



# Marsden Mail

Term 4 Week 9

## Principal's Report

I often reflect how privileged I am to be working in a school with excellent staff, wonderful students and a supportive school community. As I read each and every school report that outlines student achievement this semester, it is readily apparent the amount and quality of learning that takes place in our school.

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.  
Benjamin Franklin

I am delighted that our students have engaged so well with learning both formally and informally. Much of that has to do with the way our teachers go about their business. It also has a lot to do with how students accept responsibility for their own learning and engage with it on a deep level. An example of this is last week's Australian Business Week challenge for Year 10 students. This program is all about enterprise learning with a strong focus on team building and collaborating on achieving common goals. Teams of students went from being unsure and insecure about what they were doing in this program on Monday, to absolute powerhouses of energy, commitment and application by Friday. The transformation was remarkable. Those who were able to attend the trade fair in the hall at the end of the week were astonished at the positive buzz and the enthusiasm of the teams promoting their businesses. The words of Benjamin Franklin in the quote above ring so true. Students accepted the challenge of significant involvement in their own learning, relished the opportunity and made the most of it.

Congratulations to all of the student participants. They did a great job. Much thanks also to all of the staff team who ensured the program's success, especially the work of Mr van der Heide and Ms Swinkels. Thank you also to the community members who also gave their time as mentors and judges.

This week also we had a celebration of Gifted and Talented student achievement in the Pinnacle Showcase evening. It was delightful and impressive to share the wonderful learning that has taken place amongst some of our most talented students. A wide range of learning was showcased and it was demonstrated once again that Marsden has students that are equal to or better than students from any other school in terms of their learning engagement, performance and love of learning. Many thanks go to Ms Fevzi, our GAT coordinator for an excellent job in organising the evening with the able assistance of the HSIE faculty. Congratulations to all the students who participated. It was a wonderful showcase.

Gus Vrolyk  
Principal

**Our next P&C meeting is on Tuesday 23rd February in the Library at 7:30pm**

### P&C

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

Secretary email: [marsdenpnc@gmail.com](mailto:marsdenpnc@gmail.com)  
Meeting in school library, last Tuesday of every month, school terms.

Minutes of meeting available from secretary on request.

## Calendar

### 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

### Year 12, 2016

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 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Orientation Program

**8.30am** –student's meet 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 a Transport representative and for completion of any enrolment paperwork, if applicable

**10.30am** – Orientation Assembly

**11.30am** – Morning Tea

**11.40am** –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 17<sup>th</sup> December

from 11.15 to 12 noon

in the Common Room.

## Deputy Principal's Report

As we come to the end of another year of learning, it is gratifying to reflect on the achievements of our year. Our school is going from strength to strength. It is a joy to see our very respectful students engaging and learning in so many fields. I am very proud of how much effort our teachers put in to giving our students so many opportunities to experience learning and to achieve their personal best. It is also very humbling to have the support and gratitude of our parent body. All of this combined makes Marsden a very rewarding place to teach.

Recently we advertised for a range of scholarships for 2016 to reward exemplary students. I am pleased to announce the following successful scholarship recipients: Keisha Tran, Olivia van Uden, Claire Sellar, Jonah Tan, Jonathan Aylward, Madeline Low, Lina Okati, Wahid Hamayoun, Juddwin Bartolo, Samir Khattab and Sarah Travis. Congratulations to these very worthy students.

As I will be going on leave for 2016, I would particularly like to thank Mr Vrolyk, Ms Paczkowski, the Head Teachers and the entire teaching staff for their wonderful support during my time in the Deputy Principal's chair. I would also like to give a special thank you to our amazing front office staff who are so incredibly competent and supportive and have made work so enjoyable.

Sheryn Symons  
Deputy Principal

## Debating @ Marsden

On Monday, 9th November, Marsden High School hosted a friendly debate against Belmont Christian College. Our Year 9 and 10 debating team Maddy Low, Stephanie Ewings, Vivian Chen and Lina Okati spoke with sophistication and knowledge. The topic was 'That more should be done to protect our young from the media', a topical issue, relevant to all students. Special thanks to Ivy Lao for chairing the debate, Bejaie Gale for timekeeping and the Year 7 and 8 team; Tom Beasley, Jemma Low and Tamsin Low, for assisting with logistics on the day. These students along with Hugh McFarlane and Callum Irving also participated in the Premier's Debating Challenge earlier this year. All students are to be commended on their efforts in public speaking.

