

Prayer

Loving God, may we use the opportunity of Lent to grow in self-sacrificing love which builds community and brings us closer to You. We make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen



From the Principal

Wonderful Start

In commencing the 2018 Academic Year, I commend all students and staff for such a positive and productive start. Our Year 7 students have quickly adapted to a new environment with new routines, our Year 12 students have commenced with full focus and all other year levels have shown similar enthusiasm to get underway with all that 2018 holds for them. We also welcome and commend new staff and new students in Year 8 – 11, who have immersed themselves in our community so well. A fortnight ago Fr Tony Feeney, recently appointed Canonical Administrator of the College led our Opening School Mass and spoke powerfully about growth in wisdom in and through our pillars of Faith, Learning and Care. Together, the year has begun exceedingly well.

All who have been on site will be aware of the commencement of our major building project, the Helene Province. This year long refurbishment and extension has necessitated 14 portable classrooms on the vacant site adjacent to the College, coined the 'Assisi Site'. Classes have now commenced in these new classrooms which are fully equipped and proving every bit as conducive to learning as our existing site. Groundworks are being finalised to provide seating and aesthetics to this space.

Community News

Board Vacancy

Following the departure of Mr Fernando Schiavone as Chair and parent representative of the College Board of Governance (after 2 terms of dedicated service), we now have a parent vacancy. The College Board of Governance is an important advisory Board, working with the Canonical Administrators and Principal to ensure that Ave Maria College continues to thrive and develop as a Catholic College of excellence for young women. We are seeking a parent with skills, knowledge and experience, particularly in the fields of finance and/or risk mitigation. The Board of Governance meet 6 times per year on a Tuesday evening. If you would like more information or would like to register your Expression of Interest, please visit the [College website](#).

Also in community news, please note a number of opportunities for parents to connect – namely the Parent Seminar run by the [Respectful Relationships Team](#) and the [Parent Social Evening](#) at Windy Hill. Details are enclosed in this newsletter.

Lent Begins

Last week we started our journey to Easter Sunday. Traditionally we do something extra (such as deepening our prayer or service to others) or give up something for 40 days (such as fasting). I read somewhere recently that any spiritual practice is about *realising reality* – making room in our lives to realise God's presence, to realise our neighbour's need, to amplify the realisation of our own goodness. May this Lent be our realisation of reality. In another article I share with you these wonderful words from Fr Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest:

There are two moments that matter. One is when you know that your one and only life is absolutely valuable and alive. The other is when you know your life, as presently lived, is entirely pointless and empty. Lent is about both. The first such moment gives you energy and joy by connecting you with your ultimate Source and Ground. The second gives you limits and boundaries, and a proper humility, so you keep seeking the Source and Ground and not just your small self.

Elizabeth Hanney
Principal





Deputy Principal Leadership & Learning

A warm welcome to all parents to the new Academic Year. As the year progresses, the learning we will experience as members of the Ave community promises challenge and growth for all. In my speech at the Opening Whole School Assembly I reminded everyone of our mission statement. It has the phrases, *We are people of faith, We are caring people and We are people of learning*. And as I said at the time, I don't believe you can be any one of those without being the others. A person who has faith, cares for people and is willing to learn; a person who cares for people has faith and is willing to learn and a person who is willing to learn has faith and cares for people.

Through the reading at our Opening School Mass about King Solomon, Fr Tony spoke to the students and staff about these as being the 3 components of *wisdom*. In this newsletter I would like to focus on us as 'people of learning'. What does it mean to be a person of learning? We have asked ourselves this question many times; looking to research and discussing it with students and staff alike. We asked, what does a person of learning do? How do they behave and how do they engage with those around them? It was in this reflective process that we articulated the Learner Attributes necessary for effective learning and growth. Under the headings of Engage, Achieve and Believe the learner attributes outline the observable behaviours and attitudes of a growth mindset. Coupled with this as teachers we explored and developed a shared understanding of the principles of effective teaching. Pulling these components together has seen us develop our Learning Charter which is included in this newsletter.

