



19 November 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

The VCE Units 3 & 4 Exams are well under way and I take this opportunity to congratulate the students for the level of commitment they have shown to their studies over the last few trying weeks. Thank you to our VCE Coordinator, Mr. Vincenzo Rovetto, for his efforts in ensuring that the examinations have run so smoothly.

2021 Primary Student Leadership

Congratulations to Anna Mathew and Karthik Aramugam on being appointed Primary School Captains for next year. There were a number of high-quality students who applied which made the task of shortlisting extremely difficult.

Congratulations also to the following students on being appointed House Leaders for next year:

Chanel

Renae Martin
Samuel Ristevski

Chisholm

Rehmat Hundal
Seth Popovski

McAuley

Olivia Seneca
Max Luong

McCormack

Tia Tsandefskis
Jake Bocevski

Marcellin

Yulia Trivailo
Jackson Caddy

Romero

Ava La Rosa
Matteo Madafferi

Years 5 & 6 School-based Camps

The College was forced to cancel our Years 5 & 6 camps this year as a result of the Government regulations which were introduced to stop the spread of coronavirus. We have planned over the next fortnight a two-day onsite camp experience for both year levels.

The dates for each camp are:

Year 5: 19-20 November
Year 6: 26-27 November

Thank you to Mrs Melinda Muir and the Years 5 and 6 staff for their efforts in planning this alternative camp experience for their students.

Year 7 2022 Enrolment Interviews

A big thank you to the staff who were involved last week with the after-school enrolment interviews for our current Marymede Year 5 students and their parents. The feedback from the staff confirmed to me that parents are very appreciative of the opportunities on offer for their son/daughter at our College.

2021 Prep Orientation

In place of the regular end of year orientation sessions, our Prep Transition Coordinator Ms Krystal Crichton and the Prep Transition Team have prepared an information pack and videos for the students and parents to watch at home. The mini-orientation sessions that have been recently held onsite have given the students a chance to see their new school and interact with a few of their new classmates.

I thank the staff involved in the welcoming of our 2021 Prep students and their families to our College.

Primary Celebrations of Learning / Secondary Awards

Our Primary Celebrations of Learning and Secondary Awards will take on a new format this year to ensure that the College is in line with the new Government regulations in regard to end of year celebrations. We are not able to have parents on campus this year. The Directors of Students will be in communication to outline how the celebrations will take place and be made available for parents to view (please also see Deputy Principal Mr Broadbent's article in this newsletter).

Next Newsletter

Our final Newsletter for 2020 will be emailed home on Friday 4 December. Staff members who will be leaving the College will be acknowledged and key dates for the start of the 2021 school year will be published.

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STAFF AND OPERATIONS PREP – YEAR 12

Awards Assemblies and Celebrations of Learning

At this time of year in a COVID-free year, Primary families would normally be receiving invitations to the Celebrations of Learning evenings and Secondary families to the Secondary Awards Night. While these evenings and parent attendance are not possible in 2020, we are grateful that restrictions have now eased enough to permit year-level assemblies to enable students to celebrate together the achievements of their peers and mark the conclusion of a most unique year. All students are required to be in full College Summer Uniform for their assembly and to be eligible for any awards to be presented their award as part of the ceremony.

For **Secondary students**, year-level assemblies will be held for a concluding liturgy and Awards Assembly to celebrate learning and the Advent season.

- **Tuesday 1 December** - Liturgy & Awards Assemblies for 2020 Year 10 & 11 students
- **Thursday 3 December** - Liturgy & Awards Assemblies for 2020 Year 7 – 9 students

For **Year 5-6 students**, their Celebrations of Learning and liturgy will be held as year-level assemblies on:

- **Wednesday 2 December** - Celebrations of Learning and liturgy for Year 6 students
- **Friday 4 December** - Celebrations of Learning and liturgy for Year 5 students

Each of the assemblies will be made available to families as a live or delayed video stream that will be open for families to view for a limited time. Links and timings for the assemblies will be sent in the days prior to the assemblies.

