Recently the Year 7 and 8 students were presented with information seminars called “Digital Thumbprint” which detailed how to be safe online.

Digital technology is everywhere and our students are living and breathing social media. How can we keep up and ensure they are safe online? The answer is not that simple, but one way is to educate our young people on how to become more aware of their time spent online. Our students were defined as ‘digital natives’, meaning they were born into an age of rapid technological advancements. They were five years old when Facebook became popular. As they are constantly presented with apps such as YouTube, Snapchat, Instagram, and PC accounts such as Steam and PlayStation Network, do our young people know how to use these applications in the safest manner? Are they aware of what happens when we sign up online?

It was interesting to see only one hand go up when the presenter asked the students who had ever read the terms and conditions. The others never read these because the terms were too long and if you didn’t accept, you couldn’t access the application. Students were shown a webpage that simplifies terms and conditions of thousands of applications into a series of bullet points that use simple language. We encourage everyone to take a look: http://tosdr.org.

The students were also educated on making a strong password, ensuring they use a few different options for online security. A good password should include upper and lower case letters, symbols and numbers. They should never include phone numbers, pets, birthdates, siblings or street names. Year 7 and 8 students were encouraged to check the security of their password on the following website: www.howsecureismypassword.net.

Some of the students tried this and were shocked to find out their password would only take 2 minutes to break by a hacker. Other students, who were confident these had a strong password, were surprised to know it would take a hacker 8 months to break their password. One boy asked the presenter why “he hadn’t been to present this information to him years ago?”

As we cannot escape the digital advancements around us we must assist in developing savvy and responsible users online now and in the future.

Archbishop Hart’s 2016 Pentecost Letter to Youth has been distributed to Year 11 and Year 12 students. The Pentecost Letter is inspired by the Archbishop’s annual conversation with student leaders (which our College Captains and Vice-Captains attend), and reflects on the hopes, concerns and questions expressed by young people at this gathering.

This year’s Pentecost Letter is an invitation for young people to learn more about ‘mercy’ and to discover ways in which we can be merciful. It is called ‘Be merciful, as your heavenly Father is merciful’ (Luke 6:36) and is based on the theme for the Extraordinary Year of Mercy that Pope Francis has declared for the whole Church from 8 December 2015 to 20 November 2016. One particular quote from the letter to reflect on is;

“If we have never received mercy or if we think we don’t need mercy, then we won’t know how to show mercy to others”

Archbishop Hart highlights Pope Francis’ call for the Church to pay particular attention to the ‘works of mercy,’ with our challenging responsibility as Christians, to make sure all humans are looked after.

ARCHDIOCESAN APPOINTMENTS
Archbishop Hart has made a number of appointments in the Archdiocese after the appointment of Bishop Long to Bishop of Parramatta. Bishop Mark Edwards OMI (our current Eastern Bishop) has been appointed Auxiliary Bishop for the Western Region and Monsignor Greg Bennet, Melbourne’s Vicar General, has been appointed Episcopal Vicar for the Eastern Region. We thank Bishop Edwards for being such a great supporter of Emmaus during his 18 months as Bishop in the Eastern Region, attending College Masses and being our Keynote speaker/guest at Presentation Evening last year.

FEDERAL ELECTION
Recently the Australian Catholic Bishops issued a statement on the coming election: A Vote for the Voiceless. It presents no partisan views but is a reminder of what is of essential importance in the government of any society. The bishops ask that during the campaign we try to ask, and answer, who is unseen and unheard in our society and to try to make them visible and give them a voice. The web link to ‘A Vote for the Voiceless’ is www.catholic.org.au/bishops-statements/election-2016-statement
UPDATE ON THE LEARNING CENTRE
After what has been a long three year journey, the new Learning Centre project went to tender at the end of April and the revised tenders closed on Wednesday, 8 June. Our Architect Enrico Marrone (EM Building and Design), Business Manager, Gary Casey and I went to the Catholic Archdiocese Melbourne on Wednesday to open the tenders. It is hoped that Fr Julian Langridge, as President of the Canonical Administrators, will be able to sign contracts with the successful company in coming days and work can commence in around four weeks’ time.

COMPLIANCE DATA
As part of the compliance reporting requirements for the Department of Education, Employment, and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), all schools are required to report specific information. Emmaus College fulfils these requirements through regular Newsletter information, the College website and College Annual. The College also produces an Annual Report each year which is available on the College website and the State Register.

The following statements are included to ensure the College has fulfilled its compliance requirements for 2015.