This charter provides for us a definition of learning. Our Learning is the *Building of Our Knowledge, the Development of Our Skill and Applied to Our World*. And secondly, our learning is *magnified in a vibrant learning environment where we share our learning and strive to grow our capacity and achievements individually and collectively*. I would draw your attention to the second point particularly as this is what I also highlighted for our students. As members of the Ave community, we have an individual and a collective responsibility to be the best learners we can be. So we have high expectations of the students in this regard and we need them to have the same expectations of themselves and their classmates if they are to be their best. We need those around us to learn because it helps each of us to learn. Hence the cycle *We Learn because I Learn because We Learn* and so on. I challenged the students not to validate laziness as this is not what caring people, people of learning do. I invite you to discuss the Learning Charter with your daughter inviting her to reflect on how she can be her best as a learner.

Phillip Tascone

Deputy Principal Leadership and Learning

Heads of School

Welcome Back

It is with much excitement that we welcome our newest members of the College, 168 Year 7 students, to Ave Maria College. Likewise, we warmly welcome back all students as they embark on a new Academic Year. The students have settled in very well, very quickly, for which they are to be commended. In particular, the Year 11 students have settled into the temporary Assisi site with enthusiasm. Students have also adopted our new portal or Learning Management System (LMS) with ease and interest. We look forward to using this system and increasing the ways in which we can communicate both with students and parents.

Behaviour Tracking – Incidents and Commendations

With the introduction of the new LMS we have also reviewed the Conduct Card system. It is now possible, for this system to be done electronically. In 2018 students did not receive a hard copy Conduct Card, instead Merits and Demerits are now recorded through the 'Behaviour Tracking' function in AveSpace. Demerits are now referred to as '*incidents*' and if issued to a student decrease their '*social indicator value*'. When a student's Social Indicator Value reaches -5 they will be required to attend an afterschool detention. The reasons a student may be issued with an incident remain unchanged from the [Creating and Maintaining a Positive Learning Environment \(CAMPLE\)](#) expectations which can be found on the College website and in the Student Planner.

VCE Special Provisions

Any student completing a VCE subject who is eligible to apply for Special Provision needs to collect a VCAA special provision application form from Ms Hammer. The closing date for these applications is Friday, 2 March 2018. Students who have already collected this form must ensure it is returned as soon as possible.

Parent Information Nights

The busy start to the year has included Parent Information Nights for Years 7-11. We appreciate your attendance at these important events as part of your daughter's learning. If you were unable to attend, please contact your daughter's Homeroom teacher for any relevant information.

Claude Ferrarese
Jo Hammer

Head of School Years 7-9
Head of School Years 10-12

Important Dates

2018 Dates

Wednesday, 21 February
Monday, 26 February
Tuesday, 27 February
Thursday, 1 March
Monday, 5 March
Wednesday, 7 March - Friday, 9 March
Wednesday, 7 March

Year 10 and 11 Parent Information Night (6.30pm – 8.00pm)
Parent Seminar
Year 7 Immunisations
House Swimming Carnival
Parent Social Event 2018
Year 7 Camp
SCSA Tennis

Teaching and Learning Leader

Minimum Academic Requirements Procedure

Given the progression of knowledge and skills throughout a course of study and the increased level of complexity of the concepts as students' progress, it is necessary that all students are able to demonstrate a minimum achievement in relation to the meeting of outcomes. Therefore to best support student learning we have introduced a 50% benchmark for all assessment tasks. That is, where students receive a score of less than 50% they will be required to re-submit a part of, or all of an assessment task so they are able to demonstrate the outcomes for a particular unit. Teachers will ensure students are given targeted feedback and support as they work towards meeting the outcome. Upon re-submission students will receive further feedback on their progress, the score of the original assessment task submission will remain though. Should your daughter not complete the re-submission she will be required to attend an after school study session. In setting minimum standards we aim to ensure students are striving for and achieving their very best, whilst also building a strong foundation of knowledge and skills that will hold them in good stead as they progress through their education.

Percentage Reporting

This year, with the introduction of our new Assessment and Reporting Protocol we are implementing ongoing continuous reporting via the Parent Access Module. This will allow you to view your daughter's results in real time with teacher feedback and the score available to you within two weeks of the tasks submission. As part of our commitment to a conversation about student growth and improvement through targeted feedback and personalized teaching strategies, we will now be representing student performance as a percentage, rather than a letter grade. This decision has been made in consultation with both staff and students at the College who are supportive of this development.

