



The Marian

www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au

[facebook.com/stmarysseymour](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysseymour)

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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.16

Term 2

24 June 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

During the past two weeks there have been enrolment interviews for 2022. Families from around the region view St Mary's as the right option for their children. In the interviews for families who do not have a past connection to Catholic education, it is very important they heard about the origin of St Mary's within the context of a Mercy education. We met many wonderful families and there are very impressive Year 7 students joining our College student community in 2022.

What we stand for!

'In the 1820's in downtown Dublin (Ireland) a young lady was left a substantial amount of money from a wealthy elderly couple she had cared for. This couple had no children of their own but saw in the young lady a genuine sense of kindness, care and compassion to others.

The young lady became an instant millionaire – very rare indeed for that period of Irish history when the country was entering the era of the potato famine. The young lady walked daily the streets of Dublin and could see so many young mothers in dire need of medical support and their children who had no basic education skills.

She could not justify having all this wealth and not helping these young mothers.

So, in keeping with her caring nature she decided to put all the will into building a two-story house in Baggott Street Dublin. She brought the mothers and children off the streets to give the mothers medical care and children some education – literacy. The young lady invited other women to assist her, she could not give them a wage but offered a bed and meals. Hearing of the young lady's commitment, more women came to devote their lives to helping her and over time many young mothers and children were cared for in the house.

That one decision in 1827 to open a house in Baggott Street Dublin is the very reason why Mercy Hospitals and Mercy Catholic schools have in the past and still provide health care and education across Australia.

For every student that graces the classrooms of St Mary's College Seymour we want (when they conclude their time at the College) them to take into the world the values of Catherine McAuley, which are the mark of what St Mary's College, Seymour stands for:

Compassion · Justice · Respect · Hospitality · Service · Courage.

Catherine McAuley like St Mary Mackillop was an extraordinary lady, two women who were leaders, visionary; determined and loyal to their faith and cause.

Mercy Education Values

An education in the Mercy tradition invites us to take up a challenge – one that encourages us to develop fully our own God given talents.

At the same time, it enkindles within us a desire to assist others, so that they too 'may have life, and have it to the full.' (John 10:10)

COMPASSION · JUSTICE · RESPECT · HOSPITALITY · SERVICE · COURAGE

Master Plan Consult

ROAM Architects have met with the College Board and this week had two sessions with student groups to receive feedback on what the students want in a College Master Plan. The architects (Rod and Amanda) were overwhelmed with the responses when they met with the small groups. The groups gave insightful feedback for the Master Plan:

- *Year 11 and 12*
- *A Performing Arts Centre*
- *Quiet places*
- *Meeting places for smaller groups*
- *New toilets*
- *A larger library with a study room*
- *More bubblers*
- *Space between the lockers*
- *Relaxing indoor spaces*
- *New oval with better outdoor facilities*
- *New cricket nets*
- *Bigger canteen area*
- *Undercover areas*
- *Technology Spaces*
- *Wellbeing garden spaces*
- *Vegetable garden and nicer grounds*
- *More to do on the playgrounds*
- *A place for Year 5/6 to call their own*
- *New carpets in some rooms*

ROAM will continue the consultation next term with staff, parents and senior secondary students.

Welcome Mrs Wessels

Tomorrow, Brooke Wessels will visit St Mary's for her induction in the new position of College Nurse. Brooke will be introduced to the staff at recess and to the students during the Period 4 Assembly.

Brooke will have a regular Health section in the Marian and we look forward to her beginning at St Mary's in Term Three.

May 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)

