Dear Parents and Carers,

Recently I viewed the Netflix series Painkiller which follows the causes and consequences of America's opioid epidemic. The limited series is not easy to watch but it shines a light on how greed destroyed lives. Greed is defined as a selfish and excessive desire for more of something than is needed. A person may be greedy for wealth, possessions, fame, attention, or power. Pope Francis said "that deep down, peoples search for more is rooted in a desire for a sense of security, but there is a high risk that person will become a slave of wealth, accumulating it only for oneself and not in order to serve others." Catherine McAuley was unlike any other rich person of her time. She used her wealth to lease property on Baggot Street, a fashionable neighbourhood in Dublin, for the purpose of building a large house for religious, educational and social services for women and children. Amongst other characteristics Catherine McAuley showed contentment, gratitude and generosity. Our students, using Catherine McAuley as a role model, are called to demonstrate these qualities and to change a person's life by a single act of kindness. Kindness is a powerful force that can sink greed and bring joy and positivity to both the giver and the receiver.

Fathers Day Breakfast

Early Friday morning the smell of a delicious BBQ filled the grounds of St Mary's College. It was a great sight to see all fathers, grandfathers and father figures gathering with students in the quadrangle for our Father's Day celebrations. Thank you to our wonderful staff and College Parents and Friends for their support of this event.

As a father figure you are essential personnel in your home, your impact is foundational and long- lasting.

A father figures strength can be powerful.

A father figures words can be fuelling and inspirational.

Hugs from a father figure can be deeply comforting.

A father figures smiles can instill joy and confidence.

Time with a father figure can be fun and productive.

A father figures guidance can be life-changing and foundational.

A father figures correction can be life-saving and life-giving.

Adventures with a father can be exciting and Memorable.

College Prayer

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

Stage 0 Building Project

The loan for a self-funded Stage 0 building project has been approved by CDF. Tenders have been received, a cost plan has been completed by a quantity surveyor and a tender analysis and recommendation has been made to Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS). The Stage 0 project involves the construction of an additional primary classroom, along with the addition of three meeting rooms to the administration building.

Provisionally Registered Teachers

When people graduate from a university teacher education program, they are granted a provisional registration through the Victorian Institute of Teaching. In order to progress to full registration, provisionally registered teachers undertake a VIT inquiry process where they implement an improvement cycle and work closely with a mentor and other experienced colleagues through observations and professional discussions. Over the past month members of the College Executive have had the pleasure of meeting with graduate teachers to provide an opportunity for them to present their inquiry. Courtney Aldous, secondary Maths and Physical Education teacher investigated how the implementation of differentiated focus groups improve mathematical understanding. Aleisha Rogers, Year 1 teacher investigated the use of literacy assessment data to plan differentiated literacy groups that improve students' spelling skills. Courtney and Aleisha are congratulated on demonstrating the requirements and teaching practises to advance to full registration. You are both assets to St Mary's College and your students are fortunate to have you both as their teachers.

As this is the **final Marian** for **Term 3**, I extend my **thanks** to staff, students and families for their efforts throughout the term and **wish everyone some quality time** as a family, resting and recuperating over the holidays.

See you in Term 4. Best wishes,



Genevieve GordonActing Principal, St Mary's College Seymour
BAppScPE (RMIT), BExScHons (UB), MEdWellbeing (ACU)

Director of Teaching and Learning

Learning and Teaching Highlights Term 3

Throughout Term 3 it has been fantastic to see the engagement in learning across our Foundation to Year 10 classes. Our Primary students have collaborated to produce innovative ideas and results when challenged. Students have been given the opportunity to create

machines and shelters, challenged us to explore the natural and built environment and different climate zones of our world. Biomes have been produced and the natural topography of Australia was shown using 3D materials.

In the Secondary sector our senior students have continued to develop their analysis of notable texts, exploring the challenging themes in 'Animal Farm' and 'To Kill a Mockingbird'. The focus on the impact of man on the natural environment continued with the Biomes produced in Humanities. Rocket production highlighted the benefit of working cross curricularly in Science, Mathematics and Physical Education. The focus on the design process in Arts and Technologies has seen our students continue to produce high quality work across a variety of mediums. These are just a few examples of the curriculum experiences planned and delivered by our staff which continue to challenge and progress our students at St Mary's College.

NAPLAN Results

The 2023 NAPLAN results were released at the end of August. There were great achievements for students who sat the tests across Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 with significant percentages of students in the Strong and Exceeding categories. Such results wouldn't happen if not for the hard work and dedication of our staff at St Mary's and the collaboration with students and families to engage in the learning at school. Thank you to our staff and LSO team who support our students to achieve success.

