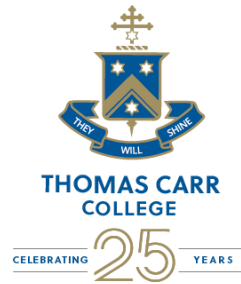


Volume 25 Issue 14: 3 September 2021

From the Principal

Mr Holmes

“They Will Shine”



Dear Families and Community Members,

I had the pleasure this week of interviewing Grade 5 students and families enrolling at Thomas Carr College for 2023. When you look at the trajectory of these students, they will be the Graduating Class of 2028. This brings me to think about what kind of world will these students emerge into as adults. If we base it on the news we consume on television or social media, it could look grim. Recently I watched a TV program that made sense to me, the topic related to our consumption of news. The takeaway message was that we need to monitor how much news we read or watch balancing the need to be informed against becoming overwhelmed by the overall negativity of the news on show.

I believe as a Catholic school educating young people, albeit remotely in the current time, we can be the difference between students developing a negative world view as compared to one of real hope, that is even stronger than just an optimistic outlook. In the Grade 5 interviews I asked the students, what is different about a Catholic school? Some pondered this while most answered we learn about Jesus or God. This led to my next question: So, what did you learn about Jesus? The answer invariably was that Jesus was a good person and kind to others. Again, I asked, so what do you learn from this? And the answer came, I can also be a good person and kind to others. It is in this answer that our hope lies in future generations and the world they will enter, even in 2028.

I trust all our families and parents are being kind to themselves, in these very trying but necessary circumstances, where our lives are severely restricted. The good news is that overall, we received some positive data from the NAPLAN tests which we will share in later editions. Families with students in Year 7 and 9 will receive statements of attainment in the mail over the next week.

At the College we received the good news of a grant for \$1,000,000 from the State Government to assist with the commencement of our planning for a new senior building. This building will be developed in two stages with a commencement date in late 2022. The building when fully completed will house our students from Years 10-12, our Senior School at Thomas Carr College.

Please read the important information about accessing vaccinations in this Newsletter.

A Happy Father's Day to all Dad's.

Prayer

All powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
Help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

COMING EVENTS

Ongoing	LEARNING@HOME continues. Please check all College notices via Operoo
Sunday 5 September	Father's Day
Tuesday 7 September	(Online) Parent Forum <i>(Topic: New College House structure for 2022)</i>
Thursday 9 September & Thursday 16 September	Parent Teacher Student Conferences. 4pm to 8pm. (Online)
Note:	We will continue to update our community with regard to the current COVID-19 restrictions as information comes to hand. Thank you



College Theme for 2021
“We have this HOPE as an anchor for the soul firm and secure”

Hebrews 6:19

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.

From the Deputy Principal of Organisation and Wellbeing

Ms Angelico

Student Leadership

The process for selecting the College Captains for 2022 is well underway and the successful candidates will be announced by Thursday September 16. We wish all of those shortlisted the very best as they are interviewed this Friday.

The process for selecting the Senior House Captains will be underway next week. We will continue to have two Senior House Captains for each of our four Houses. With the new Vertical House Structure at Years 10-12, these student roles will be much more significant from next year as they will encompass leading House Spirit in a more holistic way throughout the year. The House Captains will form an integral part of role-modelling and supporting a culture of excellence in all aspects of school life for the members of their House with the support of the newly appointed House Leaders, Ms Margie White and their Pastoral and Learning Mentors.

As we shared this vision for the Senior School in planning meetings with some of our student leaders, they were most excited about being a part of this important cultural change at Thomas Carr College.

Parent Forum Online – Tuesday September 7

The invitations to the Parent Forum that will be held next week were sent last Tuesday via Operoo. The focus of this forum is to learn about our new Vertical House Structure in the Senior School for 2022, to meet the newly appointed House Leaders and to give you the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

We will be running this as an online meeting from 7.00pm – 8.00pm using Zoom which we used successfully for a Parent Forum held during lockdown last year. The Zoom link will be sent on Monday afternoon to those who register. To inform us that you will be attending, please RSVP using the link below by 9.00am on Monday September 6.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO RSVP YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE PARENT FORUM](#)

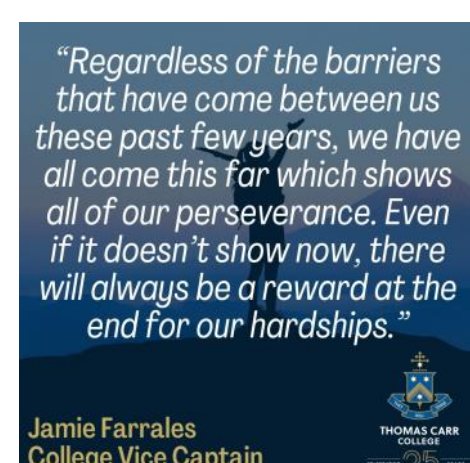
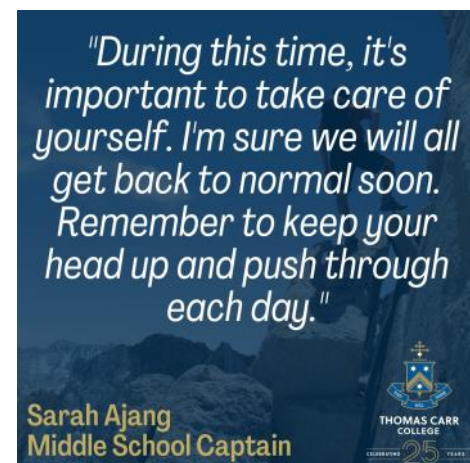
Year 12 Graduation Events – Class of 2021

It seems that the year is passing by very quickly as it is already time to prepare to celebrate the Class of 2021. Information regarding the Graduation Dinner has been sent to families this week. The Graduation Mass is scheduled for Wednesday October 20 and will be held at the College due the uncertainty of government rules regarding the opening of churches. The dinner will take place at Luxor Function Centre on Friday October 22.

In the coming weeks, the Year 12 Students are foremost in our thoughts and prayers as they complete their final assessment tasks, practice examinations and be ready to approach their final VCAA examinations with confidence. The VCAL students and teachers are finding creative ways to finalise their practical projects and assessments and we wish them the very best as they prepare for the world of work, apprenticeship, or further study. It is essential that during these times of uncertainty we continue to be hopeful for the future and grateful for our blessings, both large and small, each and every day.



This year's **National Child Protection Week** will take place from **Sunday 5 September** to **Saturday 11 September**. National Child Protection Week raises awareness about the community's collective responsibility for the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people. For Catholic schools, this provides an opportunity to emphasise their strong commitment to the safety and wellbeing of young people in their care, and the important role they play in creating nurturing environments at school, online, at home and in the community. Key resources are available to support schools to promote



conversations and activities among students, staff and families.

The **eSafety Commissioner** has also developed a series of activities for people of all ages to get involved during National Child Protection Week, including online safety resources and advice for parents and carers to help children have safe experiences online.

Here are some useful links:

<https://www.napcan.org.au/ncpw-webinars-2021/>
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars>
<https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents>

From the Deputy Principal of Learning and Teaching

Mr Bryson

“Regardless of the barriers that have come between us these years, we have all come this far which shows all of our perseverance. Even if it doesn’t show now, there will always be a reward at the end for our hardships.”

Source: Jamie Farrales (College Vice Captain)

Throughout this term, I have shared various quotes from the book titled, *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* as a way of acknowledging the work and commitment of our staff students, and families as they continue to navigate through these periods of remote learning. At the same time, I hope these quotes become little messages of kindness and hope in these challenging times.

