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Lumina

Issue 3 · 08 Mar 2022

House Spirit has been alive and well with the second of our House Carnivals being the Swimming Carnival held last Friday. What a great day to hit the pool and students participated with great enthusiasm.

Director of Development | Elaine Doyle

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From the Principal

Terry Blizzard

Last Wednesday we celebrated the beginning of the Season of Lent and our journey to Easter by conducting Ash Wednesday ceremonies. As is the case now, what once would have been a whole school occasion led by Father Jerome had to be adapted to suit our COVID times.

At individual homeroom ceremonies' students received ashes, a symbol of repentance and renewal and were challenged to "turn away from sin and follow the Gospel". For members of a Christian community, this symbolic beginning of our Lenten journey is most significant. This period marks the lead up to when Jesus makes his ultimate sacrifice for us on the cross on Good Friday. Jesus spends the forty days in the lead up reflecting on his life and the sacrifice he's about to make.

This period challenges us all to reflect on how we can make some positive changes in the way we go about our own lives, and for the students in our school to question right and wrong, and to think about how it is that we know the difference between right and wrong. I wonder as parents how many time we have found ourselves saying this to our young people – "you know better than that".

The season of Lent is a season of Joy for our Church because it is also a season of promise for a new beginning. This notion of new beginnings can offer us all a turning point in our lives.

The message we hope for our students is that Lent is a time for them to reflect and make permanent change for the betterment of their lives, and importantly to look outwardly to improve the lives of others. In their essence our five school values, Respect, Justice, Compassion, Inclusivity and Courage speak to this notion. Our hope is that these values permeate all we do and how we interact daily.

In an era where our young people are often unfairly viewed as being more concerned about themselves than others, Lent provides us the opportunity to reflect on the lives of others less well-off and this can only be a good thing. A wise man once told me that advocating for the poor and marginalized is “doing God’s work”. Our hope for our young people is that rather than talking about “what they gave up for Lent” as is often the case, we can ask them what they changed in their lives for the betterment of others.

Principal | Terry Blizzard



Around the College

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

As I reflect on the past couple of weeks, my thoughts are dominated by the incredibly rewarding experiences our students have had to engage in building school spirit. The House Athletics Carnival was not so long ago, the ACC Athletics Carnival was a couple of weeks ago, the House Swimming carnival took place last Friday and there have been other SCSA, ACC and College events. These events are not choreographed. They are human endeavours with a number of people – staff, students and families – all contributing because there is the belief that the community deserves our best effort. The possibility of ‘something’ not quite going to plan is very real. On occasions, things aren’t perfect. However, time and time again, the St Mary’s College community is finding that it is in these moments that we learn, grow, and develop together. At the Swimming Carnival, I witnessed highly motivated House Captains, both girls and boys, model for students of all ages how things are to be done. These leaders, and the students responsible for preparing and serving morning tea at the recent Talk and Tour, are perfect examples of our students valuing their school community and living a life of practical service. This is fast becoming ‘normal practice’ for the students and the wider St Mary’s College community.

This week I thought I would also share some thoughts about the significant amount of time that many of our students spend each day, in uniform, travelling to and from school. When our students wear their uniform in the community with pride, they are showing deep respect for their school, other students, staff and even those who have attended the two schools in the decades before them. Wearing the uniform with pride extends beyond presenting oneself with each of the required uniform items. It is about the way you interact with other

members of the public, the way you wear a mask on public transport without being reminded to do so and helping others with the same uniform if the need arises, even if you don't know that girl or boy by name. When we wear an identifying uniform, such as a sporting club, part-time job or in our case, school, it is tempting to assume that we're automatically held to a higher standard. I don't believe this to be the case. We should always hold ourselves to the high standard established in our homes, by our families, which are reinforced at a school that welcomes and cares for us, as Blessed Edmund Rice and Jesus call us to do.

EREA child safeguarding standard 8 is titled *Safe Physical and Online*

Environments. This standard identifies the approach taken by schools to identify the potential child safety risks associated with the multi-faceted operations of the school. At St Mary's College, this extends to include events held onsite, as well as excursions and camps. Importantly, this standard also names and describes the various online environments our students interact with and what we do to establish policies and procedures to actively mitigate the risks that such activities present. This includes risk assessments, staff training, volunteer screening and student education. Please click on the link to access the full version of EREA child safeguarding standard 8.



