



4 November 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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

It was wonderful to have all of our students back on campus yesterday. My sense from talking to a number of students is that they are very happy to be reunited with their friends and in many cases their teachers.

I ask our students to now set some goals for the remainder of the term. This may include becoming involved in class discussions and ensuring that all homework set is attempted.

Easing of COVID Restrictions

By now I am hoping all of our families are starting to enjoy the opportunity to get out and about in the community with the further easing of the COVID restrictions last Friday 29 October. My understanding is that the summer sports competitions will be resuming this weekend. This is great news for our students who love being involved in team sports.

I am also delighted that our planned Years 5 and Years 6 camps are now able to go ahead.

Unit 3/4 Exams

The VCE final exams are now into the second week for our senior students. This can be a difficult time for students and families, and I encourage parents to spoil their son or daughter with a favourite meal or simply to let them know how proud you are of them.

Year 10 and 11 Semester 2 Exams

The Years 10 and 11 students will begin their examination period in a little over a week's time. I strongly encourage our students to spend the lead-up time thoroughly revising, whether by going over notes, doing additional reading or attempting questions from past exam papers.

Secondary Awards and Primary Celebration of Learning

Our Secondary Awards and Primary Celebration of Learning will take on a similar format to last year and will be held during the school day and live streamed to our parents. The current Government regulations do not allow for large numbers to gather in an indoor venue.

The Directors of Students will be in communication to outline how the celebrations will take place and be made available for parents to view.

Wednesday Morning Community Mass

The recent decision by the Government to relax the COVID restrictions will now allow double vaccinated members of our Marymede community to attend our Community Mass at 8.00am each Wednesday. I look forward to seeing our regular parishioners back in our Chapel of Annunciation next week.

Student Grooming

In my time at the College, we have had a strong focus on students' wearing the Marymede uniform with pride and meeting the College's grooming standards. I take this last opportunity to thank the vast majority of parents for the way your son/daughter has returned to school wearing their school uniform and being neatly groomed.

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STAFF AND OPERATIONS PREP – YEAR 12

A COVID-normal return to school activities

For the first time since 5 August, we have finally been reunited as a whole school, with all year levels on-campus together this week. The latest School Operations Guide has also indicated we will be able to resume year level assemblies, liturgies, incursions, excursions, camps, co-curricular activities and more – such as the Book Week Parade – all with COVID safe

measures in place. Planning for many of these activities is now resuming – including for an abridged performance of our middle-years production of Moana Jr that will have a live student-only audience in the week starting 6 December. Parents and carers will receive communications about these events in coming weeks, including plans for making available a video of the Moana Jr performance for families.

Due to the density requirements, the traditional Celebrations of Learning evenings will be in-school events only, to be streamed for families at home (as occurred in 2020). At present, these are planned for:

- Years 8 & 9 Thursday 2 December, 9.00 – 11.00am
- Year 7 Thursday 2 December, 12.30 – 1.30pm
- Year 10 & 11 Friday 3 December, 9.00 – 11.00am
- Year 5 & 6 Monday 6 December, 11.30am – 1.30pm

COVIDsafe measures

Recent success in managing infectious COVID cases onsite highlights the success of combined measures to keep students and staff safe at school:

1. Face Masks
2. Social distancing
3. Ventilation
4. Vaccination (over 90% of Yr 12 students)

Parents can continue to support the health of our community through supporting the COVIDsafe measures the school has in place, and by ensuring that if your child has any of the symptoms below, that they stay home and receive a COVID test:

- loss or change in sense of smell or taste
- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose

The results of the COVID test should be sent to nurse@marymede.vic.edu.au prior to your child returning to school. Parents / carers of any students isolating as Close Contact / Tier 1 exposure should also email their Day 13 negative test result prior to your child returning to school.



Ongoing measures the school is taking to keep your children safe include:

- Wearing of face masks
 - All staff, all adults and all students in Years 3 – 12 are required to wear a face mask indoors at all times
 - Prep – Year 2 students are also strongly encouraged to wear a face mask when indoors.
 - Parents and carers conducting drop-off and pick-up who are unable to maintain social distance should also wear a face covering
- All parent & guardian access to the campus is restricted and all parent involvement with activities on-campus is restricted for the foreseeable future.
- Parents and visitors may only enter a school building if they show proof of being fully vaccinated and QR code registration
- Extended cleaning arrangements are already in place and will continue.
- No eating is permitted indoors
- Staff are encouraged to open windows whenever the weather suits and all air-conditioners are used on the 'fresh air' cycle only.
- Air purifiers have been installed into all primary and Year 7 classrooms, the exam centres, many secondary classrooms and any other spaces with limited ventilation.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the entrance to every building and posters advising students how to maintain good hygiene practices and effective hand washing are posted throughout the school in all bathrooms.
- All staff and contractors are required to have received at least one vaccination
- Staff and students are being kept in year-level 'bubbles' as much as possible

We thank parents and carers for your continuing support and understanding of the measures taken to protect all community members and continue to offer our prayers for the COVID-affected families in the Marymede community.

Starting dates for 2022

The College calendar for 2022 currently has the start dates for students as follows:

Monday 31 January:	Meet the teacher (Prep); Year 1-6 Testing
Tuesday 1 February:	Year 7 & 12 (inc. Year 11 Unit 3) first day Meet the teacher (Prep); Year 1-6 Testing
Wednesday 2 February:	Year 1 – 6 & Year 8 – 11 first day Prep first day (half-day)

Pop-up vaccination at Marymede: 19 November

It was great to be able to contribute to the increasing levels of vaccination in our area on 22 October when welcoming a number of families wishing to obtain a vaccination. To further assist families who require their second (or booster!) vaccination or have as yet been unable to book a vaccination, Marymede Catholic College is pleased to be partnering with a local medical provider to offer families the choice to receive a COVID vaccination. As indicated in previous College communications, the choice to be vaccinated is a family choice: this opportunity is purely voluntary and will require parental consent for all minors.

