

The Beacon

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Mr Holmes

They Will Shine

Welcome to all our new families and a happy new year to all our existing families. We look forward to 2022 at Thomas Carr College. I am excited about our future with high expectations for all of us at the College.

The College Dux Proximus for 2021 Mackayli Lee spoke at our Opening Assembly and delivered an inspiring speech. Mackayli spoke of her search to 'crack the code for getting good grades'. Her insight was that 'the answer was there the whole time. All it takes is self-belief. Believe you will succeed with the intention of putting in the effort until you manifest your goals ... it is perseverance and failure that will bring about success.'

I encourage our students to listen to the wisdom of the messages provided by Mackayli: believe in yourself, believe you can improve and then persevere with your efforts to improve your results.

Our College Theme for 2022 is **"Respect"**:

'Respect everyone and show special love for God's people... & honour God...'

1 Peter 2:17

In "The Joy of the Gospel", Pope Francis reminds us of something that lay at the very heart of Jesus' life and ministry: "Every human being is the object of God's infinite tenderness, and he himself is present in their lives... they are God's handiwork, his creation."

Our Catholic Social Teachings are grounded in the inestimable value of each person. Human dignity emerges neither from what people accomplish or own, but because we are created in the image and likeness of God. Consequently, every person is worthy of respect simply by virtue of being a human being.

We have had a great start to the academic year, with our energetic Year 7 students entering the College in their secondary school uniform. Some nervousness, and a lot of excitement and anticipation from the new Collegians. Our transition program stood the test with our Year 7 students settling in well. I



COMING EVENTS

W/C Monday 14 February to Friday 18 February	Year 9 Aqua Country Experience - Good Samaritan Campus
Monday 14 February	Elephant Ed - Parent Online Seminar @ 7pm
Friday 18 February	Middle School Photos
Sunday 20 February	World Day of Social Justice
W/C Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February	Year 9 Aqua Country Experience - Good Samaritan Campus



Class of 2021 Dux – Sebastian Kuszner and Dux Proximus – Mackayli Lee with our Principal, Mr Craig Holmes.

Prayer

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding us from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening us to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making our path easy,
But by making us sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from us,
But by taking fear from our heart;
Not by granting us unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping our face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making our life always pleasant,
But by showing us when people and their causes need us most,
and by making us anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to us for the year ahead. Amen.

College Theme for 2022 - Respect
Respect everyone, show special love
for God's people and honour God.

1 Peter 2:17

College Vision

Thomas Carr College is a dynamic Catholic learning community, guided by the Gospel. Excellence and opportunities to develop are pursued. Through our hope and service to others we shine our light into the world.

believe our Year 12 students are off to a good start, with important data on past VCE performance soon to be shared with them. We continue to include our parents and community in important events including the various Parent Information Nights.

As we work towards our preferred future, we are fortunate to build on the efforts of current staff as well as excellent ideas and skills brought to us by our new leaders and staff. Our new staff include:

Alicia Waring	Teacher
Allan Hessey	Teacher: Ensemble Coach
Anthony Holligan	Teacher
Bianca Findlay	Learning Support Officer
Catherine (Cate) McCullagh	Teacher GSC
Cheryl-Anne White	Teacher: Careers Practitioner Team Leader
Claire Warner	Learning Support Officer (Commencing Term 2)
Daniela Bombardieri-Szabo	Teacher: Head of Learning and Teaching Senior School
David Lovatt	Teacher
Debra Bonde	Director of Students
Helen Fisher	Teacher: Learning Diversity
Ivanka Spiteri	Deputy Principal Student Engagement and Wellbeing
James Grubb	Teacher
Jeremy Wirges	Teacher: Year Level Leader
Joshua Ellenberg	Teacher
Lauren Camilleri	Teacher
Lexie Huculak	Teacher: Literacy Leader
Lucy Cassar	Teacher: Learning Area Leader Science/STEM
Marcie Galea	Canteen Assistant
Matthew Grujovski	Teacher
Megan Bonnici	Teacher
Michael Micallef	Teacher: Learning Area Leader Religious Education
Natalie Matiszak	Teacher: Head of School Operations
Ryan Werner	Grounds and Maintenance
Saba Khan	Teacher
Sophie Luan	Teacher
Stephanie Murdoch	Teacher

Term One is known as the **Lenten Term**, a period of time where we as a faith community '*Prepare the Way*' for the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Wednesday 2 March, and is a time for preparation for the Paschal Mystery, a celebration of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Lent is a period to embark on a spiritual journey where we are challenged, to do more, to do better, and to be better. Lent calls us to pray, to fast and to give alms (meaning compassion). A practical approach to the last point is our College support for the CARITAS Project Compassion in 2022.

