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# Lumina

Issue 5 · 05 Apr 2022

*Our cover image this issue is from our Student Awards Assembly, where we celebrated our high achieving students. Our 2021 College Dux Manon Sabouraud presented her inspiring speech to the student award recipients present in Logue Hall and to our online student audience. We congratulate our students for their efforts aspiring for excellence.*

*Our students are proud ambassadors of our College, many of them joining us last Sunday at the St Mary's College Open Day, where we shared our College with many families interested in joining our community.*

*It has been a huge Term 1, so much to celebrate, a great start to 2022.*

**Director of Development | Elaine Doyle**

## In this issue



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# From the Principal

Terry Blizzard

There was a book published some years ago that suggested that when choosing a school prospective parents should base their decision on having spoken with the Principal. I have long had a slightly differing view to this, believing that to really learn about a school, speak to the students and the parents of the community. Last Sunday's Open Day was a wonderful reflection of community – I am sure our visitors enjoyed it.

Open Day was an opportunity for our visitors to experience our co-educational College culture in action.

*"At St Mary's College our students develop mutual respect and trust for one another. Our co-educational model promotes gender equality in both academic and co-curricular activities. Girls and boys learn together, as creative innovators, independent thinkers, and collaborative problem solvers.....  
From the co-educational journey at St Mary's College, emerge dynamic learners who thrive, building their independence and maturity for this rapidly changing world".*

It was such a privilege to meet so many people at Open Day and have the chance to discuss the benefits of our co-educational College. We had 733 people register their interest in visiting our College to find out more about our co-educational journey. There is clearly a great deal of interest.

I know that the highlight for families was the chance for our visitors to speak to the most amazing young people, our students, young women and men willingly giving of their time and full of positivity as they shared their stories of journeying together. Complimenting this was our wonderful staff and incredible Parents and Friends who all share this journey too.



### **Palm Sunday**

This Sunday is Palm Sunday in the Christian tradition, the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Jesus into Jerusalem days before he was crucified on Good Friday. Palm Sunday sees Jesus entering Jerusalem riding a young donkey to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw palms or small branches in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect. Easter is a time of great ritual and celebration, a wonderful opportunity to take time:

*Take time to think,  
It is the source of power.  
Take time to play,  
It is the secret of remaining youthful.  
Take time to read,  
It is the fountain of wisdom.  
Take time to pray,  
It is the greatest power on earth.*



*Take time to love and be loved,  
It is the God-given privilege.  
Take time to be friendly,  
It is the road to happiness.  
Take time to laugh,  
It is the music of the soul.  
Take time to give,  
It is too short a day to be selfish.  
Take time to work,  
It is the price of success.  
And particularly during this time,  
Take time to do charity,  
It is the key to Heaven.  
Amen  
Live Jesus in our Hearts*

**Principal | Terry Blizzard**



# Around the College

Deputy Principal | Shaun Lancashire

As the end of Term 1 quickly draws near, I would like to acknowledge the support received from our parent/carer community over the course of this Term. There have been times where a note of thanks or a smile at drop off from a parent has had a great impact on me personally – it is greatly appreciated.

There is also much to reflect upon in terms of student achievement so far this year. The significance of the transition from one year to the next – moving to the next year level – is often not commented on. However, the positive and confident way that this has taken place in all year levels is commendable. Outside of the classroom, we have seen students excel in sport, such as the ACC and SCSA swimming carnivals held last week, and through contributions to social justice, such as the Term 1 Project Compassion collection. Our Year 12 students have established their identity as leaders of the school. It is not uncommon to see study groups working in the Senior Studies Hub from 7:15am most days. They have brought a new level of organisation to whole school events and have demonstrated that they lead by example. Year 10 students have embraced their role as campus leaders at the Edmund Rice Campus. They meet with Year 7 students as peer mentors and have set a very good tone in the yard for our youngest students to follow. Also, our Year 7 students have proven, despite all of the initial nerves and excitement that goes with commencing secondary school, that they belong at St Mary's College and are connected to their class, year level, house and school.

