

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 13
August 26th 2009

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

Thank you ... I'm glad you are reading this. I apologise that it has taken so long for me to formally thank you. It is my fourth year here and I am finally getting around to expressing my gratitude to the overwhelming majority of students, parents, staff and Marist Brothers with whom I have worked. Although I have had the odd 'prickly' situation, for the most part, working with you has been a real pleasure.

Nurturing and educating young men is a responsibility we should all take quite seriously. However, it is also one that requires a good measure of fun. After all, life is fleeting and the long hours we spend together flow effortlessly and are remembered more fondly if they include a timely dash of humour. I fear parenting has never been easy but the nature and pace of modern life have added an Nth degree of difficulty (where $N \gg 0$). We can use all the help we can get.

I am often asked how involved parents should become in their child's schooling. I am confident that many of you would agree that there are no simple rules that apply to all boys in all situations. Nevertheless, I do wish to pen some suggestions based on experiences I have had with my own 'flippers' and the countless discussions I continue to have with many of you.

My principal modus operandi is to get involved as much as I can possibly afford to. This is not to say that I am a helicopter parent constantly hovering around my sons' school. Quite the opposite, in fact almost embarrassingly I have exchanged less than a dozen words in total with my sons' high school teachers over three years – so please don't use me as an example in this regard! In my defence, I regularly ask my boys about their school day. "Did anything exciting happen at school?" Or simply "what did you learn today?" I feel the more I know about what, when and how they are learning, the more I may be able to assist.

I do assist my boys with their studies by helping them make sense of homework and assignments, by explaining concepts if I am up to it or by providing them with ideas (ideas that they often mock). I don't do my sons' homework because the cost is too great! I use the term 'afford' to include more than just the costs of time, money and patience. I need to be acutely aware of balancing helping them against the cost of raising boys who lack both academic and social resilience. If I shield, smother or protect them too much I stymie the development of key skills including independent thought, decision making and their abilities to learn from mistakes and rebuild from adversity.

So, be involved as you can possibly afford to but try not to crowd them. By the way, my boys like to be warned prior to imminent catastrophes - "ten more minutes then I kill the X-box"; they like rewards - "if you do thirty minutes on your assignment I'll revive the X-box"; and hate being nagged. A final and heartfelt thank you if you're still reading, for in my considered opinion, you are likely doing a great job as parent, student, teacher or Marist Brother.

Good luck and happy parenting,

Mr Marinko Colak,
Curriculum Coordinator



FROM THE HEADMASTER

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all these boys on their Special Achievements. Well done!



Andrew Norton
Year 10
MCC U16 Golf
Champion



Cameron Black
Year 10
MCC U17 Golf
Champion



Ruben Sondjaja
Year 9
MCC U14 Golf
Champion



Matthew Shean
Year 12
MCC Open Golf
2nd Place



Thomas Warwick
Year 7
MCC U13 Golf
2nd Place



Maxwell Wilson
Year 8
7th in the U14 NSW Cross
Country Championships



Francis Torok
Year 10
7th in the Open NSW Cross
Country Championships



Benjamin Thornton
Year 8
Won Gold medal in the NSW
U13 400m Swimming event

CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr John Finneran who has been appointed Deputy Principal at Marist Kogarah. This appointment commences in Term 4 of this year. While we will be very disappointed to see Mr Finneran leave Marcellin, his appointment is a fitting recognition of the great talent he has and the capacity to lead that he offers. Congratulations on your appointment and our best wishes to you as you take on the challenges of this new role.



Nicholas Roper, Kiriakos Ioannidis, Caleb O'Brien, Conor Docherty, Nikolas Tsoukalas, Alexander Turner
Year 7 Student Leaders for
Semester 2 2009



Thomas Pantle, Anthony Chovan, Rodolfo Malenha
Year 8 Student Leaders for
Semester 2 2009



Samuel Kelley, Matthew Kelly, Christian Said
Year 9 Student Leaders for
Semester 2 2009



Peter Daras, Jialong (Andy) Li, Zachary Hodgson
Year 10 Student Leaders for
Semester 2 2009



Andrei Bilic, Marcus Braunsteiner, Vincenzo Fedele, Daniel Fernandez, Emanuel Giuffre, Richard Gyuris, Jamie Livingston, Evan Polos, William Weatherburn
Marcellin boys in the Maroubra United U18s Football Club who made it into the ESFA semi finals

CONGRATULATIONS

To the following boys who won \$150 shop vouchers for full attendance in Term 2 - Year 7: Joshua Stepkovitch, Year 8: Benjamin Quintana, Year 9: Daniel Cantlon, Year 10: Christiaan Catimbang, Year 11: Madalitso Masache, Year 12: Han Zhang. Congratulations to all boys who had full attendance in Term 2.

