

The Marian

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2021 College Theme

***"Let our words and actions
be shining lights for others"***



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

Newsletter No.3

Term 1

25 February 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians

An outstanding Assembly was held last Friday! Our Primary and Year 7-9 leaders received their badges and Year 10 students presented their Foundation buddies with a St Mary's welcome certificate. Our students know the College theme and prayer and there is a calmness that is reflected in their happy faces and consistent approaches in and out of the classroom.

The year has begun well for our students. On Monday Year 10 enjoyed a morning tea with their individual teacher mentor. This program is in place to support our senior students as they journey through their final year at St Mary's and gradually prepare to move towards Year 11 in a new school environment. The staff mentor offers a listening ear that sometimes is all that a Year 10 student needs or requires.

During the Assembly the word mentor was mentioned and will be used often in 2021 and beyond. Everyone needs a significant other in their life. The word hero was also mentioned in relation to the Foundation children who already see their Year 10 buddies as their heroes. Everyone needs a hero. A hero has the habit of saying the right words and doing the right things to make the world better. A hero can make us feel like we can do it.



Awards Presentation Working Party

Mr Harding, Mrs Brock, Mrs Williams, Ms Hanlon, Mrs Hooper and I will form a Working Party to review the December College Awards Presentation. The Working Party meet on 1st March and will review all areas of the Awards including the types and categories of awards; the year levels receiving awards; the format and timing of the presentation with the intention of families experiencing the celebration to acknowledge the holistic excellence of student performance for 2021. The Awards Presentation is a formal College community celebration.

St Mary's College Nurse

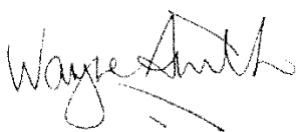
Plans are progressing to advertise for a St Mary's College Nurse. Student medical issues and conditions (mild or chronic) are increasing in frequency, complexity and moving beyond the expertise of College staff, even with the skills of mandatory training. There are increasing jurisdictional requirements from both the Victorian State Government and the Catholic Education Commission Victoria, therefore it is important the College provides the best possible duty of health care for students to benefit from daily nursing expertise for various critical medical conditions and playground accidents. There has been extensive consultation to ensure the role description is appropriate and thorough and the interview panel will include members with excellent nursing experience. The plan is to have the College Nurse position filled by the end of Term One.

F-12 Pathway Committee

In 2020 the College community were informed that a letter co-signed by Fr Ashkar (Parish Priest); Andrew Graham (College Board Chairperson) and I was sent to the Executive Director of Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) Mr Jim Myles to inform him of our request to form a F-12 Pathway committee to research what is involved; and required to return St Mary's to Year 12. Mr Myles welcomes the formation of the committee and has noted the growth of the Mitchell Shire. The next step is to form the committee, which will be done at the March Board meeting. The research will be thorough, professional and include parent and community consultation. Mr Myles has appointed Northern Regional Leadership Consultant Mr Chris Bence as the MACS representative on the committee. The College community will be updated once the committee is announced.

Primary District Swimming was held at the Seymour pool on Wednesday. Rumour has it that coach Tampion may be poached for the Tokyo Olympics - Overall and Handicap Champions and a handful of Age Champions. Well run & well led. Congratulations Mrs Tampion and thank you to all staff who assisted Mary with running the carnival. Thank you to the parents and grandparents who were a fine cheer squad and to our Year 10 students who played their part in assisting and who were excellent ambassadors. Go you good thing St Mary's!

Let our actions and words be shining lights for others.



Wayne Smith

Principal, St Mary's College Seymour

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

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

Director of Learning and Teaching

1) After school support is back this year for our Year 7-10 students each Thursday night from 3:30-4:30pm, commencing today Thursday 25th February.

This year will be a little different as we are encouraging students needing support in any subject area to attend. We will have teachers from different subject areas there each week to ensure students can receive the support they need.



If you have any questions please contact Mr Darcy McLean: darcy.mclean@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

2) School attendance makes a huge difference to a student's opportunities to achieve and make progress with their learning. Many learning areas in secondary classes are nearing assessment task due dates. You can support your child and monitor the requirements by viewing these in PAM. So, in spite of a number of non-classroom based events such as swimming taking place - a reminder about the importance of keeping up to date with all class work.

3) Data for teaching is being collated during this week. Students in Years 3 -10 have been completing formal PAT-R and PAT-M testing. These assessment tools used for reading and mathematics are from ACER (Australian Council for Educational Research) and give insight into a student's individual strengths and learning abilities.

Students in Years F-2 are also completing formal assessments appropriate for their age. Preparation for NAPLAN will follow.

