This week has seen the Simonds Catholic College community formally farewell our Year 12 Graduating Class of 2016. Last Friday night we had a wonderful evening in the Moonee Valley Racecourse Committee Room where the Year 12 students and their families celebrated the end of Year 12 with their Valedictory Dinner. It was a great night as it gave students, staff and parents the opportunity to show their appreciation for one another in a very dignified and respectful manner. The common theme that came through on the night was the great pride that all members of the Simonds Catholic College community have for our school, and just how much they appreciate the support and care of our School community.

Last Tuesday afternoon all Year 7-12 students and staff assembled in the St Brigid’s Hall for the final Year 12 Farewell Assembly. After Year 12 had celebrated Mass at St Brigid’s with Fr. Savino, one of our VCE Chaplains, they had a pizza lunch. Every Year 12 student was acknowledged by the school community at this Assembly. Importantly ‘MVP’ awards were presented for the respective ACC Teams as well as Unit 3&4 Subject Excellence Awards. The completion and conclusion of Year 12 really has become a rite of passage for Year 12 students in Year 12 in our modern world. Their work is not quite complete yet, as they have examinations commencing next Wednesday, October 26. I am sure you will join me in keeping our current Year 12 students in your thoughts and prayers over coming weeks during their examination period.

On the afternoon of Monday October 10, Year 11 students gathered in the Study Centre to listen to the speeches of the seven nominations for College Captain in 2017. All of the speeches were insightful and quite inspiring as these seven students shared their story with their classmates. At the completion of these speeches Year 11 students and teachers voted for the 2017 College Captain and Vice-Captain. I congratulate Thien Huynh and Jake Green on their election as College Captain and College Vice Captain, respectively, for 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Riordan
Principal | Simonds Catholic College

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - Mr Peter Riordan

AT THE END OF THE YEAR

The particular mind of the ocean
Filling the coastline’s longing
With such brief harvest
Of elegant, vanishing waves
Is like the mind of time
Opening us shapes of days.

As this year draws to its end,
We give thanks for the gifts it bought
And how they became inlaid within
Where neither time nor tide can touch them.

The days when the veil lifted
And the soul could see delight;
When a quiver caressed the heart
In the sheer exuberance of being here.

Surprise that came awake
In forgotten corners of old fields
Where expectation seemed to have quenched.

The slow, brooding times
When all was awkward
And the wave in the mind
Pierced every sore with salt.

The darkened days that stopped
The confidence of the dawn.

Days when beloved faces shone brighter
With light from beyond themselves;
And from the granite of some secret sorrow
A stream of buried tears loosened.

We bless this year for all we learned,
For all we loved and lost
And for the quiet way it bought us
Nearer to our invisible destination.

John O’Donohue ‘To Bless the Space Between Us’
In the coming weeks students will be completing course work and making final preparations for their Semester 2 exams. A Study Guide to assist with preparation will be made available on iSimonds before the Melbourne Cup long weekend.

**Year 10 Semester 2 Exam Timetable**

**Arrangements for Year 10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday 23 Nov</th>
<th>Thursday 24 Nov</th>
<th>Friday 25 Nov</th>
<th>Monday 28 Nov</th>
<th>Tues 29 Nov</th>
<th>Wed 30 Nov - Fri 2 Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Study Day (no classes)</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>RE</td>
<td>Yr 10 → VCE Transition @ St Brigid’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>VCE Food Tech</td>
<td>VCE Geography</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>VCE Health &amp; Human Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There will be no formal classes for Year 10 students on Wednesday 23 November. It has been designated a Study Day. Students are expected to attend Homeroom at 8.45am, as usual, on exam days. They will be dismissed after their final exam each day.

**VCE Transition** Following examinations, Year 10 students will be involved in VCE orientation classes for 3 days. These are important and compulsory classes for the students and will be held at the St Brigid’s VCE Campus, Fitzroy North.

The last day of classes for Year 10 students is Friday 2 December.

**Arrangements for Year 9**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 28 Nov</th>
<th>Tues 29 Nov</th>
<th>Wed 30 Nov</th>
<th>Thurs 1 Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Yr 9 → 10 Transition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPE</td>
<td>Japanese/Italian</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exams will be held over three days and students will be dismissed once their final exam for the day has been completed. Students are expected to attend Homeroom at 8.45am, as usual, on exam days. Thursday 1 December is a Transition to Year 10 day where students will experience the elective and VCE classes they have been enrolled in for 2017.

**Arrangements for Year 7 & 8**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Monday 28 Nov</th>
<th>Tuesday 29 Nov</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Normal classes will operate for students when they are not doing examinations. Students are required to be at school for the full day, each day. Classes will continue on Wednesday and Thursday of exam week.

**Correction Day & Final School Day | Year 7, 8 & 9**

There will be no scheduled classes for Year 7-9 students on Friday 2 December.

The final school day for students is Monday 5 December. Students will be dismissed at 12.30pm.

Mrs H Koutoulogenis - Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching) | Head of St Mary’s Campus

**2017 Booklists**

Year 10 and 11 students have received the VCE Early English Booklist so that novels are purchased in time for the Transition program. Orders are to be placed online by 4 November at www.campion.com.au using the code EJU4. Orders will be available for pickup at students’ respective campuses on Friday 18 November.

The main booklists for all year levels will be available mid-November.

Mrs H Koutoulogenis - Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching) | Head of St Mary’s Campus
COMMITMENT, DECIMATION & RESILIENCE

Collingwood Football Club coach, Nathan Buckley wrote in the Herald Sun on 2 October 2016 a piece about what he called the "soft generation".

Take a read and see what you think the message is for us… and our boys:

“We are going through a soft generation where we want to do just enough, whether it is in business or in sport. People want to do just enough – to do the bare minimum.

But you don’t get something without committing whatever you have to commit – and sometimes, there’s a price to be paid for it! And that actually builds up resilience and it gives you the best chance to be able to stand up. It is the level of commitment, determination and resilience that enables individuals to overcome challenges”

In the same paper, in September, Rita Panahi wrote along similar lines. Rita was writing an article about NEETs (not in employment, education or training). There is a staggering half a million NEETs aged 15-29 neither working nor studying. Of this number only 41% are seeking a job. Ms Panahi says that at 12.8%, the youth unemployment rate is more than twice the figure of the official jobless rate of 5.6% and asks whether this figure reflects the over-generous nature of our welfare system … or the failure of the education system … or poor parenting … or a combination. She approaches an answer by saying: “There is plenty of blame to go around, but there is little doubt that junior ‘leaners’ are enabled by permissive parents who, along with long-suffering taxpayers, are financially supporting financial layabouts. It should be no surprise that indulged children who rarely hear the word “no” grow up to be entitled individuals who think most jobs are beneath them”

So, for us who care about our children and students … we need to clearly and firmly communicate the expectation that they will try … and if needed, try and try again … and do … and be the best they can, in all situations. And to remind them, in the words of the old song: “when the going gets tough, the tough get going”. There is no honour or glory in giving up. Giving up, does not translate to success or happiness. Commitment, determination and resilience make for good, empowered and happy lives.

CYBERSAFETY

Wendy Tuohy has written a double page article in the Herald Sun last weekend. In it she makes many helpful suggestions for parents who are trying to encourage their sons and daughters to use technology wisely and respectfully.

Here is some of what she wrote:

Apps, Sites and Safety Tips

Regularly check the website of the Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner, especially its page called “Games, Apps and Social networking”.

“Yellow” is a popular app with teens, according to Susan McLean (ex policewoman and currently, cybersafety educator). Some kids are using Yellow in a similar way to the dating app, “Tinder”, which shows you profiles of users who are near to you and whose image you swipe left to dismiss or right to get in touch. If both users approve, the app sets up private messaging to “get to know each other”.

“Snapchat” is an instant messaging app that allows users to send pictures or videos which self-destruct after a few seconds. New users may not understand that the images are never really gone and can be saved through a variety of Snapchat imaging saving apps.

“Omegle” is a live chat site. Known to be a place where sex chat is common, it pairs users up randomly for chats that are most commonly accompanied by video, but has been linked with predatory approaches to children in the US. McLean warns it is being used as a “sex webcam” but users, and children should not be using it.
With “Facebook” always ensure your child’s “friends list” is private. Public friend’s lists are used by people who have obtained nude photos from minors to blackmail them into providing more, on threat of distributing the existing material to everyone on the child’s friends list.

Though many children believe they understand the traps, many still don’t understand how easy it is for things to go wrong and images to end up in places over which they have no control.

**Useful Cybersafety links:**
- Risk and reality. Comprehensive website focusing on information for parents and young people (look for the parents and resources tab) [itstimewetalked.com.au](http://itstimewetalked.com.au)
- Comprehensive list of reviews of games, movies, apps and websites, plus parent concerns. A US-based website. [commonsensemedia.org](http://commonsensemedia.org)
- How to have discussions with children, parental control options on devices, technology guide for parents. A UK based site – excellent info. [saferinternet.org.uk](http://saferinternet.org.uk)

**AFRICAN DADS & CHILDREN’S CAMP**

My culture is African, my child is Australian.

Catholic Care is conducting a program delivering a camp-based experience to give fathers the opportunity to spend time with one of their children for a weekend of fun, bonding and learning.

Children have the best outcomes when they have great relationships with their dads and the camps give fathers the opportunity to have quality time with their children and to explore and discuss topics such as:

- Respecting traditional cultures and a new way of life
- Parenting in Africa compared with parenting in Australia
- Bonding with children
- Understanding each other strengths
- Working as a team to meet new challenges

The camp-based experience is complemented by Family Days and Couples Education. These programs are conducted by qualified, experienced adult educators who have a sound understanding of relationship theory and who are committed to excellence and on-going professional development.

**Cost: free for families.**

**Next Camp: 21 - 23 October 2016 - Marysville**

**Contact:** Central Office - T: 0417 340 773
**Email:** africandadsandkids@ccam.org.au or michael@mrgpro.com.au

**Mr P Rohan | Coordinator of Student Wellbeing / Counsellor**

**2016 School Fees / Arrears**

A reminder to those families that may have a small balance remaining on their 2016 tuition fees that payment ASAP would be greatly appreciated.

Should your account look as if it may finish 2016 in arrears you shall be contacted by the college requesting you attend a meeting with the Principal and Business Manager. The purpose of this meeting will be to negotiate and enter into a payment arrangement whereby we address the payment of school fees and arrears. Should you have any queries or concerns please contact the Business Manager.

**Mr D O’Malley | Business Manager**
On October 5, Simonds sent three teams to the ACC Chess tournament at Parade College. It was a long ride to Parade and this was the first tournament for many of us.

We all played seven matches throughout the day. The matches were extremely challenging and it was nerve-wracking as we competed against players with many years of experience. Our determination and perseverance led to many epic wins and comebacks. Every time we made a crucial mistake we learnt from it and took the experience to the next game.

At the end of the day we were all mentally and physically exhausted but were proud of what we achieved. It was a fun experience that brought many opportunities to the people who entered. We would highly recommend you to join us in our goal to reclaim the title once again next year.

We would like to thank Mrs Van Der Kaay for organising the lunch time Chess Club and invite any interested students to join us on Mondays in room A11.
Year 8 Camp

On the last week of Term 3 the Year 8s went to Don Bosco Camp, Dromana on the annual Year 8 camp. The Year 8s had a fun filled week of activities, with the first day starting in Queenscliff. Here we visited a range of places including Fort Queenscliff. We travelled across Port Philip Bay by ferry. We then arrived at camp where for 3 more days we would be having exciting and fun activities. These included a hike to Fort Nepean, beach walks, swimming, a talent night and everyone's favourite activity 'GAGA BALL'. It's fair to say that everyone had the time of their lives, but no one would have survived if it weren't for Susie the chef at Don Bosco with her amazing food. When we arrived back at school it was evident that everyone including the hardworking teachers needed to get some hard earned sleep. Luckily we had two weeks holiday to recover.

A big thanks to all the teachers especially Ms Smooker for organising such a fun and exciting camp that no one will forget.
At the end of last Term, 10 Simonds students from Year 9/10 went on a Study Tour to Italy where they spent three memorable weeks touring the Italian peninsula embarking on a variety of experiences. Students were accompanied by Mr Di Fabrizio (Italian teacher) and Mr Sanciolo (Art teacher).

The tour was a great success. The students were able to enjoy a number of cultural and educational events while overseas. This year a group of 8 girls from Marian College joined us on our journey. Our tour started in Milan, Italy’s fashion and business capital, where we landed on September 11. Milan is a truly European city with a notable history.

We then moved east to Venice. The group soon realized that Venice is a world apart but everyone enjoyed its uniqueness. Thanks to the warm weather we were also able to spend an afternoon at the “Lido” of Venice where we played beach soccer and had a swim in the Adriatic Sea. In Venice our tour guide told us many stories to explain how a modest village built in a few little islets of a lagoon would become a powerful trading republic which splendour everyone still admire.

Our next stop after Venice was Rimini, a placid town on the Adriatic coast just south of Venice. In Rimini we were warmly welcomed by our sister school (Liceo “Dante Alighieri”). At their arrival students were welcomed by their buddies and by the hosting families. Everything was ready for the homestay experience. It is the first time in the history of our college that boys have the opportunity to immerse themselves in Italian family lifestyle. Students spent 6 nights with Italian families, they were required to attend classes in the morning with their buddies as well participate in excursions and cultural activities in the afternoon. Italian families were very warm and generous with our boys and we, as a college, hope to be able to reciprocate by hosting Italian students who wish to visit Australia next year. In the end all boys made a good impression, demonstrated to be confident young men, able to independently navigate in a new school/family context.

We then moved to the stunning Florence, place of birth of the renaissance spirit, pillar of our western civilization. Once in Florence we enjoyed visiting the region of Tuscany famous for its lovely landscapes. We had daily excursions to Pisa, Siena and San Gimignano where we were immersed in a medieval atmosphere but also able to admire the beauty of the Tuscan countryside. Everyone loves Florence. One day we walked the medieval and renaissance streets of the city centre. On another day we fell in love with Michelangelo’s and Botticelli’s masterpieces at the Uffizi Museums. We all had time for night walks, we made a stop at the market of San Lorenzo well known for their clothing, leather and food.

From Florence we travelled by bus to Orvieto in the Umbria region in central Italy. Orvieto was refreshing and relaxing and gave us a glimpse of life in a small Italian village. Our accommodation was located in a gorgeous countryside resort where we all the chance to rest before moving to Rome.

We spent 3 gorgeous days in the eternal city. The weather was warm and ideal for walking through 2000 years of history. The ruins of the Colosseum and the imperial forum told us in a dramatic way about the legacy of the mighty Roman Empire. In Rome we also had the opportunity to visit a special place for a catholic school: the Vatican City. The Vatican is the smallest country in the world and is a city within Rome. The Vatican is the heart of the Catholic Church and residence of the Pope. Everyone was overwhelmed by the opulence of the pieces of art collected by the Popes in the Vatican Museums. We all had to pay a visit to Saint Peter’s church and square that left most of us speechless. Throughout our journey we paid visit to numerous catholic churches in Italy but entering Saint Peter’s Church in Rome gave everyone a feeling of belonging that can’t be found anywhere else.

I want to thank all the students who participated in the study tour: Matt Garner, Gregory Gossman, Curtis Spano, Ricky Spano, Paul Magro, Adam Tian, Marcus Caruana, Louis Nardella, Joshua Slaviero And Alessandro Fernandes. They represented the college spirit with pride wherever we went. They accepted the challenges of travelling as a
group and getting used to a new country. I believe that in different ways they will treasure this experience in the years to come. Being away from home and family at times is not easy but it is through difficulties and challenges that we achieve greater things and we prepare for the future.

A special thank goes to the students' families who supported us both emotionally and economically. I want to praise Mr Sanciolo for helping in the planning and organisation of the tour. His knowledge of Italian art, history and language was invaluable while in Italy. All students have learnt so much from him.

Mr Di Fabrizio | LOTE Faculty Manager
There are very few publications that are concerned with promoting artworks and creative writing by students. There are even fewer publications that celebrate students’ achievement and give an overview of the commitment and the quality of students’ artistic expression across the State of Victoria.

‘Shared Stories’ is exactly such. It brings together the works of students from 19 catholic schools in the State of Victoria and presents an anthology of student talent and skill, in creative writing and in The Arts.

This year marks for Simonds College, the third year of involvement in this publication with artworks and creative writing by 41 students. Again we are proud of our students’ achievements because their skill and talent is a true manifestation of commitment and eagerness to explore, understand and express their personal ideas, concepts and beliefs.

The timing of this publication, late in the year, is a great opportunity for all students to reflect on their commitment and talent in the realm of The Arts. It is also particularly appropriate for the young artists whose work is published in this anthology, alongside the works of many other talented young artists from many other schools; to ‘take stock’ and evaluate not only the range of works but also the quality of individual expressions.

As an art teacher it is gratifying to see that Simonds’ students match or, in many instances, even exceed the output of students from schools with better facilities and resources.

I am especially proud that our students’ artworks have been published in the 2016 edition of Shared Stories Anthology, and I rejoice in hearing so many favorable comments by those who assess our school’s performance and successes.

It is worthwhile to point out that the Shared Stories Anthology forms part of the permanent collection of the State Library of Victoria. Therefore, it is quite an accomplishment to have a piece of work published and catalogued as an everlasting achievement in the official records of the State of Victoria.

In conclusion, I congratulate Jomar Inot, Year 8, for receiving the School Nomination Art Prize for his two Outstanding Art Works. I also proudly acknowledge and congratulate each of the following students for their contribution and talent.

Year 7: Sam Duong, Thomas Matijevic, Michael Nguyen, Duy Tran, Elvin Tran, Minh Vo.

Year 8: Tom Choe, Aidan Chow, Jose Delfin, Lukas Diep, Andy Doan, Ethan Epifanio, Antonio Halaris, Tyler Harris, Phu Hoang, Tien Hoang, Jack Keating, Ryan Kitbak, Nathan Ngo, Andy Nguyen, Andre Pagdanganan, Bryce Sarah, Year Simon Tran, Bill Twyford, Wesley Warmington.


Year 10: Angelo Berro, and Dion Gusman

Bart Sanciolo | Simonds Shared Stories Coordinator | Art Teacher
DON'T MISS OUT - Seats are filling up fast!

Students in Year 9, 10 and 11 only

SIMONDS is going to CENTRAL AUSTRALIA!

JOIN US ON THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME AMAZING TRIP.

Spend 9 days in the unique heart of Australia exploring and experiencing stunning natural landscapes and get an insight into indigenous culture. The tour includes:

- An overnight stay in underground accommodation at Coober Pedy
- A visit to our national icon Uluru
- Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre
- Kings Canyon
- Camping at Alice Springs

The tour is designed to gain improved knowledge of Australia’s unique environment through experiencing some of our geographic wonders. It will also encourage team bonding and leadership skills through camping and living in remote areas.

The intention is to go in September 2017. At this stage the estimated cost will be $1300. This is based on 2016 costs as rates for 2017 are not yet available, and may be subject to change.

Please contact Mr Peter Dingli (pdingli@sccmelb.catholic.edu.au) if you want to know more about this wonderful opportunity and to be placed on a list of those who may be interested.

Mr P Dingli | Arts Faculty Manager
Do you have a son, or know someone due to start secondary school in 2018 or 2019?

**School Tour Dates**  Term 4 2016

- Tuesday 25 October
- Wednesday 2 November
- Tuesday 8 November
- Monday 14 November
- Friday 25 November

Tour bookings are essential and can be made online at [www.trybooking.com/JORC](http://www.trybooking.com/JORC) or by contacting the Registrar, Stephanie Rocke on 9321 9200

All Catholic Secondary Schools are transitioning to a new Enrolment Application Timeline. At Simonds Catholic College, this will affect students enrolling in 2019.

**ENROLMENT APPLICATION TIMELINES FOR 2018 AND 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>Year 7 2018</th>
<th>Year 7 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closing Date for enrolment applications</td>
<td>24 March 2017</td>
<td>8 September 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Interviews applicants and their parents/guardians</td>
<td>Mid-March to Mid-April 2017</td>
<td>Mid-September to Mid-October 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offers for places to successful applicants</td>
<td>27 April 2017</td>
<td>13 October 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing date for acceptance of offer</td>
<td>11 May 2017</td>
<td>27 October 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Evening</td>
<td>2 November 2017</td>
<td>1 November 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation day</td>
<td>Early Dec 2017</td>
<td>Early December 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that brothers of current Simonds Catholic College Students do not automatically go into our list of enrolments. An application form needs to be lodged for each child so that we have their individual details.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**

**Invest in your most precious asset......Your Marriage!**

Forget life’s tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.

There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

**2016 Melbourne weekend dates: 11-13 Nov**

Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided.

Information/Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel 9733 0997. Email: [vicbookings@wwne.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwne.org.au). Website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)
The Catholic Women’s League of Victoria – situated in Fitzroy – is seeking a person to help with the cleaning duties – vacuuming and making beds – at Mary Glowrey House in Nicholson Street, Fitzroy. The position involves 21 hours work per fortnight and is for 3 hours per day (morning). The roster of 7 days per fortnight covers four days one week and three the next. For more information, please contact John on 9417 3379.

Year 12 Farewell