The purpose of any educational institution is to provide opportunities for students to participate in experiences that are life-giving and promote their overall development. Over the year we have the privilege of experiencing first-hand the results of student initiative, commitment and expertise. For example, on Saturday the 30th of April representatives from the Marian Gospel Choir took to the stage at the 2016 Time to Shine concert. This Catholic Education Melbourne performing arts extravaganza features some of the best performing arts talent from schools in the Archdiocese. The girls from the Gospel Choir auditioned in late 2015 for a place in the program and impressed the organisers with their harmonies and sound and at Time to Shine they excelled with a rendition of You Raise me up, as well as being the support choir for many other pieces. Their outstanding performance was the culmination of months of rehearsals and a strong commitment to teamwork. We congratulate all members of the Choir who participated and Mr. Cooper and Ms. Eleanor who supported them throughout the preparation and concert.

This example of commitment as a result of opportunity was also exhibited by a Year 10 Science class who participated in a Brain Challenge as part of Education Perfect. After much preparation, and with the support of Ms Matejin and Dr. Familari from Melbourne University, the students competed in the first round in March. Earlier this week the results for round 2 were announced and we were delighted to hear that 5 students have made it through to the State Finals. This is a fantastic achievement as only 33 schools participated in this prestigious competition. There girls will attend the State Finals in July at the Brain Bee Centre at the University of Melbourne. Their preparation continues as they take full advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

We also see students make the most of their learning by having full control of a project and seeing it through from start to finish. For example, the VCAL students have been busy converting an unused section of the school property into a living and sustainable garden. They have designed and contributed to the construction of garden beds, a work bench and stone pathways. They have consulted with staff, garden suppliers and other community groups to garner support for their project. They also aim to develop links with other members of the school community especially those who can help them with gardening skills, tips and ideas. We commend the girls on their diligence, leadership and the pride that they have exhibited in ensuring that the finished product will be of an exemplary standard.

Finally, the Brigid Arthur Trade Training Centre has been abuzz with activity as the Hospitality students have been designing and cooking menus to cater for school events. Members of the Stewardship Council were treated to a delicious three course meal on Thursday night and the students were given positive feedback as to the taste and quality of the meals. A menu of pumpkin soup, beetroot tart and roast chicken were eagerly devoured and demonstrated the acquired skills of the young chefs in the kitchen. They then followed up the next morning by catering for the inaugural Marian College Mothers’ Day Breakfast. It was great to see mothers on their own and the pride that they have exhibited in ensuring that the finished product will be of an exemplary standard.

The examples above are only a brief snapshot of the myriad of opportunities made available to students with the aim to provide for all interests and pathways. To see the student enthusiasm and enjoyment makes all the hard work and commitment worthwhile.

Rita Grima and Raymond Pisani - Co- Principals
Faith and Mission

On Sunday we celebrate Mother’s Day, an opportunity to show our appreciation to our mothers, grandmothers and other significant females in our lives. At Marian College this was celebrated with a Mother’s Day Breakfast on Friday the 6th of May, an occasion where students brought along their mothers or grandmothers to enjoy a special meal together. Like Mary, Jesus’ mother who is a good example for us, our mothers nurture and protect us. It was a lovely opportunity to celebrate them in this way. Thank you to all staff and students that contributed to the occasion. Pope Francis says “A world without mothers would be ‘inhumane,’” he said, “because mothers always know how to give witness -- even in the worst of times -- to tenderness, dedication and moral strength. Being a mother does not mean just bringing a child into the world, but it is also a life choice. What does a mother choose?” he asked. “It is the choice to give life and this is great, this is beautiful.” If societies do not do justice to the contributions and sacrifices of mothers, the church is not always better, he said. “Perhaps mothers, who are ready to make many sacrifices for their children and often also for others’ should find greater reception and attention in the church, he said.”

On Wednesday a group of 10 students from Year 10 participated in the St Vincent de Paul Conference. There was an opportunity to hear speakers from asylum seekers and to connect with other students. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to develop their understanding and knowledge of the St Vincent de Paul Society and develop ideas on ways to spread this knowledge. These girls could see our College theme in action, that a ‘little mercy makes the world less cold and more just.’