Parent Access Module

A reminder to please login in frequently to the Parent Access Module (PAM) for information regarding your daughter's attendance, conduct, academic performance and to validate her medical records. Login details have been distributed via email, please check your SPAM folders if you have not received it. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to email me on Jessica.Hall@avemaria.vic.edu.au

Jessica Hall

Teaching and Learning Leader

Faith and Religious Education

Open School Mass

The school year began with the Opening School Mass celebrated by Fr Tony Feeney, Parish Priest of St Monica's, Moonee Ponds and President of the Canonical Administrators of the College. The badges of the Senior Leadership Team were blessed and those leaders read a pledge. New staff and students, including all of Year 7, received their Tau Cross, symbolising their inclusion in the Franciscan family.



Year 12 Retreat

Year 12 retreat was a 3 day experience which saw many of us reflecting on the year ahead. The retreat involved us coming together to eat meals together as a Year 12 family, emphasising our Year 12 theme of unity. Together, we danced, together we sang, together we challenged our thinking and together we expressed a deep desire of love for each other. Overall, Year 12 Retreat was definitely a very positive way to start our final year of school and we're sure that the memories we made during these 3 days will last a long time.



Mr Jurd leads the Thursday evening liturgy

Ash Wednesday was marked with a service to distribute ashes as a sign of our need to live the Gospel more fully. We reflected upon the 2018 College theme – that God is love and that we live in community and need to model ourselves more fully on Christ's self-sacrificing love.

Patrick Jurd

Director of Faith and Religious Education

Student Counsellor

Family Rituals

According to a recent joint report from The Black Dog Institute and Mission Australia, around 1 in 4 teenagers have experienced a "probable mental illness". According to the same report, teenage girls are twice as likely as boys to experience depression or anxiety, and self-harm is on the rise among teenagers in Australia. So the question is being asked – why are our kids so unhappy and anxious?

One of the greatest challenges in the modern era is maintaining close connection to home and family, because while teenagers are taking risks and forming their own independent identity, they also need clear boundaries and connection to parents. Without these things, many other difficulties can arise; it can lead to poor communication, lack of trust, poor choices, relationship issues, low self-esteem, bullying, internet addiction, mental health issues and so on.

Child psychiatrist, Dr Mike Shooter, suggests social media is only part of the problem. He says, "Quite a lot of the kids with horrendous anxiety and self-harm are paralysed. They don't know whether to say anything or not, and the answer for parents is always to do something: talk about it, learn about it, look at what your kid does. If necessary, take the equipment away, but show you're doing it because you care.... Don't be frightened of intruding. If your kid is pale, tired and miserable then they're asking for your help."

Pressure from school, peers, and social media coupled with lack of a positive relationships at home, can lead to greater emotional and mental health challenges for our young ones, who are still just trying to figure out themselves and their place in the world. Home is the place where children need to find grounding, a slower pace, ritual and honest conversation, to balance the fast paced and competitive world outside.

The nightly family ritual of eating a meal together could solve so much!

Cecilia Tankey
Student Counsellor

Helene Library

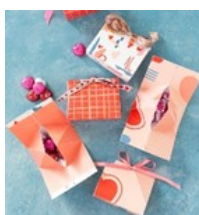
Helene Library may have relocated to a smaller abode this Term but it is business as usual in the busy library. A reminder that students can access the Library Catalogue, eBook collection and research databases from their Laptop devices via [AveSpace](#).

Book Corner is back in Term 1



If you enjoy reading and would like to meet others who share your passion, make your way to the Helene Library every Day 7 at lunchtime. This term we start off Book Corner on Tuesday, 20 February 2018, with a book titled [The First Third](#) by Will Kostakis an emerging young Australian author.

Creative Spaces for Library Lovers



Students have been busy enjoying [Library Lovers Day](#) over the past 2 weeks. Library Lovers' Day is an initiative, coordinated by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), it provides a chance to connect with a library and raise the profile of the services which libraries offer.

Laura Pugliese
Helene Library Team Leader

Faith In Action Today

FIAT enacts Catholic Social Teaching principles such as the dignity of the human person and a preferential option for the poor. It is your daughter's responsibility to secure a placement on the relevant dates for her homeroom, using the form that can also be found on AveSpace.

Year 10 Students should have their completed placement forms to Student Services by **Monday, 7 May 2018**.

If your daughter has not returned her form by the due date, the College will find her a FIAT replacement but it may not be in an area of her interest.

