FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Time moves so quickly and it is difficult to fathom that the first school term for this year is over. On reflecting back over the last eleven weeks you realise the many and varied activities that schools are involved. Some highlights include:

• Our beautiful Opening School Mass at Kingsgrove Catholic Church, where we became a Year 7 to 12 College, welcomed new staff and students and commissioned the student leaders. This ceremony commenced a new tradition of presenting a gift to our Year 12 students to acknowledge and celebrate their role as the senior leaders. We also continued the tradition of presenting our Year 7 students and staff new to the College with a Marist Pin.
• The Peer Support program where our Year 10 students with Year 9 students from Bethany College encouraged and nurtured our Year 7 students as they transition into high school.
• The efforts of our students in the Sydney Catholic Colleges (SCC) and Christian Brothers Sports Association (CBSA) competitions. The junior swimming squad, the Year 9 chess team, Open and Junior Cricketers all were victorious in their competitions. Our Open Cricketers were the first team in the College to win a senior division championship in the CBSA competition.
• The ‘Aspire to be…’ Target Setting Program which involved parents, students and teachers working together in guiding students to reflect on their learning, develop actions and set targets to improve their academic performance.
• The performances of our public speakers in the Catholic Schools’ Debating Association (CSDA) pubic speaking competition. This competition sees over 2000 students from Catholic schools across Sydney prepare a short speech that was delivered before an audience and adjudicator. We had two students who reached the finals.
• The way the College embraced the transforming grace of the holy season of Lent. The prayer and almsgiving of the community has been impressive. The students raised over $9000 for Project Compassion and Marist Solidarity.
• The literacy days for Years 7, 8 and 9 students. This program is aimed specifically at improving the reading and writing skills of students.
• The Year 7 Camp – It was brilliant!

Finally, I strongly encourage students to read a book over the upcoming holiday break. Joseph Addison succinctly explains that “reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body”. Reading brings much pleasure and as Albus Dumbledore from the Harry Potter series so aptly puts it, “words are, in my not so humble opinion, our most inexhaustible source of magic....”

I wish all families a safe and enjoyable break.

Mr Ray Martin
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 25 April</td>
<td>Anzac Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 26 April</td>
<td>Term 2 Commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 26 April</td>
<td>Full Winter Uniform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 29 April</td>
<td>Year 12 Retreat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 02 May</td>
<td>Year 7 Vaccinations 1st Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 05 May</td>
<td>Mothers Day Liturgy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 10 May to</td>
<td>Naplan Exams Years 7 &amp; 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12May</td>
<td>Blessing &amp; Opening of new buildings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 13 May</td>
<td>Penshurst Parents 7:15pm - La Valla</td>
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UNIFORM SHOP - HOLIDAY OPENING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opening Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 20 April</td>
<td>9am - 12pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues 26 April</td>
<td>8am - 11am</td>
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Term Opening Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Opening Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mondays</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesdays</td>
<td>8am - 11:30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

There has been much to celebrate on the learning front in recent weeks. Year 12 have recently completed their half yearly exams and we are extremely proud of them as they have demonstrated a clear commitment to working hard and are aspireing towards the HSC in the areas of organisation and confidence in how to prepare for an exam. We wish them well as they continue to grow as the year progresses. The College has offered the Year 12 students the opportunity to attend HSC workshops in a number of subject areas during these coming holidays. We especially thank our HSC teachers for volunteering their holiday time for our students.

COLLEGE WINTER UNIFORM

Students are to return in Term 2 in full winter uniform. Please take the time during the holidays to ensure that your son’s/daughter’s uniform complies with College standards. Please refer to page 121 of the student diary for the College uniform expectations.

A reminder that the blazer is to be worn to school in Terms 2 and 3. The blazer is to be worn first which can then be supplemented with the jumper in very cold weather. Jumpers are not to be worn travelling to and from school without the Blazer.

I also ask your support in ensuring students return with appropriate haircuts. I have had a number of students over the course of the year blame the hairdresser for cutting their hair inappropriately. Clearly, as a paying client a student will get the hair cut they ask for. Please refer to page 123 of the student diary for grooming expectations.

ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offence</th>
<th>Minimum Fine</th>
<th>Minimum loss of demerit Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If you stop or park on or near:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A Pedestrian Crossing</td>
<td>$425</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A Children’s Crossing</td>
<td>$177</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Any marked Foot Crossing</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you double park</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you park illegally in a:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NO STOPPING zone (School)</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• NO PARKING zone (School)</td>
<td>$317</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• BUS ZONE (School)</td>
<td>$319</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop on/across driveway</td>
<td>$177</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you make an illegal U Turn</td>
<td>$319</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you exceed 40km/h when passing a school bus with flashing “wig-wag” lights</td>
<td>$112-2306</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Traffic and parking problems around schools creates significant issues. The safety of our students travelling to and from school is a priority at all times. Above are Road Safety guidelines which are being enforced by the Police. There is a constant presence of parking patrol officers around school zones each day. Please read the information from the police above and we thank you for your ongoing support.

I take this opportunity to pray for every blessing on families for the forthcoming school holiday period, and look forward to another successful term commencing Tuesday 26th April.

Mrs Carmelina Eussen
Assistant Principal

Now Enrolling Year 7, 2018

Do you have a child in Year 5? Families and friends of students interested in enrolling at Marist Catholic College Penshurst for Year 7, 2018 are reminded that enrolments close on 22nd July, 2016.
LITERACY NEWS

YEARN AND 8 WRITING WORKSHOPS

Throughout this term the focus for Year 7 and 8 within their Key Learning Areas has been persuasive and narrative writing as we prepare our students for the NAPLAN testing early in Term 2. Over the past week Year 7 and 8 participated in a Writing Workshop Day. Our focus was developing critical and creative writing.

The Year 7 Writing Day was developed from a HSIE perspective with a focus on ancient worlds. Students participated in a masterclass where they were given an overview of literary tools and techniques to enhance their creative writing style. From there students worked in small workshops for the rest of the day developing vivid settings and animated characterisation using figurative language. Year 7 showed great promise in their ability to produce effective orientations to their narratives and used a wide variety of literary techniques.

Below is a Year 7 writing sample script orientation which showed great promise and impressed the marking team!

Mission Ancient World - By Patrice Merkouris 7.2

I stared blankly out of the small circular window in my bedroom. The polluted atmosphere of the Ancient world loomed below. I could see the continents; America, Asia, Africa. I closed my glassy blue eyes wistfully in thought as I dreamt about what it was like on Earth. Most people imagined dead land, cracked and dried by the burning sun. Pollution leaving a horrid smell in the air, but I was different. After everything I had studied about the Ancient world of planet Earth. I had conjured up an ambiguous image in my mind that wavered like a mirage. I saw unnaturally coloured skies caused by radiation; violet, green, red. They were blanketed by a smoky haze that touched the hot land with silky fingers....

Year 8 focused their day on deep reading of a text and built the field to develop annotation skills to identify successful writing styles which were then transferred to their own writing in Journal form.

Ms Rebecca Nolan
Diverse Learning / Literacy

WORLD OF MATHS

On Tuesday 29th March, Year 8 were introduced to the World of Maths. We participated in interesting hands-on maths activities. Throughout the morning we were faced with brain teasers and problems that captivated the minds of Year 8 and encouraged us to think critically. There were a total of 15 activities, each involved a different branch of Mathematics.

We all enjoyed the morning and are very grateful for the opportunity. A special thank you to Mr Peter Wilson, from the World of Mathematics, for providing Year 8 with a wonderful experience.

Liam Haggett, Nicholas Stathakis and Connor McSweeney
Year 8 Students
YEAR 8 NEWS

Year 8 certainly have had an inspirational start to the school year. Our pastoral theme for this year is ‘Always do your best. What you plant now you will harvest later.’ - I ask that all students follow the scripture passage from Mark 4: 30-32. ‘The Parable of the Mustard Seed’ He also said, “With what can we compare the Kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like the mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that all the birds of the air can make nests in its shade”.

During our Pastoral Care lesson in Week 1 students were encouraged to think of ways they can do their best in 2016 and were asked reflect on their role and responsibilities at home, within the College community and within the greater community. Each pastoral class created posters to promote our theme for the year.

I will be asking Year 8 to show service to our chosen charity, Marist Youth Care. It is my anticipation that your son or daughter will embrace this message of doing their best throughout the academic year and come to realise that as an individual they have the potential to encourage positive change within themselves and our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Year 8 for the thought and preparation they put into their Target Setting goals for 2016. Your son or daughter’s Pastoral teacher will maintain regular dialogue with each student about their goals and I would hope that similar conversations will be taking place at home.

