



ST MONICA'S COLLEGE, EPPING

Principal's Bulletin

SMC

PRAY AND PERSEVERE

St Monica's College – A School of Educational Enterprise | Serving Catholic Education Today and Tomorrow

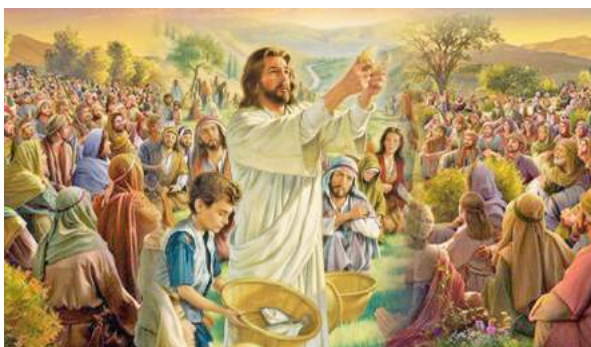
Volume No. 33 | Number 11 Tuesday, 1 August 2023

ASSEMBLING FOR A PURPOSE

The College community held the Term 3 Assembly on Tuesday, 25 July and it was yet another occasion when the true and revered Monican spirit came to the forefront. There was a rich variety of topics including speeches, presentations, reports, and many graphics and photos (even a short film) appeared on the screens. Naturally, the Assembly commenced with Acknowledgement to Country and a thoughtful prayer.

Humans are born to be with one another, an isolated life is not something to relish and enjoy. John Donne, famous poet and author, wrote in 1624 that, 'No man is an island'. People assemble for many different reasons, so let us start with those close to us. We invite others to celebrate with us for a birthday party, a child's baptism or christening, a new-house party, a wedding or baby shower. We seek others' company, and happiness brightens and enlivens the occasion.

Alternatively, we assemble for funerals or when we need to attend a hospital visit to support an ill person. In these types of assemblies there is comfort-giving and companionship from those who are kind and generous to be present.



On other occasions, we worship at religious services with fellow believers, we undertake working bees to cut the lawn or paint the fence, we assemble for concerts, football games, festivals, and many choose to attend public meetings to discuss and debate civic issues.

We need others and they need us, so it is appreciated when we make the effort to assemble. It is more than just turning up: it is all about purposefully coming together to be with others.

We know that many people assembled around one person, Jesus. We read about his feeding the masses with a mere few fish and a couple of loaves of bread. We remember each year his triumphant entry into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, cheered by assembled crowds who saw in Him the Messiah. The apostles assembled to eat the Passover meal and they sought refuge with each other after the death and resurrection of Jesus in one room. We name this as Pentecost.

Crowds still gather to witness speeches given by famous people or perhaps the ambitious political candidate. People assemble in art galleries to view a masterpiece or even an oddity. Little infants assemble as they intriguingly inspect a strange insect crawling across the path into the shrubbery. All are focussed on the same phenomenon.

College assemblies at St Monica's College, Epping are indeed occasions when Monican lights shine bright. Our students do such amazing things either individually or as a group member. On Tuesday it included the chess tournament, two Principal's Awards, listening to Sister Nargis from Pakistan, and we welcomed four new Monicans to our school community.



Let us seek out company, enjoy being in the presence of others, and ensure that no one is left out of the circle or excluded from the privilege of togetherness.

Brian E. Hanley OAM

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



Prayer and Commissioning for World Youth Day, 2023

World Youth Day is an international gathering of young Catholic and Christian pilgrims that occurs every two years at a different city around the world. This year, pilgrims will gather from all corners of the world in Europe at the capital of Portugal, Lisbon.

Three representatives from St Monica's will attend this wonderful event: staff member Mr Stefan Luca, and Kyra Correya and Joshua Licastro from Year 11. We pray the World Youth Day prayer for 2023 with them and for them.

We pray together today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

*Our Lady of the Visitation,
you who left in haste towards the mountain to meet Elizabeth,
lead us also to meet all those who await us
to deliver them the living Gospel:
Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord!*

*We will go in a hurry, with no distraction or delay,
but with readiness and joy.
We will go peacefully, because those who take Christ take peace,
and wellbeing is the best wellbeing.*

*Our Lady of the Visitation,
with your inspiration, this World Youth Day
will be the mutual celebration of the Christ we take,
as You once did.*

*Make it a time of testimony and sharing,
fraternisation, and giving thanks,
each of us looking for the others who always wait.*

*With you, we will continue on this path of gathering,
so that our world will gather as well,
in fraternity, justice and peace.*

*Help us, Our Lady of the Visitation,
to bring Christ to everyone, obeying the Father,
in the love of the Spirit!*

We move now to commission and bless our St Monica's College World Youth Day pilgrims for 2023.

Pilgrims, as you set out, we recall the theme from the Gospel of Luke for this World Youth Day: "Mary arose and went with haste." Mary of Nazareth is a woman of missionary action who responds with courageous urgency to God. May Mary's example remind you of your reasons for participating in this holy pilgrimage.

May you go to witness to the great love of God and the example of Christ Jesus.

May you experience the work of the Holy Spirit in your lives.

May you enjoy deep personal encounters with Christ and his Holy Spirit in the Church, the Sacraments, and the Saints.

All-loving God,

You always show mercy to those who love you. You are never far away from those who seek you. Remain with our pilgrims and guide their way. Shelter them with your protection, give them the light of your grace, and as their companion and friend on the journey, bring them to their destination and home again in safety.

We ask this in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Monican women shining!

Often when the topic of co-educational versus single-sexed schools is debated, an argument against co-education is the misnomer that female students are too often over shadowed by their male peers, and that they hold back on their pursuit for academic excellence or co-curricular success and achievement.

I would like to highlight a snapshot of Monican women in this edition of the Principal's Bulletin – as we move into August, the month we celebrate our beloved patroness, St Monica – and showcase some of the many exceptional achievements, accolades, and contributions of Monican women over the past few months, that challenges this contention.



St Monica's College Epping celebrated International Women's Day early March, and we were honoured to have as our guest, Ms Maris Petros, distinguished alumna 2006-2011. During this breakfast gathering, Maris addressed the female members of the Senior Council, students from our Legal Studies classes and female members of our Interfaith Dialogue partners, Al Siraat College. Maris offered sage advice on numerous issues, including the power and strength of offering service to others, and about her commitment to promoting gender equity and being a voice for the unspoken. Along with her family members of exceptional and proud Monican women, Maris is a truly inspirational role model for our aspiring Monican students.



During the months of May and June, Monican women continued to shine brightly. Aleks Bozinovska of Year 12 represented Victoria as a team member in the Pizzey Cup in Canberra from 13 May to 21 May. The Pizzey Cup is a prestigious national school tennis championship, open to girls and boys aged 18 years and under, running alongside the Australia Cup attracting tennis ranking points. Well done to Aleks, whose team placed 4th in the championship. Congratulations are also extended to Alanah Bonacci of Year 10, for her successful completion of the Zoos Victoria Youth Leadership Program, completed over a 12-week period. Alanah demonstrated great skills of determination, persistence, leadership, and scientific attention leading to her graduation attainment for the program.



Representation at the recent Principal's Award for Public Speaking was at a high premium with 7 females amongst the group of 8 finalists. Congratulations to the award recipients; Niko Shibata Year 10, Jane Luu Year 12, and Gracie Registro Year 7. Well done to all participants.

Girls Pursuing STEM (GPS) at SMC! This innovative and engaging space saw our female Monicans enthusiastically taking on the beauty industry with Green Chemistry for planet preservation. July also saw the launch of the FIFA

Women's World Cup with a breakfast held at the Davisson Street Campus, involving our female NFA athletes and alumna. Alana Cerne from the Western United FC Women's A-League Team was warmly welcomed to SMC for her address and inspirational story.

Monican women are shining brightly at SMC and this small but significant list reminds us that anything is possible when we are guided by strong role models such as St Monica, particularly during this month of August when we acknowledge not only her achievements but also her conviction to keep efforts high, with prayer and perseverance.



Let Your Light Shine Bright!

Miss P Di Maria
Executive Deputy Principal



Social Media and School

Teaching is a vital profession in our society, and education has the power to change lives. School staff not only shape the learning and development of future generations, but also play an influential role in our communities. For many educators, the opportunity to make a difference in their communities by contributing to the development of young people's academic and socio-emotional development is an important motivation for joining the profession.

Technology can act as a powerful tool to transform and support education and enable new ways of connection and collaborating. However, in line with broader societal trends, increasing use of technology may also result in behaviour being more difficult to identify and control.

Social media clearly has many benefits for us both as individuals and as communities; many schools including St Monica's College are exploring how we might best harness this power to engage even more closely with parents and students. Unfortunately, we are also experiencing an increasing number of situations where social media has been the vehicle for inappropriate behaviour by students.

Social media platforms such as Snapchat, Facebook, TikTok and Instagram have had widespread impact on the way in which we communicate and express our thoughts and opinions. There are occasions, however, when things said in the virtual world are at best unhelpful and, at worst, may constitute harassment, bullying or intimidation which could ultimately lead to police involvement.

At St Monica's College, we expect all members of our community to be respectful and thoughtful in their interactions, including when these exchanges occur online. We do not accept individuals using social media platforms to make critical remarks or post inappropriate photos or videos of the school, other students, and/or College staff.

As a College, we pride ourselves on the integration of our named 'values' both into students' academic progress and character development. We strive to demonstrate, and to encourage others to demonstrate, these values - including being helpful, showing kindness, demonstrating compassion, humility, ambition, resilience - in all areas of everyday life. As such, when considering online activity and the use of social media, a broadly accurate guide is that if it falls outside of behaviour and interaction as described and encouraged by these values, it is unwise to proceed. Any form of harassment or bullying will be viewed seriously whether online or in person and dealt with under our code of conduct.

We have no wish to stifle debate or the opportunity for students to express their views, but want to encourage and promote positive role models in both the digital world as well as the real world. Whilst our students may be the more knowledgeable in using modern communication technologies, it is the partnership of schools and parents that can help them to use it wisely, safely and responsibly.

Ms A Xerri
DRC Campus Leader

Miss N Meade
DSC Campus Leader



Term 3 Parent/Teacher Conferences Years 7 – 12

Parent/Teacher Conferences for Years 7 – 12 will be held on Wednesday, 9 August and Tuesday, 15 August from 2.30 pm – 8.00 pm.

All Year 7-12 Conferences will be held via PAM using MS Teams video conferencing. Using PAM (Parent Access Module), you will be able to book the conference times that suit you best from any internet-connected device.

Access to the system is available from 9.00 am Tuesday 1 August, 2023.

To facilitate setup for the conferences all students will be dismissed at 12.55 pm on both days.

Ms M Keele
Deputy Principal (Teaching & Learning)





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 automatic payments can be completed online using the following link:

<https://www.stmonicas-epping.com/payment-plan/>

Our standardised payment plans have the following upcoming direct debit dates in August:

4 Weekly Payments	2 Fortnightly Payments	1 Monthly Payment	1 Quarterly Payments
4 August 11 August 18 August 25 August	4 August 18 August	15 August	15 August

We ask you to kindly diarise the applicable dates. Please ensure funds are in your account one day prior to the above scheduled dates.

Term 3 Instalment

Please keep in mind if you are not on a school administered payment plan and you have not already made your third instalment, this is now past due. As payments are due and payable in four equal instalments by the second week of each term if you are not on a school administered payment plan:

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

If this applies to you, we ask that you tend to this urgently.

Tips to Stay on top of your School Fees

Staying on top of Tuition fees is essential to ensure a smooth academic journey, it can however feel daunting at times.

Please find some tips & tricks to making this journey as seamless as possible:

- Sign up for a school administered payment plan: Your payment plan will be opted into for future years until your child graduates and fees are finalised. You have the choice to sign up for a quarterly, monthly, fortnightly, or weekly plan. You are able to opt out of a payment plan at any time.
- Make note of Deadlines: Tuition Fees payments are due and payable in four equal instalments by the second week of each term. Should you opt to pay more frequent instalments, this is welcome. Note, if you have not paid a second instalment on your tuition fees account, this is now considered overdue.
- Keep up to date: Most correspondence is sent via email so please ensure that you check your email regularly for communication as well as the latest Principal's Bulletins

Most importantly the Fees office is here to assist you in any way we can, please do not hesitate to reach out to talk to one of our knowledgeable staff.



DRC

Subject Selection

DRC students are currently making their subject selections for 2024. There are some important implications for Year 9 students who will commence their Year 10 studies next year particularly regarding the subjects they choose related to Maths as any student who wants to be a Maths Methods student in VCE must do Year 10 Maths A as a pre-requisite. While there are no absolute pre-requisites for Year 10 students who wish to study various VCE Science subjects in 2025 it is highly recommended that in 2024 Year 10 students study the Science subject that best prepares them for their VCE Science subjects in 2025. Students now have Year 10 Subject Selection information guides to refer to and have completed activities on how to use this guide. They should use it to help them to make informed decisions on their subjects for next year. Apart from being well informed the golden rule for selecting subjects is for them to pick ones they are good at and which they enjoy. The online portal to select subjects opens on Friday, 28 July and closes on Friday, 4 August.

DSC

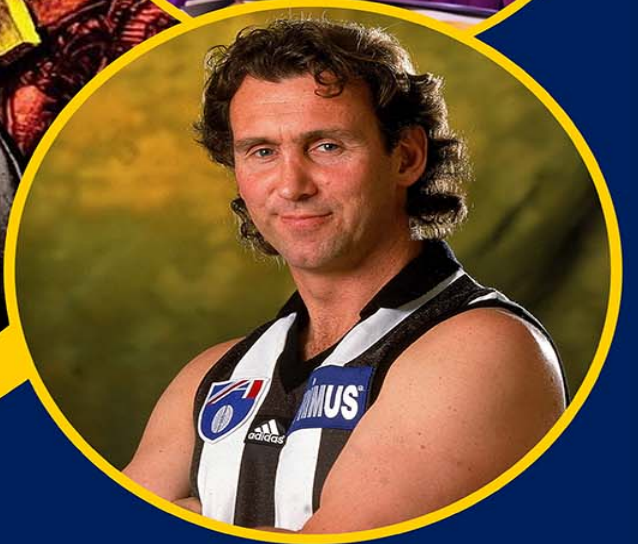
Subject Selection

Year 10 students have also begun choosing subjects following the same timeline as the DRC cohort. These students have been meeting with Careers staff for short interviews to help ensure that they are well informed about their options and that they have started to consider their future careers. Year 10 Monicans have now experienced a good sample of the academic program on offer and are well placed to make choices based on their abilities and interests. Year 10 students should also consider university pre-requisite subjects if they are considering an academic pathway.

Year 12 VTAC Matters

DSC Careers are running presentations to explain important VTAC information to the Year 12 cohort. At these sessions staff explain what VTAC is and what its registration process involves, SEAS applications, how to use VTAC "CoursesSearch" to find university courses, and all about Early Entry programs that universities offer. The presentations are to help students prepare for the registration period commencing on Monday, 31 July.

It is imperative that all Year 12s regularly read their emails to access details about these information sessions.



St Monica's Week 2023

Annual Oration

Pina & Bill Dunne



7.00pm
21 August, 2023

By Invitation Only

Sports Breakfast

Tony Shaw
Peter Daicos
Grace Gill



6.30am
23 August, 2023



Tickets
Adults – \$55
Child – \$30

St Monica's Day



10.00am – Mass
25 August, 2023

By Invitation Only



For more information
9409 8800

SMC

PRAY AND PERSEVERE

Welcome to the LIBRARY



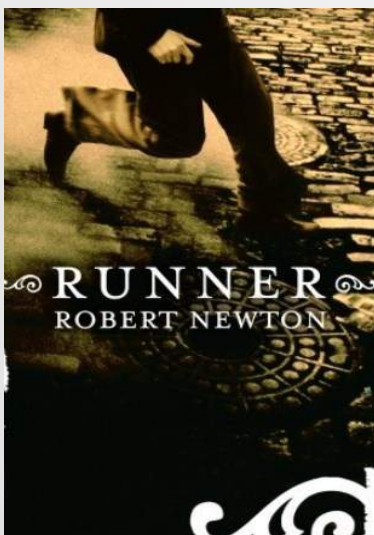
Once again, we have had a wonderful time in the Pamela Coyne Library celebrating both Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by JK Rowling and the novel Runner by Robert Newton.

These books have been studied by our students, and it is great to see how interested they are in the displays and activities we have presented to them.

Harry Potter is always popular, and along with our wonderful display (thanks to Mrs Johnson for sharing her collection with us) we have also had a viewing of the film, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets and the very popular Trivia Competition. Of course, there was the obligatory dress up day for staff!



Runner by Robert Newton is studied by the Year 7's and our display takes the students back to life during the 1920's with artefacts and antiques shared by the staff here in PCL. Teacher Librarians show these treasures to each Wide Reading class that visits and discuss what life would have been like back in the time of Squizzy Taylor in the suburb of Richmond. Over the course of a week, the PCL Staff dressed in the style of the 1920's, much to the delight of the students visiting the Library.



STEM

SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | MATHEMATICS

St Francis of Assisi Primary School's Balloon Car Challenge at St Monica's College STEM Building



St Francis of Assisi Primary School's Grade 5 students recently participated in the "Balloon Car Challenge" at St Monica's College STEM Building. Led by Ms Sheehan, Mr Kalantzis, and Mr De Cata, the event provided an engaging and hands-on learning experience.

During the challenge, students built and tested balloon-powered cars to measure time, distance, and speed. They collaborated, problem-solved, and used materials like cardboard, straws, bottle caps, tape, and balloons to create their unique vehicles.

The "Balloon Car Challenge" integrated various STEM disciplines, introducing students to simple machines, like the wheel and axle system and screws, while showcasing Science principles like, Newton's laws of motion with the car's propulsion from escaping balloon air.

The students efficiently managed their time and raced their cars enthusiastically, fostering a sense of camaraderie among them.

The event concluded with pride and joy as the young innovators showcased their remarkable creations. The Grade 5 students' exceptional enthusiasm, creativity, and determination made the challenge a success.

Gratitude is extended to all facilitators and organisers for creating this memorable and enriching experience for the students.

Mr S Kalantzis
Senior STEM Educator





World



SACCSS Senior Boys & Girls Football Rd 1

Boys vs MacKillop: 9-1

Goal Scorers: M Kotronis 3, D Lazarevski 2,
E Ozdemir 2, T Adams, Y Kengni

Girls vs Kolbe: 6-0

Goal Scorers: N Colosimo 3, R Pocock,
A Sureda, L Di Gregorio



Year 9 Premier League Competition Round 1

Boys Football vs St Francis: 2-0
Boys Basketball vs Penola: 68-14
Girls Basketball vs Pnola: 41-33
Girls Volleyball vs MacKillop: 2-0
Boys Volleyball vs MacKillop: 1-2
Netball vs MacKillop: 12-41
AFL vs MacKillop: 311.29 - 6.642



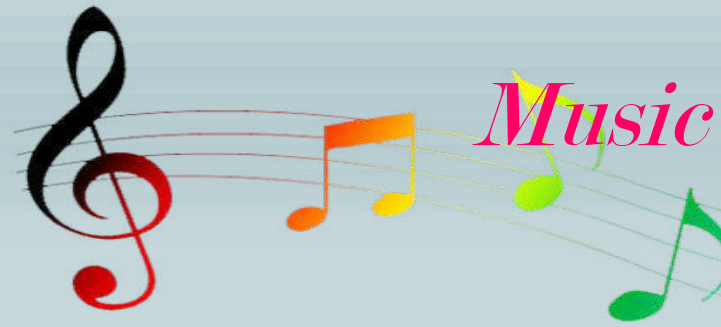
Year 9 Premier League Competition Round 2

Boys Basketball vs St Francis: 57-63
Girls Basketball vs St Francis: 24-55
Girls Volleyball vs St Francis: 1-2
Boys Volleyball vs St Francis: 0-3
Netball vs St Francis: 13-33
AFL vs St Francis: 85.43 - 3.119
Boys Football vs CCCC: 5-0
Girls Football vs CCCC: 13-0



of Sport





On Sunday, 16 July over 100 music students and staff set off for the College's Annual Music Camp at ADANAC Christian Youth Camp in Yarra Junction.

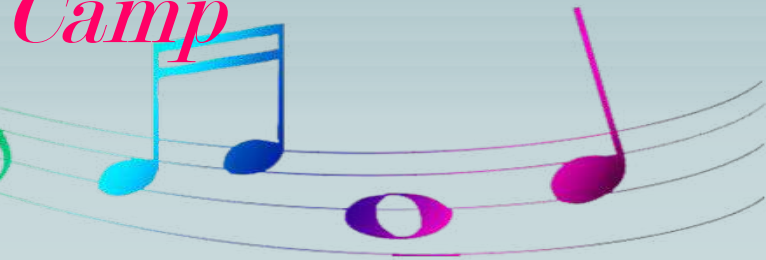
Students spent 3 days involved in intensive rehearsals with their ensembles to prepare for upcoming music events including Eisteddfod, Sounds of Spring, and St Monica's Day Mass. The weather was spectacular, and students had the opportunity to try their hand at archery, disc golf or the flying fox on Monday afternoon.



