



St Catherine's School

# The blue ribbon

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

CONNECTING PARENTS, STUDENTS, STAFF AND THE WIDER ST CATHERINE'S COMMUNITY

ISSUE 230 3 June 2016 W8 T2

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



### Michelle Carroll

Whether she wants to be an astronaut, ambassador, or accountant, a girl needs to know — not just think, but really know — nothing can stand in her way...[more](#)

## UPCOMING SCHOOL DATES



### Diary Dates

Important upcoming School dates...[more](#)

## EARLY LEARNING CENTRE



### Campbell House News

Grandparents and special visitors joined our learners in Campbell House last week for a fun visit. We are also excited to announce our outdoor area will soon be enhanced to provide more outdoor learning opportunities...[more](#)

## SCHOOL NEWS



### From the Director of Curriculum Innovation and Development

As our students prepare for examinations we must remember exams are only a small part of learning...[more](#)

## JUNIOR SCHOOL



### Barbreck News and Sport

We explore Year 1 Mathematics, provide details on a farewell assembly for Mr Hughes, reflect on our Special Visitors' Day, congratulate our Junior School flute ensemble and provide an update on Junior School Sport...[more](#)

## COMMUNITY NEWS



### SCOGA Women in Industry

Members of the School community are invited to attend the Women in Creative Industries: Fashion Networking Event on Tuesday 7 June 6.30pm...[more](#)

## SENIOR SCHOOL



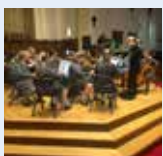
### Year 7, 2017 Orientation

Last week current Year 6 students enjoyed a morning in the Senior School orientating themselves around the campus and getting to know each other as they prepare for Year 7 in 2017...[more](#)



### St Catherine's School Annual Giving 2016

This year, we seek your support for our women of the future during our 2016 Annual Giving program. Our primary focus is to establish a Technology and Engineering Lab for our Years 3 to 8 students...[more](#)



### Music Notes

This week we proudly congratulate so many of our Music students across the Year levels for their work in the Bands Blast evening as well as the Years 7 and 8 concert...[more](#)



### St Catherine's School Communication Survey and Uniform Shop News

Take this five minute survey to tell us what you think about The Blue Ribbon. In other news the Uniform Shop will be closed for stocktake on 16 June...[more](#)



### Senior School Sport

News and results from the last four rounds of Netball and details on cross country ski hire...[more](#)



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL MICHELLE CARROLL



### The Girls' School Advantage

*"Currently, women are more likely to have completed Year 12 and have a bachelor's degree than men. They live longer and work more hours than men when unpaid work is included. Women's average starting salary is \$2,000 less than men's and the average female wage is 87% of the male wage. Women are less likely to smoke or to engage in risky drinking than men, but they are also considerably less likely to be a CEO, manager, chair of a board or a politician."*

Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia, Gen Z and Gen Alpha: Mobile, digital, global, visual and social

Whether she wants to be an astronaut, ambassador, or accountant, a girl needs to know — not just think, but really know — nothing can stand in her way. Girls' schools, like St Catherine's, send that message to girls every day. To help remind families how a girls' school will engage, challenge, inspire and prepare their daughter, here's a list of the **top ten reasons to attend an all-girls' school** supported by research from the National Coalition of Girls Schools:

**10. INSPIRATIONAL ENVIRONMENT** – Girls' schools champion the education needs of girls. Single-sex programs create an institutional and classroom climate in which female students can express themselves freely and frequently, and develop higher order thinking skills. Dr. Rosemary C. Salomone, St. John's University, *Public Single-Sex Schools: What Oprah Knew*.

The robust learning environment encountered by students at all-girls' schools is highlighted by a recent survey of high school students. The girls' responses provide unequivocal support for the value of an all-girls' educational environment. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls' Schools*.

**9. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT** – Girls' schools create a culture of achievement. More than 80% of girls' school graduates consider their academic performance highly successful. Dr. Linda Sax, UCLA, *Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College*.

Nearly 80% of girls' school students report most of their classes challenge them to achieve their full academic potential compared to 72.3% of girls at co-ed independent and 44.3% at co-ed public schools. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Allegheny College, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools*.

**8. BUILDS SELF-CONFIDENCE** – At girls' schools, a girl occupies every role. Majority of girls' school graduates report higher self-confidence over their co-ed peers. Dr. Linda Sax, UCLA, *Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College*.

All-girls' settings seem to provide girls a certain comfort level that helps them develop greater self-confidence and broader interests, especially as they approach adolescence. Dr. Rosemary C. Salomone, St. John's University, *Same, Difference, Equal: Rethinking Single-Sex Schooling*.

Continued...

