



MSA Newsletter

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



From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

This week, for those of us living in towns or suburbs, there may be some evening disturbances as children run around the neighbourhood knocking on doors, seeking a “trick or treat” for Halloween. One can hardly begrudge the delight and expectation of a child, but the whole exercise seems to be increasing in popularity each year. In part this may be due to the insidious creep of American culture into Australia, which the gaudy “Halloween” costumes suggest. More disturbing is the absence of understanding in the significance of these most important, hope filled Feast days.

In recent weeks dearly loved ones among our broad Marist family have departed. Whilst it has been a time of grieving, feelings of desolation have been overwhelmed by love from friends and trust in God. As a Christian community, the gathering and support of Marists for one another during such times of loss provide very real comfort and support. Each Sunday in Parishes throughout the world, Catholics pray for those who have departed. The Second Vatican Council reminds us,

“... the pilgrim Church from the very first ages of the Christian religion has cultivated with great piety the memory of the dead” (Lumen Gentium, 50).

The loss of loved ones before they reach older age is always particularly difficult and in this week it is timely to pay special attention to the students in our schools who have lost their mother, or father, or a sibling. Whilst the period of mourning passes for the extended family and broader school community, for these students it is often a quiet and lonely sadness that revisits them unexpectedly throughout their school life in conversations with friends, or at school events and functions where parents and families are in attendance and involved.

Pope Francis’ personal reflections over the past few years on the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls provide us with thoughts for prayer and contemplation.

“ The feasts of All Saints and All Souls are days of hope. The virtue of hope is like a bit of leaven that enlarges your soul. There are difficult moments in life, but with hope you go forward and keep your eyes on what awaits us. Today is a day of hope; our brothers and sisters are in the presence of God, and we, too, will be there in the Lord’s arms if we follow the path of Jesus.

It is lovely to think that it will be Jesus who will awaken us. Jesus himself revealed that the death of the body is like a sleep from which he awakens us.”

May we emphasise with our students this week the importance of these Feast days and the hope they invite us to celebrate.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

COMING UP...

3 Nov	MSA Mass and Dinner - Sydney	24 Nov	MYM Super Connect - Marist College Eastwood
6 Nov	AMS Christmas Gathering - Marist Centre Brisbane	26-28 Nov	Student Leaders Gathering, Amberley
12-14 Nov	Student Leaders Gathering - Mittagong	2 Dec	MSA Mass and Dinner - Melbourne
14 Nov	ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR 2018 PROGRAMS OPENS	3-5 Dec	Student Leaders Gathering, Mittagong
19 Nov	AMS Christmas Gathering - Marist Centre Melbourne	From 5 Dec	Marist Cricket Carnival



HEAD OF ST GREGORY'S COLLEGE CAMPBELLTOWN to commence January 2019

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for further information

For an application package please contact
sally.dillon@marists.org.au
Closing Date: 15 November 2017

Gregory Hills Drive officially open

It's finally here - the long awaited Gregory Hills Drive extension has recently opened to the public. At this stage the road is one lane each way, but will grow to two lanes after an additional access to St Gregory's College is constructed. It is expected to be complete in the first half of 2018.



Lavalla and Champagnat Journal

The next edition of both publications will appear in Term One 2018. Any contributions covering events in Term 4 of this year can be forwarded to:

tony.paterson@marists.org.au.

Photographs need to be high resolution preferably with the names of those in each photograph. Publication will hopefully be March and so can include events from early 2018 also.

Thank you for your support and help,
Br Tony Paterson, Bergamo, Italy.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR - MARIST SCHOOLS AUSTRALIA

to commence 16 April 2018

The National Director of Marist Schools Australia invites applications for the Director of the Brisbane Region. Marist Schools Australia brings together a family of 55 Catholic schools which draw on Marist spirituality and the Marist educational tradition to help them to share in the mission of God.

MSA seeks to provide leadership, faith formation and, where applicable, governance, on behalf of the Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat. It operates from three Regional Offices (in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane).

The Regional Director (Brisbane) will have particular care of Marist schools located in Queensland, the NSW Northern Rivers, and the Northern Territory. They will also contribute nationally to MSA according to expertise and need. Proven successful Catholic school and education authority leadership experience is an essential component of the selection criteria. A five year renewable contract applies to the position. A salary package commensurate with experience and qualifications will be negotiated.

For an information package, please contact Sally Dillon.
T: 02 9218 4002 | E: sally.dillon@marists.org.au
Applications close: 17 November 2017



Marist Learning Zone Day One!

The first gathering of the first staff of the Marist Learning Zone (MLZ) took place on 24 October at the MLZ facility at Mount Druitt! The Lavalla 200 community of Br Lawrie McCane, Br Jonnel Sisneros, Argelia Hernandez and Rodrigo Gris were joined by the recently appointed senior teachers from Catholic Education in the Diocese of Parramatta (CEDP). Graeme Atkins has been appointed as Senior Project Officer and Daniel Morrin as a Project Officer for MLZ.

We are thrilled with the appointment of these experienced Catholic educators who join the Marist team on this exciting joint project of Marist Schools Australia and the Paramatta Diocese. MLZ will cater for students not attending school from Diocesan schools.



MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



AWAKEN - VARROVILLE

A very warm Mittagong spring day greeted the staff of Mount Carmel Catholic College Varroville for the Awaken Staff Spirituality program. They explored the Marist and Christian stories that connect us, as well as the stories of our own lives, that helps to build the foundations that we want to grow and nurture in the lives of the young people in our care.

AWAKEN - DACEYVILLE

On Monday 10th October, St Michael's Catholic Primary School came together at the Marist Centre for the Awaken program. This was the first time an entire school staff were hosted by the Mascot Centre. The Awaken program was conducted in the Charles Howard room in the morning and in the afternoon Brother Bob O'Connor lead a session on "Mary as a leader".



FOOTSTEPS 1, 22-25 OCTOBER 2017

Perfect weather surrounded a great bunch of Marist people as we gathered for our last Footsteps 1 Program for 2017. We all enjoyed the beauty, peace and warm hospitality that The Hermitage has to offer and we shared a meaningful lived community experience together.



REMAR WELCOMES CAIRNS AND PETRIE ABOARD!

Two Marist Schools in QLD have come aboard in recent weeks to join the Remar Movement for 2018. St Augustine's College Cairns and Mt Maria College Petrie have signed on and are making final preparations to recruit and embark 10 students. Welcome Saints and Mt Maria Petrie!

Remar Recruitment Day at St Augustine's College

Caitie Humphrys from Brisbane and Jack Stammers from MYM Melbourne travelled to Cairns on Friday 13 September to hold a Remar recruitment session with Year 9 students. The MYM team facilitated the session in the College Chapel, informing students about Remar and the symbolism behind the four key 'spokes' of the Helm: Leadership, Community, Faith Development and Ministry and Service.

Brett Toombs, the newly appointed Remar Co-ordinator and Red Helm for 2018 commented that the students responded positively to the session with 50+ expressions of interest returned. We wish Saints all the best as they prepare to embark in the coming month!



Newman College Red Recruitment Day

Year 9 students from Newman College Churchlands also attended a recruitment session last week courtesy of Daniel Litjens, ex-student ('16) and current member of the national Remar Ministry Team and Rowers from Newman College. The session was organised by Daniel Lynch, Deputy Principal for Mission and Catholic Identity.



AMS - MOVING FORWARD INTO 2018

AMS to launch our Christmas Appeal, 2018 School's Campaign and a new mini documentary at our Christmas events taking place on Monday 6 November in Brisbane and Sunday 19 November in Melbourne.

This year the Marist Centre Ashgrove, Brisbane and the Marist Centre Brunswick, Melbourne will play host to the 2017 AMS Christmas gatherings. The event will showcase AMS's 2017 highlights, feature a new 4-minute mini documentary on Maway, a former gang leader turned teacher who lives in the Village of Waililli, Timor-Leste as well as launch our 2017 Christmas Appeal and 2018 School Campaign.

We can now announce that Bangladesh will be the focus of this year's Christmas Appeal. The workers in the Tea Gardens in Moulvibazar are one of the most deprived groups in Bangladesh, working in slave-like conditions and earning approximately 65 US cents a day. As indentured labourers they struggle to feed their children, let alone send them to school. Without a proper education, these children have little hope of finding alternative employment or breaking out of the poverty cycle. The Marist Brothers, in collaboration with the Diocese of Sylhet, have established a secondary school, offering free education (Grade 6-10) for 200 Tea Garden children.

Our appeal will support the efforts of the Brothers and St Marcellin School in Moulvibazar who are working to unlock opportunities for boys and girls from the tea plantation areas.

There is still time to register for the events by contacting Kristen McLean at Kristen.McLean@marists.org.au or phone (07) 3354 0600.

Tony Skinner

AMS Communications Coordinator, Australian Marist Solidarity

Liz Wake
National Remar Co-ordinator