



OUTSIDE OUR CITIES – RURAL LIFE



In 1999, after several years of looking around and inspecting rural properties, I was fortunate to purchase our Ostia property for our College. Situated in the tranquil valley of Strath Creek in Central Victoria, close to the townships of Broadford on one side, Yea on the other, and neighbour to Flowerdale, our Ostia property has given enormous pleasure, spiritual formation and peace to thousands of Monicans since its acquisition.

We who reside in the city do well to think positively about fellow Australians who live in country towns, rural cities, or on farms and on other landholdings. It is said that Australia rides on the sheep's back (perhaps not so relevant in the 21st Century), but certainly our food supplies and basic needs such as milk, wheat, and other crops are sourced from the country.

Let us be thankful that Australians still remain on the land either farming cattle, dairy, grain crops. Other Aussies live in more remote areas where mining pursuits occur, and we do know that our mining resources have most probably replaced that humble sheep!

It breaks our heart, does it not, when we see extreme devastation happening to country areas through droughts, floods and fire. These natural disasters become part of life for country people on a semi-regular basis, and the consequences are severe for families and their economic wellbeing. Water is a most precious commodity for the farmer and river management is a hot political issue. Climate change is often blamed as the cause for disasters.

Country people are sometimes isolated on vast country and mining estates and fields. Others are working in the fishing industry off shore. Travel distances are lengthy, social contact and medical availability can be a

real challenge. We know that the opportunity to attend religious services is often curtailed due to distances. Employment opportunities in the country can be very limited for young people.

Yet, country life (aka 'the bush') is such a beautiful thing. Hard to deny that the air is cleaner, the life is somewhat slower, traditional country friendliness is a reality, that communities tend to be more supportive, aware of their communal needs, and just that bit more determined to make a go of life despite the hardships.



May Monicans pray for our fellow country Australians wherever they live and whatever they produce; may our daily practices reduce climate damage for the sake of those on the land; may we be generous in recovery efforts after disasters; and may all Australians come together – city, country, farmer, miner, indigenous, migrant, Liberal, Labor, National, Green supporter, people of all faiths and none to ensure that we have – **ANYWHERE YOU GO.**



**Financial assistance for Camps, Sports
& Excursions Fund (CSEF) 2021 \$225.00 Extended
until 13 August, 2021**



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 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 2020 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**), term two (**19 April, 2021**) or term three (**12 July, 2021**).

Closing Date

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 13 August, 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.

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

ProgComp 2021 University of New South Wales



Late in Term 2, during the Semester 1 Examination Matthew James (Year 10) solely competed in a prestigious Open Coding competition hosted virtually by the University of New South Wales. This annual competition required Matthew to solve problems that is virtually impossible to solve manually. Matthew had 120 minutes to complete five tasks with increasing complexity. He applied Mathematics, Science, and other knowledge areas to write software code that solved the given problems. Matthew finished 1st in Victoria for the Intermediate Level with an overall ranking of 38th out of 175 participating school teams. He ranks 4th overall in the Intermediate Level and 3rd overall from participating Victorian teams to be only beaten by two Senior teams from Victorian schools. Matthew competed under the banner of 'SMC-Shalom' to beat senior teams from Melbourne High, Presbyterian Ladies' College, Caulfield Grammar, Cobram Grammar, Brighton Grammar and other Grammar schools from different states.

Matthew James is commended and congratulated for his achievement in taking St Monica's College, Epping to our highest ranking in one of the most challenging coding.

CAREERS CORNER

Many universities now have early admission or guaranteed entry programs.



ACU Guarantee Program

Guarantee your place at ACU, even before your Year 12 exams. The ACU Guarantee program offers eligible Year 12 students a place at ACU based on your Year 11 results.

With the considerable challenges Year 12 students have been facing this year, ACU has introduced the ACU Guarantee program. Students can make an application through this program, have their Year 11 results considered, and ACU will produce a predicted selection rank and make a conditional early offer before final exams have been sat. Find out more at [ACU Guarantee Program](#).



Aspire – Early Admissions Program

At La Trobe, we believe there is more to being a good student than marks alone.

The [Aspire program](#) rewards the skills and knowledge students gain from the positive impact they have made on their school or community through **community service** or **volunteerism**.

Successful applicants also receive their **early conditional offer** in September for their chosen course along with minimum ATAR requirements. Many courses have a minimum ATAR of 50, but some professional degree programs have higher requirements. **Up to 40 Aspire scholarships**, worth \$5,000 per year for up to four years, will be awarded to leading eligible Aspire students.



Early Offer Scheme

RMIT's Early Offer Scheme values the entire experience of a student and provides diverse

opportunities for students to leverage their acquired skills into their future career and find the right journey to their desired learning outcome.

Students can apply for one course and must apply at the following RMIT link – [Early Offer Scheme](#). The eligible courses on offer are also found at this link.



