Two of our students Joshua Bowker (Yr.10) and Shaan Reis (Yr.11) joined a contingent of around 300 young people from our Victorian Catholic community to attend World Youth Day in Krakow, Poland. World Youth Day was a tremendous opportunity to build bridges and foster friendships between people from different parts of the world on the basis of their common humanity and faith in Jesus Christ. This spirit was echoed in the address given by Pope Francis on the evening of 30 July to a crowd numbering in the millions:

‘We have come here from different parts of the world, from different continents, countries, languages, cultures and peoples. Some of us are sons and daughters of nations that may be at odds and engaged in various conflicts or even open war… This is not time for denouncing anyone or fighting. We do not want to tear down. We have no desire to conquer hatred with more hatred, violence with more violence, terror with more terror. We are here today because the Lord has called us together. Our response to a world at war has a name: its name is fraternity, its name is brotherhood, its name is communion, its name is family. We celebrate the fact that coming from different cultures, we have come together to pray. Let our best word, our best argument, be our unity in prayer.’

Over recent months, staff have been working consultatively to create our Child Safety Policy, Reporting Obligations and Child Safety Code of Conduct as outlined in Ministerial Order 870. These policies are available to be read on the College website under the heading of Student Wellbeing - Policies.

In early August, four of our students joined with the students of St Aloysius to perform in the production – Annie. From my perspective it was terrific that our students were asked to be involved and I really commend Triet Luu (Yr.11), James Blay (Yr.8), Andy Tuano (Yr.10) and Timmy Cu (Yr.10) for their excellent performances over the three nights.

There was great excitement on the evening of 29 July on the St Brigid’s Campus when nearly all of our Yr. 12, 2015 gathered for their one year Re-Union. It was very encouraging to observe so many of the students making the effort to attend and really enjoy each other’s company and camaraderie and share their story post Simonds Catholic College.

In another exciting event, Simonds Catholic College defended its title as the ACC Culinary Champions for the second year in a row. Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Thomas and the four Yr. 10 students - Harry Montebello, Ari Kokkaliaris, Jason Le, Joseph Papandrea on this fantastic achievement. Our newest ACC banner is proudly on display in the foyer of the office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Peter Riordan
Principal | Simonds Catholic College

**Social Justice Sunday Prayer**

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on 25 September. This year, the Australian Bishops’ Social Justice Statement is titled: ‘A Place at the Table: Social justice is an ageing society’.

The Statement celebrates the value and dignity of older people in Australian life. It challenges us to recognise their significant contribution to society and emphasizes that this contribution should not be valued in mere economic terms. The Statement calls for justice for those who are most vulnerable and warns about a view of older people as burdensome or dispensable.

For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

**Term 3 Interim Report Distribution**

Interim Reports will be given to students as follows:

- Years 7 & 11 | Friday 16 September
- Years 8, 9 & 10 | Tuesday 4 October
Parent Evening – Tuesday 6 September 6.30-8pm

We are an online community. At SCC, we believe that it is important that students and parents are aware of the many benefits, and potential dangers, that come with being online. So do make time to be present at the parent evening where:

- 3 students will speak of their experiences online (facebook, instagram, twitter, gaming, shopping, sex sites, deep web).
- 1 senior student will speak of an international position he has already accepted for 2017 in gaming
- 3 parents will speak of their questions and concerns (online hours, safety, management)
- 1 teacher will speak of the psychological impact of students online (educational benefits, psychological and social dangers, addiction)

The evening will be hosted by Pascal Rohan (Coordinator of Student Wellbeing and Counsellor) and held in the General Purpose Room at St. Mary’s Campus.

There will be time for questions and a handout will be provided to attendees.

See the flyer attached.

From the wall – “Silent Dignity”:

I was re-organising the noticeboard in my office today and took down a newspaper cutting from the Herald Sun. The article was written by Scott Pape in a column entitled “Barefoot Investor”. Even though the article’s focus is a financial one, it is easy to see that it has more to offer than finance. He has headed his article: “Silent Dignity”. Take a read of the synopsis offered here:

“The conclusion I come to after talking with my grandparents and other octogenarians, and hearing about their life experiences, is that they truly lived through tough times. And I draw lessons from them as they lived through the 1930’s and 40’s. Here are some:

