



The Marian



Newsletter No. 9
Term 2 | 16th June 2023

www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au | facebook.com/stmarysseymour | <https://pam.smseymour.catholic.edu.au>

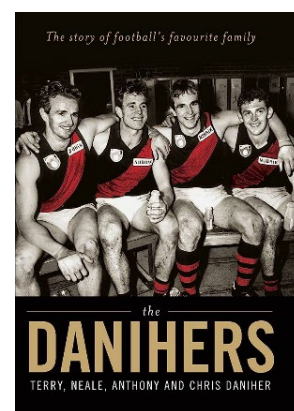
St Mary's College Seymour is a Child Safe School. We promote the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children.

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Glass Half Full

"Too many times I've seen failure as irrevocable and grieved, rather than seeing it as a learning opportunity. This is where it comes back to choosing your attitude." (Neale Daniher).

The name Daniher is well known in AFL and Northern Riverina Football. They are salt of the earth people, who have always been known to have a glass half full attitude to life. The Daniher parents Jim and Edna had 10 children and the 4 boys have written a chapter in AFL folklore through their contributions and time in the game, on and off the field. The Daniher sisters I witnessed firsthand through Unisex Netball and were every bit as talented as their brothers. The Daniher's never took shortcuts when training whether it be on the football field or on the netball court. When they committed, they committed.



It is of no surprise to me that Neale has displayed such courage and optimism towards 'the beast.' That is the Daniher family way, turn a negative into a positive. There was an inevitability when watching Neale walk through the guard of honour on Monday at the game between Melbourne and Collingwood. 'The beast' will eventually take Neale, like it has taken so many – a cruel disease that does not discriminate. Yet the Daniher's have found meaning through giving hope to what many would see as hopelessness. Neale has changed lives; he has brought communities together.

A few years ago, I came across Chris Daniher at a Service Centre on the Hume Freeway. We had a quick chat about the past. When the conversation turned to Neale, younger brother Chris' response was, "gee it's not good but faith is an amazing thing."

VCE Planning

The work that our College teachers are doing to prepare for Year 11 in 2024 is incredible. The Victorian Registration Qualifications Authority and the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority require lengthy and detailed information covering every possible area and contingency. VCE Committees meet regularly, and the course documents required by VCAA are of the highest standard. Course writing will ensure Year 11 and 12 Curriculum programs are quality in all aspects for teaching. The VCE Information Evening on the **13th July** for parents and students will be very informative and provide an opportunity to discuss questions.

Lord God

Bless St Mary's College.

Let your life be our example to follow.

Through the gifts we receive from you, we will love and serve one another with gentleness and compassion.

Mary Our Mother, pray for us Catherine McAuley and St Anthony of Padua, pray for us. Amen

Uniform

Mrs Moore has been working with the College uniform provider, 'Outback' to provide samples. Year 10 students have been consulted and the College Advisory Council will be updated once the uniform is closer to finalisation. The VCE Working Committee are very conscious of uniform costs and the students understand this in considering styles and difference for Year 11 and 12.

Fees

If there are queries on fees please contact Mrs Melville Director, Business Services & Compliance felicity.melville@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Teacher Shortage

There is teacher shortage across Australia, there are many schools where students do not have regular teachers in senior years. St Mary's has core subject teachers who will teach in the senior years. The teachers who have been writing courses will be better prepared than many teachers currently teaching VCE subjects.

Subject Offerings

A good selection of courses will be offered to provide for students needs and diversity. Subjects will be offered off campus to support students who have a specialist interest.

Classrooms

The College will lease 3 new portable classrooms arriving in September that will be positioned behind the current secondary building. St Mary's will be informed in Term 4 if our application for funding to build a VCE Centre has been successful.

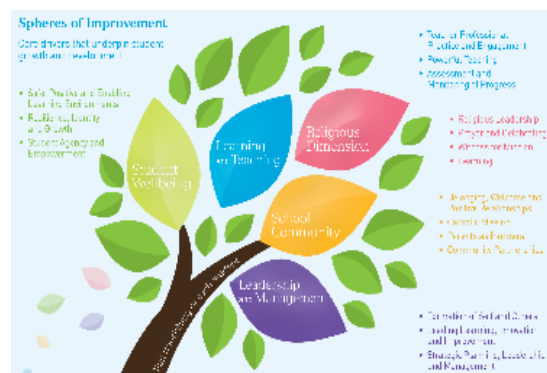
Advisory Council

The Advisory Council welcomes **Stephanie Liddell** as a new member. Stephanie will bring her insights, wisdom and ideas to meetings as our College honours the past with the return to Year 12 and into the future with the inevitability of regional growth. Stephanie attends her first meeting next week.

