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ST THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

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COLLEGE CHRONICLE

Tuesday 17th May 2022

Word from the Principal

Dear Staff, Parents and Friends of the College,

Being the Month of May, the month of Our Lady, I have chosen a few testimonials of former school students that might help encourage devotion to Our Blessed Mother as one of the most powerful means to acquire the virtue of purity. The following two testimonials from a young man and a young woman, chosen from among countless others, demonstrate the purifying and liberating effect of Marian devotion upon the souls of the youth. - "When I was a little older", wrote a young woman soon to marry, "Mum said to me: 'In all your difficulties, turn to Mary... She is the Mother of Christ...She is also your heavenly Mother... She will understand you and protect you'. - At fifteen, I had to go to work...it had to be done because the family needed the money. With two sisters and three brothers there wasn't much money at home, so, I went to earn my keep working in a glass factory. At that age, I already knew quite a lot. Mum had taught me what I had to know and then, I had heard and seen what you can't help hearing and seeing around you. However, what I saw and heard at my part time job from my workmates and from the young men, even more from the married men, was a terrible daily trial. There was no lack of encouragement to indecent behaviour. I had to fight so as not to fall every morning, when I got up, I begged the Blessed Virgin to protect me, to give me strength! I think that, if I managed to stand firm, it was thanks to the Blessed Virgin."

"Mary governs a large part of my interior life", a young man wrote "Since the time when I was an altar boy, when I say the Rosary, I have had the impression that I see the radiant face of the Most Pure Virgin. Even during that part of my life when I was committing sin, this image of Mary never left my mind. I sensed Her gazing on me sadly and sweetly and a great sorrow would fill my soul. However, I was not able to release myself from the grip of vice until the day when the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius revealed to me the gravity and ugliness of sin. You know the rest. I prayed to Mary and invoked Her; She became my ideal. I promised Her to keep my restored purity. The struggle was tough; it still is. But in

the thick of battle, I think of Mary, Her eyes fixed on me, and I remain victorious. Every day the fight is renewed, but so is victory. Without this image of ideal purity, which is Mary, I would never manage to remain pure".



Next week I will write about some important ways that parents can help their children grow closer to Mary and grow stronger in the virtue of purity, but for the moment I would suggest to parents that they do a quick check of their children's attire to see if they are faithfully wearing two Marian sacramentals the Church offers her children, namely the miraculous medal and the scapular. If your child has lost either of these, you can acquire more from the College reception. The miraculous medal can be sown on to the scapular to ensure both a warn together.

Father Andrew Cranshaw - Principal



School Photo Day

TOMORROW - Wed 18th May 2022.

Students need to be in their full school winter uniform. Girls do need their hats.

Student photo forms have been handed out to the students to take home. Sibling/family photo forms and spare forms are available at the school office. It's important that you advise the office if you would like a sibling/family photo so that we can ensure you don't miss out on the day. Students need to bring the form with them on photo day and take to the photo shoot with them.

VIRTUE THIS WEEK

DOCILITY

Docility: Willingness to be taught

COLLECT - FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

O God, Who makest the faithful to be of one mind and will: grant to Thy people to love that which Thou dost command and to desire that which Thou dost promise, that amid the changes of the world, our hearts may there be fixed where true joys are to be found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.



Instaurare omnia in Christo
 To restore all things in Christ

From the Deputy Principal

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to all of the students that competed in the College Cross Country on Thursday 12th May. It was wonderful to see the students running in trying conditions over the 800m, 3km or 5km course. Thank you to the parents that were able to be onsite to support the students across the afternoon. Students will now be selected to represent the College in the Divisional round of the School Sport Victoria program.

Following the Cross Country, we held our Parent Teacher Interviews. The positive dialogue between the parents and teachers was evident and thank you to all the parents and guardians who were able to attend. If you were unable to attend, I encourage you to make contact with your child's teachers to gain an important insight into the trajectory your child's learning is moving on. These conversations are an important factor in supporting the academic, spiritual, social and emotional needs of your child.

It has been wonderful to witness the students participating in the College debating program that has been held at lunchtime over the course of the first few weeks of school. The opportunity to provide their own insight into topics that are currently before us in the media, has demonstrated the students' ability to not only formulate an argument but articulate it as well.

The College has scheduled the Semester 1 Exams for Monday 6th June - Friday 10th June. The VCE exams will run across the whole week and the Year 7 - 10 exams from Wednesday to Friday. These exams are important for a number of reasons. Not only do they inform the students, teachers and parents with an indication of the students' learning trajectory but also provide the students with the opportunity of undertaking an assessment, under the conditions they will experience in their VCE years. The schedule for these exams is outlined below and both parents and students will receive further information pertaining to their specific exams closer to the commencement date.

