I wonder how many of you have heard of these names: Claudette Colvin, Katie Stagliano, Ryan Hreljac – these are the names of young people who have made a difference to the world stage before you can change the world?

Claudette Colvin was a 15-year-old African-American girl who refused to relinquish her seat on a bus to a white person nine months before Rosa Parks did the same thing. She was the first person arrested for resisting bus segregation in the US state of Alabama. Ultimately, she challenged this law in court which eventually led to a Supreme Court order that outlawed segregated buses. A triumph for African American people fighting for equality.

Katie Stagliano was 9 years old in 2008 when she brought a tiny cabbage seedling home from school as part of the Grade Three Cabbage Program. As she cared for her cabbage, it grew to just over 18 kilograms. Katie donated her cabbage to a soup kitchen where it helped to feed more than 275 people. Moved by the experience of seeing how many people could benefit from the donation of fresh vegies to soup kitchens, Katie decided to start vegetable gardens and donate the harvest to help feed people in need. Today, Katie’s Krops donates thousands of kilos of fresh produce from numerous gardens to organizations that help people in need.

Ryan Hreljac was 6 years old in 1998 when he was shocked to learn that children in Africa had to walk many kilometres every day just to fetch water. Ryan decided he needed to build a well for a village in Africa. By doing household chores and public speaking on clean water issues, Ryan’s first well was built in 1999 at the Angolo Primary School in a northern Ugandan village. Ryan’s determination led to the Ryan’s Well Foundation, which has completed 667 projects in 16 countries, bringing access to clean water and sanitation to more than 714,000 people. (http://www.mnn.com/lifestyle/responsible-living/photos/8-amazing-kids-who-have-changed-the-world/)

Small steps that made a big difference. A quote that I came across recently has quietly sat with me:

“Start where you are,
use what you have,
do what you can.”
From the Co-Principals (cont.)

We can make a difference, you are making a difference, just with what we have. Remember Malala became a target because she was using her access to social media to highlight how schools were being shut down to limit access to education for girls. Start where you are (from her home), use what you have (social media), do what you can (she made something public that very few of us in our lives of comparative privilege really understand). She’s moved this to a different platform now because she is so well known, but she didn’t wait till she arrived to where she is to take some action and make a difference.

There are two things that emerge from this reflection that should motivate us as we lift our voices to penetrate the silence: It’s about contribution, not celebrity. It’s said that Ben Franklin began each day asking, “What good will I do today?” and ended each day by asking, “What good did I do today?” I think these are excellent questions to develop into a practice. In our culture that seems to value celebrity with no merit whatsoever, we must begin to ask once more “what does it mean to contribute?” This is the question that should be at the front of our minds as we go about our work. Our capacity to change the world is directly tied to how we engage with our world and how we spend our time and energy in it.

How can my actions be more about generosity, not consumption? What if we all decided to adopt a mindset of generosity? That there will always be enough for everybody. What if we regularly asked as we headed into a meeting or a class or when we are making a decision, “Am I leaving more here than I’m taking?” What if our mindset shifted from “what’s in it for me?” to “what can I offer to you?” I have a feeling things would change pretty quickly. Many of us are fearful of moving forward with our ideas – we hesitate, we are not sure of how they will be accepted, we might think to ourselves “OK… I’ll do it as soon as everyone else starts doing it too”. (http://www.accidentalcreative.com/you/how-to-change-the-world-in-about-10-minutes/)

But isn’t that what changing the world is all about? Doing things differently and swimming against the stream? Trying to use our gifts as influence and spend our time on what matters most to us and gives us life and energy. You can’t choose your legacy, you can only choose how you engage each and every moment. How you create. How you go about your work. How you encourage and build up others. How you address the voices of doubt and insecurity in order to do what’s right. How you value character over the perception of others what think. I believe this is what Malala did.

Remember:

“Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can.”

It’s all anyone can expect of themselves and of others.”

Rita Grima and Raymond Pisani - Co-Principals

Faith and Mission

Lent is a time in the Christian/Catholic calendar to stop and look at ways that we can be better people, and how we can work towards making this a better world to live in. On the 18th of February, the College had our Ash Wednesday Liturgy in House Group. This was a good opportunity to join together in prayer as a cohesive house group with our links to the Brigidine Tradition and its story. It says in Matthew’s Gospel “Take care not to perform good deeds just so that people may see you do them; otherwise, you will have no reward from your heavenly Father. When you give to the poor, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Your Father who is hidden will know. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.” May we all work towards hearing the message, thinking about what is said and acting justly to perform our good deeds!

