

## *Primary School Information*

The Primary School at Marrara is a vibrant, Christ centred, community of learning. We work together, applying our four values: **Right Choices, Service, Compassion and Dedication** (RiSe CoDe). Students consistently hear and apply the RiSe CoDe to their school experience. Coupled with this, are our four expectations: **Respect, Responsibility, Maximise Learning and Kindness**. Together, students and teachers work on creating safe and productive learning environments. We value and care deeply for every child in our school, knowing that each child is uniquely created by God, with great value, and for His purpose. We endeavour to meet the needs of every student academically, spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically.



Marrara Primary has a highly committed selection of teachers. Our teachers work in teams dedicated to ensuring effective curriculum planning, student social and emotional well-being, as well as organising activities such as camps and excursions. The collegial and friendly workplace translates into happy and engaged classes that are working hard to achieve academic progress.

If you are considering Marrara as a school for your child, please come and see for yourself what a great school we have, where Jesus Christ is glorified and students are valued as God's unique creation. We have a beautiful environment full of wonderful students and an incredible team of professionals working together as God's people for His Kingdom and glory.



## *Assemblies*

Assemblies are held on a Friday morning, commencing at 8:45am. Throughout the year, we also have whole college assemblies. Primary classes take it in turns to lead assembly, sharing their talents and achievements. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend and will be advised should their child be involved in the assembly.



## *Camp Programs*

### *Year 3/4 Camp*

Year 3/4 have alternate two-day camps. In our 'odd years', students spend the day at the [Territory Wildlife Park](#), exploring the different environments and habitats. Students then camp overnight at [Riyala](#), exploring the bush in its natural state and participating in a range of activities to learn more about the beauty of God's creation. In our 'even years', students participate in a city camp. This involves travelling around [Darwin City](#), participating in a range of challenges, activities and experiences, and sleeping overnight at school. Both camps link closely to the Australian Curriculum, encouraging students to work together and grow in a greater appreciation of the world they live in.

### *Year 5/6 Camp*

The Year 5/6 'even year' camp is held at the [Adventure Bound Base Camp Wallaroo](#). Here, each student is encouraged to try each one of the challenging activities available: rock climbing, abseiling, ropes course (both high and low), flying fox, team activities and orienteering. Students are challenged in each experience as they learn about themselves as individuals and as team members working together.



Every 'odd year', our Year 5 and 6 students travel to [Kakadu National Park](#) where they experience the majesty of God's creation through a number of walks, culture activities, ranger talks and team challenges. Students learn to overcome difficulties and encourage one another in each challenge, amidst stunning displays of God's glorious creation.

## *Excursions and Incursions*

Students from Preschool to Year 6 attend excursions and incursions throughout the year that relate to their area of learning focus. We encourage parents to be a part of these special days.

## *Curriculum*

As well as the [Australian Curriculum](#), we weave a [Biblical Perspective](#) into each unit and program. Developing students into creative and critical thinkers is also a focus at Marrara, so an inquiry based approach flows throughout each year of school. Some of the resources that we use to support our curriculum include:

- Jesus Storybook Bible Curriculum
- Nelson Maths
- Sound Waves Spelling
- Accelerated/STAR Reader
- Victorian Cursive Handwriting
- PM Reading
- Thinker's Hats, Gardner's Multiple Intelligences and Bloom's Taxonomy
- Reading Eggs



## *Languages*

In the Primary School, students are taught Japanese as part of the Languages program. Students learn how to recognise, write, speak and respond to Japanese through a variety of games, songs, activities and a lot of fun! An appreciation of culture is also fostered and encouraged. Every year, the Primary School come together to enjoy a 'Japanese Day', rotating through activities that celebrate their learning of an additional language and culture.

## *Library (The Imaginarium)*

Students from Transition to Year 6 have weekly library lessons. These lessons involve literacy learning and literacy appreciation, as well as activities building research skills. Every morning from 8:30 to 8:45, students from Years 3 to 6 are given the opportunity to borrow their levelled books from the Library. Lunchtime and library lessons are also available for borrowing.

## *Music and Arts*

Our Arts program includes music, visual and performing arts. Every year, students enjoy creating and displaying beautiful artwork, which is then presented at the annual [Art Exhibition](#). As well as regular music lessons, students also have the option to participate in our Instrumental Music Program through private tuition.

## *Physical Education (PE)*

Each Primary class is involved in a **Physical Education and Fitness Program**. This program promotes healthy living and encourages good fitness habits. PE lessons focus on Fundamental Movement Skills, good sportsmanship and team building. As skills develop, the focus moves to sports and games.

## *Sports*

Throughout each year, Primary classes are involved in the following sporting events:

- Primary School Athletics Carnival
- Whole School Swimming Carnival
- Whole School Cross Country Run



Students in Years 4 to 6 are regularly invited to be involved in competitive sports with students from other schools at Cluster days. Development Officers from NT School Sport attend these events and individuals are often chosen to represent the Northern Territory.



## *Swimming*

All classes attend 8 swimming lessons with 'Swim and Survive' at the Casuarina Swimming Pools each year. This program generally takes place throughout Term 1 for Years 1-6, and Term 3 for Transition.



## *Partnering with Parents*

At Marrara Christian College, it is one of our greatest desires to '**Partner with Parents**'. We believe that it is crucial that we work together with parents, supporting our students in a united front as they grow and develop into the people God intends for them to be. Our teachers strive to maintain a healthy flow of communication with parents and endeavour to be available after school, through phone calls, via email, through letters and newsfeeds on our parent portal in *Compass*, our student management system.



We encourage families to communicate with us as well. It is important that we are able to share together as a Marrara family. Please let us know about family situations such as moving house, having interstate visitors, parents travelling for work, and celebratory praise points or success stories.



As parents, you play an incredible role in your child's view of education, so we encourage you to read regularly to and with your child, be involved in their learning of words and numbers and actively seek out ways you can support your child in their learning, regardless of their age or year level.

We value and encourage parent involvement and we welcome you to be a part of your child's learning journey. Below are some possible ways to become involved in our Marrara Community:

- Working Bees
- Classroom Help
- Camp Cook
- Cleaning
- Reading with Students
- Bus/Coaster Driver
- Attending Excursions
- Camp Helper

### *Primary School Structure*

Our teachers dedicate themselves to providing quality learning activities and programs that excite students in learning and encourage development academically, mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually. Regardless of whether a class is a single year level or multi-year, teaching and learning programs are created to meet your child's development and learning style, encouraging them to grow and shine in their learning.

### *Student Leadership*

Our Head of Primary, together with the Year 5/6 teachers, works with our Upper Primary students to develop skills of leadership and responsibility. Throughout the year, these students are given a number of responsibilities and service opportunities within the Primary School. Years 3 to 6 students vote for House Captains who lead our Primary Leadership Team for the year.



## Daily Structure

Time	Class
8:00-8:30am	<i>Supervision begins in the primary playground</i>
8:30am	School starts
8:30-8:45	Roll call, usually involving praise, worship and prayer
8:45- 9:25	Lesson 1
9:25-10:05	Lesson 2
10:05-10:15	<i>Supervised eating time for morning tea</i>
10:15-10:40	<i>Recess</i>
10:40-11:25	Lesson 3
11:25-12:10	Lesson 4
12:10-12:45	Lesson 5
12:45-12:55	<i>Supervised eating time for lunch</i>
12:55-1:35	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30-2:25	Lesson 6
2:25-3:05	Lesson 7

## Lunch boxes and lunch orders

Students have the opportunity to order lunch from the canteen any day of the week. Orders are written on a paper bag and placed in the lunch order tubs in rooms which are sent down at the beginning of each day. Primary students are not permitted to go to the canteen at recess or lunchtimes.



We encourage and foster healthy eating at school. Please make sure your child has a full lunch box with healthy and sustainable food. Packets of chips and sweet biscuits, although tasty, are not sustainable and children are often hungry again soon after. Fruits, vegetables, dairy such as yoghurt and cheese as well as whole grain foods are much better options. Children are supervised at lunch

and must eat their 'often food' such as their sandwich or equivalent prior to eating their 'sometimes food'. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.



We have a number of students who are allergic to nuts. Please ensure nuts, peanut butter and other nut products are not placed in your child's lunchbox.