

# MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



## NEWSLETTER

Number 11  
July 30<sup>th</sup> 2008

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

In the lead up to World Youth Day I was quite struck at the extent of the negativity expressed by much of the TV, radio and printed press. Many focused on the inconveniences of the event or deliberately looked for negative items to focus in on the foibles of the church. The press tend to be often critical of church structures, usually overlooking the many good people who tirelessly work for the good of others. It is easy to point the finger while offering nothing positive in return. I believe much of the disillusionment in our society lies very much at the feet of our news media. Rarely do we get balanced or constructive reporting. In fact much of the press seems keen to prop you up one day to only knock you off your perch the next. I can think of numerous sporting people who have suffered much on the whim of our news editors. There is an obvious lack of hope and positive thinking in the outlook presented by much of our media. Prior to his arrival in Australia Pope Benedict XVI had this to say;

*"It is my firm belief that young people are called to be instruments of that renewal, communicating to their peers the joy they have experienced through knowing and following Christ, and sharing with others the love that the Spirit pours into their hearts, so that they too will be filled with hope and with thanksgiving for all the good things they have received from our heavenly Father.*

*Many young people today lack hope. They are perplexed by the questions that present themselves ever more urgently in a confusing world, and they are often uncertain which way to turn for answers. They see poverty and injustice and they long to find solutions. They are challenged by the arguments of those who deny the existence of God and they wonder how to respond. They see great damage done to the natural environment through human greed and they struggle to find ways to live in greater harmony with nature and with one another.*

*Where can we look for answers? The Spirit points us towards the way that leads to life, to love and to truth. The Spirit points us towards Jesus Christ. In him we find the answers that we are seeking, we find the goals that are truly worth living for, we find the strength to pursue the path that will bring about a better world".*

It would be a breath of fresh air if our media tried to present a similarly positive and constructive message rather than always seeking out the cynical and sensational. Pope Benedict's prayer for hope is a welcome change from the pessimistic and negative approach usually confronting us daily in the print media, TV and radio news. What are we doing to challenge this cancer which eats away at our values and generally positive outlook?

I came across this reflection from Catherine DeVrye on hope and it is worth taking some time to soak in her message. May we all aim to be people who do our best to bring hope and encouragement to those we encounter. I am sure we will all appreciate the benefits that flow from a positive outlook on life.



With best wishes

Br Bill Sullivan, fms  
Headmaster

*Hope is what happens when you first see a light.  
Just a distant, small star in the darkest of night.*

*Hope is what happens with the first buds of  
spring  
When dawn touches the sky or a bird spreads its  
wings.*

*Hope is what happens when a wound starts to  
heal  
Whether skin deep or soul deep, you begin to feel  
real.*

*Hope is what happens when you're poor but not  
broken  
There's a goldmine of dreams - just not yet  
awoken.*

*Hope is what happens when someone is kind  
A feeling not lost - just misplaced in your mind.*

*Hope is what happens when war turns to peace  
After everyone prayed that the fighting would  
cease.*

*Hope is what happens with the smell of fresh rain  
When your long drought of dreams is renewed yet  
again.*

*Hope is what happens when clouds finally clear  
Troubled thunder falls silent - courageous  
whispers you hear.*

*Hope is what happens when your heart skips a  
beat.  
And, so least expected, a soul mate you meet.*

*Hope is what happens when kindling ignites  
You rediscover your passion that burns day and  
night.*

*Hope is what happens when the pain eases a bit  
And deep down inside, you find your true grit.*

*Hope is what happens as long as we breathe  
For although it takes time, the sorrow will leave.*

*Hope is what happens long after the pain  
Hope is what happens - again and again.*

**Yes, hope happens!**

# FROM THE HEADMASTER

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

### FULL ATTENDANCE TERM 2

Congratulations to the following boys who won Eastgardens vouchers for full attendance last term – Well done!



Gerald Kuo  
Year 7



Hugh Sherwood Mearns  
Year 8



Joshua Werfel  
Year 9



Christian Stirling  
Year 10



Sam Taucher  
Year 11



Jules Smith Ferguson  
Year 12



### ACADEMIC BLUE INCENTIVE PRIZE

Congratulations to Jackson Hart Year 7, for winning the inaugural Academic Blue Award incentive prize on the final day of term. Jackson also received an Eastgardens voucher to spend over the break.



