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4 December 2015

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends of our Marymede Community,

As the year draws to a close, I have been reflecting on what has occurred in the last twelve months. I believe 2015 has been a very positive year for the College.

The successful Primary Sacramental Program and Senior Student Retreats; the introduction of weekly Community Masses which have been embraced by our Marymede Community; the positive feedback from our students after returning from the year level camps; the growth of the overseas language exchange; the improvement in the way our students are wearing the Marymede uniform; the willingness of students to put themselves forward for the student leadership process; the positive report from our External Review which shows how far Marymede has come in the last four years and the recently completed Trade Skills Centre which will be in operation from the start of the 2016 school year are just a few of the many highlights.

### New Beginnings – December 7

On Monday December 7, we will be holding our 2016 Orientation Day for our 162 Year 7 students. I look forward to engaging with the students on the day as they begin their six year Secondary School journey.

### Primary Awards Evenings – December 7 and 9

Next Monday and Wednesday at our Primary Awards Evenings, we will acknowledge those students who have excelled academically or made a valuable contribution in some other way to the life of Marymede or in the wider community. I look forward to these significant school events.

### Marymede Annual Fete

Thank you to the many parents, staff and students who attended our College Fete. After a drizzly start, the weather cleared and everyone enjoyed the chance to walk around and snap up a bargain at the stalls or, in the students case, line up for one of the exciting rides on offer. A big thank you to the Parents' and Friends Committee for the many hours they spent planning for the day. The profits from the Fete will be used to provide additional resources for our students.

### End of Year Reports

Semester 2 reports will be on PAM from Monday December 14. I look forward to reading about the progress students have

made in the second half of the year. Thank you to the staff for the time they have spent in completing these reports.

### 2015 College Yearbook

The College Yearbook will be given out to students upon their return to school in 2016. Year 12 graduates will have their yearbooks posted home.

### Christmas Holidays

The College office will close on Wednesday December 23, 2015 and reopen on Tuesday January 5, 2016.

### 2016 School Year and Key Dates

We have decided to align the Primary and Secondary starting and finishing times to the school day to give specialist teachers the opportunity to teach across both the Primary and Secondary schools. From the commencement of 2016, the school day will finish at 3.15pm for all students in the College.

Classes begin for our Years 7, 11 and 12 students on Friday January 29 and for the other Secondary year levels on Monday February 1. Classes start for the Years 1-6 students on Tuesday February 2. Preps A-K commence on Tuesday February 2 and Preps L-Z commence on Wednesday February 3. All Preps will then attend on Thursday February 4. Teachers return on Wednesday January 27 to take part in developmental programs to prepare for the academic year. Term 1 ends on Thursday March 24.

### Farewell to Staff

The sad part of the year's end is the inevitable farewell to those who are moving on from our College for a variety of reasons. I thank those departing members for their contribution to Marymede Catholic College.

In particular, I acknowledge the contribution made from our Deputy Principal Primary, Ms Liz Crane, after nine years of dedicated service. Liz has decided to take on a new challenge next year as an International Educational Consultant. We wish Liz every happiness and success in this new role.

### Christmas Greetings

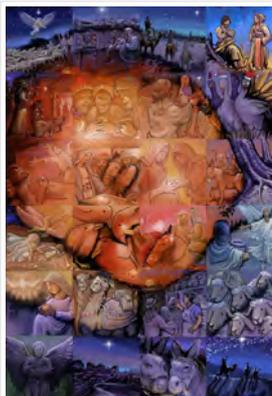
In the final Newsletter for the year, I thank staff, students, parents and other community members for their support throughout 2015. I wish every family a happy and safe Christmas and may our God continue to bless us all.

Kind Regards,

**Mr. Michael Kenny**  
**Principal**

## FAITH AND MISSION NEWS

He will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)



We entered the holy season of Advent last Sunday. This year the waiting in Advent has a more significant meaning for us all given the tragic loss of life in Beirut and Paris on consecutive days after Remembrance Day. Advent is a time for preparing our hearts for the coming of the Christ child, the Prince of Peace in a world where the daily news is filled with strife of every sort.

I recently read a beautiful definition of the baby Jesus' coming as 'the bodied presence of God'. How beautiful to reflect on our welcoming the bodied presence of God as an innocent and helpless newborn, who is just like each one of us in every way but sin.

