



# The Marian

[www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au)  
[facebook.com/stmarysseymour](https://facebook.com/stmarysseymour)  
<https://pam.smseymour.catholic.edu.au>

2022 College Theme

*'Act with Courage, be strong in your faith'*

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

Newsletter No. 8

Term 2

2023



## Dear Parents and Guardians

I have no doubt that many workplaces outside of the health and education sectors are also struggling with Covid-19 and now the flu season is hitting with a vengeance. The past two years has been demanding. We currently have staff on leave due to Covid, the flu virus and or with other related health issues. Yet the collegiality and willingness of staff to assist is of no surprise at St Mary's. Our staff support each other and together we look after the village. Our daily operations at present are symbolic of the story of the loaves and fishes as we keep classes intact. The reality for education across Australia is that there are very few casual relief teachers around - the days of automatically replacing a teacher on leave are long gone. Some schools since the beginning of the 2022 are keeping a year level at home either weekly or fortnightly due to teacher shortage. St Mary's has not had to resort to such a dire measure and it is our best intention not to do so.

## Peace is more than a word." (Year 3)

On Thursday, I, Rosey and other staff were privileged to be invited to the Year 3 'Liturgy of Peace'. The students were in charge of all preparations and so well prepared by Miss Jade and Mrs Evans. The children spoke with such confidence – did not miss a beat! We danced, sang and listened to readings from Isaiah and John's Gospel on the meaning of peace. The liturgy was a reminder that a holistic education from the heart changes lives. We can all change the world through our interactions in the classroom, the playground, in the workplace and in our homes. Thankyou Year 3!

## Year 3 Prayer of Peace

*O Lord God,*

*We pray for peace and love in all nations among all the people that all wars and hatred will end.*

*Give me strength to be able to place my hands in yours and trust that you will take care of everything.*

*We need to remember each day how to learn, love and live.*

*Teach us to praise the good and not the bad.*

*Amen*



## A Great Day for Participants

From the reports I received the F-12 Planning day was an outstanding success in every way. Thank you to Felicity Melville (Business Manager) for her excellent organisation and to the College Advisory Council, Parents & Friends and other parent representatives for attending and offering their parent perspectives. MACS were represented through the Northern Region General Manager John Mills and Planning & Facilities Project Manager, Sebastian Russell. The MACS facilitators, Christopher Bence, Regional Leadership Consultant and Snjezana Singh, Learning Consultant in School Effectiveness were outstanding presenters keeping the agenda flowing and the conversation on track.

Friday began with a Q&A via zoom with the Marymede Catholic College Principal (Tim Newcomb) and students.



I was not present Friday due to illness. A reflection on the day is included this Marian from Felicity.

## Our Gracious Visitors from Singkawang



St Mary's College, through the enthusiasm and effort of Language teacher Ms Molinaro, has, since 2015 developed a close relationship with Indonesian Partner School, *Singkawang SMP20 (Yrs 7-9) West Kalimantan, Indonesia*. This week three adults from the school, Ibu Eka, Pak Endra and the Principal, Pak Hendra visited St Mary's. Our visitors took five days to travel to Seymour. Their world is vastly different from ours and our wide open spaces were hard for them to comprehend, as were so few people on the train from Southern Cross to Seymour. They have never experienced cold weather so our mild winter conditions were a shock. They enjoyed wearing the College beanie.

Logistically, the organisation of the trip was difficult but the end result was well worth the effort. Thank you to Ms Molinaro and Mrs Cullum for their generous hospitality and coordination.

The picture shows Ms Ally presenting an indigenous story of the St Mary's College and Singkawang communities sharing togetherness at the water hole. The art work will hang proudly in the SMP20 school.

Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed their camp at Kyneton. F-2 have had their first excursion to the 'big smoke.' Year 3 & 4 went to Melbourne today to experience the glorious Arts Centre. Importantly, St Mary's students are proud and respectful ambassadors

for the College when away. We expect no less of our students and it is pleasing to know our students are grateful to have such opportunities.

How good it is to see such smiles on parents faces at enrolment interviews when they hear, "Johnny is going to Year 12"!

