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# Lumina

Issue 17 · 21 Oct 2021

*Welcome to Issue 17. It's thrilling to finally have our students staged return onsite this week. Our cover image is from VAPA week you can see more of our talented students' work in this issue.*

**Director of Development | Elaine Doyle**

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# From the Principal

Terry Blizzard

Like our students and the many parents I have spoken to, we are so looking forward to the staggered return to onsite learning. The recently published Roadmap to opening up has provided some welcomed clarity to schools and to parents. As a reminder I include below the details.

## **Year 7**

Return on Friday October 22 and remain onsite full time.

## **Year 8 and 9**

Onsite Tuesday – Wednesday commencing October 26. Learning remotely on all other days.

## **Year 10**

Return on Friday October 22 and will be onsite part time for the following week. They will learn remotely Monday 25 to Wednesday 27 October before returning onsite on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 October.

## **Year 11**

Return on Friday 22 October and remain onsite full time.

As previously communicated, it is a public health expectation that students wear a mask at all times when inside the classroom and outside, including on all public transport.

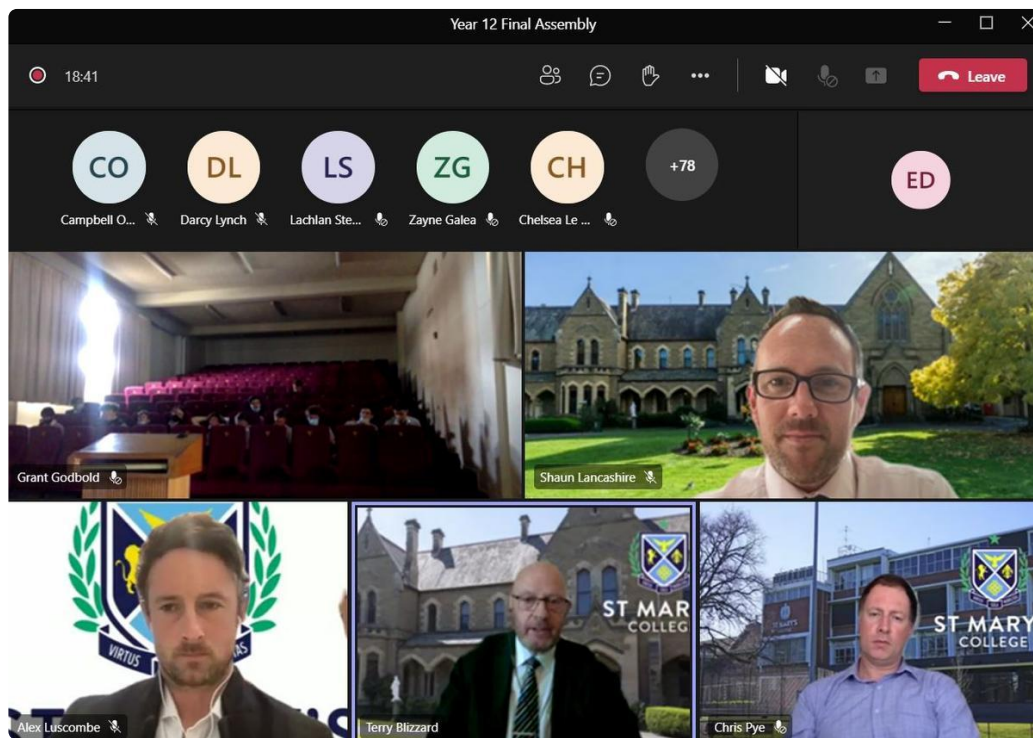
We have taken the opportunity this week to wish our Year 12s well at an online assembly as they commence the next stage of their educational journey, whether that be exams or other

pathways. What an extraordinary two years these resilient young men and women have had. I am constantly amazed at how they have continued to adapt, to “get back on the horse” and get on with things with such good spirit.

On behalf of the College community may I wish them every blessing in the coming weeks and beyond, knowing that we share the journey with them.

Dare to be extraordinary.

**Principal | Terry Blizzard**





# Around the College

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

Return to onsite learning	Friday 22 Oct	Monday 25 Oct	Tuesday 26 Oct	Wednesday 27 Oct	Thursday 28 Oct	Friday 29 Oct
Year 7	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Year 8			✓	✓		
Year 9			✓	✓		
Year 10	✓				✓	✓
Year 11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Our Students are returning

All staff and the students I have contact with are very enthusiastic about the slow but steady return to onsite learning outlined in recent communications from the College and made public last week. Our arrangements, including COVID safe protocols relevant to student safety will be communicated and revisited with students upon their return. It is of utmost importance that these protocols are understood and followed, as they are key to continued safety at school. Most importantly, mandatory mask wearing must be adhered to. Really looking forward to our school feeling normal again!

Best wishes to all Year 12 students completing exams in the coming weeks, and to those not completing exams, including our wonderful graduating VCAL class, we look forward to celebrating your achievements after the exams are completed.

EREA child safeguarding standard 2 is titled ***Children and young people are safe, informed and participate***. This standard is designed to inform young people of their rights and ensure that their voice is present and valued when decisions are made that affect their lives. This standard calls upon the school to provide programs and opportunities for students to know their rights and responsibilities. By doing so, they are encouraged in a safe environment to actively contribute to the school community, with the intent that our students are outward looking and well informed. Please click on the below link to access the full version of EREA child safeguarding standard 2.

