



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We have received very positive NAPLAN 2016 results for both Year 7 and Year 9. Our Year 9 students have shown significant growth in overall reading, writing and spelling and have continued in a strong position with their numeracy. This has been achieved through the hard work of students and staff. They did more, learnt more and became more.

Our Year 9 camp at Somerset was brilliant. The College put to the students a challenge to get involved in all the activities, get to know another student in the year group a little better. As always, the Marist Penshurst students were marvellous. They dreamed it was possible, tried more, had new experiences and became more.

Then at the Principal's Assembly last Friday, we were entertained by our Year 7 and 8 dancers and the concert band. We were also able to acknowledge all the award winners. Some have achieved best in individual courses and others who through hard work and perseverance have achieved an aspiration award. Each is an example of 'Aspire to be Inspired' in action.



Two of our students Zachary Pitkethley and Christopher Kesoglou have experienced STEM first hand as they were chosen to participate in Questacon's National Invention Convention after a rigorous selection process. They had the rare opportunity to create and design an invention, using technology such as robotics, 3D printers, electronics and software, and did so in collaboration with experienced scientists, and engineers, who are leaders in their field. Zac and Chris designed and created a device to aid blind people in order to alert them of possible collisions from head height, something a cane is unable to do.

Zac and Chris have embodied our College's Vision for Learning – 'Aspire to be Inspired'. They have been creative, collaborative with a wide range of people, engaged in a challenging task in which critical thinking was a requirement and did so with passion and zeal. For these reasons, we presented Zac and Chris with Aspirational Medallions in recognition of their efforts. Their work is an exemplar for all in our community. I hope, one day, a Marist Penshurst student is part of a team that makes a scientific or technological breakthrough that helps the people of the world.

Then on Tuesday evening I had the privilege to attend the Premier's Teachers Scholarship awards evening because Mrs Angelo D'Angelo, Director of Transition (pictured centre right), one of our most experienced teachers was awarded the Premier's University of Sydney Mathematics Scholarship by The Honourable Adrian Piccoli, Minister for Education (New South Wales) and The Honourable Leslie Williams, Minister for Early Childhood Education (New South Wales). This will allow Mrs D'Angelo to undertake research in the area of mathematics due to her great interest and passion in this field. This is a wonderful example of our Vision for Learning 'Aspire to be Inspired' in action.



However, it is important that we realise that 'Aspiring to be Inspired' is part of God's plan for each of us. He made each of us in His likeness which means we are all capable of greatness. Our vision for learning beautifully encapsulates this notion. It has the symbol of the God's hands holding us and the scripture reference "I will hold you always in the palm of my hand" giving comfort that God is with us.

The purpose of our Vision for Learning is that we strive to plan for the future. It's like a compass. It gives us direction. Aligning itself with the needs of the school. Ideal for following one's dreams. Aspire is an individual effort. Inspire brings others into the mix.

**Mr Ray Martin - Principal**

**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**

*one school • one family • one community*

## FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Last week Year 7 and 9 parents would have received results from the 2016 NAPLAN tests that were sat earlier in the year. The National Assessment Program – literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses students using common national tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. Interpreting NAPLAN results provide an indication of students' achievements, but they provide only one snapshot of selected aspects of what students know and can do.

Although these tests are surrounded by some controversy, there is no denying that the opportunity to compare your child's progress with their national cohort only comes along four times in their lives. You have the information, but what does it all mean for us as parents?

The most valuable information the report tells us is where our child's strengths and weaknesses lie. Once you have identified these, you can then encourage their strengths and support their weaknesses. Education is not solely a job for schools, it is a whole community responsibility and, as parents, only you can ensure your children get what THEY need. If any of your child's results (black dot) sit above the triangle (national average) and the light blue area (majority of students), their hard work is paying off and you should be extremely proud. They are in the top 20% in that area. Unfortunately, most parents ignore these strengths because they aren't having any problems with them. Once you have identified strengths, encourage them! Seek further ways to challenge your child in these areas. For example, if they have a writing strength, enrol them in writing competitions; if they are strong in maths get them into some robotics or inventions.

When we identify strengths, we challenge the students to extend their thinking which support our Vision for Learning at MCCP which clearly states the importance of being critical and creative thinkers. This might be applying the basics to real-life problems, extending them beyond their current class work, or speeding up what they already know. No student should be left unchallenged in their strengths.