The Year 10 FIAT Placements dates are indicated below:

10A, 10B and 10C

Tuesday, 24 July
Friday, 31 July
Wednesday, 1 August
Friday, 3 August

10D and 10E

Tuesday, 21 August
Thursday, 23 August
Wednesday, 29 August
Friday, 31 August

Student Leadership

College Captains

It is accurate to say the young women of Ave have had a fantastic start to the year. Over the course of the break, the Senior Student Leadership team had the opportunity to take part in a conference over 3 days called [yLead](#). As a leadership team, the conference gave us the opportunity to take part in learning not only about our school but about ourselves, building on each individual as well as group strengths to further develop our skills of being effective leaders who are ready for the future. We are thrilled to have shared this experience with each other, further strengthening our bond as a team. Each of us walked away feeling optimistic and eager, full of creative and innovative initiatives for the young women of Ave.

Yasmine Athaide and Vanessa D'Andrea
College Captains

Student Leadership Positions

All student leadership positions from Years 8-12 have now been finalised. We congratulate all applicants, both successful and unsuccessful, for the mature and considered nature through which they approached this process. The calibre of candidates was very high. A full list of the 2018 Student Leaders will be included in our next newsletter. As part of the Student Leadership program all leaders participated in the first Student Leadership Seminar for the year. The focus of this was on Leading Learning, and was facilitated by Mr Tascone, Deputy Principal Leadership and Learning and Mrs Hall, Teaching and Learning Leader. The newly introduced Student Council was also discussed and members of the Student Leadership team were invited to nominate themselves for this group.

Finance

Tuition Fees: Term One

A friendly reminder that Term One Fees were due Friday, 9 February 2018. Refer to the Family Finance Information 2018 booklet which was mailed out in December 2017. If payment has not yet been made, kindly complete either the Direct Debit or Credit Card Authorisation Form and return to the College immediately. Alternatively, contact the Finance Office on 9331 9307 to arrange payment.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

If you hold a Health Care Card or another concession card which names your daughter, we strongly encourage you to complete the [CSEF application](#) form and return to the College immediately.

Late Fee

A late Fee of \$100 will be charged on all fee accounts which have not been paid, or a payment plan in place, by Monday, 26 February 2018.

Parent Seminar



St Bernard's, St Columba's and Ave Maria Colleges proudly present a Parent Information Evening:

Respectful Relationships

Presenters: Libby Hargreaves and Jarrod Bateup

Project Leaders for Respectful Relationships Program
South Western Victoria Region, DEET

Monday 26 February 2018

7:00pm-9:00pm

Frank FitzGerald Auditorium, St Bernard's College

Gate 6, Hampton Road, Essendon

Bookings via: <https://goo.gl/forms/jziNJ2aDIMxJA213>

This is a free event.

Parents of Bernard's, St Columba's and Ave Maria College students are invited and encouraged to attend.

**RESPECTFUL
RELATIONSHIPS**



Parent Social Event

The College warmly invites you to attend the 2018 Parent Social Evening. Come along and meet other parents, the College Executive Team and staff. It promises to be a relaxed and social night.

Where:

Hi Marque Room
Windy Hill Social Club
Cnr Napier & Brewster Streets
Essendon

Date:

Monday, 5 March 2018

Time:

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Finger food provided and drinks at bar prices.

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/TZSZ

This is a free event for parents only.

New Look for Ave Maria College

Ave Maria College is a Catholic College for girls built on the Franciscan values of truth, love and peace, committed to learning confidence and student achievement.

Ave Maria's vision and focus is to:

- Provide excellence in teaching and learning
- Develop confident and compassionate young women
- Ready our girls for the future
- Be community focused and caring individuals

To reinforce our brand promise and promote these principles we have rebranded to a core statement of "She Who".....

The "She Who" defines our students as individuals within a community who excel, inspire, learn, create, shine, lead, care, engage and dream.

We would like to share examples of our new brand marketing material that the community will see throughout our ongoing promotion of the College. We think it captures Ave well.

We are all very excited by this new direction and hope you like it too!