• Corporal punishment is not permitted, and a statement to this affect is included in our Discipline Policy.
• Student attendance is monitored on a daily basis. Parents are alerted to student absences if they have not contacted the school by 9.30 a.m.
• Statistics on student attendance are recorded in the 2015 Annual Report.
• Parent, student and teacher satisfaction is measured by yearly surveys as part of the Catholic Education Melbourne’s School Improvement Framework.

The 2015 Annual Report has been completed and will be uploaded onto the College website in coming weeks (in the Community tab). This Report gives an overview of key performance data for 2015.

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS
The Victorian Government has now introduced child safe standards for organisations that work with children. Ministerial Order 870 sets out the specific actions that registered schools need to take to meet the child safe standards. In coming Newsletters, there will be more details on these standards.

Central to the mission of Emmaus College is an unequivocal commitment to fostering the dignity, self esteem and integrity of children and young people and providing them with a safe, supportive and enriching environment to develop spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and socially.

A Code of Conduct was recently approved by the College Board with a specific focus on safeguarding children and young people at Emmaus College against sexual, physical, psychological and emotional abuse or neglect. The Code is intended to complement child protection legislation, school policies/procedures and professional standards, codes or ethics as these apply to staff and personnel. All staff, volunteers, contractors, clergy and Board/School Council members of Emmaus College will be expected to contribute actively to a school culture that respects the dignity of its members and affirms the Gospel values of love, care for others, compassion and justice. They are required to observe child-safe principles and expectations for appropriate behaviour towards and in the company of children.

COLLEGE PRODUCTION
Tickets for the four shows of the much anticipated Emmaus College Production, ‘Hairspray’ sold out within two weeks (two months prior to the actual show!). Due to overwhelming demand, a Saturday matinée was added, and this too is almost sold out. Final tickets for the matinée are available on the ‘Try Booking’ service on the College website.

MUSIC SOIRÉES
From 23 to 26 May the College hosted the first series of music soirées for the year. There were three in total: Vocal; Orchestral and Guitar; and Percussion. Each night was a success with many wonderful performances from students across the College, who are enrolled in our private instrumental and ensemble programs.
YEAR 9 CROSS COUNTRY
On Tuesday, 31 May the Year 9 Cross Country was held at Davy Lane Reserve.

SEMESTER TWO – IMPORTANT DATES
Students return to school on Wednesday, 15 June to commence Semester Two. Our whole school Mass, House Swimming Carnival, Year 9@E Certification Day and Y9@E City Explore are all major activities before we break for the winter holidays. As this is the last Newsletter before the holidays it is important to remind families that classes for all students conclude on Friday, 24 June at 3.15 pm. Please note that classes resume after the holidays on Monday, 11 July. Semester One reports will be available online through the Parent Portal from Monday, 27 June.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
The VCE Unit 3/4 Parent Teacher interviews will take place on Wednesday, 13 July (the first Wednesday of Term 3) in the Senior Learning Centre. Parent Teacher Interviews for all year levels are on 11 and 18 August. As demand for these important evenings is very high, I encourage you to log-on as early as possible to avoid disappointment. More details regarding the August Parent Teacher Interviews will be distributed in Term 3.

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA
As stated in the previous newsletter, Emmaus recently launched its Facebook site and relaunched its Twitter site. Denise McCann is overseeing the content. Twitter and Facebook are ideal ways to follow what is happening at Emmaus on a regular basis. Hopefully the 350 Facebook likes and 115 Twitter followers will continue to increase.

Links are clearly visible on the homepage of the website or at www.facebook.com/EmmausMelb and twitter.com/EmmausMelb.

CONFIRMATION 2016
The six week Holy Saviour Parish Confirmation program is suitable for baptised Candidates in Years 10, 11 and 12 (or aged 16 years+) who have already received the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Sunday, 21 August at 11am and will be presided by the Vicar General, Rev Msgr Greg Bennett. Enrolment form and further information may be downloaded from the Parish website: www.cam.org.au/glenwaverleynorth.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries, please direct them to Ms Mo Cromar, Pastoral Associate at Holy Saviour Parish Office on 9803 3554 or email mo.cromar@cam.org.au.
The Social Justice Committee, together with College Captains Jason Bradley and Elisha Torres and Vice Captains James-Andre Galam and Emily Seeary, Mr Kieran Witts and I journeyed to Kilmore on Thursday 28 April to spend time with the children of Children First. This year we are sponsoring a young lady from the Philippines, Theresa, who was badly disfigured at age 8 when she fell on a fire and the skin on her chest and face fused together. Both campuses held a “Day of Action” on 19 May to raise money for Theresa who has been in Australia for a few years and has had extensive surgery, yet still requires more. Both Theresa and Ali, a 20 year old young man from Palestine who has had 15 months of surgery and rehabilitation to walk more proficiently, attended our school assembly last week with Julie Webber and Pat Weldon from Children First. Emily Seeary, our College Vice Captain, detailed what a wonderful experience it was to visit the farm at Kilmore and interact with the children. On behalf of Emmaus College, she then presented Children First with a cheque for $6,166.25 to assist Theresa. A very gratifying moment, which was followed by Theresa talking to the assembly about her life. It was truly a pleasure to be present and to see the difference our community can make to the lives of others.

