



2026 YEAR 7

Information Booklet

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to welcome you and your son to our Marcellin community. I hope your association with the College is both a positive and rewarding one.

The first week of a school year is one filled with great anticipation but it can be a time of anxiety for parents and students, unsure of what the year will bring. The first school week of 2026 may be more challenging for your son as they contend with the significant transition from primary to secondary education. I wish to assure you that your son will be well cared for and that every effort will be made to ensure the transition to Marcellin is smooth.

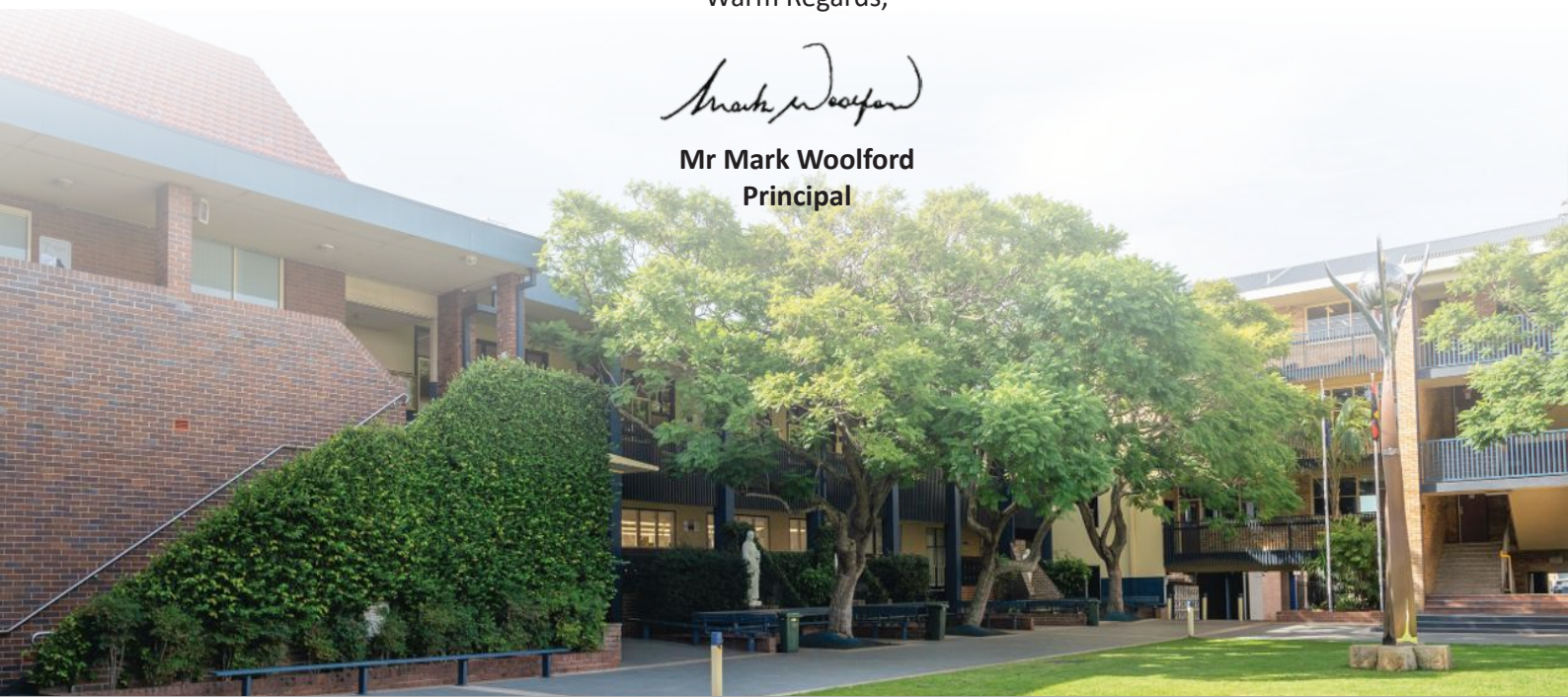
To assist in this process, an Orientation day will be held on **Thursday 29 January 2026 at 8.45am until 12.30pm at the College**. The boys will participate in a variety of activities designed to help them meet a cross-section of boys in their year group as well as alleviating some of their initial concerns.