A result (black dot) below the National Average (black triangle) suggests that this is an area where your child has weaknesses. If their result is still within the top four bands, there is plenty of room to improve but they may need support in a specific area.

If your child has any results (black dots) within, or close to, the bottom two bands, they are achieving below or just at the absolute minimum standard. Your child is finding the work very difficult. These are their areas of significant weakness and they will need focused intervention to maintain the pace of their peers.

It is important that all students are encouraged to read. Reading skills are essential to learning all subjects taught in school. The better the reading skills children have and the earlier they have them determines how rapidly and how well they will achieve in school. Reading is also important because it develops the mind. The mind is a muscle. It needs exercise. Understanding the written word is one way the mind grows in its ability. Teaching young children to read helps them develop their language skills. It also helps them learn to listen. Everybody wants to talk, but few can really listen. Reading helps children [and adults] focus on what someone else is communicating.

Reading is how we discover new things. Books, magazines and even the Internet are great learning tools which require the ability to read and understand what is read. A person who knows how to read and reads extensively can educate themselves in any area of life they are interested in. We live in an age where we overflow with information, but reading is the main way to take advantage of it.

Encourage reading!

**Mrs Carmelina Eussen - Assistant Principal**

### PENSHURST PARENTS

Thank you to all the parents and friends of the College who attended Br David Hall's presentation - Why be Catholic Today? It was an excellent presentation, thought provoking, challenging and with a message of hope. Br David was able to articulate the essence of what it means to be Catholic in the world we live in today. He encouraged those present to remain attuned to the Gospel message of inclusion of all people in bringing about the reign of God in the world – inspirational. The next Peshurst Parents will be held in Term 4, please check our upcoming newsletters and website as details are posted.

**Mr Brian Vane-Tempest**  
Director of Strategic Planning & Communication

### IMPORTANT DATES

<b>Thurs 1 Sept</b>	Sport & Special Groups Photo Day
<b>Fri 2 Sept</b>	Fathers Day Breakfast & Liturgy - 7.15am La Valla Hub
<b>Thurs 8 Sept - Mon 19 Sept</b>	Year 11 Exam Block
<b>Tues 20 Sept</b>	Year 12 Breakfast & Final College Assembly
<b>Wed 21 Sept</b>	Year 12 Graduation Mass 9am  Year 12 Graduation Dinner & Awards Evening
<b>Fri 23 Sept</b>	Year 12 Formal End of Term 3

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

### FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION MASS



On Monday 15 August the College gathered at St Declan's Parish Penshurst to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption Mass. Fr Allan was the celebrant for what was a beautiful Mass in honour of our Lady. The choir and musicians led by Mrs De Andrade, Br Tony



and Mr Smith provided a reflective spirit for all to enjoy this great occasion as a College community. Thank you to the parents and friends of the College who joined us for this special occasion. Special thanks to Ms Thornton and Ms Elhage for their support in organising this liturgy.

**Mr Declan Donohue**  
Religious Education Coordinator

### THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATIONS

On Wednesday the 24th of November, Mr Donohue, Jack Robson, James Robson and myself attended the Episcopal Ordinations of the Most Reverend Anthony Randazzo and the Most Reverend Richard Umbers at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney. Under terrible weather conditions, this was a rewarding liturgy recognising two men who have devoted their life to the work of God. A full Cathedral sang in unison to acknowledge and praise the forthcoming vocations of these two great priests as new bishops elect of the Archdiocese of Sydney. Please Pray for them.



**Ryan Morgan - College Vice Captain**

### MARIST YOUTH CONNECT NIGHT: MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK

On Wednesday 24 August our Year 12 students Ben Jacobs, James Pelosi, Scott Britcher and Brady Muriwai along with Miss. Thornton travelled to Marcellin College Randwick for a Marist Youth Ministry Connect Night. Along with students from Marcellin Randwick, Marist North Shore and the MYM team, the boys engaged in discussion about the use of technology and how we can utilise it to be a calming influence in our lives. The reality of life is that now in our day to day busyness we are connected to technology at all times. The boys discussed and looked at some apps that can be used to help us become still, help us to meditate and reconnect with ourselves even when we are switched on to technology. A great night: full of reflection, prayer and connection to other Marists.



