

WHITEFRIAR



Belong. Believe. Become.





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Chairman's Report

As the sun shone on a very crisp winter afternoon, I welcomed our visitors to Whitefriars College, especially those who had not been fortunate enough to visit our wonderful site before.

It was Wednesday 1 August, a very special day for the College. But for those who had not been before, it is important to understand who we are and how we have come to be.

The Carmelites are an order that have existed for more than 800 years; founding themselves in what is now Israel. While they reached Europe in the 13th century, they have only had a presence in Australia for close to 140 years.

Of those years, they have presided in Donvale for more than 90 years, firstly at the Monastery on the hill adjacent to the College (from the 1930s until the late 1990s), and here at the College for almost 60 years.

The vision and insight of Fr Frank Shortis, O.Carm, is the reason we are here today. He spoke of a Catholic education for boys in the Carmelite tradition. The contribution of Whitefriars College to Catholic secondary education in Melbourne, has steadily increased since its opening. The College opened in 1961, with only a small number of students, a few classrooms and a small group of recently trained Carmelite Brothers and Priests as teachers.



Mr Peter Duffy and his grandson Ben Duffy

There has been a steady growth in our student population over the years and an ever increasing need for specialist building facilities. It was a highlight for the College when the Prior General of the Carmelites (Fr Fernando Millan Romeral) opened our Chapel in 2010. The leading visionaries of that Chapel development were the College Principal at that time, Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm and architect Graeme Law. They created a wonderful team.

Some five years ago the Principal, Mr John Finn, shared with the Board the need for a comprehensive site master plan which was to include a 21st century technically focused Science and Technology Centre. The Leadership Team efforts throughout 2014 and 2015, reviewing the various options for the location and scope of the new building, led to the appointment of Williams Ross Architects, Prowse Quantity Surveyors and the Lloyd Group as our Building Contractors.

The building was completed 18 months after commencement and just two days before our Open Day which was held on Sunday 20 May.

As the College continues to settle into the new Centre and enjoy the benefits that this facility provides, the implementation of the next phase of our site Master Plan, over the next 2 years, will focus on a continual refurbishment and upgrading of our existing stock of classrooms plus a progressive upgrading and enhancement of some of our sporting facilities. The Board and Carmelites feel confident that this will provide the facilities needed for our dedicated staff and students to further strengthen the strong educational tradition of Whitefriars College.

Mr Peter Duffy
Chairman

Principal's Report

Reflection

The world really is a small place! People of all ages share the same wishes for opportunity, inclusiveness, hope, freedom and peace:

The Christian Faith, in our Carmelite context, that informs our existence is much more than teaching a particular creed or implementing a set of rituals. It is a commitment to teaching about living life to the full - with Knowledge, with Wisdom, with Compassion, with Love, with Justice, with Freedom and with Faith in the future - through community, prayer and action.

Together we make the difference in each other's lives.

Together we relate the stories that bind us all,
We strive for a better world,
dignity of all,
wanting to be reconciled,
stand together as one.

College Activities

An abundance of activities and vibrancy surrounds all of us at Whitefriars as Term 4 is about to commence. What a truly fantastic place it is. Our Whitefriars young men are continually encouraged to take all the opportunities presented to them, and, to create opportunities for their own learning too.

We know that events and programs do not just happen without tremendous effort. Commendations have been shared regarding many recent events including: Siena-Whitefriars Musical: A Chorus Line (High School Edition); Electronic World International E-Innovation Contest; Year 8 OLP Camps; Year 9 City Experience; Year 10 Work Experience; VCAL Work Placements; Year 11 Kairos; Year 7 students receiving the Scapular at the Mass for the Feast of



the Assumption; Junior and Senior Rock Concerts; Senior Play; Classical Soiree; ACC Competitions; Mother and Son Mass; 'Read A Million Words' Celebration; National Science Week, including 'Scinema' night; and the 'Back to the 80s' Trivia Night, organised by the Parents' Association which was a huge success.

Staff Professional Learning

"Assuming the best in a child, even when they give you reason to think otherwise, is one of the most important investments you can make in their future."

Thus, the basis of our recent professional learning program includes focus on:

- articulating school improvement, based on the College's Annual Action Plan, formulated in accordance with the Council of International Schools (CIS) Standards

- outlining growth trends over time in students' learning outcomes (through data analysis and anecdotal evidence) and the setting of future goals
- creating even stronger links between student learning and supportive student wellbeing
- building and articulating a shared narrative about the contemporary nature of learning
- building a collaborative culture of professional inquiry amongst staff
- maximising our resources, evidenced in the existing quality of teaching and the effective leadership practices

International Student Program

The Whitefriars International Students Program (WISP) is now in its 21st year - an impressive effort that has enabled the development of a healthy and vigorous program, much sought after by overseas students.

In April this year, Whitefriars became a winner of the Business Worldwide Magazine's Brand of the Year Award for its 'popular and highly-regarded International Student Program', having been voted 'Best in Australia.' We congratulate the many staff who have played a role in achieving this accolade.



Whitefriars continues to educate both local and overseas students about their role as global citizens and the importance of respecting and valuing all cultures.

The College extended our gratitude and best wishes to Mrs Emilia Fields (Director, International Students Program), who left Whitefriars at the end of Term 1, after nineteen years of dedicated service. Emilia is now at Nazareth College, Noble Park.

Mr Tony Thio was subsequently appointed in July as the Whitefriars International Student Program Leader. Tony has been a member of the College community for the past five years as a Chinese Language and English Teacher. Tony has also been the Learning Leader of Languages for the past two years. As a previous International Student himself, Tony brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role.

Science and Technology Centre - Blessing and Official Opening

The Blessing and Official Opening of the magnificent new facility, the Science and Technology Centre, took place on Wednesday 1 August. Those in attendance included: Very Rev Paul Cahill O.Carm Provincial, the Honorary Kevin Andrews - Federal Member for Menzies, Mr Peter Duffy – Chairman of Whitefriars College Board, Mr John Finn: Whitefriars College Principal 2013 – 2017, representatives from Williams Ross Architects, Lloyd Group Builders and Prowse Quantity Surveyors. Fr Paul Sireh – College Chaplain, Mr Michael Mimmo – Whitefriars Parents'

Association President, Mr Phil Thomson - Whitefriars Old Collegians President, Ms Vicky Myers – Secondary Principals Consultant (CEM Eastern Region), principals of local Catholic primary schools, College Board members, Old Collegians, staff and students.



We all are forever grateful to the Whitefriars planning team who worked on this project, for their collegiality, professionalism, generosity of spirit and for being the imperative, decisive link for all parties involved in the program. Key members of the group at various stages were John Finn, Mark Ashmore, Glenn Aspinall, Reece Todd, Natasha Alexander, Warren Moseley, Kristan Height and many other staff members.



Thank you to Fr Paul Cahill O. Carm, for presiding over the Blessing Rite, performing the Official Opening and for his inspiring and reassuring words on the day. Thank you to the College Board Chairman, Mr Peter Duffy, for his kind words in acknowledging the influence and dedication of the Carmelites to the education of young men at Whitefriars for almost sixty years, and on behalf of all of us, for acknowledging the impressive team effort for this project over the past three years. Thank you to Mr Mark Ashmore, the College Captains and the Science Captain, for their words of appreciation. Thank you to Mr John Abrahams, Ms Gabrielle Dalton and Ms Keely Scicluna who played key roles in wonderfully organising the proceedings for the special day.

The very dream of new facilities, of refurbishment, have inspired our community, for the opportunities these will provide, in very effective ways in meeting local and global standards of education, global citizenship and social innovation. Our objective encompasses the legacy and vision of the Carmelite ethos in providing boys with every opportunity to make the most of what education has to offer, to strive to be their very best and be inspired to serve others.

Almae In Fide Parentis

Mr Anthony Kirley
Principal

Brandsma

God's Love in Action

Recently, three of our young Carmelites, Matthew Tonini, José Frietas and Francisco Martins took part in an international course about Titus Brandsma the patron of one of the College's Houses.

Brandsma was a small, slight, even frail-looking man. His physical appearance belied his great intellect, breadth of heart and tenacious nature.

Born in Bolsward (The Netherlands) in 1881 Brandsma joined the Carmelites and was ordained a priest in 1905. His interests were in philosophy, Carmelite Spirituality, Catholic education and journalism. While still a student Carmelite he founded a magazine and wrote dozens of articles for publication in Catholic newspapers and journals. He taught in several Carmelite schools and in the Catholic University of Nijmegen where he was also Rector.

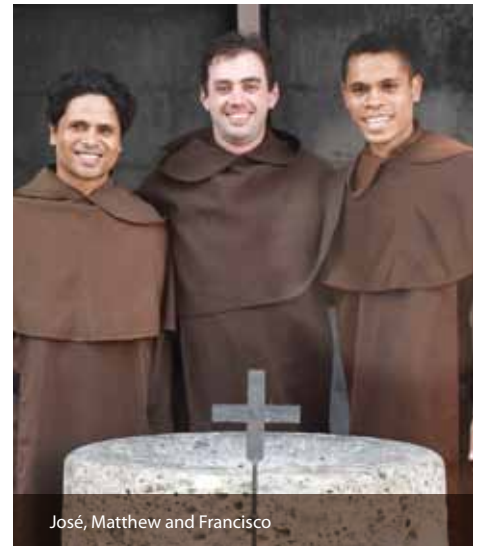
But Brandsma was not all 'head'. Throughout a life of intense activity Brandsma found time to spend with God, to nourish his heart with the experience of God's love. That love found its way into every corner of Brandsma's life.

Student life in the 1930s was far from comfortable for students from country areas. They boarded with local families but were often given only small amounts of food and housed in cold, damp rooms. Brandsma collected and distributed food, blankets and other necessities to them. His door was always open. He was known for his easy friendship with everyone. He was given the nickname, 'conciliator' because of his ability to reconcile people in conflict. He regularly wrote articles and spoke against the persecution of the Jews.

As delegate of the Dutch Bishops in the years leading up to and following the Nazi invasion of Holland in 1940 Brandsma fought to keep Catholic schools open and Nazi propaganda



Brandsma



José, Matthew and Francisco



out of the Catholic Press. For doing that he was arrested by the Nazi regime and sent to a succession of concentration camps before arriving at his final destination: Dachau.

"The first time I saw Titus, I thought, 'what a small and vulnerable man. Should someone so impractical go to a camp? He will certainly not survive'. But then I saw his eyes, so crystal clear! Soon I discovered Brandsma had an enormous inner strength. He radiated a deep humanity, a serenity founded in a deep trust in God... I realised: this is a special man. Even in the greatest misery he looked after his fellow prisoners in need in a quiet manner without any sentimentality!" - Mom Wellenstein, a young student transported with Brandsma to Amersfoort Camp.

During the short time he was in Dachau, Brandsma did what he could to bring comfort to his fellow-prisoners – he shared his food, his time and his prayer.

When he became too weak to work he was sent to the camp 'hospital'. There he was given a lethal injection on 26 July 1942.

In all, ten Carmelites died in Dachau Concentration Camp. A plaque commemorating them was unveiled during the international course which Matthew, José and Francisco attended. Fr Fernando (Prior General) prayed that the witness of Titus Brandsma would help today's Carmelites be men and women of reconciliation and signs of God's love for every human being.

Fr David Hofman, O.Carm

WOCA President's Report

Pride is a wonderful thing and recently we've had a lot happening within the Whitefriars community to be proud about.

Top of the list is our new Science and Technology Centre, which is loved by staff and students and was officially opened on 1 August. It will be a prominent part of the College for many years to come and the manner in which it has been included in the landscape is a joy to behold. It was wonderful also to be able to acknowledge the achievements of eight Old Collegians who are prominent in their chosen fields of scientific endeavor and they provide current students with both motivation and aspiration for the future.

We continue to see many other examples of success from both within the College and outside. These include multiple examples of academic and sporting participation, creative artistic cooperation with other groups, the ongoing encouragement of students to participate in wider community events and the frequently observed actions of Old Collegians in Australian legal, business, artistic, sporting, medical and political life.

The best way to stay in touch with much of this is via the new Old Collegian website whitefriarsconnect.com.au. This site encourages connection with all College internal and external activities but more importantly, allows Old Collegians to connect with each other. The site will be expanded and continually updated so please register so that we can stay in touch.

On the sporting field, our Cricketers are looking forward to another season in the MCC's Club XI turf wicket competition. If you are keen to don the whites for a game or two, please make contact via whitefriarscc@gmail.com



The Whitefriars Football Club women's premierships team

The Whitefriars Football Club has had a great season, finishing with two premierships teams! In their first season, the women's team were victorious. Winning a Premiership was a magnificent achievement with so many of them never having played before, it also set the tone for the men's finals series. Our Division 2 team rose to the challenge and what a magnificent way to end the season with our reserves team also winning the premiership. A great effort not just from the teams on the ground but those who took part throughout the season. This is a truly wonderful achievement for all involved and the inclusion of the women's team has certainly added a positive dimension to the Club.

Our Reunion program continues and we will welcome our 2017 and 1968 groups before the end of the school year. The overwhelmingly positive and successful impression that the College provides to all Old Collegians is a constant source of pride and is definitely one which encourages the tradition to continue.



The Whitefriars Football Club men's premierships team

We are always looking for people to become more engaged with WOCA and to build on the Association's aims. If you feel this is something you would like to be involved with, please make contact via woca@whitefriars.vic.edu.au

Mr Philip Thomson
WOCA President

A Look to the Future

Science and Technology Centre Opening

I was delighted, from a personal point of view, to be involved with the blessing and official opening of the magnificent new learning facility on Wednesday 1 August.

I was especially pleased to be able to be there as a Carmelite, along with the other Carmelites present on the day.

Whitefriars is very important to the Carmelites because it provides us with a unique opportunity to connect and walk with young men as they learn to appreciate and develop themselves into people who make a contribution, each in their unique way, to our world.

Given the personnel circumstances of the Carmelites in Australia today and the size and complexity of the modern secondary school, we have a very limited capacity to exercise this privileged ministry personally - through direct day-to-day involvement. However, as the ultimate governors of the College, we take seriously our pledge to ensure, through the ministry entrusted to the College Board, Principal and staff that the education offered here at Whitefriars is offered in the Carmelite spirit.

It is hard to put one's finger on just what that is, but I think we can detect it when we think of the primary values that animate the Carmelites and the models and inspiring figures that the Carmelites look up to. The Carmelites espouse the values of Contemplation, Community and Service and look to Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Elijah, the Old Testament Prophet of Mount Carmel as primary inspirational figures.

By Contemplation, Carmelites understand a reflective, respectful, open, wondering, grateful, welcoming and hospitable approach to life.

If we're contemplative, we're people who see the good in ourselves and the good in others and we try to welcome and encourage and support that – in both ourselves and others.

By Community, Carmelites understand that we don't come to experience the richness and fullness of life alone. We appreciate that we are enriched and supported by others and that we have a capacity to enrich and support others. We understand that we stand by each other, care for each other, in good times and in challenging times. We also understand that, as a community, we're not closed in on ourselves, but that we're part of a much larger community that embraces, not only the broader human community, but indeed the whole of creation and the universe at large. We're open to learn from all peoples and from all creation and we appreciate that we're called to respect all people and all creation.

The Carmelite commitment to Service flows from our contemplative approach to life and our appreciation of the importance of community. Like Jesus, we see ourselves as people who are "for others". We recognise our responsibility to appreciate and cultivate the gifts we have been blessed with, whatever they are, and to understand that they are not for our own benefit alone, but they are to be shared. This leads us to look for, stand with and reach out especially to those who are in need – and particularly those who are in most need – and to share our gifts of personality and resources with them. It also means that we are just in our dealings with others and stand by others in their quest for justice.

In trying to live out these values of Contemplation, Community and Service, Carmelites see in Mary, mother of Jesus, one who, as a "contemplative", "treasured these things in her heart" ... reflecting on the mysterious and challenging circumstances of her life, but trusting in the spirit of goodness – the spirit of God – that was in her, enabling her to stand firm and strong, being true to herself and to her calling in life.

In her commitment to her family, to the disciples of Jesus and to the ministry of Jesus, Mary also lived and witnessed to the values of community and service. So Carmelites see in Mary a model of what they see themselves called to be.

In the Prophet Elijah, Carmelites see not only a champion of justice who denounces those who deny it and advocates for those to whom it is denied, but also one who serves others in need, builds up community and witnesses to a contemplative stance in life.

If these Carmelite values and models continue to be infused into the life and spirit of this College through the ministry of the Board, Principal and staff, we expect that the new Science and Technology Centre, along with all the other College facilities, will not be seen as an end in themselves, but rather as a means to an end. We expect that these wonderful new facilities will enrich students' learning experience not in a selfish sort of way, but in a way that helps them develop as knowledgeable, reflective, wise, awe-filled, collaborative, open, generous, grateful, just, caring, community-minded and welcoming men, fired by a burning desire to be of service to others.

In 2010 we produced the book *Whitefriars – 50 years*, to mark the College's Golden Jubilee. The author, James Thomson, 1997 College Captain, College Dux and current Board member, reflected:

... there is a tradition here, and it's the best type of tradition

- A tradition that welcomes students from all types of backgrounds
- A tradition that respects each student as a person with different needs, strengths and weaknesses
- A tradition that focuses on developing students into well-rounded individuals
- a tradition that emphasises the gentle, contemplative and selfless ethos of the Carmelite order
- a tradition that puts family and community first.



As we fast approach the College's 60th anniversary, enriched with this marvellous new learning facility and whatever further new facilities the College Master Plan spawns, may that tradition (of which James wrote) hold firm and continue to prosper and grow so that Whitefriars men continue to be known as caring, generous, wise, welcoming and reflective people, nurtured by the Carmelite spirit.

Fr Paul Cahill, O.Carm
Provincial



Making a Difference

Timor-Leste Immersion

Timor-Leste is a small country of many contrasts. Beautiful picturesque landscapes filled with impoverished streets, white sandy beaches littered in rubbish and friendly smiling people living on less than \$2USD a day.

The opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the Timorese is right on our doorstep. What we did not expect, is how they would affect our own lives.

Months before embarking on our journey, students, staff and parents from the Whitefriars community participated in multiple Days for Girls sessions, aiming to take over 200 feminine hygiene kits to Timorese women in the village of Zumalai. Our students felt privileged to be the first boys' school in Australia involved in the program. We successfully created, transported and distributed 240 kits, giving back countless days of school and changing the lives of women in Zumalai. It was extremely fulfilling knowing the girls will no longer have to miss school and they can walk around their community with dignity.

We used a proportion of funds raised by Mount Carmel Day to buy the materials and equipment to build a set of soccer goals in Zumalai and a swing set for the Dominican school in the town of Hera.

All children in those communities, not just those privileged enough to afford the Catholic schools, will be able to use the new equipment. Our boys felt a sense of accomplishment to see their hard work result in a tangible finished product for the local children. It is far more helpful for the locals if we provide the labour as well as the finances for these projects, and the tools and equipment purchased, such as welders, are now available for future groups to utilise.

The Carmelite Brothers made us feel at home as soon as we walked in the door. It was as if we had been friends for years. Each morning after mass, the meal began with a prayer and a jovial '*bon dia*' or 'good morning' before launching into many friendly conversations about the local language and culture. Our boys also enjoyed the opportunity to meet and spend time with other Carmelites, furthering their knowledge of the Carmelite ethos.

Teaching English for our boys was a challenging, inspiring and memorable experience. They were surprised at how eager the Timorese children were to learn when compared to attitudes of some Australian students who take education for granted. The boys felt a sense of pride knowing they were making a difference to the Timorese, seeing what the local children had learnt from their lessons. The connection our boys made whilst teaching was so great that some are now considering teaching as a profession.

We lived with the local boys in the Zumalai boarding house, eating with them, praying with them and teaching them in school. It was impossible not to get to know them and feel a very special bond by the end of the trip. It was rewarding to see the difference we made, even simply handing over the English-Tetun dictionaries had an impact. It was bittersweet leaving Timor-Leste, the human connection we all made to the people touched our hearts and is something we will remember forever.

As the end of our trip drew near, we encouraged the boys to reflect on how Timor-Leste had affected their own lives. Many said they had a renewed sense of gratitude for what we have in Australia and would no longer take things for granted. Even simply not wasting food, knowing there are some kids in the world who do not have a meal every night. They remarked about how nobody sits staring at their phone, everybody connects with each other and the eye contact is unmistakable and warm. One student commented that Australians have an obligation to help a country that is so close.

It was clear to see the impact we had during our time in Timor-Leste; the donation of the Days for Girls packs; teaching English to hundreds of school children in two destinations; the fundraising and building of the swings and goals; and the human connection made to the people of Timor-Leste.

It takes a whole community, the Whitefriars community, to continue to make a difference.

Miss Kelly Hoinville

Ronan Oppy and Thomas Griffin



A Time to Reflect

Until Year 12, I had a sneaking suspicion that in some patches of our lives, we are on autopilot.

We wake up, go to school or work, come home, complete what is necessary for the next day, spend time with our families, go to sleep and prepare for it all to start again tomorrow – never really questioning how differently each day could have gone.

This is definitely not how Year 12 has been for me, and I can confidently say that no one else at Whitefriars feels like this in their final year of school. In terms of workload, Year 12 has a habit of twisting and turning. Some nights we will be enjoying a quiet night of socialising with friends, comfortable with where we are in our subjects, and on other nights, we will descend into the early hours of the morning to harness those final moments of study before a SAC. As crazy as this is, I would not have it any other way.

I have grown to love our cohort. Past students have always, and will always talk highly about their year levels, and claim that they have something particular to their year not seen in any others. While I am sure those other year levels are special in their own way, I cannot help but revel in my admiration for all corners of our 190-brother-strong year level.

We have had times where we have been social, such as the House lunches, receiving our Year 12 jumpers and the Year 12 formal.



We have had times where we have been sporty, like the ACC Swimming Carnival, House Swimming and House Athletics.

We have had times where we have taken a step back and thought about the bigger things in life, such as White Ribbon Day (November 2017), National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, and the Pat Cronin Foundation Fun Run.

We have come together to battle our assessments, with the Study Hall regularly welcoming over 100 Year 12s per week to capture a few extra hours of study each day.

We have collaborated before SACs, bouncing ideas off each other, learning new things and challenging one another on our knowledge.

Together, this has been wonderful to be a part of, and I genuinely feel grateful and honoured to be a Year 12 at Whitefriars. While I am sure the upcoming end-of-year exams will be challenging and our final days will be emotional, I have no doubt that we will flourish throughout this exciting period of our lives.

Brendan Sammut
College Vice Captain



Andrew Larratt

General Manager, Sport Business, Sport Australia

CLASS OF 1991

When I look back at my time at Whitefriars, my overriding memories are of a sense of belonging to the Friars community and being valued for my contribution, probably more on the sporting field than the classroom.



Andrew Larratt

Sport had played a great part of my years at Whitefriars and upon graduating, I knew that I wanted it to play a big part of my professional life as well. The first part of this journey was a Bachelor of Education with majors in Physical Education, Outdoor Education and Geography.

I found my time at university fun, challenging and a great opportunity to learn about something I was passionate about; sport and physical education.

In these early years after school, my link to Whitefriars was sustained by playing AFL for the Old Collegians, running out each Saturday afternoon as much for the fun, friendship and camaraderie, as the game itself.

After attaining my teaching degree, I found out my first placement was going to be in Maffra, 220 kilometres east of Melbourne. Talk about culture shock for a boy from Donvale who had not yet even moved out of home! There I was, living on my own, in a country town where I knew no one, about to start my first job.

All things happen for a reason however and my time in Maffra was highly rewarding. Not only working and living in regional Victoria but meeting some great people, including my then future wife!

I returned to Melbourne in 1998 and taught in a couple of metropolitan schools while furthering my own education credentials in sport with a Graduate Diploma in Sport and Recreation Management. This led to my successful application for a Regional Cricket Manager position with Cricket Victoria.

Cricket has always been a great passion of mine and now I was able to help develop the next generation of players for the game I love.

My role to design and implement programs to increase player and volunteer participation at a grass roots level. As a cricket lover, it was particularly exciting to work with players like Glenn Maxwell and Aaron Finch in their formative years.

It was during this time I became interested in the business and strategy side of sport. So I dedicated nights and weekends to study, completing a Master of Business at Victoria University, where I later lectured in the MBA course.

By 2005 I was ready for a new challenge and successfully applied for a position at Cricket Australia as a Senior Officer, Education and Training. In this role, I took on special responsibility for assisting, guiding and developing coaches and umpires at clubs all over the country.

It was also the year I was lucky enough to marry Leah at De Bortoli in the Yarra Valley. Some of my 'Friars mates are still quick to remind me I'm batting well above my average!

My career at Cricket Australia was full of amazing experiences, from creating junior participation programs like in2Cricket and T20Blast, to being part of launching the Big Bash League. From developing high performance coaches in Dhaka, Bangladesh to developing the legacy strategy for the 2015 Cricket World Cup.

In 2011, I was appointed National Participation Manager but by then my three greatest achievements were waiting for me when I got home every night. Zac, Sam and Milla were, and are, a constant source of inspiration, pride and maybe just a little frustration every now and then!

By 2013, I had moved into a Strategic Advisor role at Cricket Australia, responsible for advising the Executive Team on game and market development. But after nearly 15 years working in cricket, I felt like it was time to step out of my comfort zone and take on a new and exciting challenge.

That opportunity would come late 2013 when I was notified of a role with Rugby AU as General Manager, Community Rugby and later Strategy. It was a position I was genuinely excited about applying for, but with one major reservation. It was based in Sydney.

Fair to say it took a few family meetings to work out whether this move would win the popular vote. We were firmly ensconced in Box Hill South with the two boys at school and Milla in kinder. Leah also had her own successful career and both our families were based in Victoria.

After much consideration and deliberation, we decided this was a once in a lifetime opportunity and one we would take on as a family. The role began in September 2013 and for the rest of that year I would commute from Melbourne.

Weekdays and nights were spent immersing myself in all things Rugby, while many weekends were spent scouting locations and homes that would meet the approval of the family when they made the move up.

By the time they arrived in January, we had found a suitable home and I was starting to know the difference between a scrum and a maul.

Those early days in a new city were challenging for everyone. Meeting new people, no family support or friends you can rely on and of course, the traffic!

But it wasn't long before everyone started to thrive in their new environment. New friendships were made, new sporting teams joined and new support networks established. Before long, Sydney was starting to truly feel like home.

My role at Rugby AU encompassed everything from developing new programs like Touch 7s to sharing a beer with former PM John Howard at the 2015 Rugby World Cup. Today I continue as an elected member of the Oceania Rugby Board, which includes Australia and New Zealand.

After four years with Rugby AU I felt like I had achieved as much as I could within the organisation. And late last year when an opportunity arose to join the Executive Team at Sport Australia, I couldn't let it pass me by.

As General Manager, Sport Business it's given me what I feel is my best opportunity to deliver on what's been a career goal of mine and something I have always been passionate about. Inspiring, motivating and mobilising all Australians to become healthier, fitter and more active members of their community.

So 27 years after graduating, my closest friends are still a core group of 'Friars boys. Though our catch-ups have become a little less frequent, memories of those days are still relived with great fondness and much laughter.

If I was to sum up what my time at Whitefriars taught me, it is believe in yourself, have courage to be different and invest in building lasting relationships. If you give to your family, your mates and your community you will always belong, wherever you end up.



Whitefriars Cricket Club Premiers



Andrew and wife Leah on Sydney Harbour



Andrew batting on the main oval for Whitefriars Cricket Club



Andrew with his family

Mark Vujevic

Executive Director Corporate Strategy, Qatar Rail

CLASS OF 1991

Some dream of a gap year to celebrate finishing Year 12 but for Mark Vujevic the end of high school marked the start of an even longer adventure in further study.

After graduating from Whitefriars in 1991, he went on to university to complete a number of tertiary qualifications.

"First, I completed a Bachelor of Commerce from Monash University with a major in economics. Second, was a Bachelor of Arts with Honors where I focused on applied science and business psychology. From there, I went on to complete a PhD Doctorate from the University of Melbourne in multivariate statistics and organisational behaviour. My PhD brought together my interests in economics, business and human interactions.

After 8 years, I obviously really enjoyed life at university. It was fantastic to be around so many different people from different backgrounds and experiences. I loved being in an environment where you were encouraged to be intellectually curious and challenged to make a real difference in the world.

Over time, I became increasingly interested in how data and structured thinking could be used to solve problems and answer complex questions. I was particularly interested in how this could be applied in a business environment by providing companies with an edge over their competitors and setting them up for future success.



Mark with a hunting falcon in Doha, Qatar

This led me to a career in strategy consulting which has seen me work with some of the world's leading companies throughout Australia, New Zealand and the Middle East. I advise business leaders on topics including corporate strategy, business transformation and growth in emerging markets and have gained deep expertise in the real estate, infrastructure and transport sectors."

Today, Mark is based in Doha, Qatar where he is part of the executive management team at Qatar Rail – a government-owned company responsible for building and operating the country's first metro and tram network. "Being part of large, legacy projects such as building railways, roads or cultural precincts is an incredibly satisfying experience." The rail mega-project is currently under construction and will cost over \$40 billion by the time it is completed next year.

The metro and tram network will play an important role in transporting people around the city during the next FIFA World Cup, which will be held in Qatar in 2022.

When asked about the challenges of his life choices, he states that, "having lived outside of Australia for over 9 years now, one of the biggest challenges is being away from close friends and family. It is the little things you tend to miss the most, like a beer with mates down at the pub, dinners in Melbourne's amazing restaurant scene, and Mum's home cooking. That said though, I am extremely lucky to have lifelong friends from Whitefriars that I remain close to and am in regular contact with – either by phone, on return visits to Melbourne or holidays around the world. In July this year for example, I travelled through Spain with six of my best mates from Whitefriars - Andrew Gibbins, Hayden Green, Travis Garone, Luke Slattery,

“One of the best things about my role is being able to work with exceptional leaders in emerging markets that are shaping the future of their own countries.”



Mark with daughter Mia in Dubai, UAE



Mark in Majorca, Spain



Mark in Marrakesh, Morocco earlier this year



Mark with friends Travis Garone, Andrew Gibbins and Hayden Green in Barcelona, Spain

Anthony Power and Nick Reece for a three-week holiday. I also get back to Australia two to three times each year.”

When talking about his work, Mark says, “One of the best things about my role is being able to work with exceptional leaders in emerging markets that are shaping the future of their own countries. My first client in the Middle East was in 2008 with the government of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. One of our objectives was to help establish Abu Dhabi as a tourism destination by building a number of the region’s first cultural museums that would display international works of historical, cultural and sociological significance.

The museums included establishing branches of the Louvre (Paris) and Guggenheim (New York) in Abu Dhabi as well as a number of other local institutions. A career highlight was witnessing the opening of the Louvre Abu Dhabi in November 2017.

Maintaining a spirit of openness to people of different backgrounds and cultures is something that is important to me and I would suggest to anyone seeking success in any field - work hard, keep your head up and stay curious.”

Rob Law

CEO, Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance

CLASS OF 1999

Being the second boy in the family to go to Whitefriars meant I had to shake off my brother's shadow quickly and find my own niche.

My brother was good at sport and awful at music, so I got into music because no one in the Department remembered him and I was free of constant comparison.

