

**THE FIFTH SENSE: HEARING**

'Do you hear what I hear?', is a traditional Christmas Carol which we shall enjoy in a couple of months. The lyrics relate to the shepherd boy:

*'Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song, high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea.'*



In this final reflection of our series on senses, focus is placed on hearing. How beautiful it is to hear a song, a voice, the pealing of bells, the chirp of a small bird, the flowing stream, and the sound of a mighty wind blowing away all the cobwebs.

Of course, there are many people who are deprived of this fifth sense, people born deaf or with profound hearing loss. These days there is equipment to aid hearing loss and transplants are no longer a new idea or device. Hearing aids are tiny, unlike days long ago when hearing instruments were unsightly and ungainly.

Auslan is the official language of the deaf, and sign language is taught in many schools and centres. It is a miraculous and valued means by which those who are deaf can communicate with those who hear, and vice versa. Hearing can decline as one advances in years or when industrial or other types of accidents occur. It can be dreadfully isolating. Thus it is so important that every effort is made to keep in communication with each other.

Just as it was with the blind, many famous deaf people overcame their physical disability and we remember and admire them. These include Ludwig van Beethoven, Thomas Edison, Helen Keller (deaf and blind), Marlee Matlin and Australian poet, Judith Wright. Oftentimes, deaf people struggle with speech though this seems to be the case less often in modern times.



What is the distinction between hearing and listening for indeed they are different? Hearing is listening to what is said whilst listening is hearing what is not said. Think about that and understand why people urge active hearing that listens. Saint Benedict proclaimed, 'Listen with the ear of your heart.' God comes to us as the gentle wind, not the forceful gale. He whispers and we are called to listen even if we are physically deaf.

We do not need to shout at those who are hard of hearing nor ought we ignore them and treat them as somewhat different. Instead, we respect their individuality and accept them as they are - and love them as a consequence. Jesus healed the deaf man, recounted in the Gospel of Mark. The Bible is, in fact, full of references of all sorts of hearing and response.

I hope that Monican readers have found some reason for reflection after reading this three-part series 'Sens(e)ible', as we have explored taste, touch, sight, smell and hearing.

Thank God for all He has created and blest humankind with. Surely good reason to 'Let Your Light Shine Bright.'

Brian E. Hanley OAM

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



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

We support each other

Working or studying in schools allows us to be amongst others during celebratory moments, when we acknowledge and applaud the successes and achievements of our peers and students. We are afforded the possibility to congratulate individuals for their efforts that have enabled them, to reach their charted goal. It is within these moments when we celebrate others, that we find inspiration to do more and be more ourselves.



At times we are the recipients of praise and encouragement, and that support can act as a further incentive to set the bar even higher as we move forward in our endeavours. Words, a congratulatory note, a handshake, a high-five or simply a smile in our direction that offers an unspoken commendation, can be incredibly powerful as we continue to work towards further success and a rewarding sense of accomplishment. That is how we support each other, by marking the varied talents and numerous gifts amongst every cohort of students and collectively as College staff.

Term 4 provides multiple opportunities to acknowledge participation, achievement and most importantly effort. In the recent weeks our Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and departure activities, the Term 4 College Assembly, Year Level Assemblies, sporting, and co-curricular events have all focused on supporting and acknowledging the incidences of brilliance, of contribution and determination of Monican students, teachers, support staff and coaches. For this we are not only grateful, but we are proud.

