



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.32

Term 4

19 November 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

‘Spiritus Ducti’ F-12 Pathway Committee Project

The committee will meet on Thursday 25th November to finalise the project submission. MACS require a 5-year financial planning schedule as part of the submission. Paris Reddy (MACS Northern Region Business Manager) visited the College this week to discuss the MACS requirement. The work that has been done behind the scenes to ensure the submission is as thorough as it needs to be is a credit to the workings of the committee and particularly Project Manager, Tony O’Byrne. The submission will put forward an excellent case to return to Year 12 and is grounded in the theme of ‘Spiritus Ducti’ (moved by the spirit). Central to the aim of the F-12 Pathway Committee is the holistic nature and Catholic identity of our Colleges mission to provide a Catholic educational pathway from beginning to end.

Wellbeing (Counsellor) Referrals

College Counsellor Mel Nuttall will not be working at St Mary’s for the remainder of Term 4. All counsellor referrals will be forwarded directly to Wellbeing Director, Mrs Allison Moore for follow up as required.

College Board

As from 2022 the *College Board* will become known as the *College Advisory Council*. The change of name is due to Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) taking over the governance of all Catholic Schools in the archdiocese. With this change there are new Terms of Reference that apply to all Catholic Schools across the archdiocese – schools governed by MACS. The College Board worked through the new Terms of Reference during our Google Meet on Wednesday evening. Our meetings for the past two years have been via Google Meet and the AGM has been moved to 2022 due to the many associated issues with COVID-19 during 2021.

On behalf of the College community, thank you to our Board members for the time they so generously gave up to be on the Board to serve the common good of St Mary’s. All Board members are keen to see our/your College move forward into the future with excitement for the possibilities that may come from the Master Plan; the return to F-12 Pathway Committee submission and the new Primary Learning Centre, which will be operational in 2022. In particular, thank you to Chair Andrew for his mature and balanced leadership and wise reflection.

The Board Chair: Andrew Graham, Deputy Chair: Kelda Gilmore, Parents: Jana Ash, Cameron Clydesdale & Regina Schaefer, Parish Priest: Fr Eugene Ashkar, Business Manager: Felicity Melville Staff Representative: Anne Spencer, Deputy Principal Operations: Genevieve Gordon & I.

Parents & Friends Association

What a rocky ride it has been for our P&F since the beginning of 2021. So many ideas thwarted by COVID-19 restrictions. The new executive was keen to get active but alas those dreaded restrictions took hold again throughout the year. The past two years have been a balancing act but our ever-resourceful P&F Executive dealt so well with every COVID-19 obstacle.

With the MACS ICON Financial and Administration e-platform changeover for all MACS schools there are different financial compliances that now must be followed which was another learning curve both for College and the P&F. In recent weeks the P&F have been able to raise some funds with the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle and Krispy Kreme Doughnut Fundraiser.

The P& Executive

President: Megan Cox, Vice President: Elysia Ambrose, Secretary: Regina Schaefer, Treasurer: Brooke Curic, Uniform Shop Kate Loweke.

For any P&F Association 2021 like 2020 has been a tricky year to navigate and thank you to our P&F Executive for your generosity of spirit and time and the optimistic approach to what could be achieved this year when little was possible.

The Vaccinated and The Unvaccinated

As a husband, father and father-in-law of family members on the front line of medical care I believe I am reasonably versed in the pros and cons of vaccinations. Even with all the many layers of information on the COVID-19 virus, I do not impose my view and respect the views of others.

Getting vaccinated is an easy decision for some and an understandably difficult decision for others and both deserve respect. What must not be lost in all the commentary is the word, **'respect.'**

The College Executive have the responsibility to make decisions for the common good in regard to COVID-19. Sometimes this is easy, sometimes it can be difficult but nevertheless decisions are required and the College follows and supports CECV and MACS Operational Guidelines in minimising the risk and in doing our best to ensure there is minimal inconvenience to families if there is an outbreak on site.

Please be mindful that our **Office team** in doing their jobs do not deserve to be on the receiving end of any inappropriate responses. It is disrespectful and certainly does nothing to provide good role modelling for children. Every day our Office team do a fine job in caring and supporting the needs of students, staff and parents.

The Office team do not need or deserve to be subjected to a person's anger about personal rights.

COVID-19 is a tough journey regardless of which side of the fence one may stand.

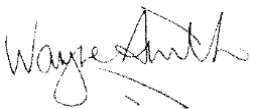
We welcomed Kinder children for their first transition on Tuesday. The kids had a ball and enjoyed their morning. This Friday we welcome Year 7 students for 2022 who will complete testing and then enjoy some activities led by Year 9 students.

The Foundation and Year 7 Information Evenings will be video sessions emailed home and added to the College website.

Finally, our students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. this evening. Father Ashkar will stand in place of Bishop Curtin to confirm the candidates. May the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit always live in the hearts of our students. A joyous time it is for Father Ashkar and the students.

