



MERCY COLLEGE ALUMNI

School Friendships Forever

- *A lifetime of connections*



Class of 1978 (Yr10) School Friendships Forever

*Thank you, ladies,
for sharing your reflections!*

Anita Aiezza



Have you maintained any school friendships over the years since leaving College?

No, I have not. My special friends and I ended up going to different schools to complete years 11 and 12. The distance, together with the pressures of study, led to us losing connection.

Was your reunion meeting today the first?

I went to the last reunion in October organised by Diane and Mercy College in the hope to meet my special friends. Thankfully, there were old classmates there. We decided then that we would meet up again soon and spread the word about reuniting the "Class of '78".

What was it like meeting your old school friends at the reunion lunch today?

It was wonderful hearing about everyone's life journey post Mercy college days. It brought back some great memories as we shared stories of our Mercy experiences. It was interesting so find that we were all in the same place, ready to devote more time to ourselves and with a strong desire to reconnect with old classmates.

What is your reflection of your journey since leaving Mercy College?

I left Mercy College feeling excited about the future I was going to create for myself. I worked hard to realise my ambition to work in the science field and to carve a career path for myself. I succeeded in doing this. I returned to university several times to further my learning and advance my career. On reflection, I wish I had spent more time and effort maintaining the wonderful friendships that I had as I believe that this would have enhanced my life and created more balance. I am so grateful for having reunited with special friends and classmates. We have a special connection that is different to other friends. When you think about it, we shared experiences throughout our early teens (13-16 years); riding the waves of self-discovery together.

What message of encouragement / inspiration would you impart to current students?

We are very lucky in Australia. In the main, we have opportunities to create whatever future we desire. You can set out to be, and do, what you desire as long as you are committed, persistent and are prepared to work hard. Real success is when you can do that with balance. Through life's journey you come to realise how important it is to maintain friendships and just have fun!

All is possible.



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Christine Carmuciano



What was it like meeting your old school friends at the reunion lunch today?

It felt like nothing had changed, we were still the young girls of 40 years ago, just in slightly older bodies now and a lifetime of stories to catch up on. It was so nice to be able to pick up right where we left off all those years ago.

What is your reflection of your journey since leaving Mercy College?

I think that while I was at school I was always wishing for the future, trying to speed up time so that I was older, thinking life would be better then. But when I look back now I am flabbergasted that it has actually been 40 years since leaving the college and how time has gone by so quickly.

It feels like I have lived a lifetime of so many different chapters, good ones and bad ones but all teaching me life lessons and a chance to grow as a person. I have realised that we always need to keep moving forward and reinventing ourselves, no matter how hard it might be sometimes and that when times might seem hard, it is when you least expect it that something wonderful will come into your life and turn it around. But above all, we are the only ones who can change what isn't right in our lives and that being the victim only keeps us stuck and from moving forward.

Louise Hay has the perfect affirmation that I always try to live by and remind myself of; "Feel the Fear and Do it Anyway!" I have always instilled this in my children and myself when having to step out of my comfort zone. Fear is just the unknown and once we know it, then it's not fearful anymore, it just becomes our new normal. So my journey since leaving Mercy College has consisted and I am sure will continue to consist of many "new normals"! The difference now, is that I am excited for what my new normal will be.

What message of encouragement / inspiration would you impart to current students?

I would encourage the girls to follow their passion because when you love what you are doing you will flourish and excel. Enjoy your school years and the simplicity of life, don't get caught up in social media and how you are expected to look, act or feel. It is your uniqueness that will make you stand out in the future, not you being the same as everyone else.

Always be true to yourself and follow your gut instincts, if it doesn't feel right, then it isn't!

Be kind to each other, laugh lots, study well and never lose focus.

Aim for the stars, nothing is unattainable.

Just believe in yourself and you will achieve your dreams!



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Enrica Mallard



What was it like meeting your old school friends at the reunion lunch today?

It was an absolute joy to meet some old graduates from my time at Mercy. Sharing both common and unique experiences felt very familiar and warming.

What is your reflection of your journey since leaving Mercy College?

I have led a reflective life and my time at Mercy was no exception. My lack of self-assurance certainly limited my capacity to function more fully in the world. Living a very introspective life also honed my capacity to perceive intuitively. Today I am strong in my knowing of who I am and make choices without justification based on what I am choosing to create in the world. What has also shown up is an unwavering commitment to the expansion of consciousness on the planet.

What message of encouragement / inspiration would you impart to current students?

Know Thyself. Be open to receive the guidance and advice of those around you including family, friends and teachers, yet always choose for yourself what you are choosing to create.

Reassure those around you that they have taught you well and now is the time for you to step beyond “the nest” and create for yourself. Never allow yourself to adopt what someone else is telling you as your course of action unless it resonates with you.

What resonates with you is what vibrates like your heart and soul. The content of your mind will be available as a tool, a resource. Continue to cultivate that resource as you continue your studies.

Be assured in you. No-one will ever be you. You are here to reflect you in the world in whichever way you choose to create that. This is the truth about diversity. Diversity is not the inclusivity of the cloaks we all wear. It is the allowance of all of us being who we are no matter how we show up in the world.

Be and do what gives you joy. That is a clue of what resonates with your heart and soul. Watch the company you keep. If those around you don't elicit the same heart-felt joy, choose again. When choosing a partner, it is never about what “completes you”. You are beautifully and absolutely complete as you are. Choose someone you choose to walk side by side with, stay strong in your potency and knowing. Continue to receive and perceive what you know. Continue to be in allowance of all and never diminish yourself for anyone or anything.



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'It was great meeting up with girls that I hadn't seen since leaving College.'
Lyn Mclay

'It was good to see the ladies and our old College and how far it has come since the old days'.
Jenny Rayner

