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25 February 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Our Opening School Mass in the Fitness Centre on Thursday 18 February was a wonderful celebration of welcoming. I thank our celebrant, Fr. Martin Ashe for his continual support of our College. I also acknowledge our Acting Director of Faith & Mission P-12, Mrs Melinda Muir for her hard work in preparing this special celebration.

I encourage our students to set goals for the school year, with the knowledge that there is strong backing from the Marymede community and that our God will always be there to offer support.

Lent

During Lent, I ask all members of our school community to take time to reflect on Jesus spending 40 days in the desert, where he was tempted by the trappings of the devil. It is this self-reflection and questioning that prepared Jesus for the challenges he faced in his ministry.

Let us use the 40 days of Lent to reflect on how ready we are for our ministry. Unfortunately, we cannot retreat from all of life's distractions for 40 days, but perhaps we can find a small space of silence each day to reflect and pray.

Year 12 Retreat

I attended the Year 12 Retreat last Monday and was very impressed with the way our students embraced this time away together. The opportunity to escape the rush and urgency of every day experience does not come often enough, yet the need to give time to our inner selves and nurture our spiritual dimension is important. I hope the memories of these days will prove valuable to our Year 12's as they face the rigours of the remaining months of this year.

Primary Curriculum Parent Information Evening – 23 February

Thank you to the many parents who attended the Primary Curriculum Parent Information Evening last Tuesday. Your presence at these nights gives the College a clear message that you want to be in a partnership with your child's teachers. I trust that you found the interactive presentations engaging.

House Welcome Barbeques

Next Wednesday 9 March the College will be holding the first of its House welcoming barbeques for families who belong to Chanel and Chisholm. I look forward to chatting with our parents and welcoming our new families to Marymede Catholic College.

Bridge Inn Swimming

Congratulations to Mr Gerard Large and the Primary Swimming Team on winning the Bridge Inn Swimming Competition which was held recently. It is pleasing to see the Primary students working hard to achieve this great result.

Staff News

I am pleased to announce Ms Katie Lexa recently gave birth to a baby daughter, Paige and former staff member, Ms Ainsley Dean also recently gave birth to a baby son, Leon. Congratulations to both families on the safe arrival of their babies.

As mentioned in a previous Newsletter, we have a number of new staff to the College this year. I am sure that many members of the Marymede Community have had a chance to meet the new staff but if you have not, I hope that this photo helps to put their face to their name.



L-R Front – Simona Fazzolari, Stephanie Marij, Natalie Conti, Robin Panousieris, Judita Turco

L-R Rear – Melanie Hollibone, Anthony Amerena, Jane Darrou, Vincenzo Rovetto, Narelle Collins, Anthony Montemurro

The new staff have informed me that they have settled in well to life at Marymede and they have been given a very warm welcome.

Later in this Newsletter you will find an article from Mrs Robyn Roberts to the Marymede Catholic College Community. We thought it was appropriate to give Robyn the opportunity to express her thanks and best wishes to the community upon her retirement from the college.

Positive Choices Online Drug Prevention Portal

The National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre at the University of NSW, commissioned by the Australian Government Department of Health, has developed the Positive Choices Online Drug Prevention Portal. This portal was launched on 6 December 2015 and is now freely accessible to schools, teachers, parents and students across Australia via the link below . The portal has been developed with the National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University in consultation with teachers, parents and students. Positive Choices provides a central access point for school-based drug prevention resources and information linked to the Australian curriculum. The Positive Choices portal enables parents and teachers to provide credible evidence-based information on illicit drugs to students, including how to approach conversations with young people and when and how to intervene across the school years.

<http://www.positivechoices.org.au/>

Year 7 2017 Enrolments

A final reminder to parents who have Year 6 children that the last day to lodge an enrolment application at Marymede Catholic College is Friday 26 February, 2016.

Kind Regards,

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

Co-curricular

Students will shortly receive a copy of the 2016 Co-curricular Handbook to assist them in identifying co-curricular activities that reflect their interests, challenge them to embrace new

experiences or allow them to make a contribution to the College and wider community. All students are expected to participate in the co-curricular program and, once they have signed up for an activity, need to honour their commitment for the duration of the activity. The benefits of students' participation in co-curricular activities are significant – including opportunities to form relationships and to feel connected to the community, chances to discover new skills and talents, experiences that develop their self-esteem, resilience, leadership or creativity – and we are committed to offering a diverse and vibrant program.