May our actions and words be shining lights for others.

Best wishes



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 Wellbeing



Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)

Creating a safe and positive school climate is a common goal for many Catholic schools as they strive to provide improved academic and social–emotional outcomes for young people.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a whole-school framework that promotes positive behaviour across a school and helps schools develop safe and supportive learning environments. PBL helps schools to plan and implement practices across the whole school in order to improve educational and behavioural outcomes for all students. Within the PBL framework positive behaviour and social skills are explicitly taught, modelled, practised and acknowledged. PBL focuses on a proactive and preventative approach to ensure all students receive the appropriate level of support to help them be successful at school.

St Mary's staff and College leaders identified 6 school-wide behaviour expectations that they believe should form the positive behaviour expectations. From this list, 3 or 4 expectations will be chosen to create the Positive Behaviour Expectations Framework for St Mary's College. The words that staff and students have chosen were provided in a survey which will be distributed to families via Operoo on Monday 22nd November. From this Survey, families are asked to identify their top 3 expectations to form our Positive Behaviour Expectations.

Mrs Allison Moore

allison.moore@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Faith and Mission



PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:

Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent.

Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice. Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfilment the good work that You have begun in them.

As we prepare these children for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love. Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand.

Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example. We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.



Mrs Rochelle Gough

rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Science



The Year 8 Science students have been investigating light and the eye as part of their Energy Unit. Today, thanks to Ralph's Meats in Seymour, students were able to dissect a cow eyeball.

Students located the cornea, pupil, iris and optic nerve and were then able to look inside the eye. They also had the opportunity to remove the lens and place it onto some text to see its magnification ability.

It was great to see lots of enthusiastic students getting involved and what a way to celebrate being able to complete experiments together again.



Ms Andrea Williams

andrea.williams@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Indonesian



Last week Ibu Cullum and myself were invited to the launch of the Learning Management System (LMS) for our partner school in Singkawang (SMPN20). This was provided by the Australian government through our Bridge Partnership. It was a big deal for our partner school; the Australian Embassy in Jakarta was represented and the head of the Education Department was there. I had to give a speech in Indonesian and I was a bit nervous! This new



LMS is like our website PAM and Simon all in one site. There is even a dedicated section for 'Bridge Partnership' - which means St Mary's College. In 2022 we hope to be able to communicate more regularly with our partner school and share our work and ideas directly on their website and ours! The friendship that develops on a person-to-person basis is the best way to understand another culture. Our friends in Singkawang have proven that many times!

Why Indonesian Matters

We were also involved in the launch of the 'Rationale: Why Indonesia Matters in Our Schools'. This rationale was produced by the Asia Education Foundation (AEF) for the University of Melbourne.

Although the study of languages has declined in recent years, we believe strongly in the advantages of understanding the language and culture of another country. As a close neighbour with a stable, democratic government, 260 million people and the world's 5th largest economy, Indonesia offers Australia many opportunities. We already work closely together in trade, education, aid, defense and tourism. The next generation will be able to do even more if they know the basic language and customs. Our students are lucky that English is their first language but they are even luckier to be able to learn the language and culture of a fascinating and friendly country such as Indonesia!

SELAMAT BELAJAR!!

Ibu Angela dan Ibu Cullum.

Ms Angela Molinaro

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Mrs Jacqueline Cullum

jacqueline.cullum@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Defence School Mentor



ADF Support Contacts

- **Defence All-hours Support Line** (ASL) is a confidential service for ADF members and their families that is available by calling 1800 628 036.
- **ADF Chaplaincy Services** provide a 24/7 in person on call service that is regionally based. Call 1300DEFENCE (1300 467 425) and ask to speak to the on-call Chaplain in your area.
- **Open Arms** provide free and confidential counselling, group programs and peer support, 1800 011 046.
- **Safe Zone** also provide anonymous support on 1800 142 072.

DMFS Member and Family Helpline

Support, local community information and advice is available for ADF families through the Member and 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 DMFS programs and services offered to help Defence families manage the military way of life. Phone-1800 624 608 or Email memberandfamilyhelpline@defence.gov.au

DMFS Webinars

The DMFS webinar series covers a range of topics like Members with Dependents (Unaccompanied), preparing for relocation during the pandemic, deployment and other topics. If you missed a recent webinar and want to find out about the questions asked, visit the DMFS website webinar page.

<https://defence.gov.au/members-families/Events/webinar.asp>

Mrs Emma Marrinan

emma.marrinan@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Business Manager



New College Administration System

The College is in the process of transitioning the current College administration system to a centralised and consolidated system called ICON, which encompasses student/enrolment data, finance and HR. This change will see some of the College's current administrative processes move to a shared services arrangement. The implementation of ICON is in accordance with MACS requirements and strategic direction.