Elevate Education

Elevate Education have delivered study skills workshops to our Year 8-10 students, focusing on time management, study skills and exam technique. They have also continued to offer free parent webinars. Below is a link to their upcoming webinar on supporting your child through their exams.

https://get.elevatecoaching.info/au/schoolwebinar

Year 10 elective selections

Our current Year 9 students will get the opportunity to explore and choose their electives for Year 10 during week one of term four. Please look out for this information.

Mrs Julia Wood

julia.wood@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Wellbeing

PBL Focus

The PBL focus for the last week of term is **Be Punctual** and **Ready for Learning**!

Being on time and ready to learn benefits everyone. Teachers will notice students who are consistent in this.

In Week 10, students (3 F-2, 3 3-6, 4 secondary) will be awarded a canteen voucher for showing these qualities.

How can student's show That they are punctual and ready?

In Class: Arrive before the bell.

Bring what you need for lessons.

Move quickly and quietly between classes.

Homework: Complete and bring your homework.

Be prepared with materials. Ask if you're unsure about tasks.

During Learning: Join in class chats and tasks.

Focus on lessons, not computers. Listen to teachers and classmates.

Outside Class: Be on time for other school activities.

Plan ahead to avoid being late.

Remind friends about being punctual.



Defence Mentor

On Friday September 1st our college Year 8 & Year 9's travelled out to Puckapunyal Military Base for the Army Work Experience Expo. After our arrival and a quick induction, all our students and staff were handed an orange vest and then proceeded into the expo. The expo gave all our students and staff a valuable opportunity to have a one-on-one discussion with



ADF members to discuss their experiences, lifestyle and their job role. Some of the displays included Battle Tanks, Light armoured vehicles, Armoured Personnel Carriers, Air Defence Systems, Unmanned aerial systems and Communication systems. Students and teachers were also able to experience a ride inside a Bushmaster vehicle.









There was a physical training instructor where students could test their fitness or speak to the instructor about their career. A popular site was with the "Mine Detection Dogs" and speaking with their handlers. Students were able to speak to most ADF members about their roles including Chaplaincy, Military Police and also speak to a representative from the Australian Navy.



Thankyou to the ADF organisers who supplied our bus transport, lunch, water and fruit snack for the day.

A special thanks goes out to Julia Wood, Courtney Aldous, Jacqueline Cullum, who helped set up the day and to all the staff that came along and supported the students. With 1350 students expected from all over Victoria on the day, our students behaved very well, sometimes having to wait patiently in queues for lunch or vehicle rides. Well done everyone.

Defence Kids Club Foundation – Year 4 last week made some Father's Day or special person gifts and cards. I am hoping all the recipients enjoyed their gifts last Sunday and had a great day.

This week we are doing rock painting. I am sure there will be some interesting creations made from our rocks.

Vet Connect - Families

A family weekend program that aims to bring veteran families together providing opportunities for family social connection, developing new and improved relationships skills and working toward future goals.

- Puckapunyal September 2023
- Sale September 2023
- Wodonga November 2023

To express your interest for this FREE weekend program scan the QR Code or email vet.connect@soldieron.org.au



Activities for Victoria 2023







SOLDIERON MELBOURNE FACEBOOK GROUP

Keep up to date on all our activities, events and veteran information along with any last minute spots available on our Soldier On Melbourne FB Group.

To register or find out more please email activities@soldieron.org.au All of our support services are FREE to veterans and their families!



ADF Families Event: Defence Family Blacksmithing Program

Defence Member and Family Support (DMFS) are excited to announce we will be hosting The Cuppacumbalong Foundation right here in Puckapunyal.

The Cuppacumbalong Foundation run a successful Defence Family Blacksmithing program and will be bringing this unique opportunity to Puckapunyal.

The program is for family pairs consisting of a veteran and a young person aged 12-16 years, undertaking a blacksmithing course through the experienced team from Tharwa Valley Forge. The program aims to provide opportunities for people to slow down, connect and focus through the process of making.

The Puckapunyal program will run over the week/end of 20th -24th September 2023. Running one course per day.

Each course runs for one day and will consist of small groups made up of 4 family pairs allowing the dedicated and well-trained tutors the ability to provide intensive instruction while participants create something lasting.

There are two types of courses available:

. Forging a camping set aimed at families with a young person 12-13 years,

O

· Forged knife and fork sets aimed at families with a young person 14-16 years.