1) They paid their bills: for them it was an integrity issue.
   You were either a person of your word, or you were a crook
2) They paid in cash: there were no credit cards.
   People had an aversion to debt caused by the borrowing binge that preceded the Great depression which was still fresh in their minds
3) They saved money: they couldn’t live beyond their means, and so they didn’t. They had a healthy respect for risk and survival - and they knew the difference
4) They fixed stuff: Things were fixed, not thrown away. Things were handed down from eldest to youngest (maybe they were the first re-cyclers and greenies).
5) They worked hard: With mouths to feed, there was no time to “find themselves”. While both parents worked hard, there was just one income. Second and third jobs were common
6) They didn’t expect handouts: The dole was something to be ashamed of. You worked hard, paid your taxes and you paid your way. There was no attitude of entitlement (such as there is today).
7) They lived in modest homes: One of my grandfathers told me that he remembered growing up happily with dirt floors – and that one Christmas, when he was much older they got carpet. They bought only what they could afford.
8) They lived through genuinely tough times: there was large-scale unemployment and they did whatever they had to do to make ends meet.
9) They had a sense of community: While Gen Y are the most connected in history, it’s commonly cited that they are the loneliest. Things were simpler back then. They had little else besides each other - and they invested time in each other.
10) They created a real legacy: They fostered a steely resilience that was passed onto their children, the next generation.

And so thanks to the “silent generation” we have much to learn ... if we choose to learn it.

All the best –

Mr P Rohan | Coordinator Student Wellbeing / Counsellor
Did you know?

There are 206 bones in the adult human body and there are 300 in children (as they grow some of the bones fuse together).

That patients who suffer from PICA eat largely non-nutritive foods such as ice, hair and paper.

Or how about:

There are 8 times as many atoms in a teaspoonful of water as there are teaspoonfuls of water in the Atlantic ocean?

We are very excited to have celebrated National Science Week at Simonds Catholic College!! We had a trivia competition, fun facts each day and special experiments in the lab. We reacted Group 1 Alkali metals in water, reacted sugar and acids, completed endothermic and exothermic reactions, made elephant toothpaste and bouncy balls! It was great to see so many keen students getting involved and celebrating the ever exciting field of science.

Ms L Fisher | Science Faculty Manager

Year 10 Italian Day Out - Divertissimo!

On 19 July, the Year 10 Italian class set out for the Darebin Arts Centre in Preston for a special Italian day for students of language. The day began when we arrived by bus at 9.30 where, together with year 10 students from many other schools, we filled the two main auditoriums at the venue. Our first session was spent listening to guest speakers, who spoke of the value of continuing our studies of Italian. The speakers included a university professor as well as some university and Year 12 students who study Italian. They spoke of the benefits of studying Italian not only to improve employment prospects but also for the cognitive and personal benefits of understanding another language and culture.

After a short intermission for morning break, we returned to the auditorium and began our second session; we did some group language activities, starting with an activity to socialise in Italian with those from other schools, followed by a Kahoot and eventually a couple of quizzes.

We enjoyed a short lunch and then we went into our final sessions. This consisted of two parts, in the first we watched the opening scenes of the popular Italian film ‘Manuale D’Amore’ followed by a couple of activities. In the second part we had the opportunity to listen and sing along in Italian to some excellent performances of several Italian songs by Mr Di Fabrizio’s band. After each performance we did some quizzes that focused on certain vocabulary in the songs.

Francesco Pacioni and Andy Nguyen did a great job representing our class and participating in the quizzes.

Overall, the day out was interesting and enjoyable and gave us the opportunity to socialise and be advocates of the study of this language.

Andy Tuano, Year 10
Welcome home to our pilgrims, Shaan Reis and Joshua Bowker. Shaan and Joshua were part of the assembled youth who gathered in Krakow, Poland for World Youth Day 2016. Pilgrims gathered to reflect on what it means to be a young believer in the contemporary world, and how each of us are called to be the face of mercy. A local experience of WYD 2016 was taken up by Year 10 students Timmy Cu and Charles Wolff at St Bede’s college, Mentone. Students from many Catholic Colleges took part in lectures, workshops and reflection to look at the need for Mercy in today’s world. In his homily at the final World Youth Day Mass in Krakow, Pope Francis challenged people not to be ‘couch potatoes’. Well done to our students who took the opportunity to move out of their comfort zone.

Ms M Krall | Religious Education Coordinator

DON’T MISS OUT. Seats are filling up fast!

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 and 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@sc.melb.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.