



Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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Issue 8

21st March, 2022

Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker



YEAR 8 RETREAT

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From the Head of Organisation & Student Pathways



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

❖ *We encourage excellence and perseverance in learning,*

❖ *We strive for continuous improvement*

Help me O God, because like everyone else, I need your daily grace. Yesterday's blessings can encourage but will not take care of the burdens of today.

May I know You as the Shepherd of my life and eternal soul. May my fears be dissolved by faith in You and through the power of Your love.

Help me to love and manifest the spirit of love under all circumstances to all people. May my life be a glory to You, a help to my fellow-man, and rewarding to me.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Week 8, Term 1

As we near the end of the term, it can be a time of reflection. This can bring about a sense of celebration as we recognize that there is so much that has been accomplished and also much to be grateful for. It can also be a time for us to make some changes if some things aren't going so well. The Year 8 Retreat held at Camp Wilkin in Anglesea has been a big success and a chance for these students to bond closer together and to reflect on their own pathways. A camp is always a good time for students to have a think about where they are and where they

are heading in life. The Year 8 Retreat has fostered that reflection and we hope encouraged them to make some changes where they can.

We are looking forward to the Athletics Carnival to be held at the Alexandra Oval on Tuesday 5th April. At this stage, parents are welcome to attend but will need to be located separately to students.

The Year 7 Community Catch-up will be held on Wednesday 30th March in the Brigidine Centre and we are looking forward to meeting all the parents! Please come along! There are more details in this newsletter so please keep reading to find out more.

We have had several groups of students heading off to diverse sporting events over the past few weeks. One of the more recent sporting activities was our senior students who went to the Greater Western Region Golf event on Tuesday and headed down to the Port Fairy Golf Course. We have some students attending White Card training next week in readiness for their Year 10 Work Experience week coming up. Any student wanting to work in the construction industry must have a White Card.

Each year Marian College joins with the Caritas Australia organisation (see their website for more details <https://www.caritas.org.au/>) to raise funds for overseas aid. As the international aid and development agency of the Australian Catholic Church, they are driven by social justice and the dignity of every person.

They work with local communities in Australia and overseas, listening to concerns, assessing needs and working with partners on locally-led development programs. With hope, support and compassion at the core of what they do, they work towards a world where all people may thrive. Marian College is pleased to be participating in this again this year. Each TA group has a box for small change so if you would like to give something, send your child with the money so we can put it in the boxes.

We are also very excited about our group of Year 11 students who are involved in our Peer Support programme. Year 11 Peer leaders are meeting with the Year 7s each week to help with their transition. They generally meet together in Wellbeing Time, which is period 6 every Friday. As a team, the students and peer leaders are looking at how to have healthy relationships and how to identify and use their own personal strengths. It is always a great thing for our Year 7 students to have a senior student as a role model to look up to. The Year 11 students enjoy the challenge and the Year 7s appreciate the friendship that is offered.

We have some staff leaving and some new staff starting at Marian College over the next few weeks. Mrs Carmel Barker, our Principal will have a new Principal's Assistant starting on the 28th of March. Ms Tenaya Richards has resigned and is returning to Tasmania at the end of the term. It is sad to say goodbye to Ms Richards, and we wish her well!

There have been many staff and students having to isolate over the last eight weeks of the term and this has put a strain on staff and our resources. Thank you for isolating if this is what you have had to do. We appreciate your willingness to stay safe and keep others safe. Each student will continue to be given COVID-19 self-testing kits until at least the end of term. Please keep doing these tests to help keep everyone safe and as well as possible.

Lucy Edwards

IN MY WORDS *with Charlotte Walker*

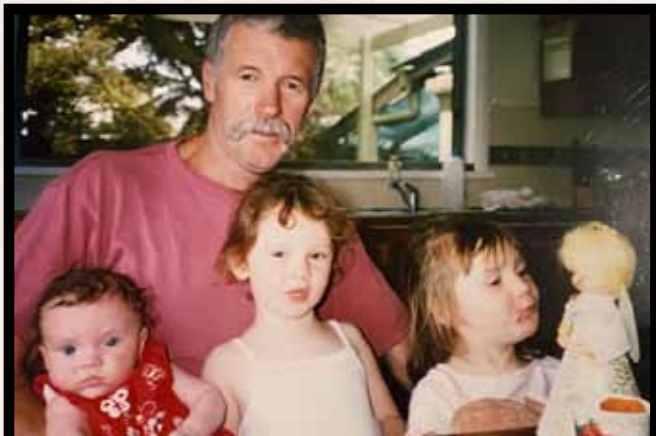
Learning Leader

On the 8th of August 2004, Kylie and Mark introduced their last and (favourite) child into this world at Ararat East Grampians Hospital. I was lucky enough to be born with two amazing sisters already in this world, Caitlin Grace who was 2 years old and Mikayla Rose (aka the trouble maker) who was also 2 years old. I look up to my older sisters and I have learnt so many valuable lessons from them. We lived on the outskirts of Ararat, on a two-acre block with a dam and plenty of opportunities to play and create a mess. My sisters and I had lots of fun and definitely lots of fights, whether it was who would get the better baby born or about wearing each other's clothes. I'm so grateful to be born into such a close family, all my grandparents lived in Ararat so we had many sleepovers, being this close to them really helped me



develop the strong relationships that we have today. My family has really shaped who I am today, they have always encouraged me to follow my dreams and they have always supported me. I look back on my childhood now and I wouldn't change a thing.

I started my schooling years at Ararat West Primary School and this is where I would find some amazing friends and have the best time in the world without any worries. Ararat West gave me so many amazing opportunities such as going to Melbourne for States for a running relay three years in a row with Ivana Donnan, Mia Robb and Jess Burns. Us same girls also won at States Skipping, with our amazing skipping routine. We pretty much were great at everything! Ararat West really helped me find my love of sports.



When I was around 5 I started at swim club in Ararat, this is where I would find my love for swimming. Through the swim club, I was able to find some of the most amazing friends and some of my favourite memories were created. I ended up quitting the swim club in Year 7 where I decided to give netball a try at Tatyoon. In 2018, after a few years playing for Tatyoon, my under 15s team won the grand final nearly undefeated, however, during the pandemic, I decided to stop playing and I am hopefully starting back again next year after Year 12.

Me being the youngest child I obviously couldn't be the easiest one, so I took up many jobs my sisters wouldn't do, such as being the one who got all the health problems possible as well as being the most dramatic who complained about anything. And these two things don't go together as there have been many times my parents (mostly my mum) did not believe that I was sick. Here is one example; When I was in year 4, I woke up with a really sore stomach and I told mum about it, which she replied "you will be okay, just have some panadol". But I wasn't okay, so I kept complaining, and the pain just kept getting worse. After about 12 hours of complaining and crying, mum took me to the hospital and she still didn't really believe there was something wrong. Here's the thing we arrived at the Ararat Hospital they pretty much told us straight away to go down to Ballarat Hospital as I had appendicitis and had to get my appendix removed. Mum felt very bad that she didn't believe me but still to this day she thinks I'm still making up things.

So here I am today, in Year 12 with so many amazing friends. They helped me get through all my high school years which I honestly don't think I could have done without them for which I'm so grateful. My childhood has flown and it's crazy to think next year I will be in the big world starting my own career path. At the end of this year I'm planning on moving to Perth, WA where I will hopefully be studying at uni a double degree in Nursing and Midwifery and maybe later in life go on to study medicine and become an obstetrician. We will see where life takes me. I'm so excited about the move, I will be sad to leave all my friends and family behind but I know they will be there for me and support me through my dream.

I would like to thank my family for keeping me on track and allowing me to follow my dreams, I hope I can make you proud. Also to my incredible friends who have been by my side through the good and bad times high school throws at you. I cherish all the memories we share and I'm grateful to have been able to watch you grow into the beautiful people you are today. One more person to thank Harley, thanks for everything you have done for me, I wouldn't be the person I am today without you. It's crazy just in a few years how much someone can change my life for the better.

With that, I wish all the Year 12s the best for this year and the future. And one thing I will tell everyone is to cherish this time at school, you don't release until it's over how special it really is.