4) STEM class Year 9 students in the STEM elective completed unit 1 on Robotics this week. They had to design, build, program and research the role of robots in society today. They debated the positive, negative and challenging questions on this topic.

Ms Christine Buhler

christine.buhler@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Wellbeing



Safer Internet day 2021 is designed for teachers, parents and students to ‘start the chat’ about online safety. The internet is an integral part of the digital lives of Aussie teens. While their high use of technology offers many benefits, there is a downside – negative online experiences.

The Research below is based on a survey of 627 teens aged 12-17 in September 2020.

Online lives

- Teens spent an average of 14.4 hours a week online.
- 9 in 10 teens used the internet to research topics of interest, watch videos, chat with friends and listen to music.
- 8 in 10 teens played games online with others.

Social media

- Teens used an average of four different social media services – YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat remain the most popular app/platforms.
- Tik Tok (formerly Musical.ly) – has shown the greatest growth, from 12% of teens in 2017, up to 38% in 2020.

Negative online experiences

- 44% of teens had a negative online experience in the six months to September 2020.
- The top three were being contacted by a stranger or someone they didn't know (30%), receiving inappropriate or unwanted content (20%) and being deliberately excluded from events/social groups (16%).
- More than 80% teens took some form of action after a negative online experience.

Online safety information

- Three quarters of teens wanted more online safety information delivered through trusted channels including:
 - their school or an online safety class – 43%
 - a trusted e Safety website – 40%
 - from a parent/carer – 38%.

Positive online behaviours

- 9 in 10 teens had engaged in at least one type of positive online behaviour.

Nearly all teens who had a negative experience online engaged in positive online behaviour afterward. Education is the key. As parents, you know your child better than anyone, and have the best opportunity to help educate the so that they can explore safely online.

This Safer Internet Day 2021 webinar will look at how parents and carers can support young people to have safe and respectful online relationships and what to do if things go wrong.

It will cover:

- starting conversations with your child about their online friendships and positive ways to deal with changing relationships
- understanding the rights, laws and community expectations that govern social media use
- where to seek help if your child is involved in a cyberbullying incident.

The webinar will include case studies, research and targeted advice so you can support the young people in your life to have safe, enjoyable online experiences. <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>

Mrs Allison Moore

Allison.moore@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Secondary Pastoral Care Coordinator



It is already Week 5 and I am writing to you as Secondary Pastoral Care Coordinator. In my new role, I will support the secondary students in their learning and social-emotional development in the hope that each child will achieve their best in 2021.

The students have already been working in their House Mentor Groups to set their Term 1 learning smart-goal as well as researching who their house was named after (St Christopher of Padua and Catherine McAuley).

The students have been fabulous at participating in the House Mentor Groups, making new friends and sharing their experiences.

Our new Year 7 students have done an amazing job of getting used to the new routines, using their lockers and meeting new friends. Well done to all of you.

A special welcome to Ethan Fisher, Thomas Hall, Cooper Lynch, Breanna Wood, Bella and Finn Hargreaves (Year 8) and Zara Maus (Year 9) who have joined us this year.

I would also like to congratulate the students and the parents on a great job during the snap lockdown. Well done to all of you!

If you would like to contact me about your child's progress please email me on the address below.

The Year 10 students have been allocated a teacher Mentor who will support them on a less formal basis throughout the year. We hope to meet up a few times each term and build a positive relationship with each other. Here are some photos of our morning tea.

Tough times
don't last;
Tough
people
do.



Ms Angela Molinaro

angela.molinaro@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Meeting the Diverse Needs of Learners



The education of each student at St Mary's College is a partnership between yourselves, as parents and the first educators of your child, and the College. The active engagement of parents is critical to each student's wellbeing and learning. St Mary's aims to create a welcoming environment where parents and teachers work together to provide a Catholic education that meets the diverse needs of each learner. Effective communication between home and school allows for a positive partnership to be built, and this partnership is the cornerstone of the school's mission.

Teachers are currently working through a process of identifying students' needs through both formal and informal assessments and working with their colleagues to look at the programs and learning activities that will best address these needs. This process involves the teachers making decisions about "Where to next?" for each student. Some students will require minimal and/or infrequent adjustments to the teaching and learning environment in order for them to engage in learning. Where the student might have diverse learning needs, teachers will consider the use of a Personalised Learning Plan (PLP) to map out goals and adjustments to the learning environment and resources to assist the student in meeting targeted goals. An overview of the needs and related adjustments will be sent home for parent consultation, and parent signature, to give consent for the adjustments. When the adjustments to the teaching and learning environment are required *at most times, on most days*, a Program Support Group (PSG) meeting will be held at the College to discuss the student's strengths and needs, and to collaborate on this PLP.

