



The Marian

www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au
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.20

Term 4

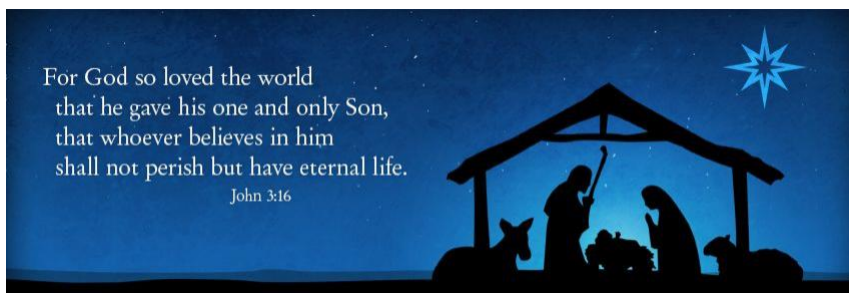
20 December 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

"God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If he gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it."

-Pope Francis-

The reason for the season.



"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."

C. S. Lewis

May Christmas be a time of peace and joy for you and your families. A time of kindness and blessed with the message of the newborn Christ.

Daily I witness the lengths our staff go to to support parents in need and at the same time ensuring the students are well educated and cared for. Schools are often viewed by the media and society as the "they'll fix it". St Mary's is not a fix it College, it is far more than that. Our mission as a Catholic College is very clear to us. Nurturing children's spirit as much as we nurture and educate their minds to believe in what is possible. Our goal is to be the best, and to be the best we must always be holistic in nature.

Students who have been educated at St Mary's move onto Year 11 and 12 schools and often excel in the VCE. The grounding, formation and education they received at St Mary's sets them up for those final years and in 2024/25 we look forward to that education pathway returning.

Staffing

We welcome our new staff for 2023:

Teaching: Maureen Smullen & Lorainne Maunders; Wendy Brentnall; Joanne Kemp; Vicki Hinds; Jasmine Francis and we welcome the return of Lorna Hooper and Mary Tampion.

Non Teaching: Yvonne Maxwell (Daily Organiser); Andrea Webster (Enrolment Registrar).

We farewellled Christine Buhler; Fiona Robinson; Frank Rowland; Darcy McLean. May God's blessings be with them on their move to new opportunities or life changes.

Classes

Primary families will be informed of their classes before the new College year begins.

Beginning Dates

23-27/23	College Office Open Closed 26/1 Australia Day
27/1/23	Staff
30/1/23	Staff PD Day 7:00pm Yr 7 Laptop Roll Out, Multi Purpose Hall McIntyre Street entrance
31/1/23	Foundation; Year 7; Year 10
1/2/23	Year 1 -Year 10 Foundation Rest Day & Testing

College Advisory Council & Parents and Friends Association

Thankyou to all members of the Advisory Council and P&F Association. St Mary's is blessed to have such wonderful parents in these positions who offer their generous spirit.

Fr Eugene

Students and staff appreciate and value Fr Eugene's connection to, and relationship with our College. Fr Eugene is an integral member of our College community and we look forward to continuing this wonderful and important relationship in 2023.

A Christmas message from Fr Eugene:

A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT AND BLESSING

'The last few years have been a challenge to our ability to attend to the most important aspect of our being, our spiritual health, wellbeing, and eternal life. So much emphasis has been placed on our physical world and the generation of fear that almost everything else has been pushed into the abyss of seeming irrelevance. Our economy is in shatters, our nation is in ever increasing debt, and our education and morality formation has been opened up to the whims of whoever wants control.

Over the last six years a great deal of effort has been exercised in this parish to ensure that this parish has kept its eyes on the prize, salvation, sound moral formation and the growth of truth and Catholic education in Seymour. This year we have achieved the expansion of our primary students' numbers beginning our restoration of St Mary's College to the prestige and influence in the region as a Foundation to Year 12 College.

However, it must be stressed that success in this area, just as success in the area of faith formation and growth everywhere in the parish is subject to the grace given to us by God. We must never forget that the mandate is to seek, to ask and to knock if we are to be answered and to receive that which we all so much want, namely holiness of ourselves, our families, our parish and our town.