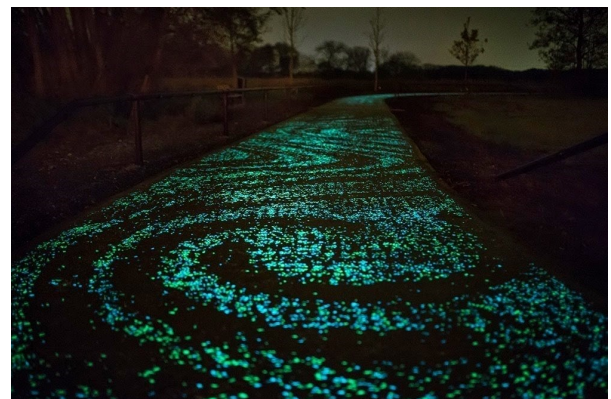
As members of a nurturing community, support is also extended when we do not reach our desired outcomes and we realise that there is still work to be done. When challenges present, Monicans rally around one another, roll up their sleeves and accept or invite a call to arms, that induces cooperation and fosters companionship. We must never be relaxed with our efforts to support others, both within and beyond our College. A strong and lived Monican value, bestowed upon us by our faithful Good Samaritan Sisters, is to reach out and welcome in and to offer generosity of spirit, through hospitality and genuine care for our neighbour. A challenge shared, is a challenge halved. The extensive array of support avenues that are available to Monican students and staff, are provided for our developmental, academic, emotional, and spiritual needs.

To know another, is to know them at their best and during their moments of need. The ability to sense that your peer, your colleague, or your friend is not ok, is an intuitive skill that can be practised and perfected when we look beyond ourselves and become actively invested in others around us or aware of behaviours that may seem uncharacteristic. These crucial moments when we notice a change or realise that someone needs our assistance, can make a huge difference in someone's day. Support comes in many shapes and forms and sometimes the best aid you can offer someone, is to just listen. The person in need may just want someone to talk to, smile at them, include them in a conversation, or offer them a handshake or a hug.

If you feel that a higher degree of assistance is required, direct them to someone with a specialised ability to unpack and navigate the concern.

We support each other in various ways each and every day. When we allow our lights to shine brightly, we not only have the potential to illuminate our own pathways, but those of others that walk alongside us on this wonderful journey.

Miss P Di Maria
Executive Deputy Principal



End of Year Examinations

As many of you would be aware, our students in Years 7 - 11 will shortly begin their end of year examinations. These exams play an important role in assisting with the identification of students that require additional support and in preparing our students for the demands of their VCE studies.

We understand that our students can experience feelings of anxiousness and stress leading into these exams and we are well-resourced to support our students. Our Year Level Leaders support these students by working individually with students and parents to support their personal needs. We also ensure that all students have the resources to revise effectively for their exams. Examinations are a learning experience for all students. We encourage all students to give their best effort in each exam.

We take this opportunity to remind students of the importance of knowing when and where your exams are scheduled. The exam timetable has been placed in Knowledge Banks on PAM and SIMON, is on display in corridors and has also been sent via email.

Some key information that all students must be aware of:

- Students are required to be on campus 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of their exams.
- Students need to be in full school uniform. No PE and no Building and Construction will be accepted. All College grooming expectations are required to be followed.
- If a student arrives late to an exam, they must present to their Year Level Leaders' office.
- Students need to follow the direction of supervisors in each exam.
- Students are not permitted to have mobile phones and/or electronic devices that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals on them during an exam. Such devices must be turned off and will be placed in a basket at the front of the exam room. Students who do not comply will have their device confiscated and retained pending an investigation.
- In line with VCAA examinations, students are not permitted to exit the exam room during the first 30 minutes or the last 20 minutes of an exam.
- A more detailed list of exam guidelines is on display in every classroom. Students are encouraged to read these prior to the beginning of the examination period.

We wish you the best for this exam period. We encourage students to continue to prepare well and revise for their exams. We encourage all students to trust their preparation and give their best effort.

Ms A Xerri
DRC Campus Leader

Miss N Meade
DSC Campus Leader

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





Finalising 2023 Tuition Fees

Please keep in mind if you are not on a school administered payment plan and you have not already finalised your tuition fees account, this is now considered overdue as of 13 October 2023. As 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.

If this applies to you, we ask that you tend to this as a pressing matter.

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)
- b. At College 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

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

1 Quarterly Payments	1 Monthly Payment	2 Fortnightly Payments	4 Weekly Payments
15 November	15 November	10 November 24 November	3 November 10 November 17 November 24 November

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

October Statements

Tuition Fee Account Statements and Additional Charges invoices/ statements were emailed to all families on Tuesday, 31 October 2023.

If you have not received a copy of your tuition statement, here are some tips to correct the issue:

- Check your spam/junk folder: Often legitimate emails end up getting incorrectly marked as spam. Check these folders and ensure you mark emails from St Monica's College as “not junk” or whitelist the email address to prevent from happening again
- Check your email storage: If your inbox is reaching capacity, it can prevent you from receiving new emails. Be sure to review your inbox often and delete unnecessary emails. You may also wish to consider increasing your storage limit
- Review any email filters in place: Check to see if you have any filters in place that may be incorrectly diverting or deleting emails
- Verify your email address: Contact the Fees Office to see which email address we are sending your statements to. Our system is limited and generally only sends your monthly statement to the primary debtor on the account, we can update/override this email address as requested.

Extra-curricular activities do not appear on your Tuition Account Statement, these charges are billed via a separate Tax Invoice as and when they fall due, whereby different terms and conditions apply.

Microsoft Platform 2024

We have an important update to share regarding our school's digital infrastructure. In our ongoing efforts to improve the learning experience and streamline our digital tools, we will be transitioning from Google Drive and Google Classroom to the Microsoft Platform.

This transition is scheduled to take place on 18 January 2024 and we believe it will bring numerous benefits to both students and teachers. The Microsoft platform offers a suite of integrated tools designed to enhance collaboration, productivity, and the overall educational experience.

Key benefits of this transition include:

Seamless Integration: Microsoft tools such as Teams, OneDrive and SharePoint provide a cohesive ecosystem that simplifies file sharing, document collaboration and communication.

Enhanced Security: Microsoft's security measures will help safeguard students' data and protect against potential cyber threats.

Improved Accessibility: The Microsoft platform is designed to be user friendly and accessible for students, making it easier for them to engage in online learning and coursework.

Simplified Communication: Microsoft Teams offers a more streamlined way for teachers and student to interact and discuss assignments.

Consolidated Resources: Students will have access to a single hub for all their assignments, documents and class materials.

We understand that change can be challenging, but we are committed to providing support and resources to ensure a smooth transition. Students have been sent an email outlining this change and providing them with instructions on how to save anything from their Google Drive which will be inaccessible after 18 January , 2024. In addition, students will be provided with information about Microsoft Teams from their teachers early next year.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to a successful transition to the Microsoft platform.

Ms M Keele
Deputy Principal (Teaching & Learning)



Connecting people and places for a growing Melbourne

Dear Parents and Students,

A recent survey of the morning peak passengers exiting Epping Railway Station found that the vast majority of St Monica's College students were not in possession of valid MYKI tickets. We kindly remind you that it is an offence to travel without a valid MYKI ticket and encourage all students to ensure they are in possession of a valid MYKI ticket when using Public Transport. A reminder that all students must use their MYKI to tap on and off when using public transport.

If found without a valid MYKI ticket students may face penalties of up to \$277.

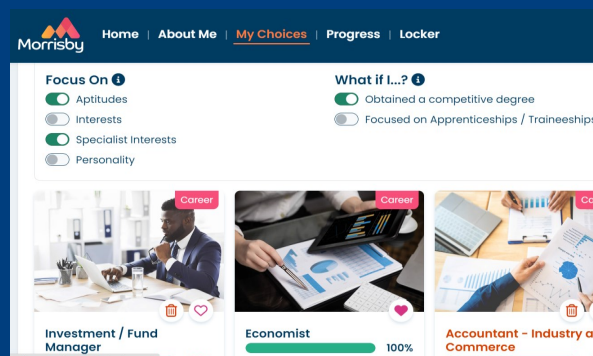
*Thank you for your co-operation, its greatly appreciated,
Community Education Team*

Careers CORNER

DRC

Morrisby

Selected Year 9 students who completed their Morrisby aptitude testing and interests profile earlier in the year are currently engaging in interviews with Mr Stehn to discuss their report. Their report identifies their strengths and produces a list of careers that match these strengths. Students can emphasise aptitudes, personality, or interests to see how the career recommendations change. During the interviews students are learning how to better manipulate features of their Morrisby report and being counselled to keep the findings in perspective.



DSC

Year 12 VTAC dates

All Year 12's should remind themselves of the important dates below:

ATARs Released	Monday, 11 December 2023
Change of Preference (CoP) closes	Wednesday, 13 December 2023
December Round Offers	Thursday, 21 December 2023
January Round International Offers	Friday, 5 January 2024
January Round Domestic Offers	Friday, 12 January 2024
February Offer Rounds	Tuesday, 6 February 2024 onwards

VCE Vocational Major mock job interviews

Last week SMC VCE VM students participated in mock job interviews. They chose a relevant job that was advertised in the real world and prepared a resume and cover letter. They also researched the organisation that they were applying to. Finally, it was time to participate in an interview. Various SMC teaching and careers staff played the role of employer, asking "applicants" questions typically occurring in actual job interviews. Students were able to receive immediate feedback on their performance. A great learning experience.



Job interviews can be nerve wracking so mock interviews provide students with valuable practice and feedback to help make the real thing easier.



Year 9 Being Human Showcase in Pamela Coyne Library

9 Gold, 9 Yellow and 9 Mauve worked throughout Term 3 in RE exploring what 'Being Human' means and looking at this concept through many different lenses. They were given the opportunity to choose an existential question related to this concept and represent their thoughts via an artwork.

The end result was a showcase presented in the Theatre of All Nations with the students' work on display and presented to members of the College community. The students' art work was a collection of thought provoking pieces including poems, paintings, AI generated images and sculptures.

Feeling enlightened by their curiosity, hard work and newfound empathy the showcase was a huge success.

This beautiful display of work is now on show in the library until the end of the term, and it is an absolute joy to fill our library space with students' intriguing and lovely pieces.



GoIT Challenge: SMC DigiSTEM – TCS Industry Partnership Program

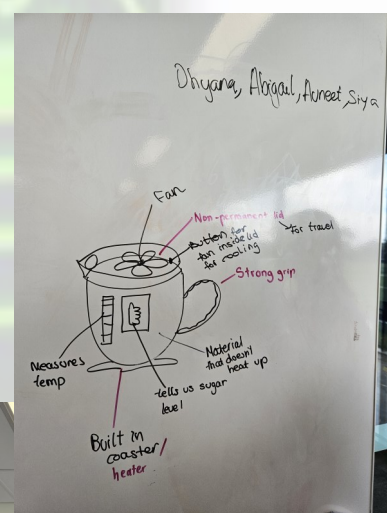
The Assistive Technologies and Design Thinking Digital Technologies-STEM initiative has shown that our Year 7 students have enthusiastically embraced the art of problem-solving and innovation in their creative solutions. However, their journey into the field of Digital Technology-STEM Education is just beginning, as they are now embarking on the global GoIT STEM Challenge presented by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). TCS is launching an APP design and development Challenge.

In this challenge, our students select a United Nations Sustainable Goal and collaborate in teams of their choice to craft a digital solution that addresses a specific issue. TCS, with the expertise of industry professionals, generously dedicates their time to inspire Year 7 students, encouraging them to explore potential careers in computer science and technology. Our aim is to ignite curiosity, boost confidence, and enhance employability, empowering students to design and create innovative digital solutions for community problems. This venture also provides invaluable exposure and insights into the diverse roles available within the IT industry and the broader business world.

During this process, students assume the role of innovators, endeavouring to enhance existing products or services. Ultimately, their mission is to develop an APP-based solution that effectively tackles a real-world problem. In future articles, we will delve deeper into the experiences and innovative ideas that have emerged from our youngest students during this exciting journey.

Mr J McQuade
Faculty Leader of Digital Technologies

Mr S Bagh
Senior Teacher (Future Technologies & STEM)





ENGINEERING | MATHEMATICS

From Classroom to Space: Rocket Science and Practical STEM Education

The rocket journey began with the inspiration of Year 9 HORIZONS Science students who were eager to explore advanced STEM studies in aerospace. Working collaboratively in teams, they examined plastic model rockets, delving into the analysis of fin surfaces and variations. These aspiring students conducted string flight tests to gain insights into rocket trajectory and stability, applying Newton's Laws of Motion.