I thank all our students, families, staff and the extended Marymede Community for the shared journey of building one another in faith as we await the peace, love and joy of the Christ Child at Christmas.

Maranatha, Come Lord Jesus.

**Ms Judeline Wadhvani**  
**Head of Faith & Mission (P-12)**

## SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

### The University of Melbourne Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars 2015

Congratulations to Jordyn Cullen (Year 10), declared a Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholar 2015 by The University of Melbourne. This coveted award is given to only 700 students from a field of over 1900 students. Jordyn was selected because of her excellent academic results and extensive involvement in the community and College extra-curricular activities. The program will provide her with:

- An associate student card enabling her to access the largest library collection in the southern hemisphere.
- A dedicated Facebook page for Young Scholars linking her to other high achieving students and the wider University community through student and academic blogs, podcasts and snapshots of daily life at the University.
- Invitations to functions at key University events, such as Open Day.

On **Tuesday 8 December** the University will host a Welcome Event for all 700 selected Year 10 Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars. Students will be officially welcomed into the Program and participate in a number of information sessions on the day including a welcome address from former Vice-Chancellor and the Program's namesake, Professor Kwong Lee Dow. Jordyn will be a fine ambassador for Marymede in this prestigious program.

**Mrs Moira Christie and Mrs Laura Wilcox**  
**Enrichment Team**

### Iris: The 3rd Annual Media Showcase

On Monday November 23, we rolled out the red carpet, fired up the popcorn machine and spun some fairy floss for Iris: the 3rd Annual Media Showcase. A superb evening was had by all as we celebrated the best Media work of 2015.

A big thank you to the following staff and students for their generous assistance on the night: Ms Angie Bedford, Mrs Michelle Carlile, Mrs Julie D'Avoine, Ms Alexandra Rokas, Ms Judeline Wadhvani, Tayla Defazio (Year 12), Emily Maney (Year 11), Nanette Mangoba (Year 11) and Gemma Parsons (Year 11). Also in attendance were Mr Linden Koodravsev (Co-Founder of Marymede Film School) and Marymede Alumni, Nicholas Musto and Amy Williams (Class of 2014).

Here is an excerpt from my opening remarks: "Media, the Arts and Technology gives young artists the freedom to express themselves through images, words, and sounds. The screen and the canvas is a projection of their thoughts, their emotions, their beliefs and their experiences. It is a freedom that no one can take away from them."



#### YEAR 9

Mark-Anthony Baini  
Max Bajric  
Jacob Coscarella  
Ebadat Dhillon  
Massimo Gamboni  
Mitchell London  
James Manoussakis  
Lachlan Munro  
Reece Parkin  
Damon Rudge  
Massimo Sartor

#### YEAR 10

Jesse Azzopardi  
Jacinta Costanzo  
Hayden Cox  
Jordyn Cullen  
Breanna Dimitrievski  
Kurdainashe Katsidzira  
Angelique Milevski  
Nicholas Poblete-Katsouris  
Lachlan Quirk  
Jeremy Santinon  
Allen Shaji  
Natalie Soligo  
Aaron Trifonidis  
Shojin Tse  
Milly Turner

#### YEAR 11

Tonia Ciccone  
Victoria Damos  
Allora Gillingham  
Emily Hawke  
Emily Maney  
Nanette Mangoba  
Gemma Parsons

#### YEAR 12

Stephanie Camilleri  
Jack Peerman  
Daniel Sim

#### MARYMEDE FILM SCHOOL

Massimo Gamboni  
Stefan Garro  
Daniel Nicolo  
Melissa Nicolo  
Lukas Opasinov  
Gemma Parsons  
Jack Roach  
Emma Wardell  
Julian Zaccari

#### SPEAKERS

Ms Judeline Wadhvani, Head of Faith & Mission (P-12)  
Mr Jeremy Guzman, Media Teacher  
Tayla Defazio, VCE Media Class of 2015



**Mr Jeremy Guzman**  
**Media Teacher**

## Year 7 Product Expo

During Term 4 in Humanities, the Year 7 students have been busy designing, creating and producing products as part of the Business unit. Classes created a mini-expo of their products which other students visited and voted for their favourite product. On behalf of the Year 7s, we would like to thank all the Primary and Secondary classes for taking the time to come and visit. The students appreciated the opportunity to showcase their efforts and sell their products.

We hope you enjoy the gallery of photos of products as designed and created by 7.5. Thank you to all the Year 7 students, teachers involved and all those who visited.

<http://vimeo.com/147671458>



**Miss Kathy Vlahusic**  
**Year 7 Humanities Teacher**

## SACCS

At the end of the school sporting year, SACCS hold an awards luncheon to celebrate and acknowledge the participation and dedication of individuals and teams from many schools. This was a relaxed and enjoyable time to meet other athletes from district schools and enjoy a meal among friends. James and I, alongside 2-4 students from each year level were invited to attend this special ceremony at Salesian College with Ms Savage, Mr McConn, Ms Zappulla and Rebecca Stellini.

We started off by enjoying lunch and had the privilege of listening to Matthew Egan, former Geelong player, and now a development coach at Essendon. Matthew spoke to us about his success, his adversities and most importantly his willingness to improve and do something new each and every day. His presentation was motivating and encouraged all students to be versatile with their sport and do the best we possibly can. Afterwards, the awards were presented. This year, Marymede Catholic College took home four individual awards and two team awards for Senior Football Champions and Senior Netball Champions. Congratulations to all who received awards including Keely Henderson, Drew Roberts, Monique Bothma and Laura Castles.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the Sports Department, Ms Savage and Mr McConn for providing the students of Marymede Catholic College with never-ending opportunities to learn and improve their sporting abilities. Let's hope 2016 is an even stronger and greater year.



**Miss Laura Castles & Mr James Henderson**  
**2016 Sports Leaders**

## REMAR Immersion Day

Following a busy week of studying and completing exams, Year 9 students ended Week 8 with an immersion day led by the team from Marist Youth Ministry. The day provided students with an opportunity to unwind and engage in a series of activities with their peers. There were three workshops giving students a taste of the REMAR program on offer for Year 10 students in 2016.



*Students learning about Music Ministry*

The students were challenged to discover their leadership potential, to work together in a game of soccer and learn about different forms of ministry and service. The day concluded with further some information about REMAR which is a Marist Youth Ministry Program offering students faith development as well as development in leadership, teamwork and service.



*Students presenting their Social Justice Campaign*

Students interested in the program will attend the Red Embarkation Camp from March 7-9, 2016 at Palotti College Milgrove.

Students who missed out on signing up but are interested are asked to see Miss McGill or Mr McCormack to ensure their name is included.

If you're interested and need some more information please don't hesitate to contact Miss McGill at [simone.mcgill@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:simone.mcgill@marymede.vic.edu.au) or check out the program website

<http://msa.edu.au/remar/>

**Ms Simone McGill**  
**Secondary Teacher & Youth Ministry Coordinator**

## I Can Program

Good evening everyone, my name is Jackson Mansell and I'm in Year 8 at Marymede Catholic College. My interests mainly includes sports such as AFL, Cricket and Basketball. I was diagnosed with autism at age 4 and found out when I was 10. The way that I found out is actually an interesting story. We were on a holiday on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland and one morning there was a story that came up on the Today Show about a kid with really severe autism and I don't know how I guessed it or how it came to my mind but I asked my mum if I have autism and she told me the story.

At first I didn't really know what to think about it - whether it was a good thing or a bad thing. Now I have got to understand and learn more about autism. Autism helps me to identify who I am as a person and it makes me more unique than other people.

To me, the Marymede I Can Program has allowed me to share my story with others and have people that understand where I am coming from. Before the program, I used to only tell my close friends and family that I have autism. I kept it a secret because I didn't know how other people would react. Although since the program has come along, I have had the confidence to tell my friends that I have autism and they tell me they haven't even noticed.

The program has also helped me to do things such as connect with other people on the spectrum and boost my confidence. For example, being able to speak in front of big crowds like I am in front of all of you tonight and also saying I Can to a lot of other things. I am sure that it has also boosted the confidence

of the people in the I Can program and has also had a major impact on them just like it has for me.

On behalf of the students who are a part of the Marymede I Can Program, I would just like to thank Chris, the mentors, the parents and the teachers at Marymede for helping to organise this program at our school. I have learnt a lot about myself and what I am capable of doing.

It has also given me a better understanding of autism. My message to younger people on the spectrum is that nobody's perfect and that we all have our advantages and disadvantages. So just take this on board and show everyone what makes you unique and different to other people.

