



## AMIDST THE MESS and CONFUSION – EASTER DAWNS

The world knows the dangers, uncertainties and confusion that exist at present with the COVID – 19 virus. It is a pandemic, most people are at least capable of contracting it (please God, no), it can be fatal in some instances, and the duration of its presence in the world is unknown. It also has brought about social problems such as queues for food items, panicking etc.

Interesting weeks are ahead for Monicans. We have a fortnight of holidays as from 30 March, and the Easter Triduum commences on Thursday, 9 April.

Herein lies the irony. Amidst the mess of the virus emerges the glorious feast of Easter (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday). Christians are taught that at Easter the death and resurrection of Jesus brought salvation to the world. The Kingdom of God was opened, love had conquered evil, and the Holy Spirit was alive in the world.

### Easter Triduum



I believe that we must hold onto that belief more steadfastly than ever. Easter is the New Life of Jesus, the power of love, the hope that springs eternal. It can neither be denied nor lessened, despite whatever happens in the world.

There are practical things we must do to limit the containment of the Coronavirus. We constantly receive sound messages from Health and Government authorities about personal hygiene, covering our mouth, social distancing and responsible behaviours. We quarantine or self-isolate ourselves if this is the order, we act sensibly and eliminate risk taking, we are encouraged to adopt the

view that this is a worldwide problem that humanity must overcome (and eventually we shall).



At the same time, all Christian people are called to celebrate Easter in a holy and personal way, and when possible in community with other believers. However, can we in 2020? Presently, for Catholics in Melbourne, the answer is

no. We will avoid large crowds at Easter services, but instead spend the holy hours at home in prayer. We will avoid the 3.00 pm Good Friday service, but instead take the time to read scripture about the crucifixion of Jesus. Easter Sunday Mass was a reason for concern about gathering in large crowds, so we can watch the service on television of the Pope celebrating Mass at the Vatican or tune into *Mass for You at Home* locally. At least recite a prayer and take time to reflect on the glory of the Resurrection.

Easter will not make COVID-19 disappear or even relent. However, it does not mean that we cannot celebrate the Easter Triduum in a personal, individual manner or with family and a few friends. Of course, we are sensible to pray especially fervently at this Paschal time for the elimination of the virus, there is no harm trying.



I extend to all Monicans of all faiths and beliefs the joy of Easter, and urge us to lay our gifts on the table of life in service of others and in thanksgiving to the Risen Lord.

**Brian E. Hanley**

B.A., Dip. Ed., Grad. Dip. Ed. Admin., M. Ed., MACE, FACEL

### ENROLMENTS

Enrolments are currently being accepted for  
Year 7 2021 — 2023

Please note that **2022** enrolments will close on  
**Friday, 21 August 2020.**

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) 2020 \$225**

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 **camp**s 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, veterans 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](http://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 2020 if any of these changes have occurred.

- New student enrolments: students who have started or changed schools in 2020 or if the parent did not apply for CSEF at the school in 2019.
- Changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

### **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 (**28 January, 2020**) or term two (**14 April, 2020**).

### **Closing Date:**

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by **26 June, 2020** for eligibility. For more information about the CSEF visit [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

For any further queries please contact Miss Andrea Moon 9409 8800.

## **TERM DATES**

### **End of Term 1 and Term 2 dates:**

- Monday, 23 March – Last day of classes Term 1
- Tuesday, 14 April – Term 2 begins for staff and students
- Friday, 12 June – Report Writing Day – Student free

- Monday, 15 June – Semester 2 begins (changeover of VCE Units and 7-10 electives)
- Friday, 26 June – Last day of Term 2 for staff and students.

## **ENHANCING CATHOLIC SCHOOL IDENTITY SURVEY**

Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne aim for continuous school improvement. An essential element of this improvement is understanding how students perceive the Catholic Identity of our school and what they might like Catholic Identity at St Monica's College to look like in the years ahead.

Students have an important voice in our planning and so we will invite a cross section of students in Years 7–12 to participate in the Enhancing Catholic School Identity (ECSI) survey.

These surveys will assist us in better understanding how our Catholic Identity is expressed. The results will contribute to a reliable picture of our school's Catholic Identity, which we will use to inform our School Improvement planning.

Students who are asked to complete the online survey, will not be named or identified in the survey. If you do not wish your child to participate in the ECSI survey, please notify the College.

All parents are invited to participate in the survey. If you would like to participate please contact Miss Bernadette Harris, Deputy Principal (Identity, Mission & Community) to request a survey.

## **WINTER UNIFORM- TERMS 2 AND 3**

**All students wear winter uniform throughout Terms 2 and 3, commencing on 14 April.**

### **GIRLS' UNIFORM**

- Regulation wool blend St Monica's skirt worn on or below the knee, in blue, grey & gold check, with grey tights (2TT's brand- light grey) - no socks permitted
- OR Regulation wool blend St Monica's trousers, in blue, white and gold stripe, worn with plain navy or black socks. No short tennis style anklet socks.
- White, long-sleeved, peter-pan collar school shirt.
- College jumper, blazer and school shoes.
- Grey College scarf, beanie and grey gloves (optional). No other items are permitted.

### **BOYS' UNIFORM**

- White peaked collar regulation shirt (Fairmark or Midford), long or short-sleeved, buttoned to the neck
- Regulation mid-grey school trousers with grey or black socks. Note, shorts are NOT permitted in winter
- Regulation black leather belt with plain buckle.
- Blue scoop-necked jumper, embroidered with College emblem
- Pure wool, lined blazer with College emblem on pocket
- Plain black lace-up school shoes without silver or any colour eyelets
- Grey College scarf, beanie and grey gloves (optional). No other items are permitted.
- College Tie.

## **Winter Scarves**

Students are permitted to wear a regulation grey woollen scarf as part of the winter uniform. This is an optional item. For interested students, a newly designed scarf is available for purchase for \$32 from Academy Uniforms.

## **REPORT ON COLLEGE CANCELLATIONS**

- All camps Week 1 and 2 of Term 2 are cancelled. This includes Year 10 'On the Edge', Uniquely Year 9 Emerald, Gold, Brown and Mauve, Year 8 Stepping Stones Silver and White, Year 10 Greek Camp
- Camps from Term 2 Week 3 will be re-evaluated at the beginning of term
- All excursions during Week 1 and 2 are cancelled. This includes Year 7 Geography Fieldwork Excursion, Senior Girls AFL, Cultural and Religious Diversity Workshop, ANZAC Day Student Commemoration Year 7 HORIZONS Excursion, Year 9 Visual Arts Excursion, YMCA Lake Dewar Excursion, Whittlesea Tech STEAM Excursion (Group 1 and 2), Years 9 - 10 Visual Arts Excursion, Unit 1 Environmental Science Fieldwork
- Excursions from Term 2 Week 3 will be re-evaluated at the beginning of term
- All external venue sports/PE training during Week 1 and 2 are cancelled
- External venue training from Term 2 Week 3 will be re-evaluated at the beginning of term
- Year 12 Principal's Dinner scheduled for 11 June has been postponed
- The Takada visit in September has been cancelled.

## **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. We currently have a number of students planning SWL as part of their VET studies.

Some SWL opportunities are easy to source, others, at certain times of the year, prove a little more difficult. We have a number of students who are exploring their options for a SWL opportunity in plumbing and carpentry. If anyone can assist in offering our students a position in these industries, Mr White would be happy to hear from you.

## **WORLD OF SPORT**

In sport, we have had the fourth round of Senior Netball and Cricket, the annual SACCSS Senior Sports Day and the final round of the Year 10 Premier League competition.

Unfortunately, the Senior Cricket team suffered a tough loss to a great Salesian College side who were undefeated. The team fought hard right until the end but Salesian's batting power got them over the line. Our Netball team travelled to Kolbe on the same day, and came away with a resounding 36 - 6 win. This keeps our girls' chances of playing off in the grand final alive with one game to go next week.

The annual Senior Sports Day was held on Wednesday, 18 March with Volleyball and mixed Netball held at Eagle Stadium in Werribee and the Tennis held at the Hume Tennis Centre. The girls' Volleyball team got through the group stage with a 3 - 1 record but unfortunately lost in the semi-final. The boys' team finished with a 2 - 2 record in the group stage which was not enough to get them through to the finals. Mixed Netball got off to a great start, defeating MacKillop in the first game of the day. They also had a 3 - 1 record after the group stage, which put them through to a semi-final against Salesian. Salesian were too strong in the end but our team put a great fight all day and should be proud of their efforts.

At the tennis it was a fantastic day for Monicans. Our very young talented team was heading out to Hume to take on much older and more experienced opponents, but to their credit they all showed maturity beyond their years with the way they performed. Aleks Bozinovska (Year 9) was crowned Female Singles Champion after only dropping one game all day which was in the final, 5 - 1. Kevin Nguyen (Year 10) was crowned Male Singles Champion after a dominating display. Medinah Fuataga (Year 10) and Jessica Depangher (Year 12) were crowned Female Doubles A Champions after defeating our own Doubles B Champions Megan Dyson and Victoria Mance (Year 9). Luke Cvejic (Year 7) and Jordan Nguyen (Year 8) were crowned Male Doubles B Champions. The boys lost to a Penola pairing in the group stage, and met the same team in the grand finale. They learnt from their previous mistakes to take them down 5 - 3. Simon Tawfiq (Year 9) and Julius Garcia (Year 12) were the runners up of the Male Doubles A section, after dropping the grand final to Salesian College. Overall, it was a wonderful day, winning five out of the six sections and claiming the overall Senior Aggregate for Tennis.

