



SEASON OF ADVENT



Dear Monican Community,

We enter the Season of Advent as we await the coming of Christmas and the commemoration of the birth of Jesus, God and man. Jesus was born in very humble circumstances to Blessed Mary who conceived Him through the intercession of God. This was the birth of a new king, a King of Peace, and Saviour of the world from the power and might of evil.

I wish all Monicans a very happy Christmas in this year that has been so difficult to bear for so many. The pain and anguish pervade our thoughts still, whilst millions of people in other countries are experiencing the virus spread and its effects in large numbers now.

The four themes of Advent lead us to steady ourselves in Australia and to prepare for the arrival of new life. Hopefully, this will be reflected in our wellbeing also. Hope, Peace, Love and Joy are beautiful reminders of the life that awaits us if we approach the coming of Christmas in a spiritual manner.

Derived from the Latin verb, 'advenio' the term 'Advent' means 'to come to'. This is what we are experiencing spiritually over the next four weeks. Some Christians choose to undertake fasting at this time whilst others vary their prayer life and select advent-themed prayers. People of all faiths and none, enjoy singing Christmas Carols, or alternatively jolly Christmas songs.

There are enjoyable traditions surrounding the next four weeks, different according to one's culture and faith. For Christian people and others, the next month brings gift purchasing, decorations of special trees, brightly colored yuletide displays in shop windows and private residences. People plan for the celebratory

Christmas lunch – meat or seafood this year? Tables are decorated, gifts packaged in bright paper and ribbons, and there is an expectant wait for the arrival of Santa Claus. It is a joyful time.

Advent is the preparation we make for the coming of the birth of Jesus, and that statement of faith and belief is central to a Christian person's understandings and preparations.

I thank all members of our Monican community for 2020, a year so foreign to us in its harsh impact. I praise to the highest level each and every student Monican for their perseverance, excellent behaviour and courage.

I commend those employed at SMC for the extraordinary efforts put into their responsibilities, whatever they are. Every positive aspect of being employed at this College has been demonstrated by a wonderful group of people.

I gratefully acknowledge the parents of Monicans for their trust and support, for the efforts so many of you were required to make financially, for re-enrolling your child for 2021, and for the many expression of thanks to the College.

May Advent be a time of safety, hope, peace, love and joy for every Monican. May Christmas hold all the joyful happiness it normally does for people. May the New Year and holiday period be a time for relaxation and recreation.

These blessings are our 2020 gifts on the table of life.



CONCLUDING 2020 REMARKS

The College will be closed over the major holiday period, but much work will recommence in early January. I am pleased to inform the College community that our Cooida Project will commence, perhaps as early as December. This comprises a double-storey Year 9 building plus a second building, the Science/STEM building (again double-storey) overlooking the soccer fields. Please refer to important calendar dates below.

I wish those students who are departing the College well in their future years and also those families who have supported the school. We also farewell staff members from 11 December: Kate Molony, Alison Baker, Maria Rinaldo, Brian Winther, Lesleigh Madden, Robyn Knott, Bernadette Sheedy, Anthony Davies, Judy McMahon and Helene Humphreys. Whether it is retirement (for most) or appointments elsewhere, good luck and thank you.

YEARS 7 – 11 REPORTS

Please note that Years 7–11 end of semester reports will only be available online.

Please log into the Parent Access Module (PAM) under MY SMC tab via the St Monica's College Website to view reports, using your login details received previously. There will be no hard copies of reports sent home.

All reports will be available from Monday 14 December.

FINANCE CORNER

Tuition Fees 2020

This is a reminder that all accounts not on approved extended payment plans are now due and payable as of 30 November 2020.

Should you wish to enter a payment plan or require assistance please contact the Fees Department on 9409 8800.

Payment Plans 2021

Just a reminder to all families that 2021 Direct Debit Payment Plan Forms are due. If you have not received this form, please contact the Fees Department.

St Monica's College arrangement options include Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly and Quarterly plans. An additional extension to the 28 November 2021 will be provided to all families for 2021 fees if you are on an approved payment plan.

To submit your form, please send to Fees@stmonicas-epping.com, in person at Augustine House or use the following link and complete online: <https://www.stmonicas-epping.com/payment-plan>.

