A New School Year. A New Beginning. A New Dream.

Welcome to our new school year. We join with the school community in welcoming aboard our new Year 7 girls and girls who have joined us in Years 8-12. We hope that you will quickly feel at home here at Marist Sisters’ College.

We all have special girls … We can make a difference … We can touch others in a special way … And we can make the world a better place. So what is your dream for 2010?

Let us remember that God is always with us and we pray,

Dear Jesus, please help me to have the courage to follow my dreams.
Help me with the determination to carry them out.
Give me the patience to deal with negativity, the fortitude to accept defeat or failure.
Give me the strength to overcome my barriers. Strengthen the hope that motivates me.
Give me the desire that makes my will strong.
I know you have given me what it takes to be a success; please help me to use it to my best potential.
Help me to give what it takes to be my own success. Amen.

(Dan Francis from ‘Prayers by Teenagers’)

Impressive, Improving, Inspiring!

Last term, I was walking through Lane Cove plaza and a band struck up a familiar piece: ‘It’s a long way to Tipperary’. At the time, I agreed. At the moment, were I to hear that same piece I would have to disagree, because, in fact, it is quite a short trip to that county from where I am. I hear that you all have been rather warm in Sydney, with temperatures in the thirties. How different has been my experience over here, with temperatures hovering around the zero mark accompanied by snow, snow and more snow. Now, however, it is a little warmer. As I write this, we are sweltering in 4 degrees.

From all accounts 2010 has begun really well at Woolwich, with Year 7 and the girls in other years who have joined the College, starting to feel well and truly part of our community. The rest of the girls I hope are leading the way in ‘… allowing learning to happen…’ (Even distant walls have ears!)

The girls in the Class of 2009 are to be congratulated on the way their HSC results showed how effective their learning was. Some impressive observations include:

- The girls achieved Bands 5 and 6 above what was achieved across NSW, in 24 subjects. 52% of the grades awarded across all subjects were Bands 5 or 6.
- 25 of the 32 (78.15%) subjects undertaken by the girls at MSCW were above State average, some significantly so. Five of the subjects studied for the HSC were more than 10 above State average and indicate a trend of improving HSC results. For example, in Hospitality, girls achieved on average more than 10 above State mean.

Across all subjects the average percentage of girls awarded a Band 5 or 6 was 60% with some very impressive statistics coming from:

- English Extension: 100% of girls achieved in the top Band
- Ancient History: 95% of girls achieved a Band 5 or 6
- English Extension 1:100% of girls achieved a Band 5 or 6
- Senior Science: 79 % of girls achieved a Band 5 or 6

And the list goes on. Congratulations to the staff and the girls on these results! I will be seeing you all a little while. In the meantime, take care and remember what it is to belong to our Marist place.

Year 7 girls, Alessandra Oliveri and Melinee Vartanian are among the first to try out the new COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area).
Assessment at MSCW

Throughout the year girls at MSCW undergo a range of formal Assessment Tasks. In Years 7–9 these tasks are used for calculation of a Grade A–E for the Semester Report and in Years 10-12 they are used for both Semester Reports and Boards of Studies Grades and Marks. The College Assessment Policy can be found in the front section of the handbook. In 2010 there is one important change in policy for Years 10–12. It is as follows:

Whilst the Board of Studies does not determine minimum attendance requirements, principals may determine that, as a result of absence, the course completion criteria have not been met. All such warnings must relate the absences to specific unsatisfactory completion of course requirements.

At MSCW it is deemed that if a student misses more than 15% of available classes they have not met the criteria for satisfactory course completion.

If the girl is at risk of not being awarded her School Certificate, Preliminary Award or HSC due to lack of attendance then the College will issue at least two warning letters thereby giving the girl the opportunity to rectify the situation.

At the beginning of each year the College releases an Assessment Handbook outlining the tasks the girls will undertake in each subject, their weighting and their timing. At the front of each Year Handbook is a 2010 Assessment Planner outlining the tasks the girls will undertake in each subject, their weighting and their timing. Throughout the year girls at MSCW undergo a range of formal Assessment Tasks. In Years 7–9 these tasks are used for calculation of a Grade A–E for the Semester Report and in Years 10-12 they are used for both Semester Reports and Boards of Studies Grades and Marks. The College Assessment Policy can be found in the front section of the handbook. In 2010 there is one important change in policy for Years 10–12. It is as follows:

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At the beginning of each year the College releases an Assessment Handbook outlining the tasks the girls will undertake in each subject, their weighting and their timing. At the front of each Year Handbook is a 2010 Assessment Planner that indicates the week each task is scheduled. You are encouraged to work with your daughter in entering these tasks in her College Diary so as to ensure that all due dates are met.

The Handbooks can be downloaded from the College MyInternet portal at the following address: http://www.mscw.catholic.edu.au/mydesktop. When you reach the site you will be prompted to log in to a proxy server. The user name is parents and the password is parents. Once there, follow the links button to MSCW Assessment Handbooks, Schedules and Tasks then follow the link to the relevant Year.

Mr Powell, Curriculum Coordinator

Parental involvement is essential to the girls' success at MSCW. Through the College Diary, parents can keep abreast of their daughter’s progress. Please ensure that the Diary is completed and returned to the Tutor by Wednesday 10th February. Thank you.

Attention Parents - Permission Note

The Permission Slip attachment with this Newsletter email is for parents of Years 8-12 girls.

You are asked to print a copy for each daughter in these years, complete and have it returned to their Tutors by next Wednesday, 10th February. This is essential for attendance at Thursday Sport Next Week. Please note: Year 7 girls and new girls in other years who started this year have already received their copy of the Permission Slip. Please make sure that it is returned to their Tutor by Wednesday 10th February. Thank you.

DUTY GIRL ROSTER

COMMENCING MONDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Rachelle Atike and Athina Christie</td>
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<tr>
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Girls report to Reception by 8:50 am

IMPORTANT MESSAGE RE EPI PENS

Any girl who has an EPI Pen please ensure a spare is left at the Student Office in case it should be required.

P&F Meeting

Everyone is welcome to attend the first meeting for 2010 on Tuesday 9th February, 7:30pm in the upstairs staff room.

Café Lyons is Going Cashless!

From this year, students will be able to use their existing student card to also make payments at the school canteen (Café Lyons). As you may be aware, students have been able to pre-order using an online account called FlexiSchools. Starting this year, the funds available on your FlexiSchools account can now be accessed using the student card.

DATEs TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>7th Feb</td>
<td>PERROTEN FEAST DAY</td>
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<td>9th Feb</td>
<td>Year 11 Parent Information Evening 7pm</td>
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<td>12th Feb</td>
<td>MSCW Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th Feb</td>
<td>SHROVE TUESDAY / Yr 7 Immunisations</td>
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<td>17th Feb</td>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY</td>
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<td>19th Feb</td>
<td>Yr 8 Reflection Day</td>
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<td>23rd Feb</td>
<td>Grandparents’ Morning</td>
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<td>24th Feb</td>
<td>MSCW Visual Arts Exhibition</td>
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<td>25th Feb</td>
<td>Class of 2009 Supper</td>
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<td>26th Feb</td>
<td>MSCW Visual Arts Exhibition</td>
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<td>2nd Mar</td>
<td>Yr 10 Immunisations</td>
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<td>3rd Mar</td>
<td>P&amp;F Welcome to Yr 7 parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Mar</td>
<td>CGSSSA Touch Football</td>
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<td>4th Mar</td>
<td>HSC Mid Course Exams</td>
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Mr Powell, Curriculum Coordinator

MSCW Online Market

A property has been created for parents to use as a ‘Trading Post’ on MyDesktop. This property is to be used for College related items only. Just use the username and password for parents, ie Username: parents, Password: parents and use the right hand side scroll bar to find this property sitting on the screen. There are already existing ads which show the sort of thing you might like to display for others to read.

If you use parents as your username and password to create an ad, you are using a PUBLIC password which means anyone else using this same username and password will be able to delete or edit your ad. So, you might like to use your daughter’s username and password, which is a PRIVATE one to create your ad. When you are ready to delete or edit your ad you must use the same username and password that you created it with.

Parents please note - Newsletter

Each week this Newsletter is published on the College website and we also have photos of girls on our website pages. If you have any objection to your daughter’s name or photo appearing in the Newsletter publications or any notice on the web could you please advise Mrs Mezzina on 9816 2041.

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Please see the Newsletter attachment for more details.

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Girls report to Reception by 8:50 am

Member of Association of Marist Schools of Australia and Alliance of Girls’ Schools
**Music Groups 2010**
All girls are warmly invited to join one of our instrumental or vocal ensembles, which are listed below. We strongly encourage all girls who sing or play an instrument to join! To join any group, speak to Mr McNeal, or any of the music teachers, or come along to a rehearsal.

**Junior Jazz Band**
A jazz band open to all – wind and brass players, piano/keyboard, guitar, bass, drums and percussion, and singers. Rehearsals in the band room (J3) every Tuesday Study Period (2:20-3:20pm). First rehearsal next Tuesday, 9th February. See Mr McNeal for more details.

**Chamber Ensemble**
A group open to all intermediate or advanced players who like to perform classical or art music. String players especially welcome. Rehearsals every Wednesday lunchtime in J1, starting Wednesday 10th February. See Mr McNeal for more details.

**Schola**
This is our Chapel Choir who sing at all the school masses, performing a variety of contemporary music for worship. Rehearsals will be every Tuesday Study Period in J2. Please see Mrs Mayer in Café Lyons for more details or come along next Tuesday 9th February.

**Senior Jazz Band**
An award-winning jazz band for the intermediate or advanced player on wind or brass, piano/keyboard, guitar, bass, drums, percussion and vocals. First rehearsal Friday 12th February at lunchtime in J3, then every Friday lunchtime. See Mr McNeal for more details.

Any girls interested in Rock Bands, Classical Duos or other small performing ensembles see Mr McNeal.

**Private Instrumental Programme**
A friendly reminder to all girls and parents that we run a very successful Private Instrumental Programme here at MSCW with a team of excellent visiting tutors offering private music tuition in the following instruments – violin, viola, flute, clarinet, saxophone, voice, piano, drums, guitar and bass guitar.

If interested, please see Mr McNeal, Ms Spata or your class music teacher for a form with all the details. It is not too late to start this year!

For all enquiries please email Mr McNeal – mcneal@mscw.catholic.edu.au or call him at the College.

If any girls are still waiting to hear from their tutor to arrange their first lesson, please email Mr McNeal or call him at the College.

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**Schola Choir**
This is a notice for all girls who were in or would like to be in Schola choir.

Please email Mrs Mayer if you were in Schola Choir in 2009 and whether you will be returning in 2010. It seems quite a few are not continuing this year.

If you can’t make the rehearsals or have other commitments still please see me as I’m sure we can work out something so you could be involved as you are all very talented. I hope that together we can rebuild the Schola Choir.

For any new MSCW girls, including Year 7s, please let me know if you are interested. We love and welcome new voices.

Our first performance is at the School Opening Mass Friday 12th February (week 3). It will be a great opportunity to be involved and provide the music for the school.

I am looking forward to being a part of the Schola Choir again and hope that you will too.

Thank you, Mrs Mayer

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**WOOLWICH NETBALL GRADING**
Grading will take place for 2010 teams on the following dates on the netball courts as MSCW.

- **Years 8 & 9** Thursday 11th February 2010 – 3:45pm to 5:00pm
- **Year 7** Monday 15th February 2010 - 3:45pm to 4:45pm

All girls registered for netball in years 7, 8 and 9 are required to attend. Please ensure you have correct sports shoes with you. No girl will be able to trial without appropriate shoes (no school shoes or fashion slip-ons).

Any enquiries to lindader@bigpond.com.

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**Sailing News**
Welcome back sailors for 2010.

**Tri Series Sailing Team for 2010:** Alexandra South, Amy Sunderland, Samantha McLaren, Emily Sloane, Amy Wang, Emily Wohlfiel, Louise McLaren, Catlin Tames, Jessica Miller, Scarlett Higgs, Shannon O’Brien, Caitlin Wohlfiel, Hiliary Chow.

**Dates for Tri Series are:** Saturday 13th February, 21st February and 27th February. MSCW to host Regatta 3 on 27th February. Tri Series to be held at Woollahra Sailing Club, Rose Bay.

Team members need to arrive at 8am, with a race meeting at 9.30am, then the first race starts at 10am. Races 2 and 3 are back to back.

For the first time ever we have TWO NATIONAL CHAMPIONS: Australian Youth Champ Laser Radials, Alexandra South and Australian Ladies Sabot Champ, Caitlin Tames. More on this huge news soon. Brilliant, girls!

**Saturday sailing this Saturday, 6th February, 10am-2pm.** Remember to bring your sunscreen, sailing gear, swimmers, shorts, t-shirt or rashy, old sneakers, warm change of clothes, lunch or something to BBQ and $15.00.

Saturday sailing is open to everyone and we hope to see some Year 7 girls down at the boatshed. If you can’t sail, that’s OK – it’s why we are there. If parents have any questions please don’t hesitate to call.

Mr Maloney (9879 6935, 0415 219 112)

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Member of Association of Marist Schools of Australia and Alliance of Girls’ Schools
**Welcome to the new school year.** Each week I will endeavour to provide information on study, learning and career opportunities for the girls. Because of the volume of information that comes through the Careers Office, the Newsletter is the best way I can communicate this information to girls and parents. If you have any questions or queries throughout the year please email me at smith@mscw.catholic.edu.au. I am at the College each Tuesday and Thursday and am always happy to arrange appointments to speak to girls and/or parents. I look forward to another busy year of helping the girls identify their future directions.

As part of the process of preparing Year 12 for their time beyond school the girls undertake Mock Job Interviews. This program is an important experience for the girls as it helps prepare them not only for job interviews but also possible interviews for courses, scholarships or gap year volunteer work that they may need to undertake as they prepare for what they are planning on doing beyond the HSC.

In 2010 Year 12 will be commencing the program in Term 1 with careers classes, and will be attending their mock job interviews on the evening of 30th March, 7-9pm at the College. All Year 12 girls are expected to attend the Interviews. In previous years generous parent volunteers who have interview experience from their workplace roles have undertaken the role of interviewer. This involves interviewing 6 girls for a set period of 20 minutes. Girls select the job they are going to apply for and the applications are forwarded to the interviewer in time to be reviewed before the evening of the interviews. If you think you would be able to volunteer to be an interviewer for the Mock Job Interviews could you please let me know by email at smith@mscw.catholic.edu.au by 13th February.

Students undertaking part time work or wishing to open a bank account or who might be leaving school next year to enrol in a tertiary level course require a Tax File Number (TFN). Applications for a TFN are available from the Careers Office. The application form can be taken home and completed then returned to me for processing and forwarding to the Tax Department. The girls then receive their TFN in the mail in about four weeks time.

From 1st January to 28th February the Young Endeavour Youth Scheme accepts applications for voyages in 2010. Voyages depart from Mackay, Airlie Beach, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Devonport. Apply at www.youngendeavour.gov.au or phone 1800 020 444 for an application pack.

Charlotte Smith, author of ‘Dreaming of Dior’, and Australian artist Penelope Leonard, have come together with their love of fashion and textiles to establish The Fashion & Textile Gallery in Surry Hills. The Fashion & Textile Gallery aims to be a centre of excellence for the Fashion Industry, an education facility for emerging designers, dressmaking enthusiasts and an exciting place to visit for the public, or anyone interested in fashion and fashion history. The Fashion & Textile Gallery aims to nurture the creative spirit through exhibitions, lectures, practical classes and functions. The Darnell Collection is a resource permanently housed in the Fashion & Textile Gallery now open to the public. The opportunity exists to study at leisure the historical garments and accessories included in the 5500 piece collection. As well as the permanent display of items from Darnell collection, The Fashion & Textile Gallery will also feature exhibitions of artists and designers of significance to the fashion industry and artistic community in general.

For more information about the gallery and classes on offer contact Penelope Leonard Tel: 0432 688 536 or Charlotte Smith Tel: 0416 463 331 or visit the website www.fhgallery.com.au.

Reach for the Sky Aviation Services is undertaking Career and Interview preparation courses for Flight Attendants. It appears to be a company out of Asia that has recently established a centre here. Details of what is available are on the website www.reachfts.com. For further information please contact: denise@reachfts.com or 0432 044 512.

The Legal Profession Admission Board in association with the University of Sydney Law Extension Committee offers students interested in undertaking a career in Law the opportunity to study the Diploma of Law. For the purposes of admission to the legal profession, the Diploma of Law and a Law Degree from an accredited faculty are equivalent. Entry to the Course is open to holders of a NSW HSC with an ATAR of at least 66. The course is designed to be taken part-time or by external study with lectures delivered at Sydney University and the old Law School Building in the Sydney CBD. The course has a practical orientation and emphasis in the course is on preparation for practice. For more information visit the website www.usyd.edu.au/lec or call 9392 0320.

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**Lifehouse at RPA - Special Assembly**

A special assembly will be held on Wednesday 24th February in order to present our donation to ‘Lifehouse at RPA’, the Professor Chris O’Brien Appeal. Professor O’Brien’s wife Gail and daughter Juliet will be our special guests. Lifehouse at RPA will be a world-class cancer treatment and research facility providing integrated care to patients and carers, located in Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown. A centre of excellence, Lifehouse will integrate clinical care, research and education creating opportunities for innovative discoveries, compassionate holistic care and better outcomes for patients. As a not-for-profit institution, income will be re-invested to continually innovate and improve services treating public and private patients alike.

Thank you to the families who have further contributed to the $1000 P&F donation. If you would also like to make a donation, please send your cheque/cash in an envelope to the school office (before 24th Feb) marked “Lifehouse Donation”. Please make cheques payable to MSCW and we will include your donation in the school’s cheque.

Regards, Cathy Schiller, P&F Association President

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**CONFIRMATION ST MARY’S CONCORD**

We have now been advised that our parish celebration of Confirmation will take place within Mass at 11.00am on Sunday 16th May 2010, with Cardinal George Pell. If you wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation please contact the parish office Mon-Fri 9am-2pm on 97474210, or email parish@stmarysconcord.org.au.