Mr David White
– Assistant Principal Staff & Administration.

On Friday, 13 May, all Year 11 Business Management students undertook their major assessment for the subject, which was to simulate a real life business. Students were required to purchase all goods and utensils from their own funds for their business, with no financial help from the school and resell or create a product that they could sell at their stalls on the day. This was a difficult task as the limit per person with which they could contribute was $30.00. The outcome taught our students many business concepts, and all successfully passed the requirements of this assessment. All groups did exceptionally well. A big thank you to our maintenance team, Denise Hickey, and all the staff and students who supported the stalls on the day. Profits raised on the day were donated to Children First.

Ms Janina Saliba and Mr Ashleigh Hoogendoorn

Mass is celebrated in the College Chapel every Friday Morning at 8.15am

Parents are most welcome to join students and staff.
On Wednesday, 18 May, Colin F, Rice H, More G and Chavion E performed their Drama class plays for friends and family at the BHPAC Theatre. Rice H and Chavion E took to the stage as scary monsters competing in a talent show and humoured the audience with their jokes. Colin F and More G performed their plays about swashbuckling Pirates, a blossoming romance and finding treasure. Our costumes were colourful and our acting and dialogue was delivered with confidence.

A memorable moment from this experience was just listening to the crowd laugh at our jokes and clap at our performance. I loved performing with all my friends and getting to meet new people, and entertaining the audience. It makes me feel like drama and acting is my favourite thing to do. I would like to extend a big thank you to our encouraging Drama teachers who gave us great direction – Ms Willison, Mr Compassi and Ms Cavallo.

Georgia Di Paola (Year 7 Colin F)
For any footy supporters, Michael Long is most likely a household name. He played for the Essendon Football Club between 1989 and 2001, was a member of two premiership sides and the winner of the 1993 Norm Smith Medal. In 2004, Michael Long made the journey from the suburbs of Melbourne to Parliament House in Canberra, covering over 650 kilometres by foot. It was in the hope of bringing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues back onto the national agenda.

Since 2004 and in memory of this journey, Michael Long and his supporters have kept up this tradition and hosted a number of Long Walks around Melbourne. The most famous now is the Long Walk from Fed Square to Dreamtime at the ‘G, which gathers over 10,000 participants.

Over the past few years, Aquinas College has hosted their own internal Long Walk in which their whole school participates by walking with Michael Long around the surrounding streets to show their support, in partnership with Opening the Doors Foundation. This year, Aquinas College extended an invitation to neighbouring schools to join in this campaign, to which Emmaus College happily accepted.

Elissa Wortley from Year 10 represented Emmaus College as our FIRE Carrier (Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education). Together, with a large representative of Primary and Secondary Schools, we walked through the surrounding streets of Aquinas College with our banners. The day concluded with a whole school assembly where Michael Long and Gavin Wanganee addressed the community. Michael spoke of the importance of education and the important roles each student has to play, now and in the future. He was thrilled to see the enthusiasm of the students and their openness to being a part of his cause.

A representative from the Melbourne Archdiocese Office for Justice and Peace also said a few words. His words especially stayed with me, as he reminded the students as to why we strive for reconciliation; that God made each and every single one of us “in His image and likeness.” It reminds us that each and every single person is born with an inherent dignity and that it is our duty to uphold and reveal that in a person, through our actions. He quoted Pope Benedict XVI as he said “The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness.” He challenged each student to escape the comforts of life that hold us back from achieving greatness. He reiterated that greatness doesn’t come from money or fame, but in the actions that lead us to upholding and igniting an individual’s dignity, through works of charity and kindness.

