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18 July 2019

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Welcome back everyone. I hope the holidays were enjoyable, gave families an opportunity to spend more time together and invigorate their relationships. As we embark upon the all-important second half of the year, I trust that our students have returned to give their best efforts to their studies.

Social Media

I wrote in the last Newsletter that the College would be working with the local police in regard to the post on social media which was shared by a number of our students at the end of last term.

A Senior Constable who works as a Youth Resource Officer out of the Epping Police Station will be presenting to our Years 9, 10 and 11 students next week on the broad topic of cyber safety, which includes online harassment and image sharing.

Thank you to a number of parents who contacted the school to offer their support at a most anxious time for the College Community.

School Review Report

In this article, I will share some of the findings from the recent school review report.

"Marymede Catholic College has enacted a vision based *In the Way of Mary*. Characterised on the emphasis of personal endeavour and pastoral care, it is an engaging environment for Catholic families and those of other faiths. The school is proudly inclusive and welcoming."

"The school is committed to providing 'A Complete Education P-12' where each student is known, respected and feels safe and is engaged in purposeful learning."

"Staff expressed pride in and enjoy working at the school."

"Marymede has a holistic approach to the spiritual development and education of each student. It has programs to support academic, well being and social and emotional growth. Parents are invited to be involved and contribute through regular contact by phone, email, Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews and written reports."

"Programs to support students with learning difficulties and high performing students are extensive and include Levelled Literacy and Numeracy Intervention, Mathematics Support Program, Skills 21, Vista, Social Skills Programs, Teens Connect, extension classes at many year levels and the High Performance Academy for elite sporting athletes. Parents confirmed the positive impact of these programs on their children."

"Marymede is strongly focussed on being a true P-12 school. The curriculum documents reflect a systematic growth from the establishment of constancy/stability in the early years through to Student Specialisation in Years 10-12."

"Marymede is actively creating a range of differentiated intervention and extension programs to enhance the learning of its students. Its list is extensive, and staff, students and parents report positively on their impact on learning and wellbeing."

"Teachers described the school as being inviting of innovation and identified several projects where individual initiative has been given licence and resources to flourish into positive student learning."

"Parents reported that they enjoy a strong partnership with the College. They reported positively on the flow of information they have access to regarding their children's progress. They expressed enthusiasm for the College's P-12 future and were keen to provide a parent voice to the range of opportunities the College sought to offer the school through its strategic partnerships."

"Staff, students and parents confirm that the expectations for students have been elevated both socially and academically."

Staff News

We welcome back Laura Wilcox from Maternity Leave and Jeremy Guzman, who returns from Long Service Leave.

A special welcome is extended to the following new staff members:

Helen Vermont – Prep

Katie Colautti - Humanities, Religious Education, English

Rima Cilmi – English, Humanities

Thomas Broadbent – Mathematics

Aaron Powter – VET Engineering Teacher (Wednesdays)

Ruchika Mahajan – Learning Support Officer

Daniel Bamford Clark – Music/AV Assistant

Emma Giacomini – Laboratory Technician

The Lion King Jr. Production: 18-20 July

Tonight is the Opening Night of our Years 5-9 'The Lion King Jr.' production, which is being held at the Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre. The students and staff involved have worked very hard over the past five months in the lead up and I wish them every success over the next three nights.

Marymede Sunday Mass: 28 July

A reminder that our first Marymede Sunday Mass will be held in the Chapel of the Annunciation on 28 July at 10.30am. It would be a great sight to see the Chapel at full capacity.

VCE Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews: 29 July

Our VCE P/T/S Interviews have been scheduled for Monday 29 July from 4.00pm to 7.00pm in the College Fitness Centre. Bookings can be made via the Parent Access Module (PAM). I strongly encourage parents to make a booking to meet with your child's teachers.

Senior Certificates Information Evening: 30 July

I strongly encourage parents of current Year 10 students to attend the Senior Certificates Information Evening on Tuesday July 30, commencing at 7.00pm in the Auditorium. It is my experience that the best decisions about subject selections and courses are made when students and parents have been fully briefed about all the pathways available.

Year 11 Retreat: 1-2 August

Our Year 11 students will be participating in their two-day Christian Leadership Retreat on 1 and 2 August. I look forward to visiting the three retreat sites and spending time talking to the students about the qualities we are looking for in our young people who aspire to be leaders in our school community.

Staff Spirituality Day

Our staff will be involved in their annual Spirituality Day next Tuesday 23 July. Please be aware that this is a pupil free day.

Our Presenter is Dr. Carmody Grey who comes highly recommended to us. One of the topics she will be presenting is 'Measuring Success'. In our Catholic schools today, how we present success or failure to our students is often profoundly at odds with the way we are encouraged to think of success in the contemporary world.

