

# MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



## NEWSLETTER

Number 6  
April 4th 2012

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

Last week I read carefully the comments on the school report of a boy who is trying to get a place at Marcellin this year. Things aren't working at his current school and he wants to come to MCR. What struck me was the frankness of the comments; none of them derogatory, but all of them quite explicit about why the boy was doing so poorly at school. If the boy wants to do well all he need do is heed the well-articulated advice of his teachers. The floss had been removed, they didn't hold back, and if he listens he has every opportunity of improving. I was happy to find a similar degree of sharpness in the Homeroom teacher comments on Year 12 Reports which I proofread over the weekend but I think we could do better. Not because the teachers didn't do their job, but because we need to change our data collation timeline. Next year I'm changing the sequence so that teachers have more information so as to be able to make even more specific comments about what a boy needs to do to improve or what he needs to keep doing to stay on the road to success.

These experiences stood in stark contrast to a visit I made last week to another school. For the forty minutes I sat in the Assembly the person leading from the microphone chimed, without variation, nine times, "thank you all for behaving so beautifully." But they weren't – and especially not the boys. The group I sat behind were initially restless and then, as proceedings advanced, downright uncooperative, even rude. They weren't all behaving beautifully. I suspect the person at the microphone knew that (and was probably furious with the inactive staff adjacent to the group) and was working out of the mindset that if you say something frequently enough it will happen. But it didn't, and it won't. Not with kids. Words need to be coupled with action.

The experience took me back to an essay I read last month in the Sydney Morning Herald by our well known, much esteemed social commentator Hugh Mackay (SMH, Weekend Edition, March 3-4, p.22). The essay, *THE MARKETING OF BRAND ME*, carried the by-line: *Every part of our society has become infected with the virus of self-promotion, obsessed with recognition.*

Mackay offers an interesting reflection in relation to how we raise kids:

"From an early age, we're training our children to expect recognition and rewards way beyond what seems reasonable. A gold star for breathing. A certificate for turning up. Lavish praise for functioning like a reasonable kid. This is dangerous stuff, because it creates an expectation that we will be taken more seriously than is healthy for us."

I agree with Mackay. I see it in some of our kids (fortunately not many); an unhealthy sense of entitlement, and in a few, refusal to cooperate unless I'm rewarded for what I do. I'm all for prizes and recognition – one day last term we gave Year 9 a uniform free day for behaving so well at the MCC Basketball finals – but the two paragraphs that conclude Mackay's article provide us with a poignant caution:

"In the rush of awards, prizes and tawdry self-promotions designed to pump up our self-esteem, an important idea is in danger of being overlooked. The evidence from research - and from commonsense - is that self-respect, is the key to

a satisfying and productive life and the keys to self-respect are humility and restraint, not self-promotion.

Self-respect is a thing we earn by the way we handle disappointment, tedium and loss, as well as those fleeting moments of happiness. There is no short-cut, and no amount of self-promotion will get us there."

The first of the three dimensions of the MCR learning platform is **MUTUALLY RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS** – Mackay has reminded me to stick at trying to achieve this.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS  
Headmaster

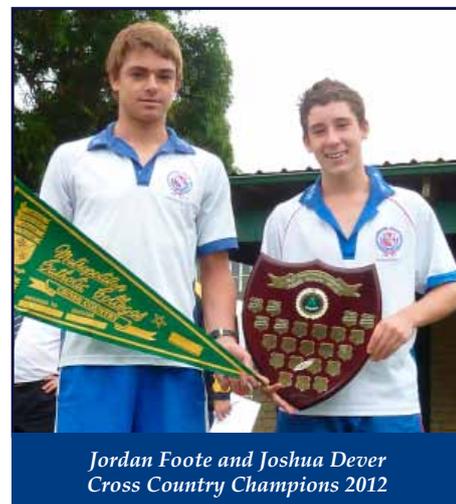
# NOTICES AND NEWS

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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

*Congratulations Athletics Age Champions!*

*Congratulations MCC Cross Country Champions on your 8th consecutive year win!*



*Jordan Foote and Joshua Dever  
Cross Country Champions 2012*

## CONGRATULATIONS

Year 9 student Luke Dever won a Bronze medal in the U16 2000m Steeplechase at the Australian Junior Athletics championships. Luke also came 3rd in his 800m heat and finished 12th overall in a field of 29.

Year 9 student Joshua Dever came 4th in the U16 3000m and 5th in the U16 1500m races at the Australian Junior Athletics championships. Joshua came 3rd in his 800m heat and finished 10th overall in a field of 29.

## TERM 1 CALENDAR EVENTS

Thursday 5th April

- Last Day of Term One.

## TERM 2 CALENDAR EVENTS

Monday 23rd April

- Term 2 commences at 8.40am.

Friday 27th April

- Anzac Day Assembly.

Wednesday 2nd May

- Year 12 Parent Teacher Evening 3.45pm-8.30pm.

## LENTEN APPEAL

The amount raised so far for our Lenten Appeal is \$12,720.25. Years 7 and 8 completed their Sponsored Fast on 30th March. The boys have also had BBQs, raffles and various other fundraising events such as selling pancakes. Monies raised will go to Marist Asia Pacific Solidarity (MAPS), Caritas Australia and St Vincent De Paul Society. Students and parents can use their QR Reader on their smartphones to read more about the work of MAPS.

*Mr Damian Chase, Social Justice Coordinator*



Q Code for MAPS

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

The CSDA Public Speaking competition consists of three rounds with over 60 schools involved from the Sydney and metropolitan area. This year Marcellin College entered twelve speakers with three advancing to the final round of the competition. The CSDA Public Speaking competition is fiercely contested, with many talented orators taking part, it is a remarkable achievement to proceed into the final round.

During the competition all of the Marcellin speakers exhibited great rhetorical skill and excellent sportsmanship. Special mention to the three boys who made the final of the competition; Thomas Pantle (Year 11), Timothy Nichols (Year 10) and Alex Krikorian (Year 7). Each of the boys who participated spoke in a mature and articulate manner and should be extremely proud of their achievements.

*Mr Stephen Davidson, Public Speaking Coordinator*

## 2011 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Copies of the 2011 school magazine are still available. Boys from Year 12 2011 can collect their copy from reception.

# NOTICES AND NEWS

## EXCURSION TO THE POWERHOUSE MUSEUM

On Tuesday 20th March Ms Bourke accompanied the Year 11 Design and Technology class to the Power House Museum. The purpose of this excursion was to view outstanding Major Projects from HSC Design and Technology students from 2011 and participate in a designer workshop with other schools. The workshop gave us the opportunity to share design ideas with other schools on the topic we were given, 'Ipod case designs'. Students were in a group of five and had to draw a design they thought would be suitable for the Ipod. We had to briefly share our ideas and explain why we thought the design would be suitable, and give each other positives and negatives about our designs. We saw many interesting innovations from last year's HSC students' Major Projects and there were many inventions such as 'the robotic arm'. The presenter at the museum spoke to us about the many successes in the career of Design. It is a future career path that I would like to take later in life.

*Daniel Lin, Year 11 Student*



## ITALIAN TRIP.....CIAO MARCELLIN

This Thursday, at 6am a group of Marcellin and Brigidine Italian language students will leave for Rome for just over 2 weeks along with ten Marcellin Ancient History students from Year 12. The language students will stay with Italian families who are a part of the exchange program and will go to school with the children in their respective host families. The Ancient History students will be visiting many historical sites all over Italy, such as the Roman Forum, The Vatican, Pompeii and Herculaneum. You can follow their travels at their online travel diary - [ciaomarcellin.blogspot.com](http://ciaomarcellin.blogspot.com)

## YEAR 12 RETREAT

Year 12 returned to school this week having participated in three days of retreat at the The Hermitage in Mittagong. The retreat is a structured time away from the normal routine of home and school where students are given the opportunity to reflect, listen and share as they contemplate relationship, relationship with themselves, significant others and God and creation. The retreat program is designed to allow students to experience reflective time, to listen to presentations in a large group environment, become involved in small group discussions, as well as enjoy the company of their friends sharing meals and recreation time.

Through the use of the College theme 'In the image of God' the retreat was developed around three 'themes':

- To better understand **relationship** and its role in our formation – through an exploration of family
- To facilitate an opportunity for **affirmation**; of self and others – through an interpretation of The Beatitudes
- To reflect upon '**God in my life**' – by reflecting and interpreting 'journey'

In what was a deeply reflective and faith affirming experience, the students participated in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. The retreat also provided the staff with an opportunity for their spiritual growth as well as the chance to meet the young men of Year 12 outside the usual confines and limits of the traditional classroom. We trust that the senior retreat is a highlight of the final year of schooling for our senior students and we look forward to offering a similar experience with other cohorts as they progress into Year 12 at MCR.

*Mr Anthony Boys RE Coordinator, Mr Paul Daley Year 12 Coordinator*



## CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

Many parents would be aware that the College commenced planning in 2011 for significant capital works for the school site to enhance the educational opportunities for our boys. These works are to provide for:

- Food Technology and Hospitality, and a Drama teaching and performance space in the Marist Centre,
- A refurbishment of the College library incorporating collaborative learning spaces, with an extension to accommodate new general learning areas,
- A new canteen,
- A multi-purpose space to replace the rooftop playground (top level) that would host examinations, music performance, parent functions and other school activities.

Our planning has been extensive to date, including several meetings with Br David, Margaret Thurston (Business Manager), architects and Catholic Education Office (CEO) representatives. Architectural drawings are well advanced, and are now ready to be prepared for a Development Application with Randwick Council.

At our most recent meeting, members of the CEO Financial and Planning team from Leichhardt endorsed the scope of the works planned and the need for these at Marcellin. There is now a concerted effort underway to have our plans approved expediently so that we can set out a clear timeline for the works to begin. At this stage it is not possible to announce a definite timeline on the project.

This is an exciting time for MCR as we look forward to the enhancement of learning opportunities for our boys in the not too distant future. I will keep our community updated on the progress of our capital works as the project progresses.

*Mr Brian Vane-Tempest, Director of Development and Communications*



# SPORT AND NEWS

## MARCELLIN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The 89th Athletics carnival was held at ES Marks Athletics track Kensington on Monday 26th March. The 400m championships was the first event and then the boys rotated through their disciplines in their age groups. The events included the 100m, 200m, 800m, Shot Put, High Jump and Long Jump. Congratulations to the boys on the way they competed and with the spirit they displayed on the day. This was epitomized with the running of the 100m finals and the relays at the end of the day. Boys lined the grandstand rail cheering their team mates on. Congratulations to Samuel Disalvo and the Champagnat house for taking out the Aggregate trophy. This broke the run of four successive titles Anselm held.

<b>CHAMPAGNAT 2177</b>	<b>FALLON 1896</b>	<b>IGNATIUS 1856</b>	<b>ANSELM 1364</b>
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Age Champions	1st	2nd	3rd
U12	Lachlan Golsby	Adam Lombardi	Jeremy Cham
U13	Jonathan Mitsias	Charlie Nye	Lucas Varnier
U14	Jai McGrath	Chad Curtain	Thomas King/ Jed Bouris
U15	James Bassil	Luke Dever	Nat Butcher
U16	Luke Irvine	Joshua Ellison	Fraser Graham
Opens	Erik Eklof	Benjamin Thornton/Blake Hurley	



Samuel Disalvo Champagnat House captain with the winning shield

## NSWCCC SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Friday 26th March thirty boys qualified for the NSWCCC Swimming championships at Homebush. Seventeen of these boys have now qualified for the next level, the NSW All Schools Carnival at Homebush on Monday 7th May. Well done boys!

## GOLF AND TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nominations have now been called for the Marcellin College Golf and Tennis championships to be held this Thursday at The Coast Golf Club and Snape Park Tennis Courts. The Golf begins at 7am and the Tennis commences at 8.30am. Boys should have already expressed their interest to Mr Davidson and Mr MacGee for the Golf, and Mr Mullaly for the Tennis. All boys are to have their own equipment and must compete in their sports uniform.

## RUGBY LEAGUE AND SOCCER

The Rugby League and Soccer teams have been announced and the first round of competition begins on Thursday 26th April (Term 2 Week 1) against La Salle College Bankstown. All boys must have the correct uniform and equipment for each match. Training will re-commence on Tuesday 24th April. The exception to this will be the A and B Grade Soccer teams and A Grade and U15 Rugby League teams who will be involved in the MCC Rep Round this Thursday. The Soccer will be played at Beaman Park Marrickville, the A Grade Rugby League will play at Marcellin Fields and the U15 Rugby League will play at Nagle Park Maroubra. These teams will play their Round 5 match against North Shore and will also be playing for selection in the MCC team which will compete later in May. Best of luck to all boys involved.

## CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Thursday 22nd March the Cross Country team made it eight straight titles winning the Cross Country championships at Rozelle. The squad got off to a slow start, however the last two age groups, the U14s and U15s were outstanding in their running and their efforts saw the team finish 9 of the 10 runners in the top 6 of each age group. This ensured we would hold on to the title. Well done to all boys involved and a big thanks to their coaches Mr Proctor, Mr Carroll and Mr Ross for the thought they put into the training schedule and the time they devoted in running with the team.



Cross Country Aggregate Results		
PLACE	SCHOOL	POINTS
1ST	Marcellin	914
2ND	Kogarah	893
3RD	Lewisham	776
4TH	North Shore	771

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sports Coordinator

## MCC CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONS

<b>Under 12s</b>	
Liam Shaddock	8th
<b>Under 13s</b>	
Stephen Young	5th
<b>Under 14s</b>	
Harrison Lewis	1st
Wil Mison	2nd
Jesse De Costa	4th
Samuel Morgan	5th
Jarrold Deep	6th
<b>Under 15s</b>	
Joshua Dever	1st
Luke Dever	3rd
Tom Scullion	4th
Jake Irvine	6th
<b>Under 16s</b>	
Jordan Foote	1st
Luke Irvine	4th
<b>Under 17s</b>	
Kel Hambly	2nd
<b>U18</b>	
Tom Keogh	7th

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Uniform Shop:** Apologies from the uniform shop regarding Saturday 31st March. The shop was unable to open due to staff illness. The shop will be open on Saturday 21st April and Monday 23rd April from 8.30-10.30am.

**Marist Solidarity Cambodia:** Marist Solidarity Cambodia are selling beautiful handicrafts. Yodicraft provides training and employment for young Cambodians with disabilities to become more self-sufficient. By purchasing their goods you are helping Cambodians with disabilities to become self-sufficient and escape a life of poverty. For more information visit [www.yodicraft.com](http://www.yodicraft.com)