



Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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Issue 8

20th March, 2023

Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker



LUNA PARK EXCURSION

- pages 12 - 13

HARMONY DAY
OUT OF UNIFORM DAY TOMORROW

- see page 14

IN MY WORDS

- pages 6 - 9



From the Head of Learning & Teaching



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

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

Prayer for Direction

Lord, Grant me tenacious winsome courage as I go through this day. When I am tempted to give up, help me to keep going. Grant me a cheerful spirit when things don't go my way. And give me the courage to do whatever needs to be done.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

— [Dr. Ray Pritchard](#)

Recently I had the pleasure of speaking with Year 7's about what it is to be 'Marian' and the key message that I was delivering to the students was how lucky we are. We have a history of over 130 years that directly ties us to this building, the Bridigine Sisters and St Brigid. They (the 7's) are starting their part of the journey whilst at the same time being able to witness the end of the journey for our 12's. They (the 7's) can sit under two oak trees that were grown from acorns directly linked to our founding Sisters. They have the privilege of Sr John bearing witness to what it is to be a genuine servant of a school.

The best part of our 'chat' was that two staff members working with me were both past students of our school. A genuine example of what it is that we do here, leads to lifelong connections, not only as students but adults as well.

Modern Slavery

Kildare Ministries is actively engaged in eradicating modern slavery. As part of this, Marian College is actively engaging in sourcing slave free chocolate for Easter this year.

The link below will take you to a chocolate scorecard on how companies compare in regards to sourcing their ingredients etc for chocolate. Alternatively you can look for FairTrade and Rain Forest Alliance logos on chocolate wrappers.

<https://www.chocolatescorecard.com/>

The week that was:

Year 8 Camp (Camp Wilkin)
Congratulations to all the Year 8's and the staff who attended Camp Wilkin, Wednesday to Friday last week. The students (and staff) came back exhausted but all that I spoke to said that they had a 'really good time'.

NAPLAN Years 7 and 9

Last week saw the start of NAPLAN testing for 2023. All tests are now conducted electronically and take a little more time to administer. Thank you to Mr East and all the staff involved in supervising and supporting the students through this. NAPLAN testing continues next week.

GWR Swimming

Congratulations to all the students who represented Marian College at Greater Western Regional Swimming. We truly

have some gifted students when it comes to swimming. Thank you to Mr Harricks and Mr Lloyd who supervised the students on Tuesday.

Senior School Parent Teacher Interviews
Last week saw an opportunity for TA teachers to meet with parents of the senior students in their TA for parent interviews. This was a great opportunity for parents to receive overall feedback on how their child has settled into Year 11 and 12 respectively.
Early Term 2 will see subject teacher Parent Teacher Student interviews taking place. More on that as the time draws nearer.

The week ahead:

Round 1 TA Interviews close this Friday. A final generation of reports from round 1 will be available Friday afternoon. Round 2 TA interviews open today and will be generated every second Friday.

Outdoor Education Camp

Tomorrow will see our Outdoor Ed's go on camp. We wish all the students and staff well as they adventure into the great outdoors!

NAPLAN testing

NAPLAN for Year 7 and 9 students continues this week. All students have been diligently working over the course of last week and we hope that this week will see catch up's and a wrap of NAPLAN for 2023.

Social Justice Seminar Camp

All the best to the students and staff heading off to be a part of the Social Justice Camp. We hope they are inspired and return with some great ideas to implement here at school.

End of Term subject changeover explanation

Due to the length of terms and the schools early start program today sees all students enrolled in electives (in the middle school) and some junior school subjects changing as of next Monday. This allows a balance of approximately 10 weeks for each of these subjects that would not be able to occur if the classes ran until the end of term.

Your child's timetable on SIMON will show the changes as of Monday morning next week.

Matthew Summers



In loving memory of a wonderful young woman Sophia Van Opstal who leaves a lasting impression upon all who were privileged to know her. Our prayers and thoughts are with family, friends and the Marian community at this difficult time. Take care and go gently.



From the Head of Catholic Identity



Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

***He lies me down in green pastures;
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths,
for His name's sake.***

***Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff—
they comfort me.***

***You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.***

***Goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.***

Have you ever noticed the sniffer dogs at an airport?