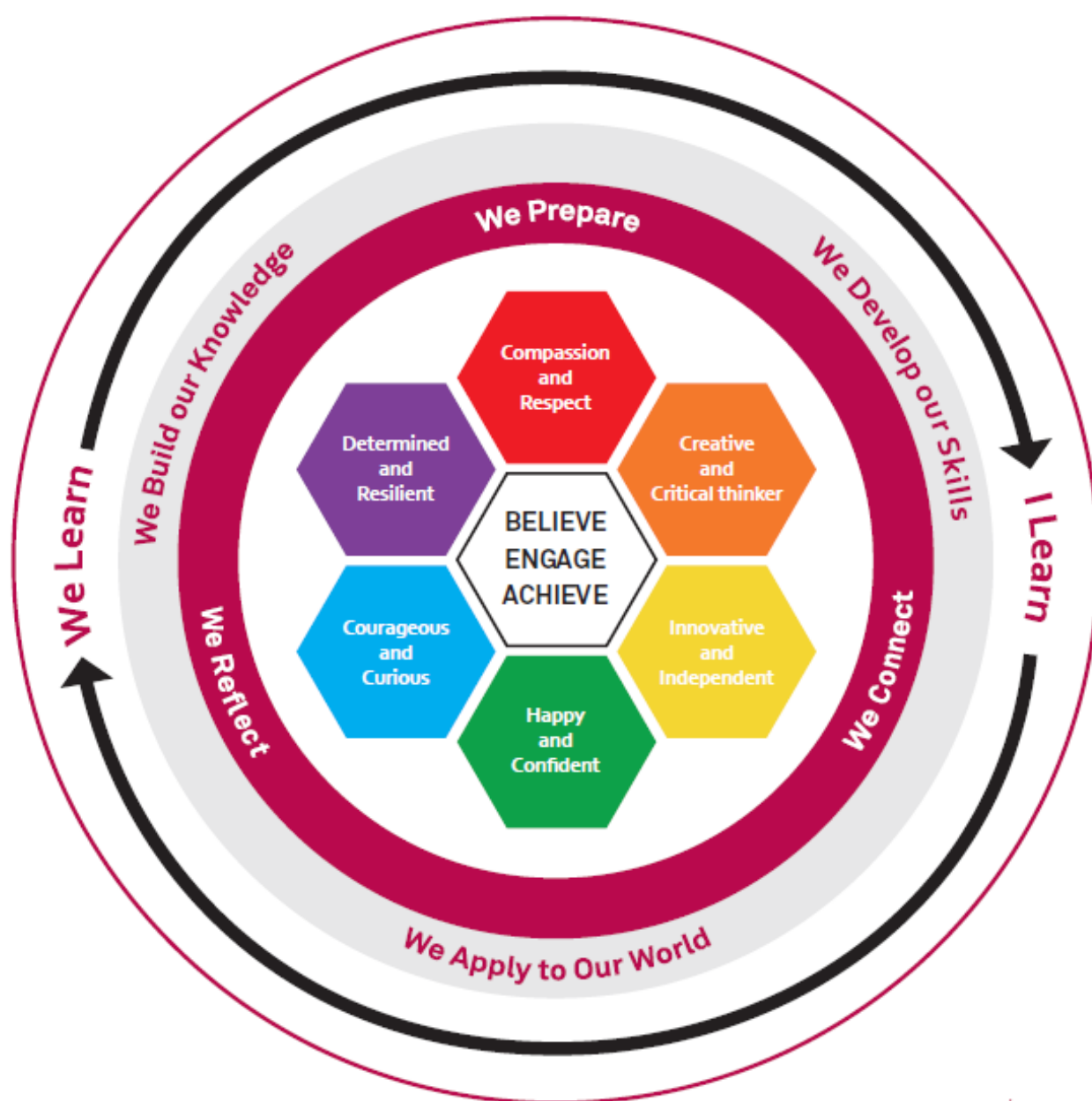


A marketing poster for Ave Maria College. It features a young woman with blonde braids, smiling, wearing a maroon blazer over a white collared shirt. She is positioned in front of large, bold, red text that reads "SHE WHO SHINES". At the bottom left is the Ave Maria College logo, which includes a small illustration of a building and the text "AVE MARIA COLLEGE A Catholic College for Young Women". To the right of the logo, the following text is written: "Find out more about the unique opportunities for your daughter at Ave Maria College. Register online for a College Tour or to request a prospectus at avemaria.vic.edu.au".



