



Our Lady of Sion College Newsletter

2019 College Theme: Welcoming Each Other



From the Principal – Tina Apostolopoulos

Welcome back to all families for what I hope will be a rewarding Term 2 for your daughters. I hope everyone enjoyed a very happy Easter and I also hope the term break was a chance for students to reflect on their progress so far this year; to take on board the feedback provided by teachers at last term's Student Progress Meetings and to look forward to continued improvement.

A great deal has happened in the last month or so, which has continued to paint a very bleak picture of our world. At our whole school assembly this week, College Captains Sally Collins and Grace

Hartman and I reflected on the response to the tragic events at the Al Noor mosque in Christchurch, in particular the praise for Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern. Her compassion, strength and clear vision for how we should respond to the senseless deaths of innocent people was reflected in the captains' views: 'the New Zealand Prime Minister showed compassion and respect, unlike other leaders whose words cause further harm'; 'She reflected what it means to be a Daughter of Sion'; 'Hate will only continue to breed hate and that does not reflect our values here at Sion'. They also shared parts of the interview of Jacinda by Waleed Aly on *The Project*. You may have seen it, but if not, I invite you to do so via this link: [The Project Interview](#).

Our compassion is also drawn towards the victims, families and communities impacted by the recent event in Sri Lanka, a country just returning to peace following decades of civil war, and now faced with trying to come to terms with the deaths of more than 250 people. What do we say in the face of another horror? How do we process the randomness that felled so many people who were celebrating their faith? How do we support our young people to have hope and to see that life is also full of love and harmony, where people are respectful and do have the support to live their lives without fear of persecution, division or terrorism? It is increasingly a challenge only if we allow ourselves to dwell on the division that these events can perpetuate. Last week, the Islamic Council of Victoria President Mohamed Mohideen, himself a Sri Lankan, said 'Our faiths teach us to love and not hate. To all my fellow Sri Lankans – Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, and Muslims – let us unite to fight against hate and in support of one another'. What a counterpoint to what we witnessed in Christchurch and Sri Lanka.

Important Dates

Week B

Tuesday 7 May

VCE (Unit 1) Drama Performance
Evening, Miriam Theatre @ 7 pm

Wednesday 8 May

House Athletics Carnival

Friday 10 May

Significant Women's Day Breakfast
LHC @ 7:30 am

Week A

Monday 13 May

Term 2 Music Soirée
Miriam Theatre @ 5 pm

Year 10 Careers Information Evening
Miriam Theatre @ 7 pm

Tuesday 14 May

NAPLAN (Online) Testing
Years 7 & 9

VCE (Unit 2) Drama Performance
Evening, Miriam Theatre @ 7 pm

Wednesday 15 May

NAPLAN (Online) Testing
Years 7 & 9

USA and France Partnership Program
2019/2020 Information Evening
Miriam Theatre @ 7 pm

Thursday 16 May

NAPLAN (Online) Testing
Years 7 & 9

Year 10 Social

Friday 17 May

NAPLAN (Online) Testing
Years 7 & 9



Our Lady of Sion College

1065 Whitehorse Road

Box Hill Vic 3128

Ph: +61 3 9890 9097

E: info@sion.catholic.edu.au

This week's whole school assembly also allowed Year 11 students Abbey Merton and Catriona Thurbon the chance to share their experience of attending the inaugural International Sion Students Conference with Mr John McInerney in Costa Rica. During the conference they engaged with Sion students from all around the world, sharing culture, experiences, hopes and dreams. The aim of the conference was to listen to student voice. Its culmination was the development of a charter by all students present to be taken back to their schools and that would reflect what Sion students, no matter which country they came from, believe a Sion school should promote.

I thank Abbey and Catriona for representing Our Lady of Sion College, Box Hill, with such commitment. Like Jacinda Ardern and Mohamed Mohideen, they reflect the Easter message of renewal, hope and joy when they engage in such life-giving experiences.

With every blessing for the fortnight ahead.

Tina Apostolopoulos
College Principal



Do you have a daughter currently in Year 5?

Applications for Year 7, 2021, are now being accepted.

Families already enrolled at the College still need to submit an [Application for Enrolment Form](#) for each additional child wishing to attend Our Lady of Sion. If you have a daughter in Year 5, please ensure you submit her application for enrolment by Friday 23 August 2019.

For all enquiries, please contact Ms Robyn McCann, College Registrar, on 9890 9097 or registrar@sion.catholic.edu.au.



Faith and Mission – John McInerney

Costa Rica, Christchurch, Sri Lanka and Box Hill

During the recent first term holidays, I was fortunate to travel with two of our Year 11 students, Abby Merton and Catriona Thurbon, to the International Youth Meeting for students from Sion schools across the world. It was a wonderful opportunity for our girls to meet, interact with fellow Sion students and spend time sharing what they believe are the key ingredients of an education in a Sionian context.

Just prior to our leaving, the terrible tragedy of 50 innocent people being killed in a Christchurch mosque had taken place.

Then, shortly after we had arrived home, the further traumatic event of the killing of over 200 innocent people took place in Sri Lanka.

How might these events have anything to do with what we participated in while in Costa Rica and how we continue to be at Our Lady of Sion College in Box Hill?

I believe – everything!

While all who attended the conference in Costa Rica belonged to Sion schools, they were from different countries, different cultures and many with different beliefs and different religious affiliations. Yet, they welcomed and embraced all in their difference!!

