

Mandevillian

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The Clendon Centre Arrives



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LORETO
Mandeville Hall Toorak



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Inside Front Cover:
Gabrielle Pettenon (Year 12)

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“My heart is so full of gratitude for all that has been a part of my every waking moment for so long, that it is impossible to find words of thanks adequate enough.”

Farewell, Dr Susan Stevens

An Overview of Leadership, Legacy and Longevity

"When I cast my mind back to 2001, and the day that I was offered and accepted the position of Principal, Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak, I can still feel the joy."

Having had over three years in the position of Deputy Principal, my formation journey—that being a profound immersion in the Loreto charism—had already begun. I rejoiced in the ready connections with other Loreto Schools in Australia and world-wide; coming to know and meet the many exceptional, beautiful women of integrity who were the Sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary was a privilege; and each day understanding more of the rich and complex history of Mary Ward and her Institute was as fascinating as it was life-giving. Absorbing the heritage, the history, and all that it meant to “be Loreto”, I felt well supported in my faith understandings and commitments to lead this truly amazing school, and I have done so walking humbly in the footsteps of so many before me.

Principalship over these 20 years has been a journey—a journey without a dull moment. Upon reflection I believe that the advertising tag we now employ to describe the rigour of our educational experience, “The Challenge She Needs”, could upon reflection be seen to describe my wonderful years leading our School.

As I now leave, I do so with great confidence for the future, knowing that the strength of our faith tradition, our educational standing, our remarkable staff and exceptional parent, friends and alumnae community, will continue to flourish under the leadership of Ms Angela O'Dwyer, a true Loreto leader.

I also leave with a heart full of unquantifiable gratitude for the many wonderful people who have been a part of my life now for so long—the Loreto community. I thank you all for your support, advice, challenge, engagement, advocacy. The community of Loreto Toorak is strong and constant, and representative of a love for our school, its history and all it stands for, that simply cannot be measured. I thank my many Chairpersons and Directors over the years; I thank the Sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who have also walked this period of time with me; I thank the parents, supporters, alumnae, staff and students. My heart is so full of gratitude for all that has been a part of my every waking moment for so long, that it is impossible to find words of thanks adequate enough.

When, last year, the time came for me to share news of the conclusion of my final contract, I did so quoting a favourite scriptural passage, Ecclesiastes 3:1. I reference that beautiful verse again now, in signing off as Principal of Loreto Toorak.

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

May God Bless and keep you all.

A 20 Year Legacy for Loreto Toorak

While her achievements at Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak are many, it is the little things that stand out for outgoing Principal Dr Susan Stevens.

As she prepares to enter the next chapter of an accomplished career after almost 20 years at the helm, her fondest memories are of the people she worked with and the reason they worked so hard – the students.

Every day produced precious moments, such as the time Dr Stevens ventured into the school's historic grounds to discover that senior students had produced T-shirts reading 'I love Physics' – in pink for them and blue for their teacher.

the Air Force bases and went to whatever Catholic school was near there," she says.

The young Dr Stevens was passionate about music and an exceptional pianist. She also excelled at STEM subjects, like her father, and was dux of Maths at school. "My wonderful parents would say ... you do what you love," she says.

While completing her degree at the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Music, Dr Stevens won the prestigious Ormond Exhibition prize for academic



"They were walking around just because they loved their subject so much and they wanted the younger girls to see it," she says with a smile.

Such is life at Loreto Toorak, where girls are inspired to be the best they can be, and to consider others in everything they do.

As Principal, Dr Stevens nurtured and led an already strong Catholic culture to cement the School's place as one of Australia's finest. Her skills as an academic, mother and educator helped to enhance all aspects of school life.

Doing what you love

Family has always been important to Dr Stevens, who grew up in New South Wales and Victoria as her late father, Bruce, worked as an aerodynamicist and physicist in the Royal Australian Air Force.

"He taught pilots how to fly so we always lived near

excellence and the Una Bourne Pianoforte Scholarship for outstanding practical performance twice.

Dr Stevens worked for a brief time at Mt St Joseph Girls' College Altona West, before focusing on raising her young family for the next 12 years. During this time, she completed many degrees and her PHD in music.

Dr Stevens returned to the workforce in 1996 and joined Our Lady of Sion in Box Hill. In 1998, she joined Loreto Toorak as Deputy Principal – Director of Pastoral Care.

A Loreto leader

Less than four years later, in June 2002, Dr Stevens was appointed Principal. There was a lot to learn, but her time as Deputy Principal under the mentoring of Dr Anne Hunt provided a solid base and her experience as an academic and mother

enabled a broad perspective.

"I was already immersed and instinctively aligned to the Loreto charism. I love it. Mary Ward took the Rule of Ignatius – a charism that is reflective and inclusive. Applied to the educational setting, it pays attention to the growth of the whole individual. The founder of the Loreto Institute, Mary Ward was an inspiring faith-filled visionary woman who over 400 years ago established our educational mission. Her foundation generated a now global Institute which continues to educate and form young women in the values of Freedom, Felicity, Sincerity, Verity and Justice. I continue to be proud to be a part of this extraordinary, vibrant and ongoing story," she says.

Dr Stevens was blessed from the beginning with the strength of the whole Loreto community, and a school community that offered good governance, dedicated staff, and fabulous students and families.

valuable resource, the staff, was also developed.

Learning spaces were a top priority. As Dr Stevens explains, classrooms should be "Imaginariums" and "tinker labs" that provide the necessary tools and atmosphere to inspire. It was also the Board's priority in strategic planning to offer teachers the best tools of their trade, that being state-of-the-art classrooms.

"Our strategy is about equity of experience," Dr Stevens says. "It doesn't matter if you're in Year 7, Year 12, Year 5, Year 3 – you have a beautiful classroom."

Staff, students, and families are immensely proud of the Schools' journey over the last 20 years. Dr Stevens reflects, "the history of Loreto Toorak and the Loreto network to which we belong is exceptional."

"... every time I see the girls try so hard... their smiling faces bring me immense joy."

Support from the community was definitely present and was needed. Dr Stevens cannot thank the community enough. "To this day I am grateful for all the wonderful individuals who have shared this leadership journey with me."

"I've had six Chairs of the Board now," Dr Stevens says. "They have all been outstanding."

Loreto Toorak was already a respected school on an attractive campus built around historic Mandeville Hall. It was steeped in tradition, had exceptional staff, and enjoyed a solid reputation. Dr Stevens knew she could continue to build on this fine foundation leading towards an exciting future.

A holistic approach

Dr Stevens has focused on improving academic results and a holistic approach that maintained the Schools' strong values and nurtured "absolute excellence" across all programs including Music, Drama, Art and Sport.

The Rowing, Swimming, Water Polo, Athletics, and Cross-Country programs were enhanced, and STEM further promoted, with subjects such as aviation and archaeology introduced.

The first decade was all about the classroom and building a general culture of continuous improvement, positivity and aiming to "be the best one could be." Growing enrolments eventually created a firm financial basis to enable the extensive improvement of facilities and resources; the most

Maintaining core values

Strong values and social justice have remained central to the School's mission and actions. Amongst the many initiatives in this space, the one of which she is most proud is the 17 year – long-standing tradition of the School's Vietnam Pilgrimage. This immersion has been life-changing for all participating students and staff and has developed a strong partnership with the community that is Loreto Vietnam.

Dr Stevens' recent innovations include the summer and winter Loreto Academy, which offers senior students a university-like experience with lectures in topics such as philosophy, literature, science and poetry. Attendees receive Academy Scholar credentials that they can add to their CV.

Loreto Toorak Alumnae International has also established branches in London, New York, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Australian states. LTIA links alumnae globally and aims to present a Mary Ward lecture each year. "Our graduates know, wherever they end up around the world there will be a Loreto connection," Dr Stevens says.

"That is not merely about networking ... it is about remembering, calling back to mind, the formation that they had when they were at school. We graduate every single girl with a commitment to social justice in her DNA. We graduate engaged, compassionate women who are making a difference in the world."

Asked what she is most proud of, Dr Stevens finds it difficult to decide. She was delighted when a stringent National School Improvement Tool review placed Loreto Toorak's culture in the top four per cent of Schools globally but is proud of all that her team has achieved. This was by any standards a rare and wonderful result.

"I'm enormously proud of everything, I really am," she says. "Your heart just fills sometimes, beyond words ... the annual music concert, the showcase concert ... every time I see the girls try so hard in the pool, on the field, on the stage, in the library and their classes ... just their positive sincere effort, of course their achievements, and always their smiling faces bring me immense joy."

Loreto Toorak works by the "we not me" mantra coined by Dr Stevens' former Deputy Principal Director of Studies, Elizabeth Burns. "We have an absolutely respectful, supportive culture," Dr Stevens says. "This culture relies on all members of the community working together, so we speak and live by 'we not me' - it works, as it aligns so beautifully to who we are as Mary Ward people, thinking of others, not ourselves."

Making a difference

Over the years, Dr Stevens has made a big impression on those around her.

Now Principal at Star of the Sea College, Mary O'Connor worked with Dr Stevens for ten years as a Loreto Toorak Deputy Principal and describes her as a forward-thinking leader who embraced best practice nationally and internationally to enhance the School's values and culture of excellence.

Ms O'Connor says, "Dr Stevens improved learning and teaching facilities, increased diversity through scholarships, showcased excellence in co-curricular activities and built a strong alumnae engagement program."

sense of humour.

During a language tour in France, both found a skirt they liked while shopping during some free time in Avignon. "We bought it and on the last day for our Year 12 students that year, we both wore it as a joke," Ms O'Connor says.

A journey with vision

Chris Pidcock, who now works with several Family Office Groups and Not-for-Profits, was a Loreto Toorak Board member from 2002-2016, and Board Chair from 2010-2016.

He says Dr Stevens handled the incredible complexities of being Principal of a major school exceptionally well, encompassing students, staff, parents, infrastructure, and the broader community. Her knowledge across all curriculum areas was outstanding.

"A key driver was always 'what is the best outcome for the students' and their education from a holistic perspective," Mr Pidcock says. "She has a very high level of emotional intelligence, incredible integrity, and a strong, determined personality."

Mr Pidcock says Dr Stevens related well to staff, students, and families, and was therefore able to "bring the staff along" on her journey of change. "She often demonstrated resolve alongside patience, which are wonderful complementary leadership attributes," he says.

Dr Stevens' integrity, intellect, passion, and capacity for hard work clearly inspired those around her.

"Susan took the School from being good to exceptional over the period I was there," Mr Pidcock says. "She also developed and strengthened the wonderful cultural legacy the School has with the Loreto Sisters and Mary Ward."

"I always loved seeing Susan supporting the School

"A key driver was always ... the best outcome for the students and their education ... "

"Susan had a vision for Loreto Toorak, and she worked towards that vision over many years," Ms O'Connor says. "She also surrounded herself with very good staff and drew on their strengths; the team's combined skills were important."

While Dr Stevens has a keen intellect and pursues excellence in all she does, Ms O'Connor says she is also personable, approachable and has a great

at various sporting events and the passion and pride she showed when Loreto Toorak did well (which was often)."

The COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged students and staff with two years of on-off online learning. In

2020, staff quickly pivoted all classes and activities online, including after-school tutoring and all Programs and Clubs.

"If your child was doing a swimming lesson, they still had the swimming lesson – they'd lie on their table at home and do the strokes," Dr Stevens says. "If they were doing personal training for their rowing, they still did it online. They did Pilates. They still did singing."

Loreto Toorak finished in Victoria's top 10 schools for 2020, an incredible achievement. The School community continued to rally in 2021 amid further lockdowns and uncertainty that saw the Year 12 formal postponed three times.

"Teachers have handled all of the challenges splendidly, in a year that in a way has been even harder than last year, even though we were much more skilled," Dr Stevens says.

"Next year is the Loreto Year of Freedom, and we think that's well placed. It will be a brand-new feeling, a brand-new start and a new chapter in so many ways for our beautiful School."

Dr Stevens leaves Loreto Toorak in great shape and the capable hands of Ms Angela O'Dwyer, who will step up from her position as Executive Deputy Principal. Dr Stevens has worked closely with Ms O'Dwyer throughout 2021.

Feeling blessed

"I feel so blessed that it's in the capable and compassionate hands of Angela, who is a

wonderful Loreto woman," she says. "I'm leaving very grateful, extremely grateful. It has been an absolute team effort for 20 years. I just can't imagine a better school." Dr Stevens and her husband, prosthodontist Dr Anthony Dickinson, will remain engaged with and supportive of the School and the wider Loreto network.

Dr Stevens is intending to take a short break, enjoy more visits with her mother Monica and have a family holiday before pursuing new challenges.

"I want to find something else to contribute to. My experience at Loreto Toorak has given me so much more to share with others," Dr Stevens says.

One of the things Dr Stevens will miss most is "the unexpectedness of every single day" at Loreto Toorak and the interaction with students, which never fails to surprise and delight.

"You ask a little one 'are you getting ready for athletics,' and they won't just say 'Yes, Dr Stevens' they will say, 'Yes, I loaded up with carbs this morning'," she says. "It is enlivening. It's beautiful."

A lasting legacy

Dr Susan Stevens' legacy as Loreto Toorak Principal is vast. While maintaining the School's core values, she encouraged academic excellence to the point where Loreto Toorak has been a top Victorian school over a decade and the top Catholic school several times.

The School has won GSV titles in Athletics for the past six years, many VCE music and art awards, Top



Acts Awards, Premier's Awards and VCE all-rounder Awards, and the Rowing Program has grown into one of Australia's largest and most successful school programs.

Building projects have included:

- Sr Ruth Winship Science Wing
- Sr Toni Matha Hall
- The Chapel of Christ the King refurbishment
- Mandeville Hall Mansion restoration
- Mary Ward International Australia (MWIA) Board Director
- Chairperson Loreto Schools Advisory Committee
- Catholic Principals' Association (PAVCSS) committees
- Girls Sport Victoria (GSV) Website Committee
- Invergowie Foundation Deputy President and Director

Her legacy for this beautiful and successful school will continue to strengthen and flourish for generations to come...

- The Mandeville Centre, comprising the School Library, Year 12 Centre, Lecture Theatre, Staff Room, and basement parking
- Crescent Theatre
- Mandeville Café
- Rathfarnham Extension
- Barry Centre Upgrade
- Figgy Grove outdoor area that honours the Morton Bay Fig that stood there for more than 120 years.
- The Clendon Centre for Years 7-9, incorporating collaborative learning spaces, a Lecture Theatre, courtyards, and basement parking
- The Glade, an attractive outdoor area for students to relax and perform informal plays.
- Gardens, grounds, entrances and security.

Dr Stevens served as Girls Sport Victoria (GSV) Board President from 2007-2012 and chaired the Loreto Schools of Australia Committee (LSAC) for 12 years. An Australian Institute of Company Directors member, she is often invited to speak at national and international conferences.

She also worked with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) as Chairperson and Chief Assessor for Music Styles, and Assistant Chief Assessor for Music Performance and Solo and Music Performance.

Other positions held include:

- Chairperson of the Mary Ward International Advisory Committee for Grants Allocation



- Invergowrie Grants Committee
- Mount St. Joseph's Girls' College Board Director
- Member of AHISA State Executive
- Chair Loreto Principals' Australia Forum

In 1887, as she set about building the early foundations for Loreto schools in Australia, Mother Gonzaga Barry wrote "Leave after you a something on which others may build, and so rise higher still."

Dr Stevens' contribution and commitment to Loreto Toorak and her love for our community over the past 20 years, has truly exemplified this aim of Gonzaga Barry and walked in the spirit of Mary Ward. We have risen higher still because of her and have been both blessed and fortunate to have shared in and been a part of her vision.

Her legacy for this beautiful and successful school will continue to strengthen and flourish for generations to come because of her dedication and leadership. We farewell Dr Stevens with great affection and deep gratitude.



Introducing

Ms Alexeena Murphy

Executive - Deputy Principal



"I am so excited to have the opportunity to work with the wonderful staff and Leadership Team to continue to build on the strengths, traditions and achievements of the school."

What do you believe are the core attributes of being a leader and how do you aim to use these qualities to help Loreto Toorak continue to strive for success?

At the heart of effective leadership is the capacity to listen and learn. This first term at Loreto Toorak has, for me, been all about finding out about this wonderful school, listening to staff and students so that I can best understand how I can have a positive impact as a leader moving into 2022. Demonstrating open-mindedness and being authentic in all that you do is also important, as that enables you to build trust with others and ensures that you can meet shared goals. I am so excited to have the opportunity to work with the wonderful staff and Leadership Team to continue to build on the strengths, traditions and achievements of the school, with a strategic and forward-looking agenda.

How do you plan on addressing the challenges regarding COVID's impact on education?

It has certainly been a tumultuous two years, but it has also been a time of great learning and opportunity in education. Reflecting on, and reconsidering, our approach to schooling as we move into 2022 and beyond is essential. Along with the myriad of new technology skills we have all developed, teachers and students alike, I think we have been reminded of the broader important role of schools in ensuring the wellbeing and social-emotional development of young people in our society.

In this first term I have enjoyed the opportunity to sit down with groups of students and hear from them about what has been going well and the things they perceive as challenges, as we come out of these periods of remote learning. Continuing to activate student voice will be critical as we move into 2022, ensuring that the things we prioritise align with those that students see as necessary and worthwhile. I am certain it will, though, be seen as important to all stakeholders that we continue to plan for learning to be collaborative and to ensure that our programs, activities and events enable students to connect with each other and to feel a broader sense of connectedness to their school.

