account to view your child's Semester 2 School Report.

Reminder, to see last week's Marian for some notes regarding Learning and Teaching, expectations and impacts on the compilation of this report.

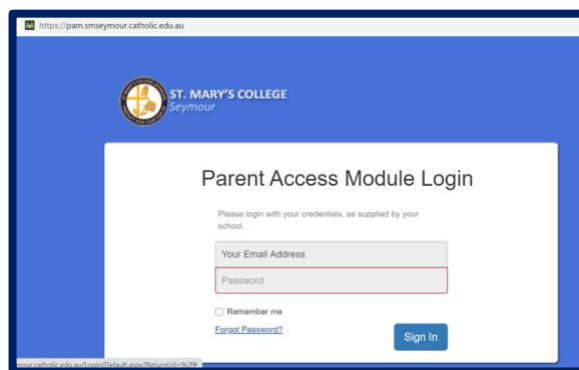
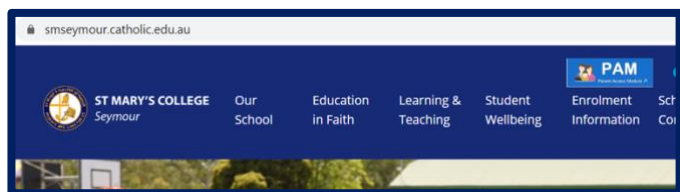
You can access PAM through the link on our school website at the top right. <https://smseymour.catholic.edu.au>

Or you can go directly to PAM using this address. <https://pam.smseymour.catholic.edu.au>

Your account is tied to the contact email address you provided to the school.

If you need to update your email address details please contact the school Office. office@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

If you need a password reset you can do so on the PAM login screen. <https://pam.smseymour.catholic.edu.au>



Mrs Christine Buhler

christine.buhler@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Student Wellbeing



from the Deputy Principal ...

As we conclude term 2, I would like to thank and congratulate all our students, staff and parents for the wonderful team work in ensuring being back onsite for learning was smooth and successful. The wellbeing of all our students, staff and families continues into the holiday period and we encourage you all to take this opportunity to take a well deserved break and enjoy 'device free time'. Students need a total break from being online, which also includes gaming and more time on hands on activities. A time to stay connected with family and enjoying some cooking, walks or even board games.

We included the Uniform Policy last week and we would like to thank you all in ensuring your child is attending school in the correct attire. We realise it may take some time to wait for new orders of uniform to come in from Outback, but please just notify your child's homeroom teachers if this is the case. Homeroom teachers have discussed the Policy with all students and in particular our girls who need to ensure the length of their winter skirts are in accordance with our Uniform Policy. Please ensure your daughter's length of skirt adheres to this requirement. If you have any concerns, please come and see me.

We would like to wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing holiday and look forward to seeing you all back in Term 3.

Keep smiling 😊

Ms Zine Dovara

zine.dovara@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Counsellor's Corner



from the Counsellor.....

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

What a term this has been. Thank you to all our students and families for the resilience shown throughout the changes we saw this term due to COVID-19. No-one ever said it was going to be easy and flexibility shown to new platforms of learning did not go unnoticed. It is now time to rest. I thought I would share some ideas this week for some school holiday fun.

Outdoor scavenger hunts
Indoor scavenger hunts
Hop scotch on the driveway
Hide and Seek
Family movie night
Cupcake decorating
Let the kids loose in the wardrobe for a fashion parade
Turn the dining table into a cubby house
Put on a puppet show
DIY Science experiments



There are lots of ideas online. Websites such as Kidspot provide ideas for families or all ages. After so long missing their friends, spending time with friends outside of school to play and chat also helps our children to feel connected. Connecting with their peers helps our children to learn social and emotional skills and broaden their understanding of the world around them. Many students have highlighted seeing their friends as one of the best parts of returning to school. The opportunity to grow these friendships out of school helps to grow our children's self-confidence and self-esteem.

Seasons for Growth will begin in Term 3 at St Mary's. The Seasons for Growth is an in-school group-based program.



The program was developed by Southern Cross University under the guidance of Professor Anne Graham, to support children and young people following death, separation, divorce and other loss experiences. The program aims to provide participants with the skills and knowledge to adapt to the changes which occur during these times. Children and young people selected for the program will participate in small group sessions once a week for the term period.