Year 12 Information Evening

Year 12 parents are warmly encouraged to attend our Year 12 Parent Information Evening on March 2. The evening will provide key information for the year, including important dates, resources and advice for students planning for university applications, information about applying for special provision and special consideration, and support for families in navigating this challenging year. The information evening will take place in the College Auditorium from 7.00pm – 8.00 pm.

Preps and the Rest

With our preps commencing their first full week next week – and having to manage the tiredness that will inevitably result - and our Year 12's moving into their first busy period of important assessments, the issue of sleep will be becoming significant for many Marymede families.

While individual needs vary, experts suggest that primary school students need between 10-12 hours of sleep per day and secondary school students around 8-10 hours per day. In the absence of sufficient sleep, we see children who suffer in a variety of ways: they may struggle with behaviour or managing their emotions; their concentration, organisation can decline; they may struggle with more sophisticated modes of thinking including creativity, problem solving, abstract thinking; and their motor control can be affected causing accidents or affecting the quality of their work. Importantly, sleep – and particularly REM sleep – is essential for the memory to store certain types of memory, particularly complex concepts including mathematical concepts and language.

Whether for your 6-year old starting out their schooling, or for your 17 or 18 year old starting to cram in later and later nights to manage the pressures of their final year of schooling, effective learning in the classroom starts with getting enough sleep.

To support your son or daughter in getting the sleep they need, I would stress the importance of ensuring they have a screen-free bedroom (TVs/computers/phones). This is no easy challenge, given that it is estimated that 70 per cent of 11-17 years old have 2 or more devices in their bedrooms at night. But, with recent research suggesting that teenagers who have a mobile phone in their room at night are twice as likely to be sleep deprived, giving your child a rest from technology may have untold benefits in the classroom the following day.

Learning and Teaching Initiatives

In our school review last year, the reviewers commended Marymede as 'a school on the move'. And in 2016, we are determined to live up to this high praise by striving for continuous improvement in our learning and teaching program. We have launched a range of initiatives and investigations in both our Primary and Secondary sub-schools this year to further improve outcomes for our students. Over coming bulletins, we will outline just a few of the exciting new programs and developments that will continue enhance students' learning at Marymede

Initiative #1: The alignment of the primary and secondary school timetables this year has opened up opportunities for teachers to 'crossover' between primary and secondary, enhancing both our classroom and co-curricular offerings. A number of secondary teachers are teaching primary classes this semester, creating new opportunities for our senior primary students to have classes in Design & Technology (Wood), and Food Technology. In addition, we have secondary teachers bringing their specialist skills to the primary Art and Music programs this year. We look forward to the expansion of these opportunities into new subjects in the near future.

Ms Tracey Kift

Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching Prep – Year 12

HEAD OF FAITH AND MISSION PREP – YEAR 12

2016 School Year Mass

Thursday February 18 the College came together to celebrate the Opening of the 2016 School Year Mass with our Chaplain Fr Martin Ashe.

The Gospel of **The Good Samaritan** led a homily where Fr Martin encouraged the students to be 'Christlike, to cultivate and nurture tender hearts. To play our part in making our Marymede school a hospitable and caring place. To be our best selves. To be attentive to what is happening around us in our community, to be sensitive to classmates, to be supportive and encouraging of the fellow student or staff member who might be doing it tough. To not be absorbed in the busyness and demands of our own situation. To pause and be the neighbour that can make a difference to someone's well-being at a time of need in their lives.'

Let us remember the words of our Chaplain and show Mercy to all those we encounter.



Upcoming Faith and Mission Events:

- Year 7 Reflection Day: Tuesday March 8, 2016

As part of their spiritual formation, Year 7 students at Marymede Catholic College participate in an on campus Reflection Day supported by 'Youth for Christ.'

Please find attached the Year 7 Reflection Day letter for your reference.

Mrs Melinda Muir

Head of Faith and Mission (P-12)

HEAD OF SECONDARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Green Earth Team

Over the past three weeks each Friday at lunchtime a dedicated and committed group of students have gathered to form the College's Green Earth Team. God Bless the work and efforts of the students who give of their time and roll up their sleeves each Friday as we have begun filling up the raised garden beds with fresh soil as well as planting and watering a range of colourful, perennial flowers. This week we will be welcoming six new hens to our chicken coop!