The College has created a social media account on Instagram. The purpose of this page is to provide families and the College community with a closer look at the day to day life of the students. The page will consist of photos of the students in action and reminders about important College events. We look forward to seeing as many past and present students, families, and friends of the College following this page to help celebrate the achievements of the students and College. You can scan the QR code which will take you directly to the page.



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If families have any unwanted LEGO they would like to donate to the College, it would be greatly appreciated. It can be dropped off at the College reception. Providing the students the opportunity to experience learning in a variety of contexts, supports a holistic development. All students can succeed in play. Furthermore, all students can enjoy the benefits of learning when they are playing, which can help build social skills and tackle equity challenges. Creating situations where students can learn through play at school provides space for students to also create new ways of thinking – like how to deal with uncertainty – that will benefit them throughout their lives.

VCE Exam Schedule

Monday 6th June	Tuesday 7th June	Wednesday 8th June	Thursday 9th June	Friday 10th June
8.40am - 12.00pm - English (All Units) Multi Purpose Hall (MPH)	8.40am - 11.00am - Further Maths, Math Methods (3), Further	8.40am - 11.00am - Ancient History and Physical Education (3)	8.40am - 11.00am - Physics and French (3) Business Management	8.40am - 11.00am - Maths Methods and Ancient History (1)
11.00am - 12.40pm - Study and Meal break				
	12.40pm - 3.00pm - Religious Education (MPH)	12.40pm - 3.00pm - Chemistry and Psychology (3) (MPH)	12.40pm - 3.00pm - Biology (3) Latin and Physical Education (1)	12.40pm - 3.00pm - Exam make up time (MPH)

7-10 Exam Schedule

Wednesday 8th June	Thursday 9th June	Friday 10th June
8.40am - 10.10am - Religious Education	8.40am - 10.10am - Humanities	8.40am - 10.10am - Maths
10.10am - 10.30am - Recess		
10.30am - 12.45pm - Study		
12.45pm - 1.30pm - Lunch		
1.30pm - 3.00pm - English	1.30pm - 3.00pm - French and Latin	1.30pm - 3.00pm - Science

Kieran O'Dwyer - Deputy Principal

Virtues, Second Term, 2022 WEEK 2

Secondary Girls	Secondary Boys	Primary
PRUDENCE Judy Abraham, Emily Houston, Emily Morgan, Lucy Armstrong, Aleisha Higgins, Marina Maly, Lauren Elliott, Madeleine Hovens, Isabelle Higgins, Joanna Verleg, Christiane Ryan, Lilian de Castella, Anna Hardiman, Anne Ockerse, Dallas MacDonell, Stephanie Verleg	PRUDENCE Mark Obrador, Santino Tommasi, Gabriel Upston, Tony Nagaraj, Daniel de Castella, Joseph Hardiman, Thomas Ward, Hugo Ward, Marcel Upston, Orlando de Castella, Louis Ward, William Fahey, Anthony Tadros, Mitchell MacDonald, Alexander Stevenage, Bailey MacDonell, Deffy Wangaew, Braydan Rayner, Sebastian Fahey, Lachlan Youngman, John Higgins, Ethan Ward, Xavier Taveira, Charles Upston, Simon Taveira, Dominic de Farias, Daniel Freriks, Julian Hovens, Joseph Morgan, Immanuel Saldanha	PRUDENCE Holly Wesa Harriet Gomez Eli Khier Matthew MacDonald
Respect Marina Maly, Lauren Elliott, Madeleine Hovens, Josephine Nivet, Isabelle Higgins, Joanna Verleg, Anna Hardiman	Respect Santino Tommasi, Dorian Hicks, Daniel de Castella, Joseph Hardiman, Hugo Ward, Chara Wangaew, Orlando de Castella, Marcel Upston, William Fahey, Anthony Tadros, Luca Attard, Deffy Wangaew, Jake Hanney, Laurence Ockerse, Braydan Rayner, Sebastian Fahey, Xavier Taveira, Andre Elliott, Julian Hovens, Ethan Ward, Immanuel Saldanha	Diligence Harriet Gomez
Perseverance Lauren Elliott, Isabelle Higgins, Joanna Verleg	Perseverance Marcel Upston, William Fahey	Perseverance Verity Gallagher, Cristina Mandarano, Timothy McLean, Holly Wesa, Mark Falts, Rebecca Higgins, Hosanna Reagan, Carmella Nivet, Evangeline Nivet, Gemma Pullen, Gus Alexander, Charlie Lewis
Responsibility Judy Abraham, Lucy Armstrong, Josephine MacDonald	Responsibility William Fahey, Sebastian Fahey	Responsibility Thea Attard, Hunter MacDonald, Joshua Morgan
Leadership	Leadership	Leadership
Initiative	Initiative	Initiative Cristina Mandarano

