



# Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

304 Barkly Street, ARARAT VIC 3377

Phone (03) 5352 3861

Email: [principal@mcararat.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@mcararat.catholic.edu.au)

Web: [www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au](http://www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au)



Issue 6  
6th March, 2023

Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker

## BLACK RANGES SWIMMING

- page 15

## IN MY WORDS

- pages 4 - 7

## LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR - page 8

## YEAR 11 & 12 PARENT/TA MEETINGS - page 11

## NAPLAN - pages 12 - 13



# From the Business Manager



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

❖ *We encourage excellence and perseverance in learning,*

❖ *We strive for continuous improvement*

***Spirit of God, you are the spirit of all truth. Open our minds and hearts to the truth you speak through the scripture, your church and in our conscience so that we may choose what is right and good. We are often pressured and confused and it is difficult to decide which direction to take. Give us the courage and wisdom to be faithful to you and to ourselves.***

***Guide the motives of our hearts so that we will always treat others as we would like to be treated. We pray for courage to choose what is truthful and right even when it means we may lose our popularity. Make us bearers of your peace: may we grow in openness and tolerance to each other. Help us to give the gospel an important place in making our life decisions.***

## **The Value of Camps**

2023 has been busy with many activities beyond the walls of the school including camps and retreats. Year 12 students enjoyed time at Cave Hill Creek while Year 7 students explored the shores of Lorne and Years 8 and 9 students will be going to camp before the end of Term 1. There is significant effort that goes into planning and organizing great camps as well as the huge commitment of our staff to be away from their own homes and families to attend camp.

So what makes all this effort so worthwhile?

One of the most significant benefits of camp is the opportunity for both students and teachers to establish and grow great relationships. Through participating in fun, challenging and new experiences together, bonds of friendship are forged that last well

beyond the time at camp. These relationships enable each student to be more part of the Marian community.

Along with the importance of the educational fundamentals of reading and writing, we are endeavouring to enable each child to be well equipped for a world that requires a very diverse range of skills and abilities. Through engaging students, often working in teams, in a variety of new and challenging activities, camps provide a great learning environment to build students capabilities in a range of personal skills and behaviors. These include being more able to problem solve, working in teams effectively, increasing personal resilience and independence, and overcoming fears and challenges.

More than ever after the years of Covid 19 lockdowns we are observing an increased need for students to have opportunities and experiences like camps that enable them to build relationships and grow their skills.

Thanks to all the teachers, families and students for the effort you are making to ensure we continue to be able to enjoy wonderful camps at Marian College.

## **Other Events and Excursions**

Congratulations to the Marian College students who participated in the Black Ranges Region swimming carnival last Monday. These students had excelled at our own swimming sports and earned themselves a place at the next level of competition.

Years 11 and 12 students Art making and Exhibiting travelled to Ballarat and Melbourne on Friday to visit galleries. This important excursion assists these students to consider the context within which each artist created their work and how this influenced

the finished artworks. Students explored how selected artists have used materials, techniques and processes to make their artworks. Thank you to Mrs Venn and Mr Dickinson for organising and attending this event.

For students to attend camps, excursions and sporting events it is important that Parents/Carers give permission to attend. Permission is sought via the Parent Access Module (PAM). The College also asks that if there are any changes to your child's medical details please update them on PAM. Please contact our wonderful team in the main office to advise of any updated contact details (changes to email address, phone numbers etc.)

A reminder that you can now enter your child's absence via PAM. These entries should be completed by 9.00 am.

### **Lions Youth of the Year**

The Lions Youth of the Year program has a proud history in encouraging and fostering leadership skills in Australian students approaching the end of their high school years.

By emphasising qualities like contribution to the community and school, public speaking, academic skills, sporting and cultural involvement, Youth of the Year aims to bring forth the next generation of outstanding young Australians.

Congratulations to Haylee Sobey who competed in the Lions Youth of the Year Western district final on Sunday in Hamilton against students from a number of districts. This involves a thirty to forty minutes interview in front of a panel, two impromptu questions and a five minute speech. A huge thank you to Mrs Mansell who supported Haylee with this competition. While Haylee does not move onto the next round she performed brilliantly.