This Christmas may we once again focus our minds and hearts on the wonderful gift of the presence of the Lord. This coming takes place in a way that seems so lacking, the family is poor, is not influential, is displaced and seemingly ignored, yet it is in this very format that our salvation is so lovingly offered to us all. May we never feel that this life is empty and not fair, for we have been called to something so much greater than our minds can conceive. God is calling us to the greatness of heaven through the easiest path of living the here and now. God bless and keep you all.'

Christmas New Year Parish Mass Times

DATE	TIME	WHAT
20 - 23 December TUESDAY-FRIDAY	9:00am Seymour 9:30am Seymour	Mass Confessions
24 December SATURDAY CHRISTMAS EVE	8:30am Seymour 9:00am Seymour 9:30am Seymour 6:00pm Seymour 7:00pm Seymour	Confessions Mass Confessions Carols & Confession Mass
25 December SUNDAY	8:00am Tallarook 9:30am Seymour 10:00am Seymour	Mass Confessions Mass
26 December MONDAY	NO MASS THIS DAY	
27 - 30 Dec TUESDAY-FRIDAY	9:00am Seymour	Mass
31 December 2022 SATURDAY	9:00am Seymour 5:30pm Seymour 6:00pm Seymour	Mass Confessions Vigil Mass
1 January 2022 SUNDAY	8:00am Tallarook 9:30am Seymour 10:00am Seymour	Mass Confessions Mass



Go gently on the roads

Every Christmas Lynden Walker and his next door neighbour on farms near Temora NSW have a neighbourly competition to add some light for the travellers on the Burley Griffin Highway to Narranderra. Go gently on those roads and if you happen drive past a 'Christmas Speed Boat' send a toot to farmer Lynden for providing some light hearted relief to our dramatic world.

2023 College Theme -Through Service We Receive-

Thank you for the support you give to our wonderful College and may you enjoy family time together over Christmas and the New Year.

Families will receive an information update before the new College year begins.

Best wishes



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

Congratulations to our 2023 College Leaders

<i>College Captains</i>	Caleb Baumann Bella Hargreaves
<i>College Vice Captains</i>	Andrew Bree Finn Hargreaves
<i>Sports Captains McAuley</i>	Isaac Smith Chloe Butterworth
<i>McAuley House Captain</i>	Ethan Fisher
<i>Sports Captain Padua</i>	Zac Brown Coco Wessels
<i>Padua House Captain</i>	Annie Dignam
<i>Community/Wellbeing Leaders</i>	Liesl Rayner Daniel McLean Sam Charles



Mrs Genevieve Gordon

genevieve.gordon@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Faith and Mission



Thank you, St Mary's Community for your unwavering generosity. Our annual St Vinnies Christmas Hamper collection has again been a wonderful success! With help from the Year 7 Christmas elves, we handed over 20 large tubs of groceries to St Vinnies, which will be distributed to families in Kensington. The Vinnies volunteers will deliver the hampers next week, in time for Christmas! It's heart warming that our community continues to shine in order to make someone else's Christmas happier. Thanks to all families who were able to support this appeal.

I would also like to thank one of our leaving teachers, Mr Frank Rowland, who kindly donated a beautiful Christmas Nativity set, which has been enjoyed by all the students and staff in the PLC. In future years when we set up the Nativity, we will always remember Frank with much fondness and gratitude.

Another thankyou goes to Ms Ally (and the F-2students), for the beautiful Nativity scene painting that has been attached to the end wall of the PLC, on Crawford Street. Make sure you drive past and have a look!

As the year draws to a close, I thank all the executive team, staff and families for their support and friendship over the year.

I wish everyone a merry, safe and holy Christmas.

Remember, Christmas is not all about the presents....it's about your presence with those you love.

Christmas Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for all the fun and excitement of Christmas.

Thank you for the amazing nativity story, that tells us about the birth of Jesus.

Thank you for sending us your Son, a gift from you into this world.

As we look at the lights on the tree, remind us of the light Jesus brought to this Earth.

When we sing songs and carols, remind us of the hope Jesus showed everyone.

And as we open the gifts and presents, remind us that Jesus was the best gift ever.

Help us to share special times with family and friends this Christmas,

And to share the light, hope and gift of Jesus to the world.

Amen



Mrs Rochelle Gough

rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Dear Parents/Guardians

In January 2023, your PAM account will be undergoing a major upgrade to provide greater security and other improved functionality.

During the week of the 16th of January 2023, your current PAM account will cease to function.

New PAM accounts will then be created by your school, and you will receive an email asking you to create new credentials for a new PAM account.

This will be as simple as:

- clicking on the link provided in the email
- following the prompts to create a new password for your new account.

Your username will be your email address.

Your PAM interface will not look any different, but you may receive an account per parent if you were previously sharing an account with your spouse.

Please refer to the below FAQs for further information:

1. We have a single, family email address that is used by both parents. Is that still ok?

1. If the parents both use the same email address, you will only receive a PAM account for one parent.
2. Example single email:

Parent 1 - Mother - Mrs Joanne Smith - jandcsmith@myemail.com

Parent 2 - Father - Mr Chris Smith - jandcsmith@myemail.com

A PAM ACCOUNT CAN ONLY BE ASSIGNED TO ONE PARENT, who can then share their login credentials with their spouse.

2. I do not have an email address OR have not provided my email address to the school.

1. Parents with no email address provided cannot have a PAM account

3. Will any historic data be lost in this process?

1. While no data will be lost in this process, it is possible that some information may become disconnected from the new account, such as historic letters, historic excursion permission and historic parent notified absences.
2. You may have to review your personal details (Medicare number etc) if you previously had split access with another parent to your child's medical information.
3. You will definitely still be able to access historic student assessment reports and learning area assessment tasks. However, access to historical parent reflections may be lost if the school has chosen to not allow parents to see reflections by other parent accounts attached to that student.

4. What do I need to do now?

1. This letter is to simply let you know about the changes that are coming. Right now, the best thing you can do is make sure that the school has your preferred email address on file.

5. What do I need to do in January?

1. Be aware that your current PAM account will stop working as of the 16th of January.
2. Look out for the email later in that week asking you to set up credentials for your new account (this may go to your junk/spam folder).

Ms Andrea Richards

andrea.richards@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

F-2 Coordinator



Well, we all made it! As we finish the last week of school for 2022, it has been busy but there is always enough time for a tinge of sadness. As teachers we grow fond of our students, particularly this year being the first full year for all of us in the last 3. Lots of conversations have been heard, some of sadness and others of happiness, riddles and rhymes, stories and aspirations, growth and a reciprocated respect... and then we pass them on to the next teacher. So, thank you families. We are grateful for the opportunity to have spent time with, learned about and having been a part of the education journey of your child.

So many events and activities have happened in the last 4 weeks (ummm yes, I missed the last edition of the Marian) so I have a lot to report.



We have had a few TAG Awards so congratulations to Sky, Ryan, Airlie, Lailah, Aubrey, Morgan, Nash, Xavier, and Hallie. Our Kindness Raffle winners were Henry, Indianna and Harvey. Keep up the great work everyone! Baby Rosie also went on another adventure. This time with Clay. I'm sure Baby Rosie had a wonderful time meeting Clay's siblings and doing lots of fun things.

We recently spent some time in the garden with Mr Allen. Year 2 has been learning about living things in Science. Mr Allen supported 2A with planting bean seedlings to align with our Jack & the Beanstalk unit.

Whilst in the garden, students took the time to check on the progress of the carrots with many students wanting to pull them out right then and there! Thank you, Mr Allen for taking us to the garden to continue learning about plants, their care and their tastes!



Year 1 has also been learning about living things and created dioramas to educate others about what animals need to survive - food, water and shelter. They were expertly made and presented with an enormous amount of enthusiasm. Well done Year 1.

On the same day as the Year 2 Sleepover, all of F-2 ventured to Melbourne Zoo. What a wonderful place! The weather was warm so the animals were out and about. A wonderful bunch of parents supported us on the day and we extend to you all our gratitude.

Way back in early December, we had our Year 2 Sleepover and boy oh boy was it a fabulous night! Huge shoutout to our parents who stayed over and other SMC staff that did the night shift with myself and Nichol. We even had one parent who ventured to the Zoo with us and then lined up again for the sleepover!



(Thank you, Paula!). We are extremely grateful for the support. Year 2 students played, watched a magic show by The Quizzical Mr Jeff, played some more, ate dinner, played again, went for a night walk around the school and finally drifted off to sleep. Everyone needs a parent that sits up until 11.30pm looking for and making an easy origami animal! (Thank you, Sasha). We accepted defeat at about 6.30am the next morning as kids were awake and itching to get up and going. After a yummy breakfast of toast or pancakes, they played again. Friday was a day filled with Zoo/animal activities. Year 2 students and all the staff were amazing. Not a tear to be seen! I can't wait to do it all again next year!