To finish off, everyone asks me what I think of autism and to me autism has given me the confidence to do things that I wouldn't have thought possible. I hope you all enjoy the night.

Thanks for listening.

**Mr Jackson Mansell**  
**Year 8 Student**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL PRIMARY

### 2015 Achievements

2015 has been another successful year for Marymede Catholic College with the students, staff and community embracing many opportunities to learn, work and celebrate together.

Among our many noteworthy achievements in 2015 has been: a significant increase in student wellbeing and social skills programs; the introduction of additional literacy and numeracy programs; greater access and use of technology for learning for staff and students; the further development of the Primary religious education, social justice and sacramental programs; the introduction of linkage projects between Primary and Secondary; the expanded opportunities for students to participate and experience success in the guild and interschool sporting programs; and, an increase in the scope of the Primary extra-curricular activities.

As I conclude my appointment, I would like to take the opportunity to sincerely thank Sr. Beth Calthorpe, the Delegated Canonical Administrators, Chaplains, College Board and Principals, both current and former. My deepest gratitude to my colleagues for their trust, respect and support over many years. To our wonderful Primary students, you have been a constant source of inspiration and joy.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve this community for the last nine years. I pray that Marymede Catholic College will continue to grow and flourish, and that the Lord will bless and keep you. To each and every one:

'May love and laughter light your days and warm your heart and home.

May good and faithful friends be yours, wherever you may roam,

May peace and plenty bless your world with joy that long endures.

May all life's passing seasons bring the best to you and yours.'

*(An Old Irish Blessing)*

**Ms Liz Crane**

**Deputy Principal Primary**

## HEAD OF PRIMARY

### Lost Property

There is a considerable amount of lost property in the Primary office. We endeavour to return clearly-named items to students but are not able to return un-named items. If your child has misplaced any clothing this semester please come to the office to check through the items. Next week, all items will be placed on tables outside the Primary office in the courtyard. Any items that are not claimed by the end of next week will be re-purposed.

### Celebrations of Learning, Awards and Mass

I hope that you all have the following events placed in your diaries. We all anticipate these events with great excitement and look forward to sharing these events with you.

Monday December 7	6.00pm – 7.00pm	Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 Celebration of Learning
	7.30pm – 8.30pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Celebration of Learning
Wednesday December 9	7.00pm – 8.30pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Mass and Awards Evening

These events will be held in the College Fitness Centre.

### Farewell

This will be my last newsletter contribution as I finish my work at Marymede at the end of this year. I have had a wonderful three years getting to know and work with the members of the school community. It has been a joy to witness students moving through the school, transitioning to the Secondary School, finding their passions and following their dreams. Marymede Catholic College is a wonderful school that is fortunate to have dedicated staff who care about your children. I would like to thank you all for making my time here such an enjoyable (and sometimes challenging) time. I will be undertaking some Social Justice work with a Caritas group in Cambodia in January and after that I will be doing some consultancy work in Asia. I am very excited about having opportunities to contribute to communities less fortunate than ours.

Best wishes for a blessed Christmas shared with family and friends and may 2016 be a wonderful year for you.

**Ms Alison Besselaar**

**Head of Primary**

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

### Primary Sports News

#### Junior Hoop Time

Congratulations to the Year 3-4 boys and girls Basketball teams who qualified into the State Finals for the McDonalds Hoop Time Competition, held in Dandenong on November 23.

The boy's team, coached by Scott Byrne, played a gruelling eight games on the day, advancing to the Grand Final. They were unfortunately beaten by 7 points and awarded second in the State of Victoria out of 302 schools who entered.

The girl's team end up in the top 20 teams in Victoria but unfortunately didn't make Finals on the day.

It is a tremendous achievement by both teams and we thank them and Mr Byrne for the time they dedicated to all their training sessions.



#### Guild Swimming

On Wednesday November 25, Marymede held the Primary guild swimming carnival at Mill Park Leisure Centre. Students from Years 3-5 were invited to compete for guild points. The students had a lot of fun competing against each other across the various strokes and Marcellin were crowned the overall winner.



#### Girls Football

Marymede hosted their first interschool girl's Footy Day last Friday where our Year 5 and 6 girls played against the girls from Lakes Primary School. It was a casual game, with the girls were introduced to the rules and skills of the game. We look forward to making this an annual event.