These young people epitomised the Easter message of hope.

They said that a Sion education **must** include the following:

- To value interfaith dialogue.
- To have an open mind towards others.
- To have a social awareness of the needy.
- To care for others to ensure ongoing creation.
- To highlight the importance of learning from each other.

Surely this is what a Sion education has to offer the world!



Mr McInerney's Class Lunchtime Painting

*In preparation for the
Lentern Liturgy we strived to
encompass as many areas of
the arts as possible.*

*We worked on artworks of the
stations of the cross, allowing
each student to paint one
however they would like.*

**Jessica Kilroe-Smith,
12 Blue**





Learning and Teaching – Michelle Rangelov

Term 2 is a time for deepening learning; a time for growth as students acquire more content knowledge and develop skills that enable them to apply knowledge to new situations. It is not uncommon for students to feel challenged by the increased demands of the next level of learning. Students will sometimes lament that they were doing so well last year but now they are not.

This is what challenge is! I have heard students say they want to be challenged, and yet when they receive feedback on an assessment task and have not received the result they think they should have because they worked so hard, they are not so keen on challenge! As I have written

in many newsletters, learning is not just about the final result, it is about acting on the feedback as it informs and supports the next step in the learning.

Ongoing feedback between students and teachers is integral to learning. Teachers plan learning aligned with the requirements of the Victorian Curriculum and VCE. Students are active participants in the relationship between teacher and learner. Open and honest dialogue and feedback between teacher and learner enhances learning and, importantly for us at Sion, dialogue is a key characteristic of a Sionian education. I encourage students to see themselves as part of the dialogue – students have a voice in their learning, but only if they speak up.

I encourage students and parents to have explicit discussions about learning strategies that support and enhance learning achievement. The following are some useful questions in guiding discussions about learning:

- What learning strategies did you use to tackle the task?
- Were they effective? Is there another way of tackling that task?
- Who else can assist you in developing learning strategies or tools to complete the task?

Often students see a lack of understanding or mastery of a concept as a reflection of their capacity, when sometimes they may be adopting a strategy that is not very effective.

I encourage students and parents to seek guidance from subject teachers who are not only equipped to teach content but also to assist students on how to learn their discipline. The skills of learning how to learn are an important skillset that characterise the world of tertiary learning, as well as the world of work.

SEQTA

As you will be aware, at the end of last term teachers began releasing marks and comments in SEQTA Learn and SEQTA Engage. As mentioned in previous communication, rolling out a new Learning Management is a gradual process and I would like to thank parents for their patience. Please check SEQTA Engage for your daughter's progress and areas for improvement.

This year, End of Semester Academic Reports will be available in SEQTA and there will be some changes to the report templates in light of the requirements of the CEM Reporting Guidelines. More details will be sent to parents in future correspondence.

NAPLAN

In the coming weeks, Year 7 and 9 students will be completing NAPLAN tests, undertaken on the online platform for the first time at Sion. NAPLAN tests will be held on Tuesday 14 May, Wednesday 15 May, Thursday 16 May and Monday 20 May. Further information is outlined in a letter to parents sent home with students in recent days.

Best wishes for the fortnight ahead.





Student Wellbeing – Christine Kralj

Healthy relationships – by design not accident

During adolescence it is not uncommon for parents to notice that their child's reliance on friends is growing while they seem to be moving away from relying on parents for support. During this time, friendship becomes more meaningful but also more complex and fragile.

It can be a very anxious time for both parents and young people as they try to get the mix 'just right'. Parents can sometimes feel that their child is mixing with the 'wrong crowd', or worry about whether their daughter is being

treated well in a relationship or friendship. It can be difficult to know what to say or when to intervene, especially in dating relationships.

Below are some tips that may help you encourage your daughter to engage in healthy relationships:

- Get informed about the challenges and issues your daughter is facing so that you can talk about them.
- Teach your daughter that in healthy relationships each individual is treated like an equal.
- Explain that everyone has a right to be happy and trusted in their relationships.
- Talk about the indicators of good and toxic relationships, and controlling behaviour.
- Be a good role model by demonstrating that females are just as valuable as males. Do you give mixed messages by the way you delegate chores or use put-downs?
- Keep the lines of communication open and ask questions or 'what if' scenarios rather than lecturing.
- Discuss the attitudes and messages sent to your daughter via music, movies and TV shows.

If your daughter needs to build her skills in handling a challenging relationship in a positive way, the College's counselling staff are a great resource. Students can self-refer by emailing counselling@сион.сatholic.edu.au or by asking their Wellbeing and Growth Leader to refer them.

Adapted from an article in Relate (MYFS)



Janine Crociani
College Counsellor



Lisa Birch
College Psychologist



Sofia Stagnitta
College Psychologist





Year 12 – Adam Rieusset

Since coming back from our term break, we have started to focus on decision-making and how we can be supportive of each other. In particular, what habits will we:

- start doing
- keep doing
- no longer do?

To make these decisions, we need to reflect on what we have done throughout Term 1, what has worked well and what needs to change.

In pastoral this week we focused on:

- persistence
- faith
- our ordinary that promotes our extraordinary
- identifying who will help and how they will help
- what wisdom and knowledge look like.

This led our students to come up with two positive, forward looking statements encapsulating:

- I can ...
- I will ...

I hope our Year 12 students will share these statements with their families, to help support them through Term 2.

Meditation

Meditation has become part of our routine at Year 12 and this week we participated in a meditation that can be performed prior going to sleep or having a power nap. Meditation or mindfulness allows us to calm the mind and body. The following link is a resource that you might like to use at home: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DScEC_UKKc.

Resources

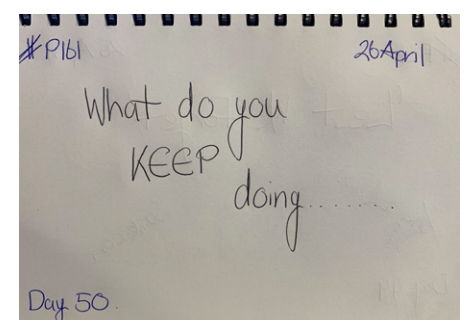
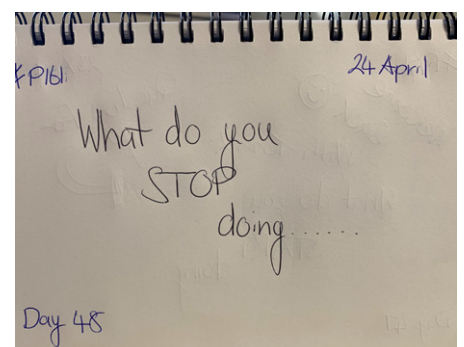
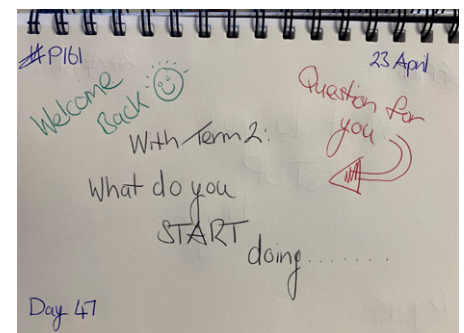
To support families and community members with the topics above, here are three sites to assist with mental health and wellbeing:

- Smiling Mind – <https://app.smilingmind.com.au>
- Beyond Blue – www.beyondblue.org.au
- Headspace – <https://headspace.org.au>.

Here is a final thought around resilience and how important families are in helping build and promote resilience:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=J82adHII9q4.

Term 2 is always a challenging time for our Year 12 community members and many decisions and choices will be made to ensure that students get the very best outcome, not just for this year, but for many years to come.

With decisions and choices can sometimes come uncertainty, a hesitation of, 'am I making the right decision' or 'do I really want to do this' or 'I'm not sure if I am capable'. All of these thoughts and emotions are perfectly normal responses when we are invested in the decisions that we need to make.



Year Level News



Year 10 – Paul Kerr

Welcome back to a very busy term, which included our year level Shoah excursion, a highlight of the Religious Education program, and of course the students' first set of formal examinations.

Seventeen of our students represented the school at the Shoah Memorial Service, hosted this year at Siena College. An annual event attended by Year 10 students, the night acknowledges the past, including a 'Living Word' reflection by a Holocaust survivor, but also a focus on hope for the future.

At our assembly this week, we discussed workload and how we can be best placed for the assessment and examination period, which is just over five weeks away. Students will receive a study with tips and ideas for examination and final assessment preparation.

During pastoral this week, the year level watched a presentation on choices related to alcohol consumption, which can be prevalent in social settings, at homes hosted by parents. The seminar focused on strengths, friendship, effects of alcohol on the body and practical strategies to minimise and avoid risk when faced with difficult situations.

We congratulate Cassandra Coxhead on her appointment as Lourdes House Leader and Imogen Van Rensburg who was awarded year level swimming champion.



Year 9 – Leanne Anderson

ANZAC Day Service

Last Wednesday 24 April I had the pleasure of accompanying six of our Year 9 students to an ANZAC Day service at Box Hill Gardens. This annual event, organised by the Box Hill RSL, was a moving ceremony that provided those in attendance with the opportunity to reflect on and show their respect for the service men and women who have represented our country in war. Students from different primary and secondary schools in the area were represented and as part of the ceremony each school was given a wreath to lay at the memorial.

Lest we forget.





Year 8 – Jordyn Frood

Welcome back! I hope you and your families had a restful break and are ready for an action-filled Term 2.

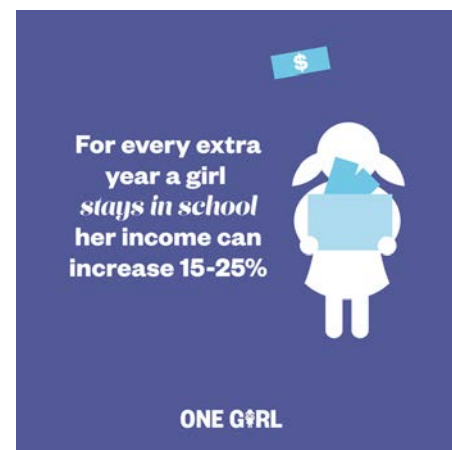
This term is a special one for us. The Year 8s are running their own Social Justice campaign to raise money for the ONE GIRL Organisation.

One Girl helps to support and educate young girls in Sierra Leone and Uganda. They have many different projects, such as sponsoring girls to go to school and teaching and supporting women in starting their own business when they finish school.