On Thursday the 12th of February the first group of Year 10 students commenced their Community Service Program. Each class will participate in 5 sessions of community service at one of the following five places: St Peter’s Primary School, St Paul’s Primary School, Bupa Aged Care Facility, Woornack Aged Care Facility and St Vincent de Paul Sunshine. It provides the students with an opportunity to work with a community agency within this area, truly helping and working with the people in our community. We will be hoping to get some reflections from the students to share with the College Community.

The St Vincent de Paul Group at Marian College has traditionally made and sold pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the day before the beginning of Lent. As Lent is a time of fasting, Shrove Tuesday had traditionally been the opportunity for the extra richer ingredients to be consumed, thus the pancakes were a part of this tradition and preparation for Ash Wednesday and Lent. The Vinnies Group made pancakes and sold them at lunchtime. It is actively working to make a difference. Pope Francis says “Lent is a favourable time for letting Christ serve us so that we in turn may become more like him. This happens whenever we hear the word of God…”. May we hear and act in more positive ways.

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

The College is very proud of our 2014 VCE results which saw 25.5% of our students receiving an ATAR score above 80, compared to the Victorian average of 20%. 78% of Marian students also achieved an ATAR score above 50. The state average was 50%. An ATAR above 50 allows students entry into university courses. The overwhelming majority of 2014 year 12 students were offered a place in TAFE or University to continue their Tertiary studies.

The figures are:
95.0% of students received an offer (76/80)
67.5% received their first preference
80% received their first or second preference

The College has been working hard over the years to continue to build a culture of academic excellence. To this end, in 2014 we updated our Student Achievement and Consolidation Policy to ensure the highest Academic Standards are met. The main change to this policy was an expectation that all students need to meet particular benchmarks of what should be achieved at each year level from year 7 to 10. The Student Achievement and Consolidation Policy aims to provide a guide for the satisfactory completion of each year level. It is also a factor for consideration for the subject selection processes for Years 9, 10, 11 and 12.

A change in the Semester reports was the addition of an S/N result for each assessment task and an overall S/N result for each subject in year 7 to 10, which mirrors the process at VCE. This policy encourages academic excellence and helps to ensure your daughter puts her best effort into all of her work. In keeping with the strong pastoral support provided by the College, students will be monitored closely by homeroom and subject teachers to ensure that support and intervention occur as early as possible if submission of work issues emerge.

E LEARNING
In 2014 the College introduced e-books for all subjects from years 7 to 10. One of the main aims of this initiative was the to increase student engagement and learning particularly through the interactivity of the resources. Information and Communication Technology is an increasingly important part of our lives and in particular, for our students who are quite digitally literate. The Jacaranda e-textbooks offer the opportunity for students to participate in on-line learning programs in Science and Mathematics, and have interactive functions such as podcasts, you-tube clips, powerpoints and webpages embedded into the resources. This provides a rich learning experience for our students and ensures connection to our 1:1 laptop program. A key benefit of the e-textbooks is that they are current in their content and align with the Australian Curriculum. An additional benefit of the program is the fact that students do not need to carry a heavy bag of textbooks to and from the College. The College also introduced a new Learning Management System called SEQTA to streamline administrative processes in the College.

INTRODUCING SEQTA AT MARIAN COLLEGE IN 2015
We are very excited to announce the launch of our new learning management system called SEQTA. SEQTA streamlines day-to-day administrative tasks for teachers, providing them with new, more efficient ways to facilitate and support student learning. We will roll out SEQTA over the first semester this year and, in Semester 2, we plan to open the parent portal. Eventually, this portal will allow parents to access information including courses and lessons, homework, assessment tasks, regular academic reporting and attendance.

Teachers have already begun developing courses, lessons and assessments on SEQTA and this is providing opportunities to design and deliver rich learning for students and new ways to support individual students on their learning journey. Many students have been already accessing the Student Portal called Coneqt – S, so we recommend that parents look at this with their daughters.

SEQTA provides a range of functions that will streamline day-to-day College processes and communications in ways that should directly support and enhance student learning and well-being. SEQTA will allow teachers to have greater, integrated access to relevant information about each student (everything from attendance records, pastoral care notes, progressive academic records, data analysis tools and more). Ultimately, this should provide significant benefits to each student, teacher and parent and to the daily operations of the College as a whole.

It will obviously take us a little while to get everything fully up and running in SEQTA; however, it should not take too long before we are all experiencing the many benefits of our new learning management system.

Paul Familari & Jane Goddard - Assistants to the Co-Principals - Learning and Teaching
Student Wellbeing

YEAR 12 LEADERSHIP RETREAT
On Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February, Ms. Grima, Mr. Pisani and myself had the pleasure of spending two days with an amazing group of Year 12 student leaders on our first ever Leadership Retreat at the Presentation Family Centre at Balnarring.

The two days involved the students working on developing three key goals for Student Leadership in 2015, role descriptions for all of the leadership positions held by our student leaders, and developing a key set of expectations for the running of all student meetings. We also worked on aspects of public speaking that one can use when getting across a message to peers or audience.

All of the girls participated with passion and commitment. The group worked collaboratively and co-operatively in all of the tasks that they were asked to complete and even when preparing and cleaning up after meals.

The task now begins for these leaders to work with the other leaders both at their year level and the whole school in achieving their goals in 2015.

We look forward to keeping you informed of their progress over the course of the year.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION GROUP REPRESENTATIVES.
Over the course of the last two weeks each homeroom and the Senior years have been going through the process of electing their Student Participation Group representatives.

These leaders, who are elected to represent their homeroom or senior level at the year level meetings with the Student Representative Council members, meet regularly to discuss issues that concern the student body.

We will have our annual Investiture Assembly on Thursday 5th March where all student leaders will be presented with their badges in acknowledgement of their acceptance of their leadership position in 2015.

In the next edition of the Marian we will acknowledge all of these leaders.

JAPANESE CULTURAL EXCHANGE
On Sunday 22nd March, in just over 4 weeks, we will have a group of students arriving from our sister school in Yokohama Japan.

Thankyou to those families that have completed a form to have one of these students stay with them for the 6 days they are here.

If you are interested in hosting a Japanese Exchange student then please complete this form and return it to myself at your earliest convenience.

A REMINDER ABOUT THE NEW GOVERNMENT EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT ATTENDANCE
At this time we would like to remind all of our parents of the importance of your daughter attending school every day and the expectation that parents and guardians will inform the school either by writing a note, a medical certificate or phone call to explain their daughter’s absence.

In coming weeks we will also send home to each family the government guidelines in relation to the responsibility for every parent and the school in complying with the guidelines.

We did refer to this in the Marian News in 2014 when these guidelines were launched by the government at the time. If you have any queries or concerns regarding this please do not hesitate to contact your daughter’s homeroom teacher, Year Level Leader or myself.

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

YEAR 7 INDONESIAN
Selamat datang Bapak Geoff Welby.
Selamat datang kelas 7! Welcome All!

Our year 7s have been introduced to Indonesia.

They are now able to say the alphabet in Indonesian, greet and say their name in Indonesian: Selamat Pagi. Kenalkan nama saya.....

In addition they have looked at the geography of Indonesia and are able to list the major islands.

Year 7 Indonesian students have started to earn points with Education Perfect. Congratulations to the following Year 7 Indonesian students who have achieved above 500 points with Education Perfect:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>NAME</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Elander</td>
<td>1007</td>
<td>Meenakshi Pochincharla</td>
<td>531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fariba Khan</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>Jenny Nguyen</td>
<td>508</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Salam
Veronika Petanic - Indonesian Teacher

YEAR 9 ITALIAN

Ciao a tutti!

Welcome to Year 9 Italian. We have been looking at the festival of Carnevale and the beautiful Italian masks that are an important part of the festival.

Did you know that carnevale means to abstain from meat? This is why carnevale takes place during Lent as it is in the period leading up to Easter.

The students have been focussing on some of the important characters from Carnevale, such as Arlecchino, Pulcinella, Pantalone and Il Dottore. These are some of the characters that children like to dress up in for the festival. It is a fun time as the children also enjoy playing tricks or ‘trucchi’ on each other.

The students also got to create their own beautiful masks. There are many creative students in Year 9 and there were many gorgeous masks being paraded in class.

Next we start Le Vite e Le Vacanze in Italia. We will be talking about ‘going out’ in Italy and where young people meet.

Grazie,
Signora Scott

Marian News
THE DESIGNS WAREHOUSE – OUR NEW HOME

It’s been a very exciting start to the year for Art, Design and Technology staff and students as we have moved into a brand new building. The Design Warehouse is bright, light and contemporary with an inviting gallery entrance, leading into a large multipurpose space surrounded by five more specialised rooms and teachers prep area.

Our multi materials room consists of wood working benches, machinery room, spray booth and jewellery bench. We have a beautiful 2D/3D space for painting, drawing printing, ceramics and sculpture with outside learning area with water and electricity which is ideal for future potter’s wheels. The green room is quiet, calming and great for theory and completing SAC’s. The photography room is right next door as is the custom made darkroom with airlock. Our textiles room comes equipped with fitting room, individual sewing quarters and printing wet area. Visual Communication is another quiet space but is spectacular with large windows which open out, very alfresco. All learning spaces have HDMI projectors, white board walls and large storage spaces. The building has been architecturally and technically designed to be environmentally friendly with the heating and cooling.

Our VCE students were the first to enter the new building and begin their folio development, they are loving the new space and are very keen on keeping it clean and brand new. They have already begun coming in at lunchtime to work and teachers are very happy to see the commitment to their folios so early in the year. Even though we are still unpacking boxes and don’t have tables and chairs for all of the rooms it hasn’t stopped the productivity of our year 9 Tasters teachers and students as this week they are already cutting patterns and painting ottomans. The building is already alive and buzzing with energy. Our juniors students are also enjoying coming over from their homerooms to experience learning in the spaces are looking forward to permanently relocating.

The Design Warehouse is open at lunchtimes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday for students to come in and work on their folios. In term two we will begin running lunchtime workshops on these days starting with Textiles, Slip Casting and Jewellery. Throughout the year the workshops will change and will be different to what is offered in the curriculum providing students with even more experiences in art, design and technology.

With the arrival of our new multi-functional furniture in the coming months the Design Warehouse will be further enhanced and production in the area will increase. Once we are fully operational we will look forward to our first exhibition opening and offering afterschool workshops for students, parents and friends.

Shelley Smith - Learning Leader

PERFORMING ARTS

We are off and running for the year in Performing Arts. Ensembles have re-commenced and rehearsals are underway. Creative Music are holding their free introductory lesson workshops this week and next week. It’s a great chance for students to meet the teachers and students taking lessons. Enrolment forms are available at the workshops and at other times from the Performing Arts office. Students can enrol at any time during the year.

We would like to take the chance to thanks all Performing Arts students for their participation in the Opening Mass. We encourage students from the individual ensembles to interact as much as possible, and to contribute to the reflective life of the College.

We are looking forward to the rest of the term. Please contact us in the Performing Arts office if you have any queries about the co-curricular or instrumental lessons program.

Mari Eleanor - Music and Drama Co-Curricular Programs Co-ordinator
Marian College presents:

Tuning into Teens

Introductory Workshop:

Emotionally Intelligent Parenting

Would you like to learn how to:

• Be better at talking with your teen?
• Be better at understanding your teen?
• Help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
• Help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?
• Teach your teen to deal with conflict?

Tuning into Teens shows you how to help your teen develop emotional intelligence.

Adolescents with higher emotional intelligence:

• Are more aware, assertive and strong in situations of peer pressure
• Have greater success with making friends and are more able to manage conflict with peers
• Are more able to cope when upset or angry
• Have fewer mental health and substance abuse difficulties
• Have more stable and satisfying relationships as adults
• Have greater career success

We hope you can join us for this special event.

Kerrie Williams    Julie Heaney
Assistant to the Co-Principals  Community Development Officer
Student Wellbeing

Marian College
Wednesday 4th March 7:00-8:30pm
Facilitator: Anne Hubbard
Bookings essential: 9363 1711  or jheaney@mariansw.catholic.edu.au

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Invest in your most precious asset......Your Marriage!

Forget life’s tensions and interruptions and rekindle the closeness, intimacy, love and romance that brought you together. Recharge your relationship batteries and explore the precious nature of your marriage, allowing you both to share your feelings, hopes and dreams with each other in ways that normal, daily living tends to inhibit.

There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Starts 7pm on Friday. Ends 5pm Sunday. Accommodation and all meals provided.
Information/Bookings: PH: Marianne & Marcel (03) 9733 0997 Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au www.wwme.org.au