



# Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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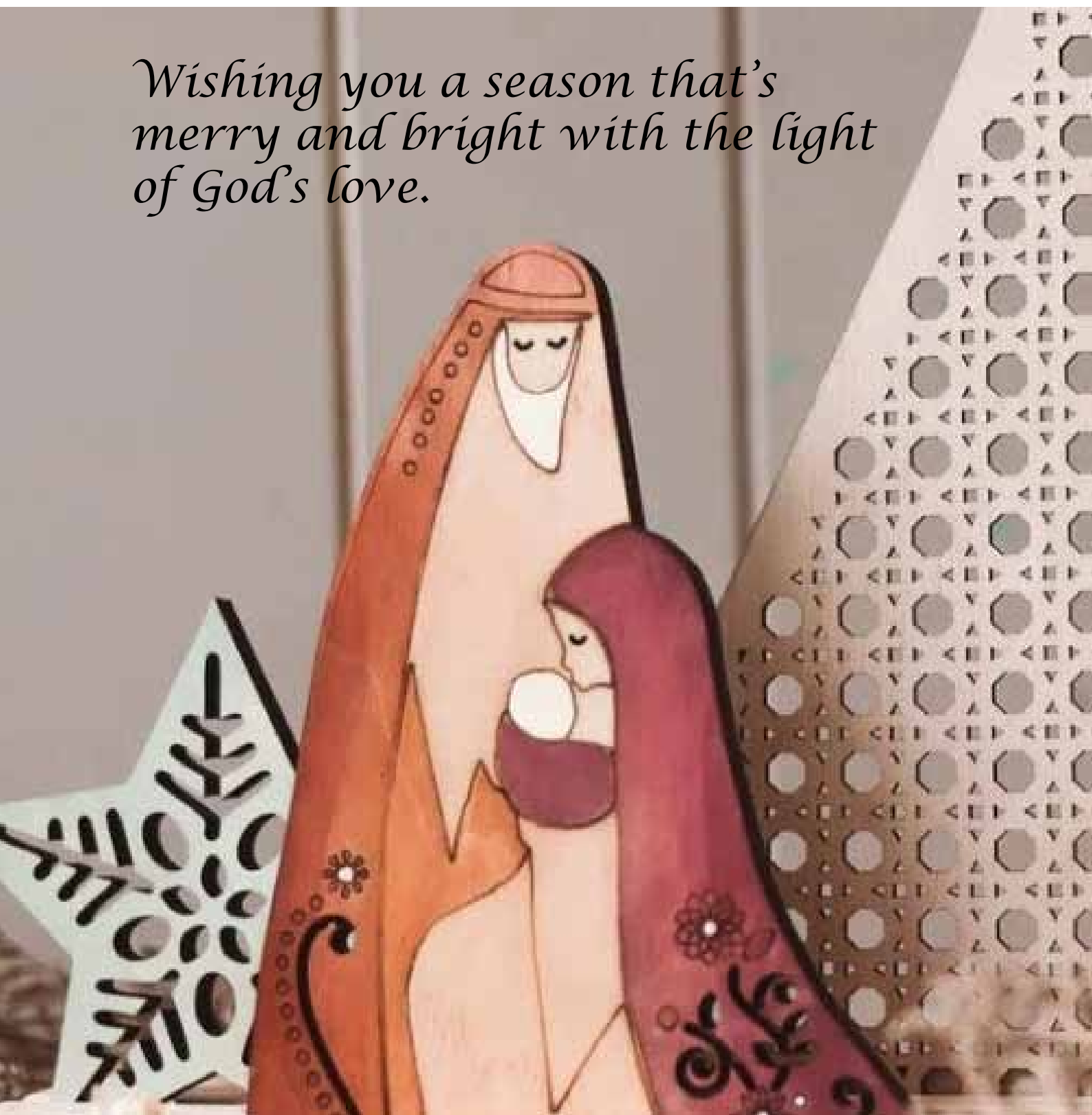


Issue 40

11th December, 2023

Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker

*Wishing you a season that's  
merry and bright with the light  
of God's love.*





# 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*

As we rapidly head into the Christmas break, we are constantly reminded of the busyness and joy of the final moments of the school year with each year level. 2023 has been an exciting year in many ways with difficult moments for us all at times, but especially for families who have lost loved ones over the last twelve months. We keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers at this time. We also pray for the many communities who will not have a peaceful Christmas in 2023. Having traveled to Israel and Palestine (including the Palestinian town of Bethlehem and the West Bank) just weeks before war broke out, I have seen first hand how quickly life can change for the wonderful people we met along the way. Moving from the Year of Courage to the Year of Hope for all Kildare Ministries schools in 2024 holds significant meaning in the current climate. We pray for peace across the world and in our families, and hope for better times ahead.

In the words of Nelson Mandela, "I am fundamentally an optimist. Whether that comes from nature or nurture, I cannot say. Part of being optimistic is keeping one's head pointed toward the sun, one's feet moving forward. There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair. That way lies defeat and death."

- Nelson Mandela, Long Walk to Freedom: Autobiography.

***O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity. Awaken in their hearts, love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Join them all together in your love. And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.***

Pope John XXIII

## **Awards Night**

As Principal, I am very proud of our young people at Marian College. It is my privilege to hear first hand the many great stories of how well our students work with and for the community. They are to be congratulated for all their achievements, the strong collegiality that exists here at the College between students and staff, and for the generosity and care we witness every day.

We also thank all our parents for your on-going partnership with Marian College. We know it is a shared journey

we navigate - sometimes holding the boundaries at other times encouraging our young people to fly when they need that extra push.

Parents, you have shared those moments of confusion for the young, of uncertainty, provided a listening ear or shoulder... and experienced the joys and great pride we feel for our young people.

Congratulations to all our award recipients on Monday night at our annual Marian College Award Ceremony. Well done to the many other students whose efforts and achievement cannot be recognised in this way. You should be very proud of your efforts and engagement throughout the year. Thanks especially to our sponsors who continue to recognise and support our students.

### **Gap Day**

Again, it was a brilliant day at Halls Gap on Friday for the Years 7 and 8 end of year celebration. We could not have been more proud of the way the students enjoyed the day together in friendship. Congratulations on the great year to all our students. Enjoy your well earned break and stay safe until we see you again in January.

### **Induction Day Year 7, 2024.**

On Tuesday we welcomed our Year 7 students, 2024 to the College for Induction Day. The excitement and joy on the day was evident throughout all aspects of the school day. Thank you to all staff involved and to the primary schools who helped ensure this important day was possible. We look forward to welcoming parents and students in the new year.

### **Student Leadership Retreat**

Our 2024 School Captains recently participated in the Kildare Ministries Student Leadership Retreat at

Balnarring. Jaylen Stephens and Elijah Dunks joined student leaders from all of our Kildare schools to reflect upon the call to leadership and what matters.

A huge thank you to Mrs Waterson for her support for this important event and to our new College Captains - Jaylen and Elijah.

### **Just off the Press - Impressive Effort from Year 12 Students**

Congratulations to our Year 12 cohort and Year 11 Students completing a Unit 3 and 4 on the excellent VCE results once again. In a year of difficulties and loss, we could not be more proud of their resilience and efforts to achieve impressive results. Congratulations to College Dux Riana Drendel on an impressive ATAR score of 95.25. To Riana and all our students, well done and congratulations.

Merry Christmas. Have a wonderful break. We look forward to working with you in 2024, Carmel

### **MARIAN COLLEGE CONGRATULATES COLLEGE DUX RIANA DRENDEL**





# AWARDS EVENING



# SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Martha Haylett's Award for Courage - Eleanor Sladdin**

**Ararat Charitable Trust Scholarship - Tanner Zubricky**

**Ararat Legacy Bursary Award - Maggie Croft**

**Ararat Community Enterprise - Chinese Heritage Award - Amber Mayes**

**Stewardship Award - Darcy Venn**

**St Brigid's Award - Year 7 - Jasmine Conboy**

**St Brigid's Award - Year 8 - Eve Jones**

**St Brigid's Award -Year 9 - Isobel Leggett**

**Kildare Ministries Award -Wyatt Tunstall**

**ADF Future Innovators Award - Penelope Bulger**

**Rotary Club of Ararat - Ken Hollingsworth Award - James Raatz**

**Ballarat Diocese Student Bursary Award - Lucy Grayling**

**Gason Award - Jai Smith**

**Gason Award - Charlie Price**

**GWM Water Award - William Edgar**

**Hansen Design and Print Graphic Design Award - Isobel Erkelens**

**Ararat Lions Club Award - Jaxsen Finch**

**Ararat Lions Club Award - Caleb Summers**

**Ararat Catholic Women's League Bursary - Bella Finlay**

**Ararat Community Enterprise Award - Penelope Bulger**

**Stawell Lions Club Award - Jai Smith**

**Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholar - Molly Walker-Sutton**

**St Brigid's Award -Year 10 - Cooper Evans**

**St Brigid's Award - Year 11 - Emma Smith**





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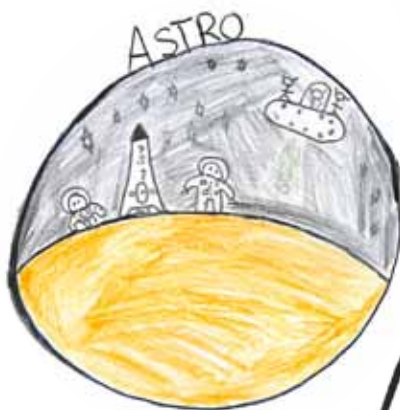
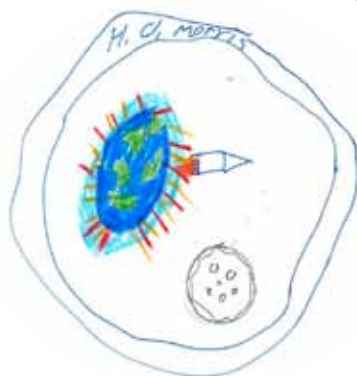
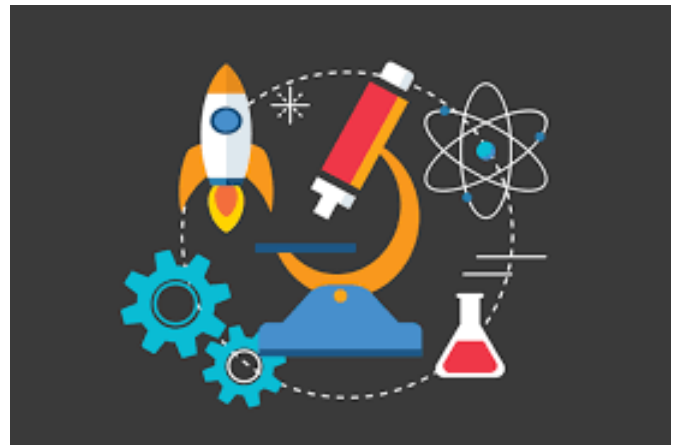




# YEAR 8 SCIENCE

This term, Year 8 students have been conducting an experimental investigation into pop-rock rocket design and launch. The students have explored principles of ideal fuel ratios, simple aerodynamics and chemical reactions. They have been encouraged to solve problems in novel ways and have learnt valuable lessons about conducting fair tests and other experiment design principles. Some students designed their own Mission Patches, capturing their creative spirits and inquiring minds.

Alexandra Abela

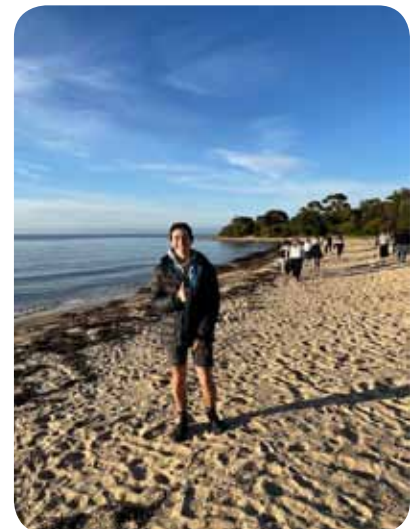




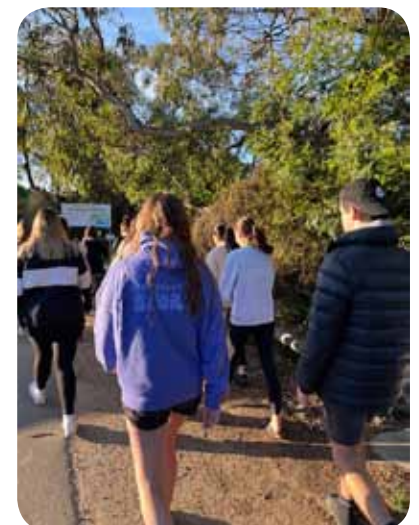
# LEADERSHIP RETREAT BALNARRING

Our 2024 School Captains recently participated in the Kildare Ministries Student Leadership Retreat at Balnarring. Jaylen Stephens and Elijah Dunks joined student leaders from all of our Kildare schools to reflect upon the call to leadership and what matters. We heard from guest speakers Laura Johns - a former Kilbreda school captain, currently working as a Human Rights Lawyer, and Paul Salmon, a motivational speaker from the Resilience Project. The student group was inspirational. They talked, presented ideas, planned, networked and did some volunteer. It was a wonderful camp.

Tanya Waterson  
Social Justice Co-ordinator



**Elijah and Jaylen  
presenting their ideas at  
the retreat.**

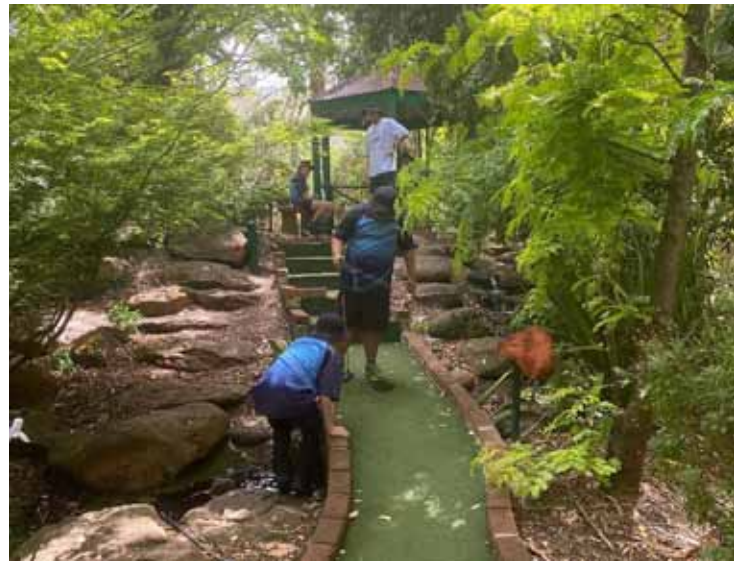




# GAP DAY







# January/February 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29	30 YEAR 7 & 12 STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 1	31 YEARS 8, 9 10 & 11 STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 1	FEBRUARY 1	2
YEAR 12 RETREAT				

## February 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	6 YEAR 7 PARENT MEET TA & CYBER SAFETY EVENING	7	8	9



Please note that the school Office opens at 9.00 am  
on Tuesday 23rd January 2024