



# Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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Issue 13  
8th May, 2023

Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker

## Parent Teacher Interviews Pupil Free Day Wednesday 10th May

### Bookings through Parent Access Module

### Book Now - Bookings will close at 9.00 am Wednesday



# From the Principal's Office



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

❖ *We encourage excellence and perseverance in learning,*

❖ *We strive for continuous improvement*

## Prayer for the Month of May.

***May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you be confident knowing you are a child of God.***

First day back this term for the students gave us a wonderful opportunity to come together for an ANZAC Day service. This provided myself an opportunity to speak with the students about how we all can begin term two. I spoke with them about my hopes for a calm, consistent and well communicated start to the term. I believe that interactions between students and teachers, as well as students and students, when conducted in a calm and consistent manner generally lead to outcomes that are favorable for all. So far, I believe we as a school have been successful in this. My tenure as Acting Principal finishes at the end of next week with Mrs Barker's return from a well deserved break. My hope is that Mrs Barker arrives back to our school, that is calm with a focus on a consistent work ethic. Can I thank all members of our school community for their support and guidance over the past month.

It has been an absolute pleasure to see the school through a different lens and a broader sphere of what it takes to keep a school running.

## The Week that was.

### Year 11 Camp

Our Year 11's participated in their Melbourne Experience last Wednesday to Friday. From all accounts they had a wonderful time. Thank you to Mr Lloyd and the staff who went with them to make these types of worthwhile experiences possible for the students. There were some tired faces when they returned Friday!

### Cross Country

Last week saw our students participate in the Marian College Cross Country. This involves every student in the school and like any event takes some logistical organisation. Thank you to the students who participated and the staff out and about making sure they were safe. My understanding is that the top six from each year level progress through to Black Ranges.

## The Week ahead

### Principals meetings

I am away for three days this week attending Kildare Education and Diocesan Principals Meetings. As always there are people at the school should you feel the need to make contact. I will be available on Wednesday during Parent Teacher Interviews.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

As previously advertised, Parent Teacher Interviews are being held this Wednesday in the College Gym. Interviews begin

at 1pm and will conclude at 8pm. It is a student free day for all students. I do however highly encourage them to attend the interviews with their parents. Bookings can be made online.

### **Black Ranges Cross Country**

This week will see the successful students from Marian's Cross Country head to the Black Ranges Cross Country. All the best to those participating and supervising the students to allow this activity to happen.

### **Round 2 TA closing**

Round 2 TA reports will close this Friday. Hopefully all students will have had two TA interviews by this day. Round 3 interviews opened last week.

Matthew Summers  
Acting Principal



# Marian College

## **Information Evening for 2024 Enrolments**

Marian College will host an information evening on **Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 6:30 pm** commencing in the Marian College Gymnasium, Moore Street



### **Private Tours**

In addition to the Information Evening the College is open for private tours any time from 8:00 am to 6:00pm Monday to Friday. Please contact the College to make an appointment on 5352 3861

**Enquiries: 5352 3861 | Email: [principal@mcararat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@mcararat.catholic.edu.au)**



# IN MY WORDS *with Amber Bligh*

On July 8th 2005 here in Ararat, I was welcomed into this world by Joanne Collins and Jamie Bligh. I am the second-born granddaughter of Chris and Bob Collins, and the 3rd born granddaughter of Raelene and Greg.

When I was welcomed into this precious thing called life, clearly Mum and Dad weren't happy enough with only my big sister Abbie because they decided to have another. When I turned two, my parents decided it was time to go their separate ways but Mum has never allowed that to stop us from doing what we want to do in life. She takes over both those roles as well as all her amazing friends. It's like having 12 different mums. So, in my opinion, I love it!

Growing up I was all over the shop deciding what sport I wanted to do so I often switched between gymnastics and netball, then from about the age of 12-15, I was a part of the local fire brigade, which greatly brought me out of my comfort zone. Shaun Ralph always pushed us to be the best we could and helped us perform better. Towards the end of my experience with this group of people, I hurt my lower back quite badly. This was the end of my time with this group.

When I was 15 my dad remarried and he has given me an amazing step-mum and half-sister who sadly I don't get to see very often. My dad and step-mum have gone their separate ways now, but to me, Jaz and Taylah are a major blessing in my life and I couldn't think of anyone I would rather have around.

"What does your future look like?" "What are you going to do after school?" "What's the plan?" These are all things I







get asked each day and I am lucky to have somewhat of a plan. When I leave school I want to find an admin job for a year to spend time with my family and friends. Then I would like to travel all around Australia and once I get back I am hoping to take after my mother in the nursing industry and either work in aged care or even a midwife would be amazing.

