Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Marcellin,

They’re 24, 23 and 21 now but I knew their parents before they got married so I’ve seen them grow up in a household I admired and I always thought they were good kids. Perhaps I’m biased as their parents are good friends of mine and I have shared in the warm and generous hospitality of their home many times. I was there on Easter Sunday evening enjoying a delightful meal of vodka infused gravlax, lamb fillet, chargrilled vegetables and chocolate fondant pudding. It was accompanied by a 1998 Lindemans Pyrus Cabernets – exquisite.

They are people of means and privilege. The kids all went to elite private schools and did very well in the HSC. They’ve either finished or are enrolled in high powered university degrees. According to social and educational benchmarks all is auguring well for successful, even comfortable futures. So is it any wonder that a good deal of the dinner conversation centred around the most interesting or intriguing places on our international travel itineraries. And there was a lot to share.

But the conversation took an interesting turn when one of them recounted the profundity of travel experiences to developing countries where people struggle for survival. He had been on an immersion experience organised through his school and it was one of those life-changing experiences. One of those experiences that changes the way you see the world and adjusts, sometimes radically, your priorities and more significantly your attitudes to other people.

This conversation took us to the experiences of one of the others currently working as a one-on-one carer in a primary school with a student who has acute social and learning needs. As we heard of the challenge of keeping this student in a mainstream school, and the exhaustive aspirations of the parents that she be able to stay there, we mused about the question of when the needs of one particularly needy person starts to impinge on the comfort, aspirations and opportunities of others.

It’s a tricky question but what heartened me most was the emphatic conclusion that we must put considerably more effort into those in need than we do into those more abled and more fortunate in the eyes of our society. There was a deep sense of social justice, even solidarity that pervaded the conversation. Their Dad summed it up in the paraphrased words of the famous German philosopher Freidrich Nietzsche:

The moral fibre of a society is measured on how it treats those who seem to be the least productive in an economic sense; the severely disabled, those requiring welfare benefits and the dying. When someone seems to have little or nothing to offer economically to what ends must we go to meet their needs? “To the ends of the earth’ was the conclusion amongst these inspiring young people; it is better to be accused of being too strenuous in our efforts to improve the lot of the marginalised and less privileged than to have done too little. And not only through charitable works but more significantly in treating people of great need with the same dignity and respect afforded everybody else. It is about ‘being with’ as much as it is about ‘doing for.’

It is this notion of SOLIDARITY that was the topic of our staff development day on Holy Thursday. We organised the day in response to a very challenging goal in our College Strategic Plan, Onwards & Upwards: “New Horizon 1.2 Solidarity: The engagement and development of staff that further shifts the College to a solidarity mindset as distinct from a charitable works approach.” We wanted to develop the staff in this way so that they in turn can develop our boys to be young men of solidarity. Young men whose very presence exudes respect and dignity for all people regardless of their place in society.

Already every boy in the College from Year 7 through to Year 12 has received his Solidarity log book requiring him to record the hours he spends in family and community ministry. That is, the hours he spends undertaking good works for others – engaging himself in activities that are not about fulfilling his own needs, but instead, responding to the needs of others. Why get them to record these good deeds? Because it helps develop good habits, and eventually our good habits become good attitudes.

It seems that this mindset of solidarity is what our new Holy Father is calling us to. Pope Francis is challenging us to use our opportunity and privilege for the good of others, and especially those most in need. I heard the same message around the dinner table on Easter Sunday evening and it is my hope that the boys at MCR turn out to be like the young adults whose conversation sent me home buoyed with Easter hope.

With my best wishes,
Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster
FROM THE DEPUTY HEADMASTER

As I reflected over Easter, three questions entered my mind, and I offer some answers to these important questions:

1. How Did Easter Get Its Name?

Before Christianity in early England, the people celebrated the vernal equinox with a feast honouring Eostre, the Pagan goddess of spring. When the early English Christians wanted others to accept Christianity, they decided to use the name Easter for this holiday so that it would match the name of the old spring celebration. This made it more comfortable for other people to accept Christianity. Some believed that the word Easter came from an early German word ‘eostarun’, meaning dawn and white. Newly baptised Christians wore white clothes as a sign of their new life on Easter.

2. What Is Easter?

Easter is the celebration of Jesus Christ’s rising from the dead (His Resurrection) after His crucifixion which took place on what we now term Good Friday.

Easter is usually celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon following the Vernal or Spring Equinox on March 21. This can be any Sunday between March 22 and April 25. It is the most sacred of all the Christian holidays or celebrations.

Christ’s return (or rising) from death is called the Resurrection. According to the scriptures, Christ’s tomb was empty three days after His death, which is commemorated on Good Friday. His followers saw Him and talked to Him after this. Christians therefore believe that they have the hope of a new life (an everlasting life in Heaven) after their earthly death.

3. What Is The Holy Week?

The Holy week is the last week of Lent. It begins with the observance of Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter Sunday. The name, Palm Sunday originated from Jesus’s entry into Jerusalem. The crowd laid carpets of palms on the street for Him. The Last Supper is commemorated on Holy Thursday of this special week (often called Maundy Thursday) and Friday is the anniversary of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the cross. The Lenten season and Holy week end with Easter Sunday (the Resurrection of Jesus Christ).

I hope the community of Marcellin College had a very Happy and Holy Easter.

Mr Peter Buxton
Deputy Headmaster

TERM 1 CALENDAR EVENTS

Friday 12 April ANZAC Day Ceremony
Friday 12 April Last Day of Term

TERM 2 CALENDAR EVENTS

Monday 29 April Term 2 commences 8.40am
Friday 3 May Marcellin Athletics Carnival
Wednesday 8 May Year 12 Parent Teacher Evening 3.45pm - 8.30pm
Friday 10 May Headmaster’s Assembly - Summer Sports Presentation
Wednesday 15 May - Family Mass - this is a compulsory event for Year 8 students
Friday 17 May - 90 Year Gala Dinner and Sculpture Blessing - all students dismissed at 1pm
Monday 3 June - College Photo Day
Wednesday 5 June - 90 Year Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral 9.30am
Tuesday 18 June - Year 10 Senior Subject Information Evening 7pm - 8.30pm
Monday 24 June - Staff Development Day - Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 25 June - Year 10 and Year 11 Parent Teacher Evening - 3.45pm - 8.30pm
Friday 28 June - Last Day of Term

2012 COLLEGE YEAR BOOK

Copies of the 2012 school magazine are now available. All families should have received a copy. Boys from Year 12 2012 can come up to the school to receive their copy.

UNIFORM SHOP

The uniform shop hours are Tuesday 8am-11.15am and Thursday 8am-1pm. The shop will also be open on Saturday 6 April and Saturday 27 April 8.30am - 10.30 am. Blazers are a compulsory item for all boys from Day 1 Term 2. Junior blazers are in stock - please purchase early to avoid the rush. The following items are reduced: Original Sports Shorts $20 (limited sizes), original style tracksuit (limited stock) - Years 8-12 only, Jacket $50, Pants $40.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARENTS CONFERENCE

iConnect...with Learning in Partnership, in Faith - Saturday 25 May Keynote Speaker Andrew Fuller - Shaping Your Child’s Genius - Andrew is a clinical psychologist who works with many schools and communities in Australia and internationally, specialising in the wellbeing of young people and their families. Fore more information visit www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au
MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK
ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER

Old Boys their partners, former staff, parents & friends of MCR are warmly invited to join the College in celebrating our 90 year anniversary at a gala dinner. The evening will include a blessing of a sculpture in the College courtyard, a fully catered three course meal including drinks (beer, wine and soft drink) and music and dancing with the very entertaining John Field Band. It is sure to be a night to remember. The College is subsidising the cost of a ticket to ensure that the night represents excellent value. It is sure to be a night to remember! The College will accommodate the purchase of any number of tickets, however if you wish, you can also purchase a table of 10.

DATE: Friday 17 May 2013
TIME: 6:30pm
VENUE: Marcellin College
195 Alison Road,
Marist Centre
DRESS: Lounge Suit
COST: $100

Cost includes fully catered three course meal with beer, wine, & soft drink and musical entertainment from the well renowned John Field Band.

Tickets on sale now - numbers are strictly limited!
For further information call (02) 9398 6355.
Coming out of exams, I felt a huge sense of relief knowing I was free for a small period of time. Being in this mind set I thought of retreat as just a chance to slack off, however once we returned from it I realised it was a chance for me to escape ‘reality’ so that I may simply reflect on what I’ve grown to become and how I want to shape my future. Whilst the rest of the school began to make their way home on Wednesday 20 March, we hopped on two buses and made the long drive to Mittagong. I had been to Mittagong before so I was aware of my surroundings however there were other students who were experiencing it for the first time. I knew it would be my last time there so I tried to enjoy the beautiful country scenery. We participated in several group activities but my favourite would have had to be The Beatitudes: Affirmations. This involved being in a group of eight (some of which weren’t exactly close friends) and one teacher. We then began to share our truthful thoughts and opinions on each other. Whether you were with a close friend or not this exercise brought everyone a little closer together and although it felt strange at first receiving positive comments from peers, it was also pleasant and a little amusing hearing them being delivered maturely and honestly.
I feel very appreciative for our time there and being able to reflect in such a peaceful and spiritual environment. I’m also grateful to teachers who gave up their own time to accompany us and maintain such a positive attitude. It’s evident that the relationship between teachers and students has become stronger. Special thanks to Mr Damian Chase and Mr Ian Laing who were brave enough to open up and share their personal life story to us, something I respect them immensely for. My final message to boys attending retreat in the future is a simple one; ‘only the person who risks can be called FREE’.

Ben Quintana
Year 12 Student
**YEAR 9 ZOO EXCURSION**

On 19 March, Year 9 Art travelled to Taronga Zoo, Sydney for an excursion. The task of the day was to complete at least twenty life like drawings of different animals. To complete these drawings we had to use lead pencils, biros, coloured pencils and felt tip pens. All of these different resources allowed us to complete each drawing with the texture of the animal, thus making our drawings as life like as possible. We were also asked to use different drawing techniques such as continuous line, tonal drawings, and also blind continuous drawings.

When we entered the education centre we were greeted by a Zoo Keeper, Ryan. He took us into the education centre where he allowed us to touch and see some of the animals up close; some of the animals were an echidna, a bird, a shingle back and a snake.

Once drawing each of the animals in the education centre, we travelled to the food court where we had lunch. After lunch we drew the elephants that were right outside the food court, which was very convenient as we could draw whilst having lunch. Once we had finished eating we moved on to the meerkats which were one of the easiest animals to draw after the koala, because they did not move. The chimpanzees were harder to draw because it was a hot day, therefore there was little movement and they were all in the shade. It was a fun day over all and a great experience to be able to draw all day.

Thomas King

Year 9 Student

**YEAR 11 ART EXCURSION**

On 5 March, the Year 11 Visual Arts class went to the Art Express Exhibition at the Art Gallery of New South Wales where three of last Year’s Year 12 high achievers spoke at a seminar about their body of works. I learnt that everyone has a different perception of art and can have a varied approach to their bodies of works; all of which are valid in the art world.

After the seminar, we went up to the exhibition which showcased 42 student works. The works were executed to an outstanding level and were truly inspiring. My favourite work was a piece called ‘I feel therefore I am, Titanic’. The artwork was drawn with black pen using intricate detail. I loved the way it was organised on the wall to create meaning whereby its off centred composition on the wall was also representative of the sinking of the ship, a feeling in which many overwhelmed year 12 students may experience metaphorically during their final year of high school.

Overall, it was a great day, enjoyed by all of the Year 11 students that attended. I would definitely recommend others to explore and be inspired by this exhibition.

Mitchell Dicalfas

Year 11 Student
WORLD’S GREATEST SHAVE

My brother Sean and I participated in The World’s Greatest Shave. It was a request we made to Br David who was happy to agree to it as Sean is a survivor from childhood cancer. For those who don’t know, The World’s Greatest Shave is a fundraising event held to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation, an organisation dedicated to researching a cure for blood cancers, and helping to provide free treatment. Participants in this event shave their head or colour their hair, raising money to be donated to the Foundation. For the past three months, we have been fund raising, and have raised over $1,200. At lunch time on Friday 15 March Sean and I both had our heads shaved by two ladies from Just Cuts. It was quite an enjoyable event. The money raised will greatly help those families who have loved ones with cancer.

James Hayes
Year 11 Student

MCC SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Thursday 21 March the swimmers competed at the MCC Swimming championships at Homebush. The squad has trained three mornings every week since early February in preparation for the carnival, hoping to defend the four trophies won last year. For the second year in a row, they came away with all four trophies which is a remarkable achievement. While many boys were victorious in individual events, the depth of talent in the squad shone through as they dominated the relay events. On behalf of the squad, I would like to thank Ms Jane Evans, Miss Emma Clifton, Mr Paul Leary and Mr Benjamin Toohey for their efforts in preparing the team at training each week. The swimmers received great support from Year 7 and Year 12 students who cheered them on in the grandstands. My thanks to all staff who supervised on the night, as well as parents and families who came along to support the swimmers. Thanks also to Mrs Debra Moore in the canteen for providing breakfast, and to Mr Dave Ferguson for helping drive the boys to training.

Mr Luke MacNamara
Sports Coordinator

MCC SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

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<tr>
<th>Juvenile Cup</th>
<th>Junior Cup</th>
<th>Senior Cup</th>
<th>Overall</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Marcellin 391 points</td>
<td>1st Marcellin 226 points</td>
<td>1st Marcellin 125 points</td>
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<td>2nd Kogarah 346 points</td>
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<td>2nd Pagewood 78 points</td>
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<td>3rd Pagewood 277 points</td>
<td>3rd North Shore 182 points</td>
<td>3rd Kogarah 32 points</td>
<td>3rd Pagewood 562 points</td>
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Jack Rheinberger
Benjamin Thornton
Benjamin Davis
Huon Fairbairn
Congratulations to our MCC Swimming Champions!

MCC GOLF AND TENNIS
The College Golf & Tennis championships will take place next week on Thursday 11 April. The Golf will be held at The Coast Golf Club Little Bay starting at 7am and the Tennis will be held at Snape Park Maroubra starting at 8.30am.

ATHLETICS
Luke and Joshua Dever recently competed at the Australian Junior Athletics championships in Perth. Luke won a Bronze medal in the U17 2000m Steeplechase and came 7th in the U17 1500m. Congratulations to both boys on their fantastic effort to qualify for these championships and to achieve such results.

Mr Luke MacNamara
Sports Coordinator

MCC CROSS COUNTRY
Our Cross Country squad will compete at the MCC championships this Thursday at King George’s Park Rozelle. The squad have been training well for a number of weeks, and I wish them all the best in preparation for their defence of the title they won in 2012.