S8 Safe Environments.pdf

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire



Identity

Project Compassion

On Tuesday 1 March two of our senior students from the Social Justice Group participated in the online launch of the Project Compassion. The theme of this year's appeal is "FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS."

The launch was held virtually with hundreds of students from more than 40 schools from across Melbourne linked via Zoom into Mercy College, Coburg where Archbishop Peter Comensoli led a reflective liturgy. Audrey Smart and Raj Johnston were our College's representatives who joined other like-minded students. Following the liturgy, they were inspired by the stories from Caritas, in particular a young girl Anatercia from Mozambique, who's life has been turned around due to the contribution of Caritas in her community. and it was encouraging to see what the money raised from Project Compassion can do for young students like Anatercia and her family in other communities around the world that are not as fortunate as us in the comfort of our school in Melbourne.



The Caritas Project Compassion Launch was an informative and inspiring opportunity that allowed for schools to gather together remotely with a common passion for social justice, to celebrate the commencement of Project Compassion this Lent and to hear from guest speaker; Lulu Mitshabu, the Caritas Program Co-ordinator for the Africa region. It was an amazing experience to learn about how Project Compassion helps those in need, and I look forward to what our College, and all schools involved with Project Compassion, are going to achieve with regards to social justice this year.

Audrey Smart 11 Treacy

It was an enjoyable and enlightening experience being part of the online Zoom launch of Project Compassion. After the formalities of the liturgy, guest speaker Lulu Mitshabu shared interesting insights, telling us about Anatercia, the Project Compassion hero from Mozambique, and her work as the Program Coordinator for Caritas for the Africa region. It certainly made us realise how lucky we are to live in Australia, and hopefully hearing the stories of those doing it tough will encourage many people to donate to Caritas to support the vulnerable communities around the world.

Raj Johnston 11 Carroll

Following the launch on Shrove Tuesday, in the Pastoral Care time on Ash Wednesday we marked the beginning of the Church's season of Lent. The marking of the Ashes on our forehead on this day is a public expression of our faith and the need to live like Jesus, with compassion, understanding and inclusion. Lent is a special time when we stop and think about how we can play our part in God's hope for a world that is fair, just and peaceful. We do this through the practice of the following things:

Prayer - Through prayer we come closer to God so that we are better able to live justly as Jesus teaches us.

Fasting - to go without some food joins us in solidarity with the poor who often have no choice but to go without life's basic essentials.

Charity - giving to the poor or 'almsgiving' is a sign of our commitment to justice and our continuation of the work of Blessed Edmund Rice who said we must give to the poor in handfuls.

Please get involved with Project Compassion 2022 – posters and donation boxes were distributed last week throughout all the Pastoral classes. Think of what you can do to contribute this year, give up a coffee in the morning, or a sweet or cake at the tuck shop and place your money into the boxes in your classroom. All Year levels are challenged to raise as much money as possible during the Lenten season. During Lent we are called to consider what it is like to walk in the shoes of others and make some small sacrifices to allow others to benefit from our thoughtful giving “FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS”. What will your Lenten offering be?

If you would like more information on Project Compassion, please visit the [Caritas Website](#)

Watch more about how your money can support young people like Anatercia.

Identity Co-ordinator | Jane Marandu

Wellbeing



Wellbeing strategies for our Year 12 students

On Tuesday, 1 March, Year 12 students attended a presentation from Headspace in Elsternwick on stress management and mental wellness.

[Headspace](#) is an Australian non-profit organisation which supports mental and physical health, alcohol and drug addiction, as well as work and study for young people aged between twelve and twenty-four.

The two presenters explained the nature of stress and anxiety and provided a wealth of information on how Year 12s could best look after themselves during the year. This included the importance of sleep, diet, daily exercise and having a positive mind set. Students were encouraged to practice mindfulness, breathing techniques and distracting activities should they become too overwhelmed and anxious. Most importantly, they were encouraged to seek help.

Student Voice Committee

On Friday, February 25th the first meeting of Student Voice was held. Students gathered in the Board Room at Edmund Rice campus, including six new students from Year 7.

Year 12 students chaired the meeting and safety issues based on the Child Safe Standards, especially Child Safe Standard Seven were addressed.

Child Safe Standard Seven encourages students to speak up when they see unsafe practices in the following areas:

- Physical safety on school premises, excursions, camps and travel to and from school.
- Safety for culturally diverse groups
- Safety for students with disabilities or other needs
- Emotional safety
- Digital safety

The discussion was lively and enthusiastic as students spoke about issues pertaining to these five areas.