AWARD WINNERS

Principal's Art Prize

Anela Go (Year 11 White)

Principal's Ribbon for Cookery

David Chessari (Year 12 Purple)

Principal's Cup for Song

Rhea John (Year 11 Gold)

Principal's Shield for Chess

Jake Vasilevski (Year 11 Blue)

Principal's Award for Public Speaking

Leanne Sebastian (Year 11 Mauve)

Principal's Gift

Chase Page (Year 11 Jade)

Principal's Gift

Erica Rocchiccioli (Year 11 Blue)

Leonard Family Award

Riya Roy (Year 7 Indigo)

Director's Award for School Spirit -DRC

Vincent Barillaro (Year 9 Blue)

Director's Award for School Spirit -DSC

Erica Rocchiccioli (Year 11 Blue)

Kwong Lee Dow Scholarship

Logan Divers (Year 10 Mauve)

Caltex All Rounder Award

Alana Jancevski (Year 12 Indigo)

Australian Defence Force Long Tan Awards

Ramel Kunda (Year 12 Emerald)

Kelis Dobrzynski (Year 10 Silver)

Religious Studies Awards – Year 10

Asha Awad (Year 10 Red)

Matthew Kristanto (Year 10 Green)

Religious Studies Awards – Year 11

Kaliopi Sword (Year 11 Yellow)

Ericson Abraham Morkattil (Year 11 Blue)

Religious Studies Awards – Year 7

Angel Gupta (Year 7 White)

Yenuli Peiris (Year 7 Purple)

Religious Studies Awards – Year 8

Cynthia He (Year 8 White)

Massimo Federico (Year 7 Silver)

Religious Studies Awards – Year 9

Aleks Bozinovska (Year 9 Indigo)

Vincent Barillaro (Year 9 Blue)

Performing Arts Award

Aliya Awad (Year 11 Jade)

Social Justice Award

Briana Papathanasiou (Year 12 Mauve)



CAREERS CORNER

Free TAFE courses!

Free TAFE for Priority Courses

[Free TAFE for priority courses](#) gives more Victorians the chance to study at TAFE.

More than ever, the skills we need to build our state are learnt at TAFE.

Free TAFE for priority courses reduces financial barriers for students. Students can train in courses that lead to jobs in demand from Victorian employers.

Free TAFE for priority courses began on 1 January 2019. At the end of its first year more than 39,700 students had commenced in Free TAFE courses across the TAFE network.

In January 2020, two new early childhood courses were added to the Free TAFE course list. From Semester Two 2020, four new Free TAFE courses are being added in priority areas with in-demand jobs. The additional Free TAFE places are being provided to support individuals affected by coronavirus (COVID -19).

Free TAFE for priority courses covers tuition fees for students who are eligible for government-subsidised training.

2020 SMC HOUSE CHESS COMPETITION

The 2020 SMC House Chess Competitions concluded this week. DRC students played their final rounds at Chess Club on Monday after school with the following results:

Cruze De Giorgio def Maksim Saletic and is the 2020 Year 7 House Chess Champion. Well done to both boys. Vansh Kumar def Trajco Nikolov to become the 2020 Year 8 House Chess Champion. Congratulations Vansh and well done Trajco. The winners then went on to play each other in the first round of the DRC Championship. Cruze won the first round and then went on to play Jeremiah Susi in the Championship game. The 2020 SMC House DRC Chess Champion is Cruze De Giorgio. Congratulations Cruze! Well done to Jeremiah the runner up.

The DSC Overall Championship game was played on Wednesday after the Maths Methods exam. A good way for Pino Mascetti and Jake Vasilevski to unwind. The 2020 SMC House DSC Chess Champion is Jake Vasilevski - Congratulations Jake. Well done to Pino.

These boys have played over many years and should be very proud of their sportsmanship and talent.

Thank you to Mr Kostraby and Mrs Carbone for their hosting of this annual event and to Mr Strantzen for his amazing support.



OFF THE LIBRARY SHELF **RECOMMENDED CHRISTMAS READING**

The following list is from **SJQL** and is a combination of fiction and a few non fiction titles:

Fiction

- The Last Man and the Dry – Jane Harper
- The Good Turn – Dervla McTiernan
- Keeper of the Bees – Meg Kassel
- The woman in the window - AJ Finn
- Neverland – Margot McGovern
- Someday we will fly – Rachel DeWoskin
- Eve – Anna Corey
- Rift – Rachel Crow
- Small Spaces – Sarah Epstein
- That's not what happened – Kody Keplinger
- It Sounded Better in My Head – Nina Kenwood
- Beautiful Mess - Claire Christian
- House of Earth and Blood – Sarah J Maas

Non Fiction

- Hope – Tim Costello
- Phosphorescence – Julia Baird
- Thirteen – Shannon Molloy
- Bohemian Rhapsody: definitive biography of Freddie Mercury – Lesley Ann Jones.

The following is a list of fiction from **PCL**:

Year 9

- Boy who steals houses by C.G. Drews
 - The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo
 - Four dead queens by Astrid Scholte
 - Ghost bird by Lisa Fuller
 - How it feels to float by Helena Fox
 - Crazy rich Asians by Kevin Kwan
- And a classic 'Looking for Alibrandi' by Melina Marchetta.

Year 8

- The Heart of the bubble by Trace Bella
 - Enola Holmes: the case of the missing marquess by Nancy Springer
 - Hold back the tide by Melinda Salisbury
 - The girl who was supposed to die by April Henry
 - 300 minutes of danger by Jack Heath
 - We were liars by E.Lockart
- And a classic 'The Diary of Anne Frank' by Anne Frank, Everywhere, Everything, Everyone by Katy Warner
- Keeper of the Lost Cities by Shannon Messenger.
- The Truth about Peacock Blue by Rosanne Hawke
- Whisper by Lynette Noni.

Year 7

- The face on the milk carton by Caroline Cooney
 - The Key to Rondo by Emily Rodda
 - Auggie and me: three wonder stories by RJ Palacio
 - The Alchemist by Paolo Coelho
 - The fall by Tristan Banks
 - The Summer I turned pretty by Jenny Han
- And classic reads: 'Little women' by Louisa May Alcott, 'The Hatchet' by Gary Paulsen and 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R Tolkien
- Fantasy fans: The Septimus Heap series by Angie Sage.

WORLD OF SPORT



Sports Presentation Ceremony

M O N D A Y , 3 0 N O V E M B E R

Live Stream via Facebook

2021 SMC HOUSE CAPTAINS



Alkira

Year 8

Christian Chiechi
Grace Farah

Year 9

Tommy Vrkic
Katelyn Busuttil

Year 10

Peter Papathanasiou
Megan Dyson

Year 11

Tristan Kalkbrenner
Amy Temos

Year 12

Brandon Yates
Raphaella Christou



Barinya

Year 8

Baylie Day
Isabella Zammit

Year 9

Jacob Younes
Stephanie Rozario

Year 10

Simon Tawfiq
Katia Mastropaolo

Year 11

Harrison Karvellas
Marisa Visaggio

Year 12

Nicholas Younes
Bella Ebrahim



Larapinta

Year 8

Jackson Sloan
Gemma Di Nello

Year 9

Jackson Veljanovski
Sienna Crea

Year 10

Devon Nim
Gretchen Lucas

Year 11

Rayan Jayatilake
Sienna Cappola

Year 12

Chase Page
Rayani Jayatilake



Glenora

Year 8

Klint Naakeu
Slavica Altandzieva

Year 9

Grady Schroeter
Jasmine Scott

Year 10

Athan Iliopoulos
Aleks Bozinovska

Year 11

Andre Gill-Haimowich
Cheyenne Schroeter

Year 12

Cooper Scott
Erica Rocchiccioli

COLLEGE CALENDAR 2021

Term 1

January

29 Year 7 Orientation Day

February

1 Year 7 Classes Commence
2 Year 8 – 12 Classes Commence
9 Academic Honours Evening (Virtual)
16 College Assembly
17 Ash Wednesday
17 Dalton Road Campus Photographs
18 Davisson Street Campus Photographs

March

8 Labour Day (Public Holiday)
16 Years 7 – 12 Parent Teacher Conferences
25 Years 7 – 12 Parent Teacher Conferences
29 College Mass

April

1 Staff Professional Learning Day (Student Free)
1 End of Term 1
2 Good Friday
4 Easter Sunday
5 Easter Monday

Term 2

April

19 Term 2 Classes Commence
20 Principal's Art Prize

May

6 College Assembly
11 – 13 NAPLAN Testing
20 Principal's Ribbon for Cookery
21 Year 10 Formation Day

June

1 – 10 Year 10-11 Examinations
4 Years 7-9 Parish Masses
8 – 10 Year 8-9 Examinations
10 Year 12 Principal's Dinner
11 Report Writing Day (Student Free)
14 Queen's Birthday (Public Holiday)
15 Changeover Electives 7 - 10 (Start of Units 2 and 4)
16 – 20 College Production
25 End of Term 2

Term 3

July

12 Staff Professional Learning Day (Student Free)
13 Term 3 Classes Commence
15 Principal's Award for Public Speaking
26 College Assembly
30 Year 11 Formation Day

August

6 House Cross Country
11 Years 7 – 12 Parent Teacher Conferences
17 Years 7 – 12 Parent Teacher Conferences
18 Staff Professional Learning Day (Student Free)
23 – 27 ST MONICA'S WEEK
23 Annual Oration
27 St Monica's Day