EREA child safeguarding standard 10 is titled Policies and Procedures Support Child Safety. This standard is written to ensure that the policies and procedures of the school reflect the Victorian child safe standards adequately and authentically within a local context. Policies and procedures are required to provide clear and concise direction for staff and the wider school community. They must be accessible to all people and aim to strengthen our child safety culture. It also establishes the mechanism for the ongoing review and development of our policies and procedures. Please click on the link to access the full version of EREA child safeguarding standard 10.

Wishing all students and families a very safe, happy and Holy Easter. I look forward to (the upcoming school holidays! ) and the commencement of Term 2 on Wednesday 27 April.

 [S10 Policies\\_Procedures.pdf](#)

**Deputy Principal |** Shaun Lancashire



# Identity

On Tuesday 29 March, our Year 8 students had the opportunity to take time out for their Retreat Day. The focus of the day was the Jewish context of Jesus which we have been learning about in Religious Education. In light of this, the day started with a reflection and prayer at school followed by a morning tea tasting some delicious traditional Jewish baked goods. Following this, one group walked to the Jewish Museum in Alma Road for a guided tour to consolidate on learning in the classroom.

They learnt more about the Jewish faith and what life was like in Jesus' time. The other group spent some time listening to Fr Jerome about how Jesus used parables to teach people how to live and how they were stories that people could relate to.

A parable teaches moral lessons about how Jesus wanted us to understand the mistakes people can make and how we can following his teachings. The groups then swapped activities after lunch. Overall a enjoyable day to take time to reflect and learn about others and the context of our own Catholic faith.

## Reflections from our Year 8 students:

*What I liked most about the Year 8 Retreat was the new things we learnt such as the different holidays and the difference between a church and a synagogue. The Jewish Museum visit was good because of the variety of what we learnt. On the day I learnt about the day of Chanukah and Shabbat. What I found most interesting was the*

*synagogue and how you have to wear the head coverings and the layout of the seats.*

*Jack P.*

*I liked the museum the best and the people who helped us learn. The Jewish Museum was the best part of the trip. On this day I learnt about the different religious things that Jewish people do.*

*Josh F.*

*What I like most about the retreat was learning about a different religion, from my own. One with different customs and demands. The Jewish Museum was interesting as it was informative, and we got to practise a few things of it. On this day I learnt the customs of the Jewish religion such as the Passover for example. What I found most interesting was going to the synagogue. Oliver J.*

*The Jewish Museum visit was informative as I learned that Jews weren't just people who fled but they fought for their rights. Aidan S.*

*The thing I liked the most was the Room of Cultures because it was interesting and had lots of information. The Jewish museum was fun because we learned lots about their culture and history. Lucas B.*

**Identity Coordinator | Jane Marandu**





# Wellbeing

## Focus on Strengths

A key part of the College's Student Wellbeing Vision is the focus on student strengths. In doing this, we seek to create an environment where student strengths are referenced regularly and our students are encouraged to use these strengths to thrive within the school community but also to call on them to push through challenging times. These aims illuminate perhaps the most important word in education: encouragement. A community which encourages is one where the pursuit of improvement and excellence are likely to be foundational traits. Further, the community will be a warm and welcoming one where students feel supported to try new activities and, as a result, really connect and thrive.

We have established a Commendation Structure to drive encouragement and better allow students to acknowledge their strengths and positive contributions. Once a student receives one commendation, they are given a certificate and a Bronze Badge. If they garner five commendations, in a range of categories (there are 12 to choose from), they are eligible for a Silver Badge to be presented at a year-level assembly. If they reach 10, they receive a Gold Badge, which is presented in front of the whole school community.

Thus far, we have issued over 200 Commendations. I am noticing a number of Bronze Badges adorning blazers. Some students are on the cusp of making it to silver. Please enquire with your son/daughter if they know about the process and if they have been awarded any certificates.

Hopefully, you will a Bronze Badge appearing on the blazer in the not-too-distant future!

**Director of Students | Chris Pye**

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## Dealing with difficult news items in the media

There have been a number of students who have spoken about how confronting the news is at the moment. In particular, they cite Ukraine and the war with Russia. The images of lines of refugees fleeing their homeland and the bombed shells of buildings, can be very distressing.

Such news items can lead us to feel overwhelmed, anxious, sad, worried, helpless and possibly depressed. Psychologists suggest a number of ways to deal with such distressing news items.

