



SECURITY in UNCERTAINTY

It is not unreasonable to suggest that in the midst of times and circumstances of uncertainty, humans seek security. It is indeed another form of peace.

I commence by remembering the Gospel story of Jesus calming the waves whilst out fishing with his disciples. We learn that the winds suddenly became fierce and the boat rocked in the heavy seas causing fear among the fishermen disciples. Jesus sleeps through all this chaos.



'We shall drown, we are lost, our lives are threatened,' the anxious apostles wailed. They woke the sleeping Master who told them to relax and have faith in him as he calmed the waves. He was the security the men needed.



In modern times, we search for peace anywhere we go. The current COVID-19 situation is a clear time of uncertainty with lockdowns, shutdowns, quarantining, border closures and a panic and sometime anger pervades the community. Just recently we had days at home when

the year had seemed to commence smoothly. Sudden lockdown regulations create a genuine sense of uncertainty for students amongst others. Not again, studies interrupted. Not again, remote learning, isolation and on screen and online classes. Not again, separation from mates, teachers, the public. The uncertainty is centred around when or if it might happen again.

Please God, this will not happen, and we shall be secure. However, circumstances may not allow this. We need to be sensible, take precautions to avoid widespread infection, and pray that our efforts will reward us with security. Yes, pray that our combined effort will be rewarded, and our prayers heard. Nothing can guarantee peace and security, but there are ways we can maximise the chances.



I urge all Monicans to pray for security in their lives and be able to cope without it should that be our unfortunate fate. I have referred only to COVID-19, but we can experience the

fear of uncertainty and absence of peace in other settings including war (vs) peace; good health (vs) illness; sufficient material resources (vs) poverty; loneliness (vs) companionship. Let us pray if misfortune causes uncertainty or even worse. We pray for avoidance and good coping skills.

Our 2021 theme contextual statement quotes the Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi. It begins, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace..." Let us always be sustained through times of uncertainty through praying for security and being the 'instrument' through whom security is restored.

Brian E. Hanley
College Principal

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES Years 7—12

Parent/Teacher Conferences for Years 7 – 12 will be held on **Tuesday 16 March** and **Thursday 25 March** from 2.30 pm – 8.00 pm online via Zoom.

Bookings can be made by using the Parent Access Module (PAM) system from 9.00 am on Tuesday 9 March using your log on details received previously.

If you require any assistance please contact the College on 9409 8800. Students will conclude at lunchtime (12.55 pm) on both days.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) 2021 \$225.00

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School **camps** provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors: **excursions** encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and **sports** teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card, veteran's affairs or pension card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

\$125 for primary school students
\$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Accepting applications

Parents (including guardians) no longer need to submit a new application form each year in most cases.

Parents only need to submit an application form in 2021 if any of these changes have occurred.

- New student enrolments: students who have started or changed schools in 2021 or if the parent did not apply for CSEF at the school in 2020
- Changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2021.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2021) or term two (19 April 2021).

Closing Date

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 25 June 2021 for eligibility. For more information regarding the CSEF, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

For any further queries, please contact the Finance Office on 9409 8800.

THE MONICAN

Annually, the College produces six editions of *The Monican*, an informative and high quality journal for Monican families. Please await the first 2021 edition that will be posted home to all families soon. I hope that you enjoy the reading and looking at the photographs of Monicans at work and play.

YEAR 7, 2023 APPLICATIONS



Enrol Now

APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7, 2023
CLOSE ON

FRIDAY, 20 AUGUST 2021



St Monica's College, Epping

www.stmonicas-epping.com

T: 9409 8800

Junior Campus Year 7 - 9

400 Dalton Road, Epping VIC 3076

Senior Campus Year 10 - 12

16 Davisson Street, Epping VIC 3076

Morning Tea With The Principal

Tours of the junior campus are held regularly throughout the year during school time. This is an excellent opportunity to see our College at work. Bookings are essential.

For tour dates, bookings and further information about enrolment, please contact the College Registrar on 9409 8800 or email registrar@stmonicas-epping.com.



APPLY NOW: www.stmonicas-epping.com/apply

ACADEMIC HONOURS PRESENTATION

Congratulations to all recipients. It is still available on several SMC sites online. It is certainly worth viewing.

