



Dear Parents,

I'd like to take this opportunity in welcoming you back to this new and final school year. After 12 years of formal education, this will no doubt bring with it a range of emotions, however it is an exciting time knowing that your son is in the final stages of completing his Higher School Certificate. I hope every boy has enjoyed their Christmas vacation and returns to Marcellin College well rested bringing with him an enthusiasm to tackle his HSC year head on.

The focus this year no doubt is on completing the Higher School Certificate, however my hope is that every family can take time to reflect on the past 12 years of schooling. Much has been learned and achieved during this time and I am sure both you and your son are proud of what has been achieved, not to mention the friendships that have been made with students and staff alike. Having said this, there is still plenty of work to do and many challenges to face, but with the support of their homeroom and classroom teachers, I encourage every boy to embrace this challenge with a commitment and energy, working to the best of their abilities.

The College theme for 2018 is taken from the Gospel of John, 15:16 *'Go and bear much fruit, fruit that will last'*. The message of these words will flow through all that we continue to do as we strive to be *'Good Christians and Good Citizens'*. This theme will serve both as a challenge and a powerful reminder throughout the year of the unique potential of every student in Year 12, as they journey with a caring God through the final year of their school life. When I think of the qualities of Marcellin graduates, the first word that comes to mind is respect. Our students live this in many facets of life; respect for themselves, each other, their faith and for their school. This respect goes a long way in shaping our young men. Young men becoming excellent role models and leaders not only to their peers, but to the whole of the Marcellin community.

Our experienced homeroom teachers will be the first point of contact for you and your son. Good communication is vital in this final year and I ask that if you have any concerns about your son's school life, particularly in regards to the stresses and demands of the HSC, that you phone or email the College. The Homeroom teachers for 2018 are: Mr Peter Damalas (12.1), Mr Jacob Gibbons (12.2), Mr Garry McDonald (12.3), Ms Katherine Toohey (12.4), Mr Chris O'Connell (12.5) and Mr Chris Kitchingman (12.6). The homeroom teacher email addresses can be located on the College Website ([www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au](http://www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au)).

This year will be a busy one so please be aware of the following term dates:

Term 1 - 31 January to 13 April

Term 2 - 1 May to 6 July

Term 3 - 24 July to 27 September

As in previous years, 2018 has a number of key school events and activities that require your son's full support and attendance. These include the following:

- College Swimming Carnival at Botany Pool - 2 February
- Year 12 Half Yearly Exams - 5 March to 16 March (Week 6 & 7)
- Year 12 Retreat at Mittagong - 19 - 23 March (Week 8)
- Parent / Teacher interview evening - 11 April
- College Athletics Carnival - 4 May
- Champagnat Day celebrations - 8 June
- HSC Trial Exams 6 – 20 August
- Year 12 Graduation Day - 27 of September

Please remember that the College website is an excellent source of information regarding upcoming events as is the College newsletter that is sent out every second Monday.

With Year 12 being role models for the rest of the school, I have high expectations for them in regards to haircuts, being clean shaven and being correctly attired at all times. The College also has a very clear policy regarding students driving to school. No student is to drive to school without the permission of the Headmaster. I would ask that you make yourselves aware of this information via the College diary or website and if need be, discuss this with your son.

As was the case in Year 11, any absences from school will need to be explained by way of a doctor's certificate and any requests for leave should be made to the Deputy Headmaster well in advance of the requested dates. Thank you for your ongoing support in regards to these expectations.

Finally, my aim as Year 12 Coordinator is to ensure that students remain focussed, work hard and are committed to their studies at the same time as enjoying their final year of school life.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to being part of your son's final year of formal education.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Capizzi  
Year 12 Coordinator