At St Mary's College, a PSG meeting is held with parents/guardians/carer(s) of the student, the student's teacher(s), a person nominated by the Principal - the Learning Diversity Leader (Claire Kelly), and the student, where appropriate. Other people who *may* attend a PSG include an advocate for the parent/guardian/carer and consultants such as our College Counsellor (Melinda Nuttall) and therapists. Minutes are taken so that a record is kept of the decisions made, and the PLP, with the adjustments that will be put in place for the student, is signed. The student's program is then reviewed and evaluated at least once per term and teachers will report on the student's progress in further PSG meetings.

Over the coming weeks you may receive an email with a PLP for your child, outlining his/her perceived strengths and learning needs and some minor or infrequent adjustments that the teacher would like to put in place for your child, to maximise his/her learning opportunities. We would appreciate your time in reading this document and signing if you are happy for the teacher to make these adjustments. Please return the document to your child's teacher via email. The teacher will be more than happy to meet with you to discuss this learning plan if you have any questions.

Alternatively, your child may benefit from more frequent adjustments to the learning program and if this is the case, you will be invited to attend a PSG meeting to discuss the PLP for your child. The draft PLP will be emailed to you in advance of the meeting so that you have time to consider the information in it.

Your child's teacher(s) and I are more than happy to talk this information through over a phone call or to meet with you in person to discuss the ways in which St Mary's College meets the diverse needs of all learners. Please feel free to make contact if you would like to take this opportunity to talk to us.

I feel very blessed to have become a part of the St Mary's Community and I look forward to meeting all of our families over the coming year.

Mrs Claire Kelly

claire.kelly@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

How will the NCCD be different this year?

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Amendments were made to the [Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

Where can I find out more?

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national [NCCD Portal](#).

Primary Literacy Leader



Dear Families

St Mary's College is very excited to announce the introduction of the **InitialLit** Literacy program to Foundation to Year 2 students in 2021. Staff have been busy attending training days and are very much looking forward to beginning the program in the coming days. **InitialLit** is a research-based literacy program developed by Macquarie University.

The program teaches children how to read and spell through daily lessons using evidence-based teaching methods. Students will get lots of opportunities to practice the letter and sound knowledge they are being explicitly taught. This will also build the students confidence in reading and spelling.

An information session will be run on Wednesday 3rd March, with more details to come from Mrs Catherine Evans.

InitiLit has begun in Foundation! We started with *How to Catch a Star* and made rockets



Mrs Kerrie Pearce

kerrie.pearce@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Swimming 2021



The Swimming Carnival for 2021 was a great success.

Congratulations to the winning team - Mc Auley-2192 - Padua-1892

Well done to everyone that participated and congratulations to our 2021 Age Champions.

A huge thank you to all competitors and spectators for a fantastic day!

Primary Age Champions:

9 year old

Ava Gordon
Jeremy Quigg

10 year old

Taylah MacDonald
Lachlan Kingston

11 year old

Sienna Lynch
Jobe Dunne

12 year old

Kyra Pearce
Marcus Kingston

Secondary Age Champions:

13 year old

Abby Chetcuti
Oliver Kingston

14 year old

Finn Hargreaves
Isaac Smith

15 year old

Ava Cafasso
Ely Reid

16 year old

Jordyn Beattie
Lachlan Taylor

Defence School Mentor



St Mary's Defence Families Morning Tea

The Defence family's morning tea has been rescheduled to Thursday 4th March from 10am at The Puckapunyal and District Neighbourhood Centre. This is a casual opportunity to have a cuppa and meet myself and other Defence families. Please RSVP to me via email by Tuesday 2nd of March, looking forward to seeing you there.

DCO Defence Family Helpline- Support, local community information and advice is available for ADF families through the Defence Family Helpline. Phone-1800 624 608 or Email- DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au

Mrs Emma Marrinan

emma.marrinan@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Faith and Mission



Sacraments

Students at St Mary's, in Years 3-6, are involved in a Sacramental program that offers the opportunity for baptised Catholic students, to receive the three sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Due to COVID and no Sacraments being celebrated last year, our Sacramental program is going to look a little different this year. Year 7 students will also be included, students in Year 4 will be celebrating two sacraments and classes across levels will be combining to work through the preparation program. All students will be supported by our staff and Father Ashkar and of course you, their parents.

