



11 February 2016

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

Last Wednesday 10 February, our staff and students gathered in their Houses and Year Levels for a liturgy marking Ash Wednesday. Our foreheads were marked with ashes reminding us of our Lenten task of finding time to reflect on how we can be better people and do more for others. I regularly ask students to reflect on how they can do better. As we begin our Lenten journey it is an appropriate time to stop and ask ourselves – How do we treat others? Do we show everyone the greatest respect, care and support? If not, then what can we change or improve?

Induction of Student Leaders

Today we inducted our Student Leaders at our Years 5-12 Assembly. I congratulate the students on being appointed to lead the student body. The greatest responsibility of our leaders is to serve. The service includes tasks such as providing a listening ear or helping someone feel safe. It also includes the responsibility of making our school a better place for those who will follow us.

VCE 2015

At our Years 5-12 Student Assembly today, we also acknowledged and congratulated the students of our VCE Class of 2015 who achieved an ATAR of 90 or more. Our Dux from last year, Nakita Costanzo, gave the students some advice on how she tackled VCE over the last two years. I hope our students were able to take in the point she made of never giving up chasing or following your dreams.

House Swimming Carnival

Our Secondary House Swimming Carnival was held at Northcote Aquatic Centre last Tuesday February 9. Congratulations to Marcellin House on winning the carnival. The carnival is another event at the College that encourages school

spirit and a sense of belonging. Congratulations to Mrs Natalie Savage and the House Coordinators for their work in ensuring the carnival was such a success.

Year 12 Retreat – 22-24 February

Our Year 12 Retreat will take place at Cowes, Phillip Island in the week beginning Monday 22 February. Students are encouraged to leave behind the everyday issues of study, work and sport to take time to focus on the important relationships in their lives. It is an opportunity of great value to our young people as they begin preparing for life after school. I wish them a peaceful and enjoyable time away together.

Staff News

Our Deputy Principal Student Wellbeing P-12, Mrs Robyn Roberts, late last week informed the Chairperson of the Association of Delegated Canonical Administrators, Sr. Beth Calthorpe that she would be retiring from her position at Marymede Catholic College. We thank Robyn for her contribution to the College over the past five years and wish her every happiness in the next phase of her life.

We have made the following interim arrangements to replace Mrs Roberts. Ms Judeline Wadhvani will take on the position of Acting Director of Student Wellbeing 7-12; Mrs Melinda Muir will become the Acting Head of Faith and Mission P-12; Mrs Robyn Thomson has been made the Learning Enhancement Coordinator P-12 and Ms Simona Fazzolari will be teaching Italian in the primary classes.

Student News

Our Dux of 2013, Michaela Cuschieri was offered an interview by Monash University last December along with 180 top Biomedical Science students for a place in their medical school. Michaela was one of the first 50 students ever to be given an offer for Postgraduate Medicine in 2017. We congratulate Michaela on her achievement and hope that the opportunity she has been presented with encourages all of our students to strive to achieve to the best of their abilities.

We were informed last week that one of our current Year 12 students, Eliza Edwards has been selected to perform in this

year's Top Class Dance program as part of the VCE Season of Excellence 2016. Only outstanding students are chosen to perform. Congratulations to Eliza.

The Year So Far

Classes are well and truly underway and our staff and students are getting on with the business of learning and teaching. In these early days, our upper primary and secondary students should be organising their studies by doing homework, background reading and forward planning. The level of time commitment of course varies with the year level, but the valuable skills of time management, organisation and task completion are pertinent to all students.

Year 7 2017

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2017 close on Friday 26 February. We anticipate strong demand for places at Year 7 next year.

Kind Regards,

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP - 12 NEWS

To misquote an old adage, a parent's work is never done – particularly when it comes to their son or daughter's schooling. While a huge amount of effort goes into selecting the right school for your child and ensuring they have access to the best possible learning environment on campus, most researchers agree that the family environment continues to exert the greatest influence on a child's achievement.