Students finish at 2:30pm tomorrow, Friday 25 June

Deputy Principal Operations

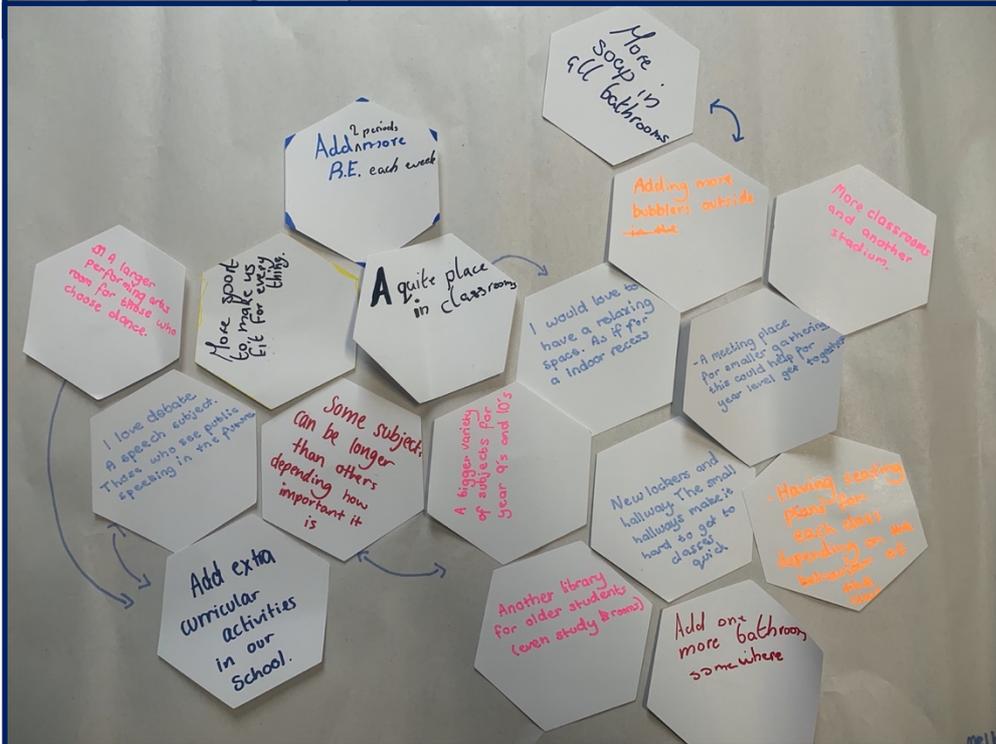
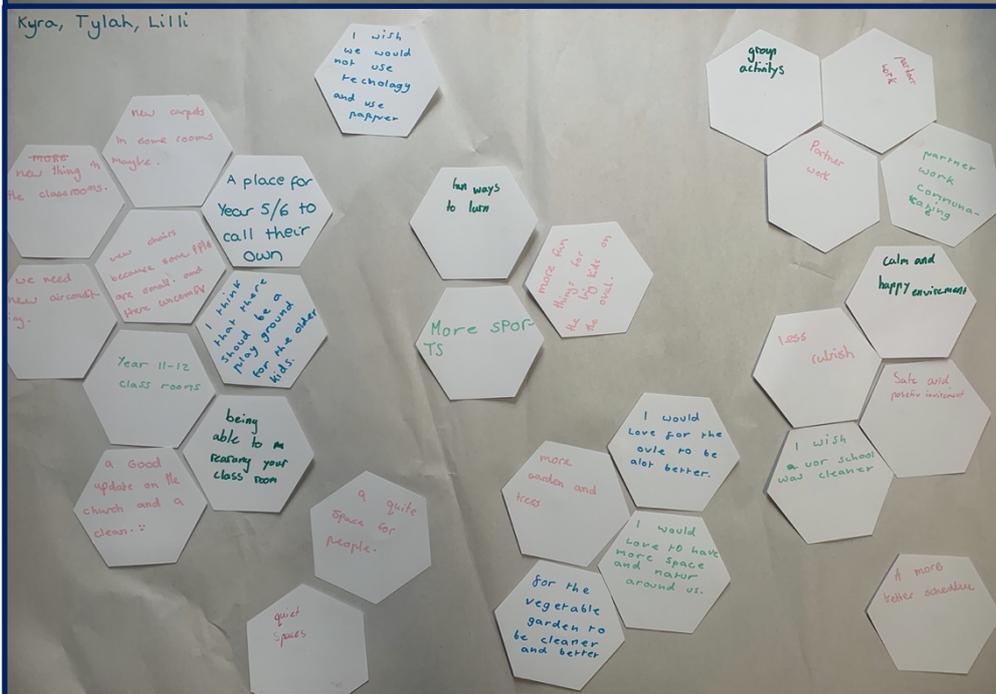
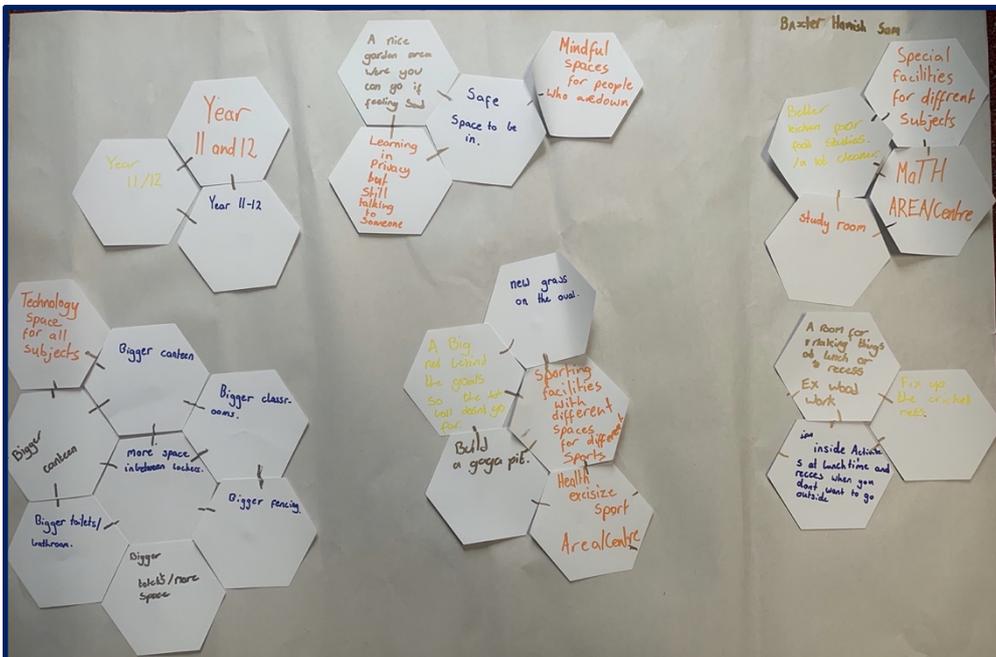


