



From the Principal

Dear St Mary's College Community,

Last week we were deeply saddened by the news that one of the two young people murdered in the South East was Chelsea, a graduate from the St Mary's Class of 2018.

As a community, we are heartbroken at the loss of two fine young people. Our hearts are with Chelsea's family and friends as they come to terms with the magnitude of this tragic event.

Our staff have remembered and prayed for Chelsea and her family. Students in the classes of 2018 and 2016 gathered as friends of Maddie (Chelsea's sister) and Chelsea. In time, we will hold a memorial with friends and family here at the College.



The staff community remembers Chelsea as a bright and engaged young woman who was connected with her community and embraced all elements of school life. She loved learning and worked diligently with her teachers to achieve her best. She was active in social justice leadership and e-commit; a young woman dedicated to making the world a better place. In 2017, she was one of the students who went to Oak Valley. It was a year when the program did not unfold as planned and Chelsea, along with the other students, demonstrated the kind of resilience, adaptability and teamwork we are so proud of in our St Mary's graduates.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Chelsea's family and friends. We remember in a particular way our 2018 cohort who shared years of friendship with Chelsea. We are also thinking of and praying for Lukasz, his family and friends, and the broader Christian Brothers College community.

Traumatic events can be felt throughout a community, whether people have a direct connection to the event or not. If your child needs to speak with someone, our counselling team is available; they can also speak with their Sub-School Director or a member of the Leadership Team. Please contact one of the above if you are at all concerned about your child's wellbeing.

We shared this prayer in our staff gathering on Monday:

God who loves and cares for us
We pray to you for Chelsea and her family
Whose hearts are broken by sadness
Hold them close to your heart now
And let them feel your comfort
In the love and support we offer them
We pray this in Jesus' name
Amen

It is hard to make meaning of such senseless violence and loss. What does make sense is that in the face of such tragedy, our community gathers in faith, support and love, to care for each other and for all those impacted by these events.



Warm regards,

Clare Nocka
Principal

From the Deputy Principal

Child Protection Week: 6-12 September 2020

National Child Protection Week is held each September to promote messages of child abuse prevention and child protection.

This year, National Child Protection Week will celebrate its 30th year with the theme: *Putting Children First*.

'*Putting Children First*' was front of mind when the National Child Protection Week campaign was launched in 1990, with the aim of bringing abuse and neglect out of the shadows and putting child wellbeing on the national agenda.

Since then, the need to put children first has been recognised time and time again as an important pillar for boosting the wellbeing of all children in Australia.

Last year's National Child Protection Week campaign was based on research that shows the importance of putting children first when talking about parenting, and continued the message that conversations are a key part of engaging the whole community in caring for children.

Under this year's theme of 'Putting Children First', all Australians are asked to look at how they can prioritise children in their lives and communities – as individuals, and as part of families, organisations, communities and society.

Putting children first means prioritising the safety and wellbeing of children. To grow up well, children need to feel safe and loved, have a chance to play and explore, have a say in decisions that affect them, and access to essential things like food, shelter and healthcare.

For children to thrive we need to come together as a community and put children's needs first during National Child Protection Week and every week.

There are a number of online events this year (due to covid restrictions) ...listed below is a specific webinar relevant for parents:

eSafety's parent guide to popular apps - *Taking a look at TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat and YouTube*

The **eSafety Commissioner** has invited the parent/carer community to participate in their live (no cost) parent/webinars for National Child Protection Week on a number of different days during this week, both during the day and at night. This live webinar (no cost), focuses on popular apps used by young people. It will include case studies, research, and targeted advice so you can support the young people in your life to have safe, enjoyable online experiences. Go to <https://www.napcan.org.au/official-program-webinars-events/> to register.

Unwell Students

A reminder that if your daughter is sick with cold and flu like symptoms, under COVID-19 guidelines, she needs to stay at home until she is well enough to return to school. If you take your daughter to the doctor, and they request that she have a covid test, please keep your daughter at home until the results come through.

The Student Service Office cannot hold students who are unwell for longer than half an hour, due to the number of students in the school and the size of the SSO. Therefore, if you are contacted by the SSO Officer to come and pick up your daughter, we appreciate your support and cooperation in doing so.

Parents are also asked not to come on to campus with cold and flu like symptoms, once again, supporting SA Health Guidelines.



We continue to provide hand sanitiser stations upon entry and exit to the school for parents and visitors coming into the school, and throughout the school for students to access.

Lorna Starrs
Deputy Principal

Subject Selection for 2021

Over the last two weeks our Year 11 and 10 students have been thinking ahead to their subject pathways for 2021. I always remind students that this is an exciting time for them to think about their interests, achievements, and future planning.