Friday 16th June Staff PD Day SIF Rubric Staff Self-Assessment

The outcomes of today's staff Professional Development Day will provide the College Reviewer Dr Mary Lovelock with insights into evidenced based areas of College growth and development.

Staff worked in groups led by MACS staff **Snez Singh** (Learning Consultant School Effectiveness), **Craig Holmes** (Regional Leadership Consultant) and **Mark Shafton** (Learning Consultant Religious Education) led the program.



Successful Grants Applications

The College was successful in Mrs Hard's application for the **Victorian Schools Garden Program Grant** of **\$2000** worth of plants. We have also been unofficially informed that St Mary's has been successful in our application for the **Australian Government Outdoor Grant** of **\$25000** to build a covered outdoor area next to the Garden of Assisi.

Global Teacher Immersion

Over the upcoming term break **Mrs Donna Osborne** will experience the Global Teacher Program to Thailand. This is a valuable experience that takes Donna's educational experience, wisdom and skills to another educational culture. Donna will team teach within a 5-day placement; prepare and lead a PD session for local teachers and experience the local culture. On Donna's return she will present to the staff the value of the program and share her teaching experiences from the immersion.

I will be on Principal Leave from next week until Week 3 Term 3. **Mrs Gordon** will be Acting Principal and Mrs Moore Acting Deputy Principal during my leave. The College will be in very capable hands!

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)

Wayne Smith

Director of Faith and Mission

St Vinnies Winter Appeal

As we stay warm and dry this week, it reminds us that there are some people in our community that aren't so lucky.



At this time of the year our College has always been generous in their donations to the **St Vinnies Winter Appeal**. We acknowledge that times are tough for a lot of our families too, with pricing of everything, going through the roof!

We will have baskets in our classrooms for the last 2 weeks of term, for any non-perishable items that your family may like to donate towards the Appeal.

Thank you, in anticipation for your generosity and compassion.

Padua Feast Day Mass

On Tuesday we gathered to celebrate the feast day of our patron saint of Padua House, St Anthony of Padua. He was a Portuguese Catholic priest and friar of the Franciscan Order. He was born in 1195 in Portugal and died on the 13 June 1231 in Padua Italy. He was passionate for the care and support of the poor and sick and would often devote his time and energy towards working with and for these people. He is often shown holding a book because he loved to read scripture and wrote many sermons to teach others about God and Jesus. He is respected all over the world as the Patron Saint for lost articles and is remembered for his many miracles involving lost people, lost things and even lost spiritual goods.



His famous saying that we use here at school is: 'let our actions speak'. St Anthony of Padua always reminds us that we are filled with the Holy Spirit so that we can be like Jesus. We can show humility, patience and obedience and we can speak in ways to show compassion and justice to everyone.

Anthony tells us very clearly, 'That Actions speak louder than words; He said, "let your words teach and your actions speak". Every day we are challenged to walk the talk; so that our actions match the words we speak.

Mrs Rochelle Gough

rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Fees & Levies / Laptop Instalments

Reminder

Families are reminded that some fees are now past due. Laptop instalments for Years 8, 9 and 10 were due on the **1st March**. All Tuition and Capital Levies were due **1st June**. 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 2023.

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

Mrs Sina Presti

sina.presti@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

School Counsellor

Breakfast Club

We have had a great uptake with the Breakfast Club which is currently being held on **Monday, Tuesday and Friday** mornings from the school canteen.



The kids have already consumed *400 pikelets, 21 litres of porridge, 3 boxes of weetbix, 450 pieces of toast, 30 tubs of yoghurt and lots of fruit.*



All school aged children are welcome.
Breakfast Club is open from 8:30am - 8:55am



Tanya Begley

tanya.begley@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Reconciliation Week 2023

The Church seeks to follow the example of Jesus, **to achieve justice, harmony, respect and reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.** The Church acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the oldest living and continuous cultures on earth and, as the First Australians, occupying a unique place in contemporary Australian society.

Reconciliation Australia highlights National Reconciliation Week each year as a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.

St Mary's College Community acknowledged Reconciliation Week last Friday with a liturgy attended by all students and staff, as well as many parents.