How are you hoping to reflect contemporary values in your position, specifically regarding issues prevalent in the news?

One of the things that appealed to me about working at Loreto Toorak was the fact that it

is a school with a firm sense of direction and clear, shared values – which resonate with our contemporary society as much as they have done in the past. Ensuring I live the school values every day in all that I do is really important to me and coming into the school in 2021 I have certainly valued the notion of Felicity. Now more than ever, we see the importance of maintaining a cheerful and optimistic approach.

In my role I certainly hope to continue to encourage the young women of Loreto Toorak to be empowered agents of change who are inspired by the school values as they respond to the issues that arise in the news around us. In particular, I am looking forward to the focus in 2022 on Freedom: this value challenges us to be resourceful, to be creative and innovative thinkers and to be – at all times – solutions focused.

What made you want to become a teacher and what has been your most memorable moment?

Like many teachers, I have always had a great passion for my subject areas (Literature and History) and originally pursued these by undertaking a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne. I worked in industry for some years before deciding that I wanted to have an opportunity to share my love of subject and returned to study, to become a teacher.

I have had many wonderful and proud moments as a teacher. I think some of the most important moments have been where a student achieves a success that they perhaps thought was not possible. Some of my most memorable moments, though, as a teacher occurred when I was teaching internationally, in particular during my time in Abu Dhabi – which is an incredible place to live and where I was a personal tutor to children in the royal family, and so was able to learn much about local customs and traditions in what is an incredibly dynamic and rapidly evolving society.

Loreto Toorak in *The Age*



Students at Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak are inspired by our creative learning spaces. Loreto Toorak's Deputy Principal – Studies, Mr Séamus Scorgie, was recently interviewed in *The Age*, highlighting our state-of-the-art creative learning spaces and facilities that inspire students to open their minds to different pathways.

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READ MR SCORGIE'S ARTICLE FOR THE AGE

Our teaching expertise instils a love of learning that sustains Loreto Toorak students throughout their life. *The Age* recently interviewed our Principal, Dr Susan Stevens, on the topic and outlined Loreto Toorak's capacity to cultivate a growth mindset which leads to a strong work ethic in our students.



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READ DR STEVENS' ARTICLE FOR THE AGE

Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) Program

The Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) Program is a premier program designed to recognise passionate educators who are constantly learning, growing, and working together to change students' lives and build a better world.

Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak is proud to showcase two of our own teaching staff who have been awarded MIE Experts. Tiffany Stephens and Catherine Thawley have been selected into the Program due to their self-driven and collaborative spirit, as well as their desire to share their expertise with students and staff to achieve excellence in education.



“I feel very privileged to be a part of a global professional learning network of people who are continually inspired to create a highly effective curriculum for their students. Connecting with other Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts keeps me informed and motivated to explore the best technologies, with the aim to share these with our staff and students.”

Tiffany Stephens



“Continuing to be part of the MIE global community provides me with many networking opportunities with other motivated educators who are exploring and sharing innovative ways to use Microsoft tools to facilitate teaching and learning. This forum also provides access to preview upcoming new features and developments that we can then integrate into training sessions for staff, so they are equipped to effectively use the digital tools available.”

Catherine Thawley



Farewelling our

Captains of School

Sally Bertoncello and Eliza Galimberti

“In this Loreto Year of Felicity, the challenges presented by the continuous shifts from onsite to remote learning only emphasised the importance of finding joy in our own individual passions and celebrating this happiness with one another.”

There is a unique beauty in a Loreto Toorak student. Due to an education of both mind and heart, they are people of intelligence and compassion who have both the knowledge and the drive to imprint their positive mark on this world. A Loreto education is a blessing, one that provides us with the confidence that we can embrace life's inevitable challenges with enthusiasm and courage.

In this Loreto Year of Felicity, the challenges presented by the continuous shifts from onsite to remote learning only emphasised the importance of finding joy in our own individual passions and celebrating this happiness with one another. This was shown in a myriad of ways including welcoming each other at the school gates, rejoicing in one another's skills at our Loreto Toorak's Got Talent show and through the strong school spirit revealed at every House event.

During times of remote learning, we have been completely taken aback by the students' unconditional support for one another, despite not being together in a physical sense. Through the staff's benevolence, in culmination with their efforts to provide a wide range of fun online activities available to unite the whole school, we collectively proved the Loreto spirit stretches beyond the Clendon Road gate and into the homes of every Loreto Toorak student. To be a part of this nurturing community is something for which we are eternally grateful.

As women with a Loreto education, we have the unique opportunity to recognise our true potential, a strength that is incredibly important for all women to possess. It has instilled within us the values of Justice, Sincerity, Verity, Felicity and Freedom and confidence in the words of Mary Ward that “women, in time, will do great things.” We look forward to applying these teachings to the world beyond the sea of white ribbons.

As Captains of School, it has been a blessing to explore the work of Mary Ward International Australia in a deeper sense. As Loreto people, we belong to a global community that encourages generosity of spirit and empowerment of all women. We are particularly thankful for the students' compassion during our Feast Day Part B, whereby funds were raised to assist in the Landing Pad project for our Loreto sisters in Kolkata, India.

To the Class of 2021, we are absolutely honoured to represent you. We have spent our VCE experience being flexible in lockdown periods, yet every time we reunite together, there exists an overwhelming sense of love and support. Your optimism, pragmatism and general zest for life is admirable and we cannot wait to see the incredible things you each achieve. We are wishing you the best of luck and are unbelievably grateful for all the felicitous moments shared during our time together.

It has been an absolute privilege to lead this wonderful school, something we are sincerely grateful for. We will deeply miss every aspect of Loreto Toorak. Yet as we embark in this new chapter of our lives, we know that the teachings and values of this school and the unwavering support of the wider community will be with us every step of the way.

SALLY BERTONCELLO AND ELIZA GALIMBERTI

Premier's VCE Awards

Celebrating the Class of 2020



Loreto Toorak proudly congratulates Class of 2020 graduates Madeleine Hooker, Katerina Bitzios, Kate Byrne, Isabella Caleo, and current Year 12 student, Grace Taranto, who have each received Premier's VCE Awards.

The Premier's VCE Awards recognise students who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and are the highest honour Victorian students can receive. Our exceptional students have shown remarkable dedication to their education journey at Loreto Toorak, and the receiving of the Premier's VCE Awards is testament to their commitment to their studies.

Madeleine Hooker is one of only 28 students to receive Top All-Round VCE High Achiever Awards, in recognition of study scores of 46 or higher in at least five VCE subjects. Her outstanding performance in Business Management, English, Legal Studies, and Studio Art Education is an accomplishment of which she can be very proud. Madeleine says, 'This award is an incredible honour and I'd like to

thank all my Year 12 teachers for their support.' We join with Madeleine in praising the efforts of Loreto Toorak teaching staff. The collaborative approach to a girl's learning journey is echoed in our values of Freedom, Justice, Sincerity, Verity, and Felicity. Through our values, students learn that education is the watershed for success, and discover the merits of respect for the individual and compassion for the wider community.

We also celebrate Katarina Bitzios for her achievement in Geography, Kate Byrne for her achievement in Art, Isabella Caleo our Dux of the Class of 2020 for her achievement in Biology, and current Year 12 student Grace Taranto for her achievement in Health and Human Development. Each student ought to feel a sense of triumph in her success.

Our Principal, Dr Susan Stevens, warmly adds, "With joy we congratulate our students from the Class of 2020 who have been awarded the prestigious Premier's Award for their academic achievement. Join with me in celebrating excellence at Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak".

Youth Voice in

Australian Parliament Week

Chelsea Rossignolo, Year 12 Student, writes to her local Federal Member of Parliament, on the topic of What do you want Australia to look like in 20 years?

Chelsea's speech was read out in Federal Parliament by the Honourable Josh Burns, member for Macnamara.

Congratulations, Chelsea, on this achievement. The Loreto Toorak community is proud of you.

"In 20 years I know that what I want Australia to look like is accountable—accountable for its tainted past, undervaluing of diversity and abuses of power. For me, this looks like taking the time to listen to marginalised voices and taking on what they have to say not just in theory but in practice.

Today my fellow Australians and I struggle to associate this notion with what has been presented to us. From sexual misconduct scandals, leadership spills and a dismal vaccine rollout, our introduction to the political world has been less than idyllic. We yearn for the innovation and integrity described in our classrooms and the days our political landscape was dominated by pioneers of change, both in and out of our parliament, like Susan Ryan, Eddie Mabo and William Deane. Of course, I don't want our future to look the same as our past, but I hope that we can take inspiration from these figures that push for accountability with us.

While it is easy to be disheartened from entering or studying politics right now, I hope that my fellow young Australians can be driven by optimism for what can come and see the potential in Australia that I do."



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LISTEN TO CHELSEA'S SPEECH, AS READ BY THE HON. JOSH BURNS

Year 12 Valedictory Speech

Sophia Murray

I stand before you today, albeit through our screens, six years on from when Ms Jaensch first welcomed us in Year 7 as the Class of 2021.

To my 12-year-old self, 2021 seemed a world away. But here we are having now completed our final day of schooling. I always thought school would go on forever, and even now a day without school seems almost unimaginable. But all good things must come to an end... even after 15 years one of the most intellectual and captivating TV shows about strong, independent women had its season finale this year: *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*. Those women have nothing on us... as we end our 13 years of school let us launch ourselves as the Loreto Class of 2021 and let the world try to keep up with us!

I have found myself, like many others, somewhat scared to graduate and enter the world of adulthood. The thought of days not being structured by timetables, having to pick an outfit every single day, not being able to have a chocolate muffin every Friday morning, and having to thrust myself into the unknown has played on my mind over the last few months. At the same time, this year has felt like a rush to the finish line, a countdown to the final SAC, final class, final day of school and final exam. But a single-minded focus on what lies after school finishes, and the rush to ATAR release day, neglects the 13-year long journey to today and the individuals who have shaped us all during that journey. So, in writing this speech, I forced myself to slow down, to reflect, and to appreciate my schooling journey.

I began my journey as a Loreto Toorak girl in Term 4 of Year 2, nine years ago. I still remember my first day, arriving in full pristine summer uniform whilst everyone else was dressed in their sports uniform because, as would be my luck, the first day back we had PE. For anyone starting at a new school, you can imagine this would be

the last thing you would want, to stand out when you are trying so hard to blend in.

But no one made a comment. No one singled me out, rather on that first day I felt more welcomed than I had ever been before. My strongest memory is an emotional one of feeling valued by everyone I met... I was eight and I had arrived at my happy place. This warm and felicitous environment has remained whilst at Loreto Toorak, and I am sure every girl who has come to this school as a new student can attest to this.

Over my next four years at Rathfarnham my love of learning grew. The teachers I had saw potential in me and encouraged me to participate in all manner of extra academic activities. I fondly remember mornings with Sr Mary Balderstone completing Math Olympiads, which I could never seem to quite get right, and Ms O'Brien explaining that one day in senior school I would have to integrate quotes into my English writing and not just write my opinion. It was in Years 5 and 6 where I truly began to harness my

" ... I have been taught by some of the best and most inspirational people ..."

academic potential, feeling proud when I did get a maths question right, and empowered to be able to sit at my family's dinner table and



confidently explain to others how a paragraph should be structured.

Entering senior school, I was terrified. Different teachers for each subject and Mr Mulcahy for maths was not quite what I was used to. I have been blessed; since Year 7 I have been taught by some of the best and most inspirational people, and some of the most caring. As teenage girls, we tend to find ourselves constantly doubting our abilities, and always striving to be some kind of perfect, and I am no different. My teachers have never failed to see potential in me even when I doubted myself! It has been a privilege to be surrounded by staff so dedicated to my success, not only academically, but in all walks of life, no matter if they teach me or not. I have never been known as an athlete or musician or a stage star, but I was always valued and supported for just being me. I am truly thankful for each teacher I have had at Loreto Toorak, whether it was for one semester or over the last six years. My teachers have ignited a passion within me to constantly strive for success. They have taught me to realise that the path to success is not always straight and at times when I have deviated by design or accident, I have always been encouraged and guided to still follow my path. Hopefully I will succeed in achieving my ultimate dream.

I would be lying if I said my senior school journey has been smooth sailing. I have had my fair share of failed tests, friendship troubles resolved by the Reach Program and boy problems, courtesy of the Year 9 Collaboration Program, but it is the values that I have been taught by Loreto that have equipped me with the ability to tackle any challenge that I have faced. We are told each day that we are the strong, independent women of tomorrow, which has truly empowered me to be able to confidently address issues I face in my life. I look to Mary Ward, as an inspiration for how I wish to lead my life in the future. In the face of disappointment, hardship, and resistance she remained motivated to ensure an education for all girls. Thus, it is her strength that motivates me to want to leave my impact on the world, and to leave society a bit better than when I first arrived. It is Mary Ward who should always lead us on as strongwomen who will act for others as we leave Mandeville Crescent for the final time.

It is safe to say this year has not been the

year our class hoped for when we first met Ms Jaensch or even this February. We went from the common room to our own kitchen, the classroom to our bedrooms, and from the rooftop garden to our local park four times in nine months. Tears were shed, mainly by me I must admit, in the common room every time the Herald Sun published that fateful article predicting that from 11:59pm tonight we wouldn't see each other face-to-face for at least seven days. This last lockdown has definitely provided us with the challenge she needs; our final days at

"... we are one of the few that can say they graduated amid a global pandemic, and I think the conditions in which we graduate speak volumes of our Year Level's character."

school and memories as a year level dramatically shortened, but we are one of the few that can say they graduated amid a global pandemic, and I think the conditions in which we graduate speak volumes of our Year Level's character. The resilient and optimistic attitude we have held throughout the six years we have been together has truly shone through. This year, the Loreto bond has served us well and it would be remiss to not acknowledge how fortunate we are to have our school, our teachers and each other when compared with so many other final year students this year.

Over the last six years at Loreto Toorak this cohort has grown closer and closer together. Whilst throughout our schooling journey we may have been looked upon as the loud and out of control year level at times, especially in Year 9, it was evident that our year level possessed a

Year 12 Valedictory Speech

...continued

Sophia Murray

bond like no other. Whilst not being able to give each other face to face support as a cohort, there was no end to the encouragement, positive messages, and optimism which this year level shared with each other online. Face to face, I have endless memories of our year level bonding, from our famous tea party in Year 11, and primary school games of 40/40 home base which remerged at the end of last year to the Year 12 choir's interesting rendition of *Just the Way You Are*, as performed by The Barden Bellas, to the less than amused Year 11s. Our humour has been unique, just like the camaraderie we possess as a group. I can say with true confidence that each girl in this cohort has each other's back. Whilst this year has been challenging, as a group we have pushed each other to be the best we can be and to thrive in

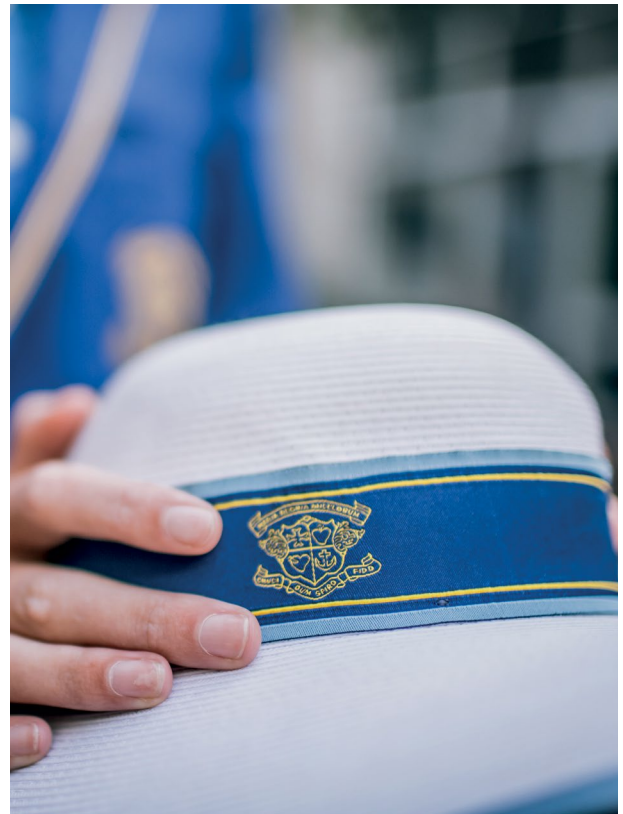
"Today we stand on the precipice of our future. It is not the distant reality that we looked towards throughout our schooling years."



the most challenging of times.

Today we stand on the precipice of our future. It is not the distant reality that we looked towards throughout our schooling years. It begins today. As Mary Ward said, “in time women will come to do much”, and we, the Loreto Class of 2021, will do just that. Each girl in this class, each one of you, each one of us, has the capacity to change the world in our own way. I look forward to watching and participating in my extraordinary cohort’s impact on our world. Thank you, Class of 2021, for the best friendship I could ever ask for and for being a part of my wonderful years at Loreto Toorak. I will miss seeing you all every day.

Congratulations on finishing your schooling journey.



SOPHIA MURRAY • YEAR 12 STUDENT





2021/2022 School Councillors

Introducing our new School Leaders

With a great sense of pride we introduce our new School Councillors for 2021/2022. We trust these students will exercise their responsibilities with verity and generosity, and in unison, joy and solidarity with their companion Councillors.

