



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2010

Enrolments

The College enrolment appears to have settled at 1110 students with the Year 8 intake fluctuating between 225 and 240 students each year. Approximately 80% of our Year 8 enrolment comes from Marymount Primary, St Augustine's Primary and St Vincent's Primary. Our enrolment at the August census was 1105 students. Year level numbers were as follows:

YEAR LEVEL	NUMBER OF STUDENTS	CORE CLASS SIZES
8	239	27
9	233	27
10	219	25
11	210	26
12	204	25

Average class sizes for elective groups range from 26 in Year 8 to 24 in Year 12.

Religious Education, Mission and Campus Ministry

Religious study is a central part of ensuring an understanding of the person of Jesus and Gospel values among our students. Our teachers are required to be accredited to teach religion and all students must study Religious Education. We nurture their spirituality, teach them about God and our Catholic Christian tradition, and teach them how to pray. In senior, students may choose Study of Religion where they learn about other faiths as well.

We nurture student and staff spirituality in other ways too, including: Reflection Days (Years 8-10), Year 8 Camp, Year 11 and 12 Retreats, Staff Weekly Prayer, Staff January In-service Spirituality Day, Staff Weekend Retreat (2006, 2009), Opening College Liturgy, Ash Wednesday Liturgy, Holy Thursday Liturgy, combined College and Primary Marymount Day Mass, Year 12 Graduation Liturgy, Lenten fundraising (\$6842 in 2010) and support social justice programs and other causes.

Some highlights for this year included the Opening of the Mary MacKillop building, Mary MacKillop Canonisation celebrations, IGNITE conference for students, Come Walk in the Light (WYD followup), Free Dress Days including Have a Heart day for Rosies and Catholic Education Week.

Staff commitment to faith development and the spirituality of students is reflected in the 35 staff who lead the ten Senior Retreats for Years 11 and 12 each year. We thank all staff, students and parents who contribute to the wonderful Catholic ethos and culture of Marymount and particularly thank Dolores Maitland (acting APRE in Bernadette Roche's absence due to illness) and Kaylene Langford, Campus Minister, for their leadership and ministry throughout the year.

Curriculum

The College has comprehensive curriculum offerings that allow students to choose combinations of subjects to suit their many tertiary aspirations or post school vocational education pathways. Student choices ensure increasing compatibility of study interests for students as they progress beyond Year 9. As a result, our students are able to focus their study and excel in their particular courses, whether that's in mathematics and science, the humanities, the arts, or any of the diverse vocational pathways. Catering for student interests and meeting their learning needs ensures outstanding success for serious students. The quality of outcomes is evident in the 2009 Next Step Report, the 2009 Senior Outcomes Report, the 2010 NAPLAN results and the 2010 Outstanding Achievements. These are included as attachments to this report.

In Semester One, Principal's Awards were given for academic excellence and for outstanding effort following school reporting at the end of Term One and Semester One. The demanding criteria for these awards and the number of students receiving awards, confirms the quality of student engagement. The College Awards Night further celebrates the fine work of our students and clearly reflects a parent community encouraging their sons and daughters and supporting the College.

Senior School

The College's broad senior curriculum offers multiple pathways through Years 11 and 12. It provides 34 Authority subjects, 8 Authority-Registered subjects and 5 stand-alone Certificate subjects, which articulate into 9 Vocational Educational and Training Certificates in Hospitality, Tourism, Information Technology, Business and Children's Services.

The results for Year 12 in the 2009 Queensland Core Skills Test were excellent and well above the State Mean. Congratulations to our class of 2009 and thanks to all who assisted in preparing our students for the 2010 QCS.

Our appreciation to Ms Natalie Collins (Assistant Principal Administration - Senior Curriculum) and the Academic Heads of Department, Subject Coordinators and teachers for their vital curriculum leadership in the senior school. We have strong faculties at Marymount, and great depth of curriculum leadership that includes classroom teachers. The faculty culture permeates teaching and learning down through to Year 8 ensuring a balance of care and demand. Some students initially find the demands challenging.