According to researchers Anne Henderson and Nancy Berla in their research paper 'A New Generation of Evidence: The Family is Critical to Student Achievement', the most accurate predictor of student achievement is not income or social status but the extent to which the family is involved in his or her education.

Henderson and Berla identify the three critical roles a family can play to support their child's education are:

- To create a home environment that fosters learning
- To express high (but realistic) expectations for their son or daughter's achievement and aspirations for the future
- To become involved in their child's education at school and in the community.

Some of the key elements of creating a home environment that fosters learning include:

- Creating a space for your child that is conducive to learning, homework or study;
- Encouraging and modelling an ongoing interest in learning;
- Limiting screen-time (for the whole family) to provide spaces for reading, physical activity or even just for conversation;

- Simply reading to and talking with their children about school, films, and books; and
- Prioritising your child having time for learning tasks and regular reading in the family's schedule.

Over the next two weeks there will be opportunities for parents to be involved in a series of key information sessions and workshops designed to equip you with the information you need to support your son or daughter's learning.

On **Tuesday February 16**, we will be holding the VCE and VCAL Information evening from 7-8pm in the College Auditorium. This evening is designed for parents with children who in 2016 are undertaking their VCE or VCAL studies in Year 11, or completing accelerated VCE or VET studies in Year 10. The evening will explain the basic processes and procedures of the VCE and VCAL programs and help you to become familiar with the language of the VCE.

On **Tuesday February 23**, the P-6 teachers will provide a series of workshops on support your son or daughter through their particular stage of learning. The information provided will be practical and there will be opportunities to ask the teachers questions and seek specific advice. The evening will be conducted in three stages, with the Prep to Year 2's scheduled from 4-5pm, the Year 3 and 4's scheduled from 5-6pm and the Year 5 and 6's from 6-7pm.

In addition, on **Thursday February 25**, the Marymede Wellbeing Team will host the 'Marymede Parent Seminar 1 - Understanding Adolescents & Communicating With Them'.

Ms Tracey Kift
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching Prep to 12

CAMPUS COORIDINATOR PREP TO 12

Transitions at Marymede 2016

From Prep to Year 11, new students and families have been welcomed into the College Community. It was beautiful to the Preps, some with smiles, some with tears, settle into their classrooms last week. Believe me, any tears dried up quickly as our wonderful Prep teachers engaged them in activities and assisted them to feel comfortable. Our Year 7's have found the soccer pitch and the oval and are making their way around the Secondary School confidently. Each of our new students in Year 1 – 11 have settled with a buddy and close monitoring by Pastoral teachers. Ms Wadhvani, our Head of Student Wellbeing, and myself have met with students new in the Secondary School this week. Tutor Teachers will also be making contact with parents in the coming week to touch base on student progress. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact your child's Pastoral/Tutor teacher in the first instance.

PREP TO 12 House Welcome BBQ's 2016

If you have perused the College Calendar ahead of time, you may have noticed that we have dates for House BBQ's. These will be opportunities for families and teachers to come together in an informal environment and get to know each other better. Save the date for your family's House:

Wednesday 9th March: - Chanel and Chisholm Houses
Tuesday 15th March: - Romero and McAuley Houses
Wednesday 16th March: - McCormack and Marcellin Houses

The BBQ's will take place in the Courtyard outside House 7 and will be from 5.30 – 7.00pm. Further details will be provided in an invitation that will be emailed out.

Emergency Evacuations or Lockdowns

All Marymede staff received training in the first week back from our consultants 'Dynamiq' on evacuation and lockdown procedures. This was particularly timely given the hoaxes that have affected some schools in the area. Students will be engaged in exercises to practice evacuations and lockdowns throughout the year so that they are familiar with the movements associated in responding to any possible threats. Please encourage your children to take these seriously.

Ms Julia Wake

Campus Co-ordinator Prep – 12

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

The Wedding Singer call out for Cast and Crew!

Year 7 Students and any students in Years 8-12 who are new to Marymede are invited to audition for the ensemble of our 2016 Secondary School Musical, *The Wedding Singer*. Please come along to a meeting in the Theatre at 1.30pm on Tuesday 16th February to find out more.