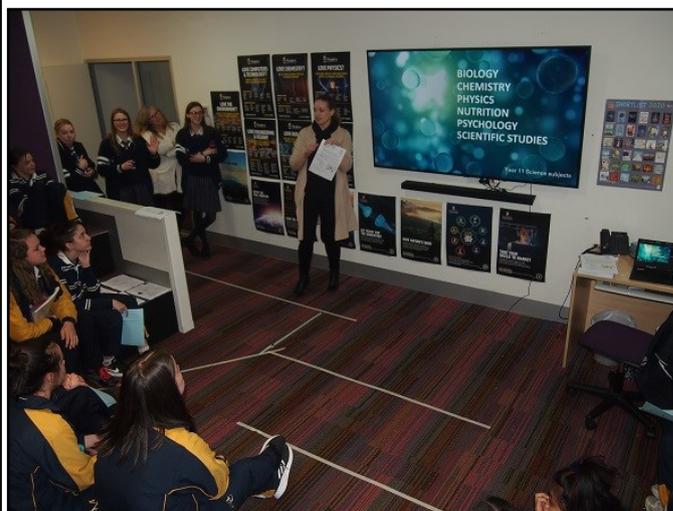
Our students juggle many things in their busy world, and we are increasingly finding flexibilities within our own curriculum offerings and SACE to accommodate interests and passions. With this in mind, we are offering some new subjects in the areas of Health and Wellbeing and Business Entrepreneurship. These subjects allow students to experience the design thinking process where they can be innovative creative thinkers, while evaluating themselves as learners and working collaboratively.

We are also seeing students drawn to flexible SACE subjects such as Community Studies and Cross Disciplinary Learning. It is in these areas that students are supported to hypothesise, test a thesis, undertake the research process, and discern information within a contemporary learning scaffold. Students develop skills in critical thinking, ethical understanding, and interpersonal communication.

Our Learning Area Leaders and student advocates generously provided the Year 10 and 11 students with information and advice about subjects at the recent expo events. Since relationships are at the centre of everything we do at St Mary's, we have also hosted personalised subject counselling appointments for each family to support pathway decisions.



Tracey Thursby
Director of Teaching and Learning



Year 2 Art

Over the past few weeks, the Year 2 Art class have been thinking about all the fun things you find at the fringe, they then put these ideas into a poster for the Fringe 2021 Schools Poster Competition where schools from around SA submit their posters for the chance to win a performance by a 2021 Fringe artist for their school. The winning artwork will also appear on the cover of the 2021 Adelaide Fringe Schools Booking Guide and star in an exhibition at the Adelaide Central Market. They are very excited to be a part of this competition, so wish them luck!

Alana Kunowicz
Art Teacher



Premier Reading Challenge

This is just a reminder to you all that the Premier's Reading Challenge finishes on Friday 4 September.



Could you please remind your daughters to bring their completed forms to the library?

If your daughter needs any help completing her form, please remind her that the library staff members are only too happy to help!



Any queries, please contact me on 8216 5766 or email eileen.mccabe@stmarys.sa.edu.au

Eileen McCabe
Coordinator Information Resources

Online Safety- Interactive Tour

The Office of the eSafety Commissioner has just released for parents of young adults (10-14 years) an interactive tour that explores how to safely manage online issues as they arise. It is important as parents to learn about the digital environment in which your daughters interact and how you can help them to have safe and enjoyable online experiences. Visit the link below to take this online tour.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent/screen-smart-tour>

Year 5 Class Liturgy

The Assumption of Mary

Our class liturgy was a wonderful celebration of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We enjoyed gathering in the school chapel and being in the presence of God in such a beautiful, sacred space. We sang with joyful hearts and responded thoughtfully to each prayer. It was a meaningful way for us to connect with Mary and spend some quiet time together as a class. **Milla and Macey**



Anne Soldan
Junior School Coordinator Prayer and Liturgy



Mini Mary's in the Garden

Recently, we planned for and planted garden beds at St Mary's.

These garden beds were outside the Year 5 area and staff carpark, as well as pot plants near the instrumental music rooms. To be environmentally friendly, we collected clippings and cuttings of plants from our homes instead of buying them. The Maintenance crew laid drip irrigation along the carpark garden bed as this gets lots very hot in summer.

We look forward to a healthy and thriving garden. Have a look next time you walk past and see the beauty of nature.



Mini Mary's



WRITERS INK 2020

Our Monday afternoon writing club has recommenced this term after a break in Term 2. The group is open to any Year 7 – 12 student interested in developing their creative writing and sharing ideas with likeminded students.

Earlier this term, students wrote poems based on their experiences and feelings about the current COVID-19 Pandemic. Two students in 7G display quite contrasting beliefs about this situation in the following excellent poems.

