



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL & ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL In Loving memory of Mary Beretov 1974-2016

*If I had a single flower for every time I think of you. I could walk forever in my garden.* - Claudia Adrienne Grandi

The death of a friend leaves us with a taste of sorrow, We can never forget such a beautiful, inspirational person - Ms Mary Beretov. A great person with such compassion who lifts us and although she is no longer with us, we will always keep her in our hearts. Mary was a person who knew how to appreciate every moment of life. We remember her for her optimism and positive energy which radiates through all of us. We are grateful for the great example she showed us all. Her passion for teaching, her love for young people, her ability to empower and inspire others - will truly be missed.

*May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be ever at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face and the rain fall softly on your fields.  
And until we meet again, may God hold you in the hollow of his hand.* - Irish Blessing



### Mary's Eulogy - Mr Stephen Skoflic

*In 1999 a vibrant and energetic art teacher joined the teaching staff at Marist College Penshurst and for the next 17 years Mary Beretov impacted the lives of all those around her. It didn't take very long for teacher and colleague to turn into mentor and role model to her students and confidant and family member to her colleagues.*

*Mary was that rare soul who could achieve synchronicity with those around her. She truly was a 'wonder woman'. Only Mary could connect and bond with some many of us and on such deep levels. It is hard to imagine how Mary had the time to maintain such a broad network of friends with different tastes and personalities. But she did. She had time and energy for everyone and we all felt special and privileged that she gave so much of herself to us. One staff member commented that Mary made you feel like 'you were the most important person in the world'. Whether, we were in her company at dinner parties, music festivals, art exhibitions, concerts or simple binge watching TV shows, we all felt warm in Mary's company because she radiated such positive energy.*

*Mary's personality truly was larger than life. As an art teacher, she inspired many with her love for all things quirky, colourful and beautiful. Mary's classroom was a hub of creativity with her taste in music blaring as she taught students to creatively express themselves. Her distinctive loud laughter was contagious, just hearing it throughout the school would make everyone laugh along with her. As a colleague and friend, she filled our workplace with contagious positivity.*

*Mary's style inspired and brightened the days of many. It was such a treat to see Mary on a daily basis. There was that quintessential 'Mary look' that dazzled and brightened up everyone's day. Only Mary could pull off arriving to school in ever changing looks: AC/DC groupie, Minnie Mouse, leather biker chick, 1950s housewife, just to name a few. There were times when her outfit would seem subdued and 'normal' but on closer inspection one would notice tiny skull motifs on her shirt, teamed with skull accessories and jewellery. Mary's look became a joy and talking piece of many of us at school. Mary's love of the colour red truly personified her outlook on life. Her deep passion and love for all things beautiful was juxtaposed with her love of all things gothic, vampire of zombie related. For 17 years, Mary captured the hearts of many at Marist College Penshurst, where a family of friends were formed, who shared many life journeys with Mary. Most notable was the birth of her son, Dylan. With the arrival of Dylan, new extended families were formed at Marist College Penshurst. Never was there a more 'proud mum' than Mary. Mary, you have left a wonderful gift to the world – in Dylan – who has so many of your special characteristics. Your light continues to shine through the wonderful upbringing you have given him.*

*Mary, you were such a wonderful friend to so many. You were everyone's rock. It is hard to imagine life without you. Through your friendship, over the years, you had taught us so many lessons, only now have become clearly apparent:*

- *Live and love life to its fullest.*
- *Be a rule breaker.*
- *Be compassionate.*
- *You only have to try and you will see the beauty in everything, no matter how small.*
- *Don't hold the laughter in, no matter how inappropriate it may seem at the time.*
- *Be positive and nice to all: It is infections and contagious.*
- *Always have love in your heart.*

*Good bye, Mary. We love and adore you.*

## NIGHT PATROL

On Tuesday the 8th of November a group of 5 people consisting of Leo Kalimnios, Matthew Alvarez, Mohamed Youssef, Peter Kapatos, Liam Delle Costa-Smith and two teachers; Mrs Beard and Mr Karpouzos volunteered their time to support St Vincent de Paul with their night patrol program. Our school took the initiative to donate an abundance of food and toiletries, our community came together to bring smiles to those in dire need and was paramount to embracing the College motto 'Agnoscere et Diligere' which means 'To Know and Love'.