We are also seeking students from Years 7-12 who would like to be involved in the backstage crew. Roles include set, costume and prop painting and construction, lighting and microphone support, as well as bumping in the set and operating scene changes throughout the show. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience the thrill of live theatre without being onstage. Interested students should come to a meeting in the Theatre at recess on Tuesday 16th February. Please see our Stage Manager Ms Marisa Bortolotto if you are interested, but unable to attend.

The Wedding Singer Cast Reminders

All cast members should check the notice board in the Performing Arts Centre hallway for the latest rehearsal schedule.

Cast members are reminded that they may wish to purchase *The Wedding Singer* tee shirt. These are optional, and are available for \$25. Please make your payment to the Accounts Window at Main Reception by Friday 19th February.

Ms Angie Bedford

Head of Performing Arts

Director/Producer of The Wedding Singer

Sessional Dance at Marymede Catholic College

We are extremely fortunate to be able to offer sessional dance to Year 7-12 students at Marymede Catholic College in 2016.

Classes will be offered in many styles such as Hip-Hop, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Contemporary and Ballet for Secondary students of all levels from Beginner through to Advanced.

The aim of the lessons will be to increase student's coordination, flexibility and strength as dancers in a fun and friendly environment with the intention of developing a Dance Program at Marymede.

Sessional dance will be at an extra cost to families in the same way that instrumental music is offered at the College. The cost is affordable and much cheaper than classes in dance studio settings outside of school. Students will be charged \$10.00 a week and be expected to pay up front for the semester.

Students involved in sessional dance classes will have the opportunity to perform at various school events and will also be involved in a dance concert towards the end of the year.

A meeting was held this week for interested students on Thursday at lunch time. Those that missed out can still get involved if they contact Ms Judita Turco in person or via email to express their interest by the end of this week.



Marymede is starting sessional dance classes in Week 3 for students interested!

Classes will be offered in many styles such as Hip-Hop, Jazz, Tap, Lyrical, Contemporary and Ballet for secondary students of all levels from Beginner through to Advanced.

If you are interested in being involved please come to a meeting in the Auditorium on Thursday 11th Feb at the beginning of lunch.



Ms Judita Turco

Dance Teacher

National Youth Science Forum 2015-16

Recently Sheldon Chetty (Year 12) and I took part in the two-week National Youth Science Forum in Canberra during the summer holidays. We participated in a range of activities from lab visits to sites such as the NASA Deep Space Centre, Lockheed Martin, Questacon, the National Sound and Audio Archives, the War Memorial and National Portrait Gallery to name a few. We also participated in social activities from movie nights, to pool activities, dance swings, parties and formal events at the AIS run by the CEO of the NYSF as well as the CEO of Lockheed Martin Australia. We attended a variety of lectures by world-class scientists from a range of disciplines including chemists, engineers, CEOs, physicists and human rights activists.

We established a wide network of friends with the students and staff members running the forum. We will always have the great memories of the strong relationships that we formed and the positive inspiration we drew from inspirational talks from the likes of Dr Chi King Lee of the ADFA who reaffirmed my hopes and passion to become a professional engineer in the future.

None of these amazing experiences would have been possible without the Whittlesea and Diamond Creek Rotary Clubs who endorsed us on our journey and provided us with the support to turn a dream into a reality.

Mr Adrian Pieri
Year 12 Student



Adrian (second from left) and Sheldon (centre), with fellow students at the NYSF Dinner

Mrs Laura Wilcox
Secondary Teacher

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Literacy and Numeracy Testing

Literacy & Numeracy pre-testing for Years 1 to 6 was conducted on Friday January 29 and Monday February 1.

I would like to thank parents and students for their support during these days. It was lovely to see enthusiastic students put in such a great effort after having a long break.

Thank you to the teachers and staff for their preparation in ensuring that these days were productive and beneficial for our students. The valuable information obtained during the interviews will inform our teaching and learning programs.

