



# 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.12

Term 2

20 May 2021

**Dear Parents,**



“Choose a job you love, and you will never have to  
work a day in your life.”  
~ Confucius

Year 10 students have been meeting individually with Mrs Oakley (Careers Adviser) to discuss and organise Work Experience placements. Work Experience is a very important opportunity for students to experience a work environment and ‘get a taste’ of different careers. Regardless of which career pathway our students enter (and they may have many different careers) during their working lives, each career will demand and require continuous upskilling. The skills needed to be successful in today’s workforce differ substantially from those of the past. Future occupations will

also require completely new skills. The next decade is predicted to be a time of particularly intense change. The World Economic Forum predicts that, “we will need to reskill more than 1 billion people by 2030, as jobs are transformed by the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The WEF predicts that 42% of the core skills required to perform existing jobs will change in the next couple of years.” FutureLearn.com predicts that, ‘the essential workplace skills of the future will include: Data Skills; Artificial Intelligence; Digital Skills; Health and Nursing; Emotional Intelligence; Creativity.’ Joboutlook.gov.au is a government website that offers directions on careers for Australians. It states into the future, “there is likely to be demand in industries where employment has grown strongly in recent years, including: Professional, Scientific & Technical Services; Education & Training; Construction; Aged & Disability Carers; Registered Nurses; Child Carers; Welfare Support Workers; Software & Applications Programmers; Management & Organisation Analysts; Accountants; Primary & Secondary School Teachers; Secondary School Teachers; Education Aides

The Victorian Government announced this year that by 2025 Year 12 students will receive a new VCE and or Pathways Certificate. The current VCAL Certificate will be phased out. The world of careers and roles within careers will not stop evolving as workplaces become more reliant on the digital skills revolution, teamwork and creativity.

## **Uniform Policy**

In 2020 the College Board made some minor changes with the endeavour to make the Policy more practical and reader friendly. At various times we receive requests to consider changing areas of the College Uniform. These requests are tabled at College Board meetings if appropriate. During 2021 parents will be surveyed in particular areas of Uniform Requirements so that the College Board has a clear picture in any aspects of the current Policy that require updating.

Enforcing the Uniform Code is the responsibility of both home and school. Please be aware that if you are ever contacted about the College Uniform it is to inform you of student disregard and therefore requires parent support.

[Click here to view the Uniform Policy](#)

Included is the section on Hair from the College Uniform Code. It is descriptive and for good reason. Hair styles come and go with fashion, hence the importance of ensuring there is a common ground approach to the College policy.

If you are ever unsure about your child(ren) having a type of haircut, please:

1. Refer to the College policy.
- or
2. Contact Mrs Moore (Director of Wellbeing) or Mrs Gordon (Deputy Principal Operations).

From the Policy:

- Hair is to be clean, tidy and tied back away from eyes, including long fringes for both girls and boys.
- Below the collar length hair must be tied back off the shoulders for both girls and boys.

- *Hair attire (ribbons, scrunchies, headband) must be in St. Mary's College colours (blue/yellow).*
- *Extreme haircuts or styles are not permitted. Hair styles such as dreadlocks, mohawks, shaven heads, unnatural hair colours such as pinks purples, greens etc. Please note these are examples only and do not form an exhaustive list. No beads in hair.*
- *The College reserves the right to determine what is extreme hair fashion or an extreme hairstyle. For further guidance please speak with Mrs Moore Director of Wellbeing or Mrs Gordon (Deputy Principal Operations).*
- *Number 2 haircut is the minimum. No shaved or pattern cuts.*
- *Hair may be dyed in one natural hair shade. No coloured hair or highlights/tips permitted.*

### **Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) School Advisory Council Terms of Reference.**

MACS have released a School Advisory Council discernment process for all MACS Schools to be renamed, 'Advisory Councils.' Once completed St Mary's has until the beginning of 2022 to transition to the new title. The process will not be lengthy for St Mary's, as the College Advisory Board has in place policies for operational procedures and constitutional matters.

