



Number 15

15th October, 2014

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends

Term Four has started well and students and staff are commenting on the busyness and the frantic pace of school life. Other conversations with students have been on the uncertainty in the world, D and M's and FOMO! Straight away, *'Fear of Missing Out'* caught my interest and attention. Why were the students talking about it? How many of us have the condition? Is it obsessive? Perhaps the constant bombardment from social media can hijack our energies, our imagination, our values and most of all, what is important to us? What is immediate in our highly sensory lives, is becoming the most important! The effect can be confusing, discouraging and at times, paralysing for young people.

I recently read that perhaps the irony of FOMO is that it results in the very thing it tries so hard to avoid. All the effort and concern that is wasted in seeking not to miss out on something, usually means that the sufferer hardly gets to commit to anything.

At times, are our lives becoming too superficial or too discouraging? Frederic Ozanam, the founder of the St Vincent de Paul Society, urged people "to beware of discouragement" because "it is the death of the soul". St Marcellin Champagnat also believed that discouragement was the most harmful trap that lurked for young people.

So what is important to us? What can we do? St Marcellin spoke about the need for genuine relationships. It's about simplicity, a term used often to identify what is a core part of our Marist Charism. In our relationships with others, it's about openness, transparency, building genuine relationships on trust and belief. There is a lack of pretense, no games of power and no masks.

Another characteristic of the Marist Charism is presence ... spending time with people and spending it well. Spending time with people cannot always be done on social media. Being in the here and now, having quality time **with** people may help us let go of the FOMO.

The greatest challenge Marcellin gives us is to live each day in the presence of God. In the busyness of life we need to create time and space for God and to have moments during the day for prayer.

The God who calls us by name (Isaiah 40:26) is also the God who reveals himself to us. We can call him Jesus. As a Marist College, we strive to be like Marcellin to make Jesus Christ known and loved through our education of young people, so they "can all become good Christians and good citizens". If we focus on this challenge we're not missing out on anything!

Mr Mark Tuffy
Acting Principal

Captivate Programme



From the Director of Mission

STATE SCHOOL RELIGION PROGRAM

Year 9 students have been invited to consider being part of the State RE programme for 2015. This programme involves students attending Dundas Primary School weekly to present to Kinder or Year 1 Catholic students Religious Education lessons. Students will be accompanied by teachers from St Patrick's Marist and will be trained later this term. If you are interested in being part of this wonderful programme please complete the slip attached to the invitational letter and return it to Mr Scanlon this week.

MARIST LEADERS RETREAT

On the weekend of the 19th-21st September, 50 Year 11 students and staff from 17 Marist schools gathered at Mittagong for the annual Year 11 Marist Forum.

The weekend invited participants to engage in listening and shared dialogue around contemporary issues of justice, as well as conduct an open forum on how they can become agents of change in their own school and local communities.

Our two keynote speakers helped to broaden students' understanding of justice and solidarity. Melisa Cicak from the Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS) shared her own story of resettling with her family in Australia after fleeing Bosnia as a young girl in the 1990's, and now involved in advocacy work for refugees and asylum seekers. Zach Woodward, a Young Marist from Brisbane reflected on his experience of participating with Marist Volunteers Australia in Cambodia and how that immersion has strengthened his own passion for justice back home in Australia.

Mr J. Scanlon

From the Assistant Principal ...

DISABILITY PROVISION

Disability provisions are practical support designed to help students who couldn't otherwise make a fair attempt in their HSC examinations based on a physical condition, visual impairment, hearing loss or trouble expressing ideas in writing due to a medical condition.

The provisions are granted by the Board of Studies, Teaching & Educational Standards NSW and are solely determined by how the student's exam performance is affected. Provisions may include braille papers, large-print papers, use of a reader and/or writer, extra time or rest breaks.

Students in Year 12 who will be sitting their HSC Examinations in 2015 who wish to apply for Disability Provisions should see Mrs Dumas in the Learning Support Centre as soon as possible.

YEAR 11 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

On Monday 20th October from 4.00pm till 7.00pm in the Library. Year 11 students, with their parents, are invited to book a time to collect their Final Preliminary Report and to also make time to speak to their child's teachers gaining feedback about their learning throughout the Preliminary

course this year. Students are asked to attend the evening in full school uniform and the bell will ring every 6 minutes to guide our interview times. All Parent/Teacher interviews are important opportunities to connect with individual teachers about the progress of your son or daughter and how, in partnership with the College, can continue to support each student in their learning.

HSC

HSC Examinations began this week. Please keep our Year 12 students in your prayers as they conclude their thirteen years of schooling and their final examinations.

*God of all wisdom,
Creator of all things,
True source of light,
Graciously let a ray of your light penetrate
their understanding.*

*Give them our seniors, a keen understanding,
A retentive memory, and
The ability to grasp things
Correctly and fundamentally.*

*Grant them the talent
Of being exact in their explanations
And the ability to express themselves
With thoroughness and clarity.*

*Keep them calm and in your presence
We ask this through Jesus our Teacher.*

Mr J. Scanlon
Teaching and Learning

From the Year Co-ordinators ...

YEAR 11

It is an exciting time for our Year 11 students as they become the Senior year group in the College and embark on their H.S.C. journey. It is vital that our students begin this journey in the best possible way, which involves being organised, prepared and keeping life in balance.

In the past, the two main issues that have caused Senior students angst and have detracted them from the most important focus, study, have been breaking driving and uniform rules.

Any student who wishes to drive to school must complete a driving permission form available from me. Only one passenger is allowed in the car at one time.

We thank the vast majority of students who returned for Term 4 wearing their correct summer uniform and with their haircuts and grooming very presentable. While this was true for nearly all of our students, it was disappointing that some students let us and themselves down by not being in correct uniform or having haircuts which clearly did not comply with College policy. Support from the home is essential and something we expect. I thank all those parents who do and those who when contacted by the College, act so quickly in support of us.

There is an optional Senior Study Evening each Wednesday in the Library from 5.00pm – 7.00pm which students are welcome to attend. It is an opportunity to use the resources to work individually, in groups or with a member of staff. Students have found this very useful in the past and we encourage them to make use of this. Students must attend for the whole session and must remain in the library.

Mr P. Quigley

YEAR 10

It has come to that time of the year where the Year 10 students and teachers come together to celebrate the end of their Junior schooling with a Harbour Cruise.

This year the cruise will be held on The Blue Room Vessel departing from No. 6 King Street Wharf on Wednesday, 29th October. We ask that all students be at the wharf no later than 6:30pm so we are able to mark rolls and embark the vessel for our 7:00pm departure. The cruise will spend the time touring the harbour and will return to the wharf at 11:00 pm.

This is a formal College function and as such usual College rules regarding conduct apply. All Year 10 students who are attending the cruise will be dismissed at 12:45 pm on Wednesday 29th October (any student absent will need to provide a Doctor's certificate and will not be permitted to attend the cruise). Thursday 30th October is a normal school day and students are expected to be in attendance unless a Doctor's certificate is provided.

Looking forward to sharing a memorable evening with Year 10 on the Harbour. Some photos of the evening will be showcased in the school newsletter later in the term.

Miss Rasiae



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday, 17th October
Monday, 20th October
Monday, 27th October
Wednesday, 29th October
Sunday, 9th November
Monday 17th November
Monday, 24th November

Year 7, 2015 Orientation Day
Year 9 Camps Commence (Conclude on Friday 24th October)
Years 7 and 9 Vaccinations
Year 10 Harbour Cruise
Marist Leaders Retreat (Concludes on Wednesday, 12th November)
Year 10 Exams Commence (Conclude on Monday, 24th November)
College Leaders Reflection Day

YEAR 8

Welcome back to all Year 8 students after an enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

This term is going to be another busy term, both academically and with extra-curricula activities. Students will now have started their assessment tasks from each of their subjects and preparing for their upcoming yearly examinations. The "Battle of the Bands" performances in Music will commence and a concert later this term will allow the top groups to perform in front of an audience. To finish the term, preparations for Picnic Day are under way.

