

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 19
November 14th 2012

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Marcellin,

"Memories, like the corners of my mind." This opening line of the 1970s Barbra Streisand hit song, *The Way We Were*, is a great insight into human behaviour. It's two and a half years or more since I left Chicago, USA to take up my appointment at Marcellin. As the months have passed the memories have become more distant and yet it doesn't take much to reach into the recesses of my heart and mind to recall the things and the people of that era of my life. As I watched the media coverage of the recent re-election of Barack Obama one vivid memory rushed back - standing in Grant Park in downtown Chicago on 4th November 2009, in the company of 4 million others, when Obama walked with Michelle and his daughters from the Hilton Hotel across to the park to claim the Presidency. The first black man to hold this office in a country that had segregated and persecuted their black population for decades. The crowd was euphoric; one of their own, a Chicagoan, had beat the odds and what many had deemed impossible had happened. History was being made.

While I can literally still feel the roar of the crowd what remains with me is the profundity of what Obama had to say that night to a people charged with the emotion of victory. He made the appropriate acknowledgements and he claimed the presidency but the next seventeen minutes was no victory speech - it was a call to responsibility, and hard work, and commitment, and endurance, and courage, and charity, and solidarity. It was a call to commit to the common good of humankind.

In the wake of Obama's re-election we do well to remind ourselves of some of the wisdom of this man whose biography in the lead-up to the 2009 election was subtitled *The Audacity of Hope*. I have written often enough in this column about the challenges young people of this second decade of this millennium face and one of them is apathy - the mindset of indifference that kills motivation and passion. The mindset of immobility where hopelessness prevails and inaction for the common good becomes prevalent. Obama calls us to reject what he calls "the myth of apathy" and to face with boldness and resolve

the enormity of the challenges to "remake our world and to renew its promise." And what is this promise? It is the promise revealed to us in the covenant between God and humankind: the covenant of love. The unbreakable bond that unites all of humanity, and indeed all of creation, if only we could see beyond our own little world and petty needs.

In a world where too many individuals put themselves ahead of the other, where my rights sit ahead of the common good, rather than beside them, we do well to strive for what Obama sees as the best in the North American psyche:

"If we Americans are individualistic at heart, if we instinctively chafe against a past of tribal allegiances, traditions, customs, and castes, it would be a mistake to assume that this is all we are. Our individualism has always been bound by a set of communal values, the glue upon which every healthy society depends. We value the imperatives of family and the cross-generational obligations that family implies. We value community, the neighborliness that expresses itself through raising the barn or coaching the soccer team. We value patriotism and the obligations of citizenship, a sense of duty and sacrifice on behalf of our nation. We value a faith in something bigger than ourselves, whether that something expresses itself in formal religion or ethical precepts. And we value the constellation of behaviours that express our mutual regard for one another: honesty, fairness, humility, kindness, courtesy and compassion."¹



My dream is that this might also describe our own nation, city and suburb.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster

¹ Barack Obama - *The Audacity of Hope. Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream*, p. 55.

NOTICES AND NEWS

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all these boys on their Special Achievements. Well done!



Matthew Waller
Year 11

Completed the Bronze level of the Duke of Edinburgh award



Caleb O'Brien
Year 10

Completed the Bronze level in the Duke of Edinburgh award



James Bassil
Year 10

Completed the Bronze level in the Duke of Edinburgh award

TERM 4 CALENDAR EVENTS

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| Monday 19th November | • Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 Exams commence. Conclude Thursday 22nd November. |
| Monday 26th November | • Year 10 Work Experience commences. Concludes Friday 2nd December. |
| Monday 3rd December | • Music Camp commences. Concludes Wednesday 5th December. |
| Thursday 6th December | • Year 10 Semi Formal. |
| Thursday 6th December | • Final Day of Classes for Year 11. |
| Friday 7th December | • Walkathon Reward Day. No classes. |
| Monday 10th December | • Year 10 Prizegiving and Last Day of School for Year 10. |
| Monday 17th December | • Picnic Day - School concludes for Years 7,8 and 9. |
| Friday 21st December | • Last Day of Term. |

WALKATHON

The goal for Walkathon this year was \$55,000. The tally reached so far is \$58,566.90. Congratulations to all participants on an outstanding achievement. As a reward for the fine effort there will be no classes for boys on Friday 7th December.

UNIFORM SHOP

The College uniform shop will be open for an hour after the Year 10 Prizegiving Assembly on Monday 10th December for the purchase of the Senior uniform.

Mr Paul MacGee, Walkathon Coordinator

SCHOOL VERIFICATION REPORT

Student verification reports were sent out two weeks ago. It is very important that you make the necessary changes with regard to the administration page. Also, you need to indicate how many children you have attending Catholic schools so that the correct fee billing will occur in 2013. Please ensure that you return these forms via post or with your son to the front office whether there are changes or not.

SCHOOL FEES

Payment of all overdue fees would be appreciated.

CANTEEN HELPERS

All 2012 Canteen helpers are invited to a Thank You dinner on Wednesday 5th December at 6pm. Please see the notice in the Canteen or call Debra Moore for details and to RSVP. If you would like to volunteer in the Canteen for 2013 please call Debra Moore on 0438 040 087.

Mrs Debra Moore, Canteen



YEAR 7 2014 ENROLMENTS

YEAR 7 2014 - INTAKE 1 NOW CLOSED

If you have forgotten to enrol please contact our Registrar immediately

SOCIAL JUSTICE - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will be launched this week. All students are asked to donate or buy gifts or food for their homeroom family and to take their donations to homeroom where members of the Social Justice group will be collecting each morning.

The Social Justice group will be collecting items up until Week 9. These gifts will be given to families in need during this Christmas period. Please be generous and help make this Christmas a special one for these families.



Mr Damian Chase, Social Justice Coordinator

PARENTS IN TOUCH

On Wednesday 7th November approximately 90 parents attended the Parents in Touch Drug Education Forum. Alice Hanna, a Clinical Nurse Consultant from the Langton Centre gave parents an insight into the use and abuse of drugs by adolescents today. Whilst this was a sobering topic, the information presented was useful and practical for parents.

To conclude the evening an open forum invited questions from the gathering. The panel included MCR staff Mr Les Salisbury Deputy Headmaster, Mr Paul Daley Student Welfare Coordinator, Mrs Alanna McGee College Counsellor and Alice Hanna.

The evening was very well received by those in attendance. Alice was impressed by the gathering commenting afterwards, "Thank you again for inviting me to do a presentation at Marcellin College last evening. It was heart-warming to meet such intelligent and caring parents and staff who are obviously doing a marvellous job looking after your student population."



Alice Hanna



Parents in Touch evening

Mr Brian Vane-Tempest, Director of Development and Communications

SPORT AND NEWS

The MCC teams have performed well mid-way through the Summer competition having played Ashfield last week, and all teams are placed well so far. Marcellin plays North Shore in the Round 5 fixture this week. Next week we play Lewisham in the final round before Christmas. Round 7 will recommence on the 7th February 2013. Training will continue each Tuesday up to our last game. Best of luck to the boys this week in their games against North Shore.

In a 50 over format, the A Grade Cricket team were too good for Castle Hill winning the match 6 for 330 to Castle Hill's 10 for 107. Reuben Taucher opened the batting and scored 130 runs. In what was a great team effort, the A Grade team have now drawn Marist College Kogarah in Round 2 of the Downie Shield. Provided there are no wet weather interruptions, this game will be held on Thursday 22nd November at Kensington Oval.

We have had many boys achieve at the CCC level this year, with the achievement of Tom Wong in Touch Football rating one of the highest of any boy this year. Tom took part in the NSW All Schools U15 Touch Football carnival representing the CHS team which comprised members of CCC, CHS and CIS. The team was most successful winning the Grand Final 7 to 5 against Queensland with Tom scoring two tries. Tom was announced as a member of the Touch Football Australia High Performance Development squad and was one of only six NSW boys who made this squad. This Australian development team will play New Zealand next year. This is the highest Touch Football representative honour for any boy at the U15 level. Coupled with his inclusion into the U16 Rugby team, Tom should be extremely proud of his achievements this year.

MCC SUMMER SEASON - ROUND 3

Basketball	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	W: 68-24	W: 51-20	W: 54-23	L: 30-38
	Player of Match	Abaina Davis	Ben Davis	Alexander Drury	Samuel Callanan

Cricket	Team	A Grade	Under 16	Under 14
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	W: 2/122 to 10/42	W: 3/189 to 10/46	W: 7/105 to 10/76
	Player of Match	Jack Erickson	Zac Iacoviello	Lucas Leung

Touch Football	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	D: 5-5	W: 12-2	W: 6-0	L: 4-5
	Player of Match	Zachary Bataille/Adam Shean	William Tavener	Lachlan Lam	Adrian Pantaleone

Squash	Opposition	Results
	Pagewood	L: 899 to 933
	Player of Match	Felix Liang



Tom Wong

MCC SUMMER SEASON - ROUND 4

Basketball	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Ashfield	Ashfield	Ashfield	Ashfield
	Result	W: 56-27	W: 34-21	W: 44-36	L: 18-26
	Player of Match	Alexander Hall	Joshua Dever	Pearse Dolan	Jordyn Taueli

Cricket	Team	A Grade	Under 16	Under 14
	Opposition		Ashfield	
	Result	BYE	W: 1/120 to 10/41	BYE
	Player of Match		Thomas Chichester	

Touch Football	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Ashfield	Ashfield	Ashfield	Ashfield
	Result	W: 14-1	W: 10-2	W: 11-4	W: 10-1
	Player of Match	Tom Perrin/Jack Harrison	Joshua Brabrook	Jai McGrath	Jonathan Mitsias

Squash	Opposition	Results
	Ashfield	W: 1033 to 797
	Player of Match	Ewaldo Setiobudi

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator