

The Our Lady of Sion College

Newsletter

College Theme 2018 – Rejoice in God's Love



From the Principal

Child Safety

For almost two years, the Catholic Education Melbourne [Horizons of Hope](#) framework has informed how we sustain a learning environment

where – in partnership with parents, guardians and students – we work towards the full flourishing of each student. As educators, we are focused on ensuring that we provide learning programs to support intellectual growth and access to future pathway opportunities. As a Catholic school, we do so within a particular context. Our commitment to creating effective and engaging learning opportunities supports the wellbeing of our students and is grounded in a particular orientation that calls us to nurture our students' spiritual life and to support them to be all that they are called to be. For Our Lady of Sion College, the learning, wellbeing and faith dimensions are intrinsically linked as we help our students to become fully human.

'I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full.' (John 10:10)

This holistic view of learning respects the sacredness, dignity and giftedness of each person and is grounded in the knowledge that we are all made 'in the image and likeness of God' (Genesis 1:27).

Next week marks National Child Protection Week (2–8 September). At Our Lady of Sion, we take our responsibility for providing a safe and nurturing learning environment very seriously. When a student feels safe and supported, and *is* safe, she has every opportunity to truly flourish and achieve her personal best. The responsibility for creating this environment resides with everyone within our community: staff, parents and guardians, students, the College Board of Directors, Members of the Company of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion, and our volunteers, contractors and visitors. Of utmost importance is the need for clear policies and processes that are enacted and communicated to everyone.

Since 2016, Our Lady of Sion College has developed a number of strategies to support child safety within our community, some of which include:

- Our Lady of Sion College Child Safe Policy
- Our Lady of Sion Code of Conduct
- ongoing and regular professional learning opportunities for all staff, including the Child Safe Standards, Mandatory Reporting, Principles of Inclusion, OH&S
- professional learning opportunities for our College Board of Directors
- employment practices, including the engagement of volunteers and contractors, that are aligned to the Child Safe Standards



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PRINCIPAL: Mrs Tina Apostolopoulos

IMPORTANT DATES

Week B

Mon 3 Sep	eSmart Week Year 7 Immunisations
Tue 4 Sep	eSmart Week
Wed 5 Sep	eSmart Week 90th Anniversary Gala Concert Monash University @ 7:00pm (Art Gallery from 6:00pm)
Thu 6 Sep	eSmart Week
Fri 7 Sep	eSmart Week

Week A

Mon 10 Sep	Drama Week
Tue 11 Sep	Drama Week Unit 4 Drama Performance Evening, Miriam Theatre @ 7:00pm
Wed 12 Sep	Drama Week
Thu 13 Sep	Drama Week Ballroom Dancing Presentation Evening
Fri 14 Sep	College Talk & Tour @ 9:30am Drama Week

From the Principal...



- The use of *SAM4Schools* to screen contractors and ensure they are compliant with Child Safe, insurance and OH&S requirements
- sign in requirements for all visitors to the College
- a staff register to record 'out of school' contact with students
- the establishment of student eLeaders who research and promote Cybersafety
- work completed towards eSmart accreditation
- designated staff with responsibility for Child Safety
- additional and particular training for selected staff responsible for student wellbeing
- *Your Safety Matters* forum for each year level
- increased student voice opportunities, including Conversation Café, RUOK? Day and the creation of child safety resources
- increased counselling team personnel
- our Pastoral Program and related curriculum links
- relevant policies made available via the College website

Wellbeing and child safety is everyone's responsibility. As always, we welcome the comments of staff, students and families and would be very happy to discuss ideas or any concerns you may have.

90th Anniversary Gala Concert

It is not every year that we will have the chance to celebrate 90 years of providing learning and personal development opportunities for the students who attend Our Lady of Sion College. Our final celebration to mark this significant milestone will focus on our students – your daughters. The Gala evening is now a chance for them to showcase their learning, talents and skills with our community inclusive of all staff, family and friends. This evening cannot happen without everyone's support.

The Gala evening will be held on Wednesday 5 September at Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University. I am certain you will agree that we have enjoyed some very memorable events to celebrate our 90th milestone this year and I would like to extend my gratitude to the many staff and students for their wonderful support and commitment to planning what is certain to be a great celebration.

Please support our students by booking your complimentary tickets via <https://tinyurl.com/ybh63j4n>.

With every blessing for the fortnight ahead.

Tina Apostolopoulos
Principal



Deputy Principal Faith and Mission



Dear Young Friends

Wouldn't you love to write a book and call it *Dear Young Friends*? As staff here at Our Lady of Sion College, we work with, and for, our 'young friends' every day. Imagine if we had a message for them and we wanted to write to them – what would we say? I could write a book with what I wanted to say!

