There are always moments that remain in our memory above others. One such memory was created for myself, VCAL CO-ordinator Kieran Witts, our College Captains Jason and Elisha, Vice Captains Emily and James-Andre and the members of the Social Justice Committee recently. We were all fortunate to be invited to the Million sMiles Retreat run by the Children First Foundation in Kilmore.

The College has donated, so far, over $12,000 to assist children from overseas with surgery. We have sponsored Job from Nauru, Kashmala from Pakistan and last year Koko from Papua New Guinea. On 28 April, we all had the pleasure of meeting the staff who run the retreat as well as interacting with four children currently under the care of Children First.

Our Vice Captain, Emily Seeary, summed up the thoughts of all of us when she emailed the following to me:

“I had such an overwhelming experience meeting the four amazing children, and hearing/reading about all the other children who have previously lived at the Farm. Their positive and courageous attitudes for life have definitely inspired me and made me think about how fortunate I am. It was such a memorable day, and I would like to thank you for the opportunity to be a part of it. It is certainly an experience I will hold onto for the rest of my life.”

One of the children we met was Theresa, a 17 year old girl from the Philippines, who Children First have been looking after for the last two years. As an 8 year old, Theresa fell on a fire and was badly burned and disfigured. Over the last two years, she has had surgery to separate skin that had fused together on her upper torso and continues to need ongoing surgery.

Theresa will be the recipient of Emmaus’ “Day of Action” on 19 May. All students will be invited to wear casual clothes for a minimum donation of $5. There will also be a BBQ and drinks for sale at lunch and hot chocolates at recess. All money raised will go to Children First to assist with Theresa’s next round of surgery. Theresa and staff from Children First will also be guests at our whole school assembly on 31 May. The support of everyone will be much appreciated.

Pope Francis recently celebrated the Jubilee Mass for Teens. The heart of Pope Francis’ message at the Mass was quite simply one word – Love.

The Pope told the thousands of young people gathered in St Peter’s Square that “love was the Christian’s identity card, the only valid “document” identifying us as Christians. If this card expires and is not constantly renewed,” he said, “we stop being witnesses of the Master.”

He asked the teenagers gathered, “Do you want to experience the love of Jesus? Let us learn from him, for his words are a school of life, a school where we learn to love.”

The Holy Father noted, however, that although love is beautiful and it’s the path to happiness it is not necessarily an easy path. It is, he said, demanding and it requires effort. Your happiness, has no price. “It cannot be bought: it is not an app that you can download on your phones nor will the latest update bring you freedom and grandeur in love.” Love does not happen because we talk about it, the Pope underlined, “but when we live it”.

The Holy Father concluded his homily by saying to the teenagers “you will do amazing things if you prepare well, starting now, by living your youth and all its gifts to the fullest and without fear of hard work – be courageous and firm in your decisions” because, he said, “it is only by doing this you will realise your greatest dreams”.

SCHOOL REVIEW 2016

All staff will be involved in a Professional Learning Day on Friday, 20 May – and as advertised in calendars, there will be no classes for students. A major focus of the day will be the 2016 School Review. Staff will focus on what we have achieved since our last school review in 2012, and importantly key areas of focus for the period 2017-2020. A great deal of work has to be undertaken between now and August/September when the Reviewers visit the school.

FEDERAL ELECTION

With the Federal Election now confirmed for 2 July, the election campaign has officially commenced. Emmaus College will ensure families are kept up-to-date with the latest Catholic Education Melbourne information outlining the various major political parties’ policy positions on education.
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND
As previously advised the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. The amount payable is $225 for eligible secondary school students.

More information can be found on the CSEF website www.education.vic.gov.au/csef and includes the Parent Application Form Critical Dates. Please note the final day for schools to accept CSEF applications is Friday, 3 June 2016.

EISM ATHLETICS CARNIVALS
Congratulations to all students who represented Emmaus College in the recent Division One Athletics Carnival and the more recent Champions Athletics Carnival at Lakeside Stadium. Mr Carter has supplied more details regarding results elsewhere in this Newsletter. There could not have been more contrasting weather conditions for the two carnivals – one in perfect sunshine with warm temperatures, while the other during a cold and wet miserable May day.

