

# The Beacon

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**  
Mr Holmes

*They Will Shine*

***'Focus on your strengths, not your weaknesses.  
Focus on your character, not your reputation.  
Focus on your blessings, not your misfortunes'***

Dear Families and friends of the College,  
I am pleased to have returned to the College after a period of Long Service Leave. After 39 years as a teacher in Catholic education across Melbourne, I enjoyed the opportunity to reflect on where I have been and what I aspire to achieve in the coming years as Principal of Thomas Carr College. The quote above resonates with me as I shared some of these sentiments with students at this weeks assemblies. I asked our students to develop a growth mindset. The key message here is to develop a mindset that moves students to success. Growth mindset teaches us how to accept challenges, self-belief and self-discipline and approach challenges with a lens of positivity. Students need to utilise this statement when they are having challenges presented in their learning: I can't do this – **yet!** This approach ensures that students do not give up, learning from any mistakes we make.

We all have to recognise that life has been difficult over the past two years and once held aspirations and dreams might be slightly shaken by the events that have disrupted our lifestyle and wellbeing. For young people it can be particularly difficult to navigate these challenges as some look inwards and forget to reach out to others from where they will find strength and growth. Our staff continue to provide exceptional support for our students while they themselves face the same challenges in the current climate. Our staff have gone 'above and beyond' to cover classes that do not have a teacher due to COVID, illnesses or the teacher shortages impacting all schools. Fortunately, we have avoided returning students to 'learning from home', keeping them at school and staffed to the best of our ability. This is far from ideal, but as the media keeps stating: *'these are unprecedented times'*



Focusing on our blessings, I am pleased to see so many smiling faces on our students as they go about their studies at school. On Wednesday we had four students represent the College as finalists in the WynSpeak, public speaking, competition, more than any other school in this region. I congratulate these finalists: We were very ably represented by our two Senior School students: Abin Mathew and Khushi Patel (both of Year 12) as well as our Middle School students Rhys Are and Mahesha Fonseka (both from the 8

White Magis class). I thank Ms Attwood for her leadership in this event.

KEY DATES	
Sunday 5 June	Pentecost Sunday
Sunday 5 June	World Environment Day
Monday 6 June to Friday 10 June	Year 9 Purple Country Experience @ Good Samaritan Campus
Wednesday 8 June	Student Study Day (offsite)
Thursday 9 June to Friday 17 June	Year 10 and 11 Examinations
Monday 13 June	Queens Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 14 June to Friday 17 June	Year 9 Purple Country Experience @ Good Samaritan Campus
Sunday 19 June to Saturday 25 June	Refugee Week

Thomas Carr Day



In the midst of conflict and division,  
We know it is you who turns our minds to thoughts of peace.  
Your spirit changes hearts:  
Enemies begin to speak to one another,  
Those who were estranged join hands in friendship,  
And nations seek the way of peace together.  
Let your spirit be at work in us.  
Give us understanding and put an end to strife,  
Fill us with your mercy and overcome our denial.  
Grant us wisdom and teach us to learn  
from the people of the land.  
Call us to justice.  
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.



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## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT Ms Angelico

### What a fantastic Thomas Carr Day celebration on Friday 20 May!

We thank Fr Silvio Bezzina and Br Tue Pham for celebrating with us this very special Mass in honour of Archbishop Thomas Joseph Carr. The Carnival that followed was great fun. Given we have not been able to have a carnival for two years, this one was extra special. Our staff prepared and served the food instead of the students organising fundraising stalls which allowed the students to enjoy the rides, activities and the food.



Thomas Carr's Got Talent was sensational and highlighted the best of our community. The way in which the students supported all of the acts was wonderful and made us all feel very proud. Well done to the MCs for the talent show: Jaymes Flahive, Aaron Bratby, Rohan Nair, and Ryan Messman and also to Jaxon Deneys who assisted with technical support.



### Congratulations to our Thomas Carr's Got Talent Prize Winners:

- 1st... Victoria Riyadi (Galway B) & Maverick Hernandez (Wesport B)
- 2nd... Connor Deneys (Galway F) & Jaxon Deneys (Galway F)
- 3rd... Krittika Samanta (7 Red)

Congratulations also to all of the contestants who were all absolutely fantastic, thank you for sharing your talents: Audrey Simangan (Westport B), A'Lisandro-Omar Bradford (Westport D), Peter Mikikis (Maynooth E), Sophia Terranova (Moylough E), Marianne Mercado (7 White), Anina Latu (Maynooth C), Rayan Latu (Maynooth E), Maximillian Makubalo (Maynooth A), Tommy Lindon (9 Red) and Alex Wang (Galway B). Congratulations to all members of our community for contributing to such a successful day that was filled with school spirit and respect! The highlight for many of us was when the whole community stood to sing the College Song with great pride and enthusiasm.



### WynSpeak Finals

On Wednesday evening, four of our students were finalist the WynSpeak public speaking competition: Kushi Patel and Abin Mathew from Year 12 and Rhys Are and Mahesha Fonseka. It was a great pleasure to see them all speak with such confidence and conviction. Thank you to Ms Jessica Atwood and Mrs Lauren Girardi for inspiring and supporting all of the students who participated in WynSpeak this year.

### Approaching Final Assessments and Examinations

As we approach the end of the Pentecost term it is important that students remain calm and focussed on their studies. It is important to always strive to do one's best which requires effort and a growth mindset. Best wishes to the Year 10 and 11 students who will begin their examinations next week. It is essential that all students take full advantage of Wednesday next week to revise and prepare thoroughly for their final assessments for this semester.



### Some Tips for Students Preparing for Examinations

1. Give yourself enough time to study, don't leave it to the last minute.
2. Organise your study space, whatever works for you.

### What Kind of Mindset Do You Have?

3. Use flow charts and diagrams to help with summarising and revising study notes.

4. Organise study groups – only if this helps to keep you focused.

5. Take regular breaks and develop a study routine that works for you e.g. 25 minute focus time, 5 minute break.

6. Snack on 'brain food' and drink plenty of water – choose nutritious foods, not high sugar



**Growth  
Mindset**

I can learn anything I want to.  
When I'm frustrated, I persevere.  
I want to challenge myself.  
When I fail, I learn.  
Tell me I try hard.  
If you succeed, I'm inspired.  
My effort and attitude determine everything.



**Fixed  
Mindset**

I'm either good at it, or I'm not.  
When I'm frustrated, I give up.  
I don't like to be challenged.  
When I fail, I'm no good.  
Tell me I'm smart.  
If you succeed, I feel threatened.  
My abilities determine everything.



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foods, so your energy levels are up. Being well hydrated is essential for your brain to work at its best.

7. Plan your examination day. Make sure you have all of the materials required to bring to each examination **and be punctual**.
8. Get plenty of sleep – 9.5 hours each night is recommended for teenagers.

And of course, follow all the great advice your teachers have given you!

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, STAFF AND LEARNING OPERATIONS

Mr Bryson

*Assessment in a Catholic school is a means of uncovering the narrative of learners: their growth, progress, success and challenges in learning.*

Source: School Improvement Framework (Learning and Teaching Sphere)

With reference to the above statement, at Thomas Carr College, we are committed to providing feedback on the progress, or growth every student is making throughout the school year and remind all families of the below arrangements for Semester Examinations and the upcoming Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences for students undertaking a VCE Unit 3&4 subject.

### Semester One Examinations

Semester One examinations have been designed to provide students the opportunity to demonstrate their level of progress and achievement based on the key content covered throughout this semester.

Year 10 and 11 examinations will commence on Thursday 9 June and conclude on Friday 17 June. These examinations will provide an indication of the level of student performance across each subject with results included in their semester reports.

**Note:** All Year 10 students enrolled in a VCE Unit 1 subject will complete an examination for that subject. Students will also receive feedback from their teacher(s) following these examinations with additional feedback placed on SIMON for parents to view. This aim of this feedback is to identify areas of achievement as well as areas for future improvement to support students with their learning.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students do not have Semester One examinations and will complete end of year examinations for English, Maths, Science. Students in Years 7 to 9 will continue to be assessed using other key assessment tasks and written tests for all subjects at that year level.

### Other key information:

There are no semester examinations for Year 12 students. All VCE examinations are held at the end of the year. The final day of Semester One (Term Two) classes is **Thursday 23 June**. Semester One Reports will be available to parents via PAM as of **Wednesday 29 June**. Further information including a letter to parents outlining the arrangements for these examinations and an updated Semester One Examination timetable has been shared with families via Operoo.

