



Marian College

A Kildare Education Ministries School in the Brigidine tradition

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Issue 26

29th August, 2022

Principal: Mrs. Carmel Barker



FRED HYDE DAY pages 6 - 7

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE pages 10 - 11

GAT INFO SHEETS pages 12 - 15



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*

With only a couple of days until spring, I am sure most students and staff are eagerly awaiting the warmer days. Despite the cold winds and wet weather days across the week, most students have coped well. The number of students and staff with COVID or the flu appears to be decreasing. The circuit breaker scheduled last week was a welcome rest for all, given the pressures and extra workload over the last two years. Thank you to all our parents for your understanding and support.

God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer, longer, brighter days. Thank you for the coming of growth and life and birth. Thank you that things are coming awake in the world. May the sunlight and the rain be reminders that You are at work renewing the earth. As a God of renewal, You are ever at work in our lives, too. Open our eyes and lives to the needed changes in our lives this Spring. Awaken us to new life and perspective, for we pray in Jesus' name.

Adapted from Xavier.ed resources. Author Unknown

Parent Surveys - Insight SRC

Over the next week, parents will be invited to complete our School Improvement Surveys. This survey will be emailed directly to randomly chosen parents. Your responses, together with feedback from staff and students, will contribute towards our External School Improvement Review scheduled for 2023. Over the last twelve months, we have reviewed and have implemented a number of changes to College processes and programs to further improve students' performance:

Timetabling, Behaviour Management and Support, Position of Leadership and Assessment and Reporting. Surveys provide a valuable set of tools and decision making aids, particularly when used in conjunction with other information about the school's performance data and evidence, our Catholic Identity and values, and student and staff wellbeing data. The information provided will help us continue to improve our management and work practices in the care and support for the academic, spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing of all students. *If you receive a survey and you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact the College Office. I thank you in anticipation for your support in this important work.*

Update on the School Priorities - Literacy

Teachers continue to work closely with the Head of School Improvement (Literacy) in the development of whole-school literacy improvement. The focus this week is on Oracy skills in the classroom. Thank you to Ms Natalie Wirper who continues to lead teachers through this professional development. She shares with us the following article that may be of interest to parents: *Speaking up: The importance of oracy in teaching and learning* by Will Millard and Amy Gaunt (2018).

'Developing classroom talk has a wide range of benefits on students' outcomes during school, and beyond. In particular, structured dialogue during lessons, where students are encouraged to participate verbally and given space and time to reflect upon and discuss complex ideas, is linked with:

- *Cognitive gains, including improved results in English, maths and science,*

the retention of subject-specific knowledge, and 'transference' of reasoning skills across subject areas (Jay et al., 2017);

- *Personal and social gains, including attitudes towards learning, enhanced self-esteem and self-confidence, and a reduction in anxiety (Hanley P et al., 2015); (Gorard et al., 2015), and;*
- *Civic engagement and empowerment, increasing children and young people's ability to debate issues, while also increasing understanding about social issues and ability to manage differences with others (Nagda and Gurin, 2007)'.*

Vaping

Over the last few weeks, like most schools across the country, we are facing the increasing challenge of students vaping at school. Many hours of Leadership time has been diverted to the issue to better inform and support students in more positive behaviours. Over the next week, we are beginning together a team of teachers, leaders, wellbeing staff and our school psychologist to investigate and seek outside support in the development of a holistic approach involving multi-faceted strategies to address the matter more effectively. We know education is crucial for staff, students and parents, and that any solution requires the active participation of all stakeholders. We respectfully seek your support to address the matter with your child at home. Further information is available on a number of websites including: <https://www.quit.org.au/articles/teenvaping/#anchor-name-4>

'E-cigarettes, also known as 'vapes', are battery operated devices that work by heating a liquid (or 'juice') until it becomes an aerosol that users inhale. Some people mistakenly believe the 'cloud' from vaping is a vapour, like steam. It is really an aerosol, a fine spray of chemicals that enter the body via the lungs, and small particles that can lodge in the lungs. Using an e-cigarette is commonly called 'vaping'.

Buying and selling an e-cigarette or any liquid that contains nicotine without a doctor's prescription is illegal in Australia. In Victoria, it is illegal to sell an e-cigarette or a liquid intended to be used in an

e-cigarette (even if it does not contain nicotine) to a person under 18 years'. See also resources and videos for parents, carers and teachers (Quit Victoria).

Rights, Responsibilities and Respect

Child Protection at Marian College is everyone's responsibility. The Kildare Education Ministries Board, as the school's governing authority, the Principal, School Leadership team and Stewardship Advisory Council, have a particular leading role for ensuring that all those engaged in education promote the inherent dignity of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of education at Marian College. All leaders have a particular part to play individually and collectively in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people is at the forefront of all we do and every decision we make.

An essential part of the College's Child Protection processes, practices and policies requires risk management strategies and practice, policies that are readily accessible to all in the community, and the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of risk controls. Clearly defined leading roles for Child Safety is an essential aspect of Child Protection. At Marian College our Child Protection Officers are Ms Stephanie Saravanja (Head of Wellbeing), Mrs Mary-Lou Boatman (House Leader) and Mrs Emma Dawes (School Psychologist).

All children and adults have a right to feel safe, and a responsibility to act in a way that is respectful of the dignity of all. If you need further details or information about our Child Protection policies and procedures, please visit the College website under **Policies** and **Child Protection**, or contact one of the Child Protection Officers listed above.

Have a wonderful beginning to Spring.

Carmel

SIMON Everywhere App requires upgrading to a new version

Please go the App store to download the new improved version of SIMON Everywhere as the old version of the App will cease to function. See instructions on following page.

ONLINE PERMISSION FORMS FOR EVENTS, EXCURSIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Please download the SIMON Everywhere App. When an event is created for your student you will receive an alert on your phone. This will improve response time for events. Currently, office staff are having to continually follow up with parents as responses are not being submitted in a timely manner. The final paperwork for any excursion cannot be prepared until all responses have been received.

Parents should also regularly check emails. Please ensure that your email address is correct in the Parent Access Module. You can do this through the settings button in PAM.





IMPORTANT APP UPDATE!

The SIMON Everywhere app has been updated in both the Apple and Google Play (Android) App Stores.

This new version of the app needs to be installed from scratch.



android

iOS

Uninstalling and Installing App on Android/Google Play Devices

- Select the current SIMON Everywhere app on your phone/tablet and hold your finger on the app.
- When the options bar appears, tap **Uninstall**, then click **OK**.



- Go to the Google Play Store, find the SIMON Everywhere App and "Install" this app.



Uninstalling and Installing App on iOS/Apple

- Find the current SIMON Everywhere app on your phone/tablet and hold your finger on the app
- When the options menu appears, click **Delete App**, then click **Delete**.



- Go to the App Store, find the SIMON Everywhere App and "Get" this app.



IMPORTANT – Uninstalling and installing the app will require you to re-register within the app.



CANTEEN CLOSED

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CANTEEN WILL BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2022 DUE TO THE GAT EXAM.

FRED HYDE DAY AND MARIAN'S GOT TALENT



FRED HYDE DAY AND MARIAN'S GOT TALENT



K E E L L Y



NEWS

FROM YOUR HOUSE LEADER

One of my favourite times of the year would be the school production. You often get to watch students shine who would normally be reserved in class. Our house was well represented in the following roles;

1. Maiara Barry Goncalves (Sharpay Evans) for a Year 8 student she has an amazing presence on stage.
2. Ava Hines (Taylor McKessie) is a quiet achiever who often goes under the radar. Performed with confidence.
3. Rachel Terry (Chad Danforth) received a little bit of basketball training from her big brother, David. She was certainly one of the more confident basketballers on stage. Great performance from a Year 8 student.
4. Elsa McConachy (Kelsie Neilson) blew me away with her performance. Considering it was her first time on stage I was super impressed.
5. Asher Dunks (Ripper) and ensemble. This young lady has a beautiful voice. I'm sure she will be in many more school productions.
6. Elijah Dunks helped out with sound and lighting.

Even though the following students are not in Kelly I would still like to congratulate the following Year 12 students. Gabe Tonks is an absolutely amazing performer; his mother would have been extremely proud of him.

Erin Peter the girl sings like a bird, beautiful to listen to.

Noah Wineberg who played Troy Bolton, he too was sensational.

Finally, a big congratulations to the director, Bas Otto. You gave so many students an opportunity to shine. You should be PROUD of yourself.

Our captains Ruby Smith and Louise Cooper have been busy organising food and activities for the annual Fred Hyde day which took place 2 weeks ago. Once again they were organised and proactive in getting things done. Congratulations to you both along with the rest of the Year 12's. It was a great day.

We only have a few more weeks left until the end of term. The Year 12's will be finalizing their Unit 4 marks and then getting ready for exam revision. Most of you will start to see light at the end of the tunnel. Work hard now and you will be rewarded.

I can feel that the days are getting longer, often the first sign of Spring. Let's hope the weather starts to warm up.

All the best for students who are in footy/netball/ soccer finals.

Cheers

Donna Spalding

VALE SUSAN HUMPHREY



Susan Humphrey commenced at Marian College in 1995.

In 2010 Sue suffered a stroke at the age of 52 and was unable to return to work.

Sue was the Aunty of past student Tanya Humphrey (who she absolutely adored) and Great Aunty of Tanya's children Aaron and Mark Beechinor.

Below are some words from retired teacher, Mrs Rose Rowe;

Susie ...

If my memory serves me correctly, Susie came to MC on a trial basis as she had worked in retail previously and this was something new for her.

It didn't take long before she became the 'face of MC' and a big part of the MC community.

Sue was employed while I was still on Maternity Leave, so when I returned and met her for the first time, she made me 'earn my stripes' as I had to learn about many new changes that had occurred in my absence. She seemed formidable and I was wary of her initially.

The front office was very clearly her domain and she was incredibly well organised. As Student Officer she must have been an incredible support to coordinators as she made it a point of asking kids the hard questions about uniform, punctuality or attendance, and yet, she was universally loved by all - staff and students alike!!!

Then I soon learned that she was also a great big teddy bear with an enormous heart and such an enthusiasm for life...she was worth her weight in gold. Not only did she run that front office with almost military precision, she knew every kid, their names, and their foibles and did not let them get away with anything, whilst still exercising amazing compassion and understanding. They loved her!

As for the teachers, she was both kind and scary. In her office, she never took a backward step and you learned not to get in her way when she was walking as she was 'on a mission' and strided about the place with a seriousness that said, "step aside!"

Her smile and naughty laughter could also light up a room!

Sue worked at a time when teachers didn't really have their own computers and many used to ask her to do their typing for letters to parents and such. Susie would always take on these tasks with a minimum of fuss even though under her breath she was probably cursing as she had so much to do in her own role.

Susie was the 'Queen of Birthdays' and made everyone feel very special, whether by making cakes, putting notices on the Daily Bulletin or making her signature dish, sausage rolls!!!!

Susie was such a huge part of the Marian College family, loved by all and yet she also had a loving family at home. Susie was besotted by her nieces and nephews and was forever spoiling them. We shared many school holidays camping and Susie related so easily with all the kids and adults ...again as part of the family!

In short, Susie was a treasure and there is now a loving light in our world has gone out.

Vale Susie.

Rose Rowe

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE



On Tuesday 16th August, 20 year 9 & 10 students travelled to Federation University to take part in the Science and Engineering Challenge. Presented by The University of Newcastle and organised by Ballarat Rotary clubs, Marian College competed against 6 other schools from our region.

Teams of between 2-4 students were assigned tasks and awarded points according to criteria. The points were accrued and the overall winning school will compete at the state final.

The tasks included building a bridge, designing and decoding messages via coloured fibre optic rods, creating a bionic hand, building a suspension system for a Mars buggy, designing efficient highway or power networks and building earthquake proof towers.



Our teams performed exceptionally well and enjoyed a day full of fun, problem solving and competing against other schools.

We encourage more students to be involved in STEM activities throughout the year.

Please see Ms MacPherson or Mr Coghlan for more information.





GENERAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARENTS

In 2022, the General Achievement Test (GAT) has changed to provide value to all Victorian students finishing Year 12.

While the GAT already plays an important role in quality assuring Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) assessments, it will now also assess a student's skills against new Literacy and Numeracy Standards (LNS).

Literacy and numeracy skills are a core part of the curriculum in both VCE and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and are a key skill expected of students leaving secondary school. Explicit assessment and reporting of reading, writing and numeracy gives students the opportunity to show that they are ready for further education, training or to enter the workforce – regardless of the pathway they have chosen.

The 2022 GAT will be held on Wednesday 7 September.

The reformed GAT follows a comprehensive review conducted by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). It will see Victoria join other jurisdictions who already incorporate literacy and numeracy standards as part of their senior secondary reporting. The GAT will provide specific information on each student's key skills for life beyond school.

Why should students sit the GAT?

Literacy and numeracy are essential skills needed in everyday life, which is why they are a core part of the curriculum in both VCE and VCAL. As part of the GAT, in Section A, senior secondary students will have their literacy and numeracy skills measured against new standards.

Completing Section A of the GAT gives students the opportunity to show they have these essential skills and are ready for further education, training or to enter the workforce.

For students completing VCE Unit 3–4 subjects (including scored VCE VET), the GAT is also an essential part of the VCE assessment process. While the test does not count directly towards VCE scores, GAT results are used to check that VCE external assessments and school-based assessments have been accurately and fairly assessed across the state.

What if my child does not meet one or more of the literacy or numeracy standards?

If a student does not meet one or more of the standards, this will be indicated on the GAT Statement of Results. There will be resit opportunities in 2023 for students who do not meet one or more of the standards in 2022.

About the GAT

The GAT will now be delivered in **two sections**:

Section A will assess literacy and numeracy

Section B will assess mathematics, science, technology, the arts and humanities

All senior secondary students in Victoria, including Senior VCAL students, will sit Section A. All students enrolled in one or more VCE Unit 3–4 subject (including scored VCE VET) will sit Sections A and B.

The GAT will be held on Wednesday 7 September 2022 and usually administered by the student's school. Questions asked in the GAT are based on general knowledge and skills that students have already learnt throughout their study.

GAT 2022 SCHEDULE – 7 SEPTEMBER 2022**SECTION A: Literacy (reading and writing) and numeracy**

9:30–9:45am	Reading time	All senior secondary	VCE 3–4	Senior VCAL	Scored VCE VET 3–4
9:45–11:45am	Writing time				
11:45am–1:15pm Break					

SECTION B: General knowledge and skills

1:15–1:30pm	Reading time	VCE 3–4	Scored VCE VET 3–4
1:30–3:00pm	Writing time		

How can I help my child prepare for the GAT?

No special study is required to sit the GAT.

The GAT is based on knowledge students will have acquired through their studies and assesses what they have already learnt throughout their education.

For Section A, the questions will be about reading, writing and numeracy. These are based on situations students may encounter in daily life. For example, a question on reading might ask about understanding information they have found online; a writing question might ask them to draft an email to their employer; and a question measuring numeracy might assess a student's ability to understand their hourly pay rate.

In Section B, questions will explore mathematics, science, technology, the arts and humanities knowledge that have already been addressed as part of the curriculum in their schooling.

Sample questions for Section A of the GAT are available on the VCAA website. Past GAT papers are also available to help students prepare for Section B. Go to vcaa.vic.edu.au.

Special provisions for students sitting the GAT

Special provisions are available to make the GAT accessible to students with additional needs. These include:

- Rest breaks
- Extra working time
- Assistive technologies
- Separate rooms
- Alternative test formats
- Readers, scribes and clarifiers

You are encouraged to talk to your child's school if you have questions or need more information about special provisions for the GAT.

GAT results

- GAT results will be reported on the student's GAT Statement of Results, which will be issued as part of the student results package in December.
- The GAT **does not** count directly towards final VCE or VCAL results.

Where can I find more information?

More information about the GAT, including more frequently asked questions, can be found on the VCAA website at vcaa.vic.edu.au.

Parents should also speak to their child's school, TAFE, RTO or VCAL provider for information about special provisions or the administration of the GAT.

Rules for students

You are required to observe the following VCAA examination rules for the conduct of the GAT, in addition to the day-to-day rules of your school/ education provider and the venue.

VCAA rules shall apply with appropriate and reasonable modifications to students with disabilities or other impairments.

All supervisors are issued with directions for the administration of the GAT and are required to report all alleged breaches of these rules to the VCAA. Supervisors have the right to check any authorised materials that are taken into an examination room.

- 1** You must not cheat or assist other students to cheat, including taking any action that gives or attempts to give you or another student an unfair advantage.
- 2** You must not allow, induce or assist any other person to present for the GAT in your place.
- 3** You must not present for the GAT in another student's place.
- 4** You must not present for the GAT under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 5** You must obey and observe all proper instructions or directions given by the supervisor.
- 6** You must provide reasonable assistance to any investigation by the VCAA in relation to a suspected breach of the VCAA rules.
- 7** You may bring only materials and equipment approved for the GAT into the examination room.
- 8** You must not possess mobile phones and electronic devices that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals, such as recorded music and video players, organisers, dictionaries and computerised watches, during the GAT.



Rules for students – Continued

9	Students caught with any device defined in rule 8, upon the direction of a supervisor, must surrender that device for inspection. Any confiscated device may be retained, pending any investigation into an alleged breach of VCAA rules. Students must provide reasonable assistance to the VCAA or its agents to examine the device.	15	You must not begin to write or mark your paper or response material in any way, or use a calculator, until advised by a supervisor that writing may commence.
10	You must not bring into or possess in the examination room any drinks or food, except under special circumstances as approved and directed by the VCAA. Bottled water is permitted in the examination room only under approved conditions.	16	You must raise your hand if you wish to communicate with a supervisor.
11	You must not communicate with any other student while the GAT is being conducted.	17	You must not leave your place until permitted by a supervisor.
12	You must not cause any nuisance, annoyance or interference to any other student during the GAT.	18	You will not be permitted to leave the examination room until 30 minutes after the start of writing time.
13	You must not remove or tear out any part of a question or answer book.	19	You will not be permitted to leave in the last five minutes of each GAT session.
14	You must not remove any response material, used or unused, from the examination room.	20	You must cease writing when instructed to do so by a supervisor.
		21	You must remain silent and seated in your place at the end of the GAT session until response materials have been collected and checked, and an announcement is made permitting students to leave the examination room.

For more information visit vcaa.vic.edu.au/gat

WINTER WONDER LAND

MARIAN COLLEGE FORMAL 2022

**All year 11 & 12 students are
invited to join us at our Winter
Wonderland themed formal this
year.**

September 8th, Gum San, 7-11pm

**Tickets are \$10, will be sold 31st-
2nd in BD7 over lunchtime**

CASH ONLY



2022 KINGS CARS YANG BLUE LIGHT Fundraiser



Thursday 22nd September
11:30am arrival,
12:30 Shotgun start.

4 Person Ambrose \$160 per team
(including lunch & light snacks)



Funds raised goes towards
purchasing an inflatable waterpark
for the community to enjoy.

**WIN \$1000
for a HOLE IN ONE!**

Everyone has a chance to
take home \$1000 for a Hole
In One on Par 3 18th.



For more information email Taine:
golf@araratchalambargolf.com.au

August 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 BLACK RANGES YEAR 7 BASKETBALL	30	31	SEPTEMBER 1	2

September 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	6 BLACK RANGES YEAR 8 BASKETBALL	7 VCAA GENERAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST (GAT) CANTEEN CLOSED	8 YEAR 11 and 12 FORMAL	9
12	13	14	15 YEAR 7 IMMUNISATIONS	16 END OF TERM 3 EARLY DISMISSAL 2.15 pm

October 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 STUDENTS COMMENCE TERM 4	4	5	6 GREATER WESTERN REGION ATHLETICS	7 BLACK RANGES YEAR 7 & 8 TENNIS