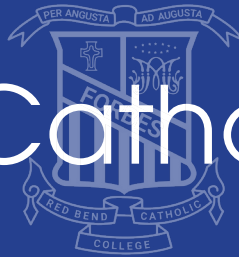


# Red Bend Catholic College



A local community of Mission within the Australian Marist Community

*Newsletter*



## Principal's message | Mr Stephen Dwyer

On Friday 13 November we gathered as a College and extended Marist community in an online assembly/presentation to acknowledge and celebrate 94 years of Marist Brothers' presence in our College and in the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes. We were blessed to be joined by Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green, Br Peter Carroll Provincial of the Marist Province of Australia, Br Darren Burge Vice Provincial of the Marist Province of Australia, Dr Frank Malloy National Director of Marist Schools Australia, Mr Anthony Gordon Director of Catholic Education Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese, Mrs Virginia Rice previous College parent, Mr Michael Walker College Ex-student from 1958-1965, Br John Curry, Br Justin Guthrie and resident Marist Brothers Br Robert Hayes and Br Bernard McGrath.

The ceremony, liturgy and speeches highlighted the amazing contribution the Marist Brothers have made over 94 years since 1926 when the first Marist school opened in Johnson Street Forbes. Recognised also in the ceremony was the contribution of Marist Brothers in other schools in the Diocese in the towns of Parkes, Forbes, Bourke and Broken Hill.

As the Marist Brothers conclude their time at the College at the end of the 2020 year, we are grateful for their presence and we are inspired to continue to enliven the Marist spirit to those in our care.

The full ceremony can be watched by clicking [here](#).

Please see below my speech as an introduction to this ceremony.

Aboriginal peoples have lived and travelled this land for over 60000 years, as the original inhabitants of Australia. We recognise their ongoing spiritual closeness to the land, seas and waterways. We listen with great care to the heartbeat of Aboriginal lands and to its people who have cared for it so well and for so long. Since 1926, Marist Brothers have also travelled the lands of the Wilcannia Forbes Diocese, working alongside Aboriginal people, deeply respecting the spiritual beliefs and traditions of Aboriginal people, as they enlivened learning to the students in their care.

At the Basilica in Fourviere France, on the 23rd of July in 1816, at the shrine dedicated to Mary, a group of priests dedicated themselves to forming a Society of Mary to make Jesus Christ known and loved. Marcellin Champagnat, a young priest, pledged to begin a group of teaching brothers that came to be known as The Little Brothers of Mary, or as we know them today, the Marist Brothers.

In 1872 the Marist Brothers came to Australia and in 1926 under the invitation of Bishop William Hayden, the first Marist School in Forbes and the Diocese opened in Johnson Street.

As we prepare our sacred space, we celebrate and reflect on the Marist Charism and 94 years of history of Marist Brothers educating in Forbes and the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese.

Core to our Marist way is a love of work. This is lived and experienced by having an enthusiasm for what we do, a generosity of heart and perseverance in life and learning. It has inspired innovative learning spaces and activities for students in regional, rural and remote areas of central and western NSW. We work with confidence in God, who invites us into a deeper and more intimate relationship. Our love of work strives for a zealous search for effectiveness as we develop strength of character and moral conscience. We represent this love of work with a Bible and

textbook.

We bring to our space a sheath of wheat to symbolise presence. Wheat, a symbol and product of our rural communities, is made into bread by human hands, providing us with food and nourishment. Just as the wheat grows and matures, so we as a faith community grow and mature. Some years, our wheat harvest is plentiful; in others, our crop struggles in drought. Our College motto 'per angusta, ad augusta', through difficulties to greatness, reminds us of the struggles in life and inspires us to achieve with a sense of hope and purpose. Our presence with each other and our God is our strength that leads us to fullness of life.

