



The Marian



Newsletter No. 15
Term 4 | 6th October 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,

Welcome to Term 4.

Already there is the contrast of fire and floods in areas of South East Australia and the weather bureau is predicting a hot summer to come. Dorothea Mackellar's famous 1908 poem 'I Love a Sunburnt Country' is a fitting piece of literature for our ever-changing landscape.

Stage 0 Works Term 4

ATG Constructions was the successful tender for the Stage 0 building works. This week a meeting was held with ROAM Architects, ATG and MACS to discuss operational requirements for site handover on Monday 16th October.

There will be considerable access changes required so that ATG has secure site access to the front area of the College. During next week parents will receive detailed information on changes to the High Street and Office entrances. The building works will be completed March 2024 and consist of adding a primary classroom and three meeting rooms to the Administration Building.

Three modular classrooms are in place for the return of Year 11 in 2024. This term Catholic schools who applied for Australian Government Funding grants will be informed if they were successful. At St Mary's we applied for a grant to build a VCE Learning Centre and hope our worthwhile and needed application is successful.

Staffing 2024

Teacher shortages are still high, and many schools feel the pressure of employing staff. St Mary's is better placed than many schools and announcements will be made in the near future of staff changes for 2024.

With Year 11 returning next year the quality of teacher experience for their senior years will be impressive and reassuring for the College community to know that the quality of teaching and learning at the pointy end of our student's education will challenge our students to strive for success.

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

Wellbeing

The Wellbeing Team organised a visit today by 'Backflips Against Bullying' for primary and secondary. BAB is a registered E-Safety provider with the Australian Government and delivers different programs for primary and secondary students. Over 2022/23 the Wellbeing team have met regularly with Joanne Patrick from MACS to develop St Mary's Positive Behaviours for Learning (PBL) practices in and out of the classroom. Teachers and students have been consulted on various classroom practices to develop consistency and alignment. Joanne has praised the dedication and insights of the Wellbeing team. Our students at St Mary's receive excellent pastoral care, guidance and understand that all behaviours come with a responsibility to self and others.

Congratulations to the Collingwood faithful. Whilst I hate to admit it, the Pies were consistently the best team all season. The Colliwobbles seem a thing of the past and there can be no doubting the size of the Collingwood fan base. Now the dust comes off the cricket gear.

May the weekend be kind to us all.



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 of Operations

Before and After School Supervision

Changes have recently been made to yard duty times. Teachers commence yard duty supervision at **8:20am**, prior to this time there is no supervising teacher on duty. Students should **not be** dropped off prior to 8.20am (*8.20am is 5 minutes earlier than was previously the case*).



After school, teachers remain on duty at the McIntyre St bus stop until **3.40pm** or until all students have been picked up or boarded a bus. If after 3.40pm a student is still awaiting collection from the bus stop area, the student will be asked to return to the college office and wait to be picked up from there.

If you regularly require an earlier drop off at school or later pick up, please consider enrolling your child/ren into out of school hours care (OSHC) at Our Patch that is available daily in the College Multipurpose Hall. Contact details are Lynne Fulton, Our Patch Leader, Mob. 0427 928 863, www.ourpatch.education.

Staff Meetings

In August a new Catholic Education Multi-Enterprise Agreement commenced operation in Catholic schools within the Diocese of Ballarat, Sandhurst and Melbourne. It outlines information regarding the conditions of service for Educational Support Employees, School Services Officers, Teachers, Deputy Principals and Principals in Catholic schools within these dioceses.

The award clearly outlines attendance requirements for teachers, including weekly attendance at two hours of meeting time adjacent to the workday. Meeting times are crucial and precious opportunities for teachers

to undertake professional development, to review teaching practices, to collaborate with colleagues in relation to student wellbeing initiatives such as Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL), curriculum and student data.

In line with the award our **teaching staff attend meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday** afternoon from 3.20pm. On these afternoons **teachers will not be available** to meet with parents at dismissal. If a teacher is approached for a discussion regarding a non-urgent matter, they will respectfully ask you to make contact at another time or through another method.

We welcome and encourage parents to email the teacher with the information or to request a follow up phone call. The teacher will then respond and make contact at their earliest convenience. Thank you for your support of our staff and understanding in relation to this matter.

