On Friday 6 May, the Simonds Catholic College community came together on the St Brigid’s Campus to celebrate our annual Simonds Day. It is always a wonderful occasion when the entire school comes together for such an event. Significantly, the day began with Mass celebrated by Fr. Savino, the Parish Priest of St Brigid’s and one of the College Chaplains. In his homily, Fr Savino spoke of the many gifts and talents in the life of our patron, Archbishop Simonds and the example he had been to many people in his life, and continues to be for the Simonds Catholic College community. After Mass there were a wide range of activities and games for the students to participate in – with one of the highlights being the Year 12 students vs Staff Dodgeball game watched by about 200 spectators.

An important focus in the lead-up to our annual Simonds Day was the Face of Winter Appeal. These gifts and donations were brought to the altar by representatives from each class during the Offertory Procession at our Simonds Day Mass. The generosity of families in bringing these donations to school for distribution by the Fitzroy branch of St Vincent de Paul was quite overwhelming. In speaking to a representative from St Vincent de Paul, I was asked to pass on their sincere thanks and appreciation through your generosity in the Face of Winter Appeal. As a school community, it is important that we take the time to practically support the less fortunate and marginalised in our society.

The Simonds Catholic College Board is an advisory Board, made up of staff and parents that meet approximately six times a year, to support the College Administration in its leadership of the College. The College Board is made up of the following members: Fr. Anthony Bemad (Canonical Administrator), Peter Riordan (Chief Executive Officer), Helen Koutologenis (staff), Robert Anastasio (staff), Danny O’Malley (staff), Stephanie Rocke (Minute Secretary) and parents including Dianne Rendle (Chairperson), Brett Bowker (Vice-Chairperson), Santo Magro, Andrew Quinn, Chris Mizis and Michael Clarke. I thank our Board members for their support and commitment to Simonds Catholic College.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Riordan
Principal | Simonds Catholic College
Mid-year exams will be held in the period from **Monday 6 June to Thursday 9 June** inclusive. **Wednesday 8 June will not be a shortened day.** Fifty minute periods will run.

**Semester One Exam Timetable**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>Period/Date</th>
<th>Monday 6 June</th>
<th>Tuesday 7 June</th>
<th>Wednesday 8 June</th>
<th>Thursday 9 June</th>
<th>Friday 10 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Maths</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>VCE Food Tech</td>
<td>VCE Geography</td>
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<td>VCE Specialist Maths</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Science</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>normal classes for Yr 9 students from P3 WED</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>normal school day for Yr 7&amp;8 students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Maths</td>
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**Arrangements for Year 7 & 8**

Normal classes will operate for students in Year 7 and 8 throughout the exam period. Students are required to be at school for the full day, each day.

**Arrangements for Year 9**

Exams will be held over three days. Students are expected to attend Homeroom at 8.45am, as usual each day. Students will be dismissed once their final exam for the day has been completed on Monday and Tuesday. Normal classes will resume Period 3, Wednesday. Community Service will continue on this day as normal. Thursday will be a regular school day.

**Arrangements for Year 10**

There will be no formal classes for Year 10 students between 6-9 June, inclusive. Students are expected to attend Homeroom at 8.45am, as usual, on days when they have an exam and will be dismissed once their final exam for the day has been completed.

**Study Guides**

Students should already be thinking ahead to the exams and making arrangements for a study and revision program. A Study Guide to assist with the preparation for the exams has been provided to each Year 7-10 student – this may be downloaded from the relevant year level page on iSimonds.

A reminder that **Friday 10 June** is a Correction and Report Writing Day and there will be **NO CLASSES for Years 7-10 students**. Monday, 13 June is the Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday.
1. Go to the school website [www.sccmelb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sccmelb.catholic.edu.au)

The year 9s in English are currently drafting and developing short narratives on the theme: “A Post-Apocalyptic Vision”. This artwork advertising a competition for the best pieces, was designed by Joney Pham in 9G.

2. Click on the link “Subscribe to our E-NEWSLETTER”

3. Fill in your details and SUBMIT

**Year 9 English**

The year 9s in English are currently drafting and developing short narratives on the theme: “A Post-Apocalyptic Vision”. This artwork advertising a competition for the best pieces, was designed by Joney Pham in 9G.
On Wednesday 8 June Year 7s students will be organising a **LOTE EXPO**. This is an opportunity to celebrate both foreign languages studied at Simonds Catholic College at a time when **Year 7 students have to decide which foreign language (Italian or Japanese) to continue studying**. LOTE at Simonds is compulsory up until the end of Year 9 and it is very important to make the right choice.