NAPLAN TESTING
Year 7 and Year 9 students were tested this week in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). These assessments provide diagnostic information to parents and teachers about a child’s performance in Literacy and Numeracy. This information can then be used by Emmaus to support teaching and learning programs and ultimately student achievement. The information can also be used to show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. The school data will be publicly available on the MySchool website early next year and also in the Emmaus College Annual Report. Each year we also publish these results in the school Newsletter once they become available. While far from perfect, NAPLAN does give a snapshot of student performance relative to other students and allows families and schools to track longitudinal performance.

YEAR 7 ENROLMENTS 2017
The final date for acceptance of offers for places for Year 7 2017 was 6 May. It is again pleasing that the College has continued to experience a strong demand from families (over 320 application forms received) wanting an Emmaus education for their child. We will certainly again be at full capacity for Year 7 2017 (224 Year 7 students), and we have many families with children on our waiting list (and unfortunately a significant number of families that could not be offered a place). The waiting list generally moves, so hopefully some families will eventually find a place at Emmaus in 2017. In light of this situation,

any current family that has not completed an application form for Year 7 2017 should urgently contact the Registrar, Mrs Alison Alberico.

NEW LEARNING CENTRE
As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, the new Learning Centre project is finally out to tender. The tender closes on Friday, 27 May, and it is hoped that site work can commence during the school holidays with construction beginning early Term 3. With a building project of this magnitude, there will inevitably be some disruption to traffic flow and access around the school grounds.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION
It was wonderful that some 70 mothers were able to attend the annual Emmaus Parents and Friends Association ‘Mingle with Mums’ evening on Wednesday, 4 May. This was the second major Parent and Friends function for the year, following on from the Year 7 Family Fun Day. The Parents and Friends evening is held annually to coincide with Mother’s Day. Thank you to all members of the Emmaus Parents and Friends Association for their organisation of the evening, especially Tania Keogh for running the coffee cart and Jim Willett who acted as barman, to those who donated the many door prizes and all who supported the event with their presence.

PARENTS FORUM
The Parents’ Forum held on Thursday, 12 May, kept parents up-to-date with developments around the school. The keynote speaker for the evening was Dr William Keane who outlined the many benefits of the Visible Learning program at Emmaus College.
**WINTER FUNDRAISER @ HOLY SAVIOUR**

Four of our very talented VCE Music Performance students were asked to perform at Holy Saviour’s annual Winter Fundraiser concert on Saturday night, 7 May. Held in the church at Holy Saviour, the night featured silent auctions and raffles with the proceeds going towards continuing the good work the school and church do throughout their community. The 150-strong crowd enjoyed performances from a variety of acts, with the Emmaus students playing original music and some arrangements of their favourite songs. Our students put on a fantastic performance, which was warmly received by all in attendance.

**CHARITY CONCERT**

Thank you to the Arts Committee and Arts staff, our performers and all those who supported this annual event. Funds raised were donated to Caritas.

The next Newsletter will be distributed on 10 June.

**EXAMS**

This is the last Newsletter before students undertake Semester One exams. I would ask that students and families ensure that all assessment tasks are completed in coming weeks and that study for exams at all Year Levels is commenced. While there are now no external VCE mid-year exams undertaken, all students undertaking a Unit 3/4 subject are required to sit for the VCAA General Achievement Test (GAT) on 7 June. We are also utilising the correction/reporting days on 14 June for Unit 3/4 exams.

As well as exams, there are a number of other events taking place in coming weeks. These include the Year 9@E Expo, Musical Soirées, Drama and Theatre Studies performance evenings and the Year 12 Formal.

As indicated on the Emmaus College calendar, no classes will operate on 14 June as this is a report writing day for staff (with the exception of Unit 3/4 exams mentioned above).
On 28 April the Social Justice Committee along with the School Captains and Vice Captains travelled to Kilmore to visit the Children First Foundation Farm for the day. We spent time getting to know the kids, who were at the Farm, especially the girl we are sponsoring called Theresa. Whilst the bus rides there and back were long, I’m sure it is an experience that none of us will forget. Seeing what some of these kids have been through and seeing their spirit throughout their recovery and having been away from home for up to 2 years is remarkable and something none of us on the trip could imagine. We definitely all learnt a thing or two about a positive attitude. When it comes to our fundraising day, to know where our money is going makes it that much more special and important.

Cheyenne Buckley – Social Justice Captain.
TICKETS SELLING FAST
Over the past week, all the Y9 students have participated in a Reflection Day run by the Youth Mission Team. This group of young people aged between 18 and 25 come from all over Australia and commit to missionary work with the youth for one year. The theme of the Reflection Day was self-image. The students participated in a range of engaging activities which explored how young people see themselves, how we need to appreciate everyone’s uniqueness and how God can play a role in their lives. The members of the Youth Mission Team also shared their own journeys and connected with the students.

Students have begun a new Active Life activity at the beginning of Term 2 – Basketball skills, Yoga, Zumba, Martial Arts, Fitness and Weight Training, AFL skills, Indoor Sports, Swimming, Netball skills and Soccer skills. Specialist coaches have been putting the students through their paces and the students have been successfully independently navigating their way to different venues for this program.

Four classes have also begun their Community Connections placements. In the Religious Education classroom, the students have been learning about the Catholic Social Justice Principles of Human Dignity, Solidarity and Common Good. They then work in a variety of placements, Aged Care, Disability Care and Supported Employee factories to put these principles in action themselves.

There are a few key dates to keep in mind for the remainder of Term 2:

- 24 May Y9@E Elective Expo (Burwood Campus 6.30pm) Many Elective subjects displaying the work students have produced throughout the semester
- 3 June – Y9 Examinations
- 16 June – Y9@E Certificate Program
- 20 June – City Explore

Please note that the Burwood carpark will be inaccessible soon to parents for a short period of time due to the building works taking place at St Benedict’s church. Student drop offs and pick-ups will need to take place on Loudon Road. An SMS will be sent to alert families when the exact dates are known.
The Monash Scholars Program is now open for application by Year 10 students. This is a prestigious program for high achieving secondary school students and is offered to give high potential students a unique head start into university life.

Student Criteria: In order to apply, students must be in the top 10% academically of their cohort at their respective school, must demonstrate leadership ability and potential, must be university focused and must display a willingness to connect with like-minded students. Three places are allocated to each school and the final selection will be made by Monash according to the strength of the application. Much weight in the selection process is given to academic standing.

How to apply:
1. Students download and fill in the application form available at monash.edu/monash-scholars2016
2. Students have the application form endorsed by their school
3. Students send completed application form to monashscholars@monash.edu

Endorsement: Students need to submit their form to Ms McLachlan for potential endorsement.

Key Dates: Applications open 20 May, Applications close 24 June, Scholars announced 12 July

For more information: Monash Scholars Team
Student recruitment and Admissions 9903 4758
Email: monashscholars@monash.edu
Website: monash.edu/monash-scholars

YEAR 9 GEOGRAPHY EXCURSION

The Year 9 Geography excursion took students on a real eco-adventure to the You Yangs where we learnt what eco-tourism actually is from some friendly volunteers and had a taste of how much fun it could be. Whilst there, we put on gloves and enthusiastically made great strides in pulling up a noxious Bone Weed plant that interferes with koalas’ ability to mate. After further exploring the park, taking photos and making some sketches, we headed off to the waterfront at Geelong and strolled along the boardwalk, mapping geographical features as part of our next assessment task.

Miss Helen Sirianni – LAL Humanities

MONASH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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The 2016 VCAL group of Emmaus students have been given a fantastic project opportunity. Jayda, Ollie and I presented our idea to Mr Hirst on Thursday, 21 April in the Boardroom. After Mr Hirst’s approval, the staff and students were ecstatic that we were going to put our project vision into life. The VCAL group put many hours into planning this project. We will be building an outdoor seating area for the teachers to use. The seating area will be outside Mr Di Camillo’s office. It will include a large deck, pond, privacy screens and new plantings.

