From the Co-Principals

Over the past few weeks we, as Co-Principals, have been privileged to spend time with the Year 7 classes and travel on a ‘pilgrimage’ of Brigidine tradition and culture. We exchanged stories and symbols connected to the life of St. Brigid, Daniel Delany, the Brigidine Congregation and Marian College. The Year 7’s can now identify with the Abbey at Kildare, Brigid’s Cloak, the Brigidine Cross, Brigid’s Well and Prayer Stones, the Oak tree at Tullow, the Lamp of Learning, the Brigidine Core Values and the Marian Vision and Mission Statements.

While it is important to celebrate these wonderful symbols it is more important to remember what they represent and the meaning that they have for us nearly 1500 hundred years since St Brigid lived on earth. The relevant messages about caring for the vulnerable, showing compassion, healing those who are hurting, living as models of equality, peace, contemplation and inspiration are all essential elements of being active members of a Brigidine Community. These young Year 7 girls have an enormous challenge to live up to the examples of all those connected to the Brigidine Congregation who have come before them.

In the same way the Brigidine Sisters have been active over the past few years to establish a strong foundation to preserve and further their works into the future. Consequently, on Tuesday the 18th of March, the newly formed Kildare Ministries was launched at Kilbreda College, Mentone. Kildare Ministries, formally approved by the Vatican in 2011, will take responsibility for the educational services and community works sponsored by the Brigidine Sisters. From the outset, the dream was that Kildare Ministries would be open to the inclusion of other congregations and the Presentations Sisters were also founding members of the launch on Tuesday. The birth of Kildare Ministries occurs within a backdrop of a rich tradition and is inspired by a need to ensure that others may carry on the mission of the Gospel. We pray for all those associated with Kildare Ministries, now and into the future.

May there be light and energy for your journey.
May the God who has called you guide and enrich you.

PRAYER:

Lenten Poem
Lent is a time to take time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us, a time to let the events get up and walk around in us, a time to intensify our living unto Christ, a time to hover over the thoughts of our hearts, a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and listen to his Word, a time to touch his robe and feel the healing surge through us, a time to ponder and a time to wonder….

Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God! Perhaps we’re afraid to have time to think, for thoughts come unbidden. Perhaps we’re afraid to face our future knowing our past. Give us courage, O God, to hear your Word and to read our living into it. Give us the trust to know we’re forgiven and give us the faith to take up our lives and walk.

AMEN

by Ann Weems.

Sr. Louise Cleary csb (Brigidine Congregational Leader) and Sr. Bernadette Keating pbvm (Presentation Sisters Congregational Leader) at the launch of Kildare Ministries and with the Kildare Ministries Candle.
From Faith and Mission

LENT
Lent is such an important time in the calendar of the Catholic Church. Lent is a time to prepare for a special event, the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. It was and is a truly amazing event. Traditionally Lent has been a time of giving up something like chocolate or lollies. Today there is more emphasis on not so much giving up an external thing or object, but rather a change of being or thinking. It is a time to re-think how we react in a specific situation, how we speak to others or how we think about others. Jesus encourages us to ‘love one another, as I have loved you’. It is not easy to attempt to love all people, but Jesus provided us with a guide for life.

This is what we should do. To be the best people we can be, we attempt to always do the right thing and not the wrong! The choice is within each one of us. “Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.” (Rom 5:1-5) This love of God poured out to us provides strength to keep going, even when a situation is difficult or overwhelming. God is always there, ready to support us in our most challenging times. Change can be challenging, changing ourselves can be very challenging, but very rewarding. Jesus said to love one another, not just our friends, but one another, all people; the poor, the refugee, the outcast.

ARCHBISHOP’S CONVERSATION WITH YOUTH
On the 13th of March, our College student leaders and I participated in the annual Arch-Bishop’s conversation with Student Leaders. The students had the opportunity to listen to the Archbishop, hear his story but also participate in small group sessions with students from other Catholic Colleges. This provided the opportunity to discuss issues on social justice, faith and leadership within the Church. The accompanying teachers met to talk about the availability of Youth Ministry within our schools and the types of programs that were currently in use. It was seen as a very useful way of getting a sense of Today’s Youth and what they are thinking and believing.

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

From Learning and Teaching

STUDENT REPORTS
Interim reports will be available on the Parent Portal, accessed via the College Website, on Thursday 3 April after 3.00 pm. These reports will provide a brief snapshot of your daughter’s learning this term. They will also provide information to staff regarding students who have applied themselves conscientiously to their studies and also those who need to re-evaluate their efforts and formulate strategies for improvement in Term 2. Your Parent Portal username and password have already been supplied and remain the same throughout your daughter’s time at Marian College.

