The term is well and truly underway and the College is buzzing with all the activities occurring. Perroton have already had their Feast Day and fundraising week, Year 7 students are working towards their laptop license, many sports are underway, students are “trying out” at lunchtimes to represent the College in public speaking, and the students’ engagement in Social Justice activities is also evident. All this is, of course, in addition to the teaching and learning in the classroom and the excursions to support learning.

Parents and Friends

Thank you to all the parents who attended the first P & F meeting for the year. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to meet with this enthusiastic and committed group of parents. I hope that all our P & F meetings during the year are this well attended.

P & F meetings give parents the opportunity to meet other parents and to have issues placed on the agenda for discussion. If you have not been to a meeting I encourage you to do so. They are held once per term and are advertised in the newsletter and on the College Calendar.

The P & F has agreed that the fundraising this year will be directed to purchasing new student lockers. The fundraising undertaken by the P & F benefits all the students of Marist Sisters’ College and I sincerely hope that all our families support it.

Our College Leaders have also nominated this as an area of need to which they would like to contribute their fundraising.

Dragon Boating

Congratulations to our Dragon Boat Racing Team who came third in the Chinese New Year Dragon Boat Festival, Junior Combined Challenge. As they were competing against co-ed teams with large proportions of boys in the teams this is a very significant achievement and testament to the determination and dedication of the MSCW team. Thank you to Ms Kemp for all her work with the team.

And the winner is ...

Family, friends or money? Which one is most important to you? This was one of the questions posed to Clodagh O’Doherty (Year 12, COL, 424) at the Lions Club City of Ryde Inc Youth of the Year Quest on Thursday evening. After a rigorous interview with the judging panel, and following the delivery of two impromptu speeches and one prepared speech, Clodagh was selected as both the overall winner and the winner of the speech section at district level. Clodagh delivered a clever and insightful prepared speech that examined the concept of real and metaphorical ‘fences’ in our society and their wider implications on society and the human disposition. She will proceed to the regional judging of the Lions Club Youth of the Year Quest and we wish her all the best in the next stage of judging and speeches. Congratulations Clodagh!
Thank You

“On 19th February I was lucky enough to obtain permission to use the old wards in Ryde Hospital, as the main location for my new Short Film, ‘The Turning Page’. I was very lucky to have been given the use of the whole ward and access to hospital equipment to use as props; from an intravenous drip to a heart monitor. It really made a huge difference to the believability of the scenes.

I am so grateful to the people from Ryde Hospital and Royal North Shore Hospital, who gave me this wonderful opportunity. It was so exciting to work in a professional location, where the likes of Underbelly, Cops LAC and Packed to the Rafters have been filmed. I would also like to thank Sister Fidelis, who wrote a supporting letter to the Royal North Shore Hospital for me to obtain permission for using the Hospital.

Courtney Miller (313) plays the lead role (Sophie) in my film; a girl who is diagnosed with Leukaemia and uses her love of books to fight her illness. Natalie Payne (335), plays Sophie’s best friend Lily. Both girls have been very professional throughout the whole process, and I am really impressed with their acting skills.

The film will be up on my vimeo site next week: http://vimeo.com/user4442754/videos”

Danielle Payne (337), Year 11

DUTY GIRL ROSTER
COMMENCING MONDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2011

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday Monday</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Isabella Bozzi and Katherine Daher</td>
<td>Adelaide Brewer and Tylah Dalton</td>
<td>Lauren Briscoe and Madeline Di Donato</td>
<td>Priscilla Brooks and Alicia Di Giovanni</td>
<td>Meg Brown and Nada Di Paolo</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Girls report to Reception by 8:50 am</td>
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School Fees

Emailing of fees will commence next term. Thank you to those families who have emailed their addresses to us. Your fees can now be paid fortnightly or monthly, if you wish. Please contact the Business Manager if you would like to take up this option.

If pressing financial circumstances make it difficult to meet the on-time payment of fees, parents are asked to contact Mrs Kathleen Badolato (Business Manager) at school so that an interview to discuss possible arrangements for payment can be made.

Please note that there was a data issue with the fees and Year 10 PDHPE fee was duplicated $100. There will be a credit on Term 2 fees.

