



## Volume 20 Issue 14: September 9 2016

### From the Principal

Dr Watson

#### 2017 College Captains

I am pleased to advise the Thomas Carr College community of the appointments of the College Captains and Vice Captains for 2017. Each of these students have demonstrated over many years qualities of good leaders, a commitment to the College, a preparedness to contribute positively to the life of the school and a willingness to engender school spirit. Each of these students, along with a number of other current Year 11 students, completed a formal application, participated in an interview with senior members of staff and were also required to speak in front of their peers before both students and staff cast their votes. All of this information was then used to discern who would lead the College in 2017. I thank all students that were prepared to nominate and congratulate the following student leaders of 2017:

College Captains: Brandan Barlow and Marisa Esposito

College Vice Captains: Jack Butler and Alexie Barlow

*Captains*

*Vice Captains*



I am also pleased to announce that following a rigorous application and interview process, that the 2017 Middle School Captains are Hayley Luca and Alex Lapina.

*Middle School Captains*



### Coming Events

- Sept 12:** Holy Name of the Blessed Mary; UN International Day of Peace
- Sept 13:** College Tour; P&F Meeting
- Sept 14:** Triumph of the Holy Cross;
- Sept 15:** Last Day of Assumption Term; students dismissed at 3.20pm; Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences from 4.00pm to 8.00pm
- Sept 16:** Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences from 8.30am to 12.20pm
- Sept 30:** Grand Final Day Public Holiday
- Oct 2:** Daylight Savings begins
- Oct 3:** Start of Advent Term; Staff PL Day (student free day)
- Oct 4:** Student's return
- Oct 5:** World Teacher's Day morning tea
- Oct 6:** Year 7 2017 PIN 7.00pm
- Oct 7:** Year 10 Reflection Day at Encore
- Oct 11:** 3<sup>rd</sup> round of immunisations for Year 7s; P&F meeting 7.00pm
- Oct 13:** A NIGHT TO SHINE 7.00pm
- Oct 17:** Whole school assembly to farewell Year 12s
- Oct 18:** Year 12 students and staff breakfast; Board meeting 7.30pm
- Oct 19:** Art Show in Bruce Runnalls Centre; Margi Sister School study tour begins
- Oct 23:** COMMUNITY OPEN DAY 1.00pm to 4.00pm; Art Show concludes
- Oct 25:** Capital Appeals breakfast; Additional Transition Day for Year 7 2017 students
- Oct 26:** VCAA examinations begin
- Oct 31:** Mid Term break
- Nov 1:** Melbourne Cup Day public holiday
- Nov 8:** College Tour (by appointment only); Additional Transition Day for Year 7 2017; P&F meeting 7.00pm
- Nov 9:** PSL Training Day
- Nov 10:** Friendly Community Day for Year 7 2017 students: Year 7 2017 Parent Information Night 7.00pm
- Nov 11:** Remembrance Day
- Nov 14:** Year 7 and 8 Exams begin; Year 10 & 11 Exams begin
- Nov 16:** Capital Appeals breakfast
- Nov 18:** VCAA Exams conclude; Graduation Mass and Dinner

### College Theme for 2016

*'Be the face of mercy'*

#### Prayer

Loving Father

We pray for our community as we celebrate our 20 year anniversary. May we be strengthened to be witnesses to the Gospel of mercy and work for a future that embodies a genuine culture of mercy.

We pray to the Lord.

Amen

### College Vision

Thomas Carr College is a dynamic Catholic learning community, guided by the Gospel.

Excellence and opportunities to develop are pursued.

Through our hope and service to others we shine our light into the world.

## Canonization of Mother Teresa

On Sunday September 4, Mother Teresa was canonized as St Teresa of Calcutta. Saint Teresa was born August 26 1910 and died on September 5 1997. Teresa was an Albanian-Indian nun and missionary. She was born in Skopje (modern Republic of Macedonia) and after having lived in Macedonia for eighteen years, she moved to Ireland and then to India, where she lived for most of her life.

Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity, a religious congregation which in 2012, consisted of over 4,500 sisters and was active in 133 countries. They run homes for people dying of HIV/AIDS, leprosy and tuberculosis, offer soup kitchens, dispensaries and mobile clinics, children's and family counselling programs, orphanages and schools.

Mother Teresa was the recipient of numerous honours, including the 1962 Ramon Magsaysay Peace Prize and in 1979, the Nobel Peace Prize. On October 19 2003, she was beatified as "Blessed Teresa of Calcutta". A second miracle was credited to her intercession by Pope Francis in December 2015, paving the way for her to be recognised as a Saint.

The date of Mother Teresa's canonisation coincides with the end of the Year of Mercy pilgrimage for workers and ministers engaged in works of mercy.

## Father's Day

Last Friday the College held its annual Father's Day Mass and Breakfast. The Mass and Breakfast have now become an annual event in the College calendar. It was wonderful to see both students and staff present with their fathers. It was indeed a very special liturgy with Bishop Peter Connors celebrating the Mass for us. Bishop Peter was the Bishop for the Western Region when the College began 20 years ago. It was wonderful to be able to show him the developments that have occurred at the College over the past twenty years.

Please find overleaf a Father's Day Blessing:

Heavenly Father,  
 you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary,  
 to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.  
 Bless *all fathers* as they care for their families.  
 Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience;  
 support them in the work they have to do,  
 protecting those who look to them,  
 as we look to you for love and salvation,  
 through Jesus Christ our rock and defender.  
 Amen.

I have included below a reflection in relation to Father's Day. Please take a minute to read and reflect on these words:

*Father's Day, is a good time to pause to appreciate a unique person that God has put in our lives—our father. It is easy to take our fathers for granted. The natural hurts that arise in all families can cause us to forget the wealth of goodness and commitment that is also there.*

*Sunday is an opportunity to recall and affirm the particular gifts that fathers bring to families. This includes our own personal fathers, grandfathers, single parent fathers, and children or brothers who are fathers. There is no one 'right' way of showing appreciation of one's father. The important thing is to do it. When expressing thanks to your dad it is a good idea to connect it with something specific—a specific quality or a specific incident in the past that typified your father's care or commitment.*

*People can give presents if they wish but the most important gift is the gift of appreciation. Every father knows that he is human and didn't always do it perfectly. He needs to hear from his children that he 'must have done something 'right' - maybe magnificently.*



Bishop Peter Connors celebrating Father's Day Mass



Chloe Zahra and dad enjoying breakfast following Mass



Amy Bongetti and dad at Mass

*Also it doesn't have to stop with Father's Day. You can continue to thank and affirm your father for his fatherhood—on his birthday, his feast day, or at times of special events in your or his life.*

### **Malaya Borneo Veterans Day Commemoration Service**

On August 31, as part of our ongoing commitment to the Malaya Borneo Veterans, the College Choir and student leaders participated in the annual Malaya Borneo Veterans Day Commemoration Service held at the Shrine of Remembrance. Our College student leaders were the Banner Bearers and our College Choir performed the National Anthem along with Hymn.

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations to Tayla Eckley of Year 10 who recently competed in Perth and has been selected to represent Australia in the Oceania Taekwondo Championships in Fiji in November.



Tayla Eckley

### **Reports**

All families will have received an interim report for their son or daughter via PAM. The interim report provides a good summary of how students have progressed during the second semester of and will indicate if everything is on track for some good academic results at the end of this year. I would encourage all parents/guardians to take some time to discuss the various aspects of the interim report with their child.

I offer my congratulations to those students who have received very positive interim reports and encourage them to continue to strive for academic excellence. Where individual interim reports may point to areas of improvement, again I would encourage a frank discussion at home about what can be done to seek improvement and most importantly make an appointment to speak with teachers about the reports. I would also remind students that it is never too late to make changes and seek improvement.

### **Child Safety**

As a result of Ministerial Order No. 870, all schools (Catholic, Government and Independent) have been required to respond to a number of Child Safe Standards – seven in total.

- Standard 1: Strategies to embed an organisational culture of child safety, including effective leadership arrangements
- Standard 2: A child safety policy or a statement of commitment to child safety in the school
- Standard 3: A child safety Code of Conduct
- Standard 4: School staff selection, supervision & management practices for a child safe environment
- Standard 5: Procedures for responding to and reporting allegations of expected abuse
- Standard 6: Strategies to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse
- Standard 7: Strategies to promote child empowerment and participation

**CHILD SAFETY  
STANDARDS**

Mrs GERALYN MCCARTHY, our Director of Student Services has been appointed as the College's Child Safety Officer and provides below information about National Child Protection Week and how Thomas Carr College is addressing the requirements of Child Safety.

### **Advent Term**

The beginning of the Advent Term commences for students on Tuesday October 4 for all students. The commencement of a new term for students allows us to take stock and refocus for the last part of 2016. It is my hope that the Advent Term will allow our students to continue to work co-operatively with all members of the College community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students for their contribution to Thomas Carr College during the Assumption Term and wish all families all the best for a well-earned term break.

## From the Director of Student Services

Mrs McCarthy

### National Child Protection Week – Sunday September 11

The images of child sexual abuse have continued to affect our entire community and diminish the trust some have placed in our Church and our Catholic schools. That trust has been further eroded when institutions have failed to appropriately respond to the victims' needs.

Yet the Catholic Church is in the unique position to offer much within this focus of creating stronger communities and safer children. One such example can be seen in Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, in which families and consequently communities are encouraged through love, strengthened by the virtues of generosity, commitment, fidelity and patience to become stronger more capable and more resilient. Stronger families and Church and school communities can then help to keep our children safe.

As the Royal Commission begins to finalise hearings and close registration for private sessions, Child Protection Week, and in particular Child Protection Sunday, provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the steps we have taken to make children safer in our communities; at home, in our churches, schools and Catholic agencies.

At Thomas Carr College, we can see evidence of the strength of our College community providing support, protection and opportunities to help keep our children safe through the following:

- the development of a Thomas Carr College [Commitment Statement to Child Safety](#) which is made available to our College community and which reaffirms our commitment to child safety
- the development of a [Child Safe Policy](#) which provides an overview of the values and principles which underlie our commitment to child safety and the actions which we are taking to ensure that these strategies are embedded across all areas of College life
- the development of a [Child Safe Code of Conduct](#) which all staff, visitors to the College and contractors are expected to endorse
- improved Human Resource practices in the selection and supervision of staff as well as more explicit management practices in ensuring ongoing understanding of this area
- review of our [Mandatory Reporting and Other Obligations Policy](#) which outlines procedures for responding to and reporting allegations of suspected child abuse
- consideration of improved processes to identify and reduce or remove risks of child abuse, including the appointment of a Child Safety Officer (Geraldyn McCarthy 8734 2414)
- review of our Pastoral Care and other personal development programs and curricula to ensure improved strategies to promote child empowerment and participation

### A Prayer for Stronger Communities, Safer Children

Gracious God you said let the children come to me. The hurt felt by those wounded by abuse weighs heavily upon us. Often trust has been eroded when institutions failed to appropriately respond to their needs.

*Lord*

*We as your Church stand in need of your healing and help.*

*We ask you God to strengthen and guide all in our Catholic school communities. Grant us wisdom in our time to make decisions that protect children and the vulnerable.*

*May our families and communities, through love, generosity, commitment and patience build stronger communities safe for children.*

*Let your grace and love fall gently upon our children giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience they will need for their life's journey.*

*We ask you God to help our Catholic communities to be resolute in building a community where our children both flourish and are safe.*

*Amen*



## From the College Board

Mrs Fava

On Tuesday August 23, the College Board convened and discussed many issues that affect the current and future students of our College. During the Finance Report, the Board discussed the College's strong financial position and the proposed 2017 Fee structure.

In the Principal's Report, Dr Watson gave the Board an update on the current building program; all keeping to plan, our new Administration Centre will be open to the community at the beginning of the 2017 academic year.

Together the Board ratified various policies that have been in review over the last several months. These policies reflect the care and respect we show our children and the Colleges integrity and respect for all whom participate in any activity or visitation to our College.

## From the Acting Deputy Principal

Mr Scarlata

### The Beacon Award

*The Beacon Award* recognises achievements of our students. Selected students will be presented with a certificate of commendation and their names will be published in each edition of *The Beacon*. A maximum of 5 students per level may be recognised each fortnight.

The criteria is:

- Evidence of learning which is consistently exemplary or displays great improvement
- An action performed by a student(s) that supports the Catholic ethos of the school
- Evidence of behaviour which is consistently exemplary or displays great improvement
- Active and purposeful involvement in a college or community event

Congratulations to the following students:

Year 7	Phoebe Briffa, Ellezon Bugayong, Joaquin Caluza, Sebastian Lara, Lilly Mercieca
Year 8	Ashleigh Koropecjkj, Selena Luu, Nathan Chote, Jorji Louer, Isabella Lovero
Year 9	Georgia Haitas, Liam Micallef, Derrick Demafelis, Iris Del Rosario
Year 10	Zara Gibson, Laura Mallia, Maria Okorom, Benjamin Singleton
Year 11	Teresa Mauro, Kyle Pillai, Caitlin Pruscino
Year 12	Jasmine Mathews, Victoria Murphy, Alex Oakes, Briana Pruscino, Brooke Verkys

## From the Acting Director of Learning & Teaching

Mr le Roux

### Senior Students Undertaking VCAA Exams: making the most of the 'holiday' period

The end of the Assumption Term is significant for many of our Senior School students, as our Year 12 VCE students will be preparing for their final exams. We ask that parents assist us by ensuring that their child is as well-prepared for these exams as possible. Over the coming weeks, it is essential that our Year 11 and Year 12 students make exam preparation a priority; perhaps the only priority.

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It goes without saying that attending all classes, taking the opportunity to complete practice exams, focusing on study and not on work shifts, contacting subject teachers and attending holiday lectures or classes will only serve to benefit these students who have only weeks left of their secondary schooling. We hear too many stories of young people who regret not taking every opportunity to do their best and I would ask your support for these students as they prepare for their final exams and to make the most of the upcoming holidays to focus on the 'destination' as the journey has almost concluded.



Mrs Antoinette Fava



VICTORIAN CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY



They will shine

## Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

Thank you to the many parents who attended our conferences last night and today. These are very important occasions for our students in their learning and I trust that you found the conversations helpful. While these conferences are the final round of formal interviews for the year, parents and teachers are encouraged to keep the dialogue going, especially when early indicators that learning behaviour may be slipping occur. It is essential that as we break for the holidays that students prepare well for the Advent Term, as students in every year level will be undertaking final examinations; be that VCAA or Thomas Carr College exams, organisation will assist in maximising students' ability to achieve the best they can.

### The Key to Success

- Think positively
- Accept responsibility for motivating yourself
- Accept the fact that success comes from effort
- Reward yourself after completing a goal or task

### Learning is Doing

Research shows that as learners we take in:

- 10% of what we read
- 20% of what we hear
- 30% of what we see
- 50% of what we see and hear
- 70% of what we ourselves say
- 90% of what we ourselves do

### Organise your Time

- Allow enough time to complete homework
- Review and revise on a regular basis (not just before tests and exams)
- Allot a period of time for assessment tasks rather than trying to do it all at once
- Allocate time for non-academic activities

### Learning Types

Know what type of learner you are. We all have a preferred way of learning but we may not be aware of it. Get to know your learning style and study in the way you learn best.

- *Auditory learners* learn by listening. Try reading your notes aloud and discussing them with other people. You might like to record key points and play them back.
- *Visual learners* learn by seeing. Use colours in your notes and draw diagrams to help represent key points. You could try to remember some ideas as images.
- *Tactile/kinesthetic learners* learn by doing. Use methods like role-playing or building models to revise key points.

### Your Study Behaviour

- Set clear goals
- Ask for help when needed
- Take risks
- Reward yourself
- Divide and conquer
- Don't procrastinate

## From the Acting Head of Middle School

### Ms Solier

#### Reflections from Year 8 Shine Program

At Southern Cross Station we learned how to use our Myki cards by tapping on at the start and the end of our journey. As we left the station, we made our way to the tram stop and embarked to Harbour Town, Docklands. Here we browsed through the shops before making our way to the O'Brien Group Arena to start our activities.

Our day was broken up into morning and afternoon sessions with a lunch break. Our options for the day were to free skate or to learn how to play ice hockey. The ice was hard and slippery but the more you skated the more confident you became. Ice hockey was challenging but also very fun and rewarding as we got to learn how to work as a team or skate independently. In the ice hockey game we were given the opportunity to wear a real uniform they use when playing a game.



*Through this Experience we were able to work on our teamwork skills and I believe in doing so we all gained confidence and independence. Our exposure to the public transport system and the City surroundings let us experience how to deal with real life situations. I liked the ice skating as it taught me that I should give everything a go. The experience was challenging and fun but most of all for me, an enjoyable day.* Hayley Luca

*The Shine program was a great learning experience for everyone. When we played ice hockey it was great fun, even for the teachers and instructors. While we were learning how to skate, we fell and laughed often but we kept on trying. Many people had never gone ice skating before but they still tried their best which made it an exciting new experience. I look forward to going ice skating at the Ice House again.* Meen Marial

## From the Head of Senior School

### Mrs Knurek

The Assumption Term continues to be a very busy time for Senior School students, particularly our Year 12 students as they approach their final weeks of schooling. They have a lot in front of them and some may feel overwhelmed with coping with the pressure of work and approaching exams. Breaking down work into smaller/shorter tasks sometimes makes it easier to cope with. I encourage all parents to take advantage of the Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences on September 15 and 16 which are an opportunity to discuss your son or daughter's progress and how we can work together to better their results.

If students feel stressed or anxious, the College has a number of support systems in place to assist and we encourage you to contact your Homeroom teacher or the Year Level Co-ordinators with any concerns of a pastoral nature. Above all, a balanced life that allows times for work, study and friends and family is important at this time.

Congratulations to our College Captains and Vice Captains for 2017. The beginning of the Advent Term, will see applications and interviews for House Captains. Other leadership opportunities are available for Peer Support Leaders, College Ambassadors, Liturgy and Social Justice Captains and Music Captains. Our SRC Representatives are selected early in 2017.

### Final Days for Year 12s

As we come to the final days of classes and functions for the Year 12 students, all Year 12s are reminded of the expectation to participate in all regular classes and to maintain a high level of respect for person and property. Following the conclusion of formal classes, students are encouraged to meet with their teachers in preparation for their examinations. Please note that VCAL students who have not completed all competencies or who have outstanding work due will be required to attend school after this date to complete work. The expectations for all Year 12 students were clearly outlined at the compulsory parent and student evening on Thursday August 18.

### Year 12 Born to Succeed Seminar

We were delighted to have Darren Pereira conduct a second seminar with our Year 12 students on Friday September 2. At this time of the year, many of our students are feeling the stress associated with their approaching final examinations. The seminar focussed on staying positive and on time management in the final months of VCE. It also related to students looking at non academic pathways and re-iterated the importance of positivity and of having the correct balance in life between work and leisure activities.

### Year 12 References

The College is happy to provide a reference to Year 12 students at the conclusion of their secondary schooling. Students are reminded to collect the required document from their Homeroom teacher and return it completed, by the due date. References can be collected from Student Reception from Monday November 21.



Darren Pereira

### Upcoming Year 10 Reflection Day

A letter has been uploaded to CareMonkey with full details of the Year 10 Reflection Day which will take place on Friday October 7. If parents/guardians have not as yet completed their CareMonkey profile, please do so urgently.

Reflection Days are an integral part of the mission of Catholic Education and our facilitators serve in partnership with our College to successfully complement our current Year 10 RE Program ensuring the most positive student outcomes are achieved. This Reflection Day plays a vital role in our Advent Term's Year 10 RE Unit 'Healthy Relationships'. As this is a compulsory event, students who are absent will be required to provide a medical certificate; a Statutory Declaration is not acceptable as a replacement for medical certificate.

### Year 12 Graduation Mass and Dinner

Year 12 students are required to attend the Year 12 Graduation Mass on Friday November 18 at 6.00pm at St Mary's Church, West Melbourne. Students who do not attend the Graduation Mass will not be permitted to attend the Graduation Dinner, which will take place at Flemington Racecourse.

A letter has been sent home with information and details on purchasing tickets for this function. Parents are reminded that the Table Request Form for the Dinner must be returned to Mrs Banks by Friday October 7. Payment for tickets must be made using the online payment system between October 7 and 28. The payment system can be accessed from October 7 by clicking on *Graduation Dinner Dance* in the QuickLinks section on the front page of the College website and following the *Buy Tickets* steps.

If you have any further queries regarding the Graduation Mass and/or Dinner Dance please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Banks.

### 2017 Charles Allan Seymour (CAS) Hawker Scholarships

The 2017 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarships open on Monday December 5 2016 and close on Friday January 6 2017. These Scholarships are one of the most generous privately funded scholarships available to undergraduate students in Australia. Each residential scholarship is valued at up to \$60,000 over three years.

Information about the C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship and an application form are available at [www.hawkersscholarship.org](http://www.hawkersscholarship.org) or by contacting the Secretary to the Trustees on 08 8127 1654. The Charles Hawker Scholarship perpetuates the memory of scholar, soldier and pastoralist Charles Allan Seymour Hawker and commemorates the achievements of one of Australia's most respected statesmen.

The scholarships are available to all Australian students. The majority have been awarded to students entering their first year of university. Selection is largely based on personal qualities and demonstrated leadership as well as academic ability. Undergraduate Hawker Scholars are able to attend a range of Australian institutions.

### Year 12 VCAL Students Working with St Francis Students

Over the past few weeks, the Year 12 VCAL students have planned sessions on physical activity and skill development with Grade 5 students at St Francis of Assisi Primary School. This has been a terrific experience for our students who have enjoyed immensely working with the younger students. It has also enabled them to put into practice a number of important competencies as part of the VCAL program and they have learnt much from the experience. I would like to thank the staff from St Francis for their support of our project; this is now the third year we have undertaken this project and it has enabled the College to build relationships with staff and students, many of whom will be future Thomas Carr College students.

Finally, holidays are important for rest and recreation but also provide an opportunity to take stock and prepare for the following term. We encourage all of students to participate in the many opportunities available to develop leadership skills at Thomas Carr College. I trust you all have a safe and enjoyable holiday and come back refreshed and ready for the final weeks in the academic year.



Grade 5 students at St Francis



Year 12 VCAL and Grade 5 students at St Francis

From the Social Justice Co-ordinator

Mrs Dagmang

## Just Art – An advocacy for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Congratulations to Claudia Nave and Evalina Mabeny-Bai whose painting and poem *A Flood Called Humanity* respectively, were awarded as one of the 28 finalists in the inaugural 'Just Art' competition.

### *A Flood Called Humanity*

*If one person falls, someone will be there to pick them up.  
If one person falls, someone will be there to motivate them.  
If one person sins, God will be there to forgive them.  
However, why is it that when a group of us seek help and refuge,  
There is no one to pick us up, to motivate us or to forgive us?*

*There is a flood, called humanity and you are the survivors.  
We are washed up, left behind and forgotten.  
We don't only seek asylum, we seek hope, we seek support,  
And we seek that someone,  
That someone who will pick us up, motivate us and forgive us.*

Congratulations also to Mrs Udovicic's Year 7 students who submitted two consolidated art works: Alana Prathapasinghe, Blake Sardi, Saurav Singh, Mia Bellet, Tate Camilleri, Ellezon Bugayong, Nikhil Dutt, Akul Malkotia, Roshal Gupta, Grace Reech, Dylan Nguyen, Liana Garlito, Dinushi Bombuwelage Don, Saxon Nozzolillo, Jemma Poole, Hannah Bayta, Jehscy Sotelo, Lilly Mercieca and Mark Fagan.

*Just Art* aims to make advocacy accessible to all people and ages, through the artistic representation of contemporary social justice issues such as the plight of asylum seekers and refugees. On Tuesday August 30, these artists, together with Ms Udovicic and I, took the time to enjoy the display of art works in many forms, such as media, visual arts and creative writing.

As part of the *Just Art* advocacy, our students were some of the 1500 Victorians who have written messages of hope and put their hand up to call for a more just and compassionate response to people seeking asylum on Australian shores.

*I noticed that all of the art pieces have the same message: a better understanding of refugees and asylum seekers. I liked Mikaela Vuzem's 'Never Enough' because the way that she connected her artwork together. I believe that it is beautiful and very true. We think we're helping but we never quite help enough. I will be more mindful from now on.* Elleson Bugayong

*Just like everyone else, asylum seekers are the blessed parts of God and they should be welcomed just like everyone.* Roshal Gupta

## Standing in Solidarity Circle of Silence

On Friday September 2 in solidarity with other Catholic schools, Thomas Carr College staff and students stood in circle of silence in front of the Bruce Runnalls Centre to express support for refugees and people seeking asylum. Austin Deppeler, President of the College Vinnies Conference read 'We are standing to recognise the injustices faced by people caught up in Australia's immigration detention system.' Luke Gleeson, College Captain continued "We believe people seeking asylum should be treated compassionately and humanely, as we would want to be treated."

After 10 minutes of silence, the advocates for asylum seekers marched toward the College Chapel to sign a Petition addressed to the Turnbull government to be more compassionate and merciful and speed up the process that enables people to rebuild their lives. The advocates then joined in the Adoration inside the Chapel, concluding the day of prayer and action for those who are voiceless and helpless.



Claudia



Evalina



Students with Mrs Udovicic at 'Just Art'



Circle of Silence



Petition signing

From the Student Wellbeing Team

Ms Ward

### Parents Urged to Talk to Children About Online Safety

Australian parents are being urged to talk to their children about how to stay safe online and on the importance of respectful relationships. The Australian Federal Police, including Victoria Police, say it is 'critical for parents, caregivers, and teachers to talk to their children about the importance of respectful relationships, both on and offline. We must work together to educate and empower young people to use technology safely and responsibly,' the police say.

The law enforcement agencies issued this statement last week after advising that a website encouraging users to upload explicit images of young women had re-emerged online. Police services are currently working with government agencies, including the Office of the Children's e-Safety Commissioner, and international law enforcement bodies, to investigate the offshore website and determine the appropriate course of action.

The police advised that the national ThinkUKnow cyber safety education program [www.thinkuknow.org.au](http://www.thinkuknow.org.au) was focused on preventing children from being groomed or mistreated online. 'Giving young people strategies to say 'no' to inappropriate requests or to report suspicious behaviour are paramount to keeping them safe from harm.'

Stay Smart Online also includes information about protecting young people online [www.communications.gov.au/what-we-do/internet/stay-smart-online/youth](http://www.communications.gov.au/what-we-do/internet/stay-smart-online/youth)

### Snapchat: A Guide for Parents

*What is Snapchat?*

Snapchat is an application which is free to download on iOS and Android devices that allows users to send images and videos 'snaps' to each other. Snaps can be viewed for 10 seconds before they 'dissolve'. Operating the App requires use of the device's data plan or a wireless internet connection.

*What is the age restriction for Snapchat?*

The age classification for Snapchat is 13 years and over, although much of the content may be inappropriate for that age group.

*Should I be worried if my child is using Snapchat?*

Any application when used incorrectly has the potential to cause harm. It is important that you communicate openly with your child about how they may be using an application and the legal and ethical ramifications of inappropriate use. Children and young people also need to be aware of the risks of communicating with people they do not know via any mobile application.

*Does and image really delete on Snapchat?*

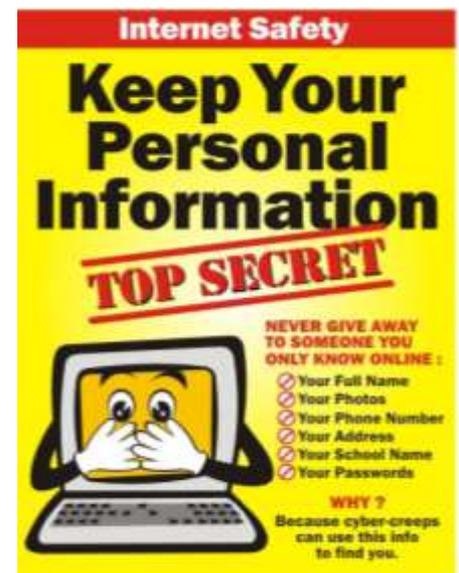
There are many ways an image can be saved, even on Snapchat. iOS and Android devices have a feature which allows the device to take a photo of what is on the screen (screen shot). Snapchat notifies the sender if an image they have sent has been captured, however, there are also other ways images can be saved without the sender being notified, so it is important to encourage children/young people to think before they snap.

*What are the privacy settings on Snapchat?*

Snapchat has limited privacy settings so it is important to monitor your child's use of the application. One privacy setting that is available is the ability to restrict who can send your child photos or videos, snaps. This can be enabled by going into the Settings menu, select 'Who can send me snaps', then select 'My friends'. This will ensure that only users in your child's contact list can send images.

*Is Snapchat a 'safe sexting' application?*

It is important to know that there is no such thing as 'safe sexting' and Snapchat is no exception. Young people need to be aware that as soon as they send an image they have lost control over where it ends up. Sending sexually explicit images of someone under the age of 18, with or without their permission is an offence.



## *What are the potential problems with Snapchat?*

Sharing images that are rude, offensive or sexualised can see young people charged under State and Commonwealth legislation, which carries serious legal consequences. Ethically, young people need to be aware of the impact their online behavior has on their reputation and others. Sexting is commonly defined as the sharing of sexualised or naked images via the internet or mobile phone, this includes applications like Snapchat.

Children and young people need to realise that as soon as an image is sent, they have lost control over it. It is possible that images shared privately between people on social networking sites could end up elsewhere online. Taking, sending and saving these sorts of images can also constitute child pornography offences and can have long term legal ramifications on a child's future.

It is important that parents and carers are aware of the issues associated with various apps and websites so that they can openly communicate with their child about safe and responsible use.



## **From the Parents & Friends Association**

As in past years, the Parents & Friends Association will be hosting a Conference Café during the upcoming Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences on September 15 and 16. While waiting to see your child's teacher, feel free to drop in for a cuppa and biscuit.

Additionally, the Second Hand Uniform Shop will also be running on Thursday September 15 from 3.00pm to 6.30pm.

## **Administration and Business Office Hours Over the Holiday Period**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Friday September 16 (last day of Term)	8.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.00pm
Monday September 19 to Thursday September 29	9.00am to 12.00pm 1.00pm to 3.00pm
Friday September 30 (public holiday)	Closed
Monday October 3 (first day of Term: student free day)	Normal hours 8.00am to 4.00pm