We developed ideas for the theme of the project from excursions. We travelled to Maldon for inspiration and also visited Bunnings and had a look at local cafés for ideas. We decided on a laid-back Australian theme. We are now in the second week of constructing the deck, Johann has been taking photos of the progress. We look forward to giving the teachers an area of their own.

We are grateful for the guidance of VCAL Co-ordinator, Mr Kieran Witts, and the help from Mr Scott Eddington, Mrs Jane Willison and Mrs Helen Phillips.

Kim Forward – VCAL Student

VCAL students in action at the Upwey RSL preparing their garden beds for the recent ANZAC Day ceremonies. The returned service men and women were very grateful for the VCAL group’s assistance.

Mr Kieran Witts – VCAL Co-ordinator
EISM DIVISION 1 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
On 26 April, 88 students represented Emmaus College in the Division 1 Athletics Carnival held at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park. It was a fantastic day with all students performing at their best with a number of place-getters. A special mention to the following students who placed first in their individual events: Jade Knight, Joanna Wietrzyk, Emily Fisher and Ned Snibson. Emmaus ended up placing seventh which was a great result considering the 25+ event changes on the day. Many students from lower age groups stepped up and competed against older students to gain points for the school and should be commended for their efforts.

EISM CHAMPIONS ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
On a cold, wet and windy day, 30 students competed in the Champions Athletics Carnival held at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park on 9 May. We had a number of outstanding results including a few first places. Well done to those students who were able to represent Emmaus and themselves on the day showing excellent school spirit.

HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY
The House Cross Country event held in the first week of Term 2 turned out to be a beautiful day with many students participating and fighting for House points. The Year 7 and 8 students showed tremendous enthusiasm and ran their hearts out. The 64 students from Year 10-12 who represented their Houses ran very well, however we hope in the future that this number will improve from the leadership of the House Captains. The Year 9 students will have their Cross Country later this term to determine the overall House Cross Country champion.
ITALIAN EXCHANGE

URGENT – HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED!

This year there will be 15 students coming from our Italian sister school. The Italian school is in Pinerolo in the Piemonte region about 40 minutes from the capital of Turin. Students who attend this school study the core subjects, but their electives focus on Hospitality. So these students are either studying to be chefs, pastry chefs, sommeliers, hotel receptionists or travel agents.

These students are arriving in Melbourne on Thursday, 7 July and will leave on 31 July, 2016.

During this time, all host families will be our guests on a day trip to Phillip Island, and the school will organise various other excursions allowing these students the opportunity to visit our beautiful city. The Italian students will also need to complete a 5-day work experience program. The students will already know where they will be working and as part of their work experience, it will be expected that they will get themselves to and from work with your guidance. There will be an information evening soon for more information.

Thank you to those families who have already offered to host a student. I am now seeking a further 5 families to host 5 lovely girls. Hosting opens up a whole new range of opportunities to your family, as well as being a rewarding experience. All host families are supported by the Italian teaching staff.

Please email Maria.Sabo@emmaus.vic.edu.au or phone 9845 3218 for further information, or if you would like to host.

Mrs Maria Sabo – LAL LOTE

MEDIEVAL MODELS

In Year 8 History, students always create the most amazing medieval models, and this year is no exception. This is just a taste.

Miss Helen Sirianni – LAL Humanities

REMINDER:
Student-free day Friday, 20 May
Due to School Review Professional Learning Day
PARENT PROGRAMS

PLUGGED IN – KEEPING YOUNG PEOPLE SCREEN SAFE
Join three of Melbourne’s leading experts on cyber safety and learn tips on how to keep them safe. This free forum will showcase Susan McLean, Steven Dupon and Jeremy Shub. Tuesday, 24 May 7pm-8.30pm at Auburn High School, Burgess Street, East Hawthorn. RSVP at: http://screensafe.eventbrite.com.au or ring 9278 4753

TUNING INTO TEENS PARENTING PROGRAM
Boroondara Youth Services in partnership with Camcare is providing a 6-week parenting program for parents of adolescents aged 10-18 years. This free course will cover talking to your teen, helping your teen to manage emotions and conflict. Please contact Vanessa to register your interest for future programs on 9835 7824 or email Vanessa.virgato@boroondara.vic.gov.au.