Also please find two attachments with the Newsletter email MSCW School Fees Policy and 2011 Schedule of Fees for your information.

Congratulations to the following girls …
For COMMERCE
M. Romanes (Marcellin), M. Mazar (Marcellin), S. D’Mello (Colin).

Macquarie University Preferred Admissions Scheme Recipients

Congratulations to HSC 2010 students, Simone Papas and Katherine Cossyvas who were successful in being awarded bonus ATAR points under the Macquarie University Preferred Admissions Scheme. This scheme is only available to students who attend schools that are Macquarie University Partners Schools. The scheme enables talented students from partner schools to ensure they are able to achieve their preferred course of study at Macquarie University. Simone will be undertaking a Bachelor of Commerce with a Bachelor of Laws, and Katherine a Bachelor of International Studies with a Bachelor of Laws.

Principal’s Awards

Communications

Please ask your daughters to check their emails regularly. The College uses the students’ email to inform parents of many important events and opportunities available to the girls. The excuse from the girls that they do not check their emails is not an acceptable one.

I have been very impressed by the behaviour and participation of the girls at our College Assemblies and the Opening Mass, and of the way in which our College Leaders show leadership and school spirit at these events. They have a great sense of community and a pride in this beautiful school which is wonderful to observe.
Marcellin House has got off to a flying start for 2011. At our first House Assembly this year we bid a final farewell to Mr Morris and at the same time welcomed our new House Mascot "Martin the Dragon". Martin is a green dragon who looks a little bit like a crocodile but he also has most of the other House Colours in his plumage, which I would like to think represents the inclusive nature of the MSCW House system.

Our house has welcomed 30 Year 7 girls who all seem to be settling in very well to life at the College. It is great to see some girls already taking up extra curricular opportunities at MSCW. Each Tutor Group has been very welcoming of the girls as they embark on their secondary education. Our Year 7s will be also participating in the MSCW Amica program where each Year 7 girl is matched up with a Year 10 girl for regular meetings, activities and support. This is seen as an integral part of helping our Year 7s make the transition from primary to secondary school.

This year we also welcome two new Tutors to our team of 7 great Tutors. In Marcellin 312 we are happy to have on board Ms Bjazevich and in 314 we welcome Mrs Miller who will be working with Mrs Townley.

Our House Captains have also launched a new House song that will be used for occasions such as sporting carnivals and Gala Day. The girls will be practising their new song for the next few months so we are well and truly ready to bring the stadium down at the Athletics Carnival.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the Marcellin House Coordinator for 2011. I have been a member of the College community for the past 20 years and am looking forward to working with Marcellin House girls and their parents to help ensure a happy, successful and rewarding time at MSCW. Marcellin is a House with a fine tradition of strong school spirit, house loyalty, care of the individual and commitment to social justice and I sincerely thank Mr Morris for his work in helping to build these qualities.

If you have any concern at any stage about your daughter’s progress or any other pastoral matter please contact me at: powell@mscw.catholic.edu.au or on the school phone number: (02) 9816 2041.

Marcus Powell, Marcellin House Coordinator

LEARNING MATTERS at MSCW

MSCW’s response to the call for girls and boys to be educated in twenty-first century skills is the list of our 7Cs: Careers, ICT, Collaboration, Creativity, Critical Thinking, Civic Life and Communication. Lists by themselves generally are not all that exciting, but – as the Year 12 girls have heard these last couple of weeks, and are likely to hear many times more - set in the suitable context, they can be a great summary of fine endeavours.

You need only to look through the Newsletters to see how our 7Cs are headlines for all manner of learning opportunities for the girls. ‘Learning’ at this point in our history includes, but is not limited to, the timetabled classes. Even they are well on the way to looking different from the learning areas which many of the readers of this newsletter will remember from their school days.

Now that the all-important first cycle of the 2011 timetable has passed, and we are settled into the new year, there are choices to be made by the girls for a range of co-curricular learning: try-outs and auditions are well-attended; coaches are being called for; and, competitions either have or are very close to beginning. Just as examples: as you will read elsewhere, this week the first trophy for the year was brought back to the College by a Sporting team; Senior debaters are involved in the Macquarie Uni Competition; the College’s Lions Youth of the Year entrant has moved into the final to be held next week; three of our Year 11 girls have been accepted by Macquarie University into the first year course, Philosophy 1; the first meeting for planning the 2011 Cambodia Immersion experience is coming up; and Year 7s presented themselves in great numbers for Public Speaking tryouts, hoping to represent the College.

In all of these ways and more, girls learn skills that will hold them in good stead for the estimated five or six careers - not jobs, but careers - they are likely to have during their working lives. Cross-refer these skills with the College’s 7Cs - and be pleased.

‘Marist education: a compass for life ...’? – Sure is!

Dr Liz Lamb, Director of Learning and Teaching
Do something special - Give Blood
Calling all girls aged 16+ who are willing to donate blood!
The WSU has again organised the Red Cross Blood Donation that will take place in the city.
Whether your blood type is A, B, O or AB, your blood is a match for someone in need. The staff at the centre are very friendly and comforting, and there is even a meal and drink made available to you at the end of your donation!
Remember to drink plenty of water - at least 4 good sized glasses of water in the 3 hours before donating!

Dates for donating: Year 11 – Thursday 3rd March Year 12 – Thursday 24th March

For any additional information regarding the blood donations, contact Holly Webb or Melanie Leahy.
1 in 3 people will need blood. Only 1 in 30 gives blood.

Natasha Collins (CHV 332)

MARIST SERVICE PROGRAM 2011

The Marist Service Program will be introduced during Religious Education lessons over the coming weeks and all girls in Years 7-11 will be involved in this program. The Marist Service Activity Record Sheet and Booklet must be completed and the Activity Record Sheet submitted to the Religious Education Teacher by Week 5, Term 4 or on completion of the minimum of TEN hours of service. Each girl will have a record of the completion of this service on their end of year School Report. The aim of this program is to introduce each girl to the world of Christian Service, so that they can become more aware of the needs of others and respond by doing something practical and useful. If you have any questions about this program, please contact your daughter’s Religious Education Teacher or the Religious Education Coordinator.

Program Rationale (taken from “Missionaries to a Teenage Culture” by Marisa Crawford and Graham Rossiter, 1988, p159)
The Values in Christian Service Programs
1. Students can become more aware of the needs of others in the community, particularly the elderly, the poor and the disadvantaged.
2. A natural part of teenagers’ development is a preoccupation with self. At this time, they can be intensely self-absorbed. A healthy counterbalance is to turn their attention to the wider community. A community service activity can help young people overcome a natural inertia about service to others.
3. Students can broaden their understanding of the difficulties people have in life. They can develop balance and maturity in the way they perceive insecurity, inadequacy, handicaps, poverty, unemployment and old age.
4. Students can acquire an appreciation of the role of community service agencies and of the possibilities for work and careers in the field of social service.
5. Students meet experienced adults working in community service agencies who, in addition to giving expert information about their area of work, are examples of committed people with noticeable altruism who are prepared to involve themselves in the service of others.

In addition to the values for students noted above, other purposes have been put forward as to why Catholic schools should engage in some forms of community service.
1. A preferential option for the poor and disadvantaged has been a central part of the Church’s mission throughout history, and as a catholic institution, a Catholic school shares in this Mission.
2. The practice of the Catholic school should reflect its theory – faith needs to be carried through into action. If teachers talk about the value of committed service in the community but there is no opportunity to put this into practice, then the school’s efforts to develop Christian attitudes to community involvement may be ineffective.

CAREERS

- EF High School Year Overseas offers the opportunity for student exchanges overseas in a variety of countries. Information evenings are held regularly at the EF Language School, 5-7 Young Street, Circular Quay. The next information sessions are on Saturday 19th February 10-11:30am and Thursday 24th February at 7:30-9pm. For more information call 1800 251 866 or visit the website www.ef.com/highschool.
- MedEntry offer UMAT Preparation courses. For further information visit the website www.MedEntry.edu.au.
- Blue Mountains International Hotel Management School is holding an open day this Saturday 19th February 10am-3pm. For more information about courses visit the website www.hotelschool.com.au or call 1800 257 360.
- Brunner Travel Group are offering UK Gap Year Program opportunities for 2012. Information brochures and application forms are available from the Careers Office. For more information visit the website www.ukgapyear.com.au. Demand for this opportunity is high and places fill quickly.
- WEP offer student exchange experiences in a number of countries. An Information Evening is being held on 16th March at the Bowlers Club of NSW, Level 2, 95-99 York Street, Sydney, 7:30-9pm. For information about exchange programs, open days and information evenings visit the website www.wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733.
- United World Colleges was founded in 1962. It is an organisation dedicated to the promotion of world peace through the education of young people. The organisation has an alumni of over 40,000 people. Girls in Year 11 can apply for scholarships through the following link: www.det.nsw.edu.au/what-we-offer/awards-scholarships-and-grants/scholarships/united-world-college-scholarships. To find out more about United World Colleges, go to www.uwc.org.

Mrs Jenine Smith, Careers Advisor

Member of Association of Marist Schools of Australia and Alliance of Girls’ Schools
**Sailing News**

Last Saturday we had record numbers, especially Year 7 girls. Congratulations on everyone being suitably dressed – protection for your feet is very important (old sneekers or sailing wet shoes). Well done girls.

Thank you to the Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 girls who rotated the Lasers and kept the Year 7 girls out on the water. In the morning we were rigging Lasers and in the afternoon the Year 7s learnt to tie sailing knots. I was very impressed with our new Year 7 girls

Monday afternoon I was able to tow four Lasers from Hunters Hill Sailing Club plus two Sabots to add to the fleet.

Thank you to the parents who stayed back and looked after the BBQ. When there are large numbers sailing it is good to know I can rely on great helpers.

*Sailing this Saturday, 19th 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.

Anyone who has missed out on Thursday sailing and parents are most welcome.

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**Jenan School of Dance**

HUNTERS HILL

Taking enrolments now for:

**Jazz Funk Classes**

Fridays 6pm – 7pm


Phone - 0419 511 505

Jann Anschau, Principal

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**Equity, excellence and choice**

“A funding model for Australian schools should be based on clear guiding principles.

Firstly, every child, regardless of the school he or she attends, is entitled to the best education that our nation can provide. Simplistic arguments about the relative merits of government and non-government schools lose sight of the fact that the model must reflect what is best for **all students.**” …

*Please refer to the attached article with this Newsletter email from Dr Dan White, Executive Director of Catholic Schools.*

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**MENTAL HEALTH FORUM**

Speaker

Mr Graeme Cowan

International speaker, author, consultant

**SUNDAY 6TH MARCH 2011,**

11am – 12.30pm

“As well as a major cause of alcoholism and other social problems, stress and depression are the largest contributors to lost productivity in Australia and place an enormous strain on family life.”

*Please refer to the attached article with this Newsletter email for more information.*

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To accomplish great things we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe

(Anatole France, 1844-1924, French writer)
Ryde Eastwood Women’s Hockey Association is looking for players and/or teams to join our local Women’s Saturday afternoon competition. Women and girls of all ages and abilities (including beginners) from 12 years are invited to contact the Secretary, Anne Babka, on 0412 602 570 or email secretary@rewha.com.

The competition is played at Tory Wicks Fields, Meadowbank, on Saturday afternoons commencing 2nd April 2011. The fields are close to Meadowbank railway station and easy onsite parking is also available. A well equipped canteen and clubhouse is available for the comfort of players and supporters.

2011 Registration Day - Saturday 5th March 10am-1pm at the clubhouse, Tory Wicks Fields, Andrew Street, Meadowbank

Located at the Uniting Church Complex, Boronia Park

Dance Inc.
Formally Kay & Co (est 1985)

Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Pop Stars and Boys Only Hip Hop

Competitions, eisteddfods, exams and live performances. At Dance Inc. our qualified ATOD teachers offer fun, safe and enjoyable dance classes for all ages.

Our objective is to provide affordable lessons in a professional and friendly atmosphere.

...For something FUN & CHALLENGING
Call Lauren
0402 337 758
or 9705 0512

Member of Association of Marist Schools of Australia and Alliance of Girls’ Schools