



## From the Principal

John M Freeman

ISSUE NINE

2021

ONCE again, thank you to EVERYONE for their support yesterday.

We are becoming aware that a number of staff and families have been directly impacted by floodwaters, fallen trees, and for many, loss of power. The events of the last few days will have both immediate and long-term impacts. Therefore, I encourage you to contact us if there is any support we can provide.

## COVID-19

I would like to remind all in the community that even though there has been some easing of restrictions in regional Victoria, there are still many requirements for all in our community as set down by the Victorian Government.

Therefore, I remind families that until advised otherwise, staff and secondary school students attending a school located in regional Victoria must wear a face mask indoors unless an exemption applies. Accordingly, we ask all families to ensure that students leave home with a face mask. The College has a supply of face masks for students who may require it if the one they have brought from home is damaged, but we request that families provide their children with face masks.

Face masks are also recommended outdoors where at least 1.5 metres of physical distance cannot be maintained. Staff and secondary students who reside in greater Melbourne are required to wear a face mask in indoor and outdoor locations on school sites located in regional Victoria unless an exemption applies.

Additionally, the current Victorian restrictions require people, including students 12 years and older, travelling on public transport and school buses to wear face masks unless an exemption applies on public transport. As we receive more information about other restrictions, we will advise you.

## Professional Practice day

As advised, today was a planned student-free day. Teaching staff used the day to undertake planning, preparation; assessment of student learning; collaboration; curriculum development; relevant professional development; and compliance training.

## Year 7 2022 ENROLMENTS

Enrolment applications are now closed, and we have concluded our interviews for Year 7 2022. However, due to the very high number of applications we have received far exceeding our current capacity in Year 7, we are in the process of obtaining permission from our Governors to add a class group in Year 7 for 2022. This will be, if approved, an increase of eight classes to nine classes. This is a rigorous process, but we expect to receive advice soon.

# PRINCIPAL cont....

Therefore, we will not be able to make offers of enrolment for Year 7 2022 until we have confirmation of our request. Please note that even with the additional stream of classes being approved, there will be some families that will not receive an offer of enrolment and will be placed, if they choose, on a waitlist.

We thank everyone waiting for your understanding and patience and hope that you and your family stay safe during this time.

## Student News

Congratulations to Georgia Said, who has been accepted into the highly prestigious Monash University Scholars Program.

The Monash Scholars is a prestigious program for high-achieving secondary school students. Monash University offers the program to give high potential students a unique head start into university life. It provides opportunities for personal and academic development and gives students the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make the right study choices. It also enables them to expand their network of like-minded peers.

The students are selected based on the quality of their application, their leadership capacity, and their academic achievements. Thank you to Michael McKenna for his support and guidance of Georgia.

## Condolences

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

Audrey Lovison- Grandmother of Alex Lovison (Yr 10)

*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.*



## KEY DATES TERM 2

### JUNE

11th	Student Free Day – Professional Practice	21 – 24th	Year 9 Exams
		21 – 23rd	Year 12 Retreats
14th	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	25th	Last day of Term 2
17 – 25th	Year 10 and 11 Exams		
	Year 11 VCAL Work Placement		

# CATHOLIC IDENTITY & MISSION



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

## To SEE or Not To SEE

Marcellin Champagnat, the founder of the Marist Brothers, saw something wrong in the world and made it his life's work to change it.

As Marists in the world today, we too are called to look at the reality of the world around us, to notice what is wrong and to do what we can to 'fix it'. Whilst June 6 is Marcellin Champagnat's Feast Day, June 7th is World Environment Day. Both of these important days should inspire us in our lives.

I include for you an excerpt from a resource provided by Marist Schools Australia, on the theme of 'Breathe the Spirit of Life', which gives us food for thought about our response to environmental emergencies around us and how we are called as Christians to act.

### *"To See or Not to See" - Opening our eyes and hearts to the needs of our time as Marcellin did in his time*

Marcellin Champagnat didn't hold back and didn't mind getting his hands dirty. As a young priest, Marcellin saw the needs around him and was moved by the needs of the poorest people, especially children. His first response was to inspire some young men to become 'brothers' and with them he set about founding schools in deprived rural hamlets and villages.

In Australia alone we have seen many examples of climatic and environmental emergencies that demand we look at, feel moved by and choose how to act in response to the needs of our world.

Pope Francis is a great leader in doing this. Five years ago was his landmark letter, *Laudato Si'*, on care for our common home and now, this year, in the introduction to a Vatican publication: *Pastoral Orientations on Climate Displaced People* the Pope urges us, "to see the tragedy of prolonged uprootedness that causes our brothers and sisters to cry out, year after year." ... He wants us to see, to care, to reflect and to act.

Certainly we need to recognise that these issues are challenging. However, we can learn from Marcellin's best diplomatic responses to the difficult issues he faced. May we be inspired and encouraged by him, to be involved and responsive, rather than simply waiting for others to act.

Let us join with Pope Francis whose prayer is that we see what is needed and trust, that with the help of the Holy Spirit, we see what to do and willingly act. (Resource book: *Feast of St Marcellin* 2021)

*A Prayer Adapted from Pope Francis*

### **'FRATELLI TUTTI'**

Lord,

Father of our human family, you created all human beings equal in dignity:

pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter, dialogue, justice and peace in our Marist family.

Move us to create healthier communities and workplaces and more dignified spaces without division, anger and resentment.

May our hearts be open to all peoples.

May we recognise the goodness and beauty that you have sown in each of us and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects and shared dreams.

Gracious God, teach us your graciousness. May we continue to offer ourselves freely without expecting something in return.

Amen.

Mary, Our Good Mother, Pray for us

Saint Marcellin Champagnat, Pray for us

Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Pray for us

And let us always remember, To pray for one another.



# MEDIA IN REMOTE



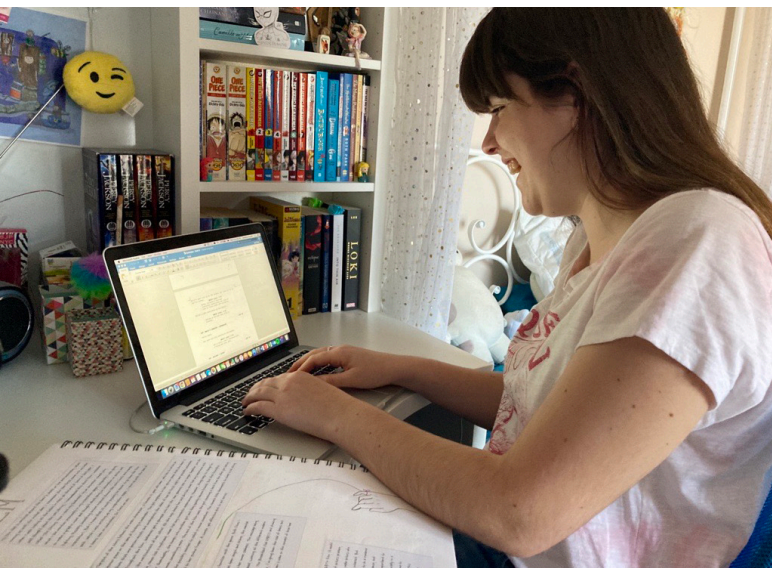
**KATIE LEE**  
Productions Manager  
& Cultural Coordinator

During last week’s remote learning, VCE Media students were quick to adapt and adjust to the new learning environment. With both Year 11 and Year 12 classes in the middle of a practical component, understandably it was difficult to shift our focus to tasks we could achieve at home.

The Year 12 students, who have been working on their Film/Magazine Production Folios for over ten weeks now, began developing scripts and shot lists, or articles and mock ups for their final products. Working in small groups on Microsoft Teams, they spent the week reading one another’s scripts, offering feedback, and essentially working as small production companies.

With more time at home, and more opportunities to watch Netflix, the Year 11 class took the chance to watch an Australian film each, and begin creating their own podcast evaluating the film. Rather than a traditional written assessment task, students began writing and recording their own podcast on Australian stereotypes, using sound effects, dialogue and music from their chosen film.

It was amazing to see how quickly the students adjusted, and how supportive they were of one another during this remote time.





# LIBRARY NEWS



**JANNET TAYLOR**  
Library Leader / Teacher

The junior campus library has become a sought after location as winter sets in, but with Covid restrictions in place and numbers capped at 30, it is a case of first in, first warm. The games are currently packed away, but there are new displays and books to engage the students. Ms Widrich and Mrs Murray have helped set up a medieval display in the library foyer, which looks impressive and includes some cool replica knights' helmets. Also on display is a stunning tapestry depicting a medieval scene.





# MATHS CHALLENGE



**DEBORAH MURRELL**  
Productions Manager &  
Cultural Coordinator



Following the Year 8 Team Building Day in Term One, where students began to develop a range of skills required for group work, our Year 8 students were presented with a Maths Challenge which was an opportunity that many adults would appreciate!

The Challenge was held at Presentation campus in the last week of May and granted students a day to imagine, plan, prepare and construct a Sustainable Tiny House. Working in teams of three, the year 8 students had to plan and create a model of a tiny house from second hand reusable or recyclable materials. The teams had to choose a scale for their plans and model and to maintain consistent ratios throughout construction. They needed to consider what size constitutes a Tiny House when compared with the living accommodation of other people in the world. To complicate matters further, there was a requirement that the Sustainable Tiny House had to harvest rainwater, so students needed to consider the requirements for the residents of the house and the size of water tank required to hold this amount of water.

Student reflection on the achievement of the day recognised the value of working in teams. Many groups stated that their finished model would have been improved had they better planned the sequence of work. They will be served well if these two lessons are remembered!

Groups were encouraged to actively problem solve, applying known mathematical skills to solve new problems. There were some lovely examples of basic Mathematics used in a sophisticated manner and these students used this to justify the reasoning behind their Sustainable Tiny House.

The successes of the day were realised by the students who worked in teams and the teachers who allowed students the freedom to learn by experience.

There are further Challenge Days planned for Semester Two, where students will be presented with more real life conundrums.



*breathe*  
the Spirit of life (Rm 8:2)

# HEALTH CORNER



**ASHLEIGH THAIN**  
School Nurse



## Hand-washing!

GERMS! GERMS! GERMS! Germs are everywhere. One of the easiest and effective ways to prevent the spread of these germs and the illnesses and diseases they cause is GOOD hand washing.

All you need is the following things;

- Water
- Soap
- Hands

Most often forgotten is SOAP! Water alone is NOT effective in removing germs. You need a good scrubbing action lasting at least 20 seconds to get rid of all those germs you pick up on your hands and under your fingernails. So take the time, and sing a few choruses of your favourite tune, football team song, or recite your 10 times tables whilst washing. A super easy song to remember is 'Happy birthday to you' sung TWICE. Happy washing!