Take care and go gently.

**Principal, St Mary's College Seymour**

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

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

## *F-12 Pathway- College Planning Day*

With the Melbourne Archdiocese of Catholic Schools (MACS) announcement of St Mary's College moving to Year 11 in 2024 and Year 12 in 2025, the College has much planning and preparation to undertake to ensure all is operational on day one of 2024.

Last Friday the College held an initial planning day, facilitated by Mr Christopher Bence (MACS Regional Leadership Consultant), Mrs Snjezana Singh (MACS Learning Consultant School Effectiveness Northern Region) and assisted by Mrs Jeannette Seguel (MACS Learning Consultant, Mathematics School Support).

The planning day was the beginning of the next phase of the journey for the College. The College staff were joined by the Northern Region MACS Manager Mr John Mills, Mr Sebastian Russell a representative from the MACS Planning and Infrastructure team, College Advisory Council members, P&F Association members and invited parents of our current student community.

The participants took part in a number of group sessions which looked at the following discussion points:

### **Interaction - using McKinsey's 7-S framework**

Day One 2024 - How do we ensure that every student in the whole College is in the right place at the right time and knows where to go next?

### **Renewal – Domain (Subject Area) and Primary Year level teams**

What will it take from our domain and year level teams to be ready to go on Day 1, 2024?

### **Reflection**

What could get in the way of successful completion?

What could we do to minimise this impact?



### Where to from here?

The next steps – A coordinated Strategic Plan and Timeline.

Masterplan presentation by ROAM Architects.

It was wonderful to see the College staff, MACS staff and College community representatives come together and positively participate and actively contribute to the sessions. The planning day and the contribution of all involved is invaluable to the planning process and moving the College forward to Year 12.

The vision of the F-12 Pathway Committee was **'Spiritu Ducti'** and we hold onto this vision, as we continue on this journey.

***Spiritu Ducti*** – 'Motivated by the Spirit,' calls us to reflect on the remarkable life of Venerable Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy she founded who have such a special place in the history of St Mary's and the town of Seymour itself. The College believes its return to a full secondary provision reflects her spirit and approach to mission.

(F-12 Pathway Committee p25. 2nd March 2022)



## Director of Faith and Mission



The National Reconciliation Week (27 May-3 June) 2022 theme, "Be Brave. Make Change." is a challenge to all Australians— individuals, families, communities, organisations and government—to Be Brave and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can Make Change for the benefit of all Australians.

Below is an interview with Indigenous footballer Daniel Wells from the Australian Catholics magazine.

### The greatest reward



Indigenous footballer Daniel Wells has had a successful AFL career, but says the satisfaction he gets from football cannot compare to the deeper fulfillment he gets from his family and his faith.

### **Who inspires you?**

My family - and that's not just my wife and little one - that includes my family back home, who worked really hard in the early days to help get me to where I am now. When it gets a bit tough I think of my family. As a kid, I looked up to Peter Matera, who played for the West Coast Eagles back in the 1990s. He was someone I copied and wanted to be like. But once you get in here, you have to land on your own feet and

start trying to find your own ways. I've been here 10 years now, so I'm always trying to keep in front of the game.

### **How does it feel knowing you are a source of inspiration to others?**

I really enjoy helping out the young ones and just trying to fast track them, telling them all my little secrets, or the things I like to do. I think the best way you can influence or impact others is by example - train hard and do the right thing. I was very similar to those younger guys - I used to watch the older guys and see what they did and pretty much mimic them, so there's no doubt they're doing that to all the older guys here. So, we just make sure we train hard and carry ourselves with class and dignity. If we do that I think the boys can't go wrong.

### **What are you most grateful for in your life?**

I'm grateful for my parents and for all they've done for me and my siblings. We had a tough upbringing - Mum and

Dad had to work hard to make ends meet and sometimes to put food on the table. I wouldn't change anything in my past, but when I look back and realise how difficult they had to do it - especially Mum - I think they're pretty amazing. Back then Mum would always say, 'there are a lot more people worse off than we are', so she always kept things in perspective. Hopefully that's something I continue to remember and do because, compared with what I had and what I've got now, it is two different worlds. I'll never forget where I came from and what I've been through; I'll always be grateful for what I now have.

