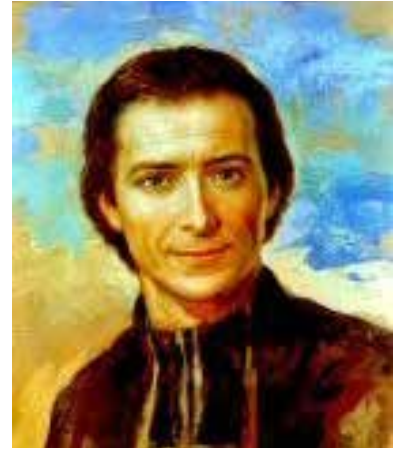




FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to all new parents, staff and students who have joined our community for the 2018 school year. Marist Catholic College Penshurst is part of Sydney Catholic Schools system of schools but our heritage and spirituality is in the Marist tradition. Our approach to education is embodied in the College motto "Agnoscere Et Diligere" which means to 'Know and Love' God in the way of Mary, in the belief that the young woman and men who attend this College will become good Christians and good Citizens. They are the future!

Our College has the gospel of Jesus Christ at its heart. We seek to live out our response to the gospel with the same faith, hope and love that Mary did. Our Marian approach is to nurture, to teach, to gather, to reconcile, and to stand with young people so as to give each and all of them reason and means to believe, to hope and to love. Like Mary at Pentecost, we locate ourselves with what Marists call "l'Église naissante": the church as it comes to birth.



At Marist Penshurst, our distinctive educational style is found in the following Marist pillars:

A sense of family ...

- "To educate children first you must love them, and love them equally" - Champagnat's golden rule
- warm, down-to-earth, unpretentious relationships

A love of our work ...

- an enthusiasm for the work of the school
- generosity of heart and without any attention-seeking
- the honouring of all work and those who undertake it
- high expectations of student achievement
- zealous search for effective methods & openness to innovation

Simplicity ...

- a central gospel value and distinguishing Marist characteristic
- a preference for simplicity of method, of expression and action
- transparency and genuineness in relationships, ease of relationship

Presence ...

- "being present" and "good example": the two pillars of Marcellin's approach to education
- pedagogy of presence
- mastery of the craft of teaching: an emphasis of Champagnat
- knowledge of subject

In the way of Mary ...

- Mary is the perfect model of a Marist educator
- openness to the action and will of God, like Mary of the Annunciation
- selflessness, humility and optimism like Mary of the Visitation
- presenting Jesus to people, telling them to do as he wishes, like Mary of Cana.
- sitting with the suffering face of Jesus with love and faithfulness, like Mary of Calvary
- forming community and sowing hope, like Mary of Pentecost

Marist Penshurst is a place where ...

- hard work and excellent achievement are valued
- the individual is genuinely cared for
- there is a warm environment and strong family spirit is evident
- there is lack of pretence
- there is simplicity and calm determination
- there is a special concern for those students who find school most difficult

I look forward to working closely with all members of the community as we commence another exciting school year. It is with anticipation, that I look forward to meeting new families at this Friday's 'Meet and Greet' cocktail evening.

Mr Ray Martin - College Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Parents/Carers,



I am truly blessed and privileged to be joining the Marist Catholic College Penshurst community as Assistant Principal. As a local resident and past teacher of the College I know that this learning community has a very strong reputation as being professional, caring and faith-filled. I look forward to meeting you and working with you and the students as the year unfolds.

We had a very positive and calm start to the academic year and I have been impressed by how quickly students have begun to focus on their learning. Last week I had an opportunity to speak to a number of year groups and I challenged students to set high expectations for themselves, both academically and personally.

Pope Francis stated that we should “Not bury our talents. The gifts that God has given to us. Do not be afraid to dream great things!”. Pope Francis reminds us that every member in our community has been given a unique gift and we need not be limited by our fear. It is important that we work in partnership to encourage the young men and women in our care to pursue excellence in all areas of their lives, whether it be their academic learning, extracurricular pursuits, spirituality or in their relationships with others. Only then will they be able to respond to God’s calling, grow as human beings, dream and move beyond the ordinary to the extraordinary.