As we commence the new academic year we are confident that our students will aspire to be their best, while our staff hold high expectations for their students. I look forward to a productive partnership in 2022 with you, our families.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT AND CURRICULUM

Ms Angelico

We have had a wonderful start to the new academic year. I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to the members of the Thomas Carr College Community, especially to the families of our new Year 7 students and to those new to the College this year from Years 8-12. The Year 7 students have had a great start with the support of the College Staff and our Peer Support Leaders who have assisted in the orientation

Opening College Assembly 8 February 2022



program.

College Opening Liturgy and Assembly Student Leadership

On Tuesday 8 February, Fr Silvio, together with Mr Micallef and the Liturgy and Social Justice Captains led us in prayer, we celebrated the academic achievements of the Class of 2021. We also acknowledged the College Captains, with various portfolios as they were presented with their official badges by Mr Holmes, the College Principal. The names of the Captains have been published in this edition of *The Beacon*.

The Student Representative Council members, Peer Support Leaders and College Ambassadors will be presented to the College and receive their badges at our next assembly. The process for electing the has begun. The annual Student Leadership Day for all Captains and the Student Representative Council 2022 will be held on Thursday 24 February.

House Captains and Vice Captains

GALWAY: House Leader - Mrs Lauren Marett

Senior House Captains:	Senior Vice Captains:	Middle School Captains:
Khushi Patel	Chantelle Williams	Rochelle Mohan
Rhiana Gibson	Mitchell Nelson	Suliana Tesi

MOYLOUGH: House Leader – Mr Patrick Nicholls

Senior House Captains:	Senior Vice Captains:	Middle School Captains:
Georgia Spratling	Abin Mathew	Talei Horvat
Ruhani Mamgain	Brianna Lapina	Luke Siomos

WESTPORT: House Leader – Ms Sarah Parcesepe

Senior House Captains:	Senior Vice Captains:	Middle School Captains:
Massimo Loverso	Julia Mercado	Sienna Di Battista
Marielle Del Rosario	Alvin Htoosaw	Neve Kwek

MAYNOOTH: House Leader – Mr John Bassi

Senior House Captains:	Senior Vice Captains:	Middle School Captains:
Brad Ganley	Max Makubalo	Kayllen Bala
Rajvi Patel	Jaymes Flahive	Anna Gade

Liturgy Captain:	Social Justice Captain:	Music Captains:
Alyssa Gaba	Oliver Pond	Claire Glowacki
		Jack Holder

2022 College Expectations & Uniform

All families have been sent two important documents: Information for Parents and Students Booklet 2022 and the College Uniform Guide. Wearing the Thomas Carr College uniform with pride and following all school rules means that we can all focus on the core-business of learning & teaching, without distractions. I thank parents and caregivers for their support. Our partnership is crucial and creates an excellent and supportive learning environment for all students where they can thrive.

It is important to read both documents carefully to avoid any confusion with regard to College policies and procedures. Please contact the Pastoral and Learning Mentors if you have any questions.

Student Diary

A hard copy of the Student Diary had been distributed to all students from Years 7-12 to assist with organisation and study skills. I encourage parents/caregivers and students to utilise this valuable resource daily and ensure that homework tasks are recorded and completed.

Welcome to 2022 Parent Information Nights

Thank you to the parents/caregivers for actively engaging in our important partnership by attending these sessions. I would like to thank the new Director of Students, Mrs. Debra Bonde, the Year Level Leaders, House Leaders and the Pastoral and Learning Mentors (PaLMs) for organising and running the sessions. It is unfortunate that these important meetings could not take place as had been planned. We look

A Night to Shine
2 December 2021



forward to meeting all families face to face as soon as possible.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, STAFF AND LEARNING OPERATIONS

Mr Bryson

To all members of our school community, I would like to welcome you to the 2022 school year. As we commence the new school year, we look ahead with high expectations in what our students can achieve, and as a College community we commit to creating the learning environment that will allow all students to shine in all that they do.