### **You have a strong Catholic faith - why is this?**

As a young kid, I've always felt a sense of protection. We didn't belong to any religion growing up but we did believe in God - we just didn't do anything about it. We didn't go to church or Mass or anything like that - we went to Sunday school but I think that was more for Mum and Dad to have the morning off. My first experience of the Catholic faith was through meeting my wife - so, she was the main influence for why I became Catholic. But now I personally feel very strongly about it. We've both grown in our faith and we've been on that spiritual journey together ever since we married and I became a Catholic. And now with the birth of Laudate - she's the apple of my eye - the responsibility is back on us to make sure we bring her up in a way that is satisfactory to God. We want to make sure we bring her up in the best way we can.

When I think about everything in my life, you can't even compare my faith and family to work - they're just not in the same league. I am extremely grateful that I'm playing footy and I'm grateful for the experiences it is providing me - it allows me to do things that I would never have thought possible - but finding out who I really am through my faith and through my family is way more important.

### **What is the best advice you have ever received?**

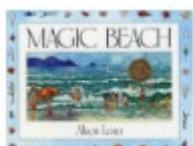
Treat people the way you'd like to be treated - that's something I try to live by. That's just being kind, courteous and respectful. I think if you do that, you can't go wrong. I also think it's important to stay humble and to keep things simple - don't get caught up in too many things.

Resource: *Australian Catholics*, magazine

**Mrs Rochelle Gough**

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

## ***F-2 Coordinator***



Last Wednesday saw F-2 have an amazing day in Melbourne! Taking 110 students who had not been on an excursion before, nor had some staff, I admit to having a few nerves. I needn't have worried. We over catered for travel sickness and nervous children but to my delight we had none of the above. The Students were brilliant. They were so chatty and excited as we travelled through Melbourne. They could see from rooftops and peer downwards towards the river seeing various shipping vessels. The play and activity were fabulous, and running around afterwards was incident free. Pat on the back to all our kids, LSO's and staff who did a spectacular job.

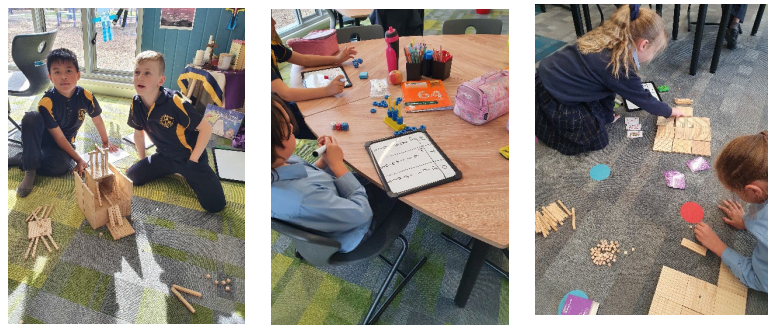






**Year 1 Science** is about investigating the night sky. We created our own constellations using marshmallows and toothpicks.

**Year 2 Maths** has been experimenting with different ways to represent 3-digit numbers - numerals, abacus and MAB blocks. They also created pictures - spiders, flowers, houses - using MAB blocks. They then calculated what the value of their picture was.



Congratulations to our most recent TAG Award recipients - Kertney, Charlie, Hunter, Peyton, Macey, Kaylee, Andy, Liliana, Isla S. Keep up the great work 'Showing Respect, Acting Justly, Doing your best'.



**Mrs Anne Spencer**  
anne.spencer@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



## 3-6 Coordinator

What a fortnight for 3-6 it has been. Our award winners for this cycle:

### Year 3-4:

Auroa B, Naomi S, Jax H,  
Violet W, Ella Mc, Nash W.



### Year 5-6:

Tyler J, Julian R.B, Lachlan A, Samantha C, Mackenzie P.



