

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



EX-STUDENTS NEWSLETTER 2008

Dear Ex-students of Marcellin,

Welcome to the 2008 gathering at Randwick Labor Club. I hope it is an enjoyable evening for you and your fellow class mates. Nights like this evening are more about enjoying one another's company rather than listening to lengthy speeches so I have prepared this special newsletter to fill you in on what is happening at the College. I hope you find it informative and reassured that your alma mater is travelling along well.

This year we have a capacity enrolment of 925 students. Demand continues to grow for a position at the College which is a pleasing situation for us to be in. Over the last five years we have regularly had some 250 applications for the available 170 positions in Year 7. I am sure you will agree that this gives a good indication of the high esteem Marcellin is held by the local community. We certainly intend doing our best to keep it in this position.

At a recent assembly I used the following story to challenge the thinking of our students;

A very rich businessman died and left his estate to the university from which he had graduated. The instructions in the will, however, directed the administrators to give his only son that which they wished. They interpreted the will to mean that the son should get only what they decided to give him. The estate was appraised at \$300 000. The administrators got together and decided that they would give the son \$10 000. When their decision was made known, the attorney in charge of probating the will informed the university administrators that they misread the terms of the will. They understood that it was their decision to give the son whatever they decided; however, the will stated that whatever they wished for, the son would get. They wished for themselves \$290 000 and, therefore, according to the wording of the will, that is what the son got - that which they wished for themselves. Their selfishness rebounded back to them. They only received \$10 000.

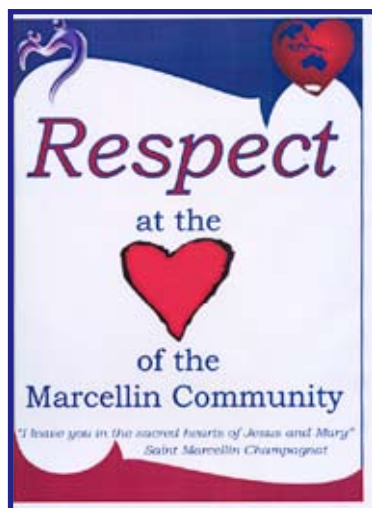
The story gives a poignant reminder to each one of us about the importance of being other centred rather than being self centred. When we place ourselves first we may achieve short term happiness but in the end the fulfillment will not be long lasting. My challenge to the boys and whole school community was that we need to be people who make a difference, people willing to share our talents and time for the good of the community. I know our College will continue to grow in stature if we are seen as a school where respect is given top priority and where all within it take pride in maintaining high standards, contributing to our spirit to the best of our ability. This is certainly our goal and is encapsulated in our 2008 school theme shown on our College banner shown below.

The pages to follow outline our academic success from 2007, the premierships, highlights and improvements at Marcellin in the year to date. Many changes have taken place in the College and we are proud of the quality learning environment we are creating at Marcellin. I hope you enjoy reading a small sample of what we have achieved in the past twelve months.

My thanks to the executive of the Ex-Students Association under the leadership of Mr Michael Daley MP for their ongoing loyalty and support, and to all ex-students for your ongoing interest and presence here tonight. May tonight be an enjoyable occasion for you all.

With best wishes

Br Bill Sullivan, fms
Headmaster



ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE RESULTS

In the 2007 Higher School Certificate, three students gained a Band 6 (the top band) in all HSC courses; Akito Hirarta, Peter Zarzour & Mina Sarofim. These boys were in the state merit list

- ★ Marcellin College was ranked 78th in the top 200 schools (Daily Telegraph 2007). This was based on English & Mathematics results. This sees Marcellin as the top ranked Marist school in the state and the top ranking Catholic Systemic school in the Sydney Archdiocese.
- ★ Over 20% of our students gained a UAI of 90 or above.
- ★ Our top student in 2007 was Peter Zarzour with a UAI of 99.55.
- ★ 21 of 27 courses above state average.
- ★ All courses in the core subjects above state average - four English courses - four Mathematics courses- three Science courses

Percentage of students who gained a Band 4, 5 or 6 in subjects

(The top 13 subjects are listed)

HSC Subjects	Bands 4,5,6 School % of students	Bands 4,5,6 State % of students	School vs State % Difference
Biology	89	67	+22%
Chemistry	81	69	+12%
Design and Technology	85	63	+22%
English (Standard)	51	39	+12%
English (Advanced)	100	89	+11%
General Mathematics	70	59	+11%
Mathematics	95	70	+25%
Mathematics Extension 1	100	96	+4%
Mathematics Extension 2	100	98	+2%
Modern History	80	72	+8%
Physics	90	67	+23%
Senior Science	100	71	+29%
Studies of Religion	78	77	+1%

HSC COMPARISONS OVER THE LAST 6 YEARS

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Band 5 & 6	147	207	171	285	240	332
Subjects above state average	14	16	12	22	18	21
Subjects below state average	11	11	14	5	9	6

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE RESULTS

All subjects above state average

The boys achieved excellent results in the 2007 School Certificate Examinations. There were state examinations in English Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Australian History, Australian Geography and Computing Skills.

Students were graded in these external examinations based on their results. In each of the six subjects tested, Marcellin College students' results were in the higher bands in greater proportions than those achieved by all students across NSW. The following chart outlines the percentage difference between the students at the College and in the state.

SC Subjects	School Average	State Average	School V State % Difference
English	79.08	74.76	+4.32%
Mathematics	74.51	69.38	+5.13%
Science	77.75	73.48	+4.27%
History	74.06	72.14	+1.92%
Geography	80.66	74.60	+6.06%
Computing	81.58	80.28	+1.30%

EXTRACURRICULAR LIFE

WYD08 & MARIST INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 9th- 20th July



Staff at WYD 08

WYD08 without doubt was a major success not just for the 300 000 people involved in the week but for the 52 students and 6 teachers from the College who participated. The week involved many events and concluded with the students and teachers sleeping overnight at Randwick racecourse for the Papal Mass with Pope Benedict XVI. The College hosted over 500 pilgrims throughout the week from the USA, South America, Europe & Africa. Prior to WYD08, 18 Marcellin students and 5 teachers joined 800 other pilgrims for the Marist International Festival at St. Joseph's Hunters Hill.



ANZAC DAY CEREMONY - Friday 2nd May



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DEBATING COMPETITION



Year 7



Year 10



Year 11

Congratulations to our Year 7, 10 & 11 Debating teams who made the quarter - finals of the CSDA Debating competition. The Year 7 - 10 teams also won the Junior Aggregate trophy !

COLLEGE OPENING MASS - Friday 12th March



Year 7



MUSIC CONCERT - Tuesday 1st July



COLLEGE IMPROVEMENTS IN 2008

- Our new sporting house banners (see right) have been placed in the hall.
- Five classrooms (21-22, 23-26) have been recarpeted at a cost of \$15 000.
- The hall has a new weights area and blinds have been installed in the mezzanine level.
- New air-conditioning has been installed in the 50's, 60's & 70's classrooms at a cost of \$25 000.
- New railings were installed in some of our stairwells to improve safety at a cost of approximately \$10 000.
- 70 of our chairs in the resource centre were recovered at a cost of \$3000. The remaining 70 chairs will be recovered at Christmas.
- We are soon to install 2 new seminar rooms in the resource centre and will increase the number of computers available for students. We will also be installing a new hall of fame in the entrance of our resource centre.



SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS 2008



A GRADE BASKETBALL



B GRADE BASKETBALL



UNDER 15 BASKETBALL



SWIMMING SQUAD



SQUASH - FIRST TIME SINCE 1990!



CROSS COUNTRY



UNDER 13 RUGBY LEAGUE - DIV 2



UNDER 15 RUGBY LEAGUE



UNDER 13 RUGBY LEAGUE - DIV 1

2008 MCC CHAMPIONS

- A Grade Basketball
- B Grade Basketball
- Under 15 Basketball
- B Grade Touch Football
- Squash - First time since 1990!
- Under 13 Rugby League - Division 1
- Under 13 Rugby League - Division 2
- Under 15 Rugby League
- Junior Swimming Squad
- Juvenile Swimming Squad
- Senior Swimming Squad
- Swimming Squad Aggregate - 8 years in a row!
- Cross Country Squad - 4 years in a row!