These reports are one component of our formal process of reporting to our parents throughout the year. They will be followed by subject-based Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews on 30 April. The Semester 1 Report, available at the end of Term 2, will then provide more detailed information on your daughter’s achievement and progress.

Furthermore, throughout the semester, your daughter will complete a range of assessment tasks in her studies. The rubrics or criteria sheets, used to grade these tasks, provide useful feedback relating to achievement, areas of strength and, most importantly, areas for improvement. Please ask your daughter to share and discuss this valuable feedback with you.

NAPLAN TESTING
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 Familiar & Jane Goddard - Assistants to the Co-Principals - Learning and Teaching

From Student Wellbeing

STUDENT LEADERS FORMATION DAY
After the Investiture Assembly held on Thursday the 6th March our annual Student Leaders Formation Day was conducted on Friday the 14th March.

It involved over 100 student leaders including our Lamp Bearers, Student Representative Council, Student Participation Group, House Captains and, due to our expanding leadership opportunities, other leaders from Performing Arts and Social Justice Groups e.g. Justice and Democracy and the Marian Leo’s.

continued....
The day had two key discussion points in planning for the future:

1. After the 2014 Leadership Day the Student Leaders endorsed that the Leadership Structure for students should remain the same in terms of positions but that the role of the House Captain needed to be expanded to make the role more significant within the leadership structure.

   With the endorsement of the structure, in principle, the key role for this year’s team will be to look at the way the process has worked and redefine that if necessary.

   The student leaders felt that the overall structure worked but that there should be a review of the process for election of all leadership roles.

   In all leadership roles the steps for election should include the following:

   • Nomination
   • Application
   • Interview Process
   • Voting Process – this will now involve staff, students and staff leaders having a vote.

   This process was endorsed by the entire group. However, the way that the staff, student and Staff leaders vote were represented in the overall final decision, could not be agreed upon by the group and will need to go to a leadership ballot in term 2.

2. The other significant decision that was made on the day was to expand the role of House Captain. In 2014 they will work as a group to expand the lunchtime program by introducing House Sporting Competitions at each Year Level.

   • For example, in term 2 the program could include:
     Year 7 – Soccer
     Year 8 – Volleyball
     Year 9 – Basketball
     Year 10 – Netball
     Senior Levels – could be any sport or one of the above.

   The House Captains will also take on the significant role of leading our Sustainability initiative and working with our social justice groups, like St. Vincent De Paul, to bring about a change in making us a more sustainable community.

   • The first part of this process will be to conduct an audit of our overall use of utilities such as Gas, Electricity and Water.

   In moving forward the major role is to now work out the possible options for the voting process and presenting those to our student leaders. We will work towards doing this sometime in the later part of Term 2 as it will require some level of consultation with the staff and student leaders.

   I look forward to working with the Student Representative Council to develop the process of consultation and possible options.

   In future additions of the Marian I will keep you informed of our process as we move to a redefined Student Leadership Structure for 2015.

   Kerrie Williams - Assistant to the Co-Principals – Student Wellbeing

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Michelle Newland, one of Australia’s most courageous and inspirational women in today’s generation, has given senior students of Marian College an emotional insight into her miraculous journey.

Throughout her presentation she emphasised the significance of faith and believing in oneself. Although Michelle encountered a severe asthma attack she demonstrates courage and perseverance during her continuous recovery.

As Michelle spoke about her experiences, her message impacted greatly on the wider audience. She highlighted the importance of positivity and determination to continue no matter what life throws at us. She taught us to accept circumstances and the importance of creating new dreams and goals.

During the time of her recovery, despite her young age, she was forced into nursing homes with the sick, elderly and dying. This triggered her will power to raise awareness for the disabled young people who require facilities that cater for their needs. Since she has first hand experience, Michelle is currently the ambassador for the Summer Foundation and seeks support for her mission.

Although, Michelle could not live her dream of becoming a teacher she has taught more than could ever be accomplished in a classroom. That is re-installing hope, positivity and faith into our lives.


Lilian and Lyn Nguyen – Senior Kildara

On Wednesday the 12th of March the seniors had a guess speaker named Michelle Newland who inspired us all with her amazing story of faith and perseverance. Her story has an influence on our actions in facing current problems and finding a way to overcome the negatives and to focus on the positives. Her journey of recovery had such a strong impact on each and every one of us. It motivated us to make the most of what we are given, and not to take for granted what we have because one little thing can change your life forever. Michelle lives by the quote ‘My faith is like the oxygen to my brain, I can’t live without it’. This reinforces the importance of faith in our daily lives.

Carley and Lana – Senior Kildara

Donna Rampova - VCE teacher
Science

SCIENCE CLUB
Science Club members meet every second Monday at lunchtime. Currently there are 18 members from across all the year levels, who come together with the same passion and enthusiasm for Science. To date, the students have made their own bath bombs and some very clever birds made out of paper that can balance on just about anything, thanks to the laws of Physics! Over the year, the students will be participating in so many more fun and engaging activities and competitions.

In April, Science Club members will be participating in the Royal Australian Chemical Institute - Victorian Crystal growing competition. We wish our members all the best for this competition.

New members are welcome all the time. Please come and join us!

Mrs Matejin and Mrs Carfora

LOTE

ITALY TRIP
It has been a few years in the planning, but the time has finally arrived. On Friday 28th March, seven Marian College girls, Ms Kerrie Williams and myself, will travel to Italy on a Study Tour. We have joined efforts with Penola College to ensure we have the numbers in order to make this trip feasible. It has been truly wonderful to plan for this trip with Penola College, who have completed this trip a number of times in the past and could afford us the benefit of their experience. The girls have been busying themselves, hopefully, not just with packing their suitcases, but with brushing up on their Italian conversation.

The trip will start in Venice, where we will enjoy the history and cuisine for a couple of days, before we travel down to Rimini to meet up with our sister school, Liceo Classico Dante Alighieri. Our good fortunes have enabled us to connect with a school that is situated directly opposite the Italian Riviera, which is a popular tourist beach. Of course, two things will be stopping us from diving straight into the Adriatic Sea: firstly, it will be the early stages of spring; secondly, there is learning to be done. The girls will be attending every class with their host sister and expected to converse entirely in Italian. Their time with the host families while at the school will last a week.

It is after their home stay that the real travelling will begin. From Rimini, we will travel to Florence, Assisi, Orvieto, Pompeii, the Amalfi Coast including Sorrento and wind up in Rome. We will fly home from Rome. This experience, we believe, is one of the best ways to create the best environment to learn a second language. This works well, because the girls will not only be hearing and speaking the language, but will be immersed in the culture. The culture also includes the food...ahh, Italian food for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Ordering food, going shopping and interacting with people is done entirely in Italian. I’m sure it will be a real culture shock in the beginning, but I have every confidence that our girls will rise to the occasion.

The girls attending this trip are very fortunate, because a trip of this sort doesn’t happen for them without great sacrifices from their parents. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents on behalf of their daughters’ and myself. Joan Fabbian and I have been planning this trip for quite some time and the support we have received from the parents of the girls attending has been humbling, as has the support from leadership at Marian College. Mrs Joan Fabbian was the one with the unfailing belief that a sister school exchange was possible, even after a number of attempts and disappointments. So many thanks go to her.

You will undoubtedly hear from me again at the other end of this trip. I would like to end my piece with a prayer (pictured right) for the traveller.

Distinti saluti,
Anna Ciccone - (Learning Leader)
LOTE

YEAR 9 LOTE – ITALIAN
Un grande saluto a tutti! (A very big hello to everyone!)

Presently, our Year 9 Italian students are busily researching their first assessment task entitled “La Corrispondenza” (The Correspondence). For this piece, the girls have the choice of taking on the role of a young tourist in Italy or a young native Italian who goes on holiday in Italy. They will write about their Italian adventure by putting this information into an email, a letter or a postcard in which they discuss their visit or holiday to an Italian city or a region.

In giving this recount, the girls will include information on:
• Where they are
• What they are doing there
• Who they are with and who they have met.
• What sort of weather they are experiencing.
• Some information about the city/region they are in
• Some of the things they have seen and heard. (E.g. famous landmarks, sights and sounds).

Throughout this process, the students will conference with their insegnante (teacher) to ensure they are on the right path, focussing on correct use of tense, spelling, punctuation and overall fluency.

During the last week, students also received copies of the Italian poetry that they will be reciting in June at Melbourne University for the Dante Alighieri Poetry Competition. Students will be working on learning one poem off by heart and practising it with their LOTE teacher in preparation for the big day. More details will follow in term Two.

Buon lavoro a tutte le nostre carissime studentesse! (Happy studying to our dear students!)

OVERSEAS STUDENT
Last August, the Tuddenham family graciously hosted an overseas student, Catherine Taelman, from Belgium, while she studied with us at Marian College. The company that makes these types of international exchanges happen, Nacel, featured Catherine’s stay with us in an international marketing booklet. Have a look....Our thanks again to the Tuddenham family and all the teachers and students who so warmly allowed Catherine into their classes.

Joan Fabbian - LOTE (Italian) teacher

LOTE YEAR 9 INDONESIAN
Salam,

The Year 9 Indonesian class has made a good start this year. The girls studied a unit called “Bintang”. This unit enables students to look at the native Indonesian animals and other animals, how to describe them, their habitats and other issues about them.

The students are working on their assignment which they will present as a poster or Power Point about their favourite animal.

The first 3 students who can name the Indonesian native animals and which island they come from and see Ibu Trina or Ibu Veronika will receive a small prize.

Salam,
Ibu Trina dan Ibu Veronika
The Arts

DESIGN EDUCATION

ART APPRECIATION AT THE IAN POTTER CENTRE!
This week, Year Eight art classes, along with parents and teachers, visited the Ian Potter Centre at Federation Square, Melbourne.

In Art, Design and Technology class, students are working on their portraiture artworks and folio. The excursion opened the student’s eyes to the way artists can capture a person through painting a portrait. Students were inspired by artworks and artists use of expressive colours, tones and brush techniques.

As we explored the gallery, students gained an understanding of art history and developed their appreciation for art. Students experienced historical artworks from 18th century paintings to contemporary sculptures featured from the current exhibition ‘Melbourne Now’.

Working with the gallery guides, students discussed portraits from different times and cultures. It was great to see students share their ideas and insights about a number of artworks. Students were surprised and amazed with the variety of artworks featured in the gallery.

The ‘Melbourne Now’ Exhibition ends this Sunday 23rd March. It is a great exhibition and opportunity for families to view artworks from contemporary Melbourne based artists. A fantastic and awe inspiring exhibition!

Natalie Turra – Art, Design & Technology Teacher

PERFORMING ARTS

Performing Arts has continued to hum along in the last fortnight, with more students joining ensembles, and our Co-Captains finding their feet. They have planned a series of meetings with Ensemble leaders, have re-vamped our department’s noticeboards, and are planning opportunities for students to perform and get to know each other better.

Congratulations must go the the Year 9 Performance Art taster, who led the community in a fun suprise Macarena dance while we waited for scores to be finalised at the College’s Swimming Carnival. The Year 12s joined them to celebrate their last Swimming Carnival as secondary students, and with encouraging from the Carnival organiser Abbey Webster, the houses were dancing their houses out. It was a lovely way to wind up the day before finding out the winning House, and gave the Performance Art students a taste of how the Performing Arts can be used to foster a sense of community among a large group of people. Our congratulations and thanks also go to Abbey Webster and the PE team for a great day, and for supporting the Performance Art students’ initiative.

We are also excited to be supporting our Assistant to the Co-Principals - Faith and Mission by learning sung responses for the Mass. The new RE Music class are leading the rest of the students involved in Performing Arts ensembles in learning these responses. This will mean that our masses will have an added layer of meaning through music. The RE Music class have started learning the pieces, and full rehearsals start next week.

We wish everyone the best as we enter the home stretch toward Easter!

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

FEES AND OTHER CHARGES: 1ST INSTALLMENT DUE FOR PAYMENT BY 31ST MARCH
Families are expected to have paid the following by 31st March:

- at least 25% of the annual fee charge per student
  - for a Year 7 student that would be a minimum payment of $412;
  - for Year 8 & 9 students a minimum payment of $435
  - for Year 10-12 students, a minimum payment of $455
  (for new students the above amount payable would be reduced by the $200 paid upon confirming enrollment)
- any carried forward balance from the previous year
- the full charge for any Digital Resources in Years 7-10
- the Term 1 bus fee, where applicable, and
- any laptop repair charge billed on the February statement.

The only exceptions to the above requirement are those families on an accepted payment plan. Any family experiencing financial difficulties in making payments is requested to contact the College to arrange an appointment to discuss their situation.

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 over the school holidays.

Community News

MARIAN COLLEGE
196 Glengala Rd, Sunshine West VIC 3020
www.mariansw.catholic.edu.au

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM 2014
Risk taking, Responsibility & Resilience

‘Safe Partying’ presented by Sonya Karras
This Parent session covers:
- The inside info on partying
- Ways parents can be involved in making sure their children party safely
- Drug & Alcohol issues
- Safe parties at home
- Staying informed and up to date

Wednesday 26th March 7:00-8:30pm
Marian College Auditorium
Bookings essential: 9363 1711