TRANSPORT

With the increased number of students on campus we ask that you assist us in making your child’s travel to and from school as safe as possible. If you are dropping off or collecting your children, it would be best to arrange to meet them away from the front of the school in surrounding streets. This will reduce congestion on Victoria Avenue and allow buses to arrive on time. In addition, please be aware that it is not only dangerous but illegal to stop and pick up your child, however short the time, in a bus zone. The ‘Kiss & Ride’ area is where parents can quickly drop and collect their children. If you need to park and leave your car, please park in one of the surrounding streets in a legal parking area and not across our neighbours driveways. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter as student safety is our priority.



ABSENCE PROCEDURES

If your son/daughter is unable to attend school on a given day, we ask that you phone the College to notify of their absence before 8.45am. You can contact the College on Ph: 9579 6188 and select the menu option for Student Absences. You may leave a message with your child’s name, PC Class and a brief description of why they are unable to attend school. You can also use this facility to report that your child will be late to school. Your assistance in phoning the College is greatly appreciated.

SMS notifications will be sent out to you if your child is absent from PC with no explanation given.

Absences for one or more days for holidays, non-school sporting events or any other reasons, requires by law an ‘Application for Extended Leave’ form to be completed and approved by the College Principal prior to the leave being taken. These forms can be obtained from Student Services or downloaded from the College website.

NEW STUDENT DIARIES

No doubt you would have seen that students have a new College Diary this year. There are two diaries, a Junior Diary for Years 7 - 10 students and a Senior Diary for students in Year 11 and 12. Both diaries contain information outlining the College’s expectations in regards to student behaviour, uniform and presentation. The Diary is the school’s main method of communication with parents/carers, and hence we ask that student diaries are regularly checked and signed.

I hope that the coming year is a rewarding and happy time for all in our community.

Mrs Connie Frino
Assistant Principal

UPCOMING DATES

Fri 9 Feb	Year 7 Meet & Greet Evening	Wed 7 Mar	College Open Day 3pm - 7pm
Mon 12 Feb	Year 11 Information Evening		
Wed 14 Feb	Ash Wednesday	Wed 14 Mar	Vaccinations Visit 1
Frid 2 Mar	Opening School Mass	Fri 30 Mar	Good Friday

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The Marist theme for 2018 is 'Hope and a Future' and is based around Pope Francis' Year of Youth. In a TED talk last year Pope Francis, when talking about the future said, 'To Christians, the future does have a name, and its name is Hope'. Yet the global world trends suggest some very challenging indicators to a hope filled future for many people of the world who are experiencing extreme poverty, migration, seismic effects of war and terrorist attacks, devastating fallouts from the financial crisis, the serious prospect of ecological disaster, the widening gap between rich and poor, and in our own country particularly, alarming rates of homelessness and mental health issues. In this context, what can be said of the hope we have to offer the next generation and what difference can we make?

In this Year of Youth and taking up our 2018 theme of believing in hope and a future for all people, let us as Marists be people who, through our word and action, offer the world a new way of seeing and being. A world where every young person can enjoy the hope of a future beyond the horizon which they are yet to discover. Pope Francis said that 'a single individual is enough for hope to exist.' The Good News is that our Marist communities are full of single individuals that together create an 'us'. Indeed, hope does have a future here at Marist Penshurst. (Extract amended from Marist Schools Australia, 2018)



Mrs Melissa Vassallo - Religious Education Coordinator

SHROVE TUESDAY

As some may know, Shrove Tuesday also known as Pancake Tuesday is fast approaching, it is also the last day for many Christians before the season of lent. On Tuesday 13 February, house captains and Year 12 leaders will be selling pancakes at both the La Valla Hub and the Champagnat Village to raise awareness for Caritas. This will take place before school, 8:00am – 8:30am, as well as at recess.

Pancakes will be priced at \$2 with topping, (Syrup, Nutella, Cream, Butter) with extra topping costing 50c. The goal for this year is to raise more than \$300 which is what last year raised.

