



From the Principal

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends,

Today we celebrate All Souls Day. We are thinking of everyone within our community who have lost a loved one. To those whom have passed, we send them our love and feel them at peace as we remember the joy that they brought to our lives. At this time we offer our condolences to Brother Kevin Blyth's family. Brother Kevin was a member of the Marist Community at Randwick and was Principal here for six years between 1984 and 1989. May he rest in peace.

Last Thursday and Friday I had the extraordinary privilege of attending the NSW Education Symposium: Future Directions for NSW schools. It included 270 teachers, School and System Leaders from all sectors of Education, both local and International Academics and the Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli, MP. The purpose of the symposium was to engage in serious dialogue about current and future trends in education and industry, to identify what is working at a classroom and school level and to pose actions and ideas to the Minister to inform policy development for future reform directions in NSW. I look forward to continuing this discussion with our staff here at St Patrick's Marist.

Last week Year 9 had a fabulous time at camp. I thank Mr Berner for his organisation and I thank Mr Hornby, Mr Lower, Miss Carne, Miss Raffoul, Miss Lawrence, Mr Haddad, Mrs Van Zealand and Mr O'Connell for giving up their time to be with the students on camp.

As we come to Term 4, I would like to reiterate the importance of school attendance. Earlier in the year, I shared some statistics about the significant impact to learning that even a 10% absence can have. Being absent from school can increase a student's level of anxiety. The more time away the harder it is to get back to school. Sometimes, building resilience in young people means having to make hard decisions and sticking to them, especially in relation to attending school. Recently, I was reading an article on how to help your children be more resilient. I thought I would share one strategy with you; "Helpful and Optimistic Thinking"

Resilience is about being realistic, thinking rationally, looking on the bright side, finding the positives, expecting things to go well and moving forward, even when things seem bad.

When your child is upset, you can help them keep things in perspective by focusing on facts and reality. For example, you could try gently asking, "Does this really matter as much as you think it does? On a scale from 1-10, how bad is it really?"

You can also help your child understand that a bad thing in one part of their life doesn't have to flow over into all parts. For example, if your child gets a poor exam result, you could point out that it won't stop him playing his weekend sport, or going out with his friends.

A sense of humour can help you both keep things in perspective and stay calm.

If your child is being hard on themselves – for example, "I'm going to die of embarrassment speaking in front of my class" – you could suggest more helpful self-talk instead. For example, your child could try saying, "Public speaking isn't my favourite thing, but I'll be able to cope."

Your child is more likely to feel positive if they can see that difficult times are a part of life, that they'll pass, and that things will get better. You might be able to help your child with this by talking about how you, people you know, or even famous people have gone through tough times.

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KEY DATES

Friday, 4th November
H.S.C. Examinations Conclude

Friday, 11th - 18th November
Year 10 Examinations

Monday, 21st November
College Leaders Reflection Day

Tuesday, 22nd November
Creative Arts Exhibition
Opening Night (Years 7-11)

Wednesday, 23rd November
P&F Meeting (7.30pm)

Wednesday 30th November
Year 11 Careers Conference

Friday, 2nd December
Year 10 Formation Day

Monday, 5th December
Marist Student Leaders Retreat
Year 10 'All My Own Work'

Tuesday, 6th December
Careers Conference
(Concludes Wednesday 7th)

Talking and working together to find solutions can help your child be more resilient. And having a problem-solving method is one way for your child to feel they have the power to get through challenging times.

No matter how upbeat your child is, there'll be times when they feel anxious, scared or angry. If they are resilient, they will be able to ride out these adolescent ups and downs.

(The link for problem solving is : http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/problem_solving_teenagers.html).

