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## ST THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

PO Box 500  
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### COLLEGE CHRONICLE

Tuesday 4th April 2023



#### Word from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we journey towards the conclusion of this Holy Week, may our celebration of the Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) continue to ignite in us the flame of our faith. Let us also be mindful of the closeness of Our Lord, who walks with us always and through His sacrifice shattered the darkness of sin and whose presence will guide us always through His light, truth and love.

Let the resurrection of Our Lord remain as a constant symbol of renewed hope.

With one eye reflecting on the term and another looking ahead towards the term break, I hope that all in our community can have a well-deserved rest. May the joy of this Blessed and Holy Easter flow throughout the hearts of our students, families, staff and broader College Community.

It has been a term that has seen many wonderful achievements both in and outside of the classroom. Students and staff have shown a commitment to strive towards the expectations that were outlined at the commencement of the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the College community, for their energy and perseverance in ensuring the spiritual, academic, social and emotional formation of our students remained a central focus at the College.

Congratulations to our Year 7 Boys and Girls Volleyball teams, who won their respective Volleyball divisions within the West Gippsland Region last week and to the Year 7 Boys Tennis team, Year 7 and 8 Girls tennis and the Year 8 Girls Volleyball teams, who also competed. Our Year 9 - 12 Boys and Girls Tennis and Volleyball teams are competing today, and we wish them every success.

We will commence next term, with a College Assembly on the morning of Wednesday April 26th and finish the week with our College Cross Country and Parent Teacher Interviews. The second week will see our Secondary students attend their respective House Camps. The College will also continue to refine the way in which we communicate with our families. This will see the launching of a new website and the rollout of a College app that will centralise all of our family communication tools into one easy-to-access platform.

Research highlights the benefits of students receiving feedback and reflecting upon their own progress. I encourage all parents to discuss with their child the feedback offered on their Interim

Report. I also encourage families to ensure they make bookings for parent teacher interviews which will take place on Friday 28th April. These meetings offer such a great opportunity to acknowledge achievements, set goals and clarify strategies for growth. Parents will be able to access their child's interim report and book parent teacher interviews as of 4pm Wednesday 5th April.

Through the initial stages of our Community Engagement process, the Executive has been able to identify a number of common themes to help shape the strategic direction of the College. One of these is, the adequate provision of facilities and programs to support the Sport and Recreational pursuits of the students.

The College would like to seek expressions of interest from our parents and carers, to establish a special interest - Sport and Recreation Reference Group. This can be done by emailing Liz Alexander - [liz.alexander@stac.vic.edu.au](mailto:liz.alexander@stac.vic.edu.au)

The Sport and Recreation Reference Group will provide key stakeholders the opportunity to provide advice and feedback to the Executive on matters relevant to the strategic direction of sport and recreation at the college. Furthermore, the group will support the Executive through the provision of guidance on the development of sports and recreational facilities, infrastructure to meet the ever-evolving needs and interests of the student body.

God Bless,

*Kieran*

Kieran O'Dwyer  
 (Acting Principal)

#### VIRTUE THIS WEEK

#### SINCERITY

Trustfulness in words and actions; honesty and enthusiasm towards others.

#### COLLECT - PALM SUNDAY

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose ordinance our Saviour took flesh and suffered crucifixion to give mankind a pattern of humility, grant us this boon, that, with the lesson of His endurance before us, we may be found worthy to have fellowship: Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.



Instaurare omnia  
 in Christo  
 To restore all  
 things in Christ

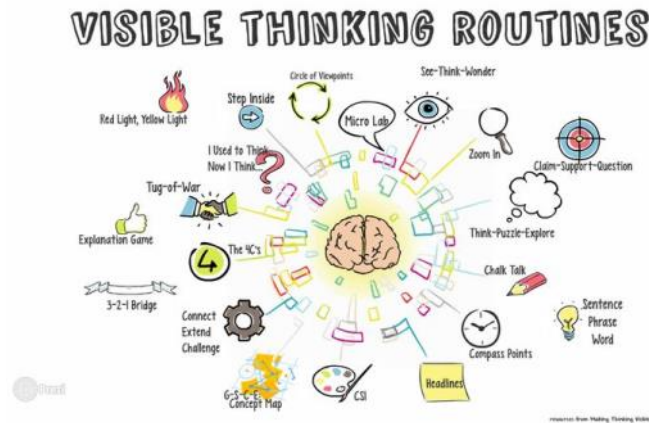
## From the Deputy Principal



### Positive Behaviour Support (Routines) - Part 8

Dear Parents and Families,

Research has demonstrated that positive behaviour support is significantly effective in minimising and managing challenging behaviours in the classroom. It reduces stress, frees up much-needed time for teaching, improves overall student behaviours and creates better classroom cultures.



**Routine** is the seventh Universal of Positive Behaviour Support that we will be exploring.

Routines are a sequence of actions or procedures that through repetitive use become habit. They can provide a predictable, safe, environment and maximise teacher efficiency by allowing the teacher to focus more time on their instructional practice. When students can predict and know the events throughout their school day, they are more likely to be engaged and less likely to display challenging behaviours. Routines should be taught explicitly, practised regularly and reinforced frequently.

Many students with ADHD or autism operate best when the learning environment is organised and predictable. As much as possible teachers try to avoid sudden changes. If transitions or changes are a possibility it is best practice to warn the student in advance to allow for thinking and processing time.

Effective **routines** involve:

- Planning routines
- Teaching routines
- Modelling routines
- Visually displaying routines
- Practising routines
- Consistently using routines
- Reviewing routines to ensure that they are effective in meeting the desired needs
- Using routines in learning tasks
- Using routines for student movement
- Using routines for administrative tasks
- Using routines to create opportunities to build class culture and cohesiveness
- Having routine, data informed meetings to discuss student learning.

*“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much.” (Lk 16:10)*

God bless,

*David*

David Williams  
*Acting Deputy Principal*

Primary	Secondary Girls	Secondary Boys
<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p>Abigail Higgins Rebecca Higgins Eli Khier Patrick Hardiman Emma Hayward</p> <p><b>DILIGENCE</b></p> <p>Dempsey Collins, Lexi Sharkey Helena Soefting, Angela Phillips Benjamin Salib, Gemma Verleg Marina Sorial</p> <p><b>PERSEVERANCE</b></p> <p>Benedict Davis, Raphael Sprowell Michaela Garner, Abigail Higgins Raphael Smit, Eli Taveira Verity Gallagher, Audrey Gallagher Sophia Borg, Helena Soefting Eleanor Foley, Jack Lewis Tiffany MacDonell, Benjamin Salib</p> <p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p>Edward Gomez, Holly Wesa Helena Soefting, Gemma Verleg</p> <p><b>LEADERSHIP</b></p> <p>Thea Attard, Helena Soefting</p> <p><b>INITIATIVE</b></p> <p>Mary Mascarenhas, Nikolina Palcic Adrian Soefting, Leo Mandarano Luis Obrador, Scarlett Attard Noah Cleary, Helena Soefting</p>	<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p>Paula Obrador Lily Braaksma Katie Higgins Chrystella Zaccari Helena Attard Summer Cleary Claudia Hanney Genevieve McLean Josephine Soefting Philomena Sprowell Lucy Armstrong Isabelle Lewis Poppy Taveira Rebecca Fitzpatrick Josephine MacDonald</p> <p><b>INITIATIVE</b></p> <p>Brianna Robinson</p>	<p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p>David Ockerse Sebastian Upston Kerols Abraham Adam Khier Daniel Nivet Mark Obrador Santino Tommasi Sebastian Hayward Joseph Hardiman Maarten Braaksma Luca Attard Joseph Hovens Orlando de Castella Louis Ward William Fahey Sebastian Fahey John Higgins Xavier Taveira Charles Upston Daniel Freriks Julian Hovens</p> <p><b>RESPECT</b></p> <p>Daniel Nivet Joseph Hardiman</p> <p><b>PERSEVERANCE</b></p> <p>Isaac Hayward Sebastian Hayward</p> <p><b>RESPONSIBILITY</b></p> <p>David Ockerse</p>



Responsibility: Be accountable for your choices.



St Thomas Aquinas College

## DINNER AUCTION 2023

The Dinner Auction Committee is looking for new members.

Any help you can offer, big or small, is greatly appreciated  
for this important fundraising event.

Please call or text Monica Murnane on 0400 097 399 for more details.

The Dinner Auction will be held in November.



## NOONE UNIFORM - ONLINE STORE

We are pleased to advise that the St Thomas Aquinas College online uniform store has been launched and is now live.

In addition to our Officer store which is open 6 days a week, parents will now have the opportunity to shop for their school uniform requirements at any time.

Uniform items are available for click and collect at the Noone Officer store or delivered to you at home via Australia Post. More information is attached to the email today.

### HELP REQUIRED

Fr Stephens is looking for anyone willing to remove wax,

sew on new black buttons and in general, clean the College's cassocks and surplices.