Each course is one full day, running from 8am - 4pm.

Please register your expression of interest through Eventbrite today!

An ADF Families Event: Defence Family Blacksmithing Program | Eventbrite

Successful applicants will be notified by email no later than Monday, 11th September 2023.

Year 7 Visual Art

During term three Year 7's looked at the <u>artist</u> **Frida Kahlo**. They learnt about her style, themes and her life.

Frida was a Mexican artist who painted a lot of selfportraits. She had a spinal injury and often painted while in her bed looking at a mirror above her head.

Students also learnt about the elements of Art and had to include as many of them in their artwork.













Students created a mixed media collage of either a self-portrait, a portrait of Frida or a theme linked to Frida. They had to use at least five different materials to create their work.

Kerrie Aldous Visual Art Teacher

Parents & Friends Association

The Second-Hand Uniform Shop

How to access the shop: -

The uniform shop can be accessed during the College's business hours.

- The Second-Hand Uniform Shop keys can be obtained from the office.
- The shop is located adjacent to the Office.
- Unlock the door, have a browse and hopefully you can find what you are looking for.
- Lock the door and return the key to the office to make your purchase with office staff.
- We just ask that you leave the shop as you find it.

We would like to sincerely thank College families for the many generous donations. We have a lot of 'barely used' clothes donated recently that can benefit other families. We are particularly welcoming any sports uniforms or summer dresses. All donations are to be given to office staff. A special thankyou to *Nadine D'Elia* who is also volunteering in the Second-Hand Uniform Shop.



Now is the time to get your summer uniform ready for Term 4. Get in early and do not miss out!

Father's Day Stall:

The Father's Day Stall was a great success and fundraiser for the P&F. We would like to thank all committee members who helped on the day and Mrs Evans for her constant support. A big shout out and THANKYOU to **Sue Tennant** for her amazing donations and yummy rum balls that many would have enjoyed on Father's Day.

Contributions:

In the coming weeks a restock of new sports/play equipment will be evident throughout the primary areas. We hope all students can enjoy the new equipment.

Contact:

If you have any feedback or suggestions, please contact the P&F Committee.

Steph (0407 514 249) P & F Family Liaison

Book Week

'Read, Grow, Inspire':

celebrating the Power of Books and Reading at St Mary's College and the Library during Book Week 2023.

During the month of August, the Library and Literacy Leader partnered up to fill the calendar with events and activities to make Book Week 2023 a journey of reading, growth, and inspiration. This year's theme "Read, Grow, Inspire," aimed to fire up a passion for books to foster personal development, and to encourage a lifelong love for reading.

We launched our month with our annual Scholastic Book Fair, the profits that made rolling straight into buying more of the most popular titles that our students enjoy.

Then students were challenged to record the many ways that they enjoyed reading each day for a fortnight. Who'd have thought you could read under your bed, to your pet or even inside a blanket fort!

At the same time, we featured Honour books from the CBCA Shortlists in our Primary Library sessions.

Preps, Grades 1 and 2 classes enjoyed the annual dilemma of a mother and daughter racking their brains for the perfect Book Week costume when you have one evening's prep time in 'There's no such book'.

The Grades 3 and 4 classes read 'Dirt by Sea', a father and daughter road trip around Australia in a Combi van named Sarah.

The Grades 5 and 6 classes read 'Come together', Isaiah Firebrace's exploration of 20 things every school kid should know about first nations' history and culture.

We created crazy Book Week hats and Paper Doll costumes, wrote about the wonderful places we could visit in our country and marvelled at First Nations ingenuity like the game of Marngrook -







All of this wound up with a Hat Parade on Friday, 25 August when the creations from the Art room finally emerged and hats from home appeared.

The Secondary students celebrated Book Week on the same day with a Book Week Quiz and activity afternoon. The afternoon wound up with Home Rooms presenting their own 'Op Shop' Book Week costume creations in a Cat Walk parade. Congratulations to our winning team Macauley 4, led by Mrs Mac.

Lots of fun was had during the month of August. Congratulations to the following winners of the Colouring Competition and Most Creative Hat awards.