I would like to acknowledge the great work of some primary colleagues particularly Ms Margie Hough and Mr Ina Wels who have played key roles over the past few years in establishing the raised garden beds, the chicken coop and the more recent addition of the garden shed. Ms Hough, Mr Wels and their teams have worked closely with the College's Maintenance Team and senior VCAL students in developing this range of environmental and sustainable initiatives for students to learn and have fun with.

Please speak to your son/daughter about this wonderful learning opportunity and if they too would like to be part of The Green Earth Team and '*caring for our common home*', they are most welcome to come and join the team each Friday during lunchtime meeting behind House 7. This is a most life giving and rewarding learning experience for students as they cultivate the earth.

Please remind your son/daughter to wear their cap and sunscreen.

"What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?" (Pope Francis)

"If people are caring and cultivate harmony in all their dealings with each other and the Earth, then they will grow in the image and likeness of God." (Bernard Anderson)

I share some wonderful images with you of students and staff actively engaged and honoring their role as stewards of the earth.



Mr Riccardo Iuele

Head of Religious Education Secondary

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Squad Swim Training

Marymede was making waves this week as the swimming squad dived in to their first training sessions for 2016. It was great to see so many committed students at the early morning sessions at Mill Park Leisure Centre. The coaches are excited to work hard over the next four weeks, to get them prepared for the fast approaching SACSS competition on March 22. We are swimming in the highest division, and therefore welcome the Marymede student's focus and determination over the upcoming weeks.



Ms Tamara Barton
Swim coach

Senior Cricket

The senior boys cricket team played on Monday 15 and Wednesday 17 of February, the squad of 14 had trained hard and the persistence has paid off winning both games. The first game against Kolbe Catholic College, we played at High Gate Reserve and in our first game together we bowled first and put on a fairly good performance. Rory Smith and Joel Motley opened the batting both doing their job seeing out the new bowler, then Damien Petrucci and I put on a 90 run partnership, Shazard Khakh came in and hit a quick few runs and finished the game to seal the win.

The second game we played CRC Sydnham, we bowled first and put on a very good bowling and fielding performance by Anirudh Nair, Damien Petrucci and a very good catch from Adrian Chiodo. With CRC making a small total of 83 we chased it 2 wickets down with Joel Motley batting well to make a quick 23.

In a few weeks' time we play in the final series and best of luck to the squad of 14 and the quality individual efforts.



Mr Harry Bugden
Captain

Marymede Soccer Accademy

Last week saw the launch of the Marymede Soccer Academy for students in Year 7- 12. MSA training runs on a Monday afternoon for the boy's squad and on Tuesday afternoons for the girl's squad. There was much excitement and enthusiasm at both training sessions, with the feedback from the coach extremely positive reflecting on the pool of talent Marymede has to offer for soccer. There is an exciting year in store for the athletes.



Sports Training at Marymede

The year in sport is off to a flying start with all sporting facilities jam packed after school with excitement, enthusiasm and team building as the Marymede sporting talent trains for their upcoming matches. Training this term sees the Senior boys and girls Basketball, Volleyball and Tennis all gear up for their big tournament day on March 9, after school at various venues. You will also find the Senior boys Cricket team training with the Year 10 Cricket team afterschool on Tuesdays on the Oval along with our Year 10 Volleyball, Netball, Cricket, Soccer and Basketball teams all preparing for their next round on various afternoons on the pitch and in the Fitness Centre. It has been exciting to see the dedication and commitment of the Marymede students and coaches and I look forward to all that hard work paying off in the season. Well done teams and keep up the great work.



House Swimming Carnival

On February 9, the Secondary school Students and Teachers loaded onto buses and set out for Northcote Aquatic Centre. The weather was perfect and as the students arrived there was a buzz in the air for our first House carnival in 2016. The

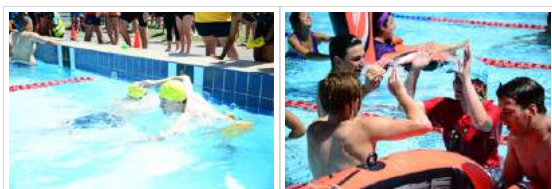
first event was the point swim and as a regular event on the swimming fixture it lived up to its expectations with many smiles and laughs shared by all involved. The day was filled with fierce competition with the final result coming right down to the last few races. It was Marcellin house however who managed to make it 4 years in a row as the Swimming Champions.