This week our College Captains have taken to social media to share some lovely words of inspiration to fellow students whilst LEARNING@HOME. Thank you and well done to all our College Captains, and I encourage all of us to draw inspiration and strength from their messages as we continue to persevere through this extended lockdown.

LEARNING@HOME (Student Survey)

In response to the announcement that the current lockdown will be extended with no return to onsite learning for Term 3 students will continue to attend Homeroom and access their classes online using MS TEAMS.

Further information will be shared with VCE students including updates about the upcoming VCE Unit 3&4 practice exams as well as arrangements for any onsite provisions for essential practical and performance based assessment. In the meantime, we ask for your feedback to assist us in further supporting the learning and wellbeing needs of our students during this extended period of remote and flexible learning.

Please click on the link below to answer a series of questions based on your experience so far. Your responses are anonymous. This survey is open to ALL students and will close on **Wednesday 8 September (9am)**.

LEARNING@HOME Student Feedback

If you have any questions or issues in responding this survey, please contact your Homeroom Teacher or Ms. Tina Alphonso (Executive Assistant to the Learning & Teaching Team).

General Achievement Test (GAT) - Tuesday 5 October

Based on the updated advice from the VCAA, the 2021 GAT has been rescheduled to Tuesday 5 October (10am to 1.15pm). A letter will be sent to families confirming these arrangements in more detail.

In the meantime, a reminder of the following information:

All VCE or VCAL students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Units 3 and 4 subjects are required to sit the GAT. There will no scheduled classes on this



Even if you have mild cold or flu-like symptoms



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date for Year 11 and 12 students. This is subject to public health advice and epidemiological conditions.

Further information relating to the GAT including past GAT examinations can also be accessed via the VCAA website. To view these details, click on [VCAA > Assessment > VCE Assessment > GAT](#).

If you have any questions relating to the GAT, please contact your child's Homeroom Teacher, Year Level Co-ordinator or Ms. Geraldine McIntyre (Director of Learning and Teaching – Senior School).

2022 Subject Selection 'Thank-you'

All students have entered their subject preferences for next year and I hope you had the opportunity to enjoy the conversations with your son or daughter about their aspirations and future subjects as they selected their subjects for 2022.

As students plan for their future the positive response from students and parents in having the opportunity to explore various subject and pathway options for next year reinforces the benefits in working in partnership throughout this very important decision-making process.

We appreciate your continued support, and I would like to acknowledge the work of the many teachers and staff including Homeroom Teachers, Year Level Co-ordinators and members of the Learning Diversity Team who have supported students throughout this term in making informed decisions about their subjects for 2022.

All the work and effort from the many staff that have been involved in shifting the full subject selection process to an online experience cannot be underestimated. I would also like to acknowledge all members of the College's Learning and Teaching Team including Tina Alphonso and David McIver as well as members of the College's Careers Team who have been instrumental in all aspects of the subject selection process.

All students will receive further details about their 2022 subjects early in Term 4.

Term 3 Progress Reports

Term 3 Progress Reports are now available for families to access via the Parent Access Module (PAM). These reports provide feedback on your child's progress throughout this term and form the basis for discussion at the upcoming Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences.

To access your child's Term 3 Progress Report, please log on to the Parent Access Module (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 below.

[Parent Access Module \(PAM\) Log In](#)

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 Homeroom Teacher or Year Level Co-ordinator.

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Due to the current lockdown restrictions, Parent-Teacher-Student (PTS) Conferences will be held online.

All teaching staff will be available for interviews using MS TEAMS on the following dates:
Thursday 9 September (4pm to 8pm)
Thursday 16 September (4pm to 8pm)

The Booking System for these interviews is also now open for you to access on PAM. Click on 'Parent Teacher Interviews' to begin booking an interview with your child's teachers. The online booking system will close at 9am on the day before each of the above listed dates.


Further information outlining how to access your child's Term 3 Progress Reports and the upcoming PTS Conferences has been sent to families via Operoo and is also available to view in the Daily Messages section on [SIMON](#).

