TERM 3 - 2015

From the Principal

The beautiful flowers, including Sturt Desert Peas, and fresh green buds on trees of our lovely campus gardens, signal the change in seasons from Winter to Spring and the approaching end of term. Term 3 tends to be a tough one in senior secondary education, and students can now reflect on achievements thus far, and set realistic plans for the remainder of the academic year. Term 3 reports are an excellent source of information to better understand progress and to determine strategies to finish each subject successfully. As per usual students are encouraged to talk with their teachers and mentors, and to make the most of the tutorial and library support available at Marden Senior College.

SACE Stage 2 students are preparing for holiday revision sessions, completing their final assignments and exams, and making applications for university places for next year. The end is in sight and students should make the most of the support and expertise that Marden staff offer. Fellow students in Vocational Certificates continue to work toward the completion of necessary competencies, and students studying Stage 1 have just passed the halfway mark in the second Semester. All students should enjoy the challenges and rewards available and are reminded that it won’t be long before they are joined by families and staff to celebrate success at our Annual Presentation Night at the Norwood Town Hall. This year’s Presentation Night is on Tuesday 24 November at 7.30pm.

There has been plenty of activity and success in diverse areas. Congratulations go to the MSC Student Government Association members, and Coordinator Erin Papps for their efforts in planning the successful College Formal. Congratulations also to staff and students involved in the Arts@Marden 2015 exhibition that has filled the Burnside Atrium with a range of creative and bright art works. Lunchtime activities including the soccer tournament and those marking Science Week, and Numeracy and Literacy Week, and the VET Business students’ Trade Fair, Trash and Treasure stalls and the signature Marden BBQ have all contributed to a busy and enjoyable term.

The Student Services area is humming as well with enrolments for 2016 already underway and we are looking forward to another strong enrolment period. If the success of the recent Principal Information Session and Tours is any indication, classes will be filling fast. Prospective students are invited to call 8366 2800 to make an appointment to discuss study options.

Other staff and students have proudly represented Marden Senior College in the wider community, including teacher Kelly Sharrad who presented a session at the ‘Festival of Teachers’ conference in Darwin recently. Senior students Amelia Gunn and Gianluca Di Censo recently attended the Schools Reception at Government House at the invite of His Excellency the Governor of SA, Hieu Van Le.

Staff continue to review what works well and identify strategies for improvement as we strive to achieve our vision of Marden Senior College as ‘the leading senior secondary college providing an innovative adult learning community for students and staff to achieve their full potential’. We are proud of the quality of education, and the calm, inclusive and supportive environment of our College.

Stephen Inglis

Governing Council Change

Marden Senior College Governing Council is planning to change its constitution to include parents for the first time. School community feedback is welcome. This is an opportunity for interested parents to join our Governing Council. Details are provided on the College website at msc.sa.edu.au, or contact the principal, Stephen Inglis on 8366 2888 or singlis@msc.sa.edu.au.
Re-vegetating for Biodiversity and Threatened Species

Marden’s Stage 1 & Stage 2 Environmental Action students once again braved inclement weather and headed up to the Mt Lofty Ranges for a community planting activity. The planting site is home to a number of Southern Brown Bandicoots a nationally threatened species in the Mt Lofty Ranges. Its survival relies on the preservation and restoration of habitat.

Our first task was to shrug off the wind and drizzling rain to plant some of the 300 plants which the members of the Sturt Upper Reaches Landcare Group had raised from locally collected seed.

Also helping out were students from Crafers Primary School and members of the Landcare Group. Lunch was followed by a presentation by Animals Anonymous before cleaning up and boarding the bus to Marden.

A big thank you to all involved.

Marden Education Centre Library

It is a hectic time of the year for students with assignments due and exams looming. A link on the Library page on the MSC website that might be worth checking out at this time of the year is Study Vibe – a good place for information on revising for exams, study skills, help with writing reports and essays etc. A search on this site for Countdown to Crunchtime has information specifically for senior secondary students. There are also a variety of databases available for students to use. These are also available from the Library page on the MSC website. If you need assistance to find and use them, please ask the library staff.