IN MY WORDS *with Noah Wineberg*

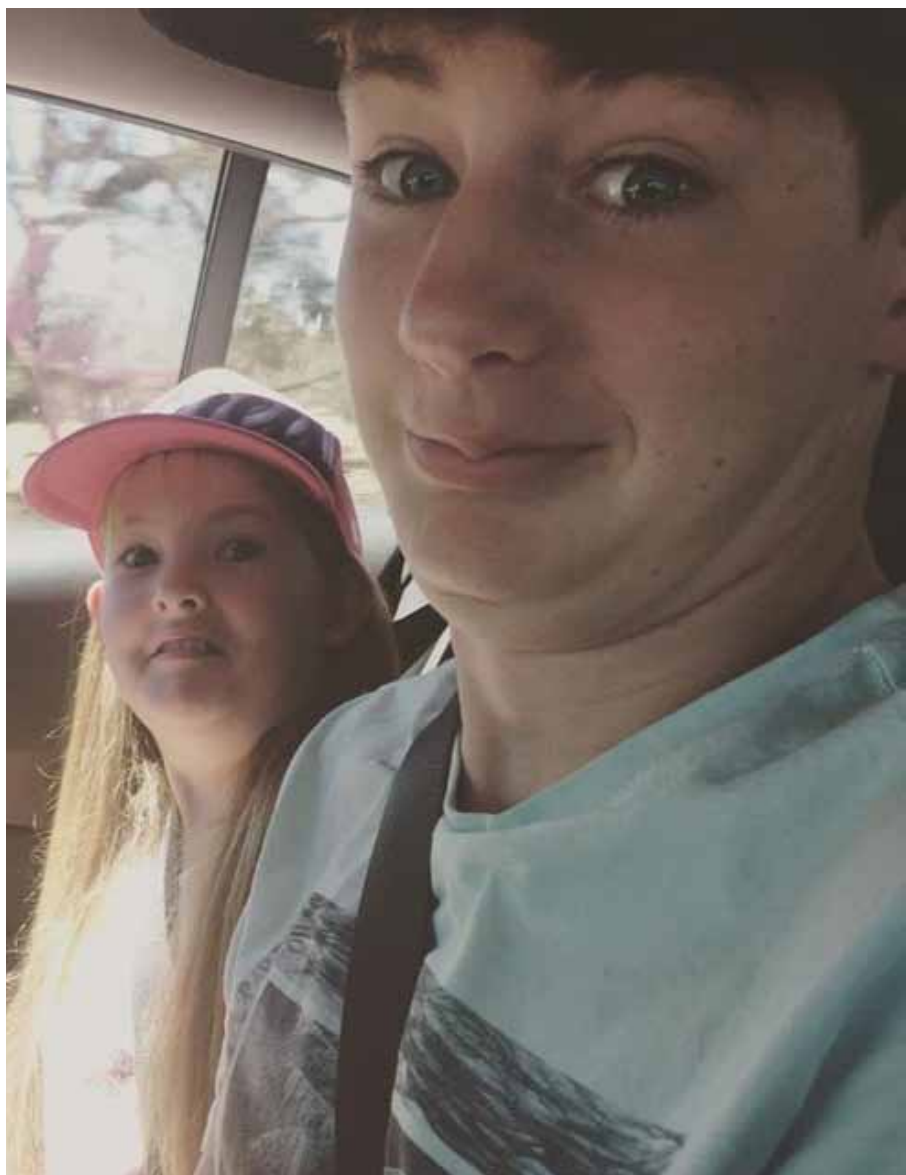
Learning Leader

Isn't birth an interesting concept? Things happen and nine months later a fresh, straight off the production line human comes out of nature's microwave and is thrust into the real world. Unfortunately, around 18 years ago I had to undergo that task and I've regretted it ever since. My parents however were ecstatic, but the buzz quickly dissipated as they soon realised that they had birthed man's greatest fear, a nerd. Now of course I was still a dumb child, I've eaten my fair share of glue and crayons but sometime around Grade two I had this epiphany where I realised "hang on, I'm way better than everyone else at maths", and from there on my signature superiority complex was born.

The first big change in my life occurred when I was just about 10, my family decided that an exodus was necessary for... some reason. So we all packed our bags and fled the suburbs seeking a better life in the greatest (sarcastic) town in Australia, Stawell. Country life was different, to say the least, but I soon found my way (after 8 years) and from there on I would start to live more comfortably.

Coming into high school at Marian I had 'El Plan', stay in the shadows and not make too much commotion, but then I fell in love with drama and the arts and unfortunately blending in and stagecraft don't mesh well together. My choice of friends didn't help either, I quickly befriended the person I thought was a little, quiet, smart kid, but little did I know I had just acquainted myself with the illustrious and quite eccentric, to-be school captain Gabriel Tonks who would later become min beste venn. With him, Starty, Krishy P, Tim Tam, Jac Attack and Erinys, the "Hall Hangers" were born and a bunch of havoc quickly ensued.

Due to my drama and music roots, there was one teacher that always stood out from the bunch, Ms Tonks, if it weren't for her who knows where I'd be, she helped me find my confidence on the stage, as well as offering endless amounts of laughs





and advice. I mean if it weren't for her I would never have even tried to become a lead in the Marian production, but she told me that she had faith, I auditioned and I landed the role. Leading Lucky \$tiff, Marian's production for 2021 is, without doubt, my biggest accomplishment in life, and it wouldn't have been possible without Ms Tonks (and everybody else involved of course).



Throughout my time at Marian, I can definitely say that I've grown a lot, (and not just in height) I mean I used to wear my shirt with the top button done up. I transitioned from a perfect straight A's student who wanted to focus on study, to the kind of person who stays up past midnight, on a school night, writing out pages worth of maths equations to find the perfect formula to win at a kids game. So while I'm still staying true to my nerdy roots, my priorities seem to have shifted somewhere down the line. Speaking about nerdy, I'd like to take this opportunity to apologise to my parents for boring them with random biology and chemistry facts, although I know that deep down you just love learning about energy transformations and protein synthesis.



Through trials and tribulations, I've somehow made it to Year 12, as a learning leader nonetheless. And though I've made many mistakes and stupid decisions, I feel like I've really learnt from at least a couple of them. In all honesty, my life isn't one I'd recommend for the masses, but if I had a choice between living this life or starting anew, I'd choose this one every day of the week.



BARRON

NEWS



FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

I've been thinking about compassion quite a bit recently, which may have something to do with the current student projects based on compassion and kindness... staff members have been interviewed for several videos over the last fortnight!

We are also in the midst of collecting for **Project Compassion (Caritas)**, our annual Lent fundraiser to assist with community initiatives and resources in areas facing extreme poverty and lack of access. If **every student brings in a gold coin donation**, our school will make a significant contribution to this worthy project. Learning about people living in different circumstances and acting with compassion, with kindness, is what this collection period is really about.

I think about the people I know, and the people I have known, who have devoted their energy to compassion and kindness towards others - these are the true leaders in our communities. There are examples everywhere of compassionate responses. Many of our students demonstrate kindness and contribute their compassion to those around them; what leaders they are. If all leaders acted with compassion, for other people, for community, and acted with humanity, the world wouldn't be faced with the large-scale acts of violence still seen today, like the military invasion of Ukraine.

In the face of such inhumanity, it can be hard to see the value of a small, simple act of kindness. Our compassion and those small acts do help to restore our faith in humanity, and each kind word or compassionate gesture can make a difference in the life of one person for one day. That always has value. That can make all the difference.

Spread kindness and compassion - it costs nothing. Include someone who is sitting alone, ask a friend how they are doing, say something kind just because you can.

Erica McConachy
Barron House Leader





YEAR 11 & 12 PARENT/STUDENT/ TEACHER ADVISOR EVENING

WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH, 2022

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 either in person, by phone or via a zoom meeting. **Please note that you will be required to produce your vaccination certificate and wear a mask if you chose a face to face meeting.**

The format for the evening is as follows:

3.30pm – 4.30pm Individual bookings for TA interviews.

Parent/Student/TA Teacher.

Interviews will be either by in person, phone or a zoom meeting. Please select your preferred option when making your booking.

BOOKINGS ARE OPEN



Year 8 Home Economics

In Year 8 Home Economics we look at the importance of eating breakfast and why it's important to break the fasting period with some nutritious food. Often students avoid having breakfast on a school day because; they prefer to sleep more, they don't feel like it, in a hurry to get ready, takes too much effort to prepare or the food available doesn't interest them.

The unit starts with the students cooking breakfast-like foods, for example scrambled eggs, omelette, savoury egg roll, bacon, toast and muffins. After these productions they make teams to plan, prepare and enjoy a two course breakfast. Honestly I was blown away by the variety of dishes prepared. They included; smoothie bowls, waffles, bacon and eggs, milkshakes, pancakes, smoothies, french toast, fruit salad, yoghurt cups, freshly squeezed orange juice, potato chips, tacos, Canadian breakfast and lots more. I would have paid good money to eat their dishes and believe me that's not always the case.

They are now planning to prepare a two course breakfast for their family to enjoy. They are expected to write up a shopping list, book a date and time, organise the venue (outside around a campfire, on the decking, at the dining room table, in the man cave etc) and prepare the food for you to enjoy.

Thanks for your support in anticipation.

Donna Spalding





Year 7 Community Catch-Up

Wednesday 30th March

7.45 am - 8.45 am

Year 7 Parents/Carers are invited to coffee, light refreshments and a chat with teachers on the morning of Wednesday 30th March.

Complimentary coffee and light refreshments will be available from 7.45 am.

The Principal, Carmel Barker, will address the group at 8.30 am.

We hope to gather on the lawns outside the Brigidine Centre, weather permitting. If weather conditions are not favourable we shall meet inside the Brigidine Centre.

**Please RSVP to Rhonda North
rnorth@mcarrarat.catholic.edu.au
by Monday 28th March.**

Please note parents in attendance must be double vaccinated



Tatyoon Football Netball Club
17 & Under Netball
Under 16.5 Football

The Tatyoon Football & Netball Club is currently recruiting junior players for the 2022 season.

COME AND JOIN OUR FANTASTIC, FAMILY FRIENDLY CLUB

Playing uniforms supplied.
(Own mouthguard and football boots/netball shoes required)

****Register before Round 1 for FREE****

Football Training starts 17th March 5:00pm
Netball Training starts 24th March 5:00pm
At Tatyoon Recreation Reserve

President Richard Bibby – 0418 254 637
17&U Coach Kara Bartlett – 0414 004 803
U16.5 Coach Craig Drum – 0437 588 284
Netball Director Briony Robertson – 0427 554 145
Football Director Anthony Brady – 0427 342 619



Athletics Carnival



**Please note the Athletics Carnival is a compulsory school day
ALL students are required to attend!**

The Marian College Athletics Carnival will be held on Tuesday 5th April, 2022. Parents are most welcome to come along and support our athletes at Alexandra Oval, Ararat but we will need to have parents located separately to students.

Students have had an opportunity at school to select the events they wish to enter. It is expected that all students participate in at least one event. Where this is not possible (eg. injury), students will be given roles to assist officials in the running of the carnival. Students will remain at Alexandra Oval during the day and will not be permitted to leave the venue. The carnival is a fun, active and colourful day and we look forward to seeing students getting into the spirit of the day by participating and supporting their team.

What: Marian College House Athletics Carnival.

When: Tuesday 5th April, 2022

Where: Alexandra Oval, Ararat.

Wear: PE uniform or house colours.

Food: Kiosk food will be available or bring own lunch.

No take away food is to be delivered by parents please.

Time: Students are to travel directly to the venue by 8.50 am. The school day will commence at 8.50 am with rolls being marked at the oval.

Buses: **Stawell and Country buses will drop off and pick up at the oval.**
Students will be dismissed from Alexandra Oval at approximately 3.10 pm.

Bring: Hat, drink, sunscreen. Warm layers if the weather is cold.

March 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
21	22	23 VCE/VCAL PARENT/ TA MEETINGS (book through PAM)	24	25
28	29	30 YEAR 7 COMMUNITY CATCH-UP BREAKFAST 7.45 am	31	1 April VCE PHYSICS and MATHS EXCURSION

April 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4	5 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL	6 LEGACY ANZAC SHRINE EXCURSION	7	8 STATIONS OF THE CROSS END OF TERM 1 EARLY DISMISSAL 2.15 pm
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS Monday 11th to Friday 22nd April				
25 ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	26 STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 2	27 TOP ARTS NGV EXCURSION	28 STATE SWIMMING	29 INTERMEDIATE/ SENIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL
OUTDOOR ED CAMP				