We congratulate and acknowledge our Loreto Toorak Captains of School for 2022, Elena Chiam and Isabel Duggan.

Join with us as we applaud these leaders of the Loreto Toorak school community. May they understand their responsibilities and carry out their duties with a spirit of kindness and concern for others. As they observe the rules and maintain the strength of this Christian community through the principles of Mary Ward, we trust they will grow together in the love and service of God and all people.

We also thank our outgoing Year 12 Leaders for their contribution to the School during 2021.

2021/2022 Captains of School

Elena Chiam and Isabel Duggan



2021/2022 School Councillors



Pastoral Portfolios

Year 7

Milla Richardson and Lucy Tuckwell

Year 8

Grace Dodd and Millie O'Halloran

Year 9

Ella McBurnie and Meaghan Nugent
ABSENT: Millie O'Halloran

Year 10

Amy Bourbon and Alexandra Tarraran

Year 11

Gian Azzopardi and Jessica Rawolle

Year 12

Elean Chiam and Isabel Duggan



Administrative Portfolios

Rathfarnham

Rose Jenkins and Zara Massimini

Environment

Elaina Macleish and Hasanya Rajapaksha Mannikkunambi

Justice

Lucy Dunstan and Alexandra Eastwood-Gerula

Mission

Sarah Abusah and Sofia Perica

Wellbeing

Sarah Kelsey and Eleanor Martin

ABSENT: Lucy Dunstan



House Captain Portfolios

Barry

Alessia Andrews and Olympia Dobbin

Mornane

Edie Noble and Tully Walford

Mulhall

Ruby King and Sidney Venus

Ward

Lara Burns and Amelie Clements



Captains of Programs Areas

Drama Captain

Cara Sullivan

Music Captain

Jessica Rawolle

Public Speaking Captain

Eleanor O'Brien

Sport Captain

Milla Richardson

Symphony Orchestra

Emme Guthrie

Symphonic Band

Lucy Tuckwell

Stage Band

Amy Bourbon

School Pianist

Olivia Borzillo

Senior Chorister

Cara Sullivan

Heads of Middle Years Theatre

Meaghan Nugent and Madeleine Ryder

Head of Theatre Design

Sophie Perica

Head of Junior Debating

Bianca Mariani

ABSENT: Lucy Tuckwell, Madeleine Ryder

Individual Sports Captains

Aerobics

Lana Siapantis

Athletics

Edie Noble and Milla Richardson

AFL

Ruby King and Tully Walford

Badminton

Teela Truong

Basketball

Olivia Bond

Cricket

Ellen Williams

Cross Country

Ruby King and Mia Lennon

Diving

Milla Richardson

Gymnastics

Charlotte Clarke

Hockey

Katie Leishman

Netball

Charlie Ferguson and Chloe Walker

Rowing

Felicity Murray and Isobel Thomson

Snowsports

Grace Doherty

Softball

Ellen Williams

Soccer

Jorja Dodd

Swimming

Rose Jenkins and Edie Noble

Tennis

Paris Herbert

Triathlon

Lara Burns and Edie Noble

Volleyball

Lara Burns

Waterpolo

Claudia Nolan

ABSENT: Paris Herbert





The CLENDON CENTRE

"This building will reflect all that is important to Loreto Toorak – it will provide a sense of place, of belonging, it will be inspiring, and it will challenge the girls to be the best that they can possibly be."

John Sprunt, Architectus Melbourne

The opening of the Clendon Centre is the culmination of a project that commenced five years ago, following an assessment of classrooms and buildings across the School on completion of the Mandeville Centre. This assessment rated classrooms on several key factors including indoor environmental quality, spatial quality, fitness for purpose, services, and condition. It was then decided that the buildings known as St Georges would be the next major refurbishment project.

Planning for their replacement commenced with the renovation of the Crescent Theatre, formerly known as the Auditorium, as these facilities could not be housed in temporary accommodation. With building planning well underway, the School looked to the challenge of housing two separate year levels of students who occupied the old Building. The solution was a unique one: to alter the timetable. Thus, "Loreto 2020" was created.

Neighbour consultation and Council advice began in 2018, along with extensive consultation process with students, staff and the broader community. The design brief was formulated by our architect, Architectus.

Vaughan Constructions was appointed as builder in 2018, not only to ensure their involvement in the draft stage but also to make certain that any buildability issues were addressed during design rather than construction.

In December 2019, demolition of St Georges commenced, with most of the building materials removed from site before students returned to school in 2020. Construction of the basement levels took close to six months; and a further six months to complete the main structure of the Building. This milestone was celebrated with a topping out Ceremony in February 2021.

"As the new home for Years 7–9 students, the building is heavily influenced and shaped by the program and social interaction of the Students."

Throughout this year, we have all watched in amazement as glass, steel and the interiors of the building have been installed and the final elements of the Building started to take shape.

The Clendon Centre marks a new chapter in the

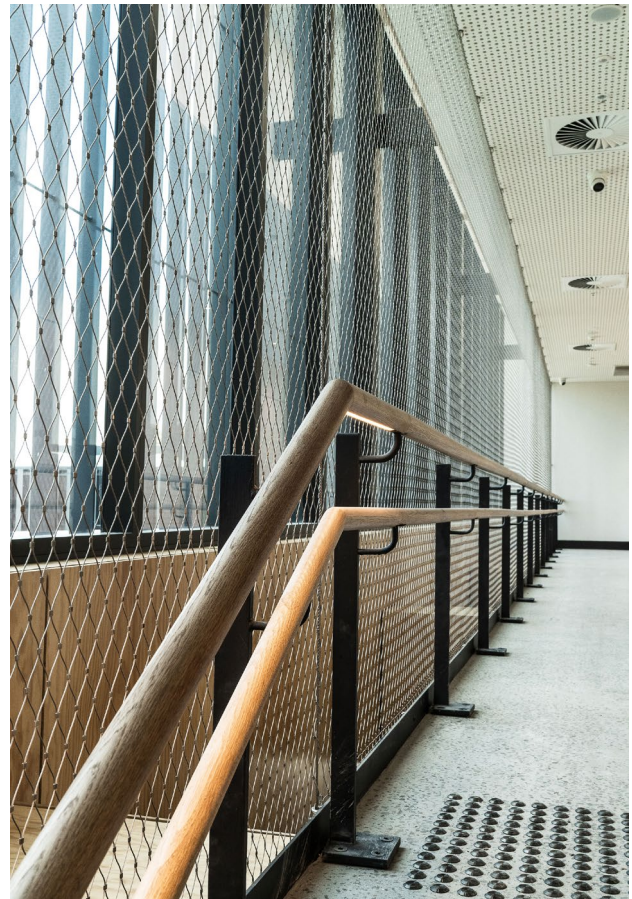
continually evolving requirements of learning for the Loreto Toorak community.

As the new home for Years 7-9 students, the building is heavily influenced and shaped by the program and social interaction of the students. A variety of spatial opportunities within the building is important for establishing different kinds of learning behaviours. With six classrooms per year level, as well as substantial informal collaborative learning spaces, it provides the students with all they need for an interactive education. The building will also be home to the School's Leadership Team, a Lecture Theatre, and a design technology classroom. It will also provide additional carparks and end-of-trip facilities for our Staff.

There is a quality and calmness to the interior environment that will ensure user activation and engagement.

The Clendon Centre is a building for learning.

MR TIM ROWLER • BUSINESS MANAGER







The image is a vertical composition of two photographs. The top photograph shows a bright, modern interior space with a large, multi-paned window looking out onto green trees. The ceiling is white with recessed lights. The bottom photograph shows a staircase with grey, speckled concrete steps and a dark metal handrail. In the background, a large window looks out onto a building and trees. A blue horizontal bar spans the width of the image, containing the word 'TIMELAPSE' and a hand cursor icon.

TIMELAPSE

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November

As the Clendon Centre drew nearer to practical completion, we can announce with certainty that this stunning new educational facility will be ready for operation Day 1 Term 1 next year, and through its state-of-the-art classrooms for our Years 7-9 students, will provide wonderful learning spaces, lecture theatre and VCD (Visual Communication and Design) facilities for the whole school. Our Preparatory - Year 11 students had the opportunity to tour the building in the last week of Term 4.



October

Despite challenges with lockdowns, site restrictions and procurement, the project continued with the commencement of carpet laying.

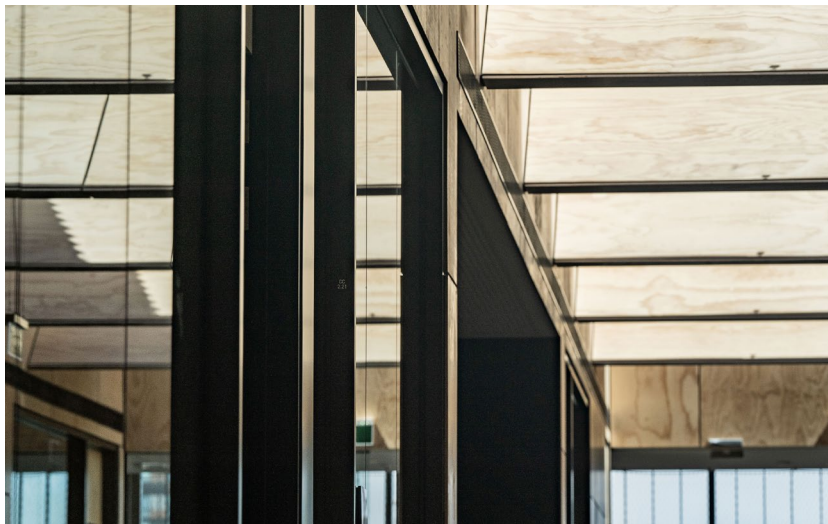
Whiteboard and projectors were installed and the classrooms began to take shape with lockers, windows and glazing all complete.

The School managed to maintain the project within the budget as established by our Board, and the completion date will ensure it is ready for students to occupy from the commencement of the 2022 School year.



September

St George's Redevelopment Project was renamed to the Clendon Centre. Accessed through the historic Clendon Road gates, the building provides a wonderful point of symmetry for the school: the Mandeville Centre on Mandeville Crescent, and the Clendon Centre on Clendon Road.





July

The St George's Redevelopment Project continued to progress within targeted time frames and budget. Representatives from each Rathfarnham class were randomly selected for a hard hat tour of the construction site. Mr Rowler, Business Manager and Mr Lincoln, Property Committee, led the tour, providing detailed and informative commentary on the building, including design principles, building equipment, and construction practices. The girls found the experience exciting and fascinating. They were keen to return to class and share this information with their friends.

CLICK
FOR MORE



JUNIOR STUDENTS' SITE VISIT





"I love the big glass windows in the Year 7 area. The view is absolutely wonderful." *Year 6 student*

"There is so much natural light." *Year 5 student*

"When we look out we can see all the beautiful trees." *Year 5 student*

"The building design is really modern and the clever architects have created a thoughtful design." *Year 6 student*

"I like how we can see outside through the big windows." *Preparatory student*

"I like the Year 9 area with the courtyard. I really like the idea of going into the beautiful courtyard to do work." *Year 5 student*

"The building is a really creative, clever design and it is really wonderful to be in here." *Year 4 student*



February

The St George's Redevelopment included three levels: B1, a basement used for classrooms, a lecture theatre, a large study space, and two external courtyards. B2 and B3 will provide over 60 additional carparks to the site. To access the carparks an interesting design solution was developed and implemented by the Property Committee of our Board, involving the construction of a tunnel linking the existing B1 Mandeville Centre to the new building. This significant milestone in the project was captured in the link below.

TUNNEL BREAKTHROUGH



NAPLAN Results

Continued Efforts Achieve Strong Outcomes

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008, with the exception of 2020, where the decision to cancel NAPLAN testing was made by Education ministers due to the COVID-19 pandemic. NAPLAN tests skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. NAPLAN test results provide information on how students are performing and support improvements in teaching and learning.



Year 3		2021
Reading	Loreto Toorak	503
	State	452
Writing	Loreto Toorak	477
	State	433
Spelling	Loreto Toorak	464
	State	431
Grammar & Punctuation	Loreto Toorak	491
	State	446
Numeracy	Loreto Toorak	449
	State	414

Year 5		2021
Reading	Loreto Toorak	569
	State	523
Writing	Loreto Toorak	526
	State	489
Spelling	Loreto Toorak	531
	State	506
Grammar & Punctuation	Loreto Toorak	559
	State	513
Numeracy	Loreto Toorak	539
	State	506

Year 7		2021
Reading	Loreto Toorak	591
	State	552
Writing	Loreto Toorak	556
	State	529
Spelling	Loreto Toorak	573
	State	552
Grammar & Punctuation	Loreto Toorak	573
	State	539
Numeracy	Loreto Toorak	588
	State	558

Year 9		2021
Reading	Loreto Toorak	617
	State	584
Writing	Loreto Toorak	598
	State	554
Spelling	Loreto Toorak	619
	State	586
Grammar & Punctuation	Loreto Toorak	633
	State	583
Numeracy	Loreto Toorak	628
	State	593

In 2021 we are once again pleased and impressed with the overall results for NAPLAN, especially given the context of the past two years. The accompanying tables highlight how Loreto Toorak compared with the state mean in each of the domains: reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy. We are thrilled to report that our NAPLAN results continue to be well above state means.

Whilst the NAPLAN tests reflect a 'moment in time' assessment of our students, the data can be particularly rich when used in conjunction with range of internal measures. Such data allows us to carefully tailor our programs to individual student needs, to longitudinally track student and cohort progress and in the development of a challenging and relevant curriculum.



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VIRTUAL GALLERY

VCE
ART SHOW

VCE Art Show

Celebrating Creativity



Above: Amélie Nash

Loreto Toorak is proud to present the work of our talented students in the virtual VCE Art Show.

It is with immense pride that we present the 2021 VCE Art Show with four exhibitions of incredible work from students studying Units 3 and 4 Media, Studio Art, Visual/Art and Visual Communication Design.

You are invited to view the Opening Launch video and browse the virtual gallery using the hyperlink provided. We are thrilled to share this exciting digital experience with you.

VCE Art Show Awards

With pleasure we announce the winners of the VCE Art Show People's Choice Awards and the Industry Awards.

People's Choice Awards:

ART

Lexi Picciani and Emily Wright

VCD 1

Cecilia Hardy and Holly Kenealy

MEDIA

Sophie Noonan and Grace Taranto

STUDIO ART

Isadora Jackson and Renée Zafiroopoulos

The Art Industry Awards:

DEANS ART

Media – Elizabeth Ives

Art – Lexi Picciani

ECKERSLEY'S

Studio Arts – Trinity Berton

Studio Arts – Sinead Rush

VCD – Amélie Nash

Art – Coco Prentice

CAVALIER ART

VCD – Rai Caderamanpulle

Media – Ashlea Rigney

ZART ART

Art – Sky Austin

STADIUM SIGNS

Studio Art – Bella Hughes

VCD – Holly Kenealy



Above: Grace Taranto
Left: Sinead Rush



Emily Wright

Untitled No. 1

Art

Charcoal on Drawing paper

In my work Bianca, I have explored the concept of illusion and distortion through the reflective effect of water. I chose to depict a portrait of my friend Bianca as the subject matter and use charcoal drawing on paper in a realistic style. My intention was to capture the expressive qualities of water as it cascaded down her face and the illusions created as it passed over her quiet and solemn expression.



Lexi Picciani

Step Back 1, Step Back 2

Art

Acrylic Paint in Bubble Wrap

In my work Step Back, I have explored the significance of perspective and perception in personal growth, and the impact this has on the way we view experiences. Using bubble wrap as a canvas, and injecting acrylic paint into each individual cell, this work also challenges the idea of what is regarded as 'valuable', from a seemingly useless plastic material to the seamless connection of coloured dots that form the bigger picture. The work depicts me as a young child, a symbol of youth and naivety, regarding the impact of negative external influences such as toxic relationships and the harsh toll this can have on young people.



Cecilia Hardy

Natural Springs Bright - The Cold Spring Design

Visual Communication Design

Digital Design and Illustration: Illustrator and Photoshop

The clients, Cleo and Raia Davidson of Natural Springs Bright, requested a new Cold Spring as an addition to their Hot Spring Facility. This Cold Spring uses organic, curved shapes to ensure that the summer tourists in Bright are relaxed whilst being surrounded by nature through the incorporation of the rocky terrain of Bright into the design. The overall design is very colourful and includes much of the natural foliage seen in Bright.

Holly Kenealy

Wilder Winery Brand Identity

Visual Communication Design

Digital Media Adobe Illustrator and 3D Model

The client, Gemma Crawford, required a new brand identity for an upcoming winery, including a name, logo, and corresponding wine labels all related to nature. She also required the exterior design and interior layout of the winery building. A green colour palette, along with a serif typeface and environmental motifs ensured a natural, sophisticated logo design appropriate to the client need. The design of the winery building involves simple shapes, asymmetrical balance, and the environmentally friendly materials of wood, concrete and steel to meet the necessary requirements of the client.



