From the Co- Principals

CELEBRATING LEARNING
Over the last few weeks we have seen the celebration of LOTE Week, Book Week and Science Week. Each of these “weeks” focuses on a particular area of learning and allows teachers and students to explore concepts and skills specific to each area in fun and different ways. We know that staff members in each faculty strive to ensure that learning experiences are meaningful and engaging at all times during the year. Special weeks enhance regular classroom learning and provide a fun focus within the particular study area. We are grateful to the staff members who work tirelessly to organise activities and experiences for students during these focus weeks.

CELEBRATING READING
There is a great reading culture here at the College. Students and staff members read widely and enjoy discussing their latest read, debating the merits and motivations of different characters, expressing disappointment and excitement about various plot lines, and eagerly awaiting the release of highly anticipated titles. Resource Centre staff members feed this love of reading and ensure that students have access to the latest books via both traditional and electronic means.

There are many different reasons why people enjoy reading. For some there is the joy of discovering new things, for others it’s about spending time in other worlds. Many people say that reading gives them an insight into themselves and helps them to better understand the world around them. Whatever the reason, we know that there are actual benefits from spending time with a great book. Some of the following benefits are excerpts from an article that can be found by following this link:

http://edudemic.com/2012/04/the-20-biggest-reasons-you-should-read/.

ALLOWS FOR BETTER SKILL RETENTION
Avid readers enjoy a heightened ability to retain their cognitive skills over their peers who simply prefer other media.

BETTER VERBAL ABILITIES
On the whole, readers tend to display more adept verbal skills than those who are not as fond of books, though it must be noted that this doesn’t inherently render them better communicators. Still, they do tend to sport higher vocabularies, which increase exponentially with the volume of literature consumed, and may discern context faster.

REDUCED STRESS LEVELS
According to a 2009 University of Sussex study, picking up a book could be one of the most effective strategies for calming down when life grows too overwhelming — great for both mental and physiological reasons. The University of Minnesota built on these findings and recommends reading some form of literature for at least half an hour every day for optimum relaxation.

So what are you waiting for – grab a book and start reading. You’ll never know what you might discover. We would like to thank the Resource Centre Staff for the wonderful work they do in creating a welcoming space, for the encouragement they offer all readers and for the support they provide staff and students in the learning and teaching program.

Rita Grima and Raymond Pisani - Co- Principals

PRAYER:

Hail Mary
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed are thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.
Faith and Mission

In the month of August the Catholic Church in Australia celebrates St Mary of the Cross or as we commonly know her, Mary MacKillop. There are two occasions when Mary, the mother of Jesus, is celebrated: the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. These are days set aside to note the importance of women in the life of Christ and Christianity. The prayer to Mary notes her importance in her being blessed among women, held up as being special in her life and her actions. Women in the Catholic Church have been instrumental in passing on the gospel values; not just in word but in their everyday actions. St Brigid, our Patron saint, and the Brigidine Congregation have been noted for this in their lives. On Friday Diane Reynolds and I visited the Broadmeadows Detention Centre for the Asylum Seekers with Sr. Brigid Arthur. We met with families desperately seeking asylum; people who had no country. We saw deep sadness, families who had lost members of their family on the harrowing boat journey to Australia, a country of proposed freedom. We spoke with little children receiving counselling for their experiences on the boat, they spoke of cousins who died on the trip and of a lack of acceptance here after much hardship. Some mothers spoke with a deep weariness; as times passes they question what will happen. It was an eye opening experiencing to see these beautiful people left in a government red taped limbo. The Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project (BASP) works to inform, connect and help those impacted by this issue. So we pray to Mary for support for these people:

MARY, HELP OF THOSE IN NEED
Holy Mary,
help those in need,
give strength to the weak,
comfort the sorrowful,
pray for God’s people,
assist the clergy,
intercede for religious.
May all who seek your help
experience your unfailing protection.

Amen

Mary-Lou Towns - Assistant to the Co-Principal - Faith and Mission

Learning and Teaching

PARENT – TEACHER – STUDENT INTERVIEWS
Thank you to the many parents who attended the interviews this week – it was wonderful to see so many families utilising this opportunity to have productive conversations with their daughter’s teachers. Your support is appreciated.