On the Move

Commencement of College's Stage 0 building project is approaching, this includes the construction of an additional primary classroom and meeting rooms off the administration building. The works will require **Miss Jade's Year 3B class**, to relocate rooms for the remainder of Term 4 and likely the beginning of Term 1 2024. 3B will be relocating to Room 13 a portable positioned behind the primary toilet block and adjacent to the main quadrangle. Moving day for 3B is this coming Monday.

Mrs Genevieve Gordon

genevieve.gordon@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Faith and Mission



Secondary Retreats

During week 3 of this term all secondary classes will take part in a 'Retreat Day'.

This year we have engaged the Youth Mission Team, from Melbourne, to work with our students and staff. These retreat days provide students with the opportunities to step away from the day to day demands of the College and focus on a specific topic that relates to the missions and values of St Mary's.

YMT have been ministering to students in Victoria since 1998. YMT Melbourne provides young people with a dynamic and relevant encounter with the Gospel, empowering them to make positive life choices.

Each year level is based around a different themed program which includes ice breakers, drama, multi-media and reflection activities.

Lunch will be provided for students, and they may wear casual clothes.

Dates are as follows:-

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|------------------|
| - Monday 16th October | Year 8: | (Self-Image) |
| - Tuesday 17th October | Year 9: | (Social Justice) |
| - Wednesday 18th October | Year 7: | (Knowing God) |
| - Thursday 19th October | Year 10: | (Life Choices) |



Mrs Rochelle Gough

rochelle.gough@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Learning and Teaching



It's hard to believe that we are already into October !

Term 4 is always extremely busy for our student community and assessment tasks will be coming thick and fast.

Our **weekly email communication** for our **primary families** will keep you up to date with all of the learning areas being covered.

For **secondary families** we encourage you to keep regular checks on **PAM** to see upcoming and imminently due assessment items or homework tasks. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or myself.

Year 9 and Year 10 Semester Two Exams

Semester Two exams will take place for our **Year 9 and 10 students** in the week beginning **20th November**. These exams are vital in developing exam conduct and technique, building resilience and stamina under exam conditions and building revision and application skills in the content area.

Students will be provided with a timetable and revision booklet closer to the time. Our recent Elevate Education incursion gave great time management and revision tips for our students to utilise over the coming weeks leading up to their exams.

Mrs Julia Wood

julia.wood@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Director of Wellbeing



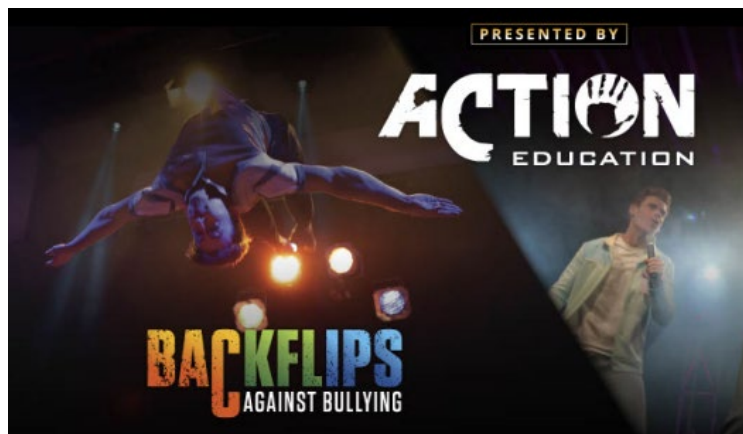
PBL Values – RESPECT, EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY

The **PBL focus** for the **first two weeks of term 4** is to wear the **correct uniform**. Students are being taught this expectation through social stories. Students will be acknowledged through the PBL ticket system and names will be drawn out for a canteen voucher during Pastoral care on Friday 13th October.