This extends to providing opportunities for all students to excel based on their individual learning pathway, and as a College we recently gathered to celebrate the academic achievements of the Class of 2021. At this assembly, we also acknowledged the students who undertook VCAL during their senior years at Thomas Carr College, as they too were able to excel in pursuing a pathway that allowed them to shine and pursue their dreams.

2021 VCE Awards (Dux Assembly)

Students who received a Study Score of 40 for the respective subject received a certificate acknowledging their commitment to excellence and we congratulate the following students:

Kisanet Berhane	Health and Human Development	Study Score of 48
Marielle Del Rosario	Health and Human Development	Study Score of 43
Benjamin Holman	English	Study Score of 43
Sandali Girish	Psychology	Study Score of 42
Samuel McAdam	Maths: Further Mathematics	Study Score of 42
Kaitleen Del Mundo	English	Study Score of 41
Mackayli Lee	Legal Studies	Study Score of 41
Anzelina Pyakurel	English	Study Score of 41
Mia Bellet	English	Study Score of 40
Emily Byer	English	Study Score of 40
Nina Dino	English Language	Study Score of 40
Charles Huynh	English	Study Score of 40
Mackayli Lee	English	Study Score of 40
Jehscy Sotelo	Business management	Study Score of 40

Scaled Study Scores

Sebastian Kuszner	Maths: Mathematical Methods	Study Score of 44.3
Xingqi (Alex) Wang	Languages: Chinese First Language	Study Score of 43.59
Xingqi (Alex) Wang	Mathematical Methods	Study Score of 43.39
Amalia Cassin	Languages: Spanish	Study Score of 40.57
Samuel McAdam	Maths: Mathematical Methods	Study Score of 40.35
Veronica Bui	Languages: Japanese Second Language	Study Score of 40.83

Note: All VCE study scores are scaled by VTAC. These study scores are scaled to calculate scaled aggregates and Australian Tertiary Admission Ranks (ATARs).

VCE Bacalaureate

The VCE Bacalaureate is an additional form of recognition for students who undertake the demands of studying both a higher-level mathematics and a language in the VCE. Congratulations to the following students who received the VCE Bacalaureate.

- Marco Bozovic
- Yaxin (Cici) Duff-Jones
- Preetika Jassal
- Jordan Sammut

College Dux

During this assembly, we formally recognised the efforts of our high performing students with all the below listed students receiving 85% or above for their ATAR. Many of these students also received Study Scores of 40 or above for one or more subjects and have been awarded university scholarships.

Please Sanitise Your Hands



Palm to Palm



Fingers Interlaced



Back of Hands



Fingernails



Thumbs



Wrists



Rub Until Dry



Disinfected Hands

Class of 2021 Dux – Sebastian Kuszner and Dux Proximus with Mr Bryson





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The Beacon

To further recognise the commitment to excellence that is required to achieve these results, The College Dux Proximus is awarded to the student with the highest ATAR Score in their year and the student with the second highest ATAR Score is awarded College Dux Proximus.

College Dux	
Sebastian Kuszner	90.35
College Dux Proximus	
Mackayli Lee	88.6
Nina Dino	88.3
Dinushi don Bombuwelage	87.6
Yaxin (Cici) Duff-Jones	87.5
Samuel McAdam	86.55
Charles Huynh	86.4
Anzelina Pyakurel	85.6
Jobanpreet Brar	85.25
Benjamin Holman	84.6
Mia Bellet	84.6

We congratulate all these students and wish the Class of 2021 every success in the future. We are proud of their achievements, and when receiving her award, Mackayli explained that it was her self-belief, perseverance and commitment to success that contributed to her achieving such high results. Mackayli also encouraged all the students at Thomas Carr College, to dream big.

"My final message for the students at Thomas Carr College, is to dream big to let your light shine. Don't let yourself or anyone else, make you believe you are not capable of achieving something."