During Term 2, the Year 8s are arranging many different activities for students and staff to raise funds. The Year 8s will also be running an awareness campaign, so that the Sion community can gain more knowledge about the amazing work that One Girl does. This started with a guest speaker from One Girl in our Pastoral class on Tuesday.

Our campaign runs over the entire term and we want to raise as much money as we can to assist these communities in Sierra Leone and Uganda. Please support us throughout the term, not only to raise money but to increase knowledge about this incredible organisation and what we as a community can do to help.

For more information, see the One Girl website: www.onegirl.org.au/.



13 You are considered an adult
You have already dropped out of school
Not the best life for a 13 year old
Your future is out of your control



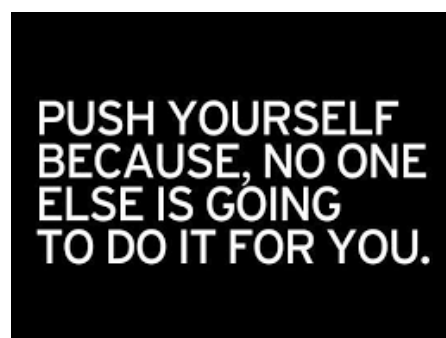
Year 7 – Michelle Arnold

As we settle into Term 2, the Year 7s are starting to be challenged in the classroom and finding that their workload is increasing. The homeroom team and myself are helping the Year 7s to build study skills and to understand the importance of study, revision and having a supportive work space at home. Across this term we will be explaining and exploring the following areas:

- What is study and how do I study?
- What are good study habits?
- Planning and time management.
- What is revision and how is this different to study?
- Why do I need an effective workspace?

Over the term, we will share different tips and ideas with the students and get them to explore what works for them. Discussing study and revision at home is an important part of the process. I encourage parents to have these conversations with their daughters and help them to discover and learn these habits now, so that study and revision is easier in each year of high school. It is important to remind your daughters that what works for one subject might not work for another. This is also the same with friends: one strategy might work really well for your daughter's friend but not for her; that is why we encourage the students to explore multiple revision strategies. The girls need to explore what works for them!

This will be an ongoing process across the term and the year, and we hope you can help support your daughter with the resources we provide and encourage her to look for her own.





Year 7 – 10 Learning Discovery Leader Laura Geilings

Writers' Club Competition:

The competitions below are some that the writers' club members will have the opportunity to take part in; however, all students are encouraged to take up the opportunity to enter these writing competitions.

The 2019 *Insight Creative Writing Competition* is now open and entries close on **Friday 16 August**. For more information please visit: www.insightpublications.com.au/writingcompetition

The 2019 *John Marsden & Hachette Australia Prize for Young Writers* is now open and entries close on Sunday 30 June. For more information please visit: <https://expressmedia.org.au/programs/john-marsden-prize>

Deep Learning and Animated Learners Project

This week's thinking strategy from our Deep Learning and Animated Learners Project is a self-reflection test. This strategy allows students to reflect on their prior- and post-test knowledge about a particular area. It also leads them through how to create SMART goals from their thinking, to help them to continue to improve. Your daughter may have teachers trial these strategies with her in her classes.

Test Self-reflection – Test day

Before completing this test, how well did you think you would do on the test out of 10?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Why did you feel that way?

Ayin

On Friday 26 April, the Year 9s took part in the Ayin World of Work interviews. These interviews were an opportunity for the girls to experience a job interview scenario. We had 10 parents who generously volunteered their time to assist in the running of these interviews, and ran 10-minute consultations with each student. In addition, the girls spent weeks preparing a portfolio for the interview, came to school dressed in appropriate interview attire and undertook the interviews with professionalism and confidence. We congratulate the girls on their achievement and hope that they enjoyed the experience. I would personally like to thank the following parents, without whom the interviews could not run. I would also like to thank all the other parents who emailed to offer their assistance.

A big thank-you to:

- Louise Richmond
- Catherine Stone
- Gerardine Barnett
- Elissa Dyson
- Carolyn Gorry
- Jennifer De Forte
- Vesna Wirth
- Liz Bailey
- Anne Tomietto
- Patrick Mannix.





Senior Learning Learning – Clare Kelly

VCAL Project – The Studio

This term, Our Lady of Sion VCAL students are participating in a joint project, 'The Studio', with VCAL students from Marcellin College, Whitefriars College, St Aloysius College, Loyola College and Santa Maria College. Guest presenters are working with students as they research, design and produce their own podcasts. Students work in groups to address Numeracy, Literacy, WRS (Work Related Skills) and PDS (Personal Development Skills) outcomes.

An awards afternoon will be held on 21 May to celebrate the achievements of the students.



Social Justice Coordinator – Lucy Miotello

Project Compassion

We would like to extend a big 'thank you' to the College community for its support of the 2019 Project Compassion fundraising initiative. We are proud to announce that Our Lady of Sion College raised \$2867.15 throughout the four and a half weeks that we were at school during Lent.

This is an amazing effort and will ensure that the work of Caritas Australia to support vulnerable people in Australia and around the world continues. The money that we have raised is enough to support each of the projects outlined in the 'What your dollars can do' poster. Congratulations to the Social Justice Captain and representatives for a number of successful fundraisers, including the annual *Voices for Change* concert, a recess 'fudge-raiser', a sausage sizzle, year-level fundraising competitions and more.

