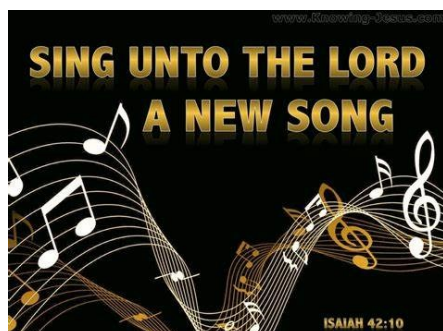




THE ARTS – SONG, DANCE & DRAMA IN PRAISE OF GOD



In the following three editions of the *Principal's Bulletin* we shall discover and reflect upon the Arts and how our voice, our movement and our theatrical performances can give great praise, glory and worship to our Creator God. These are truly effective and creative means through which we can 'Let our Light Shine Bright' whilst enjoying ourselves as we honor God.

This edition concentrates on song. People generally believe that either they can sing and thus do so with great gusto and meaning or they bemoan the fact that they possess no or very little talent to evoke any sense of music or tune from their vocal cords. No matter!

Singing is a splendid way to praise God. Our own beloved Saint Augustine wrote that 'Singing is praying twice over.' Spoken word versus melodic lyrics

in praise of God. Clear aural comparisons can be made easily.

Singing has always been a part of religion across most faiths and denominations. The Bible contains a specific book entitled 'Song of Songs' and just for a moment recall the beautiful singing you have heard from a choir or person singing in a spiritual environment.

Deeply felt spiritual hymns are a part of the way certain people from many countries praise God, and I have been fortunate to attend a Baptist Church in New York one Sunday morning and been carried away by the glorious power of the sung prayer.

A journey around the world in search of song in praise of a divine entity reveals a multitude of different genres. African tribal songs are colorful and active; songs sung in cathedrals in Europe are profound, often very old and they capture the spirit of the year whether it is Christmas and Easter, Lent or Advent. Evangelical Hillsong worshippers love singing to God, healers draw down God's power through song, songs capture so many different moods ranging from grief and sadness to joy and youthful vitality.

We proclaim the Gospel (the Word of God) through song. We retell biblical passages through sung responsorial psalms at Mass, and we are all taken by the traditionally well-known hymns such as *Amazing Grace*, *How Great Thou Art* and *Ave Maria*.

At SMC we love and give thanks to our choirs and musicians who lead us in song. We are equally enthralled by the soloist, chorister and the choir assembled. A rapturous recessional song after a Mass is truly a College community praying twice as we sing loud, maybe clap our hands, tap our feet, smile as we sing, and sing in harmony.

We treasure our College hymn *Together in Freedom and Love* and our own *Hymn to St Monica*. They are uniquely and essentially Monican.

The Arts through song - a clear way to praise and give thanks to God.

Brian E. Hanley OAM

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



Welcome to Term 2

Term 2 signals the change over from Summer Uniform into Winter Uniform. Thank you to all Monicans and parents for the smooth transition as we returned to campuses on Monday 24 April. A courteous reminder that only College Uniform articles as listed in the Student Planner are permitted. Additional items such as hoodies, visible apparel (long sleeve tops under short sleeves, non-College scarves, beanies, or gloves etc.) are not to be worn with the uniform at any time. This includes whilst wearing the College PE Uniform. Failure to adhere to this requirement, will result in the confiscation of non-College approved attire.

Full tracksuits (jacket and pants) are required for all students completing PE Studies. As always, PE uniform is only permitted on days when practical lessons are scheduled. Shorts other than for PE lessons or Sport commitments, are not permitted during Terms 2 and 3. This also applies to senior studies students wearing Building and Construction Uniforms.

As we prepare to move towards colder Winter days, students and families are encouraged to source appropriate garments to be worn under required uniform articles, that cannot be seen.

