

Stepping In. Reaching Out. A Community of Courage.



Greetings to all in the Santa Community

There has been an ongoing ripple of joy in the college this week (and we're sure in homes and workplaces too!) as each year level has made its way back to the classroom. It's wonderful to hear the voices of young people around the place once more. And it's young people, their hopes and dreams no less than the viability of the physical world they inhabit and inherit that is at the forefront of our minds as the United Nations International Conference on Climate Change (COP26) gets underway in Glasgow this Sunday.

Many of our students have participated in recent School Strike 4 Climate events, calling for [3 clear shifts](#) in Australian climate policy. Such calls are echoed by Pope Francis, who with [40 faith leaders](#) from various denominations, has made a formal

appeal for urgent international political action on climate change in the lead up to COP26. [Australian bishops](#) and faith leaders have made similar appeals, not only for net zero by 2050, but for urgent cuts to emissions by 2030. Our young people, and the young of all species, depend on it!





Year 11-12 Village News

With the return to school for senior students, the final day of formal classes and farewell breakfast for year 12s, and the impending VCE exams, it's been a busy time in the Senior Village. Village Leaders share with us some of the [action!](#)



Special Features

Our newsletter this week features two special treats to celebrate and enjoy. While year 12 exams began for most students on Wednesday with the English exam, many Arts students have already submitted folios or been assessed on their live performances. Their work, their achievements and their performances have been brilliantly collated in the Persistence Exhibition below.

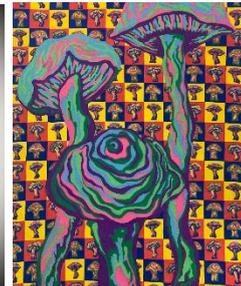
Following this is an exquisite insight into the teaching, mentoring and modelling that takes place within our outstanding Music Department. Teacher Judy Bagg and student Zoe Falvo of year 10 share with us something special.

Persistence : The 2021 VCE Arts + Technology Exhibition

This online exhibition showcases the work our talented Year 12 students have completed during 2021. Enjoy everything from Dance, Drama and Music performances, Media films and photography,

Product, Design and Technology creations, as well as artworks and design from Studio Arts and Visual Communication. This exhibition would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of our team. A huge vote of thanks to our Year 12 teachers: Jessica Fanner, Judith Jackson-Joyce, Kathleen McMenamin, Ngaire Wallace, Mark Eckersley, Rocky Loprevite and James Shannon. We are immensely proud of the work that the students have produced this year, during extremely trying circumstances. To our remarkable Year 12 Arts and Technology students: Thank you for your dedication. Thank you for your commitment. Thank you for your persistence!

Please join us on [this link](#) and share in the celebrations.



Uncle Ray

Twenty years ago music teacher Judy Bagg recorded an album. Her original composition, *Uncle Ray*, is a cruisy, beautiful reflection on how certain people become touchstones in our lives. You can hear Judy's beautiful rendition [here](#). Fast forward to 2021 and year 10 student Zoe Falvo has connected so deeply with this track that she has recorded her [own version](#). Both Judy and Zoe reflect on this experience in [words](#) as well as music. There is something very moving about the sharing and handing on of a musical legacy. We thank both Judy and Zoe for sharing it with us.

SantaLink Comedy/Trivia Night Wrap

The Santalink 'first ever' online Trivia/Comedy night on 22 October was a great one! Thank you to all those from our school community that participated, our first night out of lockdown and what a fun way to celebrate! Your generosity provided \$700 to the Good Samaritan Kindergarten Mission in the Philippines. Thank you for all those that donated. Tony Moclair was a terrific host and Amy Chapman skillfully led the 2 games of Kahoot broken up by the funny, effervescent and locally based comedian Dave O'Neill. Congratulations to our winners from both rounds who scored some lovely prizes. Hope we can continue the fun next year in person. Big thanks to Rosanne Luna and the SantaLink team for organising this fun night for families.

President Veronica Graham

Vice President Guy Naselli

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Fabulous SantaLink School Fees Raffle

Win \$\$\$ off your College fees! What a great way to start 2022! Over \$6,000 worth of prizes. (Check full list [here!](#)) **Tickets are \$10 each or 6 for \$50.** For your chance to win, jump online at www.trybooking.com/BUJLQ. Ticket sales close on Monday, 29 November 2021 at 2pm and winners announced at the Santa Maria Celebration Evening, Wednesday 1 December. Good Luck!

Student Onsite Return

Confirming all students Years 7-11 return to onsite learning on **Wednesday 3 November**. A reminder that Monday 1 November is a student free day.

Date claimer – Save the Date!

An advanced invitation to join us in some pre-Christmas carol singing. Enter the date in your calendars!

Carols Evening

Santa Maria College

Wednesday 1 December, 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Details to follow.

'The Cup' of Complexity

It's a public holiday. A four day weekend for most. It's glitz and glamour and 'fashions on the field'. Champagne breakfasts and manicured turf and the famous Flemington roses. For most of us it's the annual deciphering of the Form Guide and our once a year flutter or Cup Sweep. Just a bit of fun and frolicking, and don't we Melbournians deserve it after lockdown? And yet, year by year we witness the toll this takes on the horses. The break downs, the euthanising of champion thoroughbreds, the horrifying glimpses of what happens to these horses once their 'use by date' is up. And so, as we prepare to place our bets, let's pause and acknowledge the complexity of what we do.

We consider these words of poet and scholar Norm Habel:

*God, our Creator,
help us to love all creatures as kin,
all animals as partners on Earth,
all birds as messengers of praise,
all minute beings as expressions of your mysterious
design,
and all frogs as voices of hope.*

*May we go out into the world to love one another.
May we cherish our animal family,
protest against their abuse and neglect.
May we protect all creation,
So that all creation may experience God's peace.*

Amen.