These students employed their engineering skills to design and construct rockets capable of achieving successful launches. Their exploration extended to external factors such as wind and their control over factors like the rocket's design and payload. This process not only enhanced their 21st-century skills and teamwork but also ignited fresh ideas in the space of Aerospace Engineering and Science. To thrust their rockets into space, the students tested their designs using hydro-propellants and air pressure.

Through a series of trials, these young scientists gained a comprehensive understanding of how various topics, including aerodynamics, astrodynamics, gravity, pressure, ballistics, fuel, propellants, combustion, thermodynamics, and electromagnetism, all play integral roles in the field of rocketry.

In an upcoming article, we will focus on the challenges tackled by our Junior Science students. These challenges include achieving the fastest launch, carrying the heaviest payload, and reaching the highest apogee (height) achieved by the student teams.

Mr S Bagh
Senior Teacher (Future Technologies & STEM)

Mrs K Thomson
Faculty Leader of Science





World of




SACCSS Junior Tennis
Girls Singles Champion - Mia Tsalkos
Boys Singles Champion - Sucher Chavaan
Mixed Doubles Champions
Maya Naumova & Louis Pascuzzi
Boys Doubles Champions
Luka Spaseski & Alessio Scalpelli
Girls Doubles Runners Up
Jessica Aquilina & Milana Savic





SACCSS Junior Boys Futsal

Round 1 vs MacKillop: 5-1
 Round 2 vs Antonine: 7-1
 Round 3 vs Thomas Carr: 0-3
 Round 4 vs CRC North Keilor: 2-4
 Round 5 vs Marymede: 6-0
 Round 6 vs Caroline Chislm: 15-0



SACCSS Junior Girls Futsal

Round 1 vs Marymede: 7-0
 Round 2 vs CRC North Keilor: 2-1
 Round 3 vs Salesian: 4-0
 Round 4 vs Thomas Carr: 1-0
 Round 5 vs Emmanuel: 4-1
 Round 6 vs Caroline Springs: 3-3
 Grand Final vs CRC North Keilor: 1-2



THIS MONTH IN *Mission*

2023

2 - 3 November
2 November
2 November
3 November
9 - 10 November
10 November
13 November
13 November
13 November
13 November
15 November
16 - 17 November
17 November
20 November
22 November
23 - 24 November
23 November
24 November
24 November
27 November
27 November
29 November
30 November
30 November

Be More Meetings
DRC Archive Committee Meeting
Memorial Mass
DSC Youth Ministry Meeting
Be More Meetings
DSC Youth Ministry Meeting
Junior School Council Meeting
DRC Youth Ministry Meeting
Community Service Oxacare Program
Quest Community Cook Up for Exodus
Community Service Oxacare Program
Be More Meetings
DSC Youth Ministry Meeting
DRC Youth Ministry Meeting
Student Archives Project Launch
Be More Meetings
2024 Student Council Training Day
DSC Youth Ministry Meeting
Year 7 - 11 Assembly
Junior Student Council Meeting
DRC Youth Ministry Meeting
Spirituality Seminar
DRC Be More Meeting
DRC Archive Committee Meeting

MARVELLOUS MONICAN



Alana Mandanici (9 Jade) has shone brightly in the spotlight since beginning her journey at St Monica's College. A well-mannered, polite and hard-working Year 9 student, Alana is held in high regard by her peers and staff.

Alana has always had a passion for singing and has fuelled this by engaging in singing lessons at the College. This year Alana was a finalist in the Principal's Cup of Song. She sang "Burn" from her favourite musical Hamilton and has full intentions of participating again next year. Alana has her sights set on a career in Musical Theatre and is working hard to get there with additional drama classes in the afternoons. This has helped her secure auditions for various production companies.

Away from the spotlight and in the classroom, English is one of her favourite subjects and she commits herself to the Afterschool Homework Program numerous days a week to complete her homework and improve her results. During her spare time Alana can be found reading or listening to her music idol, Taylor Swift.

B.E. Hanley
B.E. Hanley OAM
College Principal

SMC

PRAY AND
PERSEVERE

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