

The Our Lady of Sion College

Newsletter

College Theme 2018 – Rejoice in God's Love



From the Principal

Welcome Back to Sion Day 19 May 2018

One of the many highlights of the last fortnight was the 'Welcome Back to Sion' 90th anniversary reunion for all past staff and students.



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PRINCIPAL: Mrs Tina Apostolopoulos

We were thrilled to host the reunion, which provided a wonderful afternoon of conversation, memories, laughter and friendships renewed. 650 people attended, including our special guests Sr Mary Barbuto and Sr Angela Bayliss (the co-leaders of the Australian Our Lady of Sion congregation) and Sr Mary Barry, Sr Marianne Dacy, Sr Mary Lotton, Sr Joan Mack, Sr Stella O'Donnell and Sr Mary Reaburn. The afternoon was also a great opportunity to welcome back the following past principals (left to right):

Ms Karen Jebb	2005 – 2015
Mrs April Honeyman	1997 – 2004
Mrs Lucy Moloney	1987 – 1996
Mr Michael Quin	1982 – 1986
Mr Greg O'Callaghan	1977 – 1981
Ms Pauline Malady	1974 – 1975
Sr Patricia Watson	1963 – 1974



Past students attending included past College Captains and student leaders, and mothers and grandmothers of past students who are themselves past students! Many travelled from country Victoria, as well as Tasmania, NSW, ACT and Queensland. We welcomed many past staff and Deputy Principals who have contributed so generously to the College over the years.

I shared with our guests the following snippets from the *Advocate*, published in the first few years of the College's establishment. I think they point to the dedication and commitment of the founding Sisters, without whose courage we would not be here.

This is the first secondary school to be established in the Archdiocese of Melbourne by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion and it is expected that parents who appreciate a good convent education will avail themselves of this excellent opportunity of securing for their children a thorough training – spiritual and educational – that will adequately fit them to take their place in the world (Advocate, 1928).

(After the construction of a new building): Fr Clack the PP doubted if many institutions would cheerfully face a heavy responsibility of 14,000 pounds as the nuns were doing. When he asked one sister how much money she had in hand, she replied she had no more than two pence. He said, 'you cannot do much with two pence' to which she replied 'God will do the rest' and he did. (Advocate, 1936)

IMPORTANT DATES

Week B

Mon 28 May VCE Drama Ensembles Evening
Miriam Theatre @ 7:00pm

Year 10 Careers Parent Evening
Notre Dame Centre @ 7:00pm

Thu 31 May SION DAY
Eucharist and activities
Students dismissed @ 2:30pm

Week A

Tue 5 Jun Information Evening
(for prospective families)
Miriam Theatre @ 7:00pm

Wed 6 Jun Year 10 & 11 Exams

French & USA Partnership
Program Information Evening
Miriam Theatre @ 7:00pm

Thu 7 Jun Year 10 & 11 Exams

Fri 8 Jun Year 10 & 11 Exams

Fri 29 June CSEF Government Grant
Applications close

From the Principal...

There is a great sense of pride that the Sisters and current staff feel at this time. Providing 90 years of Catholic education for girls is a great achievement. We are grateful to be continuing the legacy established by the Sisters 90 years ago and handed down through the contribution of past principals, hundreds of past staff and thousands of students and their families, who have all enriched the story that is Sion. I hope our community enjoys the photos of our reunion.



The 2017 *Our Lady of Sion College Annual Report* is presented to the community and is now located on our College website. To view the *Annual Report*, please click [here](#).

With every blessing for the fortnight ahead.

Tina Apostolopoulos
Principal

Deputy Principal Faith and Mission



Year 7 Retreat

Last Friday, our Year 7 students participated in their first retreat at Our Lady of Sion College. The retreat program is an important element of our College as we try to focus on the spiritual growth of the girls in our care.

Much of the day is spent highlighting key tenets that our school stands for – prayer and scripture, Catholic social teaching and a focus on Our Lady.

We were fortunate to have Sr Mary Reaburn join us to share some of the work of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion around the world, and provide information on the secondary school in the Philippines that we will be fundraising for this year on Sion Day.

We were also joined by College Principal, Mrs Apostolopoulos, who shared some reflections on her recent experience at the International Sion Schools conference in Paris and also her study tour in Jerusalem last year. It is hoped that this retreat will ground the girls in the charism of our College and clarify for them what it means to be a 'Daughter of Sion'.

