

AQUINAS COLLEGE NEWSBREAK

July 2020 Issue #1



Left to right: Lauren Pike, Rachael McKay and Ruby Yates

On 12th of June the College held its inaugural Art Show, with students having the opportunity to showcase their artistic flair. Led by Secretary, Ruby Yates, the Student Club organised the night, with the theme being cocktail dress. "People will now have a greater understanding of the importance of art," Ruby said. Throughout the night students had the chance to admire the various art pieces, including sketches, paintings and amazing garment designs.

When reflecting on the night, Ruby particularly enjoyed seeing everyone socialise and having photos taken with the Polaroid cameras. Lahiru Yasanga was awarded the People's Choice Award, with McKenna Reidy receiving the Runner-Up People's Choice Award. The major award judges, Lauren Pike, Dr Sarah Moller and Ruby Yates had a difficult job due to the high standard of entries. Ultimately, the Rosie Pike Award for Artistry, went to Rachel McKay. Due to the success of the night, Ruby is hoping the Art Show will become an annual event, with parents and friends being able to attend the night in future years.



Roche House



Left to Right: Ella Thompson, Lily Bersee, Mitch Thompson, Joan Seow and Bailey Hateley



Left to Right: Cassie Wilmot, Imogen Hall and Ellie Gould



Left to Right: Liam Wormald, James Hams and Jack Elsdon



Left to Right: Zoe Duncan, Courtney De Barro, Olivia Dunn, Maggie Daw, Liz Evans, and Keely Clark



Left to Right: Kaitlin Latta, Sarah Smith, Gorgia Robbie, Annie Packard and Ruby Orchard



Brother Michael Green, Carolyn Mee and Stephanie Hamra



Marcellin House

The Art Show

Semester 1 Summary



Left to right: James Hams, Banuka Ralapanawa and Brother Michael Green



Left to right: Annie Packard, Lauren Carter, Chiara Trevisan, Annie Maloney, Isaac Scott and Zali Roberts



Left to right: Luke Rigden, Ben Harvey, Felix Ding and Jack Elsdon



Left to right: Keely Venn, Zoe Duncan, Lauren Bowman, Milly Smith and Stella Reidy



Left to right: Liam McEvoy, Jacob Skinner, Reece Anderson, Lahiru Yasanga, James King and Tom Midgley

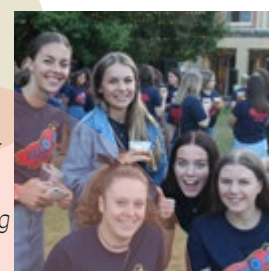


Left to right: Maggie Siegert, Kate Blacker and Brailey Jachmann



Left to right: Kaysha McGregor, Kate Spuler, Nadia Gilbert and Lauren Carter

Left to right: Gorgia Robbie, Sarah Williams, Shiarne Petschel, Lara Falting and Lily Bright



O-Week

There's an old piece of spiritual wisdom that goes something like this: "If you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans." As the result of a pesky little novel coronavirus that no-one really saw coming, the first semester of 2020 certainly did not go to plan! But the unanticipated blessings of the experience over these months at Aquinas have been many. How the College has responded has only affirmed the positive, generous, resilient and creative spirit that makes Aquinas the wonderful community it is.

It was only two or three weeks into the academic year, after our usual fun and purposeful start, that the world changed: university went online; club sport got called off; students lost their part-time jobs; and the pubs shut. What was Aquinas to do?

From day one we decided that because this was where people lived, not some place that they went to for a few hours during the day, then we would do all we could to remain open and live as normally as we could. Everything followed from that: putting in place all we needed to do to support each other academically, pastorally and socially, in a safe but enjoyable environment. We had to act with agility, imagination and be a bit daring. And we did.

The result was our Uni on the Hill program and the Project Aquinas: Staying Mean With COVID-19. I can only applaud the outstanding personal investment of our staff team, our student leaders, our campus ministry team, our kitchen team, and everyone. It's worked! Academic life has been the priority, augmented by a whole range of social, sporting and artistic activities. We have also been able to keep those at home included in all of what was happening and support them in their studies.