Last weekend, I read a book – it was titled *Dear Young Friends*. It's all about the speeches, homilies and messages that Pope Francis has given to young people. One in particular grabbed me and I thought I'd share it with you:

It is exciting to listen to you share your dreams, your questions and your impatience with those who say that things cannot change, those whom I call 'quietists' (who say) 'nothing can change'...

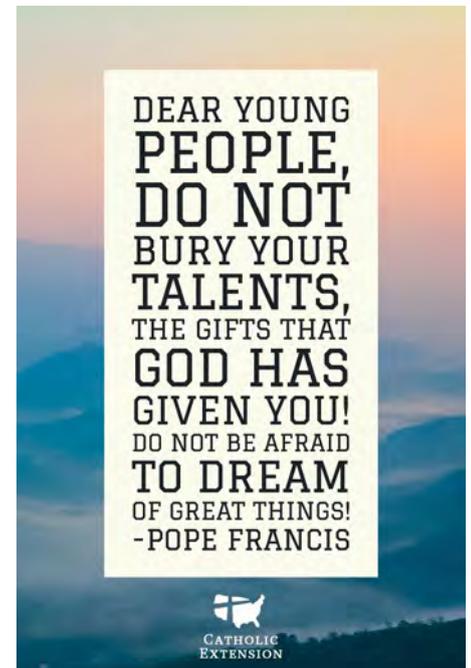
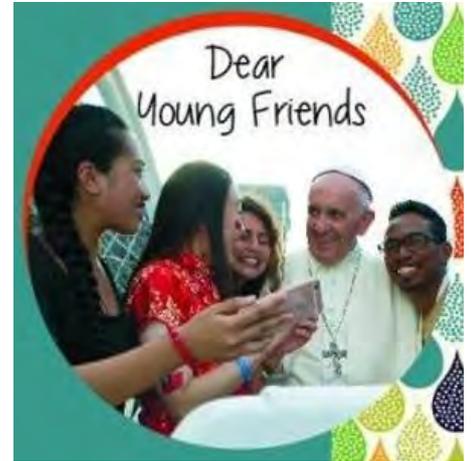
Today the Church looks to you, the world looks to you, and wants to learn from you, to be reassured that the Father's Mercy has an ever-youthful face and constantly invites us to be part of God's kingdom.

Knowing your enthusiasm for mission, I repeat: mercy always has a youthful face! Because a merciful heart is motivated to move beyond its comfort zone. A merciful heart can go out and meet others; it is ready to embrace everyone. A merciful heart is able to be a place of refuge for those who are without a home or have lost their home; it is able to build a home and a family for those forced to emigrate; it knows the meaning of tenderness and compassion. A merciful heart can share its bread with the hungry and welcome refugees and migrants.

To say the word 'mercy' along with you is to speak of opportunity, future commitment, trust, openness, hospitality, compassion and dreams. When your heart is open and able to dream, there is room for mercy.

It looks like the book I wanted to write has already been written – dear young friends!

John McInerney
Deputy Principal – Faith and Mission



In Remembrance

Our thoughts and prayers go to Bess Hamshaw (10 Purple) whose grandfather passed away last week. We remember Bess and her family in a particular way at this sad time.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching



It has certainly been a busy fortnight with students and their parents or guardians discussing learning at Student Progress Meetings. During these evenings, we have also provided parents and guardians with the opportunity to learn more about our Learning Management System, SEQTA. We hope that this has given parents, guardians and students a glimpse of what SEQTA offers.

The next stage of subject preference selection is well underway as we work very hard towards accommodating subject preferences as much as possible. As mentioned before, this is a complex process that determines timetabling and staffing for 2019. While students and parents are understandably eager to know what subjects students will be studying in 2019, timetabling is a complex and time-consuming process. Subjects will be confirmed as soon as possible and in advance of the due dates for booklists.

Booklists for 2019

26 October	Booklists available
15 November	Years 9–12 Booklists due
30 November	Years 7 and 8 Booklists due
10 December	Years 9–12 Booklist Collection at the College, 3.30–5.30 pm
13 December	Years 7 and 8 Booklist Collection at the College, 3.30–5.30 pm



College Colours Program

The College Colours Program is *one way* the College affirms students in the following areas:

- Sion Community Spirit
- Academic Excellence
- Contribution to the Arts
- Sporting Excellence
- House Involvement

Year 12 Colours Awards

As our Year 12 students' time at the College is coming to an end, it is timely to inform students, parents and guardians that Colours points for Year 12 students close on Friday 21 September and we look forward to celebrating their achievement in the Colours program on Friday 19 October at the Year 12 Graduation. In order to prepare for this event, students are advised of the following key dates:

Monday 8 October	Colour points published and available in Notre Dame for student checking
Tuesday 9 October	Review of Points Applications open
Wednesday 10 October	Review Applications close at 5pm
Friday 19 October	Colours awarded at Year 12 Graduation

Week 1 of Term 4 is understandably a busy time for our Year 12 students but in order to avoid disappointment, I **strongly recommend** that points are checked during that time and applications for review submitted by the due date.

