22nd January 2015

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year and the final one for your son at Marcellin. This year promises to be both exciting and challenging for the students of the Graduating Class of 2015. The boys have already completed one term of HSC work and early indications are that they are highly motivated, willing to work with their teachers and very much ready for the challenge ahead.

Year Twelve is also a very unique year in the education of your son. Whilst the focus is obviously on the HSC exams, it should also be remembered that the next nine months should be the most memorable and personally rewarding period of your son’s school life. My hope is that this will be a time where the spirit of friendship and camaraderie flourishes and that the young men of this year group lead the younger students in the school by their actions and example.

“Good Christians and Good Citizens” remains the College theme for 2015 and at its core are the words from 2Corinthians13:11 “Try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace and the God of love and peace will be with you.” This theme will serve as a powerful reminder throughout the year of the uniqueness and potential of every student in Year Eleven, as they journey with a caring God through the next stage of their school life.

Similarly, “The Marcellin Graduate”, an evocative statement that captures the seven aspirational dimensions of our students, will be a wonderful point of reference for the senior cohort throughout the year. I encourage every parent to read this document which can be found on the Our Mission Statement page on the College website.

Term dates for the year are as follows;

Term 1: 29th January to the 2nd April. (Full school uniform is required on this day)
Term 2: 20th April to the 26th June.
Term 3: 13th July to the 17th September.

Just like previous years, 2015 also has a number of key school events and activities that require your son’s full support and attendance. These include the;

- College Swimming Carnival - 30th January at Botany Aquatic Centre
- Commencement Mass - Friday 13th February
- Year 12 Half Yearly Exams 2nd – 12th March
- Year 12 Retreat at Mittagong from the 15th-20th March
- College Athletics Carnival on the 24th April
- Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interview Night on the 22nd April
- Champagnat Day Mass and celebrations on the 5th of June
• Year 12 Trial HSC Exams 27th – 10th August
• Year 12 Graduation Day on the 17th September

We further extend an invitation to attend the Meet and Greet evening on Friday 6th February. It would be great to see you at the College. This year we also have three Parents in Touch evenings on the following dates:
  • Term 2 – 20th May
  • Term 3 – 12th August
  • Term 4 – 4th November

Please remember that the College website is an excellent source of information regarding upcoming events as is the College newsletter that is sent out every second Friday.

Year Twelve students are role models for the rest of the school; I have high expectations for them in regards to haircuts, being clean shaven and being correctly attired at all times particularly on Thursdays when sports shoes must be predominantly white or grey. The College also has a very clear policy regarding students driving to school. No student is to drive to school without the permission of the Headmaster. I would ask that you make yourselves aware of this information via the College diary or website and if need be, discuss this with your son.

Similarly, tattoos are not part of the College dress code and as such, any senior student with a tattoo needs to remember that at no stage should they be visible, particularly in regards to sports day, swimming and athletics carnivals. Also, a reminder that any absences from school will need to be explained by way of a doctor’s certificate and any requests for leave should be made to the Headmaster.

As you have witnessed over the last five years, the real strength of the Marcellin community is the way the parent body and the school works together. Good communication is vital and I ask that if you have any concerns about your son’s school life, particularly in regards to the stresses and demands of the HSC, that you phone or email the College. Your first point of contact should be your son’s homeroom teacher who will then determine the best course of action. Teachers email addresses can be located on the College Website (www.marcellin.nsw.edu.au). The homeroom team for 2015 is Mr Sean Mullaly, Ms Sonia Curtis, Mr Michael Donnelly, Mr Ross Ursino and Mr Ben Toohey.

Finally, my aim as Year Coordinator is to ensure that students remain focussed, work hard but more importantly enjoy the final year of their school life. I will ask only that they do their best.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to again working with you this year.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Trish Kratochvil
Year 12 Coordinator