If any of the parents are interested in helping the boys look more worthy of the altar for College Masses, they are asked to please contact Father on 0488 211 664.

Many thanks.



### Lost Property

Parents are asked to please call at the office and check lost property before the end of term.

### Office Hours

Parents are reminded that the College office opens at 8:15am and is closed at 3:30pm each day.

### Easter Egg Guessing Competition

YEAR 12 FUNDRAISER



Lunch Times outside the Library Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

50c per guess.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS P&F

### Easter Chocolate Raffle

\$5 a ticket  
3 for \$12  
5 for \$20

1st prize



2nd prize



3rd prize



4th prize

# Saint Leo the Great

(Pope 398-461)

Saint Leo was born in Rome. He embraced the sacred ministry, was made Archdeacon of the Roman Church by Pope Saint Celestine, and under the same Vicar of Christ and Saint Sixtus III, had a large share in governing the Church. On the death of Sixtus, Leo was chosen Pope, and consecrated on Saint Michael's day, 440, amid great joy.



Soon after, Attila with his Huns broke into Italy, and marched through its razed cities upon Rome. Leo went out boldly to meet him, and prevailed on him to turn back. His chieftains were astonished to see the terrible Attila, the "Scourge of God," fresh from the sack of Aquileia, Milan and Pavia and with the rich prize of Rome within his grasp, turn his great host back to the Danube at the Saint's word. They asked him why he had acted so strangely. He told them he had seen two venerable personages - who are generally supposed to be Saints Peter and Paul - standing behind Saint Leo; and impressed by this vision, he withdrew. Two years later the city fell a prey to the Vandals, but Leo saved it again from total destruction. He died in 461 after having ruled the Church for a little over twenty years.

It was the time of terrible trial which preceded by thirty years the definitive fall of the Roman Empire. Vandals and Huns were wasting the provinces of the empire, and Nestorians, Pelagians, and other heretics wrought still more grievous havoc in souls. While Leo's zeal was making headway against these perils, there arose the new heresy of Eutyches, who confounded the two natures of Christ. At once the vigilant pastor proclaimed the true doctrine of the Incarnation in his famous "tome"; but fostered by the Byzantine court, the heresy gained a strong hold upon the Eastern monks and bishops. After three years of unceasing toil, Saint Leo brought about its solemn condemnation by the Council of Chalcedon, the Fathers all signing his *tome*, and exclaiming, "Peter has spoken by Leo."

**Reflection.** Saint Leo loved to ascribe all the fruits of his unsparing labors to the glorious Head of the Apostles, who, he often declared, lives and governs in his successors. If the perils of the Church are as great now as in Saint Leo's day, Saint Peter's solicitude is not less.

## 2023 CALENDAR

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
<b>3 Apr</b>	<b>4 Apr</b> SSV Yr 9-12 B&G Volleyball / Tennis	<b>5 Apr</b> SECONDARY RECOLLECTION DAY Last Day of Term	<b>6 Apr</b> HOLY THURSDAY	<b>7 Apr</b> GOOD FRIDAY
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				
<b>SCHOOL HOLIDAYS</b>				
<b>24 Apr</b> Curriculum Day - no school	<b>25 Apr</b> ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY	<b>26 Apr</b> Term 2 commences	<b>27 Apr</b>	<b>28 Apr</b> 8:30am Cross Country 12 noon Parent/Teacher Interviews
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				<b>NO STUDY HALL</b>
<b>1 May</b>	<b>2 May</b>	<b>3 May</b> SECONDARY HOUSE CAMPS	<b>4 May</b> SECONDARY HOUSE CAMPS	<b>5 May</b> SECONDARY HOUSE CAMPS
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				<b>NO STUDY HALL</b>
<b>8 May</b>	<b>9 May</b>	<b>10 May</b> SCHOOL PHOTOS	<b>11 May</b>	<b>12 May</b> 7/8 B&G - Fencing
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				<b>NO STUDY HALL</b>
<b>15 May</b>	<b>16 May</b>	<b>17 May</b>	<b>18 May</b> ASCENSION THURSDAY HOLIDAY	<b>19 May</b>
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				<b>NO STUDY HALL</b>

### OFFICE HOURS

8:15am - 3:30pm  
MONDAY - FRIDAY

### TERM DATES 2023

1st Term:	30th January - 5th April	3rd Term:	18th July - 15th September
2nd Term:	26th April - 23rd June	4th Term:	2nd October - 7th December