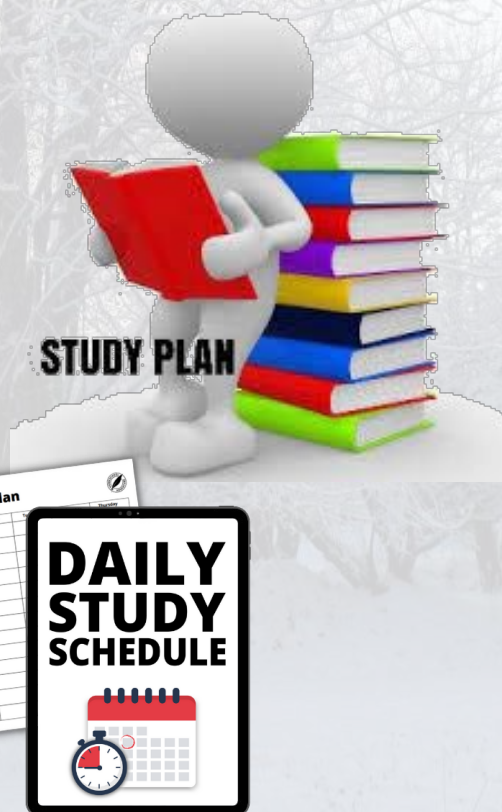
Your support in ensuring that your child is appropriately groomed at all times, during the College terms, is greatly appreciated.

Term 2 is a tremendous opportunity for students to reflect on their learnings of Term 1, make the necessary refinements to their study schedules and to work hard. As we know, co-curricular opportunities have the benefit of supporting academic learning, so encourage your child to be involved and if necessary, try something new.

Always know, that Monican staff are here to assist and support your child. If you recognise changes in your child's disposition, mood, or conduct and require the support of College personnel, please do not hesitate to contact the College for assistance.

I wish everyone a successful term ahead.

Miss P Di Maria
Executive Deputy Principal



Concerns on Vaping

Over recent months, there has been a growing concern about the effects of vaping or e-cigarettes on young people. As this activity grows in popularity, most teenagers are unaware of the associated risks and the potential impact vaping can have on their development and overall health.

Vaping is the act of inhaling a vapour created by an electronic cigarette, or e-cigarette. These are lithium battery – powered devices that often look like highlighters or USB's. Vaping is often marketed as being the “healthy” alternative to smoking. Although the long-term impacts of vaping are still largely unknown, looking at the health impacts of smoking cigarettes should provide insight on the effects of nicotine exposure. Vaping products are infused with enticing flavours, many contain high levels of nicotine as well as other chemicals and additives, that when inhaled, can cause severe damage to the lungs.

Australia has strict regulations in place for products containing nicotine and despite it being illegal to use, sell or buy nicotine for use in e-cigarettes, users are purchasing these products through other avenues.

Current research shows vaping is common amongst teenagers. It also tells us that young people understand that vaping is unsafe and unhealthy. A single vape can contain as much nicotine as ten packets of cigarettes. Additionally, research suggests that vaping can cause lung injury, cardiovascular disease, respiratory infections, other serious negative effects including on brain development and the immune system.

From a school perspective we aim to empower young people to know they can refuse to vape. This includes ways of saying ‘no’ without being singled out and understanding the impact on their health.

Ms A Xerri
DRC Campus Leader

Miss N Meade
DSC Campus Leader



THIS MONTH IN *Mission*

2023	
1 May	Fr Michel Remery Seminar and College Conversation
2 - 3 May	Youth Ministry Meetings
2 May	Liturgy Planning Meeting
4 - 5 May	Be More Meetings
4 May	First Nations Awareness Meeting
5 May	Year 11 Community Services St Peter's Primary School Program
5 May	DSC Student Archives Committee
8 May	Senior Council Meeting
8 May	Year 12 Community Service Oxacare Program
8 - 9 May	Youth Ministry Meetings
10 May	College Assembly
11 - 12 May	Be More Meetings
12 May	Year 11 Community Services St Peter's Primary School Program
15 May	Junior School Council Meeting
15 May	Year 12 Community Service Oxacare Program
16 - 17 May	Youth Ministry Meetings
18 - 19 May	Be More Meetings
19 May	Year 11 Community Services St Peter's Primary School Program
19 May	Class of 2003 Reunion
22 May	Senior Council Meeting
22 May	Year 12 Community Service Oxacare Program
22 - 23 May	Youth Ministry Meetings
25 - 26 May	Be More Meetings
25 May	Online Prayer Session
26 May	Year 11 Community Services St Peter's Primary School Program
29 May	Junior School Council Meeting
29 May	Year 12 Community Service Oxacare Program
30 - 31 May	Youth Ministry Meetings
22 May - 1 June	First Nations Fortnight



