

# MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK



## NEWSLETTER

Number 16  
September 21st 2011

Dear Parents, Students, Staff and Friends of Marcellin,

Did you see the movie *Oranges and Sunshine*? It is a moving Australian production that tells the story of Margaret Humphreys, a social worker from Nottingham, England, who uncovered one of the most significant social scandals of recent times; the mass deportation of children from the United Kingdom to Australia. Single-handedly and against overwhelming odds, Margaret reunited thousands of families and drew worldwide attention to an extraordinary miscarriage of justice. Children as young as four had been told that their parents were dead and sent to children's homes on the other side of the world, where many were subjected to appalling abuse. These forgotten children were promised *Oranges and Sunshine* but all too many of them got hard labour and life in institutions.

Some of the stories of physical and sexual abuse turn the stomach, but what I found most disturbing was the emotional hold on some of the young people in institutions in the more remote rural destinations. Denied contact with much of the outside world, these children were inflicted with harsh conditions and threatened with all sorts of punishments all the more evil in the insistence of their 'carers' that "nobody knew they were there." I use the word evil intentionally as such a threat takes away the most fundamental of Christian and human aspirations: HOPE. The children who suffered under these conditions lost their sense of hope, and without hope we are doomed. If we do nothing else as parents and educators we are called to be people of hope.

And yet, hope is perhaps one the most fragile of aspirations. Last week I went to the funeral Mass of Rod Gorman, the CEO of South Sydney Junior Rugby League Club. A packed church, with the congregation spilling out of each of the doors into the courtyard and onto the footpath, was testament to the professional and generous work of this upstanding community man. We live by the dictum that the good deeds of our life are the pathway to ensuring that when we die we will rest with God in heaven. And so surely that is where Rod is – with God, in heaven? But if you listen closely to the prayers we say and the hymns we sing at a funeral Mass, while reminding us of God's promise of salvation, they are also tainted with our human tendency to be fragile in our hope. It is as if, in our head, we know we will rest with God, but in the fragility of our heart we're not completely sure. God is certain, but we struggle with the concept. And so it is, that our job as Christians is, more than anything else, to be people of hope. Having given thousands of young people the experience of success, Rod was a man of hope.

Last week the College encouraged the boys to get involved in *R U OK? DAY*. It's a national day of action which aims to prevent suicide by encouraging Australians to connect with someone they care about and help stop little problems turning into big ones. On that day (15th September) we wanted boys to ask family and friends: "Are you OK?" It comes out of the simple belief that staying connected with others is crucial to our general health and wellbeing. Feeling isolated or hopeless can contribute to depression and other mental illnesses, which can ultimately result in suicide. Regular, meaningful conversations can protect those we know and love. It's so simple. In the time it takes to have a coffee, you can start a conversation that could change a life. It is a practical exercise in HOPE.

I believe that's what's at the heart of the asylum seeker issue. People fleeing from hopeless situations seek out countries of opportunity such as our own, only to find that their hopes are dashed. The dream of opportunity becomes, instead, a dreamless future. And when hope is gone, people become desperate, and desperate people revert to desperate means. I'm not condoning some of the dangerous and violent action of some of the detainees in detention centres, and am fully aware that among them there are some people less deserving than others, but I am convinced that, as a matter of urgency, we should be seeking solutions that have hopeful, rather than damning outcomes.



Each time hope is crushed, it is less likely to spring again. The famous British poet William Wordsworth, in the conclusion to his poem *The River Duddon*, soberly reminds us:

Enough, if something from our hands have power  
To live, and act, and serve the future hour;  
And if, as toward the silent tomb we go,  
Through love, through hope, and faith's  
Transcendent dower,  
We feel that we are greater than we know.

It is a resounding reminder to us of the profundity of our College motto, *Aeterna Non Caduca*: eternal, not fleeting things.

Warm regards in this week of Graduation,

Br David Hall FMS  
Headmaster

# FROM THE HEADMASTER

## SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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



**John Murdaca**  
Year 12

Received the Archbishop of Sydney award for Student Excellence.



**Bailey Foote**  
Year 7

Received the U13 Best and Fairest 2011 award from the AFL GSJ Sydney Harbour Association.



**Christian Lozada**  
Year 12

Won a Silver medal in the 110m Hurdles at the CCC Athletics carnival.



**Benjamin Gordon**  
Year 10

Won a Gold medal in the 800m event at the NSWCCC Athletics carnival.



**Robert Murphy**  
Year 9

Won a Silver medal in the 1500m Walk at the NSWCCC Athletics carnival.



**Ruben Sondjaja**  
Year 11

Was in the winning team at the Australian U20s Golf championships. The team won the Strokeplay and the Matchplay championships.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Year 10 students Zachary Wheeler and Harry Davis won their second consecutive Rugby Union grand final playing for Coogee Blacks Rugby which is under Randwick Rugby Club.

Bailey Alchin, Jayden Azzopardi, Jai McGrath and Cameron Murray at the ICCC grand final in the Mascot U13 Rugby League won 17 to 7 against the Dundas Shamrocks. This was the team's 9th consecutive undefeated season.

Marcellin Boys in Division 1 Soccer - Grand final winners and into the State Knock Out Cup in Dubbo: Anthony Romeo, Conner McCulloch, Declan White, Harry Mourant, Kevin Gorial, Lucas Bond, Michael Montague-Brom, Nicholas Begaud, Patrick Mousinho and Rick Herron.

## TERM 3 CALENDAR EVENTS

**Thursday 22nd September**

- Year 12 Graduation Day. Final day of lessons for Term 3.

## TERM 4 CALENDAR EVENTS

**Monday 10th October**

- Term 4 commences.

**Monday 17th October**

- HSC commences.

**Friday 28th October**

- Walkathon (see note below).

## SCHOOL FEES

Accounts were sent out on 6th September. Please advise the office if you have not received your account. Early payment would be appreciated.

## LOST PROPERTY

There is a quantity of lost property in the front office. If your son has lost anything please advise him to check prior to term end as unclaimed items will be redistributed.

## TRIVIA NIGHT

The final tally for the P&F Trivia night was \$26,826.50. This is an outstanding amount of money raised. Once again, thank you to everyone who supported this event.

*Mrs Lisa Stirling, Marcellin P&F President*

## WALKATHON

One of the great traditions and community days at Marcellin College and one of the boys' personal favourites is the Walkathon. This event will take place on Friday 28th October and is our major fundraiser for the year. Previous years' fundraising efforts have been impressive because of the generous support of the Marcellin community and contributed funds have gone towards great initiatives at the College. Boys have received their sponsorship cards and I would encourage a big effort over the holidays to gain sponsors. Each boy is expected to raise a minimum of \$55 each as our aim this year is to raise \$50,000. Funds raised this year will go towards the second part of the refurbishment of the College's Vaughan Centre. We are currently looking for volunteers to help at checkpoints and the BBQ at Burrows Park.

If you are able to help please contact Mr Luke MacNamara at [macnamaral@marcellin.nsw.edu.au](mailto:macnamaral@marcellin.nsw.edu.au)

# NOTICES AND NEWS

## VISUAL ARTS

This year the students in Year 12 Visual Arts worked for six months on their Bodies of Work. The works constitute fifty percent of their assessment mark and represent the student's ability to create art from concept to resolution.

The individual pieces ranged from sculpture to calligraphy. Many hours of deliberation and hard work went into them. The students have learnt so much about 'how' to construct an art work within a time frame.

One of the students, Jordan Eves, will also be submitting his HSC Body of Work in the Clancy Prize 2012 Religious Art exhibition as it reflects the theme 'Wherever you are, you will find God'. The students are currently having their Bodies of Work marked by the Board of Studies. This has been a valuable and very reflective responsibility that has provided the students with an appreciation for the important role that artists play in the world around us.

*Ms Rebecca Wong, Creative Arts Coordinator*



Joshua Cogin's 'Tree of Death'



Peter Lee's 'Story of EOS'



Jack Rule's 'Evolution of Beauty'



Thomas Hsu's 'Nature and Structure'



Lee Ramsden's 'Life Saver'



Brandon Ng's 'Who, What, Wear'

# SPORT AND NEWS

## AFL

The Junior AFL team played their penultimate game of the All Schools Challenge against Barker College. Marcellin were too quick and skilful winning the game 47 to 27. Luke Dever and Thomas Scullion were judged Best and Fairest. I was most impressed with the skill level of the boys. I know there are a number of boys who have not had the opportunity to play AFL prior to this season and have really enjoyed playing. I commend each boy for the spirit in which they played the game and for the way they communicated and encouraged each other whilst playing. Special mention to Luke Irvine from the Year 11/12 team who gave the boys some much valued instruction before the game and during the breaks.



The Junior AFL team

## CCC ATHLETICS

On Friday 16th September eighteen boys represented at the NSWCCC Athletics championships at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Homebush. Marcellin boys representing the MCC had a number of excellent results with many silver and bronze awards. Well done to Benjamin Gordon who won Gold in the U16 800m event and Robert Murphy who won Silver in the 1500m Walk. Congratulations to all of the boys for the way in which they competed and special thanks to Mr Ben Proctor for accompanying the boys on the day.



Joshua Dever, Maxwell Wilson, Ben Gordon and Luke Dever

## SPORTS

The end of Term 3 marks the conclusion of the representative sporting season. It has been a most successful season and I am very pleased with the level of involvement from the boys across every sport the MCC offers. I believe the boys are extremely lucky to be part of some very talented teams. Playing team sports, ultimately our goals are to win premierships, but this season I am particularly impressed with the number of boys who have made a representative team for the first time. Marcellin is in a unique position to be able to fill spots when teams from other schools do not enter a particular competition. We will continue to do this to give more boys the opportunity to play representative sport. We have also entered Rugby competitions and AFL teams outside of school hours, entered CCC competitions in Basketball and more recently for the first time in Cricket and Rugby League. This gives boys extra opportunities to be involved in the sporting life of the College. We have also entered these competitions to test our skill level outside of the MCC competition. It is at these levels that we have proven our credibility as a successful sporting school. Recently at the MCC Annual General Meeting, Marcellin was responsible for initiating a change from 6 reserves in Rugby League to 8 reserves, purely to give more boys an opportunity to play, and I am excited to say that we were also successful in getting a second Under 13 Soccer team playing next season which will run similar to the Rugby League.

I am always looking for alternate sports that boys can try at a free choice level. Free choice sport will now commence in Term 4 for all boys not involved in the rep program. There is always a fitness component that students can choose and this year we have introduced Karate and Paddle Boarding for some of our year groups. All students have now been given information regarding sports on offer in Term 4, and I'd encourage parents to discuss these sports before your sons make their choices. I continue to encourage boys to trial for our representative teams, however if boys are not successful in making a team, try one of the alternate sports on offer.

Finally, I'd like to thank all our staff, ground managers, bus drivers and our student helpers for the many extra hours they devote to sport at Marcellin. Without their support, encouragement and expertise, the partnerships formed and excellent results achieved with our students would not be possible. Have a great holiday and I look forward to the boys returning next term for the commencement of free choice sport and the summer representative season.

*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.