EASTERN PARENTZONE TERM 2 2016

BREAKING THE CYCLE - ANGLICARE VIC
A group for mothers, fathers, step-parents and carers whose adolescents are abusive or violent in the home. Term Program (one night per week - Manningham) cost is $50 per person or $80 per couple. This group gives you an opportunity to discuss parenting issues confidentially and learn new skills to help manage challenging situations. For more information or to register please contact Meridian Intake on 9896 6322.

CARPARK SAFETY
It has been reported to the College that some parents dropping Year 9 students at the Vermont South Campus in readiness to catch the bus to Burwood are entering the College grounds at too fast a rate. Please be mindful that the safety of all students, parents and staff must be at the forefront of everyone’s thinking as they enter and leave College grounds.

Family Care Sisters
Our facility at Croydon, offers holistic care to all women (aged 20+70) who are in need of a peaceful environment, ‘time out’, support or nurturing. Our residential program operates each week, Monday-Friday. 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). Further information or to book: contact us on 9723 6797; www.familycaresisters.com.au; or email us at resthome.familycare@bigpond.com.

TS Melbourne Open Night

Are you aged between 12 and 17?
Do you like water activities, such as swimming, powerboating and sailing? Looking for something new? Looking to do community service? Interested in visiting naval establishments and going on ship visits? International and national travel?

Navy Cadets is for you!!!
Bring your friends and family to our open night. There is no pressure to join.

When: Tuesday 17th of May 2016
Where: 48 Kingston Road, Surrey Hills, Victoria 3127
Time: 6.45pm-9pm

For more information please contact the commanding officer of TS Melbourne
LEUT Ferdinand Cheriyaparambil: 0439 744 755
or see more of what we do see www.tsmelbourne.com
COMING EVENTS

MAY

15 Year 10 Outdoor Education Camp 15-16 May
16 Year 8 Reflection Day
17 Colin House Day
18 Year 8 Reflection Day
20 School Review Professional Learning Day – No Classes
23 Vocal Soirée, 6.30pm BHPAC
24 Y9@E Electives Expo, 6.30pm Burwood Campus
25 Orchestral & Guitar Soirée, 6.30pm BHPAC
26 Percussion Soirée, 6.30pm BHPAC
Education Committee, 7.30pm
30 Year 7-8 Common Examinations Commence
31 College Assembly

JUNE

1 Year 10 Learning Assessment
Year 11 Examinations Commence
2 Year 10 Examinations Commence
3 Year 9 Examinations Commence
7 VCAA GAT
9 Finance Committee, 5.15pm
College Board Meeting, 7.30pm Vermont South
10 Year 12 Mid-year English Examination
Classes Conclude for all Students at 12.45pm
Report Writing Afternoon
Newsletter No. 6
Year 12 Formal
13 Queen’s Birthday Holiday
14 Report Writing Day – No classes for Years 7-11 Students
Year 12 Examinations
Year 10 Work Experience 14-17 June
15 Year 7-11 Semester 2 Classes Commence
Year 12 Examinations
16 Y9@E Certificate Program Day
20 Y9@E City Explore
21 End of Semester School Mass 9.00am
School Swimming Carnival at Nunawading
24 End of Term

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Will be Open:
THURSDAY, 2 JUNE
8.15–9AM AND 3–4PM
To sell uniforms, form may be downloaded from the College website. Please email Tania Keogh on taniakeogh@gmail.com with any queries.

FRIDAY MORNING MASS

Mass is celebrated in the College Chapel every
Friday Morning at 8.15am
Parents are most welcome to join students and staff.

SOCIAL MEDIA COMES TO EMMAUSS!

Like us on Facebook @EmmausMelb

Our new Twitter Account is @EmmausMelm

We are also trialling Instagram for Year 9. Look for us on Yr9@EmmausMelm.