

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 14
August 24th 2011

Dear Parents, Students, Staff, and Friends of Marcellin,

LOVE. HATE. Linguistic studies over decades have shown that these two words are the most overused words in the English language. Overused in the sense that we use them too often, and therefore, usually incorrectly. They are words that express extremes. We tend to use the word love when we really mean like, or enjoy. Similarly we use the word hate when we mean dislike, or dissatisfaction.

At last week's Headmaster's assembly I suggested to the boys that in our current times love and hate are perhaps not as overused as the words ABSOLUTELY, and AWESOME, but instead of incorrectly using these words we tend, instead, to use them to make something sound better, bigger, more significant and more memorable than it really was.

We are in the era of exaggeration and drama. Look for example at television shows like Masterchef, and the Renovators. We are culturally addicted to these types of entertainment and they, like Australia's Got Talent, use the technique of exaggerated emotion and drama to draw us in and hold our attention. I have written before in this column about this cultural tendency to exaggerate where matters of inconvenience and disappointment are often described as terribly traumatic.

I saw this whole concept played out when I stumbled across one of those airport or border protection television shows late one evening. The part of the show I caught was a bizarre scenario; a woman attempting to board a plane in London, bound for Paris, was stopped at security when they discovered she was carrying a live dog in her hand luggage. The fact that she had attempted to conceal the animal is evidence enough that she was at least aware that such a practice was probably not allowed. Granted, a few airlines are experimenting with pets on board, travelling in the cabin rather than the hold, but not this airline.

Authorities did what I thought was reasonable and even predictable; it being too late to arrange transport in the hold, the dog would be placed in quarantine and transported to her once clearance had been granted.

Given her attempts to deceive I thought she had been made a very reasonable offer, but how wrong could one be. A tantrum ensued, including her attempt to flee authorities, and when finally apprehended she screamed, ranted, cried and hurled insults including claims it was the fault of the airline for not explicitly telling her this when she booked, even though she had never enquired.

If the whole thing wasn't for real it would have been quite entertaining but, in my opinion, the drama and the emotion and exaggeration was simply beyond the pale.

I think our cultural penchant for drama exacerbated this woman's response and I think it is important for us to counsel one another, and our boys in particular, to be wary of this trap.

When things don't go our way we need to be patient and prudent, not dramatic and prone to exaggeration and accusation. When God created the world God breathed God's breath into all creation, including us. We are filled with the breath of God - the Spirit of God. And what are the signs, the fruits of the Spirit of God? St Paul in his letter to the Galatians lists them: love, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. When someone is full of the spirit they are exuberant, and lively, and passionate. But according to St Paul they are also people of forbearance and self control; people who bear thoughtfully with set-backs and challenges and exercise discipline and thoughtfulness in dealing with these challenges.

Boys and young men of the Spirit is what we want to see at MCR, and we will go a long way to achieving this if we counsel them away from our penchant toward drama and exaggeration.

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!

CONGRATULATIONS

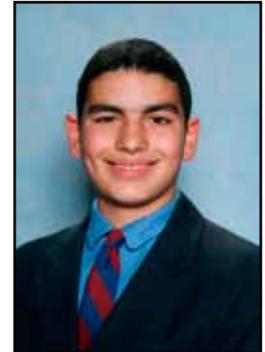


Congratulations MCR A Grade Rugby League boys and their coach Mr Chris O'Connell
MCR A Grade won 52-0 against St John's Nowra



Benjamin Stepkovitch
Year 12

Selected as a member of the Taronga Zoo Science Mentoring Program where he will be writing and delivering Science based zoo activities during Science Week



Kosta Botsikas
Year 9

Kosta participated in a competition run by Macquarie University writing an essay on the theme 'Imagine an Application of Lasers in the Future' winning the Year 9 category.

TERM 3 CALENDAR EVENTS

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| Thursday 25th August | • MCC Athletics Carnival. |
| Friday 26th August | • Marcellin College Trivia Night at 7pm Randwick Labor Club. |
| Saturday 27th August | • Ex-Students Mass and Lunch. |
| Friday 2nd September | • Headmaster's Assembly including the Winter MCC Sports Presentations. |
| Thursday 8th September | • College Sports Photo day. |
| Thursday 8th September | • Year 11 Exams commence. Conclude on Friday 16th September. |
| Monday 12th September | • Year 10 Trial Exams commence. Conclude Thursday 15th September. |

JONATHAN DOYLE'S VISIT

Jonathan Doyle was our guest speaker at the College on Wednesday 17th August. During the morning he spoke to our Year 10 and 11 boys challenging them to become less preoccupied with themselves and more focussed on doing good for others. In the afternoon he met with staff encouraging them to continue to develop strategies that enable our boys to become responsible young men. The day concluded with a Parents in Touch evening where over 100 parents were present. Many thanks to all the parents who were able to join us on the evening, it was a beneficial day for many in the Marcellin community.

Mr Brian Vane-Tempest, Director of Development & Communications



EX-STUDENTS MASS AND LUNCH 2011

The Marcellin Ex-Students Annual Mass and Lunch this year will be held on Saturday 27th August. There will be a tour of the College at 10am. Mass commences at 11am at the College with lunch to follow at the Coogee Surf Club at 12.30pm. The cost is \$60 per ticket. RSVP the College on 9398 6355. Payment by EFT to (Please include your name). Catholic Development Fund : BSB 062-784 Account Number 4953100

TRIVIA NIGHT

The Trivia night tickets for the tables have all sold out but raffle tickets are still available to purchase for the event. Could you please return any unused raffle tickets to the front office as soon as possible. Donations are also still coming in so many thanks to everyone for their wonderful donations.

Mrs Lisa Stirling, Marcellin P&F President

BR JOA FAREWELL

In recent days the Provincial of the Marist Brothers, Br Jeffrey Crowe, made announcements regarding appointments of Brothers for 2012. Among these appointments was news that Br Joa will be going to St Augustine's College Cairns as of January next year. This announcement has a touch of sadness in it as Br Joa is such an integral part of our College community. We will find a suitable occasion next term to recognise Br Joa's work at MCR over many years.

NOTICES AND NEWS

YEAR 7 CAMP

On Monday 10th August Year 7 got on a bus to camp Somerset. It was action-packed as soon as we got through a 40 minute walk to our camp site. We had the hard job of setting up our tents. Once that was done we walked to the activity base. Everyone put on face paint to camouflage themselves. We played a brilliant game and collected fire wood on the way back. We had to cook our own dinner which was enjoyable. When we woke up the second day we went straight to the flying fox. Once everyone had a turn, we walked back to base camp where we played low ropes and wombat hole. The night was fun as we gathered around the camp fire and told stories. The next morning we finished camp with canoeing. Summing up, the camp was the most fun I've ever had. *Tanus Carney, Year 7 Student*

YEAR 9 CAMP

The Year 9 camp was an enjoyable and memorable adventure which provided us with knowledge and experience. Whether we were hiking, canoeing, abseiling or rock climbing, the rest of our team was there to cheer us on. In times of difficulty our teachers and friends were supporting us.

The canoeing was my personal favourite as it was an activity in which both team members were required to participate for success. The hiking on the other hand

proved to be challenging for most. We really had to push ourselves to the limit and encourage those who were struggling.

The activities highlighted many peoples' better qualities, through their attitude towards others and themselves in the times of hardship. Combining two camp groups allowed for us to make new friends and to strengthen the bonds with the friends we already had. Overall the camp was a great success and I believe that it is beneficial to our development into becoming young men. *Kieren Little, Year 9 Student*

Camp was an excellent experience to say the least. During some instances I was pushed to my physical and emotional limits, in others I was able to relax and enjoy the moment. The simple joy of sitting by the fire after a long day of hiking and canoeing became an enormous motivator, the prospect of a full plate of food, a reward worth fighting for. Camp was a challenge but I imagine in terms of physical exertion, that this was only the tip of the iceberg. On camp you gain a bit of perspective. I no longer had clean toilets, a warm bed and the opportunity to have a shower every night. Camp was not exactly a time of spiritual peace and renewal. After cold, sleepless nights and the many kilometres travelled, I think by Friday my group of twenty had, had enough. Fortunately through the leadership of Tom our camp instructor and Miss Clarke we were able to join together as a group and finish camp off successfully, solving a particularly tricky activity Tom set us to complete. *Shaun Buckton, Year 9 Student*

Videos of the Year 7 and Year 9 camps are displayed on the College Website under 'Latest Videos'.

SCHOOL SKI TRIP

On Friday 5th August, forty students from Years 8 to 11 and four teachers travelled south to the snowy mountains for the annual Marcellin College Skiing weekend. For many of these boys this would be their first skiing experience and for some, the first time ever to see snow. The boys were lucky this year to witness the mountains in two extremes of weather. On Saturday at Thredbo we were subjected to consistent rain for much of the day. This made conditions difficult and quite unpleasant at times, but despite this most of the boys still had smiles on their faces at the end of the day. In contrast, we arrived at Thredbo on Sunday to find that the rain had turned to snow during the night and the snow continued to fall for the entire day. This provided much better snow and skiing conditions. By lunchtime, the boys were skiing in 20cm of fresh, dry powder snow, which as experienced skiers would know; it doesn't get much better than that. Thankfully, apart from a few bumps and bruises from the usual falls, all of the boys finished the final day of skiing in great spirits and injury free. There were a lot of tired but happy faces getting off the bus back at school at 11pm Sunday night, with everyone looking forward to the 2012 Skiing weekend. Thanks to all of the boys for the positive way they represented the College in a great spirit of cooperation and enthusiasm over the weekend.

Mr Stephen Roemling, School Ski Trip Coordinator



SPORT AND NEWS

RUGBY LEAGUE

Last Thursday the Opens Rugby League team travelled to St John's College, Nowra for their Round of 16 game in the NSW CCC cup. I am pleased to report that the boys had another resounding victory, 52 to 0. Man of the match was John Murdaca. This was a long day with the team travelling by mini bus leaving school at 8.30am and returning at 5pm that afternoon. Thanks to the boys for their efforts on the day and thank you as well to coach Mr Chris O'Connell and trainer Mr Paul Leary for the amount of time they have invested into the team this year. The Opens team have now drawn Patrician Brothers, Blacktown. The game will be played this Friday at the Patrician Brothers school. Kick off will be at 1pm.



A Grade players after their win against St John's College Nowra

ATHLETICS

Our Athletics team have been training for six weeks in preparation for the MCC Athletics carnival. The carnival will be held this Thursday at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre on the warm up track. Competition begins at 9am. Marcellin has an excellent record in the Athletics winning the last eight Aggregate trophies. We wish the boys the best of luck hoping to return their ninth straight Aggregate title. Parents of boys involved in the carnival are invited to attend.

VOLLEYBALL

The Volleyball teams have begun training for the U15 and Opens Volleyball. This competition takes place on Thursday 1st September at Homebush. Last year was the first time in many years that Marcellin won both the U15 and Opens titles.

AFL

Marcellin College has entered two teams in the AFL All Schools Challenge, a combined Year 7/8 and Yr 11/12 team. Unfortunately our junior team's game was cancelled due to the wet weather and our senior team played at Mahoney Park, Marrickville. The senior side played against Trinity Grammar and lost 32-30. The Man of the Match was Abaina Davis. This is the first time in many years that Marcellin has had an AFL team contest any competition. There are a number of experienced boys in both divisions who play AFL outside of school and this is an excellent opportunity for these boys to share their skills and knowledge of the game with some of our less experienced boys.

SPORTS PHOTO DAY - THURSDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER - ALL MCC TEAMS

MCC sports photos will be taken on Thursday 8th September. Boys are asked to check the sports notice board for details. Those boys who have represented at a higher level this year are to have individual photos taken after their team photo. All boys in the photos must have the correct team uniform. Boys without the correct uniform will not be in the photo.

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Marcellin Class of 1961 Reunion: The 1961 LC Class is having its 50 year reunion on Friday 14th October 2011. More details to follow on the College website in the Ex-Students section.

College Walkathon: The Walkathon is one of the big fund raising activities for the year and is much loved by the whole school community. We are currently looking for volunteers to help organise the event which will be held on Friday 28th October. If you are able to help please contact Mr Luke MacNamara at macnamara@marcellin.nsw.edu.au

Marist College Pagewood Golden Jubilee Celebrations: Ex-students, parents and supporters of the College are invited to Mass at 5.30pm and dinner at 7.15pm on 10th September. Cost \$60 pp. RSVP 1st September (02) 9349 7333.

OLSH: Dinner dance to celebrate 125 years of O.L.S.H and 100 years of St Brigid's Parishes 3rd September 7pm-11.30pm at Marcellin College Randwick. \$50 pp. RSVP by 24 August ph 9399 6775.

Hearing Awareness Week: The Hearing & Balance Centre Open Day at St Vincent's Hospital Darlinghurst is on Saturday 27th August 10am-2pm. There will be free hearing screening tests available and talks by hearing specialists. For more information call 1300 134 327 or www.hearingbalance.com.au