They lead their handlers around, through the people, through the bags, through all sorts of areas.

In any other context they would seem like someone's dearest companion, sharing a walk together, discovering new scents, following new paths, enjoying life. But here, at the airport, they have a job to do and they have the astounding ability to direct people to an issue so that it may be dealt with accordingly. So too the Holy Spirit is our dearest companion. The Spirit is with us through all of the wonderful moments of our life's journey as we encounter new experiences, new joys, new loves and

new relationships. It too has a job to do.

Most importantly, the Holy Spirit reaches in and directs us to our hearts, no matter how hard we try to ignore it, or move on, the Spirit will keep bringing us back to what matters most dearly and we will have to deal with it, in all of its beauty, its ugliness and its rawness.

Last week, our community was overwhelmed with shock and grief as we learnt of the loss of one of our year 12 students, Sophia Van Opstal. Her loss will be felt deeply throughout our community and especially with our year 12s. At the moment we are feeling the rawness that comes with grief, the confused sadness and anger that we will struggle to comprehend.

It is ugly.

But let us not turn away from it, lest we turn from the beauty that shone through Sophia in the gentleness of her very being.

I happened to be in the Chapel on Thursday, when a Year 12 student who was in there, asked if I would say a prayer with her. In an example of misplaced professionalism I endeavoured to keep a stoic facade as I entered the prayer, thinking that by keeping it reasonably formulaic I would be able to find the words and keep my emotions at bay.

The Spirit doesn't work like that.

Once the heart felt that it was being tapped, the words opened up and the facade was dropped. It was an opportunity to name these feelings, to interact with our emotions, to be free of restraints, to remove our hearts of stone and allow the Spirit to flow and ask God to welcome Sophia with open arms of compassion, to ask Mother Mary to give us strength, and to ask Jesus to give us the courage to walk together upon this road with Him.

This is a terrible time, but let us not forego the opportunity to remember all of the good that Sophia brought to us all. She will be dearly missed and never forgotten and my love and prayers go to all of our Year 12s and all who have had the great privilege of meeting Sophia during her time with us.

May God bless and keep her always.

***"When your hope's on fire
You know your desire
Don't hold a glass over the flame
Don't let your heart grow cold
I will call you by name
I will share your road
Hold me fast, Hold me fast,
'Cause I'm a hopeless wanderer"***

(Hopeless Wanderer, Mumford and Sons)

Marian College will continue to have extra counselors available throughout the week. Or you may like to contact
Headspace: www.headspace.org.au
Lifeline: 13 11 14
Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800

Stephen East

Stations of the Cross 2023

The Stations of the Cross depicts the final hours (The Passion) of Jesus' life from his condemnation, to his crucifixion and death on the cross and finally his burial. These events are remembered and reflected upon over Lent and Holy Week before the celebration of the Resurrection (Easter Sunday).

Our school celebration of the Stations of the Cross follows a tradition that is thousands of years old and is an integral part of Marian's religious identity.

This year the Year 12 cohort will present this retelling to students at Alexandra Gardens on the last day of Term 1 Thursday April 6. To accommodate the large number of students and to ensure that it remains a solemn occasion we will run sessions for each Year Level through the day.



IN MY WORDS *with Eliza Wigg*

Kelly House Leader

My Mum went into labour taking cookies out of the oven and was rushed to the Stawell Hospital where I was born on the 22nd of May 2005, the youngest out of three to Michelle Moors and Peter Wigg. Unlike other babies, when I came out of the womb I did not cry as I didn't know how to breathe, but after a few tears from my parents it finally clicked.

I have an older sister and brother, Hannah and Charlie who both attended Marian College. In my early childhood, we spent most of our time outside enjoying water sports and camping. My parents say I was the wild child of the family. When I was being too loud or my parents told me to quiet down I would simply reply 'I can't I have a microphone in my stomach that I can't turn off'. I was an active child, I participated in many afterschool activities such as swimming, netball, dancing and gymnastics, but I particularly enjoyed netball and dancing. This is where I made some of my best friends

