



# The Pendants



**Inside this issue:**

From the Principal's Desk	<b>1</b>
Mass	<b>2</b>
Martin Luther King Day	<b>3</b>
Set Attainable Goals for the New Years	<b>4-5</b>
Resolutions	<b>6</b>
Poem	<b>6</b>
Upcoming Events	<b>6</b>
Edutainment	<b>7</b>
The PTA Christmas Concert	<b>8</b>
Sports Corner	<b>9</b>
Puzzle	<b>10</b>

*Dear Marian Academy Family,  
The Staff and Administration welcome you back to school for the Easter Term and also the new Calendar year 2016. We trust that the Christmas vacation allowed everyone the much needed rest after a long term, and the opportunity to reacquaint and reconcile over the Christmas season. We also offer our sympathies to those among us who suffered loss of loved ones and our prayers for those who are ill. I take this opportunity to wish you a joyful year where you will give mercy and receive mercy. The Church calls us to celebrate this year as a Jubilee Year of Mercy. "Blessed are the merciful for they shall have mercy shown them". Let us aim to be truly tender and merciful to each other. "[Mercy](#) as it is here contemplated is said to be a [virtue](#) influencing one's will to have compassion for, and, if possible, to alleviate another's misfortune". We saw this in your generosity at Christmas, for which I thank you.*

*From the gifts you sent we were able to give food items to several institutions and individual families. Several gift packages of toiletries were given to individuals in several institutions. Toys were given out to several places that held parties for children, as well as homes with children. You made a difference this Christmas by lighting up the eyes of many children and feeding the hungry. I was touched by the care you showed in the way you packaged each gift so lovingly. May God bless you abundantly.*

*This term is a rather short one with a great deal of work to be done before students face the various examinations - Grade 6 National Assessment, CAPE and the CSEC. There are also our annual Sports and the Mashramani celebration. Students will have to make efforts to balance and manage their time well. We encourage parents to provide a structured atmosphere at home to enable students to do their best. This year also mark Guyana's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Independence. I encourage each one to set goals and make plans to realize the goals. As the wise men followed a star which lead them to find Jesus, so we too must have our star or compass to guide us to where we want to be.*

*I wish 2016 brings you the warmth of love and illuminate your path of life towards a positive direction, and may you experience God's mercy even as you give it.*

*Sincerely,  
Sister Marie Harper, OSU  
Principal*

**MASS  
BRITTNEY BETTENCOURT  
GRADE 11**

Marian Academy held its first Mass on the Epiphany. Epiphany is a church festival which takes place on January 6 in commemoration of the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. Fr. Jerri Dias, SJ, presided at the Mass with a full auditorium of students, past-students, parents and teachers. He spoke about the three Wise Men and their gifts. He encouraged us to seize the New Year as an opportunity to turn over a new leaf and to try hard in school in order to gain better grades. His words were truly inspirational. The choir sang melodiously and vibrantly at Mass. Special thanks to Fr. Jerri Dias, SJ, for celebrating Mass with us. May this New Year renew our strength and faith to confront and conquer our challenges.



## Martin Luther King Day

### Lakasie Viera

### Form 4-2

Dr. Martin Luther King, a black American, was born in 1929 in Atlanta. Although slavery was abolished in the USA in 1862, some white people were still discriminating against the blacks. The blacks had to suffer humiliation at every step. Martin Luther opposed this strongly. He travelled throughout the United States of America and abroad, lecturing and meeting civil and religious leaders. He wanted to complete the unfinished work of Abraham Lincoln. He followed the path of non-violence shown by Mahatma Gandhi. He became the leader of black Americans. The blacks started a peaceful movement to be treated as equals of the whites. His movement became very popular. In 1964 he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. He, too, was assassinated like Mahatma Gandhi. He was not even 40 years old at that time.

Martin Luther King Jr. lost his life trying to better the lives of African-American people. He was one of the greatest American Civil Rights leaders of the 1960s. He was born in the city of Atlanta, Georgia. His father was a minister at the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. At fifteen Martin Luther King Jr. was enrolled at Morehouse College. He graduated from there in 1948, and, like his father wanted to become a minister.

Martin Luther King Jr. married Coretta Scott in 1953 while doing graduate work at Boston Graduate School. They had four children. In 1955, he completed his work at Boston Graduate School and got his PHD. By this time Martin Luther King Jr. was a well-known Civil Rights Activist who was attempting to get rid of discrimination and to overthrow the unfair segregation laws in the South.

In 1956, a bomb was thrown on to the porch of Martin Luther King Jr's house. Again in 1956, another bomb was thrown onto his porch, luckily both times the bombs did not explode. In 1956, King was also arrested on charges of hindering the operation of buses without permission or legal cause. In 1958, he published a book called "Stride toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story". In 1960, King moved to Atlanta with his family and became the co-pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, his father's old church. In 1962, Martin Luther King Jr. was convicted of leading a march to Albany.

He made a famous speech that is known as the "I have a Dream" speech. That speech was an inspiration to millions of African-American people. Martin Luther King Jr. led a protest against segregated buses. It started when an older lady named Rosa Parks, who is now famous for not giving up her seat, was arrested. Martin Luther King Jr. was a very powerful speaker. He knew how to lead protests, and how to get people involved. He is the main reason for the equal rights between races that we have today. King was elected the leader of a group called the Montgomery Improvement Association. After the protests started by the Rosa Parks issue, Martin Luther King Jr. encouraged others to boycott the segregated buses also. After the protests ended, angry white people tried to kill Martin Luther King Jr., by bombing his house. The attempts were unsuccessful.

To make the battle against nonviolence stronger, Martin Luther King Jr. and many other African-American ministers formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. During the sixties, young African-American College boys started sitting at the "white" tables. The protests were broken up by the southern police, who used police dogs and fire hoses. The violence and drama of the protests was shown on television and President Kennedy proposed a bill to deal with this at Congress. Soon after the segregation laws were withdrawn.

In 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. was killed after he had finished giving his last speech in Memphis, Tennessee, called "I've been to the mountain top," in front of a huge crowd. An escaped convict, named James Earl Ray shot him, as he was standing on the balcony of his hotel room. The speech was for striking African-American garbage men. He died on April 4, 1968. The assassin was convicted and sentenced to ninety-nine years in jail. Today, in January on his birthday, we have a national holiday to celebrate his work called Martin Luther King Day. His last words were: "Take my hand precious Lord." Truly a man for the ages.

## Set attainable goals for the New Year

### By Meshonn Persaud—Form 6

Goal setting is a powerful process for thinking about your ideal future, and for motivating yourself to turn your vision of this future into reality. The process of setting goals helps you choose where you want to go in life. By knowing precisely what you want to achieve, you know where you have to concentrate your efforts. You'll also quickly spot the distractions that can, so easily, lead you astray.

It is a New Year which means for most people they will be setting New Year resolutions; I however have already set achievable goals. So have many other sixth form students. This year whilst setting my goals, I used a technique I was taught in my leadership skills class. The technique is known as a mission statement.

Step 1: Identify Past Successes. Spend some time identifying four or five examples where you have had personal success in recent years. These successes could be at school, in your community, at home, or elsewhere. Write them down.

My past successes that I wrote down were being one of the top students for Marian Academy CSEC results 2015, being able to volunteer at organizations, and being able to successfully keep up with my academic studies and receiving good work and good conduct badges. I try to be healthy through participating in extra curriculum activities. Lastly I was chosen to be Head Prefect. After identifying these areas, it is necessary to examine whether there are certain themes you followed to achieve success to those examples. Write them down.

The common theme in those successes was that I was focused on the task at hand and tried to be a leader not a follower. I had an opinion and voiced it respectfully. I always knew what had to be done and created a mental check list to complete my tasks and I never forced myself into pursuing activities that would cause me to feel overwhelmed.

Step 2: Identify Core Values. Develop a list of attributes that you believe identify who you are and what your priorities are. The list can be as long as you need. Identify five or six of the most important values.

The five core values I live by are honesty, responsibility, courage, integrity and team work. I believe that it is easier to be honest than create a lie. Therefore, I strive to be truthful because I could use the space in memory for something else.

With great power comes great responsibility, so for every duty I have, I also have the responsibility to fulfil my duties. I will always need courage to fulfil my dreams and achieve my goals. I need to have the courage to take a stand for my beliefs and if I don't have the courage then I won't be able to achieve my goals and that will be my fault. Integrity knows what the right thing to do is and doing it. If you cannot do the right thing the persons will not want to be associated with you. Team work helps me to think on a larger scale, it inspires cooperation and a larger pool of ideas is available.

*(Continued from page 4)*

Step 3: Identify Contributions. Make a list of the ways you could make a difference. Where could you contribute best to, the world in general or your family or your future employers or your friends or your community?

I would like to make a difference in the world in general and I would like to start by improving my country first. I believe that I can help to improve the political system. When there is great leadership then people have a good example of what is the right thing to do.

Step 4: Identify Goals. Spend some time thinking about your priorities in life and the goals you have for yourself. Make a list of your personal goals, perhaps in the short-term (up to three years) and the long-term (beyond three years).

