



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our Mary MacKillop Chapel is filled with students and staff each Wednesday morning for prayer. This week Pastoral Care Class 7.3 organised the prayer and this week it focused on the mustard seed parable. The Gospel of Mark says: And Jesus said, *"The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."*

He also said, *"With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of 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 scrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."*

The students then reflected on the meaning of this parable. Their responses included:

GEMMA : No matter who you are, God can use your help. You may think you have nothing to offer, but God doesn't make junk. You are made in God's image and likeness. Your gift is like the mustard seed.

JACK: When you give your life to God, God can use your gifts in ways you never thought possible. Take time out to pray and see how you can use your gifts to help share God's love with others. The world needs your mustard seed of faith.

SAFINA: So many different sorts of people are gathered to worship you, O God. We are different in age and in outlook, different in background and in occupation, but we are all together in giving thanks.

JACOB: We have so many different feelings as we gather to worship you, O God. Some of us are downhearted and lacking confidence, worried or feeling down, but we are all gathered together in hope.

AUDREY: We have so many different ways of following Jesus, as we gather to worship you, O God. Some of us are practical and compassionate, others spiritual and prayerful, but we are all together as disciples. Amen

Feast of the Assumption

Next Monday 15 August, the College will be celebrating the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary at St Declan's Parish, Penshurst. This feast day commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts and a Holy Day of Obligation.



Father's Day Breakfast

Our annual Father's Day Breakfast and Blessing will be held on Friday 2 September in the La Valla Hub, prepared by our Staff and Hospitality Students. A letter will be sent home with your child next week extending an invitation to Fathers, Grandfathers, Guardians and Special Uncles to join us for this special breakfast. The letter is also included at the end of this newsletter for your information.

Mr Ray Martin - Principal

College Fees

Term 3 school fees have now been either emailed or posted to the nominated parent or guardian. I ask that all families honour their enrolment commitment to the College and settle these accounts prior to August 15 2016. If you have not received your account please contact me via email: accounts@maristpenshurst.catholic.edu.au or via the College office on Ph: 9579 6188.

Year 12 Parents Please Note: Any fees outstanding will result in your son's non attendance at Year 12 end of year celebrations.

Thank you

Mrs Joy O'Sullivan - Bursar

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

In a recent Interview I heard one of our Australian Olympians Cate Campbell talk about “Chasing the dream – takes years of preparation” Her hard work, resilience, perseverance and aspiring for big things allowed her to prepare for Gold in Rio. What an achievement for Cate. All of this doesn’t happen overnight. All of this isn’t easy, and all of this has its ups and downs.

Nelson Mandela once said;

“The greatest glory in living, lies not in ever falling, but in rising every time we fall”.

These are the messages we try to instil in our young people today. Working hard is a principle of our Vision for Learning here at MCCP as together in partnership with home and school we prepare our young people to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens.

I hope that all parents/guardians have reflected on their daughter/sons first semester report. This process is important in ensuring future growth. As all sports people know, feedback, reflection and practice are essential in skill development. We should always review our progress, set a new goal, and then strive to achieve a new level. And what this takes is deliberate practise.

Above all we should have a “growth mindset” according to Carol Dweck. In a recent article Carol Dweck from Stanford University, author of ‘Mindset’, says we need to instil in young people the belief that abilities can be developed through dedication and practice and further, that abilities are not fixed by biology. She counsels parents to praise effort and progress, not intelligence and talent. The former will encourage them to keep trying; the latter will make them want to give up at the first scent of failure.

Australia’s Stephen Bradbury was awarded the Gold medal at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. On the final curve Stephen was coming last by 20 metres when all other competitors fell, he cruised past to gain the Gold Medal. This earned him the nickname the Accidental Medallist. When asked at a press conference what it felt like and did he deserve to win it, considering he was coming last he confidently replied “There will always be those euphoric moments of serendipity but when they come along that’s all anybody sees. These experiences only come along in life if there has been some persistence and passion in the journey you are taking.” In my case I had put twelve gruelling years into speed skating and that included training for four Olympic campaigns. It’s true when these things happen you might say I can’t believe my luck but strangely these moments of luck seem to happen to the people who try harder. “I saw that medal as a reward for the twelve years of hard slog I had put into the sport rather than the minute and a half it took to finish the race,” Steven said. His message deals with the deeper dynamics of success rather than the experience of a fleeting moment of glory. The same qualities should also apply to every venture that our children take on.