- **School uniform is compulsory. It is important that I wear my correct school uniform every day to show that I am a student at St Mary's**
- **School socks need to be grey with the boy's uniform.**
- **Girls can wear navy long socks or tights in the winter. They wear white socks in the summer.**
- **Headbands, scrunchies, ties and bows should be in school colours. Blue, white or Yellow.**
- **Hair is tied back if it is longer than collar length. Hair is always a natural hair colour.**
- **On sports days students can wear colourful runners. Every other day students wear shoes that are black leather.**

Backflips against Bullying incursion

All students will be attending the Backflips against Bullying incursion today, Friday 6th October. The incursion is an evidenced based program that engages students to learn about bullying by engaging them with Parkour and Acrobatics.



Mrs Allison Moore

allison.moore@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

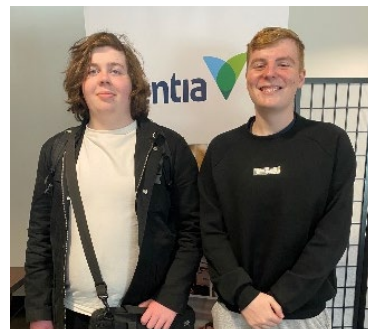
Careers

The Seymour/Puckapunyal Youth Partnership

Ventia, in collaboration with the Central Ranges Local Learning and Employment Network (CRLLEN), Seymour College, St Mary's College, the Seymour Flexible Learning Centre and Gotafe Seymour Campus offer various opportunities to our local students, including industry tours, training interviews, work experience placements and financial scholarships.



In the last week of Term 3, two Year 9 students, Charlie McQueen and Mason Begley opted to participate in a Design Thinking Challenge. This challenge is offered each year through the Seymour/Puckapunyal Youth Partnership. Ventia facilitate the weeklong experience on base at Puckapunyal. A bus and driver were provided to transport students to and from Puckapunyal each day. Lead by Mrs Carol Fisher on behalf of the CRLLEN, the group of 6 students from the 3 Seymour schools and Gotafe worked together to research, interview various personnel and brainstorm to provide feedback and possible solutions or improvement to current environmental and sustainable practices.



All students provided a fantastic presentation on the final day of the challenge.

Congratulations to Charlie and Mason, who both presented informative and well researched information and spoke very well to a gathering of parents, school staff, Ventia staff and Defence Force personnel.



They were excellent representatives of the College.

Mrs Tanya Oakley

tanya.oakley@smseymour.catholic.edu.au



I hope everyone had an enjoyable term break and are ready for warmer days ahead and a busy Term 4.

As it was a wet weather timetable on Tuesday 3rd, we were unable to have Defence Kids Club Foundation – Year 4 at lunchtime. Instead, I popped over to the PLC to visit some of the students and spend some time with them playing UNO and making 3D Minecraft shapes. Luckily, I was able to start the day with Tuesday Hot chocolate morning for Year 5 – 10 students. A welcome warm drink and a chat was a great way to start the day.

Defence Member and Family Support has a range of support for those families with school-aged children that are moving on to new postings. If anyone would like any literature regarding moving schools or the Education Assistance Scheme, or have any questions, please email me or leave a message at the college office and I will get back to you.

ADF Medallions

Vietnam War commemorative medallion and certificate

To acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) has produced a Commemorative Medallion and Certificate of Commemoration.

The medallion and certificate will be made available to every living veteran, widows of veterans and other family members of veterans of the Vietnam War.
To apply go to Vietnam War commemorative medallion and certificate
Department of Veterans' Affairs (dva.gov.au)



Child of the ADF Medallion

Presented by Defence Member and Family Support

Participation in the Child of the ADF Medallion program is open to all recognised dependants of ADF members aged 3 years to 18 years of age. If you are interested to learn more about this medallion and the criteria, please contact me either by email or contact the college office and I will get back to you.



Mrs Janice Kerris

janice.kerris@smseymour.catholic.edu.au

Cub Scouts... *Camping and Adventure*



Several of our primary students enjoyed a week of camping and adventure during the school holidays, at the **11th Victorian Cuboree**.

3500 cub scouts from across the state came together to experience a range of activities from bouldering and giant slides to archery and mud runs.

We love to see our students embracing new challenges and making new friends.