 [S2 Participation.pdf](#)

**Deputy Principal |** Shaun Lancashire



# Identity

Director of Identity | Kate Johnston

It is hard to believe that for a second year in a row our Year12 students are preparing for exams without the traditional rites of passage.

We all have different ways of preparing for exams; prayer and meditation might help. A good passage to meditate on before going into an exam is Psalm 121. It speaks of God's everlasting love, help and protection. Psalm 121 was sung by the ancient Israelites as they made their journey to Jerusalem. It was a treacherous journey for them as they scaled the hills around Jerusalem to get to religious festivals.

We all go through life needing to be held from time to time. Often, we turn to our parents or friends to advise and guide us. I frequently look upwards, *I lift up my eyes to the hills* in petition to God for a sign of which way to turn. *My help comes from the Lord.*

Some may not always ask for it, but we understand that God is always there to help us. God watches over our lives from the beginning to the end. He wants to help us through life's trials and tribulations. *The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.*

Pope Benedict XVI wrote that Psalm 121 .. *draws to a close with a concise declaration of trust: God will protect us with love at every moment, guarding our lives from every evil. All our activities, summed up in two opposite verbs, "going" and "coming", always take place under the vigilant gaze of the Lord, as do all our acts and all our time, "both now and for ever".*

As a community we pray for our Yr. 12s as they prepare for their final exams in the coming days.

**Psalm 121 - Assurance of God's Protection****A Song of Ascents.**

*I lift up my eyes to the hills  
from where will my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.  
He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.  
He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.  
The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.  
The Lord will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.*



# Wellbeing



## Respectful Relationships 2022

Earlier this year, the College became a Respectful Relationships' Partner School. A key element of this is the Respectful Relationships Program where engaging and contemporary lessons are delivered to all students. Topics covered include: stress management; help-seeking behaviour; problem solving; safe socialising and gender and identity. The activities often involve scenarios and discussions and are tailored to be relevant to the various age groups in the school.

The College's Pastoral Team compiled Scope and Sequence Charts for all year-levels and mapped the program against the personal and social capabilities of the Victorian Curriculum. We are really looking forward to bringing this work to fruition next year during our fortnightly pastoral periods.

I will update you further as this work continues. Please get in touch if you have any further questions.

Best wishes

**Director of Students | Chris Pye**



## Mental Health Month

This month of October is mental health month. In keeping with this theme, last week Year 12 students listened to a presentation from Headspace in Elsternwick on “Managing Stress and Mental Health”.

The three presenters covered a range of topics. Elaine Liebetrau reminded us how COVID has affected us (as if we needed to be reminded!). She spoke about our confusion over what we can and cannot do, increased stress, anger and frustration, increased anxiety, disappointment at missing milestones and holidays, irritability and low mood. She emphasised that all of these emotions are normal for these COVID times. She also spoke about mental wellness as a continuum, along which we move at various times, from “flourishing” to for some, “going through a tough time”.

Bridie Mannion spoke about stress and how at its optimum, it is a good thing and very helpful for performing well. She spoke about ways to manage stress when it is not at its optimum. Some suggestions were to have a change of scene – go to a different room or get outside and have a break from the work desk. She encouraged us to move our bodies; do star jumps or stretches if we like. If we choose, we can journal and tell the pages how we feel or if not that, vent to a friend or loved one. We could practise yoga and meditation and make time to do something completely different to what we are doing.

The most important hint Bridie gave our students was a scientifically proven breathing technique, the 4-7-8 technique.

*Breathe in for the count of 4*

*Hold the breath for the count of 7*

*Breathe out for the count of 8*

This has been proven to lower the heart rate, feed information to our brain that we are not in danger and then help our body to relax.

Bridie also gave the students some exam techniques. Before the exam, be organised. Check that the calculator has batteries and that all equipment works. Students should eat a good light breakfast. Importantly they should spend some time on their own and keep away from people who are stressed. As we know, stress is contagious so keep well away!

Bridie also encouraged students to affirm themselves and encourage themselves like their best friend would. Finally, during the exam, students were encouraged to use their 4-7-8 method of breathing if too stressed.

The third speaker, Alex Young, as a Headspace Ambassador, spoke about how he managed his studies and kept a healthy headspace to perform well.

This was a very fitting presentation for our Year 12s as they embark on exams and transitioning from school to study and work.

**Student Counsellor** | Catherine McMahon



# Learning

## Semester 2 Exams

The **Year 10 Semester 2 exam** sessions have been cancelled.

Students will use this time to finalize and celebrate the conclusion of their year.

**Unit 2 exams** will continue as scheduled and will be held on 4 – 11 November. The exam booklet will be available on SIMON and will include the timetable, venues and information for each exam.

## Subject Allocations for 2022

Students should be receiving confirmation of their subject allocations for 2022 by the end of the first week in November. The timetable has been constructed using the preference data that the students entered into our system. As mentioned during our subject selection process, sometimes the choices are not possible because of the number of students choosing a subject and also a student may have chosen two subjects that are running at concurrently.

