

EDITION 2 28TH FEBRUARY 2020

the LIGHTHOUSE



OPENING COLLEGE MASS AN UPLIFTING CELEBRATION WITH OUR COMMUNITY



ASH WEDNESDAY
SHOWING GRATITUDE TO GOD

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD
THE REWARDS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING

YEAR 7 MACKILLOP CAMP
"GOOD FOOD, FUN ACTIVITIES AND NEW FRIENDS.."

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Opening Mass

Thank you to all who contributed to our uplifting Opening Mass in our College gym last Thursday evening. Congratulations to our Catholic Life Team, especially Mrs Tania Grace, Assistant Principal - Mission, for her work with Fr Len Size on a lovely mass and to our Daily Organisers who coordinated many of the logistical challenges. A special vote of thanks to Fr Len who has informed us of his impending retirement after many years of service to our community. Of course, the beautiful voices of our choir once again took our worship to another level and I thank our leaders Mrs Lisa Sully and Mr Rod Meaklim and musicians, Mr Adrian Perri, Mr Jared Campbell and Mr Glenn Cannon. Thank you to those who took this opportunity to gather as a community and share in this wonderful expression of our faith.

Ash Wednesday

We gathered on Wednesday morning for Ash Wednesday ceremonies to mark the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. The faithful receive ashes on their forehead as a visible symbol of penance. Aquinas also marks Lent through our Project Compassion campaign in support of Caritas. The [Caritas website](#) is an excellent resource and presents a case study each week that highlights projects where support from Caritas is making a difference.

Open Day

Advance notice that on Sunday March 15 we will have our Open Day from 12pm to 3pm. Tours will be conducted at 20 minute intervals with the last tour departing at 2.15pm. Bookings are not required. Parents with a child in Grade 5 are reminded that the enrolment period for the 2022 Year 7 class closes on Friday, August 21st, 2020. Should you have any questions please contact College Registrar, Ms Madeleine Kalla on 9259 3008

Aquinas College Board

The Aquinas College Board were commissioned at our College Mass and we welcomed new members, Mr Dave Mutimer, Primary Principal's representative and Miss Charlotte Dring, who is the Student Representative. The other members of the College Board include:

Fr Tony Doran	President of the Association of Canonical Administrators
Mr Paul Ayton	Chair and representative of Sacred Heart Parish, Croydon
Mr Darren Atkinson	Principal
Mr Dean Scott	Representative of the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Ringwood
Dr Roland Faktor	Representative of Holy Spirit Parish, North Ringwood
Mrs Angela Jordan	Representative of St John's Parish, Mitcham
Mrs Nadine Callaghan	Staff Representative
Mr James Burston	Financial Advisor
Mr Brad McDonald	Co-opted member Project Management
Mrs Denise Raven	Representative of Parents & Friends Committee

Welcome to visitors from our sister school in France

We have had the great pleasure this week of welcoming visitors from our sister school in France, Lycee St. Marie. Eight students and two teachers will be with us and hosted by Aquinas families until Wednesday 4th March. Thank you to our families who have opened their doors to our guests - your generosity is greatly appreciated. We hope our visitors have a rewarding visit to Australia and look forward to the opportunities to share some of their culture with our students.

Aquinas Leading Lights

We need your help to identify members of our Alumni who deserve recognition as an "Aquinas Leading Light" later in the year. The 'Leading Lights' program seeks to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of Aquinas Alumni in a specific field. The selection panel will consider candidates in the following categories. Academia, Arts and Entertainment, Business, Civics, Science and Technology, Service, Education, Sport, Religious Life, Health. Please refer to our [website to see our past inductees](#) and contact Madeleine Kalla on 9259 3008 if you have any recommendations.

Darren Atkinson
Principal



COLLEGE CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 March	2 March Cafe N9ne - Blue Gp 1 Yr 7 Dominic Camp Senior Musical Rehearsal	3 March Restaurant Night EISM Div 1 Swimming Carnival Yr 7 Dominic Camp Junior Musical Rehearsals 11VCD14A Unit 1 City Excursion 12FST12A & 13A Food studies excursion	4 March Restaurant Night (Mullum Cluster) Yr 9 Swim Testing Senior EISM 12VSR14A Melbourne Cable Park excursion	5 March Music USA Parent info night AGiLE P4 Jnr Musical - Lead Roles Yr 8 Swim Testing Yr 9 EISM 09CH11A Chinese Museum 09EPE19C Bowling 09EPE19D Aquanation Senior Musical Rehearsal	6 March 09PEH1GR Lawn Bowls Yr 12 VCE Physics Day	7 March
8 March	9 March Labour Day public holiday	10 March Cafe N9ne Blue Gp 2 Junior Musical Rehearsals Yr 8 Rice EISM	11 March Restaurant Night (Mullum Cluster) Senior EISM	12 March Yr 9 EISM 09EPE19D Aquanation 090EPE19C Rollerskating Yr 9 Computing Excursion Australian Grand Prix Senior Musical Rehearsal	13 March College Athletics Carnival	14 March
15 March College Open Day	16 March Cafe N9ne - Green Gp 1 Catholic Education Week Yr 8 Parent info evening Senior Musical Rehearsal Yr 11 Elevate Education Parent info night	17 March Restaurant Night St Patrick's Day Mass Year 7 Immunisations Yr 8 Rice EISM Yr 8 Swim testing Junior Musical Rehearsals	18 March Restaurant Night (Mullum Cluster) Senior EISM	19 March AGiLE CogAT testing P4&5 Yr 9 EISM 09EPE19D Aquanation 10PEO13A Parliament House & Magistrate Court Senior Musical Rehearsal	20 March Harmony Day AGiLE P6 09PEH1GR Lawn Bowls	21 March USA Music Tour departs
22 March	23 March EISM Champions Swim Carnival Young Change Agents Workshop Yr 9 SEB 12SAR11 & 12 NGV Senior Musical Rehearsal	24 March Yr 8 MacKillop EISM Yr 9 SEB Junior Musical Rehearsals	25 March Restaurant Night (Mullum Cluster) Yr 9 SEB 12MED15A Top Designs Excursion Senior EISM	26 March AGiLE P4 Yr 9 SEB Yr 9 EISM Grand Final 12ENV13A Mt Rothwell Excursion Senior Musical Rehearsal	27 March Yr 9 SEB	28 March School Holidays



Sunday 15th March 12-3pm

AQUINAS COLLEGE
ILLUMINARE ET ARDERE

Our Leaders welcome you.

We are proud to showcase our College's dynamic and innovative learning community on Open Day through guided or self-guided tours.

No bookings required. Final tour departs 2.15pm.

46 Great Ryrie Street, Ringwood | 03 9259 3000 | www.aquinas.vic.edu.au

Embrace your spirit.
Discover your place.

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



Dr Napoleon Rodezno
Deputy Principal

Helping our young build resilience and find pathways during their school years

We live in a world that demands individuals to be global citizens and to have the resilience to be the best they can be, not only through their educational journeys but for their entire life. When you add the demands and tribulations experienced by teenagers and consider the journeys undertaken by your child, the experiences may become complex, confusing and challenging. I am often amazed at how much meaning can be found in Dr Seuss' books whenever I reflect on the challenges we face as human beings through our life journeys. Here is a quote I often relate to when working with young people:

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose."
Dr Seuss (from: Oh, the Places You'll Go! 1971)

Often, knowing that we can choose our own paths, accepting that sometimes we must follow the lead of others, is not something that we may grasp until the end of school. I believe resilience is an attribute that can help students make informed and responsible decisions at school and beyond. The ability to learn from failure, to challenge oneself to face any dilemma with the trust that every problem has a solution, and to celebrate that we are all God's creatures is a key to success in school.

As a parent or guardian you can support your child develop resilience and manage the challenges they face. Here are some simple yet effective strategies/suggestions for you to consider:

- Help your children understand the importance of being unique by celebrating who they are
- Interact with them about anything and everything, and let them trust their beliefs and desires
- Share your own personal experiences, including your past, your dreams, goals and aspirations
- Celebrate all achievements and challenge your child to learn from any failures they may experience
- Help your children understand that failures and mistakes are in fact "learning experiences"
- Support their learning journeys by being actively involved in their school life; develop effective relationships with their teachers and communicate with the College on matters that are important to them and your family
- Encourage their participation in sports/extra-curricular activities
- Encourage face to face interaction and minimise social media use
- Limit their use of electronic devices and encourage them to communicate face to face with others
- Talk with them about their dreams and challenge them to set goals so that these are achieved

Despite the challenges imposed on schools and teachers by the ever changing educational landscape in Australia, it is my firm belief that more than ever, students have greater opportunities to succeed and become holistic global citizens with purpose. Building resilience is an attribute that will enhance their potential to achieve this. Being a global citizen is not a reflection of how well students are rated against cohorts but rather how effectively they can contribute to their community throughout their life journey. Aquinas College is a great school setting committed to educating the whole person, and you can rest assured that the College aims to achieve this with your child. Your involvement is paramount in the process of building resilience as a way to prepare them for the inevitable challenges they will face.

The year has started positively for the students thanks to the strategic preparation and enthusiasm of staff at the College, as approaches to teaching and learning practice meet the demands of the ever changing challenges imposed on the teaching profession. I look forward to the rest of the term and school year positively knowing that it will continue to be a great learning experience for me personally and professionally.

Please feel welcome to respond or comment on my thoughts regarding resilience building on our students by contacting me at the College or via rodeznone@aquinas.vic.edu.au

SCRIPTURALLY SPEAKING



Tania Grace
Assistant Principal -
Mission

Tempted?

This coming Sunday is the first Sunday of Lent. The reading of the day discusses the concept of temptation through the story of Jesus in the desert.

There are many opportunities where Jesus could provide himself with the easier path - but at what sacrifice? Each time he rejects temptation and continues on his chosen path. *So...when are we tempted? How are we tempted? When do we fall to temptation?*

Rev Dr Gary Nicolosi describes temptation in our lives as to stray from the values we hold dear, to take short cuts, to avoid struggle, to compromise our standards. We are tempted to break our diets, flirt with somebody at work, finesse the chemistry test, gossip about a friend, lie our way out of trouble.

Sr Okewechime from Nigeria says that *"Temptations are necessary for our spiritual growth, in fact it is only after we have been able to overcome temptation that we can claim to be spiritually strong. Allow ourselves to be forgiven."*

During the season of Lent we face a time of renewal. We try to let go of past temptations and make a fresh start. It is a time of reflection and a time of hope, a time to forgive others and allow ourselves to be forgiven. As an Aquinas community, we pray that this season of Lent is a time of hope and renewal where we can resist temptation with confidence.

MUSIC NOTES



Jared Campbell
Music Programs
Coordinator

Instrumental Lessons and Ensembles are well underway and the Music program is as busy as ever. On Tuesday the 18th of February, the Music faculty welcomed our new Year 7 students at the 'Instrumental Recruitment Night'.

The evening provided an opportunity for new Year 7 students to explore the instrumental and ensemble lessons on offer at the College with coffee and hot chocolate provided for parents and students by the wonderful Friends of Aquinas Music (FOAM) committee. Aquinas families enjoyed the evening with performances from the Senior Stage Band and Junior Harmony.

It is important that students strive for excellence in all their endeavours. As students play their instruments better, they seem to gain more from the musical experience. The feeling of accomplishment through musical performance directly increases their sense of self-worth. It is always amazing to see how this improvement is reflected in better attitudes, better grades and a brighter outlook on life.

One of the most important ways to improve as a musician is through private lessons. There is no

substitute for weekly sessions of individualised instruction by an instrument specialist. Private lesson instructors serve as an ideal model and mentor to assist in your child's improvement in the areas of tone, technique and general musicianship. The helpful hints or minor adjustments suggested by the instructor can greatly improve your child's playing ability.

If parents or students would like more information about enrolling in instrumental lessons and have not yet completed the online enrolment please feel free to contact any staff member in the faculty or directly contact myself or Trish Thompson (Music Secretary). With spots filling up quickly across the program the bands program is looking specifically for Strings (Violin and Cello) and Clarinet recruits to join our amazing Beginner ensembles on fun and exciting opportunities. We will be hosting a lunchtime trial tables for new students. There is still time, but be quick!

Final Preparations for the USA Music Tour are well underway. Students and staff depart on the 21st of March for 14 days in New York and Washington. Students will also be performing at this year's Open Day as a final practice performance.

SENIOR YEARS REPORT



Meredith Greenwood
Head Senior Years

This week a parent reminded me that we are almost half way through Term 1. There is so much activity in the first few weeks that the time does fly, but by March the immediate busyness has abated and people have settled into the routine of school.

While at the start of any year, we anticipate that some students move classes, drop subjects and pick up others, there should be no more changes now until the end of the semester. Indeed in many VCE studies, the students have already completed their first School Assessed Coursework task or SAC so the year is well and truly underway.

The consensus amongst staff is that all three year levels in Senior Years have started well. There is a sense of purpose, and most students have started the term focused and keen to learn. The increased face to face teaching time is also proving beneficial with many teachers using that extra lesson at Year 12, and two extra classes at Year 10 and 11 to bed down

knowledge. The challenge for everyone; students and teachers, is to both maintain that momentum but also establish a regular pattern of revision and study.

It is the time to consolidate practices and make them habitual. This week, the Year 11 Level Leaders invited Elevate Education to work with their students during their Friday morning Mentor session. The program is called Study Sensei and it covers a range of activities that have been shown to help students consolidate what they are learning in class:

- how to utilise the syllabus to frame study which in our case is how to maximize the cycle planner;
- how to structure and organise notes;
- conceptual learning to develop deep understanding;
- how to prepare for assessment and most importantly;
- how to be an independent learner.

MIDDLE YEARS REPORT



Rachel Crawley
Head Middle Years

Work ethic is one of our learning priorities for 2020. Consistent completion and submission of homework is one element that assists the development of work ethic. Year 7 and 8 Homework books, Year 9 Cycle Planners, Homework Hub and Maths Mornings were introduced last year to Middle Years students with positive uptake by the students and will continue this year.

All Years 7 and 8 students have received the Homework book and set tasks are appearing on SIMON. If a Homework book is left at school, students have access to an electronic copy on the SIMON homepage via a link found under the Student Resources tab. Homework is deliberately placed in the hands of the students so PAM does not have access to the electronic Homework book.

This year Maths Mornings has relocated to the ARC to centralise the support and improve accessibility for Year 9 students. Homework Hub has been operating for the past two weeks, Thursday mornings, 8.20am and Tuesdays for Year 9s only. Students have started to receive emails informing them they are required at Homework Hub due to work that has passed overdue status and become not submitted.

This week will be the first time Year 7s have received such emails and they may be rightfully concerned. The purpose of the emails is to generate action to address the work that has not been submitted rather than a punitive measure. Ideally the student actions are to look at the work marked as “not submitted”, and complete and submit it. The email contains directions for students on how to navigate SIMON to locate the work. Any further queries or concerns regarding the homework should be directed to the subject teacher.

Most of our students are able to manage homework well, however, there are varying degrees of success. This year we hope to observe students progress from their base level set last year and raise their commitment to meet the increase demands of a higher year level. The question for each student is what worked well last year in my homework regime that I will keep doing and what needs to change to improve? If you are seeking further information on how to support your child with homework you may wish to visit the website raising children.

MEET THE STAFF

IN EACH ISSUE OF THE *LIGHTHOUSE*, WE PROFILE OUR COMMUNITY.

THIS TERM WE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR NEW MEMBERS OF THE TEAM.



**ERIN
CUMMING**
MIDDLE
YEARS MATHS
COORDINATOR

Erin joins us here at Aquinas as the Middle Years Mathematic Coordinator, teaching Year 7 and 9 Mathematics, and Units 3 and 4 Further Mathematics.

Before joining Aquinas College Erin worked at St Francis Xavier College for several years. She has also worked in London which gives her a range of experiences in and outside of the classroom.

Erin enjoys travelling, spending time with her family and friends, trying out new places for coffee and brunch and reading. She was very lucky to do a 4 week road trip in the USA and Canada over the Christmas break and has plans for a white European Christmas in 2020.

Thankfully her family love to travel as well and will be joining her. Erin was inspired to become a teacher because of the wonderful teachers she and her siblings had at school. She studied at both Australian Catholic University Melbourne and Deakin University.

Erin is very glad to have joined the Aquinas College community having been welcomed by staff, students and parents in her first week. She feels supported in her role and is excited to help students achieve their best.



**DARCY
TAYLOR**
TEACHER

Darcy completed a Bachelor of Education (Mathematics and Health) at Federation University, Ballarat in 2015.

After completing his university degree, Darcy returned to his home town of Horsham to teach for three years at St. Brigid's College and last year Darcy took up an opportunity to teach in London for most of the year.

Darcy enjoys travelling and spent time exploring the United States in 2017. He managed to visit a number of European countries during school holidays last year.

He loves all things sport and is a passionate supporter of the Carlton Football Club. Darcy has played for the Horsham Demons Football Club for all of his life. Now after moving down to Melbourne has had many of the Aquinas Old Collegians in his ear about joining up!

Darcy has thoroughly enjoyed forming new bonds with new and current staff members as well as his students over the first few weeks of term and is looking forward to an enjoyable 2020 at Aquinas.

OPENING MASS FOR 2020

AN UPLIFTING CELEBRATION WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Our Opening Mass for the College was held on Thursday 20th February. It is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate our faith as a community. Some of our Year 7 students reflect on their first Mass at Aquinas College.

"I really liked the Mass and how it made me feel a part of the Aquinas community. I liked how it was loud and everyone was joining in and it was special that I was at Mass with my friends."

Alicia
7 Green

"The Mass last night helped me to realise how much everyone enjoys being at Aquinas. I felt welcome because I was a part of a big community singing as one. I felt like everyone was happy and proud to be at Aquinas College."

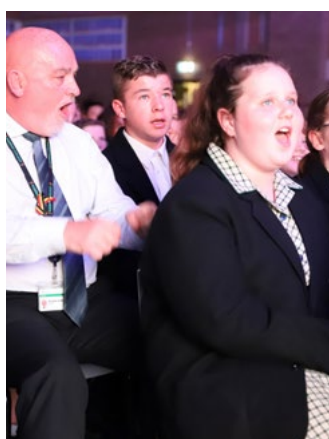
Zachary
7 Green

"I was really nervous because I carried up the Dominic banner in front of all the people. It was fun because everyone was singing the school song so happily. Afterwards I felt like I belong to the Aquinas community."

Lachlan
7 Green

"It was a great way for me to understand how the College works. I really enjoyed having the opportunity to sing. I felt like I really belonged here where everyone was signing at the top of their lungs and my heart was racing. I can't wait to see what other events like this will occur during my 6 years ahead".

Maddie
7 Green



ASH WEDNESDAY

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW GRATITUDE TO GOD

"On Wednesday the 26th of February our Year 10 Faith and Liturgy class ran the Ash Wednesday liturgy for the Years 7 and 8 students and teachers. Ash Wednesday is an important opportunity to reflect on our mortality, show gratitude to God, and begin the season of Lent. At Aquinas, Ash Wednesday also kicks off our major fundraiser; Project Compassion.

Project Compassion is run by Caritas Australia and raises money for Developing World Countries. The liturgy was a great chance for us to show leadership and for the students to reflect on their lives as we approach the sacred time of Easter."

Sydney Callanan & Caitlin Waters
Year 10 Faith and Liturgy students



IMPORTANT NOTE

TUTORING ON COLLEGE PREMISES

Please note that under no circumstances can third party tutoring be provided for students using any of the physical spaces at the College.

Due to our Child Safety policies and procedures, it is necessary that all study sessions involving members of the public be delivered externally. Tuition offered to specific students as direct funding from Catholic Education Melbourne will be delivered at the College and supervised by College staff. Any other tuition, arranged externally with third parties will not be possible.

Sorry for the inconvenience that this may create. An appropriate venue to host tutoring is the Ringwood Library. Please see information about the library at <https://www.yourlibrary.com.au/locations/realm-library/>

SHROVE TUESDAY

VCAL STUDENTS WORKING TOGETHER



Shrove Tuesday was celebrated this week at Aquinas with a recess full of fun, companionship and pancakes cooked to perfection by the Year 11 VCAL class. The morning showcased the ability of Aquinas VCAL students to work together under a significant amount of pressure, not only to provide nourishment, but importantly to introduce the beginning of Project Compassion at the College.

The students involved, under the direction of Mr Harrington were able to plan, resource and carry out the activity with a minimum of fuss. The highlight was the sense of teamwork displayed by students, the ability to reflect on success and importantly discussion of areas for improvement for future community events.



Our VCAL students have started the year brilliantly with most out on a variety of work sites every Friday, as well as, combining their selected VET studies with other classroom commitments. We look forward to a year of great personal growth and development for all of our students. Importantly we also encourage all students and families to embrace Project Compassion and support the great work of Caritas.

Wayne Forrest
VCAL Coordinator



FAIR TRADE LAUNCH

CEM LAUNCH FAIR TRADE KIT

On Thursday 13th February, Aquinas students attended the CEM's launch of the Fair Trade resources kit. Modern slavery is a significant issue not only globally but within Australia as well. Many of us are aware of fair trade coffee, tea and chocolates, however this resource encourages schools to not only begin here, but to expand into other areas too.



Archbishop Cominsoli and Sr Cleary, the co founder of ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking of Humans) launched the resource and spoke about the importance of human dignity for all.



Aquinas College was specifically invited because of our staff and students work in past years to introduce fair trade goods in our staff rooms and our continued work through our fair trade fair. This resource will be used to continue to expand our awareness of the need for fair trade and encourage forms of change within the community.

Tania Grace
Assistant Principal - Mission



ENGLISH LEARNING AREA

HELPING YOUR CHILD WHEN STUDYING ENGLISH

January 1st of any year greets us with a regular question 'What will be your new year resolution?'. This leads to fresh goals and new expectations. 2020 has been no different in this respect but it seems from the English Learning Area's perspective that many of our students have set themselves the challenge of getting better at English. This is evident in the classrooms where students are focused on their reading and writing, in the piles of marking teachers are carrying back to their desks so early in the term and even in the sticker charts in Year 12 classrooms. Students are showing their commitment to English very visibly this year.

One of the questions that often comes to English teachers is about how to best support your child to study English. This can be a very difficult thing to do when parents feel that it was not the subject they felt successful with during their own schooling. Alternatively, it can also be challenging for those parents who find the study of English second nature whilst their children struggle to express themselves clearly. But there are many ways parents can encourage and practically support their child's progress in English.

The first real way is by encouraging reading of the set texts your child is studying. The best way to know if your child has read the novel they are studying for English is to pick up a copy yourself and start talking about what you think about the characters, themes and ideas raised by the text. Talking about what you are reading is the most important skill to support children's connection to the big picture being presented through the text. A text like The Christmas Carol is not just about the spirit of Christmas but rather about

the way that people treat each other in society based on social class. Helping your children to see the layered meaning in text will encourage them to start to look for this complexity themselves.

Additionally, when students are studying persuasive language units there is an easier real world connection to be made. Put the news on and start to question the way the news can manipulate viewers. Voice your opinions about the news and encourage your children to do the same ensuring they justify their opinions. We need a world where young people have strong voices to ensure a just society.

Finally, in English our subject really comes down to students being able to express what they've understood in their reading. Therefore the writing component is vital. Ask to look at your child's practice writing, your child's English teacher will thank you if you could point out the lack of capital letters, the stray apostrophes and the spelling. You don't have to correct it all but every little direction helps. Another way to lend a helping hand is to get your child to read their written work aloud and help them to adjust their language. We are more likely to hear problems with sentence structure rather than see them in most cases.

The English Team wishes students and their families all the best with those new year resolutions!

Alyce Cudmore
English Learning Area Leader

CAFÉ NINE

Indulge with a coffee and freshly baked cake, muffin or slice, or enjoy a delicious cooked breakfast.

Tuesday - Friday 8.30am - 11.30am
Wurundjeri Trade Training Centre, Aquinas College

Support the Year 9 students as they participant in this experiential learning program.



BEING A SCIENTIST

ACCIDENTAL DISCOVERIES AND PRACTICAL INVESTIGATIONS

As we approach Week 5 I thought it would be a good opportunity to showcase what our Year 7 students have learnt and engaged in so far. We started off the year with our unit titled "Being a Scientist". To date, we have focused on the different branches of Science and gained an understanding of the Science classroom and how it differs from a normal classroom setting.

In Week 3, we researched accidental discoveries and the impact these discoveries have had on our lives today. We also focused on playing it safe in the laboratory, and how observation plays a big part in our learning and understanding of scientific concepts. This led to completing several practical investigations. One of these included making slime. Students used curiosity, wonder and questioning to understand how the consistency of slime changes and why.

We also completed an investigation called Mystery Boxes. Students used their senses to work out what object was hidden inside the boxes. In Week 4 we completed an investigation called Making Observations. Students worked on different stations around the laboratory and completed several different practical observations. Their task was to observe what happened when different substances were mixed with each other. Overall students accurately recorded the outcome of their results for each investigation they completed.

Melissa Campbell
Teacher



CONGRATULATIONS

Over the January holidays Laura Mumford and Amy Williams, both in Year 8 this year, were selected to play representative cricket for BHRDCA. They played in the U14's Julie Savage Shield and won the premiership.



LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD

THE REWARDS OF PUBLIC SPEAKING

"Recently, Grace, Mikaela and I had the opportunity to apply for our regions Lions Youth of the Year Award (YOTY). We were competing, in our region, against four other students from Yarra Valley. The selection process was an interview, application and both an impromptu and prepared speech. After finishing our applications, The first step was an interview, on Monday the 17th and the final stage, an evening event, on the same day.

The evening began with impromptu speeches and concluded with our prepared speeches. We had the opportunity to choose our own topics, and speak about something we're passionate about with Grace discussing the benefits of learning a foreign language, Mikaela advocating for women in society and myself, discussing the injustices of Australian research funding. Finally at the very end, each participant was individually called to the front and awarded a certificate. To follow this, the event awards were announced. In the end I was lucky enough to be awarded both the Public Speaking Award and Overall Winner, sending me through to the Zone final.

At first the idea of speaking to a room full of strangers was slightly daunting but in the end we got there. So, if I were to give any advice on public speaking I would firstly say, find an angle to argue from which you can find passion within. Secondly I would say; use the people around you, formulate a support crew. Throughout the entire journey Grace, Mikaela and I were supported by Mr. Gatherer and Ms. Konstantinandis and in turn we supported each other, so when it finally came down to it, having smiles in the audience empowered us to speak both confidently and courageously."

Rory O'Brien
Year 11



MY CAFE N9NE EXPERIENCE

GREAT SKILLS YOU CAN USE IN LIFE



"Cafe N9ne was one of the best experiences I've ever done before. Every day I came in excited for what I was going to learn. Before walking in the doors I wouldn't have been able to cook poached eggs or even work the coffee machine, but I learnt how to do all that.

Cafe N9ne gets you out of your comfort zone in so many ways by talking to the customers, waitressing, cooking, cleaning and speaking to new people. The program teaches you so many great skills you can use in life including working in a team and communicating and being able to problem solve. I am so lucky that I was able to take place in such a great experience thank you to all the teachers that taught me and wish I could do it all over again."

Eliza Schulties
Year 9

YEAR 7 MACKILLOP CAMP

“GOOD FOOD, FUN ACTIVITIES AND NEW FRIENDS..”

Mackillop was the first team to head up to Camp ADANAC for their Year 7 camp. They were blessed with a great team and a sense of adventure. It was a great opportunity for our still relatively new Year 7 cohort - they have only been at secondary school for four weeks - to get to know each other and challenge themselves.

“The waterslide was the fastest slide I’ve even been on - you had to close your eyes otherwise water would get in them!”

Lucy

“Seeing people’s personalities in a different environment. Also seeing people face their fears and step out of their comfort zone was really inspiring”

Ella

“I love it so much! Good food, fun activities, and meeting new friends”

Jayden

“Camp was really fun. Making new friends!”

Christopher



SENIOR EISM - ROUND 1

Girls Basketball A Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 37-35
Winner: Aquinas
The girls fought really hard in a tight tussle against really strong opposition in Emmaus. The girls shot and defended really well and held off for a great 2 point win.

Girls Basketball B Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 27-33
Winner: Emmaus
We played a nice brand of basketball, however Emmaus just moved the ball a bit better and took better shots. The girls fought really hard to the siren but unfortunately came up short, however there is heaps of improvement in this team.

Girls Tennis A Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 2/15-1/13
Winner: Aquinas

Girls Tennis B Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 1/15-1/13
Winner: Aquinas
We played a really nice brand of tennis, running everything down and getting most balls in play saw us win in the A's despite great competition from Emmaus. The B's had a much tighter encounter winning by just 2 games in the end. Some really exciting and flashy tennis was played from all involved and the girls were stoked with the win.

Girls Volleyball Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 3-0
Winner: Aquinas
They won the first set 25:16. The second was more attractive to watch as they took out the second set 25:13. The third set was a little up and down despite still winning the third set

25:18. A special mention to Millie for her excellent help. The team displayed a positive on court presence with their friendliness. A good start to the new EISM volleyball season.

Girls Indoor Cricket Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 21-151
Winner: Emmaus
We played the reigning premiers and the girls showed plenty of skill and determination. We look forward to a big win next week.

Girls Ultimate Frisbee Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 10-3
Winner: Aquinas
An excellent first game from the new squad. It was really tough playing in the windy, hot conditions and it just took some time to settle into the game. Up by only 2 at the main break, the second half was much more controlled as the girls got back into the rhythm of it. Best on today was Izzy for her speed, energy and leadership. Well done!

Girls Softball Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 8-8
Winner: draw
After a slow start, where a strong Emmaus team scored 7 home runs the girls fought back extremely hard and managed to score 8 runs in the 3rd innings. There was fantastic batting from all involved and Niki, Gabbi, Hayley and Samara lead the way with some impressive pitching and fielding. The improvement in both fielding and batting from the 1st innings to the 3rd was immense.

Boys Basketball A Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 60-61
Winner: Emmaus
Tough start to the season for the boys,

losing in the dying seconds to a gutsy Emmaus team. We had no shortage of scorers on offence, with Tom Ghosn, Luke Green, Darcy Watson and Matt Donald leading the way. Defensively, however we gave up too many boards and second chance opportunities and Emmaus punished us with some good perimeter shooting and strong drives to the bucket. This puts us in a vulnerable position for the season with no semi finals this year.

Boys Basketball B Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 43-29
Winner: Aquinas
Slow start to the game, we found ourselves trailing by double digits early in the first half. A 2 minute run at the end of the half, led by Yr 10s Jake Moore and Seb Barnes, cut the deficit to 7 at half time. The second half was all our way, outscoring Emmaus, 29 - 8. Sam Tasic turned the game with a big presence under the ring, with solid defence and finding his way to the stripe with ease.

Boys Tennis A Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 2/13-2/17
Winner: Emmaus
An up and down 4 sets, with some impressive shots thrown in with a fair bit of early season rust. Harry Flack had a cracking start, helping claim both sets. Plenty of potential to build on and ultimately a bit stiff not to pinch a few more games.

Boys Tennis B Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 2/17-2/17
Winner: draw
A rare draw on sets and games for the B team, with several players showcasing their wares to push into the A team. An impressive fightback in the final game to tie things up.

Boys Hockey Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 2-2
Winner: draw
What a great game to start the season off. Both sides played well with the ball moving from end to end. Emmaus had a great keeper that saved many shots on goal. Eventually the boys working together got the ball into the attacking circle and Kaelan Bouny scored 2 beautiful goals.

Boys Cricket Aquinas vs. Huntingtower

Score: 2/140-10/92
Winner: Aquinas
We batted well with Harry F and Ayton M, controlling the run rate well. We were able to set a big total for them to chase. Our bowling was a bit wayward with nearly half their runs coming from wides or no balls (something to work on for the following games). Jesse J bowled really well in his 4 overs. A good start to the season.

Boys Softball Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Score: 8-7
Winner: Aquinas
Grand final replay was always going to be a tight encounter and it didn't disappoint. Good communication and smarts in the field meant we were able to put pressure on the batters through the middle innings and reduce their scoring. Macklins' pitching was wayward early but found his rhythm when it counted, whilst Siddans showed his class with the bat and O'Brien proved to have safe hands in the centre outfield all day including taking the winning catch.

SENIOR EISM - ROUND 2

Girls Basketball A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 46-13
Winner: Aquinas
The girls got off to an awesome start jumping out of the blocks with real excitement and after taking a 13 point lead at half time the girls kept Mt Lilydale to 3 second half points. Abby and Issy were outstanding with lots of baskets.

Girls Basketball B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 38-17
Winner: Aquinas
The girls were amazing today, all were superstars! Couldn't have asked for them to play better against Mt Lilydale, loved the pressure the girls brought to the game today! We used the ball well around the court and our defence was awesome. Well done.

Girls Tennis A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

Girls Tennis B Aquinas vs. Emmaus

Match Abandoned

Girls Volleyball Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 3-0
Winner: Aquinas
This week the team played against Mt Lilydale who have often in the past created challenges for the senior girls. However, they improved and lifted winning in straight sets 25:23, 25:13, 25:14. I was most impressed with the numerous positive attacks at the net, which for me was this week's highlight and after a distracting start, the girls lifted resulting in a positive outcome.

Girls Indoor Cricket Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 76-190
Winner: MLMC
Despite the lopsided score line it was a much improved effort by the girls against a strong Mt Lilydale side. Once again the team was well skippered by Ann Joseph and the girls have already bonded into a real team. We are close to a win and we are looking forward to next week.

Girls Ultimate Frisbee Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

Girls Softball Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

Boys Basketball A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 73-64
Winner: Aquinas
With the return of Foxwell, our line up looked a lot more balanced this week as we took on traditional rivals Mt Lilydale. In what resembled an all star game at times, offence was the highlight and we need to work on our defence to restrict teams putting up big numbers. Ghosn had a strong performance with 21 points, well supported by the full squad with Watson tipping in 14 before fouling out and 11 from Foxy and Donald. Highlight of the game without doubt was Foxy dunking over a Mt Lilydale player which sent the crowd (and players/coaches) into shock!

Boys Basketball B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 40-34
Winner: Aquinas
Strong performance from the team, with defence being the best part. We only gave up 14 points in 20 minutes of basketball in the first half. The game

was well in control until a 10-0 run at the end of the second half put our boys under unwanted pressure. Nathan Keeghan was huge for us, getting the boards and the buckets

Boys Tennis A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

Boys Tennis B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

Boys Hockey Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 7-0
Winner: Aquinas

The team played well, great passing and good conversions in the goal circle. Toby put some great pressure on the defence ensuring no goals were scored. The boys who scored were Kaelan Bouny: 4, Luke McKinnon: 1, Zane Mumford: 1 and Brad Cray: 1

Boys Cricket Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

Boys Softball Aquinas vs. MLMC

Match Abandoned

YEAR 9 EISM - ROUND 2

Girls Basketball A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 36-27

Winner: Aquinas

This week the girls really came to play as they were switched on in the warm ups and ready to go from the beginning. They were able to restrain Mt Lilydale's attempt at a fast paced game with their lock down defence. Overall a great win and start to the season at 2-0.

Girls Basketball B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 38-17

Winner: Aquinas

The girls came out of the blocks strongly, grabbing the first few baskets, they played really well as a team through taking good shots and relentless defence. Olivia Oldaker and Emma Breaden starred with very impressive games.

Girls Indoor Cricket Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 56-56

Winner: draw

The girls started the game batting, and our first pair managed to get themselves into a -18 deficit. Molly Campbell worked hard to get our score back into the positive with some amazing hits. Mt Lilydale started to bat and caught up to us quickly. However, with some smart wicket keeping from Lexie Quinn we were able to keep their run rate to a minimum and manage to draw.

Girls Touch Footy Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 10-2

Winner: Aquinas

After a very slow start to the game, leading 2-1 at half time, the team fired up in the 2nd half and totally dominated with strong running which opened up the play dramatically. The girls are improving with each game and this is pleasing to see. Well done everyone on this excellent performance.

Girls Tennis A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 4/24-0/9

Winner: Aquinas

So proud of the girls!! Not only did they win every game and hence the match, they laughed, had fun, really wanted to win and take it seriously. They showed a lot of team spirit and good sportsmanship. They learnt a lot from round one where many didn't know a lot about the basics. Well Done- looking forward to a great season.

Girls Tennis B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 4/24-0/11

Winner: Aquinas

Girls Softball Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 9-7

Winner: Aquinas

What a win! Going into the 3rd innings we were five runs down, but some excellent pitching by Chloe North Coombes and fielding by Tahlia resulted

in three outs for no runs. This meant we faced the epic task of making 6 runs in 10 minutes and in a fantastic effort the girls scored the runs with no outs! Strong hitting and amazing base running allowed us to win in a very exciting finish. Well done girls on an excellent team effort.

Boys Basketball A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 32-29

Winner: Aquinas

Another solid win today as our 'B' team Tough game against a very strong and tall opposition. After a tough first half, the boys tightened up on the defensive end and created a few opportunities from deep. Against a tall opposition everyone played their role to get the team over the line. A strong display in a game that could have easily gone either way.

Boys Basketball B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 43-31

Winner: Aquinas

Competitive game for the first 15minutes. The boys were able to get into a rhythm and remain in control for the rest of the game. A great team effort and perseverance in the heat.

Boys Hockey Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 3-1

Winner: Aquinas

An excellent team effort in hot conditions with great leadership from co captains Jackson and James. We kept our structures well and defended solidly.

Boys Softball Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 21-5

Winner: Aquinas

An excellent first game after starting with a bye last week. The boys were aggressive with their base running and Mt Lilydale had no answers in that area. Our fielding needed some work as there were some moments of confusion but this will improve in time.

Boys Tennis A Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 1/17-3/20

Winner: MLMC

Both the A and B teams played in great spirit. Mt. Lilydale had 2 very talented players and we got close (it could have gone either way). A great effort by the boys.

Boys Tennis B Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 4/24-0/6

Winner: Aquinas

The communication between the players was excellent and they really offered each other positive reinforcement between points.

Boys Ultimate Frisbee Aquinas vs. MLMC

Score: 6-8

Winner: MLMC

Certainly had our opportunities today and we were 2 points up for the majority of the match. However a stretch of 5 unanswered points sealed our fate late in the second half of the match. Kaiden Woolhouse created lots of opportunities as did Aiden Brown and Ben Baines.

YEAR 9 EISM - ROUND 3

Girls Basketball A Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 55-14

Winner: Aquinas

The girls were really switched on and ready to play fluent and attacking basketball from the tip off, which they did by scoring excellently inside and outside the paint which reflected the total points for Aquinas, great win all round with many contributors.

Girls Basketball B Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 44-12

Winner: Aquinas

The team has been playing awesome basketball and that did not stop this week as we defended really well and were able to score frequently also. The team is really getting to know each other and playing super well as a team.

Girls Indoor Cricket Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 142-89

Winner: Aquinas

We played Billanook two weeks ago so the girls were ready for a re-match. The aim was to beat our score of 137 from the previous game. We had some fantastic bowling from Molly Campbell and some quick fielding from Grace Scott-Thomas.

Girls Touch Football Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 4-4

Winner: draw

In a really tight game against a good opposition we tried really hard. We

played well in parts but at times we made some crucial errors which cost us. We do need to make sure our defence stays in a straight line at all times. Keep up the good work.

Girls Tennis A Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 4/16-0/0

Winner: Aquinas

Straight wins for Tennis A and B Teams this week. I think all of the girls started the season thinking they would be the least experienced but after two successful weeks, it is great to see their confidence grow and their tennis skills develop with that confidence. They turn up knowing they can play well. Their partnerships are also establishing and we have the combos right. Well Done girls!!

Girls Tennis B Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 4/16-0/8

Winner: Aquinas

Girls Softball Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 3-11

Winner: Billanook

The girls played 2 solid innings but got a little blown out in the third. Well done to Georgia for entering the game as a pitcher for the first time and striking two players out. The difference between the two teams was awareness and intensity in the field, two areas we will continue to work on in training.

Boys Basketball A Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 49-30

Winner: Aquinas

The boys started very slowly, scoring 7 points in 12 minutes of basketball. Once the boys started making shots, the lead grew and the boys were never really troubled again. Billanook were gallant, but our boys had a few too many options. Marcus Arfi was very solid, and the only player to score in double digits. 9 players troubled the scorers in a well rounded performance.

Boys Basketball B Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 74-49

Winner: Aquinas

The boys started pretty slowly through good defense from Billanook, but once our shots started to fall we really kicked into gear, in a really fast paced and high scoring match the boys played respectful and entertaining basketball to wrap it all up. Sam Box and Zac Ramsdale were terrific with big bags of points each.

Boys Hockey Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 7-1

Winner: Aquinas

A great team performance today with multiple goal scorers. Skills are really picking up. Excellent leadership from Jackson and James and good to see Nathan chip in for a couple of goals.

Boys Softball Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 5-5

Winner: draw

A really even game where both sides showed signs of brilliance as well as moments of absolute madness. Both coaches spent much of the game fluctuating between joy and rage but the overall result was fitting. Some great pitching from Anthony and Kyan. Rhys was superb as catcher. There are many lessons to be taken out of this game.

Boys Tennis A Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 3/23-1/13

Winner: Aquinas

The A team had a couple of close sets. The boys communicated really well and offered each other great encouragement. Great to get a win on the board.

Boys Tennis B Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 4/24-0/1

Winner: Aquinas

The B team had a convincing win. The entire team is playing well. The level of enthusiasm has been excellent.

Boys Ultimate Frisbee Aquinas vs. Billanook

Score: 24-8

Winner: Aquinas

The boys bounced back really well after a disappointing loss last week. They were really switched on and didn't look like doing anything wrong. Billanook bounced back well but we were the stronger team on the day winning by 16 points.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ringwood Central Tennis Academy offers coaching to all ages and abilities. Contact Maria on 0407 851 979 for a free trial lesson. [See more here.](#)



The first edition of Catholic Education Today for 2020 will be delivered to schools shortly.

This issue features a reflection on the Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) held in Perth at the end of last year, as well as articles on the significance of Lent, new governance arrangements and how Catholics from across the nation have come together to assist communities affected by the devastating bushfires. The centre pages comprise a handy calendar of events and key dates, with the regular sections highlighting 'Educators in Profile' and 'Around the Archdiocese' also included.

The Term 1, 2020 edition is now available on the Catholic Education Melbourne website www.cem.edu.au under News and Events / Catholic Education Today.

AQUINAS COLLEGE LIGHTHOUSE

Aquinas College
46 Great Ryrie Street
RINGWOOD 3134

+61 3 9259 3000

WWW.AQUINAS.VIC.EDU.AU

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Editor: Rebecca Presta