Saint Pope John Paul II wrote in his letter to The Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders in 1986, “You have kept your sense of brotherhood. If you stay closely united, you are like a tree standing in the middle of a bushfire sweeping through the timber. The leaves are scorched and the tough bark is scarred and burned; but inside the tree the sap is still flowing, and under the ground the roots are still strong. Like that tree you have endured the flames, and you still have the power to be reborn. The time for this rebirth is now! ... The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ speaks all languages. It esteems and embraces all cultures. It supports them in everything human and, when necessary, it purifies them. Always and everywhere the Gospel uplifts and enriches cultures with the revealed message of a loving and merciful God.”

This message by Saint John Paul II reminds us that the message of Christ, and of the Gospels should fully reveal a person and a culture. It doesn’t repress or hide away from beauty, but encourages cultures and traditions to use those gifts it’s been given to fully reveal the beauty of Our Creator and our Loving God. We can still learn so much from the traditions and cultures of the Aboriginal People in line with the Catholic faith, which is why Reconciliation will always be important.

Miss Alice Mount
The VEX DATTA Vic Robotics Competition was held over Friday and Saturday, 13-14 May. On Friday we had four teams competing from the Year 10 elective program Robotics and on Saturday we had one team from our Robotics Club.

Competition was fierce over the two days. On Friday our Year 10 teams demonstrated their strategic planning with a number of defensive “plays”. The “Jonathon Swipe” featured strongly – a manoeuvre where a bent arm robot swipes first in one direction then the other de-scoring their opponents highest scoring objects. The Year 10 robots also excelled in blocking and screening opponent robots away from their scoring areas. A feature of the robots was their movability. The success of the day was one team being awarded the “Design Award” and another winning the competition with an alliance with a team from Camberwell Secondary College. A fantastic reward for their effort.

Robotics Club is made up of students from Year 8 who give their time at lunch and afterschool to design and build their competition robot. Saturday’s competition was well supported by their parents who stayed all day to watch, support and cheer on the Club’s robot. The parent support added to the day’s excitement. Winning the round robin section gave the Robotics Club team the opportunity to choose a team and form an alliance for the finals. Our team chose to work with students from Highvale College.

In the round robin when these two teams played together, they scored a competition high score of 135 points. The plan was to reproduce this success in the finals. It was a good plan as they went on to win the competition and also received the “Excellence Award”, the most prestigious VEX competition award. This was a superb return on commitment and effort.

Mr Mark Pengilley – LAL Technology

As part the VCAL Community Partnership Program, the students recently visited Vermont Pre-school and assisted with the planting of vegies and herbs in their garden beds.

Mr Kieran Witts – VCAL Co-ordinator
COMING EVENTS

JUNE

13 Queen’s Birthday Holiday
14 Report Writing Day – No classes for Years 7-11
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
27 Semester One Reports Available Online

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

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

HOST FAMILIES FOR SISTER SCHOOL VISIT

From 20 August – 18 September, 2016, our annual Indonesian Sister School Exchange visit will occur. The aim of the visit is for students to stay with Emmaus College families for the duration of their time in Melbourne and to experience something of Australian school and home life.

Emmaus College has enjoyed a close relationship with Santo Yoseph School and has regularly hosted both teachers and students since 1997, when the Sister School relationship started. The student visitors are always appreciative of the efforts that the host families and schools go to in order to make their stay a memorable one. The standard of English of the students is generally excellent.

The visiting students will attend classes each day and participate in a number of excursions and school functions. Host families are warmly invited to participate in the excursions with their host student, either during the week or on the weekend.

The final number of students, which comprise boys and girls aged 16 years or older, will depend on the availability of host families. If you are able to assist with this important program, by providing a homestay for one of the visiting students for either all or part of the stay (a week, fortnight, month, etc.) or require more information, please contact

Anne Dodgshun (Indonesian Sister School co-ordinator) on 9845 3284 (email: Anne.Dodgshun@emmaus.vic.edu.au) or
Maria Sabo (Head of Languages) on 9845 3218 (email: Maria.Sabo@emmaus.vic.edu.au).

Thank you for supporting the Indonesian Sister School program at Emmaus College.

JULY

11 All Students Commence Term 3.
Winter Uniform Compulsory
13 VCE Unit 3/4 Parent Teacher Evening,
VS 4.00–8.30pm
14 Y9@E Certificate Program Day
15 Newsletter No. 7
19 General Assembly
20 College Production, 20-23 July
25 Year 7 EISM Sport Commences
26 Campus Assembly
Year 9 & 10 2017 Course Information Evening,
7.00pm, Vermont South
27 Year 8 Learning Assessments
28 Year 6 Learning Assessment
Australian Mathematics Competition
29 Y9@E City Explore