The library will be open for three days over the holidays. Monday in the first week of the school holidays, 28 September, and Thursday and Friday in the second week of the holidays, 8 and 9 October. It is an excellent opportunity to use the facilities to work and also have the option of assistance from library staff if it is required.

A variety of displays have been set up to promote events this term. For Book Week with the theme “Books Light Up Our World” we set up a variety of lights around the library. The library was also the focus for events in both Science Week and Literacy and Numeracy Week. We have also celebrated SALA and the arrival of spring. Chocolate sales to assist the SGA with fundraising have also been popular – especially on those cold days and when an energy boost is required!

The Tutorial Centre has moved to the Library on a trial basis for the remainder of Term 3. Library and Tutorial staff are available to assist students at this busy time of the year. It is also an opportunity for comments and suggestions about what new spaces would be useful to have in a redeveloped Library.

An enthusiastic team of staff are available to assist students in the Library. We are open from 8.30am until 3.45pm Monday, 8.30am until 7pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, 8.30am until 3.45pm on Thursday and 8.30am until 3.30pm on Friday. The 4-7pm times on Tuesday and Wednesday as well as after lesson 2 on Friday afternoons, are very useful to spend that extra time working. The staff are here to support you at all times. We look forward to seeing you at the Library!

Sue Johnston
Library Manager

Australian Vocational Student Prize

Congratulations to Katelyn Lay

Katelyn successfully completed Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and SACE at Marden Senior College in 2014. Katelyn’s trainers were so impressed with her determination and outstanding progress they nominated her for an Australian Vocational Prize. This prize is supported by the Australian Government and recognises students who have chosen to pursue a practical training pathway while completing their senior secondary studies and demonstrated outstanding vocational and employability skills. Katelyn received a certificate and $1000. Well done Katelyn.

Peter Allen
Environmental Action Teacher

Sue Johnston
Library Manager
Student Government Association
Winter Wonderland Formal

On Friday 14 August, Marden Senior College (MSC) students and staff swapped their textbooks for their best frocks and suits to enjoy the annual MSC formal. The Student Government Association (SGA) worked throughout the year to make the formal a night to remember for all guests. The formal was held in a beautiful ballroom at the Hilton Hotel, all students were welcomed and encouraged to invite friends/dates to come along and enjoy the celebration of the 2015 school year. The night from start to finish was a complete success, not only for the SGA and its key role in organizing the 2015 Marden formal, but for all who attended. From the delicious 3 course meal, two professional photo stations with different backdrops, a large dance floor with a DJ, who had all the hits to get students dancing up a storm, and by far the biggest attraction of the night was the photo booth fitted with props for students to wear in the photos with their friends. Congratulations to Isabella Rick, Alanah Mckeever-Easton and Joel Gilder who won the door prizes.

To every guest who attended the MSC 2015 Winter Wonderland Formal the MSC SGA thanks you! We hope that everyone had a fantastic night like we did!

Sarah Jane Nosworthy
SGA Member 2015
**Lunchtime Soccer Tournament**

This semester, the Stage 1 PE students were challenged with organising a Knockout Soccer Tournament for all the students of Marden. It was to involve small sided games and they were involved with the planning, organisation, implementation, promotion and umpiring of the event. It was fantastic to see so many students involved as both participants and spectators of the event, cheering along their friends or showing off some of their soccer talents to the school. Congratulations to the winning team C.K.M (captained by Connor Hayes) who have emerged victorious. Hopefully we can make the Knockout Soccer Tournament an annual event in years to come.