Last week, Year 8 enjoyed their Religious Education reflection day, at Peakhurst Parish hall. Connor McSweeney and Rakel Gunaidi have kindly written a recount of this day for us to enjoy:

Mr Steven Skoflic
Year 8 Leader of Wellbeing

YEAR 8 REFLECTION DAY

Last week Year 8 had a reflection day at Our Lady of Fatima, Peakhurst Parish hall. It was a great day and we enjoyed every single bit of it. It was all about getting out of your comfort zone and spending time with people you would usually not spend time with.

First we assembled in the hall with all our friends. Then we were told to go find a partner of the opposite gender, or someone we are not close friends with. We then played the game knights, cavaliers and mounts with our partner, which involves things like sitting on your partner’s back and pretending to hold them. This activity was hilarious and we all had fun.

Next we listened to what some of the students thought of our grade and ways we can become one large cohort instead of having groups we are constantly with. We then went to recess. After recess we were greeted by Michael on the guitar, which led us into our next activity. He would play a tune from a song and if you knew the lyrics you were welcomed to go up and sing to the entire grade, we had three enticing performances by students of Year 8. To end the day we listened to what students of the other gender respect in a boy or girl without saying their name. This was to help know what we should do to make ourselves respectable by the other gender.

All in all we all were taken out of our comfort zone by any stretch of the imagination. We loved the day and are grateful for the experience.

Connor McSweeney and Rakel Gunaidi
YEAR 7 CAMP

On Tuesday the 29th to Thursday the 31st of March, Year 7 had a terrific camp experience at Vision Valley. The activities at Vision Valley included archery, a low ropes obstacle course, high ropes leap of faith and vertical challenge, canoeing, waterslide and the crowd favourite – the flying fox. It really was inspiring to see Year 7 students challenging themselves and getting out of their comfort zone and into their courage zone. Many students learnt valuable lessons about what was possible and what they can achieve if they are willing to take that first step.

The Marist spirit was definitely alive in our talent quest which brought great joy to the crowd who clapped and cheered for acts ranging from singing and dancing to stand-up comedy and magic/hypnotism. They certainly impressed the staff with the range of talents on display and we look forward to seeing more of these unique gifts throughout the year. I would like to thank the staff for accompanying Year 7 on the camp and giving up their own time and time away from their families to support their students. Mrs D'Angelo, Ms Rothwell, Mr Di Terlizzi, Mrs Surmon, Mrs Lynch, Mrs Weeks, Ms Fakhry and Mr Prosser – on behalf of Year 7 thank you for making this year’s camp a wonderful success.

Mr Jon Cullerton – Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing

Comments from Year 7

Jessica Asal 7.6 – The instructors were very friendly and made sure we all had a fun and safe experience. We are appreciative to the teachers that gave up their time to go on our Year 7 camp. We all got the chance to get out of our comfort zones and everyone tried their best in all activities.

Sienna De Marcellis 7.3 – Whether it was jumping from the leap of faith, flying the flying fox, or winning the tug of war, bigger and better things were happening – we were making new lifelong friends!

Bailey Rogerson 7.5 – My favourite activity was the waterslide and the challenges set to see who could race down the fastest. Another highlight were the night-time activities that the teachers spent their time to prepare. These are memories that will be with me for a long time.

Amelia Brohier 7.3 – I would say that Year 7 camp is an opportunity for you to face your fears, try new things and make new friends. I believe that’s exactly what happened. So all in all Year 7 camp was a great success!
CBSA SPORT
BASKETBALL

JUNIORS
Our Junior Basketball team at MCCP continue through to the semi-finals next week with an opponent to be decided at this present time. In week 6 we played a fantastic game against Rosebank which ended in a draw, MCCP equalising in the last 30 seconds of the game, a fantastic effort from the boys. In week 7 the boys faced St Mary’s Cathedral winning 46 to 38. Fantastic work ethic from Nic Stathakis and Joseph Fabrello. Well done to all players. Training will continue this week in preparation for the semis. Well done to all players. Bring on the Semi-finals!
Team: Jack Luke, Tom Pithekley, Angus Riittano, Romeo Lim, Andrew Ha, Nic Stathakis, Christian Leventis, Max Kovacic, Alfred Tang, Joseph Fabrello

INTERMEDIATE SEASON REVIEW
This years CBSA Intermediate Basketball Team came into the season as a fairly inexperienced squad, but what we lacked in that area was certainly made up for in character and heart. Every Thursday we turned up to Hurstville Aquatic Centre in the sweltering heat and sweated it out for a good forty minutes of game time. Despite these not so ideal conditions the team worked hard every week for the whole game and never gave up without a fight. Our training routine was very persistent with nearly everyone from the team showing up on time every Monday morning.

