

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



SPECIAL EDITION

Number 1
January 20th 2011

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

Welcome to the new school year. I hope your Christmas and new year break was a rejuvenating one for you and your family. I hope that the year ahead will be a rewarding and prosperous one for you all. Our Theme at Marcellin for 2011 is 'In the Image of God' and is shown in the banner below. This banner will be displayed around the school as a reminder to all of our key priorities for the new year. On the following page you will find our Code of Conduct banner which outlines the fundamental values we encourage our students and staff to uphold. The purpose of our Theme and Code of Conduct is to have a tangible reminder to all of the values we espouse at Marcellin College. I encourage you to join with me in regularly referring to these with your son in the year ahead.

Respect is at the heart of the MCR Code of Conduct. When we respect others we often receive respect in return, and that is a good thing. But what happens when the return is not forthcoming? Do we stop respecting those people? There is certainly the temptation to take this stance but as people of faith we are called to choose otherwise. As Christians, the reason we respect one another, and indeed all that God has created, is that we are made in the image and likeness of God. And that is why we respect one another – because God dwells in each of us, and when we fail to respect one another we fail in our respect for God.

Our theme for 2011 – IN GOD'S IMAGE – finds its source in the first book of the Bible, the Book of Genesis, where the stories of creation are recounted. When God had completed the work of creation God is delighted – we read in Genesis: "God saw all that God had made, and indeed it was very good." And then God entrusted it to us to care for it, to nurture it, even to enhance it.

We do the work of God. What an awesome responsibility. What a privilege we have, to participate in such important work. It is sacred work because God dwells in all that God has created – in you, in me, in all living things, in all of the created world. If we were not present God could not be present in the same way. If we do not respect others God is not able to show the respect that God wished for all of creation.

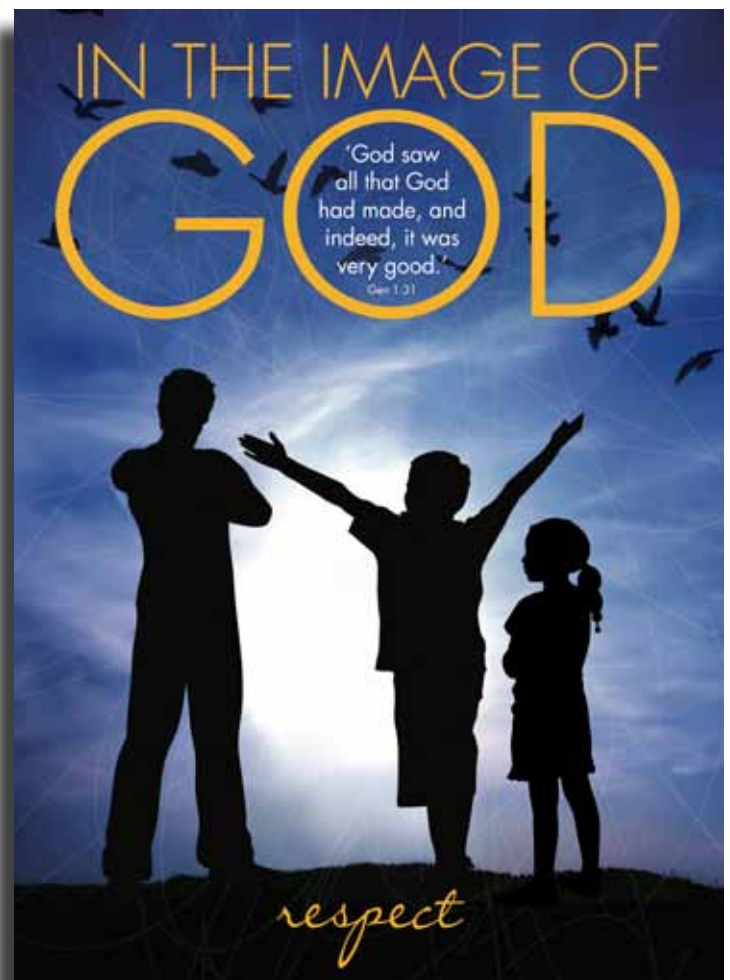
The amazing thing about God, is that as powerful as God is, God has chosen not to force us to respect one another and the rest of creation, but has given us the power to choose. God has given us the power to fully participate in the act of sustaining and enhancing God's creation. We have the power, the privilege, and therefore the responsibility, to choose to respect.

But how could we do otherwise when we realise that we are forever in the company of a tender, merciful and compassionate God who loves each of us unconditionally!

May the year ahead be a rewarding and memorable one for the Marcellin Community.

My best wishes for 2011,

Br David Hall, FMS
Headmaster



FROM THE HEADMASTER

TERM DATES 2011

Term 1 Commences for Year 7 on Monday 31st January. Year 7 boys are to meet at Heffron Park by 8.45 am. Lessons commence for all boys formally on Tuesday 1st February at 8.40 am. Boys are to be in normal full uniform without blazer. School will conclude at 3.20 pm for all students.

Term 1 Formal lessons conclude on Friday 8th April at 3.20 pm.

Term 2 Commences Wednesday 27th April at 8.40 am. Please note this IS NOT a pupil free day. Lessons commence for all boys on this day.

Term 2 Concludes Friday 1st July.

Term 3 Commences Monday 18th July at 8.40 am. This IS NOT a pupil free day. Lessons commence for all boys on this day.

Term 3 Concludes Thursday 22nd September after the Year 12 Graduation assembly (approximately 1pm). Friday 23rd September is a staff inservice day.

Term 4 Commences Monday 10th October at 8.40 am for all boys.

Tentative concluding dates for the year are as follows:

Br David will inform parents of the confirmed date early in Term 2.

Year 10 Conclude with their prizegiving on Monday 28th November.

Year 11 Conclude Friday 9th December.

Years 7/8/9 Conclude formal lessons on Tuesday 13th December.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND MISSION STATEMENT

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

IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

respect

MISSION STATEMENT

At Marcellin College Randwick we support and respect the individual talents of all our students, encouraging them to become good Christians and good citizens enlivened by the Marist Charism in a community where we provide a just, tolerant and spirit-filled environment in order to educate the whole person.

Respect

Respect



FROM THE HEADMASTER

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday 24th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 25th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Wednesday 26th January	Closed - Public Holiday
Thursday 27th January	8.00 am to 4.00 pm
These hours then continue for the rest of the term.	

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Friday 21st January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Monday 24th January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 25th January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Wednesday 26th January	Closed - Public Holiday
Thursday 27th January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Friday 28th January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Monday 31st January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 1st February	normal opening times

BOOK HIRE COLLECTION TIMES

Years 7 and 8 are to collect their stationery packs from rooms 21 and 22. Text books/Book Hire for Years 7-10 are to be collected from the library.

Friday 21st January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Monday 24th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 25th January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm
Wednesday 26th January	Closed - Public Holiday
Thursday 27th January	8.00 am to 3.00 pm

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE AND ATTENDANCE

As stated in previous newsletters we have made huge improvements in student attendance over the last few years. Academic progress and a settled environment can only occur when priority is given to continuity of attendance. It is essential for this to occur if your son is to achieve and prosper. We once again seek parent support in minimising absence from school. I would expect boys to be at school unless too sick to do so. It disturbs me that some parents cover for absences by failing to make their sons accountable for days off. This is giving your son mixed messages and ultimately will only harm his progress.

Monday continues to be the worst day for attendance. I do not support flexi days on Mondays so as to recover from busy weekends. I would encourage parents to monitor weekend activities a little more so as to ensure attendance of a Monday. In 2011 once again I will not be permitting football trips organised by clubs. We have some 3 months of holidays each year which gives clubs ample time to arrange holiday activities. I would encourage all parents to pressure clubs to find an acceptable time which does not clash with school routine.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE

Apart from medical appointments all requests for leave are to be submitted in writing to the Headmaster **well before the date for leave**. Extended holidays are not encouraged so thanks in advance for your support with this.

SICK LEAVE

All absences from school, except for prior approved leave, are to be rung in to the office **by 9.30 am on each day of absence**. Please ring the absentee line (02) 9398 8009 to inform us of your son's absence. Failure to ring will necessitate the office staff calling to check on your son's absence. This takes up much time as you would appreciate so many thanks in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

PARENT TEACHER DAYS 2011

Parents are reminded that these are not optional events. The College has only one full parent teacher evening for each year group so your presence on these nights is the expected norm. Reports will not be posted out in 2011; only distributed at Parent Teacher nights. Parents unable to come on the designated night would need to arrange an interview with the Year Coordinator on a subsequent day in order to collect reports.

YEAR 7	• Meeting with homeroom teacher : Wednesday 16th March	TERM 1 - WEEK 7
YEAR 7	• Full Parent - Teacher evening: Wednesday 20th July	TERM 3 - WEEK 1
YEAR 8	• Wednesday 27th July	TERM 3 - WEEK 2
YEAR 9	• Wednesday 27th July	TERM 3 - WEEK 2
YEAR 10	• Wednesday 22nd June	TERM 2 - WEEK 9
YEAR 11	• Wednesday 22nd June	TERM 2 - WEEK 9
YEAR 12	• Wednesday 4th May	TERM 2 - WEEK 2

FROM THE HEADMASTER

PARENTS IN TOUCH EVENINGS

These are always enjoyable and informative evenings so I encourage as many parents as possible to come along. Nights commence at 7.30 pm and are always concluded before 9 pm.

TERM 1 - Wednesday 23rd February

TERM 2 - Wednesday 18th May

TERM 3 - Wednesday 3rd August

TERM 4 - Wednesday 19th October

COLLEGE OPEN EVENING

This will be held on Wednesday 2nd March from 3 – 6 pm. Lessons will conclude at midday on this day to facilitate set up. All Year 7 and a group of Year 11's will be required to attend this evening to act as our hosts. All parents and friends are invited to come along to view our College facilities.

APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7 2012

Interviews for Year 7 2012 will commence in the next few weeks. My intention is to have all enrolments finalised prior to the end of term. Please act now by calling Mrs Marlene Smith for an enrolment package if you wish your son to attend Marcellin in 2012.

Current parents missed out on a position for Year 7 this year because of late application. Please do not leave this important job. In 2011 we had 300 applications for 175 positions so as you would appreciate there is great demand for places at Marcellin.

SCHOOL FEES

I would appreciate it if parents can keep to the advertised date for submission of school fees.

The dates are listed below.

If you need assistance or are having difficulty with payment please contact Mrs Margaret Thurston, our Business Manager, to arrange an interview to discuss this matter.

Term 1 fees due Monday 7th March

Term 2 fees due Monday 30th May

Term 3 fees due Monday 15th August

COLLEGE UNIFORM

Parents are requested to only purchase uniforms from the uniform shop so as to ensure correct style and colour.

Please mark all clothing clearly in a number of places so if lost they can easily be returned to the owner.

College bags are available from the shop and are compulsory for boys in Year 7. If boys in Years 8-12 require a new bag we would prefer they purchased a College bag. If you choose not to do this be sure that the bag you purchase is predominantly navy or black in colour.

HAIRCUTS

Parents are asked to ensure boys return with the correct style of hair. No unnatural colours or styles are permitted. Boys will be excluded from school until their grooming is rectified and required to make up for missed time after school hours. This facet of uniform has improved considerably but there are always some who try to push the boundaries.

Our expectations are clear in this respect and these along with other matters that relate to uniform and grooming are detailed in a letter from your Year Coordinator which accompanies this newsletter.

PICK UP

Please do not pick up your son in vehicles at the Alison Rd gates after school. Boys have been told to meet parents either in 'the avenue' which is adjacent to the Police Station or on the northern side of Alison Rd. We have some 12 buses stopping on Alison Rd after school. If cars are blocking the stop the buses just drive past with the result that boys are left at school.

DRIVING

This is a privilege for Year 12 students only!

Year 12 boys may drive to and from school only. They are not permitted to drive to sport or to excursions. At no time may any other student be with a Year 12 student in a car. A lengthy suspension will result if boys ignore these guidelines.