From the Headmaster

“With just a few more grains of salt, Nicholas’ dish would’ve been as good as Nina’s.”

“Wait a minute, what does it mean that we are sitting here in the final challenge and we’re still saying, ‘Nicholas’ dish needed a little more salt.’ This is basic cooking 101!”

“It certainly would’ve made his dish infinitely better.”

This conversation is from the discriminating judging panel of the American culinary reality competition, Top Chef. The dish in question is a complex recipe of three different kinds of fresh fish served three different ways: confit of yellowfin tuna, charred pampano and butter-roasted bass, fastidiously arranged on a sumptuous base of shrimp consommé. The creator of the beautiful plate of food is Chef Nicholas, a French-trained executive chef from Massachusetts, who, despite his formidable cooking skills, commits the same error over and over again: under-seasoning.

Not many of us can claim to have the cultivated palate of Michelin-starred chefs who know the difference a few missing grains of salt can have on a dish. But we all know the difference between food that is flavoursome and food that is bland.

“You are the salt of the earth,” Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew, set down for the readings for this Sunday’s Mass, “but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?”

Just as salt makes or breaks a dish, our active participation in the building up of the Reign of God in our world is that key ingredient that makes or breaks the promotion of fuller human flourishing in our society. Through our relationships and actions that help bring about greater justice, peace, and compassion, we indeed make the world taste and see the goodness of the God.

But I think we have lost our saltiness. I think the Gospel of Jesus has become a bit too bland. I don’t think that the justice, peace and compassion that Jesus dreamed of for all of us is sufficiently evident in our society and not even in our own school. You know how much I esteem our school, and how highly I think of our staff, boys, Old Boys and the parents who make up the MCR community, but I still think we have some work to do in spicing-up the reign of God in our little part of the world. There are too many instances where we do not sufficiently respect and care for one another and when we are all respecting one another and caring for one another well, then the reign of God is happening.

In restoring the saltiness to our little part of the world we have decided this year at MCR to take on one of the most demanding challenges in the Bible. The image on this page is now on posters all over the College, bearing the words taken from a letter of St Paul to his friend Titus:

**Defame no-one, be peaceable, considerate and always polite to everyone.**

To defame; to ‘put down’, to insult, to speak ill of someone, to intentionally cause offence. How often, how easily and how readily this happens, and oh, how damaging it can be, how divisive it can be and how irreversible it can be. This year at MCR we plan to pay attention to our tendency to defame, and work on reversing this temptation that we give into all too readily.

It won’t be easy, but we’re committed. Committed to restoring the saltiness of the Gospel in our little part of the world.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS

HEADMASTER
From the Deputy Headmaster

Welcome back to students and their families as we begin 2014.

The day before school started for Years 8-12, a group of Year 11 Peer Support Leaders attended Heffron Park to assist the new Year 7 cohort entering high school. On this Year 7 Orientation Day, with such good will and enthusiasm, these young men ran the Peer Support Program and assisted with the induction of our newest students. My thanks go to each of these students, as well as Mr MacGee and the Year 7 team for their hard work on this day and beyond in ensuring a smooth start to Year 7.

All students have received their diaries, which are a critical form of communication for teachers, students and their parent/guardians. I strongly recommend that all in our College community familiarise themselves with the procedures and policies that are contained in the student diary. Students need to pay particular attention to our College expectations, uniform and hair policy, the mobile phone policy and the ICT policy.

I spoke to all students last week and will continue to do so this year about attending to the ‘little things’ at Marcellin to ensure a successful and rewarding year. I would like to wish everyone well as we begin 2014 and I look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at the Meet and Greet night starting at 6.00pm on Friday, 14 February.

If you have any concerns or questions throughout the coming year, please do not hesitate to contact your son’s Homeroom teacher.

Mr Peter Buxton
Deputy Headmaster

Year 11 Peer Support Leaders

Luke ABELA  Rick HERRON  Anthony ROMEO
Jayden AZZOPARDI  Jake IRVINE  George SFINAS
Samuel BAILEY  Michael JENKINS  Noah SIMPKINS
Joshua BROWN  Eden JOSEPH  Thomas THURN
Rafael BRUZZESE  Mitchell LAW  William UNICOMB LAIRD
Ben CALLANAN  Samuel MORGAN  Austin VELLA
Benjamin DAVIS  Thomas NICHOLAS  Thomas WALLER
Joshua DEVER  Adrian NOBRE  Zachary WATERHOUSE
Luke DEVER  Liam O’LOUGHLIN  Declan WHITE
Pearse DOLAN  Joshua PARKER  Harrison WHITE
Nathan GIUFFRE  Reid PERRY
Michael HAY  Joshua RICAMARA

Above and below: Students at the Year 7 Orientation Day
2014
Commencement Mass

Friday, 14 February
Marist Centre - 9.30am

All members of the Marcellin community are warmly invited.

TERM 1 CALENDAR EVENTS

- **Wednesday, 12 February**: Parents in Touch AGM. ‘The Boy in the Bubble’ presentation by Br David
- **Tuesday, 11 February**: Years 7 and 9 Immunisation
- **Friday, 14 February**: Commencement Mass: 9.30am; Year 7 Homeroom Teacher Meeting: 5.30pm - 6.00pm; Meet and Greet Cocktail Party: 6.00pm
- **Wednesday, 26 February**: College Open Day: 3.00 - 6.00pm
- **Friday, 28 February**: Staff Development Half Day - students are dismissed at 12.00pm
- **3-12 March**: Year 12 examinations
- **Wednesday, 5 March**: Ash Wednesday
- **16-21 March**: Year 12 Retreat
- **Friday, 28 March**: Staff Development Day - student free day
- **Wednesday, 9 April**: Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Friday, 11 April**: Term 1 concludes
Meet and Greet Cocktail Evening
Friday, 14 February
The College Courtyard
6.00 - 8.00pm
Cost: $10 per person

(this is a complimentary evening for new parents to the College)

Meet the College Executive, staff and other parents in a relaxed and social environment

Entry will be via the main entrance on Alison Road. For security reasons the Avoca Street gates will be closed and there will be no onsite parking available.

Payment to be made via the College Office by Wednesday, 12 February.

Year 7 Homeroom Teacher Meeting

14 February 2014
5.30 - 6.00pm

Parents and guardians of Year 7 boys are warmly invited to meet their son’s Homeroom Teacher on Friday, 14 February. This meeting will provide an opportunity for the teachers to talk about goals and expectations of the boys this year, as well as reflect on the first two weeks of Year 7.
Congratulations to our 2013 HSC High Achievers receiving Band 6 and/or ATAR 90+

Textbooks 2014

Textbooks were distributed by the representatives from Campion to students on Tuesday, 4 February. These were the books purchased before the published 2013 deadline. Many parents chose to have the books delivered to their homes. If there are any problems with these deliveries or any other aspect of the order, you are advised to contact Campion on 8905 8691. It should be noted that all boys must have textbooks. Textbooks can still be ordered through the Campion website: www.campion.com.au using the Marcellin code: ‘aa93’. Thank you for your support with the purchase of Textbooks.

Mr Chris Shields - Director of Teaching and M-Learning

Parents in Touch and P&F AGM

“There is an impression that the Marcellin boy is cocooned on the eastern side of Anzac Parade. The challenge for him is that he sees beyond that into the broader world. He is a global citizen. He is called to reach out to others, to let go of any preoccupation with self.

His destiny is, as St Marcellin Champagnat foretold, to be a good Christian and good citizen.”

The Marcellin Graduate
(#1. His Calling)

Release the Boy from the Bubble ... Wednesday 12 February @ 6:30pm
Parent Teacher Evening Format in 2014

In 2014 the College will introduce changes to the current parent teacher evening format. In discussions with parents and teachers during 2013 year it has become apparent that there are some adjustments to our practice that could improve the dialogue between parents and teachers. The College values communication between the school and home as being a critical factor in the development of your son. As such, we are always reviewing our practices to ensure we maximise his learning opportunities.

In 2014, the College will continue to offer two opportunities for parents to meet with your son’s teachers. It has been decided that instead of separate evenings for one or two year groups, we will offer two half day/evenings for Years 7-11 combined, on two separate days. These days will be a week apart between the hours of 12:30pm-8.00pm. This change is aimed at reducing the number of times parents need to meet with teachers, particularly those parents with more than one student at the school. Year 12 will continue to have their own parent teacher evening in line with the program timeline of their studies.

The current system of booking interviews will also change. Parents will be able to follow a link on our website and login to a parent portal where you will be able to book interview times online. When you have booked your interview online your son’s report will be posted to you. Posting the reports in advance will give parents the opportunity to digest the contents of the report prior to the parent teacher interview, and hopefully assure a more informed dialogue with the teacher in relation to your son’s progress. It is compulsory that boys attend the interview with their parent/s.

These changes to the parent teacher interviews seek not only an efficient process for all, but more importantly a more fulsome conversation about your son’s progress and development. Should you wish to clarify any matters related to the parent teacher interviews for 2014 please contact your son’s Year Coordinator. Thank you for your support of the College as we continue to look at ways to improve the teaching and learning opportunities we offer your son.
91st Annual Swimming Carnival Results

Champagnat – 879
Fallon – 877
Ignatius – 668
Anselm – 490

U12
1st – Beau McConnell (Champagnat – 58 points)
2nd – Jake Lo (Ignatius – 38 points)
3rd – Thomas Graaf (Ignatius – 26 points)

U13
1st – Alejandro Belmont (Fallon – 44 points)
2nd – Lachlan Rheinberger (Fallon – 42 points)
3rd – Kye Black (Champagnat – 26 points)

U14
1st – Jack Rheinberger (Fallon – 56 points)
2nd – Blake Richardson (Champagnat – 54 points)
3rd – Tobias Dunn (Champagnat – 26 points)

U15
1st – Phillipp Trupke (Champagnat – 52 points)
2nd – Cormac Guthrie (Fallon – 46 points)
3rd – Kel Gollan (Ignatius – 44 points)

U16
1st – Will Mison (Fallon – 56 points)
2nd – Nicholas Pavlakis (Ignatius – 54 points)
3rd – Thomas Maljevac (Fallon – 30 points)

Opens
1st – Huon Fairbairn (Fallon – 51 points)
2nd – Benjamin Davis (Anselm – 35 points)
3rd – Jake Irvine (Anselm – 32 points)
Welcome back to all parents and students for 2014, particularly those in Year 7. Term 1 will again prove to be a busy period in relation to sport. We are currently involved in the 2013/14 Summer competition, with the final round matches against Kogarah to be played this week. Touch Football is at Marcellin Fields, Basketball at Bankstown, Squash at Willoughby and Cricket at Kensington Oval (A Grade), Heffron (U16) & Coral Sea (U14). With hard work and commitment to training over the closing weeks of the summer season, our boys are sure to perform well and continue our proud tradition in the MCC competition. We wish all teams the best of luck in their games this week and for the upcoming Finals.

Internal (Years 7–10) and Free Choice (Years 11 & 12) sport resumed this week. The Cross Country Championships were held on Thursday, 6 February. The U12, U13 and U14s competed at Coral Sea and the U15 & U16s ran at Heffron Park. During these warmer months, it is most important that boys are sun smart at all times. It is the responsibility of each boy to bring a hat, sunscreen and water bottle to sport.

For elite athletes wishing to apply for CCC sports, information is on the NSWCCC website. To apply for entry into one of these events, you will need to register your name first on the site at www.csss.nsw.edu.au/register-parents.aspx. Once you have registered your name you can then go back to the NSWCCC website and register for the appropriate sport. When registering for a sport, I would ask that only elite sportsmen apply for a particular sport and if you do nominate, that you provide correspondence to myself or Mr Mullaly that you have applied for a sport and notify the staff in the front office that you will be away on the specified days. If you have any queries about this, please contact me at school.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Swimming - Congratulations to Cormac Guthrie who competed in the 2013 NSW Open Water Swimming Championships in December. He achieved 1st Place in the 14 Years 10km race and 2nd Place in the 14 Years 5km race. Last weekend Cormac entered the Cole Classic, which is a 9km ocean swim from Dee Why to Manly that has been contested for the past 31 years. Competing against swimmers of all ages, he won the event, becoming not only the youngest ever winner, but also the youngest ever entrant. Well done to Cormac on these sensational results.

COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Friday, 31 January the 91st Annual Swimming Carnival was held at the Des Renford Aquatic Centre. This carnival is always a highlight on the College sporting calendar. Fortunately the weather was kind to us as the carnival was held under bright blue skies. I was most impressed with the spirit the boys demonstrated through their effort to dress proudly in their house colours and compete in large numbers throughout the day. Well done to all who were involved in the smooth running of the carnival.

Thank you class parents for supplying and organising lunch for the staff. Well done to the Champagnat House, led on the day by Daniel Jewiss who took out the carnival in a very narrow victory over Fallon by just two points. Champagnat reclaim the shield they last won in 2011.

Congratulations to Alejandro Belmont for breaking the U/13 50m Butterfly record set in 1985 with a new time of 32.43 seconds. The Swimming team will be announced this week and begin training on Monday 10 February. They will train each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Botany Pool and will compete in the MCC Championships on Thursday, 20 March. For results and photos, please refer to Page 7.

Mr Luke MacNamara
Sports Coordinator