Student Voice meetings are held approximately every three weeks and are entirely student run.

Student Counsellor | Catherine McMahon

Peer Mentoring

A key component of the College's Student Wellbeing Vision is to further activate student voice. In this way, we are informed by Roger Holdsworth's promulgation on how student voice in schools 'can increase educational outcomes for all participants (students, teachers, schools etc) through partnerships between, and shared decision-making by, teachers and students.' An example of this was a peer mentoring session that took place last Tuesday.

Before the session, teachers collaborated with the Year 10 students on talking points and the structure of the session. Then, it was down to the students to chat to one another, build up some rapport and connection, discuss the opening to school, building confidence and belief about using their strengths to be a valuable, respected part of the community. Looking out onto the oval and seeing the students genuinely enjoy the activity was a real fillip for all involved. Thank you to Tori Whitten and Brendan Tollit for working with the mentors to create a positive activity.

Uniform

There will be uniform checks taking place fortnightly over the next few weeks. Thank you in advance for helping drive this important standard and life skill with your sons and daughters. If you have any questions re the various elements of the uniform, please make contact with the relevant Pastoral Leader.

When the basics are set and there is a warm and respectful atmosphere at school, students have a chance to thrive - to really enjoy their days at school. And this is what we are all seeking to achieve.

Director of Students | Chris Pye



Pathways

You cannot be what you cannot see!

What is the most important thing that students can do to prepare for their future? The answer is: explore the possibilities!

Parents can certainly help facilitate this exploration, whether by suggesting documentaries, enabling online research, encouraging attendance at events, using trips to distant institutions as driving practice, or whatever works for your family.

Young people need to see and experience the broadest range of careers and study options available, both through online research and in person. It is most exciting to hear from universities and vocational institutes that they will be welcoming students onto campus again this year, with school holiday tours, seminars, school visits and open days. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 should be making every effort to attend as many experiences as possible this year. They have missed out for too long. The earlier you start, the wider range of options you can experience.

Start with the April school holiday tours and then the VCE and Careers Expo at the end of April. You can read about these events in *Directions*, the Careers Newsletter, emailed to all Year 10 -12 students and families. For those in Year 9 and below, *Directions* can be found on the St Mary's College Careers website, under Important information. The link is on Simon and PAM. [click here](#)

On Tuesday I spoke to the Year 10 Community Meeting about the Work Experience Program. I will also be sending all Year 10 students and parents an email with all the most important information in the *Work Experience Kit 2022*. All the details you need are to be found in there.

The main message is to THINK BIG. You might know a lot about the workplace in your part time job, but for Work Experience, you should be aiming high. Try out something that might seem a bit daunting, a bit beyond your comfort zone. There will be rich rewards!

Careers Counsellor | Mandy Ellwood



International Women's Day

On 8 March St Mary's College and St Michaels Grammar held an International Women's Day Breakfast in Alma Park.

Around 90 staff and students of both schools came together to share breakfast and hear from College Captains and the guest speaker Philippa Taylor (pictured with our students above) who spoke about her extensive corporate experience and the challenge to eliminate gender bias.



It was a great morning with a strong community feel, bringing our two St Kilda East schools together to share this one vision and we thank St Michael's Grammar. We had the opportunity to donate to Sacred Heart Mission to support women and enter the raffle, lucky on the day was St Mary's College Y12 student Abbey W. and one of our St Mary's College parents.





House Spirit

With two whole school House Carnivals this Term there has been lots of opportunities for House Spirit, participation and cheering on your team mates to earn House points.





House Swimming Carnival Points Tally

Tevlin 831

O'Shea 815

Corbett 778

McMahon 717



House Athletics Carnival

Tevlin 1369

O'Shea 1054

Corbett 1126

McMahon 1180



Our Students

Year 10 Campus Captains - Speech

Good evening everyone, I'm Charlotte Richards and this James Lloyd Smith. We are the Year 10 Campus Captains for 2022. We are honoured to have the opportunity to have this role and work with the fabulous Leadership Team. For 2022, we are actively involved with the Year 7 cohort and ensuring they have a smooth start to their start to high school. Specifically, James and I are leading a team of Year 10 Peer Support Leaders who work with smaller groups of the Year 7s and checking up on their wellbeing.

In a broad sense, in 2022, we would like to make everyone feel included and work more to create a cohesive environment where the College value of inclusivity is seen in action everyday. We seek to be visible, approachable and fair-minded. We know that this role will require effort, organisation and, at times, courage to stand up for what he know to be right. We look forward to these challenges.

