

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 17
October 17th 2012

Dear Parents, Students, Staff, and Friends of Marcellin,



There is nothing like an Olympic year to bring out a bit of hero-worship. I must admit that every four years I never fail to get caught up in the hype of expectation and indulge in sixteen days of frenzied hero-worship. I elevate anyone with half a chance at a medal to near legend status. At the end of the London Games, I found myself reflecting on the way we tend to exalt our Olympians and the pitfalls of doing so. This reflective process had absolutely nothing to do with the much publicised failure to meet the public expectations of success. Rather, my views were re-shaped as a result of a meeting between a student, Br David and myself. As far as meetings or interviews go, this was a particularly difficult and uncomfortable one that dealt with a range of troubling issues. Amidst the tense discussions and soul-searching centred on addressing the student's behaviour, the mood of the meeting changed dramatically when Br David asked the student a simple but pertinent question. "Who is the significant person you turn to for advice in life?" After some thought, the student replied "nobody". It was an honest but deeply disturbing answer because this particular student had a number of close friends and caring parents. Despite this fact, there was a very distinct sense of disconnection. His answer explained a great deal about his behaviour and overall outlook on life. It was a powerful reminder of the vulnerability of adolescent males and the importance of 'significant people' in all our lives. It also reminded me that whilst our heroes can often inspire from afar, a 'significant person' closer to home is simply incomparable in terms of the value and richness they bring to a young person's life.

I like the term 'significant person'. It has many layers of meaning and encapsulates attributes related to a mentor, advice giver, listener and generally, someone who can make sense of the often confusing world of teenagers thanks to their own life experiences. The Marist Brothers refer to the role of 'significant people' simply as Presence. For teachers in a Marist School, Presence becomes the wonderfully effective foundation upon which students are inspired, engaged and educated. The book of Ecclesiastics (4:9-12) makes a strong statement on this topic but also asks a somewhat ominous question; *'Better two than one alone, since their work is really rewarding. If one should fall, the other helps him up; but what of the person with no one to help him up when he falls?'*

For some students at Marcellin their journey is punctuated with 'falls'. The failures, shortcomings and self-doubt that we all have, are for them exacerbated by the fact that they feel they have no one to whom they can turn to for advice or simply unload some emotional baggage. Consequently, as many Year Coordinators and Homeroom Teachers discover, decision making processes for these students become skewed and negative outcomes in learning and life

eventuate. How then do you become and maintain your status as a 'significant person' in the lives of our students and your sons? It was a question I asked in various forms to a number of parents during the course of this year's Graduation Day. As a father of two young boys I was also very interested in their answers for my own future reference. All the parents agreed it was a difficult task and used words like 'battle, struggle and hard work'. One mother mentioned that her role as taxi driver for her son created the time and opportunity to talk. She explained that it also helped that her son had nowhere to escape to as she travelled in the car on the way to various soccer games.

At the Graduation Dinner, another parent described the great lengths she and her husband went to in keeping the avenues for communication open, never giving up in frustration. She added that, if need be, argue with your son because once you stop arguing or engaging and give up then it will seem like you've stopped caring. This brings me back to Graduation Day 2012. Not as spectacular as an Olympic Closing Ceremony but very momentous just the same.

The Class of 2012 had a high proportion of students who struggled through their school life and carried burdens far too heavy for someone of their age. The day for me was as much a celebration of resilience and resolve as it was achievement. It was an occasion that brought out the best of the Graduating Class and indeed the whole school community. For the staff, there was an added degree of satisfaction that came from watching students receive their graduation certificates knowing that some had stoically toiled through their schooling. Ironically, many of these same teachers, in their role as 'significant people', were the very reason why a number of students in the Class of 2012 were actually able to make it to Graduation.

In essence, this relationship between students, teachers and parents is a real corner stone of education at Marcellin. The importance of this triumvirate is perhaps best summed up by Christopher Gleeson SJ, Jesuit Priest and author. He writes of the Irish custom of burying warm coals in the ashes at night so as to preserve the fire for the cold morning to come. People preserved yesterday's glowing coals under beds of ash overnight in order to have a fast starting fire the next day. Gleeson explains that those of us in school, working with the parents in the home, are the keepers of the coals. *'It is up to our graduates to ensure they fan those coals into a fire of great warmth and light in their world of the future.'* I am confident that they will do just that.

With my best wishes,

Mr Paul Daley,
Year 12 Coordinator

NOTICES AND NEWS

STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2013

Congratulations to the following students who were elected onto the Student Leadership Team for 2013.



Matthew Waller
College Captain



Luke Dooner
College Vice Captain



Thomas Pantle



Cheyne Whitelaw



Abaina Davis



Noah Castillo



Bronson Garlick



Benjamin Liew



Jake Richards



Benjamin Thornton

TERM 4 CALENDAR EVENTS

Monday 15th October

- HSC commences. Concludes Friday 9th November.

Wednesday 24th October

- Year 11 Preliminary Prizegiving.

Friday 26th October

- Walkathon. Please refer to the College website for more details.

FINAL WEEK OF TERM 4

17th December Picnic Day / Enrolment Interviews Year 7 2014

18th December Full Attendance Incentive day/ Enrolment Interviews Year 7 2014

19th December Parent Feedback Interviews 1pm-6pm

20th December Staff Development Day

21st December Staff Development Day

YEAR 7 2014 ENROLMENTS

YEAR 7 2014 - INTAKE 1 ENROLLING NOW

Enrolment forms available from the College office
Enrolments close Friday 2 November 2012

TRIVIA NIGHT

The final tally for the P&F Trivia night was \$28,010.70. This is an outstanding amount of money raised. Once again, thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Mrs Marion Romeo, P&F Vice President

SPECIAL AWARD - FULL ATTENDANCE

Year 12 student James Chowdhury has achieved an incredible milestone since arriving at Marcellin in Year 7.

During this six year period he has not missed a single day of school. In recognition of his dedication, tenacity and commitment, Br David presented James with a plaque to commemorate a wonderful achievement.



Br David with James Chowdhury

YEAR 12 GRADUATION

YEAR 12 GRADUATION DAY

The Year Twelve Class of 2012 enjoyed a wonderful Graduation Day on Thursday 20th September. The day began with a breakfast for the students and homeroom teachers at the University of New South Wales Roundhouse followed by the Graduation Mass at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Randwick. Father Prasad Rao MSC presided and Father Max Blumenthal and Father Peter Hearn MSC concelebrated, with all students, their families and friends in attendance. The students were then presented with their Graduation certificates by their homeroom teachers. In a moving finale, pipers led the procession out of the church, up Avoca St, and into the College grounds where students from Years 7-11 formed a guard of honour for the Graduating Class and their families.



Year 12 Class of 2012

MAJOR AWARDS



Samuel Disalvo
The JJ Dunningham Trophy for Senior Proficiency



Alexander Thomas
The Nathan Gibbs Trophy for Sporting Excellence



Rory O'Grady
The Archbishop's Award for Student Excellence



Oscar Sharah
Br John Baptist Ryan Memorial Trophy
for Culture



Jacob Burke
Father Cletus Moverly Cup for Character



Andrew Jackson
Br Robert O'Connor Trophy for Christian
Commitment

YEAR 12 GRADUATION

GRADUATION MORNING TEA



Sam Green and family



Christopher Nicholaides and family



Max McIntyre and family



Nicholas Law and family

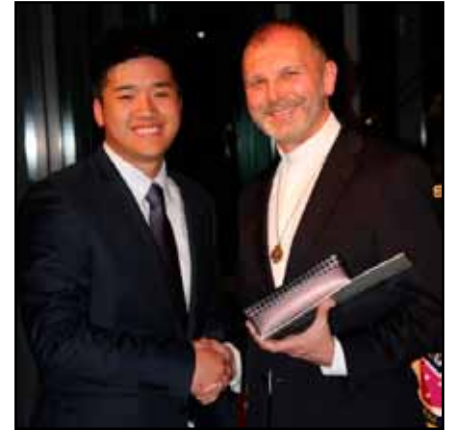
HEADMASTER'S AWARDS



George Matouk
Headmaster's Award



Jack McKinlay
Headmaster's Award



Matthew Tan
Headmaster's Award



Daniel Mifsud
Headmaster's Award



Fergus Whitney
Headmaster's Award



Ethan Natoli
Headmaster's Award

YEAR 12 GRADUATION

YEAR 12 GRADUATION FAREWELL ASSEMBLY AND MASS

Parents, family and friends of the Year Twelve boys were invited to enjoy morning tea in the courtyard before moving into the Marist Centre for the Farewell Assembly. The Headmaster Br David Hall, Year Coordinator Mr Paul Daley and the College Captain Myles Fischer addressed the assembly and acknowledged the significant contribution of the year group as well as recalling some of their more memorable and humorous moments from their six years at Marcellin.



Sam Barron and Marko Bozic



Erik Eklof and Mitchell Dugdale



Year 12 Students at Mass



Year 12 students during Mass



George Matouk, Mr Anthony Boys and Nicholas Nabhan



Kurtley Natoli-Provost and Cameron Colihuil



Benjamin Brightwell and family



Gabriel Moczar, Ash Ure and Edward Kelly

YEAR 12 GRADUATION

YEAR 12 GRADUATION DINNER

The culmination of the day was the Graduation Dinner at Doltone House in Pyrmont. It was a fitting finale to six productive and enjoyable years. The boys, their partners and parents enjoyed a three course dinner followed by toasts, both to the College and parents, as well as the presentations of the major awards for 2012.

Mr Paul Daley, Year 12 Coordinator



Dylan Cartwright and partner



Renny Osora and partner



Murray O'Brien and partner



Nicholas Pringle and partner



Mitchell Scannell and partner



Gino Conte and partner

MAJOR AWARDS



Christopher Goutama
The College Dux



Myles Fischer
St Mary McKillop Award for Leadership



Blake Hurley
The Trophy for Outstanding Contribution
to Representative Sport over Six Years

NAPLAN 2012 RESULTS

Students in Years 7 and 9 sat the National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) in May this year. The tables below show the percentages of students who achieved particular skill bands and who achieved at or above minimum standards. The results shown for Marcellin are compared to students throughout the state. Marcellin again performed very well across all areas in comparison to the state results. Note, that for Year 7, only Bands 4 to 9 are reported on, and for Year 9, bands 5 to 10 are reported. For more information on NAPLAN visit www.naplan.edu.au

Percentage of Marcellin Students who meet the Minimum Standards

	Year 7	Year 9
Reading	98%	96%
Writing	100%	89%
Spelling	99%	98%
Grammar	98%	97%
Numeracy	98%	99%

Year 7 NAPLAN School Results 2012 (Numbers are percentages of students in each band)

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 9 State	11.5	7.5	11.9	14.8	14.5
Band 9 School	11.4	8.4	17.5	13.3	17.5
Band 8 State	22.1	15.4	25.2	18.9	15.1
Band 8 School	26.9	13.9	27.7	24.1	22.9
Band 7 State	26.5	20.7	30.1	26.4	23.1
Band 7 School	34.7	27.7	30.1	34.9	28.3
Band 6 State	21.8	26.4	19	25.1	25.7
Band 6 School	16.8	27.7	20.5	19.9	20.5
Band 5 State	13	22.2	8.3	11.4	17.1
Band 5 School	8.4	22.3	3	6	8.4
Band 4 State	5.2	7.8	5.5	3.4	4.5
Band 4 School	1.8	0	1.2	1.8	2.4

Year 9 NAPLAN School Results 2012 (Numbers are percentages of students in each band)

Band	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
Band 10 State	7.5	9	7.6	7.5	13.1
Band 10 School	5.1	8.2	3.8	6.3	13.9
Band 9 State	16.5	11.2	21.8	15.2	14.7
Band 9 School	12.8	8.8	30.8	14.5	22.8
Band 8 State	25.3	21.9	26.9	25.3	22.2
Band 8 School	34.6	27	30.2	29.6	33.5
Band 7 State	26.6	19.6	23.6	23.6	25.9
Band 7 School	27.6	23.9	25.8	32.1	18.4
Band 6 State	17	19.1	11.9	20.6	20.3
Band 6 School	16	20.8	7.5	14.5	10.1
Band 5 State	7.1	19.3	8.2	7.8	3.9
Band 5 School	3.8	11.3	1.9	3.1	1.3

Source: SMART Data Package - School Measurement, Assessment and Reporting Toolkit

Via: Department of Education & Communities Portal



Mr Chris Shields, Director of Teaching and M Learning

ENCORE

Each year the NSW Board of Studies and the Department of Education and Communities present ENCORE. The Encore Concert is a musical concert that is held in the Sydney Opera House. Performers involved in Encore Concert are Year 12 students of the previous year who have finished the Higher School Certificate, and have studied Music 1, Music 2 and/or Music Extension who have achieved outstanding results in performance or music composition. Current Year 12 student Oscar Sharah has been nominated for possible inclusion in the 2013 Encore concert. We wish Oscar all the very best in qualifying for next year's Encore Concert and in his upcoming HSC examinations.

Mr Bill Kostovski, Teacher in Charge of Music

SCHOOL RELATED PHOTOS

A reminder that if you have any photos of your son or your son's sports team that you think would be useful we'd love to see them. Parents are asked to send any photos of school related functions and sports events to mcrpics2012@gmail.com They may end up in the newsletter or school magazine.

NEWS AND SPORT

SPORTS HOUSE CAPTAINS

At the Headmaster's Assembly last Friday, Abaina Davis was introduced to the assembly as Marcellin College's 2013 Sports Captain. Along with Abaina, Cheyne Whitelaw (Anselm), Benjamin Thornton (Fallon), Bronson Garlick (Ignatius) and Jake Richards (Champagnat) were also introduced as our Sports House Captains. Congratulations to all five boys on their appointments, I'd like to wish them the very best in their roles as sports leaders. Each of the boys have competed at a high level for the College, and their experience and common sense approach will no doubt be of benefit for our school.



Abaina Davis
2013 Sports Captain



Cheyne Whitelaw
Anselm Captain



Benjamin Thornton
Fallon Captain



Bronson Garlick
Ignatius Captain



Jake Richards
Champagnat Captain

SUMMER SPORTS SEASON

The summer sports season began last week, however, wet weather saw the cancellation of many of the trials. Round 1 starts this Thursday with Marcellin College having the bye in most sports except for Squash, and U14 and Opens Cricket. These teams will play their Round 1 game against Kogarah. All teams have been training hard, a reminder to all boys of their training commitment. If a boy cannot attend training, they need to speak to their coach before training that afternoon.

FREE CHOICE SPORT

Free Choice Sport also commenced for all boys not involved in the representative program. The Sports department have opened up some exciting new sports this year, namely Paddle Boarding and Water Polo. There was an overwhelming positive response from boys, over a range of sports, about how much they enjoyed their sport last week. I hope that boys continue to enjoy themselves each week. I have spoken to all boys about their responsibility in applying sunscreen when involved in outdoor activities. With the onset of the warmer weather, boys should regularly apply their sunscreen and wear a cap whilst outdoors.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Last term the Opens Rugby League team played their CCC semi final fixture against Patrician Brothers Blacktown. Although the team lost the game 34 to 22, I am very pleased to say that the boys did themselves and the College proud. Up against boys who regularly play in the Under 20 National Youth Competition, Marcellin performed well beyond expectation. We tackled hard and played some smart football. Unfortunately a few missed opportunities saw Marcellin finish on the wrong side of the score line. To finish in the top four of this competition is a huge achievement from the Opens team. Congratulations on their achievements this year.



Marcellin A Grade v St Gregory's



Marcellin v St Gregory's

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Reflection Day for Laity: Marist Laity Australia is hosting a Reflection Day on Saturday 3 November entitled - "Faces of Love". A dynamic day of interaction, encounter and reflection. The presenter is Dominic Arcamone. Located at St Patrick's Church Hill within the Crypt between 10am to 3 pm. BYO lunch. Coffee and tea provided. For more information call 0417 682 822 or go to www.maristlaityaustralia.com

Uniform Shop: From 2013 Senior blazers will have a braid edging. Boys with senior blazers without the edging can bring their dry cleaned and named blazers to the uniform shop in the first two weeks of Term 4 to have the edging put on them for \$25 per blazer.