We look forward to this term, which will see year-level social justice programs start, beginning with another packing and sewing session for the Year 9s for *Days for Girls* on Friday 10 May. We look forward to sharing with you the work of each of the year levels for the following projects:

Social Justice Coordinator – Rebecca Bennett

- Year 7 – *Operation Toilet*: fundraising to provide toilets and wash basins for schools in India.
- Year 8 – *One Girl*: fundraising to give girls in Uganda and Sierra Leone scholarships to attend school.
- Year 9 – *Days for Girls*: creating reusable sanitary items for girls around the world who can't go to school with their periods.
- Year 10 – *Opening the Doors Foundation*: supporting indigenous families in Victoria with educational funding.
- Year 11 – *Asylum Seeker Resource Centre*: running a food drive to support the 600+ asylum seekers who use the food bank at the ASRC on a weekly basis.
- Year 12 – *St Vincent de Paul Society*: participating in the Vinnie's School Sleep Out to stand in solidarity and help raise funds to help Melbourne's homeless.



<p>\$450 can provide educational resources and teacher assistance for a child in Vietnam living with a disability so they can attend school for a year Vietnam</p>	<p>\$1,250 helps a remote indigenous community such as Tali's establish a sustainable livelihood in the forests of Indonesia Indonesia</p>
<p>\$250 can provide mentoring and skill-building programs for a community of Dayak people like Tali's, giving income generating skills in ecotourism, enabling them to maintain important cultural links to their land and the forest. Indonesia</p>	<p>\$325 provides the initial training course for a rural midwife who can help mums like Salma in Bangladesh to safely give birth to their babies. Bangladesh</p>
<p>\$100 provides First Australians with nutritional local foods for a community health picnic to strengthen cultural bonds to community and country. Australia</p>	<p>\$150 provides the opportunity for a child like Huyen, to attend group learning activities with other children living with disabilities, increasing their confidence and their communication skills. Vietnam</p>
<p>\$45 can buy school supplies for a student like Thandweye in Zimbabwe, who dreams of becoming a nurse. Zimbabwe</p>	<p>\$50 will provide a school like Peter's in the Solomon Islands with five metres of guttering to collect valuable rainwater. Solomon Islands</p>
<p>\$1 will pay for a rural midwife in Bangladesh to visit a mum-to-be like Salma, for a vital pregnancy check-up in her own home. Bangladesh</p>	<p>\$5 can provide a school in the Solomon Islands with a reusable water tap so students like Peter have access to clean water, improving health and education outcomes. Solomon Islands</p>



Languages – Gail Amato

It was truly an incredible experience to travel to France with 23 students, Miss Merle, Mrs Schwab and Miss Teicher.

The French trip-of-a-lifetime provided our students with countless memories, as well as the opportunity to experience the history, architecture, fashion, art, delicious food and breath-taking panoramas of this extraordinary country. It allowed students to practise their language skills and develop their knowledge during the language classes in Rouen and at our sister school Notre Dame de Sion in Evry. It was a pleasure to watch their growing passion for the language, the country and its culture.

Such a trip would have not been possible without the support and hard work provided by the accompanying staff and I would like to humbly thank them for all that they did.

Thank you also to the students who behaved as wonderful ambassadors of Our Lady of Sion College and Australia. The students had a wonderful and memorable time in France. Josephine Day and Stephanie Sparrow from Year 11 have shared their experiences and reflections with us all. You can also read more about the trip on the College Blog: www.olsc.home.blog.

After months of intense preparation, on 4 April 2019, 23 excited students and 4 teachers departed for France. After an exhausting 22 hours of flying, we arrived in Paris, where we witnessed the sunrise across the city.

It was surreal to be in Melbourne one day and Paris the next – the city is so picture perfect! To begin with, we visited popular monuments such as Notre Dame and ate a delicious lunch at a local boulangerie. On our first afternoon, we attended the Veneration of the Crown of Thorns at Notre Dame; this was a holy and unforgettable experience. Later in the evening, we visited the Eiffel Tower as a surprise activity. The Eiffel Tower was everything we imagined it to be – big, beautiful and dominant, especially all lit up in the evening. We climbed to the second floor of the Tower, where we were able to say our official 'Hello' to Paris with a beautiful view!

The next few days of the trip were all go, go, go! We explored sites such as the Louvre and the Musée Rodin, had a boat ride on the River Seine and saw a popular theme park, Futuroscope. With interesting and busy days lined up, the jetlag quickly faded away.

At our sister school in Evry, we were warmly welcomed by both the Sion Sisters and students. In smaller groups, we were given the opportunity to sit in on some of the classes at the school. Though conversation was an unusual mix of French and English, we managed to converse with the students and learn about the obvious differences and similarities between our lives.

In Tours, we saw the beautiful chateaux: Chambord, Chenonceaux and Clos Luce where Leonardo Da Vinci spent the last three years of his life. The architecture and history were fascinating, especially to see how royalty and nobles lived over 200 years ago.

One of our highlights was exploring Mont St Michel, an island off the northern coast of France that can only be accessed by a bridge from the mainland. The streets were so narrow and old fashioned that we felt like we had gone back to medieval times!



Learning Area News

In Bayeux, we saw the Bayeux Tapestry, a 1000 year old tapestry over 70 metres long depicting the events of the Battle of Hastings.

Next, we went to Rouen, where we visited significant historical sites, such as Omaha Beach, the town of Arromanches (where the D-Day landings occurred) and Villers-Bretonneux. We prepared a delicious French meal during a cooking class and learned a lot of new French words.

We attended language lessons where we were able to incorporate all our improved listening, reading, writing and speaking skills.

Travelling from Rouen to Paris, we stopped to visit the magnificent Monet's Garden and house, and here we learned about Monet and how he led the Impressionist movement from the village of Giverny.

We finished off the trip with a lovely dinner in Paris with Mrs Apostolopoulos before spending an extra night in Paris due to flight delays.

We would like to thank Ms Amato, Ms Teicher, Ms Schwab and Ms Merle for supporting us on this trip and helping to make this experience unforgettable. A big thank you to Mrs Apostolopoulos for providing us with this amazing opportunity.

Josephine Day and Stephanie Sparrow, 11 Silver.





Mathematics – Amy Proctor

Mathematics Enrichment Opportunity: Years 7 and 8

This year, the College will again enter a team into the Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads (APSMO). This is a challenging competition for high-achieving Maths students in Years 7 and 8. It allows teams and individuals to 'put their talents to the test' and compete against other schools and students across Australia and New Zealand. It consists of five 'Olympiads', each with five challenging questions and a time limit of thirty minutes.

The five Olympiads will run at school on the following Wednesdays in 2019:

- 22 May, 19 June, 31 July, 21 August, 11 September.

Students will have the opportunity to explore and develop their problem-solving skills with regular meetings with the team and guidance of teachers.

Some sample past competition problems are:

- When 18 is divided by the whole number N , the remainder is 4. This is true for how many different values of N ?
- Amy has four more 20c coins than 5c coins. The total value of all her 20c and 5c is \$3.80. How many 5c coins does Amy have?
- How many degrees are in the angle formed by the hands of a clock at 8:24?

Students are encouraged to register their interest in joining the College team by emailing Miss Proctor aproctor@sion.catholic.edu.au. Alternatively, they can keep an eye on the bulletin for upcoming lunchtime meetings!

Please contact Miss Amy Proctor or Ms Helen Mulvogue at the College (9890 9097), if you have any questions regarding this opportunity.



Health & Physical Education – Ellie Van Der Westhuizen

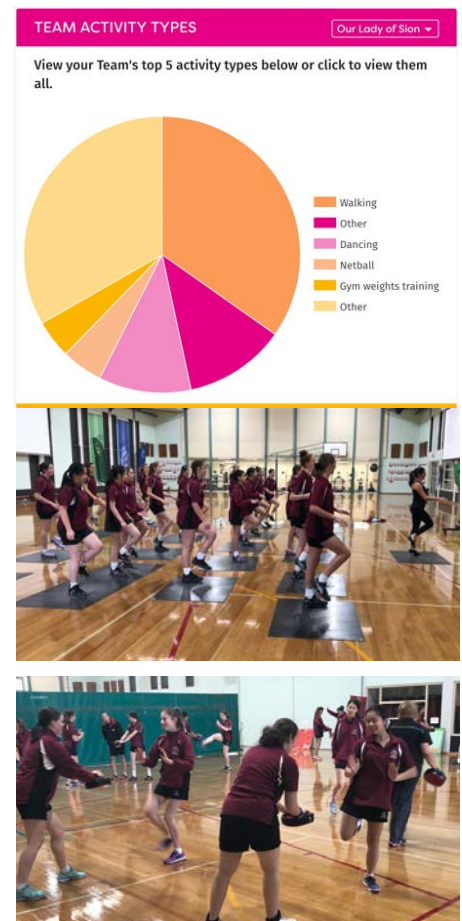
Congratulations to the students, families and staff who got on board the Premier's Active April Campaign. As a team, we completed 637 hours and 13 minutes of exercise in the month and that is quite an achievement. A big congratulations to Julia Cresp of 12 White who completed 69 hours and 10 minutes over 30 days, and to Victoria Hynes of 7 Blue, who completed 68 hours and 20 minutes of activity over 22 days of the 30-day month.

I hope that we can all continue being active as we move into the month of May and the rest of the year.

In Physical Education classes this term, Year 10s will be participating in six lessons of a women's self-defence course. 'Art of Defence

Australia' will run six sessions, with highly trained external instructors visiting the College and implementing specially designed women's self-defence classes for secondary-school-aged students. These lessons are part of an assessed practical unit, where students will learn skills such as how to be aware and assertive, and basic physical techniques for their personal safety and protection.

The Year 8 PE and Year 9 Body Talk classes will be working through their Dance unit, where they will experience different styles of Dance from Bush Dance to Hip-Hop, Tap and Ballet. They will then be creating their own dances to perform to the class. It will be a term filled with new experiences and creativity.



The Arts News

Year 8 Music

The Year 8 Music classes have been exploring rhythm, in particular the use of ostinati and cross rhythms.

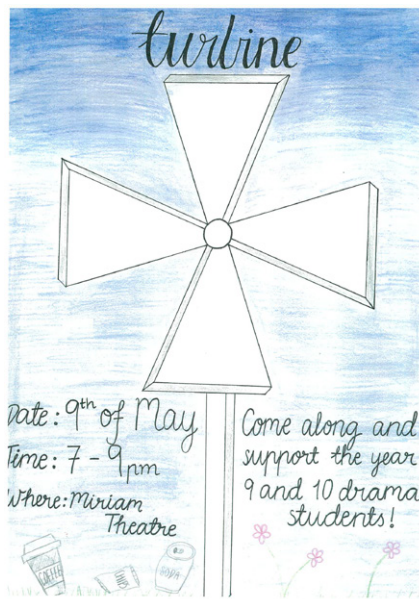


Arts – Natasha Borg

Drama

Come along and see the Year 9 and 10 Drama girls perform their class play, Turbine. We have spent a lot of time and hard work preparing for this performance so please come and support your drama friends! The performance will be on Thursday 9 May at 7.00 pm in the Miriam Theatre.

