Dear Parents, Friends, Staff and Students,

In our first school assembly last week I introduced our primary theme for the year ahead. ‘Time To Act’ is the theme we have chosen. In the coming months this will be developed both at school with the boys and via newsletters and parent evenings for the Marcellin Community.

The theme was chosen quite deliberately so as to challenge boys to move beyond the comfortable and to help overcome complacency. Our focus will be to nurture a more generous and willing spirit, encourage academic excellence, pride in their school and endeavouring to give their best effort in whatever task they are undertaking.

This challenge is not for students alone. It is very much intended for staff as well. If we accept the mediocre or fail to challenge insensitivity or selfishness we are failing as Marist educators. While we have a vibrant and talented community at Marcellin it is the role of all staff to nurture student talent and encourage our boys to move beyond a casual approach which impedes achievement and success.

This short reflection helps to highlight the point I am making.

Discipline

The poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge was visited by an admirer one day. During the course of the conversation the subject somehow got around to children. "I believe," said the visitor, "that children should be given a free rein to think and act, and thus learn at an early age to make their own decisions. This is the only way they can grow into their full potential." Coleridge interrupted the man at this point. "I would like you to see my flower garden," said the poet, and he led the man outside. The visitor took one look and then exclaimed loudly, "Why, that is nothing but a yard full of weeds!" "It used to be filled with roses," said Coleridge, "but this year I thought I would let the garden grow as it willed without my tending to it. This is the result."

For the Marcellin Community to reach the level I believe it is capable of achieving will take a commitment on the part of all its stake holders to challenge complacency and mediocrity. As the story suggests, it is all too easy to let standards decline. We can accept the status quo and coast along or we can encourage in our boys a passion to raise their standards a little higher. There have been many examples these past few years where we have seen the boys meet the standard expected of them. Attendance at full school events and regular school attendance are just two examples where our boys have met the challenge and responded to our expectations.

May the year ahead be an opportunity for all of us to raise our expectations and hopes for the young men in our care.

With best wishes

Br Bill Sullivan, fms
Headmaster
Welcome
I would like to welcome our new members of staff to Marcellin College. I hope your association with us will be a long and happy one.

Welcome Back!

😊 To Brother Joa after a term of study leave.
😊 To Mr. John Gluszyk who returns after a year of long service leave.
😊 To Mrs. Olesia Milic who returns after maternity leave.
😊 To Mrs. Christina Betar who returns to Marcellin in a part time capacity.

It is good to have you all back with us.

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<th>Year Coordinators 2007</th>
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Communication on pastoral matters is best addressed to your son’s homeroom teacher as first port of call prior to making contact with the Year Coordinators.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 14th February
• This is the prizegiving evening for Years 8, 9 and 10, beginning at 7.30pm in the Marist Centre. This is a compulsory event for all boys in Years 8, 9 and 10. All students in Years 7-11 will conclude for the day at 1.00pm. Boys are to return to the College for a roll call at 7.00pm. Boys are to be in full uniform (without blazer). This is an important evening and so it is my expectation that all boys make suitable arrangements to ensure their attendance. Parents are encouraged to come along for the evening. With a prompt start at 7.30 we should be concluded for the evening no later than 9.00pm.

Wednesday 21st February
• Inaugural Mass 9.30am. All parents are invited to join us for this event. It will be held in the Marist Centre.
• Parents in Touch Evening - Our first gathering for the year will be held on this night at 7.30pm. We traditionally have a large roll up of parents for this evening. A separate letter will be sent out with details of this night. It will be a guaranteed finish of 9.00pm.

Friday 23rd February
• Meet and Greet Parent Function 6.00pm-8.00pm. A separate invitation will be sent home about this night. All parents are invited to come along to this informal gathering in the College courtyard. It is an opportunity to meet parents and staff in an informal manner. It would be great to see a big roll up of parents on this night.

Sunday 25th February
• Year 12 Retreats commence

* Amendment to College Calendar
Please note a change of date on the College calendar for the Mothers’ Bus Trip to Mittagong scheduled for 13th May. This event will now take place on 6th May. Notes regarding this trip will be distributed at the first Parents in Touch evening on 21st February.
Congratulations to all these boys on their Special Achievements in a number of different fields. Well done!

**Ryan McMahon**
Year 9  
Passed Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion at North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club

**Paul Jewiss**
Year 9  
Passed Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion at North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club

**Matthew O’Connor**
Year 9  
Passed Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion at North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club

**John Bourke**
Year 9  
Passed Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion at North Bondi Surf Life Saving Club

**Sam Robson**
Year 12  
Sam scored 102 for UNSW Cricket Club making him the youngest player to ever make a first grade century for the club. Sam has also selected as first reserve for the U/19 Australian Cricket Team for a test match against Pakistan and in the U/19 Australian World Cup Squad 2008

**Daniel Arbilla**
Year 9  
Selected in the Fraser Park U/15 Super Youth League Soccer Team

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**NEWS AND NOTICES**

**School Bus Information**
Sydney Buses have added a new service to students and parents for information about school special bus routes including comprehensive maps and timetables. This information can be accessed by the link on the College website: http://www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au/years.html or: www.sydneybuses.info/schools

**Ex-Students Golf Day 2007**
Reminder to all ex-students of the Annual Golf Day to be held on Sunday 11th February 2007 at St Michaels Golf Club, Little Bay. Start time 12 noon (11.30am check in time). Field limited to 40 players so please advise of your attendance in advance as soon as possible. For bookings and further details contact Peter Sinclair 9665 6020, Ted Barr 9399 8506 or Barry MacNamara 9344 4215 (work) or 9399 5640 (home). Cost is $50 per head which includes green fees and post match nibbles and snacks. Golf carts are available for an extra fee. Contact the club on 9311 0068 for details and bookings if you wish to book a cart. All welcome!

**Maroubra Soccer Registration**
Maroubra United Soccer Club invite new and existing players, girls and boys, to their registration days on Saturdays 10th and 17th March and Sundays 11th and 18th March at Coral Sea Park, Yorktown Parade, Maroubra. For further information please see local press or visit www.musc.org.au or Registrar: Michelle Bogatyrov 0421 891 496. Maroubra United Soccer Club promotes a sporting environment in which all members of the local community are invited to participate.

**NIDA News**
The National Institute of Dramatic Art (NIDA) starts Term 1 of its Youth Drama, Voice, Screen Acting and Singing classes on Sundays and weekday evenings from 12 February 2007. Drama develops collaboration, vocal quality, physical ease, creativity, theatre appreciation, and self-confidence. Classes are available for ages 2–18 years. For more information or bookings contact NIDA Open Program on 9697 7626 or www.nida.edu.au for full program details.
Swimming Carnival

The 84th Annual Swimming carnival began with the IGNATIUS House looking to make it a rare fourth title in a row. Throughout the day it proved to be a very tight contest with only a small margin separating first and third. At the half way point the Ignatius House and Champagnat Houses were dead even. It was only in the last set of events that the Ignatius House were able to draw away and win the title.

Congratulations to Tyrone Blake and the patrons of the IGNATIUS House on their strong victory. The final point scores for the day were:

IGNATIUS: 845  
CHAMPAGNAT: 805  
FALLON: 747  
ANSEL: 562

The combination of Jack Nicholls, Jackson Raymond, Nick Kondilios and Pat Renford from the Ignatius House were able to break the U/16 4 x 50m Freestyle relay record with a time of 1:53.31. A tremendous feat to be able to break 2 records in consecutive years.

There were many tight challenges for the Individual Age Championships. Shane Leathem finally broke through after 6 years to claim the Opens Championship. A great reward for persistence and commitment to his swimming. The quality of our swimmers was again first class and we look forward to the MCC carnival.

OPENS
First Shane Leathem Champagnat 50 points
Second Brock Molan Anselm 30 points
Third Luke Fletcher Ignatius 26 points

U/16
First Jamie Watts Champagnat 56 points
Second Matt Engel Champagnat 42 points
Third Pat Renford Ignatius 38 points

U/15
First Sam Duffy Ignatius 52 points
Second Matt Cogin Fallon 46 points
Third Jackson Raymond Ignatius 40 points

U/14
First Ethan Baker Anselm 50 points
Second Brendan Irvine Anselm 46 points
Third Alex Engel Champagnat 46 points

U/13
First Ben Dowdle Ignatius 54 points
Second Jacob Burke Champagnat 34 points
Third Jake Scott Fallon 28 points

The Colour Spirit Display and House Cheer Challenges were contested with great enthusiasm. The Champagnat House continually show they have the creative skill and loudest voices and were convincing winners with the judges awarding them 125 points to Fallons 109, Ignatius’ 108 and Anselm’s 106. The efforts of the House Captains, Brendan Thompson, Tom Holland, Jason Clark, and Tyrone Blake, are to be commended.

Finally a thank you to all staff, Mr Dave Ferguson and the Class Parents for all their time and efforts in assisting with the smooth running of the carnival.