Fun Times in Lockdown - Mr Lucas created Thomas Carr College Monopoly!




SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

Mr Mendes is a Science Laboratory Technician for both Year 7 and 8, and has now been with the College for 12 years!



MR MENDES

LAB TECHNICIAN



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In the meantime, we encourage your son or daughter to continue to apply themselves to the best of their ability across all their subjects and we look forward to discussing your child's progress with you later this term.

From the Head of Senior School

Mrs Sheridan

Sometimes when I sit to write my article for *The Beacon* it is hard to think of what to write about, to try to engage as many people in our community as possible. Several times across the years, I have had people reach out to speak with or email me after reading my written piece. That is a delight. Other times it feels like I am writing into a void and I wonder if there is a connection being made at all or if anyone can unpack my purpose. I am not a born writer. It takes time and effort. I am however a person who finds talking and chatting face to face relatively easy. For this very reason, I have found lockdown and LEARNING@HOME difficult. It has taken something which I am practised at and find easy and reinvented the rules. Talking on any platform – MS Teams or zoom, etc is not what I prefer but it is what is available to me now. So, I will continue to call on students by name and engage them in conversations about the topics we are covering in class or about what show they and the family is currently watching. When I think of the difficulties I am facing online, it is humbling to think of how lucky we are in Victoria.

I remember reading once though, that comparing loss or hardship does nothing to diminish the hardship itself. Suffering is not a competition. We need to honour our own hardships and others' experiences too. We acknowledge the pain and share the understanding of needing support or acceptance. Just because someone, somewhere may have had worse experiences in their life does not excuse nor erase our own hardship or pain. This is the main learning I have coming out of these 2 years of strange and bizarre times. At times, I can cope, and I am able to make the most of the situation – celebrating short commutes and enjoying sitting on the back deck in the sunshine with my family at recess time.

Other times it is all a bit overwhelming, and I feel like I cannot watch another news update or hear another person complain about the struggle of lockdown. I know this is completely normal. I know my Senior School students, their families and the staff are feeling exactly the same. It is not a competition. Yes, I am lucky to live in Victoria and not somewhere where the ravages of this pandemic are much worse. I am even more lucky to have a back deck and a family to share my down time. It is, however, still hard. I own it and I honour the experience. I am looking forward to the day we return onsite – like everyone else. In the meantime, however, I will continue to call on my students by name and engage them in social and academic chatting. Sometimes, their responses are what gets me through the harder times.

From the Director of Faith and Mission

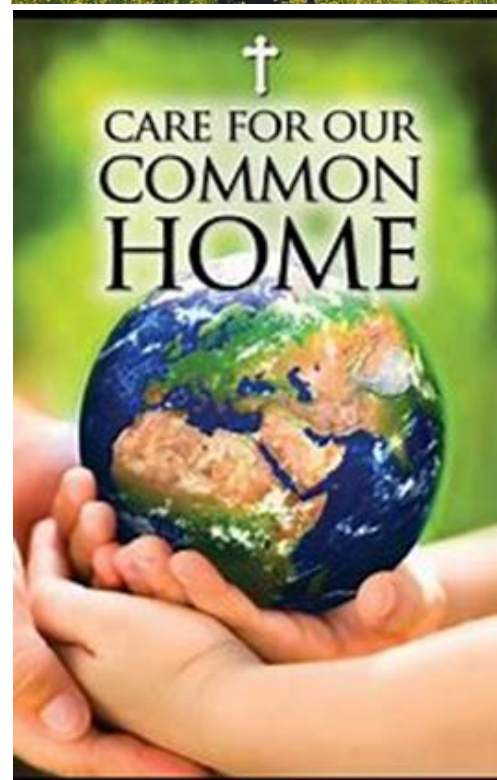
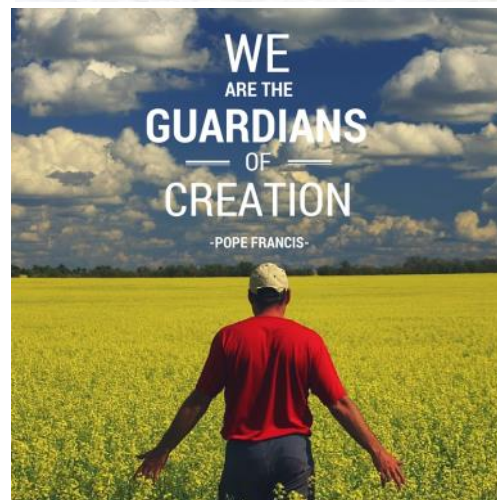
Mrs McCarthy

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

On Wednesday 1 September, we celebrated the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Pope Francis established this as a day of prayer to encourage the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home. The day is inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared earth.

This seems very timely, as just on August 9th a panel from the United Nations made an announcement that the climate crisis had reached a "code red." It is not difficult to make connections between the natural disasters (including bushfires which we have experienced in recent years) with the larger global climate changes effected by the emissions caused by humanity across the globe.

The question which Pope Francis continues to invite us to is: "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who will come after us, to children who are growing up?" Our world continues to be deeply affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Pope Francis'



encyclical *Laudato Si'* helps us with a basis of how we ought to reshape the world that will arise after the pandemic has passed. The present crisis is an opportunity to start anew, and to make sure that the world that arises after this crisis has passed is sustainable and just. As Catholic Christians, we have a call to being good stewards of creation. The earth and all life on it are part of God's creation. We are called to respect this gift. We are responsible for taking care of the world we live in and for sharing all the wonders and resources the earth gives us.

Thomas Carr College's Environmental Action Team continues to raise awareness of the need to care for our common home and to reflect on what we, as a College community, can do to ensure that we are attentive to environmental concerns and seek to promote care for the earth and for its resources.

From the Good Samaritan Campus

Mr Millie

Year 9 Jade Celebrate St Brendan's Day, 27 May 2021

...Guide timid footsteps in this land young and free.

Year 9 Jade helped the students of neighbouring St Brendan's Primary School celebrate the feast day of their name saint. The feast day of 27 May is also significant to us at the Good Samaritan Campus as our convent building was for nearly 50 years the location of St Brendan's Primary School. And of course, the day is of great importance to the parish community of Cororooke and Coragulac.

The celebration commenced at the main entrance to the Campus, Fr Michael leading students, teachers and parishioners in an opening prayer followed by a walk to the Parish Hall singing "Man of the Sea", the newly acquired hymn of St Brendan that has become a hymn for each home room. Year 9 Jade students participated in the Liturgy of the Mass that then celebrated the Eucharist in the Church proper. The day ended unusually with an early return to the Main Campus on account of lockdown. Driving along Thomas Carr Drive the home stage of the return to Tarneit, the bus seemed to lift with a raucous rendition of the hymn 'Sailor of God.'

Year 9 Purple Visit Yan Yan Gurt West Farm, 21 June 2021

Monday of Week C saw the students of 9 Purple presenting their Whole Farm Planning plans to the Stuart Family farmers of Yan Yan Gurt West. Prior to the presentations Andrew and Jill Stuart took the students of a tour of the sheep farm. The tour is an opportunity to connect the theoretical and applied science of Week B to the actual features of the landscape of the farm, just north of Dean's Marsh.

During the tour Andrew pointed out the phenomenon of a giant mushroom, a fascinating form of fungi found on grassed areas near eucalypt trees at times of high rain. Andrew explained the symbiotic relationship that exists between the tree and the mushroom: the fungus is not able to photosynthesise, so relies on the tree's roots for nutrients. In turn, the mushroom fungi are able to pass nutrients to the tree that the roots are unable to reach. Asked whether you were able to eat such a mushroom, Andrew replied that they had yet to give the morsel a try. Andrew and his family received the 2021 Bob Hawke Landcare Award on 5 August for their contribution to whole farm planning in Australia. Our students are very fortunate to have a connection to a family run farm that is at the forefront of regenerative agricultural practices.

Year 9 Red, Connecting to Cape Otway, 3 to 5 August 2021

The week between lockdowns saw 9 Red at Cape Otway on the three day Journey Expedition. Based out of Bimbi Park at the Cape, the students discovered the rugged beauty of the Cape Otway coastline.

On Day 1 Richard Collopy, traditional elder of the Gadubanud clan at Aire River, hosted the girls for a cultural tour of the Crayfish Bay coastal area, just east of the Cape. The flyby of a rare sea eagle portended good tidings, perhaps fair weather. The students also marvelled at the rock formations along the beach, particularly connected to the sources of fresh water that exist along this startlingly beautiful coastline.



The visit to Cape Otway featured the two day hike along the coastline from Bimbi Park to Castle Cove, west of Aire River. Whilst cold and blustery, rain mostly held off during the two day's hiking. By the time walkers arrived at Castle Cove, and though tired and relieved to have arrived, the hikers had become more attuned to walking distance with a heavy pack. The three day Journey Expedition is the culminating event of the three week Country Experience at the Good Samaritan Campus.

From the Art & Religious Education Teacher

Mrs Udovicic

2021 National Award Winners of the Young Voices Award Zoom Presentation Evening

Congratulations to the following students who had their work recognised in the National 2021 Young Voices Award:

Honourable mention

Kayllen Bala (8 White) - 'No place to call home'

Highly Commended:

- Jessica Connor (9 White) - 'His safe place'
- Mia Whitefield (9 White)) - 'Grandmother'
- Aiden D'Souza (9 Silver) - 'My family's journey to Australia'
- Cyrus Morales (9 Silver) - 'My mother'
- Rhys Are (7 White) - 'What is your role with stopping climate change?'
- Thaila Smith (8 White) - 'Equality'

Particular congratulations to Rhys Are in 7 White who in attendance with his RE Teacher, confidently spoke about his winning work focusing on Climate Change during the Zoom Presentation Evening held on Monday 30/8. Rhys said *"Regarding our role with stopping Climate Change, I focused on causes rather than effects. My photos focus on the negative effects of current energy production. I am disappointed to know that current levels of Co2 produced to create electricity is so great that global warming increases by 0.18 degrees every year."*

All National winners with their respective school can be viewed at:

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/students-make-their-voices-heard>

From the Health Centre

Mrs Barb King

Dear Students and Families,

Thomas Carr College provides the following information for you to access and make your determinations as to what action you take.

Regards
Craig Holmes

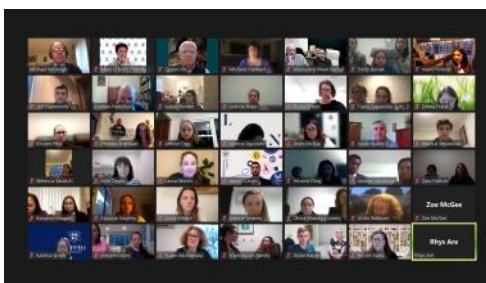
COVID-19 Vaccine Access for students aged 16+ - Barb King

As part of the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out, all students aged 16 years and above are now eligible to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. The Victorian Government is aiming to fully vaccinate all final year students by the time they sit their end-of-year exams and provide at least one dose for children aged 12 and older by the end of the school year. All GAT students are encouraged to book in for their first dose before the GAT on 5 October. The vaccines are voluntary, so you can choose if you want to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The more students who are vaccinated, the more protected our community and schools will be.

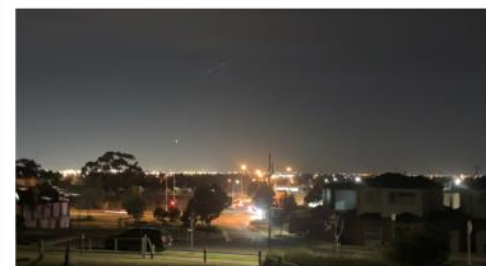
Information about COVID-19 vaccines can be found on the [Australian Government Department of Health](https://www.health.gov.au) website and the [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au) website.



Rhys and his RE Teacher during Zoom Presentation Evening 30/8



Rhys' winning photographs



With limited vaccine supply, there are limited appointments available, you're encouraged to check for appointments in state-run vaccination sites and at a doctor's clinic, pharmacy or community health service. Therefore, if a student would like to be vaccinated, you are encouraged to book as soon as possible to secure an appointment time. Vaccination centres are not accepting walk ins at this time. It is recommended you don't get your first vaccine on the day of an exam, or the day before an exam – to avoid feeling common but mild side effects such as tiredness, headache, muscle pain, fever and chills and/or joint pain during your exam.

In addition to everyone 16 years and over, young people aged 12-15 years are currently eligible if they have an underlying medical condition or are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

To book an appointment at a vaccination centre, visit the coronavirus.vic.gov.au website. To book an appointment at a doctor's clinic, pharmacy or community health service, visit the [Australian Government Eligibility Checker](#) website. Students are encouraged to make appointments at times that minimise disruption to their learning where possible, however it is acknowledged that this may be difficult to do. If an appointment is made during school hours, students should discuss the absence with their teachers to plan ahead for the absence.

From the Student Wellbeing

Mr Cas Gemoh

R U OK? DAY 2021: *Are they really OK? Ask them today*

On September 9 the College community will be celebrating R U OK? Day. R U OK? Day is a reminder to check in on our young people and each other with the aim of preventing and addressing the public health issue of suicide.

The theme for this year is: ***Are they really OK? Ask them today.***

A brief check-in conversation could change a life. The organisation that runs R U OK? Day produces resources that are designed to encourage the conversations that could change lives by preventing feelings of loneliness and isolation in our communities, schools, and workplaces. The R U OK? Day campaign promotes four steps to connecting with anyone struggling with life:

- ⇒ Ask if they are ok
- ⇒ Listen without judgement
- ⇒ Encourage action
- ⇒ Check-in or follow up.

Last year and this year, Australians were also encouraged to not only check in with others but to ensure they continue to stay connected during challenging times. 2020 and 2021 have been challenging years for everyone and circumstances have made it even more important for us all to stay connected and, for those who are able, be willing to support those around us.

Whilst last year's Thomas College R U OK? promotions could only be done online due to remote learning, we are really hoping that we will be able to do face to face onsite promotion activities this year. The Wellbeing Team will be encouraging staff and students to check on each other, and, if possible, will be running lunch activities on the 9th of September to raise awareness, and encourage students and staff to reflect on this year's theme: ***Are they really OK? Ask them today.***

Homeroom teachers will also be encouraged to engage students with activities about how students can hold these small but potentially life changing conversations. By checking in with friends, family, and other people in their lives who might be struggling. Online resources and interactive short video links from the R U OK? website will be shared with Homeroom teachers to use with students in homerooms.



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TIPS FOR TALKING TO CHILDREN ABOUT PERSONAL SAFETY



Article 12 of the United National Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children have the right to have a say in matters that affect them, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.



WHAT WE KNOW:

Children have the right to feel able to speak up, and to be listened to, respected and believed.

When we "tune into" children in everyday situations about even small worries, children are more likely to trust us and feel comfortable to tell us if something big is wrong.

Speaking regularly to children about their safety is a powerful way to build open communication with them.

It is always the responsibility of adults to keep children safe from harm - child abuse is never a child's fault.



IDEAS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

- Help children to identify trusted adults (both within the family and outside) they can talk to, if they are worried, upset, or don't feel safe. Create a list together. Make sure the trusted adults know they are on your child's list.
- Remind children that they can talk to you or a trusted adult about anything, no matter how big or small their worry might be.
- Talk to children about how they know when they feel safe or unsafe. Help them to listen to their early warning signs (how their body feels), and to trust their feelings and instincts.
- Use everyday activities (such as preparing meals and snacks, going for walks, playing, shopping) as opportunities for conversations. If children are used to having lots of communication, it can make it easier to talk when big or tricky issues come up.
- Be open to talking about all kinds of feelings, including anger, joy, frustration, fear and anxiety. This helps children to develop a 'feelings vocabulary'.
- Show children that you can respond sensitively to negative emotions as well as positive ones when they express their anger, embarrassment, sadness or fear.
- Don't rush into problem-solving. Your child might just want you to listen, and to know that their feelings and point of view matter to someone.

OTHER RESOURCES AND INFORMATION:

7 Steps to Safety - a tool for families to give children the skills and confidence they need to feel and be safe at home:
www.territoryfamilies.nt.gov.au/children-and-families/7-steps-to-safety

Australian Council on Children and the Media:
www.childrenandmedia.org.au

Office of the eSafety Commissioner:
www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent

Raising Children Network: www.raisingchildren.net.au

Talk soon. Talk often.
A guide for parents talking to their kids about sex:
www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/S_T/Talk-soon-Talk-often

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (United Kingdom): www.nspcc.org.uk

Net Aware (United Kingdom): www.net-aware.org.uk



If you work in an organisation that would like to know more about how to create a child-safe culture, contact NAPCAN about available training.

For more information about how you can play your part visit: www.napcan.org.au



NAPCAN PREVENT CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT
www.napcan.org.au



BEING NEIGHBOURLY IS GOOD FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT WE KNOW:

- Children feel safer when they know the people in their community.
- Children like it when neighbours, shopkeepers or bus drivers say 'hi' and smile.
- Social isolation is a big challenge for many families.
- A friendly adult can make a big difference in the life of a child or young person.
- We can all look out for children and make sure they are safe – even if we don't know them.
- We all have a part to play in creating stronger, happier neighbourhoods for everyone.



For more information about how you can play your part or to get involved in

National Child Protection Week
(starting first Sunday September)
visit: www.napcan.org.au

HOW YOU CAN PLAY YOUR PART:

- Smile and say hello to people in your neighbourhood, including children and teenagers. Try the **Five Smiles a Day Challenge**: friendshipproject.com.au/five-smiles-a-day/
- Remember the names of children (and their pets!) and listen to what they have to say. This shows them that they are important and that you care.
- Be a positive role model. **NAPCAN's video Children See, Children Do**: napcan.org.au/children-see-children-do/ is a great reminder that children are watching everything we say and do.
- Talk to your neighbours and take the time to build relationships among parents nearby. You can start by asking people how long they have lived in the area or asking parents about their children (e.g. their ages and hobbies) to show that you are interested.
- Swap phone numbers with other families and let them know if you are doing something they could join in with e.g. going to the park to play.
- Parenting is a big job. Offer a helping hand to families in your neighbourhood. For example, offer to pick something up from the shop, watch the children, or bake some food.
- Be kind and supportive to parents rather than judging them. If you see a family that is facing challenges, you may need to ask advice from an expert about what to do. You could start by looking up advice hotlines e.g. Parentline, or Kids Helpline.
- Speak up if you see something that is unsafe e.g. broken equipment, kids playing near traffic, a small child alone, or unsociable behaviour.
- Think about how your neighbourhood could be improved for children and teenagers. Ask them what they like and what they might want to change, and help them advocate to make things better.



neighbour day
Last Sunday in March

For more information about Neighbour Day and how you can get involved visit: www.neighbourday.org

NAPCAN PREVENT
CHILD ABUSE
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