COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
In recent weeks there have been many occasions for parents to connect with the College community. Our Vietnamese Parents and South Sudanese Parents have the opportunity to meet on several occasions across the school year to share and discuss issues that are relevant within their communities. The “Safe Partying” information evening facilitated by Sonya Karras was not very well attended. However the parents that did attend made comment about the useful tips and advice that were offered as we help our children navigate the trials and tribulations of adolescence.

We continue to offer a vast array of means for parents to connect with the school and we encourage your family to tap into as many of these opportunities as possible. Research demonstrates that parents who show an active interest in their child’s education and who connect to their school community have a positive impact on the learning outcomes for their children.

INTERIM REPORTS
Interim Reports are now available online via the Parent Portal on the College website. We encourage parents to spend time looking at the learning skills contained in the report and acknowledge your daughter where progress and achievement have been made and discuss options and alternatives approaches to study where results could reflect better application. You will have an opportunity to discuss your daughter’s report and her academic progress so far this year at the Term Two Parent-Teacher-Student interviews which will be held on Wednesday 30 April. Further information regarding these interviews will be posted during the holidays.

KILDARE MINISTRIES
As we mentioned in a previous edition of the Marian News the official launch of Kildare Ministries has taken place. Kildare Ministries is the new canonical and civil authority that will be responsible for the administration of nine Brigidine Schools, a Presentation School and Presentation ministries, into the future. This is a significant and historic time in the long history of the Brigidine and Presentation Sisters and we are certainly proud to be working with such visionary women who have placed their hope and trust in our community. We remain faithful to keeping the flame of Brigid of Kildare, Daniel Delany and Nano Nagle (founder of the Presentation Sisters) alive through the education that we offer here at as a Kildare Ministries school.

We were privileged recently to host the first official Kildare Ministries meeting. As part of the meeting schools and ministries shared their understandings about one other from information that they were able to extract from the school and organisation websites. This is an excerpt from what was shared about our College:

"I am so much more than you’ll ever find on a website … I am a well … a deep well of hopes and dreams, fears and anxieties. Like the well in the long story at Mass recently and the colourful well that you will have seen on your way into school this morning my school is a place where important conversations occur, where healing happens, where wishes are born …"

It’s a great reflection of this College community that such hope can be gleaned from what we offer on the College website. We will work hard to nurture the wishes that are born here.

We take this opportunity to offer everyone a holy and blessed Easter Season. May the hope of the resurrected Christ light your ways.

Rita Grima and Raymond Pisani - Co-Principals
The final week of school for Term One has arrived! It has been a busy time with many opportunities to work on our theme “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”

As the term finishes we prepared for Easter with a liturgy on Thursday, the last day of school for the students. A group of Year 7 students, supported by a number of Year 12 students, were involved in the dramatization of the Passion Week. It provided the opportunity for us to remember the events of the last week of Jesus’ life on earth. Jesus through his willingness to offer his life, demonstrated the love that God has for us. The coming week is a time to stop and appreciate what we have and be prepared to help others especially those in need. On Palm Sunday Jesus is greeted as a King, with palms waved and then placed before his donkey to cushion his ride. In a dramatic turn of events, Jesus is arrested and crucified on the cross. However, on Easter Sunday we experience the fulfilment of Christian hope in the Resurrection. This is the most central event in the Christian calendar, a time when many people take the opportunity to ponder the humanity of Jesus, his suffering and the conquering of death. He so loved us that he was prepared to stand firm to the teachings of God, whatever the outcome. In the gospel reading on Sunday Jesus said “Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” On Easter Sunday we focus on the glory of the resurrection “The Lord has risen indeed”.

Life can be like this for all of us, having some amazing highs and some incredible challenging experiences but we live in constant hope.

I have had the privilege to work with the students involved in St Vincent de Paul and have seen their willingness to help others in the community. They truly showed the capacity to walk in the feet of Jesus, with the thought that “God gives me strength for what is necessary” (Mary MacKillop). Visits will commence in Term Two to the Aged Care Facility in Sunshine. We don’t know what is going to happen in the next hour or day but it is important for us all to be in right relationships with one another. Jesus calls all of us to be prepared to demonstrate the love we have for one another. May you all have a Happy and Holy Easter with family and friends.

**Mary-Louise Towns - Assistant to the Co-Principals - Faith and Mission.**

**Learning and Teaching**

**STUDENT REPORTS**
Interim Reports are now available on the Parent Portal, accessed via the College Website. Your Parent Portal username and password have already been supplied and remain the same throughout your daughter’s time at Marian College. Our review of these reports indicates excellent work habits being displayed by many students, across all subjects studied. On the other hand, some students will need to re-evaluate their efforts and formulate strategies for improvement in Term 2. Marian staff will be requesting interviews with these students.