The classes taking part will be:

Reconciliation - Years 3 and 4

Eucharist - Year 4 and 5

Confirmation - Year 6 and 7

The dates for the Sacrament Celebrations are as follows:

Reconciliation: Friday April 30, 10am and Family Liturgy 6:30pm

Eucharist: Sunday June 6, 10am

Confirmation: Friday August 6, 7pm

'The Joy of the Sacraments' Tuesday 23 March 7pm.

To begin the preparation, **all** students celebrating **any of the Sacrament/s** and their **parents** are invited to a special night at the College. The event is being led by Special Guest, Pauline Cicutto, from the Melbourne Archdiocese of Catholic Schools. She will be sharing with you the 'The Joy of the Sacraments'. Parents will spend part of the evening listening to Pauline whilst the students will work with staff in another space, then we will finish off the night with a shared activity and prayer. The night will go from 7pm - 8:15pm. We hope you can all attend to make your child's Sacramental journey a very special one!

Next week, all families across these Year levels will be sent an OPEROO form in regards to which Sacraments your child wishes to celebrate.

Mrs Rochelle Gough

rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

FEBRUARY 26

Crazy Sock Day
(Gold coin donation)

MARCH 4

Crazy Hair Day
(Gold coin donation)

MARCH 15

Meat-pie Monday
(Pies \$2.50 each)

MARCH 26

Disco in MPH
(Gold coin donation)

Accounts

Laptop Next Installment Reminder

Those families with students in Years 8, 9 and 10 are advised that the next laptop instalment has now been generated and appears on your current fee statement. This payment (\$230 for Years 8, 9 and 10 students), is **due for payment by 1st March**. Please ensure to put your Fee Statement account Reference number & L'Top on your payment.
Thank you.



Changed Bank Details for Fee Payments 2021

Please take note that the new banking details for the College are:

BSB 083 347

Account 839 989 790

If you have set up automatic payments online for payment of your Fee Account, please check that you up- dated the above change.

If you require any further information please contact Felicity Melville or Stacia Read,

We are always happy to answer any of your questions. Best wishes for the coming week.

Mrs Stacia Read

accounts@smseymour.catholick.edu.au

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2021 - Important Registration Information

School Photographs will be taken at

St Mary's College

Thursday 11th March, 2021

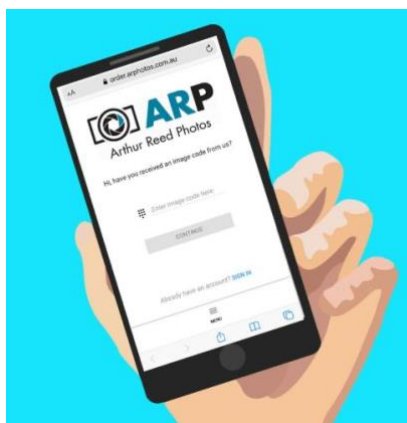
There is no need to return any forms or payment to school before photo day

Flyers with Unique Image Codes will be issued to all students on or after photo day

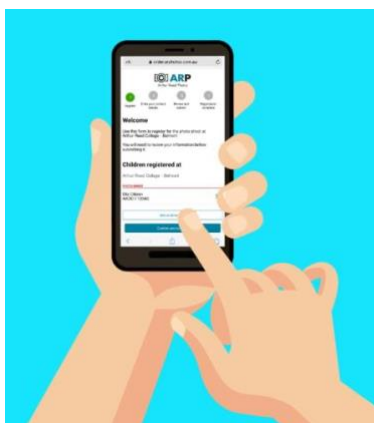
When you receive the flyer with your child's 2021 image code

Follow these 3 simple steps -

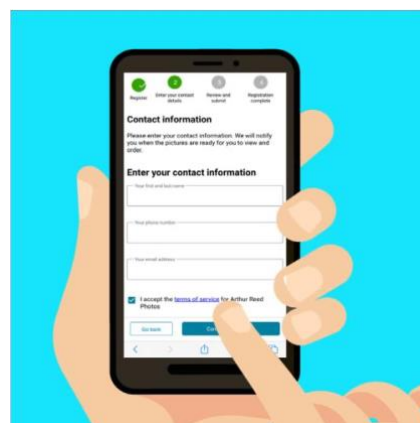
1 Go to order.arphotos.com.au and enter your child's **2021 image code**



2 Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings



3 Fill in your contact details & review before confirming your registration*



* This information will only be used for distribution of personal image codes and ordering details.

That's it!