We will publish the lines (subject groupings) when the subject allocations are sent to the students, and they may request to change their allocations. A Request of Subject Change form will need to be completed and can be obtained from their Pastoral Leader.

All subject changes for VCE subjects must be **completed by the last day of Semester 2** and no other changes will be considered until the end of Semester 1 2022.

**Director of Learning Development |** Bev Pettit

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Year 9 vegetable garden

Our Nobilitas Year 9 students learn about their impact on the world and this year have created a vegetable garden. They will be thrilled to see the bounty of their harvest upon their return to the College. Spinach pies will be made this week from the produce and donated to the charities our students have supported throughout the year.

Our students learn practical ways to support communities to make a better world for all.

# Co-curricular



## The Australian Mathematics Competition

This year students from Years 7, 8 and 10 elected to enter the Australian Mathematics Competition(AMC). The AMC is an engaging 30-problem competition that demonstrates the importance and relevance of mathematics in students' everyday lives. Achievement in the AMC is shows the great problem solvers we have in our classrooms.

Congratulations go to the following students:

### Year 7

**Distinction:** Richard Chen

**Credit:** Cameron Hoad, Lucas Warrick, Oliver Jordan, Rohin Basu

**Proficiency:** Alexander Grivicic, Asher Barton, Oscar Fantini, Georgia Le Hunt

### Year 8

**Distinction:** Campbell Lavender

**Credit:** Lincoln Dinh, Joel Farrar, Will Stone, Nick Cook, Rafi Sayer, Geb Gibney, Jude Fitzgerald, Amelia Giglas, Kabir Singh

**Proficiency:** Aliz Pallos, Zac Wynd, Victor Ha, Daniel Nguyen, Helene Giglas, John Skordakis, Maddy Gournas

### Year 10

**Distinction:** Luc Bunde, Danh Nguyen, Audrey Smart

## ACC Intermediate Chess

Our team of 6 Intermediate students gallantly represented St Mary's College in the online ACC Chess Tournament. We congratulate Adam T for winning 5 of his 7 games, and thank Mr Tomazi for his coaching and support of our students.



**MOVE4**  
**MENTAL FITNESS**

ACC  
Associated  
Catholic  
Colleges

www.accmelb.com.au/m4mf

Term 4 ACC challenge raising  
awareness of the importance of  
PHYSICAL FITNESS AND MENTAL FITNESS

**GET MOVING**

The banner features a collage of images: a large crowd of runners, a close-up of a runner's legs and feet, and two people walking a dog. At the bottom, a row of yellow icons depicts various physical activities: a family walking, a person on a bicycle, a person in a wheelchair, a runner, a person walking, a person on a bicycle, and a runner.

## Week 2 Leaders

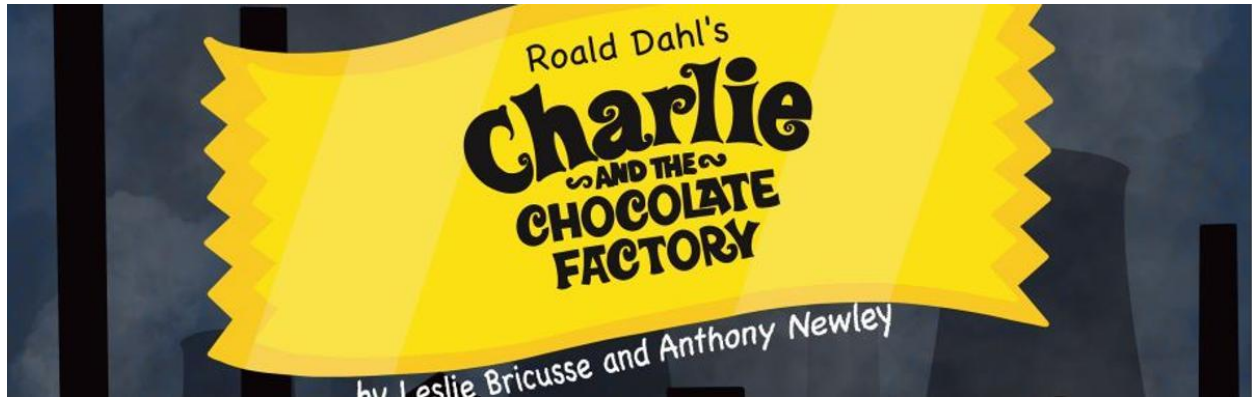
Year 7 Lucas W

Year 8 Mason B.

Year 9 Cleo S.

Year 10 Hunter G.

