



Marsden Mail

Term 4 Week 4



From the Principal

In a fortnight I will be undertaking a two week trip to Vietnam on behalf of the Department of Education and Communities. The purpose of the trip is to showcase NSW school education and particularly education at Marsden. I will be joining other Austrade exhibitors in highlighting the opportunities available in Australia for trade and in my case, education. I will also be spending time talking to students, teachers and education agents about the excellent opportunities for learning in the NSW state education system.

This trip has made me reflect on how fortunate our students are to be part of a world class education system, which has consistently ranked well on international standards. The standards and achievements of our state public education system are the result of diligence and hard work especially by teachers. Recent NAPLAN results have indicated that Marsden has made considerable progress in the past year in improving performance. In both literacy and mathematics for both year 7 and 9 we are close to, at or beyond state levels for almost every indicator. The trend data is extremely positive. I believe this improvement is directly linked to the work we have done in the last 18 months with a strong focus on literacy. This work is a reflection of the diligence and commitment shown by Marsden teachers in improving their own professional practice and in putting in place a variety of strategies aimed directly at improving standards at our school. In the end, hard work pays off. I pay tribute to the efforts of Marsden teachers – they are directly responsible for our fine results.

Gus Vrolyk
Principal

Calendar

October

- 28 P&C Meeting
Yr 7 & 8 Pinnacle Showcase evening
- 29 Yr 7 & 8 Swim School
- 31 SRC GRIP Leadership Conference
Yr 10 & 11 VA excursions 'Sculptures by the Sea'

November

- 3 Johnson & Johnson High Achievers to Macquarie Uni
- 6 Girls Education Afternoon
- 6-7 SRC Leadership Camp
- 10-14 Yr 9 & 10 exams
- 10-14 Yr 8 ESSA
- 17-21 Yr 7 & 8 exams
- 19 -20 Primary School Gala Day
- 20 Yr 10 Johnson & Johnson
- 21-28 Art Exhibition
- 24-28 Yr 9 Industry Tour
- 24-28 Yr 10 Work Experience
- 25 P&C Meeting
- 28 Yr 9 VA Excursion to Art Gallery

December

- 1-5 Australian Business Week
- 3 Orientation Day
- 9 Junior Performers Night
- 12 Presentation Day

School holiday dates:

Term 4
Last day of term Wed 17 Dec

**Our next P&C meeting is on
Tuesday 28th October in the
Library at 7:30pm**

Study Skills

www.studyskillshandbook.com.au
Username:marsdenhs
Password:181results

Year 10 Work Experience dates have now been confirmed for the 24th to 28th of November. Students wishing to participate will need to get the forms from the Careers office. This is a great opportunity for students to experience a career in which they are interested and learn skills to assist them in work

Uniform shop News

Last day the Uniform Shop is open for 2014 will be Thursday 11 December 2014. The Uniform Shop will be open every morning the first week of school 2015. Tuesday 27 January to Friday 20 Jan 2015 inclusive 8.30am - 10.30am

Help is required for Orientation Day on Wednesday 3rd December. Just a few hours of your time would be appreciated. If you can assist me, please contact me on 0407 698 453.

Credit card purchases will now carry a 2% surcharge

Deborah Blumenfeld

Wrap with Love

In true Marsden High School fashion, students have banded together to join the Wrap With Love initiative which has supported disadvantaged people locally and around the world since 1992. Students from Years 7 to 11 have volunteered their time to help knit blankets which provide comfort to those less fortunate. On a weekly basis, students have abandoned their usual lunch time to come together to knit. Some expert students have been leaders helping their peers to learn to knit which has fostered a sense of community within the school. Year 9 student, Ahmed Amjed, stated that the "environment was very welcoming for beginners. Doing this for the homeless makes me feel good. It's fun and it is for a good cause". The level of involvement in the initiative is a testament to the caring culture Marsden High School fosters.



Marsden High School Knit In with *Wrap With Love* Volunteers
Mamey Nakhoul
Girls' Advisor

Deputy Principal's Report

Year 12 2014

Farewelling Year 12 was a happy/sad event. The **whole school assembly** showcased the wonderful talent that we have in Year 12. Ms Idrus was heartbroken at the thought of losing her amazing musicians. Melvin Gill's speech about the importance to him of Marsden and his fellow students was a highlight of the assembly along with the Year 12 music class performances.

