



*From the Principal*

John M Freeman

## COVID-19

As Victoria is experiencing significant community transmission of COVID-19, can I please encourage all parents, guardians, carers and students who are feeling unwell and displaying symptoms of COVID-19 to get tested.

Further to previous notification I now advise that if parents, guardians or carers are undergoing testing for COVID-19, that all children of the parent, guardian or carer should remain absent from school until the parent, guardian or carer receives a negative test result.

If students who are being tested for COVID-19 have siblings who attend this school or any school managed and operated by the Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Limited (DOSCEL), then the siblings should also remain at home until a negative test result is provided for the student awaiting a test result.

During this time we will continue to follow our normal processes for managing unwell students, if any child presents as being unwell families will be asked to collect them as soon as possible.

With regard to masks/face coverings students and staff are not currently expected to wear them whilst at school. However, they are welcome to do so. This situation may change if we are advised otherwise and we will let you know if that is the case.

Please remember that regional Victorians will be required to wear a face covering when visiting metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire.

## New Bishop

On the 27 June 2020, we received the good news of the appointment of Monsignor Greg Bennet, a priest of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, as the 10th Bishop of Sale by Pope Francis.

Bishop-Elect Bennet is currently the parish priest of St Joseph's, West Brunswick. He has held several leadership positions within the Archdiocese of Melbourne, including as Director of Ministry to Priests and later as inaugural Director of the Office for Evangelisation. After additional parish ministry, he served as Vicar General from 2012 to 2019.

Bishop-Elect Bennet was born in April 1963, and is the second of four children to Len (RIP) and Maureen Bennet. He was raised in Melbourne, completing his secondary education at Braemar College in Woodend, northwest of Melbourne. After working in banking for several years, he entered Corpus Christi College in 1986 and was ordained as a priest in 1992.

Following a number of parish appointments, Bishop-Elect Bennet undertook postgraduate study, gaining a master of science in pastoral counselling from Loyola College in Baltimore and a licentiate in sacred theology from the Angelicum University in Rome.

Bishop-Elect Bennet's appointment follows the recent departure from Sale of Bishop Patrick O'Regan who was installed as Archbishop of Adelaide in May.



We look forward to welcoming Bishop-Elect Bennet soon.

**Please click on the image (Left)  
if you wish to watch a video message  
from our new Bishop.**

## Staff News

Welcome again to Jayne Scott who will with us for the remainder of the year mainly teaching Art

We also welcome Rachel VanderKoogh who is teaching primarily Years 8 to 10 Maths as well as VCAL Numeracy.

Next Friday we farewell Leigh Winter who is leaving us to work in the corporate world. We wish Leigh the best of success.

## Year 7 2021

Enrolment applications closed on 30 June 2020 and we have almost completed the process of interviewing close to 220 families to determine offers for places in 2021. Following the interviews, applications will go to the admissions team for discussion, and if successful, an email will be sent on Friday 7th August and acceptance paperwork will be going out on Monday 10th August. If not successful, you will be contacted by the Registrar by the 7th August.

We are continuing to accept applications, but in all likelihood these applications will be placed on a waiting list.

## Student News

Top Screens recently advised that Josh Wong's Year 12 film from last year, that was selected and shown in Top Screens 2020, won the People's Choice Award.

This is an amazing accomplishment for Josh; he was our very first student to be selected in Top Screens, and to win the People's Choice Award on top of that, is a great achievement.

## Condolences

Finally, can I please ask that you keep the following people who have passed away as well as their family and friends in your prayers:

- Clare Costello, mother of Sue Pickett

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual  
light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

*Amen.*



# Solidarity and Courage

## *I Will Stand With You*

Mexico City 1968

"I couldn't see why a black man couldn't drink the same water from a water fountain, take the same bus or go to the same school as a white man. There was a social injustice that I couldn't do anything about from where I was, but I certainly hated it. It has been said that sharing my silver medal with that incident on the victory dais detracted from my performance. On the contrary. I have to confess, I was rather proud to be part of it".

*Peter Norman*



Today would have been the opening of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

To mark this day, we remember Peter Norman, Australian 200m Silver medallist at the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games.

He stood on the podium in solidarity with American sprinters Tommie Smith, who won gold, and John Carlos, the bronze medallist in silent protest against segregation and racism.

Norman was shunned on his return to Australia for joining the protest and not allowed to compete in Munich in 1972.



*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it; you shall love your neighbour as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two great commandments." (Matthew 22:34-40)*

## We Pray

Good and gracious God,  
who loves and delights in all people,  
we stand in awe before you,  
knowing that the spark of life within each person on earth is the spark of your divine life.  
Differences among cultures and races are multi-coloured manifestations of your Light.  
May our hearts and minds be open to celebrate similarities and differences among all and  
stand in solidarity with the last, the least and the left out.  
May we have the courage to live lives worthy of the faith we profess.  
Amen



# LEARNING & TEACHING



**BRETT VAN BERKEL**  
**Deputy Principal**  
Learning & Teaching

## Semester 1 Reports

Your child's first-semester report is now available in PAM for you to view and discuss with your child. We have introduced a new report template that is a formal summary of the assessment tasks completed across Semester 1.

Your child's experience of education over this semester has been unique. As a school community, we have had to overcome significant challenges to try to reduce any disruption of learning for our students. With the feedback provided from you we believe we achieved this. The report is provided to you within a context where staff have not had the opportunity to work alongside your child for the full semester. To complete this report, our staff have used direct assessments from term one and two, alongside evidence of learning during the period of remote schooling.

As per advice from the Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Sale, the school is reporting on the Year 7 to 10 Victorian Curriculum Progression points for all subjects except Religious Education. Maths Pathway reports will have the progression point embedded in the attached separate report.

On behalf of the staff, I thank you for your support throughout remote learning and transition back to face to face teaching, and we look forward to continuing to work with you in the best interests of your child.

## Virtual Expo

Over the coming weeks, you will be provided with information about our upcoming Virtual Expo. The focus of the expo will be to assist students in completing their subject selections for 2021.

Over the last two weeks students from Years 10 and 11 have been provided information on careers, pathway advice and course advice.

From the 3 August to the 13 August there will be several virtual subject Q & A sessions on offer for each VCE subject. Students and parents will be able to attend these sessions via the Teams platform. Students will be guided through the process of nominating for these sessions in their Personal Learning subject. The sessions will provide specific subject advice and the chance to ask questions of the subject teachers.

Individual course advice sessions will be available from 18 August to the 21 August. These will be held via telephone, and bookings for these sessions will be done via PAM. More specific information will be sent out over the coming weeks.

Specific subject outlines for Years 10-12 can be found on the Lavalla Catholic College [HERE](#)

“We have all been placed on this earth to discover our own path, and we will never be happy if we live someone else's idea of life.”

James Van Praagh

*one wild and precious life*

# STUDENT WELLBEING



**Doug Doherty**  
**Deputy Principal**  
Student Well-Being & Operations

## COVID-19

As we continue through these unprecedented times of COVID-19, the Well-Being of students, staff and families is at the core of our College community in all that we do and say. I would therefore ask that if there are any concerns regarding College members in relation to COVID-19, to contact the College Leadership direct. Please ensure that we do not become involved in rumour mongering and trust that the College will act in accordance with government and governance direction. Like the quotation from Paulo Coelho, we all want to reach a destination of returning to a COVID free world, but I am sure we want to do this without alienating or hurting others as we reach that goal. A strong community supports each other especially in time of need.

Each year our College undertakes the Insight SRC survey. This is an opportunity for the College community to review our practices and identify areas for improvement. All staff and a selection of students will have completed this survey, however, we are asking that parents/guardians complete the survey if they have been selected or volunteered by their child. This gives you a chance to help direct the key priorities of the College for 2021.

## Year 7 2021 Interviews and process for notification

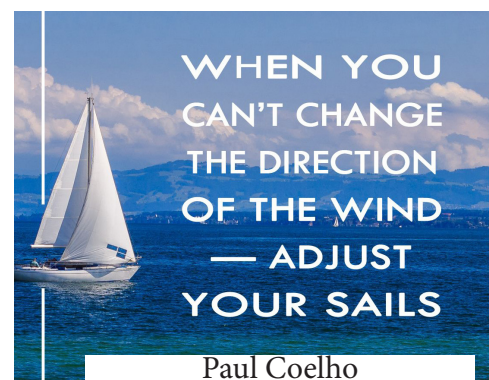
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all prospective parents/guardians and students for the wonderful telephone interviews that have been taking place all week between 4:15 and 7:15pm. I would also like to thank our wonderful team of staff, including our registrar, who have led these interviews and made our prospective families feel so welcome and valued. Thank-you John Allen for your wonderful contribution also. The next stage will see applications going to the admissions Team for discernment. If successful, an email will be sent to the relevant families on Friday 7th August and acceptance paperwork will be sent from the College on 10th August. If not successful, contact will be made by the Registrar before Friday 7th August.

At present due to COVID-19, we are unable to confirm Orientation Days. However, as soon as we have information regarding this we will inform families.

## Virtual Tour

It is with great excitement that we can now inform you that we have launched our Virtual Tour of the Junior Campus – St. Paul's. It is a **360° Tour**, so have a good look around. It will also be able to be used as Virtual Reality. Go and have a look and encourage others, especially new students to familiarise themselves with the campus and therefore reduce anxiety of coming to a new school.

God Bless  
Mr Doug Doherty



**Click Image to Take the Tour**

# OPERATIONS



**JENNY SUTTON**

Director of Operations

The use of lockers is now optional for students. Students can choose to carry their bag with them or use their locker. When a locker is in use, it must be locked at all times.