## SCHOOL DATES

### Friday 3 June

Years 7–12 Fitness (Before School)  
Senior School AFL (After School)

### Sunday 5 June

Concertos Rehearsal Day

### Monday 6 June

Semester 2 Classes Commence  
Senior School Athletics Training (Before School)  
Years 11 and 12 GSV (Before School)  
Years 7–12 Hockey Training (Before School)  
DAV Junior Public Speaking  
Years 11 and 12 GSV Match (After School)

### Tuesday 7 June

Years 7 and 8 GSV Training (Before School)  
VCE GAT  
Senior School Athletics Training (After School)

### Wednesday 8 June

Years 9 and 10 GSV Match (After School)

### Thursday 9 June

Senior School Athletics Training (Before School)  
Open Morning 8.45am  
Years 7 and 8 GSV Match (After School)

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MICHELLE CARROLL

## 7. DEVELOPS LEADERSHIP SKILLS – Girls' schools empower students to become bold leaders

Programs at girls' schools focus on the development of teamwork over other qualities of leadership, while the qualities of confidence, compassion, and resilience also ranked prominently. Dr. Nicole Archard, Kincoppal-Rose Bay School of the Sacred Heart, *Student Leadership Development in Australian and New Zealand Secondary Girls' Schools: A Staff Perspective*.

93% of girls' school graduates say they were offered greater leadership opportunities than peers at co-ed schools and 80% have held leadership positions since graduating from high school. Goodman Research Group, *The Girls' School Experience: A Survey of Young Alumnae of Single-Sex Schools*.

## 6. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS (STEM) – Girls' schools champion girls in STEM majors and careers

Girls' school graduates are six times more likely to consider majoring in Math, Science and Technology compared to girls who attend co-ed schools. Goodman Research Group, *The Girls' School Experience: A Survey of Young Alumnae of Single-Sex Schools*.

Compared to co-ed peers, girls' school graduates are three times more likely to consider Engineering careers. Dr. Linda Sax, UCLA, *Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College*.

During the middle school years, girls show a decline in both their performance in Math and their attitudes towards Math. New research suggests that girls' schools may mitigate the decline when compared with co-ed schools. Dr. Carlo Cerruti, Harvard University, *Exploring Girls' Attitudes About Math*.

## 5. DEDICATED TO HOW GIRLS LEARN – Girls' schools capitalise on girls' unique learning styles

To be successful, students need more than just a feeling of support. That support must translate into actions geared toward student success. Nearly 96% of girls' school students report receiving more frequent feedback on their assignments and other course work compared to 92.9% of girls at co-ed independent and 79.5% at co-ed public schools. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Allegheny College, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools*.

A study prepared for the U.S. Department of Education observed, "more positive academic and behavioural interactions between teachers and students in the single-sex schools than in the comparison to co-ed schools." U.S. Department of Education, *Early Implementation of Public Single-Sex Schools: Perceptions and Characteristics*.

## 4. HIGHER ASPIRATIONS – Girls' school students strive for greatness

Girls at all levels of achievement in the single-sex schools receive a benefit from the single-sex school environment in terms of heightened career aspirations — an effect unprecedented in any other portion of our study. Dr. Cary M. Watson, Stanford University, *Sex Roles: A Journal of Research*.

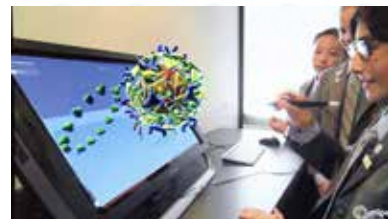
Students at all-girls' schools have higher aspirations and greater motivation than their female peers at co-ed independent and public schools. More than 2/3 expect to earn a graduate or professional degree. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Allegheny College, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools*.

## 3. EXCELLENT MENTORING – Girls' school students are mentored by a community of peers, teachers and school leaders

The overwhelming majority of girls' school students agree to strongly agree that they feel supported at their schools: 94.6% feel supported by their teachers compared to 84.1% of girls at co-ed schools, 89.9% report feeling supported by other students compared to 73.1% of girls at co-ed schools, and 82.8% feel supported by their school administrators compared to 62.6% of girls at co-ed schools. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Allegheny College, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools*.

Research indicates that girls place more emphasis on interpersonal relationships than boys, which may provide girls with beneficial social support. . . Compared to boys, girls are more likely to socialise in smaller groups, share more personal information with each other and emphasise helping behavior over competitive behavior in their friendships. Dr. Lisa Damour, Center for Research on Girls at Laurel School, *Girls and Their Peers*.

Continued...



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MICHELLE CARROLL



**2. PREPARES GIRLS FOR THE REAL WORLD** – Girls' schools engage students in activities that prepare them for life beyond the classroom

Nearly half of all women graduating from single-sex schools rate their public speaking ability as high compared to 38.5% of women graduates from co-ed schools. A similar differential exists for writing abilities: 64.2% of girls' school graduates assess their writing as high, compared to 58.8% of women graduates of co-ed schools. Dr. Linda Sax, UCLA, *Women Graduates of Single-Sex and Coeducational High Schools: Differences in their Characteristics and the Transition to College*.

In the world outside of school, the answers are not always found in the text. All-girls' schools prepare students for the world beyond school by requiring outside research, encouraging them to connect ideas across problem domains, and challenging them to grapple with problems with no clear solution. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Allegheny College, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools*.