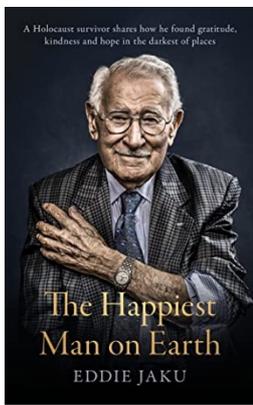
Term Two has come and gone in what feels like the blink of an eye. There has been a wonderful array of learning opportunities for our students. It is hard to believe that we have been able to fit all of these experiences into a single term.

- Sacrament Sharing Day
- St John's First Aid Lessons
- Taekwondo
- Swimming Program
- Reconciliation
- Career Interviews
- Resilient Youth Gamechangers Program
- Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
- Careers Expo
- NAPLAN
- GRIN
- Kids Helpline Cyberbullying Session
- Cross Country
- Resilience Across the Mitchell Shire (RAMS) Program
- Southern Ranges Round Robin
- First Eucharist
- Work Experience
- Remote Learning
- RAGE
- Lunchtime Activities (Dance, Coding, Robotics, Gardening, Mindful Colouring, Sand Play, Board Games, Kahoots, GeoGuesser)
- Create, Skate & Relate
- Art Therapy Self Esteem Group
- GVFL Auskick Football Skills
- Seasons of Growth
- Staff Spirituality Day
- Anzac Day Ceremony
- Camp Marysville
- After School Learning Support
- State Swimming Championships
- F-12 Pathway Committee: Spiritu Ducti
- Production Rehearsals
- Mercy Works Cross of Coins Fundraiser
- Choir
- Reading Buddies

Master Plan

Rod and Amanda Allen from ROAM Architects were on site this week to conduct student consultation groups for the process of the College Master Plan. On Tuesday they met with a group of Year 6 & 7 students followed by a group of Year 4 & 5 students. Rod and Amanda asked the students to consider the question, 'What does great learning look like at St Mary's College?' Students worked individually writing their ideas on a set of hexagons. They were then divided into small groups to share their ideas and were asked to connect their ideas by joining the hexagons into a beehive arrangement. The students involved engaged in the activity in a mature and considered manner and we thank them for their creativity and voicing their ideas. See the students' responses and ideas in the photos below.





I hope everyone has an opportunity to rest and recharge over the holidays. I am looking forward to reading a good book and watching some of The Championships (Wimbledon).