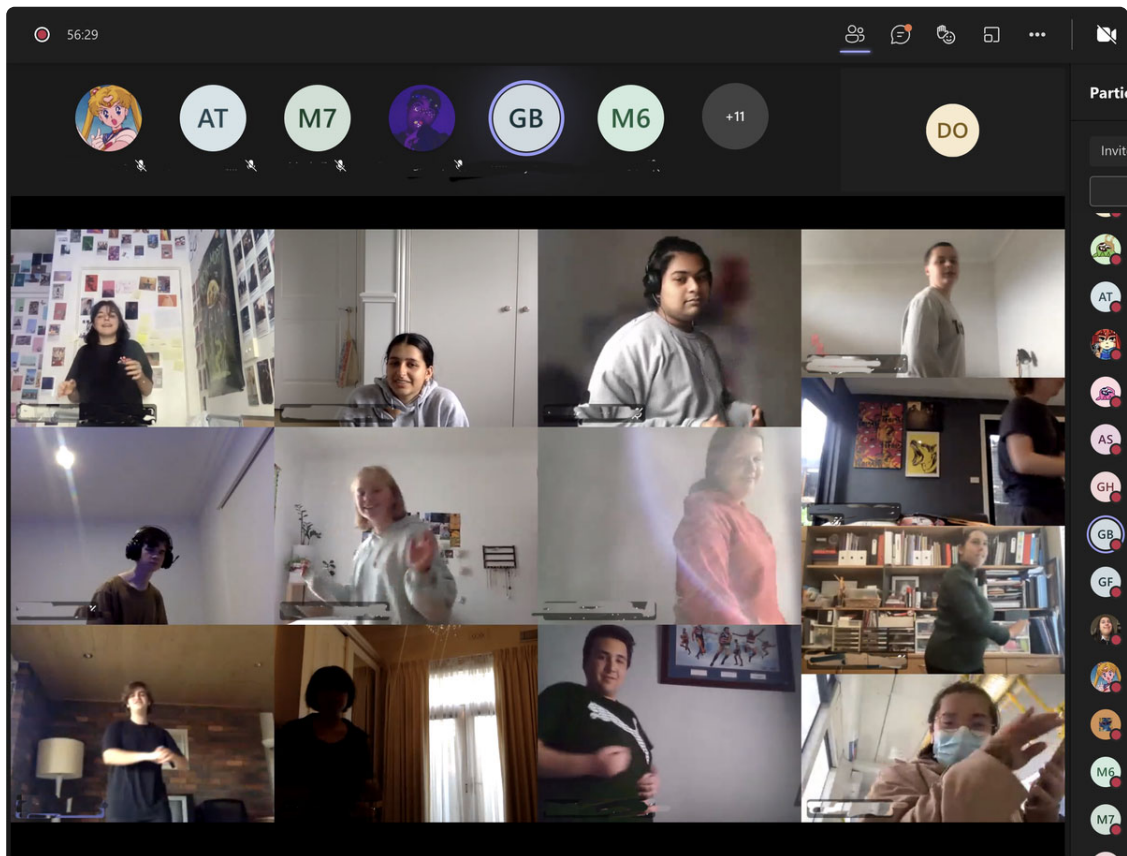
Year 11 Victoria G



# Musical

## Musical Production News

Our production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* has been continuing with online rehearsals.



Online musical rehearsal

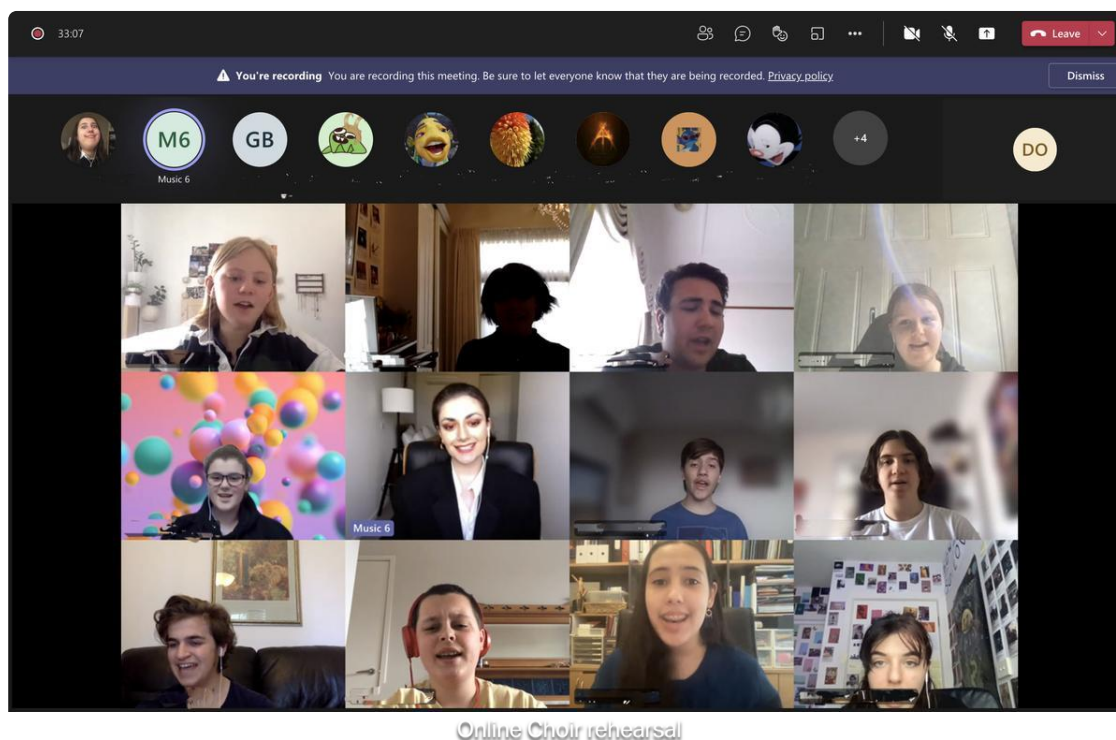
However, we are in uncertain times and our November performances cannot be guaranteed as there are currently COVID restrictions around live singing. It is our hope these will be lifted



when students return.