Throughout my life, I have had my share of tough moments but each thing has shaped me into the person I am today. I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few certain people who have helped me through everything. First of all my Mum, who continues to go above and beyond, my Step-mum, Abbie, Narelle, Vonda, Tracey, Nanny Rae and Nanny Chris. But of course, my amazing group of friends for being the people I have always needed and for giving me a reason to get up each day, but also for showing me there's more to life than feeling sorry for yourself and that everyone deserves to be happy. I am lucky enough to have these people by my side each and every day so a big thank you. I would also love to acknowledge the amazing staff in VM - they have all pushed me to be the best possible version of myself and without the constant support they give me I say I wouldn't be where I am today. Every morning when I walk into the ALC they never fail to greet me with the biggest smile on their face.

I am overly proud to say that's me! I wish the class of 2023 all the best. To the rest of the school, enjoy every year as much as you can because it really does fly!! This is our last year of schooling so don't waste your time on the negative when there is so much positivity around you!! This is OUR year so make it count!!  
Amber xo





# IN MY WORDS

## *with Indi O'Callaghan*



On the 12th of July 2005 I was born at the Stawell Hospital to my parents Mark and Julie O'Callaghan. My older brother was born a few years before me on the 19th of April in 2003. He was the 'golden child', always slept and was a sweet little boy. Well - when I came along mum and dad weren't expecting me to be the complete opposite. I never slept and I was always doing something I shouldn't be, including vandalism and biting - sorry Nash!

Mum and Dad built our home in the Black Ranges in 2002. Growing up in the bush and with 38 acres of land has always been fun, we were always allowed to do whatever we wanted. Half the time mum had no idea what we were doing or where we even were, we've always had motorbikes and lots of cars. With there only being my brother and I, we have always had a close bond, even though we would at times fight. Mum and Dad always encouraged us to get along - Thank You!

I started my schooling journey at Cooinda Kindergarten, Stawell where I made some amazing memories with people I am still friends with till this day. I then moved onto Stawell 502 Primary School in 2011. Starting prep was definitely a big change but something I enjoyed. I loved going to school and seeing all my friends and socialising. Not long into prep I broke my femur. I was flown to the Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne where I spent a lot of time in the coming months having my family, friends and even some of the school teachers visit me, which made my day. I had to spend a few weeks in a cast that went from my chest down both legs to my ankles. Once I got the cast off I had to have surgery to put pins and rods in my leg to fix it. I then had to learn to walk again and I missed a lot of school.

Throughout my younger years my family and a few other families always went on a big holiday over the Christmas break. Mostly we went to Lake Fyans Caravan Park and made so many memories, we camped out there for three weeks. We were always behind the boat skiing, wakeboarding, kneeboarding or on the tube. All of us kids got along very well and were always getting into trouble.



Along with going away to Lake Fyans over the Christmas break we would also spend Christmas day and Boxing day out at Landsborough at my Dad's childhood home. We spent a lot of time out there with our cousins building tree houses, riding motorbikes and riding horses. I always loved going to Landsborough because Nana and Grand Pat lived on a farm so we could go see the cows and take the sheepdogs for a run alongside the car with Grand Pat.

When starting high school I had to make the decision on whether I wanted to go to Stawell Secondary or Marian College. My brother went to Stawell Secondary but in the end I decided to go to Marian as I was doing dance in Ararat. I started dancing when I was three and continued doing it right up until 2021. I loved doing dance while growing up. It was another place I could socialise.

I started my journey at Marian College in 2018. I was the only one coming from PS 502 but I knew people from dance so I was pretty comfortable starting at Marian. I have enjoyed my journey at Marian and have met so many amazing people along the way and have enjoyed playing as many school sports as I can. I started VCE VM in Year 11 and couldn't be happier with my choice. I've enjoyed doing VM. It has made me focus on my future and what it will be like when I leave school.

To all my fellow Year 12s I wish you all the best for the future and Year 12. There have been some ups and downs throughout the year but I am incredibly proud and grateful for everyone and I hope all goes well for everyone.

Thank you to all the teachers who have supported me throughout my years at Marian and a big thank you to the VM cohort who have pushed me and helped me so much the last couple of years. I have loved having the teachers down there (especially Wayne and Mrs Smith). Thank you to all the Year 12 students, it has been a pleasure going through high school with such a great year level.

I'd just like to say a massive thank you to mum and dad for everything. My mum and dad are my rock, you've done some much for me over the years and I can't thank you enough for what you've done for Nash and Indi.

- Indi xx



# K E L L Y



## NEWS

### FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

Welcome back Kelly Gang from the Easter break. Even though the weather was fairly average I thoroughly enjoyed catching up with my family. I hope you also enjoyed the break.

Prior to going on Holidays we had our Athletics Carnival on Tuesday the 4th of April. It was a beautiful Autumn day. I always find this day a pleasure because the students are enthused and we know the holidays are only a few days off. Congratulations to Synnott for winning the sports. Kelly House certainly came a close second.

#### Results

1st Synnott 704  
2nd Kelly 692  
3rd Barron 676  
4th Clancy 653

Two of our male students were successful in winning individual champions. Congratulations Sam Harrington (15 and Under) and I'm thinking you might just be a little faster than your dad. Let's hope you can break one of his records in the near future. And a BIG pat on the back to Jack Kuchel who was awarded the Under 16 champion. This young man is an all-rounder winning individual champion for both carnivals. He is just as good in water as he is on land. Well done lads.

On Wednesday we have Parent-Teacher-Interviews in our Gym. They will start at 1.00 finishing at 8.00 pm. It is a student free day. This will allow many students to catch up on work or study for SACs or tests. Please make the most of this opportunity. If parents/guardians would like to bring their child/ren along they are most welcome.

Our school production has just started rehearsals. Once again some of the talent has come from the Kelly Gang. Congratulations to the following students; Maiara Barry Goncalves as Morticia Addams, Ayden Linsley as Lucas Beineke and the Ancestors; Asher Dunks, Ava Hines, Zia Van Straaten, Elsa McConachy and Ishika Gautam. We wish them all the best.

Our Year 10 students need to get all their paperwork in for Work Experience by Friday. Mrs. Knights has returned to school and is available if you have any concerns. This is such a valuable opportunity and should be utilized by all Year 10 students.

Well, I think you can tell that winter is less than a month away. It certainly has gotten a lot colder over the past week. Please remember we are now in complete Winter uniform. You can purchase MC coats, scarfs and beanies for Fosters Mensland in both Ararat and Stawell. Keep warm.

Donna Spalding, Kelly House Leader



# Parent Teacher Interviews

## Pupil Free Day

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will be held on **Wednesday 10th May, 2023**. 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. **Please note that Mr Harricks and Ms Clarke will be unavailable for interviews.**

Follow these instructions to make a booking.

- From the College Website Homepage, click on the PAM icon.
- 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.

**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.

# BLACK RANGES INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL

On the 28th of April 4 teams of Marian College students travelled to Horsham to compete in the intermediate and senior girls football competition. Having such a large amount of girls keen to play was great to see and is very encouraging for the sport. Looking at the draw we saw that the day would kick off with our Year 12s versus our Year 11s plus our year 10s versus our Year 9s, battle of the year levels. Both teams fought hard across the 25 minute game, however the older year levels emerged victorious. Unfortunately, this was to be our only wins for the day with Horsham College, St Brigid's College and Holy Trinity Lutheran College having very strong teams that were difficult to score against.

Despite some wet and cold weather this was a great day for everyone involved, the girls' behaviour and attitude was great, representing the school superbly. All teams deserve some credit as they tried their hardest for the full length of each game, not giving up until the final whistle. A very exciting sign for next year's competition.

Robert Armstrong





# BLACK RANGES INTERMEDIATE & SENIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL



# LIFEGUARD COURSE



Date: Thursday 6 & Friday 7 July 2023

Time: 9:00am - 3:30pm  
(Times may vary)

Location: Ararat Fitness  
Centre



FOR MORE INFORMATION

[smadex@ararat.vic.gov.au](mailto:smadex@ararat.vic.gov.au)



**East Grampians Health Service  
Residents' Support Group**

# **MOVIE NIGHT**

**Thursday May 11**

## **Book Club**

**The Next Chapter**

### **Astor Cinema**

**6.30pm: Wine and Savouries  
7.30pm: Movie**

**Tickets: \$25 includes wine,  
savouries and door prize  
entry.**

**Tickets: CAS Footwear  
Barkly Street Ararat**

**Enquiries: Marlene: 0419 117 279**

# May/June 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	9	10 PUPIL FREE DAY PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS 1.00 pm - 8.00 pm	11 BLACK RANGES CROSS COUNTRY	12
15	16 YEAR 7 2024 INFORMATION EVENING	17	18 BLACK RANGES SENIOR NETBALL AND FOOTBALL	19 VCE CAREERS EXPO
22 BLACK RANGES ATHLETICS	23	24	25	26 BLACK RANGES INTERMEDIATE NETBALL AND FOOTBALL
29 GREATER WESTERN REGION CROSS COUNTRY  YEAR 11 VM SUSTAINABILITY EXCURSION	30 BLACK RANGES JUNIOR FOOTBALL & NETBALL	31	<b>JUNE 1</b>	2