

College Newsletter

From the desk of

26 AUGUST 2026

Janine Biggin

The Principal

Welcome to the Homeward Stretch of Term 3

Welcome to the homeward stretch of Term 3. Our Year 12 students are completing their final assessments and entering the concluding stages of course content. We now move into the important period of supporting effective revision practices as students prepare for their examinations.

This can be a demanding time for our senior students, and we encourage them to remain focused while also looking after their wellbeing. The support of families and teachers will be especially important as students consolidate their learning and prepare to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

Invitations for the Year 12 Graduation have now been sent to families. If any Year 12 family has not received this communication, please contact the College.

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Our Semester 2 Parent-Teacher Interviews were held online via Microsoft Teams last Thursday and Friday. Thank you to all parents and carers who committed time to meeting with teachers and discussing their child's learning, progress and goals for the remainder of the year.

A survey will soon be sent to parents and carers seeking feedback on our current model of Semester 1 interviews being held in person and Semester 2 interviews being conducted online. We will also seek feedback on the new sign-in process using individual teacher links. Your feedback will help us evaluate the effectiveness and accessibility of this approach as we plan for future interviews.

Feast of the Assumption

On Friday 14 August, the College community gathered for liturgies to mark the Feast of the Assumption, a holy day of obligation in the Catholic Church. This important feast honours Mary's assumption into heaven and invites us to reflect on her faith, courage and trust in God.

Thank you to our Mission Team for preparing and leading the liturgies, enabling our students and staff to share in this meaningful experience as a faith community.

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Principal

College Parish Masses

On Sunday 16 August, the College was represented at Mass at St Martin de Porres Parish. This was followed by a visit to St Mary's Parish in Williamstown this Sunday. Thank you to the students who attended in their College uniform, represented Emmanuel with pride and participated reverently in the Masses.

I extend my sincere thanks to both parishes for their warm welcome. We greatly value the opportunity provided by our local parishes each year to attend Mass with our students and speak with parishioners about the life of the College.

The ongoing support Emmanuel College receives from our parish priests is greatly valued, and we are grateful for the important partnership we share with our local faith communities.

ACC Music Workshop

On Friday, Notre Dame Campus hosted the ACC Music Workshop, bringing together students for a valuable day of musical learning and collaboration. We were especially pleased to welcome members of the Royal Australian Air Force Band, who attended in support of the program and provided wonderful encouragement to the participating students.

Special thanks are extended to Carmelo Puglisi for his outstanding coordination of the event and to Paige Byrne for her support throughout the day. The College has received thanks from the ACC for coordinating the workshop and providing the venue. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our College and support music education across the ACC community.

A Prayer for Learning

Loving God,

open our minds to knowledge and our hearts to wisdom.

May Mary's example teach us to listen with faith, respond with courage and use our learning in the service of others.

Guide our students and staff as together we seek life to the full.

May the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit be glorified in all places through the Immaculate Virgin Mary. Amen.

Dr Janine Biggin
Principal

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Mission Integration

From the desk of the

Deputy Principals

In Memory of Blessed Jakob Gapp

Thursday 13th August marked the 80th anniversary of Blessed Jakob Gapp's martyrdom at the hands of the Nazis, in Berlin. Despite the real risk to his life, he continued to preach against the ideology of the Nazis and against their persecution of the Jewish people.

We named the Gapp building in tribute to this great Marianist who saw an injustice and spoke out against it. He remains a wonderful role model for our community.

We pray that we too have the courage to fight for justice, just like Blessed Gapp. For more information please visit the following link:

<https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/controversy/persecution/blessed-jakob-gapp.html>

Feast of the Assumption

Last Saturday August 15th we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of Mary. Pope Pius XII solemnly defined the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven in St Peter's Piazza in the presence of 40 Cardinals, 500 bishops, thousands of priests and more than a million of the faithful. "Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory," Pope Pius declared. Mary's deep faith, courage, wisdom, and loving nature makes her an amazing person to emulate. Surely Jesus had an amazing mother, guiding his growth into the amazing person he became. May Mary guide all of our students, staff and parents to a meaningful life and draw us closer to God.

Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary

On Saturday August 22nd we celebrated the Queenship of Mary. In 1954 Pope Pius XII established this feast of the Queenship of Mary. Mary's queenship has roots in scripture, when at the Annunciation, the Angel Gabriel announced that Mary's Son would receive the throne of David and rule forever. When Mary visited Elizabeth, she called Mary "mother of my Lord". Mary's queenship is a sharing in Jesus' kingship.

Mary has been referred to as "Queen" since the fourth century, starting with Saint Ephrem. Later Church fathers and doctors continued to use the title. In his 1954 encyclical 'To the Queen of Heaven', Pope Pius XII points out that Mary deserves the title because she is Mother of God, closely associated with Jesus' redemptive work, because of her preeminent perfection, and because of her intercessory power.

Blessed Virgin Queen Mary, pray for us.

Mark Sciberras

Deputy Principal Mission Integration

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Student Wellbeing

From the desk of the

Deputy Principals

College Information Morning and Year 7 Testing

In recent weeks, the College was pleased to welcome many prospective students and their parents to the Information Morning held across both campuses. This was a wonderful opportunity for families to experience Emmanuel College and consider it as a place for their child to commence their secondary education.

It has also been a busy time for our 2027 Year 7 students, who completed their testing in preparation for next year. This process will help ensure they have the best possible start to their secondary education.

Attendance

Students are reminded of the importance of attending school every day. The cumulative effect of absences can significantly affect a student's capacity to achieve their best.

It is important that families work with the College to ensure students are absent only due to genuine illness. Senior students and their parents are also reminded of the minimum attendance requirements for the satisfactory completion of a VCE unit. This also includes students departing early from the College without an authorised absence.

Uniform

A reminder to families and students that, during Terms 3 and 4, the blazer must be worn as the outer garment when students are travelling to and from the College.

Road Safety

Families are encouraged to discuss road safety with their children, particularly when arriving at and departing from the College. These times of day can be very busy due to school drop-off and pick-up traffic.

Students are reminded to always use the pedestrian crossing or traffic lights, where applicable.

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Student Wellbeing

From the desk of the

Deputy Principals

Mental Health and Wellbeing

If your child comes home feeling unhappy or worried about something and has not spoken with someone at school, it is important that parents or carers make contact with the College.

Sometimes a small concern can develop into something bigger when young people have not received support to manage their feelings or respond appropriately. In some situations, temporarily ignoring an issue or walking away can be an effective short-term strategy to diffuse a situation. However, this is not an appropriate long-term approach.

It is important that students develop strategies to manage their emotions so that concerns do not build up, as well as appropriate responses to prevent negative patterns from continuing.

Please do not hesitate to speak with your child's Homeroom Teacher, House Leader or Head of Student Engagement.

We are fortunate to have a range of wonderful programs and support services available to our families through our local councils. Please see the links below for further information.

<https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-services/YS-Young-people>

<https://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/services/youth-services>

Anita Duhig and Denis Palanci
Deputy Principals Student Wellbeing

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Student Wellbeing

DIGITAL FUTURES COMMUNITY CONNECTION SERIES



Making Sense of AI's Real Impact on Young People

Date & Time Aug 25, 2026 07:00 PM in [Canberra](#), [Melbourne](#), [Sydney](#)

Description Helping parents and educators understand what AI means for learning, thinking and growing up in a digital-first world.

★ What you'll gain:

- A clear understanding of how AI tools are already shaping the way young people learn, research and problem solve
- Insight into the difference between AI as a learning aid and AI as a shortcut, and why that distinction matters
- Realistic strategies schools and families can use to guide honest, healthy AI use
- Conversation starters that help young people think critically about the tools they're using
- Confidence to support learning that keeps curiosity and critical thinking front and centre



**PROJECT
ROCKIT**

Register Here



'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Chaminade House Report

The past fortnight has been an exciting one for Chaminade House, highlighted by our highly anticipated Dodgeball Competition. Students embraced the opportunity to represent their house, demonstrating enthusiasm, teamwork, and outstanding sportsmanship throughout the event.

The competition provided a fantastic opportunity for students from different year levels to connect, collaborate, and build house spirit. It was pleasing to see students encouraging one another, celebrating successes, and showing resilience in both victory and defeat. The energy and enthusiasm displayed on the day reflected the strong sense of community that continues to flourish within Chaminade House.

A special congratulations to Chaminade J for taking out the overall Dodgeball Championship. The victory was a testament to the determination, teamwork, and commitment shown by our students throughout the competition. Their efforts not only secured the win but also showcased the positive culture and spirit that Chaminade House strives to promote.

Thank you to all students who participated and to the staff who assisted in running the event. We look forward to the many House activities still to come, and encourage all students to continue getting involved and earning valuable House points for Chaminade.

Gerard Neenan and Tim Kelleher
Chaminade House Leaders - NDC

Peace be with you

John - 20:19

Languages Week

Language Week 2026 in week two of this term was a wonderful celebration of the many languages and cultures represented within the Emmanuel College community. The week highlighted the important role that languages play in building understanding and connection with each other. Students participated in special events including the Year 7 and Year 9 Language Immersion Days, while a range of lunchtime activities invited staff and students to engage in and appreciate the role of languages in enriching our College community.

To provide our Year 7 and Year 9 students at Notre Dame and St Paul's Campuses with meaningful cultural experiences, a range of specialist performers and presenters delivered interactive workshops celebrating the three languages taught at our College: Italian, Japanese and Spanish. These sessions encouraged students to explore different cultural traditions through hands-on participation and performance.

Students enjoyed:

- **Commedia Clowning** - Students stepped into the world of Commedia dell'Arte, a form of Italian theatre that originated in the 16th century and greatly influenced modern comedy and clowning. Through an entertaining and interactive performance, students met a cast of famous Commedia characters while experiencing plenty of laughter, movement and theatrical fun.
- **Taiko Drumming and Japanese Fusion** - This dynamic workshop combined traditional Japanese drumming with contemporary cultural elements. Students were immersed in Japanese music, language and culture through performances and interactive activities. The energy and rhythm of the Taiko drums left a lasting impression on all.
- **Fire of Flamenco** - As part of Emmanuel College's Spanish program, students experienced the passion of Spanish culture through a flamenco performance featuring dance and music. Blending traditional and modern interpretations, the workshop captivated students and provided an insight into one of Spain's most iconic art forms.

Year 7 students were also treated to a delicious sushi lunch, offering them a memorable taste of Japanese cuisine and an opportunity to experience another important aspect of Japanese culture. Adding to the festive atmosphere, a gelati truck visited the College, giving students and staff the chance to enjoy a refreshing Italian treat during the week.

In addition to the cultural workshops and performances, students explored another significant part of Italian culture through a lunchtime soccer clinic delivered by representatives from the Juventus Soccer Academy. The clinic proved to be a popular activity, with students enthusiastically developing their skills and learning from experienced coaches.

Language Week 2026 also featured a range of engaging lunchtime activities, including colouring competitions and Language Quizzes hosted through Compass, with prizes awarded to successful participants. To further celebrate the week, the College bell was replaced with a selection of Italian, Japanese and Spanish music, creating a lively and multicultural atmosphere across both campuses.

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Languages Week

Language Week 2026 provided a wonderful opportunity for the Emmanuel College community to celebrate the richness of languages and cultures from around the world. Through diverse experiences and activities, students and staff were encouraged to deepen their intercultural understanding and develop an appreciation for the role languages play in our connected world.

A sincere thank you to everyone who participated in the week's events and activities. In particular, we acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the Languages staff across both campuses, whose enthusiasm and commitment helped make Language Week 2026 a success.



Francis Romano and Marc Nicolas
NDC and SPC Learning Leaders - Languages

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Sports News

Junior Badminton Tournament

On August 17th, a representative team from Emmanuel College played in the SACCSS Junior Badminton tournament against thirteen other schools at Eagle Stadium. As usual Emmanuel did amazingly well. Out of eight events, Emmanuel got to the semi-finals of seven. From this we made four grand finals and won two titles. This shows the incredible depth of talent we have here at Emmanuel, so congratulations to all. Great effort to Jaden, Odellon, Athesh and Alex for bringing home the medals. Superstars all of you. Again, thanks to Jo and Bec from SACCSS for their incredible organisation and dedication to school sport. Finally, thanks to our X factor: Coach Coleman!



Tim Kelleher
Chaminade House Leader - NDC

'Peace be with you'

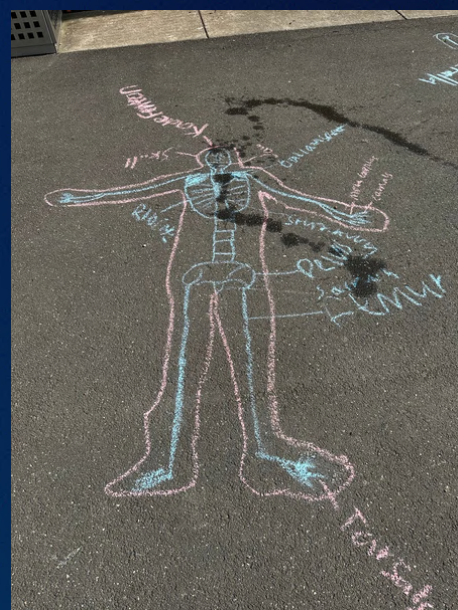
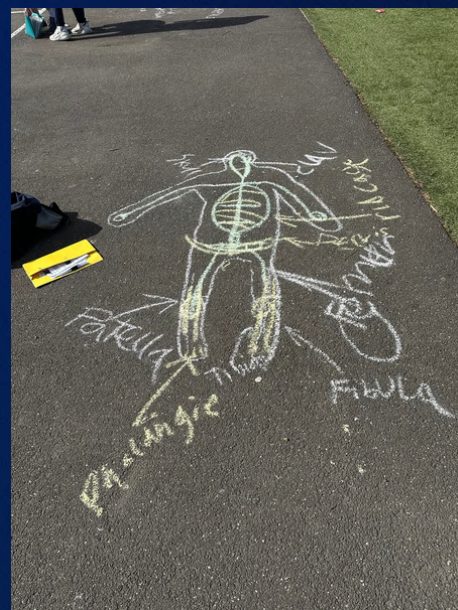
John - 20:19

HPE News

Year 10 Skeleton System Diagrams

Our Year 10 students have been learning about the skeletal system and the role it plays in supporting and protecting the body.

To demonstrate their understanding, students headed outside and used chalk to create life-sized drawings of the human skeleton, labelling the different bones - a fun and hands-on way to put their learning into practice!



Jessica Daaboul
Teacher - SPC

Peace be with you

John - 20:19

Special Visitors at Emmanuel College - Then and Now



1995 - Socceroos captain Paul Wade

2003 - Police search & rescue



2012 - Prime Minister Julia Gillard

2022 - Musician Tanya George



Penny Cook
College Archivist

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19

Community News

SHOTO KARATE AUSTRALIA PRESENTS:

Guardians of the **SISTERHOOD**



FREE OPEN DAY!

