

St John's College Preston issues Open Letter in Support of His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia



St Johns Greek Orthodox College (St Johns College) is a family friendly, co-educational Foundation to Year 12 school in Preston Victoria. The school was established in 1972 and is operated by an independent Board appointed by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia and in particular His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia. Even before his enthronement Archbishop Makarios was busy ensuring that St Johns College received his heartfelt, and gracious support despite many challenges. Although the College was facing financial difficulties in 2017-2019 Archbishop Makarios as the head of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese and more specifically as the Chair of the Consolidated Trust came to the support of the College injecting millions of dollars in operational support. Archbishop Makarios did not only commit Archdiocese funds. His personal fatherly love, steadfast leadership, and commitment to St Johns College was demonstrated on arrival to the College in August 2019. He requested that all the funds raised at the inaugural

Archbishop's dinner held in January 2020 were to be dedicated to St Johns College. Over \$100,000 was raised for much needed capital improvements and to sponsor children to attend the College from underprivileged families. Since his arrival in August 2019 Archbishop Makarios has blessed the College with a renewed spirit. The proof of this is visible in the enthusiasm of our students, staff, and parents. Our school is achieving great results and winning awards. The renewal is being recognised by the community with rapid growth in enrolments and waiting lists for some grade levels. The source and cause of the renewal of St Johns College a leading institution in Melbourne – is clearly the fatherly love, attention to detail and work ethic of Archbishop Makarios of Australia. During the COVID Crisis His Eminence has provided much needed love, compassion and strong leadership. With the blessing of His Eminence the school proudly hosts and supports important community functions. The Byzantine Music School of Australia and St Andrews Theological College conduct lessons at St Johns College. Due to His Eminence's personal commitment, St Johns College, will continue to provide for many years of educational excellence and academic achievement. The school will expand opportunities for student involvement in parish and community service. It will remain a centre to celebrate and promote local and international events and maintain links with our faith and heritage.

With Great Respect and Love On behalf of the entire St Johns College community St Johns College Board

[Source](#)