We look forward to being part of the College's Student Leadership Team to help make St Mary's College an even better school than it is. We thank our peers for their faith in us and thank the College community at large for entrusting us with the responsibility to lead the ERC Campus.

Thank you everyone.

Year 10 Campus Leaders | Charlotte Richards & James Lloyd-Smith



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.

Talk & Tour



Last week we welcomed around 100 families on-site for Talk and Tour (Mr Blizzards address pictured above). Our student tour leaders did an amazing job of showing families around our campuses. Our Food Tech team created a delicious morning tea that was created and served by students. We are so proud of our students who our guests were thrilled to meet.

The morning created much interest in Year 7 places for 2023 & 2024 as awareness of our College grows. If you have family or friends who are interested in joining our College

community ask them to book a tour or [Apply Today](#)

Open Day 2022

Open Day is on Sunday 27 March 12pm - 3pm. We have an exciting day planned. Music food (*yes the scones are back!*), drama workshops, Principal's address, all staff and P & F BBQ. Bookings are essential. Please spread the word to family and friends.



ST MARY'S
COLLEGE

CREATE YOUR
Tomorrow

OPEN DAY 2022

SUNDAY
27 MAR
12PM - 3PM

Across our two adjacent campuses

EDMUND RICE CAMPUS
11 Westbury St, St Kilda East

PRESENTATION CAMPUS
187 Dandenong Rd, Windsor

MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION AT:
WWW.STMARYSCOLLEGE.VIC.EDU.AU

Uniform Update

Midford Uniform Shop

ITEM	AVAILABLE NOW
Blazers	All new CBC blazers are completed with new St Mary's College pockets. Pockets have arrived and we have commenced replacing Prefect Blazer Pockets. A process for changing over will be communicated soon.
New St Mary's College Backpack / Bag	Instore now
New St Mary's College sports bag	Instore now
New School wallet with St Mary's College crest	instore now
New PE shorts with SMC	instore now <i>Coming soon</i> Shorts including piping
ITEM	ARRIVING SOON
Bucket hat with St Mary's College crest	Instore around 18th February
Cap with St Mary's College crest	Instore around 4th March
St Mary's College sports polo and long sleeve training shirt	In store Term 2 (possibly earlier)
White summer blouse with piping	In store Term 2
New softshell zip up jacket	Winter Term 2
New track pants	Anticipating arrival Term 2
Junior and Senior St Mary's College tie	Anticipating arrival Term 2.
Jumper with St Mary's College crest	In store Term 2

Vest with St Mary's College crest	In store Term 2
Rugby Jersey with St Mary's College crest	In store Term 2

Midford Uniform shop regular trading hours are:

- Tuesdays & Thursdays 8.00am-4.00pm &
- 1st Saturday of the month 9.00am-1.00pm (during school terms – extra openings prior to Term 1)

A reminder also that all Midford full uniform fittings require an appointment, which can be made at <https://MidfordBooking.as.me/StMarysCollegeStKilda>. Book an appointment via the link <https://midfordbooking.as.me/StMarysCollegeStKilda>.

You are also welcome to purchase from the Midford online uniform shop at your convenience and your order will be filled when the store is next open.

For any further enquiries, please contact the Midford uniform shop, 9520-8519. You can leave a message, which will be addressed when the store is next open.

Location: On-site at 11 Westbury St, St Kilda East - enter gate D

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

After school swimming lessons

Available on-site at the Edmund Rice Campus

Swimable are also looking for senior students or adults who are interested in becoming swimming instructors, contact them to find out more.

Swimable

Everyone is able to swim
when taught correctly

Lessons are scheduled on a term by term basis
and run 7 days per week.

Classes run every day after school and in the
mornings on weekends.

Children's Lessons | Infant Aquatics
Private Lessons | Squad | Adult Lessons



***Please mention this ad when
booking your free trial lesson***

11 Westbury Street, St Kilda East
Ph. 9521 1995 | www.swimable.com.au

Supporting our Priority Parish Schools

Together we provide a network of co-educational Catholic education from P-12



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MALVERN

"Growing Together in Faith, Hope and Love"



YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO SEE ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL IN ACTION

Bookings are now available for our Open Days and Individual Tours.
Bookings are essential and can be made via:

www.sjmalvern.catholic.edu.au/page/221/Book-a-Tour

For all enquiries call our office on **9597 6300**
or email office@sjmalvern.catholic.edu.au

49 Stanhope Street, Malvern VIC 3144



Parents & Friends

P & F Meetings

We held our most recent P&F meeting online on Mon 7 March. It is terrific to have so many new families, as well as our familiar families join in to find out about the College, as well as contribute to decision-making. The focus of this meeting was about events planning for the year – stay tuned for some opportunities to meet with other families and enjoy some fun. As the regulations change, we have our fingers crossed that our next meeting will finally be a face to face one. The scheduled date for that meeting is Monday 9 May from 7:00pm. More details to follow about format and venue.