W I L D E R

WINERY AND VINEYARD

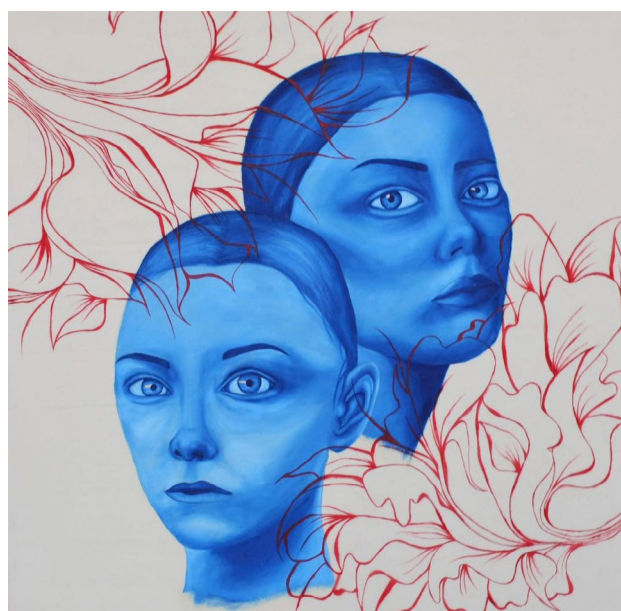
Coco Prentice

Power of Imagination

Arts

Oil paint on calico

In my work, Power of Imagination, I have explored the idea of misperception and the infinite possibilities of the human brain and imagination to form mental pictures or ideas in the mind. This process deeply influences the way we view ourselves and the world around us. Using oil paint on calico to create the double, reflective blue facial forms that suggest alternate perceptions, the overlapping oriental red flowers further enhance the surrealist style. My intention was to imbue the work with meanings and messages of the power of the imagination to distort our realities, impacting the mind's perception of realities.



Bella Hughes

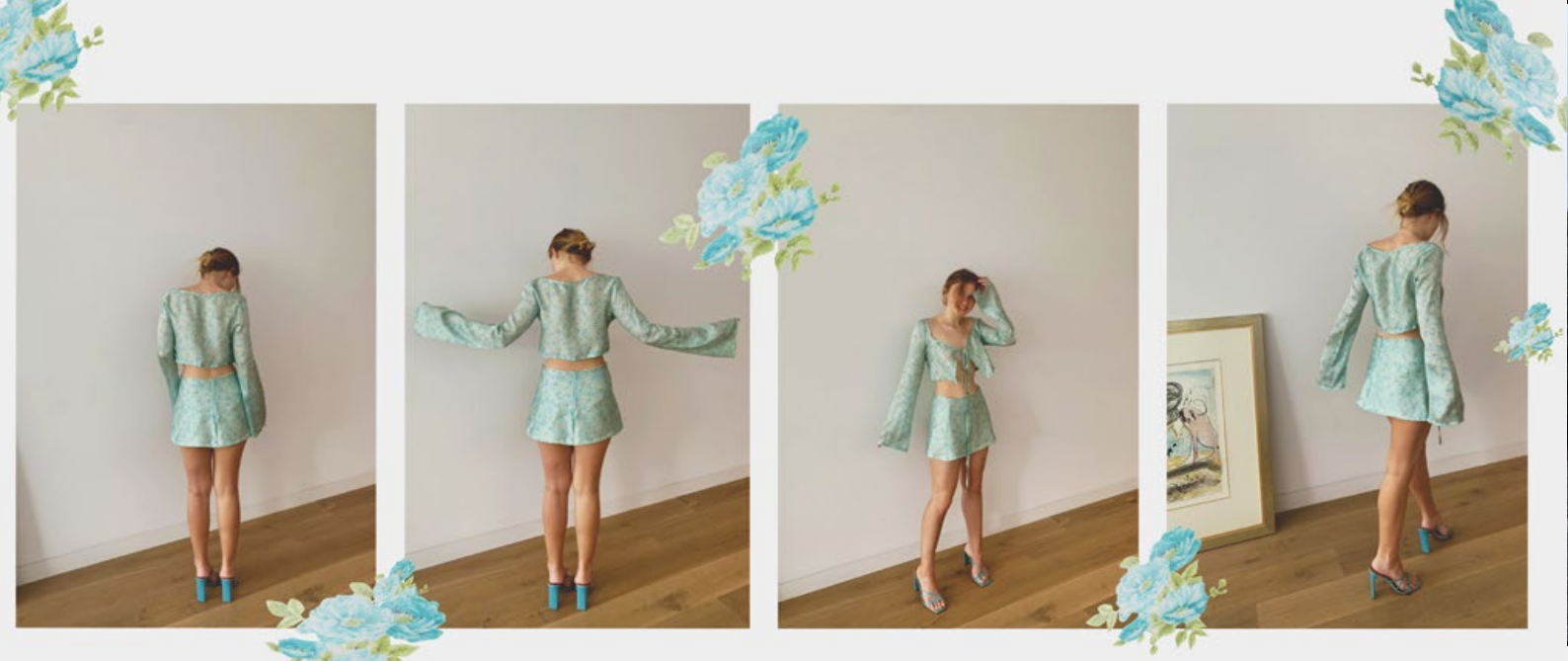
Image 3

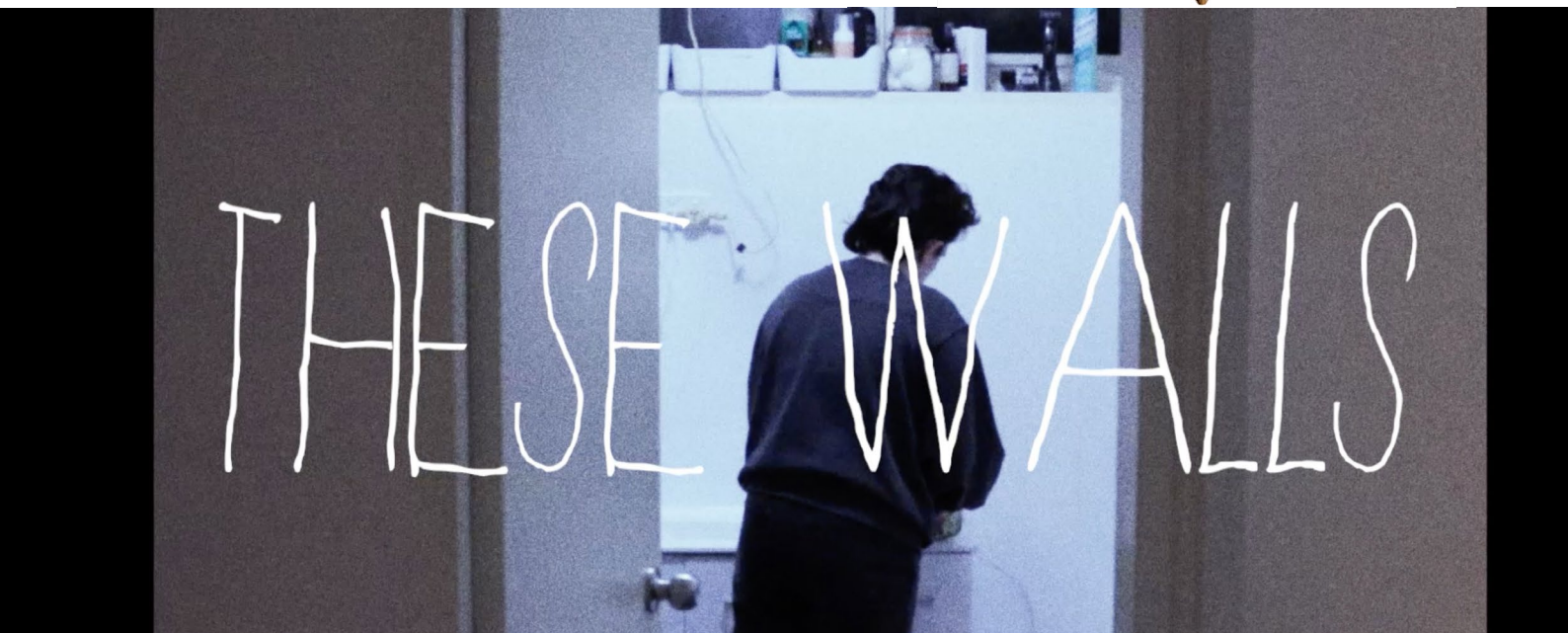
Studio Arts

Photographic paper

In Studio Arts this year, I selected to explore the theme of Social Malaise, which can be defined as the inability to fix or resolve a social issue quickly. My final artworks capture a teenage boy fighting society's gender expectations, highlighting the damage and entrapment toxic masculinity can cause on young impressionable teenage boys.







STUDENT ANIMATION - ATOM AWARDS

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FOR MORE



Year 7 and 8 Camps

Year 7 Camp 2021

In March, the Year 7 students participated in the Orientation camp at Valley Homestead situated at Ovens in regional Victoria. Over the course of four days they had many opportunities to develop a range of adventure skills such as climbing and abseiling, a vertical challenge, dual Flying Fox, ropes courses and creating group rafts. But on a less energetic scale, they were also able to enjoy some down time with an Art session, an evening of bushing dancing, a night walk, a pool swim and a movie on the final night. It was a time when they had to face physical challenges yes, but in doing so, also grow in their own personal development and confidence. Many worked co-operatively and supported each other; forging new friendships and connections along the way. By the end of the camp the girls were exhausted, but happy with the memories of the laughs, fun times and experiences shared with many new friends.

MS MARINA PRETTO • ASSISTANT HEAD OF YEAR 7



Strengths in Action: Year 8 Camp Reflection

I used my character strength of perseverance to keep hiking up the mountain, under the scorching sun, with a heavy hiking pack on my back even though I was exhausted and sweaty. During the 10km mountain bike ride, I used perseverance, curiosity and bravery to take the risk of trying the difficult bike courses. I used kindness to encourage everyone behind me to keep on going. Strengths I identified in other people were leadership, humour and teamwork, in order to keep the whole group marching ahead and to help others when they were tired. It was easy to identify strengths in myself and others because we were in harsh terrain with only each of us supporting each other through the wilderness for many hours.

During the hike, I shifted my attitude to 'can do' and persevered ahead and adjusted my outlook by imagining the view to come when we finally reached the top. I also changed my mood and behaviour so that I would help inspire other people to do well by charging ahead and having a positive outlook. I saw that other people had changed their behaviour, mood and attitude so instead of complaining, they all supported each other to keep going and endured ahead.

Obstacles that got in the way of using or recognising strengths was the long trek we had to take to reach the top of the mountain. It was hard to use some strengths such as humour or zest because we were all tired and our muscles ached. Enablers which kept me engaged with recognising or using strengths were the view around us when we finally hiked up to the top of the mountain, being able to use my strength of Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence to appreciate my surroundings and soak in the view before making the journey back down.

I will continue to look for opportunities to use my character strengths and identify other people's strengths as it is quite a useful tool in the future when working in groups or teams and seeing who will better fit a role (e.g. for someone with a top strength of creativity, they can use their creative side to help during a project). The benefits of using my strengths and identifying strengths in others are that I can grow as a person, bringing out my top strengths, improving the other strengths and helping others bring out their strengths so they too can flourish.

FELICIA DU • YEAR 8 STUDENT



Mandeville Learning Centre

The Mandeville Learning Centre provides the students of Loreto Toorak opportunities to explore passions and interests, grow academically and engage with peers in meaningful thought-provoking dialogue. The centre is so much more than a Library; it is an enriching academic playground.

Together with the Loreto Academy, this year the Mandeville Learning Centre launched two new opportunities for students to engage both their mind and heart: *Loreto Leviosa* and *Your Voice. What Matters.* a collaborative, cross-age literacy project with Xavier College.

Loreto Leviosa, a short course designed by Mr Joshua Stavert for students in Years 5 - 8, explored the language of Latin and its influence in modern English. Hermione, Hogwarts and hogwash, delved into the history of Latin and its contemporary relevance through the world of Harry Potter. In creating their own Latin spells, students learned about inflected languages and constructing meaning through word order; many wands were

swished and quiet *Silencio sororem* (mute sister) spells uttered.

A highlight of 2021 was the launch of *Your Voice. What Matters.* Students from Xavier College and Loreto Toorak came together to showcase to our communities that student voice really does matter! The project was a powerful journey of discovery and interpretation; students from Years 5 - 12 shared opinions and perspectives, expressing themselves creatively and championing advocacy through interactive workshops. Their moving and influential voices flowed through the mediums of art, drama, music, short stories and poetry. The collaborative project culminated in an online evening event during Book Week and the publication of a compilation book of all student work.

Loreto Toorak Press, a publishing imprint of Loreto Toorak was engaged to curate the inaugural *Your Voice. What Matters.* compilation book. Loreto Toorak Press is another influential avenue through which students advocate and champion their considered opinions. The publication was compiled by Loreto Toorak Press Art Directors Amelia Timothee, Year 11, and Clare Tuckwell, Year 9 supported by Ms Felicity Gilbert who provided guidance and creative direction. The Xavier College and Loreto Toorak communities hope you enjoy reviewing the 2021 publication of *Your Voice. What Matters.* The words, images and music of our emerging leaders are truly inspirational and demonstrate the passion young people have for an inclusive future and compassionate world.



LORETO TOORAK
— P R E S S —



MS MELISSA ETHERTON - HEAD OF MANDEVILLE CENTRE



Minette Cortada-McCorkell (Year 9)
Delphic Eyes Part A



Minette Cortada-McCorkell (Year 9)
Delphic Eyes Part B

YOUR VOICE. WHAT MATTERS!

COMPILATION BOOK



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FOR MORE



Angelique Gomes (Year 8)
Reeyan



Ally Venusti (Year 7)
Call from the Dark



Above: Mandeville Contemporary

Below L-R: Bonnie Laughlin and Millicent Guiffida



Loreto Academy

The Loreto Academy provides experiential and academic programs that challenge students while fostering excitement in learning by way of high-level extension co-curricular activities to complement their academic pursuits.

The *Name that Body Part* session saw students learn about Latin's role in academic discourse from Roman times to the mid-19th Century, through the lens of human anatomy. In finding their uvula (little grape) and phalanges (fingers and toes), students discovered the fascinating story of naming body parts in oral cultures and the legacy of Latin in palaeontology, botany and medicine.

that explore diversity of contemporary creative practice.

To launch the suite of sessions, students attended a virtual visit to the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art to view Yhonnie Scarce's sculptural installation, *Missile Park*. The curatorial team debated ways in which the ideas behind the work influenced decisions on their presentation within the galleries. The group were guided to consider potential ideas that could form the basis of their own exploration. A presentation by Mr Stefanopoulos, Heritage and Collections Manager at Loreto Toorak, opened possibilities surrounding some of the *Hidden*

"The Loreto Academy ... fosters excitement in learning by way of high-level extension co-curricular activities to complement their academic pursuits."

The *Latin and the Zombie Apocalypse* session explored other "dead" languages that continue to influence our culture, such as Hebrew, Greek, Tamil.

The Mandeville Contemporary program, created and delivered by Ms Burke and Ms Gilbert, was offered to students in Years 9 and 10 who have demonstrated an avid interest visual arts. The program engaged scholars in viewing current contemporary exhibitions to observe the way in which spaces have been curated for creative response and artistic expression. The program invited discussion of ideas and collaborative projects that reflect artistic, cultural, social or political issues of our times. At its core, Mandeville Contemporary celebrates projects

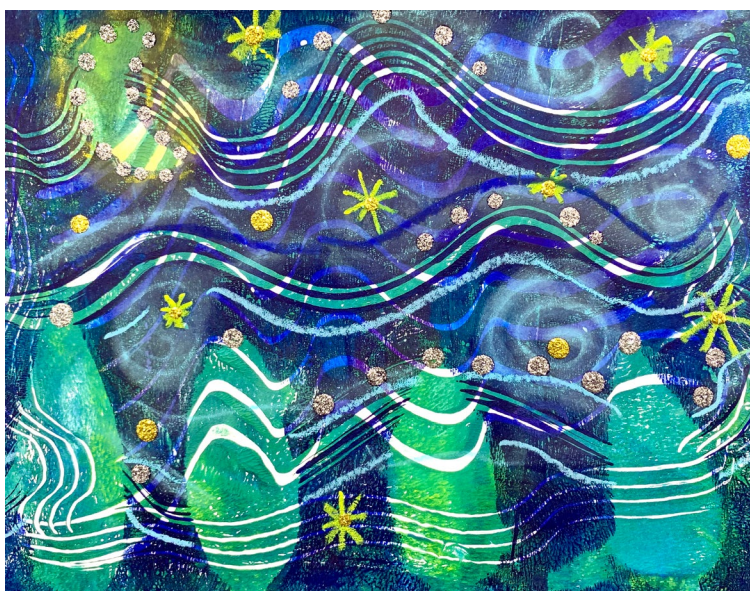
Stories of Mandeville Hall. Intriguing insights and discussions were enjoyed by all. Students also considered the possibilities of exploring "hidden stories" behind mental health statistics that continue to have a greater presence in our world.