On Tuesday we had Orientation Day. Students moved 'up' for the day and engaged with different teachers. It is always a fabulous day and, in the PLC, you could see the excitement on each face. This building has made Transition all that much smoother as both staff and students are familiar with the spaces and faces, they see every day.

Last week F-2 were fortunate to participate in an incursion from Wildlife Xplore. What a thrill it was to see the faces of students (and adults) who had never been close to or touched an owl, shingleback lizard, snake, frog and more. It was a wonderful experience.



Students completed activities that will be on display in their new classroom in the new school year.

Phew! I think I have caught up on the amazing activities and events in F-2. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. Enjoy family and friends (& hopefully a bit more sunshine) over the holidays. Take care if you are travelling and we will see you again in 2023.



Mrs Anne Spencer

anne.spencer@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Paper Plane Challenge

The inaugural St Mary's College STEM Challenge – Flight School

On Thursday 15th December, Secondary teachers descended on Primary classrooms across the school for a day of STEM activities based around flight, culminating in a school-wide Paper Plane Challenge.

In F-2, students began by building on their Living Things science unit to explore birds, bats and bugs that can fly or glide. They then discussed the machines that humans have invented to help us fly.

Years 3, 4 and 5 spent the morning learning about aerodynamics and plane design, before visiting our F-2 classes as master-builders. It was fantastic to see our students patiently supporting their younger peers so that everyone was able to fold a plane to throw.

Meanwhile, Year 6 were busy learning about the importance of fair testing in Science. These young leaders compiled the rules of the competition, set up the flight zone in the Multipurpose Hall, and assigned important roles to ensure everything ran smoothly.

All students had a chance to challenge their classmates in our Paper Plane Challenge.

Congratulations to all staff and students on a fantastic STEM Challenge Day.

5A won best combined flight distance.

Sonny Taylor won furthest plane flight.



Mrs Rebecca Scollen

rebecca.scollen@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Accounts



Families are now reminded that all fees are past due. Can you please make every effort to have these paid by the end of the term. Thank you to all those families who have been making regular payments 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**

A/C No: **839 989 790**

Please remember to use your statement account number and surname as the payment reference when paying via EFT. It is also a good time for those families who have direct debit or direct deposit arrangements in place, to review their payment instalment amounts, in order to meet their commitment in 2022 and into 2023. Information regarding the fees and levies for 2023 will be emailed to all families in December 2022.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Lisa Cinquegrana at the College, (Select option 3 for the direct line to accounts).

Mrs Lisa Cinquegrana

accounts@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

College Office

College Office Operating Hours

Monday, 19 December – 9:30am to 3:30pm

Tuesday, 20 December to Friday, 20 January - closed.

Monday, 23 January to Friday, 27 January – 9:00am to 4:00pm (closed Australia Day public holiday)

Monday, 30 January to Thursday, 6 April – 8:00am to 4:30pm (closed Labour Day public holiday)

Second-hand Uniform Shop

The second-hand uniform shop is available during the office opening hours

Enrolments

If you are wishing to make an application for enrolment, please refer to the following link on the College website:

<https://www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au/.../application-form/>

For general enrolment queries please refer to the following link on the College website:

<https://www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au/.../general.../>

General administration enquiries

General enquiries may be sent to office@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Emails will be responded to at the earliest opportunity.

Student Return Dates

Tuesday, 31 January - Foundation, Year 7 and Year 10 students resume.

Wednesday, 1 February - Students from remaining year levels return.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year. Take care over the break.

College Nurse



Wishing our students, staff and families a joyous Christmas and good health & happiness in the New Year.

See you all in 2023.....with bells on.

Lisa Glover

nurse@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

College Calendar

Term 1 - 2023

Week 0	Mon 23-Fri 27 Jan	College Office Open 9:00am to 4:00pm
	Thu 26 Jan	Australia Day public holiday Thursday 26 Jan
	Fri 27 Jan	All Staff Commence
Week 1	Mon 30 Jan	Staff Professional Development Day
	Tue 31 Jan	Foundation, Year 7 and Year 10 students commence
	Wed 1 Feb	Students from remaining year levels commence

Community

FREE SWIM PASS AND SNACKS!

FOR YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS!