The **LOTE** department is excited to invite the Year 7’s families to attend this session. Students will perform some **role plays, videos** and **short movies** created by the students will be viewed and **posters** will be displayed. For the occasion **senior students** will also share their experience of learning a second language as well as participating in study tours overseas. Please check the details in the box below, a notice will be sent home by the end of May.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Wednesday 8 June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>2:00pm-2:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue:</td>
<td>Year 7 Classrooms A21 A22 A23 A24 at St Mary’ 7-10 Campus</td>
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We look forward to seeing all of you on 8 June, 2016.
“a person who can speak two languages is worth 2 people”

**Mr G Di Fabrizio | LOTE Faculty Manager**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Up Coming Evens</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
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<td><strong>June 3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>6 - 9</strong></td>
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Take a look at the piece below. See whether you are a mean parent … or not.

ARE YOU A MEAN PARENT?

Someday when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a parent, I will tell them, as my mean parents told me:

- We loved you enough to ask where you were going, with whom and what time you’d be home.
- We loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a creep.
- We loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes.
- We loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in our eyes.
- Children must learn that their parents aren’t perfect.
- We loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh they almost broke our hearts.

But most of all, we loved you enough to say “NO” when we knew you would hate us for it.

Those were the most difficult battles of all. We’re glad we won them, because in the end, you won too. And someday when your children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates parents, you will tell them.

Were your parents mean? I know mine were. We had the meanest parents in the whole world!
- While other kids ate junk food for breakfast, we had to have cereal and toast.
- When others had coke and chips for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches.
- And you can guess our parents made us a dinner that was different from what other kids had too.
- They insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You’d think we were prisoners!
- They had to know who our friends were and what we were doing with them.
- They insisted that if we said we we’d be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour – or less.
- They even had the nerve to break “child labour laws” by making us work.
- We had to wash the dishes, make beds, learn to cook, do laundry, empty bins and all sorts of cruel jobs.
- I think they would lay awake at night thinking of more things for us to do.

They always insisted on telling us the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.
- By the time we were teenagers, they could read our minds and had eyes in the back of their heads.
- Our parents wouldn’t let our friend’s just honk the horn when they drove up, they had to come up to the door so they could meet them.
- While everyone else could date when they were 14 or 15, we had to wait till we were 18.

Because of our parents we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced.
- None of us have ever been caught shoplifting, vandalising others’ property or arrested for any crime. It was all their fault.
- We have now all left home. We’re educated, honest adults. We are doing our very best to be mean parents – just like ours were.

I think that’s what’s wrong with the world today, it just doesn’t have enough mean parents!
This year, Simonds Catholic College has renewed its link with the DAV and is competing at A Grade level. On Wednesday 11th May, at Mercy Catholic College in Coburg, our team of Year 12 students - John Nguyen, Anthony Tan and Jenwin Mabanag with support from Trung Nguyen - had their first debate. It was a secret topic so our debaters only had one hour to prepare arguments and rebuttal ideas. After a passionate encounter, the Simonds team was narrowly defeated; however, Anthony Tan was awarded best speaker for this debate. The next debate date is Wednesday 22nd June at 7pm. Any students wishing to be involved in debating in future rounds or to learn the art of debating, please speak to Ms Kathleen Van Der Kaay or Mrs Karen O’Toole as there will be training sessions planned during the year.

Below is a short reflection by John Nguyen about his experience:

This was my first debate and so it was a scary moment. When it was my turn, I stood up and the room was instantly silent. I was feeling nervous and excited at the same time! (There was only eleven people in the room including the adjudicator.) As First Speaker for the Negative side, I had a challenging role but I signed up specifically to improve on presenting in front of an audience. At the end of the debate, I couldn’t control my laughter. It was so interesting meeting the other debaters from the Affirmative side: we conversed quietly throughout the debate when writing our notes. Although our team lost, it was the experience that counts. Hopefully our chances of winning in future rounds will increase. It would be awesome if more students would join us because it’s all about having fun. Soccer is a game with balls but debating is a game with words.

Simonds students have competed in the Schools Sharemarket Game (Round 1) which started in March and finishes on Wednesday 18th May. Students receive a virtual $50,000 to invest over a 10 week period in 200 companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX). By logging on to the ASX website, students, either as an individual trader or in a team of four, have traded shares at the same prices as they would get in the live market, so this is as close to real life share trading as you can get! As well as having fun with some virtual money, Andrew Antic, Andy Pham, Daniel Judd, James Blay, Moedean Sanchez, Sam Montesano, Kedus Joseph, Jason Lieu, Dut Dut, Gustavo Arbizu Duran, Aaron Lai, Jenwin Mabanag and John Nguyen have learnt about how to research companies; discovered the importance of wise investment decisions and gained a greater knowledge of national economic events. These students have also earnt House points as well. Winners will be announced in the next Newsletter. Round 2 commences in July so email Mrs Karen O’Toole if you want to be part of this experience.
Local Census jobs available now

Make a difference in your community and join Australia’s largest logistical peacetime operation – the 2016 Census of Population and Housing.

Census night is August 9, and the Australian Bureau of Statistics is right now looking for dedicated, enthusiastic self-starters to fill up to 6,900 Field Officer Positions across Victoria. If you’re community minded and comfortable using a mobile or tablet device, the ABS wants to hear from you.

Field Officers play a critical role by visiting households and ensuring everyone makes the Census count. They’ll also earn around $21 an hour and enjoy flexible, part-time work hours for up to 3 months. To do the job you’ll need to be a good communicator, reasonably fit, licensed to drive and able to travel and work independently.

To apply or find more information, visit www.abs.gov.au/careers.

Positive Parenting
Raising Resilient Girls

At St Aloysius College, we work in partnership with families.

The opportunity to attend the following session with Maria Ruberto, is evidence of this partnership.

This session will deliver practical information and provide you with a deeper understanding of how to raise a more resilient girl.

This session will be conducted by Maria Ruberto:

Maria is the founder and director of Saluteginics Psychology, a strengths-based practice that moves people in personal and professional coaching toward mental fitness and life-health. Maria’s work is heavily influenced by Positive Psychology theory. Maria is a psychologist with over 20 years experience in working with children, adolescents and adults within the Mental Health framework.

Wednesday June 1st, 6.30 to 8.00pm at St Aloysius College, North Melbourne

This session will cover:
- Understanding stress and the stress response
- The signs and symptoms of distress
- 7 Proactive factors of resilience
- Simple tools and strategies you can implement at home

Please register your attendance at www.trybooking.com/201245
A gold coin donation will be collected at the door
St Aloysius College: 31 Conran Street, North Melbourne
**School Fees**

**School Fees:**

By now all families should have received a ‘Statement of Account’ for their son’s tuition fees. If you have not yet contacted the college to discuss/arrange a mutually agreeable payment arrangement could you please contact Mr Danny O’Malley, Business Manager on 9321 9200.

**Camp Sports Excursions Fund (CSEF):**

A reminder to those families that hold a valid concession card that you are eligible for State Government Financial Assistance to the value of $225.00 per student. Application forms are available at both campuses or online at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/Pages/csef.aspx?redirect=1

**Uniform**

With the cold weather arriving, you may wish to purchase some of the optional items of school uniform:

- **Scarf** $12
- **Beanie** $8
- **Scarf & Beanie Combo** $17
- **Sports Cap** $8

These are available for purchase from reception at both the St Mary’s and St Brigid’s Campuses between 8am and 4pm.

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**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:

**17-19 June, 19-21 Aug, 11-13 Nov**

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

Information/Bookings:
PH: Marianne & Marcel (03) 9733 0997
Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au
Website: www.wwme.org.au

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The Family Care Sisters facility at Croydon, offers wholistic care to all women (aged 20+ - 70 yrs) who are in need of a peaceful environment, ‘time out’, support or nurturing. Our residential program operates each week, Monday-Friday (Feb.-mid-Dec).

A daily group session is held on topics such as ‘relaxation’, ‘well-being’, ‘self-awareness’, ‘boundaries’, etc.

Cost: $175 (which can be paid in instalments). In 2016 we are trialling Day Programs on topics such as “Boundaries”, “Dreams”, “Genograms” etc.

For further information or to book in: contact us on Ph. 9723 6797.

Web: www.familycaresisters.com.au
Email: resthome.familycare@bigpond.com