The value of simplicity is grounded in our Marist charism. It aims to be uncomplicated and down to earth. To simplicity we link humility and modesty, making the "three violets" of our Marist tradition. Marcellin's desire for us was to live by these three principles, patiently allowing the action of God to work through us and seeking "to do good quietly". We strive to be persons of integrity, truth, open-heartedness and transparency. St Marcellin's relationship with Mary Our Good Mother was deeply marked by a total trust in her. He once wrote: "Without Mary we are nothing and with Mary we have everything." We Marists share in the work of Mary by bringing Christ's life to birth in people, sowing seeds of faith, hope and love. We represent this by placing St Marcellin's favourite representation of Mary in our sacred space.

Part of the ritual of sending the early Marist Brothers out to the rural towns of southern France was for St Marcellin to place each of the Brothers' names in a brass heart and then to pray for them as a close family. Our brass heart has the names of all in our College community and we pray for each other as a family. In our brass heart are the names of all students and staff in our community for this year. We now add to our brass heart the names of the Brothers who have served in our Red Bend Collegecommunity. This is a symbol of our family spirit and the faith, hope and love we have for each other and our God.

As Marists, we adopt these values and attitudes as our way of bringing to life the Gospel message in a particular Marian way. It is their sum and their interaction which gives our Marist style its Spirit-inspired originality. St Marcellin Champagnat and the early Marist Brothers in France were pioneering and they understood their work to be a sharing in Mary's work of bringing Christ-life to birth. It was a work which they hoped would reach every diocese of the world.

We see this same spirit of the early Marists in the pioneering spirit of the Marist Brothers who established, maintained and enlivened schools across our Diocese, in particular, in the formation of Marist Brothers College Forbes in 1926, through to the Red Bend Catholic College today, inspiring the minds, hearts and spirits of those in its care.

The Marist spirituality that originated with Marcellin and the founding community has been enriched by the successive generations of Marists. We are inspired by Marcellin and the early Brothers and we have been gifted by the witness, work and spirit of the Marist Brothers in our College and in our Diocese.

As Principal of our dynamic Catholic Marist community, I am filled with much hope for the future, knowing that the College is a proud Marist community of Mission within the Australian Marist Community. Thank you to our Marist Brothers present and those of the past. We are blessed and privileged to continue the spirit of Champagnat, inspired to form Good Christians and Good citizens.



# *Celebrating 94 years of Marist Brothers' presence in our College and in the Diocese of Wilcannia Forbes*



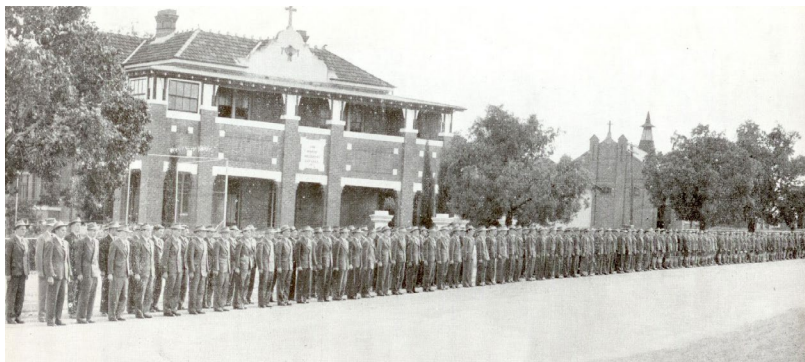
The first class in Johnson Street - 1926



First cricket team - 1926



Students lined up to start the morning



Johnson Street



Red Bend site





# *Celebrating 94 years of Marist Brothers' presence in our College and in the Diocese of Wilcannia Forbes*







## Deputy Principal's message | Mr James Metzeling

This week at Assembly we were fortunate enough to welcome ex-student Ron Dadd to our College assembly. Albeit online, Ron spoke to the students and staff on what his time at the College meant to him and also provided the students with some tips or life lessons that has helped him achieve in his business.

Ron attended Red Bend from 1995 and graduated in 1998. He was a boarder from Gunnedah and was elected School Captain. On graduating he studied at University and then went overseas for two years.

On returning from overseas Ron began his career in the financial planning industry before starting a property development company. Some 13 years later, that business has now completed over 30 projects and possesses a current development pipeline of work in excess of \$1.2bn with projects in Residential, Commercial and Retirement Living. Ron currently lives in Northbridge (Sydney) with his wife and 3 children.

During his speech Ron reflected on his time at the College and thanked the Marist Brothers for all that they have done for the College and the huge respect he has for the Marist Brothers community.

Ron then went on to talk about the following, providing some life lessons on some of the values he has found important during his time in business.

- Surround yourself with the right people
- Be a person of integrity. By doing this you build respect for yourself and those around you.
- Live life to the full and be grateful for what we have. While we mightn't have everything, we should be grateful for what our loved ones provide for us and the experiences and education we are presented with.
- Be happy. Live a fulfilled life and a life with no regrets.

We thank Ron for the words but also giving up his time to speak to our community. I know the students and staff gained plenty of inspiration from Ron and his wise words.

### Last Day of Classes - Thursday 10 December

This year like many other things Thanksgiving Mass and Prize Giving will be a little different to normal due to Covid 19 restrictions we must follow. Unfortunately we still cannot have parents/carers on site to participate in these two events. Therefore we will be streaming the Prize giving online so that parents/carers and other family members can still watch the awards being announced.

This therefore has also changed the structure and timing of the day to what we have done in the past.

It will now run as follows:

#### Thursday 10 December

9:00 - 9:10	PC
9:10 - 10:05	Period 1
10:05 - 11:00	Period 2
11:00 - 11:45	Recess
11:45 - 12:15	Whole School Liturgy
12:15 - 1:15pm	Whole School Prize Giving Assembly
1:15 - 1:45	Whole School BBQ Lunch

(Students can be picked up by their parents or those who drive may leave school with parents permission from 1:45pm onwards)

1:45pm - 3:20pm Activities for students remaining at school.

3:20pm End of Term. School buses will run as per normal after school.



## 2021 Important Dates

### Term 1 2021

Monday 1 February Classes Commence  
Friday 12 - Monday 15 March EXEAT  
Wednesday 31 March Last Day of Classes

### Term 2 2021

Tuesday 20 April Classes Commence  
Monday 26 April ANZAC Day Public Holiday  
Friday 21 - Monday 24 May Exeat Weekend  
Monday 14 June Public Holiday  
Friday 25 June Last Day of Classes

### Term 3 2021

Tuesday 13 July Classes Commence  
Friday 13 - Monday 16 August Exeat Weekend  
Friday 17 September Last Day of Classes

### Term 4 2021

Wednesday 6 October Classes Commence  
Friday 10 December Last Day of Classes

**OFFICE CLOSURE - Please note the office will be closed from Friday 18th December at 3:30pm and opening again on Monday 11th January at 8:30am**



## Director of Faith Formation | Mr Matthew Pearce

With exams quickly approaching, it's great to see so many students ensuring they do their personal best by studying. A wonderful Marist Brother once told me "you never need to worry if you do your best each day." So true, and I have kept this saying close to my heart ever since being at a Marist school myself.

With this in mind, our community farewelled the Marist Brothers last week after 94 years of presence in our Diocese. It has been such a privilege to have been educated by the Marist Brothers and to have worked alongside many. It is now an honour to continue celebrating the Marist Charism in our community into the future. I sincerely hope we all keep our Marist Brothers in our thoughts and prayers and continue to live by saying yes to the call to 'make Jesus Christ known and loved' in all we do.

In the Chapel in the last fortnight we held: Scripture Study, Basil and Chisholm Liturgies, Communion services, class masses, the Bathurst Diocese iRISE Liturgy Captains workshop, Outreach, the Marist staff workshop and the Marist Association gathering. Many opportunities for students and staff to make Jesus Christ known and loved!

### *Liturgy Captain's Assembly Prayer Term 4 Week 6 assembly:*

It's exam time. And it's a good time to check in with God. Because God is with us in every experience, no matter what the outcome. Praying to God won't make us magically pass our exams, especially if we haven't studied, but praying helps us to be more calm and helps us to do our best for the glory of God. In prayer we can also be grateful for our brains and the ability to study here at school. God wants us to be the best we can be and celebrates when we try.

Saint Paul says in one of his letters, "Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down." So before your next exams, take a moment to remember that the God of peace is with you.

Our prayer:

Dear God, I trust in you.  
Help me to be calm in my exams,  
to focus well and remember what I have learned.  
Thank you for my mind  
and all the gifts you have given me.  
Thank you that I am able to go to school  
and for my teachers.  
May my good work help  
your kingdom come.

Mercy Moment at Red Bend- Liz Young rsm, College Chaplain

On Monday I was with the new students on their Year 7 orientation day. It was lunchtime and they were in groups, mostly students from the same school sitting together. But one girl sat all by herself, looking rather shy and uncomfortable as she concentrated on her food. I went over to chat to her and, as I did, the girls from the next large group noticed that she was there. Without a cue from anyone, they welcomed her into the circle and made her feel at home. I found that a moving moment, and it said something about the culture of the school that even new students were picking up. As a Sister of Mercy, please indulge me if I call it a 'Mercy moment' - where I saw God's mercy in action. In tonight's evening prayer, we read from the letter of James 1:21, which connected perfectly: "Be doers of the word, not merely hearers."

### **SRC Update**

#### *Student Representative Council Assembly Report Term 4 Week 6 assembly:*

Good afternoon all,

The BRC is on BBQ this Thursday morning.

Last week, we announced that our annual Christmas Hampers will go to Vinnies and Nell's Pantry.

All PCs were given a product to bring in and place in PC baskets in Room 14. For example, Chisholm 4 are asked to bring in jams and spreads.

Please give these goods to your PC teacher and they will put them in room

14. All baskets will be used at the final thanksgiving Mass of this year. Staff are also encouraged to donate \$10 to Vinnies and in return, you will receive an appreciation card which can be hung on your Christmas tree. With exams coming up, the SRC would like to encourage everyone to find time each night to study. Make sure you grab a plastic sleeve to put all your exam equipment inside. A reminder of Jack Whitty's top ten study tips.

Top 10 study tips:

1. Be prepared and start early.
2. Make sure you read the notification.
3. Use the syllabus.
4. Memorise the key ideas and then explain them to a friend without using your notes.
5. Complete practice questions.
6. Know your glossary terms.
7. Use colour.
8. Use mind maps, tables, study cards.
9. Ask questions.
10. Use the study centre.

We are the SRC and we're here for you.





# Exam preparation

Exams are well underway again. Students are reminded to bring all their equipment e.g. pens, pencils, eraser, calculator, etc in a plastic sleeve for each exam.

Exam timetables can be found on the Shared Drive for each year group. Students have been asked to write each exam in their handbook.

All students are expected to attend every exam. If away, they must have a justified reason, otherwise they will receive zero for that exam. If students are away due to illness, we ask please that parents make contact with the school that morning.

Remember it is never too late to start studying.  
Some study tips include:

1. Be prepared and start early.
2. Make sure you read the notification.
3. Use the syllabus.
4. Memorise the key ideas and then explain them to a friend/parent without using your notes.
5. Complete practice questions.
6. Know your glossary terms.
7. Use colour.
8. Use mind maps, tables, study cards.
9. Ask as many questions as possible.
10. Use the study centre.

After homework is completed, students should be trying to spend some time on study for the subjects they have exams in. Some students find this easier to do than others. Parents, siblings or friends are also a great source of motivation and can help students with their study. This could include writing out key vocabulary and their definitions, summarising class notes, reading over class notes, having someone ask questions on classwork. Remember to use the notifications and the syllabus to help structure what you have to know and remember. It is important to realise that there is no right way to study as different ways work for different people. The aim is to work out what works best for you. Remember that every little bit counts.

The Study Centre is up and running until the end of Week 8. This is a great way to make sure you spend some time completing homework and studying with the help of the teachers. Please remember that transport is available back to Forbes and Parkes each day, leaving RBCC at 4.30pm.

## Library



As you would all be aware, Year 7 has a dedicated Rarb lesson each cycle in the library. That is an acronym for Reading at Red Bend. During these lessons I encourage the students to do some wide reading by show and tell of new books that we have in the library and books of various genres. The students record the books they have read and each time they read 10 books they receive a Rarb certificate. If they manage to receive 5 certificates, they are rewarded with a \$20 book voucher to purchase a book of their choice. It is my pleasure to present Leah Van der Merwe with a voucher for her wonderful reading efforts. Congratulations Leah.



# From the Ag Dept ...

## Year 10 Excursion to Local Farming Enterprises

On Wednesday 28th November the two Year 10 Agriculture classes visited 3 local farming enterprises to see what is out there "in the big wide world". Forbes is a district with so many diverse and successful agricultural businesses so we selected three that were relevant to the topics we are studying- Dairy Farming (Term 3) and Cropping (Term 4).

First, we visited Neil and Karen Mattiske's property "Sunnydale". Neil, and his daughter Jo, showed us the different types of machinery they use to farm and the reasons for their choices. We also looked at different aspects of growing a Canola crop and the piped irrigation system the Mattiske's have set up to help with the flood irrigation but also promoting water conservation.

Following on from here we drove to the Jemalong Weir to be instructed on the workings of the Jemalong Irrigation System. We heard the background on the development of this system and we were able to observe the weir in action and understand a little more on the workings of this enterprise.

Finally, we visited Schofield's Dairy off the Cowra Road. Richard showed us the Herringbone system in which they milk the cows and explained the workings of this. We were also shown the feed sheds and the way in which silage is made and stored- a very common farming event happening this year.

We appreciate the opportunity to observe the way these enterprises are run and we thank each of the presenters on the day.



## HOUSE REPORT

During term 4, Year 8 students have been participating in the Year 8 Activities program on Thursdays. They are learning a range of skills such as cooking, car maintenance and archery. In particular, Jonty Thurgate has learnt to iron and Henry Turner can now sew on a button.

During assembly our cattle team introduced their animals to us via a video. Grace Taylor, Ella Payne, Angus Pursehouse, Fletcher Ruhmann, Lachlan Haynes and Isabelle Rice were part of this video and we got to see the great job that they do.

A special mention must go to Georgia Sideris who sang the Sub Tuum so beautifully at our Farewell Liturgy for the Brothers. Georgia also sings the National Anthem at weekly assemblies. McAuley welcomed two new Year 9 boys, Stanley Rush and Duncan Elm. We hope they are enjoying Red Bend.

Our newly elected leaders spent a day at Eat Your Greens so that they could participate in various leadership sessions. Jesse Shorter and Jordan Fagan said " the Leadership day was a great experience where we deepened our ongoing learning experience as a leader. We have a better understanding of what leadership means. We really enjoyed all the activities but most of all generating new ideas for McAuley. Our hope is that we all enjoy school more as a House group. We plan to create a friendly competition between PC groups so that everyone is 100% engaged in their schooling life and create great friends along the way. School is short and the best experience in life for anyone."



# Teaching someone to drive can be a **happy** experience.

Join a FREE online workshop full of practical advice and information for parents and other supervisors of learner drivers completing the Graduated Licensing Scheme.

The next workshop in your area will be held online:

**TIME & DATE:**

Thursday 10 December  
6pm - 7.30pm

**VENUE:**

Via Zoom -  
from the comfort  
and safety of  
your home

**BOOK NOW:**

Via Eventbrite, the  
Councils' Facebook  
pages or  
(02) 6861 2364  
Bookings Essential

Helping learner drivers  
become safer drivers