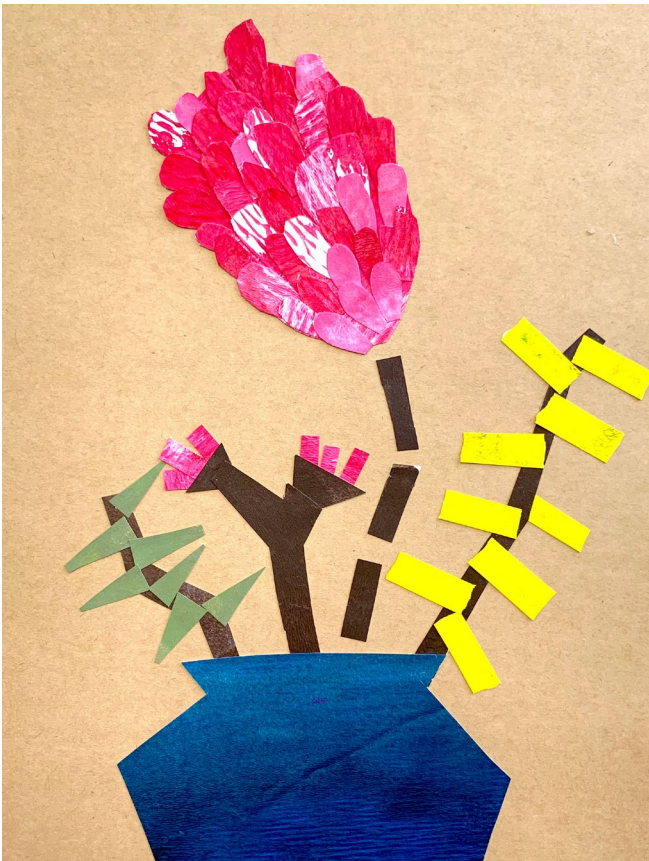
Students are now collaborating to present a creative and interactive artefact that will invite the school community to experience their own curated contemporary space in the Mandeville Centre.

MS CATERINA CHNG - HEAD OF LORETO ACADEMY

Rathfarnham Art Exhibition

With pleasure we present artwork from our Rathfarnham Visual Arts students. We congratulate all those who took part and invite our community of Mandevillian readers to view the outstanding collection.





WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR

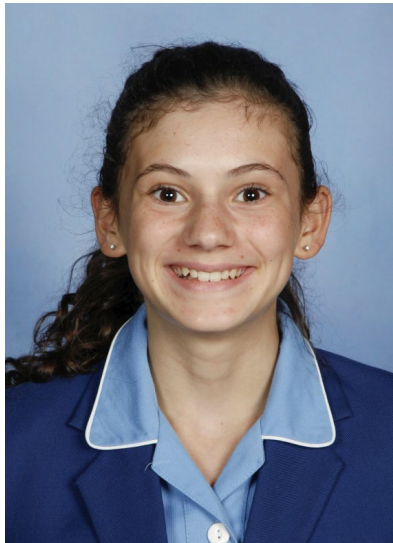
Annabelle Bamford

Annabelle represented Loreto Aquatic at the New Zealand National Championships, competing in the 100 Freestyle, 50m, 100m and 200m Backstroke, 50m, 100m and 200m Butterfly.



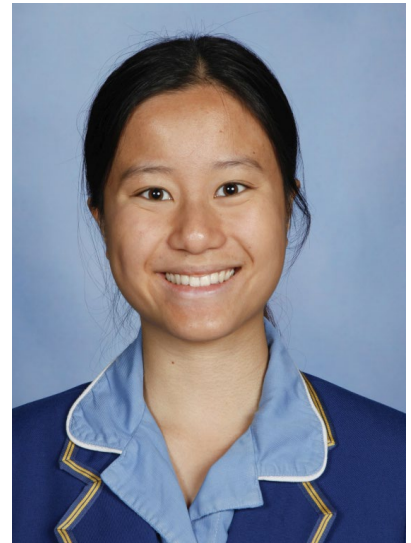
Alessandra D'Anna

Congratulations to Alessandra who is awarded 4th place in the Italian Section Section at the recent CIS Junior Italian Poetry Competition. Well done Alessandra!



Clarisse Dihn

Clarisse is joint winner of the Dr. Susan Stevens award, in recognition of a Year 12 student who throughout her schooling has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the musical life of the school.



Sophie Elstoft

Sophie is awarded 2nd place in the Non-Italian Section at the recent CIS Junior Italian Poetry Competition. Well done Sophie!



Mabel Fowler

Mabel represented Victoria in the 2021 U13 Girls Junior State Championships Her team finished Runners Up (silver medal).



Abigail Gitsham

Congratulations Abigail, who is selected as one of four finalists in the Best Senior Secondary Animation category of the 2021 ATOM Awards.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS...

Bridie Hill

Bridie placed 3rd in both 800m and 1500m at the Victorian Track and Field Championships to qualify to represent Victoria at Nationals.



Alexis Johnston

Alexis won bronze at the State Championships in L7 Individual Intermediate Division. At the National Aerobic Gymnastics Championships she placed 5th individually and 4th AeroDance Team.



Yoshie Koh

Congratulations to Yoshie who received her Associate in Music on Piano. This is a wonderful achievement and such a high standard.



Katie Leishman

Katie represented Victoria in the 2021 U18 Girls Junior State Championships. Her team finished Runners Up (silver medal).



Pippa Leishman

Pippa represented Victoria in the 2021 U13 Girls Junior State Championships. Her team finished Runners Up (silver medal).



Sophie Leishman

Sophie represented Victoria in the 2021 U15 Girls Junior State Championships. Her team finished Runners Up (silver medal).

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR

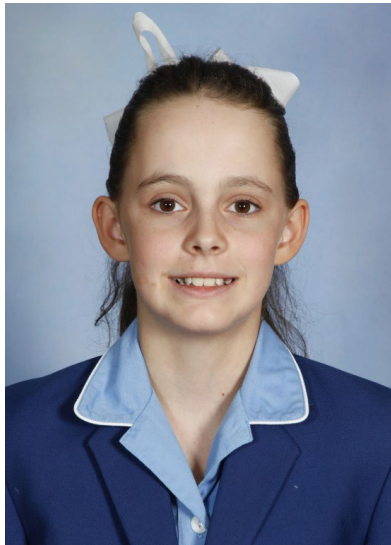
Sophia Lu

Sophia received her Certificate of Performance on Piano at the beginning of Term 3. This is a wonderful achievement and such a high standard.



Lucy McNee

Congratulations to Rathfarnham student Lucy for Best in Upper Primary for the CAT competition. The entire Loreto Toorak community celebrates your achievement!



Lucia Martin

Well done Lucia who is awarded Best and Fairest for the AFL Glen Iris Gladiators U-14 Anghies team. An outstanding achievement in Lucia's first year playing football.



Sophia Murray

Valedictorian for the Class of 2021, Sophia delivered an outstanding address on behalf of her year level. She embodied the Loreto spirit, and her words inspired our graduates.



Sophie Nguyen

Sophie is joint winner of the Dr. Susan Stevens award, in recognition of a Year 12 student who throughout her schooling has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the musical life of the school.



Emerald Petherbridge

Congratulations to Rathfarnham student Emerald for Best in Upper Primary for the CAT competition. The entire Loreto Toorak community celebrates your achievement!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS...

Poppy Phillips

Poppy was nominated by Water Polo Victoria to attend the selection trials for the Australian Under 16 team at the AIS. She is the youngest player in SL1 and fifth highest goal scorer in the league.



Chelsea Rossignolo

Congratulations Chelsea, whose speech on accountability in public life was read aloud in Federal Parliament. It was selected as part of Youth Voice in Parliament Week.



Hannah Saadie

Hannah attended the Australian Swimming Championships where she placed top 30 in the 100m and 200m Breaststroke events.



Grace Taranto

Congratulations to Grace Taranto who has signed a professional soccer contract to join the Adelaide United Women's Football team for the upcoming 2021/2022 Women's A League season.



Vera Zeng

Congratulations to Rathfarnham Chess Captain, Vera, who represented Loreto Toorak at an online Interschool Chess Tournament. She achieved an outstanding result, winning all five of her games.



Angelina Zhu

Angelina is awarded 4th place in the Non-Italian Section at the recent CIS Junior Italian Poetry Competition. Well done Angelina!

International Day of the Girl

Early in Term 4 the Year 6 students joined a 'Day of the Girl' webinar in celebration of the United Nations Day of the Girl. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to participate with other Loreto schools from all over Australia. Over 350 students and staff joined the webinar. It was hosted entirely by Loreto students who led prayer, acknowledgement of land, and introduction of guest speakers. The Loreto Toorak hosts were Alana Grossi and Eden Gaffney. The students listened to guest speakers from Timor Leste and representatives from Mary Ward International. They listened respectfully to stories about the many difficult and heart-breaking situations young women and girls face in Timor-Leste, India and Afghanistan. The students asked thoughtful questions and discussed how we can best support and make a positive difference in the lives of these young women and girls. It was wonderful to come together as a Loreto community and followers of Mary Ward to highlight a justice issue that is so incredibly important.

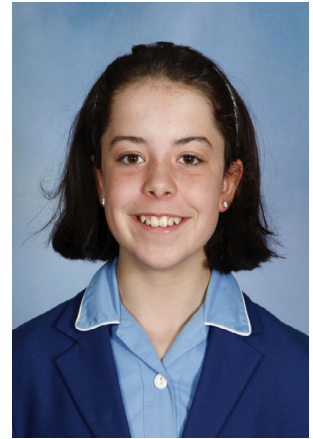


Eden Gaffney and Alana Grossi

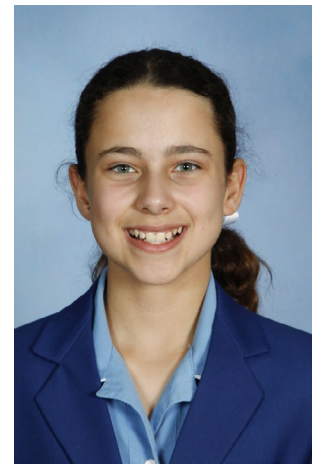
Student Reflections - Day of the Girl Webinar

I found the Day of the Girl webinar intriguing. Seeing the world from those young girls' eyes was an enlightening experience. It made me even more grateful for my life and hearing what girls of a similar age must endure, was a call to action and help. It was also wonderful having five Loreto schools across Australia, as well two of our guest speakers from Timor-Leste, joining the webinar. An incredible experience!

GRACE WALTER - YEAR 6 STUDENT



Having participated in the Day of the Girl webinar, I have learnt that here in Australia we are very lucky to receive a quality education. Girls in Timor-Leste often need to walk more than one hour every day just to get to school. In India girls who live in the Brickfields have limited opportunity to go to school! They wake up very early each day to go to work and if they are amongst the lucky ones they may receive a couple of hours of learning, but then return home to take care of their siblings and do chores. Girls in Afghanistan are no-longer allowed to go to school because of the Taliban. We are all so lucky to be able to go to an amazing school. The Day of the Girl webinar was very informative, and the guest speakers were excellent. While it was sad to learn that girls in these countries did not receive the same learning as us, it was a good reminder that we should not take our learning for granted.



LOLA COLLINSON - YEAR 6 STUDENT



Prairie Koh, Eden Gaffney, Sienna Damaris, Alana Grossi, Isabelle Hanna

A Bright Future...

Sancta Maria College of Nursing and Midwifery opens!

Mary Ward International Australia

“Having a nursing and midwifery college that recruits students predominately from the local area...will result in more stable and skilled staff delivering quality health services...”

In 2020, the Bishop of Mongu approached the Loreto Sisters to manage the construction and operations of a new nursing and midwifery college in the remote community of Lukulu, in the Western Province of Zambia.

The college is being developed on the site of the abandoned Sancta Maria Mission Hospital located in the centre of town. It will provide local young people with an opportunity for tertiary and professional training otherwise inaccessible to them in this remote and underdeveloped area of Zambia.



Without education, local youth are unable to break the cycle of poverty for themselves and their families. An environment of hopelessness perpetuates amongst young people. It manifests through significant dropout rates from school,

teenage pregnancies, prostitution, alcohol and drug problems, and the confinement of young girls to village life with no apparent future.

Having a nursing and midwifery college that recruits students predominantly from the local area with deep, established family connections and a familiarity with the adverse living conditions means that qualified nurses graduating from the college will be more inclined to stay and work in the region. Ultimately, this will result in more stable and skilled staff delivering quality health services in these marginalised areas of the country.

The college will also promote much-needed future economic development by creating a hub for health education and encouraging complementary business and health services to establish themselves in the region.

With the recent approval by Zambia's Nursing and Midwifery Council and initial renovations of the old hospital buildings complete, the college opened its doors to its first intake of 60 students on 23 August. The next crucial phase of works, which is well underway, comprises constructing accommodation for students and senior academic staff.

The college now has a new bus to transport students to and from their practical sessions at the local hospital, located five kilometres from the college. The community was so thrilled when the bus drove into Lukulu for the first time - the driver decided to take a tour of the town with the college staff aboard before finally arriving on site! The final phase of construction will commence in 2022 and will safeguard the long-term future

of the college. Building on the works to date, it will ensure the college is fit-for-purpose through the construction of new classrooms and more extensive accommodation to cater to the increasing student numbers, with projected new intakes of up to 100 annually.

Loreto Sisters in Lukulu

Lukulu is situated in the remote, impoverished Western Province of Zambia, with minimal access to health facilities, schools, clean water and sanitation. While the township of Lukulu generally serves the scattered rural community of approximately 70,000 people across the Lukulu District, it also provides support to the even more isolated communities of the Mitete District, situated across the Zambezi River from Lukulu.

The Loreto Sisters are well-established in Lukulu and have long supported the community, particularly through the provision of education, health and pastoral care. Upon arrival in Lukulu in 2006, Sr Pat Hanvey *ibvm* began work in home-based care, which over subsequent years has evolved into an integrated health care program as a direct response to the needs of the community and local Ministry of Health. Other work undertaken by the Loreto Sisters in Lukulu includes providing teacher training and community school support as well as saving the lives of hundreds of children and babies through the Baby Milk Program and Lunch Feeding Project.

We Couldn't do it Without You

An enormous thank you to the Noel and Carmel O'Brien Family Foundation for helping bring this vision to life.

For over 60 years now, the O'Brien family, brimming with philanthropic heart, have lent their generosity toward numerous similar projects in Australia and around the world. This is not their first investment in the work of Mary Ward

International and the Loreto Sisters – they're also behind the construction of the Loreto community centre in Ostico, Timor-Leste, having previously funded the nearby Gari-uai Pre-School and Community Centre.

Noel still takes a very close interest in all that the foundation does, ensuring that it remains true to the spirit and intent of himself and his dearly beloved Carmel.

Growing up in the Depression years, Noel and his family saw plenty of hardship and, through this, brought out entrepreneurial skills that have been with Noel all his life. As young boys, Noel and his brothers started selling snowballs (the edible type) and peanuts at Melbourne's Essendon Airport to help put food on the table at home.

This grew rapidly to the idea that they could do the same thing at the Essendon football ground. Little did they know that when they jumped the fence and started selling their goods, it would lead to something much greater. Noel and his brother Jack formed a formidable partnership as O'Brien Catering which lasted over 40 years, becoming the largest leisure contract catering company in Australia.

It is this entrepreneurial spirit that is also behind the family's long-held commitment to helping those most in need, and importantly, inspiring and encouraging those around them to join them.

MS KIRSTIN DEL BEATO - MARY WARD INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA



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MAKE A DONATION

Friday Feast Day

"As student leaders in our School, we recognise and appreciate the significance of Felicity as part of Mary Ward's spirituality and approach to life."

In this Loreto Year of Felicity, we have admired the efforts of each student and family, acknowledging your persistence and kindness during such challenging and unprecedented times.

We write together as Captains of School for 2021/22 as we near the end of this year. As student leaders in our School, we recognise and appreciate the significance of Felicity as part of Mary Ward's spirituality and approach to life. A Loreto understanding of Felicity means recognising what brings true joy or intense happiness and involves embracing your passions and finding the courage and confidence to empower others. Whilst many have faced difficulties in doing this during the last two years, we are so proud of the courage our community has embodied to demonstrate the value of Felicity.

As 2021 draws to a close, we are excited to re-ignite a sense of joy within ourselves and share this with our extended Loreto community through seeking your support for Mary Ward International Australia (MWIA). Our Felicity Friday Feast Day in Term 3 was the start of this work. Now that we have returned to school onsite, we come to the second part of this school tradition, following up with our promised "Mini Feast Days" to conclude the year.

A Loreto education has taught us the importance of recognising the privileges we are blessed to have and what we, as young members of society, can do to help those less fortunate than ourselves. We are aware of the debilitating impact which the COVID-19 pandemic has had on individuals, especially those in developing countries on top of the challenges they already face. We are proud that MWIA supports the incredible work of the Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre (KMWSC) as they provide COVID relief to the community.

We are excited that our efforts will assist the KMWSC more broadly, including their innovative "Landing Pad" project that aims to equip thousands of girls and women with sanitary pads, and educate the community on health, hygiene, and menstruation. "Period poverty" describes how families cannot afford to provide sanitary products for their daughters and how they may be discriminated against or shamed for their periods, as well as the impact this has on girls continuing their education. This is something we wish to combat, no matter where it happens in the world. For more information on the work of the Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre please click the link below.

CLICK
FOR MORE

KOLKATA MARY WARD SOCIAL CENTRE



To achieve our revised goals and commitment to MWIA, we would appreciate the generosity of every member of our Loreto Toorak community and ask for your support during this time of giving as we approach Christmas. Supporting MWIA is our Christmas focus across the school and so we ask for your kind donations.

A suggested donation of around \$25 from each family would help us raise significant funds for MWIA and the KMWSC and go some way to reaching our goals for our postponed Feast Day in Term 3. We are grateful for any contribution you can make.

We thank you kindly for your immeasurable generosity and ongoing support of Loreto Toorak, as well as MWIA.



