



MSA Newsletter

A newsletter for Member Schools of Marist Schools Australia published fortnightly during term time

From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues

Since the announcement of a proposed new school-funding model by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Education Minister Simon Birmingham on Tuesday May 2nd 2017, there has been enormous uncertainty among Catholic leaders, school principals and families. Judging by letters to editors in our major newspapers and other media commentary, Catholics need be careful to not exude a sense of “entitlement” in regard to government funding for our schools. We should never take government funding for granted and must constantly affirm our major political parties in their support for parents to choose a Catholic education for their children.

All Australians would agree with the noble aims of the proposed new funding model – transparent, according to need, and fair for all sectors, schools and families. However devising a fair formula, acceptable to all, that accurately identifies need, is an enormous and complex challenge. The proposed new funding formula does disadvantage Catholic schools across the country, schools which now educate over 20% of the nation’s children. This is not Catholic “propaganda”. It is a statement based on careful research directly linked to the inadequacies of calculating a school’s families collective “capacity to contribute” financially to the education of the children, based on a formula referred to as a school Socio-Economic Status (SES) score.

In 2011, the report titled *Review of Funding for Schooling*¹ now known as “Gonski 1.0” recommended:

that school SES scores be used only in the short term, with the Government advised to “commence work as a priority to develop, trial and implement a better measure of the capacity of parents to contribute in consultation with the non-government sectors.”

In February 2017, the Victorian Catholic Education Commission published an informative piece of research titled “*Capacity to contribute and school SES scores.*”² This paper also identifies the inadequacies of the SES formula, which underpins the proposed new funding model. Some key points from that research include:

- Through the use of school SES scores, capacity to contribute is not currently measured in a way that accurately reflects school need. Worse, the various flaws in the way SES scores measure capacity to contribute make them biased in favour of high-income and affluent families.
- This is contrary to the premise of the Schooling Resource Standard (SRS) funding model. A funding model that purports to be needs based is, in fact, corrupted by school SES scores and ultimately favours the least-needy non-government schools.
- There is, therefore, a need to develop a new measure of capacity to contribute in the SRS model. Notably, the *Review of Funding for Schooling* also recommended that the Australian Government develop, trial and implement a new measure of capacity to contribute as soon as possible.
- In simple terms, a new measure must:
 - Better measure financial means (incomes and wealth) than SES scores
 - More accurately reflect the circumstances of each individual student than SES scores
 - Be more up-to-date than SES scores.

A key message from all Marist Schools to our elected Members of Parliament is for the Government to review the proposed new funding model in 2017 in line with the recommendation of the Gonski Review. To allow time for this review to be properly conducted and findings included in the proposed new model will necessitate current arrangements remaining in place for 2018, and the new model commencing in 2019.

Two great heroes for Australian Marists are Saint Marcellin and Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross. Both were skilled advocates when dealing with Church and civil authorities. Let us seek their intercessions as we pray for the best educational outcomes for young Australians in every school across the land.

Yours sincerely

Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

1. *Review of Funding for Schooling – Final Report* (Gonski, Boston, Greiner, Lawrence, Scales, Tannock 2011)
2. [Capacity to Contribute and school SES scores \(Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd 2017\)](#)



COMING UP...

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|-----------|---|------------|--|
| 17 May | Remar: Red Caravel Day QLD | 31 May | Annual Meeting of Principals of MSA Governed Schools |
| 19 May | MYM Marist Connect Central Victoria | 1 June | Marian Lecture Warragul |
| 19-21 May | Remar: Blue Retreat QLD | 6 June | Feast Day of St Marcellin Champagnat |
| 23 May | Marian Lecture Brisbane | 9 June | Marian Lecture Adelaide |
| 25 May | Marian Lecture Sydney | 13 June | Marian Lecture Perth |
| 30 May | Marian Lecture Melbourne | 18-21 June | Footsteps2: Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved |
| 28-31 May | Footsteps1: Making Jesus Christ Known and Loved | 23-25 June | Care for the Soul Retreat - The Hermitage, Mittagong |

2017 MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

Biennial Conference

PLACES FILLING QUICKLY - REGISTER NOW!

<http://msa.edu.au/registrations/>

Registrations for the MSA Biennial Conference on 30 July – 1 August are filling quickly with over half of the conference capacity booked.

Registrations close 10 July.