### **Pastoral Care**

The Wellbeing Team guided by Wellbeing Director Allison Moore is instigating more pastoral care programs. Second Steps; RAGE; Seasons of Growth; Kids Helpline; PD for Cyber Safety; Brainstorm Productions; Art Therapy; PBL and lunchtime activities are some of the programs to support positive behaviours and wellbeing. Emma Marrinan is doing great things in her Defence Schools Mentor role. Kellie Giannarelli in the Wellbeing Officer role is providing a range of lunchtime activities for students and is a Seasons for Growth group leader. The College has made the decision to embrace PBL (Positive Behaviours for Learning). A MACS supported program that is popular overseas as well in many schools. PBL is a researched proven approach to promoting good behaviours in and out of the classroom.

### **F-12 Pathway Committee**

The Terms of Reference were finalised at the first meeting and will be sent to the MACS Executive Director, Mr Jim Miles. College representatives will visit Marian College Myrtleford; Sacred Heart College Yarrawonga and FCJ College Benalla, to discuss how these Colleges went about transitioning to Year 11 and 12.

### **Thankyou Seymour Heights Pty Ltd**

Seymour Heights have donated \$4000 to the College. This is on top of the donation they provided in 2020 during remote learning to support the purchase of Chromebooks for remote learning. The donation will go towards the Area A (F-4) playground. Our thanks go to Nicky Keating on behalf of Seymour Heights for their generosity and support of St Mary's.

### **Thank you P&F**

At the Mother's Day Stall, the P&F raised \$1460.83. Thank you to Megan Cox; Katy Smith; Elysia Ambrose; Kate Loweke; Stacey Cox; Candice Raynor; Brooke Curic; Shannon Inness; Leia Martin and Ruth Hall for setting up the hall and selling the gifts. Our P&F are looking forward to life after Covid!

*I was privileged this morning to join 1A (Mrs Robinson's class) for prayer to begin the day. Every child passed on the candle after praying an intention. At the end of the prayer intention each child said, "Lord Hear Us" and the class replied, "Lord Hear our Prayer." There is something very special about teaching our younger students about the faith. They so often yearn to hear and experience more!*

Best wishes and 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) MTheoSudies (BBITAITE)

# Deputy Principal Operations



## Healthy Eating & Canteen

Schools across Victoria promote a culture in which students can make healthy dietary and lifestyle choices. Choosing nutritious foods and drinks combined with appropriate levels of physical activity has a range of positive benefits for student's health and learning outcomes. St Mary's College has canteen facilities that allow students to purchase healthy lunches, snack food and drinks. To maintain a genuine culture that supports a healthy school environment parents, teachers and students must work together. In line with the School Canteens and Other School Food Services Policy, the College limits the availability of food and drinks high in saturated fat and high in salt. We discourage and ask parents to refrain from delivering food from all major fast food chains (and similar) to students during school time. If your child forgets their lunch, they are asked to speak to their Class or House Mentor teacher who can arrange for the canteen to provide them with food with a balance payable.

## Kids Helpline Interactive Sessions

The week started for all students with a Pastoral Care lesson. Year 7 students gathered in the science room to participate in a session on cyberbullying conducted, via video link by Brooke a Kids Helpline counsellor. On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of June students from Year 3 to Year 6 will also be involved in interactive sessions, Year 3 & 4: Being Kind Online and Year 5 & 6: Cyberbullying

St Mary's College Wellbeing Team is committed to providing learning experiences that

- Promote safe and responsible technology use
- Encourage online respect, empathy and resilience
- Encourage positive digital citizenship
- Enhance students' communication skills within interpersonal relationships
- Normalise and encourage help-seeking behaviour

During the session students developed their understanding of cyberbullying, what it is and what it isn't. Brooke discussed why kids sometimes cyberbully. Students were informed about strategies to respond to cyberbullying, what to do if they are being cyberbullied and places to get help and report cyberbullying.

The 4S strategy was communicated to students:

- S – Stay Calm
- S – Screen Shot
- S – Shut it Down
- S – Support



The website of the eSafety Commissioner suggests three key strategies for parents to employ in order to support and guide your children in making sound decisions online and to ask for help when they need it:

1. Be engaged, open and supportive
2. Set some rules
3. Use the available technology

These strategies are described in more detail at:

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skillsadvice/online-safety-basics>

## Award Winners

On Friday afternoon at the whole College assembly, College Captain Oliver Bree and Vice-Captain Lucy Duff with the assistance of other College Leaders (Lilli Kelly, Hamish Melville, Melhoney Pambai, Travis Jones and Emily Homewood) presented awards to students identified for consistently displaying a particular value, attitude or effort at school.