Mrs Rebecca Scollen

Dates To Remember

TERM 4	
Mon 9 th Oct	Division Athletics Carnival – Epping (Primary Reps)
Tues 10 th Oct	Foundation Transition for enrolled primary students (9.00am-10.30am)
Wed 11 th Oct	Mitchell Shire Immunisation: catch-up day for any students
Fri 13 th Oct	Regional Athletics Carnival – Albury (Primary Reps) Yr: 7-10 Incursion 'Elephant Ed' (Rotation of 1hr sessions for each year level)
Mon 16 th Oct	State Athletics Carnival – Albert Park (Secondary Reps) F-2 Primary Incursion (all day) 'Solve It'

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

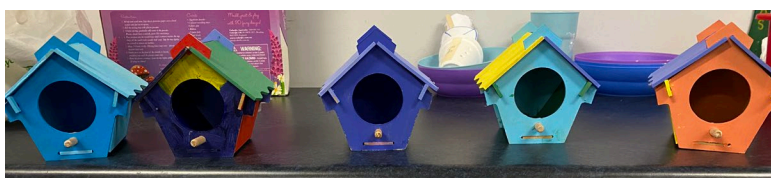
Mass Times: St Mary's - SAT 6pm, SUN 10am
St Joseph's - SUN 8.30am

Our Patch

Welcome to Term 4 at Our Patch

This Term we will be having back RYU SENSHI DOJOS to run our Speciality offering of Karate. Some fun with new activities and some of the favourites will be returned.

We are still trying to run some Before School programs with a Lego Club, Board game Club, Cooking Club, and Knitting and Crocheting. It can't be a Club with only 1 member we really need your support for those families that need this service.



Lynne Fulton (Patch Leader)

Ph: 0475 451 524

www.ourpatch.education

Community Events

BERRY STREET has provided services to children, young people and families for over 140 years. One of our key programs and services is out-of-home care (foster care).

We are desperately seeking more foster carers to care for our

vulnerable children/ young people aged 0-17 years who are unable to live at home with their family of origin.

Become a Berry Street foster carer

In our community, some children are not always able to live with their family.

Become a foster carer and support a local child at a crucial moment in their life.

Enquire today
berrystreet.org.au/fostercare
Ph. 1800 816 037

BERRY STREET

THE COMMUNITY BANK OF WALLAN, KILMORE & BROADFORD
Bendigo Bank PROUDLY PRESENTS
SPRING BLOOMS AGAIN
 A CONCERT PERFORMED BY THE



MITCHELL SHIRE CONCERT BAND
2.00PM Sunday 8th October 2023
 Seymour College Arts Centre
 Corner of Loco St & Anglesey St Seymour
 Tickets \$10 Adult, \$5 Children, \$20 Family (2 adults & 2 children under 16)
 Tickets available through TryBooking: www.trybooking.com/CLGDU




Enquiries to the Secretary: secretary@mitchellshireconcertband.org.au or 0420 200 278

All proceeds from this concert will be used to continue the Band's Learner programme, where new learners of all ages can discover the joy of performing in a large ensemble.



**LIONS CLUB OF
SEYMOUR
GOULBURN**

COMMUNITY



Kings Park
Saturday 14th October 2023

Gates open from 9.00am
 Free entry
 Site enquiries - **0417329981**

SEYMOUR LITTLE ATHLETICS

Registrations are now open for the 2023-24 Season!

Running back at Kings Park Seymour, Friday nights at 5:30PM commencing on the 13th October.

Not only are we back at Kings Park after being relocated due to the devastating floods in 2022 but we can now offer our full program of events including:

Track: 100m, 200m, 300m, 400m 800, 1500m 60m

Hurdles, 80m Hurdles

Field: Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Discus, High Jump with the potential of Javelin

It's a fantastic sport to be a part of, focusing on all aspects of physical fitness.

Fees are only \$105 for the season covering approximately 18 nights, you can't go wrong.

Head over to <https://lavic.com.au/membership/> or give Aaron a call 0410 262 881 for more information.




ON YOUR MARKS, SET, GO!
 REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN
 SEYMOUR LITTLE ATHLETICS

2 Week Free Come & Try
 For New Members!

Ages Under 6 to Under 17
www.lavic.com.au

Friday Nights 5:30pm
 Kings Park Seymour
 Season Start 13th October

Got a question? Call Aaron 0410 262 881