With the start of the school year upon us, I thank Mackayli for sharing her story and for the powerful message that we can all be inspired by. I encourage all members of our College community to be aspirational in committing to excellence and may we all have the courage and strength to believe in our dreams and to work hard in making them possible.

Learning arrangements for students during periods of isolation (remote learning)
To support students who may be required to isolate from the College due to COVID-related requirements, we will continue to provide up-to-date information and communicate with individual students and families.

We also remind all families of the following key points which aim to support students in remaining engaged with learning during any extended periods of absence. Students are to access their classes as per their timetable and view lesson details via SIMON Class Notices and complete any set learning activities for each class.

Subject teachers will also email students the details of all set learning activities and any other information to maintain their learning during any extended periods of absence due to being required to quarantine. Students are encouraged to contact their subject teacher(s) with any questions or additional support as required. Students are also encouraged to check their Class Pages on MS TEAMS for any other lesson details.

For any student who does not have access to the internet or is unable to access SIMON parents are to contact the College to notify their child's Homeroom Teacher before 9am on that day. For any general Homeroom or wellbeing related questions, please contact the relevant Year Level Leader / House Leader or Director of Students.

Any learning or subject related questions can be directed to the relevant Learning Area Leader or Head of Learning and Teaching (Middle / Senior School). General questions about the College's COVID-Safe protocols and related matters can be emailed to covidsafe@thomascarr.vic.edu.au.



Year 11 VCE Students cooking donuts in Food Technology





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FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING Mrs Spiteri

"It takes a village to raise a child."

Hello and welcome to all our students, staff, and families! As the new Deputy Principal Student Engagement and Wellbeing, I am honoured to have been welcomed into this community. As the proverb above states, it takes a village to raise a child and I thank you for the privilege of helping you to raise your child. As a Catholic school, we know and celebrate families as the first educators of our young people, and we walk beside them in partnership.

Our young people have experienced quite a turbulent 2 years – as have we all – and we as a community are committed to ensuring we support them as they return to onsite learning and engaging them with the opportunities that this affords. As I write this, I see outside my window the heartbeat of this College – our students. This year we have begun a new chapter in the College's life, with some new structures, some new opportunities for learning, and some new personnel – me included! We are building upon the College's 25 year history and we are keen to shape this foundation with the input of our students and our families. I look forward to meeting you in the forums we are planning for the future.

I hope to share with you a range of resources and information throughout the year to assist you with your child's engagement in their learning and with their wellbeing. Your child's Pastoral and Learning Mentor is your first port of call, and your child's advocate and go-to person. As well as their PaLM, I say to all my students, that "my door is always open". The same is true for our families.

Over the coming weeks we have a number of exciting opportunities for our families to connect with us. On Monday 14th February we are inviting our Year 8 families to learn more about the "Elephant Ed" Program. This begins at 7 pm and all are welcome. The benefits of families engaging with their child's learning has far reaching effect. [This video](#) will give you some background about why we are committed to developing our relationship with you.

I share with you a piece of writing that inspires me and assures me of the importance of community and connectedness. The scientist, Neil deGrasse Tyson, famously spoke about the connection we have to the very beginning of time, and that this connection exists within us to this day. Our faith clearly states that we are all made in the image and likeness of God, that we are all connected and valued and loved. These two truths sustain me in the work that I do – and my hope is that I bring that to this, our village, to raise these, our children.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS Ms Bonde

Welcome Thomas Carr College community. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Director of Students Year 7–12. My role is to ensure all students are holistically supported through their learning journey. Relationships are key, your partnership with your student's journey is essential as we believe working in unison together will provide the best opportunities for your son or daughter.

I would like to thank Year Level Leaders, House Leaders, and PaLMs in organising the Parent Information night, this was a great success and I hope families found it valuable time spent meeting their child's PaLM teachers .

This term is extremely busy as the College is ensuring students are getting the opportunity to engage in a range of activities and programmes. Please keep updated on Operoo and feel free to connect with your child's PaLMs.

I am looking forward to working with your children to ensure they have the best possible chance to be successful.