Year 10 Premier League rounded out the week, with a perfect 6 from 6 against Antonine College in the last round a great way to finish the regular season. The week's results have helped seven out of our eight Premier League teams qualify for the semi-finals which were postponed due to the coronavirus.

## **OFF THE LIBRARY SHELVES**

### **eBooks for Company and Holidays**

This is a great time to make use of our eBook and audio book collection, through the Wheelers app. Once you create your account you can access a huge range of titles, both fiction and non-fiction, classics and new titles, Premiers' Reading Challenge books and recent releases. If you are stuck at home and looking for something to read, you can readily borrow an eBook or an audio book this way. Come to the Library to pick up a bookmark that explains how to get access.

## **DSC RECYCLING UPDATE**

Remember that all staff and students can drop off their flat batteries, unwanted CDs / DVDs and collection of corks at the SJQ Library for us to recycle on your behalf. No amount is too big and no amount is too small.

Here is what we collected during Term 1 (with same time last year in brackets):

- ⇒ Batteries 2.4 kg (755 g)
- ⇒ CDs / DVDs 5 kg (250 g)
- ⇒ Corks 1.66 kg (15 g).

All of these items have been kept out of landfill and their precious elements removed and reused. Well done SMC.



## MILL PARK PARISH VACANCY ON COLLEGE BOARD

Please note that one vacancy exists for a College Board member representing the parish of St Francis of Assisi, Mill Park. Please approach Father Anthony Girolami P.P. if interested in being nominated.

## SOCIAL DISTANCING (Australian Government Department of Health)

### What is social distancing and why is it important?

Social distancing includes ways to stop or slow the spread of infectious diseases. It means less contact between you and other people.

Social distancing is important because COVID-19 is most likely to spread from person-to-person through:

- direct close contact with a person while they are infectious or in the 24 hours before their symptoms appeared
- close contact with a person with a confirmed infection who coughs or sneezes, or
- touching objects or surfaces (such as door handles or tables) contaminated from a cough or sneeze from a person with a confirmed infection, and then touching your mouth or face. So, the more space between you and others, the harder it is for the virus to spread.

### What can I do?

If you are sick, stay away from others – that is the most important thing you can do.

You should also practise good hand and sneeze/cough hygiene:

- wash your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet
- cover your cough and sneeze, dispose of tissues, and use alcohol-based hand sanitiser, and
- if unwell, avoid contact with others (stay more than 1.5 metres from people).

As well as these, you can start a range of social distancing and low cost hygiene actions now. These simple, common sense actions help reduce risk to you and to others. They will help to slow the spread of disease in the community – and you can use them every day – in your home, workplace, school and while out in public.

## Social distancing at home

### **Households**

To reduce the spread of germs<sup>1</sup>:

- As mentioned, practise good hand and sneeze/cough hygiene
- Avoid handshaking and kissing
- Regularly disinfect high touch surfaces, such as tables, kitchen benches and doorknobs
- Increase ventilation in the home by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning
- Visit shops sparingly and buy more goods and services online
- Consider whether outings and travel, both individual and family, are sensible and necessary.

### **Households where people are ill\* (in addition to the measures above)**

- Care for the sick person in a single room if possible
- Keep the number of carers to a minimum
- Keep the door to the sick person's room closed and, if possible, a window open
- Both the sick person and the people caring for them should wear a surgical mask when they are in the same room
- Protect other vulnerable family members, such as people over 65 years or people with a chronic illness, including, if practicable, finding alternative accommodation.

## Social distancing in public

### **To reduce the spread of germs:**

- Sanitise your hands wherever possible, including entering and leaving buildings
- Use tap and pay rather than handling money
- Try and travel at quiet times and try to avoid crowds
- Public transport workers and taxi drivers should open vehicle windows where possible, and regularly clean and disinfect high touch surfaces.

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Dalton et al. Pre-emptive low cost social distancing and enhanced hygiene implemented before local COVID-19 transmission could decrease the number and severity of cases.

\*"Ill" person refers to someone with an undiagnosed respiratory illness or fever, who is not yet under investigation for COVID-19 but nevertheless could be an unrecognised case. \*\* This could be costly unless used judiciously while awaiting exclusion of COVID-19 in the case and introduced based on likelihood of local transmission.

## MARVELLOUS MONICAN



Cooper Scott was one of the leaders of the Junior Varsity team that successfully toured the United States at the end of 2019. Cooper led this team to a 7 and 1 win loss record which included winning the Gayno Shelton Hardcourt Tournament over two days in Bowie Texas. Cooper was the defensive player of the tour who always played with a team first attitude. He also played several senior games off the bench to assist when required. Off the court, he was an absolute gentleman. He continued to lead and set the tone for the rest of the group and always with a smile. It is these qualities that make him one of the first picked in any squad.

*B.E. Hanley*  
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Principal



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