A reminder for all parents and guardians that iPads for the Year 8 students commencing Year 9 in 2015 will need to be purchased by 1st December as the iPad information and training for current Year 8 students commences on Monday 1st December in which they will be required to have their iPad at school.

Mrs A. Papoulias

Captivate Programme

On Friday 11th October, St Patrick's Year 10 and Year 11 Drama classes joined together to participate in an audition workshop run by the CEO Parramatta Captivate program. Two teachers, Ms Armour and Ms Beaumont challenged us with focus exercises, characterisation and script work. This was a great exercise in showing the talent here at St Pat's and also an exciting opportunity to broaden our horizons and learn more Drama skills. Although this was an audition workshop, it was a lot of fun. Our Drama teacher Mrs Wallace is regularly impressed with our creativity and acting, but it was rewarding to have teachers who had never seen us perform before clapping and laughing at our efforts.

Some students from St Pat's will be invited to participate in a combined schools 3 day Captivate Drama Workshop at the end of the year.

Nathan Taverniti
Year 10

Congratulations ...

To Bradley Doherty who has made the Junior State Play team for the third consecutive year. Playing golf since he was four, the 14-year-old from Oatlands has developed a great all-round game. He now plays off a handicap of three. The Western Sydney Academy of Sport golfer trains daily at Oatlands Golf Club and travels to Twin Creeks fortnightly for his academy training, practising with pro Asef Haddad. See detailed article from the Hills Shire Times, Tuesday, 23rd September, 2014 (Page 60)

Congratulations ...

To Brigitte McIntosh who received the annual Bishop of Parramatta Award for Student Excellence, which recognises the religious and academic achievement of senior secondary students across the Diocese of Parramatta.

Brigitte has been an outstanding servant of St Patrick's Marist and the local community. She has demonstrated her commitment to serve others through her involvement with the elderly and the Lions Club of Australia.

Brigitte has a deep love of learning. Her meritorious efforts have been recognised through a significant number of awards through Years 7 to 12. A keen sportswoman, she has represented the College in water polo, touch football, swimming, athletics and soccer. In netball she has excelled, being selected as a member of the All Australian Marist Netball Squad in 2013.

Brigitte is a worthy recipient of the Bishop of Parramatta Award.



Brigitte McIntosh with Sue Walsh and Bishop Anthony Fisher OP

Marist Leaders Retreat

From the 19th to the 21st of September, Emily Khoury and myself were given the opportunity to visit The Hermitage at Mittagong for a three day Marist Forum. Alongside 40 other Year 11 students from Marist Schools in NSW and ACT, we were taught how to be 'Agents of Change' in modern society. After being very apprehensive about what the weekend would hold, we were pleasantly surprised to be greeted with three of the greatest days of our lives. There were guest speakers and liturgies, we participated in various hilarious, yet life changing activities and made dozens of friendships that we will remember forever. We are both extremely thankful for being allowed to experience this forum and look forward to implementing the social justice practices we learnt into our Marist community.

Courtney Foster
11 MacKillop

MCS A Grade Basketball

St Patrick's Dundas 36

Trinity Auburn 35

After taking an early lead over our opponents, Trinity Auburn, we allowed them to go to the break with a six-point advantage.

Throughout the second half the boys showed composure and patience to set up scoring opportunities for Caleb Henwood and Nathan Thompson, which saw us take a two point lead with three minutes to go.

With under a minute to the bell, Trinity hit a three pointer to put us behind. With just 14 seconds left on the clock the ball was inbounded to Angelo Zafiratos, who initially dropped the ball only to regain possession, then drove to the basket and put up the winning shot with less than three seconds remaining.

An exciting first up win, which by the look of the side, should be the first of many for the season.

Mr T Lower
Coach

National Art School

At 7am on the first Monday of the holidays, Courtney and I woke up, not at a beach resort but at the National Art School in Sydney, which I guess is close enough.

During the busy and stressful week at Art school, we learnt multiple skills and painting techniques, which are definitely going to help with our Major HSC artwork as well as many artworks to come.

Throughout the week we were surrounded by an innovative and inspiring environment and had unlimited access to a wide variety of resources and materials which we definitely took advantage of!

Overall, the week was an incredible experience and we have met so many wonderful and talented people and have been guided and taught by the tutors at the school. I thoroughly enjoyed my week learning and being surrounded by art. It is definitely a place I hope to return to in the future.

Johanna O'Donoghue

Johanna and I were lucky enough to feature our series of artworks at the National Art School gallery opening night on the 26th of September. We felt privileged to be invited to show our artworks at the gallery and were amazed with the talents of our fellow exhibitors from around the state. The night was filled with excited and energised students ready to show what they had achieved over two weeks to their family, friends and teachers. The night was definitely something Johanna and I will never forget, it was our first professional art show which was an eye opener and a great experience.

Courtney Muir



LOGONLITERACY

SUMMARISING

When we **SUMMARISE**, we distinguish between **MAIN** (important) points and **DETAILS**. **MAIN POINTS** and **DETAILS** are not constant, as these depend on the **PURPOSE** of searching for information. The same text will be 'read' differently depending on the **PURPOSE** of the **RESEARCH**. The relative importance of words is **CONTEXT** specific. Guide students to the **MAIN POINTS** by giving them questions or a framework for extracting the **KEY INFORMATION**.

Sometimes main points in one context can be details in others. This depends on the purpose for reading. Give an everyday example.

The Australian Prime Minister is Tony Abbott (**MAIN POINT**) and his wife's name is Margaret. (**DETAIL**)

Tony Abbott's wife, Margaret, has been accused of abusing her position (**MAIN POINT**) as the Prime Minister's wife (**DETAIL**).

In the second sentence the fact that Margaret Abbott is Tony Abbott's wife is very significant. In the first sentence, it is not so significant.

GOLF

Teen has drive to be the best

BRADLEY DOHERTY IS AIMING FOR PRO TOUR

Warren Thomson

BRADLEY Doherty is one sharp shooter.

Playing golf since he was four, the 14-year-old from Outlands has developed a great all round game.

He now plays off a handicap of three.

The Western Sydney Academy of Sport golfer trains daily at Outlands Golf Club and travels to Twin Creek fortnightly for his academy training, practising with pro Asef Haddad.

He said he enjoyed the skill aspect of the game, but mainly, he liked the opportunity to meet new people.



"Just the people who play," Bradley said. "I like socialising with other players."

His strengths are his accuracy, particularly his drive, and his short game.

Bradley's skills have helped him earn more silverware this year and he made the Junior State Play Team for the third consecutive year.

Despite his success, Bradley knows he has a lot of work to do to earn a pro handicap and go on tour.

"Winning is good, but it is important to get better every day," he admitted.

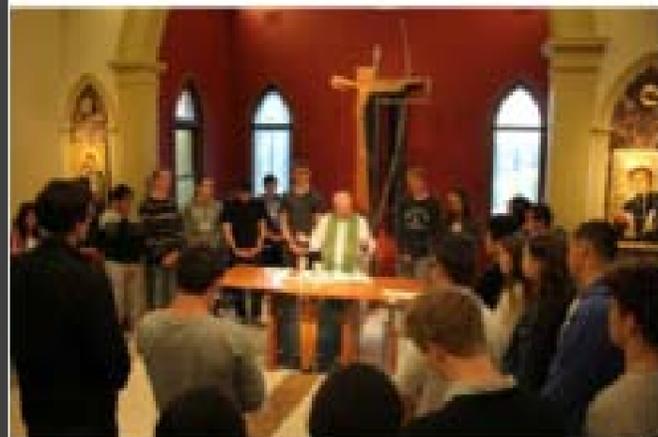
Bradley's favourite golfer is Adam Scott. He said he saw the Aussie golfer as a good role model.

Haddad and Western Sydney Academy of Sport chief executive Martin Bullock praised Bradley on his achievements, dedication and hard work.

Bradley is this week's nominee for the Junior Sports Star award, supported by Rebel.



Golfer Bradley Doherty is this week's Junior Sports Star award nominee. Picture: PETER HILL



For more photos of the Year 11 Marist Forum go to
www.facebook.com/MaristVocations

The first Marist Brothers arrived in Australia on the 'Star of Peace' on 21st February, 1872. On the 8th April, 1872, school commenced at St Patrick's. Our Newsletter is named, 'Star of Peace', as it too, hopefully, brings peace and good news to our community.

Community News

Worldwide Marriage Encounter



A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a Marriage Enrichment experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend Dates: 7 – 9 November at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings: Ardell & Bill Sharpe - 02 4283 3435 or
 wsharpe@bigpond.net.au; www.wwme.org.au;
 www.facebook.com/WWMEasternUnit

st. matthew's
 BAULKHAM HILLS UNITING CHURCH
 growing together

Looking for a fun and friendly netball competition?

**We invite you to join
 ST MATTHEWS UNITING
 CHURCH NETBALL CLUB**

The perfect competition for all ages!
 Games played at Gooden Reserve, Baulkham Hills.
 The 2015 season begins Saturday 4th April.

Register on Saturday 1st November 2014 at Winston Hills Mall from 10 am to 2 pm

(We will be located down the Coles end of the Mall next to the food court)

For further enquiries, please email stmatthewsnetballclub@hotmail.com

St Matthew's Netball Club

THIS IS GOING TO BE DEADLY.

You're invited to the launch of the new headspace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth campaign.

Come along to see the campaign revealed for the first time in Mount Druitt, check out the campaign merchandise and enjoy local food and entertainment

headspace
 Mount Druitt

**9 October 2014
 4:30pm - 7:30pm
 Dawson Mall, Mount Druitt**

More information at
www.headspace.org.au/mountdruitt

headspace acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia and we pay our respects to their Elders both past, present and future.

headspace national youth mental health foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health under the Youth Mental Health Initiative.

Past students and families are warmly invited to
join us in celebrating our School's special year
Sunday, 19th October, 2014
50th Anniversary 10am Mass & BBQ

St Gerard's Catholic
Primary School



PLEASE JOIN US FOR LOTS OF MEMORIES & FUN:

- Mass
- Open Class Room Tours
- BBQ
- Memorabilia Rooms
- Music & Games
- Catch up with old and new friends
- Cutting of the giant 50th Cake
- & yes there will be a coffee van

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FREE WORKSHOP

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, LEADER & SOCIAL CHANGEMAKER
— OLEN GERHYN WILL INSPIRE AND MOTIVATE YOU —

Do you have a teenager?

If you have a teenager it's no secret you have one of the hardest jobs in the world so don't miss this fantastic opportunity:

Parents are invited to attend this life changing workshop aimed at equipping you with positive and powerful skills to raise resilient and successful teenagers.

The session is uplifting and motivational and will provide skills for each member of the family to contribute, support and encourage each other.

Achieve great things in your life

Find your place in the world

Make positive life choices

Build long lasting relationships

8:45pm Wednesday 20th October 2014

William Clarke College, 1 Morris Grove, Killybegs

RSVP to enrol@williamcatholic.edu.au or 02 9639 0263

Sponsored thanks to the Sts Marys Council and William Clarke College