THE MOST ASTOUNDING FACT
Is the knowledge

That the atoms that comprise life on earth
(the atoms, that make up the human body)
are traceable to the crucibles that cooked light elements into heavy elements in their core **UNDER EXTREME TEMPERATURES AND PRESSURES** these stars, the high mass ones among them went unstable in their later years **they collapsed and then exploded**

SCATTERING
their enriched guts across the galaxy
guts made of

CARBON ~ NITROGEN ~ OXYGEN
and all the fundamental ingredients of life itself
these ingredients become a part of gas clouds
that condense, collapse
form the next generation of solar systems
STARS WITH ORBITING PLANETS
and those planets now have the ingredients for life, itself...
so when I look up at the night sky
and I know that, yes, we are, part of this universe,
we are in this universe
but perhaps more important than both of those facts

IS THAT THE UNIVERSE IS IN US
When I reflect on that fact... I look up
many people feel small, cause they're small and the universe is big.

BUT I FEEL BIG
because, *my* atoms, came from those stars.
It's a level of connectivity. That's really what you want in life, you want to feel connected, you want to feel relevant

you want to feel like... A PARTICIPANT
in the goings on, of activities and events around you
that's precisely what you are

JUST BY BEING ALIVE
- Neil DeGrasse Tyson



New 2022 Staff Members
L to R - Debra Bonde, Director of Students and Ivanka Spiteri, Deputy Principal Student Engagement and Wellbeing

FROM THE GOOD SAMARITAN CAMPUS

Mr Millie

9 Silver and 9 White in Term 4, 2021

9 Silver and White made the most of a window of opportunity between lockdown and exams to undertake two days of mountain bike riding and a day of canoeing. Both groups moved to the land of the Wathaurong Nation, riding at the Kurrajong Mountain Bike Park of the You Yangs, and canoeing on the Barwon River at Balyang Sanctuary, in the heart of Geelong. Prior to the three day excursions from the Main Campus, each home room had spent a week's online learning looking at whole farm planning, an important unit of learning of the Country Experience.

The riding trails of Kurrajong gave the students experience of long rides upon winding tracks with sand, tree root and rock obstacles. The gentle declines provide a perfect location for new and experienced riders. The surprise of a snap lockdown (and a massive storm!) unfortunately prevented 9 White from experiencing a second day of riding. We're very happy, though, that 9 White was able to canoe on the Barwon, taking in the river environment right in the heart of a city. While half the home room canoed, the others water tested to assess the health of the watercourse. 9 Silver also canoed and marvelled at the turtle and bird life along the banks of the inner-city stretch of the river. 2021 has caused the Year 9 Country Experience to bend and blend, and we're very grateful for the persistence and resilience of the students who supported the changes we made to the conduct of the program.

Shine 2021 - 29 November to 2 December 2021

Shine 2021 in the form of a day's introduction to mountain bike riding gave Year 8 students and opportunity to face a challenge with resilience, gain an awareness of being in the bush and gain practical skills in mountain bike riding. The full day of instruction at the Kurrajong Mountain Bike Park in the You Yangs sets the students up well with a life skill, also preparing them for the two days of mountain bike riding they'll engage in at Forrest in the Otways during their three week Country Experience in 2022.

The students engaged enthusiastically in the riding and impressed all the instructors with their support of each other and the gains made in their skill levels. The one day excursion also gave the students a chance to become familiar with each other in their 2022 iD9 Pastoral and Learning Mentor (PaLM) groups.

FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER

Mrs Dagmang

Congratulations to Class of 2020 student Natasha Smith, for being selected as the Wyndham 'Young Person of the Month' winner for January by Wyndham City Youth Services. This award is granted to any deserving Wyndham resident aged between 12 to 25 who has contributed positively to the Wyndham community and is a role model to other young people in the community. Natasha is an inspiration, not only to Thomas Carr College students but also to the Hoppers Crossing community that she serves. Natasha, we are so proud of you! View the article [here](#).

FROM THE HEALTH CENTRE

Ms Erin Abson

Year 7 and Year 10 Immunisations: 29 March 2022 - 9.00am

Please be reminded that the Year 7 and Year 10 immunisations will take place on **Tuesday 29 March 2022 at 9am**, during Period 1 and 2.

