Dear Parents and Members of the St Gregory’s Community,

Champagnat Day
At the Champagnat Day Mass I spoke to the community present about ‘What makes a great Marist School?’ In researching the question I went to three Brothers who have served in 18 Marist ministries across Australia with over 140 years’ experience as Marist Brothers. This is what they had to say.

Br Francis (Parramatta, Maitland, Westmead Boys Home, Eastwood, Lidcombe, Canberra, Ashgrove, Lismore, Ayr, Randwick, St Greg’s)
Devotion to Mary; Trust in Mary and God
Family Spirit; Quality Teaching

Br Coman (St Greg’s, Parramatta, Canberra)
Devotion to Mary; Importance of each student
Helping those who need it the most

Br Virgilius (Adelaide, Hamilton, Joey’s, Kogarah, Bondi Beach, Auburn, Lismore, St Greg’s)
Devotion to Mary; Character building and student leadership
Access to activities - Sport

"More important now than ever to have a good Catholic school. People are looking for it. People need it." (Br Francis)

I then put the following questions to the community. What are we doing as a community to ensure that we remain a great Marist School? Is there a point of difference between our ‘Marist School’ and other Catholic schools? Devotion to Mary. Praying for her intercession. Living our Lives in the Way of Mary. But what else can and should we be doing as a community?

I sometimes hear people say that something is or isn’t the Marist way. What is the Marist way? I know one thing that it isn’t. It isn’t an excuse or a way out. In times that are tough it should be a point of reassurance. As Br Francis said “Trust in God and Mary” are essential to a good Marist school.

I finished with the following question. What can we all do as individuals to help live out the vision of St Marcellin Champagnat?

From Saint Marcellin in his instructions and interviews with the Brothers, the words that recurred most frequently were those of the apostle: ‘it is in God that we live and move and have our being’, also those of Psalm 128: ‘even if I dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even then your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me up’. [From Gibson R. Studies in Marist Spirituality, p.69]

I believe this would be a good place to start.

Josh Hogan Year 11 Learn Earn Legend Program
We wish Josh all the best at the Conference that he has been selected for this week in Canberra. To be selected is a tribute to Josh.

Diving Success
Congratulations to Nathan Calman (Year 10) who has been selected to represent NSW at the Asia Pacific Rim Invitational Diving Championships, to be held in New Zealand from 4-8 October 2013. Nathan was selected on the basis of his recent performances and his placement into the NSW Institute of Sport Squad. Nathan has been moved into the NSW Institute of Sport diving program and is now training 6 days per week.

CSDA Debating
Congratulations to the six teams who have progressed through to the Elimination Finals in Debating. Teams that have progressed through are the 8A, 8B, 9A, 10A, 10B, and 11B teams. Having six teams in the eliminations made us the most represented school in the competition. From this, four teams have progressed through to the Quarter-Final Round on Friday 21 June with the venue to be decided. Hopefully we will be able to host and see many parents and students there in support. The four Quarter-Final teams are 8B, 9A, 10A and 10B.

Paul Dillon Drug Education Talks for parents
Monday 15 July (Day 1 Term 3) 7.30-8.30pm
All parents would have received an information letter regarding Paul Dillon, who will be speaking at the College to students, staff and parents. If you have not replied to the invitation could you please do so as soon as possible so we can cater appropriately. It promises to be a most informative evening for parents on a topic that is very prominent in our society.

1:1 Laptop Program
The College has formed a Committee to look into us moving toward a 1:1 Laptop Program in the future. We have examined a variety of options to date and we will be presenting our recommendations to Mr Millar when he returns from leave. As part of the process, staff and parents will have the opportunity to complete a survey. We hope that this will provide the College with the appropriate data to move forward and make a decision.

Thank you for all your support in the period I have been Acting Headmaster. I have appreciated the communications received from all members of the community and have enjoyed immensely the time in the role. I look forward to resuming my role as Deputy Headmaster in Term 3. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Stephen Kennaugh
Acting Headmaster
**Important Dates**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 20 June – Tuesday 2 July 2013</td>
<td>Solomon Islands Immersion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 15 July 2013</td>
<td>Term 3 Commences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16 July 2013</td>
<td>Year 11 U Turn the Wheel incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 Sunday 21 July 2013</td>
<td>Bendigo National Sheep Show</td>
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<td>Friday 19 July 2013</td>
<td>College Naidoc Assembly</td>
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<td>CSDA Debating Semi-Finals</td>
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<td>Wednesday 24 July 2013</td>
<td>Careers Forum</td>
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<td>3.05pm – 4.30pm in the Br Luke Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26 July 2013</td>
<td>CSDA Debating Finals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 27 July 2013</td>
<td>Maroon and Blue Christmas in July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29 July – Monday 12 August 2013</td>
<td>Trial HSC Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29 July 2013</td>
<td>Year 7 Parent Forums</td>
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<td>commencing at 9.00am and 7.30pm in the Donovan Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 31 July 2013</td>
<td>ICAS English Assessment</td>
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<td>Year 8 Etiquette Evening</td>
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<td></td>
<td>commencing at 6.00pm in the Donovan Centre</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Dear Parents,</strong></td>
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<td>Just a few reminders to start Term 3:</td>
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<td>Winter Uniform is still to be worn in Term 3. Please ensure that shoes are cleaned and blazers are worn.</td>
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<td>Please ensure that your son is appropriately groomed. College expectations can be found in your son’s homework diary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School starts on Monday 15 July at 8.25am.</td>
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**Many thanks for your support of me personally in this acting role during the last 12 weeks and the College in general.**

**Best wishes for an enjoyable break with your fine young men.**

Matthew Brennan, Deputy Headmaster (Acting)

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**From the Book Room**

- All students in Year 7 to 10 should have returned their History/Geography Text Books before the end of Term 2. The texts are to be handed on to the next student who will require it at the beginning of Term 3.
- All students in Year 7 who are studying Music must also return their Music Text Books. Failure to return these text books will result in non-refundable charges.

Mrs Simich, Book Hire

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**Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

193 St Andrews Rd, Vorrville
Feast Day 14th July at 10am

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**From The Acting Deputy Headmaster ……**

Mass commences at 10am followed by a procession and concert and children’s activities during the afternoon. Free entry, please bring a picnic to share.

For 9 days from 5 to 13 July there will be a Novena of Masses to honour Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

All welcome

For more information and to RSVP please call the Parish Office on 9603 7373

**Salvation Army Doorknock Appeal:**

THANK YOU to all the parents and students that helped out with the Salvation Army Doorknock appeal on 26 May. We met at the College at 8:30am and then reconvened at The Salvation Army Depot in Leumeah to count our money, eat some sausage sandwiches and debrief on how our morning went. Everyone had good fun and enjoyed giving up their own time to help others. Again, thank you for your time.

**Solomon Islands Immersion:**

I ask for your prayers for Miss Wray, Mr Mann and the 10 year 11 students that embarked to Vanga Point in the Solomon Islands yesterday. They have been working very hard to raise funds for this Immersion and must be commended on their efforts. We hope that they truly get a lot from this Immersion and we look forward to hearing their stories on their return.

Friday 2 August St Joseph’s Albion Park will be hosting

**The Big Chill Out for 2013**

The purpose of the sleep out is to raise awareness of homelessness in our region and to provide financial and moral support for the Vinnie’s Food and overall work of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The week following this event is known nationally as Homeless Persons Week. Bishop Ingham will lead a prayer vigil at night followed by some light entertainment.

Participants must be over 18 years of age. Please see http://www.dow.catholic.edu.au/ for more details.

If you can’t attend but would like to donate please email me at debra.monte@stgregs.nsw.edu.au

Thanks,

Mrs Debra Monte, Marist Solidarity Coordinator
The first half of this year has certainly been a busy one for the boys that make up the Year 12 group of 2013. There has been a genuine enthusiasm in the way they have gone about their business as well as the manner in which many boys have involved themselves as much as they can in all that the College has to offer.

A solid number of boys gained selection in a number of College sporting teams and have furthered their achievements with a significant number being selected to represent MCS and CCC in a range of sports.

I’ve been very impressed also with the number of boys who take on responsibilities in the College Agriculture program, some of whom don’t even study in that area, but are prepared to give up time to keep their hands in that aspect of College life.

On the cultural side of school life, only last week, a large number of Year 12 boys were involved in the Musical, Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor® Dreamcoat, with the girls from St Patrick’s. Te Taari Shelford played the lead role of Joseph and was simply outstanding in the role. Without taking away from the performances of the other boys, either on stage or backstage, the surprise packet of the musical (from a Year 12 perspective), would have to have been Joshua Morrison, with the quality of his solo performance.

I was most impressed with the attitude of the boys who were present on Champagnat Day. The boys really stepped-up to lead the singing in the Mass and then had a very strong hand in the running of activities throughout the day, culminating in the “Battle of the Codes” race at the conclusion.

As a part of our Pastoral Care program, the boys recently had the opportunity to review and discuss (with their homeroom teachers), their half yearly reports. This gave many boys the chance to evaluate and re-establish goals in the lead up to their trial HSC exams, early in Term 3.

I wish to remind the Year 12 boys and their parents that Mrs Sue Dein (Careers Adviser) is available to spend time with every one of the boys in the Year to ensure that they have appropriate direction for the years ahead. I’m hoping the boys will take up this opportunity with the enthusiasm that has been evident in other areas of school life.

Mr Pat Newell, Year 12 Coordinator

Champagnat Day

On Wednesday 5 June we held our annual celebration for the life of our Founder, St Marcellin Champagnat. The day commenced with Mass at 9.00am followed by a fun day of activities for students.

During the Mass, the following staff and students were acknowledged for their contribution to St Gregory’s College:

Champagnat Awards: Awarded to students who demonstrate a willingness to learn, a joyful manner, a passion for life, compassion for others, an emerging sense of self and faith, a sense of community and a trustworthy nature.

Champagnat Award Certificates:

Year 7: Tim Berkhour, Mitchell Braithwaite, Mitchell Kelly, Matthew Saunders
Year 8: Michael Arcuri, Joshua Ashkar, Ruchinda Dheerasekara, Vincent Hresczuk
Year 9: Blake Draper, Travis Rebeira, Bradley Rego, Matthew Zappia
Year 10: Luke Grosvenor, Izayah Hickey-Nia, Justin Phan, Maverick Tweedie
Year 11: Ashleigh Nisbit, Nicholas O’Neill, Henry Pearce, David Tranby
Year 12: Dean Boucher, Aaron Canham, Matthew Marks, Harry Roach

Champagnat Award Medallions

Year 7: Harrison Brady
Year 8: Brent Rushworth
Year 9: Edward Mulholland
Year 10: Alastair de Franck
Year 11: Nickolaus Eder
Year 12: Ben Talamaivao

The Champagnat Community Medallion for staff was awarded to Mr Rick Nieuwenhuis for his service in the spirit of St Marcellin Champagnat, particularly for his support of our Agriculture and Show programs.

The Marist Brothers and Marist Schools Australia also recognised those staff who have made a notable commitment to education in Marist schools.

10 years of committed service to Marist education: Mr Glen Bonfield, Mr Graeme Cook, Mrs Sue Dein, Mrs Cathy Keegan, Mr Joseph Lantz, Mrs Michelle Gardiner, Mr Glen Nelson, Mr John Sammut, Mrs Nada Simich, Mrs Jule Sligar, Mrs Willoughby

20 years of committed service to Marist education: Mrs Suzanne Grant, Mr John Kiernan, Mr John Vardy

25 years of committed service to Marist education: Mr Paul Blundell, Mr Mario Ghezzi, Mr Kerry Todd.

Congratulations to these staff and students.

Sacramental Programme

The Sacramental Programme for 2013 will commence early in Term 3. As in past years, we will be offering preparation and the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation for any boy who wishes to receive these sacraments.

Last year we were pleased to welcome 5 young men to the Christian family when they received the sacrament of Baptism. 14 boys were confirmed and many more received Eucharist for the first time.

Any student who would like to be a part of the programme this year should let Mrs Walsh know via email on judith.walsh@stregs.nsw.edu.au.

An enrolment form will then be sent home to gather details.

Mrs Cathie Clarke, Director of Mission
MCS FOOTBALL AND RUGBY LEAGUE

Our Football teams have finished another good MCS competition with the Year 8“A”, Year 8“B”, Year 7“A” and Year 7“B”, teams being Minor Premiers, winning their Semi Finals and are now Grand Finalists. The Year 9 and Year 10 teams placed fourth in their divisions to play in the Semi Finals with the 9’s losing by a goal and the Year 10 beating the Minor Premiers, Fairfield, to now play in the Grand Finals as well. The Seconds placed 5th in their division and the Firsts placed 9th following a lot of injuries and a young team this year.

In Rugby League the First Grade, Second Grade, 15 years“B”, 13 years“A” and 13 years“B” teams have progressed into the MCS Grand Finals. Congratulations to the teams and their coaches for another very successful year. Good Luck to all Football and Rugby League Grand Final teams.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOUR

Brent Rushworth (Year 8) placed 7th in the CCC Cross Country Championship and will now compete in the NSW All Schools Carnival. Congratulations Brent.

Joseph Lantz, Sports Coordinator

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<th>Forthcoming Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>18 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCS Tennis (16yr – Opens) North Parramatta Trials for the MCS Touch and AFL teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISA Round 4 vs St Patrick’s Strathfield (home)</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCS Tennis (12yr – 15yr) North Parramatta Trials for the MCS Touch and AFL teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISA Round 5 vs St Stanislaus’ (away)</td>
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<td>1 Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCS AFL and Touch</td>
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<td>3 Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISA Round 6 vs St Augustine’s (home)</td>
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<td>8 Aug</td>
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<td>MCS AFL and Touch</td>
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VISIT TO BRITISH AND IRISH LIONS TRAINING

On 14 June all the indigenous boys including myself were offered the opportunity to go and see the British and Irish Lions train in North Sydney. The excursion was supervised by Mr Brennan and Mr Spencer who both have a passion for Rugby Union and were as excited as the boys to meet the players. When we arrived at the training area we had to wait about half an hour before we could go in because of the strict rules in place to protect the high quality plays that the Lions had produced over many weeks of training. When the training commenced it was like an army drill, every ruck, line out and back line play were executed with perfect precision. I can say for certain that I learned a great deal as did the other boys there. After the training was over most of the boys brought out jerseys, footballs and anything else they could find to be signed by the players. At the end of the day we sat on the bus and talked about what interesting moves and plays we had observed during the training session. I personally feel lucky to have had the chance to see such a rare event that not many people get to see and I am sure that is also felt by all my mates who went.

Billy Siemsen (Year 11)