Early Entry Program

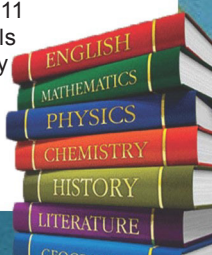
A different way to enter university that will not depend on your ATAR

The [2022 Early Entry Program](#) is a unique opportunity for current Year 12 students to receive a conditional offer based on a recommendation by the school, and not based on an ATAR. Applications will open 2 August 2021 and close on 31 August 2021. Conditional offers will be made from mid-September 2021.



VU Guaranteed Program

The VU Guaranteed program offers Year 11 and 12 students from partnership schools a guaranteed place at Victoria University (VU) or Victoria University Polytechnic (VU Polytechnic), prior to their final Year 12 exams. [Apply now](#). Applications close on Friday 8 October 2021.



CHILD SAFETY

As Catholic educators, we have a moral, mission driven and legal responsibility to uphold and actively promote the wellbeing and safety of every student entrusted in our care.

Our commitment to the protection of students is enabled in nurturing, respectful and safe communities where the uniqueness and sacred dignity of every young person is celebrated and they are able to flourish in their learning and development. This vision is driven by the gospel message of love, justice and abundance, beautifully reflected in the words of John.

"I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." John 10.10

In this edition of the Principal's Bulletin, we are featuring the CECV Commitment to Child Safety, provided by MACS (Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools). The care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people is a central and fundamental responsibility of Catholic education. At our College, we are committed to strengthened practice for the protection of children in line with the Victorian Government child safety reforms.

For your interest, I also draw your attention to viewing our 2020 Annual Report to the School Community. This report is published each year and meets our accountability obligations with the Victorian and Australian governments. Our Annual Report to the School Community reports for the year in areas such as Education in Faith, Learning and Teaching, Student Wellbeing, Child Safe Standards, Leadership and Management and the College Community in general. This report can be found on our College Website.



Important Dates Term 3

AUGUST

- 11 Years 7-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 17 Years 7-12 Parent Teacher Conferences
- 18 Staff Professional Learning Day (*Student Free*)
- 23-27 ST MONICA'S WEEK
- 23 Annual Oration
- 27 St Monica's Day

SEPTEMBER

- 6 Principal's Cup for Song
- 17 Staff Professional Learning Day (*Student Free*)
- 17 End of Term 3



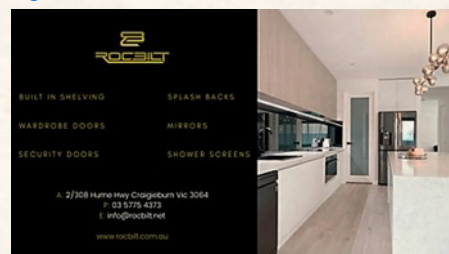
If you would like more information about Business Connect, please contact Jordan Hodges at the Promotions and Events Department: .

J.Hodges@stmonicas-epping.com



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Tik Tok: [@maryscandles](https://www.tiktok.com/@maryscandles)

MARVELLOUS MONICAN



Luzella Costa (12 Red) is an excellent student who has demonstrated a strong work ethic across all subject areas and contributes to the classroom in a positive manner. She is a wonderful example of someone who is able to manage schoolwork while participating in extracurricular activities at the College. Luzella was cast as the lead role of Dorothy in this year's College production; The Wizard of Oz. Luzella is a fine, young woman and is a great candidate for a Marvellous Monican.





CHESS

WHAT IS IT?

Chess Club is a weekly opportunity for students on both campuses to learn and play the game of chess, with a focus on participation, enjoyment, and improvement. Chess is a game in which young people can develop important social skills and critical thinking skills.

On Monday afternoons, students are given a group coaching lesson from Tim Broome, our external coach from Northern Star Chess. Two coaching lessons are provided each session: one for beginner/intermediate players and one for more advanced players. The remainder of the session is allocated to students playing games of chess so that they can develop their skills and put into practice the learnings from the coaching session. Coaching lessons range from fundamental chess concepts and piece development through to recognising tactical opportunities and specific opening and endgame theory.

Chess Club is the gateway for students to represent St Monica's College at intra-school and interschool chess events, such as SACCSS Chess and The Principal's Shield for Chess. Our Senior and Junior Chess Squads regularly compete with great success at state and national level and develop friendships that are maintained through their high school years.

DETAILS

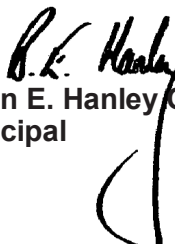
- **Monday Chess Club** (Years 7 to 12)
After school until 5pm (F13) DRC
- **Thursday Chess Club** (Years 10 to 12)
Lunchtime (Q77) DSC
- **Online Chess Club** (Years 7 to 12)

KEY PERSONNEL

Mr David Stranzen
Chess Co-ordinator
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