COVID-19 by Jade H

Covid-19 has changed our lives
 It has ruined our good vibe
 I can't see my family and friends
 It seems like it will never end
 Stuck at home
 All alone
 Watching Netflix on the couch
 Acting like a grumpy grouch
 Everything is quite dark
 No playing at the park
 No cars on the roads
 No trucks carrying heavy loads
 People with masks all around
 The toilet paper stock is going down
 Our whole world is going crazy
 People are getting lazy
 All the schools are closing slowly
 School at home is very lonely
 Wearing pjs all day long
 Listening to my favourite song
 Hand contact is forbidden
 When you sneeze it must be hidden
 Germs going all around
 If you cough don't make a sound
 People will judge you on the street
 If you hug them as you greet
 Hand sanitizer is selling out
 Everyone fights and shouts
 Fights over who gets what
 Toilet paper
 Sanitizer
 You would think people should be wiser

COVID-19 by Elle B

Due to this deadly disease
 I get to relax with ease,

 I do not know where to begin,
 Some people consider COVID as a sin,

 I do not see it that way,
 "I do not think this" I say,

 "I see this as a change,
 "That is not deranged,"

 Others beg to differ with me,
 So I think "I'll let them flee,"

 If they want to hide in fear,
 That is their mistake, my dear.

Although this next piece is not on theme of COVID-19, Jenna (11B) wrote this about her favourite pet chicken:

Chickadee the Chicken by Jenna L

She's the leader of the flock but she's certainly not the tallest, take one look and you will see she's actually the smallest!
 Chickadee's a tiny thing that you'd think would be at loss, but she wouldn't hesitate to show people who exactly is the boss.
 She walks the garden like she owns the place and likes to take the lead, but it doesn't help that her dull lilac feathers make it hard to see.
 She's a winged Houdini and that's truly not a joke, because every day we find that out of her cage she broke.
 We try to patch up the hole, but this game she always wins, and she even has the nerve to expect us to put her back in!
 But we've gotten used to it, no use in being blue. And what I said about owning the garden? That may as well be true.



Carmen Gambarotto and Bernie McInerney
 Senior English teachers and
 Writers INK supervisors

Year 2 & 3 String Immersion Program

A picture speaks 1000 words, and this one shouts them! Our Year 2/3 String Immersion Program is taking off.

From the first week of Term 2, these budding musicians commenced their string tuition. From ensemble work to small group learning, students have been exposed to numerous musical and life based skills. Reading music, learning their instruments, understanding independent responsibility, and persisting in personal and team learning are just some of the skills the students have been exposed to.

Starting with no background in violin, these Year 2/3s are now sight-reading new music, performing independently, and performing as a large ensemble. We have conquered open string work, introducing intonation skills, bowing technique, and there is much more to come.

I am extremely proud of their efforts and cannot wait to see what they bring to the music family of St Mary's in the near future. Well done girls!

Hayley Wedding Music Teacher



Career Chat

As part of my role in the College, as R – 12 Careers Education and VET Coordinator, I am tracking student career development. Part of this involves tracking students from Junior School level all the way through to the end of Year 12, as well as supporting current Senior students with their career pathways and planning. Tracking career development and planning students enables the College to map where Career Education needs to occur within the College; to support students who wish to enter what may be viewed as non-traditional fields for girls; and to help tailor and plan what career support is needed in our community.

It has been a pleasure to meet with the Year 12 students, listening to their exciting plans for the next few years, providing them with ideas and encouragement to plan their next steps. Good luck to the Year 12 students applying for the Adelaide Universities or Alternative Entry Pathway based on Year 11 Results. Further information about this pathway can be located using this link.

<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/study/undergraduate/year11-entry-pathway>

To help students transition to post school pathways, a resource has been provided by the Australian Government to assist families with understanding financial assistance that may be available to students post secondary school. Click on the link below for more information.

[Resources for School Leavers](#)

Now it's time for the Year 11 students to check in with me about their career planning. I will be providing an opportunity for every student to start a short conversation with me in the remaining weeks of this term.

VET Information

Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses for 2021 are starting to become available. If students have an interest in a particular VET course, the first step is to complete a Registration of Interest Form (available on the Career Exploration Portal in SEQTA) and return it to either Ms Davies or myself in the Veritas Centre. We will then provide some options for families to consider. The Career Exploration Portal also has some links to courses for 2021 and will be updated as more become available. Look in the VET Course Information for 2021.



Suzanne Megaw
R-12 Careers Education and
VET Coordinator

SPECIAL REPORT: Riding the Corona Coaster

Across in Victoria, students and their families are experiencing challenging times with the state being in various stages of lockdown yet again. However, this second wave of the pandemic is now also beginning to impact other areas of Australia and New Zealand. Riding this corona coaster, and navigating the ups and downs of the current reality is proving to be confronting for many people. The coronavirus has turned our lives upside down with some students returning to remote learning and parents continuing to juggle the home environment.