Also to the following boys who won prizes in the term draw for Academic Blue Awards - Year 7: Aaron Pennesi, Year 8: Joshua Gunawan, Year 9: David Yalpi, Year 10: Blake Doyle, Year 11: Madalitso Masache, Year 12: Tristan Meyers.

FROM THE HEADMASTER

TERM 3 CALENDAR EVENTS

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|------------------------|--|
| Thursday 27th August | • MCC Athletics Carnival, Homebush. |
| Friday 28th August | • Headmaster's Assembly including Winter MCC Sports Presentations. |
| Saturday 29th August | • Ex-Students Lunch (refer to back page of newsletter for more details). |
| Thursday 3rd September | • College Sports Photo Day. |
| Friday 4th September | • Semester One Academic Award Assembly. |
| Monday 21st September | • Year 11 Preliminary Exams. Conclude Tuesday 29th September. |
| Thursday 1st October | • Graduation Day for Year 12 and final day of lessons for Term 3. |
| Friday 2nd October | • Staff Inservice Day. |
| Monday 19th October | • Day One Term 4. This IS NOT a staff day. Lessons resume 8.40 am. |

Parents are requested to note these dates in your calendar. Boys absent on the final day of school will be required to make up for missed time by forgoing sport in Term 4 for the first two weeks. Parents are reminded that it is unacceptable for boys to be absent on these days. I realize there are always exceptions to the rule but it is quite obvious that some families are not supporting College guidelines. Please assist the College by supporting these expectations. Many thanks.

UPCOMING PARENT EVENTS

A Spring Southern Highlights trip to Mittagong and Bowral coinciding with the Tulip Festival will be held on Sunday 27th September, leaving MCR at 9 am. Only one bus will be going to Mittagong so the trip is limited to 40 places only. \$20 covers morning tea and bus travel.

A Taize Prayer Night will be offered for all later this year. This will be a free event and a most relaxing evening. Details will be forwarded shortly. I'd encourage as many parents and friends to come along for what will be a most prayerful and reflective evening.

The Term 4 Parents in Touch Evening will be our Annual School Review Meeting to provide feedback for our 2009 school priorities. To be worthwhile we need 80-100 parents to give the College valuable feedback on the priorities we have been implementing at Marcellin this year. We need your input so please set this night aside. It is a relatively simple format and all you need to do is contribute your feedback. Our Term 4 meeting is being held on Tuesday 27th October at 7.30 pm. Please mark this day in your diary.



MITTAGONG TULIP FESTIVAL
2009

Sunday
27th September
Leaving MCR
@ 9am
Cost: \$20

We will arrive at Mittagong for leisurely morning tea and some wine tasting. We will travel to Bowral around midday where you will be free to visit gardens, take lunch & shop at your leisure.

The \$20 cost covers morning tea & bus travel. Lunch and entry to gardens will be at your own expense. Departure time is 3pm. There are only 40 places available so the first 40 to send in the reply slip with \$20 (no cheques please) to Br Bill will be included in the trip!

With thanks,
Br Bill

I _____ am interested in the Mittagong Tulip (Print Full Name), Festival Trip on Sunday 27th September and enclose _____ Son's Name: _____ Homeroom: _____

Confirmation will be sent by Br Bill.

NEW SCHOOL BUS - 685 TO BOTANY

After many letters to State Transit we have finally received a new bus (an extension of our current 685 bus route) to Botany shops. This new extended bus route commences on 24th August and rather than finish at Eastgardens will now go via Swinbourne St and Banksia St finishing at Botany shops. My thanks to State Transit for their openness to this and to Alex Werfel from Year 9 who wrote to the Transport Minister seeking the new bus. Boys will be provided with further details at school.



SPORT AND COMMUNITY NEWS

PARENTS IN TOUCH EVENING



Thank you to all the parents who attended our Term 3 Parents in Touch Evening on 5th August. It was great to see over 100 parents attend. Many thanks to Mr Brian Vane-Tempest for his official launch of our new website. As you will see on inspection, our new site is easy to navigate and provides much more useful information about the College. Thanks to Mr Vane-Tempest, Br Joa and Mr Paul Putland for all the work done in preparing our web site. Thanks also to Mr Marinko Colak who spoke about various curriculum matters including; your son's mark, reporting, assessment and external testing. Any parent wishing to follow up matters involving the College website or curriculum are invited to contact the relevant staff via email.

WEBSITE - CALENDAR

Over the next few weeks we will feature an area of the new College website. This issue we focus on the calendar section of the website. The easiest way to find out what is happening at the school is to visit the calendar section which can be accessed from the home page of the website on the bottom left hand side. Under the heading 'Upcoming Events' click on 'Click here to view all events'. This opens up to the current calendar month. To view other months click on the drop down button on the right hand side under the month. A reminder to click the 'refresh' button on the top of your screen each time you visit the website to ensure you are viewing the latest version. Visit: www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au

SPORTS PHOTO DAY - THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER - ALL MCC TEAMS

MCC sports photos will be taken on Thursday 3rd September. Boys are asked to check the sports notice board for details. Those boys who have represented at a higher level this year are to have individual photos taken after their team photo. All boys in the photos must have the correct team uniform.

REBEL SPORT DISCOUNT VOUCHERS

Every purchase that a member of the Marcellin community makes at any Rebel Sport Store will receive a 5% discount and 5% of that purchase also goes to a Marcellin tally. Over time, this tally grows which enables us to purchase sporting equipment for the school at no cost. Every boy has received a coupon which should be produced with your first purchase at Rebel and they will exchange your coupon with a plastic card. If you do not have a coupon, your son can pick one up from Mr Capizzi or Mr Davidson.

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator

MARCELLIN EX-STUDENTS ANNUAL MASS & LUNCH

The Marcellin Ex-Students Annual Mass and Lunch this year will be held on Saturday 29th August. Mass commences 11 am at the College with lunch to follow at 12.30 pm at Coogee Surf Club. The cost is \$55. To RSVP please contact Mrs Sharon Elliot on 9398 6355.

MARCELLIN EX-STUDENTS CLASS OF 1989 - 20 YEAR REUNION

The Marcellin Ex-Students Class of 1989 - 20 Year Reunion will be held on Saturday 10th October 2009 at 6pm at Randwick Rugby Club. The cost is \$30 which covers finger food. To RSVP please contact Simon Pizzinato on 0411 555 346 or email simonp@generalbeton.com.au

OLSH PARISH YOUTH GROUP MEETING 28TH AUGUST 2009

Our next meeting will be on 28th August 7 - 9 pm at the Parish Centre on Avoca St. Please bring your supper contribution and a gold coin donation as well as your friends. Any questions call Elizabeth on 0431 861 387.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Hearing Awareness Week Sunday 23rd - Saturday 29th August 2009 - Using Ipods and MP3 players with the volume up will take less time to damage your hearing, causing irreversible hearing loss. www.apple.com/sound has information about placing a volume limit on your ipod. For a free hearing screening test and information on the latest hearing aid technology visit the Hearing and Balance Centre, St Vincent's Hospital Open Day on Saturday 29th August 10am-2pm. For more information email enquiries@hearingbalance.com.au or call 1300 134 327.

South Sydney High School Evening with Celia Lashlie - Parents and staff of Marcellin are invited to attend an evening with Celia Lashlie at South Sydney High School on September 15th at 7pm. For information contact katybed@hotmail.com

FREE Randwick City Council workshop for parents who are teaching their teenagers to drive - Wednesday 9th September at 6.30 pm at Randwick City Council, 30 Frances St Randwick. New laws for L and P licence holders, supervising learner drivers, benefits of supervised on-road driving experience, completing the learner driver log book. Bookings essential, phone 9399 0786.