Congratulations to them all!

**Mrs Genevieve Gordon**

[genevieve.gordon@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:genevieve.gordon@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)

Primary Awards	Secondary Awards
Billy O'Connell	Kady Francis Smith
Charlotte Gibson	Matilda Archibald
Sonny Taylor	Emily Homewood
Ellie Taylor	Saxon Ashworth
Levi Brown	Tobias Raynor
Wyatt Lynch	Rose McQueen
Lachlan Lynch	Melvic Pambai
Billy D'Orria	Blake Towt
Atassha Day	Jack Harrison
Isaac Kaarsberg	Marley Holden
Marlee Brooke	Natalie Coad
Taj Wessels	Melhoney Pambai
Ruby Ritchens Manning	Mia



## Director of Wellbeing



Youth on Tuesday. The program PLAY, trains students in Years 6 as leaders in organising safe and creative games for their peers and younger students, to be played throughout the school year during recess and lunchtime.



The day was fun filled and active. The focus of the morning session was to introduce the program and interactively train students on the games and the skills they will need to run the PLAY program in the College. The afternoon session was practical and involved Student Leaders facilitating some of the games they have learned with a group of younger students from Grade 1A and 1B, under the supervision and guidance of our experienced trainers.

Students involved in the day were Marlee Brooke, Skye Cook, Kody Dougherty, Isaac Gibson, Holly Karadimos, Lilli Kelly, Amelia Kovacic, Baxter Loweke, Tyla Maresceaux, Grace McLean, Alice N, Kyra Pearce, Tylah Shearer, Lincoln Smith and Harrison Thomson. These students will begin to run some activities in the coming weeks.

The College would like to thank Berry Street for obtaining the Funding for this program.



**Mrs Allison Moore**

[allison.moore@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:allison.moore@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)

## Director of Learning and Teaching

**Ancient Societies** - Egypt and China - Year 8 students have been immersed in the study of these two societies. They compared similarities and differences and justified their thinking about the society they would prefer to have lived in. One component of their portfolio was a model/representation of their chosen area of in-depth study. They are to be commended on the standard of their creativity and uniqueness. [Click Here to View the Online Photo Gallery.](#)



**Naplan 2021** will be finalised on Friday 21st May. Students were encouraged to do their best and approached the assessment time in a calm and organised way. Huge thanks to all teachers for assisting in the implementation and supervision of the tests. We look forward to receiving the results to assist the College in planning into the future. The data collected is vital for the School Improvement Plan.

We are approaching the halfway mark of this year of learning. Students are being monitored and assessed on their progress against the Victorian Curriculum Standards. The teaching staff have been reviewing the Semester reports and we believe any changes we make will be to benefit the communication and reporting system. Semester reports and parent teacher meetings will be available in the last week of Term 2.

Post 2020, and we are once again participating in offsite events and excursions, students need opportunities to develop their skills both inside and outside the classroom environment. Parents, please check the calendar, Operoo and teacher emails for these events. If you have any questions or concerns, please approach your child's teacher.



**Year 9 STEM** class students have helped install the screens in the Indigenous Native Healing Garden. These students proposed the use of these screens to connect with the other garden areas in the College. A full report and opening of the garden to take place soon!

**Ms Christine Buhler**

[christine.buhler@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:christine.buhler@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)

# Director of Faith and Mission



## This Sunday is Pentecost Sunday



Pentecost is celebrated on the Sunday that falls on the 50th day of Easter. The name is derived from the Greek word "pentekoste" which means fiftieth.

Most people know that at Pentecost the Holy Spirit came down on the twelve chosen disciples and they began to preach. It is the beginning of the church when the disciples spoke boldly about Jesus' gathered followers whose prayer and life was focused on gratitude for what God had done through Jesus' death and rising. But there is more to the feast than that. Pentecost is in fact the season of the Spirit in which we live, a season in which our lives are changed.

In the story Luke tells the coming of the Spirit introduces a season of reconciliation. At that time there was a division among people based on what language they spoke. That division is healed at Pentecost when people who had travelled from many different parts to celebrate the feast each hear the disciples' words in their own language. It follows that Jesus' followers are to overcome divisions by forming a church united by the Spirit of Christ in discovering God's love.

