

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 19
November 16th 2011

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Marcellin,

Independence is the quest of the western world adolescent. To be free of the clutches and restrictions of the seemingly narrow perceptions of parents and teachers seems to be part of the DNA of adolescents. A degree of independence is not a bad thing; we know the bird never learns to fly until it is thrust out of the nest, and yet the warmth and security of the nest is alluring and desirable. The curious anomaly in our own country, and much of the English speaking western world, is that young people are staying at home longer and longer. According to the Bureau of Statistics up to 25% of young men between the ages of 25-29 are living at home with their parents. Sure, much of this has to do with the difficulty of buying into the property market, particularly in the big cities like our own, but I find it fascinating that having battled with the teenage instinct to become independent of parents many young people choose to live with their parents in early adulthood. The paradox challenges many parents. They struggle to retain reasonable control over their adolescents and then quietly wish them away a decade later!

My inclination is to encourage parents to 'hang in there' with this struggle. From my observations some of the most effective parenting happens when parents resist teenage insistence that they be given 'freedom' in truckloads, and given it early. No. Freedom given incrementally, and in proportion to the circumstances and the trust that is earned seems to me to be the best way. Take for instance the teenage demand to go out at night, without adults, and to places or venues unknown to parents. It is a recipe for potential disaster. For instance, I'm told there are tunnels through the Malabar Headland that were excavated in WW2 and that these tunnels have become the gathering place for many young people, including boys from Marcellin College. A police raid on the tunnels a couple of weeks ago has unearthed the inappropriate activity of lots of young people, many of whom had gone there without the knowledge of their parents. My only hope is that having seriously breached the trust of their parents these young people will have to endure consequences that contribute to the 'earning back' of trust.

In my experience most young people are good. But we all know that a few 'rotten apples' can ruin the barrel. And the closer you are to the source of the problem the more likely you are to be affected. Take for instance the 'surfing culture' that is so prevalent in our part of the Eastern suburbs. It is a culture that has its up-side and down-side. I noticed in the media last Friday reports that drug testing will be introduced into professional surfing.

"It's been a long time coming, Randy Rarick of The Association of Professional Surfers told The Australian yesterday. It sure has. Surfers have been embracing drug culture ever since some of the sport's biggest stars started smoking pot and reinterpreting their hobby as a freaky, creative pursuit in the 1960s. The association soon graduated to LSD, heroin and cocaine, and the casualties mounted. Australians Kevin Brennan, Joe Engel and Michael Peterson and Americans Jeff Hakman and Dave Eggers are just some of the surfers whose lives or careers were cut short by substance abuse. And they're just the prominent ones. The industry's history is littered with hangers-on and bit players who burned brightly and spun out." (The Australian, 11 November 2011).



This article is confronting and disturbing, and yet we also know that this does not describe all of those who are part of the surfing culture. On the contrary. For some months now I've been dipping into the history of the Coogee Surf Club after I was given a copy of a thoughtfully produced book about the history of the club. It is a book that features a number of prominent and upstanding Marcellin College Old Boys and associates. And we know that the story of other surf clubs in

our area also tell the tales of noble and generous people who, in their quest to keep our beaches safe, also trained and developed thousands of young people into upright, disciplined and generous citizens. The juxtaposition of the article in The Australian and our overwhelmingly positive experience of local surf clubs is a reminder to us that there is the potential for both good and bad in every group of people.

What is glaringly obvious to me in the instance of the surfing culture is that when responsible, thoughtful, and disciplined adults are 'on the scene,' working alongside young people then the outcomes are almost invariably positive.

So my advice is twofold: parents – release the hold on teenagers slowly, and boys – don't be too swift in dismissing the value of adult guidance and support.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster

FROM THE HEADMASTER

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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



Thomas Mullins
Year 12

Awarded Major Prize in the Annual Faculty of Engineering's Year 12 Design and Technology competition.



Sean Greenhalgh
Year 12

Awarded Major Prize in the Annual Faculty of Engineering's Year 12 Design and Technology competition.



Mrs Donna Rugless
Front Office Receptionist
Congratulations to Mrs Donna Rugless who has been a member of the staff at Marcellin for the past 25 years.

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students have made the Australian Rugby Union Junior Gold Pathway Development Squad: Year 8 students Sean O'Byrne, Connor McCulloch and Jarrod Howes; and Year 9 student Thomas Wong. There were 180 boys selected from the entire Sydney region from the ages U15 to U18 for 2012.

Year 8 students Sean O'Byrne, Connor McCulloch, Jarrod Howes, Benjamin McDonald, Clayton Cantarella, Thomas O'Donovan, Nat Butcher, Anthony La Rosa, and Year 9 students Ben Jones and Thomas Wong all played for Coogee Rugby Union Club in both the SJRU U14 Saturday South, West, East Zone competition and the SJRU U14 Sunday Northern Zone competition. They won the Saturday competition and Sunday competition Minor premierships; and also won the Saturday competition Grand Final 51 to 10 and Sunday competition Grand Final 24 to 5.

TERM 4 CALENDAR EVENTS

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| Monday 21st November | • Year 7/8/9 Assessment Week commences. Concludes Friday 25th November. |
| Monday 21st November | • Year 10 Work Experience commences. Concludes Friday 25th November. |
| Wednesday 23rd November | • Parents in Touch evening (see notice on next page). |
| Monday 28th November | • Year 10 Prizegiving Assembly. |
| Wednesday 30th November | • Year 7 Vaccinations. Hepatitis B vaccine dose 2 for students who received dose 1, and Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine (single dose). |

MUSIC CONCERT



**THE MARCELLIN
END OF YEAR
MUSIC SPECTACULAR.
TUESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER
6PM AT THE
MARIST CENTRE.
ADULTS \$5, CHILDREN \$2.
TICKETS AVAILABLE
AT THE DOOR.**

PARENTS IN TOUCH EVENING

PARENTS IN TOUCH 2011 presents a

Cybersafety & Police Forum

Wednesday 23rd November @7:30pm

Issues to be discussed at the Parents in Touch evening will be: how your son uses the internet and emerging technologies; potential risks faced by children when online including cyberbullying, identity theft, inappropriate contact and exposure to inappropriate content; school expectations and implications; tips and tricks to help children stay safe online; and safety in the community. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of the presenters on the evening (Inspector Paul Pisanos, Marcellin Police Liaison Officer Senior Constable Rachel Delucyk, and Deputy Headmaster Mr Les Salisbury). If you would like to attend please RSVP Mr Brian Vane-Tempest, brian.vanetempest@marcellin.nsw.edu.au by Friday 18th November.

SOCIAL JUSTICE - CHRISTMAS APPEAL

How Will You Be Spending Christmas? The Annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal started this week. Each homeroom received a basket with the family they will be donating for. All students are asked to donate/buy gifts or food for their homeroom family and to take their donations to their homerooms where student leaders will collect them each morning. The baskets will be picked up on Friday 2nd December, so we only have a short time to collect goods for our families. Please be generous and help make this Christmas a special one for these families.

Mr Damian Chase, Year 11 Coordinator

WALKATHON

Counting is underway and so far we have a tally of \$47,524. If all money is handed in and counted, the final tally will be included in the next newsletter.

Ms Stefania Taddio, Walkathon Coordinator

YEAR 7 2013 ENROLMENTS

First intake enrolments for Year 7 2013 will be accepted from 1st November to 2nd December. For more information please refer to the Enrolment Policy on the College website under 'Our School' section, College Policies. Once first intake applications have been processed and there are remaining places, there will be a second intake commencing 1st February 2012 - 24th February 2012. If you have further questions please contact Mrs Marlene Smith, Enrolment Secretary on 9398 6355.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

On Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October, nine students in Years 8 and 9 participated in an overnight expedition for the Bronze level of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. The students completed the Jerusalem Bay Track which forms part of the Great North Walk within the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park. Saturday morning at Central Station we hopped on a train to Cowan for the start of the trek. The track led us down to Jerusalem Bay where the students were able to cool off in the water to escape from the oppressive humidity. We traversed a series of ridges before descending into the Brooklyn area, camping overnight at Brooklyn Dam.

The students were able to set up their tents, explore the local area and start cooking dinner using the Trangias. A lazy start in the morning allowed some of the more adventurous students to 'attempt' to make pancakes using limited cooking utensils, at which point they tried to convince us that they were masterchefs! The final part of the track was into Brooklyn, where we encountered a steep descent whilst enjoying beautiful views of the Hawkesbury River, followed by a quick train ride home. I'd like to commend the students on a fantastic trip as well as thank Ms Rebecca Wong for kindly giving up her weekend to accompany us on the trip.

Miss Rachel Thompson, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator



SPORT AND NEWS

Round 5 of the representative season continues this week against North Shore. Touch Football will be played at Marcellin Fields and Squash at Matraville Squash and Tennis courts. The Basketball will operate on a home and away model this week with A and B Grades playing in the Marist Centre and the U14s and U15s playing at Marist College North Shore. The A Grade and U14 Cricket will be played at Tunks Park and U16 Cricket will be played at Primrose Park, both at North Shore. This week is the final week of rep sport for the year and our competition will recommence next year in the first week back on the 2nd February. We will play Kogarah in Round 6. Training will commence on Tuesday 31st January.

The teams had some excellent results last week against Marist College Pagewood winning 10 out of 12 games. Well done to all of the teams and their coaches for the hard work put in so far. I'd like to remind parents of our expectation with training. The training day is Tuesday afternoons and it is expected that boys are available for every training session. If they are unable to attend they must see their coach to explain their absence. Please do not organise appointments or other activities during this time. I would appreciate your assistance with this.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Chris Shields and Mr Wayne Lobo on the work they do convening Touch Football and Basketball respectively. Both competitions run with the minimum of fuss and we are extremely grateful for the selfless way they go about their work. Thank you also to Mr Dave Ferguson who maintains the excellent appearance of Marcellin Fields at Heffron Park every week where the Touch Football competition is played.



MCC SUMMER SEASON - ROUND 4

Basketball	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	W: 61-24	W: 40-12	W: 53-21	W: 39-31
	Player of Match	Joshua Wilson	Callum Christopher-Lane	Joshua Dever	Jared Deep

Cricket	Team	A Grade	Under 16s	Under 14s
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	W: 3/192 to 10/26	W: 3/202 to 10/59	W: 3/172 to 10/25
	Player of Match	Guy Rowles	Ashley Burton	Thomas Chichester

Touch Football	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood	Pagewood
	Result	W: 10-3	W: 7-1	W: 8-1	L: 4-6
	Player of Match	Fergus Whitney	Jack Harrison	Thomas Wong	Jai McGrath

Squash	Opposition	Results
	Pagewood	L: 748 to 988
	Player of Match	Mitchell Scannell

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator



U14 Touch Football

COMMUNITY NEWS

Canteen Helpers: Volunteers are needed to help in the College canteen. Parents and grandparents are welcome. If you are able to help please contact Mrs Debra Moore at the College on 0438040087.