NATIONAL SAFE SCHOOLS FRAMEWORK

Many parents may have heard of the National Safe schools framework which guides individual schools, systems and sectors to create and ensure safe, supportive and respectful learning and teaching communities throughout Australia. The framework provides vision and identifies nine elements to assist schools with this. Student’s safety and wellbeing are enhanced when students feel connected to their school and have positive relationships with their peers and teachers.

This week parents will be receiving a survey to assist and inform our College on parent perception on how well the College plans, implements and maintains a safe, supportive and protective learning community. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey and thank you for your feedback.

Mrs Carmelina Eussen
Assistant Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Mon 15 Aug	Feast of the Assumption Mass 12pm St Declan’s Parish Penshurst	Thurs 1 Sept	Sport & Special Groups Photo Day
Mon 15 Aug - Wed 17 Aug	Year 9 Camp Outdoor Education	Fri 2 Sept	Fathers Day Breakfast & Liturgy - 7.15am La Valla Hub
Fri 19 Aug	Principal’s Assembly Semester 1 Awards Years 7-10 12pm Hurstville Marana Auditorium	Thurs 8 Sept - Mon 19 Sept	Year 11 Exam Block
Tues 23 Aug	Year 9, 2017 Subject Selection Information Evening - 7pm	Tues 20 Sept	Year 12 Breakfast & Final College Assembly
Wed 24 Aug	P & F Meeting - 6.15pm Penshurst Parents - 7pm	Wed 21 Sept	Year 12 Graduation Mass 9am Year 12 Graduation Dinner & Awards Evening
		Fri 23 Sept	Year 12 Formal

WYD KRAKOW 2016

The experience of World Youth Day 2016 will resonate with me for many years to come. Marcus Barsoum and I were thrown into a mix of 30 people from St Pats Sutherland and Aquinas Menai and we were both terrified. These initial feelings quickly vanished as we were welcomed into the group with open arms. This group of students quickly became family under the motto 'Bus 14: One Team, One Dream'. Touring through Italy was nothing short of amazing. We experienced the food and culture every day and were fully immersed in the spirit of the pilgrimage. Daily life involved hitting tourist hot spots such as the Colosseum and Trevi Fountain as well as experiencing the quieter areas of beautiful Assisi.

From our week in Italy we took a 2am flight into Poland to commence the World Youth Day week. Sleep had become a precious commodity but spirits were high as the group prepared to embrace the chaotic nature of the week to come. After a brief stop in Warsaw, Bus 14 had arrived at World Youth Day in Krakow. The opening mass saw 2 million people gather in a park to officially commence the week's proceedings. I struggle to describe the sheer enormity of the event. Every direction had people spilling into the horizon. Flags blanketed the skies creating a vibrant atmosphere. It turns out the Mass was in Polish so if anything, it was amazing just to see all the people and trade souvenirs like badges, flags and hats. Hat trading became a contest that peaked with trading a policeman for his hat! We spent the next week staying in a university dorm room which led to some hilarious and entertaining times. Nutella and whipped cream waffles became a staple meal from the 24hr waffle truck! In between these enormous international events, we went to concerts, had catechesis and personal time for prayer and reflection.

A running theme throughout the pilgrimage was 'blessed are the merciful, for it is Mercy that will be shown to those who show Mercy'. This theme was fully embraced by all pilgrims. The sleep out and Papal Mass was a journey in itself. Just staying up for a night as 3 million people surrounded you was an absolutely unforgettable experience. The 40 degree morning and 20km walk that followed really was a day to remember with pilgrims dropping like flies from heat stroke and everyone uniting to get through the day. That marked the end of the official World Youth Day but we still had just over a week of travelling to go.

All the buzz and excitement of World Youth Day was channelled in a 3 day retreat in Zakopane in Southern Poland where we were given time to reflect and really bond as a bus group. The landscape was dominated by towering mountains and rolling green hills, which was breathtaking to see. After a brief stint in Austria we were homeward bound.

The message that resounded with me after getting back into Sydney life was from Fr Dan, our bus Chaplain. His message was 'put the devices down and live a little, experience new things and fully embrace every opportunity life gives you'. I feel this message relates to us all and we were challenged by Fr Dan to share it.

World Youth Day 2016 was a physical and spiritual journey that has really been life changing. The places we saw and people we were with were simply amazing. I feel privileged to have been able to be part of it. I would like to thank Ms Thornton for her guidance and leadership on our journey and also the whole of the MCCP community for their support.

Alex Michaelis
Year 11





PENSHURST PARENTS

A forum for partnership, communication & information



'Why be Catholic Today?'

with Special Guest

BR DAVID HALL FMS

Wednesday 24 August 7pm

Dear Parents & Friends,

Parents and friends of the College are warmly invited to a special evening with Br David Hall FMS for a presentation on the topic of Why be Catholic Today? Br David is a renowned inspirational speaker, educator and leader on issues that affect the Catholic church today. Currently the Founding Dean of the La Salle Academy at the Australian Catholic University, Br David has been a Catholic school educator for more than 30 years. He has extensive experience as a teacher, Religious Education Coordinator, Deputy Principal and Principal of primary and secondary schools including St Patrick's College, Dundas and most recently as Principal of Marcellin College, Randwick where he served as Headmaster for five years.

I encourage as many parents and friends of the College to attend as we continue to build our partnership between the College and home. Light refreshments will be served.

This evening is sure to be thought provoking, entertaining and inspirational.

Please RSVP your attendance with the number of people attending via email to: brian.vanetempest@syd.catholic.edu.au by Friday 19 August, 2016.

With Regards,

Mr Brian Vane-Tempest
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNICATION

Aspire to be Inspired

Peshurst Parents is a forum for partnership, communication and information between the school and home as adult only events. These evenings are held once per term and involve communication of key College initiatives and on occasion will host special guest speakers from outside the school.

LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK

NUMERACY ACTIVITIES

Fun times ahead for our MCCP celebration of Literacy and Numeracy week. There will be several numeracy based activities for students including a DO MORE Maths House Relay Competition for Year 8, 29th August and Year 7 on Wednesday 31st August. There will also be Trivia competitions for staff and students and fun activities such as a Fraction Frenzy, a pi competition and LETTERS and NUMBERS. Many prizes will be awarded to mathematics enthusiasts.



Mrs Angela D'Angelo - Director of Transition

LITERACY ACTIVITIES

To celebrate literacy in Week 7, students will have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities including our famous Spelling Bee competition, Teacher versus Student Debate and a Boggle competition. Many students are currently working on their entries for the Poetry Competition (theme: Solidarity) and the Creative Writing Competition (theme: To Know and To Love) with entries due by Monday 29 August. I encourage all students to show their Marist Spirit and enter as many activities as possible in both Literacy and Numeracy.

Ms Rebecca Nolan - Literacy/Librarian

MASTERS OF CHESS CHALLENGE

On Friday 29th July seven of our students across various year groups from Year 7 to Year 12 simultaneously challenged United States National Chess Master Morris Needleman. The students, Keira Ng, Daniel Borg, Costa Kesoglou, Christopher Finos, Lucas Garofano, Jacky He and Andre Bella, played remarkably well and stood their ground for quite some time before they were all eventually defeated. According to the Chess Master, Keira Ng and Andre Bella stood out as playing very interesting and competitive games. All the students took the opportunity to learn some great tips from the Master.



Mrs Angela D'Angelo - Director of Transition

Marist Catholic College Penshurst Years 7 - 10 Semester 1 2016 Awards Ceremony

The College's Academic Awards Ceremony for Semester 1 2016 will be held on Friday the 19th of August at 12.00 noon.

The Ceremony will be held at
Marana Auditorium,
Hurstville Entertainment Centre
16 MacMahon Street Hurstville.

All parents are most welcome to attend.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Recently there have been many students absent from school with influenza, however a student has been reported as having swine flu.

- Symptoms of swine flu in humans are similar to most influenza infections: fever (38 or greater), cough, nasal secretions, fatigue, and headache.

If your child has influenza and you are concerned please contact your GP.

MATHS ASSISTANCE

Maths assistance is available in the library EVERY Wednesday during Homework Club 3pm - 5pm with Mrs Bulmer.

Please encourage your son/daughter to take advantage of this opportunity offered by the College.

SCC SPORT

BASKETBALL

YEAR 7

Round 2 - M CCP 50 Defeated All Saints College Liverpool 2

Round 3 - M CCP 44 Defeated Casimir Catholic College 6

The Team: Bella Ryder, Paris Williams, Eva Christiansen (C), Zoe Pitkethley, Nicolette Tsiknis, Charlotte Bulmer, Sienna Marcellis, Eliza Mallard, Sophie Higgs

What an outstanding start to the season. Our Year 7 Basketball Girls are successfully de-netballing and are going from strength to strength in their basketball development. We have played 3 games this season, winning all convincingly. Although having an unexpected warm-up match in week 2 against the Year 8/9 All Saints Liverpool team, we went on to win against All Saints 50-2. With a very strong zone defence our girls make it very hard for the opposing team to have multiple scoring opportunities. We continued to dominate in Round 3 against Casimir Catholic College, the girls speed and agility enabled us to intercept the ball whilst the opposition were dribbling up the court. With continued shooting practice at training we will hopefully see greater success rates at the hoop. I hope we can keep this momentum going right through to the end of the season.

Mrs Louise Lynch
Coach

YEAR 8

ROUND 2: Forfeited game

ROUND 3: M CCP 28 were defeated by Casmir 33

Even though we were defeated in the match this week, it was a hard fought game - if only we had a few more minutes up our sleeve! The girls continually tried their hardest throughout the match, but it was only in the last ten minutes that we became quite competitive. All of a sudden the shots started dropping which boosted morale, and as a result, the girls started hustling more on defence and providing more support for each other on offence. We are definitely getting closer to that win!

ROUND 4: M CCP 48 defeated Mary MacKillop 26

Our first win for the season was well deserved with all players giving 100% when on the court. Confidence was the key this week and showed in the way the girls dribbled the ball, put up shots and grabbed both defensive and offensive rebounds. Our hustling defence ensured we had many steals, blocks and turnovers, which all led to points being awarded. This is definitely our best shooting game to date with regards to accuracy, with special mention being made to Jade earning 30 of the 48 points on the board. There was also a marked improvement in our passing game, a lot more movement on court, and many screens being set up and effectively used, showing that the girls are getting confident with applying the skills practiced each week. I'd like to congratulate Selena Rowen and Jade Troeger who will share the role of team captain for the rest of the season!

Ms Rachel Thompson
Coach

Foster a love of deep learning DREAM MORE
Celebrate and work hard together DO MORE
Engage in critical and creative thinking LEARN MORE
Nurture all members of our community BECOME MORE

FOOTBALL

JUNIORS

On Thursday 28 July the SCC Football representatives opened the season at Marco Reserve Panania. The junior side opened against All Saints Catholic College Liverpool taking the win at 7-0. Their teamwork, led by captain, Lainey Gretch, and Marist College spirit were really on show for the duration of the game with goal scorers Kirsten De Stefano (hat-trick), Olivia Moore, Alyssa Pavlovski, Leila Szczepanik and Lainey Gretch. The girls are commended for their sportsmanship and persistence during the game.



The girls had a 5-0 win against Mary Mackillop College in their second game of the season.

Goal scorers: Mia Szczepanik, Kristen De Stefano (two goals), Gemma Vignati and Alyssa Pavlovski. With great improvement and determination, the girls have showed they are a force in this competition.

Miss Gabriella Constantinou
Coach

INTERMEDIATE

This year, for the first time, our College has entered a team in the SCC Intermediate Football competition (girls' soccer). We are a team of Year 8 girls competing against Year 8 and 9 teams so we have our work cut out for us. I would like to thank all the girls who tried out for the team - I was impressed by everyone's skill and effort.

A big congratulations to the following girls who have been selected again this year: Jacinta Dahdah, Olivia Donnelly, Rakel Gunaidi, Annamarie Gurabiowski, Abbie Hayes, Alicia Langley, Taylah Mitreski, Melissa Noveski, Charlie Riley, Taylah Samardzioski, Laura Sullivan and Mia Sunk. A huge welcome to our three new players: Georgia Dymond in goal, Ivana Markovska in midfield and Demi Zissis in attack.



We have had two games cancelled due to rain and one game against Mount St Joseph, who showed exactly why they are the reigning champions.

Mrs Rachael Weeks
Coach



MARIST CATHOLIC COLLEGE PENShurst

10 August 2016

Father's Day Breakfast and Blessing

To all the Special Men in our Community,

You are invited to join us in celebrating our annual Father's Day Breakfast and Blessing on **Friday 2 September 2016 at 7.15am** in the LaValla Hub.



The invitation is open to all Fathers, Guardians, Grandfathers and Special Uncles. For catering purposes please indicate if you will be attending and if you will be bringing others with you on the day.

Please return the form by Friday 26 August 2016.

Breakfast will be prepared by the Staff and the Hospitality Students and served to the Father's by their sons, followed by a prayer and blessing.

I look forward to seeing you all.

Kind regards,



Mr Declan Donohue
Religious Education Coordinator

Please return this form to the Pastoral Care teacher by Friday 26 August

Student's Name: _____ PC Class: _____

I will/will not be attending the Father's Day Breakfast and Blessing on Friday 2 September 2016.

If so, how many in total will be attending? _____

Signed _____

one school • one family • one community

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