The Gospel read last Sunday is a challenging reminder of what it means to be a Christian.

“... Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons and daughters of your Father in heaven ... perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Matthew 5:38-48

In the Greek of the scriptures, ‘perfect’ can be translated as ‘functional’, ‘mature’, ‘wholly developed’, or ‘grown up’. Something is perfect if it achieves the purpose for which it was designed. We were created in God’s image and likeness to live in faith and grow in love. Living in faith and growing in love isn’t always easy ... ‘Pray for those who persecute you ... love your enemies ...’. 

Jesus’ commandment to, ‘love your enemies’ is tough. So too is his definition of neighbour. All women and men, good or bad, honest and dishonest, are created in the divine image and likeness, possessing something of God in their human reality and fragility, and so are to be loved as God loves them.

It is easy to love our friends, they love us in return, and we have a relationship with them that is mutually beneficial. It is much harder to love those people who are not our friends and even harder to love those who have hurt us or wronged us in some way. Being a Christian is a constant challenge to be perfect, to be wholly developed, is something that can take a lifetime to achieve.

Abraham Lincoln was once being criticized for his attitude towards his enemies. ‘Why do you try to make friends with them?’ a colleague asked. ‘You should try to destroy them.’

‘Am I not destroying my enemies’ the President asked gently, ‘when I make them my friends?’

MSCW Achievements

Marist Sisters’ College girls achieve in a wide range of curricula and extra-curricula.

This week we welcomed back to Woolwich girls from the class of 2010. A number of our outstanding achievers attended the Principal’s Assembly on Wednesday to allow the College community to congratulate them on their success and to offer these ex-students as examples to the girls of what can be achieved when you really do your best. Sarah Ienna and Elizabeth Evans spoke with passion about their HSC year and impressed both staff and girls with their confidence and wisdom. Watching the younger girls as they spoke it was wonderful to see the admiration and respect they showed our successful graduates. We look forward to seeing how the class of 2011 will take up the challenge of this important year.

Congratulations to Madeleine Dimech (CHV 333), pictured left, who represented MSCW at the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges’ 14th Annual Blues Award Presentation at Patrician Brothers’ College in Blacktown. She received her award in recognition of her outstanding achievement in the sport of volleyball. Well done Madeleine!

Congratulations also to Emelie Woods (CHV 331), pictured right, who auditioned on Saturday 12th February at the McDonald Performing Arts College, for the Premier State Ballet (PSB). Out of more than 80 people, less than 30 were accepted, with Emilie being one of the lucky ones accepted as a Junior Associate member.

The three and a half hour rehearsals on Saturdays is only the beginning of the work they are doing to put together the three act ballet Paquita which has not been performed in Sydney for more than 40 years - hence making the choreography and music a challenge.

There will also be classes in the July school holidays. The Premier State Ballet will be performing at the Parramatta Riverside Theatre on 30th September and 1st October. The stage performances commence on 19th September and the performances are on the Friday and Saturday nights with a matinee on the Saturday. Congratulations Emelie!
DATES TO REMEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 1st Mar</td>
<td>Yr 7 Immunisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 4th Mar</td>
<td>CDSA Public Speaking Round 1</td>
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<td>Tues 8th Mar</td>
<td>Grandparents’ Morning 9:30-11:30am</td>
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<td>Wed 9th Mar</td>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY SOB Meeting</td>
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<td>Thurs 10th Mar</td>
<td>HSC Mid Course Exams commence (concluding Fri 18th March)</td>
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<td>P&amp;F Welcome to Yr 7 parents 7:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 15th Mar</td>
<td>Yr 10 Immunisations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 17th Mar</td>
<td>St Patrick’s Day</td>
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<td>Fri 18th Mar</td>
<td>Yr 9 Reflection Day</td>
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<td>Sat 19th Mar</td>
<td>HSC Mid Course Exams conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 21st Mar</td>
<td>Yr 12 Work Placement commences (concluding Fri 1st April)</td>
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<td>Fri 25th Mar</td>
<td>FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</td>
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<td>Tues 29th Mar</td>
<td>4pm Yr 7 Parent Teacher Meeting</td>
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<td>5-8pm Yr 12 Parent Teacher Meeting</td>
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<td>6pm Yr 12 Meeting</td>
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I am confident that we will have many girls to congratulate throughout the year.

In addition to these outstanding achievers I would like to thank and congratulate those girls who make school life a pleasure for their teachers and peers. They do this by participating in class to the best of their ability. They are respectful of others, wear their uniform with pride and are excellent community members. Thank you girls for all you do to make Marist Sisters’ Woolwich a wonderful school!

YEAR 7 PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

There is an important change to the calendar. Due to a clash of events, the P&F welcome to Year 7 parents will now be held on Thursday 10th March. You will receive further information about this event next week.

C Trimble

Congratulations to the following girls …

**For SCIENCE**

I.Berryman (Marcellin), M.Buono (Marcellin), R.Di Santo (Chanel), K.Dillon (Perroton), S.Forward (Chanel), M.Jobbins (Marcellin), K.Pol Bodetto (Marcellin), K.Rotondo (Perroton), S.Sciara (Chavoin), N.Sheiban (Marcellin), M.Smith (Perroton), A.Valenzuela Bustcovich (Jarcicot), S.Williams (Chavoin), J.Stevenson (Colin).

**For VISUAL ARTS**

T.Bucciarelli (Jarcicot), H.Kim (Chavoin), P.Lieurance (Chanel), J.Milovanovic (Chanel), M.Moscato (Perroton), B.Roulston (Chanel), S.Sciara (Chavoin), M.Seve (Marcellin), B.Sorbello (Perroton).

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**MSCW Online Marketplace**

To buy or sell pre-loved MSCW uniforms, musical instruments, text books or sporting equipment visit the MSCW online Marketplace. Please see instructions that are attached with the Newsletter email.

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**Attention all drivers at MSCW**

As a matter of safety it is advised that you DO NOT stop or park in bus zones to pick up your daughter from school.

It is an offence to be in the bus zones at the times stated on signage outside the College. Police and parking inspectors patrol these areas frequently resulting in heavy fines and loss of demerit points.

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**Years 8 & 9 Dance at Marist Eastwood**

Location: Haseler Centre
Time: 6.30-10.30pm
Date: Friday 4th March
Tickets: $15.00 each
Theme: Summer Beach - dress appropriately - NO THONGS ALLOWED

Please pick up your permission note from the Student Office, then bring it back and collect your ticket from the Student Office.

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**DUTY GIRL ROSTER**

COMMENCING MONDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Chloe Brownlee and Caitlin Diggins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Taylor Burbridge and Pamela Distapan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Tannee Burns and Mia Donovan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Alexandra Butt and Jacquelyne Dunn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Stephanie Berry and Alannah Saab</td>
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Girls report to Student Office by 8:50 am

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Ciodagh O’Doherty (COL 424), pictured right, won the next round of the Lions Club ‘Youth of the Year Quest’ on Tuesday evening! Again, she presented with ease and flair. The judges were extremely impressed with both her interview last Sunday and her speech on Tuesday evening. One of the things they were most interested in was her participation in the Cambodian Immersion last year. She now progresses to the district final and we wish her the best of luck as she continues in the quest.

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(**Member of Association of Marist Schools of Australia and Alliance of Girls‘ Schools**)
**Sailing News**

Thank you for the great roll up on Saturdays and to the parents who have assisted with the BBQ. This help is essential and greatly appreciated as it helps with the smooth running of the day’s sailing. Also a big thank you to Mr McClelland for help on the water. It was great to see his 37 footer moored on our pontoon, showing we are back in business.

We now can get 7 Lasers on the water thanks to Amy Wang and Emily Wohlfiel who did a wonderful thing in not returning their 4.7 gear last year. It would have been burnt in the fire had they returned their gear – lovely surprise.

Thursday sailing will be extended to finish at 5pm for one-up sailors in Years 8, 9 and 10 on their respective Thursday sport day, to concentrate on improving skill levels. Please make sure girls concerned organise this with your parents for transport home. Next Thursday it will be girls in Years 8 and 10, the following week girls in Year 9.

*Sailing this Saturday, 26th February, 10am-2pm.* Remember to bring your sunscreen, sailing gear, swimmers, shorts, t-shirt or rashy, old sneakers, warm change of clothes, drink, lunch or something to BBQ and $15.00.

Samantha Chidgey will be assisting this Saturday.

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**CSDA Public Speaking 2011**

The first round of the Catholic Schools Metropolitan Public Speaking Competition will be held at MSCW next Friday 4th March. Twelve students from Years 7 to 12 will be representing the College and MSCW will be host to nine other Catholic schools on the evening. Members of the College community are invited to come along and watch the speeches; in particular, girls who are interested in doing public speaking or who are interested in watching their peers present unique ideas and opinions in their speeches are especially invited to attend.

HELP NEEDED! We are also looking for girls to help with welcoming, looking after registration tables and chairing and timing the speeches next Friday. You would be required to be at school from 6pm until approximately 8:30pm. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Miss Lee in person, or email her at lee@mscw.catholic.edu.au.

**Round 1 on Friday 4th March will be at Marist Sisters’ College, Woolwich. Speeches will commence at 7pm.** (Registration for speakers from participating schools is at 6:30pm.)

The finalists from Round 1 will proceed to the Zone Final on Friday 11th March at Holy Cross College, Ryde.

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**Parent Volunteers for the Year 7 Welcome**

The P&F will be hosting the Year 7 Welcome on Thursday 10 March at 7.30pm and we’d greatly appreciate some of the other parents assisting by either making some simple finger food or helping to set-up and serve on the night. If you are able to help please let me know via email at cjschiller@bigpond.com or phone on 9816 2159.

*Many thanks*

*Cathy Schiller, President P&F*

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**Week 5 Café Lyons Volunteers**

- **Tuesday 1st March** Sofey Youssef
- **Wednesday 2nd March** Penny Trickett
- **Thursday 3rd March** Danielle Sparks & Caroline Galanos

Thank you to Jenny Mattefy, Linda Der and Carolyn Cecere for their help this month.

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**Art Folios ordered from Campion Books for girls in Years 7 and 8 are available for collection at the Student Office.**

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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.*

**SCHOOL FEES ARE DUE ON 13TH MARCH**

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

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**MSCW School Fees Policy**

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**2011 Schedule of Fees**

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**Café Lyons**

Café Lyons is looking for volunteers willing to share their time by assisting in the canteen. There are a number of ways to help including, serving, preparing lunches, baking, handing out lunch orders, making hot chocolates and plenty more.

If you would like to help please let us know. It’s great to get involved and I’m sure the girls would love to see you! Even if you can only make it once a month or term, I can still roster you on and let you know well in advance.

Thank you to all our volunteers who already generously give their time helping at Café Lyons.

*Please email Melanie Mayer at cafelyons@mscw.catholic.edu.au or phone 9816 4928*

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Mr Maloney (9879 6935, 0415 219 112)
IMPACT OF GREENS EDUCATION POLICY ON NSW CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

FOR THE INFORMATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Your attention is drawn to three aspects of the NSW Greens education policy for the 2011 NSW State Election on 26 March. If implemented, the policy would have an immediate negative impact on all NSW Catholic schools, their staff and families. The policy is available at http://nsw.greens.org.au/policies/education. The Greens policy seeks to:

1. **SEVERELY REDUCE GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

   Para 37. The Greens NSW believe that state funding of private schools should be adjusted so that the total allocation of Commonwealth and State funding to all private schools is frozen at its year 2003 level, adjusted for inflation, and that further increases in the education budget should be directed to public schools and TAFE colleges.

   - Reducing state per capita grants in such a way as to ensure that all non-government schools are funded at their 2003 level from both Commonwealth and State grants, adjusted for inflation, means that grants for Catholic systemic schools would be reduced instantly and severely.
   - If applied to NSW Government state grants for Catholic systemic schools, as proposed in the Greens policy, this means:
     - Primary Schools grants would be reduced by 85.9%, or $185.8 million in total
     - Secondary Schools grants would be reduced by 65.3%, or $133 million in total
   - Primary systemic school grants would have to be reduced from $1809 per student to $256 per student and the secondary grants from $2389 per student to $838 per student.

2. **RESTRICT ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL STUDENT TRANSPORT SCHEME**

   Para 20. The Greens NSW will work towards the reform of the Transport Conveyance Subsidy Scheme to ensure that subsidies are only applied to travel to the nearest public school and that recipients of the Subsidy in rural and remote locations in NSW who are genuinely in need of financial assistance receive an equitable share of these funds.

   - Restricting the School Student transport scheme to subsidise transport only to a child’s nearest government school will discriminate against parents who choose to send their children to non-government schools.

3. **ABOLISH FREEDOM OF RELIGION PROTECTIONS**

   Para. 34. [The Greens] are also committed to removing all exemptions for private schools from the Antidiscrimination Act.

   - This policy would undermine International Human Rights conventions which provide for the right of religious communities to operate their schools and services in accord with their conscientiously held beliefs and teachings. Parliaments, including the NSW Parliament, are obliged by these conventions not to restrict religious freedom in any of their laws.

THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT OF THESE POLICIES IS TO UNDERMINE PARENTAL CHOICE IN SCHOOLING AND THE FUNDAMENTAL VIABILITY OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.
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