WED 26TH AUG

 **6:30 TO 8:00PM**

 **ALTONA MEADOWS PRIMARY
SCHOOL (FRONT HALL)**

 **WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHING**

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED | AGES 14+



Join us in a supportive and empowering environment where you'll develop practical self-defence skills and the confidence to use them.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:

- Improve your situational awareness.
- Set confident personal boundaries.
- Use verbal de-escalation techniques.
- Learn practical self-defence skills.
- Use leverage and technique—not strength.
- Practise realistic training scenarios.
- Train in a safe, supportive environment.

 **Cat - 0409181227**
 **shotokarate.au@gmail.com**

Peace be with you

John - 20:19

Community News

Gymnasium Lectures

Physics Lectures for High School Students

Thursday, **September 3rd** 2026,
5:30 pm Hercus theatre

Shading Light on the Mystery of Dark Matter,
with Dr. Daniel Marcantonio

Thursday, **September 10th** 2026,
5:30 pm Hercus theatre

Quantum Mechanics: Beginnings, Current, Future
with Prof. Chris Chantler

Thursday, **September 17th** 2026,
5:30 pm Hercus theatre

From Ohm's Law to Superconductivity
with Prof. Stephan Rachel



Scan the QR code for more information.
Next Series of Gymnasium Lectures:
<https://physics.unimelb.edu.au/engage/schools>
in **March 2027**

Peace be with you

John - 20:19

Community News

FUTURE LEGENDS

**WANT TO BE
THE NEXT
JUNIOR STAR AT
LAVERTON
CRICKET CLUB?**

We're looking for players
aged **7-17** to join our family.

 **PROFESSIONAL
COACHING**

 **MAKE LIFELONG
FRIENDS**

**ATTEND OUR
FREE TRY-OUTS!**

LAVERTON CRICKET CLUB GROUND

- 22nd August
- 29th August
- 5th September

**LAVERTON
CRICKET CLUB**

 **DEVELOP SKILLS** |  **BUILD CONFIDENCE** |  **HAVE FUN!**

SCAN TO REGISTER



Peace be with you

John - 20:19

Community News

*Calling all Boys
& Girls 4-17 years*

COME & TRY BASEBALL

Sunday 30 Aug from 9:30am

Saturday 12 Sept from 9:30am

120 Park Cres, Williamstown Nth



ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME
NO EXPERIENCE OR EQUIPMENT REQUIRED



newportrams.com



Peace be with you

John - 20:19

Calendar Term 3, Weeks 7A AND 8B

26 August	NDC - VET Sport and Recreation – Richmond Institute strength and conditioning session)
26 August	ACC Senior Table Tennis (Round 7)
26 August	ACC Senior Basketball (Round 5)
26 August	ACC Senior Hockey (Round 6)
26 August	SPC Year 9 Respectful Relationships Day
27 August	ACC Year 7/ 8 Hockey (Round 6)
27 August	ACC Year 7 Table Tennis (Round 7)/ Basketball (Round 7)
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Girls Volleyball
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Boys Volleyball
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League AFL
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Boys Basketball
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Girls Basketball
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Netball
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Girls Soccer
27 August	SACCSS Year 9 Premier League Boys Soccer
27 August	ACC Year 8 Basketball (Round 7)
27 August	ACC Year 8 Table Tennis (Round 7)
31 August	Richmond Football Club Excursion
31 August	ACC Music Workshop 7
31 August	NDC Athletics Division 2 - Major Carnival
1 September	NDC SACCSS Athletics Championships
1 September	NDC Senior Girls Basketball
1 September	NDC Senior Boys Basketball
2 September	ACC Senior Basketball/ Hockey/ Table Tennis Semi Finals
3 September	Casual Dress Day: Relay for Life/Cancer Council
3 September	ACC Yr. 7 & 8 Basketball/ Hockey/ Table Tennis – Semis
3 September	SACCSS - Yr. 9 Premier League Semi Finals
3 September	NDC Year 8 Retreat Event with Fr Rob Galea
4 September	Relay for Life
4 September	Father's Day Mass

'Peace be with you'

John - 20:19