For us the feast of Pentecost is a time to celebrate the way in which we have been gathered into a community by the Spirit. It is also a time to let go of our fear and shame in speaking of Christ and living together. It is a time to commit ourselves by prayer, conversation and small commitments to reconciling the huge differences and hostilities in our world. It is a season long enough to last a lifetime.

A link you may wish to watch with your primary children <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtTigmlUtps&t=23s>

## Celebrating 200 Years

Catholic Education is celebrating 200 years in Australia, marking the bicentenary of the first Catholic school established in Parramatta in October 1820.

The first Catholic school in Australia was founded in October 1820 by Irish Catholic priest Fr John Therry and run by convict and lay person George Marley. The school, which Catholic historians believe was in Hunter Street, Parramatta, taught 31 students. By 1833, there were 10 Catholic schools in the colony.

Over 200 years, Catholic schools have grown to become the largest provider of schooling in Australia (outside government) with one in five school age students attending a Catholic school.

This represents 777,000 students in 1,755 schools across the country and employing over 100,000 teachers and staff.

Nearly 40 per cent of Catholic schools are located outside of metropolitan cities in regional, rural and remote communities.



The formal celebrations were due to be held from October 2020 to October 2021. However, due to pandemic restrictions, the celebrations will now be held during the 2021 school year, starting with a National Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Monday May 24<sup>th</sup>.

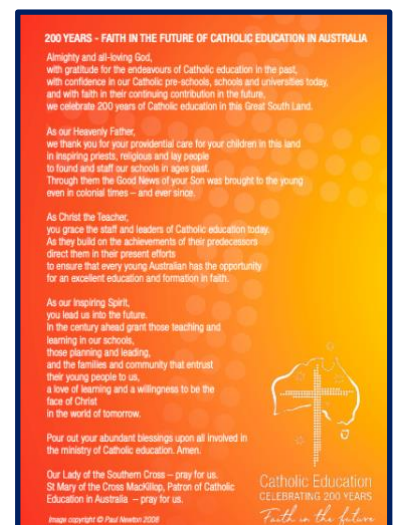
All families should have received a prayer card as part of this celebration.

**Reconciliation Week Liturgy** will be celebrated in the MPH on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 2:15.

All welcome to join in this prayerful experience.

**Mrs Rochelle Gough**

[rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)





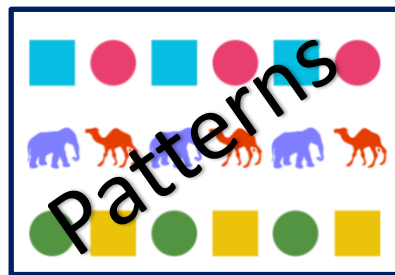
# Primary Pastoral Care Coordinator

A few weeks ago we shared with our candidates, the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It was a simple but significant ceremony followed by a reverent liturgy at which all candidates received their Certificates of Reconciliation from Father Ashkar.

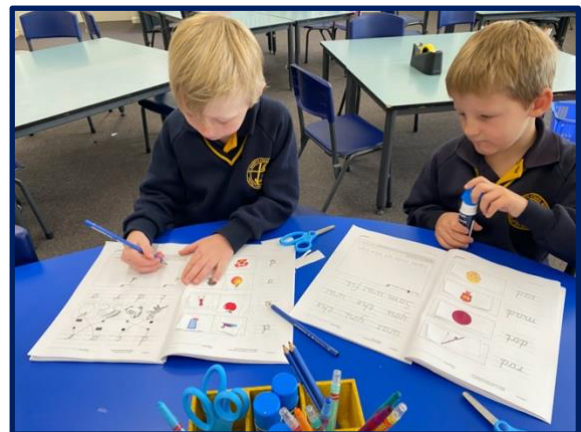


More recently, there has been another wonderful celebration. Our Year 3 student, Jasper Kaarsberg, chose to be baptised. Jasper, his mum Melissa and his Aunty Liz who became his Godmother, travelled to Bourke St Melbourne to St Augustine's Church. Father Vic officiated Jasper's baptism in front of a full house! Jasper was congratulated and received many kind words from the congregation. The family then celebrated the very special occasion with lunch. Congratulations Jasper! We are very proud of you.

The Year 1 students investigated patterns. They used a variety of materials to create their patterns. A pattern has repeating elements. Can you identify the patterns?