The boys met a wide variety of people, and served the less fortunate members of the community food and hot beverages. However, all the boys said that 'the people they were helping wanted a conversation more than anything'. When we arrived we were all fairly scared and anxious, but after leaving the truck and having the chance to talk to some of the people there, we all felt more comfortable. We realised that the people we were doing this for were also human, and not much different to you and me.

Peter shared his thoughts on the way back from the city, he expressed that it was an eye-opening experience - the boys agreed that they all felt similar about the experience. Moey exclaimed 'It didn't take long for me to understand how easy it was to make a difference to someone's day. From talking to the people on the streets and hearing the many stories they shared, I gained an understanding of how easily circumstances can change and how to be grateful for the loving, comfortable and supportive environment I am offered at school and at home'.

Matthew Alvarez - Year 11

## DIRECTOR OF PEDAGOGY AND ADMINISTRATION

### RECORD OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT (RoSA)

RoSA is a credential that is awarded to students who leave after Year 10, but before receiving their HSC. This will be issued by the Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) and both Year 10 and 11 students will be provided with grades for 2016. These grades will be awarded based on their assessment tasks, meeting the course outcomes and the ability they display through completing set work. Students are able to request the credential from the BOSTES if they leave school any time after Year 10.

RoSA also provides students with the opportunity to complete a numeracy and literacy test and enables them to incorporate extra-curricular achievements. These tests in literacy and numeracy are available for students who intend to leave high school before completing their HSC. The test reports on and gives an overview of a student's level of achievement in literacy and numeracy, focusing on the skills required by school-leavers for employment and further education. RoSA also enables students to record, organise and share evidence of their extracurricular activities, such as first-aid qualifications or volunteer work.

While formal RoSA credentials are for school leavers, all Year 10 and 11 students will be able to access their results electronically and print a transcript of their results via Students Online. Year 11 now have access to their RoSA grades and Year 10 will have access to them from the 7th of December.

If you would like to know more about RoSA and what it means for your child, you can contact us at the College on 9579 6188 or refer to the BOSTES website.

### Mr Moe Akkawy

#### Director of Pedagogy and Administration

Mon 21 Nov	Staff Spirituality Day - No Students to attend school	Mon 12 Dec	Year 10 Reports Distributed Last Day Year 10 & Year 11
Wed 23 Nov	Year 7 Vaccinations - 3rd Visit	Tues 13 Dec	Year 7-9 Picnic Day Year 7-9 Reports Distributed
Mon 12 Dec	Advent Liturgy/Awards Assembly Hurstville Civic Centre 11:30am	Wed 14 Dec	Last Day Years 7 - 9 Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews Yrs 7-11

## YEAR 7 ZOO EXCURSION

Year 7 are focusing on the topic of “The Circle of Life” in Science this term. It is all about living organisms and ecosystems. So, to further investigate this topic, Year 7 were lucky enough to take a trip to Taronga Zoo, on Friday 11 November.

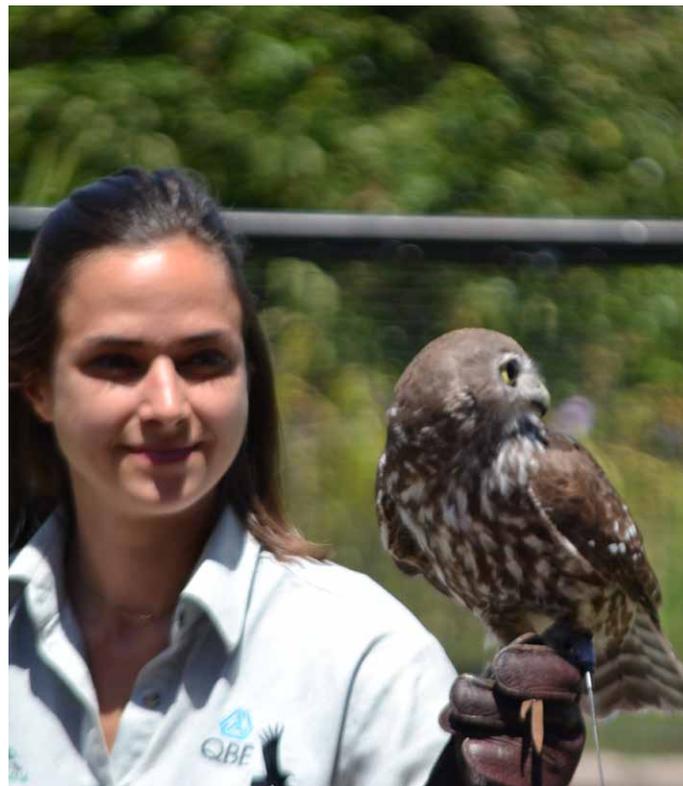
At Taronga Zoo, we had the pleasure of admiring the majestic animal life all around us. We looked at various exhibits, including the beautiful gorillas, elephants, giraffes, reptiles and many more. Not only was this an enjoyable experience for all of us, but this also taught us about the animal’s specific habitats, diets, and particular needs that was crucial for their survival. In addition, the zookeepers explained how the animals are being affected due to human interaction, and how we can protect, nurture, and respect all animal life around us.

As well as this, Sophie the Zoo Keeper taught us a bit about some of the different animal kingdoms and showed live examples of animals from the different groups. We got to pet a possum, stroke a snake, touch a turtle, and saw a frog! We learnt about their features, habitats and what characterises them into their specific kingdoms.

Some groups also saw the bird show - species such as the Red Tailed Black Cockatoo, Barking Owl, Galahs, Black Kites, and many more. The birds filled the sky with their beautiful colours and amazed the audience with their skills.

We’d like to thank all the teachers who took the time out to organise this trip and take us to Taronga Zoo - we had a very enjoyable day!

**Charlotte Bulmer and Victoria Kolmac 7.1**



## TRANSITION NEWS - Mrs Angela D'Angelo, Director of Transition

### MATHEMATICS WORKSHOP FOR THE STUDENTS OF YEAR 7 2017

On the afternoon of 9 November, 65 of the 2017 Year 7 students participated in a very exciting mathematics workshop. First they were entertained by a talented Year 8 student, Liam Haggett who demonstrated some very engaging card tricks and then explained their mathematical basis. It was quite 'mathemagical'. The next session was a 'getting to know you' mathematical scavenger hunt. Students had to solve mathematical riddles and locate items around the school. In that process, they found out more about each other and the College. We then ended with an afternoon tea.

Here is what one of the students, Caitlin Fitzpatrick had to say about it...

*"The maths workshop was a fantastic introduction to high school at MSCP. We participated in fun activities like the treasure hunt and magic show. I really enjoyed being with all the new Year 7's and it was great to be able to meet some of our teachers for 2017"*



### YEAR 7, 2017 PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

This was held on the night of Monday 14th November at the "Masos" Club. Although this had been a most difficult day for staff many came to support our new parents and welcome them to our community. Formalities included information about the first weeks of school, college expectations and organisational details. This was then tempered by informal conversations with teachers and other parents over drinks and supper.

### ORIENTATION DAY YEAR 7, 2017

On Wednesday 16th November, 162 enrolled Year 7 students descended on the College for Orientation Day. They were met at the front gate by teachers and our new Year 12 senior leaders. This special day started with prayer in LaValla, led by Mr Declan Donohue our Religious Education Coordinator. After a morning of necessary testing students then enjoyed many team building activities, facilitated by the senior leaders, encouraging new friendships and familiarisation with the school, the teachers and the older students.

I take this opportunity to thank Mrs Louise Beard the 2017 Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing, Mrs Louise Lynch, Mr Carl Di Terlizzi and Mrs Phoebe Scali who worked tirelessly to ensure a successful and happy day for the newest members of our school community.



## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP RETREAT**

The Leadership Retreat for the Leaders of 2017 was an extremely valuable experience for all participants. The trip started well as we all piled into the magical school bus with Kon, Mrs Eussen and Mrs Pelosi and headed for the countryside, with plenty of jokes along the way.

Upon arrival to Mittagong we were greeted by the grins of Mr Martin, Mr Donohue and, of course, Brother Tony. After choosing our sleeping spots, we all ventured upstairs for a quick introductory session where, both teachers and students, spent some time really getting to know each other. This was a perfect start to the retreat, learning some facts about each other that we somehow hadn't learnt in the past 5 years together. We then returned to the magical school bus to head to a fancy Italian restaurant (surely picked out by Mrs Pelosi) where we all seemed to be extremely underdressed. That aside, we all shared some delicious food while having a laugh with the teachers and discussing the necessity of the return of the school cricket nets.

After another trip in the magical school bus, with Kon manoeuvring the bus through tight corners like the master he is, we were back into our retreat sessions and were graced with a final prayer and reflection lead by Brother Tony. We were then off to 'sleep' where a bit of indoor footy was played quietly before hitting the hay.

The next morning started with some games of pool, some breakfast and some singing happy birthday to Jimmy. The sessions that followed were extremely important to our growth as future leaders. During the first session we spent a fair amount of time discussing our roles and delved into the major questions and concerns that we had in regards to leadership and 2017. This was the first opportunity for the entire leadership team to join together to discuss our plans for the future.

During the final session we spoke truthfully about our Vision for Learning. We discussed the many positive aspects of College life and areas that we believe require improvement. From the information gathered in the final two sessions, we were able to create a list of goals for 2017. These goals are aimed mainly at preparing the younger students for senior years and building an even greater sense of school pride.

The Leadership Retreat was a most enjoyable and beneficial experience. We were able to clearly set goals for the future and are now even more confident that we will leave a legacy that will be respected by the future year groups.

The Student Leadership team would like to thank Mr Martin, Mrs Eussen, Ms Pelosi, Mr Donohue, Brother Tony and Kon for the enjoyable trip. It was a fantastic starting point for our journey as senior students and leaders.

**Nikolas Pazanin and Cooper Cheney**



## TAS HSC NEWS

Our Year 12 students, Michael Martinovic & David Finneran, have been nominated for consideration for inclusion in 'Shape 2016', the combined Technology exhibition held at the Powerhouse Museum. The exhibition will feature a selection of exemplary works from HSC Design and Technology, Industrial Technology and Textiles & Design students. To be nominated for consideration, across all these areas in NSW, is a huge achievement for these students and they are to be congratulated on their hard work. We wish them good luck for success with the final selection process.

**Mr Chris McBride - TAS Coordinator**



Above: David Finneran    Below: Michael Martinovic



## YEAR 9 NEWS

On Wednesday, the 9th of November, Year 9 had the privilege of being lectured by Punchy's Gym owner - Luke Kennedy. Just moments into his confronting speech, the whole grade soon learned that he was more than just a successful business owner, yet, had lived a life full of adversity. A stab victim, former gang member and drug addict - Luke Kennedy, shared his life experiences with the grade, and the benefit of hindsight gave us an insight into the dangers/consequences of giving in to peer pressure and making poor choices.

Throughout the speech Luke preached three main concepts, that he was able to gather throughout his life experiences:

- Not allowing your peers to configure your decisions and choices.
- We all are able to make the morally correct choices to steer our lives back on track, when we find ourselves heading down the wrong path.
- Don't let the labels your peers place upon you, affect your happiness and ultimately, your life.

These issues are extremely relevant to the young men in Year 9, who are yet to encounter some of life's hardest obstacles. Undoubtedly, in the future - Year 9 will be able to reflect on these key messages, throughout their own life when they're called upon.

### Jerry Fanos Year 9 Student



## FROM THE COLLEGE BURSAR

College school fees are now long overdue. Thank you to those families who have honoured their financial commitment. If you still have outstanding fees could you please finalise these as soon as possible, unless an arrangement with the College Principal has been organised. Failure to honour your commitment may result in your outstanding account being forwarded to Sydney Catholic Schools for debt collection.

Thank you, in anticipation of your cooperation.

**Mrs Joy O'Sullivan**  
College Bursar

AT MARIST CATHOLIC COLLEGE PENSURST  
WE ASPIRE TO:

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

*Aspire to be Inspired*

OUR VISION FOR LEARNING, 'Aspire to be Inspired', animates and empowers all members of our community to hope and dream.

As a community, we support one another and nurture growth as we build on strengths.

The scripture passage from Isaiah 41:13

*“I will hold you always in the palm of my hand”*

encapsulates this and is visually represented through the image of the hands.

The Marist symbol



reminds us of our commitment to the Marist charism through Hard Work, Presence, Simplicity, Family Spirit and the Way of Mary.

Pedagogical principles are methods and approaches used to reflect learning. These thoughtful, relevant principles inspire the design of stimulating spaces and spark creative thinking.

At Marist Catholic College Penshurst we aspire to:

- Foster a love of deep learning
- Celebrate and work hard together
- Engage in critical and creative thinking
- Nurture all members of our community

In our commitment to the development of active and informed citizens we want to encourage students to dream more, do more, learn more and become more. The repetition of the word *more* emphasises our dedication and perseverance to continually challenge and inspire students to reach the plan God has for them. This is a cyclical process which connects each pedagogical principle and encourages all members of the community to Aspire to be Inspired.



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