**1. ALLOWS GIRLS TO BE THEMSELVES** – Girls' schools provide an environment where students feel safe to express themselves and engage in an open and safe exchange of ideas

Over 88% of girls' school students report they are comfortable being themselves at school, which means they are free to focus their energies on their learning. Dr. Richard A. Holmgren, Allegheny College, *Steeped in Learning: The Student Experience at All-Girls Schools*.

93% of girls' school grads are very or extremely satisfied with their school's ability to provide individualised attention, and 80% strongly feel encouragement to develop their own interests. Goodman Research Group, *The Girls' School Experience: A Survey of Young Alumnae of Single-Sex Schools*.

## Semester 2 2016 and 2017 Term Dates

The Senior School students have recently completed their assessment for Semester 1 subjects, with Academic and Form Reports currently being written by the teaching staff.

I take this opportunity to remind parents that from Monday 6 June, the academic work of Semester 2 commences with the students kept fully engaged in the classroom until Friday 17 June.

Please also find for your future planning the 2017 Term dates attached [here](#).

Mrs Michelle Carroll

**Principal**

# EARLY LEARNING CENTRE CAMPBELL HOUSE NEWS



*"Children's learning and development is not confined to a single environment/settings, but it is continually influenced by a dynamic interplay between all those environments inhabited by the child."*

Geraldine French, Independent Early Years Specialist, Ireland

## Special Friends

We often speak in Campbell House and in each sector of the School, about the importance and influence of positive and caring relationships upon our learners. Connections with family and friends and a genuine sense of care, love and belonging are powerful agents when children are growing up.

Grandparents, special relatives and friends who were invited to join us in Campbell House certainly demonstrated the power care, love and genuine interest have on the children in the Early Learning Centre.

The lead up to such events sees so much anticipation and high excitement. As educators, it is our privilege to bear witness to the radiant smiles and the hugs and chatter when our young learners see their particular special friend/friends enter their classroom.

When we observe the ways in which our invited special guests interact with their young person in the ELC, with eyes and ears solely focused on their little friend, we are always arrested by the power of love and the richness of those moments.

We thank all our special guests for attending and note with appreciation that a number travelled significant distances in order to attend.

## Landscaping in Outdoor Area in Campbell House

We are excited!!

The landscaping works designed to enhance the outdoor play area in our ELC are to commence imminently. Weather permitting, the works will commence on 6 June.

The carefully devised plans have involved experts in the field and we are deeply appreciative of the fact that the knowledge and expertise of our educators has been closely listened to throughout the process.

The planned changes and additions to the grounds will provide enriching opportunities for the needs of young children when they play, including natural materials, different surfaces, intriguing areas to explore, dream, think, dramatise, investigate, build and play.

As educators, we have anticipated the proposed changes in the outdoor areas for a long time and are extremely delighted that the work is about to commence.

An additional advantage is our current learners in Campbell House will certainly enjoy all the learning which comes with the joy of watching all the works as they occur.

## Nut Aware (Reminder)

St Catherine's is a Nut Aware School. We remind parents that students do not bring nuts/nut products (eg. Nutella/Peanut Butter) to School. We have a number of students who are anaphylactic to nuts of all varieties within the School and we ask all families to observe the School policy with regard to this matter.

Mrs Alana Moor

**Head of ELC and Junior School**



- 1 The children in Blue Gum Room perform some of their favourite songs for the grandparents and special visitors who joined us in Campbell House
- 2 Charles A'Beckett with his Grandmother
- 3 Charlotte Ranchod and Oscar Blennerhasset share morning tea with their special visitors
- 4 Jemimah O'Brien spent time discussing her learning journal with her special visitors
- 5 Lucy Venema and Scarlett Pennell enjoying some morning tea with their Grandparents and special visitors

# JUNIOR SCHOOL

## JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



### Farewell to Mr Owen Hughes

After what has been a most outstanding career as a talented, committed educator and leader, Mr Owen Hughes, Deputy Head of the Junior School will retire on Friday 17 June 2016. It is with deep gratitude and respect that I thank Mr Hughes for his remarkable work, support, advice, assistance and friendship from my first day as Head of the Junior School and ELC.

Mr Hughes will be missed by staff and students alike but he leaves with our greatest wishes for an enjoyable, healthy and happy retirement with plenty of opportunities to play golf and more closely follow the Richmond Tigers, AFL team!

A farewell to Mr Hughes will be held at the final Assembly on Friday 17 June at 12 noon. As always, parents are welcome to attend the assembly. Mr Hughes expressed desire is to leave 'without fuss'. The farewell will be simple as desired, but definitely heartfelt.

### Year 1 Love Mathematics!

A typical day in the Year 1 classroom will begin with Mathematics. As soon as students unpack their bags, the headphones are on and they are ready to start our daily practice of Fast Maths. There is much excitement when someone announces they have received their best score for the day or they have a new study fact. It is also great to share the good news when someone has been given a new background on their screen, students all work so hard on these facts.