Firstly, learn to switch off from social media and the news. Only look at the news for a set time each day and for the other times when you might be looking at social media, go for a walk, read a book or listen to music.

Secondly, choose your news sources carefully. Avoid sensational snippets designed to get you in and cause an emotional response. Seek out news sources that are based on truth, are independent, accountable and fair. If there are still parts of these news items that cause distress, switch them off.

Thirdly, consider why the news is so upsetting to you personally. It can be very triggering if it reminds you of past experiences or causes flashbacks from traumatic events. In such instances, it is best to talk to someone about these upsetting emotions.

Finally, avoid looking at the news or current affair shows entirely, if you know they are going to be upsetting. Tell your family members that this is your plan and keep to it.

If we keep to these suggestions and take control of our viewing, we may not find such news items so distressing.

**Student Counsellor | Catherine McMahon**



# Pathways

## VTAC SPECIAL ENTRY ACCESS SCHEME (SEAS)

Last week I spoke to our Year 12 students in a Community Meeting about the VTAC SEAS application process and how they should be preparing for their tertiary applications later in the year. As only two-thirds of the class were present for this, I think it is important for parents to understand the process as well, so they can assist their students in the busy times ahead. SEAS is available for **all** Year 12 students: VCAL, VCE and non-scored.

Just briefly, the SEAS process allows for ATARs (or other selection methods) to be adjusted to account for any educational disadvantage to the student over the course of their education. There are four categories:

1. **Personal Information and Location** - includes first in family to attend university, indigenous or non-English speaking background, gender and more.
2. **Disadvantaged Financial Background** – Centrelink, HCC or Family Tax Benefit.
3. **Disability or Medical Condition** – Learning needs, mental and physical health issues.
4. **Difficult Circumstances** – Anything that beyond the applicant's control, and not already covered by a previous category. This will include the effects of remote learning in 2020-21.

Categories 3 and 4 require students to write an Impact Statement and, in addition, to have someone who knows the situation (not family) write a Statement of Support.

The most important point I made to the students present was that, even though the application is not made until August/September, they need to be preparing in the following ways:

- Find documents needed for evidence – Centrelink or tax records
- Keep records of any appointments, absences, time lost etc
- Start thinking about the impacts of the various issues on their education
- **Most importantly** – seek help or share their situation with someone who is qualified to write the statement of support: Medical professional, school counsellor, teacher, social worker etc. They need to have had ongoing discussions with this person – no surprises!

I understand that students and parents might find this all very confusing, but there is no need to panic. There will be more information sessions for students throughout Term 3. VTAC applications will be done in class in August, and students are able to have as many Careers Meetings as they need.

For parents, I intend to hold an Information Evening in May, to explain all the ins and outs of VTAC applications and offers, SEAS and scholarships. An invitation will be emailed closer to the time.

In the meantime, you can make yourself familiar with all things VTAC at: <https://www.vtac.edu.au/before/guides/y12guide.html>

**Careers Counsellor** | Mandy Ellwood





# Sport

## Triathlon

St Mary's College Triathlon teams are going from strength to strength. On Sunday 27 March, Mr Hawkins took a team of 14 students to compete in the ACC Triathlon at St Kilda.

We took out first place in the team event to be awarded the ACC 2022 Triathlon Champions. Go St Mary's College!





## SCSA Swimming Carnival

The senior medley relay team (Addy, Zara, Maddie and Monica) were first off the blocks and first to win the blue ribbon on Thursday 31 March at MSAC. Tabitha C. just missed out on first in the U16 100m freestyle with Addy T. winning the 100m U17 freestyle.

Captain Monica V. was impressive in the 50m senior butterfly and stormed home to win with ease. Jasmine L. brought St Mary's their first ever competitor and success in the diving pool. She completed her three dives in the senior age group with style and execution to have her 1st place position secured.

Back to the pool and we wrapped the night up with another senior success as the 4x50m relay team (Monica, Marika, Zara and Addy) dominated the competition and stormed home for another blue ribbon.





