



Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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Issue 10
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Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker



*When you go
home, tell them of
us and say, 'For
your tomorrows
these gave their
today.'*

John Maxwell Edmonds



From the Principal's Office



Dear Parents, Carers, Friends and Students of Marian College,

- ❖ We encourage excellence and perseverance in learning,
- ❖ We strive for continuous improvement

Gracious and loving God,

Today, we remember all who lost their lives through Australia's involvement in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

On ANZAC Day, we especially remember the courageous actions undertaken by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps during the First World War.

On this national day of commemoration, we pray for the airmen, sailors and soldiers who died in battle, sacrificing their lives while on duty. We commemorate their bravery and pray for the families who lost loved ones.

As we strive for peace in our country and world, help us to become instruments of your peace.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

This is a very different world today even compared to just six weeks ago. As we pay homage to the ANZAC this week, and the many service personnel from Australia and New Zealand who have served or continue to serve, we recall their sacrifice for others. We may not stand together this year at the services in Stawell and Ararat, but we join together in spirit from our driveways and verandahs. Lest we forget!



Dawn on Anzac Day

COVID-19 UPDATES

We remain in social isolation at this time with all those who can study or work from home, doing so from home. To date, there has been no clear indication about likely return dates for Victorian students. We do not expect anything to change in this next fortnight at least. A number of possibilities are being discussed along with the implications and impact of each upon families, students and staff. We will keep you informed of any further developments in this area.

COVID -19 Learning Online Survey

With the first two weeks of Online/ Remote learning now behind us, it is important to ensure that we are meeting all students' educational and wellbeing needs as best we can in these difficult times. On Friday, a Parent Survey was forwarded to you requesting feedback and comments regarding a number of key areas of online learning. Please kindly take a few moments to assist us further refine our online learning processes as needs emerge. With your assistance, we endeavour to provide the best meet educational and wellbeing needs during this time.

2021 Enrolments Now Open

Our College Office remains open for enquiries throughout this period. 2021 Enrolments are now open. Please see our College website for further details or contact the College on 5352 3861 or email registrar Meagan Bowen (mbowen@mcararat.catholic.edu.au) to book an Enrolment Interview or to submit an Application. Interviews will be conducted online once an Enrolment Application has been submitted to the College Office.

College Fees

We understand this is a difficult time for all families as we struggle to maintain our less than normal routines at this time. For the Grampians area, with such a rich variety of local businesses and industry involved in hospitality, tourism and retail we understand that financial circumstances have greatly changed over recent weeks. Where this has resulted in financial hardship for your family and you would like to apply for fee relief, I ask that you either email Mr Russell Barker (Business Manager) on fees@mcararat.catholic.edu.au or refer to the Application Form in the COVID-19 section on the College website.

Learning From Home

Congratulations to the many students who have demonstrated great innovation and creativity in their learning at this time. Each day online, we have been witnessed to some wonderful examples of new ways of learning.



Emily Manning Year 11 Food Studies.



Rhys Hoffman
-Year 7 Home Economics Recipe Book

Many students are working well with a timetabled day and ensuring their breaks are away from screen. Teachers report very good engagement in their subject areas. If you have any concerns with your child's learning in a particular subject please email the class teacher first. For all other enquiries please contact your child's Teacher Advisor.

Take Care,
Carmel Barker



From the Head of Student Development



Parent Teacher Interviews

These were originally scheduled for Wednesday 29th April and obviously can't go ahead under the current circumstances. Classes will run remotely as normal that day.

We are currently exploring other formats to provide more feedback to families.

This is in addition to all of the regular forms of feedback and communication through email, PAM, SIMON, Google Classroom, Digital Textbooks and by phone.

Please feel free to continue communicating with the school via whichever medium suits you best. We are all navigating these extraordinary times as best we can and the staff are keen to keep up the connection with our school community as much as possible.

As a Parent

As a parent of young Primary aged children, some of the best advice I received on remote learning was to not ruin or spoil the relationship we have with our children. As parents, we are not their teachers. We will do the best we can to support them in their learning under these circumstances; but not at the cost of our beautiful and irreplaceable parent/child relationship. If your child needs a break, let them have

a break. If something, or someone, isn't working, ask the teacher for advice. Despite what our PM has said on occasions, our children are not losing a year of their education, they are still learning and forming memories that will be with them forever. It is different to what we all had planned for the year; however, in terms of building character, resilience, independence and life skills, it is no less valuable.

Have a great week,

Geoff Parker
Head of Student Development



From the Head of Organisation and Student Pathways



News from my at-home desk

Remote learning is not even remotely easy! It is a constant challenge to keep students engaged and working. As a teacher I am now relying on parents to help with this as well. It is great to forge some new partnerships with parents. I have really enjoyed receiving emails from parents of students in my Year 12 English class and conversing with them about how to keep the momentum going for students.

Regarding our senior VCE students, it feels very uncertain. From a VCAA point of view, we have been told that the GAT, generally held mid-June, has now been postponed until October or November. The status of the end of the year exams are at the moment unknown. This is not a reason to not work for students however. Some form of assessment will have to occur and it is how this occurs that is currently being discussed by the VCAA.

Learning virtually requires a certain amount of self-motivation and self-discipline. For some of our students this will be the most challenging part of online learning. However, it also offers a bit of freedom to enable students to complete work at times that suit them better. This is a bonus for them because we understand that learning online is perhaps harder and takes longer

than if they were in a classroom situation with their peers.

I personally have been 'juggling' zoom meetings and preparing for classes. It is not as easy as it sounds. I tip my hat to every Victorian teacher who has just stepped in, stepped up, and has this humming. I am very proud that Victoria is a state that has remote learning just buzzing along, as if we had been doing this for a long time. We are flexible, agile and able to adapt to some very stressful circumstances in a very short amount of time.

I salute you.

Lucy Edwards
Student Pathways and Organisation

IN MY WORDS *with Kaiden Walton*



On the 4th of July, 2002, I, Kaiden Steven Walton was brought into the world. I don't really remember anything that happened early on in my life except for the fact that I was a really cute baby and Finding Nemo and Shrek were my favourite movies and I probably watched them multiple times some days.

As soon I was old enough to play sport I started playing Football, Futsal and Basketball. When I started indoor futsal I was very young and the ball was too big for me to even kick but that didn't stop me from having a crack. After a few seasons of that I gained a really competitive trait and to this day I still am the same.

I went to primary school at Ararat West and luckily enough throughout primary school I made many friendships with people that I am still lucky enough to call my friends today.

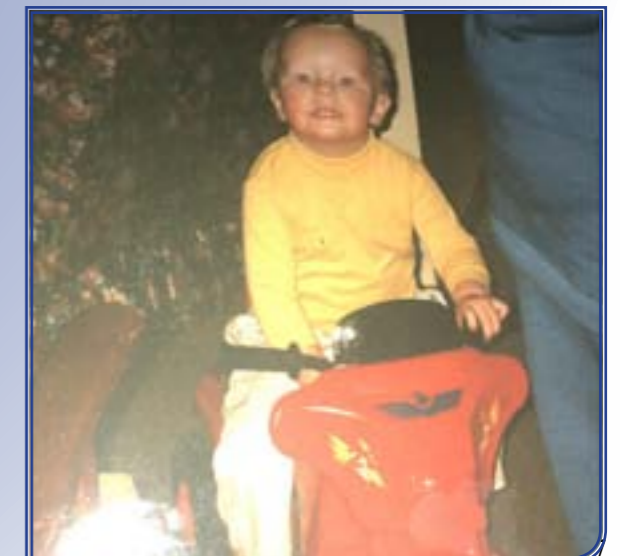
The main thing from primary school is that back then (and some may say that I still do) I had a really big head compared to my body and occasionally I would trip over or hit my head on something and it would leave a nice big egg.

Starting high school was pretty scary and a big change from primary school. The previous 7 years I had navigated my way through primary school and now I had to start all over again. It didn't take long for me to get out of my shell though and start getting a bit of confidence. I was probably a nightmare from some of my teachers. The main things I have enjoyed about Marian College so far are the many important events they hold such as Stations of The Cross, Fred Hyde Day and so many more. I also take great

enjoyment representing Marian College in many different things such football, tennis and chess tournaments.

I have had a part-time job at Woolworths stacking shelves for almost 2 years now. The good thing with my job is that a majority of my mates also work with me which is very fun but also sometimes cannot be very productive. When I have some free time I like to listen to music, play video games and complete puzzles. Whenever I can I also like to spend time with my family and friends. My favourite time of the year would have to be Christmas time because of all the delicious food and many gifts I get.

Good luck to my fellow Year 12s



Enrolments are open for Year 7, 2021

For more information

Phone: 5352 3861

or

www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au



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HOW TO MANAGE ABSENT STUDENTS



If your child is ill or has an appointment and is unable to attend online learning for the day or for part of the day please notify the office on 5352 3861 or via email: tmason@mcararat.catholic.edu.au; or mbowen@mcararat.catholic.edu.au



FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

Welcome to week 3 of Term 2 and what a very different term it has been so far!

I am thrilled with the response of students online work, in some cases I am seeing more work completed than would have regularly been inside the walls of our school!

During this challenging time it is really important that students look after themselves and their wellbeing. It's important that breaks are had from studies, and if possible get some fresh air as you usually would at school.

Parent Teacher information has been included and will be a great chance for teacher feedback about student progress throughout this school year.

Teacher Advisor's have been busy touching base with students and completing the second round of TA interviews which will appear on the next T/A Report!

Finally I look forward to seeing students and staff back inside the four walls of Marian College once this period of time is over. Until then stay healthy, if there is a need to make contact please do. We are all in this together!

Kind Regards

Matt James



NEWS

ANZAC DAY



The Last to Leave - Poem by Leon Gellert

*The guns were silent, and the silent hills
had bowed their grasses to a gentle breeze
I gazed upon the vales and on the rills,
And whispered, "What of these?" and "What of these?"
These long forgotten dead with sunken graves,
Some crossless, with unwritten memories
Their only mourners are the moaning waves,
Their only minstrels are the singing trees
And thus I mused and sorrowed wistfully*

*I watched the place where they had scaled the height,
The height whereon they bled so bitterly
Throughout each day and through each blistered night
I sat there long, and listened - all things listened too
I heard the epics of a thousand trees,
A thousand waves I heard; and then I knew
The waves were very old, the trees were wise:
The dead would be remembered evermore-
The valiant dead that gazed upon the skies,
And slept in great battalions by the shore.*