SUBJECT SELECTION AND PLANNING FOR 2015
Year 11 and 12 2015 online subject selection has now closed. Thank you to our present Year 10 and 11 students who have submitted their subject selection preferences. It is essential that all students have also returned a paper copy of their preferences with a parent signature.

Subject lists for 2015 are now being formulated so that this information can be used for constructing the timetable for next year. Learning Leaders and their teams will now look over student lists for VCE studies. In some cases, students may not be recommended for certain subjects, as they may not have the skills to succeed in them. We will contact those “not recommended” for subjects and alternative subject counselling will be provided.

Students presently in Years 9 and 10, who applied for accelerated studies, have also been mailed letters notifying them of approval or otherwise for these acceleration options. All applications were carefully considered against the stipulated criteria; however, in some cases applications have not been approved. Ultimately, the best interests and potential for success of each student are the major considerations. Sometimes, a student may not be ready to accelerate, or may achieve greater success through waiting another year, before embarking on a study.

Our current Year 9s are now underway with the process of selecting their subjects for 2015 and the online subject preferences will remain open until 28 August.

Once timetabling has been finalised, later in the year, all of our current Year 9, 10 and 11 students will be informed of the subjects in which they are enrolled. In some cases, students may need to go into reserve choices. This may be due to unavoidable clashes and some subjects may not run due to limited numbers. In other cases, where classes fill, some students may miss out on a place. However, this said, please be aware that we try to provide the best fit that we possibly can, within the resources available, to allow students to study their preferred subjects.

Paul Familari & Jane Goddard - Assistants to the Co-Principals - Learning and Teaching
UNIFORM CONCERNS
Over the last couple of weeks the Year Level Leaders and I have unfortunately had to send a number of students home, or contact parents to bring the correct uniform or withdraw students from class due to the students not following the uniform expectations. This has included:

- Students wearing their PE uniform on each day of the week
- Senior students wearing PE uniform when they do not have a PE class
- Students wearing alternative PE articles of clothing i.e. Not Marian PE Uniform
- Students wearing their PE jackets in place of their blazer
- Students not wearing their school ties with the winter uniform
- Students wearing hoodies underneath their uniform

We will continue to enforce the correct wearing of the uniform. The school expectations are clear and the school diary has all of the uniform requirements listed. We request that you and your daughter refer to the relevant page in the diary and please contact the school and speak to your daughter’s homeroom or mentor teacher to clarify any concerns.

CHANGES TO THE SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR 2015
In working with the Student Representative Council some slight changes have been made to the uniform for 2015. These include:

- A new sports polo top that will be navy blue in colour and will have the students house name embroidered on the opposite side to the Marian Logo. Cost of $30.95. This item will be compulsory for all new Year 7’s but all other students will be able to wear their white polo top until it needs to be replaced. However students in Years 8-12 will be able to purchase the new item if they prefer.
- A new excursion bag has been produced that is a better quality material, can be worn as a back pack or over the shoulder. Cost of $16.95.
- A new scarf and beanie (optional) will be added as official items. They are both navy blue in colour and will have the school logo. The Marian school scarf will be the only permissible scarf from 2015 onwards. Cost of $13.95 per item.

A new pricelist will be available from the office and on our website by the end of next week. These items will be on display in the school foyer in the next couple of weeks for your perusal.

STUDENTS COMPLETING BULLYING AND HARASSMENT SURVEY
About half of the year levels have completed the Bullying and Harassment Survey created by the SRC to gauge the amount and type of bullying within our community. One of the questions also covers online bullying e.g. Cyber bullying with facebook etc.

We look forward to sharing with you the results of this survey in our next edition of the Marian.

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

Sports

Marian College Athletics Carnival
Vic Uni Athletics Track Werribee
Wednesday 10th September
Please return permission forms ASAP.
Parent passes available the week before the carnival.
Please see Ms Webster for further details.
The Arts

DESIGN EDUCATION

“EVERY CHILD IS AN ARTIST, THE PROBLEM IS STAYING AN ARTIST WHEN YOU GROW UP” – PABLO PICASSO

Design Education students have been busy working through folio’s, with the VCE students finalising their folio’s in preparation for submission. This has resulted in the Design Education studios being very busy as students work through lunchtimes.

Junior art classes are going through their rotations at the moment giving the students the opportunity to work with a variety of materials and to learn new processes. Design Education aims to give the students a broad range of experiences and exposure to a range of artists and ideas. This assists them to build up their knowledge and their ideas to create artworks that are bold, visually interesting and reflect a deep level of thought.

Students in Visual Communication Design Unit 2 are working through designing a modern café based in the Dandenong Ranges. They started by creating 3 dimensional paper models and then they had to problem solve to create useable and interesting spaces. From there they created 2 point perspective drawings from their designs. During the process they had to keep in mind the clients requirements.

Textiles students in year 8 are using the machine to ‘draw’ and create small portraits and textiles artworks. Year 9 textiles students have just started garment construction processes to make a small bag and pair of boxer shorts.

Design Education is a vibrant and busy space with creativity at the core of all classes.

Kelly Deliopoulos - Design Education Team
We were delighted to debut the Keyboard Ensemble at a lunchtime concert last week. Erika Olah, our piano/keyboard teacher, worked with the ensemble students using the synthesiser sounds on our keyboard to create some unique arrangements of classical greats, as well as a fun blues piece. They shared the stage with the Guitar Ensemble, who have added some more fun pieces to their repertoire, and Larissa Phung - Keyboard Ensemble Leader, who performed solo.

All ensembles in Performing Arts are in the last rehearsals to prepare for sung responses and congregational songs for the upcoming Brigidine Celebration Day mass, and for future masses. We are working with Mary-Lou Towns and the Liturgy team to enrich the school community’s celebration of the mass with music.

The Performing Arts Co-Captains are also working to prepare the Performing Arts part of the Year 12 Celebration Day, hoping to have our song finalised by the end of the term.

Speaking of the end of the term - so far it seems and yet just around the corner! - the Music Performance Unit 4 students will be presenting their programmes on Thursday 18th September in the College Auditorium from 7 to 8.30pm. This year, two contemporary singers and one pianist are working toward their performance exams. Entry is free and open to all - we’d love them to have a big audience, so come along and celebrate the work they have put in to their music - not just this year, but from Year 7 or even before!

Mari Eleanor - Music and Drama Co-Curricular Programs Co-ordinator

Resource Centre

BOOK WEEK
The Resource Centre was a hive of activity last week with the celebration of Book Week. This year there was a dystopian theme with the Resource Centre team dressing up as the characters from the popular Hunger Games and Divergent books as well as Emily the Strange and the Game of Thrones.

As usual we had lots of activities and competitions running for both staff and students from the Freddo Frog Quiz question in home-room to various lunchtime activities such as quizzes, games, bookmark making and anime drawing. Every student who borrowed a book during Book Week also got to guess the lollies in the lolly jar. Congratulations go to Kathy Ho in 7 Kinsella who won the lolly jar. Congratulations to Georgia Mae Mazzarella of 7 Tullow for winning the Match the teachers to their favourite childhood books competition and to Jenny Quach and Julie Nguyen of Year 9 for winning the Literary Timeline competition.

Lunchtimes in the Resource Centre were very busy. The annual Book Trivia Quiz on Monday was very exciting with eager participants from Year 7 to Year 12 as well as a couple of teachers. The students’ extensive knowledge of books is to be commended. Well done to the Book Warriors who won not only this year but also last year. On Wednesday many joined in the fun playing Literary Celebrity Heads. The girls got creative on Tuesday making beautiful handcrafted bookmarks and also on Friday drawing Manga characters.

Year 7 were entertained by Oliver Phommavanh, the author of Thai-riffic which many students studied in Literature Circles. He had the girls in stitches with his humorous stories and antics.

Robin Brown, an actor and screenwriter, ran an insightful workshop with Year 10 students guiding them through the writing of film and play scripts.

Thank you to both staff and students for your enthusiasm and participation in Book Week. Thank you to the staff and parents who bought second hand books, the money is being donated to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

We are now looking forward to celebrating the end of the Premier’s Reading Challenge in September.

Sofie Norello and Sharon Hayes - Teacher Librarians
COMBINED REUNION 22ND NOVEMBER 2014

Marian College will be hosting a combined reunion for former students who graduated in the years 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994 and 2004. We encourage you to attend this event which will involve a viewing of the Art Exhibition, a tour of the College and afternoon tea. Please spread the word and share this information via your Face Book pages and network of friends. For further information and to RSVP call the school on 9363 1711 or email jheaney@mariansw.catholic.edu.au

Parent Education Program: Alcohol & Drug issues - Paul Dillon

Wednesday 8th October 7-8:30pm

Paul Dillon has been working in the area of drug education for the past 25 years. Through his own business Drug and Alcohol Research and Training Australia (DARTA) he has been contracted by many organisations to give regular updates on current trends. He has also worked with many school communities to ensure that they have access to good quality information and best practice drug education. He has also written a best-selling book for parents titled “Teenagers, Alcohol and Drugs” released in 2009.

Many parents access information on drugs from inappropriate sources such as the media and as a result there is a great deal of mythology around drugs and their use. This presentation will attempt to give accurate, up-to-date information on current trends in drug use in Australia. The area of drugs is one in which many parents do not feel well-equipped to discuss with their teenagers, with a recent survey suggesting that over 50% of Australian parents have never discussed the topic of drugs with their children. This presentation aims to empower parents with some basic information about current trends in alcohol and other drugs as well as provide up-to-date research on best practice parenting in this area.

Bookings essential: 9363 1711 - Marian College 196 Glengala Rd West Sunshine
MARIAN COLLEGE – SUNSHINE WEST
STUDENT CALCULATOR ORDERS

PORTAL OPEN FOR ORDERS BETWEEN
6TH OCTOBER 2014 – 16TH NOVEMBER 2014
*RE-OPENING 1ST DECEMBER 2014 – 15TH JANUARY 2015
*ANY LATE ORDERS WILL BE CHARGED AN ADDITIONAL $14.95 DELIVERY FEE

STEP 1: GO TO www.abacuscalculators.com.au (*NOTE WEBSITE IS NOT IPAD COMPATIBLE)

STEP 2: ENTER YOUR SCHOOL ID CODE ON THE HOME PAGE TO LOG IN: MARIANSUN
(YOU MUST DO THIS FIRST TO AVOID DELIVERY FEE, PLEASE DO NOT SEARCH THE PRODUCT)

STEP 3: SELECT PRODUCTS NEEDED:
TINSPRIRECX CAS $185.00inc GST
PADDLED CASE $5.50inc GST
TI WALL CHARGER ADAPTOR $10.00inc GST
TI RECHARGEABLE BATTERY $16.50inc GST

STEP 4:
CALCULATORS DELIVERED TO SCHOOL FOR DISTRIBUTION WEEK BEGINNING 24TH NOVEMBER 2014
*2ND DELIVERY START OF TERM 1 2015

CALL 1800 998 424 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES

PLEASE SEE CONDITIONS BELOW:
• ALL CALCULATORS ARE COVERED BY A 2-YEAR REPAIR/REPLACEMENT WARRANTY. *ADDITIONAL WARRANTY IS OFFERED BY TEXAS INSTRUMENTS; PLEASE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ON FRONT OF PACKAGING.

• WARRANTY: PLEASE KEEP A RECEIPT COPY AS PROOF OF PURCHASE. THE STUDENT’S NAME WILL ALSO BE REGISTERED AT ABACUS.

• COMPANY POLICY: NO REFUNDS GIVEN ON INCORRECT PURCHASE

• PLEASE NOTE ONCE THE PORTAL EXPIRES YOU WILL NEED TO ORDER DIRECTLY FROM OUR WEBSITE AND PAY A DELIVERY FEE OF $14.95inc (SENT VIA TOLL PRIORITY COURIERS)
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