

St Mary MacKillop

Dignity: The Year of St Joseph

"Treat everyone you meet with dignity." (1 Peter 2:17)

NEWS

INSIDE

Vision

As partners in Catholic education and open to God's presence, we pursue fullness of life for all.

Mission

At St Mary MacKillop College we are people who affirm the dignity of every person, who act with respect and compassion, who reverence relationships, who have hearts for generosity and forgiveness.

We celebrate our Catholic identity.

We respect the unique dignity, faith and gifts of each person.

We value learning, aspiration and connectedness and we work together to create a positive future.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

There has been a buzz around the school these past few weeks with a number of activities for students to take part in. Last week we had the Year 8 students participate in a half day program that was centred around goal setting, and our Year 7 students spent three days getting to know each other better on camp in Roses Gap. I was fortunate to have been able to join the Year 7's for a few hours on Thursday. I was impressed by the wonderful attitudes of the students to give all of the activities a go. They were having a great time together.

When I returned to school I learned of the winning efforts of our Year 9 and 10 students who attended the Science and Engineering Challenge. Although our students have been attending Science and Engineering Challenges for a few years, thanks to the MMLLEN this event has been held in Swan Hill for the past two years. It is wonderful to be able to participate in such a worthwhile activity without having to travel long distances. Thank you to MMLLEN for organising this event.

On Monday this week we celebrated our Year 7 students and welcomed their families at the annual Basket Tea. Although we had to postpone this event for a couple of weeks, we had a large number of our Year 7 families attend. I hope that everyone was able to meet someone new, put a face to the names of friends that your children are making and understand more about how our school operates.

Friday, 5 March, 2021

- Faith Matters
- From the Deputy Principal
- Year 11 & 12 Parent Student Teacher Interviews
- Year 7 Teacher Advisor Interviews
- Teaching and Learning

ABSENCE NOTIFICATION

PH: 5032 9771

Press 2

FUTURE EVENTS

MARCH

- | | |
|--|--|
| Mon 8 th | Public Holiday |
| Tues 9 th | White Card Training |
| Wed 10 th | Year 7 & 10 Immunisations |
| Thurs 11 th | Year 7 Parent Student TA Interviews |
| Tues 16 th | Year 11 & 12 Parent Student Teachers Interview |
| Thurs 18 th | LMR Swimming |
| Wed 24 th – Fri 26 th | Year 11 VCAL Camp |
| Mon 29 th – Thurs 1 st | Year 8 Camp
Year 10 A Work Experience |
| Thurs 1 st | Last Day of Term 1 |



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week has been a busy week for our Year 10 students as they participated in programs on Tuesday called Flourish Girls and Man Cave. The feedback has been excellent and the students responded well. On Friday the Year 10s then participated in a study skills workshop called Elevate. This program will be utilised in the Year 10 Pathways classes this year, with the hope that our students feel well prepared for VCE and VCAL in Year 11.

On the sporting front, the students have had the opportunity this week to compete in a sport at the annual inter-school Summer Sports competition. Students compete against teams from Swan Hill College, Kerang Technical High School and Cohuna Secondary College. Due to the short lock down in February, the Swan Hill Regional Swimming Carnival was also postponed and students that swam particularly well at our own swimming carnival were able to compete this week at this next level. Well done to all students involved on your efforts and great sportsmanship.

These activities cannot happen without the wonderful organisation and participation of the staff. As well as committing to these extra-curricular activities the staff have been maintaining their everyday classroom programs. We are blessed to be in a community where all of the staff have our students' wellbeing at the core of everything that they do. Thank you especially to Mrs Mandy McCallum (Director of Wellbeing), Mr Damien Hirst (Transition Coordinator and Camps and Activities Coordinator), Mr Chris Joyce (Sports Coordinator and House Leader), Mrs Jaclyn Clark (Curriculum Leader Science), Mr Nathan Lane (Deputy Principal Teaching & Learning), Mrs Catherine Howison (Deputy Principal), Mr Joel Murphy, Miss Ebonee Gurnett and Miss Jess Curtis (House Leaders) for all of their leadership, as well as all other staff that supported our students in any way.

One of our most important events of the year, the Beginning of Year Mass, took place on Wednesday this week. With some restrictions still in place we held the Mass in our Jubilee Centre with a small number of invited parents. I congratulate Mrs Wright (Director of Mission) on the wonderful planning for this service. Our student leaders were commissioned into their roles and our College Captains were presented with their blazers. Events where we can be together as a community are even more precious now after the separating events of 2020.

I have mentioned in previous newsletters that the governance of St Mary MacKillop College changed on 1st January 2021 from the Parish Priest to the Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited (DOBCEL). To meet compliance with the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) DOBCEL we are required to update and take up many policies. The first suite of policies are around Child Safety. The following policies can be found on our school webpage (smmc.vic.edu.au):

DOBCEL School Child Safety Officer Role Description
DOBCEL Safeguarding Children and Young People – Code of Conduct
DOBCEL PROTECT: Reporting and Responding Obligations Policy
DOBCEL PROTECT: Identifying and responding to Student Sexual Offending
SMMC PROTECT: Reporting and Responding Obligations Procedure for Schools

Many policies will be updated over the next four months. I will keep you informed of these through the newsletter.

As I conclude this newsletter I wish Mrs Catherine Smith all the best as she began her parental leave this week, in preparation for the birth of her first child.