While I don't recall actually sitting in class and learning – I do remember hanging out, having fun, laughing, eating meat pies and playing lots of hackie sack. In Year 12, I became Music Captain, which always seemed like a funny title because all it meant was that I had to stay back, clean up more and MC music nights. I was nominated for School Captain and recall vividly how the year level laughed when my name was read out amongst my other (some would say, more worthy) peers.

After graduating, I completed a music degree at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) studying classical guitar. Funny, because I didn't really like classical guitar, (and I still don't), but I stuck with it for four years. Having grown up in the east, the VCA was a shock to the system. Everyone there was very intense and mysterious, or at least trying to be, and mostly mature age, so I felt very young and out of place. Most of the time, we were in small rooms practicing by ourselves for many hours a day, and performing once a fortnight to be critiqued. It was a lot of pressure and at the end I was burnt out and didn't want to ever play the guitar.



This led me to travel to Ecuador alone to spend a few months living and working as a conservation volunteer in a small community in a coastal rainforest in 2004. For me, as a 21 year old, this was a fantastic adventure. The location was so remote and dense that it took two days walking with a donkey to get to it. A sloth slept day and night outside the toilet block and at night, I was lulled to sleep by strange animal noises and singing Ecuadorians drunk on tequila.

After searching for an elusive spectacled bear in the Andes, I spent a month living in Quito, learning Spanish and the charango – a small 10-stringed South American instrument. This time away, led me to become interested in doing something in the environment and conservation space. I started looking at courses back home and applied to complete a Bachelor of Natural Environment and Wilderness Studies at a university in Hobart.

Accepted; I packed my car, and my Labrador and I set off for a new life in Hobart. Uni was a lot of fun. My studies in Hobart centered on global problems and working together to solve them. After a couple of years, my interest in other cultures inspired me to complete my degree in Darwin. The course included more units on Indigenous Knowledges and had a number of field trips with Aboriginal communities. I fell in love with Darwin and the Territory and ended up staying to complete my Masters on Indigenous Land Management and Climate Change.

Without doubt, one of the highlights of my studies was attending the 2009 International Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. I was part of a small group of students from Australia allowed to enter the negotiations for a week and a half.

This was an incredible experience – thousands of people from every corner of the globe, all there for one purpose, to see the world come up with a meaningful agreement to tackle climate change. Regarded as a bit of a flop in that no real agreement was made, the Conference spurred me on to work on climate change.

Being in Darwin was great for my career as it was quite easy to get a job with very little experience. I got a job at the university and then with The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). My first task was taking minutes at a 3-day conference on tropical shrimps, which was probably not the highlight of my career but you've got to start somewhere.

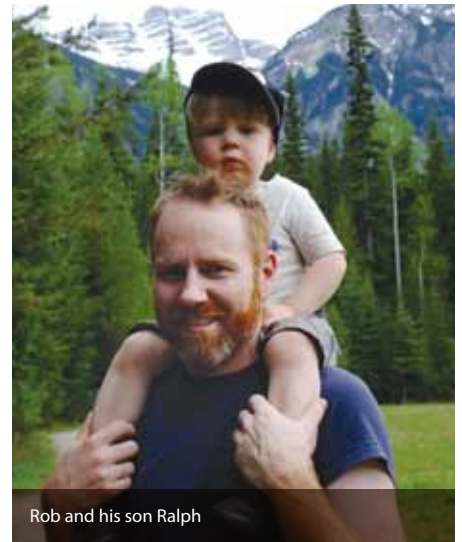
I continued volunteering to boost my experience, in both the Territory and other countries like Borneo and the Philippines and after a number of years; I returned to Melbourne and got a job with the State Government in Climate Change Policy. I also started playing music with my friend Jess Ribeiro and we travelled around the country doing shows and recording albums. It was like living two parallel lives; one as a Policy Officer in a government building, and the other, doing late night gigs in weird bars in weird towns, often for weird people.

Nowadays, I'm CEO for a not-for-profit organisation called the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA). The CVGA is a network of 13 local governments in central and northern Victoria that work together on climate change and renewable energy projects. It is a very rewarding job, I get to work with great people to come up with new ideas and develop projects that hopefully make some small difference in tackling climate change.

I live in Castlemaine with my wife Moya, and two young boys Ralph (3 years) and Otto (1 year). My mother in law Kerrie lives out back in a tiny house on wheels. I still write and play music when and where I can, and I write music for film and TV.

Along the way, I've hit plenty of challenges. Plenty of times life has felt a little purposeless or gloomy but at the same time, there are so many reasons to be hopeful and interested in the world. 2014 was a tough year for me. I lost my dad to pancreatic cancer and a few months later, lost one of my close friends and former Whitefriars student Martie Buckland – who died in an avalanche snowboarding in the Vic Alps. That same year, my first son was born in November and my life went on with all of its good bits and hard bits mixed in together.

My advice, don't worry too much about how you'll get there. I have always put a lot of priority into pursuing things that I find interesting or have a curiosity about and often they naturally lead to the next thing. People have advised me on what will or won't earn me a lot of money and I'm glad I have ignored their advice. Sometimes I've tried things and failed. People used to tell me that my high school years would be the best years of my life and while I did have a great time at Whitefriars, life is pretty damn good now and as a Dad, it just keeps getting better.



Rob and his son Ralph



Rob with his family



Noel Lim

Co-founder, ANIKA

CLASS OF 2010

Noel Lim says he was not a model university student.

"I became disengaged with university early on, and did the bare minimum to get a decent mark." After finishing his Arts and Law degrees, exhausted and unsure of what he wanted, he set off for a year and a half of travel to figure it all out. "When I got home, ANIKA kind of fell in to my lap. I'm incredibly lucky now to be doing something that I care about every day.

Traditional education has its positives, but it doesn't always strike a balance between theoretical and practical training. There does come a time when real world experience is essential. I did not choose practical subjects in the last years of my law degree so I became disengaged and disenchanted with the teaching style. While my goal was a clerkship and a corporate job at the start of my degree, law school is an incredibly competitive environment where practical training opportunities are rare. I ended up being more interested in my part time job in operations management at an education tech company and prioritised this over university."

After graduating and travelling mostly in Europe, Noel returned home and in February 2018, he and five friends dreamed up ANIKA - an online platform that connects current law students to people who cannot otherwise access free legal advice.

"We attended the Global Legal Hackathon at Monash University in February and came up with ANIKA." They were one of the hundreds of teams from 22 countries around the world and made the final 14 cut.



Team ANIKA winning the first round of the Global Legal Hackathon

"At the finals in New York, we placed runner-up, which was incredible and convinced us that the idea had legs, so we decided to take it further. It's quite ridiculous that there are law students who are desperate for practical legal training, and at the same time, people who can't access legal help who are effectively unprotected by their justice system. Using these problems to address each other is ANIKA's mission.

I had always wanted to be an entrepreneur and ANIKA has fast tracked that career dream. My brother took a gap year at the end of school and I noticed how engaged he was when he started university, he seemed more sure about who he was and what he wanted. What I learnt a bit later in my life is that for success to find me, I had to put myself out there. I had to try new things without worrying about exactly what was in it for me. Discovering and embracing Effective Altruism helped me figure out what I wanted to do. My goal is to have an impact and improve lives.

Interestingly for fun, I now listen to the kinds of philosophy and sociology podcasts I was meant to listen to in university – but at the time, I was doing the bare minimum to get by because I had no idea of my bigger picture. Understanding what is important to me and being able to take control and work on something that will hopefully impact the world in a positive way is one of the highlights of my life so far.

I consider myself social-impact-oriented and the whole purpose of ANIKA is doing good. I am not just doing things to satisfy others, which is a big part of education and your early career. It is easy to be motivated when you are into your job and you do it the way you want. The goal for ANIKA is for it to run sustainably and achieve the most good with the least amount of resources. I'm definitely on the career path I want and closer to the finish line but in terms of ANIKA we still have a lot of work to do to achieve our goals.

“Understanding what is important to me and working on something that will hopefully impact the world in a positive way, is one of the highlights of my life so far.”

I was pretty stubborn in Year 12 but if I could talk to myself now I'd tell me to be open to things and less headstrong. So many opportunities opened up because I put myself out there and took responsibility. When I was younger, I would only do things that I knew would definitely benefit me. I looked for good paid jobs because I did not see the benefits of practical units, volunteering and internships. I would tell me to do more of that.

For those who are interested in entrepreneurship, get an idea of what it's like by going to some free events or courses, or talking to established entrepreneurs – there are plenty willing to chat. For a closer look, volunteer in a startup and read *The Lean Startup* by Eric Ries. Just about every course I have been to echoes the principles in this book.

For those not necessarily interested in entrepreneurship, try some short term placements in fields that might interest you – it's the best way to know if you will or won't like it and a few weeks is a worthwhile investment considering the average length of a career. The main thing I would recommend is reading the *80,000 Hours Career guide*; it is by far the best careers resource I have read. I spent years trying to discover what I wanted to do, and this guide has been the most significant influence on my career choices to this point.”



Noel pitching ANIKA at a gala in New York City in the final round of the Global Legal Hackathon



Whitefriars Old Collegians Noel Lim, Tom Hodges, Max Mason, Scott Fletcher and Tristan Haley after 23 straight hours driving from Rockhampton to Melbourne

Community Connections

Celebration through community collaboration!

The strength of the Whitefriars' Community engagement and participation by families and local businesses continues to grow. This is a credit to the student and parent volunteers who generously make themselves available at the many College events.

The strong demand for community activities in and around Whitefriars continues. The sell-out of events shows that they are embraced and supported by students, parents and families alike. A sample of those events, together with our happy participants is obvious in the photographs.

We need to acknowledge the Parent Volunteers who have made contributions by assisting at the Year 7 Welcome evenings, Raffles, Entertainment Book Sales, Day's for Girls workshops, Open Days, College BBQ's, Trivia Night and more recently the Father's Day Breakfast; they have really made a difference in our students' academic, social and emotional growth, and this reinforces the strong links between home, student and College.

Volunteers' time is valuable, so their willingness to contribute some of that time to Whitefriars College shows everyone's commitment to the wellbeing of all of our students. It reflects the values we share through Whitefriars College of Belong, Believe, Become.

Thank you also to the Development team for their continued support and the work they do to help us achieve our goals.



Please continue to engage with the College and on behalf of the Whitefriars Parents' Association, we sincerely thank you and look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Mr Michael Mimmo
President, Whitefriars Parents' Association





Community Connections

Congratulations

Once a Whitefriar, always a Whitefriar. Even though groom Robbie Laurence (Class of 2006) met his bride Jessica after completing Year 12 at Whitefriars, returning to the Chapel for his wedding on 7 July 2018 was always part of the plan.

Many of Robbie's 2006 classmates attended the wedding including James Pretto (Best Man), Xavier Smith (Groomsman), Daniel Joiner, Adam Perna, Damien Evans, Brendan Heland, Matthew Burlew, Nathan Pearson and Tim Sedgwick (College Vice-Captain 2006).

Ex-Whitefriars Football Club player Dane Montecillo's brother, Fr Daryl conducted the beautiful service that preceded the couple's reception at Bram Leigh and honeymoon in Palm Cove.

Mothers of Old Collegians

You are invited to attend the Whitefriars College Mothers Christmas Mass and Dinner on Thursday 22 November 2018. Mass will be celebrated in the Chapel and Dinner will follow on the Cameron Centre decking. Past Students are asked to pass this invitation onto their Mothers.

You might like to consider a donation on the evening with all monies raised going to Timor-Leste and St Vincent de Paul. We also use this opportunity to gather gifts for children to give to St Vincent de Paul in readiness for Christmas. If you would like to contribute to this, please bring a wrapped present for a boy or girl, marked accordingly and including the age.

Please RSVP to Mrs Marie Cameron 98728307 or mcameron@whitefriars.vic.edu.au by Friday 16 November.



Carmelite Notice

The Carmelite Province of Australia and Timor-Leste is seeking some additional membership of its Finance Commission which provides financial and business advice for the operations of the Carmelite Fathers legal entity, Carmelite Fathers Inc Vic (CFIV). CFIV is a Charity and receives donations for the Carmelites' Formation program and Developmental/ Humanitarian works in Australia and Timor-Leste. The Finance Commission makes recommendations to the Carmelite Provincial Council who are responsible for the operations of the Carmelites' Australia and Timor-Leste province.

This position is a voluntary role and requires someone with accounting or legal experience in the corporate or not for profit sectors.

If interested in assisting the Carmelites in this way, please contact Fr Paul Cahill, Provincial, on 9699 1922 during business hours or email paulcahill@outlook.com for further information.



The Carmelites
Australia and Timor-Leste
community • prayer • action

From the Archives

From time to time, we receive a new item into our collection. This is always exciting as we delve into our records to recount significant times in our history.

One such event surfaced when a phone call at the beginning of Term 3 advised me of an intended donation offering from the 1970s.

Recently, while moving house, Howard Fox, the second Sportsmaster (following the inaugural Sportsmaster Br Matthew McPhee) discovered a silver tray presented to him by the Whitefriars First XV111 Football Premiers. This proved to be a significant find, Howard having coached the 1972 team to winning the first major Football Trophy for Whitefriars College.

The back of the tray lists the names of students from the team: D Walker, C Moore, J Snowball, M Hyland, S Lang, B Cody, D Hanlon, D Elsum, S Hickman, P Schipperheyne, P Dobrigh, S Cameron, M Bannenberg, S McGettigan, P Schauble, C Hughes, I McDonald, R Glennon, S Moore, T Otten, L Budrys, I Jones, M Elliott, J Burke, J O'Neil, G Casey, A Walker, C Cope, M Weichard. Quite an illustrious group who now cover a variety of careers.

Howard Fox coached at the College from 1970 to October 1973. He was a professional athlete competing in the Australian 130 Yards Victorian Professional Championships and was a winner of twenty-two Gifts including two Maryboroughs (1968 and 1971).



Lex Hartnett (Sport Vice Captain), Sam Harte (Sport Captain) and Howard Fox (Sportsmaster 1970 - 1975) handing over the 1972 EIS Football Trophy a first for WFC

He trained Whitefriars students in Athletics, Swimming, Cross Country, Football, Cricket, Basketball and Tennis. Upon leaving the College, he was replaced by former Melbourne Footballer Greg Parke and later, Ray Keane.

Retracing his steps around the College, Howard recalled the first gymnasium which was housed in two classrooms in the Undercroft of the original building. Later under the direction of parent Graeme Moore, a Nissan Hut Recreation Centre was acquired from the Migrant Centre at Preston and transferred to the College where parents, through their expertise, endeavour and generosity, worked tirelessly over many weekend working bees, transforming it into a Gymnasium. This building has since been adapted a number of times but stands to this day.

These early years also provided an opportunity for the annual Blackfriars/Whitefriars Football and Basketball weekends, which were both great sporting fixtures and social events remembered fondly by Howard.

Fr Kierce was always a great supporter of football within the College and was often seen on the field as umpire.

If Howard's story has inspired you and you have a story or something that could sit in our Archives, we would love to hear from you. Each item we receive helps to honour our past and build our collection of memory bridges.

But back to that first historical win in 1972. Records tell that Whitefriars College 1st XV111 were victorious over St Leo's College 16.18 to 5.12 thereby winning the Senior football Trophy, paving the way for sporting success at Whitefriars. Our Senior Basketball team also emerged from the season that year without having suffered a single defeat and won the EIS Trophy.

Mrs Anne McKenna
Archivist

Reunions





WHITEFRIARS



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Why is it safe to register with LinkedIn / Facebook?

whitefriarsconnect.com.au



Re-connect

Find and reminisce with fellow Old Collegians from Whitefriars College, see what they have been up to and stay in touch.



Give back

Introduce, employ and offer to act as a mentor to our graduating Whitefriars College students



Expand

Leverage your professional network to get introduced to people you should know through the Whitefriars community



Advance

Advance your career through inside connections working in top companies

GOLF DAY Rosanna Golf Club FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER



Tickets on sale now

<https://www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au/community/old-collegians/golf-day-details/>

Support our Golf Day. All funds raised shall be shared by the College and the Pat Cronin Foundation. Sponsorship opportunities are still available just email development@whitefriars.vic.edu.au

Important Dates

OCTOBER

Monday 8	Wellbeing Week
Wednesday 10	Huntingtower Swimming Meeting
Monday 15	Year 12 Farewell Assemblies
Thursday 18	VCE Visual Arts Exhibition Opening
Friday 19	Year 12 Celebration Morning Year 7 2020 Offers posted Class of 1968 Reunion
Monday 22	Year 10 Work Experience program
Tuesday 23	Year 7 and 10 Immunisations
Thursday 25	Year 12 Valet Mass and Valedictory Dinner
Friday 26	Staff Professional Learning Day – Student Free Day
Monday 29	Open Morning Tour 9 – 10.30am Year 7 Outdoor Learning Program Information Evening 7pm
Tuesday 30	Parent Association Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 31	ACC Practice Swimming Carnival Unit 3 / 4 Exams begin

NOVEMBER

Thursday 1	Celebrating Motherhood Morning Tea
Friday 2	Year 7 2020 Acceptance of Offers due
Monday 5	Mid Term Break
Tuesday 6	Melbourne Cup Day – Public Holiday
Thursday 8	Year 9 Social, St Johns Parish Hall Mitcham 7 – 10pm
Monday 12	National Recycle Week Intermediate ACC Debating
Wednesday 14	Year 7 2019 Transition Parent Information Evening 7pm
Friday 16	Whitefriars Golf Day, Rosanna Golf Club
Wednesday 21	Transition Morning for Solos 9 – 12 noon
Thursday 22	Thank you Mass for Mothers and Helpers 7 – 8 pm
Friday 23	Class of 2017 Reunion 6 – 8pm
Monday 26	Year 7 OLP Camps Year 11 Exams begin
Tuesday 27	Year 10 Exams begin Parents' Association Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 28	Year 9 Exams begin
Friday 30	Last day of classes for Years 9, 10 and 11

DECEMBER

Monday 3	Student Free Day – Correction Day
Tuesday 4	VCE Unit 3 / 4 2019 Flying Start program
Wednesday 5	Presentation Evening, Hamer Hall 7pm
Thursday 6	Year 7 and 8 Mass – Classes conclude
Friday 7	Year 7 2019 Orientation Day
Friday 14	Last day for teaching staff
Friday 21	College Administration closes

JANUARY 2019

Monday 21	College Administration reopens
Friday 25	New Staff Induction
Monday 28	Public Holiday – Australia Day
Tuesday 29	Staff Professional Learning Day
Wednesday 30	Staff Professional Learning Day
Thursday 31	Year 7, 12, International Students and all new students commence

FEBRUARY 2019

Friday 1	Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students commence Year 12 Academic Conference
Monday 4	Year 7 Orientation Camp and Orientation Program
Tuesday 12	Opening College Mass, St Patrick's Cathedral Year 7 School Photos in Primary School groups
Wednesday 20	AAS Testing – late enrolments Years 7, 8, 9 and 10

Dates are correct at time of printing.



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For more information about Whitefriars College visit www.whitefriars.vic.edu.au



WHITEFRIARS
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