2023 Tuition Fees and Payment Options

We hope that your family had a restful school break and are settling well into Term 2. The College requires all families to meet their fee commitments so we may continue to provide the highest level of education to our students. The College offers a number of payment options to enable parents to meet their fee obligations:

- a) School Administered Payment Plan (weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly) - Parents that would like to enter into a payment plan will have a further extension to pay up to 8 December, 2023
- b) At Reception (Augustine House) – Payments can be made by cash, cheque, EFTPOS or credit card
- c) Online Payments via the community (fee) portal, or via BPAY.

Should you decide not to sign up for a school administered payment plan, please keep in mind that payments are due and payable in four equal instalments by the second week of each term:

- Instalment 1 – 17 February 2023
- **Instalment 2 – 5 May 2023**
- Instalment 3 – 21 July 2023
- Instalment 4 – 13 October 2023.

A requirement of enrolling your child at St Monica's College is that payments are made on a regular basis from the commencement of the school year. Tuition Account Statements are being sent via email shortly. *Extra-curricular activities will not appear on your Tuition Account Statement, these charges will be billed via a separate Tax Invoice as and when they fall due, whereby different terms and conditions apply.*

Payment Plans

We would like to remind families that it is never too late to sign up for a school administered payment plan. St Monica's College offers both Direct Debit and Credit Card payment options. Extended tuition account due dates are in place for families on a St Monica's College school administered payment plan.

Application forms for Direct Debit or Credit Card can be completed online using the following link: <https://www.stmonicas-epping.com/payment-plan/> or can be completed in person at College Reception at Augustine House (400 Dalton Road, Epping VIC 3076). Should you choose to sign up to a school administered payment plan, you will be opted-in for future years unless you choose to opt-out.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) 2023 \$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, veterans' affairs card, 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 is \$225 for secondary school students. To apply, contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef and lodge together with a copy of your valid concession card.

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 2023 if any of these changes have occurred.

- New student enrolments: students who have started or changed schools in 2023 or if the parent did not apply for CSEF at the school in 2022
- Changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2023.

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 1 (**30 January, 2023**) or Term 2 (**24 April, 2023**).

Closing Date

CSEF applications can be lodged at Augustine House, Dalton Road Campus on or before 23 June, 2023 for eligibility as no late applications will be accepted by DEET after this date. For more information about the CSEF visit www.educationvic.gov.au/csef. For any further queries please contact Miss Andrea Moon 9409 8800 in the Fees Office or fees@stmonicas-epping.com



HUGE VCE AND CAREERS EXPO STARTS ON 4 MAY

SMC students, do yourself a favour and attend this expo! This is Australia's biggest education and careers expo and has been running for over 30- years! There is a huge range of exhibitors from all over Australia. They include Universities and TAFEs, Employer Groups and popular bodies such as the Victoria Police and Federal Police, to name just a few. In combination, they will provide:

- Information and resources for the VCE
- Information about tertiary study, university, TAFE, and training courses
- Career advice
- Study advice
- Employment advice and opportunities
- Apprenticeship and traineeship advice
- International exchange and gap year programs.

Apart from these exhibits you can also access VCE and Careers Expo: Seminars on topics including:

- VCE subjects including English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Legal Studies, Business Management, Psychology, Health and Human Development
- Tertiary courses
- Careers
- Employment opportunities
- Study advice
- Gap year options.

To attend, go to the **Caulfield Racecourse** from **9.00am – 3.00pm** on **Thursday 4 to Saturday 6 May**. It could be well worth it.

To find out more, or to book a ticket online, visit [VCE and Careers Expo: 2023](#).