Regards

Michelle Haeusler
Principal

FAITH MATTERS

This week we celebrated our Beginning Year Mass in our Jubilee Centre. It had been over 12 months since our college community had been together to celebrate Mass. What a wonderful celebration it was!



It was also the first time Fr James Kerr had stood before our school community and celebrated Mass (instead of being online!). Although we are still bound by some restrictions, I was truly grateful that our school community (students, staff and some parents) could be together. I am hopeful we can continue to be together to celebrate our faith. My sincere thanks to all those who assisted me to prepare and set up for the Mass.

Alison Wright
Director of Mission





Project Compassion

We continue to collect donations for Caritas through Project Compassion. The liturgy committee is going to be running a couple of fundraising events between now and the end of term to help with raising funds.

PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE

PRAYER

God of all peoples and nations,
As you accompany us on our Lenten journey,
May our fasting strengthen our
commitment to live in solidarity,
Our almsgiving be an act of justice, and
Our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.
Through living simply and loving generously,
May we care for our global family
and our common home, as we
*"Aspire not to have more, but to be more".**
We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

**Saint Oscar Romero*

YEAR 11 & 12 PARENT STUDENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Dear Parents,

Parent/Teacher/Student interviews for students in Years 11 and 12 VCE/VET/VCAL in 2021 will be held in the Jubilee Centre on the following date and time:

Tuesday 16th March 4:00pm – 8:00pm

You can now book interviews through PAM at times that suit your family best.

Login to <http://pam.mackillopsh.vic.edu.au/> and enter through Parent Teacher Interviews to make your booking. Select Subject/Teacher and book your time.

BOOKINGS OPEN: Tuesday 9th March at 9:30am

BOOKINGS CLOSE: Monday 15th March at 9:30am

If you have any difficulty booking your interview online through PAM, please contact the Front Office on 5032 9771 from 10:00am Tuesday 9th March onwards to make a booking, or send a note to school with the approximate times required. Interviews are strictly of 8 minutes duration.

Parents can change their interview bookings any time prior to the closing date by re-visiting PAM and changing the booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date should contact the school.

YEAR 7 TEACHER ADVISOR INTERVIEWS

Dear Parents,

Teacher Advisor Interviews for parents/students of Year 7 will be held in the student's homeroom on the following date and time:

Thursday 11th March 3:45pm – 5:30pm

You can now book interviews through PAM at times that suit your family best.

Login to <http://pam.mackillopsh.vic.edu.au/> and enter through Parent Teacher Interviews to make your booking. Select your student and the interview run titled 'Year 7 TA Interviews' then click on the homeroom (eg. Tenison 5, Woods 4) and book your time. If there are two homeroom teachers for that homeroom, you must select the teacher who is allocated to interview your child – you will need to check with your child first.

BOOKINGS OPEN: Friday 5th March at 9:30am

BOOKINGS CLOSE: Wednesday 10th March at 9:30am

If you have any difficulty booking your interview online through PAM, please contact the Front Office on 5032 9771 from 10:00am Friday 5th March onwards to make a booking, or send a note to school with the approximate times required. Interviews are strictly of 20 minutes duration.

Parents can change their interview bookings any time prior to the closing date by re-visiting PAM and changing the booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date should contact the school.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Senior School Information Session

We are over halfway through Term 1, and what a busy first half of the term it has been already! On Monday 22 February, I attended the Senior School Information Session for VCE and VCAL students. The panel format for the evening was most engaging. The panel consisted of Mrs Mandy McCallum, Director of Wellbeing, Mr Luke Crow, a senior teacher, Mr Tony Haley, VCAL Coordinator, Mrs Sally Looney, Pathways Coordinator and Mrs Tanya Farrell, a parent. Mrs Suzy Haley, our Senior School Coordinator, was the MC for the evening and asked a range of questions to the panel. The panel offered a lot of useful advice for parents to support their child throughout the VCE years. The topics covered ranged from study skills to investigating options for study after secondary school. Many thanks to Mrs Haley for organising this most informative evening.

Teaching is a partnership between students, parents and teachers. We all play an important role in fostering and promoting a culture of excellence, and supporting our learners to ensure they achieve their personal excellence and flourish at school. Visible Learning Plus outlines five questions parents can ask their child about their learning. Take a moment each day to find out what your child has been learning at school using these questions:

1. What did you learn today? How do you know?
2. What was the learning challenge you worked on today? What did you learn from it?
3. What feedback did you get from your teachers today and how did you use it?
4. How did you go about your learning today?
5. Did you make progress in your learning today? How do you know?

There is a lot of advice I can give to our VCE/VCAL students to ensure they have a successful year. Throughout the year I will have the opportunity to share tips for success with our students.

My top five tips are:

- Be organised and develop a study schedule and routine.
- Carefully read the feedback provided to you by your teachers for your assessment tasks.
- Be an advocate for your learning. Remember your teachers are here to support you throughout your learning journey. If you have any problems with your studies, seek advice from your teachers sooner rather than later.
- See challenges in your learning as positive and that you can overcome them through adopting a growth mindset and being resilient.
- Balance your studies with involvement in extra-curricular activities. Brain breaks and time away from study to rest and recharge is important.

Recently I came across an article on the KQED website on how to study without burning out. The link to the article is here: <https://www.kqed.org/mindshift/56614/college-is-important-so-is-mental-health-heres-how-to-study-without-burning-out>

Yamagata University Junior High School Video Exchange – Tuesday 2 March

Swan Hill has a sister city relationship with Yamagata in Japan. Recently we were contacted by Yamagata University Junior High School who asked if our students would like to watch some videos their students had created. Students from the Year 9 Japanese class and selected students from the Year 7 Japanese class participated in the film viewing on Tuesday 2 March. Four short films were shown in English, and after each film our students were able to engage in a question and answer session in English and Japanese. This was a great opportunity for cultural exchange between the two schools.

Elevate Education – ‘Study Sensei’ Presentation – Friday 5 March

A presenter from Elevate Education delivered the ‘Study Sensei’ study skills session to all Year 10 students on Friday 5 March. This is a new initiative for 2021 and the presentation complements the work on study skills students do in their Pathways classes.

Elevate Education work in many schools and have been transforming the way students approach their studies. Drawing upon over 15 years of research into the habits of the country’s top students, Elevate’s high impact seminars and workshops help students improve their study techniques, increase motivation, build confidence, and lift exam performance. For further information on Elevate Education, please go to <https://au.elevateeducation.com/>

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Study Sensei seminar addressed the most common question students ask: "What is study?". The presenter broke down the study techniques of the top performers, providing students with a road map for what work they need to be doing across the year and how to do it. For further information on this seminar, please watch the video in this link <https://au.elevateeducation.com/programs/senior>



The students learnt a lot from the session and we have follow-up materials from Elevate that will be used in Pathways classes. In the future we hope to involve other year levels in the Elevate study skills programs.

Our Commitment to Literacy

Our Year 7 and 8 students commence Lesson 4 every afternoon with 15 minutes of reading. Students are reminded to bring a book to read during this time. Last year we implemented book bingo and we are continuing this throughout the year as a way to promote the reading of a range of texts. We hope students in Years 7 and 8 will support this initiative.

We recognise that the explicit teaching of vocabulary helps students develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Oxford University Press has analysed the grammar and word choice in stories written by students in 2020. Further information can be found in the link below:

https://www.teachermagazine.com/au_en/articles/video-infographic-student-word-choice-in-2020

COVID Certificate Generator

I find Twitter is a great source of professional learning. Recently I came across a poster put together by Professor Stephen Heppell. Stephen is a world expert on contemporary learning. Rather than focus on the negativity around COVID-19, Stephen has put together a certificate to celebrate the resilience, ingenuity, responsibility, confidence, and creativity of this COVID generation's experiences. Let's celebrate all that has and will continue to be learned through experiences outside the classroom. The link to the certificate can be found [here](#) and [here](#) is an explanation behind creating the certificate. We agree with Stephen and are incredibly proud of our students and all the resilience and adaptability they have shown throughout this pandemic.

International Mother Language Day – Sunday 21 February

The United Nations International Mother Language Day was celebrated on Sunday 21 February. The United Nations website says 'International Mother Language Day recognizes that languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion, and the Sustainable Development Goals' focus on leaving no one behind'. In celebration of International Mother Language Day 2021 six words for 'mother' in Australian Indigenous languages can be found here: <https://twitter.com/indiglang/status/1363277331138281477> . To hear more words for mother in over 60 Indigenous languages visit: <https://50words.online/>

As a Japanese teacher I am an advocate for learning languages. Through learning Japanese and going to Japan I have been given so many valuable opportunities and experiences, and have created many life-long memories. We are blessed to have a multicultural community and we celebrate the many languages and cultures that make our community so vibrant.

For further information on International Mother Language Day please go to: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/mother-language-day>



TEACHING AND LEARNING

International Women's Day – Monday 8 March

Monday 8 March is International Women's Day. This year's theme is 'Choose to Challenge'. The following is from the International Women's Day website:

A challenged world is an alert world. Individually, we're all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day. We can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality. We can all choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements. Collectively, we can all help create an inclusive world. From challenge comes change, so let's all choose to challenge.

I pray for all the women in our College community.

May we all help to create a gender equal world.

It seems like yesterday I was enjoying Christmas and now the season of Lent is upon us. The Lenten season offers us a wonderful opportunity for spiritual renewal. I hope during this season through prayer, fasting and almsgiving you are brought closer to God.



Year 7 Learning Reflection - Trinity Shelton

The start of this year has been really fun and exciting. I really enjoyed the Year 7 camp because it gave me an opportunity to get to know everyone a little bit more. I also think that our subjects are challenging and fun. At first I was really scared of not being able to lock my locker or find my classes, but I soon realised that there are people all around me to help. All the teachers are nice.

Learning Recognition Program

This year the Academic Committee will continue the 'Learning Recognition Program'. Each week the committee focusses on a different year level and they ask teachers to nominate two students from each of their classes that they believe deserve recognition for their learning. One nomination is for a student who is applying themselves to the best of their ability, and the other nomination is for a student who is achieving academic excellence in their studies. Each student nominated will receive five house points. Thank you to the Academic Committee for continuing this initiative.

Congratulations to the following students for being recognised by their teachers so far this term:

Year 12

Academic Excellence: Thomas Bell, Lachlan Burns, Benjamin Campbell, Erica Glowrey, Indy-Lee Mangles, Grace Scott, George Smith

Effort and Endeavour: Thomas Bell, Olivia Closter, Jordyn Elford, Khushnaseeb Kaur, Hannah Morton, Shannon O'Reilly, Max Sewell, Caitlyn Tidyman

Year 11

Academic Excellence: Alex Carroll, Georgia Craig-Neal, Madison Davies, Hope Fitzpatrick, Isabella Gilchrist, Dakota Jager, Darby Meney, Talahiva Nimo, Charlotte Oliver, Connor Rogers, Harrison Stanyer

Effort and Endeavour: Bryce Baskin, Madison Davies, Kasey Dunstan, Deakin Fawcett, Meredith Kuchell, Darby Meney, Verity Oliver, Tully Sheldrick, Jem Sibley, Aydan Symons, Bridgette Zucco

Year 10

Academic Excellence: Charlotte Angus, Dustin Holmes, Macy McMahon, Danika Meehan, Jack Russo, Paul Scalora, Angelica Watson

Effort and Endeavour: Brock Baker, Adam Lauer, Paul Mason, Anellie Sabado, Jesse Schulz, Dakota Wilkens

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Spotlight on our Amazing Staff



Name: Maria Salvo

How long have you been at SMMC? I began here in 1991!!! This is my 30th year

What is your role at SMMC? Language Domain Leader, Italian and RE teacher

What makes SMMC so special? This is a very unique and special place to work in. The staff and students are amazing and I enjoy working with them.

Which is your House? Tenison

What do you enjoy doing outside of school? I enjoy spending time with my family, travelling (to see family), cooking and I also enjoy a good cup of coffee.



Name: Eddie Scholtens

How long have you been at SMMC? 13 Years

What is your role at SMMC? Technology Wood/Metal/VET Building & Construction Teacher

What makes SMMC so special? The staff and students make the school special.

Which is your House? Tenison House

What do you enjoy doing outside of school? I enjoy spending time with my family, spoiling my grandchildren, and fishing.



Name: Casey Simmonds

How long have you been at SMMC? Since Term Four of 2014

What is your role at SMMC? Library Assistant in the LRC

What makes SMMC special? The staff and students. Everyone is so friendly, hardworking and kind - it's a pleasure to come to work and spend time together.

Which is your House? Green machine - Go Tenison!

What do you enjoy doing outside of school? Reading, weekends away with my family and friends, Netflix and racing my dog and toddler to freshly baked biscuits.



Name: Catherine Smith

How long have you been at SMMC? This is my 6th year teaching here, and I also attended SMMC for my secondary education.

What is your role at SMMC? My current role is Teaching & Learning Leader: Learning Resources

What makes SMMC special? The feeling of community; everyone working together to succeed and grow.

Which is your House? Tenison

What do you enjoy doing outside of school? I enjoy spending time with my husband and dog, watching new movies and quilting.

After School Homework and Study Help in the Learning Resource Centre (Library)

In an effort to assist students with their homework and develop sound study skills, the staff at St Mary MacKillop College have been rostered into the Learning Resource Centre every Monday – Wednesday from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. We strongly encourage students to utilise this excellent facility, where students can stay after school any day until 4:30pm (except Friday when the Learning Resource Centre closes at 4:00pm).

After School Homework and SAC Supervision

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
6 08/03	Public Holiday	Damien Hirst	Catherine Howison
7	Damian Howison	Jesse McDonald	Chris Joyce
8	Nathan Lane	Mark Leary	Sheelagh Leary

Nathan Lane

Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning

TEACHING AND LEARNING

An Introduction from our Academic Committee Captain, Madeleine McGowan

What are the key responsibilities of your portfolio?

As Academic Committee captains, Grace and I are responsible for organising various activities throughout the year, such as the spelling bee, that aim to develop a love of learning and academics within the school. We are also members of the student forum and undertake important duties such as speaking at assemblies.

What is your vision as leader of the Academic Committee in 2021?

To promote academic excellence within the school and celebrate the successes of our students in the academic field. I would like to get more interest and membership in the Academic Committee and retain the membership and participation throughout the year.

Name one person whom you would like to share a meal with and why?

I would like to share a meal with Emma Watson, as she is a role model of mine. She is an accomplished actress, humanitarian and feminist that is passionate about gender equality. I think that she would be a great person to have a meal and an interesting conversation with.

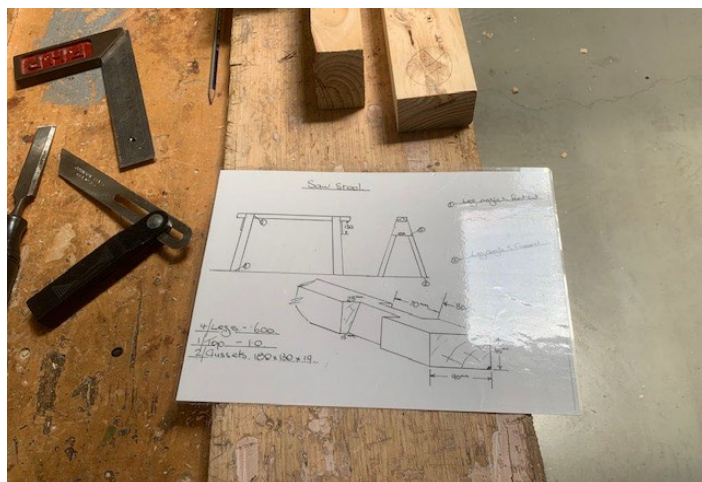
What are your interests outside of school?

In my spare time, I love skiing on Kangaroo Lake, swimming, exercise, hanging out with friends and spending time with family. Before COVID I especially enjoyed netball so I'm excited to get back into that.

What I learnt today at SMMC...



Our informative Senior School Information Evening



VET Building and Construction students are making stools



Mr Crow's Year 8 Health class enjoying a yoga class run by Mrs Howison



Year 7 paper plane challenge. Who can fly their plane the furthest from the balcony?

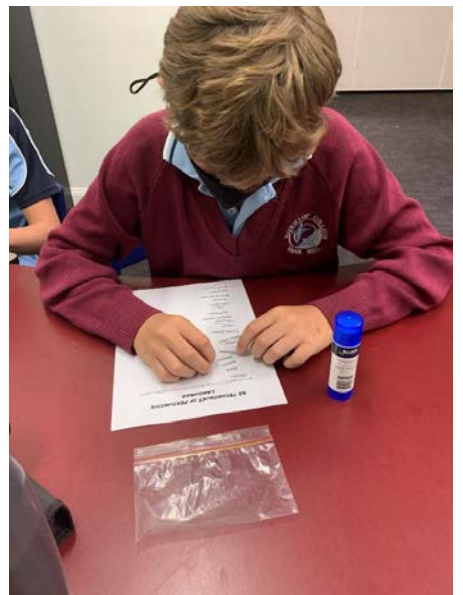
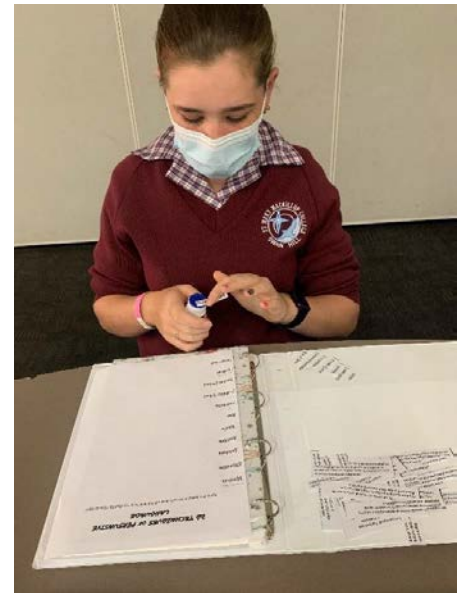
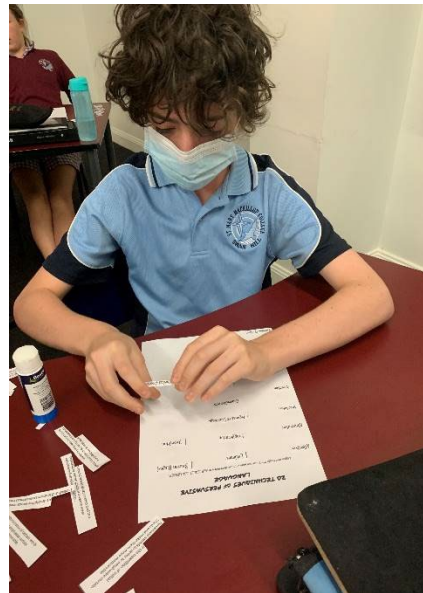
TEACHING AND LEARNING



VET Sport and Recreation students completing their training programs



Year 7s enjoying cooking with Ms Salvo



Year 8 English placing 20 different persuasive language techniques in alphabetical order and then matching them with their definitions!

Revision task for their upcoming test on Persuasive Language Techniques!

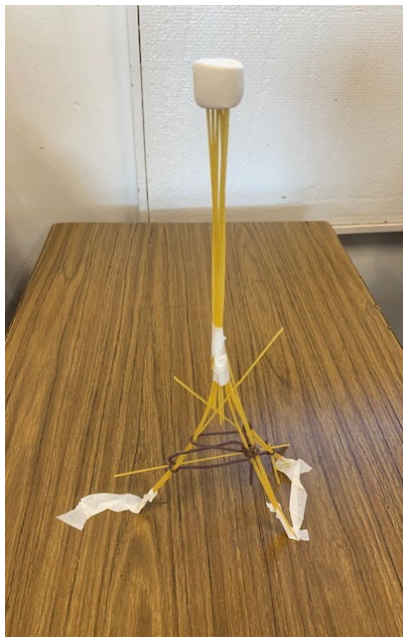


Mrs Clark completing a TA interview

TEACHING AND LEARNING



Year 7 challenge to make the tallest freestanding tower with 20 spaghetti sticks and a metre of masking tape and string. The challenge is for the tower to still stand when a marshmallow is put on top.



This is the winning entry from the challenge



Year 7 Basket Tea – a wonderful way to welcome our new Year 7 students and families to the College.



Mrs Leary completing a TA interview



Mrs Henderson's Year 7 Drama class using their bodies to create tableaux to tell a story

TEACHING AND LEARNING



Work Experience

We have previously mentioned the Year 10 Work Experience Program and how a placement provides students with a wonderful opportunity to explore possible career options. In our Pathways classes we have been discussing interests and possible options - in particular working extra hard to make sure all 10A students have decided where they would like to do as their four day placement commences on Monday 29th March and finishes on Thursday 1st April.

All of 10B will be doing their placements in the last week of Term 2, (Monday, June 21st to Friday, June 25th) and 10C students will have their turn in the last week of Term 3 (Monday, September 13th to Friday, September 17th). We were fortunate to have several VCE students come in to the classes and speak about their previous work experience placements. They all spoke very well about their experiences and we thank them for their time.