Students in **Prep – Year 4** have been preparing video presentations of their Celebrations of Learning to be released to homes on **the evening of Friday 4 December** to enable families to watch the celebrations together with their children at their leisure over the weekend.

Secondary Pickup & Drop-off zones

We have recently had a number of 'close calls' with students almost hit by cars and cars almost colliding in the Secondary drop-off / pickup area (via Gate E). All of these have been due to parents / carers attempting to pick up or drop-off their students in a traffic through-zone instead of using the designated safe places for your children to be picked up or dropped off.



Parents and families are asked to please prioritise the safety of your own and others' children ahead of convenience and a possible 30-second time saving in the carpark. Please only pick up or drop off your child in the designated areas:

- when parked in a marked parking bay; or
- when stationary in a marked yellow pick-up / drop-off zone (both adjacent to the soccer field); or
- when parked in a marked parking bay adjacent to the cricket/football oval (via Gate F).

Parents are also reminded to please respectfully follow all directions of the Yard Duty staff and to set the example of both safety in the carpark and courtesy when interacting with staff and other drivers.

Staying Safe & healthy

While Victoria has rightly celebrated many 'donut days' as the threat of COVID-19 subsides, DHHS reminds us that the threat has not disappeared. All members of our community are urged to follow the steps to stay safe whenever outside of our homes:



Families are also reminded that students who are unwell in any way must stay at home and are advised to seek a COVID-19 test and clearance prior to resuming attendance at school.

Even with a COVID-clearance, students may not resume attending school until they are symptom-free.

Mr David Broadbent
Deputy Principal Staff & Operations P-12

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP – YEAR 12

Learning Spotlight: Year 5 Travel Expo

COVID may have prevented us from indulging in much travel this year but that hasn't stopped our Year 5 students from exploring a country of choice, researching about famous landmarks, food and culture before showcasing their learning in an expo. Their fine group work was on show as they collaborated with peers in small groups to produce such fantastic work. I really enjoyed hearing about their learning, and they showed such pride in their creations. Congratulations to the Year 5 teaching team and the students for such commitment and creativity.

Examinations

Our VCE students commenced VCAA written examinations last week and Year 10 and 11 examinations began this week. I commend all students on their punctuality and conduct in presenting for exams and wish them every success throughout this assessment period. Their consistency and dedication throughout the year (even through the most trying of circumstances) and most recently shown during the revision period has been very impressive. Students in Year 10 and 11 may collect their marked examinations from recess on Friday 27 November and results will also be accessible to parents via the Parent Access Module (PAM)

2021 Commencement Classes

Following the confirmation of 2021 Academic Programs, students in Years 10 and 11 will commence the VCE Orientation program from Monday 23 November 2020. Students in Year 9 who will be studying a VCE subject as part of their 2021 Year 10 program will fully participate in the program this year.

All students are expected to attend the entire VCE commencement program as it will help students to start 2021 on the right foot. Critical VCE/Careers information and wellbeing sessions will also be included as part of the program, as will an 'Introduction to Edrolo' for students. Teachers will communicate holiday homework to students throughout the program. Parents are encouraged to discuss the Commencement Program with their son or daughter to ensure they are feeling supported in a key transition within their secondary education journey.

The final day of school for 2020 Year 10-11 students is Wednesday 1 December.

For current Year 7 – 9 students the final day is Friday 4 December.