My short term goals would be to become a better leader, improve my leadership skills. Ensure that I have a balanced life style, meaning I do exceptionally well in my academic performances, while keeping healthy and still being able to have leisure. I have to complete my internal assessment project for CAPE and also perform excellently in my CAPE exams this year and next year and receive my associate degree. I hope to become a better volunteer in non profit organizations and help those who have been rendered helpless. I will be participating in multiple school competitions and events. Lastly the prefect body which includes me hopes to improve certain aspects of the students' population behaviour.

My long term goals is to get into a prominent university, where I will study law and have the goal to earn a Juris Doctorate (J.D.) degree. I would also like to earn a Ph.D. in political science. With furthering my education I believe that I can not only help individuals but also my country and the world as a whole.

Step 5: Write the Mission Statement. Based on the first four steps and a better understanding of you, begin writing your personal mission statement.

Hope that this technique can help you



## RESOLUTIONS

Heimraj Resaul

A New Year's resolution is a tradition, most common in the Western Hemisphere but also found in the Eastern Hemisphere, in which a person makes a promise to do an act of self-improvement or something slightly nice, such as opening doors for people beginning from New Year's Day.

A resolution is a firm decision to do or not to do anything. One does not need a new year to make a resolution. A daily resolution can be compared to something of a goal. An individual can set their resolution to be achieved by the end of the day. This resolution should be a sensible one which can contribute to the individual's well-being and character.

### Happy New Year

To you all a Happy New Year.  
I can't believe 2016 is here.  
This is a time of new beginning  
And hopefully it will be very thrilling  
Just make sure to take care  
In this new year.

## Upcoming events

### Marian Quiz

The Marian Quiz is an annual inter-house competition on the history and current affairs of the school. The quiz reminds students of some rare facts about Marian that are often forgotten by students. The spectators receive entertainment as contestants from each house battle to win the cup. The quiz should not be only appreciated for its entertainment, but also for its educational values. The quiz will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January.

### Valentine Blood Drive

The Marian Academy Valentine Blood Drive takes place every year around Valentine's Day. Parents, teachers and other adults along with some of the older secondary students donate blood to the Blood Bank. The blood goes towards the sick and injured who need blood badly and Marian Academy helps to save lives. Every unit of blood can save three lives. The Blood drive takes place on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> of February.

### Annual Inter-House Sports

The Sports Day is a source of great excitement for all students. Students from all Houses and classes represent their Houses in friendly athletic competition. Even those of us who prefer to sit in the stands enjoy ourselves in this day of competition. Sports Day is scheduled to take place on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Everyone should make a special effort to attend and cheer on your

## CONGRATULATIONS

The Journalism Club extends congratulations to all those who received Good Work and Good Conduct badges. This is timely recognition of those who cared enough to want to excel and then did. We urge those who did not receive badges to keep on trying!

## EDUTAINMENT

Q: What do you call cheese that isn't yours?

A: Nacho cheese!

Q: What's the best thing to put into a pie?

A: Your teeth!

Q: Waiter, this food tastes kind of funny?

A: Then why aren't you laughing!

Q: Why do the French like to eat snails?

A: Because they don't like fast food!

Q: Why shouldn't you tell an egg a joke?

A: Because it might crack up!

Q: Why did the banana go to the doctor?

A: Because it wasn't peeling well!

Q: What do elves make sandwiches with?

A: Shortbread

Q: What is a pretzel's favorite dance?

A: The Twist!

Q: What are twins favorite fruit?

A: Pears!

Q: What do you give to a sick lemon?

A: Lemon aid!

Q: How do you make a walnut laugh?

A: Crack it up!

Q: In which school do you learn to make ice cream?

A: Sunday School.

Q: Why shouldn't you tell a secret on a farm?

A: Because the potatoes have eyes and the corn have ears.

Q: Did you hear the joke about the peanut butter?

A: I'm not telling you. You might spread it!

## CONCUSSION



An African scientist from Nigeria (Will Smith) noticed that some retired footballers were going crazy and committing suicide. He did a study of their brains and discovered that being hit hard in the head over and over again in the game caused them to go crazy. So the scientist wrote an article in medical journal describing his findings. This set up a big battle between him and the National Football league (NFL), which insists that it did no wrong and always has the players' interests at heart. Because the game of American Football is so lucrative, corners are sometimes cut to the detriment of players' health and well being. Many receive crippling concussions that lead to serious problems after football is over. So the movie is about whether humans are willing to do the right thing even when it costs everything. It is a good one to sit back, relax, and watch.

## The Parent Teacher Association's Christmas Concert Adriel Lachmansingh Form 2-2

The Parent Teacher Association Concert (PTA) was on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Decemeber,2015. The time originally set for starting was 6 p.m., but the concert had a bit of delay; that, however, did not influence how wonderful the concert was! The event ran for about 2hrs and 30mins.The MC for the night was Mr. Graham (president of the PTA) who did an excellent job of keeping the audience laughing and entertained. The concert had a wide range of performers from parents to past students, to church choirs to our own students.

The show had a smooth running with minimum disturbance. The show had an intermission when various foods and drinks were sold. Some food items sold were: hot dogs, Channa, cheese roll and pine tarts. Drinks included: LLB, Coca-Cola and ICE-E. The concert items were singing, dances, plays, fashion shows and musical items. The first item of the night was no other than Marian Academy Secondary choir, conducted by Mrs. Fraser.

There was an extraordinary dance piece performed by Jesse and Mellisa, who danced to a Christmas Mix. We had Leah Lachmansingh, Davona Bess singing and accompanied on guitar by Alexandre De Pavia . Form 1-1 had a recorder piece to share, Jingle Bell Rock. Two of Marian past students, Ronald Chang Yuen and Sophia Choo-Hen, performed for us "Mistletoe". There was a fashion show done by both seniors and juniors. Some of the models included, Anfernette Bowman, Adriel Lachmansingh, Jesee Newton, Jahrier Young and parents. Primary 4-1 entertained us well with a play, the Christmas Story. Shaina Sampson played "Ave Maria" On the piano which had a calming effect. Tejia Edwards and Adriel Lachmansingh sang "Mistletoe" and were accompanied by Alexandre De Pavia on the guitar. Nicely done, everyone!

The Christmas Concert was very successful and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves!





## SPORTS



Guyana's top Badminton player Narayan Ramdhani is now ranked 53 in the World Junior Rankings for 2016 according to the latest release from the Badminton World Federation. This outstanding achievement includes No. 1 ranked in the Caribbean, and No. 3 ranked in the Pan American countries.

This latest news came about as the World's Under-19 players who are now over aged in the

year 2016 will go into the senior events bringing up the current Under-19 Players where Narayan Ramdhani gained his place following his achievements last year.

The Guyana Badminton Association do hope that all can understand that for Guyana to be ranked so high up in the World, competing against the top Badminton countries like China, Indonesia, Denmark, Peru, Brazil, India, Canada, Malaysia, Japan, Hong Kong and Mexico is a remarkable commitment of hard work, dedication and discipline. There are 173 countries in the world playing Badminton.

'The GBA do hope that all involved in the management of sports like the Guyana Olympic Association & the National Sports Commission will give us their co-operation to help us to reach the very top as it is in this direction we will be heading,' the association said in a release.



# THE PUZZLE ZONE

By RIA PERSRAM, Form 2-2



R	R	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y	S	R	E
S	E	I	T	E	N	T	Y	I	R	A	P
A	F	S	A	W	I	R	D	E	W	X	Y
B	F	M	O	M	T	N	I	E	Z	U	N
E	U	O	Z	L	Y	D	E	S	A	E	O
T	R	Y	R	F	U	T	Q	U	I	Z	I
T	E	R	M	G	T	T	S	O	A	E	T
E	P	H	Q	W	I	Z	I	H	Y	E	C
R	E	E	C	W	O	V	S	O	E	D	E
X	R	C	L	P	K	R	E	G	N	D	L
C	H	A	N	G	E	S	K	A	E	S	F
Z	Q	E	Y	T	G	Y	E	A	R	U	E
H	O	P	E	S	D	Q	U	I	K	U	R

The following words can be found by searching across, down, diagonally or backwards.

Good Luck!

BETTER	JANUARY	RESOLUTIONS
CHANGE	NEW	TERM
FORGIVE	PEACE	UNITY
HOPE	QUIZ	WORK
HOUSE	REFLECTION	YEAR

## Chief Editor

\*Sr. Marie Harper, O.S.U

## Reporters

\*Brittany Bettencourt

\*Adriel Lachmansingh

\*Meshonn Persaud

\*Hemraj Resaul

\*Thomas Singh

\*Lakasie Veira

## Design & Layout

\*Kelsey Wharton

## Photography

\*Rebecca Lowe

\*Sarah Klautky

## Coordinator

\*Miss Teon Hunte

## Technical Adviser

\*Miss Leolyn Barrington

## Adviser

\*GHK Lall

## November-December Puzzle Answers

E				S	T	R	O	P	E	R	
X			L		L			S			
A	D	V	E	N	T	L		W			S
M			G					E	O		T
S			N	S				B	M		A
			A	L		A	T	N	A	S	R
				O				I	N	E	
				R			L		G	D	
				I	A		A	I		E	A
		O		C	W		G		R	R	
	H			I			H			G	
C	A	N	D	L	E	S	T				
							S				