The uncertainty of not knowing what will happen next may have an impact on many students and their families. There is a concern that mental health issues such as anxiety, depression and substance abuse will increase, especially amongst young people. In the coming weeks, it will be vital for adult carers to reduce the stress levels at home and make life seem more manageable.

As an adult carer, it will also be essential to look after your own wellbeing during this time. Ensure you make time to de-escalate your own nervous system and maintain your sleep routine, healthy eating habits, get some regular exercise and reach out virtually to friends and family.

In the link below to the Special Report, families are encouraged to embrace the guidance offered to help minimise the impact of this corona coaster. We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report

https://stmaryscollege.catholic.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-riding-corona-coaster



Christina Kilishiri
Director of Senior School

JASMIN PARASIERIS

G4C is an inter-years, interdisciplinary, capabilities driven project that is seeking to explore how the development of extra-curricular and semi-curricular activities can be a place for the development of learner profiles. It explores how the flexibility of the SACE can be harnessed for all learners and seeks to develop an interim experience for students whose needs are not being met in traditional classrooms, but for whom the VET pathway is not quite right either.

Monday
12 October
@ 10:50am



NazTech
Creating today's thinkers ...
to solve tomorrow's problems

To register, go to

<https://www.nazareth.org.au/college/digital-technologies/register-for-the-future-learners-conference>



Principal's Tours

Junior Campus:
Saturday 29 August
Tuesday 15 September

Senior Campus:
Saturday 29 August
Thursday 17 September

Register online:
www.cbc.sa.edu.au/tours

For information or to request
a prospectus please contact
Rita Micale on 8400 4210



A Co-Ed ELC and R-Year 12 Catholic College
for Boys in the Edmund Rice Tradition



www.cbc.sa.edu.au

Year 10 Winter Warmers

Year 10 "Winter Warmer" mornings began a bit later this year due to COVID-19. As part of this, Year 10s participate in a "Winter Warmer" each Friday morning before school. Students gather for a hot drink of their choice and some baked goods for a gold coin donation. The donations are then used to buy food and warm items to help support Adelaide's growing homeless population, as part of a wider ongoing partnership between St Mary's College and the Adelaide Day Centre for Homelessness. This morning was a nice reminder of how privileged we are and how with that, comes a responsibility to support others. Special thanks to those students who contributed to the \$40 raised on the first morning; we can't wait to see the donation tally rise!



Celeste Fontanabella
Year 10 Coordinator



2021 Enrolments Finalising Now

We are in the process of finalising places for 2021 and offering 2022 enrolments. Families are reminded that siblings enjoy priority of enrolment at St Mary's College only if they are on the waiting list.

If you have a child at another school and you wish them to transfer here or they are due to start school please register here <https://enrol.stmarys.sa.edu.au/application-for-enrolment/start> **urgently** if you have not already done so.

Interviews are taking place now. Should you have any questions about the enrolment process and guaranteeing a place for your daughter, please contact the Registrar, Ms Tammi Gill at enrolments@stmaryscollege.catholic.edu.au or on 8216 5704.

Parents and carers are also reminded that at least one term's notice of termination of enrolment must be given for any withdrawal of place and failure to do so will mean payment of a term's fees in lieu of notice, irrespective of the date the child leaves during the term. If you need to discuss your daughter's enrolment status for 2021 please contact the Principal's Executive Assistant, Sandy Conroy on 8216 5706 to arrange a confidential meeting.

Traffic Safety

I would like to communicate some important reminders and requests regarding traffic safety and awareness. Observations and parental feedback have indicated some dangerous driving behaviours which compromise student and community safety particularly in Franklin Street at the beginning and end of the day.

We ask that all community members follow the simple manageable requests below which are based on traffic safety guidelines from Adelaide City Council and the need to prioritise community safety over individual need.

PLEASE do not park your vehicle in the Drop Off/Pick Up Zone adjacent to the main gates between 8.00 and 9.00 am and 3.00 and 4.00 pm.

- You must **not** stop in a **NO STOPPING** Zone, even for a few seconds to pick up your child.
- You **may** stop in a **NO PARKING ZONE** for a few seconds to pick up a child who is waiting nearby. You must **not** park or leave the vehicle.

PLEASE do not double park on the outside of parked vehicles – this is dangerous and blocks the bike lane.

PLEASE consider delaying your arrival to collect your daughter at the end of the day by **5/10 minutes**.

PLEASE understand that it is not possible for all parents to collect their daughters at 3.15 pm outside the main gate.

PLEASE drive around the block if necessary.

PLEASE consider parking a little further away and allowing yourself/your daughter to walk.

PLEASE model responsible behaviour by always using the pedestrian crossing to cross Franklin Street.

Your cooperation in these matters will be greatly valued and appreciated.



Peter Channing
Director of Administration and Operations