**PARENT – TEACHER – STUDENT INTERVIEWS**
The first subject-based Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews for the year will take place on 30 April from 2.00 – 8.00 pm. The online booking system, accessed via the Parent Portal, will open early in Term 2. Details will be provided in a letter that will be mailed in the second week of the holidays.

**NAPLAN TESTING**
As indicated in the previous edition of Marian News, Year 7 and 9 students will sit their NAPLAN tests on 13, 14 and 15 May, this year. Letters outlining details relating to these tests will be forthcoming. However, at this stage we would like to refer parents to the NAPLAN section available on Moodle. This page is located at Miscellaneous – NAPLAN – NAPLAN 2014 and can be accessed via the student’s log-in. A range of useful resources and information relating to NAPLAN will be available here.

**Paul Familiari & Jane Goddard - Assistants to the Co-Principals - Learning and Teaching**

**JDF**

This year we have a large group of students who have joined the Justice and Democracy Forum; girls who want to make a difference in the world. Seven senior students joined students from other Brigidine schools across Australia at a conference to inform them about Social Justice issues in the world. There were a number of speakers and workshops, stimulating conversation and an eagerness to learn more, and to take on some action. The workshops were around Aboriginal issues, the Environment, the loss of housing in Brazil as a result of the World Cup this year, Slavery and the injustice towards Asylum Seekers. We are continuing to promote justice amongst the JDF students and in turn the whole of the school community.

The week before last we celebrated Cultural Diversity Week with a number of performers from different Cultural groups within the school. It was a most joyous occasion. The Auditorium was filled to capacity on the two days of performances. Well done to all the girls who gave their time practicing and dancing. Also a special thanks to Ngoan Bui, Marina O’Halloran and David Ellis for their support.

A reminder to all families who can possibly come to the ‘Walk for Justice for Refugees’, to gather at the State Library, 2 pm, April 13. (See flyer in this issue). It is important to walk in solidarity with the most vulnerable in society, if we are to change the minds and hearts of politicians and policy makers.

**Dianne Reynolds - Justice and Democracy Forum Co-Ordinator**
ITALIAN
In the Year 10 Italian class so far, we have learnt various things that are beneficial to not only our vocabulary in Italian, but also of our knowledge of the past. We have expanded our knowledge of verb tenses, as well as the history of one of greatest periods of art – The Renaissance.

During first term we have been immersed in the Italian language as our teachers, Ms Ciccone and Ms Fabbian, speak in Italian more often to help us create an understanding of how Italian is structured and improve our ability to understand Italian. The classes have been enjoyable but difficult as the transition from Year 9 to Year 10 Italian is very difficult. However, it is worth it since learning a new language is beneficial in many ways and will serve to be a great asset in the future and an interest to have.

We, as the Year 10 Italian class, are very fortunate to have the class run this year and have been increasing our vocabulary steadily in the hope that we will be able to speak Italian on the same level as a native Italian speaking person.

By: Maria Nguyen Year 10 Italian

NEWS FROM OUR ITALY STUDY TOUR STUDENTS
Here is a photo of our student along with Penola students touring Venice. Everything so far has been great. With unexpected mid 20 degrees weather everyone is boiling in their wintery clothing. Arrivederci!

Ms Joan Fabbian – Italian Teacher

LEOs

CONGRATULATIONS TO CANH VINH NGUYEN
On the 30th March, Canh Vinh Nguyen won the public speaking component and came runner up in the State Leo of the Year Competition.

BRIMBAMK LEO CLUB
The Brimbank Leo Club are having their charter meeting in the Glengala Hotel on May 16th. It will sell out but if anyone wants to go, could you please contact me as soon as possible.

Raymond Barry - Leos Co-Ordinator
The Arts

DESIGN EDUCATION

UNITS 1 AND 3 VISUAL COMMUNICATION DESIGN AND STUDIO ARTS

On Tuesday 4th March students completing Units 1 and 3 Visual Communication Design and Studio Arts attended the ‘Melbourne Now’ Exhibition at the Ian Potter Gallery at Federation Square. The exhibition is an overview of current practice and innovation in art, design, performance and media in Melbourne. It is hoped that the exhibition sparks ideas and discussion; provide impetus for creative projects and folio development; give access to practicing artists, designers and architects; reveal the thinking and working processes of selected artists and designers - and invite viewers to experience a unique event in Melbourne’s cultural history. The exhibition runs until March 23rd and students are encouraged to revisit the Ian Potter Gallery and the National Gallery of Victoria to view other work and to be inspired by Melbourne designers and artists.

Students in VCE Studio Arts and Visual Communication Design will also attend the Top Design/Arts exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria and the Melbourne Museum in the following months to view work from 2013 students, and to listen to designers and study advice. Again it is recommended that students attend these exhibitions on the weekend or the holidays to gain a greater understanding of the study design and to inspire their own work.

YEAR 9 MARKET MAKING

Students in Year 9 Market Making have been busy learning how to screen print products for the Flemington Primary School Fete on March 22nd. Students are printing onto t-towels, pillows, t-shirts and aprons with their own insect inspired designs. The money raised by students will be donated to a charity.

Melbourne Product Designs

Marc Pascal

Danielle Wallwork - Art, Design & Technology Teacher

PERFORMING ARTS

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all the students and staff involved in getting the Performing Arts program up and flying this term. Between the three different types of choirs, six rock bands, 2 instrumental ensembles, 2 piano groups and Troupe, students are happily spoiled for choice when it comes to participating in a music or drama group.

The Performing Arts Captains have met with the Ensemble leaders, and events are being planned to bring students together from all ensembles to share music, performances, and get to know each other socially. The Captains have also reinvigorated our Performing Arts corridor notice boards, and Ensemble leaders will be adding their individual touches, with each ensemble regularly adding photos and news to their Boards. We thanks the Captains for their work and initiative so far, and the Ensemble leaders for getting their groups on board.

Instrumental lessons are also humming along, with one concert already, and a new Guitar Ensemble planned to start with our guitar teacher Michelle next term. New enrolments are always welcome, with forms and information readily available from the Performing Arts office.

Special congratulations go to Savanna’s students for their concert last week, and to Jenny Tawa, the String Ensemble and the Piano Club, who performed for the residents of Woomak Aged Care this week. Our thanks also to our Community Development Officer, Julie Heaney, for organising the event, and the VCAL class for hosting our guests and looking after the performers so well. In particular, we would like to thank Tamika Lennox and Brittany Robinson for their work. We are also supported by many staff at Marian that work behind the scenes, and we thank them too - they know who they are!

It’s been a wonderful term. We hope everyone has a restful holiday and a reflective, peaceful Easter, and we look forward to more Music and Drama in Term 2!

Mari Eleanor - Music and Drama Programs Co-ordinator
Office News

REMINDER TO PARENTS THAT THE SCHOOL OFFICE WILL BE OPEN DURING THE SCHOOL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.
SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS WILL BE:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8:00AM - 4:00PM

UNIFORM SHOP TRADING HOURS OVER THE TERM 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
The Uniform Shop on campus will only be trading on Wednesday 16th April 2014 from 10am - 1:30pm.

Natalie Micallef - Office Manager

Community News

CAN YOU HELP?
The Design Education department is seeking parents to assist with year 10 textile classes during term 2. If you can operate a sewing machine or know how to hand sew we would appreciate your time.

If you have a skill that you believe may be of help in the Art department such as woodwork, we would also love to hear from you.

All volunteers will require a current Working with Children Check, http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/
For further details please contact Julie Heaney 9363 1711

GLENGALA RD ROADWORKS IN FIRST WEEK OF HOLIDAYS

RESIDENT NOTICE - ROADWORKS
On behalf of the City of Brimbank, Traffic Diversions Group are advising that Alex Fraser Asphalt will be carrying out asphalt resurfacing at the location & times detailed below.

Glengala Road, Sunshine West
Allison Street to St Andrew Street

Saturday, 5 April 2014
to Saturday, 12 April 2014
Expected dates: Saturday, 5 April 2014
to Tuesday, 8 April 2014
7am to 5pm

All works are subject to Weather conditions, unfavourable conditions may require additional day/s.

In order to carry out the works safely a road closure with appropriate detours will be put in place.

To minimise disruptions and allow for the successful and timely completion of the works, please ensure that the street and work area are free from all Parked Vehicles, during the time periods stated above.

Please follow the instructions given by our Traffic Controllers on site, as they will be onsite to assist with access for local residents. Access may be delayed during the day as vehicles will not be permitted to drive on sprayed roadway.

Traffic Diversions Group, Alex Fraser Asphalt & the City of Brimbank apologise for any inconvenience and appreciate your co-operation and understanding throughout this period.

If you have any concerns regarding the above please contact Jason from Alex Fraser Asphalt on 0418 599 511.