Charlotte Dyer, 9 Red



Teacher Choice:
Manisha Boyagama, Year 8



College Theme Competition



Student Choice:
Severine Cherry, Year 7



Visual Arts:
Judy Lin, Year 10



Liturgical:
Anja Batiller, Year 9



Music – Martin Macaulay

Jazz Ensemble Workshop with composer Ross Irwin

This morning, the Senior Jazz Ensemble embarked on a trip to Mount Gambier in South Australia for the annual 'Generations in Jazz' competition and festival. It brings together about 380 school ensembles from around the country to compete in a rich and collaborative musical environment.



Last Sunday, the girls were fortunate to work with the composer of the 'test' piece for our section at Mount Gambier, Mr Ross Irwin. Ross is a graduate from Blackburn High School and has forged an international career as a jazz composer, educator and most prominently in the band *The Cat Empire*. It was a great experience for the girls leading into this weekend.

Last Sunday, the Jazz Ensemble was incredibly fortunate to have the composer of our Generations in Jazz set piece, Ross Irwin, to come in and give us some valuable tips and tricks on making our GIJ performance amazing. We were able to receive some feedback from him and learn about the most important concepts that a great big band needs. The insight he gave helped us to improve our GIJ set by working on playing our pieces with style and keeping our timing tight. We were so grateful to have this opportunity before heading to Mount Gambier this weekend.

Kiara Fonseka, 11 Gold

Workshopping with Ross Irwin was extremely insightful for the Jazz Ensemble. His explanation of his influences and stylistic approach helped us to understand his piece better and his guidance led us to better our technique and sound. We are all thankful for his expertise, and are even more excited to travel to Mt Gambier to perform and experience the weekend festivities.

Bianca Gaudion, 12 Silver



Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday 7 May – Year 9/10 Music Recital, 4.30 pm, Miriam Theatre
- Monday 13 May – Term 2 Music Soiree, 5.00 pm, Miriam Theatre
- Monday 20 May – Year 7 Morning Concert Band Open Rehearsal, 7.30 am, Miriam Theatre
- Tuesday 21 May – Year 7 Afternoon Concert Band Open rehearsal, 3.30 pm, Venue TBC
- Tuesday 21 May – Year 12 VCE Music Recital Concert, 7.00 pm, Miriam Theatre
- Wednesday 29 May – Sion First Band First Concert, 5.00 pm, Miriam Theatre
- Thursday 27 June – Ensembles Concert, 7.00 pm, Miriam Theatre



Sports – Katrina Gurciullo

Sport Report

Term 2 Weekly Sport is up and running, with Seniors and Intermediates commencing Round 1 this week and Juniors to follow next week. We are excited for the addition of AFL 9s to our Junior program in weekly GSV Sport.

Cross Country is also underway, with the squad training hard under the guidance of Mr Rieusset on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. We look forward to what the team can achieve this year!



Weekly Sport Results

	Senior	Intermediate
Netball	A Team: Sion (38) def Korowa A (13) B Team: Sion (24) def Korowa B (15)	Sion vs Siena Team A - won (33-11) Team B - won (42-8) Team C - won (37-10) Team D - won (16-6) Team E - def (6-12)
Hockey	St Margaret's (8) def Sion (0)	Sion (1) def OLMC (0)

Athletics Carnival

A reminder that our College Athletics Carnival will be held next week, Wednesday 8 May, at Doncaster Athletics Track. We warmly invite family members to attend and support their daughters.

Equestrian

We would like to congratulate Isabella O'Donnell-Fernando on her outstanding results in the recent Tintern Horse Trials competition. Well done Isabella!

On 27 and 28 April I competed in the 19th annual Tintern Horse Trials. This consisted of three disciplines: Dressage, Show Jumping and Cross Country. I competed with my horse, Willow, and after Dressage we managed to place fourth, and moved up to third place and held third place during Cross Country and Show Jumping. Out of 25+ competitors, we placed third.

Isabella O'Donnell-Fernando, 10 Purple



Sports Star of the Week

Our two Aerobics teams, 'Pandamonium' and 'Fight Squad' are this week's Sports Stars!

After much hard work and training, both teams have progressed through to the School Aerobics State Finals held later this term. Congratulations and well done girls!



PANDAMONIUM



FIGHT SQUAD



Learning Enhancement – Maureen Fraser



GATEWAYS – Extension opportunities for students in Years 7 and 8

GATEWAYS offers numerous enrichment and extension opportunities on Saturdays for students interested in coding, robotics, applied Maths, reading, talented writing and literary analysis. This is a parent-nominated

activity and we welcome parents to use the links below to get further details on the programs on offer.

This semester, GATEWAYS has a couple of options for gifted and talented Year 7 and 8 students as part of their Saturday afternoon *Brainwaves Club* program, which runs at Alphington, Forest Hill, Brighton and Essendon. The Clubs run from 2.00 to 4.30 pm every second Saturday during the term.

Individual club dates and fees can be found [here](#).

At Alphington, Forest Hill and Essendon, they offer the *Tronics Club*, which has a focus on coding, robotics and applied mathematics. You can read about the Alphington program [here](#), the Forest Hill program [here](#) and the Essendon program [here](#).

At Brighton, they recommend that lower secondary students join *Inklings* if they are enthusiastic readers, gifted writers or budding literary analysts. You can read about the program offered [here](#).

Parents can use the online portal to enrol.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data 2019

Schools must now complete the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD) every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or 'help' at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, the student is placed in one of four groups: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional, and physical. Students who need additional support at school can be counted in the NCCD and this will be determined by the College based on NCCD criteria.

Changes were made to the law (*Australian Education Act 2013* and *Australian Education Regulation 2013*) allowing schools to count a student in the NCCD without individual consent from parents or guardians.

The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](http://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(www.nccd.edu.au\)](http://www.nccd.edu.au).





College Counsellor – Janine Crociani

There is no doubt that having an adolescent in the family can be a challenging time for parents and it can be particularly challenging for those parents who are experiencing this for the first time with their eldest child.

Tuning into Teens is a six-week, evidence-based parenting program that focuses on the emotional connection between parents and children. It aims to teach parents skills in emotion coaching – recognising, understanding and managing your own and your children's emotions.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in, there are a number of groups offering this course over the coming months. The website links below provide more specific information.

Relationships Australia (Kew) – beginning 8 May for six weeks – 9261 8700 or www.relationshipsvictoria.com.au/courses/relationship-education/course/146/1

HealthAbility (Eltham) – beginning 13 May for six weeks – 9430 9100 or <https://healthability.org.au/groups-programs/tuning-in-to-teens/>

Maple Family Clinic (Blackburn) – beginning 7 May for six weeks – 8838 8118 or www.maplefamilyclinic.com.au/our-services

Please also feel free to contact any of the counsellors here at Sion if you have any concerns about your daughter. We can be contacted via reception on 9890 9017 or email counselling@sion.catholic.edu.au.



Careers – Brooke O'Hara

When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.

Alexander Graham Bell

(scientist, inventor, engineer, and innovator)

Students and families can find the fortnightly Careers newsletter at www.olscareers.com/?page=newsletter.

In this fortnight's newsletter there is information relating to:

- Upcoming events – VCE and Careers Expo, the Weekend, My Melbourne Future series, Overseas Study in the UK and USA, At Monash Seminar Series update
- Career in the spotlight – Set Designer
- Things to consider – Bond University Scholarships, ACU Community Achievers Program, Year 12 Career Appointments
- Research ideas – Swinburne University and post-graduate Physiotherapy.



Our Lady of Sion College

Apply
now for
2021

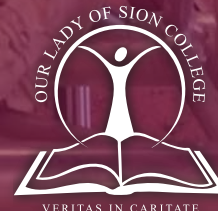
Information Evening

Wednesday 22 May, 7.00 to 8.00 pm

Prospective families are invited to register their attendance.

Please contact the College on 9890 9097 or
info@sion.catholic.edu.au

1065 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill | www.sion.catholic.edu.au





Our Lady of Sion Presents:

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman



23, 24, 25 May, Miriam Theatre, Our Lady of Sion College
Tickets www.trybooking.com/BBHVC

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, on behalf of Dramatists Play Service, including Inc New York.



Parenting Information Forum

Supporting Parents, Grandparents and Carers



UNDERSTANDING & RESPONDING TO CHILDREN'S BEHAVIOURS (0-10 YEARS)

Do you wonder why your children behave the way they do and what to do about it? This presentation provides practical strategies for parents to support their children and guide their behaviours in appropriate ways. Parents are able to raise questions at the presentation and this provides an opportunity for specific issues to be addressed.

With over 30 years of experience in the early childhood sector and qualifications in Early Childhood Teaching and in Special Education, Angela McGann from Early Life Foundation believes all learning starts with relationships.

Angela has been a Director and Teacher in a number of community-based kindergartens, has worked with babies to 12-year-old children and their families as a Play Therapist at Monash Medical Centre and has also been a Sessional Lecturer in the Early Childhood Department at Monash University's Peninsula Campus. Angela is passionate about building strong connections with children, families and colleagues by creating a collaborative environment, so all children can thrive and reach their full potential.

DATE

Tuesday 18 June

TIME

Registration and tea and coffee from 7pm.
Information session commences at 7.30pm sharp

VENUE

Whitehorse Centre, 397 Whitehorse Road,
Nunawading (rear of Nunawading Library)

BOOKINGS

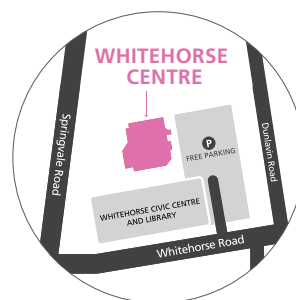
Registering your attendance is essential.
Please book online at www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/Parenting-Information-Forum-Program.html

COST

\$2 gold coin donation payable on the night.

OTHER INFORMATION

- To request additional access support including interpreting please contact Council's Parenting Resource Officer on 9262 6175 or parentresource@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
- Please note we are unable to accommodate children.





FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2018, you do not need to complete an application form in 2019 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2019 or you did not apply in 2018.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2019.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

