

## NEWSLETTER

Number 6  
April 6th 2011

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

**violence** /'vaiələns/, *n* 1. rough force in action. 2. rough or injurious action or treatment. 3. any unjust or unwarranted exertion of force or power, as against rights, laws, etc.; injury; wrong; outrage. 4. rough or immoderate vehemence, as of feeling or language; fury; intensity; severity. 5. a distortion of meaning or fact.

It's a disturbing, confronting, even distasteful word, isn't it? VIOLENCE. One conjures up pictures of the catastrophe of war, or the horrors of vicious crime, or the gang activity of out-of-control groups of young people. Violence. It's what other people do, not what we do. It's the activity of people less dignified, less thoughtful, less Christian than ourselves. And in many instances that is true. But not always. Have you ever considered yourself a person of violence? Certainly, in our humanity, we all have the potential to be violent, but most of us see ourselves as more disciplined, more restrained, more in control, so as to avoid being violent to others.

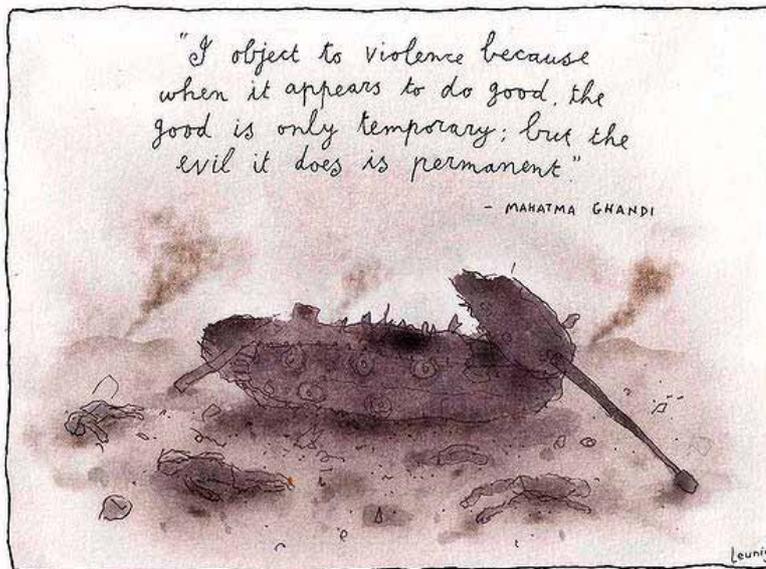
But have a look at the definition again – particularly the last two explanations of this word (4 & 5): "4. rough or immoderate vehemence, as of feeling or language; fury; intensity; severity. 5. a distortion of meaning or fact." In this light I think I have been a person of violence, and I think I know, work with, live with, and even love people who have, and are, violent. I think this is more the case in our current time and place than it was not so many years ago. Why? I think email, texting, Facebook, Twitter, and the like have made it easier for us to be more violent to one another. It's so much easier, in haste, and often without much thought, to send off a message to let someone know how we think or feel about a matter. But once sent – it's impossible to take back. Distorting the truth is the penchant of the adolescent. In just about every incident we have to investigate at

school someone manipulates the truth, usually to protect themselves, and often without sufficient thought of the impact of this manipulation. Learning not to manipulate the facts to our own benefit is part of the growing-up process and it is important for teachers and parents to ensure boys learn this important skill. In my experience many parents do this well but we need to be vigilant in reminding boys that their version of events is not the only one and that learning to present the facts, without the emotion, is an important adult skill. They will not grow into this skill without being challenged.

They need to learn also, that the ill-considered, hastily sent email, text, Facebook or Twitter message is hard to retrieve and is particularly damaging when it uses language that is

offensive, immoderate, vehement or too intense in emotion or nuance.

In a world that values power over charity and respectfulness we do well to take heed of the advice of Fr Michael Whelan. In a wonderful publication entitled 'Good Conversation' he lists 11 things to avoid if we are to try and be respectful in our communication with others:



### AVOID:

1. Flamboyant metaphors
2. Point scoring
3. Talking too much
4. Arrogance
5. Personal attacks
6. Finding identity in being 'the victim'
7. Aggression
8. Sweeping generalizations
9. Self-absorption
10. Ideologies
11. Shouting

Not bad advice!

With my best wishes,



Br David Hall FMS  
Headmaster

# FROM THE HEADMASTER

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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



**Pearse Dolan**  
Year 8

Made the team of 8 students to represent the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges at the upcoming NSW All Schools Tennis Championship in Bathurst this April



**Benjamin Thornton**  
Year 10

Won Gold in the Tube Race and Silver in the Ironman at the NSW Surf Life Saving Championships



**Noah Simpkins**  
Year 8

Was a Finalist in the CSDA Public Speaking Competition



**Timothy Nichols**  
Year 9

Came 3rd in the CSDA Public Speaking Competition. This is the third year in a row that Timothy has made the finals.  
Well done Timothy!



**Tom Perrin and Fraser Graham**  
Year 9

Recently gained a Bronze Medal in the U15 Beach Relay at the 2011 NSW State Open Surf Life Saving Championships at Kingscliff representing South Maroubra Surf Life Saving Club



## TERM 1 CALENDAR EVENTS

**Thursday 7th April**

- Last Day of Term One for Years 7-11.

**Friday 8th April**

- Last Day of Term One for Year 12.

## TERM 2 CALENDAR EVENTS

**Wednesday 27th April**

- Term 2 commences for Year 12.

**Thursday 28th April**

- Term 2 commences for Years 7-11.

**Wednesday 4th May**

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

## 2010 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Copies of the 2010 school magazine are still available. Boys from Year 12 2010 can collect their copy from reception.

## PATHWAYS OTHER THAN UNIVERSITY

The College is looking at the possibility of an information evening for parents of senior students to be held in early Term 2. Parents of students in Years 10-12 who would like to express an interest in attending an information evening to examine opportunities other than university when school is completed for them, are asked to register their interest with Mr Ben Proctor, Careers Adviser and VET Coordinator by email [proctorb@marcellin.nsw.edu.au](mailto:proctorb@marcellin.nsw.edu.au)

The College is currently investigating the level of interest in such an evening at this time to gauge support for this venture.

*Mr Ben Proctor, Careers Adviser and VET Coordinator*

## LENTEN APPEAL

A generous response for our Annual Lenten Appeal has seen boys raise \$7,701.90 so far. The boys have had movie days, bbqs and various other fundraising events such as selling pancakes. Years 7 and 8 are participating in a sponsored fast on Wednesday so we will still be collecting money. Those boys are expected to have their monies back before Thursday. Well done to all boys involved in their fundraising efforts.

*Mr Paul Leary, Social Justice Coordinator*

## PUBLIC SPEAKING

The CSDA Public Speaking competition consists of three rounds with over sixty schools involved. This year Marcellin College saw both of our speakers advance to the final round of the competition. The speeches were of high quality and were articulated very well.

All of Marcellin's speakers exhibited great rhetorical skill but special mention must go to Timothy Nichols who placed 3rd in the Year 9 division and Noah Simpkins who placed 5th in the Year 8 division.

*Mr Stephen Davidson, Public Speaking Coordinator*



**Timothy Nichols with his award**



**Noah Simpkins Year 8 and Timothy Nichols Year 9**

## YEAR 12 RETREAT

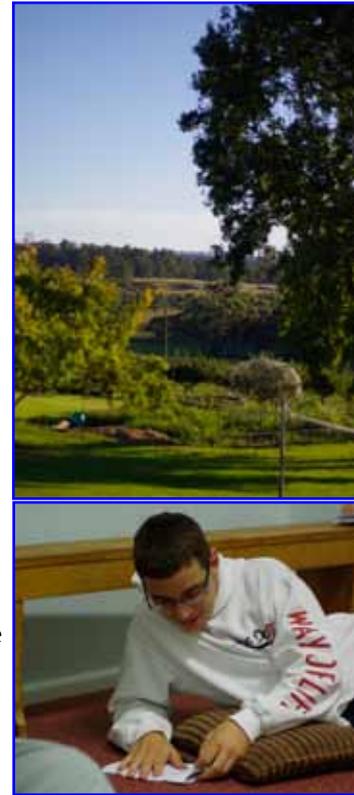
Year 12 returned to school this week having participated in three days of retreat at the 'The Hermitage' at Mittagong. The retreat is a structured time away from the normal routine of home and school where students are given the opportunity to listen, reflect, share and express their relationship with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

Through the use of the College theme 'In the image of God' we created retreat around three distinct 'themes':

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

In what was undoubtedly 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 spiritual growth as well as the chance to meet the boys outside the usual confines and limits of the traditional classroom. We trust that the senior retreat is one of the highlights 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.

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



## ILE@RN SHOWCASE

On Thursday 24th March Marcellin hosted the Archdiocesan iLe@rn Showcase facilitating the gathering of more than 450 School Leaders and teachers from across the Sydney Archdiocese to share ideas about implementing ICT into teaching and learning practices. This was a very successful day with a comprehensive schedule of presentations; including presentations in the leadership stream by Br David, and Mr Bob Anderson. The Showcase Day also provided a valuable opportunity for all Marcellin staff to attend presentations in their specific area of interest and expertise to enhance the teaching and learning which occurs here at Marcellin. The majority of presentations were the reporting of specific new initiatives teachers had been involved in under the Catholic Education Office's 'iLe@rn Projects' program. In 2011 all Key Learning Areas across the College will be involved in iLe@rn projects, which are designed to develop new ways to build the skills and knowledge of Marcellin students in all years. All iLe@rn Projects conducted in schools this year will be presented to teacher gatherings, with the very best being selected for presentation at the 2012 iLe@rn Showcase.

Some comments from participants include:

"This was a wonderful opportunity to see the various ways that the i-Le@rn framework has been applied across all KLA's. It was also fantastic that teachers were given a forum in which to share their knowledge, expertise and best practice in order to develop deep learning".

"Thoroughly enjoyed my time at the iLe@rn Showcase. I have just completed the web 2.0 course and I am very motivated to share this with my students. The showcase provided opportunities for me to speak to teachers who are doing things in their classrooms that I would like to do. For example, I have just started using weebly for homework, with the idea of extending its use throughout the year. I was able to network with another teacher who has used it for two years and look forward to sharing my learnings with staff from my school."

*Mr Bob Anderson, Director of Teaching and M-Learning, Mr Garry McDonald, IT Coordinator*



# SPORT AND NEWS

## MARCELLIN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Monday 28th March the 88th Annual Athletics Carnival was held at E.S. Marks Athletics track. Although the weather was not kind to us in the morning it cleared to be an excellent day. Congratulations to Cameron Black and the Anselm house on winning the carnival for the fourth successive year. Well done to our age champions on the day. The MCC Athletics carnival will be held in August and training will start at the beginning of Term 3.

ANSELM 1804

FALLON 1525

IGNATIUS 1462

CHAMPAGNAT 1432

Age Champions	1st	2nd	3rd
U12	Evan Davis	Conor Quilligan	Daniel Bassil
U13	Alex Kyriacou	Cameron Murray	Chad Curtin
U14	Johnathan Tufuga	Joshua Dever	Luke Dever
U15	Nicholas Giannopoulos	Luke Irvine	Tim Mili
U16	Benjamin Gordon	Maxwell Wilson	Ethan Natoli
Opens	Christian Lozada	Harreson Baldwin	Erik Eklof



Br David presents Cameron Black Anselm House captain with the winning shield



ATHLETICS AGE CHAMPIONS

## GOLF AND TENNIS

The MCR Golf and Tennis championships will be held this Thursday. The golf will commence at 7am at The Coast Golf Club Little Bay and the Tennis will commence at 9am at Snape Park Tennis Centre Maroubra. All boys who have registered are to make their own way to each venue and must have their own equipment. Every boy must compete in full sports uniform. Boys will be dismissed at the conclusion of their event.

## RUGBY LEAGUE AND SOCCER

The Winter Rugby League and Soccer trials have now concluded and congratulations to all boys who have been selected to play in the Rugby League and Soccer teams. Special thanks to any boy who missed out on selection and I encourage you to take part in trials again next year. The results over the last two weeks have been very good but the challenge now is to train hard and try to emulate the results of 2010. This Thursday is the rep round for Under 15 and A Grade Rugby League and A and B Grade Soccer. Boys will play their first competition round against Kogarah. The Combined MCC team will be selected from this round. We wish all boys involved the best of luck this week.



It has been an extremely busy term for sport at Marcellin. We have had many successes so far and I'd like to thank both students and coaches for all their hard work and dedication so far. I hope everyone enjoys their holidays and we return refreshed for our winter sports season.

*Mr Robert Capizzi, Sports Coordinator*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Centenary of Marist Brothers High School Darlinghurst:** Celebrations commence at 10am on 11th July 2011 with Mass at the Sacred Heart Darlinghurst followed by a visit to the school site and thence transfer to a luncheon location by bus. Registration and deposit of \$20 to be forwarded to The Secretary, MBHSDOBU, PO Box A 1411 Sydney South 1235.

**School Holiday Programs at Randwick City Library:** For more information visit [www.randwick.nsw.gov.au](http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au)

**South Sydney District Rugby League Referees Association:** Currently seeking applications from people interested in refereeing in 2011. Closing date for applications is 21st April. For more information email David Field at [recruitment@southsreferees.com.au](mailto:recruitment@southsreferees.com.au)