Another part of work experience preparation is learning more about Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and ensuring they have a good understanding of OH&S issues. In addition to completing this module, any student who wishes to do work experience on a construction site must also complete a Construction Induction training to obtain a White Card. We also found it interesting almost one third of students had not yet discussed this program with their parents, so if any parent of a Year 10 student is reading this and feeling a little confused, please speak with your child and/or contact one of us for more information.



Campus Talk and Tours: Students and their families will have an opportunity to meet with one of our friendly team to have their course questions answered and enjoy a tour of the Bendigo campus and accommodation between Monday, April 12th and Friday, April 16th. These tours will also be offered in June/July and September school holidays. Bookings will open very soon!

Discover Your Future as a Pilot - RMIT Bendigo Flight Training - Information Sessions

If you are interested in a career as a pilot, two-hour session provides a fantastic opportunity to receive an overview of the program. Informative sessions and tours will be held where you can learn all about our flight training program and the facilities including state-of-the-art simulator.

These sessions will be held between 3:00pm and 5:00pm every Wednesday and Saturday through to the end of year at the Bendigo Airport. For further information, please contact Patrick Griffiths 0456 886 968 or email Patrick.Griffiths@RMIT.edu.au



Traineeship and Apprenticeship Opportunities

- 1. Business Traineeship - Administration Assistant** - The Swan Hill Medical Clinic have vacancies and are looking for the right people who are available for both a SBAT (trainee) and or a full time position in a professional practice where you will obtain hands on training in a busy office. More information is available from the Pathways Office.

Australian Defence Force Gap Year

The Gap Year program provides an opportunity for students who are finishing Year 12 this year to experience military training and lifestyle whilst gaining new skills over by obtaining a 12-month position in Air Force, Army or Navy to commence early in 2022.

To start your application and find a role you would like to apply for, go to <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/students-and-education/gap-year>
Create an account and follow the steps through the application process.



Sally Looney and Brenda Brady
Pathways Team

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The College Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 18th February on an absolutely perfect day, following a very uncertain five days of lockdown. It was only at lunchtime on the day before the carnival, that a decision was able to be made to proceed with the carnival and complete several last minute organisational tasks.



Huge congratulations must go to all students who jumped in the pool and swam with the majority of events having all lanes filled, especially after such short notice that the carnival was taking place. At the end of the day, it was **SOLOMON HOUSE** who proved victorious, and have now made it a massive NINE winning swimming carnivals in a row. Congratulations Solomon House.

WOODS HOUSE were again awarded the House Spirit trophy, which was well deserved, especially given it was reported that the main street could constantly hear the chant of "Let's go Woods, let's go, let's go Woods, let's go". Well done Woods.

Overall Results:

1 st place:	Solomon House	2,483 points
2 nd place:	Tenison House	2,320 points
3 rd place:	Xavier House	2,226 points
4 th place:	Woods House	1,642 points



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Age Champions:

Age Group	Male Age Champion			Female Age Champion		
13yr	Seamus Doherty	Tenison	92pts	Marie Barry	Woods	90pts
14yr	Mason Andrews	Xavier	72pts	Jessica Louw	Tenison	140pts
15yr	James Barry	Woods	94pts	Eliza Everett	Tenison	116pts
16yr	Liam Farnsworth	Solomon	72 pts	Brehana Hodgson	Solomon	120 pts
17yr	Quinn Grey	Woods	116pts	Ellie Rollinson	Tenison	74pts
18yr – 20yr	Hayden Everett	Tenison	120 pts	Eva Wong Chon Lew	Solomon	94pts



Records set at this year's carnival:

Four records were broken at the carnival and they were:

Female 50m 14yr Freestyle

Old record - 2008 Kahlia Marsh 30.04sec

New record - Jessica Louw 29.50sec

Female 15yr 50m Breaststroke

Old record - 2009 Kahlia Marsh 40.13sec

New record - Eliza Everett 39.89sec

Female 50m 14yr Backstroke

Old record - 2010 Kyra Bennett 37.03sec

New record - Jessica Louw 36.36sec

Female 16yr 50m Breaststroke

Old record - 2002 Megan Pomroy 40.62sec

New record - Brehana Hodgson 40.01sec



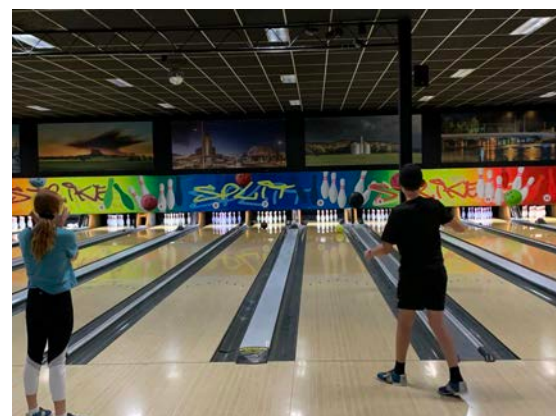
YEAR 7 CAMP

The Year 7 Roses Gap Camp proved to be a very successful and enjoyable camp for all involved. The students were provided with the opportunity to participate in a range of outdoor educational activities coordinated by qualified staff. These activities included Flying Fox, Giant Swing, Crate Stack, Vertical High Ropes Climbing, Canoeing, Bushwalking, Archery and a Low Ropes Course.