ELENA CHIAM & ISABEL DUGGAN,
CAPTAINS OF SCHOOL 2022



SALLY BERTONCELLO & ELIZA GALIMBERTI,
CAPTAINS OF SCHOOL 2021

DONATE NOW



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Let's Connect Years 7 and 8

In early Term 4, Year 7s at Loreto Toorak and Loreto Ballarat came together online for a beautiful liturgy and fun interactive activities for the annual meeting of Let's Connect. This was the 11th year that the program has been running, but the first time we connected online!

The meeting began with an Acknowledgment of Country, then students from both schools led everyone in prayer, and included a reflection on our Loreto values. We learned about the importance of the *International Day of the Girl*; this year's focus was on technology and the many women and girls worldwide who are not able to access digital devices.

As we have great access to these necessary devices, we took the opportunity to play the scavenger hunt game called *Goosechase*. Some tasks made us think outside the box, others required us to share our talents, including designing a new item for Loreto clothing. We created a school value with pantry items, we tried to juggle, and took a cute selfie of our pet.

In addition to these fun and exciting activities, we wrote a letter to a specific person at Loreto Ballarat. We introduced ourselves and included things we like to do in our free time, our pets, family members, facts about our school and hobbies, just to name a few.

We all enjoyed these activities for Let's Connect and I can't wait for next year when we can continue them and meet in person.

ISABELLA MURPHY - YEAR 7 STUDENT

Hi Anna,

I'm Jaya. I love music, especially singing. Over lockdown, I've been keeping active and watching Netflix. My favourite show right now is Outer Banks and my hobbies include singing, hanging out with my friends and watching Netflix. I hope you're doing well during lockdown (if you are).

Jaya <3



Let's Connect Years 7 and 8

For the past 11 years Loreto Toorak and Loreto Ballarat have come together for Let's Connect a way of celebrating the connection between the two Victorian Loreto schools. For the first time ever this year Let's Connect was held remotely - not once would it have crossed the past and current students' minds, that this would be the situation for 2021. Nonetheless, Let's Connect has been an amazing opportunity for the students of both schools to join together for a great day of learning about each other, and our joint history.

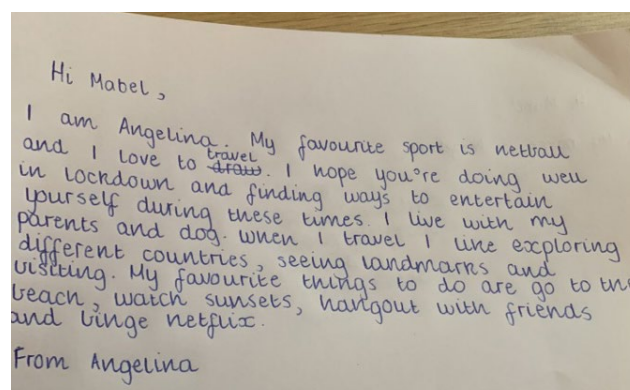
Meeting online via MS Teams did not limit our ability to connect with each other. We were put into breakout rooms with our allocated buddies from Loreto Ballarat. We were able to get to know one another and discuss the similarities and differences between our two schools. We viewed a video about the work of Mary Ward International in India at the Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre. We then participated in online quizzes such as Kahoots, completed a questionnaire about Women's Health, and learned about period poverty for girls. Thanks to a Mary Ward International Australia (MWIA) project called *The Landing Pad Project*, sanitary products have become readily available and easily accessible to women all around India. We were so grateful to Fiza Khosla from MWIA, for explaining this amazing program to us, and suggesting ways that we can help.

Alongside celebrating each other's company and this program, we also celebrated International Day of the Girl. The theme for 2021 was "Digital Generation, Our Generation" with a focus on the disparity of digital technology and software throughout households worldwide, especially for girls and women. As Loreto students we are incredibly lucky that we can access digital technologies so readily.

As a cohort we are so incredibly grateful that we've been able to experience this program, despite the difficulties surrounding COVID-19 and lockdown. It is such a remarkable opportunity to be able to connect with other Loreto girls

across the state. As we have come to learn over these past few years, connection has become even more important, and we are so pleased the program was able to go ahead during lockdown. We are grateful to the teachers from both Loreto Toorak, and Loreto Ballarat for being able to adapt themselves, and this program, so that we could experience Let's Connect, like so many other Loreto students before us.

MIMI LECHTE AND GRACE POPPLEWELL - YEAR 7 STUDENTS



From Loreto Blue to Green & Gold

Representing your country at the Olympic Games is the pinnacle of sport, a privilege only available every four years (or five in this year's circumstance). This August, the Australian Loreto community had four women step onto the stage across the Olympic and Paralympic Games. It wasn't the first time they had donned the green and gold, but it was the first time alongside the symbolic five coloured rings. Reaching this level of representative sport certainly requires physical talent; however, the mental strength needed to get there is often more than half the battle. It takes dedication, perseverance, resilience, self-belief and sacrifice.

Emily Petricola (Toorak '98) knows this better than most. Following an MS diagnosis when only 27 years old, Emily could not exercise for years due to complications from the disease. In 2015, a suggestion from a friend connected Emily with cycling and the goal of competing at the Tokyo Olympics. Within two years, Emily was selected for her first international team as a WC4 cyclist. Breaking two world records on her journey to the Tokyo Olympics, Emily brought home Gold in the C4 3000m Individual Pursuit and Silver in the C4 Women's Road Time Trial.

Ellen Roberts (Normanhurst '09) understands sacrifice all too well through her years of dedication to softball, packing up and moving to the US on a scholarship with the University of Memphis. Ellen was playing in the Japanese Pro League when the call came to try out for Aussie Spirit (the Australian national softball team). Naturally, she packed up again to give it everything she had and was selected to join the Olympic team as a pitcher.

Liz Clay's (Normanhurst '12) Olympic journey to race the 100m hurdles has been one of perseverance and resilience through setbacks due to injury. A string of stress fractures in her feet and shins early in her career resulted in her missing key meets leading up to previous Olympic trials. But not so this year – Liz ran a PB

in the Semi-Final in Tokyo and narrowly missed a place in the Final.

Tara Rigney's (Kirribilli '17) experience with injury is what set her on her Olympic path. A passionate netballer throughout her school years, she suffered two ruptured ACLs requiring 12 months of rehabilitation, which turned her focus to rowing. Competing in Tokyo in the Women's Double Scull, Tara and teammate Amanda Bateman came 1st in Final B, placing them 7th in the world.

All four of these remarkable Loreto athletes inspire the next generation of Mary Ward women. Grateful for their time at school, they attribute many of the skills required to reach this level of sporting success to the values and mindset championed by Loreto schools.

Official Tokyo Olympic results:

Emily Petricola

Paralympics – Cycling
Gold Women's 3000m Individual Pursuit
Silver C4 Women's Road time

Liz Clay

Olympics – Women's 100m Hurdles
Women's Semi-Final

Ellen Roberts

Olympics – Women's Softball Team
Qualified to be in opening rounds, defeated Italy in an early match.

Tara Rigney

Olympics – Women's Double Skull, teammate Amanda Bate
5th in Semi-Final
1st in the Double Scull Final B (7th in the world)



Above: Loreto Toorak Alumnae Emily Petricola (PY98) representing Australia in cycling at the Tokyo Olympics.



Above: Loreto Toorak Alumnae Emily Petricola (PY98) on the podium with her Gold medal.



Liz Clay (Normanhurst 2012)



Ellen Roberts (Normanhurst 2009)

PROGRAMS



Productions

The year 2021 was yet another challenge for Productions at Loreto. The latter part was again marred by lockdowns rendering Semester Two Productions impossible, but it was with great pride that we were able to present some of our season.

The year kicked off with yet another thrilling Performing Arts Festival held in our very own Crescent Theatre. The Year 11 Students led their houses beautifully and we congratulate every senior student for their felicitous involvement. Well done also to the winning house, Mornane!



Student Leadership was a theme this year in Productions. Four Year 10 students expertly directed the Year 9 Play, *Ivy Shambitt and the Sound Machine*. Cleo Hunter, Kayla Thompson, Eloise Bull and Ella Lechte led a superbly talented cast of Year 9 students in a wonderful production enjoyed by parents and students in the school community. We were thrilled to welcome back Sophie L'Huillier (2020) to work alongside our Head of Theatre Design Ella Breene to design and create the Tim Burton-inspired set and costumes.

We were so proud of the Year 12 cohort for their production of *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. This Australian classic was brought to life by our most senior students in a hauntingly unforgettable production. The girls were responsible for all aspects of the performance, including acting, directing, sound, set, costume, props and lighting. We held our breath on the closing night as lockdown loomed, and were pleased to be able to present it to a large final audience.

Sadly our Year 7 and 8 Play *Charlotte's Web* could not proceed, however I would like to acknowledge our Head of Theatre Middle Years Councillors, Maryrose Johnson, Cara Sullivan (Year 11) and Meg Nugent (Year 11) for their time and direction of two casts. Whilst we did not see a final product, the rehearsals were joyous and much needed when we returned to on site learning mid-year.

Our Senior Play *The Magpie*, written by Meg Taranto (2018) and set in the Mansion was looking to be spectacular. A cast of Year 10, 11 and 12 students rehearsed with skill and vigour under the direction of our 2021 Drama Captain, Piper Van Echteld. Whilst we could not perform this new work, the collaboration and creativity seen during the rehearsal process was worth it.

Finally, the St Kevins/Loreto Musical *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* nearly made it to the finish line but not quite. Again, the students had a fabulous time working together over at Ruby Tout Theatre and we so look forward to presenting a musical next year hosted at Loreto!

I would like to thank and acknowledge our Artist in Residence Monique Marani (2017) who has been back working with the girls in many capacities. She worked alongside student directors for *Charlotte's Web*, *The Magpie*, the Year 12 monologues, and with our Year 11 students also. Monique's directorial knowledge, positive energy and willingness to assist has been truly valuable. We love to welcome back alumnae in Productions so my thanks again to Monique Marani, Meg Taranto, Sophie L'Huillier, Isabella Caleo and Francesca Zappia for all they bring to the program.

We could not be more excited for 2022. We have a full season planned of wonderful shows, kicking off with our 2022 Performing Arts Festival!

KATIE ROSE SMITH - HEAD OF PRODUCTIONS

PUBLIC SPEAKING

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CELEBRATION OF
PUBLIC SPEAKING

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LEND US YOUR EARS

UN Youth Australia National Conference

UN Youth Australia is a national youth-led organisation that aims to educate and empower young Australians on global issues and equip a generation of young leaders with the skills and inspiration to make change on these issues. Each year, in July, UN Youth Australia holds its premier conference, where over 100 exceptional young people are brought together to discuss a diverse range of international and local issues.

The week-long conference includes expert speakers in international relations, interactive workshops, and debate questions of global importance. The Conference creates Australia's future leaders; young people who are informed and passionate about the world, and strive to learn more through engagement with national leaders, and peer mentorship.

In July, Loreto Toorak Mandeville Hall Year 10 student, Cindy Chen attended the UN National Conference in Sydney.

The focus over the three days was sustainability, an area I am quite passionate about and one that is relevant in Australia today. The conference theme was "From the Ground Up" and delegates were able to enjoy deep, philosophical discussions on many issues, arising from sustainability. Some of my favourite discussions were:

- Graffiti vs traditional art. Can street art still be referred to as such if hung in a museum?
- What is the line between vandalism and protest art?
- What are the best ways to effect change regarding to sustainability? Protesting? Legal action? Art?
- Is there diversity in climate protest? Is Greta Thunberg an accurate representation of the climate movement?
- Why are world leaders so reluctant to take climate action?

Each day began with guest speakers. My favourites were young people involved in the Climate Protection Movement. I found their speeches very informative and enjoyed hearing their journeys.



I was delighted to be able to do an Interactive Problem Solving (IPS) activity. This involved being placed in a hypothetical situation and finding solutions to a problem, while staying accurate to the assigned body (the government, the UN, or a company) and negotiating with other groups who possess competing interests. My group, called the Victorian Bloc, was assigned the intentional collapse of the Vale Dam in Brazil. It was a fun activity, and with limited communication and time, the result was unrealistic and chaotic. The Victorian Bloc lost all credibility when the dam collapsed, its sense

of authority was overthrown, and the opposition took power. The UN were required to send in peacekeepers when Vale Dam executives were murdered!

To close on a more sensible note, what resonated most for me was the suggestion to reframe climate action from a burden to an opportunity. By the end of the conference, delegates could see this reframe as the path ahead for corporations to see financial gains, as well as vast improvements to global health, living conditions, and the overall quality of life for everyone in our world.

CINDY CHEN • YEAR 10

MUSIC



Celebration of Music



Music is a gift. It can transport us back in time, to cherished memories and moments spent with loved ones.

At Loreto Toorak, we are truly gifted through the art of music; the abilities of our musicians—staff and students—are enthusiastically applauded. We are grateful to instrumental teachers, accompanists, and orchestral conductors for the role they play in facilitating such excellence and passion in our incredibly gifted students.

The skills of our students have been honed over many years of practice and growth. With musical maturity far beyond their years, the students at Loreto Toorak continue to thrive.

We acknowledge the many and varied challenges and adjustments that have occurred over the

past 18 months in realising live performance opportunities. We thank those that have assisted in adapting these performance opportunities to an online format and commend the students for their flexibility and tenacity to always strive for excellence. This year, performance and live music at Loreto Toorak has not been immune to challenges, yet we are confident that our talents will grow into something very special, to be witnessed by our entire community in 2022.

MR DAVID GEORGE • DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



CLICK
FOR MORE



CELEBRATION OF SPORT

SPORT

Celebration of Sport

In the water, on the beach, on courts and pitches, and across the track, we cheer "Go Loreto Go!"

2021 has been another challenging year for students and but their continued resilience and commitment to sport at both entry and elite level has been admirable.

Loreto Toorak continues to be la eader in the Girls' Sport Victoria Association where competition takes place against 24 schools and our teams remain amongst the top three in all Carnival Sports. We also are delighted to offer a place on a sports team for anyone who wishes to play. This encourages student participation and means there is opportunity for everyone to learn new skills and try a friendly competitive environment in a wide range of sports.

Sport provides pathways for students to meet new people and form friendships across the years. It was pleasing that the Cross Country Camp at Mt Buller was able to go ahead, and a reimagined Athletics Day Camp was held on the Mornington Peninsula. We look forward to the inaugural Swimming and Triathlon Camp to be held at the beginning of 2022.

With eighteen GSV sports on offer, and Loreto Toorak as usual entering the most teams across the whole Girls' Sport Association, I am grateful for the staff who have contributed significantly to the Programs, their dedication and expertise is much appreciated. Our specialised sport coaches, many of whom are past pupils, have worked closely with the students to provide valuable training sessions and enjoyable matches.

MS JENNA WARD • HEAD OF SPORT



ENGAGEMENT

LORETO



Fathers' Dinner

Be A Contributor

The Loreto Toorak Fathers' Dinner was held in the Members' Dining Room of the Melbourne Cricket Club in July. Our guest speaker was current parent and alumna, Judge Patricia Riddell. Master of Ceremonies, Edward Kemp, conducted an interview with Trish, asking her to reflect on her Loreto journey both as an alumna and as a current parent.

Trish recalled her father dropping her at the school gates on her first day of Year 7 imparting the sage advice to "be a contributor". Her parents had chosen Loreto Toorak for her and her sisters because the Mary Ward values married so well with the family's values, especially with regard to social justice. A Loreto education is about having a voice and being valued for who you are, explained Trish, quoting Mary Ward's "Do good and do it well" and "Women in Time to Come will do Much".

When it came time to choose a school for her own daughter, Trish was pleased to see that not only was Loreto Toorak a school that aims at excellence in everything it does, but it still had "the heart" she had remembered from her own school days. The values of Mary Ward - Freedom, Justice, Sincerity, Verity, Felicity were evident throughout.

With good humour, Trish declared to the fathers present, "Loreto women have an opinion and are not afraid to voice it". With thoughtfulness, Trish went on to say that Loreto women will also speak for others who can't speak for themselves; indeed, to advocate for these people is also part of a Loreto education.

Her message to the fathers regarding their daughters was well received; be a great listener; insert yourselves in their lives; believe in them; encourage them; remind them of their worth, their talents; remind them of the great mantra 'the more you put in the more you'll get out'; remind them the sky is the limit, and that the gift of a Loreto education means endless opportunities.

We are most grateful to Trish and Edward for this inspiring interview and would also like to thank and acknowledge our Fathers' Dinner Committee comprising: Dougall McBurnie (Convenor), Matthew Andrews, Nick Brasch, Dean Clarke, Scott Cornfoot, Luke Duffy, Edward Kemp, Rohan Letho, Simon Noonan, Jason Pennell, Adam Seskis, Michael Spence and Damian Tkalec.



Worldwide Chapters

Loreto Toorak Alumnae International



West Coast, USA

Tammy Olschyna knows from experience the importance of being connected, particularly in the context of relocating to a foreign country. Further, given the global landscape we have all navigated over the past two years, being connected has become even more crucial. Tammy's outgoing and inquisitive nature brings a sense of excitement to her new role as the Loreto Toorak Chapter Head for West Coast, USA.

Along with her two sisters, Jacqueline Koller (Olschyna 1981) and Cindy McDonald (Olschyna 1983), Tammy was blessed to receive a Loreto education from Preparatory to Year 12 (1988). The resultant friendships and connections have endured and sustained her to this day.