All boys in Year 7 will be participating in a camp during the year. **This camp will be held on 4-6 March 2026.** This is a compulsory event for all students. This experience is an essential part of their development and provides a valuable opportunity for students to develop further in confidence and make new friends. Further details will be provided as the camp approaches.

This is an exciting time for you and your son. Be assured that his wellbeing is our priority. Marcellin is a special place with a vibrant and positive spirit. We look forward to sharing this with you and your son in the years ahead, and indeed, for him to contribute to the consolidation and strengthening of our culture. Please do not hesitate to make contact should we be able to assist you in any way.

Warm Regards,

Mr Mark Woolford
Principal



From the **YEAR 7 COORDINATOR**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the Marcellin College community. Included in this pack is a wide variety of information that you are encouraged to read and familiarise yourself with before your son commences his first day at the College.

The life of a Marcellin student is very busy and includes being involved in a number of year group activities, College Masses, sporting events and carnivals. Making a note of these dates in your personal calendar will not only assist you but also your son in his transition from primary to secondary school.

The College calendar is available on Compass and through reading the College newsletter (along with other weekly correspondence), which will allow you to keep up to date with upcoming events such as Parent Teacher Interviews and other important occasions requiring the presence of parents and carers. Following on from this letter is a list of some compulsory events and dates for Year 7 students in 2026. This is not a list of all events and activities, so once again you are encouraged to view the College calendar on a regular basis to keep up with activities happening around the school.

Marcellin College provides an extensive range of extracurricular opportunities for its students. As a member of the SCS Sports Association students have the opportunity to represent the College in a wide range of sports. Notices regarding trials and training can be viewed through the student portal on 'Compass'. Performing Arts are well catered for with opportunities for students to engage in drama and music. All Year 7 students undertake Music as a subject, with opportunities for involvement also in private tuition and various ensembles. The College also competes in debating, public speaking and chess competitions throughout the year. Students are strongly encouraged to be an active participant within the College community and take advantage of the many and varied opportunities available to him at Marcellin College. Making the most of these opportunities not only allows students to develop social connections and learn new skills, but will also make the years at Marcellin College fulfilling and rewarding.

Open communication between school and home is essential to your son's success and development at Marcellin College. A note in your son's diary, a phone call to the school or an email to the class teacher are all appropriate forms of communication that will allow the relevant teacher to respond appropriately. Your son's diary is the primary communication tool used by teachers and we ask that parents and carers check and sign their son's diary every night. Homeroom teachers

will also check the students' diaries regularly to discuss both positive and negative comments with the boys

Support of the College rules and expectations is equally as important as open communication. The importance of getting the 'little things' right and respect for others are strongly reinforced to all students and are vital elements in maintaining the high standards at the College.

College expectations in regards to uniform, hairstyles and other important procedures are outlined on the following pages that will be explained to your son on his arrival next year. All parents and carers are to read the 'College Expectations' found in the diary and support the College in ensuring these are followed. Any questions regarding these can be answered by your son's homeroom teacher via one of the appropriate methods previously mentioned.

The focus of the Pastoral Care Program in Year 7 is: the College Code of Conduct; being part of a community; Marist values; and being accountable and responsible. Some of the topics that will be covered include respect, bullying and cyberbullying, organisation and preparation, study skills and resilience. Students will also be exposed to a variety of Social Justice initiatives throughout the year and it is expected they will support them.

The College looks forward to welcoming your son at the Year 7 Orientation Day on Thursday 29 January 2026. Full school uniform is to be worn on this day. Boys are to arrive at 8.45am, with dismissal at 12.30pm. They will be issued their College Diary and a lock for their locker on this day. If there are any questions or concerns regarding your son, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email address below or via the College front office.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Michael Brennan
Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing
michael.brennan001@syd.catholic.edu.au



Compulsory ATTENDANCE DAYS

Attendance is compulsory for all Marcellin College Randwick's whole school events.

Year 7 Orientation Day:	Thursday 29 January (Term 1, Week 1)
College Photo Day:	Tuesday 3 February (Term 1, Week 2)
Marcellin Swimming Carnival:	Wednesday 4 February (Term 1, Week 2)
Commencement Mass:	Friday 13 February (Term 1, Week 3)
College Open Day:	Monday 23 February (Term 1, Week 5)
Year 7 Camp:	Wednesday 4 March – Friday 6 March (Term 1, Week 6)
Marcellin Athletics Carnival:	Friday 1 May (Term 2, Week 2)
Champagnat Day Celebrations:	Friday 5 June (Term 2, Week 7)
Year 12 Graduation Day:	Thursday 17 September (Term 3, Week 9)

Term Dates

Term 1: Thursday 29 January (Year 7 Orientation)

Term 2: Monday 20 April – Friday 3 July

Term 3: Monday 20 July – Friday 25 September

Term 4: Monday 12 October – Tuesday 17 December

Other Important Dates

Year 7 Homeroom Parent Meetings: Friday 13 February (Term 1, Week 3)

Meet and Greet: Friday 13 February (Term 1, Week 3)

Communication

- Check and sign the College Diary each night.
- If you have any concerns about a particular subject, please contact the class teacher either through a phone call, email or a note in your son's diary.
- If you have any questions about day to day events, please contact your son's Homeroom teacher.
- If you have concerns about your son's welfare, contact your son's Homeroom teacher or the Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing.
- The weekly communications via compass and the College Newsletter provide details on upcoming events for parents and students.

COLLEGE FEES

We draw your attention to our School Fee structure. In signing and returning the Acceptance of Offer to Enrol, you accepted its terms and entered into a contractual agreement with Sydney Catholic Schools. It is important you have read and understood your obligations listed in this Offer of Enrolment, particularly the points relating to your financial obligations.

I/we agree to jointly and severally honour the financial commitments required by the school as per the Schedule of Fees and Charges.

I/we agree to notify the school of any changes to parental circumstances/care arrangements and financial arrangements and understand that a supporting parent/carer may be requested to complete a new enrolment form and provide relevant documents.

Please note that all signatories on the Acceptance of Offer to Enrol will be responsible for all fees and charges.

ATTENDANCE & LEAVE

Whole day absence

- If your son is sick, please enter an attendance note in the Compass portal. If the College has not received previous notification an SMS will be sent asking for an explanation.

Partial absence or Leave during the day

- If your son is required to leave early for a medical appointment or for some other reason please provide him with a note, to be taken to his Leader of Wellbeing (on arrival at school) who will issue a Leave Pass. He is to sign out at Student Services before he leaves the school.

Late to school

- If your son is late to school, he is to go to Student Services to sign in. He will be required to use his Compass ID Card which will be issued early in Term 1.

Replacement Compass Cards

- In the event that your son loses his Compass ID Card, parents and carers are to order a new card via the Compass Parent Portal. Further information is available by contacting Student Services at the College.

Other Leave

- All leave requests are to be sought through the College "Application for Exemption from Attendance at School" form that is available from School Documentation on Compass. We ask that this form be filled in providing as much information as possible and submitted to Student Services at least two weeks before the intended leave. Where possible family holidays be taken during the term holidays.

COLLEGE EXPECTATIONS

College Uniform

Navy trousers, blue shirt, College tie, black leather shoes, black or navy socks, black leather belt, College jumper, College blazer (Terms 2 & 3).

Sports Uniform – Worn only on Thursdays

College sports T-shirt (white collared shirt, not house colour shirt) and shorts, white College sport socks and sport shoes, College cap, College tracksuit. House colour T-shirt is to be brought in school bag.

College PDHPE Uniform – Worn during practical PDHPE lessons.

House coloured T-shirt, College shorts, white sport socks, sport shoes, College cap. This is to be brought to school in a separate bag.

Hairstyles

- Students are not allowed to have shaved, stepped, ringed, undercut or layered styles.
- Short cuts are not to be less than a number 2.
- No colouring, streaking or dyes.
- Hair is not to be long enough to cover the collar, the ears or the eyes when brushed forward.
- Hair is to be neatly groomed at all times.
- Gels and styling products are to be used sparingly.

Mobile Phones

Over the course of the last two years the College has allowed a period of transition in order to comply with the new Government mandated Mobile Phone Policy. At this time we have reviewed the best way to apply this policy to our context in order for it to comply in fullness with Government and Sydney Catholic School guidelines. Below is a summary of the relevant policy and what it will mean for our students.

Student use of digital devices and online Services Policy

Guiding Principles:

- 3.1 The safe and secure use of technology-related resources, equipment and infrastructure.
- 3.4 This support should maximise the benefits and minimise the risks of digital technologies and prepare students for life beyond school.
- 3.5 Vigilance must be maintained at all times to ensure that digital services and online services are not used to cause harm in any way that can include distractions from learning, bullying or intimidating others or gaining access to and sharing inappropriate content.
- 3.6 Students' safe, responsible and respectful use of digital services and online services is the shared responsibility of students, parents, carers and school staff.

Mobile Phones

- 4.1 Student mobile phones (or other communication enabled devices) **MUST be switched off, out-of-sight and be securely stored during the school day.**
- 4.2 Student mobile phones should be stored in the students' locker or school bag and not be on their person.
- 4.3 **Exemption** to the prohibition on mobile phone use during the school day may be applied if the school principal is satisfied that in particular circumstances, the use of mobile phones **serves as a clear and specific educational or medical purpose.**
- 4.4 Exemptions must be approved and documented by the school principal and such documentation will include the scope of the exemption, reasons for the exemption, to whom the exemption will apply and the duration of the exemption.

4.5 Schools will manage all aspects of non-compliance in accordance with their local behaviour policies and procedures.

4.6 Schools are to review the implementation of this policy as part of their regular cycle of review for school policies.

Therefore, in order to maintain a safe Learning environment for all students, at Marcellin College Randwick we are mandating that all mobile devices **be switched off and in students' bags before entering the College gates.**

These same devices **MUST NOT** be switched on until after having exited the College in the afternoon.

In order to access the Canteen, Students will need to have access to a standard Bank Card or cash.

Laptops

- Must not be used in the playground.

Smartwatches

Are not permitted to be worn in an exam or formal assessment.

Communication with staff

Parents and carers are able to communicate with Staff by email via Compass. Alternatively, parents and carers can call the College Office and if available, the staff member will take the call. If unavailable, a message can be left for the staff member on his/her voicemail. The College Staff Protocol for replying to communication from parents and carers is that staff will endeavour to return a parents and carers call within two working days.

There may be occasions when students are unable to attend a College activity, eg; sports training, a meeting, musical practice, etc. In these cases the student and his parent or carer are to notify the teacher in advance.

Detention

Parents and carers will be given 24 hour notification via Compass if their son receives a Detention.

Homework, organisation and work skills

Students are to fill out their diary each day with the subject per period per day. Students should enter their homework into their diary each lesson. Parents are asked to monitor that all homework is completed and to assist students develop regular and appropriate study habits.

Aeterna Non Caduca

THE ETERNAL NOT THE TRANSITORY

The Meaning of our Motto

According to two published histories of the College the origins of our current College motto are not certain. Upon its foundation in 1923 the College adopted the motto *Veritas Vos Liberatus* – translated as: The Truth Shall Make You Free. For some reason, perhaps because the way the Latin was phrased was unconventional, during the Headmastership of Br Ignatius O'Connor in the 1930s, the motto was changed to the one we have today. Exactly why Br Ignatius chose a completely new motto we do not know, nor do we know the exact origins of this inspiring Latin phrase.

It is a motto found more commonly in Jesuit schools and universities. Perhaps St Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, bore some significance for Vincent O'Connor, who was given the name Br Ignatius when he entered religious life. Our esteemed Old Boy, Judge John O'Meally found the College motto inscribed on the plinth of a statue of St Stanislaus in a Jesuit Church in Farm Street, London, in the UK.

Aeterna Non Caduca is a phrase found in the vigil prayers for the feast of St Stanislaus and sounds strikingly like the words found in St Paul's Letter to the Colossians, Chapter 3, verse 2: "Set your mind on the things that are above, not on earthly things." St Paul goes on to say: "For you have died and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you will also appear with him in glory."



College Office 2026 Opening Hours

Ph: 9398 6355

Regular office hours during school term are 8.00am – 4.00pm.

Tuesday 27 January and Wednesday 28 January: 9.00am – 3.00pm

From Friday 30 January normal school hours: 8.00am – 4.00pm



Respect For Our Faith

Acknowledge the faith journey of each person and share positively in the faith life of our school

Respect for Others

Value differences in other people and respect all who work in the Marcellin community

Respect for Self

Value the talents we have and achieve to the best of our ability

Respect for Learning

Contribute to a safe, orderly and productive learning environment.
Interact respectfully with teachers and peers

Respect for the College

Be proud of the College and show consideration for the property of others and of the College

MARCELLIN COLLEGE RANDWICK

Aeterna Non Caduca

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