School Memories by Br Bill Dillon
(Brother Bill was a Marcellin staff member 1953-1955 & 1990-1997)

FRIDAY NIGHTS
The Brothers were responsible for the cleanliness of the College environment with each one given tasks to do.

After school on Fridays saw the brothers, aided by volunteers, move the desks to apply Fisher’s Wax using brooms wrapped in cloth.

Form I volunteers were then allowed to play cricket or kick a football after the work was done. This was regarded as a real perk as after school sport was not normally allowed in the school yard.

At night when the wax had dried, a commercial polisher was used by the Brothers to bring the floor to a shiny surface. Marveer was then applied to the desk lids to have them bright and shiny for Monday morning classes.

ST. PATRICK’S DAY MARCH
The St. Patrick’s Day March was a feature of this period. Marcellin along with most catholic schools marched along Bourke St to be greeted by Archbishop Mannix.

PARENTS’ SUPPORT
Mothers ‘manned’ the tuckshop every day under the guidance for more than 20 years of Mrs Jerrems in a voluntary capacity.

Mrs Jerrems was affiliated to the Marist Brothers for her great support.

The parents organised a successful Fete every year.

Working bees brought the dads together in a pleasant environment and much work was done including the erection of a Mary Grotto under the guidance of Mr Mitchell.

The Mary Grotto
SPORT

One afternoon per week was allocated to sport with the students divided into four Houses.

Generally, sport on Saturday mornings was confined to the younger teams as they prepared to enter the Catholic Schools Competition. Most students were enthusiastic to obtain a place in these teams.

In 1955, Marcellin was admitted into the above competition. The Marcellin 1st XVIII won its first match in this competition by defeating North Melbourne CBC and then went on to defeat St. Bede’s, Mentone and St. Kevin’s.

Jim Ledger, an early student, organised the first Football match between the College 1st XVIII and the Old Boys.

‘The March Past’ was a feature of the Annual Athletic Carnival held normally on the Camberwell Oval. A member of the Armed Forces was always on hand to judge the March.

The Athletics Carnival was a real family affair with the Mothers catering for the supporters and Dads providing judges and timekeepers.

![The March Past 1957](image)

Dads opposed the Brothers in a cricket match held annually at Seville. This was always a great occasion as families gathered together with the Brothers to enjoy each other’s company.

During the summer months, swimming at Camberwell Baths was the norm with all students attending. One year, a fatality was fortunately avoided...

One lad, Dennis McCormick was pulled unconscious from the water. Fortunately the club had oxygen gear to resuscitate him. Fact or fiction, news spread that he and his mate challenged one another to see who could stay under the water longer and Dennis won.