Primary School Home Reading Program and Classroom Helpers Training Session

We are looking forward to seeing many parent volunteers in the Primary School this year.

You may like to assist our students and teachers here at the College in the following ways:

- **Home Reading Program** (Years 1 to 2) assisting students in the morning (from 8.50am until 9.00am) to return their books and monitor and record their text selections. Students in Year 1 & 2 will begin the Home Reading Program from Monday, February 9. The Prep Home Reading program will commence in March.

- **Classroom Assistant**- working with students during Literacy sessions commencing from Term 2
- **Resource Centre Assistant**- covering books, laminating games, making resources. (A separate training session will be held for this and dates will be advised through the College newsletter)

Assisting in these programs provides the opportunity for parents to share in the educational development of students and brings benefits to all those involved.

If you would like to assist with the Home Reading Program please add your name to the rosters displayed on the Year 1 and Year 2 classroom windows. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Elizabeth Milani or Mrs Leanne Easdon on 9407 9000

If you are volunteering in any capacity at the College, you will need to obtain a **Working with Children Check (WWC)**. Your WWC will need to be displayed at all times. Display badges can be collected from the Primary School Office when signing in as a volunteer.

Working with Children application forms are available from participating Australia Post outlets or by submitting the Application Form Request on the Department of Justice website. Additional information is available from the Department of Justice website at:

<http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/workingwithchildren>

Classroom Helpers Training Course

I will be conducting a Classroom Helpers Training Course for parents wishing to assist in classrooms during Literacy sessions. This will take place later in the term. Details will be published in the College Newsletter.

To volunteer in classrooms you will need to have attended a classroom helper's course within the last 3 years.

I look forward to meeting and working with all our parent volunteers.

Ms Elizabeth Milani
Literacy Co-ordinator

Primary Choir Is Back

The Marymede Primary Choir is open to all students from Years 1 – 6 and will begin again next Wednesday 17th February 2016.

Notices are available in the Junior School office for enrolments into the choir. Please return completed forms to the Junior School office.

If you have any enquiries please feel free to email Natalie Oman:

natalie.oman@marymede.vic.edu.au

Ms Natalie Oman
Performing Arts Primary

Walk to School and House Photos

The first Walk to School will take place on Friday 19th of February. Students are to meet at the corner of Great Eastern Way and Williamsons Road at 8:00am for the Walk to School. This year any parents or younger siblings participating will also

receive House points. See me at the beginning of the walk and I will record your participation.

All students are to wear their House polo tops and hats regardless of whether they are walking on the day as we have House photos. These photos do not replace the formal College photos taken in Term 2

Hot Shots Tennis Lesson

Marymede together with Hot Shots Vic are offering before school tennis lessons for any student in the primary sector. Paul Vassallo runs the program which will begin now in Term 1. He is a running a free trial session on Wednesday February 17 at 7.45 to 8.30 am. If you would like to book in for lessons or attend the free trial you must register by emailing Paul at info@vassallotennis.com.au . Please see attached flyer with all the information required.

Hockey Club

Marymede are affiliated with the Greensborough Hockey Club who run hockey clinics within our school on a regular basis. If you are interested in playing hockey whether it be lessons or games please see the attached flyer for more information.



Running Club Wednesday 3:30-4:00 Athletics Track all Term 1

Calling all budding runners. The sessions will cater for students Year 3 and up of varying abilities.

Mr Gerard Large
Head of Primary Sport and House

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

Year 7 Immunisations

The first round of Year 7 Immunisations will be given on Monday February 22nd at 9am by Whittlesea Council Nurses. All consent forms were due to be returned to Sick Bay by Wednesday February 10th even if your child is not receiving the immunisations at school. Please tick YES or NO in all three boxes, sign and return to the school ASAP.

For further information please contact the College Nurses on 9407 2111 or Whittlesea Council on 92172133.

