



MSA Newsletter

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

From Dr Frank Malloy

Dear Colleagues,

Last week I received a number of messages from Marist Principals, commenting upon the recently released report from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), titled *Australians' journeys through life: Stories from the Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset 2011-2016*. The collection of longitudinal data allows the ABS to build a picture of Australian society to provide new insights into the dynamics that drive social and economic change. Released on 28 February 2018, of particular interest in the report were highlights in which Catholic schools featured. The information is of vital importance for our nation, especially as we discuss and decide upon the best ways to fund all of our schools in the future.

In 2011, there were 514,000 year 11 and 12 students enrolled in government, Catholic and other non government independent schools. In 2016, 72% of these young Australians were employed, 9% were unemployed, and 19% were not in the labour force.

As illustrated in the figure below, employment for the young people who attended a Catholic secondary school was 77%, other non-government secondary schools was 72%, and government secondary schools was 70%. Noteworthy is that more than half of the young people from Catholic schools who were working, also continued to study.

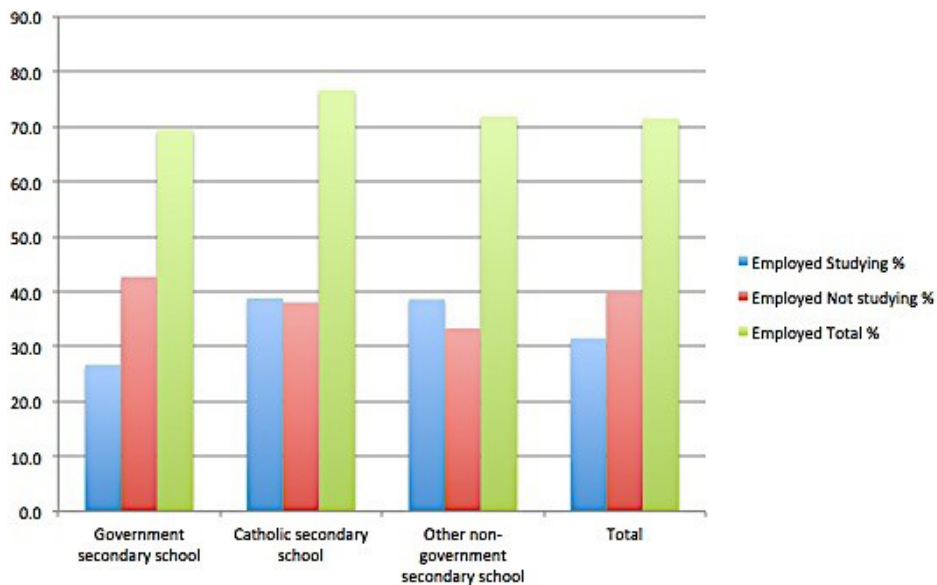


Figure 1: Employment in 2016 of young Australians enrolled in Years 11 and 12 in 2011'

Further information in the report indicated that for those who attended a Catholic secondary school, 7.5% were classified as unemployed, with 4.3% studying. For those who attended other non-government secondary schools, 7.4% were classified unemployed, with 4.2% studying. For those who attended government secondary schools, 10% were classified unemployed, with 4.2% studying.

For those classified as not in the labour force, 15.2% attended Catholic schools with 11.8% engaged in study. 20.2% attended other non-government secondary schools with 16.8% engaged in study. 19.9% attended government secondary schools, with 11.8% engaged in study.

For young people who attended Catholic schools who were not employed, 3.3 % were not studying. Among those not in the labour force, 3.4% were not studying.

These statistics are encouraging for all engaged in Catholic education. The quality of work and leadership by teachers, and Principals in Catholic schools across Australia is endorsed and recognised in this analysis. The strength of performance by Catholic schools evident in this report is important to communicate with our elected members of Federal Parliament, particularly in this period of uncertainty in regard to government funding.

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COMING UP...

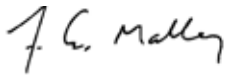
6 Mar	In the Marist Way: Central Victoria	15 Mar	In the Marist Way: Adelaide
6 Mar	In the Marist Way: Sydney Western Region	18-21 Mar	Footsteps1: Mittagong
7 Mar	In the Marist Way: Macarthur Region	29 Mar	Holy Thursday
9 Mar	Remar Red Caravel Day: VIC	30 Mar	Good Friday
9 Mar	MYM Marist Connect: Macarthur	1 Apr	Easter Sunday
13-14 Mar	National Marist Principals Conference: Brisbane	2 Apr	Easter Monday
15 Mar	In the Marist Way: Bendigo	8 Apr-1 May	Marist Pilgrimage

As you would be aware, the manner in which school funding is organised in the future for Australian schools is the subject of work being undertaken by the Federal Government's National School Resourcing Board, which will submit a report and recommendations to the Minister for Education and Training in June 2018. The simple illustration in figure 2 highlights the significant commitment of parents to Catholic education and the generous investment by government in our Catholic schools. The recent ABS report indicates some positive and important contributions to Australian society by Catholic schools. It is important that we in the Catholic community advocate the government investment in our schools be maintained.

I also draw your attention to the most recent Media Release from the National Catholic Education Commission Executive Director, Mr Ray Collins, in which he outlines some of the Labor Party's policies in regard to school education and funding.

Mr Collins' statement can be found [HERE](#)

Yours sincerely



Dr Frank Malloy
NATIONAL DIRECTOR

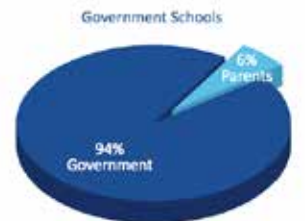
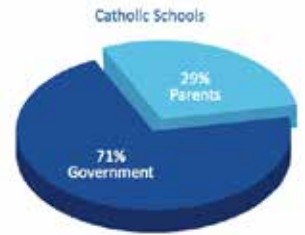


Figure 2: Understanding the facts on Catholic School Funding²

1. Source: ABS, Australians' journeys through life: Stories from the Australian Census Longitudinal Dataset (ACL), 2011-2016 (cat. no. 2081.0)
2. Source: National Catholic Education Commission <http://www.schoolfundingfacts.com>

THE JOHN BERNE SCHOOL - ASX CHARITY FOUNDATION

The John Berne School stands to receive a donation of up to \$50,000 from the ASX Thomson Reuters Charity Foundation in support of their vital Counselling Program. As one of the Foundation's chosen charities to support in 2018, Berne is asked to sell a large number of Art Union Raffle tickets which will help raise some of the donation money. The donation amount that Berne receives will be determined by how many tickets are sold.

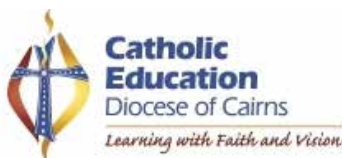
We would love your help in selling as many raffle tickets as possible. There are some fantastic prizes to be won, [CLICK HERE](#) to view prizes and to purchase tickets.



LAVALLA & CHAMPAGNAT JOURNAL

Please use Lavalla to share some news from your school with the rest of Marist Schools Australia, and/or consider submitting an article for the Champagnat Journal.

The cut-off date for contributions to the first edition of Lavalla and Champagnat Journal for 2018 is **Friday, 16 March**. All submissions should be sent to Br Tony Paterson (tony.paterson@marists.org.au).



PRINCIPAL VACANCY Good Counsel College, Innisfail

Good Counsel College is an independent Catholic Secondary College which is operated by Innisfail Mother of Good Counsel Parish under the direction of Parish Priest Fr Kerry Crowley on behalf of the Bishop of Cairns and administered by the Catholic Education Service of the Diocese of Cairns.

Good Counsel College was formed in 1975 as a result of the merger of the girls' school conducted by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, and the boys' school, conducted by the Marist Brothers.

Ideally, the successful candidate would commence the role in Semester Two, 2018 (Monday, July 16, 2018). However, a handover period with the existing Acting Principal prior to commencement would be preferred. This date can be negotiated.

For expressions of interest please click [HERE](#).



Marist
ASSOCIATION OF
AUSTRALIAN CHAMPAGNAT
2018 DIRECTORY

The 2018 Marist Directory is currently being printed and will be distributed to schools shortly.

From the Regional Director ...



John Robinson -
Sydney Regional Director

Youthquake

“Youthquake” was selected by Oxford Dictionaries as the 2017 word of the year. The venerable folk at Oxford define Youthquake as “a significant cultural, political, or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people”. Casper Grathwohl, president of Oxford Dictionaries in a BlogSpot commented that:

“We chose Youthquake based on its evidence and linguistic interest. But most importantly for me, at a time when our language is reflecting our deepening unrest and exhausted nerves, it is a rare political word that sounds a hopeful note. Sometimes you pick a word as the word of the year because you recognise that it has arrived, but other times you pick one that is knocking at the door and you want to help usher in ... I think this past year calls for a word we can all rally behind.”

As a strange coalescence or the work of the Holy Spirit, the Australian Catholic Bishops declaration of 2018 as the national Year of Youth reflects a similar hope. They call for the **“authentic and personal engagement by Church leaders in the challenges and success in young people’s lives”**.

The Year of Youth’ focus on local renewal and engagement provides an added impetus for each of us in Marist ministry to discern and help give young people a voice in our Church and society. In doing so we perhaps we enable a ‘Youthquake’ to occur to counter the “deepening unrest and exhausted nerves” we sometimes experience. Perhaps we help bring to birth a renewal in our local communities and in our Church born of the hopes and the challenges of our young people.

Matthew’s Gospel (19:14) recounts how Jesus challenged the instincts of his day and allowed the children to come to him, ‘unhindered’. At a time when the harsh discipline of Jansenism characterised much schooling, Marcellin’s own counter cultural stance inspired his Brothers:

“Remember that the young people you teach are your brothers and sisters; Your own likeness, bone of your bone, another you. These young people have the same heavenly Father, the same destiny, the same end, the same hope. They are called to the same happiness. They are your travelling companions in time. They will be heirs with you, sharing the joys of the homeland of heaven with you.”

Adapted from *Opinions, Conferences, Sayings and Instructions of Marcellin Champagnat*

To have young people inform our faith lives is a rare moment of grace in its call --to listen young people, to encourage and not to hinder, to “love them and love them all equally”, and to give them Hope and a Future!



MARIST MISSION AND LIFE FORMATION



FOOTSTEPS 1, 25-28 February 2018

The end of February saw 33 participants gather from various parts of the country to partake in the first Footsteps program for 2018 at The Hermitage, Mittagong. These three days together involved exploring our Marist identity, spirituality, and pedagogy, whilst deepening their own appreciation of their personal call to faith. Gaining deeper insights into the life of Marcellin Champagnat, they embraced Jesus' message of being agents of change and creatively discussed ways of bridging our faith within a contemporary world.

In the Marist Way: New Staff Induction Perth

Newman College, Perth, hosted the *In The Marist Way: New Staff Induction* program, on Tuesday 20 February. Twenty seven staff from the school community participated in the formation program, where there was time for dialogue and reflection, as well as laughter, prayer and Marist hospitality. The program allowed each of the participants to explore the story of Marcellin Champagnat and deepen their understanding of our rich charism.



An Audacious Hope Northam

St Joseph's School, Northam in Western Australia, participated in our national in-school program, *An Audacious Hope*, on Friday 2 March. This day provided a space where the staff could explore how Christian hope plays an integral part in our lives, as well as how it informs our Marist communities to be people of authentic faith. It was a day that allowed the staff to read "the signs of the times", while also affirming that God is present and active in all times and situations.



REMAR 2018

The RMT year of mission has started with a bang in Mittagong at the beginning of February. Together with 55 fellow enablers of youth, we gathered at the inaugural National Remar Conference, for a few days of reflection, networking and input.

As the new coordinator for Remar, I am humbled by the stories and commitment of the helms and coordinators, as they journey to empower their young Rowers *to be agents of change in this world.*

I am full of hope for this year as I reflect on the words of Archbishop Fisher. He encouraged teachers to be courageous and adventurous as disciples, educators and leaders. I realised I only met courageous and adventurous teachers at the Remar conference!

Therefore, I am confident that, with the support of our principals, leaders, helms, coordinators and the RMT, this year will bring a new sense of hope to the Rowers in Australia. Last week, Pope Francis encouraged young people around the world, to face their fears with discernment and courage. I trust that the students at our schools, will be equipped and supported to do just that: be courageous as they face their fears and challenges, because they know *YOU* are there to walk the journey with them.

So, thank you for your hard work, generosity and passion for the young people in our schools. It takes courage to walk the journey with young people, as they embark on their journey to be *good Christians and good citizens.*



Mr Edwin Bakker
National REMAR Coordinator

TIMOR-LESTE PROJECTS TO EXPAND THEIR REACH IN 2018

At AMS we believe that sustainable growth can only be achieved by building the local community's capacity to forge their own path to development.

AMS is pleased to report that two of our supported projects in Timor-Leste have plans to increase their reach this year due to increasing requests from the local community for their services. The Children and Youth Centre Ponta Leste (CYCPL), a non-formal education centre providing out of school tutoring and lessons, has expanded its enrolments from 241 students in 2017 to 403 students in 2018. Katilosa will continue to gradually expand its outreach to provide disability services to 16 villages and to include facilitation of entry into mainstream schools for 50 children with a disability.

AMS Timor-Leste projects coordinator Michael Coleman remarked the 'we are deeply grateful for the East Timorese program coordinators, staff and volunteers for their commitment to this valuable work with some of the most marginalised young people of this region.'

These expansions are a very positive sign that the communities are engaged with the programs. The staff running these programs continue to listen to the local needs and by working in partnership with AMS, we are able to respond to their needs.

CYCPL is well known to many Marist students having been a popular destination for MSA immersion groups over many years. The MSA communities' support of this project has allowed the centre to operate four after school subjects: sports, English, literacy and computers. Children's rights workshops are conducted for the students and the local community and sporting events are held throughout the year. A resource centre is available with books, games and other activities.

Katilosa runs its community base rehabilitation outreach and family support groups from their centre in Darasula, forty minutes drive from Old Town Baucau. The programs specialise in early detection and intervention for physical disabilities, community-based rehabilitation, physiotherapy, vocational and technical education, inclusive play, music, art and drama. The group provides critical support to families in a country where cultural stigmas attached to disability are difficult to overcome.

To learn more about AMS, please visit:

www.australianmaristsolidarity.org.au

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