I recently purchased a book that comes highly recommended, 'The Happiest Man on Earth' by Eddie Jaku. I believe I will find great wisdom and inspiration in Eddie's story.

Mrs Genevieve Gordon

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Director of Learning and Teaching

Mission accomplished!

Term 2 has been completed, so many things have been achieved in learning and teaching.



Thank-you students and parents for teaching us so many things too!

There are many reasons why this winter school holiday break is important!

It's time to stay away from the school work.

It's time to look after your wellbeing.

It's time to break from routine and timetables.

It's time to make decisions as needed.

It's time to chat about random things with those around you.

It's time to ponder, think and enjoy the moment!

It's time to rest.



Reminders

- Student reports to be released on Wednesday 14th July
- Parent teacher meetings 20th and 21st July
- Bookings will be open in PAM on the same day as the reports are released.
-

Ms Christine Buhler

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Positive Behaviour for Learning

St Mary's College has begun the journey to refresh the implementation of Positive Behaviour for Learning PBL, facilitated by Jo-Ann Patrick from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS).

What is PBL?

PBL stands for Positive Behaviour for Learning. PBL is a whole-school framework for behaviour support that is used by hundreds of schools to promote positive behaviour and help schools to develop safe and supportive learning environments.

What are the benefits of using the PBL Framework?

- PBL helps schools to be consistent in the way they support and respond to behaviour.
- PBL enables schools to develop clear expectations and boundaries for behaviour and ensure that behaviour support is differentiated according to need.
- PBL assists schools to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for children and young people.

Why is PBL recommended to schools?

PBL has a strong international research base and has been shown to improve student outcomes, increase staff and student wellbeing and reduce behavioural incidents. PBL helps schools to select evidence-based practices which have been shown to improve student behaviour and establish safe and supportive learning environments. PBL consolidates current programs such as Restorative Practices and Second Steps, under a single umbrella.

Where can I find out more?

Click the link below to watch a 7minute clip about PBL

<https://mediasite.eq.edu.au/mediasite/Play/3b69ff6769d2418ca48d1c1b8dcd28051d>

What role do parents and carers play in PBL?

Parents and the wider community play an important role in creating a safe and supportive school environment. Schools involve parents and the school community in developing the Student Code of Conduct. This helps to align the behaviour expectations of the school to community expectations and means everyone shares an understanding of what is expected. Early in Term 3 we will send parents an online survey via Operoo for their input on the core positive behaviour expectations for St Mary's College. These expectations will become the foundation of PBL practices at St Mary's.

What is PBL?

PBL is short for **Positive Behaviour for Learning**.

PBL is a plan for schools to



- be a positive place to learn



- teach students how to behave at school



- tell students when they do the right thing



- help students when they make mistakes



- work together with parents.

Careers and Pathways

Work Experience

Congratulations to all Year 10 students who are out on Work Experience this week. We hope that they are having a great week exploring the world of work.

We are looking forward to hearing about their experiences when they return in Term 3.

Watch this space next term for photos!

Thank you very much to all businesses and employers that have offered these fantastic opportunities to our students. We recognise the time it takes away from their normal workload to take on a work experience student and we are extremely grateful.



Mrs Tanya Oakley

tanya.oakley@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Defence School Mentor



St Mary's Defence Kids Club/Hangout

We have had lots of fun at Defence Kids Club this term doing arts and crafts, chalk drawing, scavenger hunt, dancing and games. It's also been great to have many secondary Defence kids joining me for hot chocolates on these cold winter mornings and coming to Defence Hangout on Thursdays. I hope everyone enjoys the school holidays, looking forward to seeing you all next term.



DCO Event- The Great VIC/TAS Cook-off!

Calling all home chefs! Let your creativity shine with a cooking challenge using some "hero ingredients" and other ingredients you may find in your pantry or at the store. The list will be emailed out on Wednesday 7 July 2021. For all the information and to register click [here](#). Be sure to register by 6 July 2021. Once your dish is made, submit the following to DMFS.victas@defence.gov.au by COB Sunday 11 July 2021: Two Images max of 1MB of the chef with their creation and the dish, the recipe, the name of the chef and age (if the chef is a child). All submissions will be in the running to win a prize.