Our music captains hosted a trivia night after rehearsals on Monday evening and all students participated in an achievement concert to showcase the music practised at camp. The happy campers returned to SMC on Tuesday afternoon weary but full of inspiration.



Camp





St Monica's College, Epping is proud to proclaim itself as a School of Educational Enterprise, serving the families of the northern suburbs of metropolitan Melbourne.

Our philosophy commits the College to remaining connected to our ever-growing alumni base and parent network. With strong and ever-increasing enrolments, we have a large and solid community network. The College's Strategic Plan 'Towards the Future 2020-2024' identifies the goal to strengthen community and business relations, particularly with the difficulties most Victorian businesses have faced in the past 3 years. Now is the time to come together.

This will be a service that assists businesses as they seek to attract new work and re-establish links with regular customers. SMC Business Connect will be aimed towards businesses that have a connection with the College through an association with a past student, current parent or regular supplier of the College.

Essentially, we are offering a free advertising service through three different platforms: Social Media, Principal's Bulletin and College Website. Currently, our Facebook page has over 6000 likes that stretch from Epping to all over Melbourne and throughout Victoria, across Australia, and internationally to countries such as Italy, Greece, Asian locations and even as far as Africa. Our monthly reach is in excess of 100 000 000 people. The Principal's Bulletin is electronically sent to our 1500+ families every fortnight, and our College Website will have its own SMC Business Connect section.

Through our Promotions and Events Office, the College can produce an advertising package through all three platforms, or one based on your needs. As it is a free service, we are very happy to discuss how we can advertise and cater for your business objectives. It will be our pleasure to meet you to discuss how SMC Business Connect can work for you.

We look forward to strengthening our connections with you now and into the future.

To register your interest and to obtain further information, contact our Director of Operations, Mrs Alison Pisani at the College on 9409 8800 or via email a.pisani@stmonicas-epping.com.



Kayla Naumoski
(Director)
The Beauty Company
Address: Unit 2/28-36 Miller St, Epping VIC 3076
Phone: 0436 809 088
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/xtendthebeautycompany>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100094135030929>



Talia Pulis, Nicole Stella & Makayla Rao
(Director/Speech Pathologist)
Northern Kids Therapy Service
Phone: 0400 758 132
Email: info@northernkidstherapy.com.au
Website: www.northernkidstherapy.com.au



Sarah Connor
(Maternity, Newborn, Children and Family Photographer)
It's All You Photography
Phone: 0430 835 244
Email: itsallyouphotography@outlook.com
Website: www.itsallyou.com.au



Vanessa Hatzidinas
(Cake Artist)
Cakes by Vanessa
Phone: 0418528827
Email: vanessa@cakesbyvanessa.com.au
Website: <http://www.cakesbyvanessa.com.au/>

SMC

PRAY AND
PERSEVERE

St Monica's College, Epping Year 7, 2025

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

Please submit your application by this date as places are limited and there is no guarantee of a vacancy after the closing date.

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

For enquiries, please contact the College Registrar, Mrs Lina Sirianni on 9409 8444 or Email registrar@stmonicas-epping.com



Apply online today!

www.stmonicas-epping.com/apply



400 DALTON ROAD, EPPING VIC 3076



03 9409 8800



registrar@stmonicas-epping.com

St Monica's College, Epping

Sports Breakfast

Featuring AFL legends Tony Shaw and Peter Daicos.

Special Guest - Grace Gill

Tickets for adults - \$55, students - \$30



Wednesday, 23 August



6:30am - 9am



Manor on High
519 High St, Epping VIC 3076

Tickets > <https://www.trybooking.com/CKCNG>



Peter Daicos



Grace Gill



Tony Shaw



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



MARVELLOUS MONICAN



Luca Thomas is a confident and well-respected student in Year 9. He is consistently punctual and can be seen in the hallways every morning discussing the overnight football results or assisting his classmates with revision for an upcoming assessment. Luca is an exceptional football player taking up the position as goal-keeper for Melbourne Victory Under 16's. While he loves playing Football, he has also used his time at St Monica's to experience a range of other sports participating in Athletics, Cricket and Hockey. Luca's leadership qualities can be seen in the classroom where he has held the position of Class Captain in his homerooms since beginning at the College in Year 7. Upon completion of his schooling at St Monica's College, Luca would like to study Law at La Trobe University while continuing his football career as a player or a coach.

B.E. Hanley OAM
College Principal



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