Dear Parents, Friends, Staff and Students,

This year a major focus of our pastoral care program will be an emphasis on building a strong relationship between our boys and their homeroom teachers. There are a number of reasons and clear advantages in taking this approach.

First, in a big school like Marcellin it is essential that all boys feel known and cared for. It is much easier to give this care if we can break down 920 students into classroom units of 28 – 30 boys. Most of our homeroom teachers also teach the boys at least one subject, so besides seeing them each morning they also see them during the day and experience the boys in a teaching/learning situation.

Current theories in boy’s education point out that boys are territorial and need a school that is a home away from home. They need to develop relationships with their teachers or at least have a core person who they can turn to. We aim to make the homeroom teacher that key person. As part of that relationship they will also closely monitor the boy’s behaviour and such things as their attendance, punctuality, grooming and uniform. Research also shows that boys enjoy the security of clearly defined and fairly enforced parameters – regardless of how much they continually test those boundaries.

Second, it is a good tactic to establish a hierarchy in a school’s discipline structure. Our aim is to sort out most problems at the classroom teacher’s level. After that the homeroom teacher and/or the Subject Coordinator may become involved. All this time good internal communication should ensure that the parents and the Year Coordinators are kept informed. If the problem persists then in turn the Year Coordinator, the Student Welfare Coordinator, the Deputy Headmaster and finally the Principal will become involved. From a Deputy Headmaster’s position, I have long realized that if I become involved in trivial matters too early then my effectiveness in dealing with serious concerns is diminished.

Finally, it is also important to develop a close relationship between the homeroom teachers and parents. This relationship will depend on good communication. The diary is the key to that communication. Teachers are asked to record most interactions, positive and negative, in the boys’ diaries. We would like parents to regularly check and sign the diary – if you have any concerns let your son’s homeroom teacher know through the diary. In addition, teachers have been encouraged to ring and touch base with the parents of their homeroom students. We would also like you the parents to make the homeroom teacher the first point of contact, even if it is only to see how your son is settling in to the new school year.

We trust that this new emphasis will enhance what we believe is already a strong pastoral program. I welcome any feedback or thoughts that you may have on this initiative. Please feel free to ring me at the College.

Thanking you for your continued support

With best wishes

Mr. Les Salisbury
Deputy Headmaster

Mr Les Salisbury presenting Christopher Zarzour with his Academic Award at the recent Prizegiving Night
Last Friday the students who achieved a Band 6 in one or more subjects in the 2006 HSC were invited to the College for a special assembly. Sam Bartlett, College Captain 2006, gave the following speech at the assembly:

Good Morning Brother Bill, Teachers and Students,

It's great to be back today, I can seriously say that I have missed this place and all the people associated with Marcellin. Of course I love waking up not having to get dressed in a uniform or stress about the busy workload each day. But I do miss being with my mates, and being in such a great atmosphere with tremendous spirit and people who are always there to help. Seriously boys school is good no matter how bad you may think it is. Once you leave you realize how easy you guys have it. You are protected from the outside world and you can turn to teachers for encouragement or to your peers for support.

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the students of the class of 2006 for their academic excellence. It is obvious that the boys in front of me worked extremely hard for their mark and eventually the relentless hours of study paid off. A special mention must go to Matthew Ho who obtained our highest UAI of 97.15, a remarkable effort. However I am sure that everyone would agree that we could not have excelled without the help of our teachers. To all the Year 12 teachers we thank you for your assistance, also to the staff who guided us throughout our schooling years including year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, your efforts have not gone unnoticed. Also to Mr. Fallick and Brother Bill who where always there to encourage and support, we greatly appreciate it.

As I look back on Year 12 there are many tips which I can give to each student. However the most important thing to do is to have a balance. This balance applies to your study, sport, friends, social life and family. Of course you must work hard to achieve a Band 6 in a subject, however do not try to study for 4 hours without a break, because believe me, it does not work. You need to still enjoy life whether it is going for a run, playing football or simply just watching TV. What I can compare it to is to either a surf board or a skate board. If you go too far forward you will nose dive and peak too early causing you to fall short of your goals. If you go to far back you will fall off or burn out eventually slipping behind the rest of the pack. However, if you centre yourself in the middle and find that balance you will achieve your desired goals. So make sure you still work hard in class but try and participate in all parts of college life and school will be fun and enjoyable.

To the Year 12’s sitting their HSC this year I wish you the best of luck. Try not to stress too much as the HSC will not be the end of your life, however it is still important and will be a great head start if you do well. Lastly all I can really say is to enjoy your time at Marcellin. You have brilliant facilities including the Marist Centre and the newly renovated science blocks, the teachers are great and you always have your mates around you. Also to the high achievers of the class of 2006 I hope the path you take in life is both joyful and successful, and let’s try and make sure we keep in touch. So on behalf of all the boys who achieved academic success in the 2006 HSC, we would like to thank you for having us back today and also your support and assistance throughout our schooling years. Thank you.
MARCELLIN ORATORY

The Marcellin Oratory competition was held on the 27th February. This was the first public speaking event of the year. The evening showcased the colossal public speaking talent that we have at the College. The boys all participated with great enthusiasm, courage and spirit. The College also wishes to extend its appreciation to all parents that attended the evening and their support of the Colleges’ cultural events. Congratulations to all the boys who participated in the event! The runners-up and winners of each Year division will now compete in the CSDA public speaking competition that begins on the 9th March at St. Mary’s Cathedral College.

Year 7
Winner: Christopher Yong
Runner Up: Lauren Vallejera

Year 8
Winner: Christopher Edwards
Runner up: Nicholas Saady

Year 9
Winner: Matthew Edwards
Runner up: Christopher Zarzour

Year 10
Winner: John Harding Easson
Runner up: Adam Watterson

Senior
Winner: Thomas Bracken
Runner up: Thomas Holland

PRIZEGIVING NIGHT YEARS 7, 8 AND 9 (2006)

A big thank you to all parents and students from Years 8, 9 and 10 for attending the recent Awards Evening. The night highlighted some of the many academic, cultural and sporting successes of 2006. A final congratulations to all boys for their successes and for what will be another rewarding year at MCR.

Year 7 2006 Prizewinners
- Cameron Black: Headmaster’s Award - Service to the College
- Christopher Edwards: Cultural Contribution
- Kenny Floyd: Christian Leadership
- Christian Lozada: Outstanding Sportsman
- Mark Mirza: Service to the College
- Oscar Nicholls: Headmaster’s Award - Academic Achievement
- Andrew Norton: Headmaster’s Award - Contribution to Sport
- Nicholas Saady: Academic Excellence
- Ben Stepkovitch: Headmaster’s Award - Academic Achievement

Year 8 2006 Prizewinners
- Matthew Edwards: Cultural Contribution
- Jack Janis: Headmaster’s Award - Academic Achievement
- Mitchell Judge: Headmaster’s Award - Service to the College
- Christopher Manouvrier: Service to the College
- Christopher Manouvrier: Headmaster’s Award - Academic Achievement
- Jake Moraghan: Headmaster’s Award - Contribution to Sport
- James Moran: Outstanding Sportsman
- Jake Nurmi: Headmaster’s Award - Contribution to Sport
- Michael Sarrinikolaou: Christian Leadership
- Darren Schai: Headmaster’s Award - Contribution to Sport
- Jack Slattery: Headmaster’s Award - Service to the College
- Christopher Zarzour: Academic Excellence

Year 9 2006 Prizewinners
- Nicholas Bannehr: Headmaster’s Award - Contribution to Sport
- John Hannan: Academic Excellence
- Jack Hawke: Outstanding Sportsman
- Daniel Liew: Headmaster’s Award - Academic Achievement
- Kenrick Setiobudi: Service to the College
- Adam Vella: Christian Leadership
- Adam Watterson: Headmaster’s Award - Service to the College
- Han Zhang: Cultural Contribution

Mr Paul Leary delivered an inspiring speech of encouragement and congratulations on the hard work performed by the students of Year 9 2006.
The annual ‘Meet and Greet’ cocktail party gathering held on Friday 23rd February, was a great success yet again. This year the weather was perfect and there was a large turnout of parents who enjoyed meeting staff and other parents at the first social function of the year. Thanks to the staff and Year 11 boys involved in the organisation of this event, and to all the parents who attended, particularly the new Year 7 parents. We hope that it was a relaxing way to become acquainted with the Marcellin Community.

Meet and Greet Function

Ash Wednesday and Inaugural Mass

On Wednesday 21st February our College Community gathered together to celebrate the beginning of the year with our Inaugural Mass. The Liturgy was both reflective and challenging with students engaged to take up the College theme “Time to Act.” The symbolism of Marcellin’s house in the middle aisle was a powerful reminder to all that we are part of a wider Marist community. It was also very pleasing to have the support of so many of the Marist Brothers living in the Marcellin community. We would like to thank those parents who attended the Mass making it truly a whole school community celebration. Prior to the Mass held in the Marist Centre the distribution of ashes to mark Ash Wednesday was performed in the courtyard, with a whole school assembly. Again the reflective nature of this ceremony brought the whole school together for our journey towards Easter.

We would like to especially thank Fr. Chris Murphy of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish at Kensington, Fr John Rate, Parish Priest Sacred Heart Randwick and Fr Max Blumenthal for concelebrating the masses. Particular thanks to Mr Damien Kerr who coordinated both celebrations. His dedication was reflected in two engaging and spiritual Liturgies. Thanks also to those staff who assisted Mr. Kerr and made this a very special day in the life of Marcellin College.

Sport

The Marcellin MCC Summer teams had all qualified for the semi finals after all rounds were completed last week. Congratulations must go to all Basketball and Cricket teams for winning the Aggregate trophies in a most successful season. Further to this, the Touch teams missed the Aggregate trophy by a single point. In a tense day of semi finals 10 of the 12 teams were able to win their way through to the finals to be played this Thursday the 8th March. Best wishes must go to our Swim Team as they have been preparing for the MCC Swimming carnival this Wednesday 7th March. All parents and friends are more than welcome to support our teams in their finals next week. The Semi Final results were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basketball</th>
<th>Touch</th>
<th>Cricket</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Grade lost to Ashfield</td>
<td>A Grade defeated to North Shore</td>
<td>A Grade defeated to Lewisham 103-88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Grade defeated Bankstown</td>
<td>B Grade defeated Kogarah</td>
<td>U/15’s defeated North Shore 190-160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/15’s defeated North Shore</td>
<td>U/15’s lost Lewisham 4-5</td>
<td>U/14’s defeated Bankstown 2/98 - 97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/14’s defeated Lewisham</td>
<td>U/14’s defeated Pagewood 7-3</td>
<td>All Grand Finals will start at 12pm with the U/14’s and U/15’s playing at Centenary Oval Ashfield and the A Grade at Pratten Park Ashfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Grand Finals will be played at Alexandria Basketball Stadium with the U/14’s starting at 10am, U/15’s at 11am and B Grade at 12pm</td>
<td>All Grand Finals will be played at Tempe Velodrome with the U/14’s starting at 11am, B Grade at 1pm and A Grade at 2pm</td>
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Squash

The Squash team defeated Lewisham 901 to 846. The Squash Grand Final will be played at Willoughby beginning at 1pm.