September

6 Principal's Cup for Song
17 Staff Professional Learning Day (Student Free)
17 End of Term 3

Term 4

October

4 Term 4 Classes Commence
6 House Athletics Carnival
6 Principal's Gift
11 Principal's Trophy for Technology
25 – 29 Year 7 Camp

November

1 Mid Term Break (Student Free)
3 Melbourne Cup Day (Public Holiday)
15 – 25 Year 10 - 11 Examinations
19 Swimming Carnival
22 – 25 Year 9 Examinations
26 Report Writing Day (Student Free)
29 Hello 2022 Assembly and Launch
30 Year 7, 2022 Orientation Day

December

3 – 6 Year 7 - 8 Examinations
7 Classes Conclude for Years 7 - 11

2021 MUSIC LESSON ENROLMENT



Music lesson Enrolments are currently open for 2021. Year 7 students are offered free lessons and instrument hire on all brass, woodwind, string and orchestral percussion instruments for the duration of Semester 1 2021. Fees apply for all other instruments including voice, guitar, piano and drum kit and places are limited.

Students currently enrolled for 2020 are asked to re-enrol for 2021 by **Friday 4 December**.

Please visit the Instrumental Music site for details about the program and to complete an online enrolment form: <https://www.stmonicas-epping.com/instrumental-music/>



ETHICS OLYMPIAD COMPETITION 2020



On Wednesday 25 November, five of our Year 8 and Year 9 students participated in the 2020 Ethics Olympiad Competition via Zoom.

This exciting educational experience provided students with the opportunity to compete against other Victorian schools in a series of four Ethics Olympiad heats, where they were scored according to set criteria, which rewards clear, concise and respectful discourse around challenging ethical cases.

I am pleased to report that our SMC team came 6th out of a

total of 27 teams from across Victoria.

This is truly an excellent result in light of this being the first year that our College has participated in this event.

I commend the following students for being part of this College initiative:

Simon Tawfiq (9 Silver); Cindy Le (9 Silver); Shintaro Katon (9 White); Alexandra Matula (8 Yellow); Aditya Talukder (8 White)

AUSTRALIA READS HAMPER WINNERS

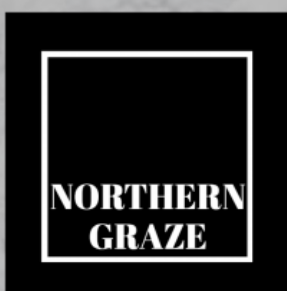


We concluded our Australia Reads celebrations this week with the Readers Hamper draw on Monday at lunchtime.

Our lucky winners are:

Angella Dcunha (7 Indigo), Ava Cleary (7 Blue) and Yenuli Peiris (7 Purple).

Congratulations to our winners and all the students who reported on their recent reads. All the Bookmark entries will be displayed in the library as great reading suggestions for everyone.

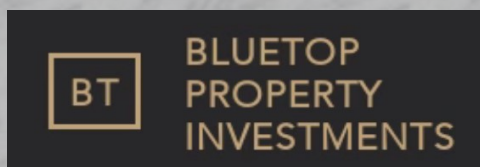


Briana Papathanasiou (Class of 2020)

Northern Graze

Phone: 0409 195 017

Email: northerngraze@gmail.com



Alan Cho (Current Parent)

Bluetop Property Investments

Phone: 0412 034 059

Email: alanc@bluetopproperty.com.au

Website: www.bluetopproperty.com.au



Daniel Bonora (Class of 2015)

Best Choice Gardening

Phone: 0450 005 090

Email: daniel.bonora@hotmail.com



Chris & Iva Belfiore (Iva Class of 2009)

Allegra Interiors

Phone: 0400 056 598

Email: chris@allegrainteriors.com.au



Jenny Brearley (Class of 1974)

Don't Fret Pet

Phone: 0414 56 53 54

Email: jenny@dontfretpet.com.au

Website: www.dontfretpet.com.au



Matthew Bruno (Class of 2011)

Physiotherapist

Phone: 9439 3290

Email: matt@elthamphysiotherapy.com.au

Website: www.elthamphysiotherapy.com.au

MARVELLOUS MONICAN



Despite the many challenges presented in 2020, Riya Roy has settled in and performed exceptionally well throughout her first year at St Monica's College. Riya has proven herself to be a very conscientious and hardworking student whose bubbly personality illuminates every classroom she is a part of.

She is an enthusiastic class member who makes valuable contributions during her lessons. Her ability to persevere and approach every situation with a positive outlook and friendly demeanour is a true display of what it means to be Monican.

Congratulations on receiving the Leonard Family Award for 2020. A very worthy recipient who will continue to achieve great things in the future.

Riya is without doubt a "Marvellous Monican".



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B.E. Hanley
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Principal