



Marsden Mail

Term 4 Week 6

Principal's Report

Last week on Friday was world Teachers Day. On assembly last week, I spoke to students about how fortunate we are at Marsden to have an outstanding group of very professional teachers who make a significant positive impact on students' learning. As well, our teachers do a great deal to help shape positive attitudes to learning. Positivity to learning new things and adapting to change are among the key attributes that will enable the young people of today to be competitive in this century's global marketplace. It will also enable them to lead richer and more fulfilling lives. At Marsden, our vision very much values the development of the well-rounded young person. It is the reason why we offer such a diverse curriculum as well as a wide variety of learning opportunities that exist outside the classroom in the areas of cultural and performing arts, sports, leadership development and extension learning opportunities. These rely entirely on the teachers of Marsden developing, implementing and leading extra and co-curricular learning. Last weekend, I was fortunate enough to see our Lego robotics teams in action at Macquarie University, competing against teams from many other schools. I was very proud of the way our students conducted themselves. They were a credit to themselves, their families and Marsden High School. Congratulations to Mr Lam, the Lego robotics coordinator, who spent many a long hour in the lead up to the competition, impressing on our students the need to be creative and develop their own solutions to technical challenges. The 'thinking for yourselves' is very much part of the kind of creative thinking that will power the century's success stories. At the competition, it was clear that some other teams with spectacular robots had considerable adult coaching and technical support. I wonder what those participants really learnt. I was really pleased that the organisers recognised our students' efforts by awarding them the Teamwork Award. My thanks also extend to Mrs Brennan, who is our robotics coordinator and always does a fantastic job in organising and supporting our robotics students. Quite a few of our Lego robotics students will represent Marsden at the FIRST robotics competition in Hawaii next year.

Every day at Marsden, our teachers put themselves out and go to great lengths to support student learning of all kinds.

Congratulations and thank you for doing such a fine job.

Gus Vrolyk
Principal

Our next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 24th November in the Library at 7:30pm

P&C

President: Marlicia Travis
Treasurer: Andrew Dismorr
Secretary: Karen Seifert

Secretary email: marsdenpnc@gmail.com
Meeting in school library, last Tuesday of every month, school terms.

Minutes of meeting available from secretary on request.

Calendar

November

- 12-13 ATSI Camp
- 13 Yr 8 VALID science test
Bennelong Cup Table Tennis
- 16-17 International students camp
- 17 Year 9 Girls Day
- 18 Yr 10 concert
- 18 Yr 7 Rock & Water Graduation
- 19 P.A.R.T.Y Program Yr 12
- 19-20 Society & Culture overnight excursion
- 19-20 Duke of Ed Camp
- 23 Yr 7 – 9 Koorimurri Cultural day
- 23-27 Australian Business Week
- 23-27 Yr 12 Construction work placement
- 23-30 Art Exhibition
- 24 Yr 7 & 8 Swimming
- 24 P&C meeting
- 27 Dance excursion to School Spectacular
- 30 Pinnacle Showcase Night

December

- 1 Yr 7 & 8 Swimming
- 2 Junior Performers Night
- 2-3 Girl's Wellbeing Camp
- 3-5 Stage 5 History Interstate trip
- 3 Yr 7 2016 Orientation Day
- 7 Science Club excursion
- 8 Yr 7 & 8 Swimming
- 9 Sports Assembly
- 11 Presentation Day
- 14 Stage 4 & 5 Assembly
- 15 J&J Yr 11 Luna Park excursion

School holiday dates:

Term 4

Last day of term Wed 16 Dec

Any Parent/Carer of students in **Year 12 2016** who are interested in assisting with the organisation of the Year 12 Graduation Dinner in September 2016, please contact Ms Dalal on 9874 6544

Year 7 2016 Orientation Day Thursday 3rd December

Orientation Program

8.30am – Drop student at John Hagan School Auditorium for attendance check

9am – 10.30am – Testing of students to determine classes for 2016 (students to have a blue or black pen)

10am – Parents to return to Auditorium and there will be a Transport representative and completion of any enrolment paperwork, if applicable

10.30am – Orientation Assembly

11.30am – Morning tea

11.40am – Orientation School Tour. Students and parents placed into groups to purchase uniforms and tour the school, payment of school fees, P&C contribution and purchase of aprons/calculators and recorders.



Invitation to Year 12, 2015

to morning tea with the staff to celebrate your HSC results

on Thursday 17th December

from 11.15 to 12 noon

in the Common Room.

Year 12, 2015/16

Recently I asked all teachers to nominate the Top 3 students in each Year 12 class based on Attitude and Effort. The hardworking students nominated in each class have had a letter home advising their family or guardians of the great effort they are making towards their HSC. Well done to these students.

I also asked for the Bottom 3 students in each class in terms of Attitude and Effort, and these lucky students will have an interview with me!

It appears that most of our new Year 12 students have gone to ground as they have been working towards their first assessment tasks with some dedication. It has been very pleasing to see the seriousness with which they are approaching their studies.

Year 12 can be a difficult year for some students. Below are some practical ways that parents/guardians can support their child through their HSC.

Practical ways parents/guardians can help their child through the HSC year

1. Give them space around exams
2. Don't book holidays or family events around important dates like Term 3 Holidays (in Year 12). Being away when the teachers are offering to run tutorial sessions will disadvantage your child.
3. Check that they are getting to exams or assessment tasks early, so that they have time to go over their notes.
4. Be aware of their key assessment dates, so that you know when to give your child adequate space (but still remain close enough to offer support.).
5. Speak to their Year Adviser if you're concerned.
6. Help them to put the assessment/year into perspective. It seems bigger than it is. The trick is to take one term at a time!

Ms Sheryn Symons
Deputy Principal.



John Alexander Lunch

Marsden's Prefecture Leadership Team was given the opportunity and privilege to meet John Alexander, Federal Member for Bennelong last Friday. The students sat down with John and discussed relevant issues in today's society and were given insight on how particular issues are run in parliament. John and his team presented the PLT with seedlings that can be planted, grown and harvested in teaching students about food, plants and life. Students were able to ask John any questions about parliament and politics and enjoyed the experience.

GENEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MARSDEN STUDENTS



Two ex-students from Marsden High School have very kindly offered to support our students with very generous scholarships. Both men have had very successful working lives. John Tuckerman was a stockbroker with RBS Morgans, Newcastle and Kim Williams who was the CEO of News Limited.

The details of the scholarships are as follows:

1. John Tuckerman Pinnacle Scholarships

John Tuckerman was a dedicated student, a keen cricketer and former school captain of Marsden High School in its early years. These scholarships will be awarded as follows:

- **2 X three year scholarships worth \$500 per annum** will be awarded to students in **Year 8 in 2016** and will follow the students into Year 9 and Year 10
- **2 X two year scholarships worth \$1000 per annum** will be awarded to students in **Year 11 in 2016** and will follow the students into Year 12.

2. Joan and David Williams Scholarship

Mr Kim Williams is an ex-student of Marsden High School and was the CEO of News Limited. This scholarship is named in honour of his parents, Joan and David Williams, who strongly supported the development of Marsden High School during the 1960's.

- **1 X two year scholarship worth \$2000 per annum** will be awarded to a **Year 11 student in 2016** and will follow the student into Year 12.

Click on the icons on the Marsden High School website or see Ms Symons for more details including an application form.

The closing date for both scholarships is Friday 27th November 2015.

All students in Years 7 and 10 have been sent an email with this information as well as the application forms as attachments.

For more information phone Mrs Symons on 9874 6544

Science Club

Our Science Club students, ranging from Yr 7 – 11 (under the guidance of Ms Dalal) compiled a booklet of chemistry experiments and activities. This booklet was specifically compiled for primary school students (yr 5 and 6).

The Science Club met every Wednesday during lunch in Lab108. During Term 3 students from the following primary schools; Ermington PS, Melrose Park PS, Meadowbank PS, Truscott Street PS came to Marsden for a science day.

We had the opportunity to interact with the primary students and gave them a hands on experience in performing the experiments. Some of the experiments included the “can crusher”, “elephants toothpaste”, “exploding bag”, “magic milk” and many more.

We had so much fun mentoring the students about exploding, imploding and magic in Chemistry. They were fully absorbed and enthused with our science marvels.

We will remember the fun experiences of the Marsden Science Club 2015.
Emma Jaye Andraos



Every Wednesday during lunch some students from Year 7 to Year 11 come together to perform some experiments. In Term 3, every second Wednesday students from 2 different primary schools visited Marsden to participate in our Science Club activity like our experiments.

Different chemistry experiments included the pop test, volcanic explosions and seeing different coloured flames using specific chemicals. All of these experiments were conducted by Marsden students. Keisha and I demonstrated an experiment, which was extinguishing a candle using carbon dioxide. To teach the primary students our experiments was really amazing. I think the primary students enjoyed their experience doing science at Marsden High School
Claire Sellar



Learning to be leaders with purpose

GRIP Leadership training provided motivating ideas, engaging activities and opportunities to consider how to get more students involved in student-lead school events. On Friday 30th October, members of the Marsden Prefecture Leadership Team (PLT) and the Student Representative Council (SRC) joined over 400 secondary students from throughout NSW at the State Sports Centre at Homebush to attend the GRIP Student Leadership Conference. The day focused on giving student leaders the skills they need to make a positive impact in the school community, how to motivate others and the best ways to create dynamic, purposeful events. Our students enjoyed the atmosphere on the day and came away with some great ideas for future leadership opportunities within our school.



Ms Kara Tambree & Mrs Trish Swinkels
SRC/PLT Coordinators



The Marsden High Chess Team of Madeline, Jemma and Tamsin Low did well in the Schools Chess Challenge run by the Sydney Academy of Chess at Knox Grammar on Sunday 8 November. The girls scored 10.5 points out of 21 finishing in 15th place from 28 teams.

Most satisfying was the battle of the girls in the final round when Marsden finally got the better of Abbotsleigh winning 2.5 to 0.5 in a tense match.



Your Clothing CAN Make a Difference

Do you know how many people are living below the poverty line in Australia? You can make a difference to their lives by donating the **clothes you don't want or don't fit you** anymore.

Our Marsden Prefecture team is **working with St Vincent de Paul (Vinnies)** to collect all your unwanted clothing here at school. Vinnies will then sell these clothes to raise money to help the homeless and people suffering from addictions and hardships. We hope this activity will help our students to show **compassion** for those less-fortunate in our community, as well as helping to clear out your cupboards and wardrobes at home!

Just **drop off your clothing** to our Marsden collection area **during Weeks 8 and 9**, starting on 23rd November. Reminders and drop off locations will be given through daily notices and emails over the coming weeks.

So start putting those unwanted clothes in bags at home now. We look forward to seeing the bags come in during Weeks 8 and 9.

Thank you from the Prefecture Leadership Team.

Outdoor Recreation Camp – October holidays

Seventeen brave Year 12 boys and girls caught the train with Mrs Swift to Lithgow at the end of October to complete 2 units towards their HSC as well as gain a TAFE qualification in Outdoor Recreation. The students were picked up at Lithgow station by TAFE teachers and taken to the TAFE to pack their tents, food and rock climbing gear in to the bus.

They changed their campsite every 2-3 days and each time had to go back to the TAFE, collect more supplies of food and gear and set up the camp again. They were put into groups for the campsite fire, cooking, hygiene, washing up and to do camp duty, which involved packing up food at night so that the possums didn't come and eat it.

There were 3 main activities that the students were assessed on – rock climbing, canyoning and canoeing.

The first activity they completed was rock climbing where they had to abseil down a high cliff. Most people were fine but some found it difficult. There were lots of safety precautions they had to take. On the day they went canyoning the students walked down the hill to the canyon, got into their wet suits and walked through canyon, wearing shoes in the water to protect their feet. At the end of canyon there was a big pool in the cave with a hole in the top where the sun was shining through and they were able to have a swim.



Canoeing was done out on a large lake about 2 hours drive from the camp. They had lots of activities, racing around the lake, rescuing, safe capsizing and pulling people back in to their canoes. On the second day they canoed to place about 30mins from camp and took a picnic lunch and then came back.

Every night they had a group meeting around the fire to talk about the day's activities and how they could improve on what they did.

It was a wonderful to hear from the TAFE teachers they were a particularly polite group of students and that they really enjoyed having them at the camp.



Sheryn Symons, Work Studies teacher

First Lego League Competition

The First Lego League Competition was held on Saturday 31st of October at Macquarie University. We had 2 teams representing Marsden High School, Team COBS (Tom Beasley, Bradley Connors, Patrick Davis and Martin Sellar) and Team JOSAPAWI (Sam Nutt, Jamieson Olds, Will Smith and Jonah Tan).

The name of this year's competition was Trash Trek and revolved around the theme of re-using and recycling. Each team had to compete in multiple facets which included a research presentation, a robot design showcase, a core value open task and a Lego robot mission task.

Both teams have spent numerous hours at lunch and after school designing, building and testing their robots to try and complete the most missions on a set map in 2.5 minutes.

Teams COBS scored highly in the mission task and were able to complete 4 to 5 missions from a possible 13. They were praised for their simplistic robot design that had minimal break-downs and easy to understand programming code. Their team work was evident and well distributed in the research presentation and the core value open task.

Team JOSAPAWI was complimented by the other teams for their innovative design which included a claw that was able to move up and down like a fork lift. They did not fare so well in the mission tasks because they ran out of time, but their research was well presented and they excelled at the core value open task. Their team work was celebrated and the team won the First Lego League Team Work trophy!

Every student enjoyed the day, they had fun learning and competing while getting inspiration with new ideas for future competitions to come.



Library News

Our **Book Week Competitions** have been judged and the Winners and Runner ups are:

Mystery Book Review

First Prize: Sera in year 9, for her Mystery Book Review on: 'Dragon Keeper' by Carole Wilkinson.

Runner Up: Brianna in year7, for her Mystery Book Review on: 'Blackthorn' by Elizabeth Pulford.

They have chosen their book prize and received their Award Certificate.

Coloring in Competition

First Prize: Emily in Year 11

We have two Runner Ups: Jenny in year 10 and Rowaa in year 9

They also have chosen their book prize and received their Award Certificate.

Congratulations to all our participants as you all did fantastic work.



Special mention to Mrs Knight who did a fantastic job in the colouring competition too.

New Couches

We are lucky enough to have some fantastic new couches in our reading corner. Come down and give them a try. Thankyou to Mrs Symons for sourcing them for us

See you soon in the Library.

Library team: Mrs Knight Library Assistant and Ms Langelaar Teacher Librarian





UPDATE: OCTOBER 2015

Latest News on Bridge to Employment

Annual Alliance Building & Training Session

Each year, Johnson & Johnson host an international conference (ABTS) allowing all sites from around the globe to come together to share success and challenges, learn from each other and brainstorm ways to enrich their local programs.

This year we were fortunate to be able to bring two Student Ambassadors from Sydney to attend the session in **Washington DC, USA!** After the application process we were pleased to announce our Student Ambassadors for 2015:



Kirsten Mann Dylan Ralton

Kirsten and Dylan attended along with students from; Kenya, India, Puerto Rico, Italy, Romania and various states within the USA.



2015 BTE Student Ambassadors

Dylan and Kirsten participated in a variety of activities including a student project in which they

had to respond to an Ebola epidemic. They presented their action plan to all conference attendees from around the globe and amazed everybody with their ability to publicly present such a concept in an intelligent and professional manner to a large group of people.

They even had the opportunity to meet students from Boston that they had connected with via Global Connect (video conferencing) in 2014!



Dylan and Kirsten did a fantastic job at representing the Sydney, Australia BTE program and we are very proud of their achievements.



From Left: Michael Bzdak, (Director Corporate Contributions, J&J), Dylan Ralton (Sydney Ambassador), Rebecca Deep (Site Coordinator), Tim Austin (Local J&J Rep) and Kirsten Mann (Ambassador)

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

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

9th December 2015 - Mentors will be visiting the students at school



@school

Send your news items and photos to john.besley@news.com.au

WEST RYDE

Ambassadors' US mission

TWO TAKE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

John Besley

TWO Marsden High School students recently returned from an unforgettable experience as they were flown to the US as part of global health company Johnson & Johnson's Bridge to Employment program.

Year 12 students Dylan Ralton and Kirsten Mann were selected as Australia's first ever ambassadors for the program, which consisted of students from all over the world being flown to the company's headquarters to learn about the industry and engage in an international youth forum.

"The idea of going somewhere else and creating a whole new experience for myself was really behind the decision to apply," Kirsten said.

"It was an absolutely amazing experience which is something I'll certainly never forget."

Dylan and Kirsten were two of 18 student ambassadors who were selected to attend the three-day conference.

Other students to represent their nations came from Kenya, Romania, India and Italy.

The students were given three free days to explore the US capital before attending the company's headquarters for the remainder of the week to learn about the health industry.

They were selected from a shortlist of seven applicants who had to submit a written application before engaging in a panel interview with Johnson & Johnson representatives.



Marsden High School students Kirsten Mann (left) and Dylan Ralton (middle) with other Johnson & Johnson ambassadors

Dear Sir/Madam

We're writing to let you know the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure and the Minister for Education will announce the launch of the new School Opal card on Thursday 29 October.



The School Opal card will officially launch its new online application for relevant parents and students travelling in the Opal public transport region on Monday 2 November.

The application can be found at transportnsw.info/school-students

Just like current paper travel passes, the School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days. However, the School Opal card makes travel simpler, because now students don't need multiple application forms and passes if they use different transport operators within the Opal network.

Students with school travel passes this year will not need to apply for a School Opal card unless they are changing schools, campus, their home address or moving from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7.

Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to your school for the beginning of the first term in 2016.

More information will follow in the next few weeks to help both your staff and students with the transition.

Sincerely

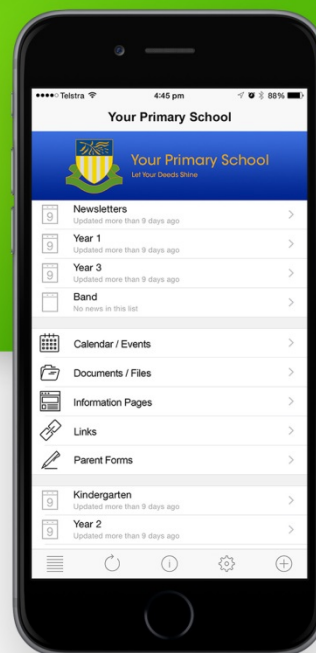
The Opal Team

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- 5) Search for your school name

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- 1) Press Play Store icon on your device
- 2) Press magnifying glass and type in "Enews"
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- 5) Search for your school name

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Find out more at www.schoolenews.com

Please log onto Marsden High School website and sign up to receive Newsletter via email. Also sign up to appropriate year lists to receive information pertaining to your child's scholastic year.

Work Experience at UNSW Science

30 Nov – 4 Dec 2015 Program

Gain insight into the Science faculty's everyday work, involving a diverse array of Sciences, while developing relevant work skills to help you pursue your career and study interests.

UNSW Science will be trialling a work experience pilot program for the five day week commencing 30 November 2015 and are currently collecting expressions of interest from students in Years 10 or 11 who are enrolled in an Australian secondary school. Students will experience a variety of activities across our broad range of disciplines.

Up to 20 places will be made available, with all successful applicants to be notified on Monday 16 November 2015.

If you're interested in applying, download our expression of interest form at bit.ly/UNSWworkex and provide all school-based materials.

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G

Never Staid Still Science

UNSW AUSTRALIA

Applications and further enquiries should be sent to studyscience@unsw.edu.au by November 8



- Graduation**
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