YEAR 12 Footy Tipping LEADERBOARD

- | | |
|---|---|
| 59. Raphael Hayward | 58. Miss Hogan, Will Stevenage |
| 56. Majella Smythe | 55. Alex Stevenage, Aaron Braaksma, Will McLean |
| 53. Mr Wilkinson, Jake Smit | 52. Joseph Hardiman, Patrick Hardiman |
| 51. Jake Hanney, Mr V van Strijp, R. Borgonovo, Miss Bell | 50. Miss McKenzie, Ollie Pravidur |
| 49. Bailey MacDonald | 48. Miss Wood, Julian Hovens, Annette MacDonald |
| 46. Mr Velnoweth | 45. Mitchell MacDonald, Zoran Pravidur |
| 43. Miss Morris, Gen McLean | 42. Miss Murray, Mrs Ross, Miss McNamara |



CROSS COUNTRY

We thank those parents who volunteered on the day to help with the Cross Country and also those who came along as spectators. These photos clearly display the afternoon was enjoyed by all.



STAC PARENTS AND
FRIENDS FUNDRAISER

Save the Date

BURGER BAR



SUNDAY 26TH JUNE
AFTER 10AM MASS

*Custom Burgers with sides of
Chips, Onion Rings, Calamari*

*Dessert, Coffees, Beers,
Cold drinks and
MILKSHAKES*

St Bernardine of Siena

Franciscan Missionary Preacher (1380 - 1444)

One day in the year 1408 the great apostle Saint Vincent Ferrer suddenly interrupted his sermon, to declare that there was among his hearers a young Franciscan who would be one day a greater preacher than himself, and who would be placed in honor by the Church before himself. This unknown friar, who would be canonized only six years after his death, was Bernardine, then 28 years old. Of noble birth, he had spent his youth in works of mercy, caring for the sick before he entered religion at the age of 24.



Joseph. It is said that during sixteen years, and some say eighteen, he did not pass a single day without preaching.

But his success had to be purified by the cross. The Saint was denounced as a heretic, and his devotion as idolatrous. After many trials he lived to see his innocence proved. In 1427 he refused the bishopric of Siena, and a few years later two others, in order to continue his preaching. He miraculously cured lepers and other sick persons, and raised to life several deceased persons. The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, established in 1530, was extended to the entire Church in 1721 by Pope Innocent XIII.

Owing to a speech defect, Bernardine's success as a preacher at first seemed doubtful, but by the prayers of Our Lady, this obstacle was miraculously removed in 1417, and the Franciscan friar began an apostolate which lasted until he died. One day, preaching in praise of the Blessed Virgin, he applied to Her the verse of the Apocalypse: "A great sign appeared in heaven, a Woman clothed with the sun..." At once a brilliant star appeared over his head. He was understood, when he spoke in Italian, by listeners of the Greek language who knew only their maternal tongue. He obtained miraculous conversions and reformed the greater part of Italy by his burning words and by the power of the Holy Name of Jesus. He preached that devotion, displaying at the end of his sermons, the Holy Name written on a tablet. He was also a zealous apostle of the cult of Saint

Saint Bernardine was appointed Vicar General of his Order in 1438, which office he held for five years, then preached again for a time until his last illness forced his retreat in 1444. He died on Ascension Eve of that year, while his brethren were chanting the antiphon, "Father, I have manifested Thy Name to men." Already in 1450, a Jubilee year, he was canonized.

Reflection. Let us learn from the life of Saint Bernardine the power of the Holy Name in life and death.

2022 CALENDAR

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
16 May Interhouse debating Comp. (16-27 May)	17 May 12:55pm Debating Yr 10-12G MacKillop vs Bosco	18 May SCHOOL PHOTOS	19 May 12:55pm Debating Yr 10-12G Kolbe vs Mannix	20 May
23 May HOUSE CAMPS SECONDARY STUDENTS	24 May HOUSE CAMPS SECONDARY STUDENTS	25 May HOUSE CAMPS SECONDARY STUDENTS	26 May ASCENSION THURSDAY HOLIDAY	27 May
30 May	31 May 12:55pm Debating Yr 7-9B Mannix vs MacKillop	1 June	2 June 12:55pm Debating Yr 7-9B Kolbe vs Bosco	3 June
6 June Secondary Exams	7 June Secondary Exams	8 June Secondary Exams	9 June Secondary Exams	10 June Secondary Exams
13 June QUEENS BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	14 June 12:55pm Debating Yr 7-9G MacKillop vs Bosco	15 June	16 June 12:55pm Debating Yr 7-9G Kolbe vs Mannix	17 June
20 June	21 June	22 June	23 June	24 June Feast of Sacred Heart of Jesus LAST DAY OF TERM

OFFICE HOURS

8:15am - 3:30pm

TERM DATES

2nd Term: Tuesday 3rd May - Friday 24th June
3rd Term: Tuesday 19th July - Friday 16th September