Mrs Jessica Hall
Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12

DIRECTOR OF FAITH & MISSION

FRG Ministry Mass – Sunday 22 November, 10.00am

Fr Rob himself and the FRG team were very apologetic for what was unusual audio issues on Sunday 10 October and have rescheduled our students for Sunday 22 November. We hope you can join us again on this day. You can access the mass via here:

<https://www.frgministry.com/mass> at 10.00am on Sunday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Wednesday 4 November all Year 3 students participated in a Reflection day facilitated by Fr John and Sheryl, Author Andrew McDonough and Year 3 Teachers. It was a beautiful day of storytelling, reflecting on how we acknowledge when we have hurt others and how to seek forgiveness. Throughout this week many of our Year 3's will have experienced their first reconciliation administered by Fr John Murphy and Fr Martin Ashe. Alongside accessing Reconciliation in our Parishes (once permitted), students will have opportunities to access it each year through the ongoing Sacramental program. We thank our families who have contributed to the preparation of their child for this sacrament, honouring them as the first educators in faith.



Sacrament of Confirmation – Year 7, 2021

Many thanks to those who have responded to the recent notification of Liturgy timeslots for Confirmation on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 February 2021. We will be adhering to the indoor one person per 4m² COVID limits as advised and photography for day is being investigated.

There are some places available at the following times, if you are yet to respond on 'Operoo' (formerly Caremonkey):

Saturday 20 February: 11.00am & 12.30pm

The Year 6 Reflection Day will start a busy week for our Year 6 candidates on Monday 23 November. Students will explore the theme '*Be the Change you want to see in the world*' and rotate through workshops facilitated by Fr John Murphy, author Andrew McDonough via zoom, their Year 6 Teacher and Youth Minister Sheryl & alumni Marian.

Gamechangers 2021 – Youth Leadership and Ministry

As we farewell our Graduating REMAR Gold group (more about this group in the next newsletter), participants in this youth ministry and leadership program will be facilitating introduction workshops for our current Year 6's and Year 9's, providing an insight into what it is to step out of your comfort zone and develop skills for leadership, a desire to be of service and

establish healthy and positive relationships. More information can be found here:

<https://maristyouthministry.com/game-changers>

House Charity Christmas Appeal – can we reach our target for each House?

Each year we run a Christmas Appeal for CatholicCare in asking children to bring in Christmas goods that would suit a particular Refugee Family. This year is a bit different! Marymede has been used to promote the CatholicCare Giving Tree Appeal which is an on-line appeal for 2020. We thought we would extend this to our other House Charities so that we can continue the campaign that began with Marymede Day in August. We have approximately 300 families in each House, so if every family was able to donate \$5, we would meet the target of \$1500.

Donation Page Info

MARCELLIN:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/maristsolidarity>

CHANEL:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/catholicmission>

CHISHOLM:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/chisholmbasp>

McAULEY:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/mercyworks>

McCORMACK: (All funds raised will go to the Giving Tree Appeal)

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/catholiccare>

ROMERO:

<https://www.trybooking.com/au/donate/houseofwelcome>

Many thanks to our Year 11 VCAL Students who have provided the promotion material for the Houses.



Upcoming Faith & Mission Events:

- Community Mass every Wednesday during term, 8.00am via Marymede Facebook.
- FRG Ministry Mass on YouTube with Marymede Musicians: **Sunday 22 November, 10.00am.**
<https://www.frgministry.com/mass>
- Year 6 Reflection Day: **Monday 23 November**
- Student Leaders Gathering on-line: **Monday 23 – Tuesday 24 November**
- Year 7 Reflection Day: **Monday 30 November**
- Year 9 Reflection Day: **Wednesday 2 December**
- Advent Liturgies: Tuesday 1 December – **Friday 4 December**

- House Charity Christmas Appeal – Term 4

Ms Julia Wake

Director of Faith & Mission

DIRECTORS OF STUDENTS

Year 12 Graduation Celebrations 2020

As our Year 12 students are now well into exams, or work or whatever the next step in life is for them, it was fortunate that the easing of restrictions allowed this group to graduate together. Having missed so much throughout the year due to the pandemic, a lot was crammed into the final days of school. Acknowledgement of what this cohort has contributed to the Marymede community over the years, began with a House gathering followed by Tutor Group celebrations on the afternoon of Thursday, November 29.

With government restrictions in place, we had to be creative in how the Year 12 students could share in their celebrations with the Marymede community. The Year 12s final day began early with breakfast prior to the Costume Parade which was streamed live into classrooms across the College and at home to parents. It was great to see the effort and enthusiasm students went to with costumes from Disney Princesses, the Jamaican Bobsled Team and Teletubbies to Dan Andrews and his 'side-kick', Jenny Mikakos.

The Mock Assembly that preceded was an opportunity for students to let their hair down and have a laugh at events during school journey. A big thank you must go to Ms Richardson and the team of students who put together this event.

With easing of restrictions announced in the final week for Year 12s, it was fortunate that we were able to witness the Year 12s coming together as a cohort for their final Graduation Ceremony and shared with family and friends at home via a live stream. Spectacularly dressed, students arrived early for photos before processing into the Fitness Centre in House groups lead by their House Captains for one final time. Seated in a socially distanced arrangement, staff and students engaged in a liturgy organised by Ms Wake and Year 12 students followed by the presentation of Graduation Certificates and the announcement of Academic Excellence and Australian Defence Force Awards.

Each year the ADF recognises two Year 12 students who have demonstrated a set of selection criteria above that of their peers. This year we congratulate Mustafa Masalawala who received the Year 12 Future Innovators Award and Ann Anil as recipient of the Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award.

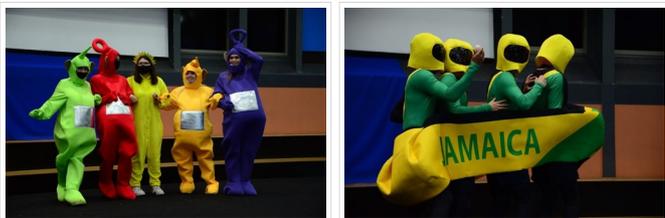
The 2020 Marian Award for a student's outstanding contribution to the life and mission of the College was Chloe Falzon whose "badges she wears so proudly demonstrate her commitment to this community, and more than that her presence and dedicated attitude have born witness to what this award is about".

The Marymede Medal is an Honour Board award and is presented to a student who is an exceptional model of service and Christian leadership. The 2020 recipient of this award was Jacob Leddin as "a quiet and humble achiever over the time

he's been at Marymede, demonstrating significant loyalty and pride in being a Marymede student".

The 2020 Graduation Ceremony was concluded by the College Captains of 2020, Ann Anil and Dimitrios Bachos with some inspirational words.

Many staff who I've spoken to agree that we unfortunately unable to see the best of what the graduating Class of 2020 had to offer this year, but know that we've provided a platform during their journey at Marymede to launch them into great things outside these school gates. God bless and good luck!



This is a group from the graduating Class of 2020 who have been together since kindergarten.

Mr David Brick
Director of Students (9-12)

STUDENT WELLBEING

Marymede's commitment to supporting our students' wellbeing has been demonstrated in many ways throughout 2020, including initiatives such as:

- Respectful Relationships
- START Up Weeks
- National Day of Action Against Bullying
- R u okay Day
- mindfulmay@marymede
- Remote learning Wellbeing Tasks
- Return to school Wellbeing support
- Transition to 2021 Actions

As we move into planning for 2021, wellbeing is still a priority. Therefore, Marymede has conducted the Australian Council for Education Research's (ACER) 'Social and Emotional Wellbeing Survey' with our students from Year 2 to Year 11.

ACER Social & Emotional Wellbeing Survey (SEW)

The SEW is an anonymous strength-based survey that provides Marymede with information about our students (whole school, specific year levels or targeted groups) that can be used to direct planning and problem-solving efforts to support wellbeing.

There is a Primary and a Secondary survey and each one measures:

- **Feeling & Behaviours** – positive and negative emotions & behaviours
- **Emotional Skills** – resilience, coping
- **Social Skills** – friendship, conflict

- **Values** -respect, trustworthiness, tolerance
- **Learning Skills** – work management, engagement
- **Perceptions** - of school, home and community life (Secondary only)

This information about our students will be very valuable after such a challenging year. We will keep you informed about how this data informs our Wellbeing actions in 2021.

Lisa Murray
Student Wellbeing P-6

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Instrumental Music Semester 1 2021

New enrolments for **Instrumental Music Semester 1 2021** are **now open** and will close on **Wednesday December 16, 2020**. If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument either privately or in a pair please contact Performing Arts Assistant - Ellen Lane ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au at the latest by **Monday December 14** for more information and enrolment procedure. Please note there is currently a wait list for some instruments as teachers may be at capacity with numbers.

Current students enrolled in Instrumental Music this year who no longer wish to continue please submit this request in writing to ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au or simply click **decline** on the Operoo (CareMonkey) enrolment form. The deadline was **Monday November 16, 2020** so if you wish to withdraw please do so ASAP. Current students not confirmed will unfortunately forfeit their place in the program.

Sessional Dance Semester 1 2021

New enrolments for **Sessional Dance Semester 1 2021** are now open and will close on **Wednesday December 16, 2020**. If your child is in Yr.5-12 next year and is interested in developing their dance talents please contact Performing Arts Assistant - Ellen Lane ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au by **Monday December 14, 2020** for more information and enrolment procedure.

We are excited to welcome Hip Hop teacher extraordinaire Dagogo Obogo to Sessional Dance 2021. As an in-demand and accomplished choreographer, Dagogo has choreographed and taught dance styles like Hip Hop, Commercial Jazz, various Cultural Dances and creative development classes in more than 100 schools and choreographed productions made up of more than 1,000 people for various school productions, carnivals, events and shows. Notorious for his creative choreography, Dagogo's strengths make him an incredibly inspiring and fun dance teacher. Dagogo always aims to make a student's day just a little brighter. He always gets the best out of the students as he brings inspiration, drama, dance and oh so much personality.



Those students already enrolled in Sessional Dance this year who no longer wish to continue please submit this request in writing to ellen.lane@marymede.vic.edu.au or simply click

decline on the Operoo (CarMonkey) enrolment form by no later than **Friday November 27**, otherwise the College assumes students will be participating under the same agreement for a full year and the next full semester fees will be payable. The information sheet outlining costs, terms and conditions can be accessed for those already enrolled via Operoo (CareMonkey) for reference.

Mr Jeremy Ives - Head of Performing Arts (P-12)
Ms Ellen Lane - Performing Arts and Co-Curricular Assistant

CO-CURRICULAR NEWS

School Production 2020/2021

The challenges of remote learning and lockdown have not stopped the High School Musical cast, who have persevered to rehearse remotely and in 'bubbles. It was also wonderful to see the full cast in costume recently for school photos. With the current limitations on group singing, some of the performers have jumped into the recording booth solo to lay down their vocals for our upcoming special presentation of the show. This is one of the many examples of the adaptability and resilience of these students – the Artistic and Production Team are so proud of this talented cast. We are hopeful that the final edit of our 'performance' live stream will be finished by the end of the year and look forward to its premiere.



We are also delighted to the digital announcement of our 2021 Junior Musical next week. We look forward to our 2021 Year 5 to 9 students showing us what they've got!



Ms Angie Bedford
Cultural Co-Curricular Coordinator P-12
Producer & Co-Director, High School Musical

FINANCE OFFICE

Footpath and Roadworks on Vincent Drive from November 30, 2020

Yarra Valley Water is installing a new sewer main on Vincent Drive, South Morang under the southern side footpath. These works will commence from the week beginning Monday November 30 for an expected duration of 2 months.

Traffic management for pedestrians and vehicles will be implemented as per the attached Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for duration of works (Monday to Friday 7.00 am to 5.00pm, Saturday 7.00am to 1.00pm)