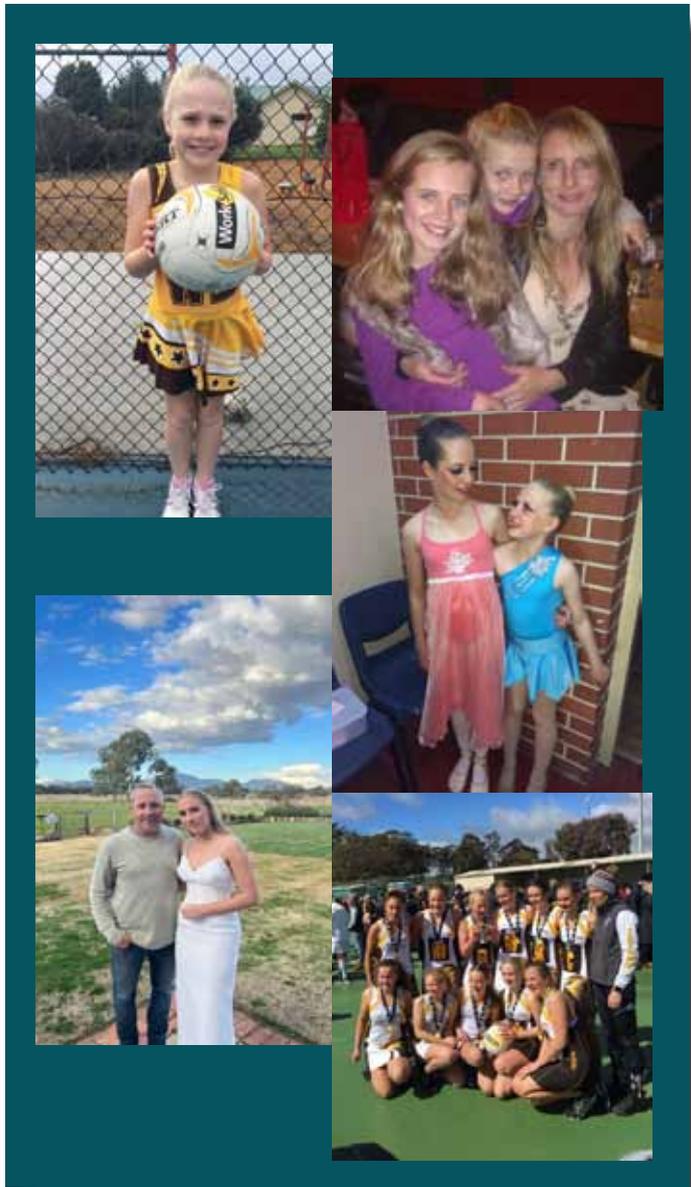


and made very fond memories, such as winning a netball premiership and countless duo practices with Madison Potter where we would talk more than dance.

In 2009 I started kinder at St Andrews where I met many people that I am still friends with to this day. In 2011 I continued my education at St Mary's Primary School where I spent most of my time doing

cartwheels with Greta Pinniger, (my best friend since Grade 1) and met some of my other closest friends to this date. I made so many great memories in primary school that I will cherish forever. In 2018 I started at Marian College. I remember feeling tiny compared to the Year 12s but luckily had my good friends who helped me through.

I have made so many lifelong friends throughout my schooling at Marian College and am forever grateful that Marian College has given me many opportunities to meet these amazing people. Marian has given me so many memories to cherish and lessons to learn that have helped shape me into the person I am today. I have definitely had my ups and downs but Marian has taught me that if I work hard, I can achieve great things. I am so grateful for the opportunity to lead the Kelly House this year alongside Jai. I hope I can be a supportive person for all students to come to.



I would like to thank my Mum and Dad for always supporting me and showing me so many wonderful things in this world. My parents have taught me to be a kind and independent woman who will always give anything a go. I would especially like to thank them for always motivating and supporting me with whatever it is I want to achieve.

For my future, I hope to travel as much of the world as I can and to eventually study at University to become a primary school teacher. But most of all I hope that I can continue to be the happy and bubbly person I am today.

