

marsdenmail

The official newsletter of Marsden High School



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

BY LANCE BERRY

'As the Zen Buddhist saying goes, how you do anything is how you do everything'. Simon Sinek

The last few weeks have been flat out at Marsden with many events occurring within the school calendar. Thank you to all students, staff and parents who support our fabulous school. We started our events with the annual Marsfest celebrations of our school and the pride we have in our diversity.

MARSFEST EVENT 1: SHOWCASING OUR AWESOME SCHOOL ON OPEN NIGHT MARCH 5

Tuesday March 5 was Marsden High School's big event in presenting our strengths to the wider school community and encouraging those potential students within our drawing area that we are worth a closer look and are the school for them. We welcomed over 400 parents and children through our doors where they were welcomed formally, provided with student reflections on life at Marsden, received the principal's outline on why Marsden is the school of choice for the area, viewed a promotional video of the school, experienced musical items, presented with information on our Pinnacle program and then led on tours by students to faculties throughout the school.

IN THIS ISSUE:

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	1
UPCOMING DATES	2
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	5
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES	7
UPDATE FROM SPORT	9
UPDATE FROM CAREERS	10
COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD	11
USEFUL LINKS	11

Our visitors expressed their appreciation in being able to interact with the students and were highly commendable of the calibre of those who led the groups, how positively they spoke of our school and the quality of the information given regarding all of the extra-curricular activities on offer here. The number of parents who attended is testament to the outstanding reputation of the school and a desire for the local community to enrol their child here.

MARSFEST EVENT 2: 'A BALANCED WORLD IS A BETTER WORLD' - INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2019 MARCH 8

Marsden celebrated International Women's Day in style thanks to the efforts of Ms Lena Zreika, Ms Cimen Fevzi and the Social Justice team. 'A balanced world is a better world. How can we help forge a more gender balanced world?' was the question pondered by those who spoke. Sarah Najdek, Director of Johnson and Johnson Corporation, spoke on her own experiences and the importance of ensuring gender equality and women's achievements.

Our comperes Olivia Van Uden and John Dang did a wonderful job as hosts. We were entertained by students Sarah Mundy and Keisha Tran, and the Marsden Dance Group, along with a quartet of wonderful teachers: Ms Lee, Ms Corbett, Ms Kalaidjian and Ms Mo. Many thanks to our student speakers Alisha Green, Jessica Geyman and Faisal Ahamed and the school social justice team led by Ms Zreika and supported by Ms Fevzi. Our 200 guests included Mr Geoff Lee, dignitaries from Parramatta Council, students and parents from many of our partner primary schools, parents of our students, staff and Marsden students.

MARSFEST EVENT 3: MULTICULTURAL ASSEMBLY MARCH 8

Lessons three and four were the cornerstone of our emphasis on the pride our school has in its multiculturalism. There were acts and performances from a wide range of students celebrating the diversity and connection we share together. Many of those in the audience were wearing their national costumes or clothing reflecting their background. Organised by the Prefect Leadership Team the event highlighted our strengths in performance and wellbeing.

MARSFEST EVENT 4: OUR FESTIVAL OF FOOD

The icing on the cake for the week of celebration was the sharing of cultural cuisine across the school. Also organised by our Year 12 Prefect Leadership Team the event allowed students to select from stalls offering food not usually available as well as henna painting. A large thank you to Ms Swinkel and the PLT for their efforts over the week.

CELEBRATING OUR CULTURAL TOLERANCE AND HARMONY – ACKNOWLEDGING NATIONAL ANTI-BULLYING DAY MARCH 15

RESPECT was the central message from our anti-bullying forum organised by Ms Prince, Head Teacher Learning and Wellbeing, last Friday.

UPCOMING DATES:

NATIONAL DAY AGAINST BULLYING

FRIDAY 15 MARCH

YEAR 7 CAMP

MONDAY 18 MARCH

IEC VACCINATION PROGRAM:

TUESDAY 19 MARCH

HARMONY DAY

THURSDAY 21 MARCH

P&C MEETING

TUESDAY 26 MARCH

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

THURSDAY 28 MARCH

REMINDER:

THE MHS HOMEWORK CENTRE IS OPEN EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY DURING SCHOOL TERMS.

3:30PM - 4:30PM

Our panel included:

Sean Tran –

School Captain 2018

Brian Cheng –

Marsden HS School Psychologist

Senior Constable Deb Chrystal –

Police Youth Liaison Officer

Constable Troy Lucca –

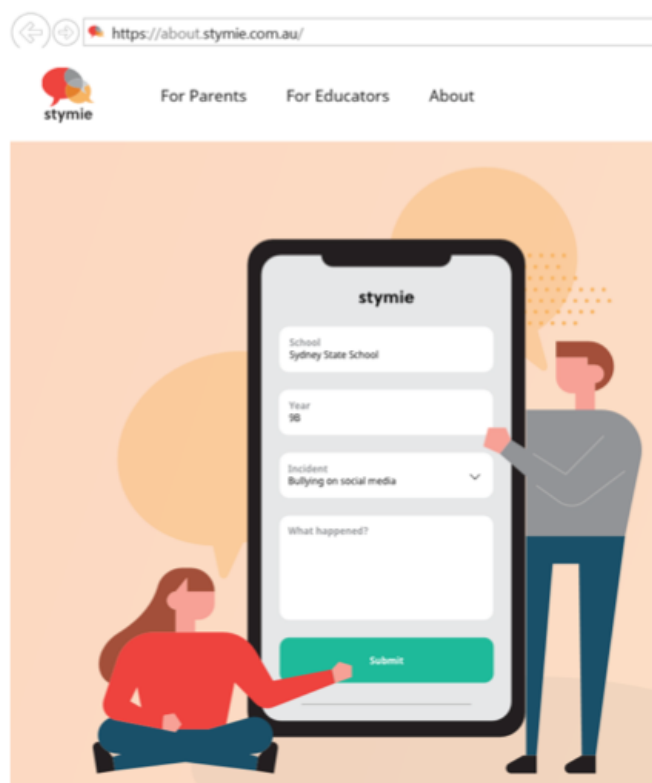
Ryde Local Area Command

Gavin Robinson –

Former Test Cricketer, Fox TV personality
and GWS Assistant Coach

Stephen Coniglio –

GWS AFL player.



Fielding pre-prepared questions as well as a couple from the audience, the panel outlined their own experience with managing bullying. All panel members provided the same advice for our young people - ask for help in managing situations which make them feel unsafe or unhappy. Throughout the presentation Marsden emphasised its use of STYMIE to report bullying situations – stymie.com.au

GETTING THE COMMUNICATION RIGHT - YEAR 7 PARENT EVENING MARCH 12

Last Tuesday Marsden hosted our annual Year 7 meet the teacher evening where we distributed Year 7 interim reports and offered the opportunity for parents to meet teachers and ask any questions they may have at this stage of year 7. There were over two thirds of our parents present enjoying the supper provided and the opportunity to follow up casually on how their children were transitioning into high school. Thanks to Ms Hiba Rizk, Head Teacher Stage 4, for organising the event.

FEEDBACK IS THE BEST SUPPORT - YEAR 12 PARENT TEACHER NIGHT

Year 12 students and their parents had their Term 1 teacher feedback session last week. An important opportunity which was taken up by many parents to get the feedback on where their students are placed so far in Year 12. If you missed out on getting to the evening and would like feedback on where your child is at, please contact the year 12 Year Adviser Ms Laryssa Berynk.

CELEBRATING OUR YEAR 12 2018 HIGH ACHIEVERS

Lastly, we got to acknowledge our 2018 Dux Hannah Kim who achieved 98.6 ATAR and the other HSC high achievers on March 1. Organised by Ms Currie, last year's Year 12 DP and hosted by Mr Wilson, 2019 Year 12 DP, the students were acknowledged for their success. The opportunity was also used for the current Year 12 cohort to ask questions about to get HSC success from those who experienced it recently.

TELL THEM FROM ME

This year we will continue to participate in the Department of Education initiative; the "Tell Them From

Me" survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. It is also a follow up from the previous Tell Them From Me surveys. This survey will serve as a tool in measuring our progress as a school.

The survey is confidential and participating in it is entirely voluntary. It is a great opportunity for your child to provide valuable feedback regarding our school. The student survey will be administered during Week 9 and 10 of Term 1.

More information on the survey, included FAQ and translated documents, is available at the CESE website: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

Please do not hesitate to contact Ms Currie on 9874 6544, if you have enquiries regarding the survey. This year we will also be surveying parents and staff - details to follow. We look forward to your input.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Parents and carers of children of compulsory school age are responsible for ensuring their child attends school every day. On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Families are encouraged to organise family trips only during school vacation periods. Every day away from school negatively affects achievement levels. Families planning to take their children out of school for a family trip outside of school vacation periods will be required to apply for leave by completing an Application for Extended Leave – Travel which is available from our front office. Further information for parents regarding compulsory school attendance can be found at: https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/media/documents/attendance-behaviour-engagement/attendance/attendance_parents.pdf

SCHOOL OPAL CARDS

All students must be in possession of a valid Opal card or pay a fare. Students in possession of an Opal card must also tap on/off with their card when boarding buses to and from school.

As part of the campaign against fare evasion, and the ongoing commitment to provide the level of service needed to transport students to and from school, STA conducts regular checks of School Opal cards. This is important, because the Opal data collected determines the level of service they are able to provide to our school. If students don't tap on and off, the services will appear underutilised and may be considered for cancellation based on low passenger numbers.

To apply for a School Opal card or to report a lost or stolen card, go on-line to www.opal.com.au/en/about-opal/opal-for-school-students/ Students who are ineligible for a School Opal will need to purchase a Child/Youth Opal card or pay a fare to travel on the buses.

Mr. Berry

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

BY MR. WILSON

Marsden has been a hive of activity in recent weeks. Open Night was a huge success. Being new to Marsden, I was so impressed with the manner in which our community communicates what we do well. The presentation in the hall was concise and polished and the walking tour was a lot of fun. Faculties went to so much effort to demonstrate the excellent, engaging learning that is happening at Marsden. Whether it was snacking in the commercial kitchen, creating explosions of coloured foam in Science or imagining using a lathe to create a masterpiece, the walking tour was a great introduction to high school for our Year 6 visitors. A huge thank you to the teaching and SASS staff, to parents and in particular students who remained onsite until 7PM.

The International Women's Day Breakfast was a beautiful event. Sarah Najdek was such a good choice as keynote speaker, emphasising the commercial benefits of gender equality in the corporate world. The student and staff performances were lovely and the entire mood inspirational. I was a delight to see so many primary students visiting us for the event. Congratulations to Lena Zraika and all staff involved in organising the breakfast.

In a busy week, Marsfest provided the school with a chance to celebrate our rich cultural diversity and to enjoy a meal together. I have been to many 'Multicultural Days' in different schools but I really enjoyed the layback celebration that is Marsfest. Music, dance and cultural performances in the Hall were followed by an extended lunchtime eating festival. Thanks to Trish Swinkels and our Prefect Leadership Team for all the organisation that goes into this fun day.

A key feature of staff professional learning in 2019 will be the formation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). Teachers have been provided with a period allocation so that they may engage in a variety of projects on offer across the school. Some teachers will be working on developing Project-Based Learning Hubs to enrich learning for Year 7 classes in Semester 2, as students collaborate and create to solve real-life problems. Other teachers will work in partnership with Macquarie University in the development of research projects for publication. Others will develop Action Research or Peer Mentoring projects to inform change within the school, in diverse areas including curriculum, wellbeing and extra-curricular activities. The school's executive are striving to provide opportunities for staff to pursue their areas of interest as it is only when teachers are learners themselves that a school can truly be said to have a 'growth mindset'.

Finally, I would like to thank our Head Teacher Learning and Wellbeing, Deb Prince, and the whole Learning and Wellbeing team for their dedication to the students in our school with Learning Difficulties and diagnosed conditions. Learning and Support Teachers (LaSTs), Student Learning Support Officers (SLSOs), careers advisers and the counsellor all ensure that students who require personalised learning plans (PLPs) and adjustments are well-cared for. All PLPs are currently being updated for 2019 and staff are undergoing professional learning in a range of wellbeing priority areas. There is still a lot of work that will be undertaken by this team as the year proceeds but there is a great team in place that really does care. If you have any concerns regarding your child's learning support needs please contact Deb at deborah.prince@det.nsw.edu.au.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

OPEN NIGHT

Open Night 2019 was a fantastic night showcasing our amazing school. We absolutely loved seeing so many passionate staff and students volunteering their time across the school, sharing their high school experiences with the visiting students and parents. Thank you to all the families who took time out of their day to visit Marsden to see first hand the many incredible opportunities available to their children.



MARSFEST: BY DUNCAN IRVING

The annual Marsfest Food-Fest was an amazing cultural event run by our Marsden Prefects on the 8th of March. The Food-Fest is an opportunity to celebrate Marsden's cultural diversity. At lunchtime many staff and students went to the food stalls at the front of the school where they could choose from options such as Chinese, Korean, Pizza, Halal Snack Packs (HSP), Persian snacks, Gelato and a sausage sizzle. Overall, the Food-Fest was a great success, and it couldn't have been done without the help of the Prefects, the SRC and student volunteers.

The Marsfest Performance Assembly was also fantastic and well-run by members of the Prefect Leadership Team. Students in Years 7, 8, 10 and 11 enjoyed performances from a vast variety of cultures. The performances included an Indian dance, a fashion parade and a Chinese harp. The assembly was a great success, so congratulations to all the performers and the PLT members who made sure the assembly ran smoothly.

The PLT would like to thank Ms Swinkels and Mr Giles, the PLT coordinators, who helped us at every step along the way. Without their guidance, Marsfest would not have been the great success that it was.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Better the Balance, Better the World" The 2nd Annual International Women's Day Breakfast, organised by Ms Zraika, Ms Fevzi and the Social Justice Team, was held on 8th March at Marsden High School. This year the breakfast had over 180 attendees, including Marsden High School students, parents, teachers, members our feeder schools and community leaders.

International Women's Day is a global day which celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. This year, the theme was **'Balance for Better'**

We were honoured to have an empowering guest speaker, Sarah Najdek. Sarah, the Director of Sales of Ethicon Account Solutions at Johnson & Johnson explained how she overcame barriers in a male dominant industry and provided advice on how we can contribute to making change happen for gender balance across the world.

Thank you to Olivia and John for hosting the event, Alisha for her speech and Marsden High School Dancers, Sarah M, Jessica, Faisal, Keisha and staff members Mrs Kalaidjian, Ms Mo, Ms Yoon and Ms Corbet for their performance.



UPDATE FROM STEM:

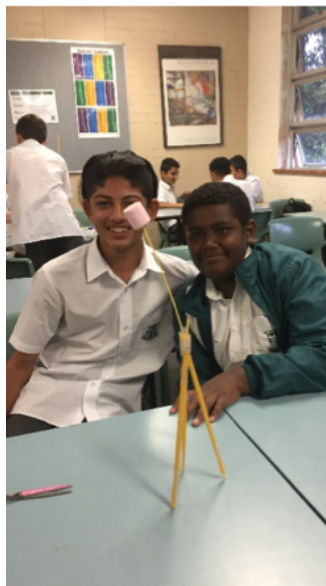
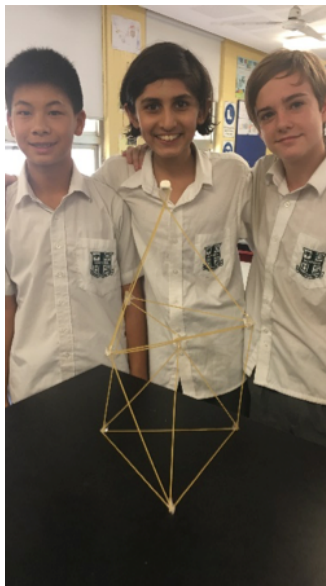
YEAR 8 SCIENCE - TECHNOLOGY - ENGINEERING - MATHS (STEM)

Students in year 8 have been busy completing mini projects in their STEM classes this term. Completed over one or two lessons, the projects have included paper towers, paper planes, spaghetti towers and balloon powered cars. Each project is designed to enhance problem solving skills, as students collaborate in small groups to share ideas and produce an item that meets the conditions and expectations of the project.

Building the tallest paper tower using only twenty A4 pieces of paper and no sticky tape in sight, proved to be a fun and surprisingly challenging task. An understanding of balancing the load and a steady hand were the secrets to success.



Marshmallows can prove to be very heavy when they are supported by spaghetti and sticky tape alone. Some students learned just how bendable spaghetti can be with their tower designs.



Everyday household items were used to build a car powered by an inflated balloon. When the air from the balloon escapes, potential energy is converted to kinetic energy and Newton's third Law of Motion is at work – for every action there is an equal but opposite reaction. The air escapes out the back propelling the car forward.



We look forward to more ideas and designs from Year 8 as we complete our mini projects series for Term 1.

Year 8 STEM teachers -

Mrs Mathew
Miss Johnson
Miss Zhou
Miss Kaur
Mrs Hooper

UPDATE FROM SPORTS:

ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Thursday 7 March, Marsden students participated in the Zone Swimming carnival held at Macquarie University Swimming Centre.

It was a great day with the weather being perfect for competition. Along with the excellent venue, and our Marsden students cheering and supporting each other from the stands, many of our students produced a high level of skill and ability.

The next level of competition brought out the competitive nature in our talented students, with many of them progressing to the regional level. The competitors showed that Marsden spirit and culture with sportsmanship and respect on display and everyone striving to achieve their personal best.

Some huge achievements to mention:

Claire Xu-Louie who finished Age champion at zone level for 15 year girls and Matthew Kim of year 7 who also finished the Zone age champion for 12 year boys.

Both students broke Zone Swimming records on the day and represented Marsden in a fantastic manner. The overall success of Marsden was also worth mentioning as we finished higher than schools that have a much larger population. We certainly have some students here at Marsden who are talented in the sporting arena and this has led to us doubling our number of students progressing to the regional level from last year.

This is a reminder to those students to please collect a regional Swimming note from the PDHPE staffroom and return their notes as soon as possible.

Date for the regional carnival is: **Thursday 21st March 2019**

A big thank you to Ms Maguire and Mr Cheer who came along and assisted with the carnival.

ULIMATE FRISBEE

The Ultimate Frisbee teams representing Marsden have had back to back wins this season, winning against Burwood Girls last week 14-2. All students from years 8 and 9 have consistently improved their performance, maintained their positivity and display fantastic sportsmanship every week. Well Done Frisbee, keep up the great work!



CAREER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

YEAR 12

- A reminder that interviews will be taking place this term to discuss your progress and options for 2019 and beyond.
- University Applications and early entry information will be available from late March/early April.
- All Year 12 students must have a Students Online Account. This is vital for University applications and for receiving HSC results. Please see Mr Lustica if you have not yet activated your account.
- Those Year 12 students wanting to go to university are encouraged to read the document posted on their Google Classroom Careers Page outlining the different options for Early Entry to University.

YEAR 11:

- There will be no more subject changes for Year 11 students until Term 4. The only exception to this are those students on 14 units who wish to drop a subject so that they are back on 12 units.

YEAR 10:

- Work Experience will be available during the week of November 11th to 15th. Students are encouraged to start looking for work experience options as early as possible. Mr Lustica will be running seminars through the year in order to provide essential Work Experience information to the students.
- Bridge to Employment students will be visiting Johnson and Johnson Head Office in Ultimo on Friday March 22nd for a day of Career mentoring.
- United Way will be running a Business@School event for Year 10 on Wednesday March 22nd. There will be presentations from 6 different local businesses with the students able to vote for the business they would most like to visit for an excursion in Term 2.

Antony Lustica

Careers Adviser



COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD:




Harmony Day: A Celebration of hOPE


Ryde area school students showcase cultures from around the world through their performances. With a special appearance from Achieve Wishes members!

100% hOPE giving children a future and a voice!
CHILDREN'S CHOIR 2019

Ryde Civic Centre
Thursday 21 March
7.00 - 9.00pm 1 Devlin St, Ryde

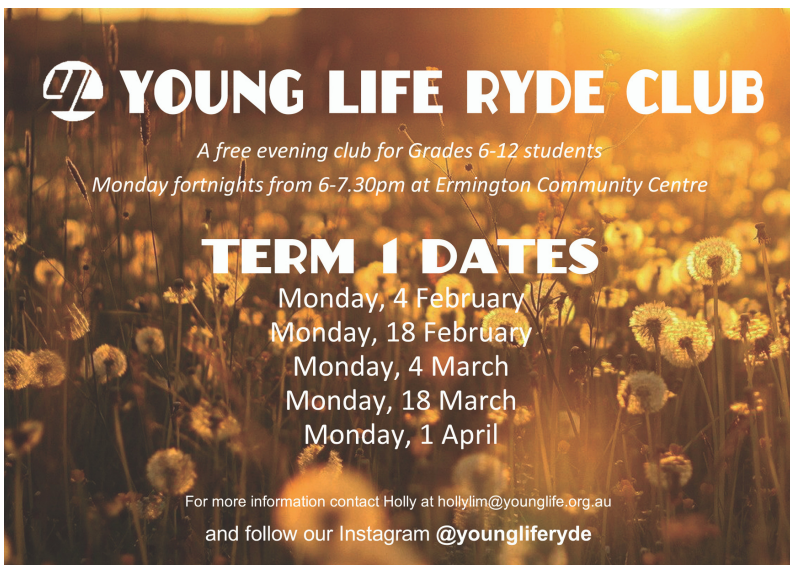
SUPPORTED BY

 City of Ryde
Lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep

 EXCELSIA COLLEGE
Sydney

HARMONY DAY THURSDAY 21 MARCH, 2019

An authentic and educational experience of African music and culture is available for you and your family this Harmony Day - March 21 at Ryde Civic Hub. Everyone is welcome to the free Harmony Day: Celebration of hOPE Charity Concert featuring the 100% hOPE Children's Choir, on a three-month tour from Uganda. They will be sharing their stories through drumming, dance and acapella singing at Ryde Civic Hub. The Concert celebrating cultures from around the world is proudly supported by the City of Ryde, and Excelsia College.




YOUNG LIFE RYDE CLUB

A free evening club for Grades 6-12 students
Monday fortnights from 6-7.30pm at Ermington Community Centre

TERM 1 DATES

- Monday, 4 February
- Monday, 18 February
- Monday, 4 March
- Monday, 18 March
- Monday, 1 April

For more information contact Holly at hollylm@younglife.org.au
and follow our Instagram [@youngliferyde](https://www.instagram.com/youngliferyde)



We're proud to say

BULLYING. NO WAY!

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Friday 15 March 2019
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

USEFUL LINKS:

MARSDEN WEBSITE
UNIFORM ORDER FORM
CANTEEN MENU
SENTRAL PORTAL

SCHOOL ENEWS APP

@MARSDENHS