Jayke Wayne
PE Teacher

**Science Week**

Term 3 week 5 was Science Week at Marden Senior College. This week was celebrated with science activities representing each science subject offered at MSC for students to participate in. There were two activities based on Geology, the Earth Structural Layer Cake made by Science teacher Kelly Sharrad, which was enjoyed by many staff and students, and the Mineral and Rock Identification Competition won by Christine Molitoris. Chemistry was represented by the Magic Gardens and Crystals that students were able to observe growing and learn about the chemistry behind how they worked. Psychology was represented by the “Feeling a little Stressed” and “Surviving Year 12” information sheets that allowed students to learn about the positive strategies they can use to cope with stress and survive Year 12. The Physics activity included students working with prisms to test light refraction and reflection, while Science Teacher Gabe Turci, conducted sessions teaching students how to examine slides under microscopes. Students were able to play games online to learn about nutritional concepts such as: digestion, food groups and food contamination. Congratulations must go to Christine Molitoris who also won the Science Week Quiz.

Erin Papps
Maths & Science Coordinator
From the Pastoral Care Worker

Numeracy Week

Term 3 week 7 was Numeracy Week at Marden Senior College. This week was celebrated through numeracy activities being available for students to participate in during the lesson breaks and free lessons. Maths games such as money counting, Sudoku, Snakes and Ladders and a maths quiz were all enjoyed by students. Mandelbrot zooms were also projected onto a screen. Congratulations must go to Christine Molitoris who won the Numeracy Week Quiz.

Erin Papps
Maths & Science Coordinator

"Daaaad;" my daughter whined, "I want to paint my room another colour!" Naturally, I asked her to define what she meant exactly by … "I want to paint..." Did this mean she would paint or was it more accurate to assume – I would paint? I made a deal with her. I would paint her bedroom if; (and only if,) she did all the preparation. "Great! No worries." She replied.

Day One.
Nikita somehow arranges her room to have a 1 metre clear space around the wall with everything heaped in the middle. "Where are you going to sleep Nikita?"
"In my bed, I'll put it all back tonight when you have finished!"
I explained that making a space around the room did not constitute preparation. I outlined the concept of preparation to her and the sad truth began to dawn on her. My part was the easy bit and frankly the fun bit! Her part in the unfolding tragedy was a nightmare!

Day Two.
Nikita has washed down one wall with Sugar Soap and demands that I begin on that wall. I reiterate my description of preparation emphasising the need to wash all walls – this time putting drop cloths around the floors to catch dirty water, dust paint etc. Nikita has become less enthused about painting her room.

Days Three, Four and Five.
After several heated and robust conversations and directions, walls are cleaned, old flaky paint removed, holes and cracks patched, sanded and wiped down again. Nikita is sick of sleeping on a mattress in the dining room. I relent and let Nikita start painting….. the ceiling. It was hard not to laugh at her bespeckled ‘ceiling white face!’
"ALL RIGHT! I've done my bit – you promised!"
"OK." I replied.

Day Six.
I painted her room!

Now in fairness, I have perhaps dramatised this story a little for effect but, the elements are essentially true. As most of you still reading this will know, without the careful and meticulous preparation prior to painting, the final outcome will fall short or at worst fail. New paint will flake off with old paint if not scraped off. Dust will settle on new wet paint spoiling the finish, holes, dents and ‘pits’ in the wall will also spoil the effect. To get the best possible ‘House and Garden’ finish – the preparation needs to be perfect. After that the painting is a breeze. It rolls on beautifully. (The astute DIYer will comment that I haven’t mentioned ‘cutting in’……I have now!)

The similarly astute reader will know also where I am going with this article. This year, for those of you completing a SACE Certificate, you have been ‘preparing the wall for painting.’ It has been relentless, painstaking and perhaps at times frustrating and unfulfilling. This is why my Marden Matter’s articles to date have been about balance, focus, getting up again, persisting and not giving in even when it’s cold and grey and yes, even boring!

There is just perhaps one more lot of sanding and a quick wipe down and you will be ready to ‘paint the wall!’ This will happen in November when you sit your exams.

Over the holidays and during your time away from Marden next term to study; think of that wall that needs painting. The preparation you do now – the attention to detail and the eye for perfection will help ensure the painting will be exhilarating and the finished product one to be proud of and, even if it’s not perfect, it will be great!

I wish everyone undertaking examinations and assessments – the very best wishes for success – I am thinking of you all.

Tim Wells

Numeracy Week

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Erin Papps
Maths & Science Coordinator
Office.com Simulated Business ‘Trade Fair’

On Thursday 17 September the Office.com Simulated Business Certificate II and III Business students held the annual simulated trade fair in the cafeteria. The objective is to give business students the opportunity to practice marketing and sales skills as part of the Business course.

There was considerable behind-the-scenes preparation. Students worked together in teams to design and prepare product packs and had to work out a marketing strategy to entice buyers to purchase the packs, which contained ‘virtual’ business items as well as some real freebies. With the help of some appointed mystery shoppers, they were assessed on marketing and selling skills as well as the ability to deal with customer queries and working as a team.

We would like to thank Marden staff and students for their support in visiting each trading booth and purchasing the product packs. We would also like to thank Mandy Rego – Trash & Treasure and Tim Wells and the SGA for putting on the sausage sizzle, as well Michael and Matt for setting up the booths. A lot of fun was had on the day and it was a valuable experience for all involved.

The Office.com students had this to say:

“It was interesting how customers acted towards you. Overall it was a good day.”

“Today was fun.”

“I was able to work effectively in a team and my sales pitch wasn’t too shabby either.”

“I feel we did a good job…”

“Worked well as a team in setting up and selling.”

“I enjoyed today. I felt like we showed great teamwork……”

Elena Battisti & Michelle Van Wyk
VET Trainers
Arts at Marden 2015
Arts at Marden is the exhibition currently running at the Atrium, Burnside Civic Centre. Showcasing Art, Design, Textiles, Multimedia and Digital Media produced by Stage 1, 2 and VET students. The exhibition was opened on September 3 by Sandra Obst a former Marden student who spoke about the importance of creativity in our lives. Sandra advocated spending at least 15 minutes daily on a creative pursuit and outlined the diverse ways this can be achieved. Many student works were sold on the opening night. The exhibition is open until Thursday September 24 and is worth a look.

Thank you to the Certificate III and IV Design students who designed the posters and invitations.

Anne Johnson
Arts Coordinator
SATAC UPDATE

Term 3 has been a busy time for students looking to continue with tertiary study. Many students have taken advantage of the Open Day programs run by the universities to investigate courses and facilities at the different campuses as a lead up to making their tertiary applications through SATAC. The universities, TAFE and several other RTOs visited Marden during the term and many students took advantage of another opportunity to gather information prior to making an application.

University Applications

As I write, over sixty students have completed their application for further study. Applications after September 30 incur a late fee of $110, but students will receive equal consideration for most courses as long as the application is submitted before Monday, November 30.

Bonus Points

This year, for the first time, the three South Australian Universities and Tabor Adelaide are applying bonus points using the same criteria. There are two schemes, one is called “SA Universities Equity Scheme” and the other is called “SA Language, Literacy and Mathematics Scheme”. As a student of Marden Senior College you are automatically eligible for the 5 bonus points awarded by the equity scheme. An additional 4 points can be awarded through the Language, Literacy and Mathematics Scheme, if you have successfully completed;

- A language other than English
- English Studies or English Communications
- Mathematical Studies
- Specialist Mathematics

Each of these award 2 points each, up to the maximum of 4 points.

TAFE Applications

TAFE applications can be made online on the TAFE SA website and students are encouraged to investigate TAFE courses appropriate to their needs. A relevant TAFE course can provide a pathway into a university degree and more and more students are using this pathway as a means of accessing a tertiary qualification.

Come and have a chat with the Student Counsellors to find out more.

Gabe Turci
Counsellor

News from Student Services

The Student Services Team have had a busy term, including focusing on supporting students with successful pathways for 2016.

This has included:
- Advice and support in individual counselling and SATAC applications
- Spotlight seminars on SATAC, STAT preparation, SACE and Subjects at Marden in 2016
- Career and Further Education Expo
- Going into classes to discuss subject choices for 2016

As a Student Services team we have also:
- reviewed 2016 enrolment forms and processes
- run training and development for new staff

If you are wanting to continue studying at Marden in 2016, we encourage you to contact Student Services to make an appointment ASAP.

Janet Elliott
Assistant Principal Student Services