Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

First the tragic death of Thomas Kelly in Kings Cross, and then the recent Colorado movie theatre massacre. Both senseless and both leaving us wondering about the world we occupy - and for the adults among us, the world we have created. Why? It is perhaps easier, at least on the information currently available, to dismiss the Colorado massacre as the act of a madman; senseless but unexplainable. I’m not so sure, and certainly in the case of the homicide of Thomas Kelly in the Cross, we have two ‘regular’ guys, but one is an innocent victim and the other a violent aggressor. One thing is for sure - there is too much of it in our world. Too many threats to our safety, resulting in too many locked doors, too many nervous and frightened people, and too much suspicion of one another.

During the recent holiday break I headed off to South Africa for some work, rest and play. While the excitement of the wildlife game park, and the beauty of the breathtaking mountains were highlights I found myself continually confronted and even preoccupied by the huge gap between the rich and the poor - the opulence of some and the dire, desperate poverty of others. In a country where 52% of young people are unemployed you can at least begin to understand the crime prevalent in bulging urban areas where many have flocked for jobs that just don’t exist. They’re desperate people employing desperate means. Inexcusable, but perhaps more readily understandable than the violence of Kings Cross or Colorado.

Why does so much senseless crime prevail in such affluent countries like our own where there are abundant opportunities? For me, studies in psychology and sociology proffer some explanation. In recent times we have become preoccupied with attempting to name and list the characteristics of each generation - Baby Boomers, Gen Y, Gen X, etc. Some of this has been helpful, some less so. What I found enlightening was a recent study out of the University of Michigan in the USA that suggests that every generation since the Baby Boomers is but a different expression of the ME generations.

According to this study all of us aged from late 50s down to those currently at school belong to the ME generations. The distinction is that each generation has emphasised a different dimension of the downside of the ME deception. Baby Boomers were or are self-absorbed, Gen X and Gen Y were and are materialistic and even greedy, and the current generation is lacking in empathy.

The University of Michigan study reported that young people today are 40% lower in empathy than their counterparts twenty or thirty years ago. The study concluded: “Individuals who score higher on the empathy assessment exhibit such behaviours as helping a stranger carry their belongings, allowing someone ahead in a queue, giving help to a homeless person, or assisting a friend. The researchers reported than there has been a 48% decrease in empathetic concern and a 34% decrease in perspective taking between 1979 and 2009. The researchers also reported that today’s college students were less likely to have empathetic feelings for people less fortunate than them.”

Does a USA University study have anything to say about boys in Randwick in Australia? I think it does. Every generation has those who are not typical of the trend and we have many boys who do not typically exhibit the ‘lack of empathy’ characteristic of their generation. Time and again I hear of and see boys being empathetic; assisting people on and off buses, protecting their vulnerable mate at the beach, expressing sadness about a family problem, going to Matt Talbot, collecting for the Red Shield Appeal, going on Night Patrol, etc. But I do feel there is a challenge in one of the concluding statements of the Michigan report: “they are a pampered and nurtured generation, being both high performance and high maintenance, with a very high sense of self-worth.” I think this is true. And it means that every boy needs to be vigilant so as not to become a person who lacks empathy. We already have some among us.

That’s why this Friday at the Headmaster’s Assembly we will refocus our attention on our scriptural theme for this year (Mt 25:45), and will continue to revisit it until we break for summer holidays: Jesus says to us,

“whatever you do to the least, you do to me.”

Our most important report card will be how we rate against this measure of performance.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster
NOTICES AND NEWS

DEPUTY HEADMASTER APPOINTMENT
It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Mr Peter Buxton to succeed Mr Les Salisbury who will conclude his appointment as Deputy Headmaster at the end of the current school year.

Mr Buxton was chosen following an extensive recruitment process that attracted many fine candidates. He is an experienced Catholic educator. He is a teacher of Mathematics, Religious Education (RE) and Personal Development/Health/Physical Education (PDHPE). He is currently the Deputy Head at Holy Cross College, Ryde and prior to that spent many years at Marist College Kogarah where he held a range of positions: Year Coordinator, Head of PDHPE and Acting Assistant Principal. Prior to his appointment to Kogarah he was at Marist College Pagewood, where he commenced his teaching career.

Mr Buxton is also currently Secretary of the MCC Sports Association. He holds a Bachelor of Education, a Postgraduate Certificate in Education, and a Masters of Educational Leadership. Mr Buxton is no stranger to Marcellin College; he is an Old Boy of the College, graduating in the Class of ‘85, and has been a parent of the College for six years. His son will graduate from MCR at the end of this year.

More information can be found on the College website’s News section regarding Mr Buxton’s appointment.

TERM 3 CALENDAR EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th July</td>
<td>• Years 8 &amp; 9 Parent Teacher Evening 3.45pm-8.30pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 30th July</td>
<td>• Trial HSC commences. Concludes Monday 13th August.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 3rd August</td>
<td>• School Ski Trip commences. Concludes Sunday 5th August.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6th August</td>
<td>• Year 9 Camp week commences. Year 10 Work Experience commences. Year 11 Ministry Week commences. These events conclude on Friday 10th August.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 8th August</td>
<td>• Year 7 Camp commences. Concludes Friday 10th August.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 13th August</td>
<td>• Year 7 and Year 10 Vaccinations. Please refer to the note on the next page.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 21st August</td>
<td>• College Sports photos.</td>
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MARCELLIN TRIVIA NIGHT

MARCELLIN TRIVIA NIGHT
at the Juniors
Friday 31st August 2012 at 7pm

Are you a Year 7 parent who would like to come to the Trivia Night but do not have a table?????

We have a table for Year 7 parents which you are invited to join! Simply send your name/s plus $30 per person to the College office to reserve your seats.

You are guaranteed to leave as a winner, as the night is promised to be full of fun, games, prizes and Trivia!

Your ticket price also includes a selection of hot and cold finger food, tea and coffee.

Drinks can be purchased at club prices.

Hurry as tables are filling quickly.

Call Maryanne at the College on 9398 6355 for further details.

TRIVIA NIGHT RAFFLE

1st - $2,000 worth of travel from Gem Ezy Flights Pty Ltd (not redeemable for cash)
2nd - Milton Park Bowral: 1 night accommodation, 3 course dinner & breakfast for two
3rd - Neild Avenue Restaurant Rushcutters Bay: dinner & wine for six people
4th - Jean Paul Gaultier Sunglasses: RRP $440
5th - Panasonic Blu Ray Disk Player plus Movie Package

We understand that not everyone can attend on the night but we hope that all families will support the raffle. Every family will receive one book of tickets.

Extra tickets are available at the office.

Tickets (sold or unsold) must be returned in the envelope provided by Monday 20th August.

Mr Nick Malcolm, P&F President
ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL
The Winter Appeal is going well with lots of blankets and jumpers being donated. The appeal will continue until Week 3 so please give generously.

Mr Damian Chase, Social Justice Coordinator

VACCINATIONS - YEARS 7 AND 10 STUDENTS
A team of specially trained Registered Nurses will be visiting the school on Monday 13th August for the National Adolescent Vaccination program for Years 7 and 10 students. This program will ensure that students in Year 7 are offered protection against Hepatitis B (dose 2 for students who received dose 1 - it is very important for any child who received the first dose of Hepatitis B vaccine to receive the second dose in order to complete the course), and Diptheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (Whooping Cough) and Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine (both single doses). Year 10 students (just for boys who missed out on the one earlier in the year due to absence) are offered protection against Diptheria/Tetanus/Pertussis. A consent form will be sent home with your son.

Mr Jacob Gibbons, Year 7 Coordinator and Mrs Patricia Kratochvil, Year 10 Coordinator

CERISE AND BLUE UMBRELLAS
The College has acquired a limited quantity of large cerise and blue golf umbrellas.

They are in the College colours but do not have a College logo or crest.

These are available to parents, for a limited time, to purchase from the College office for $30.

BIOLOGY EXCURSION
On Wednesday 20th June, Year 11 Biology students travelled to Kurnell, Bonna Point for an excursion. The trip allowed for students to develop a deeper understanding of the module ‘Our Local Ecosystem’ through offering an alternative, much more practical learning environment.

Over the course of the day, students completed activities which allowed for the exploration of the unique mangrove ecosystem through: testing of abiotic factors (i.e. light intensity, salt concentration and pH); quadrat analysis as a means of quantifying population and abundance; and studies of adaptations in both flora and fauna.

Ultimately, the excursion provided a rich and diverse experience for Biology students, furthering theoretical knowledge fostered in class by means of a plethora of practical activities. The excursion was consequently educational and greatly enjoyable for students, delving deep into the frontier of practical learning.

Matthew Waller, Year 11 Student

Mangroves… what is the first thing you think when you hear the word? Muddy? Smelly? Filled with weird little animals? That’s what I first thought when we were handed the permission slip during recess. Little did I expect that our Year 11 Biology excursion to Kurnell, Cronulla would have so much in store for the class. After warming up from the cold temperatures, adventure was waiting just around the corner; wading through a marine grass environment trying to collect unique animals to the estuaries of Kurnell to study, dropping quadrats to study animal populations in mangrove areas whilst collecting more crabs with our bare hands, whilst having a laugh with mates and having a good time. Others at first were hesitant of getting their ‘fresh Nike shoes’ soaked, but in the end everyone joined in. While being educational, the time spent there was rather enjoyable.

Noah Castillo, Year 11 Student
GOLF AND TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
The MCC Golf competition was held last Thursday at Bexley Golf Club. Marcellin were the defending champions and six boys competed from the U13s through to the Opens. In cold, windy conditions, Peter Anasta in the U13s and Adam Pustetto in the U16s won their respective age groups and we finished second in the four other age groups eventually sharing the Aggregate Trophy with Pagewood. Given the abundance of talented boys competing on the day, we are very proud of these achievements. The Tennis was also played last Thursday. I am pleased to say that the boys finished second to North Shore, an excellent achievement with the gap between the two schools narrowing. The squad is keen to reverse the standings next year. Marcellin contested seven of the ten finals. Congratulations to Pearse Dolan who won the U14 Singles. Jack Thornton and Francis Devine won the U14 Doubles, and Luke Gander and Byron Poidevin-Albert won the U15 Doubles. We were runners up in the U13 Doubles, the U16 Singles and Doubles and the Opens Doubles.

RUGBY LEAGUE AND SOCCER GRAND FINALS
On Thursday 28th June the U13 Div 2a, U14, U15, B Grade and A Grade Rugby League, and the U14 Soccer all competed in the Winter MCC grand finals. All boys performed well and of the six teams in the grand finals, the A and B Grade League were victorious. In two hard fought games, A Grade ran out victors 26-16 over Kogarah and the B Grade won their game 14-8 over Lewisham. In what proved to be an extremely tough season with injuries and spirited opposition, the results this year remind us that we can’t take winning for granted and that success begins on the training paddock.

MCC WINTER SPORTS - FINAL RESULTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>A Grade</th>
<th>B Grade</th>
<th>Under 15</th>
<th>Under 14</th>
<th>Under 13D1</th>
<th>Under 13D2</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opposition</td>
<td>Didn't qualify</td>
<td>Didn't qualify</td>
<td>Didn't qualify</td>
<td>Kogarah</td>
<td>Didn't qualify</td>
<td>Didn't qualify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result</td>
<td>L: 0-5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Player of Match: James De Francesco

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>A Grade</th>
<th>B Grade</th>
<th>Under 15</th>
<th>Under 14</th>
<th>Under 13D1</th>
<th>Under 13D2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opposition</td>
<td>Kogarah</td>
<td>Lewisham</td>
<td>Pagewood</td>
<td>Lewisham</td>
<td>Didn't qualify</td>
<td>Pagewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result</td>
<td>W: 26-16</td>
<td>W: 14-8</td>
<td>L: 4-28</td>
<td>L: 18-26</td>
<td>L: 0-34</td>
<td></td>
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Player of Match: Alexander Thomas, Benjamin Morgan, Connor Mirotsos, Lachlan Lam, Harrison White, Cooper Stevens, Cameron Habib

RUGBY LEAGUE
Last term Nat Butcher was selected to play in the Combined MCC U15 Rugby League team. This team competed in May at the CCC carnival. Nat was then chosen to compete in the Combined Catholic Colleges team which played in the Australian Schoolboys competition in Darwin in the last week of last term. Nat performed well during this competition and was picked in the Australian U15 Merit team. This is an outstanding achievement and the highest honour for a boy of Nat’s age. Congratulations Nat on your achievement. During the U15 and the Opens Carnival, both CCC teams won their divisions. Well done also to Alexander Thomas in the Opens and to all the MCC boys who performed so well.

ATHLETICS
A preliminary Athletics team has been announced and boys began training last Thursday. Training continues each Tuesday after school at ES Marks Athletics Centre, Kensington and each Thursday during school sport time at Marcellin Fields. A final squad will be announced shortly and boys will continue to train up until the carnival on Thursday 23rd August at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre. Boys need to listen out for announcements regarding training. Two boys involved in our running program, Joshua Dever and Thomas Scullion competed at the NSW All Schools Cross Country Carnival last Friday at Eastern Creek. With over 100 competitors in each division Joshua placed 4th and Thomas came 23rd in the U15 division. Well done to both boys and best of luck to Joshua who will now compete at the Australian titles held in August this year.

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sports Coordinator