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

Student Wellbeing

ONGOING WORK OF THE SRC AND LAMP BEARERS
The student leaders from Years 7-12 and our Lamp Bearers are continuing to evaluate our Behaviour Management structure. They are finding issues such as the use of social media and inappropriate student behaviour quite challenging.

We are working towards having something in place for our Student Leaders Formation Day later in the term with a view to having it all finalised in time for the end of term assembly in June.

PLANNING FOR BRIGIDINE CELEBRATION DAY
The planning team for Brigidine Celebration Day has started preparing for the big day at the end of August. The day will link very closely to our school theme for the year - ‘A little mercy makes the world less cold and more just.’

The guest speaker and proposed activities will also support the theme. The planning team also involves our JDF Leaders as we continue to emphasise our Brigidine Core Value of practising justice and service.

Further details will be provided when the structure of the day is more defined.

YEAR LEVEL LEADERS FORMATION DAY
As part of their formation the Year Level Leaders team have attended the Annual Mental Health and Wellbeing Conference held in Melbourne on May 5 and 6.

The mental health and wellbeing of our students is a priority for all of our Year Level Leaders and they have had the opportunity to work with experts such as Michael Carr-Grieg and Sue McLean - the cybersafety expert in Australia. We were also exposed to the most recent material available to support the work we do with our students.

We look forward to utilising this material with our students and continuing to enhance and support the wellbeing of all our girls.

They are our hope and our future and if we can make their time through secondary school a positive and enjoyable experience through the development of resilience, conflict resolution skills and positive and healthy relationships then this will assist them in their lives beyond Marian.

Kerrie Williams - Assistant to the Co-Principals – Student Wellbeing
Learning and Teaching

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You would have previously received a letter outlining an upcoming move to our new electronic form system called Signmee. This is our new online service for managing home-school electronic forms. We have chosen to use Signmee as it allows our school to create and send online forms that can be filled, and signed by parents without the need for printing and returning. Here are a few things we plan to use Signmee for:

- Excursion forms
- Camp forms
- Medical forms
- Notifications and updates (including emergency notifications)
- Booking forms
- Sports events
- Performing arts events
- Newsletters

We envisage using Signmee for some excursions at the commencement of Semester 2.

**FILLING AND SIGNING FORMS:**
You would have recently received an email regarding Signmee forms which needs to be filled and signed (using a password).

It is important that you “activate” the signmee account as soon as possible. When you fill in your first form, you will be directed to a page to create a new Signmee password. You will also need to provide a few pieces of information for verification - an alternative email address and phone number.

Once you have created your password, you will have a personal Signmee Inbox. This is where all your forms will be stored.

**MY SIGNMEE INBOX (AVAILABLE ONCE YOU CREATE A SIGNMEE ACCOUNT):**
You can access your forms in Signmee at any time. Go to www.signmee.com and click on the ‘Log in’ at the top of the screen. Once you sign in with your log in details, you will have access to your Inbox.

Please note that we are still at the trialing stage and we anticipate using Signmee at the beginning of Semester 2. We will provide more information once the system has been set up. If you have any questions regarding the Signmee system, please contact Paul Familari at the College via email pfamilari@mariansw.catholic.edu.au or phone 9363 1711.

**NAPLAN TESTING**
Students in Year 7 and Year 9 will participate in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The NAPLAN tests will take place from 10 – 12 May. Students complete tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy (with and without calculator).

Whilst these tests do provide information about individual student achievement and growth, it is important to consider individual NAPLAN results as only one indicator of your child’s performance in the context of extensive and continual assessment throughout the year. For teachers at Marian College, these tests are also a source of important information that we can utilise as we constantly strive to improve our teaching and learning programs.

Letters and brochures outlining details relating to these tests have been sent home with students. Sample tests can be accessed through the NAPLAN Portal page, accessible via SEQTA student Learn and parent Engage.

**SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATIONS**
From 14 – 17 June, Year 10 and 11 students will undertake their Semester 1 examinations and a key to success is planning and studying well in advance. This will assist students to feel confident and prepared to perform to at their best. Students will receive their examination timetables and other details the examinations next week.

For VCE students, examination success is vital. In the Unit 3/4 studies, the VCAA October-November Examinations make up at least 50% of a student's final score in a subject and can also influence the scaling of their marks in school-assessed coursework.

Successful examination completion is a skill and, like any skill, one that is developed and refined over time, with practice. Consequently, it is very important for students to develop and improve their examination skills in the preceding years. This should enable students to reach their Year 12 exams with well-developed skills and a positive approach to sitting exams.

Semester 1 examination results will also influence the subject selection process for 2017. In approving VCE subjects for students, the College aims to support students to enrol in studies in which they will have the greatest opportunity for success and have demonstrated the knowledge, understanding and skills required to meet the requirements of the study. For this reason, students receiving unsatisfactory examination scores may not be approved to for enrolment in related VCE studies.

Year 9 students will have their first opportunity to sit examinations at the end of Semester 1. They will have four exams (Mathematics, Science, Religious Education and Themes) over two days – 6 and 7 June.

continued......
Learning and Teaching

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SEQTA PARENT ENGAGE
In the last edition of Marian News, we outlined the positive impact of parent engagement on a student’s learning. We are very pleased to see that so many of our parents are accessing our parent portal, SEQTA Engage, on a regular basis. We trust that you are finding the ongoing access to information about your daughter’s learning, progress and achievement is enabling you to be truly engaged in her learning.

We have enjoyed working with a number of families at our SEQTA Engage Parent Information Sessions. We plan to host another evening session shortly, and will communicate this date soon.

If you have not yet set up your Engage account, we ask you to do so as soon as possible. Please contact Jane Goddard at the College if you require assistance.

THE GAT (GENERAL ACHIEVEMENT TEST)
All students studying a Unit 3/4 VCE or VCE VET subject - Year 12 and Year 11 - must sit the VCAA General Achievement Test on Tuesday 7 June. More information will be provided in the next edition of Marian News.

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

Sports Program
The SCSA breakfast held at St Aloysius College in North Melbourne on Friday 22 April was an inspiring experience for House Captains. During this event we were able to socialise and share ideas with sports leaders from other schools, and we also heard from a guest speaker who demonstrated the importance of sport and education in the lives of our diverse youth, young girls especially. She spoke about our roles in striving to be good leaders by giving opportunities to others regarding their participation in school sport events as well as in the wider community, promoting the positive relationships between girls and sport. We were reminded that we should not limit ourselves, and keep working towards a ‘utopia’ where a healthy experience with physical movement and social education was accessible to all in the community.

Claudia Tohi & My Tran - Students
Dear Parents,

Marian College are fundraising with SilkRoc Soy Candles to raise money for the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Fund.

SilkRoc is making it easy for us to raise funds with their beautifully scented Soy Candles and Room Sprays. SilkRoc has 12 delightful scents to choose from which are sure to fill your home with a beautiful aroma. They are also a great gift idea.

How does the fundraiser work?

We will sell the SilkRoc Metro candle, which comes individually boxed, at a price of $23.00 each, the small candle for $12, the SilkRoc 200ml room spray for $17 and Melts at a price of $7.50 each. Benefits from each candle and room spray sold will go towards the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Fund.

The Fragrances available are:

- Vanilla - Creamy vanilla
- Sweet Candy - A very sweet floral
- Oriental Bloom - Fresh floral petals with a hint of vanilla
- Summer Peach - Summer stone fruits infused with spearmint
- Citrus Berry - Citrus fruits combined with berries
- Magnolia - Soft floral notes
- Cinnamon Spice - Strong poached pear with vanilla and cinnamon
- Mexican Passion - Lemon, lime, orange and passionfruit
- Miami Sunset - Vanilla with coconut and lime
- Oriental Tea - Jasmine, green tea and lemon grass
- Jaffa - Vanilla mixed with orange
- Lemon Beach - Vanilla, lemon and brown sugar

Ordering is easy:

1. Simply place your order and pay for the quantity of candles, melts or room sprays you require through Marian College.
2. SilkRoc will deliver to Marian College directly.

You can order as many as you like! Delivery will be within 2-3 weeks from your order being placed.

If you’re unsure which scent to choose, the SilkRoc Metro candle and room spray will be displayed with all available fragrances for you to try and choose your desired fragrance in the VCAL room.

Order Form Return Date:
Please return attached order form and payment to the VCAL girls at Marian College. Orders can be placed at any time during the term.

Any enquiries can be directed to Mary Sanelli on 0408 122 292 or Geraldine Ramondetta on 0412 867 064

Regards

VCAL Girls

Marian College, Sunshine
**SilkRoc Order Form:**

Student Name:  
Homeroom:  
Contact Number:  

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<th>FRAGRANCE</th>
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<th>Number of candles Small</th>
<th>Number of ROOM SPRAYS</th>
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<td>Lemon Bean</td>
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| No. of Candles Large | X $23.00 Each | $ |
| No. of Candles Small | X $12.00 Each | $ |
| No. of Room Sprays  | X $17.00 Each | $ |
| No. of Melts        | X $7.50 Each  | $ |
| **TOTAL OWING**     |              | $ |
Marian College
VET HOSPITALITY SHOWCASE DINNER
19th May
26th May
&
2nd June
6.30 pm – 9pm

4 Course Meal
$25 per person*
*Family discount available

Bookings 9363 1711

Marian Coffee Shop
From 27th April
Every Wednesday this term
Time: 9am to 10am
Cost: $3.50
Location: Marian College
Enter through Front Office
Drop your kids off and come in for a cuppa

COFFEE AVAILABLE
• Latte’s
• Hot chocolate
• Double blacks
• Mochas
• Long black’s
• Short black’s
• Cappuccino’s
• Mocha’s
• Piccolo lattes
• Flat white
• Also will be tea & herbal tea

Look forward to seeing you there
Science

SCIENCE BRAIN BEE CHALLENGE 2016
STATE FINALS FOR MARIAN COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Australian and New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge is a competition for high school students in Year 10 to assist them in learning about the brain and its functions. This year 4450 students participated in this competition from over 250 schools.

On Wednesday, 16th of March as part of Brain Awareness Week (March 14th -20th), one of our Year 10 Science classes participated in Round 1 of the Brain Bee competition. We have just received some wonderful news that five students have performed exceptionally well and have made it through to Round 2 of the Victorian State Finals. The final will be held at the Melbourne Brain Centre, The University of Melbourne on Wednesday 13th of July.

Congratulations to the following students:

Sarah Maloney  Nga Nguyen  Lily Ramage  My Phuong Nguyen  Cathy Huynh

Suzanne Matejin - (Learning Leader)

YEaR 10 ADVANCED SCIENCE

Year 10 Advanced Science students are currently studying the Chemistry component of their course and exploring some of the different types of chemical reactions that occur. One of the chemical reactions that students have investigated is the neutralisation of acids and bases. In their experimentation, students utilised some of the senior chemistry equipment and conducted a titration into the relative concentration of a household cleaner. The girls showed great patience and accuracy in conducting the experiment and observing the exact time that their yellow basic solution changed to a very pale pink.

The girls enjoyed seeing the colour change results and are to be congratulated for their expertise in successfully conducting a challenging experiment and I am sure we have great chemists in the making!

Anne Daunt - (Yr 10 Science Teacher)

LOTE

YEAR 7 ITALIAN:

Year 7’s have been busy this year learning language to greet and meet new people. The year began with a fun introduction to Italian with the students being taught the traditional dance of Tarantella. We had a visiting instructor teach the students the traditional Italian dance and the history of the dance. The girls learnt where the dance originated and that it was supposedly used to get rid of the venom from a spider bite! The dance comes from the South of Italy and is now part of wedding and important family celebrations. The Year 7’s danced with wonderful energy and vitality. A group of 12 students were also involved in performing the dance at Cultural Diversity Night in term one. These students will also be performing this dance to students at St Paul’s Primary School this term. Well done to all the girls involved!

We look forward to more fun learning with the students this term.

Buon anno!
Susan
Year 8 Reflection Day

On Thursday the 21st of April the Year 8 students participated in a Reflection Day. The day began with a liturgy with Mrs Towns, who spoke about an inspirational girl named Rachael, who died after being shot. Rachael had written in a journal before her death and our liturgy focused on the positive and inspirational person that she was. After the liturgy we participated in various art activities and had guest speakers from Project Rocket who taught us how to deal with bullying. After a Subway lunch we all headed off to take part in different activities organised through Life Be In It. Activities like tug-of-war, reaction relay, earth ball and fire fighters mat. All in all, it was a fantastic day and we were very lucky to have the opportunity to participate in this special day with our Year Level and teachers.

Dahlia Cremona (8 Veronica)

On Thursday the 21st of April, the Year 8 students took part in a reflection day. It was a time to reflect on our friendships and goals. In the morning a Liturgy was held by Ms Towns, discussing ‘Rachel’s Challenge’ and how small things that you do can make a change. A piece of fabric was each handed out to everyone to write a goal that they would want to achieve throughout the year. We also made friendship bracelets for our friends and for our fundraiser. Project Rockit also came in and talked about bullying and ways to deal with this issue. I also believe that Project Rockit really help people and encourage people to not only stand up for themselves, but also stand up for others who have been been bullied. The Life Be In It activities, held outside on the oval, were fun and proved the students the opportunity to work and trust each other.

Carlin Tia (8 Veronica)

The Year 8 Reflection Day gave us an opportunity to look at relationships within our classes and across the year level, helping us to value relationships and recognise the importance of respect toward others. We learnt about the effect of bullying through Project Rockit, by playing fun educational games (like, never have I ever). We learnt how to construct positive relationships during our morning reflection, as well as discovering the significance of teamwork. Overall, the Year 8 Reflection Day was a wonderful experience and can definitely lead us toward a positive year filled with positive relationships.

Rosetta Buhagiar (8 Frances)
Performing Arts

CO-CURRICULAR MUSIC AND DRAMA PROGRAMS

The term is progressing at a rate of knots! Concerts are just a few weeks away now, and students in the classroom program and the co-curricular programs are preparing pieces to present to their audiences. On top of this some of our singers and the Gospel Choir have just participated in the ‘Time to Shine’ Catholic Schools Performing Arts Gala, held at the Regent Theatre, with two shows on Saturday 30th April. Here is what some of our participating students had to say about it:

Performing at the Time to Shine Gala was an amazing experience for the Marian Gospel Choir this year. As members of Gospel United we were given the opportunity to work with professional performers and production crew. With the support of our Co-Principals, our Music and Drama Co-Curricular Programs Co-ordinator and especially our Director Michael Cooper, we were able to sing with talented students from many Catholic shools to a crowd of hundreds of people at the Regent Theatre. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to expand our knowledge of the performance industry, and especially for Lakiu Latu and Kayla Lacey to be part of a smaller ensemble piece as soloists. From singing from the train to the change room and then to the stage, this event allowed us to gain confidence in our performance abilities and overall it was an occasion that we will remember even after we leave school.

Lakiu Latu and Claudia Tohi - Leaders, Marian Gospel Choir (United)

Community News

Combined Reunion

for Marlan College students who graduated in the years


Saturday 10th September 1-4pm
Marlan College
enter at gate 3

Enquiries & RSVP: 9363 1711
jheaney@marlansw.catholic.edu.au
What is Happening to Our Girls

presented by Maggie Hamilton author of ‘What’s happening to our Girls’ and ‘What’s Happening to Our Boys?’

This forum examines:
- What makes this generation different from their parents.
- The impact of marketing campaigns on self-esteem and body image
- Why depression & eating disorders are on the rise
- Why and how girls lead secret lives

Wednesday 7th September 7:00-8:30pm
Marian College
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: 9363 1711
For Parents and Daughters

CAREERS & PATHWAYS PROGRAM – PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CAREERS DAY PRESENTATIONS
WED 22ND OR THURS 23RD JUNE

We are seeking parent volunteers who would be willing to speak to the girls in year 10 about either of the following:
• Your career and the path that you have followed to get there.
• If you are a small business owner you could talk to our students about what you look for when you are employing staff.
  • You may know of any other industry professionals from the area who would like to participate.

For further details and to volunteer for this event please email jheaney@mariansw.catholic.edu.au