A marketing poster for Ave Maria College. It features a young woman with dark hair, smiling, wearing a dark-colored dress with thin vertical stripes and a white collar. She is positioned in front of large, bold, red text that reads "SHE WHO SEEKS". At the bottom left is the Ave Maria College logo, which includes a small illustration of a building and the text "AVE MARIA COLLEGE A Catholic College for Young Women". To the right of the logo, the following text is written: "Find out more about the unique opportunities for your daughter at Ave Maria College. Register online for a College Tour or to request a prospectus at avemaria.vic.edu.au".

Our Learning Charter



Our Learning Charter

We are people of learning - College Mission Statement

As a Catholic school, we wish to guide each young woman to develop as a whole person, striving for excellence in all her endeavours. Our Catholic values are the lens through which all learning occurs, thus young women of Ave Maria College will be inspired to be critical thinkers and life-long learners, contributing to the wider community.

Our Learning is...

- the Building of Our Knowledge, the Development of Our Skills and Applied to Our World.
- magnified in a vibrant learning environment where we share our learning and strive to grow our capacity and achievements individually and collectively.

As Learners we are...

Compassionate and Respectful

- We support and help each other, we uphold high expectations of ourselves and our peers

Creative and Critical Thinkers

- We question, we challenge, we verify, we reflect

Innovative and Independent

- We own our responsibilities, we go beyond the minimum requirements

Determined and Resilient

- We ask for help, we use all available resources, we work hard

Happy and Confident

- We speak in the positive, we encourage others, we believe in our capacity to improve

Courageous and Curious

- We take on the harder problems, we challenge ourselves, we try new things

As Teachers we are ...	As Students we are ...
Prepared <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We discern learning intentions and success criteria • We sequence learning in a planned and purposeful manner • We collaboratively design varied assessment practices that are goal and growth oriented Connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We scaffold and differentiating learning • We respond to student learning with varied, engaging and innovative practice • We support a productive and quality learning environment Reflective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We provide consistent and constructive feedback to students • We reflect on our practice individually and collectively • We give students the opportunity to reflect on their learning 	Prepared <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We bring a positive mindset to class • We complete all set tasks in preparation for learning Connected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We engage in the learning activities, sharing ideas and collaborating with our peers • We support a productive and quality learning environment • We work to meet deadlines and demonstrate our learning to the best of our capabilities Reflective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We examine feedback given by teachers and are proactive in seeking growth • We reflect on our own approach to learning and our role in achieving individual and collective success



St. Bernard's Junior Football Club 2018 Registration Day Sunday, 25 February 2018

Michael Perrett Pavilion (enter via Gate 8) - 11.30am to 1.00pm

2018 Club Fees

For players joining the club from any Auskick venue and any player new to AFL football - **\$100 per player**

Current players** and for any player transferring to St. Bernard's from another club. - **\$200 per player ***

Siblings - 2nd player - \$150, 3rd player - \$50, Maximum payable (family) - \$400.

Payment of Club fees includes:

- All match payments (no money payable for umpires)
- A team jumper supplied by the club and returned at the end of the season
- Team photo
- Under 9 and 10 players – Training top and football
- Under 11 to 17 players – Training top

Teams: Under 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 & 17 and Under 12 & 15 Girls

All new players need to bring their Birth Certificate or current Passport. A digital copy will be taken as part of the Registration Process.

All registration enquiries can be sent to John Tormey at juniors@stbernardsfc.com.au

* Please note that after Monday, 12 February 2018 the Club Fee for returning players will be \$280, not \$200, for the first player. For all players transferring to St Bernard's, the fee will remain at \$200.

** Current players have received an invitation to register via email.

A Proud Member of the St. Bernard's College Community



St. Bernard's Junior Football Club OPEN TRAINING SESSIONS FOR JUNIOR GIRLS

If you are a young girl looking to play football, then St Bernard's is the place for you.

Come and give it a try at any or all of our open training sessions for junior girls (St Bernard's College Ovals). Bring your friends and have some fun.

Key Dates:

Sunday 11th February – 10.30am to 11.30am

Sunday 18th February – 10.30am to 11.30am

Thursday 22nd February – 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Sunday 25th February – 10.30am to 11.30am

We have special guest Debbie Lee for our session on Thursday 22nd February.

Debbie is the current AFLW General Manager of Women's Football at the Western Bulldogs and current Victorian Women's Football Team Coach.

For all enquiries, please contact Andrew Brebner (Football Operations Manager) on juniors@stbernardsfc.com.au or

0408 941 944.

A Proud Member of the St. Bernard's College Community