SMC

PRAY AND
PERSEVERE

St Monica's College Music Department Presents

Monicans in May

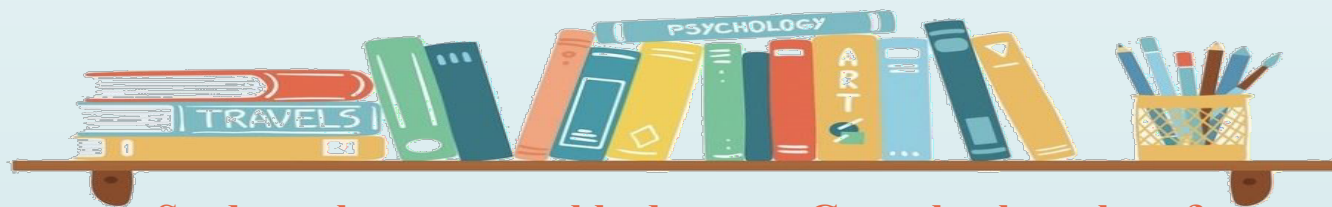
Ensemble Music Concert

TUESDAY, 9 MAY 2023
7.00 PM

THEATRE OF ALL NATIONS
DALTON ROAD CAMPUS



Welcome to the LIBRARY



Students, have you grabbed a great Genre bookmark yet?



Our PCL and SJQ Libraries currently have a fantastic selection of bookmarks available for students to grab.

Our Genre Bookmarks include Crime & Mystery, Humour, Romance, Manga/Graphic Novels, Verse Novels, Horror and many more and they are proving to be very popular!

On the reverse side, you will find images of book covers from that Genre, along with a QR code that you can use (at home of course), which will link you to an even more extensive list of books in our Libraries!

Our thanks to Mrs Elbarbar for her ingenuity and in many cases, sense of humour, for these great additions to our Library life!

Who's reading what in our school Libraries?



The Library Services Staff at both PCL and SJQL are avid readers and are always happy to recommend a good book to our students. Our Library Staff tastes are greatly varied, so a quick chat to any of them will reveal their likes (and even dislikes!)

Students are also encouraged to chat to staff members about their reading preferences...who knows, it might just put you on a new road of reading discovery!

We are also always interested to know what our students' entertainment/leisure reading preferences are, so be sure to pop in and let us know!



9 STEM Whittlesea Tech School Excursion



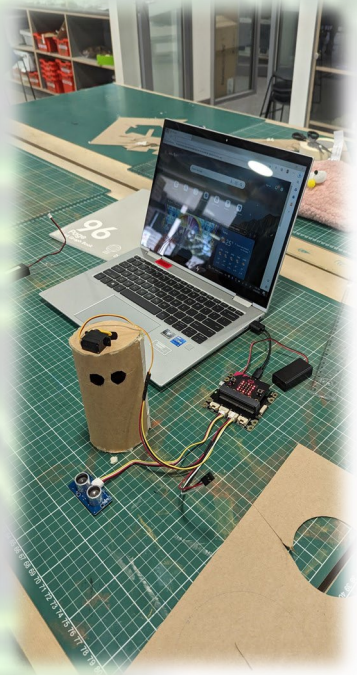
Recently our Year 9 STEM class attended an excursion to Whittlesea Tech School. The hands-on experience provided a fantastic opportunity for our students to delve deeper into the world of STEM and develop essential transferable skills, such as critical thinking and design thinking, which are invaluable in solving real-world problems.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goal and defining a problem that needs attention. This set the stage for brainstorming and developing ideas for potential solutions, allowing our students to truly immerse themselves in the problem-solving process.

The excursion also enabled our students to develop iterations for the prototyping stage through Skill-Up Master Classes in Computer-Aided Design (CAD) and Advanced Manufacturing. They were introduced to various programs and equipment for prototyping, beginning with low-resolution iterations using cardboard before progressing to high-resolution prototypes with 3D printers, laser cutters, and micro: bits.

The time spent at Whittlesea Tech School has undoubtedly inspired our students to further explore and pursue STEM-related fields. We witnessed an incredible display of creativity, collaboration, and enthusiasm as they tackled the challenges presented to them.

Mr S Kalantzis
Senior STEM Educator





STEM Co-curricular Activities



STEM Co-curricular Activities are running every lunch time in the STEM Centre. These include STEM: Makers, Robotics, Solar Vehicle Challenge and Coding Clubs as well as our inaugural Astrophotography, Sneakerhead and GPS (Girls Pursuing STEM) Club launches. Offering an exciting opportunity for students to participate in programs which provide a platform to enhance their technical and enterprise skills while participating in STEM-based activities and projects.

This year, students will form teams and choose a project to develop and display in the STEM Showcase exhibition at the end of the year.

This will not only allow students to engage with various technologies on-site in the STEM Centre but also help them develop communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and leadership skills. These 21st Century skills are developed as students network across year levels and enables them to become future workforce leaders.

Mr S Kalantzis
Senior STEM Educator





World of Sport



SACCSS Open Girls Cricket Results

Round 1: SMC 91 def CRC Melton 62
Round 2: SMC 92 def by Emmanuel 99
Round 3: SMC 104 def CRCNK 82

As part of the College's 2022-2025 Reconciliation Action Plan, the College has committed to raising funds for the Open the Doors foundation. The foundation supports First Nations children access educational opportunities by providing financial support for basic school supplies such as textbooks, uniforms and stationery. Members of our College community can learn more about the foundation's work and make a donation by accessing this link <https://www.openingthedoors.org.au/>



OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION

Keeping Koorie Kids in an Education of their Choice





PRAY AND
PERSEVERE

St Monica's College, Epping

Enrol Now for Year 7, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians & Carers,

If you have a child presently in Grade 6 and have not yet enrolled into St Monica's College for **Year 7, 2024** please do so immediately as **places are limited.**

Applications for **Grade 5 students starting Year 7 in 2025** are now open and will close on **Friday 18 August, 2023.**

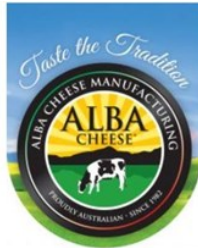
Application for enrolment is available on the St Monica's College Website www.stmonicas-epping.com/apply. Click on the apply button to complete your online form and submit with documentation required.

If you would like to attend a school tour, please visit our website to make a booking.

For enquiries, please contact the College Registrar, Mrs Lina Sirianni on 9409 8800 or email registrar@stmonicas-epping.com.



If you would like more information about Business Connect, please contact the Promotions and Events Office
promotions@stmonicas-epping.com



John Bongiorno
 Alba Cheese Manufacturing Pty Ltd
 Address: 27-33 Assembly Drive, Tullamarine VIC 3043
 Phone: (03) 9330 2282
 Email: john@albacheese.com.au
 Website: www.albacheese.com.au



Sean Otto
 The Locksmith Guru
 Phone: 0425754393
 Email: thelocksmithguru@outlook.com
 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/thelocksmithguru/>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheLocksmithGuru>



MONEYQUEST NORTHCOTE
 — FINANCE SPECIALISTS —

Radenka Subotic
 (Finance Specialist)
 Money Quest Northcote Financial Specialists
 Phone: 0447 537 241
 Email: radenka.subotic@moneyquest.com.au
 Website: <https://www.moneyquest.com.au/franchise/northcote/>
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MoneyQuestNorthcote/>
 Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/moneyquestnorthcote/?hl=en>

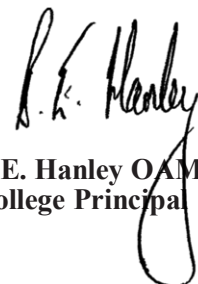


Aaron Perez
 (Director)
 Forefront Pest Control
 Phone: 0402 760 987
 Email: aaron@forefrontpestcontrol.com
 Website: www.forefrontpestcontrol.com.au

MARVELLOUS MONICAN

Thomas Karageorgis (10 Green), possesses an energy that instantly fills the room with positivity that is contagious, Thomas is an exceptional example of a Marvellous Monican.

Over his time at St Monica's College, Thomas has put so much time and energy into everything he is involved in and makes sure to give whatever challenge or activity it is in front of him, his best effort and his full attention. From being part of the Junior Guitar ensemble through his junior years and now the Senior Guitar ensemble, Thomas performed at Sounds of Spring as well as Monicans in May, with the next one of these fast approaching. Thomas is also an active member of the Chess Club and he is looking forward to taking part in this year's Principal's Shield for Chess. A current and past Class Captain, member of the Politics Club and the 2022 Whittlesea Tech School Ambassador are just a few of Thomas' other notable achievements and contributions to St Monica's College and our community. Among Thomas' most impressive traits, is his genuine positivity and interpersonal skills that as he acknowledges staff and students with a friendly greeting each morning accompanied by a welcoming smile. Thomas is a Marvellous Monican.



B.E. Hanley OAM
 College Principal