



# Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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Issue 10  
28th April, 2025

Principal: Mrs. Catherine Howison



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# Principal's Message



Dear Parents, Carers, Friends and Students of Marian College,

- ❖ *We encourage excellence and perseverance in learning,*
- ❖ *We strive for continuous improvement*

Welcome back to Marian College. We are looking forward to a wonderful term of learning. I trust that families have had an enjoyable and relaxing Easter holiday and that our students are keen to connect with friends and teachers back in the classroom. Our staff returned last week with three days of Professional Learning. Our Religious Education and Faith Leader facilitated a wonderful Catholic Identity Day for all staff on Tuesday which was both informative and thought provoking. We were joined by the staff of St Brigid's Horsham for a day of collaboration on Wednesday, where the energy and enthusiasm was tangible. We were very grateful to begin the day in prayer and with some reflections from Sr Jacinta, who is based in Horsham and from Sr John and Sr Maree. It is becoming increasingly rare for schools to have Sisters in their communities and we are very blessed to have ours. Thursday was spent working on curriculum and planning for the year ahead. The three days, though certainly not governed by the bells of a school day, were days of deep learning and collaboration.

I attended my first ANZAC Day Ceremony in Ararat on Friday and was thoroughly impressed and moved by the service. Congratulations to the RSL for the beautifully reverent ceremony and all the planning that went into it. Marian College had representatives at Ararat, Stawell, Pomonal, Beaufort and Elmhurst services this year. Not only is it important to learn about the history behind ANZAC Day, but

also the values it represents - courage, mateship, endurance, and sacrifice. ANZAC Day ceremonies are a way to show respect and gratitude for those who gave so much for the freedoms we enjoy today. As a college we recognise the importance of community and I am very grateful for all the students and families that showed their support of this important occasion.

This morning I spoke to our students about courtesy, which is going to be a focus this term. It costs nothing to be courteous, to speak well and kindly to each other and to show consideration to those around us. Our motto "Strength and Gentleness" calls us to act with integrity and kindness and we will continue to emphasise this in our day to day actions at Marian College.

Mrs Catherine Howison  
Principal

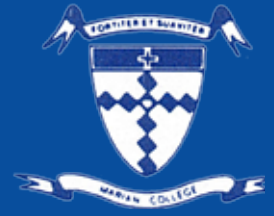


**ANZAC DAY**  
*Let Us Forget*





# Religious Education Coordinator & Faith Leader



We return to school in Term 2 as Easter People. People of the Resurrection. In the last week of Term 1 our Year 12 students presented our community with a meaningful and reflective arrangement of the Stations of the Cross in the Alexandra Gardens. I must congratulate the Year 12 students on their efforts and the care they put into this occasion. There were 5 presentations of the Stations throughout the day and all students and staff, as well as members of the Parish and wider community, had the opportunity to attend.

The Stations of the Cross are a Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last days on Earth as a man. The stations begin with His condemnation and journeying through His last moments of crucifixion and death.

The empty tomb at Easter reminds us that there is always hope. Hope that death is not the end; hope in the resurrection. It is a celebration of new life and an opportunity for all of us to renew our own lives. We take time to pause and think about how we can truly become Easter people by taking small positive actions to make our lives and therefore the world around us, a better place.

I cannot complete this article without writing about the death of Pope Francis. On Easter Monday, 21st April 2025, the Catholic Church and the whole world lost a true shepherd and leader who inspired many and welcomed all. There are so many examples of Pope Francis quietly challenging all of us to be better people through his acts of servant leadership, and his humble words to those on the margins. Whether they were refugees, people in prison, the poor, the homeless or those who felt ostracised, Pope Francis drew them in and called to all of us to do the same. My favourite image of Francis is when he washed the feet of prisoners on Holy Thursday – not the exalted members of society but prisoners – reminding us of our shared humanity.

I will finish with a quote from Pope Francis which resonates deeply with me:

"We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace."