Final result:

- 1st Marcellin – 291 points
- 2nd McCormack – 248 points
- 3rd McAuley – 246 points
- 4th Romero – 236 points
- 5th Chanel – 228 points
- 6th Chisholm – 207 points



<PIC – newsletter 1>



Mrs Natalie Savage
Head of Secondary Sport

Year 10 Premier League

Last week the Year 10 Premier League began with our first round against Kolbe Catholic College. We had a successful start with 4 of our teams winning. The boy's Soccer team won 1-0 and the girl's Basketball team won convincingly 30-17. Both Volleyball teams won with the boys winning 3 sets to 1 set and the girls winning 3 sets to 0.

Best of luck to the teams and coaches for next round against St Monica's College and for the rest of the season.



Ms Vanessa Clifford
AFL Trainee

The Wedding Singer Important Information for Cast and Crew

Thank-you to the large number of students who signed up to be a part of *The Wedding Singer* crew. We have exceeded the number of students that we can use in the Crew, so interested students are reminded to carefully read through the Crew pack and ensure you are fully committed and available as we will factor that in when assigning roles. For some students, you will be attending or fulfilling roles during the evening shows only (i.e. will not be released from classes during the production week).

Both Cast and Crew members were emailed Caremonkey Consent Requests. Please ensure these are completed no later than **Friday February 26**. The Crew member list will be finalised on this date, so if you wish to participate it is essential consent is given for full participation by Friday evening.

The tee shirt order has now been placed for those students who elected to purchase a non-compulsory tee shirt. Students will be notified of a time to collect their tops later this term.

Sessional Dance Update

Thank-you to Ms Judita Turco for her work in launching the Sessional Dance program. Students in Beginners and Intermediate/Advanced classes began last week with Hip Hop. The Accounts Team will issue invoices for the semester's fees.

There will be an opening for students from Years 7-11 to join the Sessional Dance program in semester two (subject to numbers). Interested students will be able to sign up and pay during Term 2.

Wanted: 1980s clothing

The Wedding Singer is held in 1985, a time known for big shoulder pads, lace and bold prints. Perhaps you channelled your inner Madonna and no longer have a need for that black bustier? Or you have some Cyndi Lauper tulle ra-ra skirts collecting dust? Maybe a bright suit hiding away?

If so, we would love to take them off your hands for *The Wedding Singer*. We are particularly interested in wedding guest formal wear.

If you have good quality, clean 1985 style clothing (no need for 'Physical' style fluros, sorry!) that you don't want back, please make your donation at the Secondary School Office in Founders Building.

Ms Angie Bedford
Head of Performing Arts
Director/Producer of "The Wedding Singer"

DIRECTOR OF PRIMARY

Encouraging Independence

It has been a great start to the school year, and most students have settled well into their new classes. At this time, I believe it is important that we continue to encourage resilience and independence in our young people.

We are asking for your support in boosting children's confidence in being able to enter the learning space and

prepare themselves each day. Children need to be able to carry their own school bag, unpack what they need and enter the classroom each day by themselves. Sometimes, having the parent enter the classroom with them causes more anxiety and reinforces the idea they cannot do it by themselves.

A major challenge for parents is to find ways of safely moving children from being reliant on adults to a position of independence. This can be tough because your natural instincts are to nurture them. Training for independence starts at a young age and continues into adolescence and beyond. Developing independence is one of the best ways to promote self-confidence. When you teach children to do jobs for themselves, you send a powerful message that you believe that they are capable. Your actions speak louder than words.

When independence becomes your priority then suddenly you've found a pathway to the development of other positive qualities and traits in your children. Here's how:

Confidence comes from facing your fears and doing things for yourself.

Competence comes from the opportunity to develop self-mastery that independence offers.

Creativity is developed when kids solve problems themselves as opposed to someone solving them on their behalf, or worse, keeping kids safe. It's amazing how resourceful kids can be when they are given the chance to resolve their own problems.

Character, which is essential for success, is forged under hardship and is needed if kids are to live a sturdy life. Kids need to be exposed to disappointment, failure and conflict if character strengths such as grit and perseverance are to be forged.

For more information on encouraging independence see the website by leading parenting educator Michael Grose:

<http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Home>

Independence Takes Many Forms

Adults are the gatekeepers for children's independence. And of course, independence takes many guises.

On a basic level it's about developing children's autonomy. Without realising it, many parents make choices on their children's behalf. Kids build self-confidence when they do things for themselves, and make their own decisions.