Tertiary Pathways

The consistent high standing of the College's Senior Academic Tertiary Program was maintained with over 42% of seniors going on to tertiary degree level study. A summary of the Next Step Report for 2009 follows. The full report is available on the College website. 40% of students graduated with an OP

between 1 and 10 – the bands that ensure University entrance. There were 11 students who received an OP between 1 and 3 with four students obtaining an OP 1. Of our ranking students 2 achieved an OP equivalent of 7 and overall, 18 achieved an OP equivalent of between 1 and 15. Details from the Senior Outcomes Report are attached.

We congratulate our four OP 1 students, Danielle Dempsey, Elliott Curtain, Edward Bartlett and Jacob Deem. Danielle is studying a Bachelor of Engineering at QUT after winning a Dean’s Scholarship and Elliott gained direct entry to Medicine at Griffith University. Edward is studying Commerce at Bond University after winning a half scholarship and Jacob is working on a double degree in Law and Psychology at Griffith University. Jacob Wale and Lucy Paul also won scholarships - Jacob to Griffith University to study Pharmacy and Lucy, a half scholarship to Bond University to study law.

Careers and Vocational Education

In addition to nationally accredited Certificate Courses the College maintains a Careers and VET Office, as part of its Vocational Education program. The office provides many services, brokering pathways that help students’ transition from school. These include career advice, industry placement services and School-Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship support. The annual Careers Expo, held in July was again the expansive public centrepiece of operations in a very busy year. Held in the Doyle Centre it included all universities and colleges from South East Queensland and Northern New South Wales, representatives from the Emergency Services and the Defence Forces and over one hundred local industry and business representatives.

The Careers Office supports Information Evenings, the Year 10 Career Development program & subject selections, SET planning and activities within VET Course work such as employment interviews for Year 12 English Communication. Demand for Careers and VET Office service will continue to expand to meet the needs of students as they plan for their future beyond school. The College newsletter (available on-line at www.marymount.qld.edu.au) advertises services, SAT (School-Based Apprenticeship & Traineeship) vacancies, part-time jobs, courses, scholarships, Open Days and Expos.

Work Experience

All Year 11 students participated in a week of Vocational Placement as part of their Vocational Education Program. Sixty students participated in ongoing work experience contracts which often lead to opportunities for a school based apprenticeship or traineeship. Our current database has over 850 employers and links with many new employers are created each year. The option of doing Work Experience in Year 10 or 12 is available by negotiation.

School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SATs)

Fifty-five students were involved in School-Based Apprenticeships or Traineeships in areas including Hospitality, Retail, Hairdressing, Business, Sports, Building and Construction, Automotive. The Careers Office manages the

process from the student’s first enquiry through to the sign up and beyond. As well as obtaining a Certificate level qualification, School-Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships can also increase a student’s QTAC selection rank and increase chances for entry to TAFE or University. The school offers a flexible timetable, which enables students to study fewer subjects, or elect not to participate in the sports program, allowing them more time to spend studying, or in workplace training. As a result most students in the program attend workplace training one day per week and school the other four days.

Alternative courses

A number of students were enrolled in courses at different training providers including our local TAFE and the Academy of Design. These courses include - Certificates III in Fitness, Multimedia, Children’s Services and Tourism and Live Production, Theatre and Events.

Tertiary Entry

The Careers Office assists students with all scholarship and QTAC applications, distributing QTAC Guides and Tertiary Prerequisites Books, QTAC applications assistance, Scholarship applications and supporting students with their applications. Direct entry programs (to the Gold Coast Institute of TAFE) were again very popular in 2009 with thirty-two seniors applying for direct entry to Diploma level courses. Students receiving direct entry are notified in October, prior to OPs and rankings being released giving them the option of guaranteed place at TAFE while still allowing them to apply for a place at University if they wish. As we went to print we received advice that 46 students applied for and received direct entry for 2011.

Congratulations to students, Melissa Dimovski and Nicholas Gordon, who received the Australian Vocational Student Prize, and to Megan Braniff and Amy Rowlings, who received the VET in Schools prize. In 2009, thirty Year 12 students were successful in obtaining Direct Entry to the Gold Coast Institute of TAFE and three students were successful in obtaining scholarships—Ebony Dick, Jaimie David and Sam Harreman.

We thank Mr Michael Murtagh, Vocational Education and Careers Coordinator, and School Officers, Ms Petrina James and Ms Leesa Lutze for their outstanding service to students in this area.

Middle Years

Our Middle Years curriculum offers wide choice with 20 elective subjects, including Music, Dance, Drama, French, Japanese and the Advanced Sport Program (ASP). In addition, instrumental tuition is available in Piano/Keyboard, Drums, Brass, Woodwind and Vocal. The College has a Vocal Ensemble and Concert, Rock and Jazz Bands in our Performance Music Programs. Our Core subjects are English, Mathematics (Core and Accelerated), Science, Religious Education and Studies of Society and Environment (SOSE). Year 8 students study a set curriculum with rotating 10-week option blocks and Year 9 and 10 students complete a Core and Elective lineup. Single-gender classes in Mathematics and English continue in Years 9 and 10 at parental request.

In the junior school, student achievement and effort remain high. The University of NSW International Competitions and Assessments in Schools results and the College NAPLAN results confirm the quality of our students' achievements and efforts in receiving principal's awards. This year there were four High Distinctions and thirty eight Distinctions for students in Years 8 to 10 who completed the ICAS tests.

NAPLAN

Test	2010			% above the National min standard
	School Mean	Qld Mean	Aust Mean	
Numeracy	592	577	585	99
Reading	575	564	574	95
Writing	581	564	568	93
Spelling	572	573	578	91
Grammar & Punctuation	581	573	579	96

The Night of the Notables, Junior Science Night, excursions and performance in drama, music and dance provide further opportunities for students beyond the classroom. As we respond to the emerging developmental needs of these young adolescent students, the focus is on developing study habits; building self esteem, self regulation and respect for the school rules and for our Catholic educational community; and developing commitment to intellectual activity and learning. Our appreciation goes to Ms Marie Hansen (AP-A Junior Curriculum) who, with the essential support of the Academic Coordinators and faculties, so effectively guides our efforts.

Pastoral Care

We pride ourselves on quality teaching and care for students. We strive to be a supportive learning environment, committed to life-giving learning and life-giving relationships. This is reflected in the tone of the school and interactions with staff, students, and parents. Every year we are told by graduating seniors that they love their school and don't want to leave. While they do move on, each year we hold a ten year reunion that is always well attended, as old friends return to share fond memories of their days at Marymount.

Student leadership is strongly promoted throughout the school and is especially evident in the training provided to student leaders, and in their valuable contribution to student life. It is also reflected in the Student-Teacher Advisory Council (STAC), the body through which our Year 8 to 11 students are able to make their contribution to the running of the school. Again, this year, staff and students competed in the STAC Cup in areas as varied as soccer, trivia, dance, AFL goal kicking and dodge ball. The staff were ahead in the STAC Cup at the time of going to press. The Peer Mentoring Program involving Year 11 volunteer mentors working with Year 8 students continued this year. The Year 8 students appreciate the support and respect

of the older students and the senior students welcome the chance to have responsibility.

We are fortunate to have the services of three Guidance Counsellors at the College. Dr Angela Jeffery the full-time Counsellor, together with part-time Counsellors, Mrs Heather Clark and Dr Jessica Joyce provide important short-term assistance for students and monitor their needs. In addition, Mrs Norette Mitchell, our long-serving Home-school Liaison Officer, continued her vital role of parent support. The Griffith University – Brisbane Catholic Education 'Nyunga Centre' also continues to provide longer term counselling services to all Gold Coast Catholic schools from its base in the College's old Convent. Marymount families have received help from Nyunga staff and we thank them for their valuable work.