**Mr Gerard Large**  
**Guild Coordinator**

## Parent Volunteers

On behalf of the students and staff of the Primary School, I would like to thank all the parent helpers for their hard work and assistance throughout the year.

We have many parent helpers across the Primary School assisting with the Home Reading Program, working in classrooms, in the Resource Centre and assisting with various Literacy tasks.

Our programs are much enhanced with your input. We hope you have enjoyed the opportunity to share in the educational development of our students. Your involvement with the College has helped to build a strong bond between home and the College. The children have loved having parents to assist with changing their take-home reading books and working alongside them in their classrooms.

We look forward to working with you again.

Have a wonderful Christmas, enjoy the holidays with your children, stay safe and see you all next year.

Don't forget to support your children to continue their reading development over the holidays.

**Ms Maree Mullen**  
**Head of Literacy Primary School**

## WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

### Knit A Square Produces 440 Squares For South Africa In 2015

During November, the square knit circle met for the last time to tally our official number of squares produced for the year and complete the packing process. We are pleased to announce that Marymede's community of knitters produced a whopping 440 knitted squares, which, though under our previous record of 722, remains a considerable achievement. We also sent off a total of 30 individual garments, such as vests, beanies and booties which were beautifully handmade by our community.

After being packed into water-tight mailing envelopes, these squares were handed over to Australian Post where they will be soon placed on a ship bound for South Africa. On arrival, these squares will be stitched together to form warm blankets for orphan and sick children.

I would like to personally thank the wonderful group of Years 4-6 students who came regularly to our knitting sessions, our

College administration team who assisted in the postage and our extended community of knitters which exists outside of Marymede Catholic College.

For more information on the program, log on to <http://www.knit-a-square.com/> or call the school and request to speak with Andrea Zappulla. (andrea.zappulla@marymede.vic.edu.au)

**Ms Andrea Zappulla**  
**Head of Chanel**

## BUSINESS OFFICE

### Parents and Friends 2014 Contribution – Update

At the beginning of this year, the Parents and Friends Committee provide the college with a \$22,000 contribution towards the installation of two new digital display signs to be located at Gates B and E. The College submitted a Planning permit to the Whittlesea City Council earlier this year and negotiations are continuing. The College is hoping a response from the Council will be received either late this year or early next year.

As soon as the Planning Permit process has been finalised the College will proceed with development of these signs.

### City of Whittlesea - Early Learning Centre

In 2017, the City Of Whittlesea is planning to open an Early Learning Centre on the corner of Vincent Drive and Embling Avenue, close to the College. The Centre will provide 3 and 4 year-old kindergarten and extended care. This service will be accessible for all families in the South Morang area. Further details will be provided early 2016.

**Mr Paul Romanin**  
**Business Manager**

## REGISTRAR NEWS

### School Bus Service - 2016

Correspondence regarding the 2016 Bus service has been sent out and the College is now taking deposits to secure seats for next years' service. In 2016, the cost for a FULL pass will be \$620 per Semester (Term 1-2 & Term 3-4) per child. The cost for a ONE WAY pass will be \$375 per Semester per child. Casual passes (subject to availability) will cost \$4 each way. I encourage any family with questions regarding the 2016 Bus service to please contact me.

### Alumni Gathering

It was great to welcome back many of our past graduates to the College this past Tuesday evening for our 2015 Alumni Gathering. We look forward to many more Alumni events in the future.

### 2017 Enrolment Applications

Applications for Year 7, 2017 are now open and will close on February 26, 2016.

Applications for Prep 2017 are also open and will close on May 2, 2016.

For more information regarding the application and enrolment process please do not hesitate to contact the College.

## Exit Forms

Any family not returning to the College in 2016 is required to complete an Exit Form and return back to the Main Office as soon as possible. To collect an Exit Form please visit the Main Office.

**Mr Matthew Luczek**  
**Registrar**

## UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform Shop Term 4 Trading Hours

Mondays 8am to 2pm

Tuesdays 12pm to 5pm

Wednesdays 8am to 11am then 2pm to 5pm

Thursdays 12pm to 5pm

Next Saturday trade will be Saturday the 5th December  
9.30am 12.30pm

Also the new short socks will be available to purchase from  
Monday November 30

The Uniform Shop will finish trade for Term 4 on Thursday  
December 10 2015 at 5pm.