Colouring Competition:

Most Creative Hat:

F: Molly Gooden

2: Xavier Wearne

5: Macey Shields

FA: Emmie Taylor

1A: Matilda Mc Naughton

2A: Bridget Kelly/Charlie Lynch

3A: Sky Acquino 4A: Lip Wang

5/6A: Indianna Bast

5/6C: Quorra lavazzo

1: Will Mounsey

3: Adele Mounsey

6: Summer Carrington

FB: Imogen Hoskin

1B: Addie Gross

2B: Imogen Kiss

3B: Archie Baker

4B: Ned Solomon

5/6B: Macey Shields











Mrs Lorna Hooper, Mrs Linda Heveren, Mrs Kerrie Pearce

Dates To Remember

Date	Event
TERM 3	
Mon 4 th Sept- Fri 8 th Sept	Yr. 5 & 6 Intensive Swimming Program (Swim times: C: 11:30am-12:15pm; B: 12:15-1.00; A: 1.00pm-1:45pm)
Fri 8 th Sept	District Athletics Carnival (Specific Primary Students)
Tues 12 th Sept	Yr. 3 Excursion:- ACMI
Wed 13 th Sept	Yr. 5/6 Excursion:- Melbourne Art Centre: Carnival of the Animals (Circus Performance) Eucharist Information Night (Parent & Candidates Meeting) (6.30pm)
Thurs 14 th Sept	PLC Officially Opening (12.00pm – 1.00pm)
Fri 15 th Sept	Footy Colours & Pie Day (Last Day of Term)
	College Assembly (11.25am -12.25pm) Footy Kick Off (12.25pm- 1.25pm)
	Term Three concludes at the earlier time of <u>2.30pm</u>
TERM 4	
Mon 2 nd Oct	Term Four Commences for Staff and Students
Wed 4 th Oct	District Athletics Carnival (Specific Primary Students) Location TBC
Fri 6 th Oct	Hume Region Athletics Carnival (Specific Secondary Students) Location TBC
Wed 11 th Oct	Year 7 Immunisation (2 nd Dose)
Fri 13 th Oct	Regional Athletics Carnival (Specific Primary Students) Location TBC

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

Our Patch

We are making a big push to save the **Before School Care Program** due to low numbers.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, we will offer a Board Games Club where the children can have breakfast and play their favourite games in a safe, relaxed environment with their friends or new friends.

Tuesdays and Fridays we offer a learn to knit or crochet club where you come and learn a new skill or bring your own and chat with likeminded friends.











Our Patch St Mary's College



Wednesdays at Before School Care

ourpatch /

On **Thursdays**, we have a cooking club in the morning and on **Friday** afternoons we offer a cooking club.

This week at Cooking Club we made homemade sausage rolls for our afternoon tea.

"They were yummy".





Some of our Term 3 Highlights...

- Book Week: Writing and reading their stories to the group;
- some hall Playing; enjoying playing in the sun;
- Our Father's Day Cups









Some families need this service so please support the families that support the school who need this care.

A reminder we are running a fun-packed Holiday Program over the September Holidays. Please see the Flyers

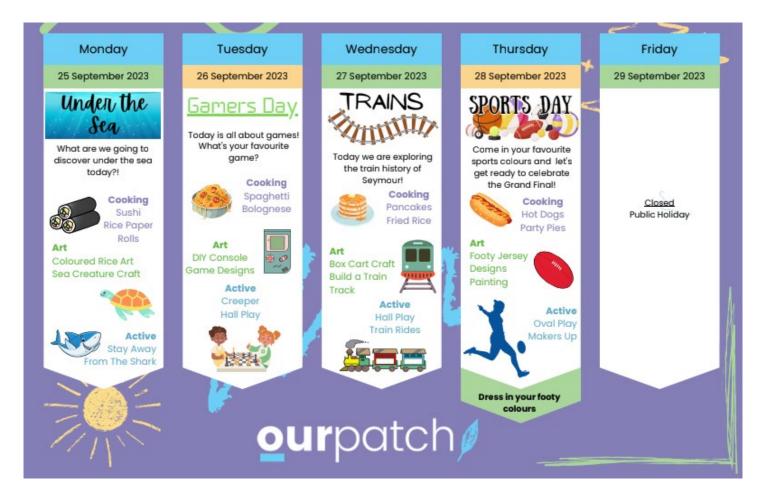
HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Our Patch St Mary's College - Seymour 8:00am - 5:00pm









Lynne Fulton (Patch Leader) Ph: 0475 451 524

www.ourpatch.education

Community Events



CONNECTING WITH OUR KIDS

AFREE 2 hour online workshop for Dads of children 2-10 years

Helpyourchild to:

- Understand their emotions and be able to communicate how they feel
- · Regulate their emotions and calm themselves
- Develop resilience and positive self-esteem
- · Develop problem-solving and social skills
- Develop kindness and empathy towards others

Monday 9 October 2023
6pm - 8pm
Online Session
for any questions contact
FamilyCare Central Intake 1800 161 306
or register online

This workshop is for parents and/or carers in the Goulburn Region (Greater Shepparton, Moira, Strathbogie, Mitchell and Murrindindi)



A FREE seven session program for fathers of 2 -12 year old children

Dads Tuning in to Kids teaches you how to help your child understand and manage feelings ('emotional intelligence')

Children with good emotional intelligence:

- · have better concentration at school
- · have greater success with making and keeping friends
- · are more able to manage conflict with peers
- · are more able to calm down when upset or angry

Mondays 6.30pm - 8.30pm starting 16 October to 27 November 2023 Online

Call FamilyCare's Central Intake 1800 161 306 to register your place or register online here.

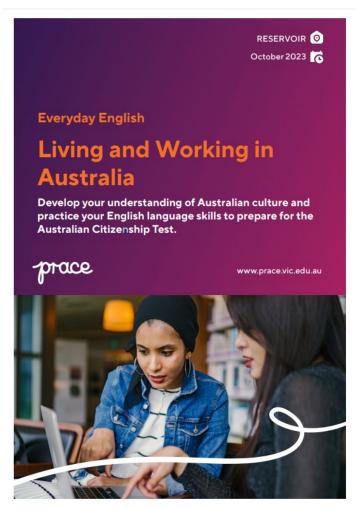
This workshop is for parents and/or carers in the Goulburn Region (Greater Shepparton, Moira, Strathbogie, Mitchell and Murrindindi)

14th October, 2023

10am - 12pm & 1pm - 3pm 115 Wimble Street, Seymour 3660







Everyday English Living and Working in Australia

Develop your understanding of Australian culture in the community and the workplace while you build skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing English.

In this small, friendly class you will build the skills needed to:

- For the Australian citizenship test
- Confidently participate in the local community
- Develop an understanding of Australian workplace

Pathways

Further study (English or vocational studies), volunteer work or employment. Undertaking the Australian citizenship test.

Workforce Australia

This course counts towards Workforce Australia mutual obligation requirements.

Prace encourages individuals with disabilities to participate in our programs and activities. This training is delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding. Prace TOID 4036

Location Prace - Merrilands Community Centre 35 Sturdee St, Reservoir

Dates and Duration 10 Sessions

Days and hours

Wednesday (Evenings) 4 October 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Friday (Daytime) 6 October 9:30am - 12:30pm

Entry requirements

(must hold a current Green Medicare Card)

Register your Interest







This course is endorsed by Learn Local.



Prace Main Office Merrilands Community Centre - 35 Sturdee Street, Reservoir Phone 9462 6077 | office@prace.vic.edu.au | www.prace.vic.edu.au



Starts 4 October in Reservoir - 10 sessions - Day and evening classes available. *Develop your understanding* of Australian culture in the community and the workplace while you build skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing English. Contact us to enrol on 9462 6077 or visit our website https://prace.vic.edu.au/







What services are available?

The new Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub will complement existing health services by supporting the recovery of people with new or existing mental health challenges.

Available services include:

- · Wellbeing checks
- Emotional support and wellbeing coaching
- Someone to talk to who will understand your situation and help locate and link you to services and support
- Assistance to manage mental health symptoms and to address life stressors including homelessness, financial difficulties and social isolation
- Support to utilise your skills, strengths and resources
- Workshops and group activities to build your skills and make connections.

Our peer wellbeing workers will be available to people seeking support. Many of these people have their own experience of mental health challenges or are caring for someone with mental health issues.



What is a Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub?

The new Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub in the Goulburn Valley provides mental health and wellbeing services and support to people of all ages.

The pandemic and other recent natural disasters such as bushfires, drought and flood, have affected everyone in different ways and it is important to take care of your mental health and know that help is available near you.

If you are having a difficult time or feeling overwhelmed, you can access free and flexible support via a Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub.



Who can use the services?

People of all ages with new or existing mental health challenges can utilise services at a Hub.

Services are also available to family members and carers.

Referrals can be informal, and all services are free of charge.

Email: cmhws@wellways.org

About Wellways

Wellways is operating the Mental Health & Wellbeing Hub in the Goulburn Valley with support from the Victorian Government. Wellways works with individuals, families and communities to help them imagine and achieve better lives. We provide a range of services and assistance for people with mental health issues, disabilities and those requiring community care.

wellways.org

This is a free service that is open to all ages. For more information or if you have any questions, feel free to email Krystal Markey at kmarkey@wellways.org or phone the Wellways office on 5822 8600.