Independence is built when children spend time in unpredictable circumstances and environments. There may be some risk involved but that is where the learning lay. *Eliminate the risk and you eliminate the learning.*

Allowing kids to follow their own impulses even if they are different to their own parents is the key to gaining independence. This may mean that children choose healthy interests and pursuits that parents are unfamiliar with, or even swim against the tide of their parents' wishes.

Allowing kids to take responsibility and own their own problems builds confidence and competence. Start by expecting kids to help at home. Look for ways to develop self-help skills and don't take their problems on as your problems.

Ms Nicole Pegler
Director of Primary

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Classroom Helper's Training Course-Literacy

The Classroom Helper's Training Course for Literacy will be conducted on Thursday, March 10 commencing at 9:00am until approximately 11:00am for parents wishing to volunteer in classrooms during Literacy Sessions. Participation in the training session will enable you to support and develop an understanding of the Primary School Literacy Program. To volunteer in classrooms you will need to have attended a classroom helper's course within the last 3 years.

If you would like to attend this session, it is imperative that you register. You can register by completing the Expression of Interest form at the Primary School Office or by contacting Mrs Leanne Easdon on 9407 9000.

Toddlers are unable to attend the session.

Parents who have registered for the training session are asked to meet Mrs Milani outside the Primary School office at 8.55am on Thursday, March 10.

After the session you will have the opportunity to indicate your availability on classroom timetables. The Parent Helper's Program will commence in classrooms as of Term 2.

Please note that all classroom helpers are required by law to have a current Working with Children Check (WWC), therefore, you will need to present your WWC certificate to Leanne Easdon at the Primary School office prior to commencing as a parent helper.

I look forward to meeting you and working with you.

Mrs Elizabeth Milani
Literacy Co-ordinator Prep – Year 6

BUSINESS OFFICE

Carparking

We are very concerned at the increasingly dangerous driving practices around the School at drop off and pick up times.

We know the start and end of the school day can be hectic for parents and finding parking can be a challenge but it has become apparent that the community is no longer prepared to tolerate unsafe and illegal traffic behaviour.

We have implemented various measures to try and reduce congestion in local streets and at the same time ensure the safety of our students. We are working with the Whittlesea City Council with regards to increased supervision in this area.

The College is constantly informed by Parents that Drivers are:

- Double Parking on Williamsons Road

- Blocking Pedestrian crossings
- Speeding in Drop off/Pickup zone
- Parking in the Drop off/Pickup zone
- Exiting from Entry Only gates
- Blocking Entry Gates

This was particularly dangerous for Cars trying to park at the College and pedestrians and students who are trying to cross the road to reach the College.

We share the concern of our community and urge you to consider your child's safety and the safety of others when you are dropping off and picking up from the College. Please also bear in mind that as a parent of Marymede Catholic College you represent the College; we do not want our good name tarnished by the thoughtlessness of some members of our community.

We thank you for your cooperation and support in this important matter.

CDF Banking

The College is able to offer Students a deposit account using the Catholic Development fund banking system.

The School Agency is a "deposit only" agency, which allows students to make deposits into savings accounts at a specified school on a specific banking day each week.

Withdrawals cannot be processed at the school; however they can be arranged with the help of the agency.

If you are interested in your child opening a savings account please contact Bilyana Trenevskva or Maria Santinon via the Primary School office.

If your child has an existing account and no longer wishes to transact in this account please contact the contact on email accounts@marymede.vic.edu.au

Financial Assistance - Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum. CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families.

The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students.
- \$225 for secondary school students.

Please see attached CSEF application form or download from

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef>

Applications Close: 29 February 2016

**Mr Paul Romanin
Business Manager**

REGISTRAR NEWS

2017 Enrolments

Applications for Year 7 2017 will close tomorrow. The College has received a record number of applications for our 2017 intake and we will be holding enrolment and transition interviews for prospective families on Tuesday March 8 with correspondence regarding these interviews being sent out in the coming days.

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

Year 6 Transition Day

This coming Wednesday March 2, our current Year 6 students will take part in a Year 7, 2017 Transition Day - a unique and exciting opportunity for our Year 6 cohort which will help to ensure a consistent and harmonious transition into Year 7 next year.

Unlike other Secondary schools whose Transition Programs are limited to Term 4, Marymede Catholic College offers a series of positive experiences throughout the year that cater for all of our current Year 6 students.

Students will have the opportunity to meet their Secondary teachers and take part in Secondary specialist subjects throughout the day.

School Bus Service

Full and final payment for all Semester 1 bus passes are due tomorrow (Friday February 26). Commencing Monday February 29, any student without a valid paid in full bus pass will not be permitted to travel on the bus under any circumstances.