The program is underpinned by Worden's task theory and contemporary evidence about what children and young people need to know and do to adapt to loss. The program emphasises agency: accepting the reality of the loss, working through the pain of grief, adjusting to the new situation and emotionally relocating the person or thing. It promotes resilience and self-esteem, normalises grief, builds peer support and foster positive coping strategies. We are very excited to have this program up and running at the College and believe it will offer another supportive element to our Wellbeing Department.



I wish you all a wonderful break.

Stay safe and warm,
Mel

Mrs Melinda Nuttall

melinda.nuttall@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



F - 4 News



from the Level Co-ordinator

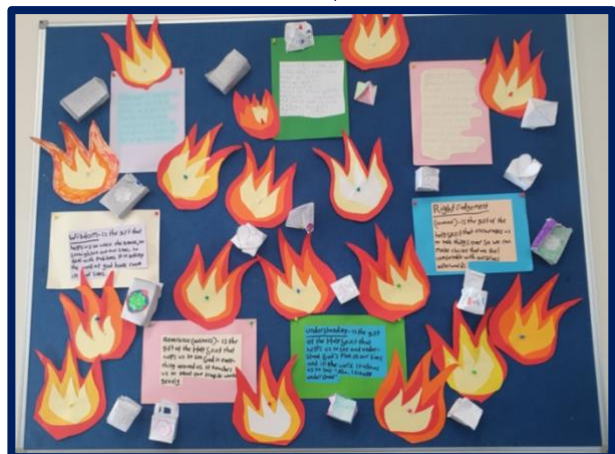
We have made it to the end of Term 2! What a term it has been and we aren't quite out of the woods yet. With the recent spike in COVID-19 cases, it is imperative that we follow the government guidelines and common sense with hygiene practises and gatherings. Term 3 still has an element of uncertainty but as we have done this term, we will endeavour to accommodate all requirements to increase the health and wellbeing of our students. Thank you for your support, patience and understanding throughout this term and we look forward to this positive relationship continuing into Semester 2.



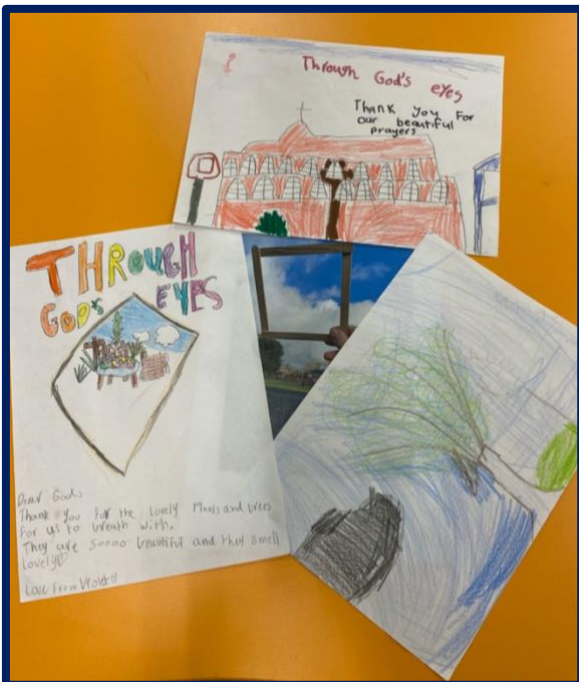
In English Grade 3/4 have been focussing on summarising as a comprehension skill. We have looked at different ways we can organise the main points (or 'skinny notes'). We have watched a story called 'Ferdinand' most recently and created a map of the main points. Students have engaged thoroughly with the variations they have been provided with.



In Religion, students have been developing their understanding of Gifts of the Holy Spirit'.



In Religious Education the 1/2 children are looking at different types of prayers. We went outside to take a look at the world through God's eyes. We found so many wonderful parts of Creation. We wrote prayers of thanksgiving.



Have a great holiday and we look forward to everyone's return in Term 3

Mrs Anne Spencer

anne.spencer@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Year 5-7 News



from the Level Co-ordinator

Term 2 2020 will be memorable for many reasons. Isolation and Home Learning have made it particularly memorable for most of us. The Winter holiday period is a great chance for students and families to reflect on the past few months and to gain something positive from the experience. Positives might include the acquisition of a new skill, gratitude or the knowledge that you can deal with a crisis. Make the most of this quiet time as we progress slowly and carefully towards some kind of normality.