In 2003, Tammy officially immigrated to the USA. During the past 18 years, she has made many new friendships, but Melbourne continues to be her home, given her family still reside here. As part of the Loreto Toorak Alumnae International (LTAI) community, Tammy looks forward to reaching a hand to women from Loreto Toorak who relocate to America, and, in doing so, hopes to make the process easier for them to navigate.

On her arrival in the US, Tammy worked at a cooking school. Home Economics classes at Loreto Toorak stood her in good stead and her Mandeville textbook edition of *Cookery, The Australian Way* is still a permanent fixture in her kitchen. She enjoys running; when she first arrived in the USA, she joined a running group as a way to make connections with new people. Since those days, she has completed the Melbourne and New York Marathons, with Berlin next scheduled on the list.

Tammy is currently based in Reno, Nevada, with additional residences in California, Oklahoma, and Florida. Her business is a race preparation service company for private individuals in professional Motor Sports. Tammy's self-

appointed title for the company is CFO—AKA Chief Fun Officer! She focuses on customer relations and travel and logistics, which have provided her with many opportunities to travel across the USA as well as around the world. Tammy is fluent in German, due to her German heritage, and in French, thanks to her aunt who lives in Lyon, France, as well as travel exposure that built upon French classes at Loreto Toorak. She is thrilled, too, that her Italian is improving, thanks to interactions with the Ferrari family of racing.

Tammy has a love for all animals and to date has rescued five Australian Shepherd dogs, named Alice (after Alice Springs), Nellie (after Dame Nellie Melba), Darwin, Sydney, Adelaide. A sixth dog, a Shih Tzu named Rosie, was rescued at a racetrack in Miami and named after the Ferrari Red colour, *Rosso Corsa*.

Tammy is blessed to be connected with the Loreto Toorak community and looks forward to becoming an integral part of LTAI.



MS TAMMY OLSCHYNA • LTAI CHAPTER HEAD WEST COAST USA

Worldwide Chapters

Loreto Toorak Alumnae International



Perth

Having worked and lived around Australia since leaving Loreto Toorak (1989), Andrea Sutton has settled into the beautiful city of Perth, Western Australia.

After leaving school, Andrea studied Chemical Engineering and spent her working life within the Resources industry in leadership and strategic roles; she now works in board and consulting roles. Andrea has been privileged to live in many wonderful cities in her travels and has enjoyed learning more about cultures and countries through those experiences.

Andrea looks forward to enjoying time meeting the alumnae here in Perth and Western Australia!

MS ANDREA SUTTON • LTAI CHAPTER HEAD PERTH, AUSTRALIA



Adelaide



Dr Adele Feakes arranged a meeting of the Adelaide Chapter of LTAI on a sunny Sunday afternoon at the National Wine Centre, situated on the perimeter of the beautiful Botanic Gardens in October 2021.

Alumnae present spanned from graduating years 1956 to 2021. It was interesting to find fellow Mandevillians who have settled in Adelaide, united by the common thread and experience of a Mary Ward education.

Adele looks forward to organising future events for the Adelaide Chapter.

DR ADELE FEAKES • LTAI CHAPTER HEAD ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA



Worldwide Chapters

Loreto Toorak Alumnae International



New Zealand



Her time at Loreto Toorak is deeply treasured and her dearest friends are Mandeville girls. She sincerely thanks Dr Susan Stevens for the opportunity and all that LTAI offers the Alumnae community.

MRS CLAIRE MUNRO-WALL • LTAI CHAPTER HEAD NEW ZEALAND



Claire Munro-Wall (Munro 1987) feels honoured to have been invited to represent Loreto Toorak in New Zealand, as Chapter Head.

After finishing Year 12 in 1987, Claire trained at the Royal Melbourne Hospital to become a Registered Nurse. After 10 years of nursing in Australia, she married a Kiwi and relocated to Christchurch, NZ, in 2002. Little did she know the incredible and challenging times that lay ahead for her with nursing through the Christchurch earthquakes, Mosque tragedy and a global pandemic.

Claire has three children, Amelia, 19, Holly, 16 and Jack, 7, who have also brought indescribable joy and times of challenges!

Presently, we are aware of two Loreto Toorak Alumnae in New Zealand and Claire is thrilled to connect with them, while also looking forward to any others who may be nestled comfortably in the lush verdant surrounds of the country. With pleasure, Claire awaits the journey across the Tasman with her husband, Ed, and the children.

Canberra

Trish Cameron (Fagan 1985) was educated at Loreto Toorak for 13 years, and fortunate to be taught by Sister Aloysius in Preparatory 35 years ago. There is no doubt for Trish that the quality of education set her up well for university endeavours and beyond, with the Loreto values continuing to resonate through her life.

Trish is grateful for the opportunities presented at Loreto Toorak, and the chance to explore many interests. In Year 7, after discovering she could run quite fast around the Tan at the Botanic Gardens, she joined the East Malvern Harriers Running Club and later became Athletics Captain in Year 12. At university, Trish was selected to compete in International Intervarsity Racing at Osaka's Ekiden; more recently, she has run in City to Surf and the Melbourne marathons.

Worldwide Chapters

Loreto Toorak Alumnae International



Following university, Trish was awarded a post-graduate scholarship to study at Kyoto University



where she met many like-minded people and was privileged to attend the first Kyoto Climate Change Convention. Subsequently, Trish lived and worked at Cambridge University and London. For the past 18 years, Trish has based herself in Australia, with exciting work opportunities to transform the Australian economy. For all her good fortune in work, Trish believes it is the friendships she made at school that sustain her.

Trish states with conviction that an education at Loreto Toorak provides all students with the skills and values to steer them to positive futures, to adapt to challenges and to support each other. Her advice is to take hold of every opportunity, thrive as a student as well as an individual. For 2022, Trish hopes we can all look beyond the present into the horizon at what is possible.

MRS PATRICIA CAMERON • LTAI CHAPTER HEAD CANBERRA

Sydney

Brigid Wright (McGuigan 1986) is delighted to become the inaugural Sydney Chapter Head for the LTAI.

The Loreto education for Brigid began at Kirribilli from Preparatory to Year 7. Her family then moved to Melbourne, where she commenced Year 8 at Loreto Toorak.

Brigid is mother to two sons, who attend St Aloysius' College, and one daughter who attends Loreto Kirribilli—the 25th girl in the family to receive a Loreto education. Brigid is very grateful for the legacy started by her paternal grandparents and pleased to be able to carry this on for her own daughter, who represents the third generation of Loreto girls.

In her role as Chapter Head for Sydney, Brigid is keen to connect with any Alumnae and looks forward to organising social events for those who have settled in Sydney and its suburbs.

MRS BRIGID WRIGHT • LTAI CHAPTER HEAD SYDNEY





A Legacy of Hope

Dr Stevens will conclude her time as Principal of Loreto Toorak this year and we would like to acknowledge all that she has achieved during her 20 years. One such legacy was the creation, in 2016, of our *Give a Girl a Dream Fund*, with the aim to build a \$20 million Bursary Fund to enable those not able to afford a Loreto Toorak education to have the opportunity to attend our wonderful school.

Supporting our *Give a Girl a Dream Fund* will help ensure that a Loreto Toorak education remains accessible to a diverse community for many years to come. To date we have raised an incredible \$10 million for this fund but there is still more work to do. We need your help to reach our \$20 million target.



SUGGESTED DONATIONS

\$20

(\$1 for every year as Principal)

\$200

(\$10 for every year as Principal)

\$2000

(\$100 for every year as Principal)

\$5000

(Clendon Centre Lecture Theatre plaque recognition)

With the imminent completion of our Clendon Centre, a unique opportunity now exists to become a permanent part of the history of this Centre by having your name, or that of a loved one, engraved on a plaque on one of the 100 Lecture Theatre seats available. A tax-deductible donation of \$5,000 or more to our *Give a Girl a Dream Fund* will be recognised in this way. This recognition will be offered on a "first come, first served" basis therefore we encourage you to donate without delay.

Help us show support for Dr Stevens and all she has achieved by making a tax-deductible donation to our Scholarship Fund. All donations are gratefully received.

At Loreto Toorak, we believe that education gives hope. We invite you to give the gift of hope.

We invite you to give a girl a dream.

DONATE NOW

CLICK
FOR MORE



Past Pupils' Association Thanksgiving Mass

The Loreto Toorak Past Pupils' Thanksgiving Mass was held in November, honouring those from our community who have died in the past year.

You are invited to click on the link to watch the Mass, streamed from our Chapel of Christ the King.



THANKSGIVING MASS



CLICK
FOR MORE



MADELEINE DOYLE • CLASS OF 2006

"WITH PRIVILEGE COMES SOCIAL JUSTICE"

After graduating in 2014, Madeleine was unsure of a career destination, however, she was leaning towards the Scientific or Medical Research domains (thanks to Mr Scorgie's wonderful VCE Biology Classes!). She began tertiary study in a Bachelor of Biomedicine at the University of Melbourne, and then moved into post-graduate medical studies, specifically the Doctor of Medicine also at the University of Melbourne; a degree that combines theory-based learning with practical placement at various Melbourne Hospitals.

In 2020, Madeleine travelled to the United Kingdom to study at London's Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, based in the Neonatal and Paediatric Surgical Department.

Madeleine took a break at the end of 2020, and worked as a Research Assistant at the St Vincent's Institute for Research gaining a greater insight into the brilliant medical work behind the scenes in laboratories and hospitals, that provide life-changing outcomes for people suffering illness. Madeleine looks excitedly to 2022, when she will embark upon her final year of Clinical Placement, and the end of her medical journey.

Her advice for any student about to graduate from Loreto Toorak is to keep an open mind while navigating life after school. There are many pathways: embrace as many opportunities as you can. Know that the more you challenge your mind, the more you will learn about the world and yourself!

The time spent at Loreto Toorak gave Madeleine happy memories and she is grateful, not only for the strong academic foundations, but also for the spiritual formation received. The Loreto values are still held dear, always mindful that with privilege comes a sense of social justice and an obligation to give back - in whatever small way we can.

Loreto Toorak also provided Madeleine with great friendships, and she is very proud to be a member of the Loreto Toorak alumnae.



FIONNA MADIGAN • CLASS OF 1986

"SPIRITUAL CONNECTION DRIVES ART"

Fionna has many significant memories of her years at Loreto Toorak. In Grade 3, her favourite class was Art and Craft, although she admits to not being very good at sewing. With astonishment, she would steal glances at other students' patchwork quilts, the hexagonal templates nice and even, while hers were such a shambles.

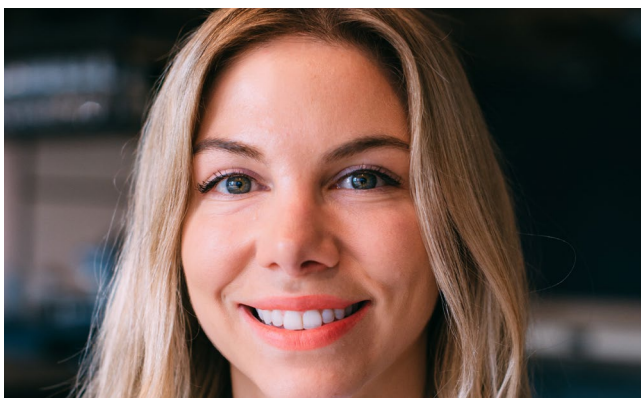
She did love painting! Sometimes, Ms Dillon, with her red hair and formidable spirit, would let Fionna keep painting into the lunch hour, well after the bell had rung. She remembers vividly painting the Three Wise Men for which she won a City of Stonnington Christmas Art Competition.

After school, Fionna embarked on an Arts Degree at the University of Melbourne, and later returned to study Fine Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts.

Her drive to create was ever-present but life circumstances were not always conducive to giving it focus. In 2017, Fionna developed Morgellons disease, a condition which presents significant physical and mental challenges. At this time, she was driven to reconnect with her spiritual self, and this connection now strongly informs her art practice. In 2018, she commenced an arts residency at the Dunmoochin Foundation, established by celebrated Australian Artist, Clifton Pugh, in the beautiful surrounds of Cottles Bridge. Fionna is currently working on commissions for a private client, some new pieces for West End Artspace in West Melbourne, and work for an upcoming group show, Nillumbik Landscapes, at Gallery Seven 6 Four.

Fionna's many career highlights include winning the Mayoral award at the Nillumbik Contemporary Art Prize (2019) and the Fairfield Art for All Art Show in 2020. She was a finalist in the Bay of Fires Art Prize (Tasmania), the Adelaide Parklands Art Prize, and the Boynes International Emerging Artist Award.

Growing up, there was never a dull moment in her home. Life was busy and chaotic, and sometimes, less than harmonious. Her parents were strong believers in a Catholic education, and for Fionna, Loreto Toorak was a place where the constancy of values, the rituals of a faith-based education, and the dependability and comfort of strong friendships provided a predictable base from which she continually reorients herself to this day.



STEPHANIE MERMIGAS • CLASS OF 2006

"LORETO TOORAK FOUNDATIONS INVALUABLE "

The Loreto Toorak journey began in Year 6 for Stephanie, and seven years later she left with lifelong friends. She fondly remembers Ms Borlase's contagious passion for art, the broad opportunities offered by the School's curriculum, both of which sparked her interest in art and education and had a lasting impact.

Stephanie studied a Bachelor of Fine Arts at RMIT University and began exhibiting her paintings in Melbourne. Concurrently, she completed at Masters of Teaching at Melbourne University, which gave her the opportunity to spend a semester abroad at Boston College – by far the highlight of her university days. She majored in Education Law, and once back on Australian soil went on to complete a Master of Law at Monash University.

She worked as a Corporate Lawyer at Macpherson Kelley for a number of years following law school. With a strong desire to work overseas, Stephanie moved to New York, where she consulted in Legal Recruitment. At the start of 2020, however, Stephanie moved to the West Coast to Los Angeles where she currently works as Legal Counsel for FaZa Clan, an e-sports and entertainment organisation. For Stephanie, this is her career highlight to date: a high-growth industry where she works with high-profile athletes and artists, as well as brands such as Apple and the NFL.

Throughout most of this year, Stephanie has been very fortunate to work remotely, based home in Melbourne, where she has been able to spend quality time with family and friends, while still enjoying her work with FaZa. She is looking forward to returning to LA at the start of 2022.

For Stephanie, her education at Loreto Toorak was a privilege which she credits with establishing the foundations of much of her life. She has been able to explore the passions of her life, across academia, sports, arts and has proved invaluable as she journeys through life.



CLAIRE WONG • CLASS OF 2009

"MARY WARD MOTTO AS INSPIRATION"

Claire still vividly remembers her first introduction to Loreto Toorak in Year 7: the architecture of Mandeville Hall and the damask silk wallpaper, and being greeted by the Principal, Dr Susan Stevens. To Claire's 12-year-old mind, Dr Stevens was the living embodiment of Snow White! Following Dr Stevens' advice to read classics such as *Pride and Prejudice* would lead to a lifelong passion for the works of Jane Austen, who remains Claire's favourite author.

Her years at Loreto Toorak have left indelible memories and Claire has been encouraged and motivated by many of her teachers, particularly Mrs Margot Thompson, for not only honing her English and literary skills, but also keeping her current with modern vernacular – no small feat given Claire's propensity for classic texts and an old-fashioned disposition. Mrs Thompson is also credited by Claire with sowing the seeds of interest in the Law.

Claire's other great love is History and she recalls Ms Marciniak's ongoing encouragement: from reading Sir Walter Scott's *Ivanhoe*, to being introduced to Mrs Abbott from the Library who helped to make Claire's very own Medieval gown. This emerald velvet surcoat, edged with gold braiding from Mrs Abbott's own lampshade supplies, is treasured and worn to this day.

Claire commenced a Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of Melbourne, majoring in History and Politics. She also studied a Diploma of Music in order to continue to play harpsichord.

Her career to date has seen her work alongside Melbourne's most marginalised communities. She has worked as a legal clerk with the Aboriginal Legal Services of Victoria and Western Australia, the latter taking her on a three-month working adventure to the remote regions of Kununurra, where she stayed at the local convent and helped serve breakfast to the community. Claire currently works as a Barrister at the Tasmanian Bar, regularly appearing in the Magistrates' and Supreme Courts.

Claire believes her years at Loreto Toorak have kept her grounded with a solid academic and cultural education that has enabled her to achieve career success. Mary Ward's motto, *Women in time will come to do much*, has never left her and served as inspiration for her to strive for success in areas that were once male dominated, such as the law. Perhaps most importantly, her education has given her a rich understanding of her social responsibility to give back to the community, and to assist others who may be less fortunate.

Loreto Generations

The Drapers

When Hiram Draper married Sarah Gleeson (Class of 1889, Our Lady of the Angels) late in the 19th Century they could not have envisaged the long line of Loreto Women that would follow. Nor could they have foreseen that one of their great grand sons, John Phillips, would serve the Loreto Toorak School Board from 2005-2017. Sarah and Hiram's great-great-great granddaughters Bridie and Sienna Newman are now also at Loreto Ballarat (Years 9 and 7 respectively). This makes them the sixth generation of women at Loreto!

John's grandmother Maria (known as Myra) and her five sisters all attended Loreto, Albert Park. Myra married Reginald Weichard and John's Great Aunt Carmel (1926) married John Duck. Together they had seven daughters attend Loreto Toorak from the 1930s to 1960s, including John's mother Joan Phillips (nee Weichard). Joan's eldest daughter Pauline (and John's sister) attended Loreto in 1954-1955. Pauline's daughters were students at Loreto Ballarat; Angelina Newman (1993) and Bernadette Newman (2001). John's two daughters also attended Loreto Toorak: Natalie (2005) and Jess (2008) and it is John's nephew's daughters

keeping the legacy ongoing at Loreto Ballarat, covering nearly 140 years. Another interesting anecdote, John's great-aunt Emmy Draper, (Myra's sister and herself a Loreto student in the 1920s) was one of the solicitors who worked for Loreto Toorak on the purchase of Mandeville Hall.

"... Loreto will continue to have a lasting influence on generations of our family."

John says, "The Loreto Sisters and Schools have had, and will continue to have, a huge and lasting influence on generations of our family. I felt privileged to be able to serve on the Loreto Toorak Board and contribute something back to the Loreto family".



Above: John's mother Joan Weichard, and her sisters, Patricia and Pauline, circa 1935.



Below:

Back row, left to right: Mary Nolan, Joan Weichard and Margaret Manly

Front row, left to right: Georgina Thornton Smith and Helen Healy

The Gift of Music

A Most Uplifting Story



Above: Ralph, Jacinta, Natasha and Yvonne Holmes with the girls' Grandmother

Yvonne Siok Tin Holmes died on 4 September 2021. She was the wife of Ralph Holmes and mother of Natasha (1995) and Jacinta (1997). Before she died, Yvonne asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in her memory to Loreto Toorak to support the ongoing education of girls, specifically in music.

What happened after this was extraordinary; donations flowed in. Family members and friends of Yvonne truly understood how important this wish and commitment was to her.

Natasha and Jacinta began their time at Loreto in Year 4 and Year 2 respectively. Both were awarded music scholarships; Natasha studying piano and viola and Jacinta piano and cello. In addition, both girls were awarded academic scholarships and were Captains of Music in their final years. According to Anne Elliott, past piano teacher, Natasha and Jacinta "set the bar for

future scholarship students".

Anne Hunt was Principal of Loreto Toorak at the time and according to Ralph, gave Yvonne the confidence to commit to a Loreto education for her daughters. Anne shared these poignant words in her reflection of Yvonne and her family.

"Nothing was too much trouble for Yvonne. Our world was all the richer for the part she played in it..."

"I remember her well. She was a very gracious and very generous woman and gave extraordinary support to the school, and to the Music program in particular. She would be there at every Music event, always helpful and supportive in her quite unassuming but very effective way. She was untiring in her support for the program, the staff and the students, including her own very talented daughters, Jacinta and Natasha. Nothing was too much trouble for Yvonne. Our world was all the richer for the part that she played in it. I can imagine her now enjoying the choirs of heaven!"

The Holmes family were equally overwhelmed with the donations attributed to the memory of Yvonne. Natasha says, "We are so humbled at the generosity of our wonderful family and friends—the donations have surpassed our humble expectations! I think it is a reflection of those who know us about how important education and music were to Mum and to us. We are truly overwhelmed at the response, and it's made us all so emotional thinking that she won't know the full impact she has had. She would have loved this."



at Monash University in 2003 and undertook physician training at Monash Health and St Vincent's Hospital. She currently works as a gastroenterologist and hepatologist at St Vincent's Hospital, and is Head of Clinical Research and Training in the Gastroenterology Department and a member of the Statewide Hepatitis Program in the Victorian Prisons. She has completed a three-year post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard Medical School and Liver Center at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, for which she received a CJ Martin Overseas NHMRC fellowship. In 2001, Jacinta

"We are truly overwhelmed at the response ... she would have loved this."

Natasha and Jacinta acknowledge it was their mother's determination that gave them the best education at the most brilliant school.

Natasha's journey since completing Year 12 in 1995 began with MBBS with Honours at Monash University in 2001, and undertook physician training at Monash Health and Austin Health. Natasha currently works as an Infectious Diseases and Antibiotic Allergy physician at Austin Health, holding an NHMRC and completed a PhD at the University of Melbourne in predictors of mortality in *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (Golden Staph blood infection). She has completed post-doctoral studies at the University of Melbourne and Tufts University in Boston and her research has been supported by the NHMRC.

Similarly, Jacinta graduated MBBS with Honours

was appointed Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne, and continues with ongoing research interests in liver disease and liver cancer.

In their spare time, Natasha and Jacinta continue their interest in music and have performed or toured with the Australian Doctors' Orchestra and Melbourne-based Corpus Medicorum.

It is uplifting for Yvonne's family to know that her generosity to Loreto Toorak, a school which supported her family so well, and undoubtedly to some extent shaped their lives, will now continue to shape the lives of other Loreto women.

We are grateful to all those listed over the page who made a donation to the Loreto Toorak Scholarship Fund in memory of Yvonne Holmes.

In Memory of Yvonne Holmes

Pauline Abboud
Mihai Borsaru
South East Volunteers
Moya Cummings
Barbara Demediuk
Suhong Ding
Rita and Peter Eisler
Anne Elliott
Rodney Elvish
Joan Ericka Flores
Dr King Gan
Xiaoyue Liu and Mingwei Gao
Naomi Grant
Bonnie and Ben Hamilton
Tony Hills
Alan Holmes
Jenny, Terry, Alexander Holmes and family and
Naomi
Ralph, Natasha and Jacinta Holmes
Jessica Howell
Willa (Weisheng) Huang
Kwe Kee Hue, Swee Ching Hue, Yik-Ling Hue,
Yik-Xiang Hue and Jessica Riseley Hue
Lisa Hui
Nina Wellington and David Iser

Don Kerley
Matthew M F Kok, Elaine Kok, Jun Yi Kok and
Jun Lyn Kok
Hon Leong
Anne Liu
Liming Lu
Michelle Lui
Elizabeth McCarthy
Sarah Meich
Patrick Lim (Kee-Lim Ooi)
Michele Oscar
Marissa Parrott
Jan Rattray
Antonia Riley
Terrence Stanley
Margaret Tan
Tseviet and Shouline Tchen
Alexander Thompson
Edward Tsoi
Rotary Club Glen Waverley
Mary Wardill
Val Wilmott
Jun Yang
Xavier Yu
Anonymous x 7



Our Donors

We acknowledge the support of our donors who have made financial gifts to the School this year. We also thank those who have elected to remain anonymous

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Lennon Family Trust
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Sonia Mahony and Dale Manton
Lauren and Tom Maidment
Marianne and Peter Margin
Lisa Martini and Matthew Andrews
Jo McAuliffe
Trish and Dougall McBurnie
Natalie McIntyre
Sally and Ian McLean
Annabelle McNamara
Louise and Matt McNamara
Michaela and Matthew McNee
Duncan McPherson OAM
Anna and Miguel Meirelles
Bridget Meldrum
Julie and Peter Merrigan
Sarah Merrigan and Andrew Foley
Natalie and John Morello
Gabby Nass
Alessandra Negline
Maria and Peter Negline
Moiria Negline
Justine and André Noonan
Keryn and Steve Nossal
Majella and Gary Nugent
Denise and Sean O'Callaghan
O'Donoghue Family

Angela O'Dwyer
Geraldine and John Olle
Monique and Tony Owen
Maryellen Peppard
Deborah and Gerard Phillips
Pam Pickering
Kerri Price and John Lincoln
Katie and Craig Rahilly
Barbara Ralph and John Ralph AC
Eliza Reid
Judy Reid
Richard Reid
Jo O'Rourke and Jack Ribbands
Kate and Stephen Russell
Susan and Patrick Russo
Silviya and John Sabljak
Annabelle and Terry Scanlon
Melissa Smith
Rosie and Brian Smith
John Sprunt
Jan Stephen
Susan Stevens and Anthony Dickinson OAM
Fiona and Mark Stretton
Tracey and Andrew Tanner
Vessela and Paul Tasker
Maria and Michael Tehan
Margot and Alastair Thompson
Angela Torcasio and Joe Barberis
Ruth Trait
Catryn Tuckwell
Margie Ulbrick
Carlo Vaccari
Sarah and Matthew Vaughan
Christine and Peter Walsh
Christine Wang and Samuel Sun
Emma and Andrew Warner
Brigid and Leighton Warwick
Claire and John Paul Whitbread
Aanya Wickramasinghe
Karen Williams and Matthew McIntyre
Glennis and Jason Winnett
Stephanie and Gavan Woodruff
Anna and Jim Wright-Smith
Trish and Rob Zahara
Anonymous x 7

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TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION, PLEASE EMAIL MS JUDY REID, DIRECTOR OF
ENGAGEMENT ON 03 8290 7540, OR PLEASE [CLICK HERE](#)

Family News

Engagements

DOYLE, Camilla (2011) to Jonathon (Jack) Dawson 20/11/2021, Camilla is the daughter of Angela O'Dwyer (Principal Elect)

McNAMARA, Annabelle (2011) to Edward Currenti, 22/07/2021, Annabelle is the daughter of Louise (Whelan, 1982) and Matt McNamara

Weddings

QUIRK, Emma (2011) to Simon Love, 13/11/2021

Births

DOYLE, Annabel (2002) and Andrew Fin, twin children Giulietta and Alberto, born 18/10/2021, siblings for Louie and Francesca, grandchildren for Angela O'Dwyer (Principal Elect)

HEALY, Madeleine (1997) and Joseph Doyle, Clara Doyle, born 5/06/2021, sister for Lucy, Alice Matthew and Henry

HEALY, Rosannah (2001) (Past Pupils' Association President), and Timothy Maxwell, Edmund James Maxwell, born 13/09/2021, brother for Thomas and Elizabeth

MAULE, Lucy (1998) and Christian James, Patrick Francis James, born 8/11/2021, brother for Henry

SMITH, Katie Rose (2002) (Staff Member) and David, Josephine Therese, born 03/11/2021

TEHAN, Jane (2003) and Ryan De Cruz, Amelia Rumalda Cruz, born 29/03/2021, sister for Charlotte, Margot and Rory

WESTON, Rowena (Crawford, 2006) and Michael, Louis Peter England Weston born 18/6/2021

WOOD, Zoe (2007) and Jeremy Hetzel, twin children Edgar Alexander and Walter Thomas Hetzel, born 17/07/2021.



*Pictured top L-R: Emma Quirk and Simon Love; Josephine Therese Smith; Amelia Rumalda Cruz, with siblings Rory, Margot and Charlotte; Giulietta and Alberto Fin
Pictured bottom L-R: Edmund Maxwell, with sibling Thomas; Clara Doyle, Patrick James; Louis Weston*

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAMILY NEWS: DANIELLE LORD (FIELD, 1985)
ENGAGEMENT OFFICER – ALUMNAE
danielle.lord@loretotoorak.vic.edu.au



**It is with sadness we advise that the following members of the Loreto Toorak community have died.
Our sincere condolences to their families.**

ABBOTT, Alan, 7/11/2021 husband of Rosemary (Former Staff Member)

BARAGWANATH AO, Chesleigh 'Ches' Antony, 07/08/2021, husband of Jan, father of Kristen Hammond (Baragwanath, 1988) and Marlo (1990)

BOQUEST, Michael, 21/06/2021, father of Katarina (2019), Eloise (Year 12) and Gabrielle (Year 8)

BUESING, Aileen Mary (Marston, 1946), 03/11/2021, wife of Kuno (dec), mother and mother-in-law of André and Anne

BULL, Lucille Mary (Broderick, 1958), 29/07/2021, wife of John, mother of Debra, Nicholas, Matthew, Melinda and Christian

BURNES, John, 16/10/2021, father of Andrew, James, Dominique Dalton (Burnes, 1991) and Danielle (1995), grandfather of Lily, (Year 9), brother of Liz Lawler (Burnes, 1962), uncle of Victoria Watson (Lawler, 1991)

DOWNEY, Catherine (Kate), (Former Staff Member), 2/07/2021

FITZGERALD (1959), John Charles, 10/10/2021, husband of Andree (Tiernan, 1959), brother of Edwyna Doyle (dec) (Fitzgerald, 1957), uncle of Anna Beaton (Doyle) (1980), Tory Resic (Doyle, 1982), Georgina Kilroe Smith (Doyle, 1987), and Julia Doyle (1989), great uncle of Amelia Beaton (2013), Jessica Kilroe-Smith (2015), Kitty Manson (2014) and Sarah Kilroe-Smith (Year 11)

FLETCHER, Angela Mary (Gilchrist, 1956), 28/07/2021, wife of Terry (dec), mother of Peter, John and Barry, sister of Kathy Munro (Gilchrist, 1960)

FREDERICO, Lolita Marie, (1958) 22/06/2021, sister of Hubert (dec), Serita (1952), Ramon (Kindergarten 1941) and Margarita (1959), great aunt of Eleanor Brown (2017)

GALBRAITH, John, 21/07/2021, husband of Julie, father of Matthew, Madeleine (1986) and Mary (1990)

GIBSON, Ann (Annie) (Carolan, 1963),

24/08/2021, niece of Joan Connaughton (dec) (McCardel, 1937), cousin of Lou Sinn (Connaughton 1968) (dec), Jo Lonergan (Connaughton 1969), Fred Connaughton (1971), Michael Connaughton (1973) and Kate Smith (Connaughton, 1975)

HANRAHAN, Brendan (Bing), 26/10/2021, husband of Judith, father of Chris, Tim, Sarah and Paige Ions (Hanrahan, 1993)

HOLMES, Yvonne Siok Tin, 04/09/2021, wife of Ralph, mother of Natasha (1995) and Jacinta (1997)

LETHBRIDGE, Michael Harry McRae, 18/09/2021, husband of Jean (dec) (Chisholm, 1943), father of Christine Allanadale (Lethbridge, 1970), Colin (1974), John (dec) (1977), Gerard (1977), Anna (1979) and Kate Allen (dec) (Lethbridge, 1983), grandfather of Joan (dec) (1999), Bridie (2004) and Meg (2009) Allandale and Mia Lethbridge (2009)

MCGARRY, Rachael, 26/06/2021, wife of Peter, mother of Adam and Lauren (Year 10)

NEIL *ibvm*, Sr Christopher (Chris), 16/11/2021

NOLAN, Margaret, (Past Member Loreto Parents' Association), 11/08/2021, beloved wife of Damien, much loved mother of Prue Gilbert (Nolan, 1994), Liam, Eamon, Phoebe Gilmour (Nolan, 2000) and Ciaran

RATLIFF, Michael Austin, 30/07/2021, husband of Kate (Mooney, 1982), father of Spencer, Camilla (2009) and Liam

SHORTELL, Caitlyn Maurya (Nolan, 1949), 24/08/2021, mother of Andrew (1976), John (1977) and Helen (1978), sister of Maire Dale (dec) (Nolan, 1942) and Tany O'Brien (dec) (Nolan, 1944), aunt of Dominie (1969), Michael (1971), Chris (1972), Rebecca (1973), Peter (1974), Gregory (1976), Leo (1977) and Johanna (1981) Dale and Rachel Meadows (Nolan, 1983)

WHITEHEAD, Monique Louise (Foletta, 1992), daughter of Madelon (Boileau, 1963) and Geoff, sister of Greg, Sam and Hamish, aunt of Genevieve Byrne (2023)

THE CHALLENGES SHE NEEDS.

School Tours

9.00am – 10.30am

- Tuesday 8 February
- Monday 28 February
- Tuesday 22 March
- Monday 23 May
- Tuesday 26 July
- Tuesday 16 August
- Wednesday 14 September
- Wednesday 19 October



LORETO
Mandeville Hall Toorak

AN INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS ELC TO VCE



SCHOOL COCKTAIL PARTY

Friday 11 February 2022

NIGHT NOODLE MARKET

Friday 25 February 2022

ORATION SERIES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Tuesday 8th March 2022



PA TENNIS DAY AND LUNCHEON

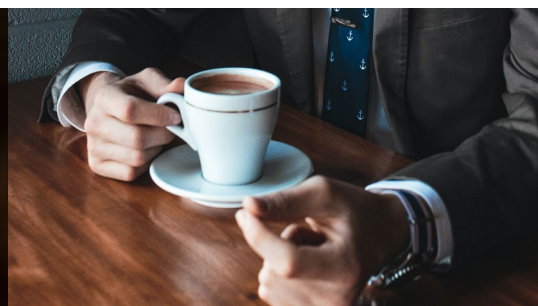
Thursday 24 March 2022

PA FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday 3 April 2022

LORETO LADIES' LUNCHEON

Friday 6 May 2022



MOTHERS' DAY HIGH TEA

Sunday 8 May 2022

ORATION SERIES MARY WARD JUSTICE LECTURE

Tuesday 24 May 2022

FATHERS' DINNER

Thursday 16 June 2022

PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION EVENTS & REUNIONS

4 March 2022	2020, 2021, 2022 Decade Reunion Cocktail Party	25 July 2022	Class of 2021 - First Year Reunion
29 March 2022	Diamond Mass and Luncheon	31 August 2022	Sapphire Dinner
1 April 2022	PPA Networking Breakfast	30 September 2022	PPA Card Day
2 May 2022	PPA Golf Day	16 October 2022	Class of 1971 - 50 Year Reunion Liturgy and Luncheon
		27 November 2022	PPA Annual Thanksgiving Mass



LORETO
Mandeville Hall Toorak

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