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ST THOMAS AQUINAS
 COLLEGE

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COLLEGE CHRONICLE

Tuesday 14th February 2023

Word from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our year is well and truly underway, and it is pleasing to see our students actively engaged in the learning. Throughout the early part of this term, I have spent time at morning drop off, afternoon pick up, in the yard at recess and lunchtime, taking and visiting classes to help connect with the students, staff and parents. It has been great to hear all of our stakeholders speak so positively about their start to the College year.

Family engagement in learning contributes positively to children's overall formation. As we partner with you, the sanctity of the family as primary educators of your child is honoured. All efforts are based on knowing the child and the family and supporting the family to engage in their child's College-based learning. By partnering with the College, we hope that families equally choose to commit to the highest standards possible for their child, and for every child in the College. This commitment is at the heart of the growth and strength of a flourishing traditional Catholic College community.

All children deserve to learn and experience success throughout their time at the College, regardless of their background. I firmly believe that in any community, where one family is less able to access learning, the curriculum or form a relationship with the College, the community is less than it can be. Without judgement, we will remain in communication with each family, tailoring our response so that no child or family is disadvantaged.

Communication between the College and the family will always be focused on honouring the dignity of the family, the College and most importantly, of the child, so they may develop into the true and perfect Catholic.

I look forward to attending the Parents and Friends Annual General Meeting this Wednesday 15th February to be held in the Multipurpose Hall Foyer at 7.30pm



(Please note the change of venue). It will be a wonderful opportunity to continue to enhance the partnership between the College and its stakeholders, in order to ensure the full flourishing of every child.

On Friday 17th February, we will hold our first Community Information Session for the year. The session will commence at 8.45am and be followed by a light morning tea. This session will allow for further unpacking of the direction of education and expectations held by the College. In addition there will be an update on the progress of the College's implementation of our Annual Action Plan and an opportunity for question time.

The College recognises the integral role that volunteers play, and actively seeks to develop structures and procedures that encourage stakeholders of our College (parents, carers, families, alumni, friends of the College) to become actively involved in the life of the College. I encourage all stakeholders to consider becoming involved in our volunteer program. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Liz Alexander or myself.

May God continue to bless our great community.

Kieran

Kieran O'Dywer (**Acting Principal**)

VIRTUE THIS WEEK

COURTESY

Treating other people with respect, recognising that all are made in God's image and likeness.

COLLECT - SEXAGESIMA SUNDAY

O God, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do; mercifully grant that by the protection of the Doctor of the Gentiles we may be defended against all adversities. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who lives and reigns with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.



Instaurare
 omnia in
 Christo
 To restore all
 things in
 Christ

From the Deputy Principal



Positive Behaviour Support - Part 1

Dear Parents and Families,

One of the goals under the strategic priority of student wellbeing in the College Annual Action Plan is to continue to enhance an inclusive culture centred around positive child safety and wellbeing outcomes. At the College we believe the best decisions for managing student behaviour are based on a value system that upholds and maintains the dignity of every student. An identified action to assist in achieving this goal involves exploring the philosophical, scientific and evidenced based foundations of positive behaviour support.

Research has demonstrated that positive behaviour support is significantly effective in minimising and managing challenging behaviours in the classroom. It reduces stress, frees up much-needed time for teaching, improves overall student behaviours and creates better classroom cultures.

These positive practices impact general school culture and result in maximised academic outcomes for all students. Positive behaviour support is connected to and aides the implementation of the following General Capabilities in the Australian Curriculum:

- Personal and social capability
- Critical and creative thinking and
- Ethical decision making

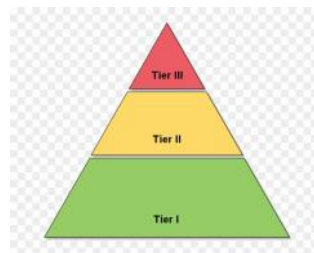
Principles underpinning positive behaviour approaches promote high expectations for all students. All members of the College community have an important role to play in supporting the approach to positive behaviour.

Below is a three tiered approach to ensure that all members of the student population are catered for, according to what they need in terms of behaviour intervention.

Tier 1 - Universal

This tier provides for everyone within the College community to develop and build the necessary skills and support so they can be successful within a positive learning environment and culture. It is framed sound the following nine universals:

- Maintain Active Supervision
- Consequences
- Communication
- Explicit Teaching
- Physical Environment
- Positive Relationships
- Routines
- College Wide Expectations
- Students as Active Contributors



The strategies implemented at this level will meet the needs of 80-90% of students.

Tier 2 - Targeted

Behaviour intervention is intensified to support the needs of approximately 10-15% of students who require more than students at tier one supports. Utilising evidence and data, interventions particularly aimed at the functions of behaviour are implemented to meet the needs of students. These students also continue to receive the universal support mentioned above.

Tier 3 - Intensive

Behaviour intervention is further intensified and specialised with the purpose of supporting approximately 1-5% of students who have been identified as experiencing high levels of difficulty. Interventions are developed collaboratively and in partnership with families and the College and also outside specialist services if required. Students in this tier also continue to receive support from targeted and universal interventions.

Over the coming Chronicle issues we will explore the nine universals at Tier One.

God bless,

David

David Williams
Acting Deputy Principal

Primary

AFFABILITY

Raphael Smit
Jacey Perez-Melei
Benjamin Tadros

RESPONSIBILITY

Eli Taveira

INITIATIVE

Raphael Smit

Secondary Girls

AFFABILITY

Zuri Perez-Melei
Bethany Verleg
Lauren Elliott
Madeleine Hovens
Poppy Taveira
Josephine MacDonald

RESPECT

Rebecca Fitzpatrick
Josephine MacDonald

Secondary Boys

AFFABILITY

David Ockerse
Ignatius Attard
Joseph Zaccari
Hugo Ward
Orlando de Castella
Anthony Tadros
Laurence Ockerse
Sebastian Fahey
John Higgins
Xavier Taveira
Andre Elliott
Daniel Freriks
Julian Hovens
Joseph Morgan

**WOODWIND AND STRING MUSIC LESSONS
At ST THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE**

Flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, violin, and cello and guitar lessons are available at the College.

There are group lessons or private lessons available.

Group lessons are \$10 a week.

Private lessons of 20 min are \$19 and 30 min are \$28 per week.



SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop is open Monday afternoons only from

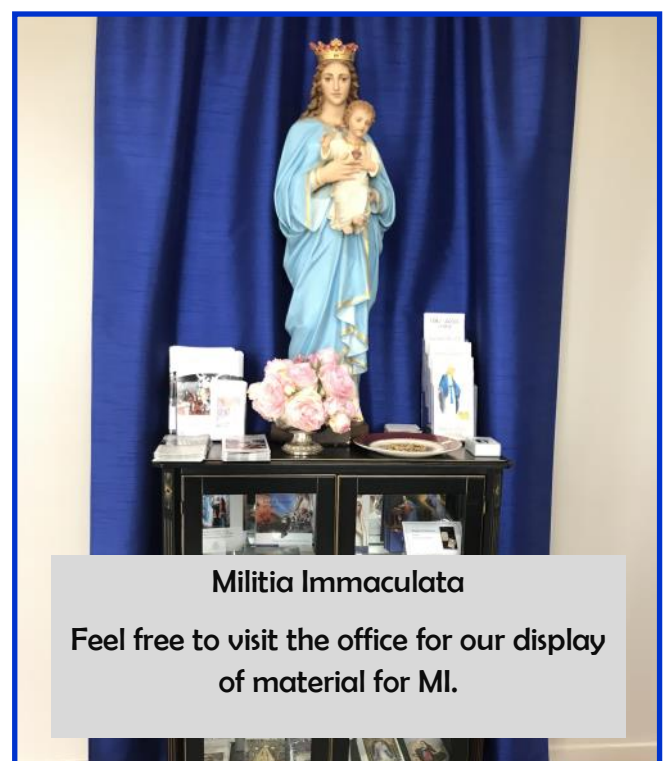
2:45pm - 3:30pm.

You are welcome to call for an appointment or to check stock availability.

Michelle can be reached on 0468438404

Michelle also offers a Blazer re-braiding service, cuffs bound, hems, zips replaced, tears mended and repairs to wool jumpers.

Please also note the office no longer accepts items for re-sale therefore please drop at the shop on a Monday afternoon when Michelle is present.



Militia Immaculata

Feel free to visit the office for our display of material for MI.

Parents & Friends

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 15th February
In the Multipurpose Hall Foyer
at 7:30pm

ALL WELCOME and please note change of venue.

St Thomas Aquinas College Parents & Friends

We are seeking donations of
Easter Eggs and chocolates for a Raffle.

Please could you drop off your donations to
the College office or
give to Kate Gomez or Rebecca Davis.

We would appreciate receiving these by 1st March.



PARENT COMMUNITY INFORMATION MORNING TEA

We look forward to seeing you join us.

DATE: Friday 17th February

TIME: 8.45 AM

VENUE: Multi Purpose Building Foyer

FINISH THE DAY ON FRIDAY WITH AN ICY POLE

\$1 per icy pole



Available from the Year 12 students who will be set up at the pick up area near the statue of Our Lady.

Available this Friday 17th March after school.

FOOD FRIDAY



Food Friday continues this year.
Your donated non-perishable food items are distributed to families in our community. Your support is most appreciated.

Our next Food Friday is on 3rd March.
You are most welcome to donate prior to this date.

St Patrick

(Bishop, Apostle of Ireland - 17th February)

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If the virtue of children reflects honour on their parents, much more justly is the name of Saint Patrick rendered illustrious by the innumerable lights of sanctity which shone in the Church of Ireland during many ages, and by the colonies of Saints with which it peopled many foreign countries. The Apostle of Ireland was born in Scotland towards the close of the fourth century, in a village which seems to be the present-day Scotch town of Kilpatrick. He calls himself both a Briton and a Roman, that is, of mixed extraction, and says his father was of a good family named Calphurnius. Some writers call his mother Conchessa, and say she was the niece of Saint Martin of Tours.



once to the seacoast, though at a great distance, and found the vessel, but he could not obtain his passage - probably for want of money. Patrick was returning to his hut, praying as he went, when the sailors, though pagans, called him back and took him on board.

Some years afterwards he was again taken captive, but recovered his liberty after two months. While he was at home with his parents, God manifested to him, by divers visions, that He destined him for the great work of the conversion of Ireland.

In his sixteenth year he was carried into captivity in Ireland by barbarians. There he was obliged to shepherd cattle on the mountains and in the forests, in hunger and nakedness, amid snow, rain, and ice. The young man had recourse to God with his whole heart, in fervent prayer and fasting, and from that time faith and the love of God acquired a constantly renewed strength in his tender soul. After six months spent in slavery, Saint Patrick was admonished by God in a dream to return to his own country, and was informed that a ship was then ready to sail there. He went at

It is certain that he spent many years in preparing himself for his sacred calling. Great opposition was raised to his episcopal consecration and mission, both by his own relatives and by the clergy. They made him great offers in order to detain him among them, and endeavoured to affright him by exaggerating the dangers to which he exposed himself amid the enemies of the Romans and Britons, who did not know God. All these temptations cast the Saint into great perplexity; but the Lord, whose Will he consulted by earnest prayer, supported him and he persevered in his resolution.

2023 CALENDAR

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
13 Feb 9am - Community Mass in College Chapel Swimming Yr 4&5	14 Feb	15 Feb P&F AGM 7.30pm Multi Purpose BDG	15 Feb Swimming Yr 4&5	17 Feb 8:45am COMMUNITY MORNING TEA Incursion Hockey Roadshow
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				NO STUDY HALL
20 Feb 9am - Community Mass in College Chapel Swimming Yr 4&5	21 Feb - Shrove Tuesday	22 Feb - Ash Wednesday	23 Feb	24 Feb
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				NO STUDY HALL
27 Feb 9am - Community Mass in College Chapel	28 Feb	1 Mar	2 Mar	3 Mar
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				NO STUDY HALL
6 Mar 9am - Community Mass in College Chapel	7 Mar St Thomas Aquinas Feast Day	8 Mar	9 Mar	10 Mar STUDENT FREE DAY
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				NO STUDY HALL
13 Mar PUBLIC HOLIDAY	14 Mar	15 Mar	16 Mar	17 Mar
3:30 - 4:30pm Study Hall				NO STUDY HALL

OFFICE HOURS

8:15am - 3:30pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY

TERM DATES 2023

1st Term: 30th January - 5th April 3rd Term: 18th July - 15th September
2nd Term: 26th April - 23rd June 4th Term: 2nd October - 8th December