## ACC Swimming Carnival

Our smallest squad ever attended the 90th ACC Swim carnival at MSAC on 30 March. Harry C. was first off the blocks taking 2nd place in the Open 200m, we expect to see Harry dominate this event when he moves into senior school. He followed up with two first places in the U16 50m freestyle and 50m butterfly. Noah C. racked up his first win for St Mary's winning the U13 50m freestyle, Tommy S. continues to dominate in the U17 breaststroke taking out another win.



**Director of Sport | Lucy McKeown**





# Our Community

[View our College Calendar for events and important dates](#)

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## Open Day 2022

Open Day on Sunday 27 March was a great day where we invited our community into our College. We had around 500 visitors on the day most of who visited both campuses. With the sun shining bright all staff reported having many positive conversations with guests. Below are a few images from the day.

Thank you to all our staff, parent and student helpers, together we created an amazing event to be remembered.

















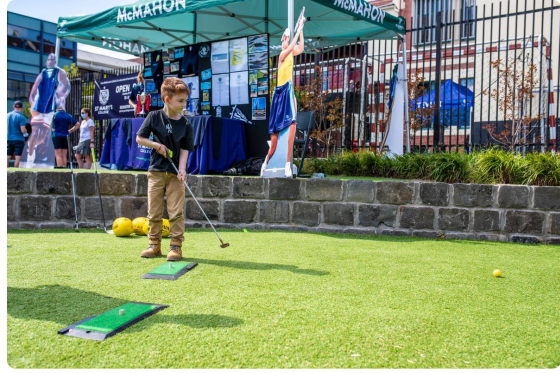


















SAVE THE DATE

*Mother's Day Breakfast*

FRIDAY 13 MAY

ST MARY'S COLLEGE

The graphic features a central text area surrounded by a decorative wreath of pink and purple flowers and green leaves. The text is centered and reads "SAVE THE DATE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, followed by "Mother's Day Breakfast" in a pink, cursive font, and "FRIDAY 13 MAY" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. Below the text is the St Mary's College logo, which consists of a shield with a cross and a star, and the text "ST MARY'S COLLEGE" underneath.

Bookings will be open at the start of Term 2

### Uniform Update 30 March 2022

Uniform	Availability
Short Sleeve White Summer Blouse with Piping	22 April
Long Sleeve Blouse	29 April
Pants & Trousers	Instore

Tailored Shorts	Instore
Long Sleeve Shirt – with SMC Crest	current stock
Short Sleeve Shirt – with SMC Crest	To be advised
New softshell zip up jacket	6 May
PE Short with SMC logo	6 May
Rugby Jersey with SMC crest	To be advised
New Track pant (with SMC)	6 May
Short Sleeve Sports polo top	29 April
Long sleeve training top	29 April
Cap with SMC Crest	Instore
Bucket Hat with SMC Crest	Instore
Blazers	Instore with SMC Pocket
New Blazer pockets	Changeover cost of \$40.
Jumper with SMC crest	6 April
Vest with SMC crest	6 April
SMC Sports Bag	Instore
Junior Tie	29 April Cost \$18
Scarf	7 April
Senior Tie	Instore
SMC Backpack	Instore
SMC Sports Bag	Instore
New School Wallet -SMC	Instore

## Midford Uniform Shop

The St Mary's Uniform Shop will close for the school holidays on Thursday 7th April at 4.00 pm.

### Additional Term 2 Holiday trading Hours

Thursday 21st April	12.00 am to 4.00 pm
Friday 22nd April	9.00 am to 4.00 pm
Tuesday 26th April	9.00 am to 4.00 pm
Wednesday 27th April	8.00am to 12.00pm

The uniform shop will return to normal hours on Thursday 28th April.

Throughout the school term our opening hours are:

Tuesday	8.00 am - 4.00 pm
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Thursday 8.00 am - 4.00 pm  
First Saturday (of each month) 9.00 am - 1.00 pm

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

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>.

*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.**

## Supporting our Community

MELBOURNE'S PREMIER DAY CAMP FOR KIDS

FREE 2 B U  
EST 2010

# CAMP BLUE

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP | PREP - YEAR 8

2022 AUTUMN CAMP  
MONDAY 11TH - THURSDAY 14TH APRIL

[www.campblue.com.au](http://www.campblue.com.au)





Game aware is a free program run through the Stonington Council, it aims to build a healthier relationship with gaming in your household. Find out more about their [free 4 day emersion program](#)



## Parents & Friends



### P&F at Open Day

Our parents had a strong and significant presence at our College Open Day, offering a refreshments area which was a hub for visitors, staff and students to grab a cool drink, icypole – and of course a sausage or vegiburger. We also loved helping our wonderful Food Tech staff pump out their amazing scones. The Parent group is an important face of the College, and were happy to dispense valuable parent-centric insights, as well as providing a welcoming environment. For the volunteers, it was a great opportunity to meet other parents and have some fun – particularly for those families who had their students involved with the events of the day.



Raffle

**WIN**  
Apple Airpods Pro  
Valued at \$399



**Tickets \$5<sup>ea</sup>**  
**or 3 for \$10**

Money raised by the Parents & Friends Group goes towards supporting special projects at St Mary's College. Recent contributions have gone towards new ovens in the food technology room, a set of digital cameras for the art and media department and outdoor seating at the Edmund Rice Campus.

Ticket drawn at the  
St Mary's College  
Mother's Day  
Breakfast



*everyone  
welcome*  
PARENTS &  
FRIENDS

**P&F Raffle**

We have a terrific Raffle of Apple Airpods Pro at the moment and this will continue until mid-May. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10 – cash or EFTPOS. To purchase tickets, students and families can contact Jane Balme at the Presentation Campus, [jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au)

**Uniforms (Term 2 changeover to Winter Uniform)**

As the P&F (volunteer-supported) Recycled Uniform shop is the main stable 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 during school terms). A reminder that Term 2 and Term 3 is Winter Uniform for our students.

The P&F Recycled Uniform shop is scheduled to open on the first Saturday of each month during school terms (to coincide with the Midford Uniform shop planned openings). The next opening is scheduled for Saturday 7 May. To fit in with student Saturday morning sporting commitments, we are trialing later opening times of 12:00pm to 2:30pm at the moment. 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.

The Midford Uniform shop (for new uniform items) is open during school terms on Tuesdays and Thursdays and have added extra opening times over the upcoming holidays to cater for Winter Uniform sales. See the Community page for the list of updated uniform items and Term 2 opening hours.

**P&F Meeting**

Our next parents meeting is on Monday 9 May. We have our fingers crossed for a possible face to face meeting this time. Hopefully, as Melbourne slowly opens up, we will also be able to plan a catch-up dinner, open to all parents/guardians, sometime in Term 2.

**St Mary's College Parent T-Shirts**

One of our talented parents, Felicity Forrester from Sun Shiny Design, has created some brilliant t-shirt designs (as well as all our other P&F logos, banners and signage), and our Recycled Uniform Shop convener, Julie Gallagher, has had them printed for us. These are in various sizes in both black and white and are available for purchase at \$25 – cash or EFTPOS. To purchase, families can contact Jane Balme at the Presentation Campus, [jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au](mailto:jbalme@stmaryscollege.vic.edu.au). These will also be available at our Recycled Uniform



Shop openings. Similar t-shirts have been very popular in the past for our Parent Walkers group at our annual College Walkathon.



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



# Notices

## 2022 Fee Accounts

Please note that 2022 Fee Accounts were 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 or require an updated Fee Account Statement, 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).

## Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund

### 2022 Applications are now Open

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Funding (CSEF) is an annual payment to schools that can be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of eligible students.

To qualify for the CSEF your family must satisfy the following criteria or be an eligible beneficiary of one of the following cards:



- Veterans Affairs Gold Card
- Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC)
- Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, or
- be a temporary foster parent, or
- the student is 16 years or older and holds a valid concession card (such as a Youth Allowance Health Care Card).

\* A special consideration eligibility category also exists.

For more information,

see: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx>

The CSEF is a \$225 payment that is paid directly to the St Mary's College and will be credited against your Fee Account to contribute towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. If you believe that you may be eligible for the CSEF, please complete and return the CSEF Application Form, which is available on the following link:

[https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/CSEF\\_application\\_form.pdf](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/CSEF_application_form.pdf)

## 2022 Capital Works

St Mary's College has 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. You will have noticed the construction fencing erected inside Entrance B and demolition works are well underway on the McCartney Wing. The work on the foundations for the new Lift and Stair is commencing this week.

### **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 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