**Miss Orla Thornton**  
REMAR Leader

## PRINCIPAL ASSEMBLY & SEMESTER 1 AWARDS

Year 7 Academic Achievement Awards		
Charlotte	Bulmer	English
Amelia	Giovenali	History
Amelia	Giovenali	Mathematics
Christopher	Finos	Music
Zane	Constantine	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
Rachel	Rice	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
Sienna	De Marcellis	Religious Education
Zoe	Pitkethley	Religious Education
Elefterios	Sotiropoulos	Science
Safina	Baker	Technology (Mandatory)
Bronte	Borchok	Technology (Mandatory)
Sienna	De Marcellis	Technology (Mandatory)
Victoria	Kolmac	Technology (Mandatory)

Year 8 Academic Achievement Awards		
Joseph	Fabrello	English
Nicholas	Stathakis	Geography
Riana	Hing	Italian
Rebecca	Li	Italian
Lyric	Parcarey	Italian
Alessandro	Parra	Italian
Charlotte	Riley	Italian
Flavio	Ruver	Italian
Katie	Schwarzel	Italian
Mia	Sunk	Italian
Nicholas	Stathakis	Mathematics
Mitchell	King	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
Rakel	Gunaidi	Religious Education
Katie	Schwarzel	Science
Natassja	Celevante	Technology (Mandatory)
Riana	Hing	Visual Arts
Katie	Schwarzel	Visual Arts

On Friday 19 August the College gathered for a Principal's Assembly to celebrate Year 7-10 student academic achievement at the Hurstville Civic Centre. Students receiving first in their subject were acknowledged and Aspiration Awards for student effort were presented. Zachary Pitkethley and Christopher Kesoglou were also presented with Aspiration Medallions for their participation in the Questacon Invention Convention. The College were entertained by our excellent musicians and dynamic Junior SCC Dance team. Congratulations to all award winners and performers who made this a wonderful celebration.

The College acknowledges the presence of many parents and friends who were able to celebrate this occasion with us as a community.

**Mr Brian Vane-Tempest**  
**Director of Strategic Planning & Communications**



Year 7 Academic Achievement Award Winners



Year 8 Academic Achievement Award Winners

Year 9 Academic Achievement Awards		
Jerry	Fanos	Commerce
Mark	Czajka	English
Alex	Pellegriti	Food Technology
Edward	El-Jalkh	Geography
Michael	Karahalias	Graphics Technology
Marcus	Timsans	Graphics Technology
Talan	Mahony	Industrial Technology - Multimedia
Lance	Crawford	Industrial Technology - Timber
Ross	Green	Information & Software Technology
Pak Sing	Ho	Mathematics
Pak Sing	Ho	Music
Benjamin	Dibdin	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
Patrick	Jelinic	Physical Activity & Sports Studies
Alex	Pellegriti	Religious Education
Edward	El-Jalkh	Science
Travis	Giannarakis	Visual Arts

Year 10 Academic Achievement Awards		
Stefan	Klimoski	Commerce
Zachary	Pitkethley	English
Timothy	Lisson	Food Technology
Nicholas	Condylios	Geography
James	Harrison	Graphics Technology
Zachary	Christofas	Industrial Technology - Multimedia
Benjamin	Shaw	Industrial Technology - Timber
Christopher	Kesoglou	Information & Software Technology
Max	Scalone	Italian
Samuel	Lombardo	Mathematics
Lawrence	Ng	Mathematics Accelerated
Jonathan	Dinoris	Personal Development, Health & Physical Education
Harry	Kinezos	Physical Activity & Sports Studies
Nicholas	Condylios	Religious Education
Zachary	Pitkethley	Science
Elias	Meres	Visual Arts

Year 7 Aspiration Awards	
Alannah	Antuoni
Laura	Babaic
Kristen	De Stefano
Gabriela	Shashati
Jessica	Towson
Tayla	Wyatt-Tandek

Year 8 Aspiration Awards	
Luka	Abramovic
Liam	Haggett
Theodore	Manglis
Ryan	McNeill-Bate
Joshua	Trajkovski

Year 9 Aspiration Awards	
Benjamin	Bortolin
Dylan	Dos Santos
George	Lasovski
Nicholas	Moschoudis

Year 10 Aspiration Awards	
Brendan	Galluzzo
Christopher	Grbevski
Christopher	Kesoglou
Ethan	O'Connor
Zachary	Pitkethley
Marcus	Webb
Paul	Zissis



Year 9 Academic Achievement Award Winners



Year 10 Academic Achievement Award Winners

## SCIENCE WEEK

Week 6 saw the return of Science Week and the staff and students of M CCP celebrated it in style. There was a Paper Planes competition on Monday where students designed and constructed a paper plane from a single sheet of A4 paper with the aim being to fly the longest distance. Terry Sotiropoulos from Year 7 was a clear winner with his paper plane completely clearing the field and soaring over the classrooms. Marko Budanovic and Tyler Hull (both in Year 10) came second and third respectively with Mr Pasfield in fourth place.

Tuesday saw students participating in Scientist Safari, in which pairs of students raced around the school in order to find information about famous scientists. First place was awarded to Zale Briscoe & Damien Scalone (Year 8), followed by Jimmy Huang & Don Qiu (Year 11), Jonathan Welly & Liam Delle Coste-Smith (Year 11) and Gabrielle Mansour & Katie Schwartzel (Year 8).

Our final competition required students to build a catapult using paddle pop sticks, rubber bands and a plastic spoon, and then launching a ping pong ball to see the greatest distance covered. First place was awarded to Nathan Harris & James Harrison (Year 10), second place was Jonathan Welly & Liam Delle Coste-Smith (Year 11) and third place was Gabrielle Mansour and Katie Schwarzel (Year 8).

The grand finale to Science Week was a science show in which Mrs Walker, Mr Monger and Mr Forrest performed flash-bang science demonstrations. These included dry ice bubbles filled with smoke, elephant's toothpaste and a flaming whoosh bottle. The show favourites were the vortex cannon that could blow smoke rings and knock cups down from across the room and our extremely brave teacher Mr Forrest who allowed Mrs Walker to light his hands on fire! We also got the staff involved after school with an afternoon tea, science games and a mini science show. Thank you to all staff and students who participated in the activities and to the Science staff who definitely raised the bar for Science Week 2016.

**Ms Rachel Thompson**  
Science Coordinator



## YEAR 10 RETREAT

In Week 2, Year 10 attended a retreat to the Marist Hermitage in Mittagong. The theme of the retreat was "I have called you by name" and was centred on what we are called to do. In the context of small groups, prayer and reflections, each student was provided the opportunity to consider their gifts and talents; both seen and unseen. This was manifested through the design of a mask, recognising the facade that we often wear. Another aspect of the retreat was an open discussion on what type of leaders Year 10 wish to be. Each small group developed some very practical ideas to achieve this goal; the detail will be seen when these young men enter Year 11. As well as the formal retreat program, the Year 10 students were challenged to spend time on the retreat with people outside of their immediate friendship group. Feedback from the students showed that this was one of the most beneficial elements of the retreat and will undoubtedly reinforce galvanisation of this excellent group of young men.



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**Mr Robert Reilly & Ms Josline Elhage - Retreat Leaders**



Congratulations to Montana Wetten in Year 7 who sang in the 'Shine on Stage' Eisteddfod on Sunday 21st August. She received first place in the 12 & Under Solo Singing division.

Well done Montana and we look forward to hearing you sing in many more events at the College in coming years.



## YEAR 9 CAMP

We had talked about it all year, when the day had finally arrived! Every Year 9 student would be out of their comfort zone, whilst spending three days at Camp Somerset on the Colo River, taking part in various outdoor activities. With a 12 Kilo bag on our back, we started with a three hour hike through rugged terrain, and from then on the fun challenges just kept coming. Army crawling through mud in a dark underground maze, high ropes, obstacle course, canoeing and rock climbing, were some of the activities we completed. And when the sun went down, another challenge, putting up our tent! We also learned how to start a fire using sticks we had to gather, and place in a particular manner, to ensure the fire would stay alight. As we came to the end of our day, it was time to relax around the fire, reminiscing about the day's events whilst toasting marshmallows and eating Damper.



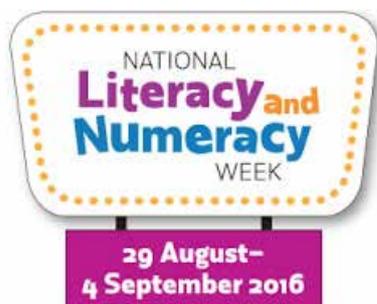
'Men of Honour' is Year nine's motto this year. This motto was expressed in many different ways by the students at Year 9 camp. We were encouraged to participate in the challenging activities Camp Somerset pre-organised. No one failed to have a go. Everyone tried their hardest and gave each activity and challenge their best. Being a man of honour really came into place at camp. We needed to take initiative and show leadership qualities which are skills we all acquired.

Another challenge put to us was to get to know someone in our group that we would not normally spend time with. Our friendships changed as we had learnt so much more about each other outside the school environment. Even though we were exhausted, we laughed together, encouraged each other and had respect for one another and our teachers. This is what made Year 9 camp such a special and memorable experience.



On behalf of Year 9, I would like to thank the staff of Marist Catholic College Penshurst and Camp Somerset for an enjoyable and unforgettable experience. We left as boys and came back as Men with Honour.

**Aaron Borg - Year 9**



### NUMERACY

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.

**Angela D'Angelo - Director of Transition**

### LITERACY

As we draw closer to Literacy and Numeracy Week staff and students are becoming excited about the many activities and competitions that have been organised. Please see the proposed timetable of events, there are a range of prizes on offer so get involved in as many activities as you can, students simply come to the La Valla Hub at recess and lunch to participate. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind students to enter the Marist Catholic College "Solidarity" Poetry Competition and the Creative Writing "To Know and To Love" Competition.

Students who best represent the chosen themes in their writing and exhibit evidence of flair, originality, sophistication and precision in both thought & expression will be considered.

**Miss Rebecca Nolan - Librarian**

## NAPLAN 2016

Students in Year 7 and Year 9 across Australia participated in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy in May 2016. The test provided information to parents and teachers about student progress in Literacy and Numeracy. We recently received a detailed analysis of our results.

We are very pleased with the achievement of our students. Below is the mean scores achieved in each of the five areas by the students at Marist Catholic College Peshurst (MCCP), the State and the Archdiocese. These scores have been compared against each other to show our performance.

### YEAR 9 MEANS

School	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
MCCP	591.8	562.7	601.4	578.5	612.4
State	583.6	546.8	587.4	572.5	595.5
Archdiocese	586	563.4	598.2	573.7	599.1
MCCP vs State	8.2	15.9	14	6	16.9
MCCP vs Archdiocese	5.8	-0.7	3.2	4.8	13.3

### YEAR 7 MEANS

School	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar & Punctuation	Numeracy
MCCP	550.4	542	564.4	556.2	564.8
State	543.2	515.5	550.7	545.2	554
Archdiocese	544.7	528.2	560.7	549.5	557.8
MCCP vs State	7.2	26.5	13.7	11	10.8
MCCP vs Archdiocese	5.7	13.8	3.7	6.7	7

The blue indicates that our students have outperformed the State in all criteria and the Archdiocese in almost all criteria. This is a great accomplishment by our students.

In addition to these excellent results, we celebrate the substantial growth Year 9 students have achieved in the areas of reading, spelling and writing.

The College's whole school approach to Literacy and Numeracy which involves staff and students has definitely contributed to the students' improvement in their Literacy and Numeracy skills and our success in NAPLAN.

The College has been considering our results and is planning learning strategies for the future in order to further develop our students' skills in Literacy and Numeracy.

**Mr Moe Akkawy - Director of Pedagogy and Administration**

## SCC SPORT

### INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

#### Week 4 & 5

Mr Falzon stepped in as coach in Week 4 when the team played Casimir and reported the team were "totally awesome". After a tough training session where the girls remembered how to tackle absolutely everything, they went out on the field and did indeed tackle everything. A very unfortunate result as the opposition scored a late goal. Then disaster struck. Our goalie, Georgia, has a fracture and is out for the season. We wish her a speedy recovery and are very happy to have her support from the sideline each week - at Marist Peshurst being part of the team doesn't end with injury.

Week 5 was the match against Bethany. The team from Bethany had been devastating all teams this year and are a formidable opponent. Our determined footballers were not dismayed. They played with heart, with skill, with sportsmanship - spurred on by the phenomenal support from the Junior team on the sideline. A final score of 0-0 is the biggest upset of the season. Well done our girls!

**Mrs Rachael Weeks**  
Coach