The recent roll out of Compost bins around the College has created opportunities for collaborative and cross-curricular learning. Year 7B Environment Studies students played a major role, converting the bins and designing the instructions. Year 9 and 10 Music students contributed to a catchy song aimed at helping students to remember to use the compost bins appropriately. 7B Media students then created an animated film clip for the song. Once the bins have been functioning for a while, 9/10 Agriculture students will check the compost for microbiological activity.

Senior Primary students have been working on Countries of Study and how a well-known Australian has made a difference. This was part of the Inquiry unit. All students selected a different country for the country of study. For their well know Australian study, students researched various well know people to find out how they made a difference.

In Maths the current study is decimals and in Café students are learning to read with expression, paying particular notice of the punctuation. In Faith Ed students have been learning about our Mercy Values. This week the focus has been Hospitality.

Mr Andrew Allen

andrew.allen@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Science



Last week, Year 8 students dissected a sheep heart as part of the Biology; Body Systems unit.

Students were required to make observations, locate various parts of the heart and then cut the heart to view the internal structure.

All students participated, and most enjoyed the experience.

Thanks to Scotty from *Avenel Meats* who donated 30 sheep and 2 cow hearts to the Science Department for the activity.

Andrea Williams and Darcy McLean



Careers and Pathways



Year 10 into 11 Transition 2021



This week Year 10 students were visited by Derek Rimes – Assistant Principal, Sharon Hill – VCE Coordinator and Alanah O’Connell – a former St Mary’s College student now in Year 11 from Seymour College to start the conversation regarding transition into Year 11 in 2021.

Mr Rimes and Ms Hill explained the structure of both the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) and the VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) programs at the College.

Alanah spoke about transitioning from St Mary’s to Seymour College. She was very honest about being nervous moving to a new school and how she manages her VCE studies, part time job and (SBA) School-based Apprenticeship in Education Support, which takes her out away from her timetabled classes one day per week. It was great for students to hear a very honest, firsthand account from someone who has already experienced the move to Senior Secondary studies.

Staff from the College will visit again in term 3 to discuss subject selections and the end of year Head Start program etc.

Assumption College are planning a visit early next term for students wishing to enrol for 2021



Career interviews

Career interviews/conversations are available to students in both Year 9 and 10 to discuss future pathways etc. I am available for interviews on Mondays.

Bookings can be made through the College Careers website: careers.smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Mrs Tanya Oakley

tanya.oakley@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Religion and Community



I am sure we are all looking forward to take the opportunity to take a holiday and to have a complete break from 'schooling' and the many responsibilities and routines that have governed our lives this term.

It is such a joy to have this break, and I pray that it will be a time of rest and refreshment where we can go quietly through the day without having to plan for much!

I pray that during this holiday, you will enjoy both spiritual and physical renewal, and find rejuvenating rest for your mind and spirit as well as enjoy relaxation and respite with your gorgeous children once again!!

*****Thank you for your generous donations of perishable food items for St Vinnies. At last count, we had over 520 items, which I am sure will be gratefully received by those in our community that are in need*****

*We thank you Lord, for this term.
For the challenges, the successes,
and the mistakes from which we have learnt.
Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends.
Give us strength and courage to do what is right:
to be witnesses of our faith.
Help us to be a practical Christian these holidays,
to appreciate what others do for us,
to give time and effort to help others.
To be peacemakers in our family.
Keep us safe in our activities;
give us good rest and good fun.
Bring us back refreshed and ready for a new term.
We thank you for our classmates, teachers, parents
And a community that cares for us.
May we always be conscious of you in our lives.
Amen*

Term 3

Wk 1

Mon 13 July

Students and Staff return to School

Bell Times 2020

Supervision of students begins at 8:30am

Homeroom	8:45 – 8:55
Period 1	8:55 – 9:55
Period 2	9:55 – 10:55
Recess	10:55 – 11:20
Period 3	11:25 – 12:25
Period 4	12:25 – 1:25
Lunch	1:25 – 2:10
Period 5	2:15 – 3:15

Term Dates 2020

Term 2: 14/4 – 26/6

Term 3: 13/7 – 18/9

Term 4: 5/10 – 16/12

**2021
Enrolments
Are Now
Welcome**

**information
available at**

www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au

or phone 03 5792 2611



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) 9412 8406 / 0455 123 509

Mass Times: St Mary's - SAT 6:00pm, SUN 10:00am;
St Joseph's - SUN 8:30am