**Mr Matthew Luczek
Registrar**

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

Information Communication Technology Update

eResources

By now all students in Year 7 -10 should have their logins for JacPlus and TKWL sites. If there are any students that are having problems with access or Logins they can contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk@marymede.vic.edu.au

By the end of this week early next week students of Maths and LOTE Year 7 -10 and English 7-9 will receive their login to Mathspace and Education Perfect.

In the first week of February our Year 7 students received their device. In December of last year we upgraded our current Year 10 student devices. This allowed a more seamless start to the year for the Year 10 students.

Students in Prep – Year 6 have all been issued with an Acceptable Use Agreement for the use of digital resources at the College. Please ensure that this has been signed and returned to the school no later than 29 February. Students in Prep – Year 6 should all have their Mathletics logins and Year 3-6 logins to Spelladrome and Prep – Year 2 logins to Readings Eggs.

All Grade 3 students received their network logins and email accounts last week.

IT Helpdesk

The It Helpdesk is open between 8 -4pm Monday – Friday and can be contacted via email helpdesk@marymede.vic.edu.au or on 94079020.

Ms Stavroula Tsembras **Director of ICT**

To the Marymede Catholic College Community,

It has been an honour and a privilege to work with you these past 5 years. During that time I have experienced the very best of what Marymede stands for. I have loved being part of the leadership of this great college and was constantly in awe of the resilience and strong determination demonstrated by staff, students and parents to work in partnership in shaping a college that lives out the beliefs, qualities and spirit “In the way of Mary”.

I would like to thank Sr. Beth Calthorpe and the Delegated Canonical Administrators for their support and guidance during the past 5 years. To Mrs Jo-Anne Mazzeo and members of the College Board, thank your support and for the work you do to ensure the vision and mission of Marymede is continually realised. Special thanks and appreciation to Mrs Nadia Crisp and the members of the Parents and Friends Committee. I shall treasure our time together with such fond memories and am proud to have been part of the P&F that initiated a number of wonderful fundraising events, particularly The Marymede Fete and community events with the sole purpose of building a strong community of parents and families. I shall miss you all so very much.

Thank you to the many colleagues both Primary and Secondary that I have had the privilege to work with either in the classroom

or in my leadership roles. I wish you every success in your endeavours as you continually strive to make Marymede Catholic College the school of choice in the local and wider area. We are blessed at Marymede to have a dedicated team of Administrative Staff, Canteen Staff and volunteers and Maintenance Staff. My sincere thanks to these wonderful people who keep the College running efficiently behind the scenes, I have enjoyed working closely with you all.

Finally a few words to the wonderful students at Marymede whom I shall miss greatly. You have brought such joy and happiness into my life. I have watched you strive to be young people with a social and moral compass who recognise that when you are willing to accept each other for who they are, you are seeing the wonder of another person’s gifts and as a result build long lasting relationships where each person can flourish. During the 5 years I have witnessed that you are developing confidence, a growth mindset and a personal belief that you can reach your potential and dream big.

My greatest hope for you all is that you continue to dare greatly, live a life that's brave and takes courage. See a failure as an opportunity to learn and grow. Look beyond the horizon as there will be possibilities out there that you never dreamed would be available to you. Your journey has just begun. Be curious, creative, stay focussed on your goals, explore ideas that will take you on different journeys. Don't be afraid to want to be different, stay positive and true to your beliefs and values. Stay out of judgement, practise Empathy, Compassion and Self Compassion, listen and respond appropriately, trust that your parents love you and will always be there to help you rise strong during those times when you feel so overwhelmed. I wish you joy and happiness and I'm sure that one day our paths will cross again. I shall forever keep you close to my heart. You are Marymede's greatest gifts and I shall always have such fond memories of the time we shared. I shall keep each and every one in my prayers.

God Bless you,
Mrs Robyn Roberts

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform Shop Trading Hours, Term 1

Mondays 8am to 2pm
Tuesdays 12pm to 5pm
Wednesdays 8am to 11am then 2pm to 5pm
Thursdays 12pm to 5pm

Next Saturday Trade:

Saturday 5th March, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Upcoming School Holiday Trading hours:

Tuesday April: 5th 10am to 4pm
Wednesday April 6th: 10am to 4pm
Thursday April 7th: 10am to 4pm
Saturday April 9th: 9.30am to 12.30pm