Mrs Meaghan Voumard, Mrs Kate Harland and Mrs Maria Stathakis
College Nurses

REGISTRAR NEWS

New Students

2016 sees just under 200 new students to the College. We would like to extend a warm Marymede welcome to the following students and their families:

Prep – Year 6

Hannah Adriatico, Aiden Ajvazovski, Liam Angerosa, Amalia Antoniou, Joseph Antony, Alice Arena, Karthik Arumugam, Diarne Aspros, Alyssa Bajric, Annissa Barber, Kian Batra, Matthew Bergamin, Palak Bharti, Rubin Bhullar, Noah Boby, Jesal Bonsrey, Sara Bousioutas, Michael Brakis, Eliza Brice, Bonnie Chen, Chiara Cramond, Talia Cutajar, Suhaan Daga, Chelsea D'Alfonso, James De Nittis, Piyumi De Silva, Marcus De Simone, Amelie Delary-Simpson, Olivia D'Ettorre, Chelsea Devlin, Veda Dewal, Jayden Diaz, Marcus Dibella, Maximus Dimitry, Kemith Dissanayake, Sascha Domalapally, Anoushka Domalapally, Rhys D'Rozario, Abel Eldose, Kalan Ellis, Marcus Ensabella, Inuki Fernando, Steven Fiorenza, Luke Flammea, Caleb Formica, Oliver Fortuna, Luis Fragale, Rahaan Gill, Ada Gordon, Halina Grande, Domenic Grasso, Shams Haider, Anita Hemmatjoo, James Horsburgh, Vivienne Horsburgh, Jayda Impicliche, Tanisha Iyer, Prithvi Jagdeo, Isabella Jessel, Shika Joe, Vaika Joe, Alden Jones, Paul Kaiprambattu Shine, Aryan Khangura, Elliah Klein, Chanula Konara Mudiyansele, Mineth Kumarasinghe, Elina Lajju, Holly Lautee, Tegan Macartney, Isabella Maccia, Oliver Maillard, Hannah Mathew, Ava Mavrogiannis, Isabella Mavrogiannis, Zara Menicucci, Mila Miseski, Kathrina Mudaliar, Ciera Multari, Gabriella Murphy, Ava O'Halloran, Marcel Oriarewo, Mitchelle Oriarewo, Chloe Pal, Ricki Panzarino, Jenuli Patabendi Maddumage, Andrew Patto, Michael Petrou, Elijah Pollard-Edwards, Aarcha Pramod, Shreyan Prasad, Karizma Ratti, Tyla Rechichi, Simon Rizkalla, Liam Roberts, Anneka Roberts, Fabiano Rocchi, Cassie Rogers, Daryl Roy, Newman Rukweza, Aaron Sajeev, Japneet Sandhu, Amelia Sansonetti, Isaac Sapazovski, Emilia Sforzato, Haleh Shamsa, Deevya Singh, Ashavn Singh, Maddyn Smith, Samuella Smith, Samuel Smith, Abraham Smith, Nikita Stefanile, Lakshy Sudarshan, Ethesha Sunilkumar, Tyson Tambolash, Jett Taormina, Francesca Trinidad, Mitch Tyson, Tori Vann, Ansh Vara, Meriel Varghese, Elie Victor, Jesse Vinci, Joshua Virgona, Mia Vitacca, Linda Vrkcic, Lucas Wan, Ava Westgarth, Ace Whitnall, Rachael Williams, Mackenzie Young, Benjamin Zychla

Years 7 - 12

Jade Adolph, Adrijan Ajvazovski, Rami Al Saiegh, Ramzi Al-Moghrabi, Kushal Anand, Olivia Antonello, Peter Arsov, Michael Bains, Christian Baratang, Jarryd Cairns, Jayde Caracella, Marcus Caruana, Jayle Cavus, Munashe Chagumaira, Chirag Charan Singh, Helsen Cross, Gabriella Cvetkova, Megha Das, Grace Demarte, Artemis Economakis, Alexis Fernando, Harrison Freeman, Rocky Gentile, Jordan Gorsevski, Jack Graham, Dina Gris, Joshua Guest, James Gurtler, Jordan Hare, Blake Harris, Ross Hatzis, Eric Hatzis, Alida Hemmatjoo, Brent Holmberg, Mitchell Huggins, Jett Humphreys, Andre Ialongo, Ivana Ilic, Lachlan Isgro, Joshua Johnson, Naomi Kelada, Tiwanthya Konara Mudiyansele,