Year 7 and 10 will receive the following immunisations on this day. Please note this is not a COVID-19 vaccination:

Good Samaritan Campus



Former Student Natasha Smith

Year 7 students

- (1) Human Papillomavirus (HPV) 1st dosage.
- (2) Whooping Cough.

Year 10 students

Meningococcal ACWY

Parent/guardians will be sent home immunisation cards at the commencement of the school year, please carefully read and sign BOTH Sections in Part A.

We are aware that some students prefer to have their immunisations with their GP - please still fill in the immunisation card and note this, and return the card to the Pastoral and Learning Mentor.

Please return completed immunisation cards no later than Monday 15th March 2022. If you have any questions or concern, please contact the Health Centre at healthcentre@thomascarr.vic.edu.au or phone 03 8734 2413.

FROM THE COVIDSAFE TEAM

COVIDSafe at THOMAS CARR COLLEGE

Firstly, thank you to all the students and families for their ongoing diligence in helping to keep the College community Covid safe. Your emails, phone calls and efforts are greatly appreciated. Just a few reminders with the ongoing changes to guidelines:

Please stay at home if unwell and get tested

- Parents are encouraged not to congregate but to drop off/pick up students in a timely manner.

School activities:

- Visitors attending any activities inside the school building are required to QR code check in and provide evidence of vaccination.

Face masks:

- It is compulsory that they be worn indoors and on public transport unless a lawful exemption applies. If this is the case, please ensure it is forwarded to covid-safe@thomascarr.vic.edu.au where it will be placed on the students SIMON profile so all staff are aware.
- Must cover the nose and mouth. Face shields, scarves or bandanas do not meet this requirement
- Surgical Masks can be purchased at Student Reception for \$1.00

Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs):

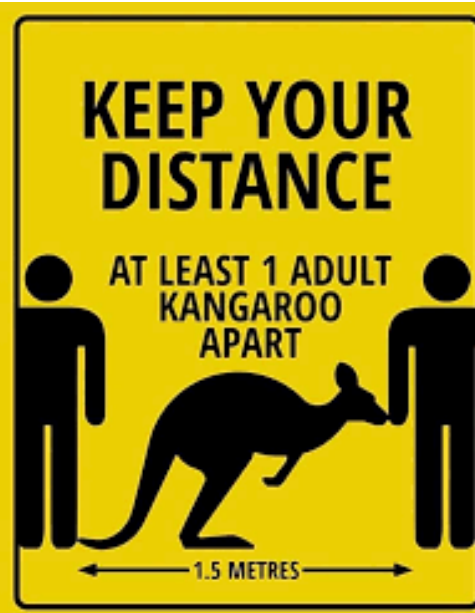
- The first delivery to students has now occurred for all students
- The second box of 5 RA Testing kits were given to students on Wednesday 9 February 2022
- Testing schedule – Sunday and Wednesday evenings each week until 27 February 2022. We are yet to be advised if testing will continue beyond this date.
- Information about how to do a test and how to read Rapid Antigen Test results, including a how-to video translated into 33 languages is available online.
- Families must report a COVID-positive result to the Department of Health via the [COVID-19 Positive Rapid Antigen Test Self-Reporting Form](#) or call centre on 1800 675 398 and the College by email to covidsafe@thomascarr.vic.edu.au.
- You do not need to report a negative result. Students who have returned a positive RAT or PCR result will not be required to undertake twice weekly testing for 30 days post the initial positive result received. Nor will they be required to isolate again during this time.

The College continues to monitor the changes to the School Operations Guide which reflects the latest advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer. As changes are

Are you wearing your mask correctly?



For detailed information visit:
<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>



made, the college community will be informed.

Please email covidsafe@thomascarr.vic.edu.au with queries or copies of results.

NOTICES



FOSTER CARE INFORMATION SESSION

TUESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2022 | North West Region
6:30pm – 7:30pm (via ZOOM)

Now more than ever, foster carers are needed for children
& young people across Victoria.

REGISTER NOW!

Online Information Presentations available during COVID-19



9396 7400 | Carer.Info@anglicarevic.org.au | anglicarevic.org.au