Onsite accommodation is booked out. For further accommodation options and other information, please refer to the MSA website at this address - <http://msa.edu.au/accommodation-options-1/>



[REGISTER NOW](#)

THE MARIST WAY

A PILGRIMAGE

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH HILL
to
THE HERMITAGE OF THE SOUTH

SEPT 25 - OCT 1

Expressions of Interest to
carole.wark@marists.org.au
www.maristassociation.org.au

THE MARIST WAY

From Monday 25 September - Saturday 30 September 2017, a group of pilgrims will recreate the walk made by the three Marist Brothers who walked from Sydney in December 1905 to take up temporary residence in Rose Hill Cottage, Mittagong and begin the preparations to establish 'The Hermitage' as a Novitiate. The flyer is available [HERE](#) for your information.

MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER
Meet at St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney for the departure and preparation of the walk. Meet at St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney for the departure and preparation of the walk. Meet at St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney for the departure and preparation of the walk.

TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER
Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney. Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney.

WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER
Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney. Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney.

THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER
Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney. Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney.

FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER
Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney. Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney.

SATURDAY 30 SEPTEMBER
Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney. Walk from St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney to St Patrick's Church Hill, Sydney.

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER
Arrival at the Hermitage of the South in Mittagong. Arrival at the Hermitage of the South in Mittagong.

JOURNEY OF THE BICENTENARY PAINTINGS MARIST COLLEGE ASHGROVE



THE MARIST WAY | A PILGRIMAGE

From Monday 25 September - Saturday 30 September 2017, as part of the Marist Bicentenary celebrations, a group of pilgrims will recreate the walk made by the three Marist Brothers who walked from Sydney in December 1905 to take up temporary residence in Rose Hill Cottage, Mittagong and begin the preparations to establish 'The Hermitage' as a Novitiate. The flyer is available [HERE](#) for your information.

Please forward expressions of interest to
carole.wark@marists.org.au

MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE KILMORE - 18 April 2017
Kerrin Smith, John McKay, Terry Cooney, Taylah DaRiva, Jasmine Santamaria, Justin Caruso, Jade Barr, Vicki Devine, Billena Hales, Kathy Daly, Shona Maskelyne, Luke Hamilton, Pater Augustin



ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S COLLEGE HAMILTON & ALL SAINTS COLLEGE - ST PETER'S CAMPUS MAITLAND
24 April 2017

AWAKEN

The Awaken program focuses particularly on community and recognises how the Christian and Marist story influences our relationships. It enables participants to give witness to the way community is being lived out in our particular place and how it contributes to the enrichment of the lives of each other and our young people.



PARRAMATTA MARIST HIGH SCHOOL WESTMEAD
24 April 2017
Kimberly Martin, Karyn West, Sr Teresa Duch, Emily Liccioni, Simon de Souza, Denise Williams, Grazia Milazzo, Trevor Chippendale



MARIST COLLEGE EASTWOOD - 1 May 2017
Br Mark Murphy, Mark Woolford, David Cooper, Tim Williams, Sofey Murphy, Gabriel Rulewski, Sarah Basha, Tracy Fragiaco



Mid Year Gathering

a chance for us to thank you for your support

Brother Allen Sherry, CEO of Australian Marist Solidarity, and the "Friends of AMS" invite you to join us for a Winter Spit BBQ lunch to thank our supporters and provide an update on AMS projects.



When: Saturday, 17 June
Time: 12 noon (to allow time for AFL followers to get to a game)
Where: Marist Centre
1 Dawson Street
BRUNSWICK VIC 3056
(Off Sydney Road, turn at Brunswick Town Hall)
RSVP: kristen.mclean@marists.org.au

This is not a fundraising event and we hope that the timing will allow our country supporters the opportunity to join us.

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au

Tony Skinner
Communications Coordinator, Australian Marist Solidarity

Red Bend Catholic College Forbes - IMMERSION

Marist Youth Ministry Regional Assistants, Dom McDonald (St Joseph's College Hunters Hill 2015) and Monica Gonzales (St Patrick's Marist College Dundas 2015) along with a Young Marist Volunteer, Patrick Cooke (St Gregory's College Campbelltown 2015) were privileged to meet with the Red Bend Catholic College 'City Immersion' group at St Gregory's College on 10 April. The team shared stories with the students and spoke about GRASI and other options available to continue their Marist journey post school.



Local MARIST CONNECT nights

Local Marist Youth Ministry Connect gatherings were held throughout Term 1 at Marcellin College Randwick, Mount Carmel Catholic College Varroville and Marist College Eastwood. About 90 students heard the message to be 'Spicy Catholics' - a person who serves those in need in our school communities and beyond. The MYM team urged all students not to lose their flavour - as the world desperately needs them and the gifts they have!



Marist Connect - Randwick



Marist Connect - Eastwood



Marist Connect - Macarthur

Jenifer Miller
Marist Youth Ministry Regional Coordinator