George Kounelakis, Felicity Loutas, Madeline Mangos, Jonas Markovski, Zainab Masalawala, Mustafa Masalawala, Jamie-Lee Mathews, Ethaniel Mhute, Michael Mileto, David Miseski, Victoria Papaioannou, Gavin Peasnell, Claudia Pironi, Cassandra Rukweza, Stefan Santinon, Liana Savanjika, Sankirth Sunil, Izel Tekin, Angelo Thomas, Mustafa Tohow, Julian Trampevski, Jacob Trampevski, Tegan Woods

2017 Enrolments

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

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

10th Year Anniversary Calendar and Pin

2016 marks a very special year in the history of Marymede Catholic College as we look back and celebrate our first 10 full years of existence. A period of time which has seen many exciting developments and large amounts of growth culminating in the strong and proud community which we are all a part of today.

In recognition of this event, all families will be provided with a 2016 calendar which will be sent home via the eldest child in each family this week. Additionally, in the coming weeks, all students from Prep – Year 12 will receive their 10th Year Anniversary pin which is to be worn on Years 7-12 blazers and Prep – Year 6 collars.

Family Contact Details

Should you have a change in contact details such as home address, phone numbers or email address, please contact the Main Office on 9407-9000 to submit the new information, alternatively you may also wish to email the change to registrar@marymede.vic.edu.au .

Email Addresses

Our College uses email as a major form of communication to families and will continue to do so in 2016. Please ensure that your family has supplied the College with a valid and current email address to avoid missing out on valuable information regarding news and events. It is a College requirement for all families to have a minimum of one valid, working email address. To submit an email address or check your existing email address, please contact the College or email registrar@marymede.vic.edu.au

School Bus Service

Any family interested in using the College Bus service should visit www.marymede.vic.edu.au to gain information on the service, or alternatively contact the Main Office on 9407-9000.

Mr Matthew Luczek
Registrar

CANTEEN NEWS

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome new students and families to Marymede. The following information is a friendly reminder to our existing families and hope that our new families find the following information helpful.

Lunch orders are ordered on line via flexischools.com.au . Once you have added your child's details and payment details, you are then ready to place your child's lunch order. Orders can be processed up until 9pm the night before you require lunch. **(As we are in the summer months please note that chocolates ordered with hot food will melt)** We will not be able to process lunch orders manually - this is the only way lunch orders will be accepted. If you require any further assistance, please contact flexischools on 1800.....

For our senior students, ordering your lunch online enables you to customise your lunch, eg, wraps/sandwiches/hot foods and allows you to order items other than what is available during lunch service.

Students from Year 4 upwards are also able to use their student card at the Canteen which eliminates the need to carry cash. To be able to use student cards at the canteen you **MUST** register your child's card number and payment details on line via:

<http://www.flexischools.com.au/>

Lastly, we would like to thank the following volunteers that are assisting us again this year - Anna Chiodo, Carol La Porta, Effie Gvero, Laura Colella, Mary Pini, Mel Scrimizzi, Michelle Nardoza and Mitra Accaputo. We would also like to thank Coral De Fazio who has volunteered to help us again this year even though she now has no children attending Marymede.

The Canteen is always in need of volunteers and it is a great way to meet new people. It does not necessarily have to be a full day. A couple hours of your time would be greatly appreciated. Pop in to the Canteen for a chat if you think

During the 2016 Lent period, the College Canteen will not be selling (Over counter or Online) any meat items to staff or students on Ash Wednesday (10 February) and each Friday (from 12 February to 18 March).

During these period the canteen will be selling Sushi, Rice paper rolls, Fish Burgers and Fish Wraps, Pizza, Sandwiches, Rolls etc.

All other days the regular Canteen Menu will apply.

Ms Kate Quinn and Mrs Connie Ibrahim
Canteen Managers