Colours Awards and Academic Awards, Years 7–11

As we come to the latter part of Term 3, I would like to also advise students and parents of the following key dates.

Tuesday 30 October	Years 7–11 Colours points close for all areas except Academic Excellence
Wednesday 7 November- Friday 9 November	Years 7–11 check points
Friday 9 November	Review of Points Applications close at 5.00 pm
Tuesday 20 November	Years 7–11 Academic results contributing to Academic awards close
Tuesday 27 November	Years 10 and 11 Awards Ceremony
Monday 3 December	Years 7–9 Awards Ceremony
Thursday 6 December	Night of Excellence, 7.00 pm

Please note that Years 7–11 Awards Ceremonies take place **during the school day** and parents and guardians of recipients will be invited to attend closer to the date.

Please also note that although academic results for academic awards close on 20 November, learning programs will continue with assessments after this date contributing to Semester 2 Reports.

Further details about the College Colours Program can be found on the College website under Our School/College Colours Program.

I wish all our students a productive fortnight ahead.

Michelle Rangelov
Deputy Principal – Learning and Teaching

Deputy Principal Student Wellbeing



Never do what they can do for themselves.

It is vital for young people to have significant adults in their lives to ensure they are safe, well looked after and have an environment where they can thrive. It is easy to want to rush in and help a child who is struggling; after all, we don't want to see them upset or frustrated. It is equally important at times to hold back, assess the situation and decide if this is a learning moment that can be safely 'struggled' through.

It is important for young people to have the chance to take healthy risks, do things their own way, even if it is different to the way you would do it, and take responsibility for the impact of their behaviour. Expect your daughter to give things her best and applaud compassion, innovation and determination. If she has not done her best or adhered to expectations, don't offer unnecessary explanations to help her justify behaviour or avoid reasonable consequences. Doing this does not do young people justice and can delay the development of dependence and mature behaviour.

When young people believe that they can do things on their own and have success, there is often a snowball effect. Taking on new skills is less frustrating and the learning process is more enjoyable.

Things your daughter should do for herself

Younger students:

- Wake herself up in the morning
- Cope without forgotten materials
- Make her breakfast and pack lunch
- Pack for camp by following a packing list
- Know how to call 000 and ask for help
- Cook a basic meal

Older students:

- Fill out paperwork
- Make phone calls to organisations and make her own appointments
- Do her laundry
- Negotiate extensions and speak with her teachers about the help she needs for her wellbeing or learning
- Return faulty items and ask for a refund
- Know some basic first aid and deal with minor emergencies

As we head into National Child Protection Week, Year 8 students this week will have watched the *Your Safety Matters* video and participated in a forum designed to answer students' questions about their safety, whether it be at home, school, in the community or within a relationship. Students in Years 7, 9, 10 and 12 have already experienced these sessions and the feedback has been very positive. I encourage parents to take the time to ask if their daughter has further questions that can be discussed at home.

Christine Kralj
Deputy Principal – Student Wellbeing

Year Level News



Year 7

The *Big Sister, Little Sister* program is an important aspect of our transition program, as it allows the students in Year 7 to have another familiar face to go to for advice and assistance, it broadens their social circle and encourages students to form relationships outside of their own year level and age group. At this stage in the year, it is always really pleasing to see how the relationships formed at the beginning of the year have grown. Below, two Year 7 students reflect on their participation in the *Big Sister, Little Sister* program so far:

Every second Friday, students from Year 7 and Year 10 meet up for fifteen minutes. The Year 7s were introduced to their Big Sisters on Orientation Day. We have a catch up and talk about what's new and things that are coming up, then we will do an activity. We've done different activities each time like learning Zumba, going for walks outside, learning to do High School

Musical dances, movie quizzes and so much more! I think it's important to do this to get to know some older students who can give you some advice about settling into secondary school and when you first arrive, they can help you out.

Erin Kavanagh, 7 White.

My Big Sister is very welcoming and was so nice at the start of the year, happy to answer any questions. We often see each other at the train station, and she says hi and we have a chat. I don't have an older sister, so it's nice to see her and discuss what been going on and what's coming up – it makes me feel like I have a big sister at Sion!

Avalee Scafidi, 7 Purple.

Brianah Walsh
Year 7 Coordinator



Year 8

The Year 8s are busily planning for the last week of term, as this is when they will be running their social justice project, raising money for the One Girl organisation. One Girl helps to support and educate young girls in Sierra Leone and Uganda. They have many different projects such as sponsoring girls to go to school and teaching and supporting girls in starting their own business when they finish school.

