FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Let us be mindful in our prayers for the suffering Muslims, our New Zealand Brothers and Sisters and people of goodwill everywhere, especially in Christchurch, not forgetting our own Australian Muslim community. All we can do is try to be better in our personal thinking and reflections.

Dr Frank Malloy, Director of Marist Schools Australia, reflects on the senseless massacre last Friday in Christchurch and the ubiquitous nature and capacity for influence of social media, poignantly arrests us as parents and educators. Dr Malloy says, ‘social media when used appropriately is a most natural and uplifting sharing of life and experience among family, friends, and colleagues. The live, uncensored, multimedia nature of the platform and its incredible reach around the globe is compelling and powerful. It is a form of communication replete with good news and moments of joyous significance. However, as witnessed last Friday, social media can be used as a destructive tool for evil, inciting hatred and inflicting immense pain and suffering. Broadcasted murder of innocent, defenceless people praying to God, violently and indescribably shocks us. The massacre was the antithesis of love, nurture and care, God’s gifts to the unique nature of humankind.

In this current global outpouring of grief, sympathy, questioning, and solidarity, what messages do we choose to amplify when listening and sharing with young people, many of whom are voracious users of social media? On Sunday at Saint Mary's Cathedral in the presence of Muslim Leaders, Archbishop of Sydney Anthony Fisher OP, spoke to the alienated, resentful, and brutal mindset of the radicalised.’ Below is an excerpt from the full text.

If it is real strength you want, you will find it in compassion and mercy, not hate and violence.

If it is real devotion you seek, dedicate yourself to God and goodness and your fellow man and woman, rather than ego and ideology.

If you want to be worthy of admiration, cultivate a generous inclusivity rather than divisive arrogance, be willing to serve rather than seeking to dominate.

We stand together today, in solidarity with our Muslim brothers and sisters, in their grief, horror and disgust, for if someone has killed, maimed and terrorised our neighbours they have killed, maimed and terrorised us.

But today is about more than fellow-feeling.

Where there is grief, we will bring consolation; where there is horror, we will sow trust; where there is despair, we will offer hope.

Let us keep in our prayers the victims and their families.

Mr Ray Martin - College Principal

FORTHCOMING PLENARY COUNCIL

Next year, 2020, the Catholic Bishops of Australia will meet in a Plenary Council for the first time since 1937. In fact, there have been only four Plenary Councils in Australia – 1885, 1895, 1905 and 1937. It is not too far-fetched for committed and concerned Catholics to ask why the Bishops have not called such a Council for over 85 years, especially after the turning point of Vatican II in the 1960s. Again, thinking Catholics will readily concur that the impetus of Vatican II has been lost: the windows of the Church opened to the world encouraged by Pope John XXIII were firmly shut by Pope John Paul II and Benedict XVI. The efforts of Pope Francis to re-open the windows in our time are meeting considerable opposition from a number of cardinals, bishops, priests and lay Catholics around the world. Consequently, the Australian Catholic Church Plenary Council is an unmissable opportunity to respond to the call to a deep and radical renewal in the Church. If the Australian Bishops fail to address this opportunity, they have failed the Catholic Faithful, not to say Australian Christians and people of goodwill throughout the land, believers or not. Some prominent issues include first and foremost the protection of children. Other issues being raised are the matter of optional celibacy for priests, the role of women in the Church (including the ordination of women), the opening of Communion for divorced and remarried men and women, the welcome and acceptance of LGBT (etc.) in our Church.

You who are reading this should follow the matter with great concern and commitment.

Brother Tony Butler
FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Mobile Phones at MCCP

A growing body of evidence shows that the possession and use of mobile phones in schools is having a detrimental effect on the learning of students. Mobile phones present a distraction to students during the school day, interfering with the educational environment and limiting social interactions. Additional research also suggests that teenagers do not have the self-regulation skills to manage appropriate mobile phone use with relation to social media.

While the College acknowledges that providing a child with a mobile phone gives parents reassurance that their child can contact them in emergency situations or in situations involving personal safety, this does not apply during the school day when students and parents have access to school phones and personnel. Parents are reminded that Student Services remains a vital and appropriate point of contact should emergency situations arise. Student Services will deliver messages to students as required. Similarly, students who need to make an urgent phone call on their mobile phone in the course of the school day, should do so by reporting to Student Services and making the call from Student Services.

While we prefer students not have mobile phones at the College, we realise that this is unrealistic and we have adopted guidelines and expectations for students around the use of mobile phones. This includes:

- The College accepts no responsibility for mobile phones that are brought to the College and undertake no responsibility to investigate their misplacement, loss or theft.
- On arrival to school students must turn off and not use their mobile phones until the end of their final lesson at 3.00pm. This includes recess, lunch and study classes.
- Headphones must also be put away once a student enters the school and should not be used in the playground or in class unless instructed by a teacher.
- Students may only turn on and use their devices during a class under the direct instruction of the teacher for clear educational purposes.
- A student’s mobile phone should be secured in their bag and not be visible during the school day.
- If a student is caught using their mobile phone (for any reason), the teacher has been instructed to issue the student with a Wednesday Detention.

Mobile phones must not be used to invade the privacy of others or breach the law. Students are not to use mobile devices to film/photograph/record other students or staff at school without their knowledge or permission. Sharing or publishing any material which denigrates the reputation of another student or staff member will result in serious consequences. Mobile phones should not be used to take photos in change rooms, toilets or in any situation that may cause embarrassment or discomfort to fellow students, staff or visitors to the College. Students who use their mobile phones to: bully, harass, threaten, abuse, vilify or embarrass other students or staff will face disciplinary action which may lead to suspension and/or police involvement.

Students and staff have been reminded of our Mobile Phone Policy and consequences for non-compliance. We appreciate your support and ask for your assistance by reinforcing this information at home with your son/daughter. Should you have any concerns regarding your son/daughter’s use of their mobile phone, please contact their Leader of Wellbeing.

Mrs Connie Frino - Assistant Principal

2019 UPCOMING DATES

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thur 28 Mar</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
<td>Fri 12 Apr</td>
<td>End of Term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 5 Apr</td>
<td>Enrolments Close - Year 7 2021</td>
<td>Mon 29 Apr</td>
<td>Staff Development Day - No Students</td>
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<td>Mon 8 Apr  -Wed 10 Apr</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
<td>Tues 30 Apr</td>
<td>Students Begin Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 11 Apr -Fri 12 Apr</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; Year 9 Naplan Trials</td>
<td>Mon 6 May -Fri 10 May</td>
<td>Full College Winter Uniform</td>
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Mrs Connie Frino - Assistant Principal
PUBLIC SPEAKING

‘The internet is going to end in an hour! I’m not making this up, you know! We will need to make sure that our little lists are finalised, our ties all made before heading out to the sandpit and enjoying the outdoors. If you give me your attention, I’ll tell you what I am.’ (Public Speaking Topic)

The Catholic School's Debating Association’s (CSDA) Public Speaking Competition kicked off two weeks ago at OLMC Buraneer. The College entered ten charismatic and insightful students who engaged in various topics to persuade, entertain and inform the audience about contemporary issues. All students delivered their speeches enigmatically with confidence and precision. The students were successful on the night with seven of the ten students progressing to the Zone Finals, which was an outstanding result.

Last Friday night, the Zone Final was held at Aquinas College, Menai. The seven students represented the College with pride, eloquently delivering their thoughtful and witty speeches. Three of the students were selected to progress to the Grand Final this Friday night and compete against the top 12 students in their year. We wish them the best of luck.

Congratulations to all the students who competed in the competition.

Year 7: Paddy Daly (Zone Final), Chloe Rizzo (Grand Final)
Year 8: Sophie Bulmer (Grand Final), Annamaria Psaltis (Zone Final)
Year 9: Maya Reynolds (Zone Final), Rohan Reynolds (Grand Final)
Year 10: Adam Burridge (Zone Final), Chloe Jones
Senior: Charlotte Bulmer, Zale Briscoe-Hough

I would like to thank all the staff who have supported the students, particularly Ms Eljed, Mr Skoflic, Ms Emmerick and Mr Russo for mentoring the students and providing valuable feedback throughout the process.

Ms Lisa Farrelly - Public Speaking Coordinator

NAPLAN 2019

NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy – important skills that each child needs to succeed in school and life. The NAPLAN tests are designed to help us make sure students are on track with their literacy and numeracy development. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in NAPLAN tests for reading, writing, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

This year students in Years 7 and 9 will complete their NAPLAN tests online during Weeks 3 and 4 of Term 2. In preparation for this to occur, students will be required to install a Lockdown Browser onto their computer and have their own set of headphones to complete the test.

Next week students will sit a practice test to ensure their computers will work in the test environment. There are also demonstration tests that will allow students to do their own practice to get used to the new test environment.

A copy of information distributed to students can be found at https://goo.gl/CiUXrW. This includes a draft timetable for the testing, a link to instructions to install the Lockdown Browser and a link to the demonstration tests.

For a copy of an information sheet for parents go to https://goo.gl/GKza5A. If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact Mr Dooner.

Mr Michael Dooner - Head of Curriculum

COLLEGE FEES

The 1st installment of 2019 school fees is now overdue. Please ensure Term 1 fees are finalised in accordance with your payment plan asap. Payments can be made by Cheque, Cash, Eftpos or BPay. Any queries please contact the College Office. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Mrs Joy O’Sullivan - College Bursar
YEAR 12 NEWS

During our pastoral lesson this week Year 12 heard from last year’s College Vice Captain Nicholas Condylios, on the subject of HSC success. Nicholas is an excellent role model for our current HSC students and embodied the Marist love of hard work during his time here at MCCP. Nicholas spoke about the importance of consistent hard work, the challenges of staying motivated and also the need to move past setbacks and remain focused on the end goal. He shared some of his own study tips with Year 12 and answered questions from the grade during this valuable session. Nicholas is currently studying a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Wollongong. We wish him every success in the future and thank him for giving up his time to share his experiences with us.

Mr Jon Cullerton - Year 12 Leader of Wellbeing

CBSA CHESS

On Thursday 7 March, 20 students competed in the one day CBSA Chess tournament held at Saint Charbel’s College. The students displayed a strong school spirit and thoroughly enjoyed the day. At times there were nail biting games, with our Senior and Year 7 Teams going through the preliminary rounds undefeated.

The Year 8 and 10 teams lost in the semi-finals, and the Seniors and Year 9 teams lost in the finals. Our Year 7 team came home winners, defeating Rosebank 3-1.

Congratulations to all the students who competed on the day.

Mrs Peggy Chandler - Chess Coordinator

The MCCP Harmony Day will be celebrated next Thursday 28 March so that we can recognise this important day at our school assembly.

We acknowledge Australian multiculturalism, inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background.

Orange is the colour chosen to represent Harmony Day. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. Harmony Day orange cookies will be sold for $2 and there will be an ‘orange meringues’ guessing competition. All proceeds will go to Caritas.
ST PATRICK’S DAY

As Marist students we have a commitment to the concepts of hard work, presence, simplicity, family spirit and the Way of Mary. On Friday 5 March, the College celebrated St Patrick’s Day and demonstrated all of these characteristics of the Marist Charism. As part of Project Compassion, the SRC used this celebratory event to raise money for Caritas. Caritas is an organisation that helps end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity so the world’s poor won’t need to rely on charity. Caritas Australia works in our Indigenous Communities as well as in over 30 countries.

It was a fun filled day, where all students demonstrated School Spirit by wearing green and donating $2. During recess and lunch the playgrounds were filled with bustling activities such as cake stalls, potato sack races, potato and spoon races, Irish music, Irish dance-offs and more. Awards for the best dressed were announced at lunch. Individual prizes and groups were awarded. As there were so many students who went to so much effort with their costumes, an Irish dance-off was required to pick each winner. Overall, it was a successful day, raising a huge $2305.95 for Caritas.

Thank you to the staff who assisted on the day, the SRC students who ran the activities, all the wonderful cakes baked by our Year 7 classes and all volunteers involved.

As a Marist community we came together to help those who are less fortunate.

Ms Lea-Kathryn Nelson - SRC Coordinator
YEAR 8 REFLECTION DAY

The Year 8 Reflection Day was a great opportunity for our cohort to take time out from school and think about how to be the best version of ourselves. The guest speaker of the day Michael Fitzpatrick led us through a variety of activities that taught us how to live outside of our comfort zone and connect with those who are not necessarily our close friends. This enabled us to bond as a year group to laugh at ourselves and each other. The day was full of crazy dancing, singing and lots of laughs. We all really learnt that to be the very best we can be, requires courage to make our own decisions not basing them on what our friends think. All up it was a fantastic day, thank you to those involved in the organisation.

Sophie Bulmer - Year 8

THURSDAY SPORT

Thursday sport is a compulsory College activity and an important part of our school curriculum, and a requirement of the Department of Education for physical activity. With this in mind, I ask that parents refrain from making appointments for your sons and daughters during this time.

If your son or daughter is unable to participate in physical activity due to illness or injury, they are to report to non-sport for this time instead of leaving the College early.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mr Paul Burg - Head of Sport

YEAR 7 2021 ENROLMENTS

Enrolment applications for Year 7, 2021 are now being accepted.

All enrolments will close on Friday 5 April 2019

If your son/daughter has a sibling eligible for Year 7 enrolment for 2021, your applications must be submitted within this enrolment period.
Congratulations

Dane Mitchell of Year 8 has qualified to represent NSW in the National Athletic Championships and the National Little Athletic Championships both to be held in April. He will be competing in the 800m, 1500m and 3000m events. Dane is currently ranked 1st for the 3000m event for U/13 boys in Australia and is the State 1km champion for Nippers.

Congratulations Dane and good luck for your upcoming championship titles.

Lara Savet-Buck of Year 10 has been selected in the U/17 Female Cricket State Challenge Sydney Thunder Team.

Congratulations Lara!

SPORT RESULTS

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<th>WIN/LOSS</th>
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RANIER UNIFORM NEWS

WINTER FITTINGS ARE NOW OPEN

Be early and be organized!

***All fittings by appointment only***

- Uniforms will be available for purchase on the day of the fitting.
- An order will be placed for any items not available.

Book Fitting Appointment

ONLINE
VISIT: RANIER.COM.AU

Click on ‘Your Uniform Shop’
School password: mccp2223
Student ID from the school
*New students: Click on ‘Book Appointments’

PHONE
0455 024 820

Uniform Shop Manager
If there’s no answer, please leave a message and your call will be returned on the next trading day.

EMAIL
maristo@ranier.com.au

Shop Location
On school grounds

Normal Trading Days (During School Terms)
Monday 1:00pm – 3:30pm & Thursday 8:00am – 11:30am
1st Saturday of the month 9.00am – 12.00pm

Payment
Cash / Eftpos / Visa / Mastercard (1.5% credit card surcharge applies)

one school • one family • one community