



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week our Year 12 students have been on Retreat at Mittagong. This retreat experience provided an opportunity for enhancing young people's spirituality that is different from, but complimentary to, those in religious education classes and the general school context. The good manners, exemplary behavior of all the boys and their willingness to fully get involved in all the activities needs to be commended. It was great for me to have the opportunity to spend some time with both retreat groups.

Going to the Marist Retreat Centre is very significant for a Marist school as the property has belonged to the Marist Brothers since 1905. Br Tony explained to the first retreat group that he took his vows to be Marist Brother in the chapel where we celebrated Mass. From the 1920s the property served as a Novitiate (a training centre for young men to become Brothers) and a Juniorate (a secondary boarding school for boys aspiring to become Brothers). In 1985, the Novitiate was transferred to Sydney, the vacated premises were renamed 'Marist Farmhouse' and is for young adult ministry. The Juniorate remained there for 55 years, with its closure at the end of 1972. The vacated premises has been used ever since for school retreats and the site is known as the 'Marist Retreat Centre'.

NAPLAN and the HSC minimum standard for literacy and numeracy

NAPLAN testing will occur for our students in Years 7 and 9 next week from Tuesday 9th May to Thursday 11th May and cover skills in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, Writing, Reading and Numeracy.

Please ensure students are at school and prepared to sit the NAPLAN tests at the following times:

Tuesday 9th May	Language Conventions	10.15am – 11.00am
	Writing	11.40am – 12.20pm
Wednesday 10th May	Reading	8.55am – 10.00am
Thursday 11th May	Numeracy	8.55am – 9.55am

We would like to remind parents and students that no student will be ineligible to sit for the HSC on the basis of their Year 9 NAPLAN results. Year 9 NAPLAN tests are the first opportunity for students to meet the minimum standard by achieving Band 8 results or above in the reading, writing and numeracy tests. Students who do not meet the standard in these tests will be provided with opportunities to demonstrate they meet the standard by passing the online reading, writing and/or numeracy tests in Years 10, 11 and 12, or for up to 5 years after starting the HSC. Students will only have to sit the online tests in areas in which they have not yet met the minimum standard. A letter reassuring parents and students of this was written to Year 9 students by the Chief Executive Officer of NESA late last week. We have included a copy of this letter for you in this newsletter and it is also available on the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website.

COLLEGE UNIFORM

On 16 July 2014 our College signed a Licence Deed with Ranier Design Group to supply the newly designed College uniform. At that time all aspects of the uniform were signed off. Although there was nothing in writing, the colour of the girls' senior summer dress seemed to be a point for possible discussion. So to clarify our uniform the pictures below are the current agreement that is in place with the Ranier Design Group.

At the first Parents and Friends Association meeting held in 2016, there was a request for the College to explore with Ranier the provision of a trolley bag for students to use and to explore the changing of the sports shirt to one that had a greater polyester content. The bag has been available for purchase since the beginning of the year. In relation to the sports shirt, the school worked with Ranier having samples made and the school had the shirt tested by a number of students which included feedback from their families. A decision was made to move to a revised sports shirt and this will go into production in the near future. However, as the school has changed the sports shirt, the College is liable to purchase existing stock of sports shirts as well as the fabric that is in stock for the making of these shirts. This is an expensive decision and the College is reluctant to make any other changes to the uniform outlined in the Licence Deed.

The College is continuing to work with Ranier Design Group about possibilities in relation to a girls' senior summer Uniform. All female students at Marist Penshurst were invited to a meeting to give their feedback on the possible design options. The general consensus seems to suggest that the senior summer uniform should be different to the junior summer dress. There was support for either a dress or a skirt and blouse option. The possible summer designs are given below including one suggested by some female students.

- Option 1 To remain the same
- Option 2 Checked tunic with red collar
- Option 3 Navy tunic with checked collar
- Option 4 Navy pleated skirt with checked blouse
- Option 5 Navy pleated skirt with striped blouse (blouse not available - photo is using boys shirt for effect)

The voting provided by 117 students (with the exception of the striped shirt with the skirt) was:
Option 1 - 11, Option 2 - 3, Option 3 - 40, Option 4 - 63, Option 5 - unseen.

These uniforms are on display until our Mother's Day liturgy and breakfast for any parent wishing to look at them and provide some feedback. You are also welcome to email your feedback to info@maristpenshurst.catholic.edu.au

I look forward to seeing you at our Mother's day morning.

Mr Ray Martin
Principal



Current Summer Junior Uniform



Senior Winter Uniform



Junior Winter Uniform



Option 1

Option 2

Option 3

Option 4

Option 5

ANZAC DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Lest We Forget



On Wednesday 26th April, we gathered as a community to acknowledge ANZAC Day. The ANZAC Day ceremony allowed the students to undertake a commemoration for the ANZACS, through a whole school assembly. It is the day on which we remember all Australians who served and died in war, where more than 100,000 Australian soldiers have died. The focus this year was 'The Battle of Passchendaele', where the ANZACS fought gallantly. With a reverent Gospel reading, as well as the playing of the Australian Anthem and the reciting of the Ode, students took a minute of silence to honour the ANZACS. Both staff and SRC students participated in the memorial service. Thank you to Mr Nader, HSIE coordinator for organising this moving service.

Samuel Lombardo Year 11 SRC

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

On Wednesday 26 April, the Student Representative Council (SRC) gathered for a new leadership program for 2017. Hosted by Mrs Collins, Mr Morris and Ms Pelosi, the Year 12 Representative Council together with the class captains from Years 8 - 11, rotated through a variety of workshops including public speaking, event management and motivational skills. At each station, we learned about each aspect of leadership and we had the opportunity to demonstrate our own skills. This experience has enabled us to learn from each other with the guidance of our teachers. I believe this two hour afternoon session was beneficial for all of the SRC members. Many of us met other students we did not previously know and I believe as the year progresses, we will develop and grow stronger as a Leadership Team. Thank you to Mr Morris, Mrs Collins and Ms Pelosi for being our SRC Mentors and for organising the leadership program.

Aaron Borg - Year 10



CONGRATULATIONS

Lara Savet-Buck of Year 8 has been selected in the Under 15 Female Metropolitan Cricket Academy Squad. Well done Lara!

UPCOMING DATES

Tues 9 May -
Thurs 11 May NAPLAN Testing Years 7 & 9

Fri 12 May Mother's Day Prayer & Breakfast
La Valla Hub - 8am

Fri 9 June Champagnat Day Mass and
Walkathon

Tues 13 June Year 10 History Excursion

Fri 16 June Year 9 Reflection Day
OLF Church Peakhurst

Fri 23 June Year 11 Career Expo

Fri 30 June End of Term 2

THURSDAY SPORT

Thursday sport is compulsory for all students as part of our College curriculum. Early leave should not be taken and no medical or other appointments should be made during Thursday afternoon sport time. Thank you for your cooperation.

Mr Paul Burg – Director of Sport

CBSA/SCC SPORT RESULTS

CBSA

RUGBY LEAGUE	RND	OPPOSITION	WIN/LOSS	SCORE	COACH
JUNIOR	1	Bye			Mr Michael Falzon
INTERMEDIATE	1	Bye			Mr John Lloyd
SENIOR	1	Holy Spirit College Lakemba	Win	24 - 10	Mr Martin Shipley
SOCCER	RND	OPPOSITION	WIN LOSS	SCORE	COACH
JUNIOR	1	Bye			Mr Michael Young
INTERMEDIATE	1	Bye			Mr John Cullerton
SENIOR	1	Bye			Mr Michael Way

SCC

NETBALL	RND	OPPOSITION	WIN/LOSS	SCORE	COACH
JUNIOR	1	Mary McKillop College	Loss	13 - 26	Ms Louise Beard
INTERMEDIATE	1	Mary McKillop College	Win	30 - 11	Ms Analise Emmerick

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



*To all our special Mothers, Grandmothers,
Aunts & Carers*


*Happy
Mother's
Day*



*Please join us for our Mother's Day
Prayer & Breakfast*

Friday 12 May 2017

8am in LaValla Centre

*Following our prayer and blessing, fresh fruit, pastries,
tea and coffee will be served.*

***If you are able to join us please click here to
RSVP your details prior to Friday 5 May***

If you would like a photo of you and your child/children to be included in our prayer presentation, please organise it to be scanned/copied on to your child's computer.

NAPLAN LETTER FROM NESA



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Friday 28 April 2017

Our reference: D2017/34535

Dear Year 9 student

Re: The HSC minimum standard for literacy and numeracy

I wanted to assure each of you that you will have the opportunity to sit your HSC exams in 2020 regardless of your NAPLAN results this year. However, you will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of reading, writing and numeracy in order to be awarded your HSC certificate.

New online reading, writing and numeracy tests

You will have multiple opportunities to do this, by taking short online tests that specifically assess these skills. These online tests will take place online and at school. You will have two opportunities a year to pass them in Years 10, 11, and 12. You will also be able to take them for a few years after you leave school.

You don't have to pass all three tests at once. You and your teacher will decide when you are ready to attempt each test and if you pass a test you don't have to sit it again.

What does Year 9 have to do with the HSC minimum standard?

We know students learn at different rates. Your upcoming Year 9 NAPLAN tests are designed to provide you, your teachers and parents with valuable information about how your learning is progressing and if you need support.

If you do happen to achieve Band 8 or above NAPLAN results in all three areas this year, that means you are already achieving the minimum level of reading, writing and numeracy skills required to receive your HSC in 2020, so you won't have to do any of the online tests.

But the NSW Education Standards Authority expects that the majority of students will be sitting at least one of the online tests starting in Year 10.

So don't believe anyone who tells you that you can't get your HSC if you don't get Band 8s in NAPLAN this year. It's just not true. NAPLAN this year is just the first of a number of opportunities you will have to demonstrate the minimum standard.

Why has the minimum standard been introduced?

The HSC minimum standard is being introduced to help ensure that you leave school with basic literacy and numeracy skills for success in life, and that you will be able to communicate your ideas effectively in your HSC exams. Regardless of your plans beyond school, you will need adequate reading, writing and numeracy skills to make sure you can do things like:

- get a good deal on your mobile phone plan
- write a job application
- follow written instructions to operate equipment safely.

You can find more information available about this by:

- Visiting the NESA website for a video and flyers about the HSC minimum standard: educationstandards.nsw.edu.au
- Trying some sample online reading, writing and numeracy test questions: hsliteracynumeracy.nesa.nsw.edu.au

I wish you well as you master these and other important skills for your future. Yours

Sincerely

David de Carvalho
Chief Executive Officer