Jack Rigby - House Captain



SRC UPCOMING EVENTS

Come along and get involved, meet new friends and have some fun!

Upcoming: Shrove Tuesday 13 Feb

St Patricks Day 16 March

Please see Ms Collins to join in and earn some house points!

PEER SUPPORT

Peer Support is a valuable program that supports Year 7's transition to secondary school. On the 30th January, Year 7 were welcomed to our college by our Peer Support Leaders from Year 10. This program is instrumental in helping Year 7 to feel welcomed and to adjust to secondary school from both a wellbeing and academic perspective. Our Peer Support Leaders will be meeting with their assigned Year 7 groups for one hour sessions throughout term one.

Here are a few reflections from both Year 10 Peer Support Leaders and from Year 7 students.

Ms Collins Peer Support Coordinator



Reflections from Year 10 Peer Support Leaders

"Last week, members of year 10 joined the new year 7's as part of the school Peer Support program, in which year 10's make them feel welcome and comfortable in our new community. As peer support leaders, we lead our groups in activities that are designed to welcome them and answer the many questions these students have, about the school.

A sense of responsibility is bestowed upon us, as we as leaders, face the realisation that we are to shepherd these students, who will eventually be leaders in our college, in the right direction. In saying this, it is a thoroughly enjoyable experience for both year 7 and 10 students who partake in these sessions. Recalling back to year 7, I can remember how peer support allowed me to feel welcome, comfortable and make friends that I have kept since. In the coming weeks, these sessions will continue, and will no doubt, be as enjoyable as the first."

Damian Scalone Year 10 Peer Support Leader

"On the first day of school, as a Peer Support Leader, even I was stressing out. Then I began to remember what it was like when I started out in Year 7: I thought high school teachers might be a bit more strict than the primary school teachers. I thought Year 7 must be worrying about surviving school and how to fit in; will they have any friends. I then thought it was part of my responsibility to make them feel less worried. When we were assigned our Year 7 peer support group, I was wondering what they would expect of me, whether they would see me as a buddy or whether they would be scared of me. I tried to constantly remind myself what it felt like as a Year 7 student and tried my best to make them feel comfortable in our new school community."

Sean White Year 10 Peer Support Leader



Reflections from Year 7 Students

'Peer Support was good because everyone was included and everyone got to speak'

Gabrielle Kehoe 7.6

'Peer Support was fun and they helped us and taught us about the school'

Liam Macapagal 7.1

'I liked Peer Support because it was a good way to meet new people and get to play games'

Jordan Ierardo 7.3

'It was really helpful to meet other students and to see how the school worked'

Laurel Whale 7.6



WELLBEING NEWS



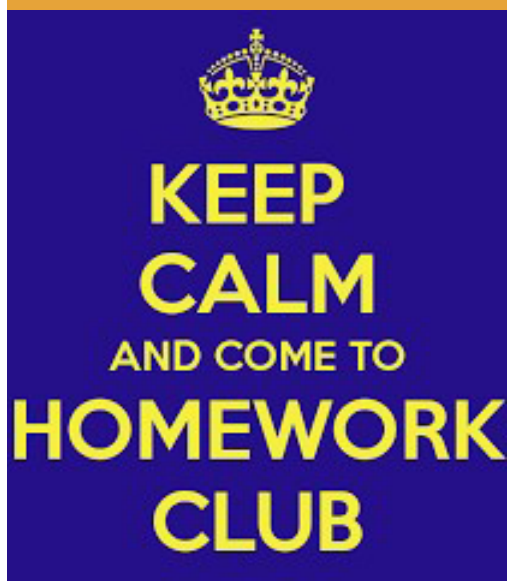
It is with great pleasure that I return to this wonderful community after a year's absence and introduce myself as the Director of Wellbeing at Marist Catholic College Penshurst. My primary role is to work with the Leaders of Wellbeing at the College. I look forward to contributing wholeheartedly to the good work of the Principal, staff and whole school community in ensuring that the very best is done to support your sons and daughters in becoming happy, resilient and confident young men and women, strong in their faith, generous in spirit, who work diligently to achieve academic results that fulfil their greatest potential.

I believe that crucial to this aim is ensuring that our community is built on mutual respect and care and of course high expectations. A place where the perceived "little things", uniform, grooming, care for the environment, punctuality and attendance, work ethic and respectful relationships are actually enablers of those "big end goals". I commend the majority of students and families who have ensured that students returned to school meeting the College uniform and grooming guidelines, which are outlined in the student diary on pages 18 and 19. Where uniform and grooming issues continue, parents will be contacted and I would be very grateful for your support in this endeavour. I take this opportunity to welcome Year 7, their families and others new to the College Community.

I look forward eagerly to the partnership ahead with you, the primary carers and educators of our students. Together we can aspire to inspire and challenge the precious charges God has entrusted to our guidance and care to dream more, do more and as a consequence learn and become more.

Mrs Angela D'Angelo - Director of Wellbeing

Homework Club begins for 2018



The Library at Marist Catholic College Penshurst is a flexible learning space where staff and students meet to collaborate in order to enrich the learning experience for our students. Our Homework Club is a perfect example where young people have the opportunity to seek advice and guidance in their everyday learning. Homework Club is a wonderful endeavour where students have the opportunity to complete homework, assessment work or private study in a quiet supported environment.

Staff from a variety of key learning areas generously volunteer their time after school to answer student class work queries, develop a clear pathway to the completion of an assessment task, review drafts etc... All students are encouraged to attend Homework Club on a regular basis allowing the establishment of successful study habits for personal academic success.

Students are to sign in and out of Homework Club digitally at the library desk each afternoon. Homework Club takes place in the library where students work individually under the supervision of staff.

Hours:
Monday 3pm-4pm
Tuesday 3pm-4pm
Wednesday 3pm-5pm

Ms Rebecca Nolan - Leader of Diverse Learning



TERM 1 SPORT

SPORT	VENUE	TRAVEL	DISMISSAL
CBSA Cricket	Home game Junior: Olds Park Home game Intern: Gannons Park Home game Senior: Gannons Park	Walk Bus Bus	3.15pm at venue 3.15pm at venue 3.15pm at venue
CBSA Basketball	Hurstville Aquatic Centre	Walk	2.20pm or 3pm at venue
SCC Volleyball	Mount St. Joseph, Milperra	Bus	3.30pm at school
SCC Senior Touch Football	Marco Reserve, Panania	Bus	3.30pm at school
SCC AFL	Kelso Park North, Milperra	Bus	3.30pm at school
SCC Dance	School	N/A	2.20pm at school
Yr 11 BoxFit/Spin	Hurstville Aquatic Centre	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yr 11 Gym	Hurstville Aquatic Centre	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yr 11 Soccer/Touch Football	Penshurst Park	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Get Active Games	Hurstville Aquatic Centre	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Watersports	Hurstville Aquatic Centre	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 Female Netball	Penshurst Park	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Frisbee	Renown Park	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yr 8/9/10 M/F Tennis	Roberts Rd Tennis Courts	Bus	2.20pm at school
Yrs 9/10 M/F Crossfit	Crossfit Hurstville	Bus	2.20pm at school
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Basketball	School	N/A	2.20pm at school
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Oztag	Renown Park	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Park Soccer	Gifford Park	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 M/F Ten Pin Bowling	AMF Bowling Sylvania	Bus	2.20pm at school
Yrs 9/10 Male Gym	Punchys Gym, Oatley	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 Female Pilates	Punchys Gym, Oatley	Walk	2.20pm at venue
Yrs 8/9/10 Male Indoor Sports	Sportsworld Indoor, Peakhurst	Bus	2.20pm at school
Year 7 Sport	Evatt Park, Lugarno	Bus	2.20pm at school
Yr 12 Study	School	N/A	2.20pm at school

Reminder: Doctor, Physio, Dentist etc appointments should not be made during sport time.

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