The transition is well underway with a lot of work being undertaken during the pre-preparation and migration phases. The project is currently in the "black out" period. The "black out" period means administration staff do not have access to an operational system, as data up to 21 October 2021 is being prepared and reviewed by MACS staff for transfer to the new system. As a result, staff are using a manual system and recording details in spreadsheets, i.e. fee payments, enrolments, student detail changes etc.

If there are any ICON process changes which may impact parents/guardians, you will be informed once information is provided to the College.

Fee Statement availability during the transition between systems

Fee statements would normally be sent to families following the end of each calendar month. This will not be able to occur until after the system goes live and the manual data is inputted into the new system during live training. For fees, this will be after 24 November 2021. If you require confirmation of your fee account balance during this period, please contact Stacia Read at the College on 5792 2611 or via accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Please be reminded that the **due date for the final payment of all fees and levies was 31 October 2021**. Once again, thank you to all those families who have been making regular payments throughout the year or have already paid their fees in full.

The College bank account details are:

Account name:	St Mary's College General Account
BSB:	083 347
Account No.	839 989 790

For current payments, please remember to use your statement account number and surname as the payment reference when paying via EFT.

Contact will soon be made with those families who have an outstanding account balance to discuss payment plan options. If you need to discuss alternative payment arrangements, please make contact with myself or Stacia at the College office as soon as possible.

Mrs Felicity Melville

felicity.melville@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Accounts



Unnamed fee payment

The College recently received an unnamed Direct DEPOSIT for a substantial amount.

The payment was received in the College bank account this week. If you made a direct deposit to the St Mary's College bank account this week, please contact the College as soon as possible so that we can allocate the payment correctly.

Mrs Stacia Read

accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



What is Cystic Fibrosis?

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is one of the most common, autosomal recessive, life-limiting disease affecting children and adults in Australia. It causes thick, sticky mucus to build up in the body which affects the lungs and digestive system.

Common symptoms of cystic fibrosis include trouble digesting food, difficulty breathing, salty sweat and skin, persistent cough and increased vulnerability to colds and flus. We have a student in our St Mary's community who lives with CF and is more susceptible to respiratory infections, to help prevent this student from hospital admission it is very important to keep your child home if they are unwell with a runny nose, cough, sore throat, mild fever or showing signs of any viral or bacterial infections.

At present, there is no cure for CF. It is a life-long disease which requires ongoing daily treatment, including multiple medications, intense physiotherapy and regular appointments or stays at the hospital.

Fundraising – SOCK it 2 CF

CF need your help to **SOCK it 2 CF** and help make things better for the thousands of children and adults living with cystic fibrosis (CF) in Australia. If you are able, please buy a pair of red socks and help raise awareness by sharing your own **SOCK it 2 CF** selfies online using the hashtag **#SOCKit2CF**.

Together we can **SOCK it 2 CF** and make a big socking difference!

<https://www.sockit2cf.com.au/shop>



Mrs Brooke Wessels

brooke.wessels@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Notices

Term 3

Week 7	Fri 19 Nov	Year 10 Exams conclude
	Fri 19 Nov	Confirmation - Year 6 – 6:00pm - Year 7 and 8 - 7:00pm
Week 8	Tue 23 Nov	Flying into Foundation Transition – 9:00 – 11:30am
	Thu 25 Nov	Whole College - Year 10 Celebration Mass – 9:00am
	Fri 26 Nov	Year 10 Farewell Luncheon
Week 9	Tue 30 Nov	Flying into Foundation Transition – 9:00 – 1:00pm

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 3: 12/07 – 17/09

Term 4: 04/10 – 10/12

SEYMOUR BASKETBALL

SUMMER DOMESTIC COMPETITION



DATES:

TERMS 4 & 1

START: TUES 30/11/21
END: TUES 5/4/22

10 week Season + Finals.
BREAK OVER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS



AGE GROUPS &
TIMES:

U12 (2011 & 2012 BORN)* - from 4:40pm
U14 (2009 & 2010)* - from 5:50pm
U16 (2007 & 2008) – from 7pm.

*U12/U14 teams will have a 20-minute training session prior to each game, conducted by Seymour basketball.



REGISTRATION:

\$70 – including the \$25 Basketball Victoria Licence, current for 12 months.
+ \$20 singlet deposit, refunded after the season.

Players to register individually and be allocated teams by Seymour Basketball.

REGISTER:



For more information, contact:
E – basketballseymour@gmail.com
Ph – 0413 307 752



Seymour Junior Football Netball Club

SJFNC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Are you connected to a current player?

Do you have an up and coming player for 2022?

Do you simply have a love for Footy or Netball?

Are you interested in being part of our Community group?

Would you like to be more involved and support the club?

Well..... come along to our AGM to find out more.....

All positions will be declared vacant

“teamwork makes the dreamwork”

Date: Tuesday 23rd of November

Time: 6.00pm

Locatio: Main club rooms (not back oval)

Kings Park Seymour