During the last week of Term 3, the Year 8s are arranging many different activities for students and staff to participate in. Some of our activities are combined with the Heath and PE team as it is Heath and PE week. The Year 8s will also be running an awareness campaign so that the Sion community is aware of the amazing work that One Girl does, which will begin with wearing an

orange ribbon pin for the week to show your support. The Year 8s will be handing these out on Monday 17 September. Keep an eye out for the different information that the Year 8s will be presenting to you on One Girl, and please support the activities in the last week of term.

Michelle Rudd
Year 8 Coordinator

13 You are considered an adult
You have already dropped out of school
Not the best life for a 13 year old Your future is out of your control

ONE GIRL

PIC-COLLAGE

For every extra year a girl stays in school her income can increase 15-25%

ONE GIRL

Year Level News



Year 11

Approaching term break

As there is only three weeks left until the term break, you might notice your daughter tiring after a busy term. Please encourage her to keep practising good study habits and remind her to seek out additional support if she is losing motivation or reverting back to a non-productive routine. Please continue to encourage her to have some downtime, where she switches off from technology and takes a break.

Lauren Amalfi
Year 11 Coordinator



From the College Psychologist

Very often we are focused on the things in life we're not doing so well, or we're 'not good at'. People tend to focus on these so-called 'weaknesses' and are always trying to find ways to fix or improve them. This is particularly seen in young people, who may be struggling with academic, social, emotional and other aspects of life and are sometimes faced with not feeling 'good enough'.

Young people are still going through a process of discovering their skills and strengths, and are not always focused on what they do well. It is important that we also spend time focusing on our strengths and positive qualities, as this is how we build healthy self-esteem and a positive self-concept. Research has shown that people experience faster growth and development when they nurture their strengths instead of focusing on correcting their shortcomings.

Below are some conversation starters you can use with your daughters to help them focus on their strengths and positive qualities:

- *What do you think you're naturally good at? Why?*
- *What positive things do you think your friends would say about you? What qualities do you think they admire in you?*
- *What makes you different?*
- *What is your favorite subject of all? How do you use your skills and strengths in this subject?*
- *What do you enjoy doing? Why?*
- *What is something you love about yourself?*
- *What are your best qualities?*
- *What do you think you could help others with? What could you teach them?*
- *What is something you have improved on in the last 12 months? How?*
- *What makes you feel good about yourself?*
- *What makes you proud to be you?*

Some of these questions might be very difficult for some girls to answer, and you might notice them struggling to think of their great qualities. You might want to prompt them or have a look online at some qualities and strengths lists for them to pick from. If you notice they're giving a lot of answers that are to do with weaknesses or negative qualities, try to turn the conversation back around to their positives. If you're concerned at all about their self-esteem or self-concept or would like to discuss this further, please don't hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Counselling Team.

Sofia Stagnitta
College Psychologist



Year Level News



Notre Dame

The VCE September trial examinations will take place in the first week of the school holidays from Monday 24 September to Thursday 27 September, held in the Notre Dame Centre.

All students completing a Unit 3/4 at Our Lady of Sion are expected to attend.

Students are asked to be at school at least 30 minutes before their examination and are asked to contact Ms Kelly at the school if they are absent or running late. Students are permitted to wear neat casual clothes. Students wishing to study at Sion can attend on the days that their examinations are not timetabled; however, they will need to sign in at student reception. The library will be available as a study area.

The examination timetable has been published and distributed to the students. Parents of our Year 11 and 12 students have also been sent an email notifying them of the timetable.

The September trial examinations offer our students a valuable opportunity to experience the VCAA examination process. The timing of their answers, the examination atmosphere and the presence of the external supervisors offer our students a 'trial' of the examination weeks to come.

VCE Unit 4 September Practice Exams 2018

	Monday 24 September	Tuesday 25 September	Wednesday 26 September	Thursday 27 September
1	8.15 – 11.30 English English as an Additional Language (EAL)	8.30 – 10.15 Further Maths 2	8.30 – 10.45 Literature (8.30 – 10.45) Maths Methods 1 (8.30 -9.45 am) Studio Arts (8.30 – 10.15)	8.30 – 10.45 Maths Methods 2 (8.30 – 10.45) Drama (8.30 – 10.15)
2	12.30 – 2.15 Further Maths 1 Specialist Maths 1	11.00 – 1.45 Biology 11.00 – 1.45 Chinese Media Studies (11.00 – 1.15)	11.15 – 1.30 Health and Human Development Specialist Maths 2	11.15 – 1.30 History Physical Education Accounting
3	Re-sit	2.30 – 5.15 Legal Studies (2.30 – 4.45) Visual Communication Art (2.30- 4.15) Chemistry (2.30 -5.15)	2.00 – 4.45 Business Management (2.00 – 4.15 pm) Text & Traditions (2.00 – 4.15 pm) Physics (2.00 -4.45pm)	2.00 – 4.45 Food Studies Music Italian French (2.00 – 4.15 pm) Psychology (2.00 – 4.45pm)

Clare Kelly
Senior Learning Leader



VCAL

It has been an exciting and busy time for the VCAL girls, who started the term with a community project initiative 'Gifts for Change'. The girls began with learning the steps involved in the management of a project. Planning and brainstorming led to the initiative to donate gift packs to Indigenous Youth as part of the Year 10 Indigenous Immersion in Term 3. Team meetings, initiative and volunteering have all culminated in the development of the project to date.

To purchase the gifts, the girls have put together three fundraisers: selling hot chocolates, movies in the Miriam Theatre and a sausage sizzle. Letters of requests for donations were also sent out to several businesses, and while not all were successful, thanks goes to the Richmond Football Club for donating Sherrin footballs, which will no doubt be a sought-after possession. The funds raised have gone to purchasing t-shirts, skipping ropes, and toiletries, which will be packed and transported with the Year 10 girls on their trip. With the final stages of the project to complete, the girls will be looking forward to seeing the end result for a great cause!

Maureen Fraser, Learning Enhancement Leader



Humanities

Operation Toilet – Wednesday 12 September

One in three people do not have the use of a toilet in our world. More people own a mobile phone than a toilet. This is a problem in many developing countries around the world and India is one of them.

In early Term 4, Year 7 Geography students will have the privilege of listening to guest speaker Mark Balla, also known as the 'Toilet Warrior' in India. Mark is actively doing something about this problem. Through his establishment of 'Operation Toilet' he is raising funds and awareness of the situation and has been able to make a positive difference in countries such as India. The following is an excerpt from the book Mark is currently writing, its working title is 'A trip to the toilet':

I learned that 90% of the surface water in India was contaminated with human faeces. I discovered that girls were dropping out of school en masse across India and the rest of the developing world in great numbers simply because there were no toilets in their schools. And so many others were missing school when they had their periods because there was simply no way for them to deal with their personal needs at school if toilets were not provided.

So how can we at Sion help Mark with this project and make a positive difference to the lives and education of girls in India? By donating a gold coin to go to the toilet on **Wednesday 12 September**. Year 7 leaders and teachers will be encouraging all girls to donate a gold coin before using the toilet on this day. So please have your gold coins ready everyone.

Education is so important in ending the cycle of poverty and if girls around the world are dropping out of school when they reach puberty because there is nowhere to go to the toilet, then let's work together to help people like Mark and his organisation, Operation Toilet, to make a positive difference.

Year 10 Geography Fieldwork

Recently, the Year 10 Geography class had the opportunity to go to Portsea and Point Nepean to discover the effects of coastal erosion. It was an eye-opener, as we had been able to see the impact of erosion throughout the location. When arriving at Portsea, there weren't many people and most of the stores/cafes had closed down since they were not financially able to keep their businesses open. Portsea was well-known for its beach and, because of erosion, the water had taken away the sand, leaving visitors with nowhere to sit. Because of this, no one visits Portsea anymore.

At Point Nepean, again, there weren't many people. This place was interesting to look around and we were able to see how life was in times gone by. There was no access to the beach since the water had washed away the platform/pier. At Point Nepean, there were bike hiring facilities but unfortunately due to lack of demand, they were not open. This experience was truly fascinating and these two locations were amazing to see first-hand even with the bad weather conditions on the day of our visit.

Tiffany Chia, 10 Purple.



Sarah Chalmers
Humanities Learning Leader

The Arts News

IN THE ARTS CLASSROOM

In Year 12 Studio Arts this term we have been working towards our final Art pieces. We have to create a minimum of two artworks that reflect our exploration proposal and the ideas we have explored during the first semester. I am currently working on some fashion illustrations in which I am using cotton thread to sew the clothing onto the paper. I am also creating a Blazer in which I will draw inspiration from David Bowie and Mick Jagger. My exploration proposal was to explore 70s clothing and style so all my work will reflect 70s clothing.

In Studio Arts so far, I have learned a lot about time management when doing a Year 12 folio subject. As I do two folios (Visual Communication Design and Studio Arts) I really have to manage my time and organisation with folio work. I have learned a lot about different methods including tie dye, screen printing, embroidery and garment making. The skills I have learned throughout Studio Arts can be applied during my life in many ways as I am going to pursue fashion design after Year 12.

Ruby Sullivan, 12 Purple



Drama

After the success of *The Addams Family* the Drama fun just keeps coming! Drama Week is coming up in Week 9 this term, and with events like musical movie sing-alongs, staff versus students Theatre Sports, junior workshops and the Drama Queen Olympics

it is set to be an amazing week of fun and frivolity! There will be many events to get involved in. Students should listen out to the bulletin for information.

The Year 9s and 10s have been working on monologue performances in the last few weeks and for many it was their very first performance of this type. Congratulations to all our intermediate performers on their fine performance work.

Our Year 8s have been studying Greek tragedy and the story of Jason and Medea. They performed their duologue performances with energy and flare, and we have had many passionate interpretations of the scripts from our budding Year 8 actors. Well done to all Year 8 students for completing this challenging assessment with such enthusiasm!

The Year 12 Unit 4 Drama class will be performing their solo pieces on Monday 10 September at 7.00 pm in the Miriam Theatre. No need to book tickets, come along and see the fantastic work that these girls have been doing and wish them well for their performance exams early next term.

The Drama Team



Artist Spotlight

Stephanie Joshua, 9 Red & Chelsea Elder, 11 Purple

Time to Shine 2018 was a musical celebration that showcased the extraordinary talents of youth – featuring singers, dancers and musicians from Catholic secondary schools across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. In 2018, *Time to Shine* featured four Our Lady of Sion College students: dancers Stephanie Joshua and Sarah Kelsey as well as singers Matisse Nannes and Chelsea Elder. Stephanie and Chelsea have been kind enough to recount their *Time to Shine* journeys:

Last year in July, I auditioned to be a dancer in the 2018 Time to Shine Performing Arts Gala, which was held on Saturday 28 July. As dancers, we attended three-hour rehearsals every Sunday, cleaning and polishing each routine to make it look its absolute best. Rehearsals followed more rehearsals, and then it really got serious. The performance process was in full swing as we rehearsed different numbers of the show at the State Theatre leading up to the performance. It is really hard to believe that this whole experience would come to an end, but Time to Shine has really been one of the best experiences of my life. My dream as a performer is to get out on a big stage in front of thousands of people, and fortunately that dream came true. Dancing on stage at the State Theatre is something I will truly never forget, and meeting new friends from Catholic schools all over Victoria made it even better. As well as the performance and rehearsal side, I really did make some lifelong friends from this amazing opportunity. I am forever grateful for the opportunity of participating in Time to Shine, and I can't wait to audition again for the next one!"

Stephanie Joshua, 9 Red

Time to Shine was an experience I will never forget. I am so grateful for the opportunity to be able to work with industry professionals as well as alongside many very talented students from Catholic schools around Melbourne. I had such a wonderful time and have met some lifelong friends. I definitely recommend everyone who is interested in music, singing or dancing to audition!

Chelsea Elder, 11 Purple

We would like to congratulate the students on their participation in what was an incredible production showcasing our students' talents.

Natasha Borg
Arts Learning Leader



Domain News



Languages

This August brought more guests to Our Lady of Sion College – Gaia Capecchi, Ilaria Marino and Mariapia Rende and their teacher Mrs Patrizia Monaco from our sister school Liceo Scientifico Statale Scorza, Cosenza, Italy.

The past few weeks have been very busy and exciting for our visiting students and their host sisters. Having been fitted with Sion uniforms and wearing them with pride, our guests attended classes of interest, visited well-known places in Melbourne, learned about the gold rush at Sovereign Hill and discovered the unique native Australian animals at Phillip Island.

Gaia, Ilaria and Mariapia have also been a wonderful addition to our Year 11 Italian class as they have provided students with greater opportunities to improve their language skills as well as strengthen cultural links with young people from overseas. It's been a real pleasure having our Italian visiting students and teacher and it will be with much sadness that we will farewell them next Tuesday when they return to Cosenza, Italy.

The visiting students have written a short reflection to share with us.

G'day! We are Ilaria, Gaia and Mariapia and we are from Cosenza, a small town in the region of Calabria, in the South of Italy. We arrived in Melbourne on 19 August at the crack of dawn. Despite the tiredness and the confusion after such a long flight we were excited as soon as we got off the plane, the adrenaline kicked in and gave us the stamina to stay awake enough to greet our eagerly awaiting host families.

There are so many things we would like to share and too many to be listed such as the big warm welcome we received, the Aussie welcome, our first day at Sion, being fitted out in the uniform, attending lessons entirely in English, making new friends, meeting new people.

Other highlights include the trips to Sydney, Sovereign Hill, Phillip Island and an excursion to Melbourne City. Other places we visited with our generous host families were Sorrento, the Great Ocean Road, the Twelve Apostles, Cape Schanck and many more.

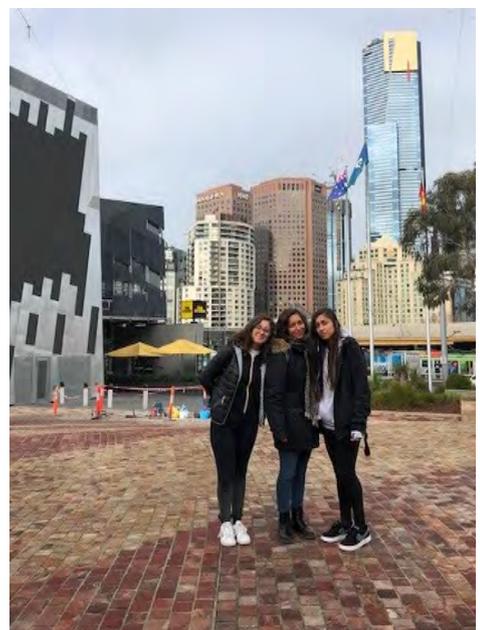
We feel fortunate and we are very thankful for having been given this opportunity because it has allowed us to open our minds to new horizons, adventures and things we never expected to try – even vegemite and pineapple pizza! We would like to extend our thanks to Mrs Apostolopoulos and also Mrs Amato, who coordinated the Exchange. We thank also all the teachers that welcomed us in their classes and Mrs Rizio for our special English classes.

Last but not least our amazing host sisters Sophie Ciardulli, Karli Battistella and Claire McManus and their families. We can't wait for them to visit us in Italy and show them everything we have to offer. We truly feel grateful for this memorable opportunity.

By Ilaria Marino, Gaia Capecchi and Mariapia Rende

We wish to thank the **Battistella, Ciardulli and McManus** families for their support, enthusiasm and generosity in taking the exchange students into their homes.

Gail Amato
Languages Learning Leader



Domain News



Science

What a week of Science!

We had some fantastic entries into the Science Challenge, where students explored how we can design solutions to the problems facing our community. Designs included eco-friendly learning spaces, tools for the disabled and safeguarding the bee populations of the world.

The SCInema was a fantastic opportunity for students to view the latest in scientific discovery and scientific issues affecting us all.

The SCInema will make further appearances from time-to-time so keep your eyes peeled for the next SCInema session!

Perform Education came to visit us too, and the Year 7s and 8s were lucky to watch STEMania. The performers Evan and Tim entertained us all with their fun and interesting skits. With a little assistance from some very talented Sion girls the show was very funny and taught the girls about how STEM can be used in everyday life.

Thanks to the support of Year 7 and 8 class teachers as well as Science Staff for making Science @ Sion Week a success!

Cassie Marsden
Science Learning Leader



From the Careers Room

Surround yourself only with people who are going to take you higher.

Oprah Winfrey



Students and families can find the fortnightly Careers newsletter at www.olsccareers.com/?page=newsletter. In this fortnight's newsletter there is information relating to:

- * Upcoming events – Tertiary Open days, Monash University Student Experience Day – Art, Design and Architecture, Medical Radiations Careers Open Day, Deakin University Faculty of Arts and Education Information Sessions
- * Career in the Spotlight – Fire Fighter
- * Things to Consider – CASPer Webinar
- * One for the diary – Deakin University, Step on CampusACU: Talk with teachers, RSPCA holiday program.
- * Research ideas – The Diploma of Teacher Education Preparation.

Brooke O'Hara
Careers and Pathways Counsellor

Sports News



Weekly Sport Results

Senior Round 1

Badminton: Sion (1/2/209) def by Camberwell (3/6/253)

Soccer: Sion (6) def Ruyton (0)

Intermediate Round 3

Badminton:

A Grade: Sion (0/1/178) def by Camberwell1 (4/8/265)

B Grade: Sion (2/4/212) def by Camberwell1 (2/5/234)

Soccer: Sion (3) def Korowa (0)

Volleyball:

A Grade: Sion (3 – 78) def Lowther Hall (0 – 60)

B Grade: Sion (3 – 75) def Lowther Hall (0 – 59)

C Grade: Sion (3 – 75) def Lowther Hall (0 – 54)

Junior Round 3

Badminton:

A Grade: Sion (0/2/245) def by MLC (4/8/292)

B Grade: Sion (4/8/240) def MLC (0/0/120)

Volleyball:

A Grade: Sion (3 – 95) def Loreto2 (1 – 60)

B Grade: Sion (3 – 75) def Loreto2 (0 – 52)

C Grade: Sion (0 – 48) def by Loreto2 (3 – 75)



Soccer:

A Grade: Sion (4) def PLC (3)

B Grade: Sion (0) def by PLC (4)

Katrina Gurciullo
Sports Coordinator

GSV Preliminary Track and Field Event

On Wednesday 15 August the Athletics squad competed at the GSV Preliminary Track and Field meet. It was great to see so many girls give everything a go and try their hardest to achieve the best result possible. On the day we placed 7th overall, going through to the Division 3 Championship carnival as the top qualifiers! We can't wait to see what the girls bring to the next carnival and hopefully we can close this athletics season with a win!



Hannah Shanley,
Athletics Captain



Sports Star of the Week

Charli Brown, Year 8, is this week's Sports Star. Charli has been selected in the Victorian State team for Indoor Netball and will compete in the Australian Junior Indoor Netball Championships in Queensland later in the year. This is an outstanding achievement, well done Charli!



Parent Notices

Social Justice and Sport Combined

Relay for Life

Together, the Sports and Social Justice teams have organised for members of our College to partake in the Manningham Relay for Life. Relay for Life is a fun and moving overnight experience that raises vital funds for Cancer Council's research, prevention and support services. Team members take turns walking throughout the day/night to symbolise the ongoing fight against cancer and participate in enjoyable community events such as lip sync battles, sumo showdown, mini Olympics and the silent disco.

We will be organising fundraising activities at the College in the week prior to this event, with proceeds going towards Cancer Council and Caritas Christi.

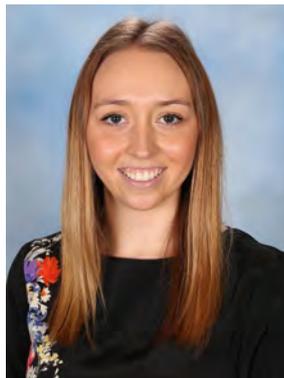
Relay for Life will take place at Doncaster Athletics Track on Saturday 8 September from 4.00 pm and conclude on Sunday 9 September at 12.00 pm. We welcome families of students partaking in this activity to come down to this community event, whether it be joining in for a few laps or taking part in the candle light ceremony at 8.00 pm on Saturday.

Should you wish to donate to this wonderful cause, our team page is accessible via the following link: <https://bit.ly/2LCr0kZ>

Rebecca Bennett and Katrina Gurciullo



**Celebrate.
Remember.
Fight Back.**



Learning Resource Centre

The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge is coming to a close in September. Students still have time to complete the reading of 15 books, with five being their own choice, and the other ten from the official reading list, available online.

Last week we celebrated Book Week. The theme this year was *Find Your Treasure*. This annual event is held by the Children's Book Council of Australia to promote and celebrate books, reading, and literacy. We held a Question-a-Day Competition, which was open to all students. From Monday to Friday, a question was published in the student bulletin, and students had to come in each day to fill out the entry form and place it in the entry box. Winners will be announced in the next few weeks.

The Library worked with Mr Jac Canning, Ms Rebecca Bennett, Ms Sherine Baydoun, and Ms Siobhan Taylor to run a Harry Potter Trivia event to help celebrate Book Week. The event was for all students, and was attended by a huge crowd. Prizes of \$25 Dymocks vouchers went to each of the winning Junior and Senior Teams.

Last Friday 17 August, the competition that we held in collaboration with Ms Siobhan Taylor, House Coordinator, closed. Students had to write a one-sentence story; the topic was open. We are still in the decision-making process about winners, so they will be announced in the next newsletter.

Talei Valucava
College Librarian





Our Lady of Sion College 90th Anniversary Gala Concert

For our final 90th anniversary event, the College warmly invites you to attend our Gala Concert.

Date: Wednesday 5 September 2018
Time: 6.00 pm for Art Gallery viewing and foyer music
7.00-9.30 pm for Concert including interval
Venue: Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University, Clayton
Bookings: <https://tinyurl.com/ybh63j4n>



Enquiries: Ann Day at 9890 9097 or aday@sion.catholic.edu.au
Booking issues: MAPA Box Office on 9905 1111 or via boxoffice@monash.edu

Past Students' Association Social Afternoon

We'd love for you to join us for our final event for the year, to catch up and hear your suggestions for next year's events. Past students, partners and friends are all welcome to attend.

When: Saturday 8 September 2018, 3-5 pm
Where: Enrik's Restaurant, 25-27 Railway Road, Blackburn
Cost: \$10 entry includes finger food, drinks at bar prices
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/WVXG
Enquiries: paststudents@sion.catholic.edu.au



Join us to celebrate the
50th Anniversary of Doncaster Kindergarten
on Sunday 16th September 2018 from 11am -2pm
Suite 11a, Manningham City Square
687 Doncaster Road Doncaster

FREE Kids Entertainment

Face painting • Door Prizes • Sausage Sizzle and MORE!