



28 February 2019

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

In the week beginning Sunday 10 March, all Catholic Schools in Victoria will be celebrating Catholic Education Week. The theme this year is 'Growing Young in Christ'.

Our Director of Faith and Mission P-12, Ms Julia Wake, our Primary Religious Education Coordinator, Ms Laetitia Malusu and a group of Primary and Secondary students will take part in the celebration held in the city on Friday week, which will include Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

At Marymede Catholic College, we take seriously our primary purpose of nurturing our students' faith. Christian teaching is central to our work and the challenge for us is to continually ensure it is included in all we do.

### Year 12 Retreat

I attended the Year 12 Retreat in Phillip Island last Tuesday and was impressed with the way our students embraced their 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 12s as they face the challenges of their final year of schooling.

### SAC Season

Our senior students who are undertaking the VCE course have recently commenced their School Assessed Coursework (SACs), which in Units 3 and 4 form part of their final study score. I encourage parents to talk with their sons and daughters about how they are managing their first SACs. Rather than leaving them to cope on their own, encourage and support them. The Year 12 journey should be travelled together for the whole year rather than the last few weeks.

### House Welcome BBQs – 5 & 13 March

A reminder that our House Welcome BBQs are coming up in the next fortnight. It is a great opportunity for our Marymede families and staff to come together as a school community. I look forward to meeting our new families and chatting with our existing ones.

### Staff News

I introduced all of our new staff in the previous Newsletter. I am pleased to report that they have all settled quickly into our College and are making strong connections with your sons and daughters. The upcoming House BBQs will give parents a good opportunity to say hello.

### Family Holidays

I fully support the importance that families place on taking time to go away on holidays together. In the hustle and bustle of our everyday commitments, having the chance to spend time together can often bring the family unit closer. I also understand that it is not always possible to take leave from work in the school holidays.

I do feel it is important for me to say that from my experience, the best learning for your children takes place in the classroom with their teacher. In many cases, children have been disadvantaged, particularly in the senior years, by being absent from class for lengthy periods whilst away on a family holiday in term time.

I am happy to meet with any parent who wishes to discuss this matter further.

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

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS PREP – YEAR 12

### Prep Information Night

It was fantastic to see our so many parents in attendance at our Prep Information Evening last Monday. Our Literacy and Numeracy co-ordinators provided some great ideas and approaches to supporting their child's Mathematics learning at home and introduced the very successful PAIR reading program. The PAIR reading books were sent home with the Prep students earlier this week and aim to prepare students with essential reading foundations. Parents are strongly encouraged to read the books with their child each night and return them on Mondays to receive the next book in the program; by reading the same PAIR reader repeatedly, and using the questions and prompts, children will have the opportunity to develop deeper comprehension and literacy skills that benefit them in their long-term literacy development. If any parents were unable to attend the information evening, please feel free to contact your child's teacher by email to arrange a time to meet or to ask any questions.

### Student Forum Feedback

This week we shared with staff the insights that emerged from our Student Forum – a gathering of around 100 students from Years 5-12 – earlier this term. Through synthesising the ideas of the students, we explored a 'recipe' of what students want in their learning & teaching experiences, classroom experiences and their social and emotional development.

#### Students identified that they valued the following:

##### *Classroom Management & Student-Teacher Relationships:*

- Finding the balance between discipline & engagement
- Teachers exercising control of the classroom
- Positive reinforcement
- Teachers actively managing group dynamic
- Teachers being alert, aware & approachable
- Respectful relationships between teachers and students
- Teachers modelling enthusiasm and engagement in the classroom.

##### *Learning & Teaching:*

- Teachers fostering positive motivation
- Engaging learning experiences – catering to learning styles of students
- A degree of student choice/voice in their learning
- Effective use of technology
- Transparently purposeful and connected learning
- Well organised and purposeful homework and assessment
- Meaningful differentiation

They also offered insights into a range of the challenges facing students and the importance of students building resilience and learning to manage pressure, as well as the importance of developing positive relationships with their peers.

The staff were very impressed with the honesty, reflection and maturity of the students' contributions and we will continue to explore ways utilise the feedback to continue to enhance our programs and practices. We are also looking for opportunities to host regular student forums on a variety of other topics throughout this year.

**Ms. Tracey Kift**

**Deputy Principal – Learning & Teaching P-12**

## DIRECTOR OF FAITH AND MISSION

### Project Compassion 2019

Project Compassion, Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal is an extraordinary, ongoing demonstration of the faith, love and generosity of the Catholic congregation and caring supporters throughout Australia to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Marymede Catholic College is proud to annually support Caritas during Lent.

This year the theme is **100% Hope – Lives change when we all give 100%**. Giving 100%, could be in our time, in our energy and in what we can afford financially. A group of 5 students representing Marymede, will attend an Archdiocesan launch at St Monica's College, Epping and be commissioned by Archbishop Peter Comensoli as Social Justice leaders on Tuesday 5 March.

Starting on Ash Wednesday 6 March, students across the College will work on promoting justice and supporting our brothers and sisters around the world who are living in poverty. Over the next few weeks students will learn more about how to donate to Project Compassion.

### Year 12 Retreat

Early this week our Year 12 students embarked on a three day retreat to Phillip Island. The focus of the retreat was around 'Relationships...with care,' those we share with our friends, parents, family, teachers and God. The retreat was an opportunity for the students to reflect on their goals and dreams for the future and reinforce that care in relationships can help you on your journey. The teachers and guests who attended shared their own insights and journey, facilitating open and honest communication amidst the Year 12 students. We thank Mr Michael Kenny, Fr John Murphy and special guest Fr Rob Galea for their significant input.

### Ash Wednesday – the beginning of Lent

Our community will acknowledge the beginning of the season of Lent – 40 days of fasting, reflecting on how we might be 'missing the mark' in our lives, from Wednesday 6th March. Ashes will be distributed in the following ways:

- Community Mass, 8.00am Chapel of the Anunciation. (This mass will be followed by Reconciliation).

- Secondary House Liturgies 9.00 – 9.30am.
- Primary Year Level Liturgies throughout the day.

Please note that there will be no meat based items for sale in the school canteen on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent (commencing from Friday 8th March and concluding on Friday 5th April), which are days of fasting and abstinence.

## Upcoming Faith & Mission Events

- Shrove Tuesday & Project Compassion Launch – 5 March
- Ash Wednesday – 6 March
- Chisholm Feast Day – 14 March
- Catholic Education Week – 10 – 15 March
- St Patricks Day School’s Mass at the Cathedral – 15 March

**Ms Julia Wake**

**Director of Faith and Mission**

## DIRECTORS OF STUDENTS

### College House BBQs

Marymede Catholic College warmly invites your family to attend our upcoming House BBQ’s. These BBQ’s are an excellent opportunity to meet with teachers and other families in your house, reinforcing the partnership between home and school.

### MARCELLIN, CHISHOLM & CHANEL HOUSE BBQ

**Date:** Tuesday March 5

**Time:** 5.30pm – 7.00pm

**Venue:** Primary Oval

### McAULEY, ROMERO & McCORMACK HOUSE BBQ

**Date:** Wednesday March 13

**Time:** 5.30pm – 7.00pm

**Venue:** Primary Oval

In addition to this great community event – students in Prep will receive their ‘House Welcome Certificate’ whilst Year 7 students will receive their Year 7 Badge. For more information please view the attached flyer or contact the College.

**Parent Volunteers:** calling for volunteers who could assist with cooking and preparations for either of the House BBQs from 2.15pm please contact Melinda Muir @ melinda.muir@marymede.vic.edu.au thank you.

**Mrs. Melinda Muir**

**Director of Students Year 5 - 8**

## SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

### Year 10 Challenge Camp 2019

Most of our Year 10’s headed off to the surrounds of Eildon from 13 – 15 February to kick off the year with initiative, team-building and problem solving activities based in the Outdoors. Well supported by teachers who like camping and Outdoor Education Group staff, our students applied

themselves to hiking, mountain bike riding, camping, cooking and rafting on the mighty Goulburn River. Here are some reactions to the question, ‘What are you most proud of?’

- Being able to ‘cook’ something using a wok and pot outdoors with ingredients.
- Completing all of the activities and helping others.
- I am most proud of completing the 10km hike back to camp Eildon.
- I am mostly proud of how I managed to complete some of the challenging activities like the hiking and the bike riding.
- Just doing it and going through it because I was really uncomfortable about going to the year 10 challenge camp I feel very proud about doing this. It was really fun and I had a lot of fun with my mates and doing the activities.
- I’m more comfortable sleeping in a tent.
- I was very proud I was not hungry during a many points during the camp. Being a picky eater, I’m glad I gave something out of each meal a go.
- Me getting a little bit out of my comfort zone and learning something from myself and my peers around others like sitting around a light at night and before we left I spent a minute saying something I hope was inspiration to other members of the group and shared my wisdom.
- I am most proud of adapting to my surroundings quickly which allowed me to really enjoy camp.



**Ms Julia Wake**

### Supporting Year 7 – 12 students with their learning

A weekly lifestyle planner may support students with their learning by setting aside designated time for homework and study, and balancing this with their recreational activities and family time. The state government recommends that students in Year 7 set aside one hour per night specifically designated to homework and/or study. This time increases each year, where Year 10 – 12 students are expected to be completing 1 – 3 hours per night, with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak VCE times. During homework and study sessions, students should be sitting at a table/desk in an open area, and not accessing electronic devices such as smart phones and watches, which are often distractions.

The Mathematics department ‘Maths Support’ sessions for students in Years 7 – 12 have started for this year, and have been advertised to students via the daily messages on SIMON. If you would like further information, please contact your child’s

Mathematics teacher or Mathematics Domain Leader, Mr Vinodh Narasimhan.



**MATHS SUPPORT @ MARYMEDE**  
 A chance for students in Years 7-12 to get some extra support in Maths before and after School each week!  
**YEARS 7 - 9**  
 WEDNESDAYS @ 3.30PM & THURSDAYS @ 7.30AM  
 ROOM VC119  
**YEARS 10 - 12 (A.K.A THE 40+ CLUB!)**  
 MONDAY - FRIDAY @ 7.30AM & WEDNESDAYS @ 3.30PM  
 ROOM VC119  
SOME BOOKINGS MAY APPLY. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL LINDSAY.COOPER@MARYMEDE.VIC.EDU.AU OR VISIT THE LINK ABOVE!



A COMPLETE EDUCATION

Ms Richardson has also started her English AIM sessions for Year 12 students early this term, and will be supported by Ms Lanza, Ms Smith and Ms Callanan. These sessions run every Wednesday from 3.30pm – 4.30pm in the Upper VCE building. Please contact Ms Megan Richardson if you would like further information.

For any learning and teaching matters, please contact your child's class teacher and they will endeavour to get back to you at their earliest convenience.

**Ms Nikole Cymbalak**  
**Learning & Teaching Coordinator Year 7 – 12**

### VCAL Classes

On 19 February the two Year 11 VCAL classes attended their first excursion. After an hour-long journey from Middle Gorge station to Melbourne Central, students made their way to the Bourke Street Mall Pancake Parlour. The purpose of this visit was to conduct market research for an upcoming Shrove Tuesday morning tea for the staff. Students were encouraged to seek inspiration and ideas on presentation, organisation and customer service for the event which is scheduled for early next month. Following the sumptuous start to the day, students boarded the 86 tram to the Docklands precinct where they all had a chance to ride the Melbourne Star; for many it was their first experience on this famous Melbourne attraction to take in the breath-taking 360 degree view of our beautiful city. After a short break for lunch and time to explore, students were once again reunited for a fun afternoon of ice-skating at O'Brien arena. For some, the task proved challenging as it was difficult to navigate the ice even after a complimentary lesson, but perseverance proved to be the key to most students achieving some level of skating prowess. The day was not only an important bonding experience for the two groups, but it also helped everyone to acquire some vital skills in teamwork needed for the rigours of the Marymede VCAL course. Thank you to Ms. Hack and Ms. Bluett for organising this outing and to Ms. Bedford for coming along to assist.



**Written by Preetpal Gill on behalf of:  
 Ms Kelly Hack and Ms Sharon Bluett's  
 VCAL groups**

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

### House Cross Country

The year 4, 5 and 6 students have already participated in the annual Marymede House Cross Country. Points are awarded to the top 20 place getters and the results are as follows:

- Year 4:** 1st Place- Chisholm
- Year 5:** 1st Place- Romero
- Year 6:** 1st place- Chisholm



### Bridge Inn Swimming Sports

Last Tuesday the Marymede swim team participated in the Interschool Swimming Sports at Watermarc Aquatic Centre. Marymede were very successful across all events and won 5 out of 6 50metre relay events. The students who progressed will compete at the Division Finals at Northcote Aquatic Centre on March 5. We wish them the best of luck.



### Melbourne United Basketball Clinic

The year 3 students were fortunate to have a basketball clinic run by Warrick Giddy from Melbourne United. Warrick will be back later in the term to see the remainder of the Year 3 students.



**Ms Liz Miles**  
**Primary Sport Assistant**

## WHOLE SCHOOL

### The Lion King Jr. Final Week of Auditions

The Artistic Team of *The Lion King Jr.* would like to thank the 110 students who are currently auditioning. Last week, we were delighted to hear the vocal auditions. We were particularly impressed by the number of students auditioning solo – a record for Marymede Catholic College.



Just like sporting team tryouts, auditions are an opportunity for us to help pick our “team”. Even though we would like to include everyone, we cannot. Over these final days of auditions, we are looking for:

- The auditionees’ dedication to rehearsing and improving.
- The auditionees’ ability to independently access information, wear the right thing, be on time etc.
- The auditionees’ resilience and recovery when things maybe don’t go to plan!
- The auditionees’ ability to follow instructions and treat others with kindness and respect.

A reminder of the final key dates for auditions:

- **Optional** Dance Revision Session for any student auditioning Thursday 28th February Lunchtime in PA013.
- **Compulsory** Thursday 28 February 3.30pm-5pm Years 5-9 Dance Audition Part #2 in PA013
- **Selected students only** (you were emailed Monday 25 February if required) Friday 1 March 3.30-5.00pm The Lion King Jr. Callbacks) SS010

Parents and guardians of students auditioning are reminded to please proactively support your child through the process. All audition communication is via email directly to the students involved. Please ask them to forward you the email, and go through key information together. Support from home is a key part of the process, so thank you for your support.

Casting will take place over this weekend.

**Ms Angie Bedford**  
**Cultural Co-Curricular Coordinator Prep – Year 12**  
**Teacher of Performing Arts and VCAL Personal Development Skills**



## PARENT'S AND FRIENDS

### Welcome

The Parents and Friend Committee would like to welcome all families back to the 2019 school year. A big thank you to all the parents, teachers and friends who assisted the P&F last year in what was a fantastic year.

Mother's day stalls, colour run, Father's day BBQ, Fete and many more fantastic fundraisers that the P&F held. Thank you to the committee members who put in a lot of time and effort into preparing these fundraisers. We look forward to a fun filled year ahead.

The AGM for this year will be held on the 26 March. More info to follow

If you have any questions or would like to become a member of the P&F committee, please email the [paf@marymede.vic.edu.au](mailto:paf@marymede.vic.edu.au) and we will respond to your queries.

### The Parents and Friends Committee

## COMMUNITY MASS