Amanda Taplin, Debating Coach, ESL Teacher



## THAI MASTERCLASS

Marsden High School has hosted renowned Thai chef Chayawat Arunwan in yet another coup for the school.

Mr Arunwan formerly of chic and hatted inner city restaurants, Sailor's Thai in The Rocks and LongGrain in Surry Hills had the students and staff enraptured with his exotic and flavoursome blend of Thai delights and delicacies.

Indeed so successful was Marsden's foray into the culinary world, the concept will be embedded in next year's programme.

Mr Vrolyk, said 'the school had long prided itself on providing unique and innovative student experiences, and the aromas wafting down the corridors had everybody wanting more.'

Dishes such as Mahor or minced pork, prawn and pineapple, a mixed seafood with a spicy curry paste and Betel leaves had Marsden's Food Technology classes achieving beyond the expected and hopefully will serve as an entree to future educational and professional opportunities.



## A Little bit of TLC

Repairs to the stairs to the library meant the existing garden was destroyed. The area lay bare for quite some time however, a few teachers keen to rejuvenate the area softening the hard edges and barren beds had plans. Milena Idrus was the first to "jump in" planting some lovely specimens. Marilee Campbell and Sue Litster were next, infilling the spaces with a variety of plants, many with flowers to brighten and soften the concrete beds. Luna Char, Marsden IEC Korean translator was inspired next providing some more plants that complimented the landscape further. Marsden IEC students provided many willing hands to bucket wood chips to the area from the oval to mulch the beds and protect the plants.

What a difference! The result is a garden is thriving, easy care and joy to walk past and to sit in to take time out for both teachers and students. Take a minute to have a look and feel free to do a bit of weeding, watering, pruning or just enjoy and appreciate how a little TLC has transformed one corner of Marsden.



## Australian Mathematics Competition

This year Marsden had 76 students enter into this competition, of those we received 8 distinctions and 22 credits. This is a fantastic result for our students.

Lesi Li in Year 9 received the Prudence Award for our school, as she was the student who answered correctly the most consecutive questions. Lesi answered correctly the first 18 questions. The questions increase in degree of difficulty as the competition progresses.

Congratulation to the following students:

Year 7:

- Will Smith - distinction
- Keisha Tran- distinction
- Jonah Tan- credit
- Leo Lim- credit
- Bejaie Gale- credit
- Mohammed Ramlawie- credit
- Patrick Davis- credit

Year 8

- Odin braad- credit
- Andy chen- credit
- Sebastian Barton- credit
- Nathan chen- credit
- Jonathon Aylward- credit
- Hyeon-Joon Lee- credit
- Tamsan Low- credit

Year 9

- Lesi Li- distinction
- Sean tran- distinction
- Yong Tan Wu- distinction
- Nicole Allred- credit
- Sepehr Shafazand- credit
- Azar Yaser-credit
- Paul Ji-credit

Year 10

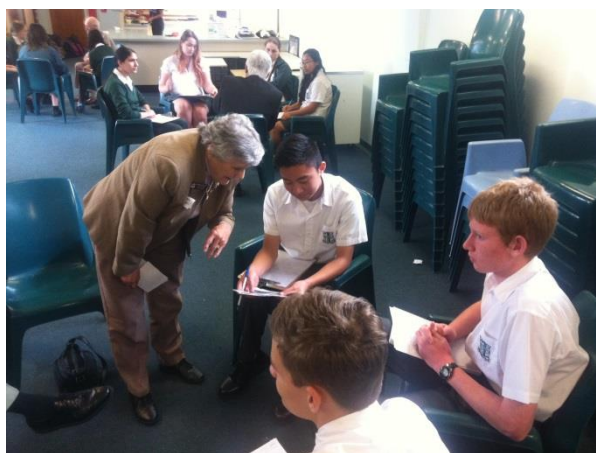
- Caroline Soong- distinction
- emily Xu- distinction
- Ivy Lao- credit
- Jim Zhang- credit
- Alexander Chen- credit
- Lina Okati- credit

Year 11

- Feifan Song- distinction
- Quentin Yip- credit

## Veterans Visit

Earlier this term, Year 10 History students had the opportunity to meet local veterans Warren Collins, who served in World War II, Steve Taylor and Bernie Cox who served in the Vietnam War and survivors of the London bombing, Harry and Marina Peskett. This was a very powerful learning experience as the students gained a firsthand view of life during war. The students later wrote about hearing the wartime encounters and some of these impressions were read out in the NSW Legislative Assembly by the local minister for Ryde, Mr Victor Dominello for Remembrance Day. The students who participated were Simon Becker, James Bongers, Melvin Buenaventura, Vivian Chen, Rachel Dismorr, Callum Irving, Dongju Kim, Ivy Lao, Hugh McFarlane, Sandy Nguyen, Lina Okati, Timothy Pinzone, Lisa Plummer, Saba Saidi, Benjamin Spenceley, Sarah Travis and Jordan Wass.



## Library News

This week we thanked our library monitors/volunteers by going on an excursion to two of our local libraries. It was interesting as all libraries are different. This is what two of our students said:

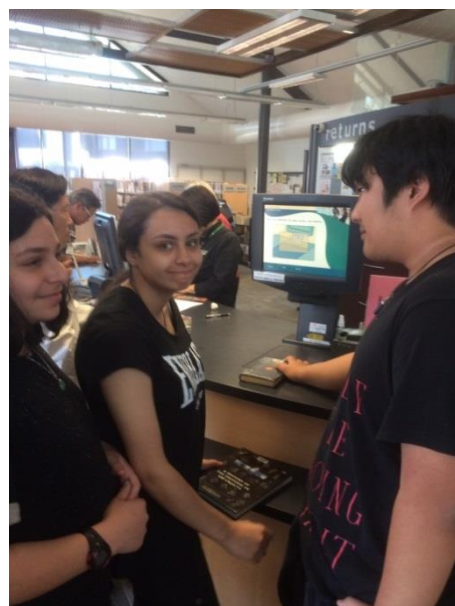
### Library Excursion Review

This Monday the library monitors went to Eastwood library and Ermington library. We all had great fun, first we went to Eastwood library and their range of books was much larger than the ones at our library. We wrote some books down on a piece of paper that was of our interest for the suggestion box. We asked some questions at the front desk before entering. Some of these questions were "Is there free WIFI here?" and "How old do you need to be to have a library card?" Next we went to Ermington library. They had a smaller range of books most of them were children's books we asked the same questions there too and talked about books.

The way we got to the libraries was by bus. It took about 10-15 minutes to get there. After about half an hour we exited the library and David took us on a small tour around Eastwood. Then guided us to the local 'Bread Top' where we all had morning tea and a drink. After that we went back to the bus station, it was a very hot day, luckily the bus had air-conditioning. Next we got off the bus and went to Ermington Library, it was very quiet. When we left the library we went up the road to get some fish and chips that we all shared. Then went back to school and stayed in the library until the bell went.

By Leo and Brianna in year 7

Big thanks to Mrs. Knight and Ms. Langelaar for a wonderful day.



## Holiday Reading

You are able to borrow books over the school holidays.

So come to the Library we have some fantastic new books ready to be borrowed.

Mrs Knight and I, wish you a safe and happy holiday and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Ms Langelaar  
Teacher Librarian



## Australian Business Week (ABW) 2015

A week of group dynamics, initiative, design, developing ideas, understanding data (and finance!!) and coming up with a marketable product – Australian Business Week was all these elements and more. In Week 8, 120 Year 10 students came together to work in teams and participate in a great event. They spent 5 days crunching numbers to work out supply and demand issues, staffing, promotions and operations, all in a virtual Café simulation. At the same time, they designed their own 'potential' Café business with a marketable product and image, a 30 second video advertisement, a company report on their business progress and a 10 minute group oral presentation.

Students, as part of their team of 10 or 11, learnt to work to strict turnaround times, meet deadlines, develop group dynamic skills, display leadership qualities, motivate others, and have a vision that they could share with their pretend customers (thanks Yr 9 and staff) at the end-of-week Trade Show.

Marsden staff and students were most impressed with the teamwork and design ideas demonstrated by our Year 10 students throughout the final day. Congratulations to all those who enthusiastically participated. A very big thank you also to all of our teacher mentors, business and community members, judges and presenters for all the work that went into making Marsden's ABW such a huge success.

Sean van der Heide and Trish Swinkels  
Marsden's ABW Coordinators

Here are our overall winners of the week-long event: Chen's Cafe



Music was a popular addition to many of our 11 stalls at the Trade



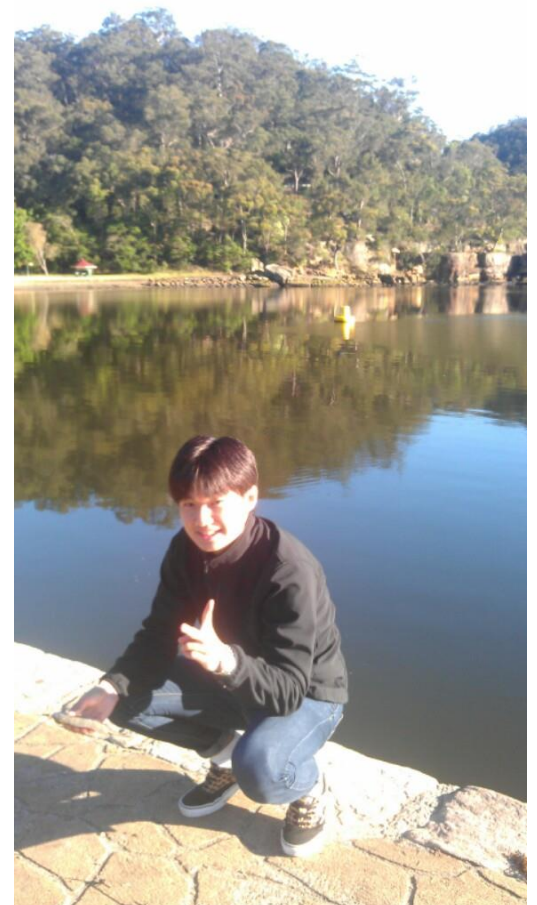
Some great creative advertising at the Trade Show



Year 12 Camp International Students

In Year 12 2015-16, we have a cohort of 102 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 took them to Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre at Bobbin Head for a 2 day camp. In addition to lots of scintillating sessions about Maths, essay writing, HSC study skills and applying to university, 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 Brennan and Ms Hoy for their assistance on the camp. It was wonderful to see these students bond as a group. 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**







**Transport  
State Transit**

18 November 2015

Dear School Admin Manager

I'm writing to you in advance of the 2016 school year to advise of changes to the three-digit route numbers of School Special bus services to your school.

From the start of Term 1, most School Special bus services will be renumbered to eliminate any duplication of route numbers that may have caused confusion to students in the past. Please note these changes do not impact the level of service provided to your school or the route taken by these services. The only change is to the three-digit route number of these services.

Detailed information regarding these changes is available on the Sydney Buses website:  
[www.sydneybuses.info](http://www.sydneybuses.info).

We ask that you promote the changes specific to your school in your bulletins, newsletters and at assemblies to ensure students are aware of their school route numbers prior to school vacation .

If you have any questions or require further information regarding bus services to your school, please don't hesitate to contact me directly on 9941 6885.

Yours sincerely

  
**Michael Perrone**

Regional Traffic & Service Manager  
Western Region Operations

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 [\[transportnsw.info/school-students\]](http://transportnsw.info/school-students)[transportnsw.info/school-students](http://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

Use public transport... plan your trip at [transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)  
Get on board with Opal at [opal.com.au](http://opal.com.au)



# SchoolEnews

Schools send free alerts and notes, newsletters, notices, events, news and more to parents.



## How to install School Enews

### iPhone and iPad Users

- 1) Press App Store icon on your device
- 2) Press Search and type in "Enews"
- 3) Press "Get", the app will download
- 4) Press "Open" and accept "push alerts"
- 5) Search for your school name

### Android Users

- 1) Press Play Store icon on your device
- 2) Press magnifying glass and type in "Enews"
- 3) Press "Install", the app will download
- 4) Press "Open"
- 5) Search for your school name

### Configure Push Alerts

- 1) Press "Settings / Cog" icon
- 2) Turn off the lists you don't want

### Other Smartphones and Tablets

Visit <http://app.schoolenews.com> for more apps

*School Enews delivers news directly to parents and students!*



## Subscribe for Email Updates

- 1) Visit your school website
- 2) Click "School Enews" or "Newsletters & Notes" top heading (might differ slightly)
- 3) Under the "Subscribe" heading, tick on appropriate lists
- 4) Enter in your name and email address.
- 5) Click Subscribe (IMPORTANT: An email will be sent to your email address, you MUST click the "Activate Now" inside this email that is sent to you)



Don't forget to Like us on [Facebook.com/schoolenews](https://www.facebook.com/schoolenews)  
Find out more at [www.schoolenews.com](http://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.



**GET ON THE ROAD TO YOUR  
DRIVER'S LICENCE**

**FREE FUN FAST**

**PICKUP &  
DROP OFF**

**ENJOY EACH  
LESSON**

**FRIENDLY  
SERVICE**

**1 DRIVING LESSON HOUR  
= 3 LOGBOOK HOURS**

**SCHOOL SPECIAL  
ONLY \$60  
PER 1 HOUR LESSON**

**BOOK NOW !!!**

**CALL: 0466 534 263**

**dani@smsdrivingschool.com.au**

**CONVENIENT  
DAY & EVENING  
LESSONS**

RMS Accredited Driving Instructor Lic# 0129116

# STARS

ST ANTHONYS RECREATION + SPORTS



**Dec & Jan Holiday Sports Camps - Coach Training Academy - Level 1**

**0447827788**  
S T A R S T V

**STARStv.net**



# ST MATTHEW'S UNITING CHURCH NETBALL CLUB

A FUN SOCIAL COMPETITION FOR ALL AGES

Email:  
[stmatthewsnetballclub@hotmail.com](mailto:stmatthewsnetballclub@hotmail.com)

Website:  
<http://www.goodenreservenetball.com>

Like our Facebook page:  
[facebook.com/StMatthewsNetballClub](https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsNetballClub)



## THE ACTING EXPERIENCE

**DRAMA CLASSES  
FOR TEENAGERS  
ENROL NOW FOR  
2016!**

▶ **SMALL CLASS SIZES**  
▶ **> 2 HOURS EACH WEEK**

COME AND JOIN THE  
BEST EXPERIENCE FOR  
YOUNG ACTORS

The Acting Experience weekly drama classes are on:

- ▶ Primary Classes – Wednesdays and Saturdays
- ▶ High School Classes – Thursdays and Saturdays

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

[actexp.com.au](http://actexp.com.au)  
[info@actexp.com.au](mailto:info@actexp.com.au)  
0457 574 662

Photo: @StMatthewsFCISchool

## Call Now for Availability!

MOBILE 0421 532 882 | EMAIL [aba@aba08.com.au](mailto:aba@aba08.com.au)

**50% OFF** enrolment onto a Beginners Course\*  
\*New Students Only

PROMO CODE **WEB100**



**AUSTRALIAN  
BADMINTON  
ACADEMY**

[www.aba08.com.au](http://www.aba08.com.au)



# 2015 School Leaver Information Sessions

*Come in and discuss your future traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities in a variety of industries. The session will conclude with one-on-one interviews.*

*For more information and to register - Call Jade on (02) 9704 1500.*

*[jupton@austrg.com.au](mailto:jupton@austrg.com.au)*

## **TRAINEESHIPS:**

### **Dates:**

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015  
9.30am - 11am  
Homebush  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
7pm - 8.30pm  
Homebush



## **APPRENTICESHIPS:**

### **Dates:**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015  
Homebush  
7pm - 8.30pm  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
2015  
Blacktown  
7pm - 8.30pm



**Australian Training Company  
30-32 Pomeroy St,  
Homebush NSW 2140  
[www.austrg.com.au](http://www.austrg.com.au)**