



YOUNG IN SPIRIT: OLDER IN YEARS – THAT WORKS JUST FINE

Recently, much of the Western world, and most probably all of the United States of America have been watching the Democratic Party's primaries with interest.

It is emerging that the two main contenders will be Vice President Joseph Biden and Senator Bernie Sanders. One of them will challenge Donald Trump for the Presidency in November 2020.

Biden is 77 years of age, Sanders is 78, and the President is soon to be 74. Septuagenarians each of them, each seeking to lead for four years, 2021 -24, the most powerful country on earth. Does age matter?

Regardless of one's views on these three politicians, it ought to be acknowledged that they personally do not regard age as a barrier to the highest of public offices in the world. Age, they argue, will not weary them.



It is generally believed that the elderly in the community deserve the most respect. They do, if they are fine citizens, sensible contributors to society, and good and honourable people. We need

only to examine the list of Senior Citizen of the Year recipients to know this fact. In our families, it is grandparents who attract the respect and affection of their family members. The nation provides pensions for the aged (not arguing how well or adequately in this article), Aged Care is forcing itself on the economic agenda if only for the great need for retirement centres and villages and nursing homes.



Being old need never diminish the possibility to be young in spirit. Youth does not 'own' energy, spirit and liveliness. Most would consider Pope Francis young in spirit and he has lived for 83 years and had enormous

responsibilities in that period. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth is a grand 93 year old, and her work schedule, alertness and resilience are outstanding. Most of us would be familiar with senior citizens in our community who are still volunteering, leading organizations, being active members of their Church, and many are recognised for their athleticism and many other skills and talents.

The Bible presents many old, charismatic figures – Enoch died at 365, but Seth was 912. Adam lived to 930 whilst Methuselah tops the list at 969 years of age at death. Be sceptical or not, old age is revered in the Bible and is no barrier to incredible commitment.

Monicans are called always to be young in spirit – enthusiastic, vibrant and positive individuals who gladly lay their many gifts on the table. Some Monicans are in adolescence, several staff are in the twenties whilst many others are enjoying being in their thirties, forties and fifties. Some of us are over half-century-old and we remain young in spirit. May we always acclaim the senior members of our communities and not presume that at some age a person reaches the used by date!

Brian E. Hanley
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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

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

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

ENROLMENTS

Enrolments are currently being accepted for Year 7 2021 — 2023

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

MORNING TEA with the PRINCIPAL

Friday, 20 March 2020

Wednesday, 22 April 2020

The tour will commence from Augustine House College Administration 9.30 am.

To make a booking online visit:

www.stmonicas-epping.com/mtwtp

For further information please contact the College Registrar, Mrs Enza Sinopoli on 9409 8444

COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|
| 11 – 12 March | Year 7 Grandparents visits |
| 17 & 23 March | Parent/Teacher Conferences |
| 24 March | Principal's Art Prize |
| 25 March | House Athletics Carnival |
| 27 March | Student Free Day (End of Term 1) |

INVITATION TO BLESSING AND OPENING

SMC

PRAY AND PERSEVERE

Mr Brian Hanley

*Principal of St Monica's College, Epping
cordially invites you to the Blessing and Opening of the*

Learning & Teaching Building

*on Sunday, 15 March 2020
at 2.30 p.m.*

*St Monica's College
Davisson Street Campus – 16 Davisson Street, Epping*

*RSVP Monday, 2 March 2020 via
www.stmonicas-epping.com/rsvp*

LIBRARY NEWS

a. ASH AND MYNIP

Mr Winther will now come to ASH on Tuesday afternoons to assist students in MyNip and Year 7 generally with understanding their maths. He can explain the topic to you again, help solve difficult problems and help with test preparation.

b. SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB No. 2

Scholastic Book Club Issue 2 catalogues are now available. Copies can be collected from the PCL. All orders need to be returned to the PCL by Friday 13 March. This issue has loads of great titles and caters for a huge range of interests and ages. Jokes, Harry Potter, robotics, Marvel titles, graphic novels, box sets and heaps of activity kits for all ages over the holidays are on offer in this jam-packed issue. Please ensure all orders are placed by 13 March to ensure delivery before the end of term.

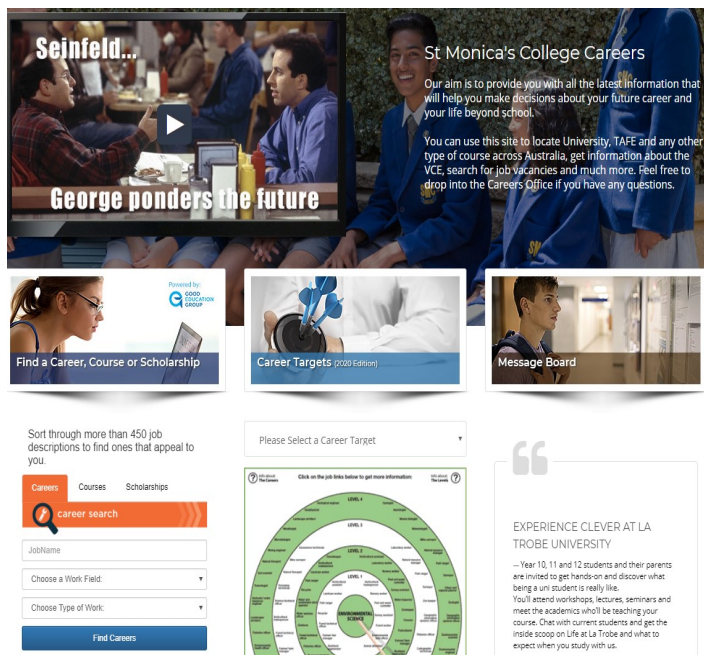
PUNCTUALITY

Several students regularly arrive late to school in the morning and this is most unacceptable. It is important to be prompt and on time, ready for Home Room. I urge families to check schedules, monitor traffic congestion, set alarms, and be ready to be at school before the bell for Home Room sounds.

CAREERS CORNER

Introduction to the new Careers Website

A new Careers website has been launched! Mr White and Miss Kneebone, our 2 career practitioners, would like to welcome you to the new and improved site which we will be using now.



The site contains a huge amount of material and should be your first stop when you are looking for information on anything job, careers, university or TAFE related. We will also record your Career interview notes and any relevant documents that you might have discussed in this site.

To get an idea of what you can do on it, take a bit of a tour by looking at the following areas:

1. Go to the site careersdept.stmonicas-epping.com. On the "Home Page", you will see:
 - a. Video – There is a careers related video that will often change. Some are humorous, some interesting, others just informative, so remember to check the website often.
 - b. The Career and Course Finder - The ability to search for courses (University, TAFE, and Private Providers), scholarships and job information.
 - c. The Message Board – we will post messages and notices here, so keep an eye on this.
2. Go to the "Calendar of Events" in the "Important Information" menu. Here you will find a calendar for the year. We will post important dates and events here. If you want to receive alerts or reminders of upcoming events, just enter your name and email address.
3. There is a "Careers Newsletter" under the "Important Information" menu. You can subscribe to receive a Careers Newsletter at least twice each term. These will be full of relevant information, important dates and more. If you wish to receive them, just enter your name and email address.
4. Go to the "Workplace Learning" menu. Here you will see a number of pages you can go to, including Work Experience, Work Placement and Workplace Health and Safety.

BOARD NEWS

Congratulations to Mr Mario Bernardi on his re-election as Chairperson of the College Board, and to Mrs Vanda Palamara (Vice President) and Mrs Melinda Cicitta (Secretary).



STATEMENT ON JEAN VANIER

The results of an independent investigation by GCPS, an independent U.K. consultancy, have been released on 22 February 2020 by L'Arche International in relation to sexual assaults by theologian and humanitarian, Jean Vanier, on six women between 1970 to 2005.

For many years, our College has embraced and celebrated the words and spirit of Jean Vanier. Vanier has been used as a role model, spiritual guide, servant leader, and his works have been quoted to inspire and energise our community in a spiritual context.

In 2019, it was announced that the connecting link between Buildings P and Q on Davisson Street Campus was to be named in honour of Vanier as the 'Jean Vanier Bridge'. A stunning plaque featuring his image and Vanier's philosophy was commissioned and mounted on the bridge.

As a result of the findings of the investigation, the name of the bridge has been withdrawn and the plaque will be removed and melted down. All books of Jean Vanier have been removed from the shelves of our libraries and all references to Vanier (including quotes from his publications) will be deleted where possible.

St Monica's College, Epping is a Catholic College based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. We believed the assumption, and acted accordingly, that Jean Vanier was a model of Christian charity, a wise spiritual counsellor, a man whose lifestyle, works and words were to be admired. We still believe that the aims of L'Arche (founded by Vanier in 1964) are worthy and we support the L'Arche organization wholeheartedly.

Along with millions of similar believers in Jean Vanier throughout the world, we find ourselves deceived, dejected and disappointed.



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NO SUPPORT FOR SMC FROM ANDREW GILES AND COMMITTEE

In late 2019, schools in the Scullin electorate were invited to submit applications for funds from the Federal Government \$100,000 Local Schools Community Fund for school projects. This was \$100K for each electorate.

St Monica's College submitted several proposals for funds for music, basketball and athletics. **NOT ONE CENT FROM ANDREW GILES MP AND HIS COMMITTEE was found for our College!**

NATIONAL SCHOOLS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Dear Mr Hanley

Re: National Schools Constitutional Convention

We are delighted to inform you students Keziah Iozzo and Nicholas Trajcevski will be among the 120 Year 11 and 12 students selected from around Australia to attend the 25th National Schools Constitutional Convention (NSCC). This Convention will be held at the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House, Canberra from Tuesday 17 to Thursday, 19 March 2020.

The program is designed to provide senior students with an opportunity to become better informed about how Australia's Constitution provides a democratic framework to inspire them to take an active interest in the operation of government. The topic for the 2020 Convention is *'Federalism: The Constitution and Australia's Water'*.

Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO will facilitate the Convention where Keziah and Nicholas along with other delegates, will spend two days exploring the topic. This will include input from experts and group discussions relating to the ongoing debate about the management of Australia's water systems and the constitutional implications.

EMMAUS PROGRAM

You have heard whispers and now the real thing is here! Thursday and Friday our Year 12 student took part in the Emmaus Program. Six keynote addresses, almost fifty workshops and six customised excursions were part of what happened at Davisson Street Campus over those two days. After much deliberation, the decision was made to replace Year 12 RE classes with this program which - hopefully - will be more beneficial to our students as young men and women of faith in their final year of secondary school. All Year 12 students were involved in the program.

Thank you to all those involved in the program, especially the Year 12 Home Room teachers and Leaders, who were an essential and invaluable part of this new endeavour.

INTERNATIONAL TRIPS

The decision has been made to withdraw from planned sporting trips over Easter to Singapore and New Zealand. Families have been notified. The College could not adequately support our students' health and wellbeing in the current circumstances.

WORLD OF SPORT

Senior Sport

SPORT	ST MONICA'S		Marymede/ MacKillop
Senior Netball	14	defeated by	18
Senior Cricket	7/51	defeated by	0/53

Year 10 Premier League

SPORT	ST MONICA'S		Marymede
Boys Volleyball	3 sets (24-26, 25-20, 25-21, 23-25 & 15-13)	defeated	2 sets
Girls Volleyball	0 sets (14-25, 14-25 & 16-25)	defeated by	3 set
Boys Basketball	90	defeated	34
Girls Basketball	19	defeated by	42
Girls Netball	38	defeated	27
Boys Netball	27	defeated	10
Girls Football	9	defeated	1
Boys Football	2	defeated	0

SPORT	ST MONICA'S		Kolbe
Boys Volleyball	1 set (23-25, 23-25, 28-26 & 18-25)	defeated by	3 sets
Girls Volleyball	3 sets (25-10, 25-18, 23-25 & 25-10)	defeated	1 set
Boys Basketball	75	defeated	22
Girls Basketball	79	defeated	2
Girls Netball	68	defeated	10
Girls Football	16	defeated	1
Boys Football	15	defeated	0

HOUSE SWIMMING CARNIVAL—2020



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