### **Bus Behaviour**

A reminder to all students the importance of appropriate behaviour while travelling on school buses to and from school or while going on excursions. Students need to be respectful of the driver and the other students on the bus. Students must remain seated at all times, use a standard conversational tone, not use offensive

language, do not throw any items out of the bus window and not leave any rubbish on the bus. Any misbehaviour or vandalism will be reported to the College. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/guardians that we have a code of conduct for bus travel signed by the students and their parent /guardians. A copy of this can be found on the College Website <https://www.mcararat.catholic.edu.au/uploads/2022-Bus-Information.pdf>

### **New Staff**

This week we warmly welcome our new staff member Mr. Mark Rodney. Mark will be teaching in the Humanities area and comes to us with extensive experience.

### **Marian College New Resource Centre**

The College has been successful in gaining funding to assist in the building of a new Resource Centre. This is a very exciting project where the College will see the addition of three new classrooms, a new library and IT area. This building is stage 1 of the Master Plan that has been developed over the last 18 months. We are currently working with the architects in final design of the new centre. We hope we will be ready to start the building early in 2024. Stage 1B of the Master Plan is to demolish the classrooms currently used in the UH wing of the College which are no longer fit for purpose and require significant upgrades. This will allow the College to create a courtyard and additional shade/ shelter and seating areas for our students.

### **School Fees**

In the next week you will receive your statement for College fees for 2023. If you would like to have your fees put on a payment plan of a weekly, monthly or by term payment direct debited out of your accounts please contact our friendly person in accounts payable to assist you in setting this up.

*"Have the courage to say no. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys to living your life with integrity."*

— W. Clement Stone

Leonie McGuckian

# IN MY WORDS *with Eliza Parker*

## *Barron House Leader*



On December 8th 2005, my two beautiful parents, Anthony and Sarah Parker welcomed their first child, a quiet, tranquil baby girl, Eliza Annie, at Stawell Regional Health. I was the first of three children, and I am sure it is fair to say that I was my family's centre of attention until early 2008, when my younger, outgoing sister Bella was born, and then a few years later at the beginning of 2013 when my baby brother Ethan was born. I was welcomed into a loving, family-oriented environment, so being the big sister has always been a huge part of my identity, and as much as I love being the controlling, older role model to my siblings, they are my bestest friends.

I have lived in the little town of Stawell my whole life, and as boring as many know it can be, it will always be my favourite home, the home that holds the most memorable

moments of my life and where I met my very first friends from my Mum's group.

Kindergarten, at Marrang Early Learning Centre, was the most carefree period of my life and was where I met the majority of my childhood friends who are still a major part of my life to this day. 2011 was the year I began my primary school experience at Stawell West, until 2014 when I commenced the remainder of my primary years at St Patrick's Primary. I was always a reserved, and timid student, so the move to a new school where I knew nobody was one of the biggest challenges I faced at the time, and I am forever grateful for my friends who made my experience the most enjoyable. In my final year, I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to represent St Pats as one of their School Captains, and let's just say, that boosted my confidence more than you could imagine.



And then came the most daunting moment of my schooling experience, the big start at High School.

Marian College is where I am now, and I have been here since the very beginning. My high school experience has always been different from the way I had predicted it to be as a kid. I always imagined it would be like it was in the movies, so I wasn't prepared for the many ups and downs I would encounter. One of the hardest experiences thrown at me was the loss of many courageous women who I looked up to the most in life, my dearest Nanna and Gran, as it has largely influenced my most memorable years at Marian. I have also been lucky enough to endure some of the most special friendships over the years that I will cherish for the rest of time. So for my past but in particular current friends, I cannot thank you enough for contributing to the person I am today.

I have had many hobbies throughout my life, tennis, swimming, and calisthenics, but the one sport that I have always loved is netball. I have played at the Stawell Swifts for over 8 years and they are like a second family to me. Lastly, I am incredibly grateful in particular for my parents and my nan and pop, as without their ongoing love and support I wouldn't have made it through the worst of worsts, and the best of bests.

At this very moment I am still not 100% set on what I would like to do with my life, but

I have always been interested in the nursing and midwifery field and am hoping to pursue study in that area.

And now for my thank you's -

To Marian College - Thank you for being my second home for the last 5 years and for teaching me the most important lessons in life. And also the biggest thank you to my teachers and TA teachers over the years for offering me constant guidance and support.

To the rest of the Year 12s - I wish you all the best for the challenges that come about from the scary thing called life. I couldn't have asked for a better cohort to conclude my schooling with :))



# IN MY WORDS *with Hayley Manning* *Barron House Leader*



21st of February 2006 I was born in the Ballarat Base Hospital alongside my twin brother Jack, which completed my family of six with me being the middle child to my two older siblings Patrick and Emily. There have been many jokes made about who was the mistake of the family and it always seemed to be Jack, being the youngest of the family with me being 2 minutes older than him. Being a twin always came as the biggest surprise to people when they found out, but to me, it felt normal with times I actually did forget I was one. And no I do not have twin telepathy to answer the many people who have asked me. Growing up I was a very curious kid always needing to be somewhere I shouldn't be, I have definitely gotten my life's worth of injuries and

am very surprised I haven't broken more bones than I have today.

I started my schooling journey at Jack and Jill Kindergarten where I met some of my friends that I still have to this day. I then attended Ararat 800 which is popularly known for its circus subject which I was a part of for many years with the best teacher who taught me many valuable lessons which I still hold close to myself today. Although up until the start of Year 7, I really don't remember much from my younger years but I do vividly remember the first day of Year 7 feeling scared and mostly lost, and today it is quite the opposite, and still hasn't kicked in that I am in Year 12. I have been asked many times what my plan is for the future and surprisingly

I actually have one, because if you know me I am not the person to be organised and on top of things. I do have the plan to go to uni and follow in my Mum's footsteps of working in the medical field but a bit different to her because I want to be a paramedic. I am still undecided whether I want to take a gap year but hopefully I will have decided by the end of the year.

One of my biggest passions I can't wait to pursue after school is travelling although I have not yet been overseas. I can't wait until the opportunity comes. At the top of my bucket list is Greece and Venice. I have many plans to go with friends and explore the world's beauty and other significant places. Over the years I have been lucky enough to go on many



family trips; to Ayers Rock, Gold Coast, Sydney twice, the Big Desert and many camping trips with family and friends. My favourite place that I've visited was Dalhousie Springs which was during the trip to Ayers Rock. A favourite memory of mine was learning to ski which I picked up quite easily but getting off ski lifts was quite the opposite. I never really learnt how to get off them

which resulted in them hitting me a lot of the time and let me tell you it hurt a lot.

I wanted to say thank you to my teachers along this journey for making school bearable and for the support and advice I have been given and definitely more to come during this year. To my family who has been with me every step of the way reminding me to aim high for what I want

to achieve and teaching me the many life lessons that I will carry with me forever.

To my Year 12 cohort, for the 6 years we have all been together thank you for everything. Let's end it on high and I wish the best of luck to you all for the future.

Thank you,  
Hayley Manning



# *2023 Lions Youth of the Year - Multi-Zone Final*

Congratulations to Haylee Sobey who represented Marian College in the 2023 Lions Youth of the Year Multi-Zone final on Sunday 26th February in Hamilton.

Haylee certainly has embraced the school's value of courage during this competition by stepping outside her comfort zone to participate in this competition. She has twice participated in an interview, presented two impromptu speeches and a prepared speech; once with the Ararat Lions Club (which she won), and again at the Multi-zone Final. Haylee is to be commended for her perseverance and dedication to achieving her personal best in what is a very tough competition.

Students in Years 10 and 11 in 2023 are encouraged to consider entering the 2024 Lions Youth of the Year Competition which will commence in Term 4, 2023.



The competition helps students develop valuable leadership and interpersonal skills which are highly valued by the College and employers. For more information about this annual competition please contact or direct students to see Mrs Mansell, Culture and Languages Domain Leader.

Stephanie Mansell  
Culture and Language Domain Leader

## FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers and the Marian College Community,

I'd like to take this opportunity to express a very warm welcome to everyone for the 2023 school year. It promises to be a fulfilling and exciting year of learning here at Marian College. This will be my 9th year in the role as Head of Synnott and I really enjoy working with all of the students and staff within the community.

A special welcome to all our new Year 7 students. I trust your transition into the College has been a smooth one. I will take the chance in this article to remind us all that the symbol for Synnott is the Lamp of Learning. Students should use this as a symbol of why we are here and why we have a strong sense of belonging here at Marian College. We want to always be striving to do our best, especially when faced with challenges.

There are endless opportunities for students to be involved in many aspects of school life, both academic and extra-curricular and this will be obvious to students in Synnott as we progress into the school year. One of those events was held a few weeks ago, our swimming carnival. It was a fun day had by all.

Can I use this opportunity to let all parents and guardians know that each student has a Teacher Advisor. A teacher who they will see every day, to start the day. The TA teacher is an excellent person to get in contact with should you have any issues that you would like to discuss.

Once again, I am very much looking forward to the year. You shall hear from me again soon in our ongoing newsletter articles.

Cheers,  
Nick Lloyd





# *From the Head of Learning & Teaching*



## **VCE School Based Assessment. (SAC's)**

To satisfactorily complete a Senior School Certificate students must complete SAC's under supervision at school to authenticate that the work completed is their own.

The school understands that on occasions this is not always possible due to unforeseen circumstances or activities that take place that make it difficult for a student to complete the task on the date scheduled.

If a student knows that they will be absent (in advance) they must negotiate an alternative date with their subject teacher. In certain circumstances the school reserves the right to refuse the request.

If a student is absent from school on the day of the task (without reason) a medical certificate or statutory declaration is required so that an alternate date can be arranged for the student to complete the task.

Matthew Summers  
Head of Learning and Teaching



## YEAR 11 & 12 PARENT/STUDENT/ TEACHER ADVISOR MEETINGS

### TUESDAY 14TH MARCH, 2023

The purpose of these discussions is for parents and our senior students to meet with their TA teachers to discuss their progress and raise any concerns, issues or questions they may have. This is a worthwhile opportunity for you to explore options for your student and discuss how they are currently progressing.

Bookings for these conversations with the TA teacher are available through the Parent Access Module. They will be conducted in person.

The format for the evening is as follows:

3.30pm – 4.30pm	Individual bookings for TA interviews. Parent/Student/TA Teacher. 10 minute interviews will be conducted in person in your child's TA Homeroom
-----------------	--

### BOOKINGS ARE OPEN



# NAPLAN

## Information for parents and carers

# 2023

### Why do students do NAPLAN?

NAPLAN is a national literacy and numeracy assessment that students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit each year. It is the only national assessment all Australian students have the opportunity to undertake.

As students progress through their school years, it's important to check how well they are learning the essential skills of reading, writing and numeracy.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through the school curriculum and allows parents/carers to see how their child is progressing against national standards and over time.

NAPLAN is just one aspect of a school's assessment and reporting process. It doesn't replace ongoing assessments made by teachers about student performance, but it can provide teachers with additional information about students' educational progress.

NAPLAN also provides schools, education authorities and governments with information about how education programs are working and whether young Australians are achieving important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy.

### Your child will do the NAPLAN tests online

Schools have transitioned from paper-based to computer-based assessments. All Year 3 students will continue to complete the writing assessment on paper.

Online NAPLAN tests provide more precise results and are more engaging for students. One of the main benefits is tailored (or adaptive) testing, where the test presents questions which may be more or less difficult depending on a student's responses.

Tailored testing allows a wider range of student abilities to be assessed and measures student achievement more precisely. A student's overall NAPLAN result is based on both the number and complexity of questions they answer correctly. Your child should not be concerned if they find questions challenging; they may be taking a more complex test pathway.

### What does NAPLAN assess?

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students are learning through their regular school curriculum.

Students sit assessments in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The questions assess content linked to the Australian Curriculum: English and Mathematics.

All government and non-government education authorities contribute to the development of NAPLAN test materials.

To find out more about NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au](https://nap.edu.au).

### Participation in NAPLAN

NAPLAN is for everyone. ACARA supports inclusive testing so all students have the opportunity to participate in the national assessment program.

Adjustments are available for students with disability who have diverse functional abilities and needs.

Schools should work with parents/carers and students to identify, on a case-by-case basis, reasonable adjustments required for individual students with disability to access NAPLAN. Adjustments should reflect the support normally provided for classroom assessments.

To help inform these decisions, you may consult the [NAPLAN public demonstration site](#), the [Guide for schools to assist students with disability to access NAPLAN](#), or our [series of videos](#) where parents/carers, teachers and students share their experiences in using NAPLAN adjustments.

In exceptional circumstances, a student with a disability that severely limits their capacity to participate in the assessment, or a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background, may be granted a formal exemption.

Your school principal and your local test administration authority can give you more information on adjustments for students with disability or the process required to gain a formal exemption.

## What if my child is absent from school on NAPLAN days?

Where possible, schools may arrange for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the school's test schedule.

## What if my school is closed on NAPLAN days?

Schools with compelling reasons may be given permission to schedule tests after the 9-day test window.

## What can I do to support my child?

Students are not expected to study for NAPLAN. You can support your child by reassuring them that NAPLAN is a part of their school program and reminding them to simply do their best. Some familiarisation and explanation of NAPLAN is useful to help students understand and be comfortable with the format of the tests. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the types of questions in the tests and will provide appropriate support and guidance.

ACARA does not recommend excessive preparation for NAPLAN or the use of services by coaching providers.

See the types of questions and tools available in the online NAPLAN assessments at [nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site](https://nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site).

## NAPLAN timetable

The NAPLAN test window is 9 days. This is to accommodate schools that may have fewer devices.

The NAPLAN test window starts on Wednesday 15 March and finishes on Monday 27 March 2023. Schools are advised to schedule the tests as soon as possible within the testing window, prioritising the first week.

## How is my child's performance reported?

Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each assessment. This scale indicates whether the student is meeting expectations for the literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level.

A NAPLAN individual student report will be provided by your child's school later in the year. If you do not receive a report, you should contact your child's school.

## How are NAPLAN results used?

- Students and parents/carers may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help identify students who need greater challenges or extra support.
- Schools use results to identify strengths and areas of need to improve teaching programs, and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review the effectiveness of programs and support offered to schools.
- The community can see information about the performance of schools over time at [myschool.edu.au](https://myschool.edu.au).

## Where can I get more information?

For more information about NAPLAN:

- contact your child's school
- contact your local test administration authority at [nap.edu.au/TAA](https://nap.edu.au/TAA)
- visit [nap.edu.au](https://nap.edu.au)

To learn how ACARA handles personal information for NAPLAN, visit [nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy](https://nap.edu.au/naplan/privacy).

Test	Scheduling requirements	Duration	Test description
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 3 students do the writing test on paper (on day 1 only)</li><li>• Years 5, 7 and 9 writing must start on day 1 (schools must prioritise completion of writing across days 1 and 2 only, with day 2 only used where there are technical/logistical limitations)</li></ul>	Year 3: 40 min Year 5: 42 min Year 7: 42 min Year 9: 42 min	Students are provided with a 'writing stimulus' (sometimes called a 'prompt' – an idea or topic) and asked to write a response in a particular genre (narrative or persuasive writing)
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be completed after the writing test</li><li>• To be completed before the conventions of language test</li></ul>	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Students read a range of informative, imaginative and persuasive texts and then answer related questions
Conventions of language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be completed after the reading test</li></ul>	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 45 min Year 7: 45 min Year 9: 45 min	Assesses spelling, grammar and punctuation
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be completed after the conventions of language test</li></ul>	Year 3: 45 min Year 5: 50 min Year 7: 65 min Year 9: 65 min	Assesses number and algebra, measurement and geometry, and statistics and probability



Marian College is excited to announce that this year's production is a story based on a family that has lasted through generations and generations: The Addams Family! Written by Marshall Brickman, Rick Elice, Andrew Lippa, based on the characters created by Charles Addams.

The production follows the story of the Addams family in their natural habitat (the Addams household and the graveyard) when all of a sudden, Wednesday Addams falls in love with Lucas Beinkke, a 'normal boy from Ohio'. Deep in love, they set a meeting for both families to meet over dinner at the Addams household.

Pugsley Addams, unapproving of this new found relationship and the loss of his sister to the 'normal' lifestyle, plans on sabotaging the dinner to separate the two families. Chaos in the dinner party, how will Wednesday and Lucas unite the Addams and the Beinkkes together harmoniously? Find out at our shows set for August 17, 18, and 19!

Auditions have begun and will continue to be open for THIS WEEK (6-10th March). You can sign up for auditions by joining our Google Classroom (code: popjpi5) and putting your name down in the Audition Timesheet.

Rehearsals will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays afterschool from 3:30-5pm, and Sunday rehearsals will commence in Term 2, going from 10am-4pm.

Come join the musical family, perform with friends, and have an amazing time with lots of laughs and soup!

Mr Bas Otto



# BLACK RANGES SWIMMING

Marian College are the champions of Black Ranges Swimming once again!! Beating Stawell College by just over 100 points to reclaim the title. We took a strong team of swimmers up to Horsham and saw a number of excellent swims across the day! There were a number of individual winners across the day but it was the relays where Marian really started to dominate. There were 3 medley relay team wins and then heaps of freestyle relay wins. Everyone who swam represented Marian College exceptionally well throughout the day.

A huge congratulations to Navasha Madex who was awarded the overall female champion for the day!!

Michael Harricks  
Head of sport



# Open to Public

**Rotary**  
District 9780



  
**IMAGINE  
ROTARY**



## **PRESENTS JELENA DOKIC & JOHN MARSDEN**



Join us to hear their stories &  
response to the theme –  
**Imagine.**

Book signing available.

Saturday March 25

1pm – 3.30pm

Mercure, Ballarat

Tickets \$35

Scan to book:



Funds raised  
for WRISC



Proudly supported by  
our Platinum Sponsors



**The Courier**

# NAVY OPEN DAY



## JOIN US AT THE HMAS CERBERUS NAVY OPEN DAY

Live a story worth telling in a career where travel, mateship, and unique experiences are all part of the package. At our Navy Open Day, you'll learn all about our exciting Navy careers, each packed with moments that'll stick with you for life.

Making a difference in the world starts with one small step, so book in to start your next story.

**DATE** Sunday 19 March 2023

**TIME** 10am - 4pm

**LOCATION** HMAS Cerberus, Main Entrance, Wilson Avenue, VIC, 3920

**RSVP** To register your attendance please head to [defencejobs.gov.au/events](https://defencejobs.gov.au/events)

**CALL** 13 19 01 OR

**VISIT** [NAVY.DEFENCE.JOBS.GOV.AU](https://NAVY.DEFENCE.JOBS.GOV.AU)



# March 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6	7	8 VCE PHYSICS & METHODS EXCURSION	9	10
13 LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	14 GWR SWIMMING  YEAR 11 & 12 PARENT TA MEETINGS	15	16	17
		NAPLAN YEARS 7 & 9		
		YEAR 8 CAMP		
20	21	22	23 SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR	24 SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR
		OUTDOOR EDUCATION CAMP		
NAPLAN YEARS 7 & 9				
27	28	29	30	31 VCE TOP DESIGNS EXCURSION
		YEAR 9 CAMP		