The Giant Swing was the most popular activity with most of the students. Classmates were able to pull them up to their preferred height (up to 19m) before the countdown and release sends them flying! The Flying Fox was another big highlight with an exciting ride to the other end of the 100m long zip line after leaping off the tower. Canoeing in the Roses Gap Camp Lake was also popular, as the students were able to get the chance to participate in races, raft-ups, and games.

The night activities included amazing race games/movie night and a trip to Horsham Lanes and Games for Ten Pin Bowling and Laser Tag. Overall, the students should be congratulated on their participation in the activities and the excellent way they represented St Mary MacKillop College. The staff who attended (Mr Wood, Mrs McCallum, Mrs Leary, Ms Gurnett, Mr McDonald, Olivia Gardiner and Dr Jim) must also be thanked for their excellent organisation and effort they put in to make sure the camp ran so smoothly.

Damien Hirst
Transition Coordinator



YEAR 10 WELLBEING DAY

On the 2nd March, Year 10 students spent the day developing skills and strategies to grow and succeed and to help avoid depression and anxiety. Two different facilitators worked with the students on the day, we had ManCave with the boys at the Woorinen Recreation Reserve and Flourish Girl with the girls at The Grainshed. The day was a great success and will assist our students in leading happier healthy lives and to foster positive mental health.



I would like to thank the staff that participated on the day and to Jim Hirst from SFYG who sourced funding for the day and to the Swan Hill Lions Club who donated \$2,000 towards improving mental health in our school.

Mandy McCallum
Director of Wellbeing



2021 SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE

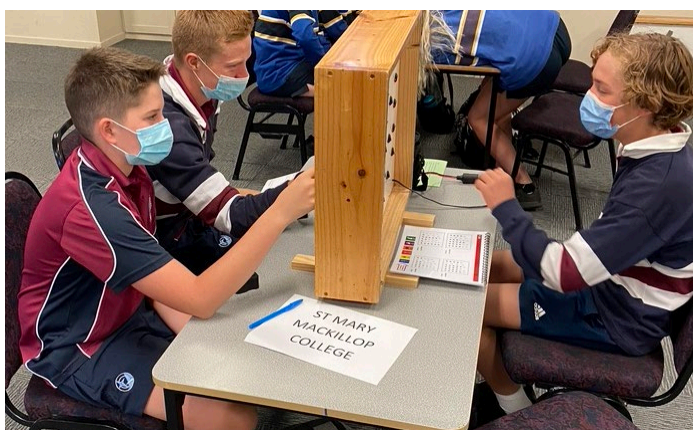
On Thursday 25th February, some Year 9 and 10 students attended the Science and Engineering Challenge, held by the University of Newcastle, at the Grain Shed Swan Hill. St Mary MacKillop College competed against Kerang Technical College, Cohuna Secondary College and Tooleybuc Central School.

The day consisted of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) activities including bridge building, coding, stringways, bionic hands, water turbines, helter skelter, hoverboard and communications. Each activity was allocated points for how well the students met the criteria given on the design brief.

All students were given the opportunity to develop their team work skills, communication and problem solving skills while engaging in the fun and challenging activities. It was great to see our students in action really thinking outside the box. The staff involved were incredibly proud of the way our students engaged in the activities and conducted themselves on the day.

At the end of the day, the points were tallied and WE WERE CHAMPIONS!!!! It was great to see how passionate our students were and their team and school pride shone bright. A big congratulations to all who participated in the day.

Jaclyn Clark
Curriculum Leader Science



AFL FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION

The new "Tipping Season" kicks off soon. Be the "King or Queen" Student Tipster of our College. Year 7,8,9 students, imagine how good it will feel in homeroom on Mondays when you have "out-tipped" the senior students.

It's easy to join, enter and play. Go to "footytips.com". Once you are in, go to "search competitions".

The competition you need is: St Mary Mack Students 2021

The password is mcollege (one word and lower case)

Weekly prizes of \$5 canteen vouchers are available for any student who can tip 9 out of 9 in any of the home and away season rounds. The highest scoring student in each year level at the end of the home and away season wins a football and other AFL related items. There is also a prize for the highest scoring tipster in the student competition. A full size, match day football is up for grabs.

As a bonus there is also a \$25 canteen voucher for the highest scoring student IF they score higher than the highest scoring staff tipster by the end of the home and away season.

See Mr Hickmott if you have any questions.

GET ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHER PROGRAM

The \$21 million Get Active Kids Voucher Program is a Victorian first and supports children to get involved in organised sport and physical activities by providing vouchers valued up to \$200 each, to help eligible families with the cost of memberships or registration fees, equipment or uniforms.

To be eligible for a voucher your child/dependant must be:

- aged 4 to 18 years
- a resident in Victoria
- named on a current (at the time of your application) Australian Government Pensioner Concession Card, and named on a valid Australian Government



Special consideration may be provided to people who don't meet the eligibility criteria. Applications will be assessed case-by-case.

The program will support 100,000 vouchers and help Victorian children to get back on the pitch, court, the nets, field or in the pool – to have fun with their friends.

The Get Active Kids Voucher Program is part of Get Active Victoria, which is helping families to move more, every day. With 80 per cent of children in Victoria not doing the recommended amount of physical activity, Get Active Kids Vouchers will make it possible for more kids to get active, happy and healthy.



VISUAL COMMUNICATION AND DESIGN

Back in 2018, I was fortunate enough to organise a community-based project with Swan Hill District Health. The following brief was given to my Year 11 Visual Communication and Design students.

Visitors & Community Comfort Centre Logo/Signage

The Issue:

Currently, the rates of breastfeeding in the Swan Hill area are low. Following discussions with over 160 local mothers, it was identified that awareness of breastfeeding friendly spaces was limited. The Swan Hill Visitors and Community Comfort Centre (VCCC) is a family and breastfeeding friendly space which is open to all visitors and community members, however, this is not widely recognised.

About the VCCC:

The VCCC is a volunteer-run facility which has been in operation for over 50 years, servicing the local Swan Hill community and visitors to the region. The VCCC is a unique service providing a family-friendly space offering wheelchair accessible toilets, showers, kitchen facilities, baby change rooms and a playroom.

The goal of the project:

To increase the awareness of the VCCC by families and specifically breastfeeding mothers to in turn assist in increasing breastfeeding rates in the Swan Hill area.

The project:

To create 2 new signs to replace the existing signs on the building. These signs are to outline the services available at the centre and include a new logo for the service. It is important these signs reflect that the VCCC is a family and breastfeeding friendly location. The signs are to be eye-catching, clear and concise.

Fast forward three years later, we have finally concluded the outcome for this project. Drum roll please.... And the winner was Georgie Roberts. Georgie graduated from our school last year and has since enrolled in Primary School Teaching. I think everyone would agree, Georgie has done a fantastic job brightening up this wonderful facility and her logo and signage certainly fulfil the needs of the brief. I would like to thank Rachel Brooks who was instrumental in the final selection.

Jeremy Wood
Visual Communication & Design Teacher

Old Signage



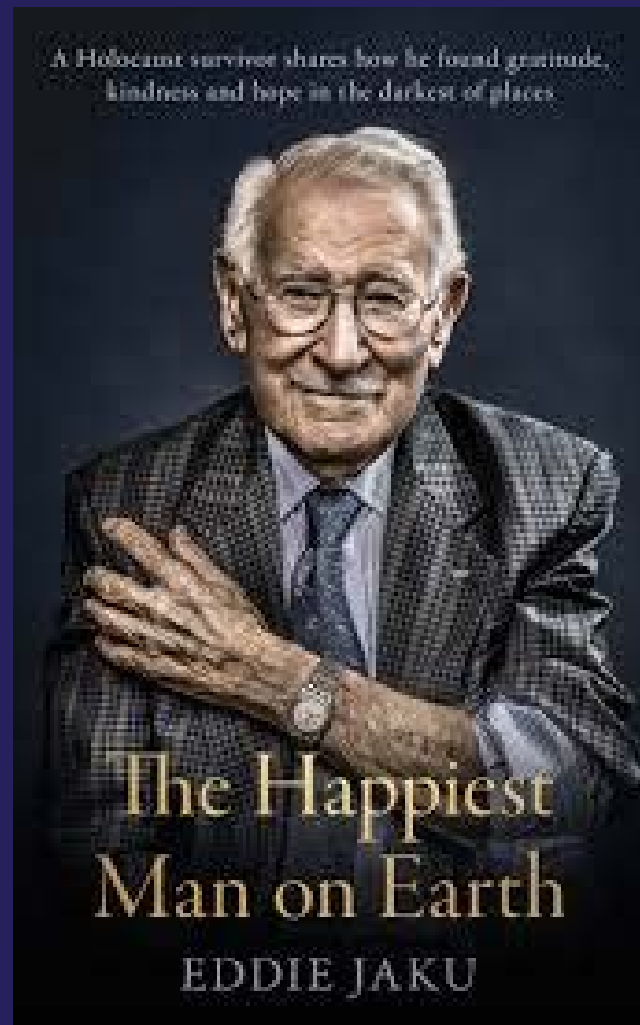
New Signage



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRES
BOOK OF THE WEEK

THE HAPPIEST MAN ON EARTH

BY EDDIE JAKU



Truly a remarkable read. A survivors tale, Eddie Jaku reveals how he struggled to stay alive during the reign of Hitler and the Holocaust. Despite the unspeakable brutalities he and his loved ones endured, his message to the world remained: never carry hate in your heart or it will consume you. He spreads a powerful message to the young and young at heart.



Take a book , Read a book , Leave a book

ST MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

A Library Committee Initiative since 2019
Located corner of Splatt and McCrae Street.

For community use

supporting young people during COVID-19

headspace Swan Hill in partnership with headspace National, are hosting a webinar for parents and carers of young people to support their mental health through COVID-19.

Information presented will:

- Strengthen your understanding of mental health and mental health literacy.
- Build skills and strategies to support the mental health and wellbeing of your young person, including their transition to work and study.
- Build awareness of local, state and national supports available to young people.
- Showcase local headspace centre community resources.

The webinar will consist of a presentation on youth mental health, followed by a panel with guest speakers.

When

Monday 15th March 2021
7pm – 8.15pm AEDT

How do I register?

Click here to register via Eventbrite, or type the URL below into your web browser:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/swan-hill-covid-19-parent-and-carer-webinar-supporting-young-people-registration-133044735385>

After you have registered, you will receive an email confirmation from Eventbrite which will include the Zoom meeting link to access the webinar.

Contact

For more information email:
headspaceSchools@headspace.org.au