My advice to younger year levels is to give everything a go. High school goes so fast so take all the opportunities to make memories with your friends. I wish my fellow Year 12 peers the best of luck for the year ahead. Work hard in your studies and make the most of your last year of schooling with your closest friends. Eliza xx

IN MY WORDS *with Sophie Fleming*

STEM Learning Captain

On July 22nd, 2005, my adoring parents Simon and Jody Fleming gave birth to their first child, Sophie Kate Fleming, at the Angliss Hospital in Melbourne. Of the three children my parents would have I was definitely the most docile of the three, with my tantrums very few and far between. This was very apparent when we moved back to my parent's hometown a year later, Warrnambool, and my little sister Amelia was born. From the moment she was born we immediately became best friends, and I've always been so grateful to have such an amazing younger sister to grow up beside (although half the time it was her getting us in trouble and me getting the blame). By the time 2008 came around, we'd moved to Ararat, and my youngest and only brother, James, was born, completing our family of five, (although me and Millie tried hiding so we would get a sister instead). This didn't faze us as we spent the better part of his toddler years dressing

him up in our princess dresses and forcing him through every Barbie movie possible, which quickly stopped once he was old enough to tell us to get lost.

We spent all of primary school living in the same house in Ararat, somewhere that I have my fondest memories, from having a trampoline under our treehouse that we used to jump onto, to the time me and Freya got into an hour long mud fight that resulted in us completely covered from head to toe in the brown goo. Going to St Mary's, there weren't many people who went there, so everyone was pretty friendly with each other and we had a pretty good environment (although there were still childish disagreements here and there). From St Mary's I can confidently say I've made some of my strongest connections with people, and I can't wait to continue watching us all grow into young adults.



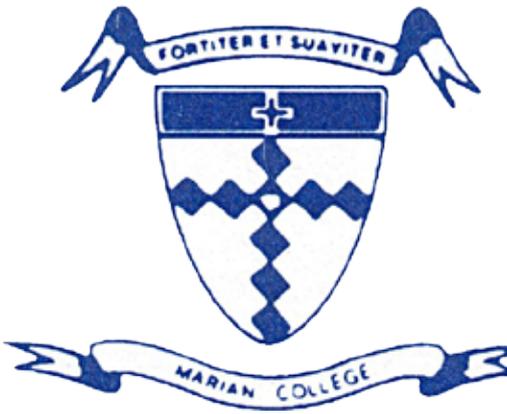
It was in primary school where I found most of my hobbies, particularly my love of reading thanks to Mrs A and her four bookshelves in our classroom. She could almost just look at you and find a book that she'd know you would love, and her persistence on the reading clubs really helped me embrace this passion.

I also found my love of sport, in particular netball, which has been my number one for as long as I can remember. Since I was a little girl and mum signed us up for every sport we could do, I've always known my true favourite has been playing netball. I've spent the better part of my netball life playing with the Great Western Lions, but this year I've found myself swapping leagues to play for the Stawell Warriors, something I'm really looking forward to.

Then I started high school, something that is undoubtedly the most terrifying yet rewarding thing I've ever had to do. I've been at Marian College for six years now, something that I'm still finding hard to admit myself, as I know I'm going to miss my time here (even those lonely years in lockdown), especially since I'm lucky enough to have such a close cohort. My absolute favourite thing about high school is undoubtedly Mr Naus and our Kelly 5 family, something I've been so proud to have been a part of and to watch all the older kids eventually hit the big Year 12 before leaving. This year is definitely a big change for Mr Naus with seven of us Year 12s helping him to guide the younger kids. Nearly every time I've had to make any big decisions I've been able to come to Mr Naus and receive some of my best advice and I honestly couldn't have asked for a better TA teacher so thank you for that.

When it comes to what I want to do once I leave high school, whilst I've always had a rough idea of what I've wanted to do my mind has constantly been changing, but I know I'm still young and I've still got so much time to come up with something. At the moment I'm hoping to go through medicine, with the hope of going to work in poorer countries and communities here in Australia, as I think that's something that I'd be proud to say I've done. I've also always had the dream of having my own little house somewhere on the coast, so hopefully that's still on the cards but I know I'll be happy wherever I am as long as I have people around me that I know love and support me.





Athletics Carnival

**Please note the Athletics Carnival is a compulsory school day
ALL students are required to attend!**

The Marian College Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 4th April, 2023. Parents are most welcome to come along and support our athletes at Alexandra Oval, Ararat but we will need to have parents located separately to students.