Some reflections from the retreat:

*My favourite part was when Mrs Apostolopoulos came to talk to us about what she did and what she learnt in Paris about the Ratisbonne family and the Ecce Homo underground retreat area where Pontius Pilate condemned Jesus. Mrs Apostolopoulos went to Theodore Ratisbonne's grave. Beside it was a chair where Theodore sat and looked at the garden. People who visited the grave could sit on his chair. **Ava Leonard, 7 White***

*One of my favourite parts was the meditation. We arranged ourselves on the floor and lay down. We took time to reflect on ourselves and who we are as students at Our Lady of Sion. We do not usually get this sort of opportunity and many of the girls really appreciated the chance to relax and reflect. **Ella Curry, 7 White***

*Retreat was AMAZING! I really enjoyed when Sister Mary came and talked to us about the Sion families around the world. We know that others are less fortunate than us and we are raising money for a school in the Philippines. She told us about the conditions that some people live in and how poor they are. On Sion Day, we will try to make a change by raising as much as we can to help this school. **Daisy Stafford, 7 White***



John McInerney
Deputy Principal – Faith and Mission



In Remembrance

Our thoughts and prayers go to Megan De Bolfo (9 Purple) whose grandfather passed away last week and Matisse Dixon (9 Purple) whose grandfather died this week.

We remember Megan, Matisse and their families in a particular way at this sad time.

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

Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching



We are more focused on assessment at this time of year as we find ourselves at the mid-point of term. Semester examinations are an important part of the senior learning program. Examinations provide an opportunity for students to:

- demonstrate their learning
- formulate responses in timed examination conditions
- practise study skills in preparation for VCE.

With assessment tasks to be completed and preparation for examinations, it is not unusual for students to feel that there is much to do at this time of year. It is also a time when students may feel that past study habits are being challenged and in fact this may be the case as students progress through a more demanding curriculum.

While this can be a challenging time, I would like to remind students and parents/guardians that we are committed to working in partnership with you. The following staff can assist students and parents:

- subject teachers
- Homeroom teachers can assist with developing study timetables and pastoral support
- Mrs Clare Tipping, Year 7–10 Curriculum Leader
- Ms Clare Kelly, Senior Learning Leader
- Year 10 Level Coordinator, Mr Paul Kerr
- Year 11 Level Coordinator, Ms Lauren Amalfi
- Year 12 Level Coordinator, Mr Adam Rieusset
- counsellors.

There are many levels of staff support that students can access and while feeling some point of pressure is expected at this time of year, some may feel overwhelmed. I encourage students and parents/guardians to avail themselves of the expertise of College staff.

Information about the examinations is available to parents and has been disseminated to students in recent days. For your reference, please note the key dates below:

Key Dates

Year 10 and 11 exams commence	Wednesday 6 June
Year 10 and 11 exams conclude	Thursday 14 June
Correction Day	Friday 15 June
Exam Feedback Day	Monday 18 June
Semester 2 subjects commence	Tuesday 19 June

Finally, I encourage students to see their examinations and assessments as a way of consolidating and enhancing their learning. While academic achievement is important, assessment feedback provides strategies for future learning.

I wish you well in coming weeks.

Michelle Rangelov
Deputy Principal – Learning and Teaching



Deputy Principal Student Wellbeing



Keeping Our Students Safe

A number of times a week we receive an **Incident Reporting Information System (IRIS)** alert letting schools know about incidents of concern that usually involve students from other schools as they travel to or from school. Often the concern is around photos being taken or students being followed or spoken to by strangers.

If an alert occurs close to the College, we note the possible risk to our students and may notify students or parents. While we don't want to cause unfounded worry in our families, I do encourage parents/guardians to talk to their daughter about what to do if they feel unsafe as they travel to or from school.

Students who feel unsafe as they travel should never move to a less populated area to 'avoid' the person as this increases their risk if they are followed. Don't delay in calling 000 and ask for the police. It may be useful to identify themselves as a student from Our Lady of Sion College. Naturally, it is also important that once a student is safe, she should call her parent/guardian to let them know what has happened and gain their support and comfort.

Once at school it is vital to let the College know what has happened as we can also provide support and counselling, contact police, assess risk to other students and make an IRIS report ourselves to alert other schools. We want our students to feel empowered to look after their safety and access the support they need in challenging moments.

Christine Kraj
Deputy Principal – Student Wellbeing

Do you have a daughter currently in Year 5? Applications for Year 7, 2020, are now being accepted.

Families already enrolled at the College still need to submit an [Application for Enrolment Form](#) for each additional child. If you have a daughter in Year 5, please ensure you submit her application for enrolment by **Friday 17 August 2018**. For all enquiries, please contact Mrs Karen Morris, College Registrar, on 9890 9097 or info@sion.catholic.edu.au.

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Year Level News



Year 7

Last week in Year 7, our Class Leaders and SRC hosted their first assembly. As the year progresses, they will host one assembly each fortnight, which will be a chance for them to connect with their year level and put their leadership skills to good use. In this assembly, the leaders looked at the events coming up and went over what students needed to know, and aimed to inspire with the story of Stephen Hawking, an acclaimed physicist who battled a chronic degenerative disease for most of his life. They also chose a quote to reflect on for the weeks ahead. This week it was 'Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you will land among the stars.' This quote was chosen to reflect the desire of the leadership team to

inspire students to be and try their best. During this assembly, Year 7 SRC representatives Maja and Zoe also launched a Year 7 Voice forum for students – during the next two weeks, they will be holding some lunchtime sessions to offer Year 7 students the opportunity to voice their views about what is happening in Year 7, and about school operation as a whole. Maja and Zoe are very keen to hear how the students are feeling, and use this information at an SRC level to inform forward planning. All Year 7 students are encouraged to attend.



The Year 7 class leaders and SRC leaders have set a high standard for upcoming assemblies, and already they are demonstrating their enthusiasm for wanting all Year 7s to be the best they can be. I look forward to seeing them, and all the students in the year level, continue to lead by example throughout the rest of the year.

Brianah Walsh
Year 7 Coordinator



Year 8

On Thursday 17 May, the Year 8s participated in an incursion hosted by Brainstorm Productions. The incursion was called 'Verbal Combat', and covered the following areas:

- Cyberbullying
- Social media
- Cybersafety (linking to social media)
- Rumours
- Bystanders
- Exclusion/alienation
- Resilience.

The program provides an opportunity for students to see how our words and actions can have a negative impact on other people's lives. The production covered the who, what, why, where and how of cyberbullying and linked to the aforementioned focus areas. The performers also took the time to discuss the show with the students and provided them with further support resources if they wanted to learn more. The incursion encouraged peer discussion on friendships and how we need to be supportive of people and their differences and ensure that our actions (especially on social media) don't negatively affect others. It also showed the Year 8s that they need to be true to themselves within their friendships and own who they are.

Student testimonies:

It was relevant to us and the message behind the play was really important. It was engaging and informative.

I would like to encourage Year 8 parents and guardians to talk with their daughters about their friendships and ensuring that they are comfortable with how they act/portray themselves in these friendships; are they being true to themselves?

Michelle Rudd
Year 8 Coordinator

Being true to you,
means being true
to yourself even when
everyone else thinks you
should be doing what they
want you to do.

Be a Youist quote.com

Year Level News



Year 9

There is no denying that students in Year 9 are at an age where we start to expect a lot more from them. This increased responsibility – through their day-to-day schoolwork, their participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award or juggling responsibilities outside of school, whether it be a part-time job, sporting commitments or their social life – requires some forward thinking and initiative. Students have well and truly reached the point where the adults in their life are starting to take small steps back and adolescents begin to take the wheel (both figuratively and for some literally!).

During Pastoral lessons, Ayin and homeroom, we have discussed some steps to avoid procrastination and highlighted the importance of goal setting and planning ahead. Some simple steps that can be taken at home to reinforce your daughters taking on this increased responsibility could be as simple as encouraging students to:

- set an alarm and wake themselves up for school
- pack their own lunch and schoolbag the night before school
- filling out and taking responsibility for paperwork.

Parents are also encouraged not to:

- run forgotten items into school when they have been left at home
- email teachers without having your daughter approach and speak to the staff member first.

It is important that your daughter's failure to plan doesn't become your emergency to solve. Yes, sometimes there will be consequences, but consequences are important in allowing students to learn from the actions that have been taken. It is our mutual goal to play a part in raising capable and confident individuals. Let's work on taking a step back in areas where students can continue to develop and stand on their own two feet.

Jac Canning
Year 9 Coordinator

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plan



Year 10

With examinations only two weeks away, Semester 1 is rapidly coming to a close. Next week, we will be running study sessions after school for those interested students in the lead-up to examinations. These will be broken up into silent areas and peer mentoring, which is an effective revision tool. As a team, we have emphasised that these examinations are a learning experience with the view to improve their skills in assessment under examination conditions. We have also been proactive in understanding that the girls may be nervous about this form of assessment, and that this is completely normal

and part of life. As it is their first experience of an examination period, students have had the opportunity to move examinations; for example, if they have three in a row and it affects their Unit 1 examination. Once the students receive feedback on their results, they will have the opportunity to reflect on any successes and plan for improvement in areas that may need addressing for Semester 2.

The year level has been busy with our excursion to the Holocaust and Jewish Museums, which was an exceptional day. We had another opportunity to meet up with our Year 7 sisters this week, which included discussion about Zion Day, schoolwork as well as an opportunity to play a few games together.