The end of year dates have been reviewed and updated on the school calendar. These are subject to change as COVID-19 restrictions change.

**Please note the following Key Dates:**

Date	Event
<b>Term 3</b>	
Monday 3 – 13 <sup>th</sup> August and Monday 10 – 13 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 11 and 12 2021 Subjects and Careers Q&A Sessions
Monday 3 – 4 <sup>th</sup> August	Year 9 2021 Subject Information Days
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	Student Free Day – Staff Retreat
Tuesday 10 – 21 <sup>st</sup> August	2021 Course Advice (via Telephone)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Subject Selection due for 2021 Yr 10, 11 and 12
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	Subject Selection 2021 closes
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	General Achievement Test – Units 3&4 Students
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Last Day of Term
<b>Term 4</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Student Free Day
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 12 Trial Exams
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Yr 12 Final Day Graduation Mass (TBC)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Yr 12 Celebration Day - Student Free day at Kildare only
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Student Free Day – Professional Practice Day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Melbourne Cup Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov – Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	VCAA Unit 3 & 4 Written Exams
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 10 and 11 Exams
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 9 Exams
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov – 4 <sup>th</sup> December	2021 Year 10 – 12 Transition
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Final Day for all students Graduation Dinner (TBC)

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school Calendar can be viewed [HERE](#) to keep up to date with activities happening at the College.

# CATHOLIC IDENTITY & MISSION



**ROBYN REBBECHI**  
**Assistant Principal**  
Catholic Identity & Mission

## Looking for hope

As our year continues to unfold, in strange and wondrous ways, we can find ourselves wondering how to make sense out of all this. While our lives in regional Victoria have changed, and we are conscious of regulations about how we can spend our time, who we can visit and how far we have to stand from them, the current return to lockdown in Greater Melbourne and the rising numbers of Covid-19 cases makes us feel unsettled and in need of some hope. As a Catholic school, we want to surround our students and families with reminders that we are people of hope, loved by God.

I found these words by Jim Quillinan, a wise man of our Diocese, a hopeful reminder of where we can look for inspiration: to creation as evidence of a loving God who does not forget us, even in our challenging circumstances. Jim writes:

*The wonders of creation are continually revealed in her incredible ingenuity and in her beauty, in the thousands of ways she has adapted to changing circumstances, in the unending variety and splendour that we are continuing to discover.*

*Thousands of years ago, poor suffering Job had some advice:*

*But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the Earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the LORD has done this? In His hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:7-10*

*Faith is the key that enables us to see the wonders of the Creation as well as the love of its Creator... It invites us to take time to feel the presence of the Creator all around us, in the beauty, the power, the wonder and awe of the greatest and smallest of things.*

*Our Christian faith asks us to have a genuine love for the world. The Garden of Eden is not so much a place but rather a state of mind, an ideal, a vision to work towards where we can recognise God's presence and purpose, where we grow to live in harmony with God, with each other and with God's creation. (Jim Quillinan, 'Spiders that Sail', Along the Track, June 22 2020)*

Perhaps this week, if the sun is shining and the air is crisp, and the rain is holding off, it might be good to spend some time outside, just watching, breathing and enjoying the beauty of creation around us. We cannot change the world, except by beginning with ourselves. Moments of peace, joy and rest will help us to go back out into our daily lives, filled with our 'genuine love for the world' and the knowledge that God walks with us as we find our purpose in his ongoing creation.



# FAITH FORMATION



**CHRIS ROGA**  
Faith Formator

Just when we had thought we had overcome the virus, COVID- 19 slipped through our defensive systems, even more destructively than before. At such times we need to see the very big picture, to lift our eyes and our hearts above the horizon of fear.

The Arts allow us a different perspective. Lynn Ungar wrote this poem in the early days of the COVID-19 outbreak. She envisions a way of responding, not from a place of fear, but from love. May we, too, approach these days from a place of compassion, love and quiet care for ourselves and for one another. You can find more of Lynn's work [HERE](#) .

## Pandemic

What if you thought of it  
as the Jews consider the Sabbath—  
the most sacred of times?  
Cease from travel.  
Cease from buying and selling.  
Give up, just for now,  
on trying to make the world  
different than it is.  
Sing. Pray. Touch only those  
to whom you commit your life.  
Center down.  
And when your body has become still,  
reach out with your heart.  
Know that we are connected  
in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.  
(You could hardly deny it now.)

Know that our lives  
are in one another's hands.  
(Surely, that has come clear.)  
Do not reach out your hands.  
Reach out your heart.  
Reach out your words.  
Reach out all the tendrils  
of compassion that move, invisibly,  
where we cannot touch.  
Promise this world your love—  
for better or for worse,  
in sickness and in health,  
so long as we all shall live.

Lynn Ungar 3/11/20