

PRINCIPAL'S BULLETIN



ST MONICA'S COLLEGE – A SCHOOL OF EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISE SERVING CATHOLIC EDUCATION TODAY AND TOMORROW

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'WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR'

These are the opening lyrics of 'When You Wish Upon A Star', of the Disney movie *Pinocchio* (1940).



How wonderful if it were true that each time you wished upon the first star in the nightly sky that, 'everything that your heart desires will come to you.' This may be an old and treasured animated Disney movie, but in addition to the lesson Pinocchio teaches the viewer, there is that delightful encouragement to keep wishing – upon a star or whatever lucky charm appeals to you.

Sometimes we say that people have dreams, others set themselves goals, some aim for targets, while others seek to cross over the long far-off horizon. I like the simplicity of wishing upon a star and then working to make that wish come true.

For what might we wish? In the context of this year's Monican theme, we wish for peace. We hope for inner peace, quietude and contentment. We do not want distress, upset or unease. Rather, a peaceful mind is our treasure that copes with life's challenges and reaches out and welcomes in.

World peace is a worthy wish. In several continents, war rages and deaths multiply. Tyrants rule harshly, juntas unlawfully reign over vast landscapes, pirates ruthlessly raid vessels and communities, and war is the only life known to millions of people across the world, men, women, adolescents and young children.

We wish for good health. Naturally, our lifestyle will play a large part in how healthy we are and remain, but no one wants disease, terminal illnesses, debilitating sicknesses that make life so tough and caring so difficult to deliver. We do wish for vaccinations that work, discoveries of drugs that reverse illnesses, medicines good and inexpensive enough to aid the poorest as much as they heal the wealthy.

As we gaze into the night sky and watch a star, we wish

for happiness for all, everywhere, in all that people do. It is poetic but right to call out for smiles not smirks; laughter not tears; bright eyes instead of sad, drooping eyelids; expectations rather than dread and fear. Most of us wish for circumstances that allow for a happy family, a happy home, a happy job with adequate funds, a happy social life, and happy surprises that delight us.



Wish upon a star (versus) pray to God for what we want and need? Is this a contradiction, is one more likely than the other? Who can respond definitively to that question, but perhaps the answer is that God is in everything, even the stars. So, when we see our God in the first star of the night, we are glimpsing the Star of

Bethlehem that announced the Saviour to the world. That star shone down on Jesus.

One early line in the song, 'When You Wish Upon A Star' is 'makes no difference who you are.' God has no favorites, He created us all. We choose to follow His star in our life, and that wish lived strongly and authentically should ensure that all our heart desires will come true.



$\frac{\text{WITH THANKS on MEDAL OF THE ORDER OF}}{\text{AUSTRALIA}}$



I thank all those associated with St Monica's College, Epping who have thanked me in so many ways on my being awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the 2021 Queen's Birthday list. The citation states that this award was given for service to secondary education. It has been, is, and will remain an honour to serve the community of this College in the role of Principal.



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



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, 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 https://www.education.vic.gov.au/
Documents/about/programs/health/
CSEF application form.pdf

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 about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

If you have already claimed for this year, there is no need to re-apply.

For any further queries please contact the Fees office 9409 8800.

TERM THREE UNIFORM AND GROOMING

At St Monica's College we take pride in our uniform standards. This important aspect of College life depends on the cooperation of students, the support of parents, and the vigilance of staff to ensure adherence to the uniform rules. How the uniform is worn is critically important. Students must wear it with pride and in accordance with the rules.

The personal grooming and demeanour of all students, in public and on the school grounds is a shared responsibility. Our grooming expectations ensure that Monicans are well presented in the community, taking pride in themselves and the College they represent.

A reminder regarding winter uniform:

For airls:

- 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
- <u>OR</u> 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 (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.

For boys:

- 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
- Regulation black leather belt with plain buckle
- College jumper, blazer and school shoes (plain black lace-up school shoes without silver or any colour eyelets)
- No short tennis style anklet socks. All socks must be above the ankle
- College Tie
- Grey College scarf, beanie and grey gloves (optional). No other items are permitted.