Students then move onto Prime Mathematics. Number bonds are a little tricky but they are loving drawing them and working out which strategy to use to find out the missing number. Many questions are asked to encourage students to try and work out if they have two part numbers or a part number and a whole number. Students understand that if they have two part numbers they need to add those to get the whole number and if they have a whole number and a part number then it will be a take-away sum.

These number bonds also help the students when they are trying to problem solve. Students have a little story and need to underline all the important words so they can answer the question properly. Clues are provided along the way to help if required. Students draw a number bond, add the information from the story and work out the answer.

The Year 1 students have learnt lots of strategies to help discover an answer. They know how to count on from a number to find the missing one; they can also count backwards or look for a double fact to help solve the sum.

Students also look at place value and understand what five means in the number 58. In class we discuss five is not five but five tens which makes it 50. Students are also learning to count by twos, fives and tens, ordering numbers from smallest to largest or largest to smallest, and investigating the different shapes around them...and lots more!

Mrs Lola Ballis

**Year 1 Class Teacher**

### Emphasis Upon Communication and Manners

Underscored frequently in Barbreck is the necessity to listen attentively in class and also when interacting with others. Listening and eye contact are essential skills as is the use of sound grammar and using an audible, clear voice when communicating. Role modelled by teachers, students are often reminded of the need to communicate with clarity and respect for self and others.



- 1 Hazel Wilson, Sofia Marshall and Piper Pascoe on Fast Maths
- 2 Frankie Vasilopoulos, Ziabella Armstrong and Scarlett Stevenson Kotsos working together on a problem
- 3 Mietta Barrington, Lexie Giagnorio, Anna Shears, Chloe Nash and Mirabelle Thomson working together to find the different possibilities
- 4 Place Value puzzle with Polly Moir and Olivia Grasso

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



In particular, we are currently articulating the need to avoid the insertion of extraneous words in sentences. Trends occur from time to time and of noted frequency recently has been the use by some, in spoken sentences of extraneous words, such as “you know”, “like” and “whatever?”

Such matters require the attention of all adults who overhear this as these sorts of insertions, whilst inappropriate, can quickly lead to habits which can be difficult to break. We thank parents for joining us in this matter.

### Nut Aware (Reminder)

St Catherine's is a Nut Aware School. We remind parents that students do not bring nuts/nut products (eg. Nutella/Peanut Butter) to School. We have a number of students who are anaphylactic to nuts of all varieties within the School and we ask all families to observe the School policy with regard to this matter.

Mrs Alana Moor

**Head of ELC and Junior School**

### Special Visitor's Day

On Friday 13 May students in Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 welcomed visitors to our Special Visitor's Day for 2016. The morning commenced with a concert in the Junior School Hall with all students participating in a range of singing and instrumental activities, including a demonstration of the Year 2 Strings Program.

The Year 1 students shared some of their favourite places and things to do. This was followed by a stirring rendition of the famous song *My Favourite Things* from the film *The Sound Of Music*. Our Prep students had choreographed movements to their own arrangement of *We've Got The Whole World In Our Hands* and *Michael Finnigin* and everyone was invited to join in with one of our action songs, *Tony Chestnut*.

Our special visitors were then guided to the classrooms where they enjoyed a wonderful feast and a tour of the classroom. Workbooks were proudly shared, stories re-told and illustrations admired. The students enjoyed making sure their visitor had plenty to eat and drink and all the while the sounds of bubbling conversations and laughter were heard in each of the classrooms. A very happy and memorable experience for all involved.

### Junior School Flute Ensemble

On Sunday 22 May our Junior School Flute ensemble represented St Catherine's at the Victorian Flute Guild Flute Ensemble Competition. Under the direction of Ms Jess Farrell the girls performed well earning a first place in the Primary Flute Ensemble section. Our congratulations go to Katie Cacopardo, Zhi Qing (Emma) Yang, Adelaide Mitchell, Angela Yu and Emma Gregory. Well done girls!

### Pop Up Programs

On a variety of occasions, Pop Up Programs are offered to students from Years 2 to 6, usually on a specific Year Level basis and are opportunities for those who attend to experience a variety of different activities or acquire new information or skills.

To date, the Pop Up Programs held during non-School periods, have ranged from public speaking skills, craft, meditation (led by four amazingly prepared Year 6 leaders), reading, writing, drawing, colouring and puzzles.

Continued...



Students from Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 welcomed their special visitors into our School, providing them with a concert, classroom tour and morning tea.

Recently, Year 2 students enjoyed a lunchtime session of 'Colouring to soft, beautiful music'. Ten students chose to attend and it was a privilege to witness their total focus, attention to detail and engagement. Apart from the music playing softly in the background, the girls worked earnestly and silently for 35 minutes. They were indeed proud of their completed work. More programs to come!

*"I really loved colouring and the music is good when we colour and listen. I love turning the pencils in different directions and on the side so that the colours shade in different ways."* Isabella Soutter

*"I love this kind of activity with music on. It is really peaceful and I am proud of my work with I finish."*  
Ava Ward

*"Colouring is one of my favourite things. Colouring in the patterns and hearing the music makes me happy. I wanted to keep going."* Paloma Gattino

## Upcoming Snowsports Dates

House Snowsports Day Monday 18 July

The House Snowsports competition is a St Catherine's community event designed to introduce students to the competitive side of Snowsports. Any student who is able to ski or snowboard is encouraged to participate. Students do not necessarily need to be an expert to participate, with emphasis being placed on fun and School spirit.