Students have had an opportunity at school to select the events they wish to enter. It is expected that all students participate in at least one event. Where this is not possible (eg. injury), students will be given roles to assist officials in the running of the carnival. Students will remain at Alexandra Oval during the day and will not be permitted to leave the venue. The carnival is a fun, active and colourful day and we look forward to seeing students getting into the spirit of the day by participating and supporting their team.

What: Marian College House Athletics Carnival.

When: Tuesday 4th April, 2023

Where: Alexandra Oval, Ararat.

Wear: PE uniform or house colours.

Food: Kiosk food will be available or bring own lunch.

No take away food is to be delivered by parents please.

Time: Students are to travel directly to the venue by 8.50 am. The school day will commence at 8.50 am with rolls being marked at the oval.

Buses: **Stawell and Country buses will drop off and pick up at the oval.**
Students will be dismissed from Alexandra Oval at approximately 3.15 pm.

Bring: Hat, drink, sunscreen. Warm layers if the weather is cold.

FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

As we begin week 8 I am reminded that the term is quickly coming to an end. This week is the last week for all term-based elective subjects and next week will be the beginning of new subjects and timetables for students in years 7 to 10. All senior classes will continue unchanged. If you are not sure which subjects this relates to please ask your subject teachers or TA teachers.

Last week the Year 8s spent 3 days on Retreat at Camp Wilkin, Anglesea. Their three days away included Retreat sessions led by the Youth Ministry Team Leaders from Melbourne. These sessions helped our students to understand what self-image is and how to be more inclusive of others and how to better respect themselves and others. As well as the retreat sessions, students tested their abilities in a number of outdoor activities including canoeing, mountain bike riding, high ropes course and climbing wall. Camps help us to learn more about ourselves and others in our year level. Thanks to all the students who participated and gave their best effort. You were all fantastic. I must give a special thank you to the staff who attended, Ms Glasson, Mr Armstrong, Mrs Walker, Ms Guan, Mr Clayton and Mr Casey, without you, students would not be able to have these opportunities.

Still on camps, this week the Year 10 Outdoor Ed classes will be out on camp putting into practice all that they have learnt during their class time. We wish them all the best for their 4 day camp and hope that they have great weather while they are away. It doesn't end there as in week 9 the Year 9s will have their chance to enjoy more of each other's company on their camp. They will travel to Portland and Cape Bridgewater for 3 days and enjoy a variety of beachside activities.

Week 10, the last week of term will be just as busy as each previous week has been. Tuesday, the 4th of April, we will hold the annual school Athletics Carnival. This is a day that I always look forward to. Please do your best to complete the events that you are entered into and do the best you can to support your house. Clancy did a great job earlier this term at the swimming carnival taking second place by a few points. When we all do our bit and participate we can maximise our score and hopefully take home the shield. Busses will again drop off and pick up from the oval. Remember to keep an eye on the weather but a hat and sunscreen are a must. Come dressed in your House colours. A canteen will run from the oval.

On Thursday 6th, the last day of term, Year 12 students will present the annual performance of Stations of the Cross. This is a Marian College tradition and is always eagerly anticipated and signals the end of term 1. Each year level will have the opportunity to view one of the performances across the day.

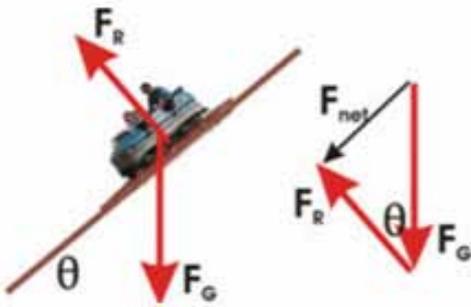
Project Compassion continues until Easter so please remember to donate any loose change to this very worthy cause.

GO CLANCY!!!!!!

Mrs Boatman
Clancy House Leader



Maths Methods & Physics News



The VCE Methods, Specialist and Physics students went to Melbourne to take part in the VicPhysics Luna Park Day.

VCE is about having an explanatory understanding of a concept. Students grow up using terms like speed, weight, fast, slow, far but often not necessarily scientifically accurate. Scientific literacy requires students to have the language to explain phenomena. This trip was about giving students similar experiences that we will refer to when learning concepts in Motion and Calculus.