We are planning to have a strong presence at the 27 March College Open Day refreshments area, so are looking for volunteers to fill the available timeslots on the day. It is a great opportunity to meet other families and have some fun – particularly for those families who have many students involved with the events of the day. If you would like to volunteer, please [sign up here](#)

On Open Day, we will also be assisting our terrific Food Technology area to create St Mary's College cookies. We have volunteered to help on Monday 21 March - anytime from 6:00pm in the Presentation Campus Food Technology room. Spots are limited to 10 people so, if you are interested, please [sign up here](#)

Uniforms

The P & F Recycled Uniform was open last Saturday, and the next opening is scheduled for Saturday 2 April (coinciding with the Midford Uniform Saturday opening on the same day) – and just in time for the Term 2/Term 3 Winter Uniform changeover. Our P & F Recycled Uniform Shop is located at the Edmund Rice Campus, 11 Westbury Street, Entrance B, and follow the signage to the side of the Student Plaza, then upstairs to Room 19. Opening dates and times are advised in each College Newsletter. As this volunteer-supported recycled shop is the main source of revenue for our P & F, donated uniform items which have been washed &/or dry-cleaned are always gratefully accepted (via the recycled shop or either College Reception).

The Midford Uniform shop (for new uniform items) is open during school terms

- Tuesdays & Thursdays 8.00am-4.00pm &
- 1st Saturday of the month 9.00am-1.00pm (during school terms – extra openings prior to Term 1)

A reminder also that all Midford full uniform fittings require an appointment, which can be made at <https://MidfordBooking.as.me/StMarysCollegeStKilda>. Book an appointment via the link <https://midfordbooking.as.me/StMarysCollegeStKilda>.

President of Parents & Friends | Jane Leroi



Notices

2022 Fee Accounts

Please note that 2022 Fee Accounts are due and payable by 31 March 2022 unless an approved payment plan had been agreed with the College before this date.

If you have an outstanding Fee Account balance and you do not have an approved payment plan with the College, we encourage you to contact the Finance Office as soon as possible to discuss a payment plan. 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.

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

2022 Capital Works

Please note that St Mary's College has completed the following works over the January period:

- Floor re-polishing in Logue Hall on Edmund Rice Campus

- Installation of artificial grass on the Edmund Rice Campus courtyard to provide a more amenable environment for staff, students and visitors to meet, play and hold events
- Installation of new benches, sinks chemical storage and ventilation in the Presentation Campus Science Preparation Room

St Mary's College has also commenced 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. The new capital works will provide disability access to the Campus buildings and learning areas making it easier for people to move throughout the Campus.

Further information will be announced as the works progress throughout Term 1 2022.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Program

If you are looking to upgrade or for a new device for school or home, Parents are reminded that you can purchase one of the specified devices through the St Mary's College BYOD Portal. It will be the Parents' responsibility to make sure the device is insured under their Home and Contents insurance.

The advantages of purchasing the device through the St Mary's College BYOD Portal is that all devices have 3 years warranty, supported onsite at school. Any warranty issues can be reported to the St Mary's College IT Helpdesk and will be resolved onsite at St Mary's College by CompNow or their Service Agents. Families who purchase from a retailer will typically receive a 12-month warranty that is supported "return to base" meaning families would need to go back to the retailer for support. Families also have the option of purchasing CompNow Accidental Damage Insurance, an insurance policy that covers for all accidental damage or outright loss (due to theft) that is not covered by the warranty.

Please note that due to a new Government Regulation, CompNow and other providers are not able to sell or package Accidental Damage Protection (ADP) solutions at the same time as the purchase of your new device. You will receive an email 5 days from your purchase asking you to do so, we recommend taking up this option for peace of mind.

Please refer to the BYOD website <https://shop.compnow.com.au/school/stmarys-college> for more details and device specifications.

Business Manager | Andrew O'Brien