This year's National Reconciliation Week theme, **'Be a Voice for Generations'** urged us all to be a voice for reconciliation in tangible ways in our everyday lives – where we live, work and socialise.

BE A VOICE FOR GENERATIONS



Andrew Chinn's song **Here we Stand** sent a powerful message that when we have Christ in our hearts, we are indeed 'God's hands on this sacred land'.

All students from Foundation to Year 10 had been engaged in activities in the lead up to the liturgy to develop an understanding of what it means to be a Voice for Generations, which culminated in every student committing to how they would be a voice for generations in their own life. These commitments were written onto hands and placed around the letters in 'Reconciliation' and brought forward in our liturgy by representatives of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student body and other students.

Andrew Chinn's song Here we Stand epitomised the messages that St. Mary's students chose as their personal commitment to being a Voice for Generations and placed these firmly within the context of the Gospel message:

Here we stand on sacred land,
 With Christ in our hearts, we are God's hands,
 Where many are one, one Holy Family
 In the footsteps of Jesus, together you and me
 We are called to nurture to love tenderly,
 Hand holding hand, to serve like Mary,
 Empowered by the Spirit, we will show the way.
 With courage in our hearts, bring light to each day,
 We are called to respect to be people of faith,
 To be people of justice, to live Joseph's way.
 To care for ourselves, each other and God's world,
 "Love one another", be God's living word,
 We are called to be faithful, to walk humbly,
 To live our faith in words and in deeds,
 Be Jesus to each other in all we say and do,
 Always pray for each other,
 be the Good News

Andrew Chinn and Friends; Rivers of Your Peace 2022





Mrs Claire Kelly

claire.kelly@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



Mrs Rochelle Gough

rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Defence Mentor

As the holidays are nearly here I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday whatever you will be doing.

Some students have told me of their travel plans and others are looking forward to time at home and just chilling out. I am looking forward to seeing everyone refreshed for the start of Term Three and ready for more activities.

This week Defence Kids Club and Hangout have just been doing craft, painting, playing music, games and spending time together in a relaxed atmosphere.

Some of the services available to all Defence families are:

Open Arms - Open Arms provide free and confidential counselling, group programs and peer support to anyone who has served at least one day in the Navy, Army or Air Force and their families.

Call 1800 011 046 to speak with an Open Arms staff member for assistance in arranging counselling or in finding the right program for you, visit their website www.openarms.gov.au for more information.



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

Mrs Janice Kerris
janice.kerris@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Yr.4 Taekwondo



Dates To Remember

Date	Event
16 th June	Student Free Day - Staff PD Day Regional Cross Country (Primary & Secondary Reps.)
Mon. 19 th June	Refugee Week Yr.10 Work Experience Commences
Wed. 21 st June	Year 9 Confirmation Candidates
Fri. 23 rd June	Yr. 3-4 Excursion - Melbourne Arts Centre - Victorian Opera Performance (Depart: 8:15am – Return: 1:45pm)
TERM 3	
Wed. 12 th July	Year 3-4 Confirmation Candidates
Thurs. 13 th July	State Cross Country (Primary Reps.) (Time & Place TBC) Year 11 Subject Expo (Time TBC)
Fri. 14 th July	Yr. 7-10 Incursion - Elephant Ed
Mon. 17 th	F-2 Swimming Program: (2A: 11.30, 2B: 12.00pm, 1B: 12.30pm, FB: 1.00pm, FA: 1.30pm, 1A: 2.00pm)
Wed. 19 th	Year 7 Confirmation Candidates Foundation - Mini Transition (Fly into Physical Education) Enrolled & Prospective families 2024 (2:30pm - 3:30pm)
Turs. 20 th	Secondary Taster Session - Year 5&6 Enrolled & Prospective families 2024 (4:00pm - 5:00pm)

St Mary's College

90 High Street, Seymour
PO Box 269, Seymour Vic 3661
T (03) 5792 2611

Office Hours 8:15am-4:30pm

St Mary's Parish Seymour - St Joseph's Tallarook

Parish Priest: Father Eugene Ashkar
T (03) 9412 8406 / 0455 123 509

Mass Times: St Mary's - SAT 6pm, SUN 10am
St Joseph's - SUN 8.30am

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our Patch St Mary's College – Seymour
7.00am – 6.00pm

How To Book

To book visit
www.ourpatch.education/holiday-programs
or call us on 1300 018 310

Costs

Fees start at \$14.44 per child per day
based on 85% Child Care Subsidy, assumes
parents meeting activity levels and 5%
withholding amount

Patch Day
Fee
\$75.00

There are extra fees for
incursion and excursion
days. Please check
program for specific prices.

Please see our Booking Terms and Conditions for
our cancellation policy

p. 1300 018 310
e. info@ourpatch.education

June – July School Holidays
26th June – 7th July

What We Provide

- Healthy breakfast, morning and afternoon tea
- Opportunities for free play in our well-resourced room and grounds
- Incursions and excursions generally run between 8.30am to 3.30pm, please ensure your children arrive prior to this so they don't miss out on the core activities of the day

What to Bring

- Broad-brimmed hat, sun-smart clothing (no singlets) and enclosed shoes (no thongs, crocs, slip on shoes or roller shoes)
- Healthy lunch daily unless otherwise specified on day (staff are unable to heat or cook food for children)
- No nut products
- Large water bottle
- Check program for other special items that might be required for the day (e.g. bikes, helmets, costumes)

ourpatch

Monday

26 June 2023

BALLOONS AND BUBBLES

Join us for a fun filled day of balloons and bubbles!

Art
Balloon Art
Bubble Paint

Active
Balloon Races
Catch The Bubble

Tuesday

27 June 2023

SQUISHMALLOW DAY

Bring in your own Squishmallows for a fun day at Our Patch.

Cooking
Picnic Snacks

Art
Painting Squishmallows
MYO Pillow

Active
Hall Play
Golden Child

Don't forget your Squishmallow or soft toy

Wednesday

28 June 2023

Harry Potter Day

Come along to our day of Harry Potter inspired fun!

Art
Harry Potter Characters
Wands

Active
Quidditch Basketball

Thursday

29 June 2023

SLIME DAY

Join us today while we make and explore all things slime.

Art
Slime
Loom Bands

Active
Slime Relays
Hall Play

Friday

30 June 2023

Disney Villains Day

Who is your favourite Disney villain? Join us today for some Disney themed fun!

Cooking
Sushi
Rice Wraps

Art
Spooky Lego
DIY Castle

Active
Capture the Princess



Lynne Fulton (Patch Leader)

Ph: 0475 451 524

www.ourpatch.education

Community Events



Seymour Amateur Swimming Club

New Member Tryouts

2023/2024 Season

When: Wednesday 21st of June 2023

Where: Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre

Time: 6.30pm – 7.00pm

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

MOTORCYCLING AUSTRALIA

MINIKHANA

COME & TRY DAY

The *BEST* Entry Level Motorcycle Activity

Fun, Safe, Skills Based Courses

Ages 4-16 years

No Licence Needed

BYO Minibikes & Gear

Date: Saturday 24th June 2023 at 9am

Club: GVMCC - Goulburn Valley Motor Cycle Club

Venue: Undera Speedway Complex 1915 Echuca Rd

Website: All Enquiries - Robert 0419 142 297

FREE ENTRY & 90-DAY RECREATIONAL LICENCE FOR 1ST TIMERS!

<https://www.ma.org.au/minikhana-come-try/>

BARISTA FOR BEGINNERS

Term 2 School Holidays 2023

- Learn the basics of coffee making + hospitality service
- Hands on training in a mock cafe environment
- Add another skill to your CV and connect with further training opportunities

Greater Beveridge Community Centre	Wallan Multipurpose Centre
June 27 and 28 10am - 3pm each day	July 4 and 5 10am - 3pm each day

These are **FREE** workshops for any young people aged 15-24 who live, socialise or study in Mitchell Shire. The same workshop will be delivered in both locations, you may only register for one workshop. Registrations are essential and close at 5pm on June 23, or when all spaces are filled.



tiny.cc/barista4beginnersregister

prace Changing lives through education

GATEWAY

VICTORIA State Government

ENGAGE! YOU MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL

FOR OUR ELDERS

NATIONAL NAIDOC WEEK 2-9 JULY 2023

Goranwarrabul Mob & Friends warmly invites all community to join us in celebrating NAIDOC Week.

WEDNESDAY 5 JULY, 2023

10:30 - Welcome To Country & Smoking Ceremony at Goranwarrabul House (6 Callen St., Seymour)

Followed by NAIDOC Parade to Kings Park stopping at War Memorial on High Street to lay a wreath.

Main event from 11am til 2pm at Kings Park (Green Shed) tucker, stalls and family friendly activities

For more Info contact: Brenda - 0429 555 250

This event is sponsored by the following:

