Dear Members of the St Gregory’s Family,

In our Gospel reading on Sunday it speaks to the fact that we should be humble in the face of others. Humility is one of the characteristics of the Marist Brothers and one that we should continually practise as I am sure we would have a far better world if the act of humility was practised across the world. How many times in our daily lives do we have conversations with others and we always have to be right? How times when we are engaged in conversation, if someone makes an error do we stand up and correct them? Do we feel better because we have demonstrated our knowledge to all involved and shown the other person up as not having their facts correct? In the long run does it really matter who is right or wrong, especially in conversational matters? Christ talks about humility and practised it on a regular basis for us to see. Is this not a characteristic that we should aspire to put into practice on a regular basis? I am sure that our community would be a better one if we all worked at being humble.

Prayers

Many would know that Mr Smith has been away from school this year and the reason for that is his son has had a life threatening illness to which he has finally succumbed. It has been a long fight for Ethan and the family. I would ask you to keep the Smith family in your thoughts and prayers as they try to deal with this tragedy.

Mrs Di McIntyre, a former secretary to Mr Fitzgerald (Former Deputy Headmaster) at the College has passed away after a battle with illness. The funeral for Mrs McIntyre will be held in the College Chapel next Tuesday at 10.30 am.

College Activities

There have been numerous activities take place at the College since the last newsletter. Recently we had a representative (Zak Hackett Yr 10) in the Quota International Public Speaking Competition. The College had two representatives (Taine Martin and Hamish Capewell Year 11) at the ASX Dinner last week. The College was recently represented in Dubbo in a CCC Cup Soccer match which they won and now move through to the semi-finals and the Rugby League have had a similar story and now move through to the semi-finals of the CCC Cup. Our Mock Trial Team have advanced to the quarter finals of the Mock Trial competition.

Learning Centre

The renovations for the Learning Centre are now well under way with an end date of December. Hopefully, the College will be able to occupy the Centre in the new year. Work will commence shortly on the new western entrance road which will mean that the College will have to undertake traffic works near the farm carpark which will cause some inconvenience between now and the end of the year for a much better outcome for traffic management.

90 Years Celebrations

Celebrations for the 90 Years of Marist Education at the College are well underway. The Mass will be held on Friday 2 September commencing at 9.00am and will include celebrations for the Feast of St Gregory and the changeover of our College Leaders. All are welcome to attend.

Year 12 HSC Trials

The Year 12 students have only five weeks of classes remaining. They will be receiving their reports which will give them ample time to prepare for the HSC. Hopefully they will be able to focus and make every moment count as they move towards Graduation Day. I will be putting out a letter to parents in the next few days with information about the Graduation Day activities about what is required and expected of the students.

Sentral

Sentral is the College database which I demonstrated for parents at the recent Parent Forums. Mr Perna will send out a letter early next week that will instruct parents on how to access the parent portal which will allow parents to access the daily notices, your son’s timetable, his reports and a number of other items. The letter will explain this in more detail.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Damien Millar
Headmaster
Sitting here in my office today I am surrounded by boxes and boxes of Krispy Kreme donuts ready to be sold to raise money towards our ongoing appeal for Marist Solidarity and the many communities it supports. Apart from the terrible temptation to consume, I am drawn to how fortunate most of us in the St Gregory’s community are. For most of us the $20 for a box of donuts is a little luxury which we afford ourselves with little thought.

However, I am also reminded of the call of Christ for us to live justly and how readily our community responds to that call. Through these fundraisers which need organisation, time and support from many people, we are answering this call. We are also involved in many acts of goodness in the wider community.

Our Year 11 students are an example of this when each Wednesday afternoon eight of us visit the young people at Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre to play touch football or handball. I am always proud when our boys greet them with the respect and friendliness which our common humanity demands. I am often overwhelmed with pride when they continue to extend this friendship when it is sometimes met with a less than perfect response. We know that it is the difficulties and challenges of their lives which have led those young people to be where they are and their fear of being judged which motivates their responses.

In Matthew’s Gospel Jesus says, “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint, dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practised without neglecting the others.”

Our responsibility is to be as unlike the hypocrites as we can – to practise forgiveness and outreach and mercy. Selling donuts or visiting Reiby, we are attending to the weightier matters of the law.

Cathie Clarke,
Director of Mission/RE Coordinator

At a recent Pastoral Care meeting Assistant Year 9 Coordinator, Mr John Dixon, gave a topical and significant presentation to the Year 9 cohort, highlights included:

The power of personal appearance

This applies to anyone who has ever wanted to get an idea across to someone else, to influence opinion or action – be it in the home, school, church, community or workplace. Intelligence, knowledge, ability, initiative and effort are vital to success of any kind, but regardless of who you are, how old and your role or goal, your image can give you the personal/professional presence you need.

As an individual living and working in a highly complex and competitive society, you must recognise and understand the impact of your appearance as it communicates first to you and then to others.

There are four key areas to think about

What you wear and the way you look affects:
◆ the way you think,
◆ the way you feel,
◆ the way you act or behave, and then
◆ the way others react or respond to you.

Mr Dixon reminded students of College standards and expectations:
◆ personal pride in appearance;
◆ clean shaven;
◆ hair maintained – no product;
◆ shirts tucked in;
◆ shoes polished;
◆ ties to top of belt buckle;
◆ top button done up.

All of these 1%s add up!!!

On behalf of Year 9, I would like to thank Mr Dixon for this powerful and important message. Also, sincere thanks to the Year 9 Pastoral Care team and the students of Year 9 who display pride in their appearance and uphold the traditions of St Gregory’s College.

Peter Hogan,
Year 9 Coordinator
Student Profiles

Congratulations to the following students who are Mock Trial Quarter Finalists:

Christian Iriarte
Year 11

Rohan Indap
Year 11

Sean Mabin
Year 11

Derek Komban
Year 11

Curtis Byrum
Year 11

Bailey Devine-Scott
Year 11

Teaching and Learning

Semester 1 Awards
Semester 1 awards for first, second and third in course were presented at a recent College assembly.
Those for Drama were omitted from the presentation and will be presented at the next College assembly on September 9.

Congratulations to our Drama award winners.

Year 9 Drama

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nathanael  Robinson</td>
<td>1st in Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel</td>
<td>2nd in Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin</td>
<td>3rd in Course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 10 Drama

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harrison</td>
<td>1st in Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>Equal 2nd in Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>Equal 2nd in Course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Australian Geography Competition
The Australian Geography Competition is a national competition held every year to encourage Geography in schools and reward excellence in students. This year, selected classes from Year 10 and Year 11 Geography were asked to participate. The College would like to thank all students who participated in the competition and recognise the results of the following students. Certificates will be presented to students at assembly.

Congratulations to the students listed below on an outstanding achievement in the competition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Khyle Davidson</td>
<td>Top 1% in Year level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lachlan Saunders</td>
<td>Top 1% in Year level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Matthew Saunders</td>
<td>Top 1% in Year level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Joshua Vella</td>
<td>Top 1% in Year level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Samuel Everett</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nicholas Speechley</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>William Mannix</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Liam Novak</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Charlie Allen</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Daniel Bertollo</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Joseph Stewart</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Jarrod Taff</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Catherine Keegan,
Director of Teaching and Learning
**Sports Events**

**29 August**
- CCC Football Semi Final vs Holy Spirit Bellambi

**1 September**
- MCS Athletics, Homebush

**8 September**
- MCS AFL and Touch

**15 September**
- MCS AFL and Touch Semi Finals

**16 September**
- CCC Athletics

**22 September**
- MCS AFL and Touch Grand Finals

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**TERM 3 – WEEK 6**

**GIO/CCC SCHOOLBOY RUGBY LEAGUE AND FOOTBALL (SOCCER) CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Both of our Rugby League games in the CCC and the GIO competitions were scheduled for the same day at the same time. Our First XIII, coached by Mr Newell, played Hills Sports High School in the GIO Cup. Our Second XIII, coached by Mr Bullock, represented our College and travelled north to Thornton to play All Saints College Maitland in the CCC. After trailing Hills 6-22 early in the second half this year’s team’s perpetual “come from behind charge to victory” fell short, losing 18-22. Finishing the GIO competition having won our pool undefeated and being Quarter Finalist in a National Championship is a wonderful achievement for the First XIII. Their season has not finished as at the same time our Second XIII, substituting for the Firsts, defeated Maitland 28-24 for the College to progress further into the CCC competition. This was a wonderful result by the Seconds. We now play Marist College Kogarah at St Gregory’s in the CCC Quarter Final match.

Quarter Final games and wins for both our First Grade teams in Rugby League and Soccer sees St Greg’s as the only College progressing into both Semi Final competitions in NSW Combined Catholic Colleges. This is now the second year in a row we have achieved these results.

Our Soccer team travelled overnight to play St John’s College Dubbo. A 2-1 win now has the team playing Holy Spirit College Bellambi on Monday 29 August.

Played at our College, an outstanding 52-10 win by our Rugby League team against Marist College Kogarah has them now scheduled to play Patrician Brothers College Blacktown at St Mary’s Stadium this Thursday 25 August. Congratulations to the players and coaches and managers for these wonderful results.

**MCS AFL AND TOUCH COMPETITIONS**

The MCS AFL and Touch competitions continue. Our two AFL teams, 14 years and 17 years, played Eastwood with wins to the 14 years team 21-15 and the 17 years 56-1. The Touch teams’ results were - Year 7 had two wins; Year 8 - one win and one loss; Year 9 “A” – one win and a draw; Year 9 “B” – two losses and Year 10 – two losses. Team total being four wins, one draw and five losses.

Our undefeated MCS AFL teams had wins over All Saints Catholic College Liverpool with the 14 years team 51-22 and the Seniors 91-0. This week they play Patrician Brothers Fairfield from the washed out first round. Our MCS Touch teams had four wins and six losses – Years 7, 8, 9A and Opens one wins and one loss and Year 8 had two losses and continue their solid season of competition.

Joseph Lantz
Sports Coordinator

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**Other News**

Dear Parents,

Commencing Monday 29 August, 2016 the College will be trialling SMS messages for when students are absent.

Parents will receive a message at approximately 9.45am on the morning that their son is absent. We would appreciate any feedback from this process so that we can ensure the new system works efficiently and effectively.

Messages will read as follows:

- Our records show that (Name of student) is absent today, please email
- ss@stgregs.nsw.edu.au regarding the absence or call 4629 4284 with any concerns

Matthew Brennan, Deputy Headmaster