

## SPECIAL EDITION

Number 1  
23rd January 2012

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

**2012.** Welcome to a new school year. I hope the Christmas and New Year break was a rejuvenating one for you and your family. And I hope that the year ahead will be a rewarding and prosperous one for us all. When we launched our College Strategic Plan at the start of last year – a plan that details our aspirations for three years (2011-2013) – we also launched a new theme or focus for the College that would also span this period of time: **IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.**

This theme 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, nurture it, and even enhance it.

Throughout 2011 much of what I had to say to the boys at Headmaster’s Assemblies revolved around the understanding that we have a responsibility to respect ourselves and one another because each of us is made in the image and likeness of God. 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.

What that responsibility looks like is sharply defined for us in the Gospel of St Matthew. In Chapter 25, Jesus tells us what God will be looking for ‘at the end of time,’ when God considers how well we have done in nurturing and enhancing God’s creation. Jesus implores us to compassionately and generously care for our fellow human beings and concludes:

**“Whatever you did to one of the least . . . you did to me.”**

How we treat one another is how we treat God, because each of us is an image of God. And Jesus reminds us that God is especially concerned with how we treat the most needy, the most vulnerable, those who are weak and struggling. This will be our focus for 2012. Our aspirations are summed up well for us in our Marist spirituality document, *Water from the Rock*:

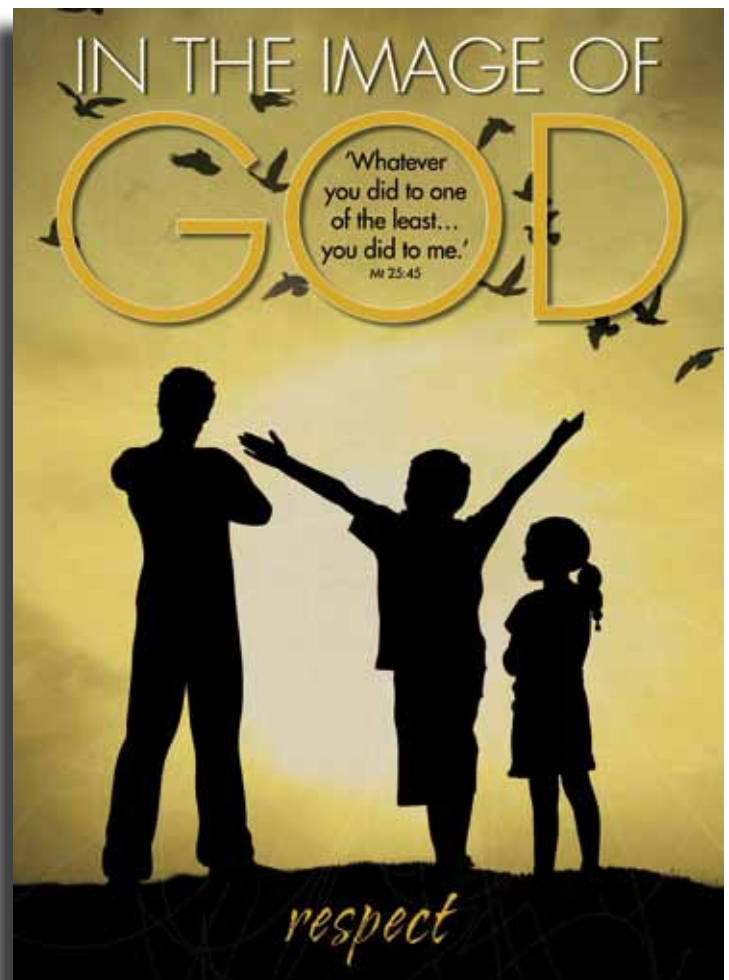
The cries of the world, especially those of poor people, touch the heart of God and ours as well. The depth of God’s compassion challenges us to be men and women whose hearts have no bounds since in his infinite love, God continues to be totally involved with all men and women and today’s world, with its disappointments and hopes. (#127)

At MCR, in 2012, we will be seeking to make God more present through our mutual care for one another, and particularly of those among us, and in our wider community, who are most in need.

My best wishes for 2012,



Br David Hall FMS  
Headmaster



# FROM THE HEADMASTER

## TERM DATES 2012

**Term 1** Commences for Year 7 on Monday 30th January. Year 7 boys are to meet at Heffron Park by 8.45 am. Lessons commence for all boys (Years 7-12) on Tuesday 31st January 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 Thursday 5th April.

**Term 2** Commences Monday 23rd April at 8.40 am.

**Term 2** Concludes Friday 29th June.

**Term 3** Commences Monday 16th July at 8.40 am.

**Term 3** Concludes Thursday 20th September after the Year 12 Graduation assembly (approximately 1 pm).

**Term 4** Commences Monday 8th 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 11 conclude Wednesday 12th December.

Years 7/8/9/10 conclude on Tuesday 18th December (we are awaiting Catholic Education Office advice on a possible earlier finish for Year 10).

Staff Development Days (Pupil Free) for 2012 will be advised when dates are set.

## 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.*



# FROM THE HEADMASTER

## SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday 23rd January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 24th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Wednesday 25th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Thursday 26th January	<b>Closed</b> -Public Holiday
Friday 27th January	8.00 am to 4.00 pm*
*These hours then continue for the rest of the term.	

## BOOK HIRE COLLECTION TIMES

Years 7 and 8 are to collect their stationery packs and text books from rooms 21 and 22. Text books/Book Hire for Years 9-10 are to be collected from the library.

Monday 23rd January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 24th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Wednesday 25th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Thursday 26th January	<b>Closed</b> - Public Holiday
Friday 27th January	9.00 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.

## 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 2012

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 2012; 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 14th March	TERM 1 - WEEK 7
YEAR 7	• Full Parent - Teacher evening: Wednesday 18th July	TERM 3 - WEEK 1
YEAR 8	• Wednesday 25th July	TERM 3 - WEEK 2
YEAR 9	• Wednesday 25th July	TERM 3 - WEEK 2
YEAR 10	• Wednesday 27th June	TERM 2 - WEEK 10
YEAR 11	• Wednesday 27th June	TERM 2 - WEEK 10
YEAR 12	• Wednesday 2nd May	TERM 2 - WEEK 2

## UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Saturday 21st January	8.00 am to 12.00 pm
Monday 23rd January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Tuesday 24th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Wednesday 25th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Thursday 26th January	<b>Closed</b> - Public Holiday
Friday 27th January	9.00 am to 3.00 pm
Saturday 28th January	8.00 am to 12.00 pm
Monday 30th January	8.00 am to 12.00 pm
Tuesday 31st January	8.00 am to 11.00 am
Thursday 2nd February	8.00 am to 1.00 pm

## LOCKERS

The list of locker numbers will be on display from Monday 23rd January on the Special Achievement Notice Board opposite the College office. Students may place locks on their allocated locker from this date and store books and equipment in lockers if they so desire.



# 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. The evenings will be announced in the College Newsletter and on the website during the year.

## COLLEGE OPEN DAY

This will be held on Wednesday 29th February 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 2013

The new College Enrolment Policy, Procedure and Criteria is available on the College website [www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au](http://www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au) under the 'Our School' tab, in the 'Enrolments' section.

First intake offers will be made by mid February. If we have places available we will open up applications for second intake enrolments.

## SCHOOL FEES

I would appreciate it if parents can keep to the advertised date for submission of school fees. The dates are listed below.

**Term 1 fees due Monday 5th March**

**Term 2 fees due Monday 28th May**

**Term 3 fees due Monday 13th August**

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.

## 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 Years 7 and 8. If boys in Years 9-12 require a new bag we would prefer that they purchase 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.

## 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 - prior approval from the Headmaster is required. 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.