

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



NEWSLETTER

Number 4
March 7th 2012

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends,

The last few weeks have found me distracted and uneasy. I have been dealing with some serious misbehaviours of a few of our boys and I have found it demanding to be sufficiently attentive to other matters. Among other things, I had to discipline myself not to see the rest of the world through the dark lens that can eclipse everything else around me. I was prompted out of this last Wednesday and Thursday when perspective was restored and the abundance of the goodness of just about all of our boys was explicitly displayed.

Wednesday was Open Day afternoon and did we see our boys at their best, or what! The Year 7 students acted as guides and they were everything you'd hope a young teenager would be – enthusiastic, spontaneous, energetic, open and brutally honest. And they were also everything you'd hope an upright citizen would be – courteous, thoughtful, patient, well groomed and gentlemanly. The same could be said of our Year 11 helpers who acted with the responsibility and initiative that one would hope from a developing young man.

Similarly, on Thursday at MCC Sport our Year 9 boys attended the Basketball Grand Finals as spectators and in the face of rather provocative, unsportsman like behaviour from the opposition's supporters our boys were restrained, disciplined, courteous and upright. So much so, I was inundated with unsolicited comments from staff, parents, and members of the team. Earlier the same day I was stopped at the gate of the College by a passing parent who watched our boys at a crowded bus stop on Alison Rd; the boys waiting were well attired and when the much anticipated bus arrived they stepped back to usher forward the members of the public before what could have been an unruly mob that boarded the bus themselves. It was not a school special, there was no teacher supervision and there were an unusually large number of our boys at the bus stop. All these things have the potential for something to go wrong, and particularly for boys to be inattentive to the needs of other people waiting at the bus stop.

These three events serve to remind us of just how much goodness there is in so many of our boys and why it is worth persisting with them in these tumultuous teenage years. Teenager years are a time of extraordinary transition and while each of us is innately good we also need – and teenagers need it particularly – the support and guidance of strong, directive adults. The following 'bits of advice' may be helpful in ensuring that our boys can continue to develop into upright citizens.¹

Teenagers are always edging for greater independence but they also need close monitoring. Adult monitoring means establishing guidelines and limits for your son in order to keep track of what is going on in his social world. It means knowing:

- where your boy is;
- who he is with;
- what kinds of activities have been planned;
- how he will get there and back again.

Adult monitoring also means making expectations clear with your boy about what to do in an emergency. Adult monitoring means slowly releasing the demand for obedience, so that boys learn to make responsible choices. While boys may complain that parents "don't trust them" or that they are being unreasonable, there is security in knowing that adults care enough to ask. Parents need to understand that monitoring is an important right and responsibility of parenting.



A boy who says, "You are the worst parents – you're too strict, I wish I had Tom's parents," is a teenager who has limits. Respect your boy's point of view and be willing to discuss rules. This happens best when the argument has not become heated. Take a break before continuing by saying, "Let's take about 10 minutes to cool down, then we will discuss this together." This will allow both of you to consider what you will say and will take some of the heat out of the argument. Parents and

other adults must understand the importance of eliminating emotion from the discussion and leave personality out of the discussion. Many boys will argue for the sake of arguing. Arguing gives them practice in defending their position and can be a constructive learning technique.

Involving your boy in the decision-making does not take away a parent's power, but helps to create a balance of power and control. Allowing boys to have some control in this way lets them know they are important and valued and can indeed work with you through important life decisions.

The most **effective parents and teachers set high standards and are demanding** but wrap this approach with warmth, love, and involvement. From the behaviour of our boys last week it would seem to me that MCR parents and staff have struck a perfect balance between demanding standards and supporting growth.

With my best wishes,

Br David Hall FMS
Headmaster

¹See <http://www.practicalparent.org.uk/teens.htm>

NOTICES AND NEWS

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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



Mathew Waller
Year 11

Won the Public Speaking section
of the Lions Youth of the Year Quest



Ben Thornton and Samuel Disalvo
at Marist College North Shore's
Invitational Swimming carnival
which Marcellin College won



Jesse De Costa won Silver in the
U12 Flags, Silver in the U14 Sprint
Relay and Bronze in the U13
Sprint Relay at NSW State Nippers
Championships at Kingscliff Beach

CONGRATULATIONS

MCC Premiers:

- U14 Cricket
- U16 Cricket
- U14 Basketball
- U15 Touch Football
- A Grade Touch Football

WELL DONE BOYS AND COACHES

COMMENCEMENT MASS

The Commencement Mass was celebrated in the Marist Centre on Friday 24th February. It was an ideal, formal and prayerful commencement to our College year. We gather to celebrate Eucharist and bring our hopes, intentions, concerns and shared Marist vision to light. Fr Peter Herne MSC presided and Fr Prasad MSC concelebrated. We welcomed Fr Max Blumenthal and many Brothers from the Randwick community, and Br Robert O'Connor and Mr Liam Duncan from the Marist Ministries Office. Mass focused on Matthew's Gospel, challenging us to live a fully Christian life when he says "...just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25: 40). The College's Lenten Appeal was launched and, again, the message and challenge of the Gospel provided a source for all members of the Marcellin community to think of and act for the other this Lent. My thanks to those members of staff who gave time and energy to preparing the Mass and to all the boys for their respectful and enthusiastic participation.

Mr Anthony Boys, RE Coordinator



LENTEN APPEAL

This year our Lenten Appeal will focus on three organisations that need our help:

Marist Asia Pacific Solidarity is a chance for Marists, Brothers and Lay, to have their projects for development and education of young people on the margins of life in thirteen Asian and Pacific Island countries to be put before students and their families. This is part of the big picture of the Marist international community. Solidarity in the Marist tradition means we choose to stand with others who have less capacity to transform their reality and to work with them to create their own liberation. Many young people still struggle for their dignity, access to education and their rights. You are helping change this when you rally behind this campaign. Students and parents can use their QR Reader on their smartphones to read more about the work of MAPS.

Caritas Australia - Your donations to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion give expression to the Gospel imperative to pursue justice and help those suffering from poverty and disadvantage. Your donations allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for International Aid and Development, to alleviate poverty and bring hope and justice to disadvantaged communities throughout the world.

St Vincent De Paul Society - Marcellin College participates in the Winter Appeal, Night Patrol every month, volunteering at Matthew Talbot Hostel twice a week and contributes to the Christmas Hamper Appeal. Your donations will help with these programs and more.

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something.

And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." **Helen Keller**

Mr Damian Chase, Social Justice Coordinator

TERM 1 CALENDAR EVENTS

Wednesday 14th March

- Year 7 Parent Feedback Meeting.

Thursday 15th March

- MCC Swimming Carnival.

Monday 19th March

- Year 12 Retreat Week. Concludes Friday 23rd.

Monday 26th March

- College Athletics Carnival at ES Marks Field.

Thursday 5th April

- Last Day of Term.



NOTICES AND NEWS

OPEN DAY

Last Wednesday's Open Day was a tremendous day for all of us at Marcellin showcasing our academic, cultural and sporting achievements, and community spirit. Despite the trying conditions with the weather, best estimates saw approximately 1500 people through the gates to visit us. Astounding numbers. Thank you to all parents who helped on the day and those that provided refreshments. Thank you to the students and staff who helped make this a successful event.

Mr Brian Vane-Tempest, Director of Development and Communications



ENROLMENTS

Year 7 2013 enrolment is now closed. The College is not accepting any other enrolment applications for Year 7 2013. Enrolment applications will be accepted for all other years subject to places being available.

NAPLAN TESTS

In 2012 the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will again take place for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. This program, which has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers, will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. Years 7 and 9 at Marcellin College will be involved in the NAPLAN testing.

NAPLAN tests for 2012 will be held from Tuesday 15th May to Thursday 17th May 2012

Year Level	Tuesday 15th May	Wednesday 16th May	Thursday 17th May
Year 7 and Year 9	Language Conventions* 45 minutes Writing 40 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy** 40 minutes x 2 (80 minutes in total) Students undertake two numeracy tests. Calculators are permitted to be used in one of these tests only.

* Language Conventions incorporates spelling, grammar and punctuation.

** Numeracy incorporates number, algebra, function and pattern, space, measurement, chance and data.

Mr Chris Shields, Director of Teaching and MLearning

2011 SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Copies of the 2011 school magazine are now available. All families should have received a copy this week. Boys from Year 12 2011 can come up to the school to receive their copy.

ELEVATOR KEY

A number of boys have not been returning the elevator key. This means that when other boys need it they are unable to use the elevator. The key is only available to boys who are unable to climb stairs due to an injury. The College has now implemented a \$20 deposit requirement for the elevator key upon pick up from reception. This deposit will be returned once the key has been returned to reception.

VACCINATIONS

The NSW Ministry of Health has been informed that a small number of Parent Information Kits which contain forms for parents to read and sign for school vaccination may be missing important information. Parents of Year 7 students should receive a blue Year 7 Boys shrink-wrapped pack that includes 3 envelopes, each containing a Consent Form and 'Information for You and Your Child' sheet:

- 1) a blue Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (dTpa) envelope
- 2) a green Hepatitis B envelope
- 3) a yellow Varicella (chicken pox) envelope

If all the information is included and you would like your child to be vaccinated, please read the 'Information for You and Your Child' sheet, sign the Consent Form and return the signed Consent Form to the College. If you do NOT wish your child to be vaccinated, do NOT complete or return the Consent Form. If any information is missing from your Parent Information Kit, please contact the College immediately and a replacement kit will be provided.

Mr Jacob Gibbons, Year 7 Coordinator

SPORT AND NEWS

GRAND FINALS

Last week the Summer season Grand Finals were played. The weather has not been kind to our teams this year with two washouts through the season. It looked unlikely that we would play last week however we managed to play all finals last Thursday. Marcellin had qualified 9 of the 12 finals and came away winning 5 of those. Congratulations to the U14 and U16 Cricket, U14 Basketball and the U15 and A Grade Touch Football teams on their victories. It is becoming harder to win Grand Finals, however qualifying for so many and coming away winning 5 is testament to the amount of preparation and hard work put in by all the teams and coaches. I'd personally like to congratulate all of the Summer season reps and coaches for the commitment they give to Marcellin College.

This week the Cross Country squad will compete at King George's Park Rozelle. The carnival is scheduled to commence at 10am with the Opens running the first race of the day. We wish the boys and their coaches Mr Proctor, Mr Ross and Mr Carroll the best of luck on Thursday. Parents are most welcome to attend.

Next Thursday 15th March, the MCC Swimming carnival will be held at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre Homebush. The carnival will commence at 4pm and as is the custom at Marcellin, Year 7 and Year 12 will spectate. Buses are due back at the school at 7.15pm. The squad has been training for 5 weeks now and last week competed at Marist North Shore's Invitational carnival. Marcellin won the shield for the second consecutive year beating Marist College Pagewood and St Greg's Campbelltown. The squad will continue to train up until Wednesday next week. We wish the boys and their coaches Ms Evans, Mr Leary, Mr MacNamara and Mr Toohey the best of luck on the afternoon.

Last week I announced the opening of the Winter sports season. Coaches are now calling for nominations for Rugby League and Soccer in all divisions. Training commenced on Tuesday and trials will begin this Thursday. I'd like to remind parents that training is compulsory for all boys between the times of 4pm and 5pm each Tuesday. Rugby League will train at Marcellin Fields and Soccer will train at Heffron Park behind the Netball courts. If you have any queries regarding the Rugby League and Soccer, please contact me at school.

Mr Robert Capizzi, Sports Coordinator

MCC SUMMER SEASON - SEMI FINALS

Basketball	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Wahroonga	North Shore	Ashfield	North Shore
	Result	L: 30-31	W: 30-28	L: 34-48	W: 37-14
	Player of Match	Michael Hallam	Jack Ringwood	Benjamin Davis	Jared Deep

Cricket	Team	A Grade	Under 16s	Under 14s	Squash	Opposition	Result
	Opposition	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah		Pagewood	L: 876 to 917
	Result	W: 6/131 to 5/119	W: 7/137 to 10/86	W: 4/100 to 10/50		Player of Match	Aaron Carvalho
	Player of Match	Jack Erickson	Cooper Smith	Anthony Halikas			

Touch Football	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	North Shore	Lewisham	North Shore	Pagewood
	Result	W: 9-7	W: 5-3	W: 9-1	W: 9-2
	Player of Match	Alexander Sorge	Storme Robinson	Shaun Northey	Lachlan Lam

MCC SUMMER SEASON - GRAND FINALS

Basketball	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition		Ashfield		Kogarah
	Result	Did not qualify	L: 32-36	Did not qualify	W: 37-19
	Player of Match		Callum Christopher-Lane		Derek Daquel

Cricket	Team	A Grade	Under 16s	Under 14s	Squash	Opposition	Result
	Opposition	Wahroonga	Wahroonga	North Shore			Did not qualify
	Result	L: 10/58 to 10/96	D: 10/94 to 5/94	W: 6/92 to 10/53		Player of Match	
	Player of Match	Jack Erickson	Jaya Murdita	Thomas Chichester			

Touch Football	Team	A Grade	B Grade	Under 15	Under 14
	Opposition	Kogarah	Kogarah	Kogarah	Lewisham
	Result	W: 8-7	L: 7-8	W: 13-2	L: 6-7
	Player of Match	Blake Hurley	Jacob Burke	Thomas Wong Nat Butcher	Bailey Alchin



COMMUNITY NEWS

Marcellin Ex-Students Reunion: Class of 1992 - 20 year reunion will be held on Saturday 19th May at Easts Leagues Club at 7pm. Phone Steve Hanna on 0411 553 937, Robert Bardetta on 0412 351 718 or Bernie Johnson on 0417 600 822.