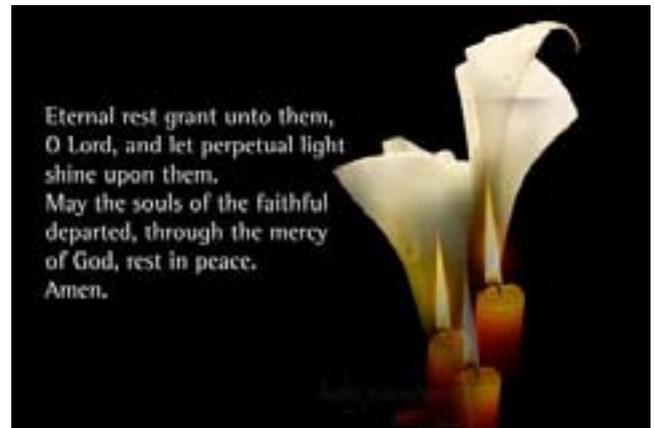
If at any time you are concerned or need assistance, please call us here at the College and we will work together for a positive outcome.

Over the past week, I have been reminding students about the expectation we have about uniforms and appearance. Our expectations are clearly outlined in our student diary. I would like to clarify that ankle socks for girls are not sport socks. Socks should be above the ankle. Could I ask for your assistance in ensuring that your sons and daughters leave home in full school uniform as uniform expectations include coming to and from school. Students who fail to meet expectations will be given a lunchtime uniform detention.

Building works are well underway for our High Support Needs building and our new Year 12 Cola (undercover area). Building works for the Junior Boys toilets and Food Technology Kitchen commence next week and should be ready for the start of Day 1 next year.

Yours in Jesus, Mary and St. Marcellin

Mrs Angela Hay
Principal



Assistant Principal

HSC EXAMINATIONS

The HSC examinations have been taking place over the past few weeks and have run smoothly with students having an overall happy reaction to most papers. As the HSC draws to a close, many of our teachers begin the process of marking the HSC either online or at various marking centres. At St Patrick's Marist, teachers are encouraged to be part of HSC marking as a professional learning experience which informs teachers regarding approaches to:

- discovering what common mistakes students made in the 2016 Exam
- determine if school based marking is to the same level of difficulty as the HSC
- greater understanding of what the marking guidelines mean
- professional development learning new marking skills
- experience of the full range of responses from across the course candidature and contrasting different approaches to the examination
- opportunities to apply for positions such as pilot marker or senior marker in the marking operation, or as a judge in the standards-setting operation.

Many of our teaching staff having HSC marking expertise or experience as senior markers or other senior positions within the marking process reflects the deep passion they have in supporting our students to succeed in their senior HSC year.

2016 LITERACY PATR

The PATR results (Progressive Achievement Tests in Reading Comprehension) has reflected strong growth in all Years from 7 through to 10. The test is an online multiple choice examination which tests the student's skills in interpreting texts; reflecting on texts and interpreting explicit information. As part of the whole school approach to literacy, 'Thinking Note Keys' plays a major role in supporting student growth in reading comprehension. This strategy has clearly supported the students when annotating texts and to draw deeper meaning from them. The work of our teachers in engaging students each day when accessing various texts has built literacy skills and is reflected in the growth in PATR and also in NAPLAN. This work was driven by all staff but in particular I would like to acknowledge the hard work and planning of our Literacy Team; Mrs Loraine Pett (Leader of Learning - English), Ms Emily Gray (Assistant Leader of Learning - English); Mrs Claire Franke; Mr Paul Sheppard and Mrs Karen Martin.

Mr J. Scanlon

Assistant Principal - Innovation, Teaching and Learning



Director of Mission

MARIST FORUM

On Friday the 23rd of September, Stephanie, Bill, Joseph and I had the incredible opportunity to embark on a spiritual adventure. Fresh out of our worrisome final exams, we packed our bags and headed to the Marist Hermitage in Mittagong for the 'Agents of Justice and Mercy' Marist Forum, where we readied ourselves for an unforgettable passage of spiritual growth. This memorable experience was to help inspire and assist us to embark on ventures of solidarity in our community.

We were privileged enough to meet infinitely inspirational individuals who work tirelessly in our community. Personally, I found Monica Gonzales to be the most inspirational. Not only did Monica attend our very own school but she was also our College Captain. For me this showed that our Marist connection does not end when the final school bell rings. It is an endless spiritual connection that binds us together through our faith. Furthermore, during this empowering experience we were privileged to spend time with 52 other young people from Marist schools across NSW and ACT. This developed new friendships and fostered a unity between our Marist schools. The 'Agents of Justice and Mercy' Marist Forum was an unforgettably and infinitely rewarding experience.