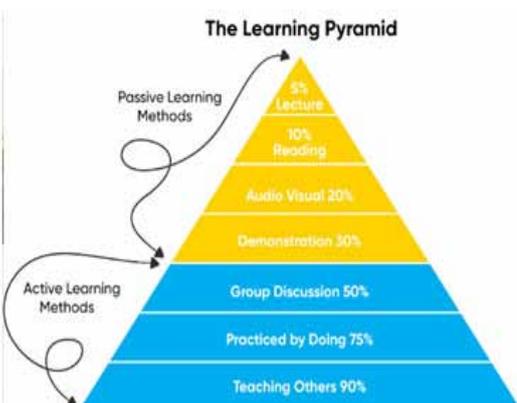
Advice to Parents

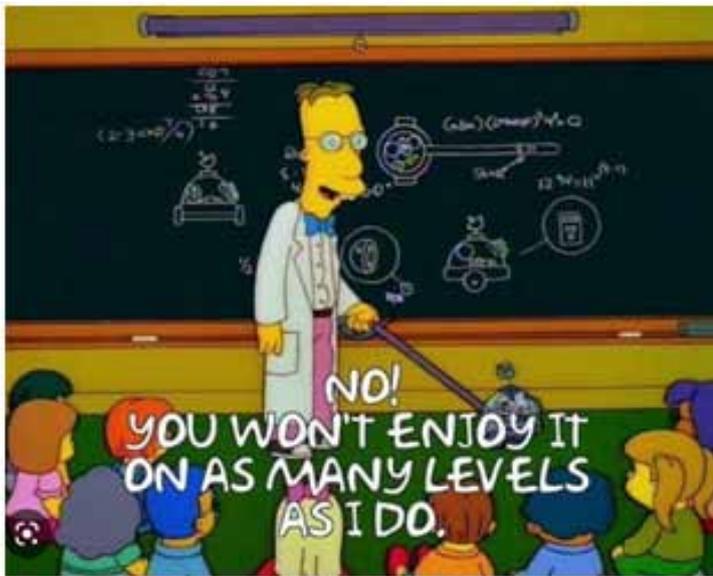
Earlier in the year I participated in the STAV Physics and listened to the Chief Assessor. He gave some advice for parents. "The best way to assist your kids is to ask what they learnt during the day and then keep asking questions."

Your kids know the material when they can articulate it. A common classroom technique is getting students to ask each other for help before asking the teacher. Kids talking about what they are thinking is the most effective way to process information.

Overall it was an awesome day with a great bunch of kids. The whole group were keen to make the most of the opportunities this trip presented them. Well done crew.

John Coghlan





CELEBRATING

HARMONY
DAY 21
MARCH



OUT OF
UNIFORM DAY
Gold coin
donation

Australia is one of the world's most successful multicultural countries and our cultural diversity is at the heart of who we are.

To celebrate Harmony Day we are having an out-of-uniform day on Tuesday 21st March. Students are asked to wear a touch of orange and make a gold coin donation. Funds raised will go to the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project.

JUNIOR GIRLS

FOOTY 4 FUN



Experience Australia's most loved sport through AFL Victoria's FREE Footy 4 Fun events delivered across Victoria! A footy experience full of fun activities, modified games & memorable moments to take home with you!

Footy 4 Fun Junior Girls is all about giving girls (turning 9-14 years old in 2023) the opportunity to experience football in a fun and safe environment through fun activities and modified game.

WHERE:

Ararat Alexandra Oval

WHEN:

Wednesday March 22
from 4:30pm-5:30pm.



REGISTER HERE!

March 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20	21 HARMONY DAY OUT OF UNIFORM (see page 14) GWR GOLF	22	23 SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR	24 SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR
OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP				
NAPLAN YEARS 7 & 9				
27 JUST A FARMER EXCURSION	28	29	30	31 VCE TOP DESIGNS EXCURSION
YEAR 9 CAMP				

April 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL	5	6 STATIONS OF THE CROSS LAST DAY OF TERM 1 - EARLY DISMISSAL 2.15 pm	7 GOOD FRIDAY
HOLIDAYS				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
24 STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	25 ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	26 STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 2	27 STATE SWIMMING	28 INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL