STUDENT LEADERSHIP POLICY

The College has a leadership program that encompasses all year groups. Leadership at Marcellin is based on the notion that the best leaders in a community are those that seek to serve. This model of leadership is intended to reflect the example of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and forms the basis of all roles and responsibilities of the student leaders. All students at the College are called to serve the community in some capacity throughout the year as part of the social justice and community outreach program. Students who are chosen to be leaders are given opportunities to encourage others to be involved in service activities.

Older students model leadership for younger students. There are opportunities for students to take the initiative and lead in the achievement of student-set goals. Students host and manage some occasions such as our College Assemblies, the Spirit Cup and Year 7 Orientation. We seek to develop student’s co-operative and leadership skills through the Student Representative Council, which operates as a consultative body in policy making in the College. The Student Representative Council, the House system, Peer Support and Interact offer opportunities for students to be trained in leadership and provide forums for them to exercise their skills.

Rationale

Develop a shared understanding of the rights and responsibilities of all members of the College community.
Encourage initiative amongst students.
Foster positive communication channels.
Provide opportunities for personal development.
Develop a culture of service.
Model and reinforce socially constructive behaviour.

Leadership Structure

![Diagram of leadership structure]
Leadership selection process

Year 12 Leaders:

Students in Year 12 and the College staff are invited to nominate up to 10 students that they would like to be considered as leaders. This takes place at the commencement of Year 12. A nomination form is completed by both staff and students. The students are able to nominate another student or themselves. Results are tallied and sent to the Executive for final approval of a leadership group of 25. Only those students who have received both staff and student support are considered for the leadership group. A second ballot takes place with selections made by both staff and students from this short list. Once the captain and vice captain are selected, staff and students then select the House sports captain and other leaders from those remaining. The final list of leaders is decided by Executive in consultation with Year Coordinators.

Year 11 Peer Support:

All Year 10 students are invited to register their interest to apply for selection via the Peer Leaders’ Application Form. There are a number of criteria outlined on the form that need to be read carefully. All students who nominate undertake training in their own time. Their attendance at the training and information evening will qualify them for selection as peer support leaders.

Year 7-10 Leaders:

Three students from each Year group per semester. Students are invited to register their interest by completing a nomination form. The students are able to nominate another student or themselves. The final list of candidates is decided by Executive in consultation with Year Coordinators. Students vote on final list. Results are tallied and sent to the Executive for final approval.

Marcellin Ministry Leaders:

These students have a collective responsibility to animate other students to participate in whole school liturgies. In consultation with the Headmaster and the REC these students will liaise with the Marcellin Ex-student’s association in fostering their participation in the Marcellin Ministry Plan 2009 & Beyond.

Marist Solidarity Year 7-12:

These students are self nominated. Those students that are chosen have demonstrated their commitment to social justice activities and display those qualities that will see them make positive contributions to the broader community. The Social Justice Coordinator, Religious Education Coordinator in consultation with the Headmaster decide which students are to represent the College.
Roles and Responsibilities of Student Leaders

Year 12 Leaders:

Liaise with the College executive and Year 12 Coordinator to:
Set uniform standard.
Set behaviour and schoolwork standard.
Implement Bullying Action program.
Involvement in Liturgical life – Friday morning prayer
Involvement in Community outreach activities.
Involvement in 7-9 mentoring system – (Year 10-12)
Organising other students to be involved in above activities
Spirit cup implementation.
Peer tutoring
Peer conferencing
Reporting role in Year Group

Year 7-10 Leaders:

Set uniform standard.
Set behaviour and schoolwork standard.
Implement Bullying Action program.
Involvement in Liturgical life – Friday morning prayer
Involvement in Community outreach activities.
Involvement in 7-9 mentoring system – (Year 10-12)
Involved in recycling programs
Organising other students to be involved in above activities
Spirit cup implementation.
Reporting role in Year Group

Marcellin Ministry Leaders:

Represent the College and participate in Liturgies
Animate and enliven the College Community about Liturgy
Engage in the Colleges Community Outreach Program.
Participate and organise in Friday morning prayer.
Assist with whole school liturgies.
Work in partnership with Brigidine, Waverly, OLSH

Marist Solidarity Year 7-12:

Involvement in Liturgical life – Friday morning prayer
Involvement in Community outreach activities.
Organising other students to be involved in above activities
Interact/ Social Justice/ Vinnies Group
Meets three/ four times a term at lunch time
Reporting role in Year Group

December 2008
STUDENT LEADERSHIP – PEER SUPPORT

The highest form of leadership is that of service. Jesus left us in no doubt about it. Both by word and example his life was one of service. “I came to serve, not to be served”, he said and then washed the feet of his followers before laying down his life for them. Marcellin Champagnat wanted his schools to turn out “Good Christians and Good Citizens”, in other words, leaders who served their community.

To “serve” means to put oneself out for others, willingly and cheerfully; to do something extra, over and above what is required by duty in order to help or assist others. This is not the same as “servitude”, or forced service, which can degrade the “servant”. On the other hand, “service” builds up the dignity of the one serving by building up the dignity of others. Service is at the heart of community.

All member of the Marcellin College Community are invited to exercise leadership appropriate to their roles— as parents, as teachers and as students. But the base of leadership remains the service of others.

In our community we do not take leadership of service for granted. We not only provide opportunities for service among all students but we acknowledge and thank them in various ways. For example, by certificates and awards (Champagnat Award), the “Thank You” on the Special Achievement Board, etc. The Logbook introduces another way of acknowledging and thanking students for their service to the College community.

The Logbook is the student’s invitation to exercise leadership of service as a Senior Student by recording what they have already done for others. As a Senior Student, they will be able to present their contributions to the College community and be acknowledged with the “Leadership Tie” a sign to the community that they have rightfully earned the status of a Student Leader.

What is Peer Support?

Peer Support is the practical support given by senior students, ”Peer Leaders”, to Year 7 students starting school at Marcellin College. Peer Leaders look out for and are “older brothers” to their Yr 7 boys.

Why have Peer Support?

There are two main reasons, one is a right, the other a privilege:

1. High school can be an intimidating step for younger students who often feel lost in a bigger place after spending six years in a smaller and more ‘protective’ environment of primary school. This step can be made easier if older, responsible students, ‘Peer Leaders’, go out of their way to show an interest in and give practical support to younger students. At Marcellin College we believe that it is the right of every Yr 7 student starting high school to expect care and support not only from staff but also from other students, their peers.

2. Members of any good family/community look out for each other, especially for the youngest (or weakest) members. The more a family/community look out for each other, the better do all its members grow and develop. At Marcellin College we believe that it is a privilege to be a Peer Leader, to look out for and give support to the youngest or weakest members.

Who are Peer Leaders?

All students ought to look out for and support the youngest students. Senior students especially have the responsibility to show leadership in this matter. For practical purposes, however, it is best if volunteer students in Year 10 become Peer Leaders who by their commitment and example help to set the tone of care and concern for the rest of the College towards the youngest students. Those who volunteer need to commit themselves to some basic training in their own time to help them become effective Peer Leaders. So, Peer Leaders are chosen from Year 10 students and are trained for their special task.
How are Peer Leaders Selected?

All Year 10 students will have the Peer Support scheme explained to them and will be invited to apply for selection via the Peer Leaders’ Application Form. There are a number of criteria outlined on the form that need to be read carefully. Students are to hand in their form to the Year 10 Co-ordinator. A panel of staff will make the final selection; some will be selected as probables and will be informed and asked to undertake a couple of preliminary training sessions while others, the possibles, will be held in reserve. In all, about 30-35 Year 10 students will be required as Peer Leaders each year.

What are some responsibilities of Peer Leaders?

Peer Leaders undertake a number of responsibilities, this year and next year. These are detailed in the Application Form, but in summary they are:

- Some training sessions in their own time (Terms 3 & 4)
- Be available on specified days to meet the new students
- Each Peer Leader will be responsible for 5-6 Yr 7 students whom he will meet on the Information Night.
- Some may be asked to attend the Year 7 Camp to help
- Attend the Year 7 Orientation Day at Coogee (start of school)
- Be available during/after school to help Year 7 students, especially during the first term.
- Some may be asked to attend the Yr 7 Camp to help.

The Privileges of Peer Leaders

Here are some privileges of becoming a Peer Leader:

- Help to build up the College community through service.
- Get to know the new Year 7 students on a personal basis.
- Help a group Yr 7s settle into high school and look out for them
- Become more responsible by being responsible for others.
- Earn the respect not only of those who look up to leaders for assistance but also of peers and teachers.

Peer Leaders are recognised by the College in the following ways:

- presented with a Peer Leader’s Badge
- services to the College community as a Peer Leader can be recorded in the Logbook which student’s present to earn Leader’s Tie as a Senior Leader.
- service to the College community will go in College reference.

July 2012