MAJOR TERM 1 DATES

Term 1

March

- 8 Labour Day – Public Holiday
- 16 Years 7-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 23 Year 7 Immunisations
- 25 Years 7-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 29 College Mass (Virtual)

April

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

OFF THE LIBRARY SHELVES

A Big Thank You



To all those students who have returned their holiday reading, our many thanks. It is wonderful to have all those books back on our shelves for everyone to share!

If you have not returned your library books yet, please do so as soon as possible. Emails are going out almost

daily to remind those with overdue books (please check your emails) and this week replacement costs will be charged to school fees for those who have long overdue books from last year. If you have any problems returning your book/s, please see Mrs Pattison or Mrs Hall.

Lego Club



STEM co-curricular activities is launching a LEGO Club.

If you have LEGO bricks, (classic, technic, motors, etc.) that you would like to

donate, we would be happy to collect them. Please leave your LEGO at the DRC and DSC libraries.

Ultimate Challenge Quiz in the PCL

A reminder that the Ultimate Challenge Quiz continues each day in the Pamela Coyne Library. A new question is displayed each morning and competition entries are accepted on Friday with answers to the five questions for the week. A winner is drawn on Monday and the prize is a voucher for the Pakistan Fundraising items to the value of \$2. Who will be our first weekly winner?



YEAR 7 PROJECT COMPASSION 2021

Project Compassion kicks off this week and we begin this Lenten journey by learning about the story of Jamila and her family.

Jamila, 22, is a Rohingya woman, living in the world's largest refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. A single mother, she fled armed conflict in Myanmar to save herself, her elderly mother and eight-month old baby.

With the support of Caritas Australia, Jamila was able to access emergency food and shelter. She also received counselling, emotional support and learnt sewing skills, to help her earn an income. Jamila now feels less alone, with a sense of community around her. She is able to 'Be More' to her little family.

Fact of the week: 860,494 people remain in the densely populated camps, in desperate need of humanitarian assistance, especially due to COVID-19.

*"Aspire not to have more, but to be more."
Please support Project Compassion.*



For more information regarding Business Connect, please contact Mr Jordan Hodges in the Promotions and Events Department: J.Hodges@stmonicas-epping.com

*A Beautiful Touch
Painting Service*
Pty Ltd



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Phone: 0409 412 734

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**Anthony Cerra – Builder
Cerra Building**

Phone: 0400 944 777

Email: anthony@cerrabuild.com.au

SCHOOL PHOTOS 2021 - Important Registration Information



School Photographs will be taken at

St Monica's College / Davisson Street Campus

Friday 19 March, 2021

St Monica's College / Dalton Road Campus

Friday 26 March, 2021

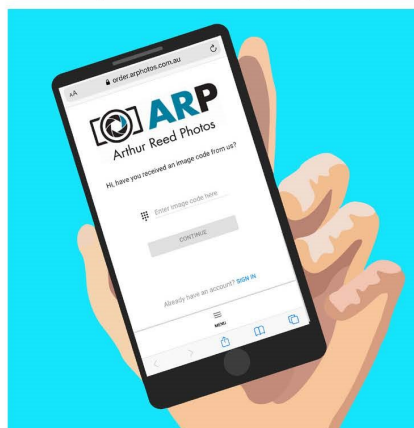
There is no need to return any forms or payment to school before photo day

Flyers with Unique Image Codes will be issued to all students on or after photo day

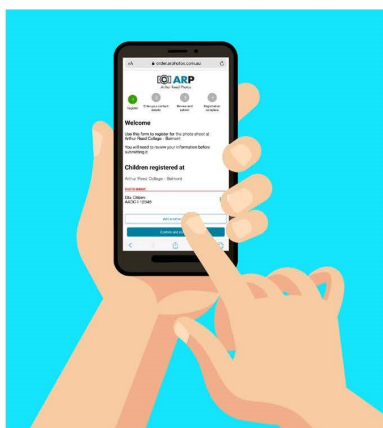
When you receive the flyer with your child's 2021 image code

Follow these 3 simple steps -

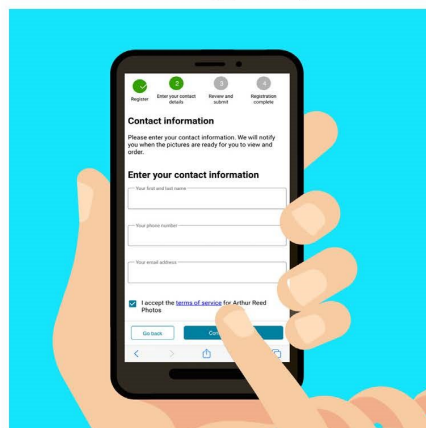
1 Go to order.arphotos.com.au and enter your child's 2021 image code



2 Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings



3 Fill in your contact details & review before confirming your registration*



*This information will only be used for distribution of personal image codes and ordering details.

That's it!

**It's important to register each year to link your child's NEW images to your contact details
When 2021 images are ready to view in our secure webshop you'll be notified by email and SMS**

****BEFORE ORDERING for 2021, please wait to receive notification that new images are online****

• Order on any mobile device • Share the images with family & friends for FREE

• Create a photo package with any layout + YOUR choice of images + Digital Downloads



Arthur Reed Photos Pty. Ltd.

A.B.N 48 528 494 590

(03) 5243 4390

customerservice@arphotos.com.au

CAREERS CORNER



Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) provides students with the opportunity to integrate practical on-the-job experience and learnings in industry with a nationally recognised VET Certificate undertaken as part of either the VCE or VCAL.

This Year is our first year of the VCAL timetable having a day set aside for students to undertake a SWL. Students and staff have done an excellent job of getting work placements and we currently have 50 students in Years 11 and 12 VCAL in the workplace one day per week. Feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive with many students commenting on how much they "love it". Staff are now looking forward to getting out to the worksites to visit the student and the employer.

Year 9 Careers Education lessons began in the second week of the year. Students created their own file on the careers website where all of their careers work and documents will be saved. These documents can be accessed through all their years at St Monica's and will be referred to at any future career appointments /interviews. Year 8 classes will begin in a few weeks.

Year 12 surveys were conducted on the first day. Information received will allow careers staff to address areas of greatest need and to arrange appointments with students who have indicated they need some assistance with their career pathways. Year 12 students are also encouraged to be proactive and make a careers appointment early in the year.

The **Careers newsletter** has a new look this year. Keep an eye out for it each fortnight.



SPORT

Year 10 Premier League Results vs Marymede:

- Boys Basketball A: 53-51
- Boys Basketball B: 51-45
- Girls Basketball: 54-4
- Netball: 8-38
- Boys Football: 2-1
- Boys Volleyball: 3-1
- Girls Volleyball: 3-0

Senior Sport Results:

SACCSS Senior Cricket:
SMC 5/114 (20) def by
Thomas Carr 6/118
(18.3)

SACCSS Senior Netball:
SMC 34 def Caroline
Chisholm 18



MARVELLOUS MONICAN

Tristan Kalkbrenner (Year 11) was appointed Senior Athletics Captain for 2021. He has competed for Box Hill Athletics Club over the summer in his first season of Senior Athletics (after finishing Little Athletics in 2019 - 2020). His performances this season have put him in the top 5 for his age group in Victoria across a number of events. This is an outstanding achievement given the rapid improvement he has shown over the past twelve months. He volunteers at the Whittlesea Little Athletics Centre, running programs for Under 6 - 7 athletes and he is also one of the ADP's leading students where he displays maturity in training especially during lockdown / summer periods.



We proclaim a crucified Christ

1Cor1.23

9 February 2021

Parents and Carers of children in Catholic Schools
Staff and Colleagues in Catholic Education
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My warm and prayerful greetings to you all.

I do hope that the Christmas season brought many blessings to you despite the extraordinary times we find ourselves in.

May I take this opportunity to once again extend my gratitude to each and every one of you; parents, carers, teachers and administrators, who have risen to meet the challenges of these times.

You have been resilient and innovative, and kept your families and communities close in times of distancing. The rich life of Catholic education is an indispensable part of our missionary call to the Gospel, and the good people of God are blessed abundantly through your efforts.

I am sure that you are eager to commence this year and to be filled with the energy and excitement that comes from helping our young people flourish and grow.

May St Joseph, our protector, strengthen and guide you all as faithful carers and diligent workers as this year unfolds. Please know that my prayers are with you.

With every grace and blessing, I remain,

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

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B.E. Hanley
Principal