From 8.30am - 1.30pm on Friday 19 November, a clinic will be set up in the Marymede Fitness Centre for trained nurses to deliver the Moderna vaccine (privacy screens will be in place).

Please see these attachments for information regarding the Moderna vaccine:

At present, this opportunity will be open to all Marymede family members: students over 12 (with parental consent), older siblings and parents. Families will be able to book an appointment together and there will be vaccination advice, opportunity to ask questions and screening prior to delivering any vaccination. Students may attend their vaccination without a parent/carer if at least one parent / carer fills in the following consent forms:

Bookings are made on a per-family basis. i.e. only one booking per family is required. Please use the following link (via PAM) to make your **Moderna vaccination** booking.

BOOKING YOUR VACCINATION via PAM

- Select 'Present teacher Interviews'
- Select one of your children
- Select '**Online Vaccination Booking**' (*may be at base of screen below PSG*)
- Select Tutor Group
- Select your time (*only one time per family is required*)

Short videos to clearly answer many common questions about vaccines are available on the "Asked & answered" page on the Vax Facts website. Other reliable sources provided included:

- Melbourne Vaccine Education Centre (MVEC):
<https://mvec.mcri.edu.au/covid-19/>

- Vaccine information available in a variety of languages can be found here - Translated information about COVID-19 | Coronavirus Victoria with some additional resources here - Coronavirus (healthtranslations.vic.gov.au)



Mr David Broadbent
Deputy Principal Staff & Operations P-12

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP – YEAR 12

Progressive Achievement Testing (PAT)

With students now returning full time on campus we will begin our annual Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) in Mathematics, Reading and Social Emotional Wellbeing. PAT tests are designed to assess each student's current capability against the appropriate standard for their age.

Unlike NAPLAN, the PAT assessments do not generate a student/parent report; however, student data is available to our teachers and is a valuable source of information on each student's development. We use PAT data as one of the many tools to assess student progress and growth. Teachers also use the results to track each student's development from year to year. This information is another useful tool for identifying those students who require extra support or extension in their studies.

The PAT testing process will be explained to all students and should not be seen as a stressful "pass or fail" assessment. Students will be encouraged to view the tests as a way for teachers to learn more about their capabilities and then design learning programs that enhance their learning.

More information and resources relating to PAT testing can be found at the link below.

<http://www.acer.org/au/pat>

2022 Booklists

Atlas Educational has merged into Champion Education and they will be our resource provider this year. There will be both a home delivery and in store collection option from their new store in Thomastown. Booklists for 2022 will be published via PAM and further information sent home about the ordering process next week.

Mrs Jessica Hall
Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12

CO-CURRICULUM

With the return of face-to-face learning, we are thrilled to be able to offer our co-curriculum program for the remainder of the year. Please see timetable attached for weeks 5 & 6. Students interested in returning to small group or project-based activities (such as robotics, sewing, etc.) are encouraged to contact their activity leader in advance as numbers are limited.

Congratulations to Romero (Primary) and Chanel (Secondary) who are still holding their lead in the House Shield Competition. Remember, there is still time for students to boost their house points and win the shield for 2021! We encourage all students to participate in a co-curricular activity to explore and grow their own interests and skills and enhance their school experience.

HOUSE SHIELD LEADERBOARD Updated 29/10/2021



PRIMARY	
1st	ROMERO
2nd	CHISHOLM
3rd	MCAULEY
4th	CHANEL
5th	MCCORMACK
6th	MARCELLIN

SECONDARY	
1st	CHANEL
2nd	MCAULEY
3rd	MARCELLIN
4th	MCCORMACK
5th	CHISHOLM
6th	ROMERO

Melanie Wason
Co-Curricular Assistant

RESOURCE CENTRE

Book Week Book Fair



From Monday 8 November to Thursday 11 November, the Resource Centre will hold its annual Book Fair. Items are supplied by Lamont, one of our regular sources of books for our students. The collection is aimed at Primary and Lower Secondary students. As well as books, small items such as fancy pens, and erasers are also available for a small price.

Students will view the books at school and bring home a form for parents to approve purchases and complete payment on the online portal

- COVID-safe payments are made through an online portal for items to be purchased from a Lamont Book Fair at the school

- Once you have made payment you will receive a confirmation and a copy of your payment receipt by email
- Your child will need to bring a copy of the payment receipt to school and redeem it for their chosen items at the Lamont Book Fair.
- Forms and receipts must be redeemed before the Book Fair ends on **Thursday 11 November** to avoid the items being returned to Lamont
- Cash will not be handled at the school

Please note that Marymede will appear in the school list on the portal from 8 November.

Marie O'Brien
Resource Centre

PERFORMING ARTS

Instrumental Music Semester 1 2022 – Re-enrolment for current students

Students currently enrolled in the Instrumental Music program are asked to please confirm or decline their re-enrolment for Semester 1 2022 (Terms 1 & 2) via the Operoo online enrolment form by this Friday 5th November.

Parents/Guardians are asked to please check their email for the link to the 2022 Instrumental Music Lessons -Semester 1 Enrolment form. Current students not confirmed by 5th November will unfortunately forfeit their place in the program for next year. Enrolments for new students will be announced after this date.

Ellen Lane
Performing Arts Assistant