It's important to register each year to link your child's NEW images to your contact details. When 2021 images are ready to view in our secure webshop you'll be notified by email and SMS

**** BEFORE ORDERING for 2021, please wait to receive notification that new images are online****

Order on any mobile device • Share the images with family & friends for FREE

Create a photo package with any layout + YOUR choice of images + Digital Downloads

Dates to Remember

Bell Times 2021

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 2021

Term 1: 28/01 – 01/04

Term 2: 19/04 – 25/06

Term 3: 12/07 – 17/09

Term 4: 04/10 – 17/12

Term 1

| | | |
|---------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 5 | Fri 26 Feb | Crazy Sock Day (gold coin donation) |
| | | Primary Division Swimming (Selected students) |
| Week 6 | Tue 2 Mar | Secondary Southern Ranges Swimming (Selected students) |
| | Wed 3 Mar | RACV Incursion - Foundation & Year 1 |
| | Thu 4 Mar | Crazy Hair Day (gold coin donation) |
| | Fri 5 Mar | Clean-Up For Schools Day Step Up To Clean Up |
| | Fri 5 Mar | Round Robin Years 7-10 |
| Week 7 | Mon 8 Mar | Labour Day Public Holiday |
| | Tue 9 Mar | School Closure Day - Staff Professional Development |
| | Wed 10 Mar | College Athletics Carnival – Kings Park 9am |
| | Wed 10 – Fri 12 Mar | Book Fair Open to Parents 8:30am-4pm |
| | Thu 11 Mar | College Photo Day |
| Week 8 | Mon 15 Mar | Book Fair Open to Parents 8:30am-4pm |
| | Mon 15 Mar | Meat Pie Monday \$2.50 per pie |
| Week 9 | | |
| Week 10 | Thu 1 Apr | Easter Liturgy 11:30am |
| | Thu 1 Apr | Last Day Term 1 |

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

Booking now open!

Comedy for a Cause


SATURDAY 13th of March 2021

Doors: 7pm / Show: 8pm / 15+

Drinks at bar prices!

Featuring comedians from
Sydney & Melbourne
International
Comedy Festivals

comedyforacause.net/TVW

 The Kilmore
Soldiers Memorial Hall
14 Sydney St, Kilmore



In Support of:

**Transition Village
Wallan Inc.**

If you have any questions please contact Judy: ceo@twv.org.au



Seymour's Annual






SHOW & SHINE

Labour Day, 8 March 2021
King's Park, Seymour
8am Start (Car holders 6am)

Display Cars : \$10/car incl. all occupants
Spectators : Gold Coin Entry

***ALL MAKES OF CARS
*SWAP MEET *MARKET
*KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT**

For all enquiries contact:
secretary@seymouranddistrictcarclub.com.au
or Judy on 0407 562 003



EDWARDS DANCE STUDIO

• Senior Citizens Hall • Anzac Avenue • Seymour

DANCE STYLES:
Jazz, Hip-Hop
Ballet, Tap
Song and Dance

CLASSES:
Kinda To Adult

ENQUIRIES:
ANNALISE: 0410 726 744 CAMILLE: 0407 177 085

**YOUR
POTENTIAL IS
BEYOND
*the horizon***



At Training Ship Bendigo we will help you unleash your true potential with lessons in maritime duties, engineering, hospitality, communication, administration, leadership, and physical training. Pair this with remarkable opportunities of sailing, attending training and adventure camps, being able to complete the Duke of Edinburgh International Award, gaining qualification and rank accomplishments, Royal Australian Navy Ship visits, and the ability to make lasting friendships and self-discovery it's more than just marching in uniform.

Discover your potential.

EMAIL: TSBENDIGO@NAVYCADETS.GOV.AU

Permanent Care Program

Information for prospective permanent carers

Could you be a permanent care parent?

There are a number of children supported by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing who require a family for life as they are unable to live with their birth families. We are seeking committed and motivated people who would be interested in learning more about providing a permanent family for a child.

Assistance payments are made to the Permanent Care family to assist with the day to day expenses of caring for a child/young person. Assistance payments are considered to be a reimbursement for expenses and not an earned income.

We are also keen to speak with families who are particularly interested in caring for children aged between 5 and 10 years.

Prospective permanent carers must attend a three-day training course. Our next training dates will be held on March 3rd, 10th and 17th 2021.

For further information regarding [Permanent Care](https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/permanent-care) please visit our webpage
<<https://services.dhhs.vic.gov.au/permanent-care>>.

Please contact the program to discuss your interest via [email](mailto:melanie.matthews@dhhs.vic.gov.au) <melanie.matthews@dhhs.vic.gov.au> or phone: (03) 5832 1552.

To receive this document in another format, phone (03) 5832 1552, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or [email Melanie Matthews](mailto:melanie.matthews@dhhs.vic.gov.au) <melanie.matthews@dhhs.vic.gov.au>.

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

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