I am very much looking forward to the staff coming together and dialoguing with our presenter, Dr. Grey.

Mr. Michael Kenny

Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

Subject Selection

Students in Years 7-11 will begin selecting subjects for 2020 this term and, over the coming weeks, they will be provided with resources to support them to make choices about their subjects and/or pathways.

As students select subjects for Years 9 & 10, the focus is on maintaining a broad program of study that develops their existing talents, provides opportunity to discover new interests, includes areas of passion, offers a broad foundation of learning across all areas of the curriculum and challenges their thinking, creativity, problem-solving and communication skills.

As they move into Year 11 & 12, students should begin to identify subjects that they enjoy and have interest or talent in. However, they should also be mindful of the potential pathways they are considering beyond school and include subjects that are pre-requisites for desired university courses or offer good foundations for future study or work. Attending University Open Days, seeking out Work Experience or Structured Work Placement opportunities, and meeting with the Careers Coordinator, Ms Carol Fisher, are very important tools available to current Year 10 and 11 students as they begin to make choices for their 2020 courses.

Feedback from employers also emphasises the extent to which adaptability, creativity, resilience, positivity and openness to ongoing learning and challenge are valued in the modern workplace and students are encouraged to plan courses that will challenge them to develop these valuable skills.

To assist students and parents to begin to consider the available options, the Year 10 and Senior Certificates Subject Handbooks are current available via SIMON and PAM, while the Year 9 Elective booklet will be available shortly. Students are encouraged to spend some time looking through the relevant booklet with their parents and discussing the subjects they are interested in choosing for 2020.

All students involved in subject selection will enter their subject preferences via the online subject selection portal and login details will be provided to students as their portal becomes available.

For each of the year levels involved in subject selection, there are a number of key dates of which students and parents need to be aware. Additional information about these key dates will be provided at the Information Evenings. We would strongly encourage all parents to attend the relevant Information Evening to ensure they are aware of all the options available to students at each of these year levels.

Current Year 11s

- July 29:** VCE Parent Teacher Student Interviews 4-7pm
- July 30 (Period 5):** Subject Selection Briefing
- July 31:** Online subject selection portal opens
- August 8:** Online subject selection portal closes
- August 9:** Deadline for signed subject selection receipt to be submitted

Current Year 10s

- July 30 (Period 5):** Senior Certificates Overview Assembly
- July 30 (7-8pm):** Senior Certificates (VCE/VET/VCAL) Information Evening
- July 31:** Online subject selection portal opens
- August 8:** Online subject selection portal closes
- August 9:** Deadline for signed subject selection receipt to be submitted

Current Year 9s

- July 29 (Period 5):** Year 10 Subject Selection Assembly
- July 29 (7-8pm):** Year 10 and VCE/VET Acceleration Information Evening
- July 31:** VCE and VET Acceleration Applications open and Online subject selection portal opens
- August 8:** VCE and VET Acceleration Applications close
- August 8:** Online subject selection portal closes
- August 9:** Deadline for signed subject selection receipt to be submitted

Current Year 8s

- August 19 (Period 1):** Year 9 Subject Selection Assembly
- August 20:** Online subject selection portal opens
- August 27:** Online subject selection portal closes
- August 28:** Deadline for signed subject selection receipt to be submitted

Current Year 7

Students will have the opportunity to submit their preference regarding whether they study Italian or Japanese in 2019. The online portal to submit this selection will be open in early September; students will be given more information in the second half of the term.

Ms Tracey Kift
Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12

DIRECTOR OF FAITH AND MISSION

Sunday Mass at Marymede

We welcome community members to Sunday Mass at Marymede in our beautiful Chapel of the Annunciation on the following dates for Term 3:

- Sunday 28 July 10.30am.**
- Sunday 8 September 10.30am.**

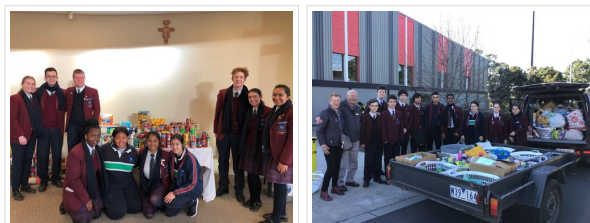
Supported by our priests from our Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Fr Anthony Girolami or Fr Anthony Cruz will celebrate mass at

these times. Ms Tracey Kift, our Deputy Principal – Learning & Teaching, will share her gift of music and song.

I have a lovely memory from my country childhood of parishioners 'bringing a plate' for morning tea after mass. We will have tea and coffee available and if we bring a plate to share (biscuits / slice) we can chat together for a short time after mass for those who are able.

Sacred Heart Mass and Vinnies Winter Appeal 2019 – BIG Thankyou!