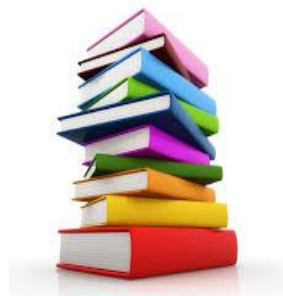
The **Graduation Assembly** the following day, was a fitting farewell to these very impressive students. They conducted themselves with the usual grace that we have come to expect of Marsden students. The teachers often feel as much pride as the parents do in watching their students take to the stage to receive their awards and portfolios.

On their last night we held the inaugural **Year 12 School Dinner** at the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club. The dinner was attended by students, parents and teachers. It was a very happy night, the students looked amazing and there were many proud parents taking photos. The highlight of the night had to be the staff singing Bohemian Rhapsody! Or not! Thanks Connor! A special thanks to the mothers behind the organisation for this wonderful night, Jenny Harrison, Louise Kendall and Karen Walker. Special thanks to Mrs Train, the Year 12 Year Adviser for all her work throughout the last 6 years and in particular over the last few months.

Year 12 students are currently in the midst of their **HSC exams**. It has been very gratifying for teachers to see the HSC papers and to hear from students that they are feeling well prepared for these very important exams. It is certainly worth all the hours of preparation and study to go in to the exams knowing your work and feeling quietly confident. Best wishes Year 12. We look forward to your **results on 17th December**.

Sign out day

As one Year 12 group complete their studies another group of Year 12 students begin their HSC journey. In order to assist the new Year 12 students with **textbooks and library books** we require Yr 12 2014 to return theirs, so that we can reissue them. Students need to bring all school equipment along on the Sign Out Day **Wed 5th November at 11.30am in the Common Room**



As laptops are no longer provided for students we also ask that you kindly donate your **DEC laptop** to the school for less privileged junior students to use. Students should take all information off their laptops before they hand them in. If they come to us with files they will be automatically removed before being given to junior students.

Year 12 2015

As Year 12 begins at the commencement of Term 4, we no sooner say goodbye to one cohort before we begin the HSC journey with another group of eager students. In reading their Year 11 yearly reports over the past week, I am heartened that we have another group of keen students eager to achieve good results. Year 11 reports will be sent home with the students this week.

It was wonderful to see the large number of students and families that attended the **Year 12 information evening** last Monday night to hear about all the rules, regulations, expectations and tips for how to achieve in the HSC. It is always more difficult to play the game if you don't understand all the options.

Year 12 Work Studies Lunch

The Year 12 Work Studies students had their thank you lunch at the **Apprentice Restaurant** at Ultimo TAFE at the end of last term. The restaurant is run by final year Hospitality students and showcases fine dining and excellence in restaurant service. We also happened to spot a celebrity at another table. The lunch was to thank Year 12 for their hard work and **OUTSTANDING** customer service in Café Doonya.



Year 12 Camp International Students

In Year 12 2015, we have a cohort of 119 students of which 17 are International students. These students have come to study in Australia because their parents believe that the Australian education system will provide a quality education for their children. In order to brief them about the rules, regulations and expectations of the HSC we decided to take them to Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre at Bobbin Head for a 2 day camp. In addition to lots of scintillating sessions about the HSC, they were treated to a bushwalk to discover the native flora that the aboriginal people used as bush tucker, canoeing and fishing. Thanks to Mr Bulgin, Mrs Fabbi and Mrs Larsen for their assistance on the camp. It was wonderful to see these students bond as a group and plan further activities. For some students, it was the first time they had been on a trip of any description since arriving in Australia.

Sheryn Symons
Deputy Principal

Year 12 Camp International Students





A very big thank you to **Wilson Pedersen Landscapes Pty Ltd**, who kindly supplied and installed seating around our new flagpole area. This area is being enjoyed by staff and students.



Chess Update

The girls had a tiring but enjoyable time at the the Secondary Schools One Day Chess Tournament at North Sydney Boys yesterday.

The competition was much stronger than the previous all girls tournament and Marsden came 15th out of the 22 teams. (There were only 3 all girls teams from Abbotsleigh, North Sydney and Marsden) Full results <http://www.nswjcl.org.au/Schools/2014/SecondaryOneDay/sod14j.htm>

Jemma did particularly well winning 4 of her 6 matches including her most satisfying win coming from behind against the Sydney Tech Year 9 boy. The girls will benefit from the experience and be stronger next time



Congratulations to our new Prefecture Leadership Team for 2014/2015

On Thursday 9th October we held our Prefect Induction Assembly in order to announce the elected positions of the incoming Prefecture Leadership Team and present them with blazers and badges. Family and friends of our 10 elected leaders, as well as staff and students of Marsden, were in attendance, eager to find out who had been chosen for each of our school leadership roles. Indeed, our 10 prefects were also a little 'on edge' as they awaited the highly anticipated announcement.

Congratulations to:

School Captains:	Joshua Jung	Sally Dang
Sports Captains:	Dawood Elahi	Delaney McCrory
Student Mentor Prefect:	Jesse Di Loreto	
Music Prefect:	Tamara Tornai	
Environment Prefects:	Adam Zreika	Susan Siddiqui
Social Justice Prefects:	Sarah Hunter	Zeena Noonan

We look forward to our new Prefecture Team becoming strong leaders within our Marsden community.

GRIP Leadership Conference

All SRC and Prefecture members are invited to attend the GRIP Leadership Conference on Friday 31st October. This is a great motivating day to inspire students involved in student leadership. Permission notes are due back ASAP - see Mrs Swinkels.

SRC/Prefecture Leadership Camp

Our annual SRC Leadership Camp will be held November 6th and 7th. All SRC and Prefecture members should have permission note and details. The deposit and permission note are due by the end of this week to the Front Office.

Trish Swinkels & Laryssa Bernyk
SRC Co-ordinators

Robotics Excursion Term 4 2014

On Friday the 9th of October most of the year 7s went to Macquarie University to learn more about robots and how they operate.

When we arrived at Macquarie University everyone got split into pairs. An instructor led us into a room full of computers. Each pair got a Lego box filled with extremely cool gadgets such as motors, sensors, Lego pieces and a variety of other cool things. It was called the EV3 robot.

The instructor gave us time to build a durable robot with our partner and then we had to program it on a computer to do different things such as drive in a square, do different things in the dark and light and to use its sensors to not collide into other objects or fellow robots.

Overall, the year 7's thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would definitely want to go back to have more fun with the RV3 robots. It has taught many of us how to control these types of robots and what hard work it is to design and program a sophisticated robot.

By Jason Andraos



The robotics excursion at MacICT was great! Especially because they started from the basics, so even if you've never done robotics before you could learn. Also, the programming was easy to understand and was simple to get a hold of. After a little explaining, most groups had their robots working. The excursion was awesome and I hope they run it again.
By Rebecca Cole

Robotics Day at Marsden HS

On Wednesday 8th October Marsden High School hosted an exciting Robotics day at which around 100 students from a variety of local primary and high schools participated. Students came from Blacktown Girls HS, Blacktown Boys HS, Normanhurst HS and Ermington Public School

We also had Professor Mike Heimlich from Macquarie University give us a talk about the world of competition in robotics and the next duel scheduled for 2015.

During this day students talked about their robots and the experiences they had competing in the Duel Down Under in July, how they built the robots and also had a chance to practise their driving skills.



Marsden on Show at the Granny Smith Festival

It was great to again be part of the Granny Smith Festival for 2014. On Saturday 18th October, our school was proud to be part of the 80,000-strong annual Eastwood event, with our promotional stall throughout the day on Rowe St and performances by our Vocal Group and String Ensemble in the afternoon.

Our Marsden stall, just opposite Eastwood PS, saw lots of passing locals and we were able to share the positive message about our school with many of them. Many families with students in some of our local primary feeder schools took the opportunity to ask questions and we also received lots of positive feedback on the day. It was great to be able to showcase our terrific school in the local community.

It was wonderful to have such great student and staff support throughout the day. We had 14 staff members and 16 students, from Years 7 through to 11, giving an hour of their time on our stall roster from 8.30 through till 4.30. Many visitors commented on how great the students looked in their school uniforms greeting passers by and handing out Marsden mementoes. Our own Principal, Mr



Vrolyk, looked particularly dashing out the front of our stall in his new MHS blazer and had some great discussions with local families.

Huge thanks to Jason A, Jess G, Rebecca C, Farrah, Jemma and Tamsin from Yr 7; Angela J, Jaol, Madeline, Alexandra and Nayoung from Yr 8; Siwen from Yr 10; and Josh, Adam, Tamara and Sally from Yr 11. Also a big thank you to Ms Idrus, Ms Lee, Ms Hoy and the vocal group and string ensemble members for representing our school on the day.

Thank you for looking resplendent in your uniforms (on a Saturday), for doing a great promotional service for our school and getting involved in such a big community event.

Mrs Trish Swinkels



Marsden student, Delaney McCrory, one of the Finalists for the 2014 TWT **Miss Eastwood** Granny Smith Festival Queen. She is seated in the middle.

Being Sun Smart

Protect the skin you're in with the free SunSmart App. Overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation causes wrinkles and skin and eye damage, ultimately leading to skin cancer. Protect the skin you're in with the SunSmart app for iPhone and Androids.

The SunSmart app lets you know when you do and don't need sun protection, making it easier than ever to be smart about your sun exposure all year.

How does it work?

Download the app and select your location in Australia.

Set up a sun protection alert and receive daily reminders of the times of day sun protection is required.

Select to receive the alert at the time of your choice or at the exact time the UV is forecast to reach a level that can damage your skin and eyes.

Use the sunscreen calculator to find out how much sunscreen you need to apply, taking account of your size and clothing.

Features

Sun protection times > Lets you know when you do and don't need sun protection for any location in Australia.

7 day weather forecast > Check the weather for the week ahead.

Alert function > Personalise the alert function to remind you of the daily sun protection times.

Vitamin D tracker > Find out if you are getting enough UV exposure for vitamin D.

Sunscreen calculator > Find out if you are using enough sunscreen.

<http://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/uv-alert/sunsmart-app.html>

LIBRARY NEWS

BOOK WEEK: Winners of our Annual Book Week Writing Competition are: Tamsin and Caleb both from Year7 CONGRATULATIONS
Our Joint winners are pictured below with their winning stories and the Book Prize of their choice
Well done Tamsin and Caleb



HALLOWEEN in the LIBRARY

Come to your Library to learn about the origins of Halloween which is held on October 31
We have a great display put together by our Library volunteer Ursula in Yr 10

While you're looking at the display, borrow a scary book to read over the Halloween weekend and also pick up a free Halloween Book mark.

Halloween jokes:

Why is Dracula so unpopular?
Because he is a pain in the neck!
How can you resist?

Ms Langelaar Teacher Librarian



Students receive a 15% discount store wide if they show their student IDs at Peter Wynn Score



Looking for a fun and friendly netball competition?
The perfect competition for all ages!
Games played at Gooden Reserve, Baulkham Hills.
The 2015 season begins Saturday 4th April.
Register on Saturday 1st November 2014 at Winston Hills Mall from 10 am to 2 pm
(We will be located down the Coles end of the Mall next to the food court)
For further enquiries, please email stmatthewsnetballclub@hotmail.com



Year 10

Eight students attended the Johnson and Johnson Head Office recently to have a video conference with students from Boston USA as part of the Bridge to Employment Program.

See the report below.



**Bridge to
Employment**
Johnson & Johnson

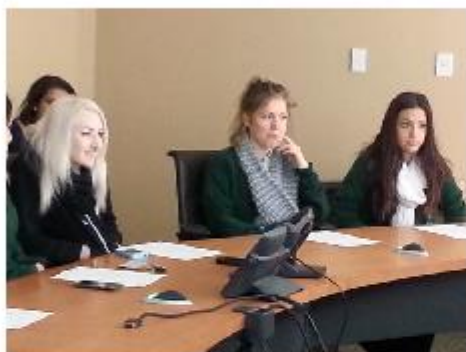
UPDATE: September 2014

Latest News on Bridge to Employment

On Friday 19th September, eight BTE students took up the fantastic opportunity to meet eight students from the Bridge to Employment site in Boston, USA via Johnson & Johnson's Global Connect facilities which allowed the students to connect via video teleconferencing.



The students enjoyed hearing about how each country's education system works and the sorts of activities that they have been participating in as part of their Bridge to Employment program.



The students from Boston were shocked to hear that Australians enjoy eating Kangaroo and that all students get 4 lots of school holidays per year!

The students enjoyed the experience and connected with each other on facebook to allow them to keep in touch throughout the program.

Tim and Rebecca will be off to Ireland in October for the Alliance Building Training Session where they will be given the opportunity to meet and connect with all other BTE sites.



They will be on a mission to set up future Global Connect sessions with other sites from around the globe.



Congratulations to all of the students involved for their courage and commitment to the activity... and for getting to school at 7:30am!

To find out more visit www.2realise.org.au

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

3rd November 2014 - Mentors will be visiting the students at school

3rd December 2014 - Visit to Macquarie University for: Resilience Workshop, Employability Skill Workshop & Sausage Sizzle with the mentors!

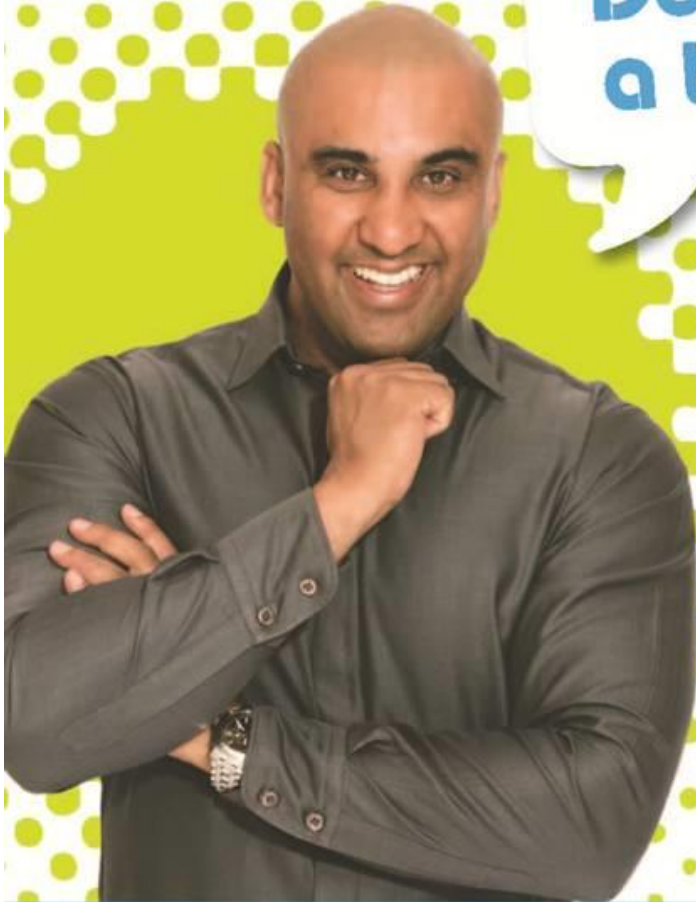
8th December 2014 - First Aid Training at Meadowbank TAFE



**FREE
WORKSHOP**

**MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, LEADER & SOCIAL CHANGEMAKER
— GLEN GERREYN WILL INSPIRE AND MOTIVATE YOU —**

Do you have a teenager?



**If you have a teenager
it's no secret you have one
of the hardest jobs in the
world so don't miss this
fantastic opportunity!**

Parents are invited to attend this
life changing workshop aimed at
equipping you with positive and
powerful skills to raise resilient and
successful teenagers.

The session is uplifting and
motivational and will provide skills for
each member of the family to contribute,
support and encourage each other.



**Achieve great things
in your life**



**Find your place in
the world**



**Make positive
life choices**



**Build long lasting
relationships**

6:45pm Wednesday 29th October 2014

William Clarke College, 1 Morris Grove, Kellyville

RSVP to natalie.paoli@2realise.org.au or 02 9639 0253

Special thanks to The Hills Shire Council and William Clarke College

This initiative has been brought to you by 2realise, Wesley Family Centre The Hills, MTC Australia and Castle Hill Police.



Community News

Fete - Hope for Homes "Homes and Independence for people with a disability" – Saturday 8 November 10am – 3pm, Conie Ave Baulkham hills