Our Year 3 students have been busy in the kitchen cooking up some PIZZA! Enjoy the pictures! Mr Harding enjoyed this and is looking forward to more goodies coming from the Year 3's.

Well done to all who participated in the district cross country. Especially our age champions Sonny Taylor and Zahira Wilson.



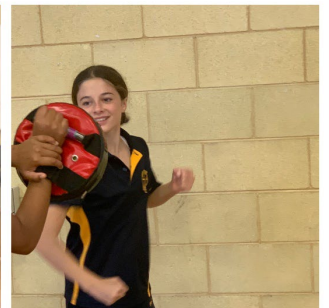
Rubbish is an ongoing issue at school and we do our best to combat the issues around waste. We have compost and recycling bins at school to reduce and

reuse as much as we can. We are constantly talking to our students about ethical waste disposal and the need for us to focus on what impact we have on our environment. Where possible, try to send reusable containers to school to combat single-use plastic and reduce the amount of waste at school.

Taekwondo continues as students continue to investigate the discipline and coordination it takes to participate! Year 6 are enjoying the experience and the students enjoy spending time with Arky!

**Mr Ed Harding**

[edward.harding@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:edward.harding@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)



# Business Manager



## Fees and Levies

As we head towards the middle of the year, families are reminded that the due date for the payment of all Tuition Levies (Primary and Secondary) is **1 June 2022**. These fees must be paid in full unless alternative arrangements have been made with the College. It is a good time for those families who have direct debit or direct deposit arrangements in place to review their payment instalment amounts to meet their commitment in 2022 and into 2023.

Reminders will be sent to families over the coming weeks. Families with overdue payments will be contacted to discuss payment options. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Lisa Cinquegrana, Business Assistant at the College if you need to discuss any fee related matters.

## 2022 Fee due dates

Tuition Levy (Primary and Secondary)	1 June	
Family Fee & Capital Levy	31 October	
Excursion/Incursion/Camp Levies	31 October	
Technology Fee - Secondary Laptops Instalments	Year 7	28 January
	Years 8, 9, 10	1 March
	Years 7, 8, 9	1 September
VET LEVY (Relevant Year 10 Students only)	1 March	

Please refer to your February Fee Statement for an outline of the original charges for 2022. If you require a copy of this statement, please contact Lisa at [accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au).

The May fee statements will be sent to families on 3 June 2022 and will include CSEF rebates (where applicable).

## College Bank Details

The College bank details:

**Account Name:** St Mary's College General Account  
**BSB:** 083 347  
**Account No:** 839 989 790

The bank details are also provided on the fee statements, as well as in the College Fee Information package which is located on the College website. The College Fee Information package for 2022 was emailed to families in December 2021.

Please ensure you quote your family account number, identified on the fee statement, and your surname as the reference when making any payments.

## Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF) – Final application reminder for 2022

Any families who are eligible for CSEF, who have not yet applied, and wish to do so must complete and lodge a CSEF application form (with evidence of eligibility i.e., current Health Care Card) at the College Office by **17 June 2022**.

Any **applications after this date cannot be processed**. Please contact Mrs Lisa Cinquegrana at the College Office for any CSEF enquiries. Information regarding CSEF is attached to this newsletter.

**Mrs Felicity Melville**

[felicity.melville@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:felicity.melville@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)



# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

### CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

### HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2021, you do not need to complete an application form in 2022 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2022 or you did not apply in 2021.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2022.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



### MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)



# Indonesian

## Berita dari Indonesia!

News from Indonesia!

This week we were very fortunate to have 3 visitors from our partner school, SMPN 20 Singkawang, in West Kalimantan, Indonesia.

Pak Hendra, who is the Principal, Pak Endra, who teaches Humanities and we welcomed back Ibu Eka for her second visit.

It has been a fun-filled few days with visits to the classrooms, dancing, singing and much more. We had an Indonesian dinner with staff and an "Aussie" morning tea with vegemite sandwiches and lamingtons.

We have also shared information about our curriculum and school processes, some which they hope to be able to implement in their school when they return. Other experiences included a Melbourne city tour, visiting the Asia Education Foundation Office at the University of Melbourne, and Healesville Sanctuary.

We hope to strengthen the relationship with our Bridge Partner school into the future.

Today Pak Hendra described the experience here as 'luar biasa' extraordinary!

We hope to see them again soon, maybe in Singkawang!



**Ms Angela Molinaro & Mrs Jacqueline Cullum**  
angela.mollinaro@smseymour.catholic.edu.au  
Jacqueline.cullum@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



# Office Manager/Enrolment Registrar

## 2023 Enrolments

The College is currently conducting enrolment interviews for 2023. Families that have siblings to enrol for 2023 are encouraged to do so as a matter of priority. Application forms can be downloaded from the College website or collected from the office.

## Students Leaving Early for Appointments

If your child needs to be collected early to attend an appointment, please notify the college by any of the following methods (prior to recess and lunch):

- Via your PAM account, and select Parent Notified Absences
- Email the College: [office@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)
- Send a note with your child/ren to the classroom teacher.

Notifying the College, reduces interruptions during class time through frequent PA announcements.

Thank you for your assistance.

**Mrs Gail Strahan**

[gail.strahan@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:gail.strahan@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)

## Defence School Mentor

### Defence News

As I have been visiting defence students within the different classrooms I have realised you are never too old to learn new things! From Foundation to Year 6 we have been having fun learning different types of dance and singing in music, and new games in physical education.

During Tuesday lunchtime Kids Club we had a Lego day, with Lego building, games and colouring. It was amazing to see the imagination and concentration that went into the constructions and the smiles that went with it.

As the weather gets cooler our Defence Hot Chocolate mornings are becoming more popular and it is a great way for Year 5-10 Defence kids to drop in and have a chat while getting a warm drink to start the day.

### Puckapunyal and District Neighbourhood Centre

Puckapunyal and District Neighbourhood Centre offers a range of activities and programs to suit all different ages. Go to <https://puckacomunity.org.au/events/> to see what's available.

Here are just two of the programs on offer.

**Mrs Janice Kerris**

[janice.kerris@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:janice.kerris@smseymour.catholic.edu.au)



## Sports Coordinator

### Primary District Cross Country

It was a chilly but fun-filled day down at Seymour Racecourse on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May for the Primary District Cross Country. Congratulations to all students who were outstanding sportspeople and representatives of our College.

The following students were successful in progressing to the next stage, Division Cross Country on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June, for their respective age groups:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Ellie Taylor  | • Logan Shearer   |
| • Ava Pearce  | • Ben Brown   |
| • Ava Gordon  | • Alishika Kris   |
| • Sonny Taylor – <b>10 Year Old District Age Champion</b> | • Sienna Lynch  |
| • Udayveer Bhatti   | • Wyatt Lynch   |
| • Abigail Charles   | • Zahira Wilson – <b>12/13 Year Old District Age Champion</b> |
| • Arden Reid  |   |

### Secondary Southern Ranges Cross Country

The Secondary Students will participate in the next level of Cross Country competition on Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Yea Racecourse. The successful students have been notified and a Consent Form is accessible for Parents via PAM.

### Secondary Round Robin

The staff and students enjoyed an outing of Netball, AFL, Soccer and Badminton on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, travelling all





over the countryside to meet for the Southern Ranges Round Robin Tournament. These days are great for students to enjoy with their friends, participate in a supportive sporting environment and foster relationships with their teachers. From all accounts it seems everyone had a great time and gave their best at their events!

We look forward to the Year 7 and Year 8 Boys Soccer team participating at the Hume Region Competition in Term 3! Well done Mr. Lloyd and Team!

### Community Sporting Achievements

It is great to celebrate not only in-school sporting achievements but also those students experience outside of the school grounds. This section is dedicated to acknowledging those students in their sporting achievements and/or awards.

Congratulations to both Zahira and Alexis Wilson who competed at a Cross Country event in the city. Zahira ran 5<sup>th</sup> overall in the U12 Girls and Alexis was the overall winner for the U14 Girls competition.



**Miss Courtney Aldous**

courtney.aldous@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

## College Calendar

Term 2		
<b>Week 6A</b>	Fri 3 June	2023 Continuing Enrolment Survey to be completed (via PAM accounts)
	Sun 5 June	Eucharist – Sacrament (10:00am-11:30am)
<b>Week 7B</b>	Mon 6 June	Primary Division Cross Country (10:30am-2:00pm)
	Tue 7 June	Confirmation Information Evening (7:00pm-8:30pm)
<b>Week 8A</b>	<b>Mon 13 June</b>	<b>Queen's Birthday Public Holiday</b>
	Wed 15 June	Semester 1 Reports Released 3pm
	Fri 17 June	Hume Cross Country Yr 7-10 (Select Students) (9:00am-3:15pm)

### 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 2022

**Term 2:** 26/04 – 24/06

**Term 3:** 11/07 – 16/09



Book Club issue #4 is out now!  
Please have your orders in by 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2022

## Parents and Friends Association



**Bogan Bingo**  
EST. 2005  
WE ROCK. WE KNOW.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday 22nd  
October 2022 at 7pm**

*Thanks to: St Mary's College P&F*

**WWW.BOGANBINGO.COM** *LOCKING IN THE LAUGHS FOR YOU.*

*More details to come!*

## Community



**GOTAFE**

**GOTAFE SEYMOUR  
FAMILY FUN DAY**

**35 Wallis Street, Seymour**

**Saturday 4th June, 10:00am – 1:00pm**

Join us to celebrate our new and improved facilities, with plenty of fun and activities for the whole family!

Play with some reptiles, enjoy live music, coffee, delicious food, local market stalls, and more.

Take a tour through the new campus and explore the state-of-the-art health training equipment, technical workshops, collaborative learning spaces and the new internal courtyard.

If you're considering studying, this is your chance to see what GOTAFE is all about! 😊



**BE  
BRAVE  
MAKE  
CHANGE.**

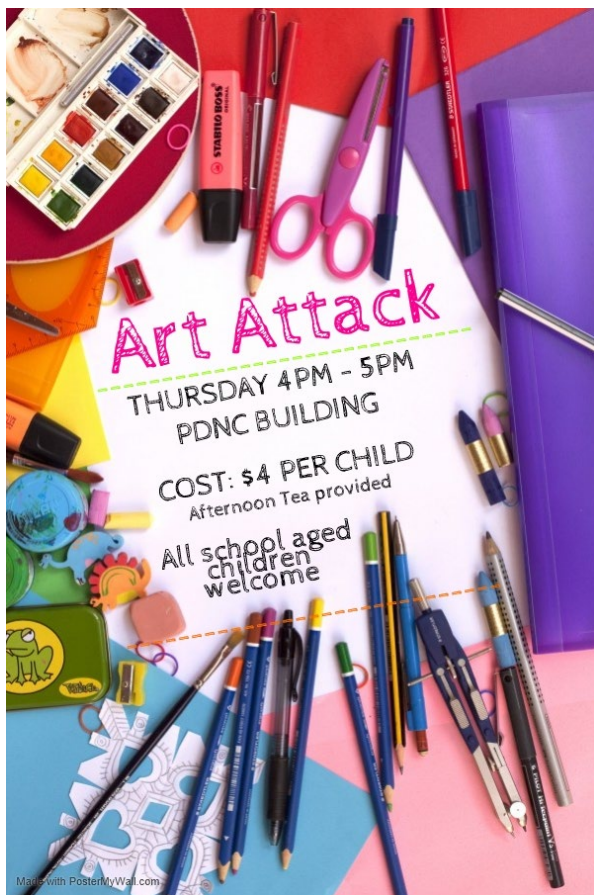
**NATIONAL  
RECONCILIATION  
WEEK 2022**

**27 MAY – 3 JUNE**

**#NRW2022**  
**NRW.RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU**

RECONCILIATION  
AUSTRALIA





# ADULT ART CLASS



A relaxed and social art class for  
beginners to advanced painters.

Run by local artist Alison Myers.



FRIDAY 9.30am - 12.00pm

COST: \$15

PDNC Building

## 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