

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 10
June 9th 2010

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

At the conclusion of a lesson I gave recently on Marcellin Champagnat, to all Year Seven students, one boy wrote in response, "What stood out most for me in the story of his life is that I am a descendent of Marcellin". This is a very powerful statement for a thirteen year old boy to express. But for the sake of all new members of our College Family, I'd like to outline some key events in Marcellin's life which obviously struck a chord with this boy. This is timely too because on Friday we will gather as a College Family - students, staff and parents - to celebrate the life of this simple yet remarkable man of God.

Marcellin was born of French peasant stock in the small village of Marlies on 20th May 1789, just two months before the outbreak of the French Revolution. He came from a family in which his father became a local revolutionary commander and his mother epitomized all that is best in French Catholic piety. Unfortunately for Marcellin, schooling for French children fared badly in the turbulence of the Revolutionary years and the dearth of male teachers continued under Napoleon's "blood-tax" of conscription. When as a young farm lad of sixteen he decided to become a priest, he found studies very difficult indeed. To make matters worse, in the Minor Seminary (or prep boarding school) he mixed with the wrong crowd and got into strife. His mother's prayers and his own determination to achieve his goal got him through in the end and he was ordained a priest in 1816, just a year after Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo.

The grave social mess left in the wake of Napoleon's defeat was clearly evident in that part of rural France where the young Curé Champagnat was sent to minister - La Valla. On visiting a dying boy in his parish, Marcellin was struck by the ignorance of religion in the unfortunate lad. Later he wrote; "What I saw with my own eyes in that post (the small town of La Valla) with reference to the education of young people, reminded me of the difficulties I had experienced at their age". Marcellin's compassion did not stop with words. He had always insisted on 'the need for Brothers' to teach the young and now he resolved to put his words into practice. In a letter seeking official recognition he wrote; "I quickly carried out the project I had in mind to establish an association of teaching brothers of the Christian Schools". What he didn't mention was that his first recruits were quite raw. In fact one of them had been an ex-conscript in Napoleon's army. Patience, perseverance and determination were qualities of Marcellin and these were motivated above all by a great faith - a faith in God's love for each of us, expressed through the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Again what is not always known is that Marcellin's zeal was not limited to the apostolate of the schools. He also made the care of orphans (and there were plenty in the France of his day), the elderly and those with special needs, part of the works of the brothers. He even had some of the brothers trained in educating the deaf. But above all his heart went out to the ordinary young people of his day who as young people everywhere and in every age have dreams of a better, more equitable and more just world but need the presence and guidance of good teachers to make the dreams a possibility.

So in this sense it is easy to see how our Year 7 students continue to find inspiration and hope in the life of Marcellin Champagnat. Some of the boys were struck by his determination against all odds; his optimism in turning bad experiences into positive outcomes; overcoming obstacles and difficulties in his study and getting into trouble but being determined to improve. Above all it was his faith in God and his simple love of Mary as Our Mother which touched many boys. I feel confident that they can all consider themselves true descendents of Marcellin.

A Happy Champagnat Day to all.

With my best wishes,

Br Joachim Fabbro,
Peer Support Coordinator



FROM THE HEADMASTER

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all these boys on their Special Achievements. Well done!

CHAMPAGNAT AWARD RECIPIENTS



Year 7 (left to right): Joshua Parker, Phillip Chu, William Last, Thomas O'Donovan and Thomas Waller



Year 10 (left to right): Jake Scott, Benjamin Sangster, Jacob Burke, Myles Fischer and Oscar Sharah



Year 8 (left to right): Cameron Wells, Alex Rana, Jackson Giles and Jaya Murdita



Year 11 (left to right): Daniel Naidu, Cameron Black, Joshua Romeo, Jay Barron, Andrew Norton and Angelo Tzoukas



Year 9 (left to right): Kosta Kringas, Jack Domenici, Jonathon Henderson and Jonni Mei-Edwards



Year 12 (left to right): Matthew Edwards, Brendan O'Rourke, Evan Kotsornithis, Dominic Foffani, James McKenzie, Conor Kelly and James Moran (Absent: Jake Nurmi)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Year 9 students Harry Davies, Andrew Dehaart, Justin Richardson, Adam Bjorngaard, Daniel McDonald and Matthew Waller completed a three day 40km hike as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award.

CONGRATULATIONS

At the recent Local Sporting Champions presentation at Snape Park, Year 8 student Adrian Lara was the recipient of a grant by the Australian Sporting Commission in recognition of his football achievements and to assist with his further development. Adrian was selected last year in the NSW state team and preselected in the Qantas Australian U13s national team and is currently in the U14s Football NSW Project 22.

Year 9 students Lucas Aldous, Luke Dooner, Mason Jones, Cheyne Whitelaw, and Year 10 students Aidan Davis, Alexander Sorge, Blake Hurley, Ethan Natoli and Jake O'Sullivan have been selected in the Under 15 Junior Bunnies development squad.

Year 8 student Blake Sangster and Year 9 students Jack Bassett and Patrick Dunn have been selected for the Junior Roosters Under 14 development squad.

NOTICES AND NEWS

TERM 2 CALENDAR EVENTS

Friday 11th June	• Champagnat Day Mass 9.30am followed by activities. A separate note has been sent home with your son.
Monday 14th June	• Queen's Birthday Public Holiday.
Tuesday 15th June	• Years 7/8/9 Exams commence. Conclude Friday 18th June.
Wednesday 23rd June	• Years 10/11 Parent Teacher Evening 3.45pm-8.30pm.
Thursday 24th June	• MCC Winter Sports Grand Finals.

PAYMENT OF FEES

School fees were sent home with your son on Friday June 4th. Could you please check your accounts as extra items may have been included.

PARENT CONVERSATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A reminder that the Parent Conversation with the Executive Director which was to be held on May 26th will now be on June 23rd from 7.30pm-9.30pm at the Eastern Region office, 33 Banks Ave Daceyville. Parents are invited to attend.

CHESS

Last week was Round 5 in the Chess competition with only two more rounds to go. The Senior team is to be congratulated for beating Scots College and the Intermediate team won against Rose Bay High school. The Junior A team dominated and won their games against Waverley College, three games to one. In Round 6 the Seniors will play Waverley and Intermediate will play Cranbrook. Jordan Domingues and Luke Abrahams deserve special mention for their dedication to training and competing.

Ms Melissa Gerke, Chess Coordinator



Theodore Xavier competing

DEBATING

Years 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 all made it into the elimination finals on June 4th. Years 7 and 11 were eliminated, while Years 9, 10 and 12 all made it through to the semi-finals which will be contested on June 18th. Marcellin is one of only two schools to have three teams in the semi-finals of the CSDA competition. Congratulations to Year 9 students Jake Richards, Luke Dooner, Thomas Pantle; Year 10 students Rory O'Grady, Matthew Buxton and Jack De Lacy; and Year 12 students Mitchell Judge, Jack Slattery and Matthew Edwards.

Mr Stephen Davidson, Debating Coordinator

MINISTRY WEEK

Year 11 complete Ministry Week in Term 3 which involves all boys actively volunteering their services in the community. They offer support and guidance to others through daily works of charity and encouragement usually through local service groups, primary schools, child care centres, nursing homes and aged care and disability facilities. One or two of the organisations we are involved with have relocated or closed. If you know of an appropriate service provider or charity who might benefit from having a couple of our Year 11 students help out for four days from August 9th-12th please contact me at the College.

Mr Paul Leary, Social Justice Coordinator

ARCHDIOCESAN MASS

On Tuesday May 25th, Year 8.1 represented Marcellin College at the Archdiocesan Mass for the Feast of 'Mary Help of Christians'. Mary accepted the invitation of God to be the Mother of the Messiah when she responded to the angel, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). Catholics in Australia have always had a strong devotion to Mary, and we are regularly reminded of the great respect, admiration, faith and love that St Marcellin Champagnat had for Our Mother. It is recorded that when there were no priests in colonial Australia, Catholics prayed to Mary to nurture their faith. One of the first priests, Father Therry, dedicated the Australian Church to Mary under the title "Help of Christians". Australia was the first nation to have Mary, Help of Christians as its patroness and to observe the feast on a national scale, and so Mary has a special place in both our Marist Spirituality and in our Church in Australia. We should celebrate this day with a very special act of thanksgiving to Our Lady, praying the holy rosary and attending holy mass.

Mr Anthony Boys, Religious Education Coordinator



Students from 8.1 outside St Mary's Cathedral

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS - BULLETINS NO. 2 AND 3

There are several sources of funding for Catholic Schools: Federal Government, State Government, and parents through fees, levies and fundraising. Each source of funding is important and critical for the proper resourcing of schools. Our future governments need to ensure an ongoing commitment to quality education and support. Quality education for ALL children - 67% of all NSW students are in Government schools. 33% of all NSW students are in Non-Government schools like yours.

SPORT AND NEWS

Due to the inclement weather, sport has been cancelled for the third straight week. At this stage Rounds 6 and 7 have been abandoned and we now move to the wet weather round where we will replay Round 4 against Lewisham. The A Grade and Under 15s Rugby League and A Grade Soccer have already played their games and will train this week. Last Friday, Marcellin had a number of boys represent the Combined MCC Touch Football team which played in Wagga.

The Under 15 representatives were Jake O'Sullivan, Jackson Swiney, Alexander Sorge, Ethan Natoli and Cameron Ryan whilst Madalitso Masache, Jake Nurmi and Emanuel Giuffre represented the Opens team. MCC won the Under 15s division and the Opens were eliminated in the semi-finals. Well done to those boys on their achievements last week.

This Friday we have a number of boys representing the MCC at the NSWCCC Cross Country at Eastern Creek. Best of luck to Samuel Morgan, Kell O'Brien, Kurtis Preece, Pearse Dolan, Cory Barron, Thomas Scullion, Thomas Fagan, Joshua Dever, Tim Mili, Abaina Davis, Tyler Gleeson, Jordan Foote, Maxwell Wilson, Billy Hooper, Johnathon Ford, Benjamin Brightwell, Jordan Clements, Michael Bailey and James Moran.

The Summer Sports awards were presented at our Champagnat assembly last Friday. Categories included Age Champion trophies for Swimming, Cross Country, Tennis, Golf and Surfing and Best and Fairest and Most Improved awards for Basketball, Touch Football, Squash and Cricket. Congratulations to all of the boys who were presented trophies on Friday and we thank all team members and their coaches for their hard work and dedication in making the summer season so successful.

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sport Coordinator

SUMMER SPORTS AWARDS

Surfing

Senior Champion
Jackson Barron

Squash

Most Improved Michael Simeone
Best and Fairest James Psaila

Cricket	A Grade	Under 16	Under 14
Best Batsman	Cameron McKinlay	Jack Erickson	Jordan Habib
Best Bowler	James McKenzie	Guy Rowles	Joe Bidwell

Basketball	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
Most Improved	Michael Bowles	Jialong Li	Mason Jones	Charles Stinson
Best and Fairest	Andrew Panousis	Jack Janis	Jonni Mei-Edwards	Abaina Davis

Touch Football	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
Most Improved	Thomas Cogin	Andrew Norton	Jackson Swiney	Zachary Bataille
Best and Fairest	Jake Nurmi	Alex Thomas	Blake Hurley	Adam Shean

	Swimming	Cross Country	Tennis	Golf
Opens	Brendan Irvine	Jordan Clements	Matthew Edwards	Cameron Black
Under 16	Sam Disalvo	Johnathon Ford	Daniel Hahn	Jake Baker
Under 15	Benjamin Thornton	Maxwell Wilson	Elvin Wong	Adam Pustetto
Under 14	Luke Irvine	Tim Mili	Ashley Burton	Tom Warwick
Under 13	Benjamin Davis	Thomas Scullion	Luke Gander	Brendan Barry
Under 12	Benjamin Gordon	Samuel Morgan	Pearse Dolan	Max Poche



Summer Sports Awards trophies



Aggregate trophy winners James McKenzie, Andrew Panousis, Jordan Clements, Brendan Irvine and Madalitso Masache

COMMUNITY NEWS

Uniform Shop: Opening hours Tuesday 8am-11.15am and Thursday 8am-1pm. Open Wednesday 23rd June (Year 10/11 Parent/teacher evening) 4.30pm-6.30pm and Wednesday 21st July 4.30pm-6.30pm (Year 7 Parent/teacher evening).

Canteen Helpers: Volunteers are needed to help in the College canteen. If you are able to help please contact Mrs Jan Maroon at the College on 9398 6355. Any help would be very much appreciated.

Ex-Students: The Ex-Students Association Annual Mass & Lunch will be held on Saturday 11th September. There will be a Mass at 11am held on the College grounds followed by a tour of the College for those interested. The venue for lunch will be the Coojee Bay Hotel Function Room. The cost is \$60 per person. For more details contact Sharon Elliot on 9398 6355.

Life in the Spirit Seminar: Taking you on a journey of spiritual experiences with the Holy Spirit within the Catholic Church. Commencing June 3rd-July 8th (every Thursday) from 7-9pm at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Randwick. Events are free (donations appreciated). For more information call Fr Tony O'Brien MSC 9399 6775 or email tonyobrien@sacredheart.org.au

National Drugs Campaign: The Australian Government has launched a prevention and intervention campaign to reduce the uptake of illicit drugs among young Australians. For information on how parents can talk to their children about illicit drug use, strategies and support call 1800 250 015 or visit www.australia.gov.au/drugs.