Online Booking Closing Date: Friday 3 June. Please [click here](#) to book.

Training Weekend Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July 2016.

Training for House Snowsports is integrated into the Training Weekend. Training sessions are available, at a user pays cost, to St Catherine's students who seek to improve their racing technique for competition. These sessions are controlled by the Mt Buller Ski School, with weather and availability of race courses considered.

Online Booking Closing Date: Friday 3 June. Please [click here](#) to book.

## Cross Country Ski Hire

The School has a number of Cross Country boots, skis and poles available for students to loan. Priority will go to those girls who have represented St Catherine's at the Victorian Interschools Cross Country event in previous years. Only students competing in the Interschool Cross Country event may loan equipment.

To hire:

- Complete the Cross Country Ski Hire form found on the following [link here](#)
- Collect Cross Country Skis on Wednesday 8 June, after School in the Junior School. Please bring your booking confirmation email with you to collect.

Please note: We are not a ski hire shop. It is a privilege that we are able to loan out skis to families. The equipment available is only possible through the generous donations of the St Catherine's Snowsports community. We will do our best to provide equipment for as many students as possible but cannot guarantee this.

## House Soccer Results

Round Two House Soccer saw Davis House defeat Langley Templeton one goal to zero and Beaulieu Blair drawing with Holmes Kilbride in a one all match. Well done to all participants.

Mr Tom Crebbin

**Junior School Head of Physical Education**





## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM INNOVATION AND DESIGN

### **The Conscious Learning of Revision**

It has been said that a little stress is in fact a good thing for performance. We are clearly hardwired to perform either a flight or a fight when certain chemicals course through our bloodstreams. Humans are designed to manage it and, if we do, then we meet the challenge. I mention this as we are currently in the season of examinations – or as Mr Cross used to remark, we are now firmly in the Festival of Examinations.

A couple of weeks ago I read some good practical advice that was contained in an excellent article in *The Guardian*, a must I believe for students, parents and teachers, [The science of revision: nine ways pupils can revise for exams effectively](#) communicated as much common sense as it did science and urged breakfast eating, putting mobile phones away, fresh air and sleep, amongst many other things. A couple of weeks ago I also spoke to the Year 11s regarding revision. Broadly speaking, the advice was to start revision early, break sessions and material down into chunks and take regular, short breaks. Additionally, students should avoid distractions, turn phones and music off and not rely on reading alone. Revision must be active and characterised principally by testing of memory and the recalling of information.

However, examinations are only a small part of learning and learning is both a complex activity and an equally fascinating one. If I were to ask you what is more difficult, the picking of a flower or the solving of a complex mathematical problem, I wonder at your response? According to cognitive scientists, there are two types of knowledge required to complete every task. Firstly, there is biologically primary knowledge which is the instinctive knowledge we have all assimilated throughout human evolution. Secondly, there is biologically secondary knowledge, things invented by humans (for example concepts, such as time or religion). Primary knowledge is learnable but not teachable, whereas secondary knowledge requires explicit teaching if it is to be learnt.

The act of picking a flower causes no discernable cognitive load, no effort, but it is nevertheless incredibly complex – such primary knowledge has been easily learned and rapidly stored. Learning Mathematics, for example, is a secondary knowledge and requires conscious effort. Similarly, we have evolved to speak and we acquire our first language simply through being immersed in our culture – learning to read and write requires teaching and requires conscious effort.

So if you are feeling a little stressed during the examinations it is simply because you are using secondary knowledge and that requires conscious effort to master – but rest assured that with a Semester worth of effort already put in, you are in a good location! With more effort it is as easy as picking a flower.

Isn't human evolution – and the examination season – wonderful?!

Mr Adrian Puckering

**Director of Curriculum Innovation and Development**



## YEAR 7, 2017 ORIENTATION DAY



### Year 7, 2017 Orientation Day

We had a new and very eager group of current St Catherine's Year 6 students and also students from a range of other Primary Schools for their first experience of the Senior School at St Catherine's last week.

Our theme – Friends, Positive Relationships and Quality Communication, was taken on board by each and every individual who attended, leading to a highly successful morning.

The girls were involved in a range of group based activities that required an inquisitive mindset, teamwork and communication but above all, positive thinking, inclusiveness and friendly interactions.

Our Year 8 leaders, Jemima Fox, Chloe Rodgers, Georgia Green, Tess Hogan, Thalia Barbayannis and Isabella McDonald facilitated a number of group activities. One activity involved a speed meeting session where girls were asked to introduce themselves individually to 12 other group members with a hand shake, eye contact and a short discussion of their qualities, interests and future aspirations.

The highlight for many though was the photo scavenger hunt where the girls had to locate a series of 50 sites around the School and name the correct building. In doing so, they also learnt to navigate the campus discovering landmarks including Sherren House, Illawarra House, Library, the Clock Tower, Main Reception and Student Services. This activity was overseen by a group of Year 9 leaders Alexandra Hall, Lulu Murrell, Madison Hunt, Heidi Tokatlidis, Georgina Cottrill and Chloe Manson.

It was fantastic to see so much excitement amongst the girls and the youthful optimism of starting Year 7 next year. A sea of smiling faces flooded from Sherren House at midday with the girls looking forward to reacquainting budding new friendships in August at their next orientation day.

**Mr Brad Hicks**

**Year 7 Coordinator**

**Physical Education Teacher**



# SENIOR SCHOOL MUSIC NOTES

## Bands Blast

Thank you again to all involved in the Bands Blast, held in the Dorothy Pizzey Hall on Wednesday 25 May. The Year 5s began the evening with their enthusiastic rendition of *Tequila*, led by the ever-positive and incredible educator Mr Tim Collins. At their normal rehearsal the following day the girls indicated how much they enjoyed both their own playing and the playing of others.

Our Senior students often tell us how important it is to their own development to have older girls as enthusiastic mentors, and our current Year 12 students spoke most compellingly at the Bands Blast about the positivity of their experiences in the Music Department, and why they started and continued with their instruments. The Double Reed Ensemble were marvellous and a great credit to the girls and their director and oboe tutor Ms Mary Farrow. It is worth pointing out that solo oboist, Catherine Liu, also played the next day for the Year 7, 2017 parent information morning.

The Year 6 Concert Band also played well, again under the direction of Mr Collins, and it was wonderful to hear the obvious development an extra year's playing brings. The Years 7 and 8 Concert band were led on the evening by co-conductor Ms Maria Pisani and the girls should be very proud of their efforts, particularly considering their change of conductor(s) at the start of Term 2.

The newly-formed Stage Band had their inaugural performance on this evening and the blended sound and confident performance was most exciting for our up-and-coming jazz players. Mr Collins had yet another band to present before the evening closed. The Senior Concert Band gave a first performance of *Mazama* by Jay Chattaway. This was a first glimpse at what we believe will be a most 'Epic' rendition at the Gala Concert. *Auto-no-mous* brought the concert to a most lively end and a number of parents showed that they really had what it takes on the dance floor. As always, it remains important to provide carefully spaced performance opportunities for the girls in a supportive atmosphere.

A special thank you must go to two members of our wonderful Music Auxiliary. A most delicious warm, spicy fruit beverage and delicious edible treats finished off the night. This supper was provided by Dr Larissa Roeske and Mrs Regina Cheale. As parents of two Year 12 girls who have themselves given many hours of service to the Music Department, they particularly wanted to support the evening as their thanks. However, we should be thanking them for their enormous support over many years and a lovely end to this concert.

## Years 7 and 8 Concert

The Year 7 and 8 Concert was held on Tuesday 31 May at the Toorak Uniting Church. We are so lucky to be able to use this venue which is the perfect size, acoustic and ambiance for the girls. Whilst the concert does provide an opportunity for some of our more advanced students to perform, the event largely showcases practical work undertaken in the classroom Music program, and it is a chance for us to communicate with parents about the many possibilities for performance within the program.

Many thanks to those parents who attended the concert and supported their daughter's in whatever role they had during the evening. There is little doubt that those who do attend send a clear message to their daughters about respect for the Music program and indeed its importance within the whole School program. We will be pleased to provide a more detailed account of the musical items in the next edition of Music Notes.

## Concerto Concert Rehearsals

A reminder that we have our Concerto Concert rehearsal afternoon on Sunday 5 June. We will rehearse upstairs in the Music Department. As always, we thank our hard-working and dedicated Music students who put in a great deal of effort after hours.

Mrs Jenny Mathers

**Head of Music**

Music Administrator: Mrs Robyn Miller Tel: 9828 3014 email – [music@stcatherines.net.au](mailto:music@stcatherines.net.au)



## SENIOR SCHOOL SPORT

# SENIOR SCHOOL SPORT



### Intermediate Netball Week 2

#### A Team

The As played some amazing Netball and had a win against Korowa. We had some outstanding defence from Sarah Wilson and Annabel Joubert. Whilst our shooters were not missing. Korowa kept at it and pushed our girls but we got the win 26–19.

Players: Cassandra Taylor, Annelise Cody, Bianca Witts, Sarah Lavelle, Annabel Joubert, Molly Nash, Juliet Grant, Sarah Wilson, Amelia Maisano

#### B Team

The B Team showed excellent team work and speed this week in a nail-bitingly close match against Korowa. Following a slow start our girls caught up to ultimately finish the match in a 14–14 draw.

Players: Eleanor Millear, Olivia Murdoch, Mimi Holmes, Samantha Osborn, Camilla Broome, Isabella Stuart, Sarah Whiter, Elspeth Cannon, Sarah Steven and Allyson Alblas.

#### C Team

The C Team had a great game against Korowa this week. They outscored the opposition in the first quarter but a strong second quarter from Korowa put us a little behind. Our girls worked well together in defence and had some great breaks but were defeated in the end 11–21.

Players: Jasmine Pearce-Higgins, Madeleine Leggo, Sophie McAllister, Georgina Cottrill, Alessandra Krause, Mia Di Natale, Gabriella Tymms, Alexandra Thoms, Henrietta Paterson, Annabelle Motteram

#### D Team

This week the D Team played a strong game against Korowa. The girls played very well and encouraged one another throughout the entire match. Defenders Alice Richards, Yi Lian Rachel (Rachel) Tan and Erin O'Brien worked hard to stop Korowa. Whilst our midcourt and offensive players moved the ball quickly, Korowa's defence was too strong to break. The final score was 3–19 to Korowa.

Players: Alice Richards, Sophia Thompson, Erin O'Brien, Isabelle Binsted, Amelia Stitch, Adrianna Chai, Charlotte Newbold, Lily Arnoul and Matilda Wolton.

### Intermediate Netball Week 3

#### A Team

The A Team played some fast Netball this week against PLC. The girls played very well and got out to a 12 point lead. We decided to have a switch of positions and put our defenders into shooting. Whilst the girls had a fun game, they won 25–19.

Players: Sophie Turnbull, Annelise Cody, Bianca Witts, Sarah Lavelle, Annabel Joubert, Molly Nash, Juliet Grant, Sarah Wilson, Amelia Maisano

#### B Team

This week the B Team played strongly against PLC to record their first win of the season! Defenders Elspeth Cannon and Sarah Steven were unstoppable in defence, keeping PLC's score low.



## SENIOR SCHOOL SPORT

# SENIOR SCHOOL SPORT

Our midcourt players were relentless in their speed and team work and our shooters Eleanor and Lulu showed improved accuracy and movement around the circle. The final score was 15–10 in our favour.

Players: Lulu Murrell, Elspeth Cannon, Sarah Steven, Eleanor Milleear, Samantha Osborn, Camilla Broome, Isabella Stuart, Isabel Gray and Allyson Alblas.

### C Team

The C Team played their closest game yet against PLC. We had an incredible second quarter where Kate Rowland and Mia Di Natale scored seven goals to put us one goal ahead at the half time break. The whole Team worked really well together this week but narrowly lost in the end 15–20

Players: Kate Rowland, Mia Di Natale, Henrietta Paterson, Alexandra Thoms, Gabriella Tymms, Alessandra Krause, Coco Christian, Sophie McAllister, Georgina Cottrill.

### D Team

The D Team played a great game this week against PLC. The Team has come a long way since their first training session, which is being portrayed on the court. Although St Catherine's were defeated 3–11 the girls put up a strong match.

Players: Mia Raymond, Erin O'Brien, Isabelle Binsted, Adrianna Chai, Charlotte Newbold, Lily Arnoul, Matilda Wolton, Imogen Rice and Rachel Tan.

### Intermediate Netball Week 4

This week our C and D Teams played against Camberwell Girls Grammar at School.

### C Team

The girls played strongly and worked well together to demonstrate their improved skills this week. Their enthusiasm and sportsmanship were excellent and they are to be congratulated on a convincing win over Camberwell. The final score was 16–6.

Players: Madeleine Leggo, Annabelle Motteram, Jasmine Pearce Higgins, Sophie McAllister, Alice Richards, Alexandra Thoms, Mia Di Natale, Alessandra Krause, Georgina Cottrill and Gabriella Tymms.

### D Team

The girls played exceptionally well against Camberwell Girls obtaining their first win of the season! We had some amazing defence from Rachel Tan and Erin O'Brien. Whilst our midcourt players moved the ball quickly through the centre. Our shooters Charlotte Newbold, Amelia Sitch and Sophia Thompson showed improved accuracy and got every rebound. The final score was 13–0.

Players were: Erin O'Brien, Lucy Porter, Adrianna Chai, Charlotte Newbold, Eve Nicolas, Rachel Tan, Elizabeth Anastasiadis, Amelia Sitch and Sophia Thompson.

Ms Skye Stansfield

**Teacher in Charge of Intermediate Netball**

### Cross Country Ski Hire Online Booking System Now Open

The School has a number of Cross Country boots, skis and poles available for students to loan. Priority will go to those girls who have represented St Catherine's at the Victorian Interschools Cross Country event in previous years. Only students competing in the Interschool Cross Country event may loan equipment.

### To hire:

Complete the Cross Country Ski Hire form and payment found on the following [link here](#).

Collect Cross Country Skis on Wednesday 8 June, after School in the Junior School. Must bring booking confirmation email with you to collect

Please note it is a privilege we are able to loan out skis to families, however we are not a ski hire shop. The equipment available is only possible through the generous donations of the St Catherine's Snowsports community. We will do our best to provide equipment for as many students as possible but cannot guarantee this.

Mr Lloyd Knight

**Sport & Athlete Development Coordinator – Head Coach of Athletics**



## ST CATHERINE'S ANNUAL GIVING



### **New Technology & Engineering Centre – an Australian First**

A major objective of the Australian Government's National Innovation and Science Agenda is to increase opportunities for women in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) career areas.

St Catherine's is committed to this endeavour through the development of a ground breaking Technology & Engineering Centre. The Centre is the focus of the Building Fund in this year's Annual Giving recently mailed to our School community – we ask for your support in realising our vision. Director of Curriculum Innovation and Development, Mr Adrian Puckering provides more details on this groundbreaking educational centre of excellence below:

#### **What is the Technology & Engineering Centre?**

In 2017, the School will open a unique and Australian first, Technology & Engineering Centre. The Centre will essentially consist of three main areas: a connected classroom space, an area displaying the latest hardware and software from the world of augmented and virtual reality and a Makerspace; the Makerspace area will come complete with engineering work-benches and 3D printers.

#### **What impact will have it on our Junior and Senior School girls?**

The augmented and virtual reality space will transform how curriculum is delivered. The most exciting potential of the Centre is its ability to take our students beyond the textbook and the traditional classroom, using state-of-the-art technology to safely experience unforgettable lessons first hand.

There is a vast amount of literature spanning over 35 years that confirms that students in Years 1 to 10 learn best when the learning environment is 'authentic' – basically where real-world problems and scenarios exist, where learners have the capacity to explore, to discover and to discuss ideas collaboratively to come up with meaningful information. Such meaningful contexts are key to promoting the acquisition and application of skills based upon real life situations, problems and tasks which can be applied to solving the very complex problems we will face in the coming decades.

Hybrid technology now exists whereby the Virtual Reality immersive experience can be shared, where learning can be collaborative, where students 'learn by doing', where they learn in a complex environment difficult or impossible to achieve otherwise, where it is easy to undo mistakes, to make changes and where no one needs to worry about material costs, time and physical resources, the environment or even the clean-up. In 2017 an Australian first will occur – the first Year 9/10 Elective on the Virtual World. Stay tuned!

#### **Is the development of the new Technology & Engineering Centre leading practice around the world?**

Such a Centre will not only truly be an Australasian first but will also be globally recognised as a leading educational environment, implementing not just best practice but next practice. One crucial purpose of establishing the Centre is to ensure St Catherine's meets the current, and future, student needs for STEM learning. Such a facility will also allow the vibrancy and uniqueness of the School's STEM/TIDE programs to flourish, establishing St Catherine's as the leading Virtual Reality and Makerspace School in Australasia.

By working and giving together, we can ensure that our girls have the best possible facilities and programs for their all-round development and provide the best start for their life beyond School. It is a wonderful investment in our girls and their future.

To view our Annual Giving video [click here](#) or to learn more or donate visit our website [here](#).

## SCOGA NETWORKING EVENTS AND SCHOOL SURVEY

### St Catherine's Old Girls Association (SCOGA) Women in Industry Networking Events

Throughout 2016, SCOGA, are hosting a series of career specific events to facilitate networking among our members and the School community. Through these events we hope to celebrate talent, share knowledge and experience, and make and maintain connections with each other and the School.

The events for 2016 include:

- Women in Creative Industries: Fashion Networking Event
- Women in Banking and Finance Networking Event

### Women in Creative Industries: Fashion Networking Event

At this event we will host a panel of speakers who will discuss a range of topics, provide an opportunity for Q&A and networking with Old Girls and the School community who work in the fashion industry, including fashion design, photography, modelling, textile and graphic design and brand management etc.

Date: Tuesday 7 June 2016

Time: 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Venue: Ellis Street Studios, 16 Ellis Street, South Yarra

Student tickets: \$30 per person

Professional tickets: \$40 per person

To register for this event [click here](#)

#### Speakers

Clementine Lilley ('02) – Senior Textile/Graphic Designer Product Development, Voyager Solo Distribution

Bridget McCall ('98) – Director, LIFEwithBIRD

Jill Clegg ('64) – HUSK

For further information about any of these events, please contact Mrs Phoebe Norman (Olsen '95) at [phoebe\\_norman@icloud.com](mailto:phoebe_norman@icloud.com)

Mrs Phoebe Norman (Olsen '95)

**SCOGA President**

### Ruth Langley Luncheon Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following winners of the Ruth Langley Luncheon Raffle on 20 May at Leonda By The Yarra:

#### First Prize

Seven nights stay in a two-bedroom unit in Novotel Nusa Dua Bali.

Kindly donated by Ms Sherrie Zeng and Mr Gary Cao.

Won by Mrs Danielle Podolak

#### Second Prize

Canada ski vacation package for seven nights for two people.

Kindly donated by Big White Ski Resort.

Won by Mrs Lyra Gattino

### St Catherine's School Communication Survey

In an effort to gauge the effectiveness of our level of communication with our School community, we invite our School community to please participate in a five minute online survey. This anonymous survey will assist St Catherine's to continue to provide you with School news efficiently. The survey is available [here](#). Thank you for your input.

St Catherine's Marketing and Communications Team

### Uniform Centre

Please note that the Uniform Centre will be closed for stocktake on Thursday 16 June.

Mrs Vikki O'Neill