DCO Defence Family Helpline Support, local community information and advice is available for ADF families through the Defence Family Helpline. It operates 24-7 and is staffed by qualified human services professionals including social workers and psychologists. This is the best way to access DCO programs and services offered to help Defence families manage the military way of life.

Phone-1800 624 608 or Email- DefenceFamilyHelpline@defence.gov.au

Mrs Emma Marrinan

emma.marrinan@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Learning Diversity Leader



Speech Therapy

St Mary's College has been in the very fortunate position of having *Impact Speech* working onsite three days a fortnight throughout Semester One. Despite this, the demand has been high and not all students have been able to receive the weekly support that is well known to have an effect on language-skill levels. To further complicate the situation, from Term 3 onwards, we will lose one day of speech therapy per fortnight due to a shortage of therapists at *Impact Speech*. We have been investigating the availability of other local therapists but at this point in time, haven't been able to find a suitable replacement that can attend the College. For these reasons, in consultation with the speech pathologist from Impact Speech, we have decided to change the structure of speech therapy sessions at the College from Semester 2 onwards.

The current caseload has been studied to look at the level of need of individual students and a new timetable has been created to allow for more focused therapy for a 10-week period, for a smaller number of students. At the end of the 10-week period the caseload will be re-evaluated and a new timetable created for the next 10 weeks. By implementing this structure, we hope to provide a more concentrated period of intervention that is in-line with other intervention programs occurring within the school to provide more targeted support to students. Teachers will continue to monitor the development of language skills of all students and do follow-up work with the students who have been receiving speech therapy this year. Impact Speech will continue to provide guidance to teachers on how to support the language development of students who won't receive therapy next term.

If you would like to discuss your child's language development in light of these changes, please feel free to contact your child's teacher or myself. Impact Speech currently has a waiting list for private clients, as do all local speech therapists but they are more than happy for parents to contact them to investigate private speech therapy options in the future.

Students who will be included in the Impact Speech onsite therapy sessions for Term 3 will receive an email this week. Therapy sessions will be held every Tuesday.

Mrs Claire Kelly

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Notices

Reminder to families that requested P&F - Cadbury Fundraiser boxes.

They will be delivered to your child's classroom tomorrow. If you ordered multiple boxes, please make arrangements to collect them.



Money due back by Monday 19th July
Thank you for your support!



**Seymour Amateur Swimming Club
New Member Tryouts
2021/2022 Season**

When: Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th
of July 2021
Where: Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm
Equipment: Swim suit & goggles



Are you are interested in competitive swimming and training multiple times a week?
Do you have an understanding of all 4 strokes?
Our swimming club aims to create a fun, family environment. We encourage swimmers
to improve their fitness, technique and achieve faster swim times.
Meet some new families and be a part of a great local club.

All swimmers will be assessed at the Coaches discretion.
For further information please contact:
Gillian: 0406 869 533

The office will be closed during the
holidays. However, if you need to make
contact the email address
office@smseymour.catholic.edu.au
will be monitored periodically.



Free entry! Yes! Free Entry!



**BYO bean bag/cushions
or enjoy our comfy chairs.**

Saturday 3rd July!

Two sittings:

4:30pm for younger families – PG or G rated

7pm for slightly older – PG or M rated

See Facebook page for movie titles.

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



Snacks including pop corn and drinks available for purchase.

For more info or to book your spot contact:

Community Outreach Worker Michael: 0458 742 362

Facebook: Seymour Avenel/Nagambie Uniting Church

<https://fb.me/e/2bmfMmrDz>



Seymour, Avenel/Nagambie Uniting Church serving our community.



Students finish at 2:30pm tomorrow Friday 25 June

Dates to Remember

Term Dates 2021

Term 3: 12/07 – 17/09

Term 4: 04/10 – 17/12

Term 2

Week 10 **Fri Jun 25** **Last Day Term 2 – 2:30pm finish**

Term 3

Week 1 **Mon Jul 12** **First day Term 3 for Staff and students**

Wed Jul 14 Year 3, 4 & Confirmation Candidates attending Parish Mass 9am

Week 2 Tue Jul 20 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:30-6:30pm

Wed Jul 21 Parent Teacher Interviews 3:30-6:30pm

Thu Jul 22 Year 9 Retreat - Courage to Care 8:45am-3pm

Fri Jul 23 Whole College Assembly 2:15 in MPH

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