Students have received a copy of the Semester One Examination schedule including the dates and times for each examination. These details are also available on the Daily Messages section on SIMON for all students to access. If you have any questions about the upcoming semester examinations for Years 10 or 11 students, please contact Ms. Daniela Bombardieri-Szabo (Head of Learning and Teaching – Senior School).

Any questions related to the assessment and reporting arrangements for Years 7 to 9 students can be directed to Mr. Stephen Manitta (Head of Learning and Teaching – Middle School). All other questions related to the overall progress of your child in individual subjects, can be directed to your child's subject teacher or Pastoral and Learning Mentor (PaLM). We wish all students the very best for their final assessment tasks for the semester and upcoming examinations.



Darren Pereira presenting to Year 12



**YEAR 7 2024 ENROLMENTS**  
NOW OPEN - PLACES FILLING FAST!



Applications are available from the FF Ray Administration Centre, via email: registrar@thomascarr.vic.edu.au or phone: (03) 8734 2444. Applications close Friday 19 August 2022.  
thomascarr.vic.edu.au

IMPORTANT NOTICE  
Year 7 2023 is full - waitlist only

## Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences (VCE Units 3/4)

Parent-Teacher-Student (PTS) Conferences will be held for students undertaking a VCE Unit 3/4 subject on **Thursday 23 June (4pm to 8pm)**. Due to the current COVID-Safe protocols and related restrictions, these PTS Conferences will be held online using MS TEAMS.

The Booking System for these interviews will be available as of Friday 10 June for you to access via the Parent Access Module (PAM). Please log on to PAM using your personal USERNAME and PASSWORD details. Click on 'Parent Teacher Interviews' to begin booking an interview with your child's teachers. For direct access to PAM please click on the link: [Parent Access Module \(PAM\) Log In](#). Further information will be sent to families via Operoo and posted in the Daily Messages section on SIMON. If you require assistance in accessing your username or password, please follow the prompts on PAM. All other questions related to these interviews can be directed to your child's Pastoral and Learning Mentor (PaLM) or House Leader (Years 10 to 12).

## Study and Tutoring Support for Students

To support the learning needs of our students and to assist students in preparing for their upcoming semester examinations, a reminder the College Information Centre (library) is open every Monday and Wednesday until 5.30pm.

Tutoring support is also available for students after-school on a Monday and Wednesday until 5pm. If you have any questions about this program or wish to express interest in your son or daughter being involved in the College's Tutoring Program, please contact your child's English or Mathematics teacher. You may also contact either Mr. Stephen Manitta (Head of Learning and Teaching – Middle School) or Ms. Daniela Bombardieri-Szabo (Head of Learning and Teaching – Senior School).

## Student Study Day (Wednesday 8 June)

Wednesday 8 June has been listed on the College calendar as a 'Student Study Day'. Students are not required to attend the College on this date, and they are encouraged to:

- > Revise and study for upcoming semester examinations.
- > Complete any outstanding assessment tasks and other learning activities that are due prior to the end of term.

Students are also encouraged to use this day for general study and other self-directed learning activities based on their timetabled classes. Learning activities may include pre-reading or any other subject-specific tasks such as homework and general revision for any upcoming assessment or tests. Due to the rescheduling of SAC's, VCE students may be required to attend onsite and will be informed by their teacher of these arrangements.

Please note, the College will be open on this date, and students may wish to use the Information Centre to complete any study or to prepare for their examinations. If you have any questions related to the above arrangements, please contact your child's Pastoral and Learning Mentor (PaLM), Year Level Leader (Years 7 to 9) or House Leader (Years 10 to 12).

Questions related to the arrangements for VCE students who may be required to attend onsite to complete SAC's can be directed to Ms. Daniela Bombardieri-Szabo (Head of Learning and Teaching – Senior School).

## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL, STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND WELLBEING Ms Spiteri

Winter is well and truly here! The colder months have begun, and this brings with it a number of opportunities and challenges. We know that the flu has come back in full force and this is proving to be another health challenge we need to tackle head on. The habits we formed during the past two years will be the same habits

World War II Excursion to the Melbourne Holocaust Museum



that will continue to protect us from the flu. We encourage all students to wear masks in public spaces, to sanitise their hands regularly, to socially distance wherever possible, and to eat healthily, keep hydrated, exercise regularly, and get vaccinated. Seasonal influenza vaccinations are free and available to all Victorians from your GP or pharmacist.

