



## Rugby League – Results

Team	SLC	ATC	Villa	Padua	Iona	SPLC	SPC
<b>Year 6</b> Player of the Match	20 – 8 Clancy Barrett	20 – 8 Harry Barden	Cancelled	4 – 42 Harry McAuliffe	4 – 14 Harry McAuliffe	Bye	14 – 32 Max Caughley Riley Hansel
<b>Year 5</b> Player of the Match	24 – 4 Stirling McDonald	Bye	Cancelled	16 – 12 Stirling McDonald	20 – 12 Nick Osborn	Bye	12 – 8 Outstanding team performance

## Rugby League – Around the Grounds

### Year 6

A strong performance from the Marist boys this week saw them go down in a highly competitive match against a very skilful and organised St Pat's team. Playing 'eyes up' footy and supporting the ball runner were the main points of focus at training this week, and was certainly carried out for the majority of the match through some handy short-side play from the likes of Harry McAuliffe and excellent support play from Sam Russo. Overall, a fantastic season which gave many boys their first opportunity to learn and play Rugby League, it was great to see the team continue to get better and better each week. It will be very exciting to see the development of the team next season.

### Year 5

A beautiful Spring morning saw two undefeated Year 5 teams play as the curtain-raiser ahead of the 1st XIII match. A boisterous home crowd were determined to help the St. Pat's boys make the most of the home ground advantage over their Marist opponents. Once the whistle blew to start the match, the Marist boys came out determined to win. Strong, direct running from our forward pack, led by the props, Will Thomas and Ned O'Donohue, saw MCA on the front foot early, gaining plenty of post-contact metres. Edge forwards Eddie Mitchell and Tom Casey, halves Aidan Marshall and Jack Davis, who often took it upon themselves to take down the largest St. Pat's forwards, and hookers Zaiden Cook and Josh Caughley continually drove the opposition back with some hard-hitting defence. However, a number of simple handling errors, forced passes and poor discipline in both attack and defence, meant that MCA were soon on the back foot. Fortunately, the defensive resolve of the team shone through once more, particularly on our own try line, as Marist repelled the continual attacking threat of St. Pat's. At halftime, the scores were still locked at 0-0.

The second half saw the Marist boys live out the motto, Viriliter Age - Act Courageously. After breaking the deadlock through some crafty dummy half work from Stirling McDonald, St. Pat's soon equalised and squared the game up once more. A few minutes later, Stirling had scored his second try of the match, but was forced off with a HIA. Yet again St. Pat's squared up the match with an equaliser, as we lost another player, Connor O'Rourke, who was forced off with an ankle injury, leaving MCA with no reserves on the bench for the final 10 minutes of the game. With five minutes to go, Tex Higginbotham produced another strong surge to crash over from close range and Marist were once more in the lead. This time, there would be no equaliser from the opposition and MCA won the fiercely contested, final match of the year.

A huge thank you must go to the parents who provided amazing support each and every week. A big thank you also goes to the many staff who attended our matches and supported the boys, and to Old Boy coaches Kaleb Pini and Angus Cowan and staff coaches Mr. Furminger and Mr. Jones for all their efforts across the season. Well done everyone on a truly, incredible team effort and congratulations on your successful, undefeated Year 5 Rugby League season.