For all students:

- All items of uniform should be clean and well presented
- Students must use a St Monica's College school bag
- College Pin is to be worn by all students on the left lapel of the College blazer
- Full school uniform is to be worn by all students every day. In exceptional circumstances, if a part of the uniform cannot be worn, the appropriate Year Level Leader must be notified in writing
- The College blazer is the only outer garment permitted for all students and must be worn to and from the College daily
- Canvas and casual shoes are not permitted
- Students must ensure their hair is neat and tidy at all times. Male students must be cleanly shaven and ensure hair is no longer than the top of their shirt collar
- Female students must tie their hair up or back, using blue or gold accessories only
- Make-up (including artificial eye lashes) and nail polish may not be worn to school
- Students are permitted to wear one earring, plain

- stud or sleeper only in each ear (silver or gold not coloured); a watch; religious medal on a chain. No other jewellery is permitted
- Facial piercing is not permitted. This includes transparent piercings.

END OF TERM and HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

Classes for Term 2 finish Period 6 on Thursday, June 24. Friday, June 25 is a student free day.

Over the holidays there will be some Unit 4 classes that will run on Monday and Tuesday of the first week. Students who are involved in these classes have been notified.

Monday, July 12 is a student free day and all Term 3 classes begin on Tuesday, July 13.

LOGISTICS REPORT from DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (OPERATIONS)

QR CODES

QR code requirements in schools The use of Service Victoria QR Codes for electronic record keeping is mandatory for all schools to enable the effective contact tracing of any COVID-19 cases. The public health intent of including schools in the QR Code check-in system for workplaces is to capture those visitors accessing school buildings or indoor facilities, but not those entering the school grounds for reasons such as school pick-up.

QR Codes will be required to be used by:

- all visitors, including contractors, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) and other external staff, and building and maintenance staff
- <u>all parents who enter buildings when on the school site.</u>

QR Code check-ins will not be required for staff, students, or parents who come onto school grounds for drop-off or pick-up, but do not enter buildings.

Schools can permit parents to enter buildings on site for student pick-up and drop-off, provided sufficient QR Code locations can be identified and utilised to ensure parents are able to check in. QR Codes will be at both student receptions and Augustine House. Staff will be able to assist parents with this process.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Our College offers a huge range of Co-Curricular activities to students. Please check the College website to gather this information. I encourage parents to urge their children to become active, represent their College in sport, performing arts and in the whole range of unique, different and interesting offerings available to Monicans.

COLLEGE WEBSITE

How frequently do you refer to the College Website? Special care is taken to ensure that it is attractive, informative, interesting and colorful. It is very worthwhile for parents and students to go to www.stmonicas-epping.com to discover what is current (and a little of our history) at SMC.

LATIN LANGUAGE

It has been proposed that a lunchtime club be established on the DSC for the learning of the Latin language. Interested students may contact Mr J Stacey for further information.

LOST PROPERTY on DRC



A reminder to students that Lost Property is now located at Dalton Road Campus Reception.

Students are able to hand in or collect any misplaced items every day before school, during recess, lunch and after school.

All unclaimed food and drink containers are disposed of at the end of each fortnight. This will occur on Thursday afternoon of Gold Week.

At the end of each Term, ALL unclaimed items are donated.

For any Lost Property enquiries, please email lostproperty@stmonicas-epping.com.

PAKISTAN APPEAL

The Presentation Sisters of Pakistan thank all those Monicans who have generously donated to the Go Fund Me Campaign to assist them with paying their teachers' salaries in Khipro. These teachers work in remote village schools that educate the poorest and most marginalised and are paid approximately \$1100 per annum. Thus far the campaign has raised \$6091. The Go Fund Me Campaign is still active. You can donate by going to https://gofund.me/41a96e97. Please consider donating the price of a cup of coffee. Every dollar counts! We aim to raise \$13,000. Individually your small contribution will enable these schools most valuable resource, their teachers, to continue the fine work they do and allow these schools to remain open.

HAPPY AUTISTIC PRIDE DAY



Happy Autistic Pride Day! What is Autistic Pride Day? Autistic Pride Day is a celebration of the neurodiversity of people on the autism spectrum held on 18 June. The day is celebrated annually and "Autistic Pride" stands for pride in autism, about shifting views of autism from negative to positive.

Some of our young people are 'out and proud' about their Autistic identity - and it is very exciting to see the impact they are having in changing the narrative on Autism.

Quite often, though, we see young people who are still grappling to see themselves or view Autism in a positive light. They have internalised the negative perceptions of others. For these young people, a first step forward might be starting to identify their own strengths - or feeling confident enough to share with a friend that they are Autistic. All of these actions - big and small - have a positive ripple effect.