With the colder weather, we are forced to slow down. We find ourselves indoors more and looking for things to do. Video games, board games, cooking together, reading, watching movies, hot chocolate, brisk winter walks – all of these are wonderful opportunities to connect with our young people and to start important conversations. [This article](#), by Shelja Sen, gives the following tips on how to have those conversations:

- > Avoid these two words: "Let's Talk"
- > Ask; don't tell
- > Respond from your heart
- > When you disagree, follow the You-I-We approach
- > Apologise when you goof up

These conversations often give us insights into how our young people really are travelling, how they are feeling, how they are connecting with their world. They often tell us our young person's truth, but we must listen deeply and with our hearts.

Our College continues to support our young people during these challenging times for schools. You may be hearing about how difficult it is to staff classes, to provide co-curricular programs, to actually come to school and learn for our young people. Yes, this is true for all schools at the moment. However, our College community have demonstrated yet again our capacity to be resilient, to have grit, and to find joy in the every day.

You will read of the many activities and learning opportunities our College has offered our students, and the positive impact these have had. I invite all our families to join us in finding moments of joy in the every day. Let's celebrate the small wins – coming to school on time; having our favourite meal for dinner; sharing a laugh with our friend; finally understanding the content for the next assessment task; a random act of kindness; a smile hello ... These are the magic moments that make the winters of our lives easier. Finding joy in the small things, celebrating that which has most meaning to us – our relationships, and knowing we are journeying with people who care for us ensures we can weather any storm and can come through it to enjoy the rainbow at the other end.

## FROM THE HOUSE LEADER

Ms Marett

### Senior School message - Maynooth

At Senior school this busy term has been moving along so fast it is hard to believe that we are looking at students in Year 10 and 11 sitting mid-year exams next week. As a team, the House Leaders wish all students the best of luck and hope that you are all prepared to ace these exams.

*A few words from the Senior House Captain of Maynooth - Rajvi Patel:*

"It has been hectic start to Term 2! Heavy content, loads of SAC's and assignments, and shortage of teachers, but lets be honest, COVID-19 has its side effects. Through all of these obstacles, students and teachers are working very hard to achieve the best outcomes. To reward hard work, for the first time in two years due to COVID-19, Thomas Carr College celebrated Thomas Carr Day on 20May. We reflected gratitude to Archbishop Thomas Carr and then had an amazing time at the different rides and activities. My personal favourite was the bumper cars and the arts and crafts activity where we got to make jewellery. Towards the end of the day the whole school participated in Thomas Carr's Got Talent. It was a perfect way to end the day. It was a significant day for the Year 12's as this was our very last Thomas Carr Day. I'm sure we made great memories which will stay with us forever."



<p>How to stay healthy and avoid the spread of COVID-19</p>  <p>Use tissues and dispose immediately after use</p>	 <p>Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds</p>	 <p>Stay home when sick</p>
 <p>Avoid touching your face</p>	 <p>Wipe high-touch surfaces often</p>	 <p>Avoid close contact with others</p>
 <p>Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing</p>		



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## A few words on Language Week from student -Sasha Albuquerque

"At Thomas Carr College, as students we are gifted with the wonderful opportunity to study foreign languages and their cultures. This year, students were given the chance to commemorate Language Week throughout various activities hosted during lunchtimes. It began on Monday 16 May with Chinese Lantern cutting, where students were given different patterns to choose, from a traditional lantern design to adorable little pandas. Personally, I chose the template for Spring. Spring is the season in which Chinese New Year celebrations fall and it symbolises life and new beginnings.

On Tuesday, the College held an Italian Car Show. I would like to thank the Alfa Romeo Club who generously supplied us six cars that day: 3 vintage Fiats and 3 modern Alfa Romeos. The club members also allowed students to hop into the cars and even revved them up for us. I was amazed at how loud the engines were despite the size of the car, they could be heard all across the College. Wednesday was movie day. We were shown the beginning of the Indonesian movie, 'June dan Kopi' which was centred around a stray dog named June who had a fear of children. However, he slowly began to overcome this fear when his owner fell pregnant, and he became attached to the baby. Despite the seriousness of the film, it also came with many comedic aspects as June was a master escape artist.

Our celebrations ended on the Thursday with Multilingual Karaoke, with students singing their favourite songs in a range of different languages. It was amazing to see the younger students taking the initiative to sing their favourite song and the courage they had, especially in a language they may not be fluent in. I know how terrifying it is as somehow, I ended up at the front to the crowd, with a mic in my hand, singing along to an Indonesian song! I was truly amazed to see how many students had turned up to all of the events and I want to say a special thank you to both Bu Febrinaldi and Signorina Parcesepe for taking the time to plan, organise and host this amazing week."

## FROM THE LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Ms Shaw

### Indonesian Sister School On-Line Exchange Program

Year 9 Indonesian students have commenced their Zoom meetings with Indonesian students from the Margie School. Our first session was 'speed friending'. Students had the opportunity to ask questions in Indonesian which they had previously prepared on age, family, hobbies, pets. This exchange program runs over 5 sessions as part of the Year 9 curriculum strand of communicating and sub strand of sharing personal opinions and experiences with peers, comparing aspects of teenage life such as relationships, events and aspirations.

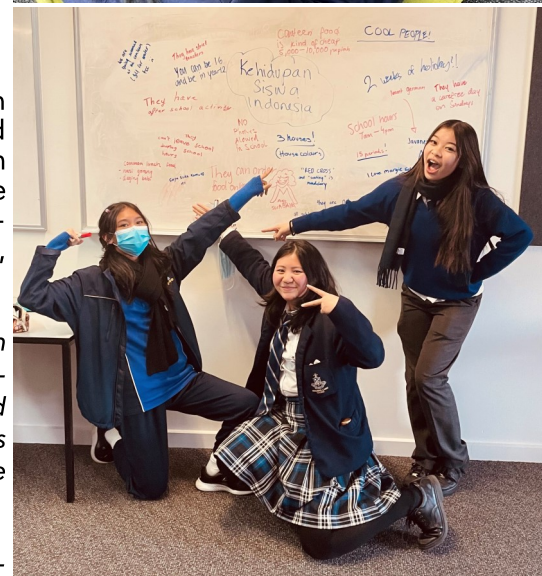
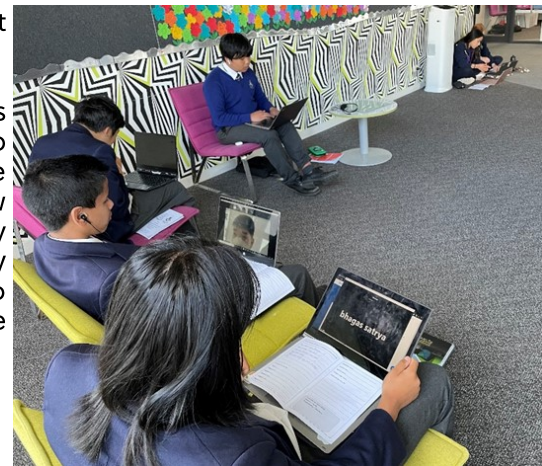


"Being able to speak with the students from the Margie School in Surabaya was an amazing experience. We got to practise our language speaking skills with them and learn about their school and family life. They were all really nice and the experience overall is definitely memorable which also helped to build our confidence in the language." Deborah H, 9 Silver

"It was a great cultural experience to have conversations with students from Margie School. We got to learn more about their hobbies and what they do in their school in Surabaya, and they were very kind and patient as we spoke in Indonesian." Neve K, 9 Silver

"It was exciting being able to talk to several students overseas in a different language we gradually learned. We got to learn about their everyday lives and exchange information with the students from Margie." Gabriel T, 9 White

### Indonesian Sister School Online Exchange Program - Zoom Meetings



# Thomas Carr College Uniform Shop

As Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022 is a Student free Day, the Thomas Carr College Uniform Shop trading hours on this day are from 9am to 4pm.

This is a good opportunity for Students to purchase uniform, no appointment is needed.

Throughout the school term our opening hours are:

**Monday** 8.15 am - 4.00 pm

**Wednesday** 8.15 am - 4.00 pm

**Friday** 8.15 am - 4.00 pm

**Phone:** 03 9749 5969

**Email:** [thomascarr@midford.com.au](mailto:thomascarr@midford.com.au)

Garments may be returned / exchanged if they are complete with swing tags, receipt and have not been worn, altered or laundered. Acceptable forms of payment are Visa, MasterCard, Amex, and EFTPOS. Please note: We do not accept Cash.

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