Together we all worked on our weaknesses to improve our game. While the other teams worked on winning, we worked on learning, how to develop new skills and teamwork - and improving our knowledge of the game. Although we lacked wins our offence was very strong. Against our opposition it seemed that we lacked in defence and that is something we need to work on for the seasons to come. Overall, we took on some pretty tough teams, and although we didn’t have too much success, we improved as a team and became better basketballers.

Round 1 loss Lakemba
Round 2 win Punchbowl
Round 3 draw Marrickville
Round 4 lost Revesby
Round 5 lost Five Dock
Round 6 lost Cathedral

Team: Noah Assaly, Leon Chow, Declan Debono, Nicholas Leventis, Samuel Lombardo, Andrew Tang, Maverick Tumang, James Tzortzatos, Daniel Widders (Captain) and Zach Pitkethley. MVP: Daniel Widders

Thank you for the opportunity of representing the College.
Daniel Widders - Team Captain

SENIORS - Round 7: MCCP 27 were defeated by St Mary’s 37
Unfortunately it was a disappointing end to what was an extremely promising season for the CSBA Seniors Basketball team. Our game started quite slow, with a fair amount of time passing before we started scoring, which enabled St Mary’s to forge ahead with an impressive lead. This however, gave the team the impetus to start moving, and although we had to play catch up for the rest of the match, we were successful in significantly closing the lead. Regardless of the outcome of this match and ultimately the season, the students should be extremely proud of their accomplishments in what was a very competitive season, with many teams being evenly matched. Whilst this was goodbye to our CBSA season, the team still have one more competition to participate in. During the first week of the school holidays, the Senior CBSA Basketball team will, along with Daniel Widders from the Intermediate team, be taking part in the Australian Marist Basketball Carnival. The carnival this year is being hosted by St Joseph’s College, Hunters Hill and will see 22 Marist schools from around Australia competing. It is a great opportunity for the students to participate in this carnival and will be a fitting farewell to the Year 12 members of the team. Good luck and play hard!
Player of the match: Stephen Deng

Ms Rachel Thompson - Coach
CRICKET

SENIORS
Grand Final MCCP 8/95 def Cathedral 8/64
Batting: Nick Bozic 35, Tom Colonnelli 20, Steven Karahalias 14 Bowling: Jarrod Maloney 3-16, Braydon Morris 2-8

After winning the toss the MCCP team decided to bat and made a steady start to be 1/20 after 5 overs. Midway through the innings Tom Colonnelli ignited into action and hit a quickfire 20 and was backed up by Nick Bozic who produced a stellar knock hitting 35 runs off 20 deliveries. This set up a good total of 95, a total that we felt we could defend. We could not of dreamed of a better start with Jarrod Maloney snaring a wicket with his second delivery, this had the Cathedral boys on the back foot. Our opening bowlers continued to bowl tight lines and were magnificently supported in the field by their team mates. After 5 overs Cathedral where 1/11 and the pressure was mounting if they were to chase down our total. The MCCP team kept to their processes and Cathedral continued to slip further behind in the run rate. In the end Cathedral managed 8/64 after their allotted 20 overs.

It was the team’s best effort all season and they were deserved premiers going through the competition undefeated. In winning the CBSA Senior Cricket competition the boys become the first senior team under the MCCP flag to win a competition and should be highly commended for their efforts. Finally, congratulations gentlemen you have represented your College with pride, conducted yourselves with distinction and made the season extremely enjoyable. Well done to all.

The victorious Senior Cricket Team consisted of: Steven Karahalias (Captain), Tom Colonnelli, Ryan Bujcevski, Jarrod Maloney, Karvan Silva, Nick Bozic, Matthew Lakos, Josh O’Shannessy, Ryan Morgan, Cooper Cheney, Jack Robson, Braydon Morris, Adrian Natoli

Mr Michael Falzon
Coach

JUNIORS

The Junior cricket team gave a fantastic performance throughout the entire season. Finishing as the undefeated premiers, gives testimony to their skill and ability to rise up to any challenges thrown their way from other schools.

Although they were champions, this season wasn’t without aspects that could be improved upon. I encourage the young men of this team to look back and analyse certain aspects, to build on them in the future, so as to maintain their dominant strength in representing Marist Catholic College Penshurst.

Mr Kieran Smith - Coach

SCC SPORT

VOLLEYBALL

INTERMEDIATE
A group of ten students were selected to represent MCCP at the SCC Interschool Volleyball competition.
Team: Charlie Riley, Serena Alemagar, Annamarie Gurabiovska, Katie Schwarzel, Alicia Langley, Rakel Gunaidi, Lyric Parcarey, Selena Rowan, Melissa Novevski, Sophie Luo

This Intermediate Competition was open to students in both Year 9 and Year 8. There were 7 games played this term. Our first hurdle was when Melissa Novevski broke her foot in the first week. Our next was the departure of Serena to another school and then Alicia’s commitment to the State Cup. Overcoming these, the girls wore their MCCP uniform with pride and strived to play their best every week. Their skills improved each time and they really played as a team in their last game where they were complimented on their excellent returns by the other School. Even though they only won one game there were many close sets and 3 set decisions which could have gone either way. They played with enthusiasm and showed great sportsmanship. Their commitment to training each Tuesday afternoon is to be commended as this allowed more practice and development of their skills. They were very responsive to all instructions and enjoyed trying out new skills at anytime. Congratulations girls for your true Marist spirit.

Mrs Sandra Neilson - Coach
SCC SPORT

JUNIOR

Our Juniors had a number of close games in the second half of the season, even going into three sets against Rosebank College. On a number of occasions, the Junior team were only pipped at the post by a two-point margin. As a result of our strong skills and infectious team spirit, the Junior team made it through to the semi-final last Thursday 31st March.

On the day, the 11 Year 7 Volleyballers hopped off the bus from camp and straight onto another bus to head to the volleyball game. They were accompanied by the Intermediate team and the Year 8 AFL girls, who came to cheer them on. We were also fortunate enough to have several parents come and watch their daughters play, as well as two Year 12 students, who took time out of their exam study to support the team. It was a thrilling match against Holy Spirit College, in which the girls demonstrated just how far they’d come since our first game against Holy Spirit in week 1. The girls were able to rally with the other team and blew them away with their big serves and resolve. The excitement and energy was reflected on the sidelines, with a number of spectators unable to contain their composure. Although unsuccessful, the team were quite happy with their efforts and proud of their amazing achievement.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate both the intermediate and junior teams on the way they conducted themselves throughout the season, and for their commitment to training and games. It was not always easy, but our girls proved themselves worthy competitors, and reflected our Marist values each week. Thank you to Mrs Sandra Neilson for her dedication in coaching the teams. We look forward to another successful season in 2017!

Miss Analise Emmerick - Coach

The Great Department Bake Off for Project Compassion

It began as a dream ... to provide a platform for the talented bakers on staff to showcase their culinary expertise and simultaneously raise money for Project Compassion.

On Monday the 4th April, this dream became a reality with each Faculty providing at least one delectable entry into our inaugural Great Department Bake Off. Staff were very eager to demonstrate their baking skills to show who would “make the most dough”!

The competition was fierce with some bakers spending a considerable amount of time choosing recipes that showcased their baking prowess. Among the teacher bakers were qualified chefs, a former contestant of Ready Steady Cook and a graduate from the French cooking school, Le Cordon Bleu in Paris. To say the competition was fierce, is an understatement.

The competition featured a two tiered wedding-like cake, cupcakes, subject themed cakes, and even an ice-cream cake. Special commendation to the HSIE department who provided 4 entries and to Mr Skoflic for representing the male staff bakers. The cakes were judged by our resident baking connoisseur, Mr Falzon with the winning cake being the one that raised the most amount of money. The CAPA/LOTE team was deemed the winning Department with Mrs Lucy Pelosi’s immaculate sticky date pudding. In total the staff raised $207.20. The staff are looking forward to another bake off in the not too distant future!

Ms Josilin Elhage
Youth Ministry Coordinator