Our student leaders, social justice group and mini-vinnies did a wonderful job of raising goods for the local Vinnies group in our community. The photo shows the amount of goods, but Carmel and Ian indicated that at this time all these goods would be distributed within two weeks! \$250.00 was donated by the Year 9 Commerce class who raised funds via their market stalls. Thankyou for your generous hearts – putting into action the very essence of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – always thinking of the vulnerable, the other, in our community. Having this action as the focus of our celebration of the Most sacred heart of Jesus Mass unites the P-12 community in both the physical and spiritual aspects of our faith.



Community Mass

Our Wednesday mornings in the Chapel of the Annunciation are beautiful, with families, alumni, staff and students contributing to a strong community presence. I'd like to acknowledge the wonderful behind the scenes work of Sheryl Varghese and Marian Fernando who arrange for student participation in all parts of the mass. We have voices lead us in song and confidence in the whole community singing together is growing. Pictured is alumni Tatenda Muranda and Gabby Agosta with other regular primary and secondary students singing our theme song at the end of mass.

Antoinette Fernando (parent) and Sheryl Varghese (student) were recently commissioned as Special Ministers of the Eucharist by Father John.



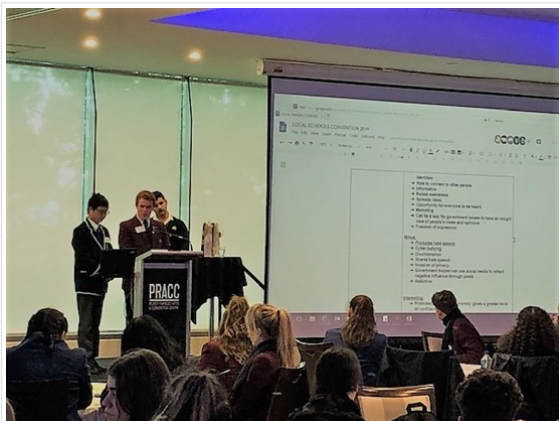
Upcoming Faith & Mission Events

- **Romero House Mass** – Thursday 18 July
- **Staff Reflection Day (student free day)** – Tuesday 23 July
- **Sunday Mass@Marymede 10.30am** – Sunday 28 July and Sunday 8 September
- **Year 11 Leadership & Formation Retreat** – Thursday 1– Friday 2 August.
- **REMAR Gold Retreat** – 2 – 4 August.
- **Marymede Day (Feast of the Assumption of Mary)** – Friday 16 August.
- **Confirmation Family Evening** – Tuesday 20 August.
- **Community Mass** – Confirmation Candidates Blessed (28 August, 4 and 11 September).
- **McAuley House Mass** – Monday 26 August
- **Year 6 Reflection Day (Confirmation)** – Monday 9 September.
- **Sacrament of Confirmation** – Sunday 15 September.
- **Year 12 Graduation Mass** – Thursday 19 September.

Ms Julia Wake
Director of Faith and Mission

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

LOCAL SCHOOLS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, 2019



The Year 11 Legal Studies students, led by Ms. Esposito, joined students from 6 different schools at the Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre for the Local Schools Constitutional Convention. Hosted by Lalor Secondary College, the event focused on the topic “Does Social Media promote free speech or hate speech?” The first session included two keynote speakers, firstly, the Federal Member for Scullin, the Honourable Mr. Andrew Giles MP, who spoke on the topic from the perspective of the Shadow Minister for Cities and Urban Infrastructure, Multicultural affairs. The second presentation was from Mr. David Mould, who is the Director of Second Strike, an organisation that specialises in training and supporting student leadership in Australia.

Following the speeches, the students were given the opportunity to discuss the topic in groups made up of the various schools. Students focussed on the PMI (positives, minuses and interesting) of social media and the effects it has on society, then a representative from each group was asked to present their findings to the convention. Subsequently, students were asked to present an argument to the convention about whether they thought social media promoted hate speech or free speech. It was interesting to hear the multi-faceted and complex viewpoints, which all contributed to a robust understanding of the topic. After, students voted in a mock plebiscite on the question: Should there be restrictions placed on free speech on social media? The outcome of the plebiscite was that restrictions should not be placed on free speech on social media.

The day provided students with the opportunity to explore a current issue in society from varying viewpoints and undertake discussion and negotiation to come to a group consensus. Finishing the day with the mock plebiscite enabled the students to gain a ‘hands-on’ understanding of how community opinions can influence the law. The students left with some important skills and insights which will contribute to some interesting debates in the classroom

Jacob Leddin - Year 11 Legal Studies student

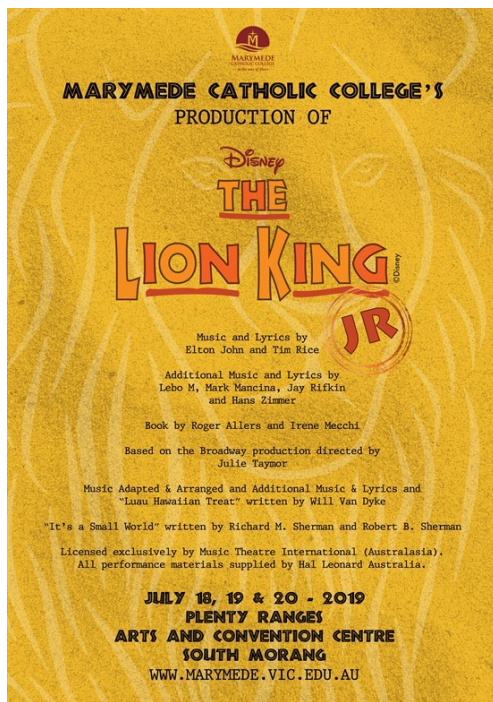
Mrs Jane Darrou
Head of Humanities

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

Lion King

Marymede Catholic College is proud to present ‘The Lion King Jr.’ starring students from Years 5-9. This wonderful show is on for just three performances – July the 18 and 19 at 7pm and the 20 at 5pm. Tickets are selling fast so be sure to book your tickets at the link below. You do not want to miss this beloved story brought to life in spectacular colour, song and dance on stage. Book Now.

<https://www.pracc.com.au/theatre/upcoming-events/>



Ms Ellen Lane
Performing Arts and Co-Curricular Assistant

Technology Domain Community Assistance

During Term 3, construction of the new Technology Centre will commence. This building will encompass Digital Technologies, Wood and Textiles workshops. This exciting endeavour has caused a redistribution of current and old material (and equipment), relocation of resources and reorganising of existing layout in remaining workshop spaces.

With this in mind, I am seeking out the support of the Marymede community for plastic pallets (suitable for forklift use). These items would be invaluable for short- and long-term storage solution for the Technology learning domain.

If you can assist, please contact me via the college.

Mr Maurice Di Muzio
Technology Learning Domain Leader P – 12

Book Week @ Marymede 2019

Book Week @ Marymede P – 12 will be celebrated during the week beginning Monday 19 August until Friday 23 August. Book Week is the longest running children's festival throughout Australia.

The Book Week theme for this year is 'Reading is my Secret Power'. The theme invites us to consider how reading can empower each of us, no matter what age, race, gender or religion.

The Book of the Year Awards for 2019 Short List and Notables can be located on the 'The Children's Book Council of Australia' website.

We will be celebrating Book Week in all Primary School classrooms and in the Calthorpe Resource Centre throughout the week in a variety of ways. Some of the wonderful activities that will take place over the week include; author visits and illustrator workshops along with exploring this year's nominated books.

Primary students have been invited to enter a Writing Competition on the theme **Reading is my secret power**. Winners will be judged by our Librarian Ms O'Brien and will be announced at our Book Week Parade. Students have been encouraged to take part in the Writing Competition and it would be wonderful to have your support. Entries close Wednesday 7 August.

Our Book Week celebrations will also include a P - 6 Character Parade where children can dress up as a book character of their choice. The Parade will take place on Friday 23rd August. Further details will be published in the next newsletter.

I look forward to celebrating Book Week with you all.

Ms Elizabeth Milani
Literacy Co-ordinator P - 6

PATHWAYS

Parents of Year 10 Students

Parents of Year 10 students. I hope you have had time over the holiday break to go over the Morrisby report for your child. Students should have completed their Morrisby on line report on Tuesday, 25 June the last Tuesday of term 2. Students who had not quite finished were emailed to complete it on line from home. Once completed students can log back into Morrisby.com using their email address and password and view their report. They also have the option to email this report to a parent/guardian. Morrisby is a very comprehensive diagnostic career tool. The report is based on a student's differential ability. It covers career interests, general cognitive aptitudes, personality, occupational profiles, learning styles and vales based on each individual student. It is important to note that this is not an academic report, but one based on a student's underlying strengths, weakness, personality and interests. Your child now has access to this careers tool for the rest of their life. Term 3 is subject selection time and Morrisby will also suggest subjects that your child may be interested in for Year 11.

Items in the Career News include -

- Dates to Diarise in Term 3
- Health Information Sessions at Deakin University
- Biotechnology at Holmesglen Institute
- Technical Trades in the Defence Force
- News from Monash University
 - Monash Information Evenings
 - Inside Monash Seminar Series
 - New Politics, Philosophy & Economics (PPE) Course
- Visual Merchandising at RMIT
- What is Land Surveying?
- Nutritionists and Dietitians
- Science Degrees in Victoria
- Snapshot of William Angliss Institute (WAI) in 2019

Mrs Carol Fisher
Careers Practitioner

COMMUNITY MASS