The revised College Student Behaviour Support Policy, which includes our Anti-Bullying Policy, was implemented this year. Changes reflect revisions to Brisbane Catholic Education Policy which seeks to ensure open, transparent and accountable practices and procedures in supporting student learning and addressing inappropriate student behaviour. The new policy is consistent with the Responsible Thinking Process devised by Ed Ford. Thanks once again to RTC Room Manager Mr Peter Lynsky, and to School Officer Ms Terri-Lea Johnston, for their patience and expertise in assisting students and staff and ensuring staff and students think responsibly when working through student disruption to learning. The Behaviour Support Policy and the RTC are intended to support students so that they can address their issues, return to class and engage in learning.

Our Pastoral Care system relies heavily on the expertise of our Pastoral Coordinators and Assistant Pastoral Coordinators who provide leadership to each Year level, supervise and organize students, follow up on students with needs, and investigate and deal with a range of behavioural concerns. They ensure that students are known and recognised, supported and challenged; and that, despite the size of the school, each student is a part of the school and belongs. We thank them for their work. We also thank Mr Peter Hurley (Deputy Principal) and Mr Michael Fren (Acting AP-A Pastoral) for their outstanding Pastoral work this year.

Learning Support Centre

Our well-staffed LSC is one of the features of Marymount that we feel justly proud of. The Centre is very committed to inclusive of teaching and learning practices providing a centre of learning assistance for all-comers and guidance and support to teachers. The Centre also provides teacher-aide support in the classrooms to a number of students – something much appreciated by those students and their families. Literally hundreds of students visit the centre each month to receive direct assistance, to work on assignments, to use the computer facilities. Centre staff also volunteer to help students prepare for contests such as Opti-minds, Debating and Maths Olympiad. The LSC runs the popular Homework Club after school, where students can get teacher assistance across the full range of subjects.

Our appreciation goes to Coordinator, Mrs Annette McMahon, support teachers, Mrs Sue Barlow and Mrs Di King and to all our hard working LSC teacher aide staff.

Information Communication Technologies

The major revision to our 5 year ICT plan necessitated by the Rudd Government's Digital Education Revolution has been substantially implemented. Mrs Natalie Collins has provided the essential leadership as we restructured staffing, engaged consultants, networked with BCE and moved from cable to wireless. Mr Patrick Fedorczyk has provided vital technical expertise, leadership and skill, realising our plans, as we made necessary adjustments along the way. Consultant advice was to replace our network software and infrastructure; a major change for all users. The move is away from the shared computer model to 1:1, a process that will take three more years, with deployment to Year 9 each year until all year groups have laptops by the start of 2013. The timing of deployment to include Year 8 will depend on both curriculum and financial considerations.

243 Apple MacBooks were given to Year 9 students for use 24/7, as part of the Australian Government's Digital Education Revolution. At the same time we deployed 90 Macbooks to staff at College expense. We purchased the end of lease staff desktop machines and deployed them for student use on the shared computer system, in the library and in computer labs. Further, as a result of upgrades to classroom infrastructure, the dedicated individual classroom machines were also redeployed to the shared computer network increasing the availability of computers to all students. As we roll out laptops to Year 9 each year the number of students demanding computers on the shared network falls by approximately 230. Consequently, all students are benefitting because of the lap top program. End of lease computers remain viable for a number of years, but as they fail they will not need to be replaced. Staff and student MacBooks now connect to our intranet and the internet on a wireless network from anywhere in the school; and by cable to classroom video and sound systems to provide high quality, multi-media video and sound output in the classroom for any user at all times.

While the cost is prohibitive, Australian Government support has totalled \$368,500. A decision was made in Term 3 to reduce the advertised 2010 Year 9 IT Levy by \$90 so that families will only pay \$60 more from the start of the year when their son/daughter is issued with a laptop. We will continue to monitor IT costs and have given an undertaking to ensure the IT levies and Government funding are quarantined to provisioning IT for students so that charges are kept to a minimum.