### CARDINAL'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Congratulations to Thomas Bracken College Vice Captain, who is a worthy recipient of the Cardinal's Award for Student Excellence in 2008.



### STAFF CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Congratulations to the following staff members who received our newly created Staff Contribution Award. This new award recognizes staff who go beyond the call of duty in supporting our students & fellow members of staff. The following staff are worthy recipients of this award.



Ms Dana Barnsley



Ms Jenny Dove



Mr David Ferguson



Mr Andrew Martin



Ms Rachel Thompson

### SPECIAL PROGRAMME WEEK 4

This year we are experimenting with a new style of programme where all camps and activities are set to coincide with the Year 12 trial HSC. The purpose of this is to minimize lesson disruption at other times of the year so as to ensure teacher absences and class disruption is contained within this one week.

The programme will be as follows:

Year 7	Normal lessons on Monday & Tuesday, Camp on Wednesday – Friday.
Year 8	Normal lessons on Monday & Tuesday, Special Programme on Wednesday – Friday.
Year 9	Camp all week.
Year 10	Work experience all week.
Year 11	Ministry Week all week, boys meet at Heffron fields on Friday.
Year 12	Trial HSC all week, Year 12 return to class on Tuesday 19th August.

# NOTICES AND NEWS

## MARIST INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

As a precursor to WYD08, 18 Marcellin students and five teachers joined 800 other pilgrims for the Marist International Festival at St. Joseph's Hunters Hill. The Festival had everything from international renowned speakers such as Br Cesar Henriques, Child Rights Activist from El Salvador and former Governor General Sir William Deane; innovative and creative liturgies; a great time at Luna Park and a spectacular fireworks display at Mittagong. Lucien Alperstein College Captain said, "What an event, a time to meet so many people, Marists from around the world, committed to social justice and the transformation of the world." Congratulations to ex-Marcellin College Randwick teacher Mrs Carole Wark for organising the Festival and to all teachers who assisted in its organisation and supervision.



## WYD08 - MARCELLIN STUDENTS TAKE IT BY STORM!

WYD08 without doubt was a major success not just for the 300 000 people involved in the week but for the 52 students and six teachers from Marcellin College Randwick who participated. The week commenced with a walk to Barangaroo and then the Opening Mass with over 200 000 pilgrims. The walk gave the students a taste of what was to come with thousands and thousands of young people from all over the world, filled with joy and a deep love of Jesus Christ. "The atmosphere right though the week was electric... I did not know faith could be so much fun" exclaimed Billy Hodgetts from Year 10.

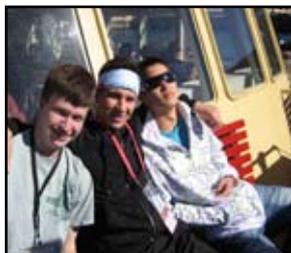


Through the week the students attended Catechesis (teaching) and then festival events such as concerts and workshops in the afternoon. For many boys the highlight was the powerful rendition of the Stations of the Cross against the cityscape while others equally loved the pilgrimage across the bridge and sleep over at Randwick. Anthony McIver summed it up perfectly, "WYD gave me the opportunity to discover things about my faith that I never knew were possible... to meet so many people and to be part of such a powerful event will always stay with me." Many thanks to our WYD Coordinator Mr John Finley for his organisation at the College and for the teachers who supervised - Ms Barnsley, Ms Thompson, Mr Doyle and Ms Wong.

## 500 PILGRIMS SLEEP AT MARCELLIN COLLEGE

What about the luck of the draw! 500 pilgrims from around the world were lucky enough to bed down at the College for the course of the WYD week. Several class rooms and the Marist Centre were utilised for sleeping while all staff participated in providing breakfast and assistance wherever it was needed. Thanks to those parents and students who assisted with the week particular with the BBQ on their first day of arrival and on the final Sunday.

*Mr John Finneran, Religious Education Coordinator*



## COLLEGE IMPROVEMENTS

### Over the recent break the following improvements took place around the College

- Our new sporting house banners have been placed in the hall.
- Five classrooms (21-22, 24-26) have been recarpeted at a cost of \$15 000.
- New air-conditioning has been installed in the 50's, 60's & 70's classrooms at a cost of \$25 000. (Much of this was paid for by a Commonwealth Grant in the 2008 Investing in our Schools Programme)
- New railings were installed in some of our stairwells to improve safety at a cost of approximately \$10 000.
- 70 of our library chairs were recovered at a cost of \$3000. The remaining 70 chairs will be recovered at Christmas.
- We are soon to install 2 new seminar rooms in the resource centre and will increase the number of computers available for students. We will also be installing a new hall of fame in the entrance of our resource centre.

# NEWS AND SPORT

## 2008 MCC WINTER GRAND FINALS

The College was represented by our four junior Rugby League teams on Grand Final day winning 3 out of the 4 games contested, with only our Under 14 team narrowly defeated on the day. Both the Under 13's teams were convincing in their wins with the Under 13 Division 1 winning 34 to 26 and the Under 13 Division 2 victorious by 22 to 10. The Under 15's totally dominated their game by beating Bankstown 42 to 6. The Under 14's battled hard and after being down by 10 points in the first 10 minutes, they fought back to be in front with two minutes remaining. The Lewisham front rower, however, crashed over in the dying minutes to steal victory. The boys were courageous in defeat with the eventual score being 24 to 28.

All our boys performed superbly on the day and played the game in the spirit in which it is intended. A special mention must go to the coaches of each team for their commitment this year and thank you to every boy for the way they conducted themselves all season, a tremendous effort from everyone.

*Mr Robert Capizzi, Sports Coordinator*

### MCC 2008 Rugby League Grand Final Results

Team	Under 13 Div 1	Under 13 Div 2	Under 14	Under 15
Opposition	V Lewisham	V Lewisham	V Lewisham	V Bankstown
Result	Won: 34 to 26	Won: 22 to 10	Lost: 24 to 28	Won: 42 to 6
Player of the Match	Blake Hurley	Ben Gordon	Alex Thomas	Aaron O'Brien

### Under 13 Division 1



## MCC RUGBY LEAGUE PREMIERS 2008

- UNDER 13 DIVISION 1
- UNDER 13 DIVISION 2
- UNDER 15

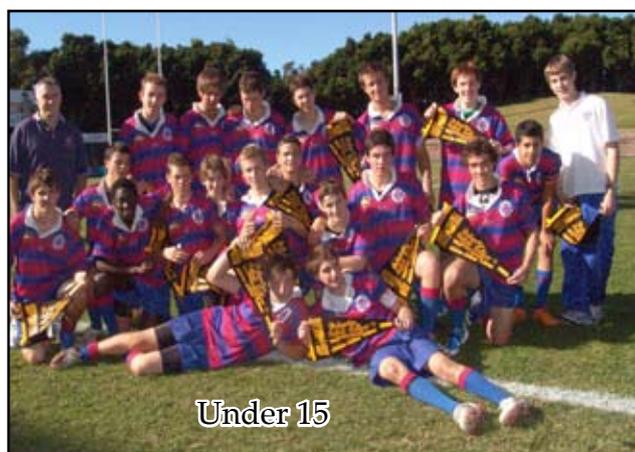
**Congratulations Boys Well Done!**



### Under 13 Division 2



### Under 15



A determined run

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 30th July

•Year 8 Parent/Teacher Evening

Thursday 31st July

•Sports Photos (Boys must have the correct team uniform)

Friday 1st August

•MCC Winter Sports Awards Assembly

Monday 4th August

•HSC Trial Examinations commence

Wednesday 6th August

•Year 9 Parent/Teacher Evening

Wednesday 27th August

•Special Parents in Touch Evening - Boys Education

## SPECIAL PARENTS IN TOUCH EVENING

On Wednesday 27th August the College will have special guest speaker Dr Andrew Martin, renowned Boys Education author and researcher, presenting an evening entitled *Motivating Boys*. More details will be sent home with your son in the coming weeks, it is sure to be an informative evening.

**MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK**

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