We can play a significant role in helping nurture selfesteem and pride in our Autistic young people, no matter where they are in their respective journeys. If you have time, below is a link to interesting TED TALK from the I-CAN founder and CEO, Chris Varney. https:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1HQKB2txqY

CAREERS CORNER

WHAT SUBJECTS ARE RIGHT FOR YOU?

As we move into subject selection time, there are a number of things that a student needs to consider when selecting their subjects for the following year.

The main things a student needs to consider when making subject selection decisions are what they are good at, and what they like. A student is more likely to be successful if they are doing a subject that they enjoy and they are good at.

Sometimes it is necessary to choose a particular subject as it is required to be studied in order for a student to be considered for selection into future courses. These subjects are called prerequisites. As an example, in the case of Year 9 student who wants to be studying Maths Methods when they get to Year 11, they need to be selecting Maths A in Year 10 as it is a prerequisite for applying to do Maths Methods when moving from Year 10 into Year 11 the following year.

Frequently asked questions about prerequisite studies What are prerequisites?

Prerequisites cover the required knowledge and skills needed for a future course. If you haven't completed the required prerequisites for a course, you won't be selected. This is why it is important to look ahead to what you might want to study after secondary school, before selecting Year 11 and 12 subjects.

Where do I find prerequisites for University courses?

Prerequisites can change from year to year and are published two years in advance. If you are a current Year 10 student, prerequisites for 2024 will be available in June 2021. You can find prerequisites for 2023 in the '2023 Prerequisites' list and VTAC's Prerequisite and Course Explorer to use as a general guide but these may change.

Do all courses with the same title have the same prerequisites?

No, some courses with exactly the same title, but offered at different institutions, can have different prerequisite requirements. Always check this information carefully.

What if I don't have a prerequisite?

If you fail to meet a prerequisite, talk to the institution about pathways into the course that allow you to complete the prerequisite, or an equivalent, such as a bridging course or an equivalent tertiary subject.

Using VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) Prerequisite and Course Explorer

The Prerequisite and Course Explorer helps you create and change VCE programs and identify prerequisite studies needed for entry into university and VET courses commencing in 2021, 2022 and 2023. Prerequisites for 2024 courses will be available in July 2021.

It allows you to:

- explore courses you will be eligible to apply for after finishing year 12.
- see the impact on the range of courses available to you by adding and removing different VCE studies, and
- filter tertiary courses by a range of factors including area of interest.

As well as completing prerequisites, you also need to meet the minimum VCE study score requirement. These will be published in <u>CourseSearch</u> in the year that you make your application.

For detailed instructions on using the Prerequisite and Course Explorer, see <u>How to</u> <u>Use VTAC's Prerequisite and Course Explorer</u>

HOW TO SUPPORT A FRIEND OR RELATIVE

CONTACT

Stay in regular contact. Pick up the phone, send a text or email to check up on your friend or relative



EALTH

SUPPORT

Offer to go with them to find some extra support and advice from professionals



WELLBEING **DAILY TASKS**

Ask them if there is anything you can do to help them with tasks such as shopping, cleaning etc.

ENCOURAGE

Encourage them to talk about how they are feeling

Talk to them about how exercise, sleep and eating healthy can help with their mental health

COPING SKILLS

Help them to develop coping skills such as relaxation or deep breathing. Be there to practice with them

JUDGEMENT

Do not judge them or be critical when talking to them

RESPECT

Respect their limits and do not put pressure on them to do things

YOURSELF

Make sure to look after yourself and your own wellbeing







MUSIC NOTES

Music Camp:

Plans are in place for the much-anticipated Music Camp to be held on Sunday 18 July to Tuesday 20 July at Camp ADANAC, Yarra Junction. Music ensemble students will participate in intensive rehearsals to develop musicianship skills as well enjoy many fun activities and opportunities to build friendships.

Term 3 Instrumental Music lessons:

Instrumental Music timetables for Term 3 will be sent to students via email at the end of Term 2. Students are asked to note lesson times in their planner.

Any students planning to start music lessons in Semester 2 are invited to enrol for lessons via the online enrolment form: https://www.stmonicas-epping.com/instrumental-music-enrolment-form/

Ensemble rehearsals:

All weekly ensemble rehearsals are now back to normal times as indicated below. Any student who plays an instrument or enjoys singing is welcome to join a relevant ensemble. Participation in a College ensemble is an excellent co-curricular activity which helps develop a wide range of transferrable skills. Please contact Mr Dion Hatherell, Director of Music for specific ensemble information.