As a project to keep our wonderful cast focused, we are recording a virtual choir performance of one of the songs from the show - which song? You will have to wait to see and hear.

One of the College's singing teachers, Ms Phoebe Papatheodorou is engineering this feat. Ms P (as we all call her 😊) has experience in recording these popular projects and the technology to do so. You can see Ms Papatheodorou in the screenshot encouraging the students to sing along to the backing track whilst they record their voices.



Whatever the future holds for our production this will be a great memento for the students, and the College. And a way of showing the enormous amount of work these students have dedicated to this event.

**Well done, Musical Cast and Ms P.**

## VCE Music Assessments

This month Perran S. and Archie F. perform their Solo Contemporary Voice programs before the VCAA panel. Both students have attended singing lessons with Ms Papatheodorou this year and have developed interesting vocal programs showcasing their Music Investigation Topics:

**Archie** - *'Performance Practices of Traditional Songs of the Sea and their Contemporary Counterparts.'* Mr Charlie Rooke, the College's guitar teacher is accompanying Archie in some of his songs.

**Perran** - *'Performing Practices and Techniques of Contemporary Musical Theatre Lead Roles from 2000 to Present.'* Ms Papatheodorou is playing the piano accompaniment for Perran's songs.

We wish Archie and Perran all the very best in their VCE Solo Performances.

'Never forget the power music has to change lives'

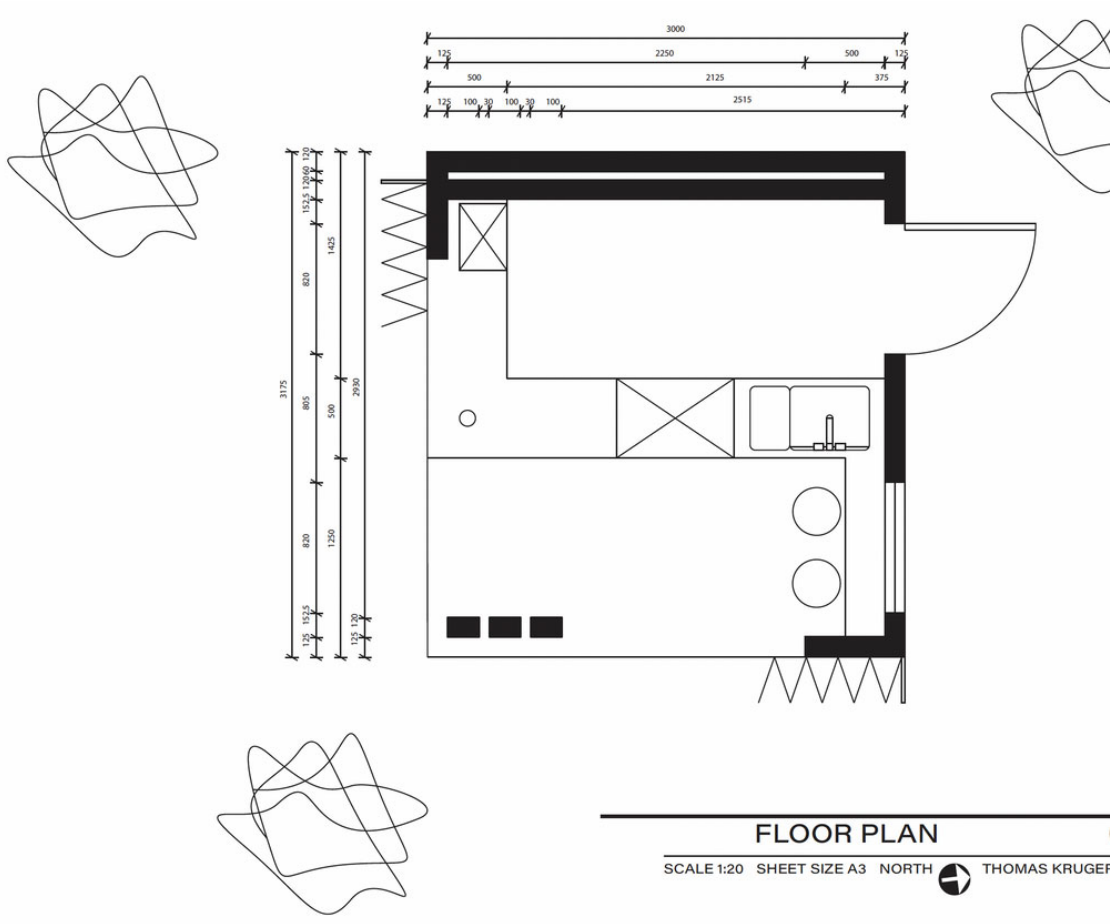
**Director of Music |** David O'Meara



# VAPA week

*Due to lockdown this year we have been unable to run our VAPA week as we have done in previous years. Please find below a selection of some of our talented students' works.*