Mitchell Youth Services are giving away free passes for 12-24 year olds who live, socialise or study in Mitchell Shire

You and three friends will receive entry into a Mitchell Leisure Services pool as well as snacks and a drink - all for FREE!

Interested? Pop your name in the draw to win here!

tiny.cc/freeswimpassandsnacks

Mitchell Youth Services [@mitchellyouthservices](https://www.facebook.com/mitchellyouthservices)

Mitchell Youth Services Mitchell Shire Council

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BCGROUPAU PRESENTS

KILMORE Christmas Carols

**LIVE MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS
FAMILY FUN**

FOOD TRUCKS: 5PM
PRE SHOW ENTERTAINMENT: 6:30PM
CAROLS: 7PM

FREE ENTRY

**SATURDAY 17 DEC
HUDSON PARK KILMORE**

Mitchell Shire Council BCGROUPAU

BIG Summer Read

Join. Borrow. Read. Win!

If you are aged 0-18, join the BIG Summer Read for your chance to WIN!

All you need to do is read and log ten books using the Beanstack app.

The competition starts on 1 December 2022 and closes on 31 January 2023.

Pop into any Mitchell Shire Library branch from the 1st of December to pick up a FREE Summer Read calico bag with fun activities and goodies inside.

Registrations are open now online at <https://plv.beanstack.org/reader365>

Scan the QR code to register or you can pick up a reading log from Thursday 1 December at any Mitchell Shire Library branch.

Mitchell Shire Library Service.

Greater Beveridge Community Centre
Corner Lithgow Street and Mandalay Circuit, Beveridge
Broadford Customer and Library Service Centre,
113 High Street, Broadford
Kilmore Customer and Library Service Centre
12 Sydney Street, Kilmore
Seymour Customer and Library Service Centre
125 Anzac Avenue, Seymour
Wallan Customer and Library Service Centre
Wellington Square Shopping Centre
12/81 High Street, Wallan

Contact us:
t: (03) 5734 6451
e: libraries@mitchellshirevic.gov.au
w: libraries.mitchellshirevic.gov.au

Read MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL

GAMES DAY AT YOUTH ROOMS!

Looking for something to do over the Summer School Holidays?

If you're a young person aged 12-18 bring your friends and challenge our staff to a board game of your choice. Snacks provided.
Cost: FREE

When and Where:

Tuesday 17 January, 12-2 pm - Seymour Youth Room
Front Room of Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre, Chittick Park, Pollard Street, Seymour

Wednesday 18 January, 12-2pm - Wallan Youth Room
42 Bentinck Street, Wallan

Tuesday 24 January, 12-2pm - Broadford Youth Room
152 High Street, Broadford

Wednesday 25 January, 12-2pm - Greater Beveridge Community Centre
Cnr Lithgow St and, Mandalay Cct, Beveridge

Mitchell Youth Services [@mitchellyouthservices](https://www.facebook.com/mitchellyouthservices)

Check out tiny.cc/gamesdayatyouthisrooms for more info!

Mitchell Youth Services Mitchell Shire Council

Mansfield Musical and Dramatic Society, in conjunction with Theatrecraft Youth Unlimited presents:

2023 Summer Performance Project
January 6-16 (with performances 14/15 January)

Live in at Merrig Motor Inn
Rehearse and perform at Mansfield Performing Arts Centre
Work with youth theatre specialists from T.Y.U.
Perform in one of two plays by award winning Australian playwright Finegan Krukenmeier

Mansfield is hosting a Summer Drama Camp with a great Performance Opportunity for 13-19 year old Actors!

Successful applicants participate free of charge*, thanks to generous support from our sponsors.

To receive application info contact Joanne, Project Co-Ordinator tyu@tyu.org.au or (0408 366 481) or contact MMuDS Inc secretary@mmds.org.au

*aside from a \$50 non-refundable deposit to secure your place, when offered. Limited numbers. APPLICATIONS ONLY!

Mansfield Shire Council MMuDS Theatrecraft Youth Unlimited

Cinema POP UP

Popping up in Wallan

HADFIELD PARK 5 JAN - 7 JAN

Featuring
bean beds, popcorn, snacks and a bar
GATES OPEN AT 7:30PM

TROLLS WORLD TOUR 5 JAN
DC LEAGUE OF SUPER PETS 6 JAN
THE BAD GUYS 7 JAN

Tickets are limited and bookings essential
cinemapopup.com.au

TOYOTA TAC MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL