Over the past week we have taken the opportunity to farewell our Year 12 Graduating Class at two formal occasions. Last Friday evening we held our Valedictory Dinner in the Committee room at Moonee Valley Racecourse. It really was a wonderful evening as students mingled with their families and staff, and reflected on their time at Simonds Catholic College. There were also a number of speeches delivered on the evening by parents, students and staff, acknowledging the generous efforts of staff in working with our students, and also recognising the many fine contributions the Graduating Class of 2015 have made in their time here.

Last Tuesday we held our Year 12 Farewell Assembly, where the whole school gathered in the St Brigid’s Hall to bid the Year 12’s farewell. At this Assembly, a number of students were awarded a prize for being DUX of their Unit ¾ Subject, whilst a number of Sporting and Leadership Awards were also presented to our Graduating class. As I extend our best wishes to our Year 12 students and wish them well in their upcoming examinations, I am confident they will be leaving Simonds Catholic College ready to take on the challenges that they will encounter in the next phase of their lives. Even more important, is that as a school we have instilled in them, a strong sense of hope for their futures. For all of our Graduating Class, their future is uncertain, but they do take with them a strong set of values that underpin us as a school, that will no doubt enhance their decision making as they set off to a much wider world than they have known at Simonds Catholic College.

To every member of our Year 12, 2015 Graduating Class, all the very best where ever the journey will now take you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Riordan
Principal | Simonds Catholic College

The Way of Christ

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are the poor in spirit;
the reign of God is theirs.’
Give us the spirit of poverty and humility.

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are the meek;
for they shall inherit the earth.’
Give us a heart that is humble and true.

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are they who hunger and thirst for justice; they shall have their fill.’
Give us souls that thirst for justice.

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are they who show mercy;
mercy shall be theirs.’
Open our hearts with love for our brothers and sisters.

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.’
Enlighten our eyes with your splendour.

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are the peacemakers;
they shall be called children of God.’
Make us people of peace and joy.

Lord Jesus, you said,
’Blest are those persecuted for righteousness sake; the reign of God is theirs.’
Make us strong in standing for what is right.

Fr Lucien De
YEAR 12 VALEDICTORY
On Friday October 16, the graduating class of 2015, families and staff gathered together to celebrate the Year 12 Valedictory Dinner. The event was held at Moonee Valley Racecourse and was a joyous occasion celebrating the achievements and memories that have been created throughout the past 6 years at Simonds. School captain Farzan Yazdi and three other students, Zeray Kiflay, Stefan Frengos and Bryson Ho provided reflective and inspirational speeches. The night also featured an entertaining video created by Johny Pham highlighting some of the fine moments from the class of 2015.

YEAR 12 MASS AND ASSEMBLY
To celebrate their last day of schooling all Year 12 students and Pastoral teachers gathered for mass together. The mass held at St Brigid’s church provided an opportunity for all present to reflect on their faith journey and give thanks for the past 6 years spent together. Following a shared lunch, the entire Simonds community gathered in the St Brigid’s Hall for a farewell assembly. During the assembly each member of the graduating class of 2015 were presented to the school community and recognised for their contribution over the past 6 years.
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 the preparation for the exams will be made available to each student—students will have downloaded it onto their iPad, either on to the iBooks or GoodReader app.

### Arrangements for Year 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday 23 November</th>
<th>Tuesday 24 November</th>
<th>Wednesday 25 November</th>
<th>Thursday 26 November</th>
<th>Friday 27 Nov - Tuesday 1 Dec</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>RE</td>
<td>Year 10 students at St Brigid’s for 3 days of VCE Transition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periods 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Students may go home after the English exam</td>
<td>Students may go home after the Science exam</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
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There will be no formal classes for Year 10 students on 23-26 November, inclusive. Year 10 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 the examinations, the Year 10 students will be involved in the VCE (2016) orientation classes for 3 days, from Friday 27 November to Tuesday 1 December. These are important and compulsory classes for the students and will be held at the St Brigid’s VCE Campus.

### Arrangements for Year 9

Exams will be held over three days (25-27 November) 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 these days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Wednesday 25 November</th>
<th>Thursday 26 November</th>
<th>Friday 27 November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>HPE</td>
<td>LOTE *students who do not study a Italian or Japanese will be dismissed at recess</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Arrangements for Year 7 & 8

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<tr>
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<th>Thursday 26 November</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Period 1&amp;2</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period 3&amp;4</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Normal classes will operate for students in Year 7 and 8, when they are not doing examinations. Students are required to be at school for the full day, each day.

If students need to reschedule an exam due to unforeseen circumstances, this must be arranged with their respective Year Level Coordinator.

**Mrs H Koutoulogenis - Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching) | Head of St Mary’s Campus**
Year 8 Camp

On 6 October the Year 8 cohort set off on a four day camp. This year was a bit different from last year as the boys spent their first day in Queenscliff visiting the two landmark tourist destinations, learning all about the bay around Melbourne. Groups visited the Marine Discovery Centre, Fort and Maritime museum before heading to the part for a special lunch with included hot chips.

As the winds were very strong on the day, students boarded the Ferry early and took in the sights of the bay as the cool change set in. Upon arrival, students were taken on a further tour of the bay exploring Rye’s back beach and the pier at Flinders before arriving at camp.

The three remaining days were based around camp. Students participated in a hike at Point Nepean and a range of activities at camp and at Safety Beach. All students were well behaved and worked extremely well in all activities they were required to complete. It was great to see how well the boys lead each other through the initiative tasks and how all students had a go at everything, even the water activities in the icy cold water.

Each night the students came back together as a cohort to show their creative side, competing in a talent show and a mannequin parade. In both, the boys were really supportive of each other and proved how much they have grown throughout this year.

Camp ended on a high, with all students returning to school feeling exhausted, and closer to not only their friends but to the whole cohort. I am very proud of how well the boys behaved at camp and would like to thank them all for their exemplary efforts in all activities. Special thanks to all teachers who came along to help and made the camp so enjoyable for all involved.

Ms M Smooker | Year 8 Coordinator
Exams:

Our year 12 students are fast approaching their final exams. Preparation for exams is important ... and a sane, sensible approach to preparation is even more important. The right approach yields best results.

Now that our 12's are not attending classes, here's an approach which I'm presenting as a sane, sensible one. See what you think:

1. Rise, eat and be ready to begin study at 9am. If you’re studying at home, time is not such an issue. If you’re travelling to a place of study, ensure you leave home to be actually studying at 9am.

2. Study till 10.45am and then take a break till 11am.

3. At 11am, return to study (the same, or a different subject, depending on need).

4. At 1pm, take a lunch break until 1.45pm.

5. Study (the same or a different subject, depending on need) until 4pm.

6. At 4pm, you have ended your day of study. Now attend to other important things such as family, friends, part-time work and leisure - or simply watch some mindless TV.

7. Ensure that you eat correctly. Junk food and sugar-drinks and energy drinks waste you ... and do a good job of it. Meat, fruit, vegetables, water are the real energy/brain foods.

8. Sleep 9 hours per night in your bedroom (which is different from a bedroom parading as an entertainment centre). Turn off everything – including your brain!

Taking this approach enables you to ease your ways into exams. And “ease” is the correct word to use here. It is surely “easy” to put in a day’s study (minus school, minus classes and teachers, minus public transport, minus homework). On Saturday and Sunday, rise earlier than you regularly would (because you’ve had an easier week) and do 2.5 hours of study each day in one, uninterrupted session. Then enjoy the rest of your day.

On exam day, don’t worry about what you DON’T know – worrying about it won’t make you know it! Concentrate on what you do know and go into the exam room with the attitude: “I’m here to show what I know – and to show it well – bring it on”. Yes - look forward to it!

Many people think that stress is part and parcel of the exam reality. Rubbish! If you have spent a reasonable amount of time studying in preparation for exams (as outlined above), there is no reason to be stressed. You are in the exam room to shine and to show what you know. You probably won’t know everything – so don’t expect that! Expect some questions to be tricky or awkward – even unexpected. That’s simply part of the deal. Blitz what you know.

And as for comparing yourself to how others are preparing, to what others imagine about the grades they will get and about what they will be doing post-school – don’t bother. Live your own life – not theirs, and be really invested in YOUR efforts and where you’re headed. Resist joining in exam conversations where you can hear that people are anxious, panicked and stressed. Know those people just don’t get it – and ease your way towards exams that you are eager to sit.

Mr P Rohan | Coordinator of Student Wellbeing / Counsellor
Congratulations to our 2016 School Leaders

2016 School Captain
Yuri Bakay

2016 School Vice Captain
Jacky Chen

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Catholic bishops condemn victimisation of women in detention and offer support for Abyan and other refugees who are pregnant in difficult circumstances

Media Release
22 October 2015

Australia’s Catholic Bishops have condemned victimisation of women in detention and offered the church’s support to help Somali refugee Abyan who was said to be a victim of rape and sexual assault. Bishop Vincent Long, Bishops Delegate for Migrants and himself a refugee, made the offer of support on behalf of the Church today.

‘The Church wants to offer trauma-related counselling and practical support to Abyan, to help her feel supported during and after her pregnancy, and to other women who find themselves in the same horrific situation,’ Bishop Long said.

‘Given Abyan was raped and that it was Australia who released her into the community in Nauru, we have a duty to provide her the appropriate services and care in Australia.

‘We want to honour the human dignity of both Abyan and her child. “Both Abyan and her child are victims of an unjust and immoral system.

‘Mandatory and indefinite detention for asylum seekers who come by boat and banishing people to overseas detention fails to uphold justice and mercy and is immoral.

‘One way Catholics demonstrate God’s mercy and love on earth is through the services our agencies provide in healthcare and social welfare to look after our fellow Australians. We want the opportunity to be able to help Abyan and her child too.’

The Catholic Church teaches that human life is sacred because each person is created in the image and likeness of God. The human dignity of each person is inalienable. The human dignity and human rights of asylum seekers must be upheld at all times, regardless of their citizenship, visa status and mode of arrival.

The bishops have repeatedly called for the end of mandatory detention and for the closure of offshore processing centres like Nauru. The Catholic Church advocates for just and rapid procedures to determine each person’s claim for protection.

Media queries, please contact Aoife Connors on 0450 348 597 or media@catholic.org.au
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North Carlton, Vic 3054
(0432) 129 594

scouts.carlton@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/carltonscoutgroupvictoria

Spring is a great time for adventure, fun & meeting new friends!

Do you enjoy adventure, learning new skills, getting outside & meeting friendly kids who love new challenges? The Carlton Scout Group welcomes all boys & girls aged 5-15 to come try our fun activities this year.

The Group relaunched last year. The launch has been very successful & you’re invited to participate! We’re an enthusiastic, diverse, friendly & growing group. Kids are welcome to ‘come & try’ on any meeting night, with no obligation. Parents are also welcome to get involved, & to participate either a little or a lot!

Joeys (age 5-8) meet Tuesday 5:15-6:15 pm. Cubs (age 8-11) meet Tuesday 6:30-8 pm. Scouts (age 11-15) meet Thursday 7-9 pm. Venturers (age 15-18) meet Tuesday in Brunswick or Thursday in Alphington. Rovers (age 18-25) meet Monday 8-10 pm.

All sections except Venturers meet in the Scout Hall at 12 Shakespeare St, North Carlton, between Drummond & Lygon. The building is newly renovated & it’s beautiful!

Scouting is the biggest youth organisation in Australia. Scouting promotes the physical, intellectual, emotional, social & spiritual development of boys & girls of all backgrounds, ages 5-26, in a fully inclusive environment. All adults are trained, Police checked, & hold Working With Children cards.

For more information about Scouting, please contact David Hunt, Group Leader, on 0432 129 594 or at scouts.carlton@gmail.com.