This week we are commencing Decodable readers in home reading in Foundation.



**Mrs Anne Spencer**

[anne.spencer@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:anne.spencer@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)

# Learning Diversity Leader



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2021

**MORE THAN A WORD. RECONCILIATION TAKES ACTION**

Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021, *More than a word. Reconciliation takes action*, urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action.

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians – as individuals, families, communities, organisations and importantly as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

We all have a role to play when it comes to reconciliation, and in playing our part we collectively build relationships and communities that value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures.

2021 marks twenty years of Reconciliation Australia and almost three decades of Australia's formal reconciliation process.

[Find out more about National Reconciliation Week](#) #MoreThanAWord #NRW2021

<https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>



**Mrs Claire Kelly**

claire.kelly@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

# Sports Coordinator



Congratulations to all students who participated in our College Cross Country on Monday May 10<sup>th</sup>. The Seymour Golf Course was certainly a picturesque venue to hold this event and I would like to personally thank Mr Phillip Jarvis (grandfather to Ava and Ella Jarvis) for all the time and effort he put into planning and setting out our course.

I must admit zooming around the golf course in the golf buggy with Phillip to mark the course was like 4 wheel driving but lots of fun.....thanks Phil...you're a very generous man to give up your time and help us out so willingly! Also a big thanks to Seymour Golf Club for allowing us to hold our event there!

I'd like to say a huge thanks to all those generous parents who volunteered to be on checkpoints for the day.....without your help we could not run these events so smoothly...I promise next year there will be a food buggy coming around to keep you fed and hydrated. It was a long day but lots of fun and thanks to all staff who helped out as well.

Congratulations to the following students who were our Cross Country Age Champions on the day:

<b>Primary Age Champions:</b>	<b>Secondary Age Champions:</b>
<b>9 year old</b> Mia Brown Sonny Taylor	<b>12/13 year old</b> Alexis Wilson Josh Porter
<b>10 year old</b> Paige Trodd Finn Melville and Jaydn Atherton	<b>14 year old</b> Bella Hargraves Daniel McLean
<b>11 year old</b> Alishika Kris and Zahira Wilson Jobe Dunne	<b>15 year old</b> Ava Cafasso Ely Reid
<b>12/13 year old</b> Kyra Pearce Marcus Kingston	<b>16 year old</b> Lucy Duff Oliver Bree

## District Cross Country Tuesday May 18<sup>th</sup> Seymour Race course

Congratulations to **Sonny Taylor** and **Zahira Wilson** who won DISTRICT Age Champions at the event on TUESDAY. Again it was a beautiful venue and all our students tried their little hearts out.....such a long way but all students crossed the finish line. Some were visibly exhausted but still completed the distance, such great sportsmanship to witness in these young athletes. Thanks to all those parents/grandparents who cheered all our runners down the straight, it was fantastic to witness such support for all our students.

Congratulations to the following students who progressed to Division level at Yea Racecourse next Friday May 28<sup>th</sup>..... Good Luck.

MIA BROWN	9/10 YEAR OLD GIRLS
SONNY TAYLOR	9/10 YEAR OLD BOYS
JAYDEN ATHERTON	9/10 YEAR OLD BOYS
FINN MELVILLE	9/10 YEAR OLD BOYS
ZAHIRA WILSON	11 YEAR OLD GIRLS
ALISHIKA KRIS	11 YEAR OLD GIRLS
JOBE DUNNE	11 YEAR OLD BOYS
TYLAH SHEARER	12 YEAR OLD GIRLS



# 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 2

Week 6	Mon 24 May	Year 10 Immunisations 9:30am in MPH
	Tue 25 May	Year 7-10 Round Robin
	Fri 28 May	Sorry Day Liturgy 2:15pm in MPH
Week 7	Mon 31 May	Southern Ranges Cross Country Year 7-10 (selected students)
	Tue 1 Jun	Kids Helpline @ School Sessions Year 3-6
Week 8	Fri 11 Jun	College Assembly 2:15pm in MPH
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Mon 14 Jun</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</b>
	Tue 15-Fri 18	Year 10 Exam Week
	Wed 16 Jun	Hume Cross Country (selected students)
Week 10	Mon 21-Fri 25	Year 10 Work Experience Week

### 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