And a poem which was included in our Diocesan Education Office Newsletter which also reminds us of the Hope we all have in the Resurrection of Christ and in eternal life:

*"The very last thing Pope Francis included in this book is a poem by Alexis Valdes titled **Hope**, In light of his death and especially in this Easter season, this poem may point to the lasting effects of Pope Francis for us and our times."*

## **HOPE**

***When the storm has passed and the roads are tamed. and we are the survivors of a collective shipwreck. With tearful heart and our destiny blessed. we will feel joy simply for being alive.***

***And we'll give a hug to the first stranger. and praise our good luck that we kept a friend. And then we'll remember all that we lost. and finally learn everything we never learned.***

***And we'll envy no one for all of us have suffered. and we'll not be idle but more compassionate.***

***We'll value more what belongs to all than what was earned.***

***We'll be more generous and much more committed. We'll understand how fragile it is to be alive. We'll sweat with empathy for those still with us and those who are gone. We'll miss the old man who asked for a buck in the market. whose name we never knew who was always at your side.***

***And maybe the poor old man was your God in disguise. But you never asked his name because you never had the time.***

***And we'll all become a miracle and all will become a legacy. And we'll respect the life, the life we have gained. When the storm passes I ask you Lord, in shame That you return us better as you once dreamed us.***

**Alexis Valdes**

**Ref: <https://ceob.schoolzineplus.com/weekly-newsletter?nid=713>**

Ms Marlo Drake-Bemelmans

RE Curriculum & Faith Leader



# Head of Learning & Teaching



## Year 12s

Today, Year 12 students were reminded that they have just 21 weeks of formal classes remaining before moving into exam revision mode for those sitting exams. While this can feel confronting, it's also a great opportunity to set up a calendar that counts down the weeks — a simple but powerful tool to reduce stress during the busy months ahead. Remember, *this too shall pass* and the end goal is within reach!

I'm a strong believer in reducing "thinking" overload wherever possible, and having a physical calendar on the wall — clearly marking weekends, school holidays, and important due dates — is a practical way to stay organised and keep your mind clear and focused. You can easily print calendars for free from the internet and customise them to suit your needs.

### **Driving to school**

At the beginning of the year, Year 12 students were advised that once they successfully obtain their driver's licence, they must collect a form from the front office if they intend to drive to and from school. This form outlines important safety procedures and the responsibilities students must follow when driving.

### **Lunchtime Street Privileges**

A permission form has been sent to all Year 12 families to allow students to leave the school grounds during lunchtime. Students will not be permitted to leave until official consent has been received.

All families and students have also been provided with a copy of the rules regarding leaving the school grounds, which include: leaving only during lunchtime, no driving, demonstrating responsible and respectful behaviour, and checking in and out each time. I encourage families to have a conversation with their child about these expectations.

## Year 10s

A reminder that all Year 10 students should have organised their work experience placement for the week of June 30 to July 4. Mrs Knights has been in regular contact with students regarding this. Work experience is an invaluable opportunity for students to gain real-world experience, build connections, and explore potential career pathways. Additionally, Year 10s will be required to make significant decisions later in the year around VCE pathways and subject selections and work experience can help inform the decisions made.

### **Parent Teacher Interviews**

Parent-Teacher Interviews will be held on Thursday, May 8, from 1:00pm to 8:00pm in the Marian College Gym. This will be a student-free day; however, students are warmly encouraged to attend the interviews alongside their parents. Booking information can be found later in the newsletter.

**Please note that Mrs Christine Bulger will be unavailable for interviews.**

**Please note that although formal interview times cannot be booked for our Principal, Mrs Catherine Howison, parents will have the opportunity to meet with Mrs Howison throughout the afternoon.**

Parent-teacher interviews are a wonderful opportunity for families and teachers to work together to support each student's learning, growth, and wellbeing. They offer valuable time to celebrate progress, set goals, and address any challenges early in the year. We strongly encourage all parents and guardians to make the time to meet with their child's teachers. You are welcome to meet with as many or as few teachers as you feel necessary, depending on your child's needs.

Michelle Hogan

Head of Learning & Teaching

# Parent Teacher Interviews

## Pupil Free Day

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will be held on **Thursday 8th May, 2025**. This is an important opportunity to speak to teachers for direct feedback about your child's progress throughout this semester and discuss any issues that may have arisen. It is highly recommended that students attend. Details of the interviews follow:

- Interviews start at 1.00pm and the evening concludes at 8.00pm
- There will be a whole staff break at 5.30pm for 30 minutes.
- Interview times are a strict 8 minutes per subject.
  - If you have teachers who teach multiple classes with your child, **bookings will be limited to one interview timeslot for that teacher**. Similarly, if you have a need to discuss an issue in greater depth, please organize a separate meeting time.

Interviews can be booked through the **Parent Access Module (PAM)** from the College website.

Follow these instructions to make a booking.

- Log in to PAM using your current username and password.
- From your PAM homepage, Click on the Parent Teacher Interview Icon. This will open a page where you can make bookings for your child/children.
- Click on the child you wish to make a booking for, then select the subject. The times when that staff member is available will appear. Only available timeslots will appear.
- Click on a suitable time and select 'Book Interview'.
- Booked times will appear at the bottom of the page.
- Continue making bookings for subjects and teachers you wish to meet.
- You will be able to print off all bookings made using the print icon.

**PLEASE NOTE BOOKINGS WILL OPEN AT 9.00 AM TUESDAY 29TH MAY, 2025**

**BOOKINGS WILL CLOSE AT 10.00 AM WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY, 2025**

**Bookings may be cancelled and changed at any time. Please make cancellations as soon as possible to free up timeslots for others.**

If you require assistance please contact office staff who can make bookings on your behalf.



# STATIONS OF THE CROSS





# STATIONS OF THE CROSS







# ATHLETICS CARNIVAL





A new year and a new venue, the 2025 Marian College Athletics Carnival was held at the Gordon Street Sporting Precinct for the first time. We were blessed with a cool to mild, calm day under full sunshine. Favourable conditions and a new facility must have been the recipe for great results. A total of 19 Marian College records were broken, 10 in the boys events and 9 in the girls events. But, before records were broken, the Year 12 students, decked out in a variety of costumes and colours paraded their way down the athletics track for the final time of their schooling career.

Amazingly Darcy Venn set 4 x new records in the 15 years girls: Javelin, Shot Put, 200m and 100m.

Ruby Thomas set 2 x new records in the 14 years girls: Javelin and Triple Jump.

Sophie Birch jumped to the top of the 16 years girls High Jump.

Addi Lardner shot her way to the top in the 16 years girls Shot Put.

Danielle Armstrong ran her way clear in the 14 year girls 1500m.

An incredible 5 events have new records in the 13 years boys, thanks to Pat Harrington: 100m, 200m, 800m, Long Jump and High Jump.

Long distance specialist Bronson Potter set 2 x new records in the 16 years boys: 800m and 1500m.

Aiden Guerrero now holds the title in the 13 year boys Triple Jump.

Jack Bartlett competing in the 17 year boys completed 2 laps of the athletics track quicker than anyone before in the 800m.

The 16 year boys Barron 4 x 100m relay team consisting of Jude Bulger, Bronson Potter, Sylvan Day and Angok Kur now hold that team record.

The competition for the House Champion award was tightly contested between Kelly and Barron for most of the day, with Kelly holding their nose slightly in front throughout. Coming into the final group of events, the relays, it was here that Barron put their collective foot down to overrun Kelly and end the day 23.8 points clear. Congratulations to Barron House and its Captains Molly Walker-

Sutton and Nat Marshall who deservedly got to hold the shield aloft.

### **House placings and points:**

**1st - Barron 708.8 points**

**2nd - Kelly 685 points**

**3rd - Synnott 649 points**

**4th - Clancy 613.6 points**

### **Age Champions:**

**13 years girls - Kayla Van Straaten**

**13 years boys - Pat Harrington**

**14 years girls - Ruby Thomas**

**14 years boys - Ryder Belcher**

**15 years girls - Darcy Venn**

**15 years boys - Michael Segedinski**

**16 years girls - Nevani Woods and  
Addi Lardner**

**16 years boys - Jude Bulger**

**17 years girls - Aleara Madex**

**17 years boys - Sam Harrington**

**18 years girls - Bella Belcher and  
Nat Marshall**

**18 years boys - Brad Carter**

Congratulations to the above age group winners, but just as important to everyone that participated throughout the day to be actively involved and also help their respective Houses accumulate points.

A big thank you to all of the staff who helped set up the gazebos, co-ordinate and manage each event. Also to the students who assisted the teachers to help certain events run more efficiently. Finally to the Ararat Athletics Club who allowed Marian College to use some of its equipment.

Onto the Black Ranges stage now for our athletes.

Matt Walder

Sports Co-ordinator



# ATHLETICS CARNIVAL









# VM ANZAC GALLERY 304 DISPLAY





# FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

Hello everyone,

A very warm welcome to term 2. It promises to be a busy, yet fulfilling term with plenty of opportunities for learning and living out our theme of hospitality for 2025.

We held our athletics carnival in the last week of term 1. It was great to see so much participation from all of the students on the day. We had wonderful weather for the occasion and a new venue. Well done to Matt Walder as the primary driver of all that was required to organise the event. The Gordon St Oval facility worked well as a venue for school athletics. In addition to this, we also had our Cross Country in late term 1. Well done to all students.

Stations of the Cross was once again a very symbolic way to end the term as it always is. Well done to the Year 12 students and their RE teachers in the coordination of this. It is always such a powerful representation.

Year 11 & 12 students recently also held the formal. It was great to see you all in attendance and having such a positive night. Thanks to all the teachers who helped with supervision. And the food! It was amazing, thanks Jess!

In wellbeing classes in term 2, the focus will be on positive relationships. House Leaders and Wellbeing teachers will work closely with students on this topic as it can be challenging in an ever changing (and online) world.

It's early in the term and I encourage all students to ensure they are now in winter uniform at all times. Hats are no longer needed, yet encouraged on sunny days we may still experience.

Thanks.  
Nick Lloyd  
Synnott House Leader.



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# Winter Uniform

## Winter Uniform (Terms 2 and 3)

- Marian College skirt or approved navy slacks
- Pale blue short or long sleeved business shirt with Marian College logo
- V neck woollen jumper with Marian College logo
- Marian College tie (optional)
- Marian College grey school socks with blue stripes or navy tights (worn with skirt)
- Approved black lace up school shoes



**Winter slacks  
and jumper  
(tie is optional)**



**Winter skirt  
and jumper  
(tie is optional)**



## Optional Uniform items

- Rain jacket with Marian College logo
- Beanie with Marian College logo
- Scarf with Marian College logo



**Beanie**



**Scarf**



**Rain jacket**



# Winter Uniform

## Sports Uniform

- Marian College Rugby Top with Marian College logo.
- Marian College sports top
- Approved navy blue shorts with Marian College logo
- Approved navy blue track pants with Marian College logo
- Marian College grey school socks with blue stripes.
- Athletics shoes.



**Sports Polo**



**Sports Rugby Top**



**Socks**



**Track pants**

## Uniform Supplier

Foster's Mensland in Ararat and Stawell are the sole suppliers of the Marian College Ararat uniform.

# April 2025

| Monday                                                          | Tuesday                                            | Wednesday | Thursday     | Friday |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|--------|
| 28<br><b>STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 2</b><br><br>LEGACY SHRINE TRIP | 29<br><br>BLACK RANGES INTERMEDIATE GIRLS FOOTBALL | 30        | <b>MAY 1</b> | 2      |

# May 2025

| Monday              | Tuesday                                           | Wednesday                                 | Thursday                                                                                   | Friday |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 5                   | 6                                                 | 7                                         | 8<br><br>BLACK RANGES CROSS COUNTRY<br><br>PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS<br><br>PUPIL FREE DAY | 9      |
| <b>YEAR 10 CAMP</b> |                                                   |                                           |                                                                                            |        |
| 12                  | 13                                                | 14                                        | 15<br><br>ART MAKING & EXHIBITING EXCURSION                                                | 16     |
| 19                  | 20<br><br>BLACK RANGES INTERMEDIATE BOYS FOOTBALL | 21<br><br>YEAR 12 LEGAL STUDIES EXCURSION | 22                                                                                         | 23     |
|                     |                                                   |                                           | <b>OUTDOOR ED CAMP</b>                                                                     |        |