Early indications are that students work purposefully when required to type responses directly into their laptops. How teachers provide resources and tasks will have to change. Clearly the capacity for improved variety and quality of resources in classrooms is welcomed by students and teachers are working overtime to move with the change.

Buildings and Grounds

The opening of the Mary MacKillop Building on September 3 was a celebration of the leadership of immediate past Principal, Mr Bob Peacock and the commitment of the College community to take on the responsibility of major debt to ensure that high quality capital resources are available for their daughters and sons. We have further committed to fund the \$2.9 million Art and Technology building despite just \$300,000 State Government funding. Having paid out the Administration building loan of \$570,000 mid year to save interest costs over twelve months, we must closely manage our cash position ahead of further borrowing of \$2.6 million for this next building project. At the same time we are planning for the next stage in the Master Plan: the demolition of the S block buildings and Convent. This was proposed in the 2006 Future Proposal document that underpinned the applications for both the Mary MacKillop Building and the Art and Technology Building. The consultations around these plans and the consequence of a State Government decision about the location of Year 7, and the timing of any change will occupy our governing body, the College administration and the community over the coming months.

While reluctant to say too much about the removal of the powerlines, we do face a variation in costs that adds \$147 944 to the cost for the primary school and the College. Consequently, the levy will return to the 2009 rate of \$76 in 2011. With clear evidence of work-in-progress this additional cost, though confronting, has to be accepted. The students' well-being and our future planning is helped considerably by the availability of the powerline easement.

Our thanks to Business Manager Mr Keith Chester for all his work this year managing finance, facilities and staff. Appreciation also goes to our groundstaff, Mr Joe Todarello, Mr Brett Boswell and Mr Zane Hooper for their tireless efforts to keep the physical surrounds of the College beautifully presented.

Governance

Marymount College is proudly a Parish school owned by the Catholic Parish of Burleigh Heads. Our Parish Priest, Father Pat Molony, is closely involved in the life of the school and a daily visitor. The Parish is ultimately responsible for Buildings, Finance and the Pastoral Mission of the College. Father Pat is assisted in his responsibilities by the Marymount Schools' Advisory Council and the Parish Finance Council. The Advisory Council is chaired by Mr Bren Milsom and meets twice each term. Membership includes Father Pat, Parish representatives, the Parish Manager, the Primary and College Principals, Staff representatives from each school, and the Primary and College P & F Presidents. Council meets bi-monthly and approves the College and Primary Budgets each November. Thanks to all members of the Council for their continued support and assistance.

The College is administered by Brisbane Catholic Education through the Executive Director, Mr David Hutton and his staff. This year BCE opened School Service Centres at Springwood and North Lakes to more effectively meet the needs of schools

across the Archdiocese. Mr Paul Allen, past Principal of Marymount Primary School was appointed Director of Springwood Centre following the tragic death of Mr Neil Bloxsidge in February. Mr Bloxsidge had been founding Director of the Springwood Centre and his appointment was widely welcomed. His untimely death came as a major blow to the Catholic education community that held Mr Bloxsidge in such high regard as a teacher, colleague and friend. Mr Allen is a member of the Parish. He served ten years as Principal of the primary school and is well regarded in these parts and more widely.

All College staff are employed through BCE and accountability for school performance is overseen by our South Coast Area Supervisor Mr Trevor Doyle. Thanks to all staff at BCE who have assisted the College this year and a special thank you to Trevor for his efforts on our behalf.

School Renewal and External Validation

A major part of school performance management is through ongoing School Renewal processes. Each school in Brisbane Catholic Education must review 31 elements of the school across a 5 year period - 2008-2012. Schools develop an annual plan for each year based on the prior year's review and formally report to the system on the outcome of their review each year. Schools also have a developing five year strategic plan informed by this process. This year, we were required to validate our work on school renewal since 2008. This External Review was conducted by a panel chaired by the Deputy Executive Director, Mrs Vicki Tanzer and included our Area Supervisor, Mr Trevor Doyle, the Principal of Carmel College, Thornlands, Ms Berenice McLellan and the Principal Education Officer, Religious Education, Mr Mark Elliott. The panel made commendations and recommendations and these are included as attachments.

Parents and Friends Association

Parents at Marymount College are asked to contribute to a P & F levy and to support only one fundraiser each year, either the Art Show or the Fete. In 2010, the Committee led by Carolyn Horrocks held the Art Show. The Committee ensured that the very high standards of previous Art Shows were met. This year, the Art Show was dedicated to the memory of Mr Neil Bloxsidge, who, as Principal of the Marymount Primary School, instigated the inaugural Art Show in 1996. Congratulations to the Art Show Committee – it was a great success.

My thanks to Mr Geoffrey Bolster (President), Mr Ken Lee (Vice President), Mr Craig Humphreys (Secretary), Ms Cate Peters (Treasurer), Ms Jenni James, Ms Trish May and the other members of the Committee for their efforts this year. They have been a valuable source of advice to me as Principal. Together we will continue to seek to engage more parents and to more effectively plan for the continued improvement of College spaces, buildings and learning environments for the benefits of students.

Staff

We are fortunate to have a relatively stable staff and do not anticipate many changes next year. Mr Kyle Connor will replace Mr Peter Hurley as Deputy Principal next year, following Mr Hurley's appointment as Head of Secondary at Assisi College. With over 120 staff employed here, the human resource environment is a complex one. We place a great emphasis on hiring the right people and staff employed are of the highest calibre available. Staff professionalism and morale are high. They love Marymount and enjoy teaching high school students in their specialised subject areas.

Undoubtedly the most significant factor in student performance is the quality of the teacher and with stringent staff selection and a professional development budget in excess of \$125 000 per annum we aim to provide the best environment for our students. This is clearly reflected in the academic results obtained by students in school based assessment and in the results of external tests such as QCS for Year 12 and the NAPLAN tests for Year 9.

Reporting to Government

As a result of recent State Government legislation, all schools in Queensland are now required to provide a special report to parents and the community on a range of indicators of school performance. This information is available on our website and contained in attachments at the end of this Report.

Sport

For the eighth year in succession Marymount took out the Oceanic District Swimming title. We came 2nd in the Oceanic Cross Country and 2nd in the Oceanic District Athletics championships. In addition, we took out the Oceanic Percentage trophies in Swimming and Athletics – a wonderful year!

In regular weekly Wider Division sport held each Wednesday afternoon, over 700 students represented the College with 54 teams entered, of whom 17 made the District final:

District winners were:

- 13 years Boys Basketball
- 13 years Boy Rugby League
- 13 years Girls Soccer
- 14 years Girls Soccer
- Open Girls Touch Football
- Open B Netball

The 14 Years Girls Soccer and Open B Netball were the champions across the whole of the Gold Coast (all 3 zones).

My thanks to all staff who coached teams throughout the sporting year, whether Inter-School or House. A special thank you to our exceptional Head of Sport - Ms Cherie Andersen for her organizational skills, patience and wisdom assigning staff, coordinating students and sports choices and in supporting students and staff this year.

Cultural Achievements

Public Speaking and Debating

Public Speaking has always been a strength at Marymount due in no small part to the focus Mr Bill Bruce brings to his work with our students. This year, five students entered Lions “Youth of the Year” with Grainne Cooper and Emma Lucas going through to Zone Finals level. Grainne won a public speaking award at club level while Emma was successful at zone level to win a place in the Gold coast Regional Final. Emma also won the public speaking award at the zone final.

In Rostrum “Voice of Youth” eight students entered and six made it to Gold Coast finals – Natalie Lane, Lodi Pertovt, Tom Lock, Isabella Van der Meer, Monica Esmond and Ayla Beaufile-Gay. Congratulations to Ayla who won the junior division final and Natalie, who was runner-up in the senior final. Ayla then went on to the State final and finished 2nd - a wonderful effort indeed.

In the Legacy Junior Public Speaking competition, Katherine Coombes won the South East Queensland Zone final and went on to be one of two winners in the State final. As State Champion, Katherine will represent Queensland in the National Final which will be held in Melbourne on 8th November.

In the Plain English Speaking competition, Natalie Lane won the South East Zone Final to gain a place in the Queensland State Final.

We congratulate all for their efforts and achievements and thank Mr Bruce for helping develop these fine young people. We know Mr Bruce enjoys this work with these very talented and capable young people.

Marymount entered eight teams in the Gold Coast Secondary Schools Debating Competition. With well-motivated students and able and supportive coaches, the teams performed exceptionally well going down very narrowly at the end. Six of our eight teams progressed to the semi finals and we were the only school in the competition to have teams in four of the five year level finals. Well done all and thanks to Debating Coordinator Mrs Annette McMahon and to coaches Mrs Barlow, Ms Dodd, Mrs King, Mrs Campili, Mrs Dwyer, Mrs Bagot and Ms Kennedy for another splendid season.

Music and Instrumental Music

Music continued to flourish with another big year and achievements too numerous to completely cover. Highlights were:

- Third annual Music Camp at QCCC Tamborine for Concert Band, Jazz Band, Vocal Ensemble and both guitar ensembles.
- Lunch time concerts in the P & F courtyard featuring the Burleigh Boys and Years 11 and 12 Music students.
- Community performances at Stockland Shopping Centre.
- Jazz Band performance at the Labrador Senior Citizens Hall.

- Competed at Coomera Anglican College Battle of the Bands Competition – Burleigh Boys were placed second and Jessica Robel won the Most Outstanding Vocals award.

Ensemble awards were:

- Queensland Catholic Colleges Music Festival

Vocal Ensemble	Gold
Concert Band	Gold
Jazz Band	Silver
Burleigh Boys	Gold
- Gold Coast Eisteddfod

Vocal Ensemble	Third
Jazz Band	Third
Yr 9 Music Ensemble	Highly Commended

Congratulations to Music Coordinator and Performance Music Director Ms Meagan Pearse and to all music staff and instrumental instructors for so capably supporting and guiding our students.

Dance

This year over 60 students from Years 8 – 12 competed in eisteddfods and other competitions. Some highlights were:

- Gold Coast Eisteddfod

Year 8 – 10 Dance Team	First and Very Highly Commended
Year 10 Dance Team	Honours
Year 9 Hip Hop	Honours
Year 12	Two Honours
- Brisbane Performing Arts Challenge

Year 8 – 10 Dance Group	Very Highly Commended and Highly Commended
Year 9 Dance Team	Honours
Year 10 Dance Group	Highly Commended
Year 11 Hip Hop	Highly Commended
Year 12 Dance	Two Honours
Year 12 Musical Dance	Highly Commended
- Beenleigh Eisteddfod

Year 10 Dance	Third
Year 8 – 10 Dance Group	Third and Highly Commended

In addition, students performed at Stocklands Burleigh, Gold Coast Arts Centre and many College functions.

All in all a great year. Thanks to our talented Dance Coordinator, Ms Shona Press and to dance volunteers and students who assisted.

Drama

This year our students entered the Gold Coast Drama Festival and again performed creditably.

Year 8 students performed “Children of the Rocket Man” and Highly Commended certificates were awarded to Dan Pead, Isabel Domanski, Gaby Shaw and Grace McDonald. Students in Years 9 and 10 performed “Living with Lady Macbeth” and won

the Overall Winner trophy of the section. Highly Commended certificates were awarded to a number of students. The Senior Play – “The Blameless Vestals Lot” performed by students from Years 11 and 12 won the Best Devised trophy and the entire cast received Highly Commended certificates.

Ayla Beauflis-Gay, Pia Bimbi and Rhys McCane won Outstanding Acting Awards at this Festival.

Congratulations to the students and Ms Amy Anderson, Mrs Kirsty Terry, Ms Deanne Seigle-Buyat and Mrs Melanie Howe, staff, parents and students involved.

Auditions were held for the 2011 musical – Anything Goes and preparations are well advanced for the performances to be staged in Term 2 at the Gold Coast Performing Arts Centre.

Opti-Minds

This year we entered 2 teams in the Opti-Minds challenge. Team 1 (Year 10) – Janie-Marie Burgess, Katherine Coombes, Tom Locke, Lauren Sposato, Isabella Van Der Meer, Kelsey Orbensen-Thew (facilitator Jenny Dodd) received honours in their division in the Social Science Challenge.

Team 2 – Hannah Fawsitt, Caitlin O’Connor, Nikara Rangesh, Aisling Waugh, Jasmine Hodson, Abbey Orbensen-Thew and Brooke Sposato (facilitator Angela Jeffery) entered the Years 8 – 10 division of the Language Literature Challenge and also performed extremely well and went on to compete in the State finals where they narrowly missed out.

Thank you to Opti-Minds Coordinator Ms Annette McMahon and facilitator Dr Angela Jeffery.

Titration

Our Titration team consisting of Courtney Little, Sarah Kiely and Julia Slaughter achieved 2nd place in the National Titration competition at UQ. When all results from around Australia are collected, it is hoped our team will be placed in the top 5 teams of Australia. This is a wonderful achievement.

Thank you to Mrs Jenny Webster who has been very successfully managing our Titration teams for a number of years.

Conclusion

Thank you to Father Pat for his support this year. We appreciate how much the well-being of the students is in his mind and are aware of his close concern for the pastoral direction of the College. Thanks to Father Rafal Rucinski, Sr Moira Broderick, Mr Keith Linane and the Parish-Schools Working Party for bringing the College and Parish closer together in many ways, including online conferencing studying Mary and the Resurrection, the celebration of the canonisation of Mary MacKillop and conversations about governance, mission and Church. Thanks to Mr Jim Littlefield, Parish Manager, for his continued interest and advice. Thanks also to Mr Greg Casey, Principal of Marymount Primary and the Primary School administration team and staff, who have

welcomed me and have provided ready support to the College this year.

Thanks to the College Staff, both teaching and support, for your hard work, friendship and support this year. To our Coordinators, both Pastoral and Academic, who are so often ‘the meat in the sandwich’ of expectations and judgements; thank you. Your strong leadership in these demanding roles is essential for high quality schooling. Particular thanks to the College Administration team Mr Peter Hurley - Deputy Principal, Mr Michael Fren Acting Assistant Principal – Administration, Ms Marie Hansen Assistant Principal – Administration, Ms Natalie Collins Assistant Principal – Administration, Mrs Dolores Maitland Acting Assistant Principal – Religious Education. We thank Mr Hurley for his service to Marymount College and wish him well as he takes up his appointment as Head of Secondary at Assisi College. Special thanks also to my secretary Mrs Kylie Loggie, who came into the role as I began as Principal. Together we have been a very effective team and I am sure it has been because of her fine skills, clear thinking and ability to prioritise. In a similar vein, our Business Manager, Mr Keith Chester, has provided sound advice and managerial support to ensure current budget priorities were respected, unanticipated essential needs met, and funding of future capital works does not compromise teaching and learning.

It is a privilege to be Principal of Marymount College because of the high quality parents, because of the honest and committed students, because of the fine College staff and because of our mission. May all who join this community continue to work graciously with the students, staff and parents to ensure:

A Catholic community; a supportive learning environment; commitment to life-long, life-giving learning that is faithful to vision of Jesus and Gospel Values.