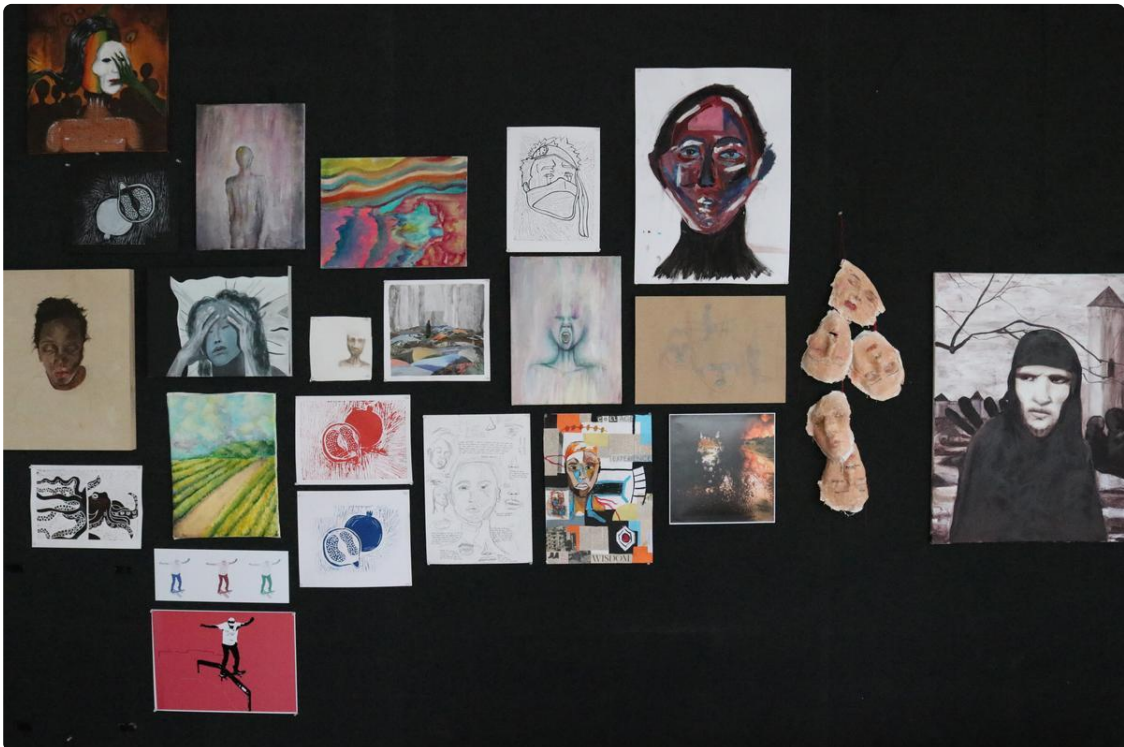
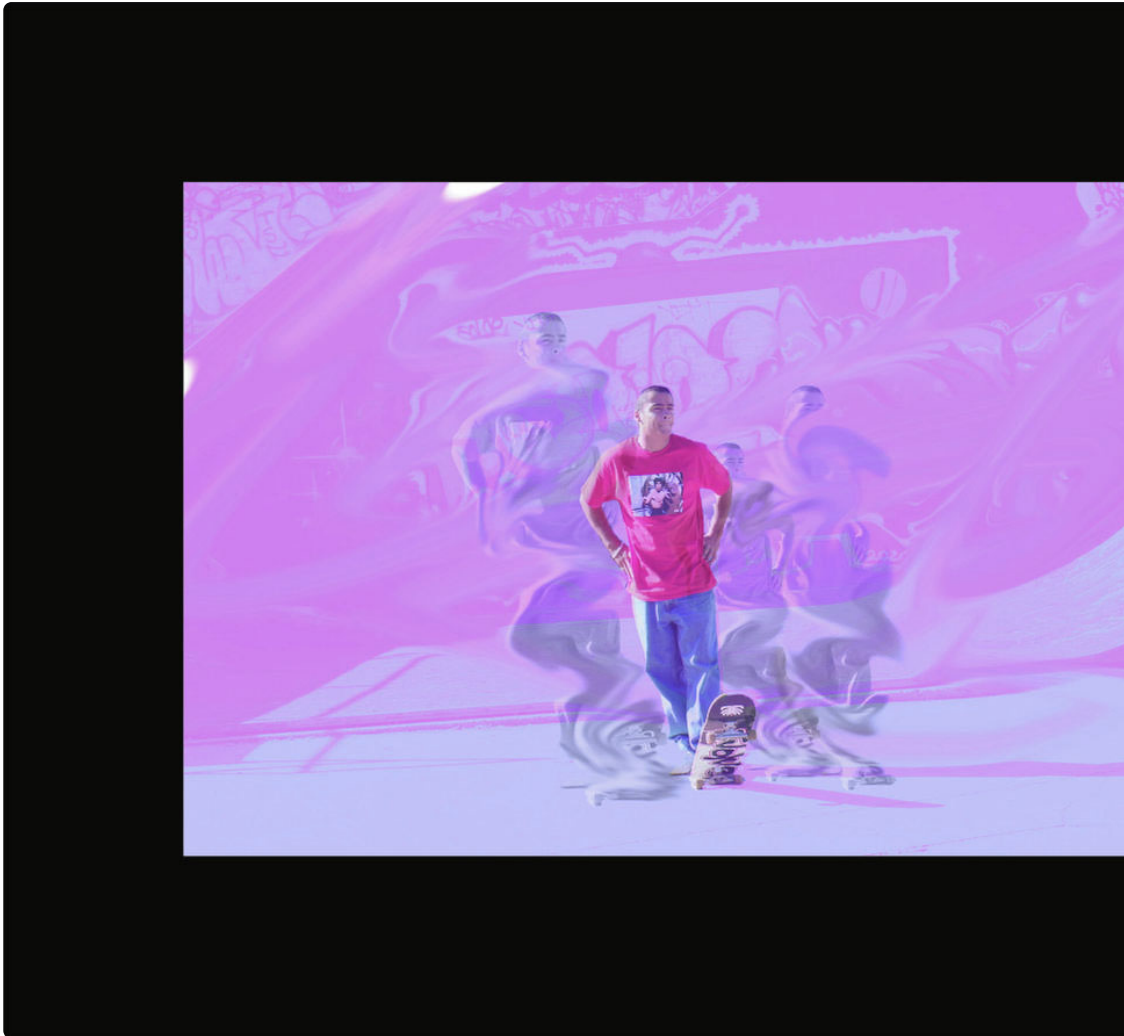
## Y11 Visual Communication Design



## Y12 Visual Communication Design



## Studio Arts



## Media





# Our Students

## Return to school

As lockdown ends and onsite learning resumes, I am really looking forward to getting back into the rhythm of learning at school with my fellow peers. I think we can all agree that these past couple of months have been challenging for everyone. The isolation, high amounts of screen-time and not having the structure of the school day have made things tough, albeit it bearably so. I think that students will now be able to concentrate better on their learning with the help of their teachers.

Friday is the first day back for many of us. Whilst I am sure there will be some nerves, it will be great to re-connect with friends and teachers, play a few games in the yard and get into our learning in the classroom.

Wishing everyone a good re-start to onsite learning and a positive end to the year.

**Year 10 Student | Ben B.**





# Our Community

View our College Calendar for events and important dates

Please note that due to COVID restrictions it has been necessary to move the date of many events.

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## Walkathon donations are closing



Thank you to all families who have generously contributed to raising the amount of **\$28,093.00**

This year our donations will go to the **Fr Bob Maguire Foundation** and our continued support of charities for school children in India who so desperately need our help during these COVID times. We will be closing donation at the end of October.

**Please note the Walkathon ID Numbers:****Students and staff** please use your Walkathon ID number**Parents & Friends** use ID **709****Alumni and Community** use ID **70**

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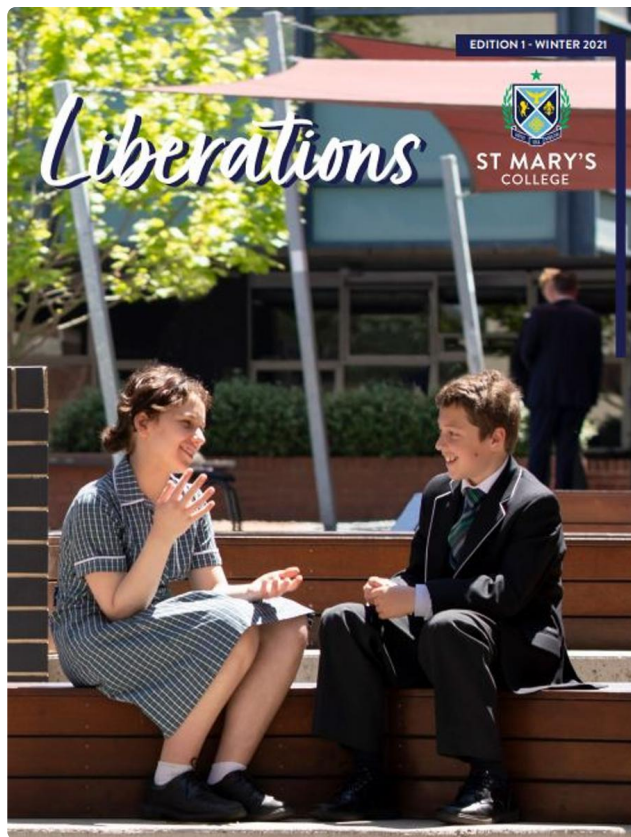
## Strategic Plan - Parent Survey

Thank you to families who have completed the Strategic Plan Parent Survey, we have had a great response from our engaged community. Your input contributes to the Strategic Plan process that will set out what St Mary's College would like to achieve in the next two to three years and how we get there.

We will be closing the survey on **Sunday 24 October**. If you have not already contributed and would like to submit your response, families have been sent a reminder email dated 21 October containing the link.

**Principal |** Terry Blizzard

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**Introducing *Liberations*, the St Mary's College magazine.**

In this first edition we celebrate the journey of launching our co-educational college and celebrate our students' experience. Our magazine also links our past by celebrating our Alumni Network. You can read stories from past students of CBC and PCW who are an integral part of our past and support our future. We look forward to publishing stories of the Class of '21 next year as they become the first graduating cohort of St Mary's College.

Online copies are found on the College website on the [Publications](#) page or [Alumni](#) page. Printed copies will be available at reception of our Campuses, and at future onsite Tours, Open Days and Reunions.

If you would like to contribute to Alumni news, please email the editor, Elaine Doyle [edoyle@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:edoyle@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au)

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**Enrol now for Year 7, 2023**

Please share with your community interested in St Mary's College, a reminder to enrol online for Year 7, 2023 as interviews and places are currently being finalised.

[Apply Today](#)

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## You can visit us online

### Tour Dates for 2021

Please pass on to friends and family who are interested in a co-educational Catholic education. We now have online and on site ways to visit our College.

***Thursday 11 November 12:30 - Conversations with the Principal (online)***



**TOURS  
SCHOLARSHIPS  
ENROL TODAY**

**BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY**

[Online Enrolment for 2023](#)

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**Midford Uniform Shop**

**Midford Uniform Shop Purchases**

We are hoping that the Midford Uniform Shop may be back to usual trading conditions and hours from Tuesday 9 November, although this will be confirmed prior to this date. Until the Midford shop is able to be back to usual trading conditions, our families have a click & collect option available for orders and payments made online and the following collection dates have been made available from 12-4pm on both Thursday 28 October and Thursday 4 November. Midford online orders and payments for click & collect can be made through the St Mary's College website by selecting the Uniform from the Enrolments tab, then selecting the Online Orders link

<http://www.midford.com.au/>

Use the passphrase **SMC2021**.

**If required, the Midford shop can also be contacted on those dates by calling 9520-8519.**



# Parents & Friends

## P & F Meeting

Next meeting: **Monday 15 November** - format to be advised

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## P & F Catch Up Dinner, next Tuesday 26 October

It's been far too long since we've caught up face to face! Now that restrictions are easing, Terry is keen that the P&F attendees seize an opportunity to meet up again in person. We want to support the business of one of our families, so have booked:

*Tuesday 26 October for a 5:30-8:30pm sitting*

*The Olive Tree*

*19 Park Street, South Melbourne.*

The restaurant is fully licensed, however BYO is available with a corkage fee. Due to remaining Government restrictions there is unfortunately a limit of 12 people, and attendees must be fully vaccinated. We were fortunate to secure the last available large booking, however plans are also underway for our bigger P & F end of year get together, when we

should be able to accommodate more attendees. If you are keen to attend this dinner next Tuesday 26th, please message Jane Balme with a copy of your COVID-19 Certificate to [jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au).

## **P & F Supporting our families with Cost Effective Options**

Our College P & F is pleased to support our families with cost-effective options for the purchase of textbooks and uniforms. When the 2022 booklists are sent soon to families, a copy will also be made available to the **Sustainable School Shop** to exactly match St Mary's College searches. P & F have generously paid an annual subscription for all our families, which means that there will be no registration cost to purchase and sell items such as textbooks, etc.

Our **P & F Recycled Uniform Shop** is also generously staffed by volunteers and provides cost effective options – donated items are also gratefully received. We are eagerly awaiting news on when we are able to next reopen this shop, and will advise families as soon as this information is available to us.

## **P & F Meetings**

We recently held our penultimate P & F meeting for the year and our next and final meeting for 2021 will include an AGM. This will be held on Monday 15 November – hopefully face to face at the Presentation Campus, more details to follow.

## **P & F Recycled Uniform Shop Purchases**

We are waiting on our current onsite restrictions being updated, as unfortunately we aren't able to have family members onsite at this time. If you have any urgent needs for the P&F Recycled Uniform Shop, please contact [jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au).

**President of Parents & Friends | Jane Leroi**





# Notices

## 2021 Fee Accounts

All families are reminded that all outstanding 2021 Fee Accounts and outstanding account balances are required to be finalised in October, unless you have an approved payment plan.

Families are requested to ensure that Fee Accounts are settled by the end of October or contact the Finance Office to discuss an approved payment plan arrangement.

Families who currently have approved payments plans or have settled their Fee Account balances; please disregard this notice.

We appreciate your assistance in settling outstanding Fee Account balances as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Marina Gutnik in the Finance Office on 9529 6611 or [fees@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:fees@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au).

Documents in relation to Fees and Payment Arrangements can be found in the Parent Access Module PAM (SIMON)

## 2021 / 2022 Capital Works

We are pleased advise that St Mary's College will be commencing work on a new Lift and Stair on the McCartney Wing of Edmund Rice Campus together with a new entrance ramp at the Main Reception entrance in December 2021. The new capital works will provide disability access to the Campus buildings and learning areas making it easier for people to

move throughout the Edmund Rice Campus. The College is in the process of appointing a builder.

Pictured below is an impression of the proposed new Lift and Stair.

**ST MARY'S COLLEGE**  
STAGE 1 MODERNISATION WORKS TO  
MCCARTNEY WING + CORBETT WING



**KENNEDY  
NOLAN**

We look forward to providing you updates on the stages of this exciting project.

**Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien**