A MESSAGE FROM BR PATRICK HOWLETT, PRINCIPAL

Parramatta Marist High School, the oldest Catholic school in Australia, was established in 1875 and educates boys from Years 7 -12. We firmly believe that all students are unique. We value a sense of community, family and spiritual development which is aligned to our strong Marist culture and school spirit.

In 2012, Parramatta Marist was recognised as the first Australian-based partner of the United States education group, New Tech Network, who focus on the implementation of Project-Based Learning (PBL) into secondary schools. The aim of the PBL model is to challenge students to work as members of a team and to develop skills which will enhance their ability to succeed in life beyond school. This ‘real work’ model encourages critical thinking, collaboration, self reflection and enables our boys to build confidence in presenting and delivering their own ideas.

As part of this model, we, as a school, believe that technology needs to be incorporated into all facets of the learning process since it is a necessary aspect of any modern workplace.

Our teaching and learning programs focus on building student capacity, which fosters and empowers the development of independent learners for the 21st Century and beyond. It is our aim to nurture students who are able to apply skills such as work ethic, presentation, team work, literacy, critical thinking and creativity which best prepares them for work and study beyond the school environment.

Our vision for your son is that when he leaves our school, he will be socially aware and his choices will be guided by our Marist values. We strongly encourage our students to foster a commitment to social justice and to serve the wider community.

The following ideas are integral for the vision of our school:
- Parramatta Marist will continue to be at the forefront of innovation and excellence in teaching and learning.
- Students are given unique opportunities to embrace and nurture essential 21st Century skills such as creativity, problem solving, collaboration and presentation skills.
- Staff continue to be offered extensive opportunities to enhance professional practice in terms of team teaching, PBL and the integration of ICT.
- Schools are learning environments that provide students with authentic learning experiences that require the support of the local school community to create links between the classroom and the real world.

Parramatta Marist has developed its fine reputation owing to its high expectations. Students are expected to do their best in studies, to take part in many extra-curricular activities and to also follow the school rules and regulations. Students are here to learn about God and to grow in love with Him.

I look forward to receiving your application for your son to become a part of the Parramatta Marist school community.