Laura Mobbs
11 Ludovic

DIOCESAN MISSION MASS

On Friday the 21st of October a group of students, along with Mrs Donaghy, attended the Diocesan Mission Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral followed by a Mission Expo.

We explored the many displays of mission work that various schools around the Diocese have been carrying out. This made us realise that our school stands in solidarity with, not only our Diocese, but with the international community. Primary schools were organising morning teas to raise money for a sewage pipe in Cambodia, while others were celebrating the importance of project compassion in their school community. After lunch, we attended a presentation on the work of The Sisters of Charity, who have set up a tuk-tuk school which brings education to rural villages.

Overall, the experience was eye opening to the work we can do together rather than as individuals.



Hashya Weerakkody
(11 MacKillop)

Pastoral

YEAR 8

The following students in Year 8 received their Gold and College Commendation Award at Assembly on Wednesday 26 October. Congratulations to all students on these awards.

Gold
Catherine Azize
Andy Han
Melshie Seraiah Hathurusinghe
James Makris

College
Tania Anrique Padilla
Daniel Khalil
Melshie Seraiah Hathurusinghe
Maroun Sassine
Chloe Wills

Mrs A. Papoulias

Director of Studies

EXAM SUPERVISORS

A letter requesting volunteers to supervise the Year 10 Examinations from Friday 11TH -18TH November follows. If there are any parents/carers/grandparents with some time to spare, it would be greatly appreciated.

It is a requirement of the Diocese of Parramatta that any parent volunteering at our College needs to complete the online Child Protection Volunteer form - 'Building Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteer' and complete the Online Training Module. This can be done by accessing <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers>.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Ms T. Ellison
Director of Studies



ST PATRICK'S MARIST COLLEGE

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Email: stpatdandas@parra.catholic.edu.au • Website: www.stpatricknsw.edu.au

1st November, 2016

Dear Parents,

I am writing to seek your assistance with the upcoming Year 10 End Course Examinations. Volunteers are required to supervise the examinations from *Friday, 11th November to Friday, 18th November*.

Parents are unable to supervise their own daughter/son. The hours required for each exam period are outlined below. If you can assist in either a morning or afternoon session please fill out the details on the reply slip below and ask your daughter or son to return the reply slip to the office. If you are able to assist, more details will be forwarded to you.

It is a requirement of the Diocese of Parramatta that any parent volunteering at our College needs to complete the online Child Protection Volunteer Form - 'Building Safe Communities - Undertaking for Volunteer' and complete the Online Training Module. This can be done by accessing <http://childprotection.parra.catholic.edu.au/volunteers>. The College will receive an email notification when you have completed this Module.

If you have any concerns with the Child Protection Module please do not hesitate to contact the College.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Therri Ellison
Director of Studies

Reply Slip – Examination Supervisors – Year 10 End Course Exams

Parent Name: (Mr/Ms/Mrs) _____ Student Name: _____

Homeroom: _____ Mobile Phone number: _____

Home Address: _____

Email address: _____

Have you completed the Online Child Protection Volunteer Form and Training Module Yes No

I am able to supervise on the following dates (Please tick):

Friday 11 th November	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.35 – 10.35 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.05 – 1.35pm
Monday 14 th November	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.35 – 10.35 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.05 – 2.05pm
Tuesday 15 th November	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.35 – 11.10 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.05 – 1.35pm
Wednesday 16 th November	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.35 – 10.05 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.05 – 1.35pm
Thursday 17 th November	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.35 – 10.05 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Friday 18 th November	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.35 – 10.35 am	<input type="checkbox"/>	12.05 – 2.30pm

Thankyou - Please return slip to the College Office



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Curriculum

PAPER PLANES COMPETITION



It all started with an announcement! Just an announcement, similar to any other day. The words; "paper air plane competition held in La Valla". Knowing it was my last year at this school, I had to make the most of it. As the bell rang for lunch, I quickly hurried myself to the La Valla and my goodness, let me tell you, students from all year groups came to participate. Paper planes flying everywhere. It was a lot of pressure, with Miss Hagarty and Mr Elias both being my teachers and both having very high expectations of me ... 18.3m - WE QUALIFIED!. Jackson and I had qualified into the University of Sydney rounds and so Jackson and I decided to embark on a journey that was like no other and this was all thanks to Miss Hagarty and Mr Elias for making this possible.

It was just another sunny Saturday morning. The birds were chirping, the sun was shining, peering through my shutters, demanding I arise from my comfortable slumber. What was different about this day was that I had a calling, and that calling was the pull of a day filled with paper planes.

We arrived, an ambitious couple of paper plane pilots, ready to take on the restricted skies that the Sydney University Sports and Aquatic Centre provided. We crafted and threw paper planes for a good three hours, practising and perfecting our skills, and formulating the optimum planes for flight.

The age groups were called up and performed their best attempts. Kindergarten, Years 3&4, Years 5&6 and then it was our turn. As the Years 7-12 age group lined up, we frantically scrambled to get our final designs completed. A few test flights and we were ready.

It was my turn, I walked towards the line, a cute little side-step, and then I thrustered my arm forwards, launching the plane across the hall. We all got two turns to throw and if we made it past 20m then we qualified for finals. Luckily, Jackson and I both qualified. We explored the university for a short while and then returned to compete in the finals.

We had made it this far and we had to place in the top three out of all of the finalists in order to progress to the next stage. Unfortunately, our attempts to solidify victory were unsuccessful, and we did not further our place in the competition. Aside from this, we walked away with the satisfaction that we had made it this far in the competition and had a fun experience to remember.

Simon Hong
12 Edwin



MATHS AND SCIENCE DAY COMPETITION

On the 20th of October, twenty four Year 10 students participated in the Maths and Science Day Competition run by Miss Hagarty and Mr Makram.

The first session of the competition can honestly only be described as a blur. The twenty four of us sat amazed and confused as Mr Makram attempted to explain 'simple' harmonic motion calculus to us. After session one, we broke off into our colour coordinated groups and began the first task. This task focused on finding the amount of elastic bands needed to create a bungee cord to drop an egg 1.56 metres in a bag without cracking the egg. Unfortunately, each group only had 3 elastic bands to experiment with, making the challenge set for us all very difficult. Eventually the groups found the average distances and time taken to drop the egg with one, two and three elastic bands. This information was then transferred into the 'easy enough' simple harmonic motion to determine how many elastic bands were needed in the end. Different answers were produced across the board ranging from 7 to 11 but funnily enough the blue team had won the first challenge, having the correct answer of 11 elastic bands needed to drop the egg.

Task two focused on building a bridge purely out of plastic straws and hot glue. The aim of the task was simple enough. Whichever team held the most amount of weight on their bridge won. Blue were unable to secure the lead with the yellow team winning this task, withholding approximately 3 to 4kg of weight. Now that was seriously mind-boggling!

All in all, the Maths and Science Day Competition was a great success and students who participated definitely enjoyed the day, furthering our knowledge of the many mathematical and scientific problems most of us never knew existed. We learned that in order to be successful in our challenges we needed to put both our amazing Science and Maths skills to use together! On behalf of the Year 10 students, we would like to thank both Miss Hagarty and Mr Makram greatly for organising the competition and passing on their knowledge to the future St Patrick's Marist Mathematicians and Scientists.

By James Broekmans and Rebecca Ozer

Sport



ALL SCHOOLS ATHLETICS

Congratulations to Luke Gosper (9 Chavoin) who competed at the All Schools Athletics Carnival. He competed in the 2000m Steeplechase, an event which involves running 2000m with 18 barriers and 5 water jumps. Luke won his event and will now compete at the National Athletics Championship in December. Congratulations Luke!

Miss D. Liska
Sport Co-ordinator

MCCS CRICKET

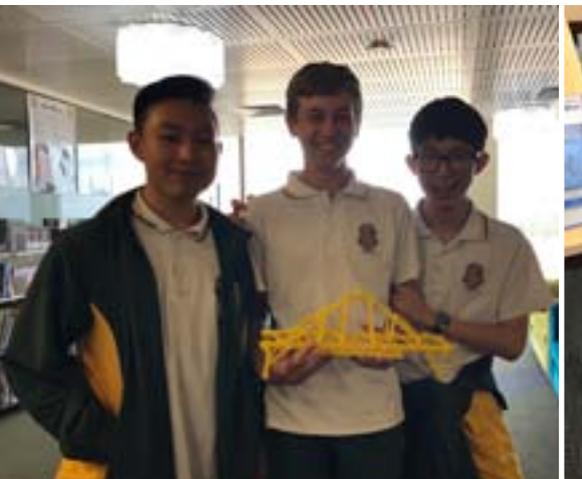
The MCCS Open cricket team has had a good start to the season. Many of the players are new to the game and they have been quick to learn the complexities of Cricket. The Opens team consists of students from year 9-11 and they are playing a super 8's format. Last week we faced a seasoned team from Catherine McAuley. Our opening batters Ashleigh Fairall and Maddison Bouma-Breakwell faced some speedy bowls and successfully batted all overs with out getting out. Unfortunately in batting McAuley caught our score and they won the game. The St Patrick's Marist students displayed great enthusiasm, and have had a enjoyable season so far.

Mrs M. Haddad
Coach





Maths and Science Day



The first Marist Brothers arrived in Australia on the 'Star of Peace' on 21st February, 1872. On the 8th April, 1872, school commenced at St Patrick's. Our Newsletter is named, 'Star of Peace', as it too, hopefully, brings peace and good news to our community.

OUT OF THIS WORLD!



Founded 1872



Inspired by our Year 12 students, our theme for this year was "Out of this world" as we became "St Pats MARS College" for the event. Our aim was to continue to financially support the Marist school in Trichy, India as well as provide additional equipment for the new Cola being constructed in the Senior Yard.

Due to our significant support, the Marist school in Trichy has grown from an enrolment of 60 students to 400 ... and increasing.

Our goal this year was to reach for the stars at \$40,000 and we would like to acknowledge our generous sponsors for their help in our efforts to raise these funds. The Marist Brothers of Trichy are extremely appreciative of our support and we look forward to making the Senior Yard Cola a very impressive addition to the College.



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The College would like to thank our generous business sponsors and their families for their support of our College Walkathon:

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St Patricks Marist College would like to thank Gold Key Building Services for their generous sponsorship.



HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE



Attention Years 7 & 8 - Holy Name of Mary, Rydalmere - Youth Group

Saturday 5th November, in the Parish Hall (on Myrtle St, Rydalmere opposite the Church) following the 5.30pm vigil mass and going until 8pm.

Parents –it's a free night and will be held on the 1st Saturday night of each month. We subscribe to The Edge program.

If you have any questions please email Anne-Marie Hewkins (ahewkins@yahoo.com) or contact Fr Peter in the Parish office.

This will be our last youth group for the year – don't miss out!

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY

Gravity (and Wonder): At Penrith Observatory

November 19 - 8.00pm - 10.00pm

Have you ever wondered about gravity? What is this invisible force that stops us from flying off into space as our planet rotates? How does the Moon stay in orbit around Earth? Why is the gravity of a black hole so strong? Join us for answers to these questions and more in our special Gravity (and Wonder) event in association with the Penrith Regional Gallery & The Lewers Bequest. Evening includes presentation, 3D movie, tour of the dome and 0.6m telescope and telescope viewing (weather permitting).

Bookings are essential: http://www.westernsydney.edu.au/observatorypenrith/penrith_observatory/whats_on

Play Netball in 2017



Ermington United Netball

will be holding

Registration Day

for the 2017 season

on

Saturday 12th November 2016

Cowells Lane Tennis Centre (upstairs)

Cowells Lane Ermington

12.30 - 2.30pm

New players of all ages welcome

Under 7 - 10 years NetSetGo modified netball

Under 11 - Seniors graded competition

Returning players can attend and register online,

or register from home from 25th October @ www.MyNetball.com.au

Further Information:

President, Michelle Gruber 0404 981 467

umpires@ermingtonunited.com.au or netball@ermingtonunited.com.au