Weekly rehearsal times:

Ensemble	Day	Room
SMC Singers (Director) Mrs J Murone	Thursday 3.45—5.00 pm	TOAN
Senior Vocal Ensemble Mrs G Crowley, Director	Monday 8.00 – 8:45am	T18
Junior Singers Mrs J Murone (Director)	Thursday Lunch	E27
Concert Band Ms L Rizzi (Director	Thursday 3.45—5.00 pm	G30
Intermediate Band Mr D Hatherell (Director)	Thursday 3.45—5.00 pm	E27
Junior Band Mr J McCluskey (Director)	Wednesday 8.00 – 8:45am	G30
Junior String Ensemble Miss C Cross (Director)	Thursday Lunch	G30
Senior String Ensemble Mrs G Crowley (Director)	Tuesday 3.45—5.00 pm	T18
Stage Band Mr J Beeche (Director)	Wednesday 3.45—5.00 pm	G30
Saxophone Ensemble Mr J Beeche (Director)	Wednesday Lunch	T18
Flute Ensemble Ms L Rizzi (Director)	Friday 8.00 – 8:45am	T18
Junior Rock Band Mr D Sirianni (Director)	Wednesday Lunch	G30
Senior Rock Band Mr D Sirianni (Director)	Tuesday Lunch	T18
Drum Ensemble Mr J McCluskey (Director)	Friday 8.00 – 8:45am	G30
Junior Guitar Ensemble Mr L Streeter (Director)	Tuesday Lunch	E27
Senior Guitar Ensemble Mr L Streeter (Director	Tuesday 3.45—5.00 pm	G30

Upcoming Performances/Events:

- Victorian School Music Festival: Stage Band (Wednesday 11 August)
- SMC Singers (Friday 6 August)
- ♦ Concert Band (Tuesday 27 July)
- Principal's Cup for Song (Monday 7 September).
 Auditions will be held in early August
- 'Sounds of Spring' Music Concert (Wednesday 15 September).

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

THIS IS PRESENTED TO

ST MONICA'S COLLEGE

In recognition of the 'Be More' students and your invaluable contribution to the Whittlesea Food Collective. With your generosity through frozen meals, we have been able to assist hundreds of local families in need.







EXTRACT from MESSAGE of POPE FRANCIS for WORLD COMMUNICATION DAY

"Come and See" (In 1:46). Communicating by Encountering People Were and as They are

Opportunities and hidden dangers on the web

The internet, with its countless social media expressions, can increase the capacity for reporting and sharing, with many more eyes on the world and a constant flood of images and testimonies. Digital technology gives us the possibility of timely first-hand information that is often quite useful. We can think of certain emergency situations where the internet was the first to report the news and communicate official notices. It is a powerful tool, which demands that all of us be responsible as users and consumers. Potentially we can all become witnesses to events that otherwise would be overlooked by the traditional media, offer a contribution to society and highlight more stories, including positive ones. Thanks to the internet we have the opportunity to report what we see, what is taking place before our eyes, and to share it with others.

At the same time, the risk of misinformation being spread on social media has become evident to everyone. We have known for some time that news and even images can be easily manipulated, for any number of reasons, at times simply for sheer narcissism. Being critical in this regard is not about demonizing the internet, but is rather an incentive to greater discernment and responsibility for contents both sent and received. All of us are responsible for the communications we make, for the information we share, for the control that we can exert over fake news by exposing it. All of us are to be witnesses of the truth: to go, to see and to share.

MARVELLOUS MONICAN

Tali Tosun (Year 10 Brown) has demonstrated an exceptional amount of commitment and courage to achieve what she has in the world of Muay Thai and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. She has particularly excelled in Muay Thai, having held the national title of 13-14 year olds champion in her weight division. She also qualified for the 'Worlds' where she would have been fighting to be world champion. Unfortunately, this trip was not possible due to COVID-19 and travel restrictions. Tali has continued to train hard and focus on one of her goals, to become a UFC fighter. Earlier this year she dominated in another amateur bout run by Muay Thai Victoria. To further her development towards UFC, Tali has also been training in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu under the direction and guidance of many time National/Oceanic and Asian champion Burak Sarman.

Tali's display of Monican qualities including commitment and perseverance, among others, has made it clear that she definitely deserves to be named Marvellous Monican!





Brian E. Hanley OAM Principal



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