Not the semester we planned, but one that has been both successful and memorable!

Brother Michael Green
RECTOR

On 22nd of February a new group of Freshers were welcomed to Aquinas, with them and their families enjoying afternoon tea in the dining room. The following day saw the return of the Junior and Senior students, with all the students and many families attending the Welcome Service and Lunch. After farewelling their families, the Junior and Senior students became acquainted with the Freshers in their house, through participating in a tunnel-ball race as part of the Lawrie-Smart House Competition.

Following tunnel-ball, in which Roma-Mitchell was victorious, the students split up into male and female groups for a North Adelaide Appreciation Tour where they attended some of the fine establishments in the area. On Monday, the Freshers toured their university campus with their Aquinas tutor. Upon returning to College, the Freshers attended a talk on Fire Safety Awareness, followed by their first Formal Dinner.

Before enjoying a cooked breakfast on Tuesday, all the students went for a morning run, with educational talks held in the afternoon. The students later explored the sights of Adelaide, where they formed teams and participated in an 'Amazing Race'.

On Ash Wednesday, the students attended talks throughout the day and an evening chapel service. That night the students became more familiar with their fellow Aquinians at the annual Spree Event on the Gleeson lawns, before journeying to the Lion Arts Factory.

Ahead of High Table Cup (HTC) Tennis and Swimming, students showcased their abilities with the tennis racquet and in the pool at try-outs on Thursday morning. While signing up for Outreach activities at the Market Stall, students enjoyed a relaxing afternoon, with games and live music. In the evening the students showed their competitive side, when they took part in 'Minute to Win It'.

There were a great number of students at football try-outs on Friday, as everyone tried to claim a spot in the squad. In the afternoon, all students had a conversation about how they could be the best version of themselves in 2020. The current Aquinians later had the chance to mingle with some Old Collegians at The Cumby, during the annual Double Blues Night.

To conclude the week, all students attended the Collegiate Dinner and Awards ceremony on Saturday evening. Throughout the night many students were commended on their results from the second semester of the 2019 Academic Year. The top honour of the night went to graduate Larry Klingner who was named the Dux of Aquinas for the third consecutive year.

The week was well-organised by the Student Club, with every activity assisting the formation of new friendships.

Throughout the first semester many students enjoyed participating in the therapeutic activity of pot painting. When considering ideas for activities at College, Student Club Secretary Ruby Yates said pot painting was chosen to allow students to remain social and keep their mind refreshed. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the number of students was limited to 10 in each of the four sessions. The students had complete freedom to express themselves through their painting, with many students incorporating multiple colours and patterns. As the students had limited social interaction with others during the semester, all the students relished the opportunity to come together and have some laughs. There are plans for having another painting activity to allow students to further develop their artistic ability in semester two.



Ruby Yates

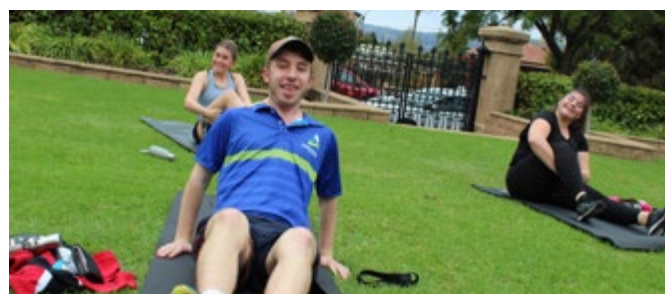


Jodie Price



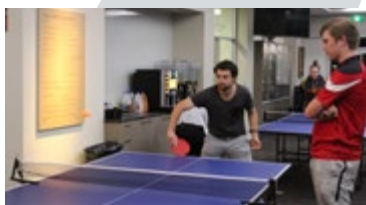
Left to right Jack Barnes, Ben Harvey and Bilal Rahman

Pot Painting



Left to right: Emma Livingstone, Liam Wormald and Hannah Burns

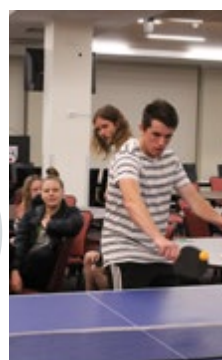
Aquinas Table Tennis Cup



Left to right: Nick Laube and Jacob Skinner



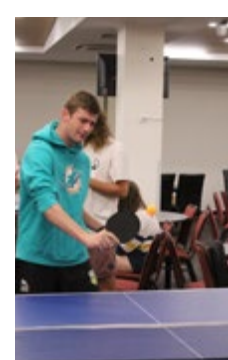
Noah Waters



Liam McEvoy



James King



Jarrod Cross

As several High Table Cup (HTC) sports were cancelled or postponed this semester, Sports Secretary, Madison Turner, organised a table tennis tournament. Many students at Aquinas enjoy sport and the table tennis tournament allowed them to remain active while abiding by the Covid-19 restrictions. Throughout the semester, the tables remained set-up in the dining room and proved very popular, with 30 students, including a mix of Fresher, Junior and Senior students, putting their name down for the tournament. Despite some students finding it challenging to fit their games into their busy schedules, everyone was able to complete at least two games, with the winner being the first player to 21 in a one-set match. From being in fifth position heading into the finals, House Coordinator Liam Beckman won the tournament, beating Senior House Coordinator Jack Gosling in the grand final. Madison said, during the semester, students' table tennis skills gradually improved, which is an encouraging sign ahead of HTC Table Tennis in semester two. Due to the popularity of the tournament, Madison is planning to have another Aquinas table tennis tournament in semester two.

Fit Mornings

During semester one, several students stayed active by participating in morning exercise sessions run by Junior student Ellie Gould. The sessions proved to be very popular, with an average of 10 students at each session. Through doing the exercises, students were able to stay physically and socially active. In addition, Ellie said by running the exercise sessions she and the other students were able to gain motivation to study and be more productive due to the early morning starts.

A challenge encountered when running the exercise sessions was the cold weather, with rain often causing the sessions to be cancelled. While planning the exercises, Ellie particularly enjoyed incorporating sprinter sit-ups, push-ups and planks. Students learnt the importance of exercising regularly and doing stretches to prevent themselves from getting injured. The exercise sessions will continue next semester as Ellie emphasises the importance of students exercising daily, for their physical and mental wellbeing.

On 1st of May the College held a Bingo Night organised by House Coordinator Kale Olds. The theme of hats proved very popular, with a variety of colourful hats and caps being worn. Many attendees were interviewed throughout the night to explain their choices and the significance of their hat. Chatting and laughter abounded as everyone attempted to complete their bingo cards. The announcers for the evening were Isaac Scott and Sam Statman whose jokes and stories kept the audience well entertained. "By having the Bingo Night, students had the opportunity to take a break from study and strengthen their relationships with each other," Kale said. The winner of Bingo was Liam Beckman, with Student Club Vice-President Cody Slade winning the meat tray and many other students collecting prizes throughout the night. Due to various students helping with the preparation and clean-up of the event, Kale considered the night easy to organise and is hoping to similarly run the Annual Quiz Night in semester two.

Bingo Night

Cher Lloyd Coffee Cart

The Cher Lloyd Coffee Cart was a new feature around College this semester. Students could purchase reasonably priced drinks, made by a team of fellow Aquinians from a mobile cart. Cher Lloyd Manager, Sam Statman, thought a coffee cart would be a great idea during the isolation period, to ensure students remain social and relaxed. As the coffee shops in Adelaide were closed throughout most of the semester, the coffee cart also offered the chance to have some normality in their lives.

