From the Director of Teaching & M-Learning

Should the HSC exams be abolished?

As the Higher School Certificate (HSC) exam period comes to a welcome halt for our 135 Year 12 students, and some 68,000 students across New South Wales, one cannot help but reflect on whether the pain was worth it. While most boys cope well, seeing some of our students grapple with the stress and anxiety that this examination process has created, tempts the question, couldn’t this whole HSC thing be done so much better?

Student anxiety born out of heightened expectation, and fuelled more recently by extensive media coverage, has, I feel, made the need for this conversation all the more urgent. Indeed for the first time this year, our College, with the permission of the governing body, the NSW Board of Studies, Teacher Educational Standards (BOSTES) had its own ‘quiet’ room, set aside for those students who, because of anxiety, required an exam space free from those stress triggers. I might add, it was a great success.

Only last Friday I was joined by my fellow College Executive and our Catholic Education Office (CEO) Regional Consultant to discuss how our ‘Test data’ informs our classroom practice, in order to improve student outcomes.

At Marcellin we have three keys phases of ‘Test data’ analysis which guides our Key Learning Areas (KLAs).

As you will no doubt be aware, every Year 7 student of Marcellin College, whilst in Year 6, meets on a cold August Saturday morning to sit what we call the Allwell tests. Robert Allwell, assessment guru, heads up a group called Academic Assessment Services which fashion a series of tests for our Year 6’s in an effort to measure not only their knowledge through performance, but also gauge their potential, or ability. With a spot at Marcellin College guaranteed, our students can then be placed into the most appropriate class in Year 7, and thereby receive targeted support from within these ‘focus’ classes, be it in the area of literacy, numeracy, a gift or talent, or indeed any other area where learning assistance may be considered necessary. So we tell the boys, “relax; no pressure; this is for you”. This data becomes a critical barometer for all KLAs, in all areas of teaching and learning. Allwell: An extremely useful exercise.

In NSW this (HSC) mark is determined from 50% internal assessment and 50% from the exam mark. Interestingly, the equivalent to our HSC mark in Queensland and ACT consists entirely of the internal assessment...

Another key element of our data analysis centres on the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) exams. The NAPLAN data, as well, are used to provide targeted strategies for all KLAs. Results arrive in the form of trend data, individual question analysis as well as close monitoring of student growth. Our recent results were again very strong across all focus areas. Of particular note were the results of our students at either end of the learning spectrum. Growth here was strong, further affirming the outstanding work being done with these boys in both our Newman classes and learning support groups. Results in the middle range, our mixed ability students, suggested more attention is required. Our immediate response was to provide professional learning (PL) opportunities for the 2016 teachers of these groups. Later this year our Diverse Learning team will run a PL session closely aligned with strategies to best cater for boys captured by this data. We again tell the boys, “relax, this is for you”. NAPLAN: Another useful exercise.

Which brings us to the pinnacle of NSW Education, the HSC, and in particular, the HSC Exams. We are just about to
conclude Week Four of the exam period, which pits all students from across NSW against each other in a common task for each course. The main benefit of this common task is that it allows BOSTES to appropriately moderate the assessment marks developed within schools over the preceding year, so as to arrive at a HSC mark. In NSW this mark is determined from 50% internal assessment and 50% from the exam mark. Interestingly, the equivalent to our HSC mark in Queensland and ACT consists entirely of the internal assessment.

Our HSC results are analysed in many ways, and like NAPLAN, features such as, student growth, individual question analysis and comparison data are key to the KLA reflections, and a prime determinant in developing subject specific strategies. HSC Exams: extremely useful, but at what cost?

Many questions remain in our assessment debate; are our students learning by going through the testing process? Do we teach so as to assess, or should our assessment be embedded in our teaching? To what lengths should our assessment be a more realistic reflection of what awaits our enthusiastic boys in ‘real life’? A test is a fabulous diagnostic tool to measure knowledge and to sharpen our practice, but surely there is a more authentic way to gauge a student’s performance, or indeed potential, particularly after thirteen years of education. You’d think we’d know them by then.

And so, the conversation will continue, particularly here at Marcellin College; and we will continue to review our assessment practices; we will explore alternative means of measuring success; all the while continuing to draw immense benefit from our diagnostic assessment methods.

Mr Chris Shields
Director of Teaching & M-Learning

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2017 Year 7 Enrolments

Enrolments for Year 7 are now open for 2017. Siblings of current students must also apply before the deadline of Friday, 6 November.

Forms can only been collected from the College Front Office, and are not available online. All information regarding enrolment is available on College website.

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From the Deputy Headmaster

I would like to remind students at this time of year about maintaining high standards. It is about now that the weather changes, the end of the year is getting closer and some boys become lethargic. As Term 4 progresses, it is essential for all students to step up the standard in order to perform and finish at your best. I would expect and hope that homework, as well as study and revision, is being attended to every night. Learning at this stage is critical and what is being learned in the classroom needs to be practiced and consolidated at home. I would appreciate parents monitoring this at home. I would also encourage parents to keep in contact with your son’s Homeroom Teacher via email for any matters of advice or concern.

I also draw your attention to student haircut standards. Hair needs to be above the collar, not touching the eyebrows nor covering the ears.

The afternoon of Thursday, 12 November is a Staff Spirituality afternoon, and all students not involved in MCC sport will be dismissed at 12.00pm from school. MCC players will have sport as per normal. Friday, 13 November is also a Staff Spirituality Day and students are not required at school on this day.

Have an enjoyable week.

Peter Buxton
Deputy Headmaster
Congratulations WALLABIES!

World Cup finalists 2015
under the guidance of MCR Old Boy Coach Michael Chieka

SPECIAL GUEST: SENIOR CONSTABLE RACHAEL MARTIN
ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE EASTERN SUBURBS

PARENTS IN TOUCH
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR SON IS UP TO?

WED NOV 4 6.30PM
GREENSTEAD HALL
AGM FOLLOWING

Bookings via TRYBOOKING http://www.trybooking.com/165859

MCR CODE OF CONDUCT

Respect for our Faith
Acknowledge the faith journey of each person and share positively in the faith life of our school

Respect for Others
Value differences in other people and respect all who work in the Marcellin community

Respect for Self
Value the talents we have and achieve to the best of our ability

Respect for Learning
Contribute to a safe, orderly and productive learning environment. Interact respectfully with teachers and peers

Respect for the College
Be proud of the College and show consideration for the property of others and of the College
Verification Forms

Verification forms have been posted home to all families. Please ensure that information is checked and amended where necessary and return to the College as soon as possible. As in all circumstances parents are the first to be notified in case of an emergency, please do not write a parent as the emergency contact person.

Certificate II in Construction & Hospitality Pathways

Over the last two weeks Construction and Hospitality students participated in mandatory work placement. This placement allows students the opportunity to experience some of the perks and challenges of working in both the construction and hospitality industries.

The feedback I received from employers was extremely positive and they commended our boys on their high level of respect and ability to engage in the workplace. Well done boys on putting your best foot forward and making the most of this opportunity.

Mr Anthony Noyes
Careers & VET Coordinator

TERM 4 IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Oct - 6 Nov</td>
<td>HSC examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 4 Nov</td>
<td>Parents In Touch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 12 Nov</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 13 Nov</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 - 20 Nov</td>
<td>Years 7 - 10 examinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 27 Nov</td>
<td>Walkathon Reward Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Nov - 3 Dec</td>
<td>Year 10 Work Experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Nov - 2 Dec</td>
<td>Music Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1 Dec</td>
<td>Gingerbread House event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 3 Dec</td>
<td>Year 10 Mass @6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 4 Dec</td>
<td>Years 10 - 11 final day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 4 Dec</td>
<td>Year 10 Reflection Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 11 Dec</td>
<td>Years 7 - 9 final day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 14 Dec</td>
<td>Years 7 - 9 Picnic Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 15 Dec</td>
<td>Parent feedback interviews</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lost Property

There is a large collection of lost property accumulating in the Front Office. If you have lost any items, please check with Mrs Smith or Mrs Cummins. We have keys, watches, glasses, a mobile phone, as well as bags, shoes and clothing.

That awkward moment when you finish a Maths problem and your answer isn’t even one of the choices!

The Maths Help Club has been running every Friday at lunchtime in Room 65. It provides a relaxed atmosphere in which students can gain assistance with any aspects of Mathematics.

We especially hope to see some new faces at the club as we approach the upcoming Yearly Exams.

you need...

The Maths Help Club
Newman Stream Symposium

Innovation
Enrichment
Creativity
Fun

Wednesday, 25 November
The Devlin Centre
4.30-6.30pm
All welcome

Year 10 Music Soirée

TUES. 24 NOV
5:00PM
VAUGHAN CENTRE
FREE ADMISSION

Marcellin College Randwick P&F

Family Gingerbread House Event

TUESDAY, 1 DECEMBER - MARIST CENTRE - 6.30-8.30PM

Prepay your $30 by Friday 20 November to join in the fun! Experienced gingerbread house fairies will be on hand to help any novice builders. Full details on College Website.

LEXINGTON PLACE
BUSKING COMPETITION

Street performers wanted for Youth and Open categories

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER
12-2PM
Lexington Place, Maroubra

REGISTER NOW®
or call 9399 0678

Join us for live entertainment, games and giveaways

*Registrations close on 27 November 2015.

NOVEMBER 2015
Year 10 PDHPE

On Wednesday, 21 October the boys in Year 10 went to Sydney Olympic Park to learn about car safety as a part of the PDHPE curriculum.

The day’s activities consisted of learning about vehicle and road safety. Activities included a personality test to determine how safe an individual is on the roads, a car brakes experiment, where they investigated how long it takes for cars to stop completely at a set speed and various talks from driving instructors, police officers and a victim of a car crash.

Overall, it was a fun and educational experience for us, and we can take away a great deal of valuable information about road safety. We were shown how dangerous it can be in the outside world, especially on the roads, and that anyone could be a victim of an accident. This experience has given a little insight to us on how we can be safer on the roads, not just for our own safety but for the safety of others.

Andrew Tjokrowidjaja (Year 10)

Year 9 PDHPE - Lunchtime Competition for Year 7

During Term 4, Year 9.1 PDHPE was given the task to run a tournament-based activity for Year 7. Given the task by Mr O’Connell, this concept of pleasing a large amount of new students in the school seemed daunting but interesting at the same time.

Commencing in early Term 4, the lunchtime tournaments included basketball, touch football and soccer. There was a massive response from the boys and many teams signed up to participate. At a Year 7 cohort meeting, we explained the rules and regulations of the competitions and the rewards. As a result, all three competitions were incredibly successful and the event was a large generator for new memories to be shared between peers.

Ethan Dzang
Year 9.1

Above: The finals for the Year 7 lunchtime basketball competition, organised by Year 9.1 PDHPE

Photos: Year 10 PDHPE students learning about road safety at Sydney Olympic Park
Walkathon - raising $65,000!
From the Sports Coordinator

MCC SUMMER SEASON

October 22 saw MCR taking on Ryde in Round 2 of the MCC Summer season (all results on Page 10). Unfortunately no cricket or tennis matches were played due to poor weather. Our basketball teams were outstanding, with each of the four teams claiming very dominant victories. The aggregate score across these matches was 242-56. Our touch teams had mixed results against Ryde. The B Grade team claimed the only victory of the afternoon while A Grade fought out a tough but valuable draw. Both junior Touch teams worked hard but found their opposition a little too classy.

On 29 October all teams competed against North Shore in the third round of the competition. Overall, this was a great day for Marcellin teams. Out of the twelve matches contested, we claimed victory in nine. ‘Clean Sweeps’ were achieved in both basketball and touch. Our U15 and B Grade basketballers produced the most dominant performances, along with the U14 and A Grade Touch teams. It was pleasing to see both the U15 Touch and U16 Cricket winning their first matches for the season.

Mr Luke MacNamara
Sports Coordinator

CRICKET – BERG SHIELD

On Monday 26th October, Marcellin competed in the opening round of the Berg Shield Cricket competition, which is a state wide competition that involves a combined team of Year 7, 8 and 9 students.

The first round saw the boys travel to Ramsgate to face Kogarah Marist in what was always going to be a close encounter. The team lost the toss and were sent to field where a huge effort saw the boys dismiss Kogarah for 117 off 29 overs. Special mention in this innings goes to Errol Gulden who had figures of 3/16 off three overs as well as an amazing catch in the outfield.

The run chase was tight after a few early wickets but never looked in doubt with the total being reached after 28 overs. A great knock by Kel Mullins (39 runs), supported by Errol Gulden (34 runs) comfortably sealed the victory.

Mr Sean Mullaly
Coach

Above: MCR U14 cricket team with coaches Mr Mullaly and Ms Thompson

SPORTS PHOTOS

College sports photos are now able to be ordered online at http://advancedlife.com.au ($17.00 per photo). On the website enter the code 4KG GG3 DX7 on the homepage and click on GROUP PHOTOS.

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We walk on a land once occupied by the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation. May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.
Internal Sport
### BASKETBALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Under 14</th>
<th>Under 15</th>
<th>B Grade</th>
<th>A Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-Oct</td>
<td>Trial</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Lost 37-26</td>
<td>Won 47-31</td>
<td>Won 37-34</td>
<td>Lost 30-24</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Saxon O’Neill</td>
<td>Sean Beven</td>
<td>Dane King</td>
<td>Derek Daquel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 1</td>
<td>Lewisham</td>
<td>Won 49-46</td>
<td>Won 64-37</td>
<td>Won 50-7</td>
<td>Won 38-23</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Dylan Williams</td>
<td>Noah Azzopardi</td>
<td>Cooper Killorn</td>
<td>Derek Daquel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 2</td>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>Won 76-15</td>
<td>Won 44-8</td>
<td>Won 65-7</td>
<td>Won 57-26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Joshua Bowen</td>
<td>Thomas Giles</td>
<td>Corben Downes</td>
<td>Marc Pizzinato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 3</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Won 26-22</td>
<td>Won 60-32</td>
<td>Won 54-20</td>
<td>Won 33-32</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Patrick Galea</td>
<td>Noah Azzopardi</td>
<td>Alex Karas</td>
<td>Jake Laing</td>
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### TOUCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Under 14</th>
<th>Under 15</th>
<th>B Grade</th>
<th>A Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-Oct</td>
<td>Trial</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Won 10-3</td>
<td>Won 9-1</td>
<td>Won 4-1</td>
<td>Won 9-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Noah Dymock</td>
<td>Ky Hill</td>
<td>Darcy Gilroy</td>
<td>Lachlan Lam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 1</td>
<td>Lewisham</td>
<td>Won 8-7</td>
<td>Lost 10-1</td>
<td>Lost 4-3</td>
<td>Won 8-2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Harley Lester</td>
<td>Ben McNamara</td>
<td>Kyle Wilson</td>
<td>Bailey Alchin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 2</td>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>Lost 7-3</td>
<td>Lost 8-3</td>
<td>Won 7-3</td>
<td>Drew 5-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Tallis Aquilina</td>
<td>Bailey Lam</td>
<td>F Smith &amp; C Malcolm</td>
<td>J Mitsias &amp; W Harrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 3</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Won 13-2</td>
<td>Won 5-2</td>
<td>Won 6-4</td>
<td>Won 9-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Evan Manning</td>
<td>Ky Hill</td>
<td>Ky Bouris</td>
<td>Anthony Halikas</td>
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### CRICKET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Under 14</th>
<th>Under 16</th>
<th>A Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-Oct</td>
<td>Trial</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Won 8/94 to 10/87</td>
<td>Won 5/156 to 7/115</td>
<td>Lost 4/130 to 10/94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Sebastian Hodge</td>
<td>Keeghan Burke</td>
<td>Fionn Geraghty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Errol Gulden</td>
<td>Dane Geraghty</td>
<td>Kurt Murray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 2</td>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>WASHOUT</td>
<td>WASHOUT</td>
<td>WASHOUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 3</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Lost 4/97 to 10/63</td>
<td>Won 2/123 to 5/106</td>
<td>Lost 10/80 to 4/81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Sebastian Hodge</td>
<td>Tom Byrnes</td>
<td>Cooper Stevens</td>
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### TENNIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-Oct</td>
<td>Trial</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Lost 56-46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Marcus Italiano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 1</td>
<td>Lewisham</td>
<td>Won 63-57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Kai Galea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 2</td>
<td>Ryde</td>
<td>WASHOUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>Rd 3</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
<td>Lost 90-34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Player of the Match</td>
<td>Rory Dolan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Class of 1995 Reunion

**Saturday 14th November**

3pm - 6pm

Coogee Bay Hotel (Beer Garden)

Old Boys, teachers and Old Boys’ partners welcome.

Contact: Greg Johnson

Email: g.johnson@yahoo.com
Above: The stillness of the College grounds early this morning...

JOEYs OUTREACH
COMMUNITY SERVICE AFTERNOON

SUN 15TH NOV

JOEYs CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUN 29TH NOV

JOEYS TEENS
St Joseph’s Parish, Rosebery
Let’s end 2015 with a bang!

CONTACT
Phil: 0423 233 109
Sarah: 0426 892 945
Facebook: Joey’s Rosebery
Michael Cheika has been recognised for his rapid transformation of the Wallabies with the World Rugby Coach of the Year Award.

Cheika received a rousing ovation when he collected the honour at the World Rugby Awards dinner in London today in the wake of the Rugby World Cup.

Cheika took over the Wallabies’ reins less than a year out from the World Cup, with the team in turmoil following the sudden resignation of coach Ewen McKenzie, and took them to the 2015 Rugby Championship title then all the way to yesterday’s Rugby World Cup final...