Named after British singer Cher Lloyd, Sam decided on this name after seeing a meme about Lloyd related to coffee. The Cher Lloyd staff consists of 11 students, who are committed to ensuring all Aquinians have a study break and a chance to enjoy a quality drink and home baked treats. According to Sam, the most popular beverages are cappuccinos and iced lattes, however student preferences are diverse. In the future, Sam hopes to have a designated café area at Aquinas and offer a broader range of drinks.

Baristas: Sam Statman (Manager), Adam Cobbledick, Shyla Lange, Emma Livingstone, Kale Olds, Lauren Pike and Madi Turner

Baker: Ellie Gould

Finance Manager: Matthew Jury

Social Media Manager: Chiara Trevisan

Secretary: Ruby Yates

Easter Sunday

At Easter, Aquinas staff and students celebrated the festive day in style. In the morning the Student Club organised an Easter egg hunt, with eggs of different sizes being found and devoured. After having minimal Formal Dinners throughout Term 1, the students relished the chance to dress-up for lunch and enjoy a seafood buffet, which included prawns and oysters. During lunch the students were appraised on how Easter is celebrated around the world, before enjoying a dance and sing-along.

Inspired by the Channel Seven quiz show 'The Chase,' Senior student Damon Snell challenged some of his fellow Aquinians on the history of Aquinas College. Hosted by House Coordinator Brennan Lockwood, 'The Chase,' provided the students, with much laughter and enjoyment. Unfortunately, for Damon he was unable to catch the team of challengers.

Aquinas Volley Ball Tournament

To ensure students remained social and physically active, House Coordinator Kale Olds organised social volleyball games during the first semester. As many students were unable to participate in any sports outside of college, Kale said the matches provided the students with some entertainment during the difficult time. Throughout the semester, Kale noticed a steady improvement of students' volleyball skills, stating his appreciation of the mentoring role taken on by the more experienced Aquinian volleyballers. He specifically mentioned the assistance of Shyla Lange and Ceejay Inglis. A challenge Kale found, when trying to organise matches, was trying to arrange game times which fitted in with students' various study schedules.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, only five people per team were permitted on the court. These restrictions, however, did not prevent the students from enjoying themselves and having a significant amount of time on the court. Kale thoroughly appreciated student spectators who came to support their fellow Aquinians and volunteered to score. In semester two, Kale hopes to invite ex-collegians to participate in a tournament against the current Aquinas students.

Beckyard Blitz

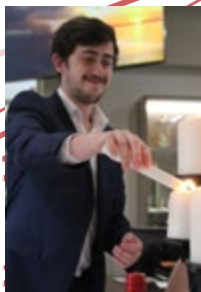
Led by House Coordinator Liam Beckman, several students helped build a garden bed this semester, with the project being called Beckyard Blitz. After spending a couple of weeks building the raised garden bed the students planted a variety of vegetables, which they sourced from Mitre-10. Some of the vegetables planted were broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, cabbage and radish. Throughout the construction process, many students enjoyed the opportunity to strengthen their relationships with their fellow Aquinians and partake in some manual labour. As the vegetables continue to sprout, Liam said he and all those who helped are very proud of their efforts. Once the vegetables are ready for picking, they will be given to the kitchen and the Aquinas staff and their families. During the mid-year break, Liam is planning to design a chicken coop, before building it in semester two.



Left to right: Emma Livingstone and Madi Turner



Left to right: Sam Statman and Lucy Tucker



Sam Statman



Left to right: Damon Snell and Bailey Marzola



Left to right: Bailey Marzola Matt Sochacki and Bailey Hamilton



Left to right: Rachael Mckay and Ashleigh Heath



Left to right: Chiara Trevisan and Talia Cua



Left to right: Morgan Fisher, Liam Beckman and Madi Turner



Annie Maloney



Left to right: Joe French, Matt Sochacki and Adam Cobbledick



Left to right: Ceejay Inglis, Matt Sochacki and Annie Maloney



Left to right: Adam Cobbledick, Joe French and Alan Price



Lachlan Warhurst



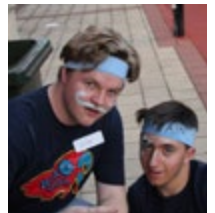
Simon Weinberg



Left to right: Austin Turner, Hannah Burns and Lachlan Warhurst

Lawrie Smart Shield

Beovich	25 Points
Roma Mitchell	23 Points
Marcellin	20 Points
Roche	20 Points
Marian	18 Points
Finn	16 Points
Catherine	13 Points
Mackillop	13 Points
Gleeson	9 Points
Hannan	8 Points



Left to Right: Oscar Ricardo and Isaac Scott



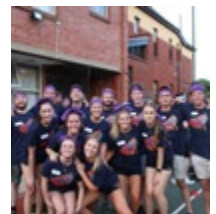
Left to right: Jack Gosling, Austin Turner, Jack Dickeson, Kale Olds, Liam Beckman and Adam Cobbledick



Left to right: Liam Beckman and Kale Olds



Beovich House



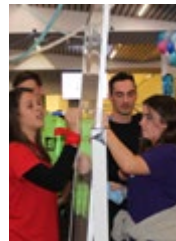
Gleeson House



Left to right: Jack Gosling, Austin Turner, Jack Dickeson, Kale Olds, Liam Beckman and Adam Cobbledick



Hannan House



Left to Right: Mira Liebenberg and Airlie Walters



Mackillop House



Marian House



Finn House



Catherine House

Outreach

Despite the emergence of Covid-19 causing many outreach opportunities to be cancelled, there were still several occasions where students could help others. These opportunities included the Walk for Autism, in which students walked 10,000 steps a day for eight days; the May 50K, which required students to run/walk 50 kilometres in May; Vinnies Home Deliveries and donating blood. Outreach Coordinator Hannah Manning was very pleased with the number of students who volunteered, and the amount of money raised. This included \$12,840 raised for the May 50K.

While there have been few big events to organise, Hannah said overall students have completed a total of 350 outreach hours, which is a great effort. Marcellin House is currently leading the house competition for Outreach hours, closely followed by Roche. In semester two, Hannah expects there to be a greater number of Outreach activities, such as the World's Greatest Shave, the Sleepout and the Walk a Mile.



Roma Mitchell House

Left to Right: Matt Jury and Liam Beckman



Left to Right: Zarah Morrish and Tessa Grant



Left to Right: Ellie Gould and Emma Livingstone



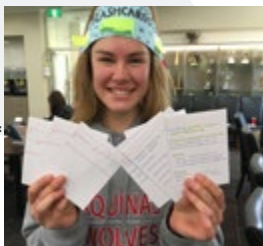
Bailey Hateley

Distinctions

Riley Badenoch ** Gemma Pollard ****
 Jack Barnes *** Jodie Price**
 Liam Beckman *** Bilal Rahman *
 Lily Bersee * Stella Reidy **
 Kate Blacker *** Oscar Ricardo **
 Sofie Brassel *** Neve Robins *
 Krystal Brennan * Eva Rouse *
 Lily Bright *** Brianna Scanlon **
 Brianna Buckley * Emma Schulz *
 Lauren Carter * Ryan Siebert ***
 Georgia Cash ** Jacob Skinner *
 Victoria Circelli ** Morgan Skinner ***
 Adam Cobbledick ** Sara Smith *
 Jemma Cook * Matthew Sochacki **
 Jarrod Cross * Samuel Statman ***
 Tahlia Cua ***** Chiara Trevisan *
 Ella Davies *** Charlie Trood *
 Courtney De Barro ** Millie Tubb *
 Jack Dickeson ** Jordan Tucker *
 Zoe Duncan ** Emily Turley *
 Olivia Dunn ** Madison Turner ***
 Jack Elsdon ** Austin Turner *
 Sophie Falting *** Chloe Venn *
 Lara Falting * Jesse Venn **
 Morgan Fisher ** Lachlan Warhurst *
 Lillian Fitzgerald * Noah Waters **
 Ashleigh Fogarty * Tayla Werchon *
 Grace Franco * Benjamin Williams *
 Joseph French * Sarah Williams ***
 Alice Fry * Ruby Yates **
 Jack Gosling *
 Tessa Grant *
 Imogen Hall *
 Bailey Hateley *
 Ashleigh Heath **
 Ceejay Inglis *
 Brailey Jachmann **
 Austen Kenny *
 James King ***
 Patrick Klingner **
 Emma Livingstone *
 Annie Maloney *
 Hannah Manning *
 Kiera McCarron *
 Constance McIntosh **
 Tori McIntyre **
 Rachael McKay *
 Caitlin McMahon *
 Thomas Midgley *
 Christabelle Miels *
 Zarah Morrish *
 Enakshi Mudalige *
 Olivia Murray ****
 Kale Olds *
 Nikia Olds ***
 Ruby Orchard **
 Annie Packard ***
 Ethan Packer ***
 Shiarne Petschel *



Nikkia Olds



Tori McIntyre

High Distinctions

Jack Barnes *
 Liam Beckman *
 Kate Blacker *
 Sofie Brassel *
 Ellie Breuer ***
 Lily Bright *
 Brianna Buckley *
 Georgia Cash **
 Jemma Cook *
 Courtney De Barro ***
 Jack Dickeson *
 Elizabeth Evans **
 Sophie Falting *
 Joseph French **
 Alice Fry **
 Taylah Gartner ***
 Jack Gosling ***
 Sharna Goulding *
 Bailey Hamilton *
 Ashleigh Heath **
 Patrick Klingner *
 Annie Maloney **
 Constance McIntosh ***
 Tori McIntyre **
 Hamish McNamara *
 Louis Merrett *
 Enakshi Mudalige **
 Kale Olds **
 Ruby Orchard **
 Annie Packard *
 Ethan Packer *
 Shiarne Petschel ***
 Grace Piggott *
 Nathan Pinchbeck ***
 Georgia Pisani ***
 Mikaela Richardson *
 Gorgia Robbie ****
 Zali Roberts **
 Neve Robins **
 Eva Rouse *
 Brianna Scanlon **
 Emma Schulz *
 Maggie Siegert *
 Cody Slade *
 Sara Smith ***
 Mitchell Thompson *
 Chiara Trevisan *
 Lucy Tucker ***
 Emily Turley *
 Madison Turner *
 Chloe Venn **
 Jesse Venn **
 Keely Venn **
 Noah Waters *
 Benjamin Williams **
 Sarah Williams *



Left to right: Sophie Wallis and Andie Zbierski



Left to right: Tori McIntyre, Keely Venn and Nikkia Olds



Former Aquinian Larry Klingner receiving the college DUX for 2019



Left to right: Keely Clark, Morgan Fisher, Alice Fry and Keely Venn

From the Academic Team

Semester One of 2020 has been a semester unlike any other for study at Aquinas. Things got off to a smooth start under the leadership of this year's Senior Academic Tutors, Alice Fry and Keely Clark, who along with over 40 student tutors, welcomed our Freshers and ensured that they settled into university life. No sooner had everyone found their campuses, when the outbreak of Covid-19 led to a dramatic shift to online learning, leaving many students feeling unsure of how they would cope with the new style of learning. Enter Uni on the Hill: Aquinas' response to Covid-19. As Aquinas became the new hub for study, our Uni on the Hill program encouraged students to stick to good routines and stay on top of lectures and Zooms.

The Academic Team introduced three supervised study sessions per day, along with a range of other incentives to keep students motivated. It was fantastic to see the way in which we became a community focused on study, at a time when many university students felt isolated and cut-off. Many students commented on what a strange experience it was to be totally on top of their studies, and Swot Vac, usually a time of mild panic and furious lecture watching, was marked by a sense of calm confidence. The results this semester have been outstanding, with over 50% of students at Aquinas achieving a Distinction average or higher, and over 90% of students achieving a Credit average or higher. This unprecedented standard of success is due to the excellent focus which our students displayed in a difficult semester, and everyone is to be warmly congratulated on such great achievement!