If you have any questions about the upcoming examination period, please refer to the informative email you received this week, or contact me with any concerns.

Paul Kerr
Year 10 Coordinator



Year Level News



Year 11

Upcoming Examinations

Parents/Guardians would have received an email with the Year 11 Exam Timetable and a supporting Information Document. Please familiarise yourself with this information. If you have any questions or would like anything clarified please do not hesitate to contact me.

The lead-up to exams is a vital time to practise and trial a set of skills and strategies that students can use now and in the future. Please encourage your daughters to work hard and effectively, but to also remember that learning is a process and making mistakes is a part of this at times.

Balance

During this busy and potentially overwhelming time for students, it's important that they still engage in balance. While study is important it should not come at the expense of health. Students need to be getting enough sleep, hydrating, engaging in their extra-curricular activities and taking breaks.

Year 11 Formal

As voted by the year level, the 2018 formal theme will be 'A Night Under the Stars.' It's been a pleasure working with students to form Formal Planning teams and hear the excitement in the lead-up.

The formal will be held on **Friday 3 August** at the Centre Ivanhoe. Students will be dismissed from school that day at 1.10 pm. Students must attend school that day and a full school day on Thursday 2 August to attend the Formal. All other information including consent forms, medical information and school expectations, will be given out after the Year 11 examination period.

As always, I welcome you to contact me or your daughter's Homeroom teacher if you have any queries or concerns.

Lauren Amalfi
Year 11 Coordinator

From the Careers Room

A wise girl knows her limits. A smart girl knows she has none.

Marilyn Monroe

Students and families can find the fortnightly Careers newsletter at www.olscareers.com/?page=newsletter.

In this fortnight's newsletter there is information relating to:

- Upcoming events – Year 10 Careers Assessment Information Evening for parents and students, *My Melbourne Future* series, *Inside Monash* seminar series
- Career in the Spotlight – Civil and Electrical Engineering
- Things to consider – UMAT
- One for the diary – Tertiary open days, VTAC Information Evening, *DeakinInspire* program
- Research ideas – Engineers Australia, William Angliss.



Brooke O'Hara
Careers and Pathways Counsellor

Year Level News



Year 12

'I could change this' is a quote from an article I read earlier this week, *6 Self-Reflective Questions for Self-Critical People* (www.psychologytoday.com/intl/blog/in-practice/201805/6-self-reflection-questions-self-critical-people).

I encourage our Year 12 community to continue to reflect on the bigger picture that lies within the Year 12 journey. Our own personal growth journey needs to be centred around intrinsic worth and self-achievement, the acknowledgment that learning will be difficult at times. With these difficulties we need to adopt and foster an, 'I could change this' approach. We have the opportunity to change, learn from and grow from every learning situation, not from an 'I have to' but an 'I choose to' lens.

Our vision for all Notre Dame students is that they will use initiative and take responsibility for their personal learning pathways, will be proactive and assertive with their learning and focus on setting and aspiring to meet purposeful goals. Continue to pursue your goals, have clarity around these (as best you can) and remember that it's ok not to be perfect, it's ok to make mistakes and it's ok to get back up and try again if things don't quite go the way you had planned.

On behalf of the Year 12 Pastoral Team I look forward to working with all Year 12 family members over the next two weeks.

*I won't succeed because I'm special, lucky, super-gifted or destined for greatness.
No, I'll succeed because I'll do the work.
When it's hard, I'll do the work.
When it's inconvenient, I'll do the work.
When I'm not motivated, I'll do the work.
When most people would give up ...
... I'll do the work (Craig Harper).*

Adam Rieusset
Year 12 Coordinator



College Captains

Lydia Ting and Stephanie Wang

Please follow the link to see the College Captains' message for this issue of the College Newsletter:

<https://bit.ly/2s65Dkk>



Liturgy Captain

In today's society, I find my own personal faith challenged every day. As young people we are constantly faced with social campaigns and the ever-present media telling us what to believe and who to support. We are pulled in every direction by advertisements, social expectations, opinions of friends and beliefs instilled in us by our families.

As young people, this is our time to decide what we believe in. No one but ourselves. And those beliefs are powerful because they will inevitably shape the way we live the rest of our lives. Our beliefs will affect our relationships, our ambitions, our priorities and our passions.

There is no right or wrong beliefs, no set rules, restrictions or boundaries, and at Conversation Café (Friday B Lunchtime – Lower Notre Dame) we love to explore and understand everyone's unique beliefs and perceptions of faith with open-minded conversation and curious minds.

Sophie Chan, Liturgy Captain



Domain News

Email Etiquette

This week we would like to take the opportunity to remind students of some important points regarding email etiquette when communicating with teachers, peers and parents:

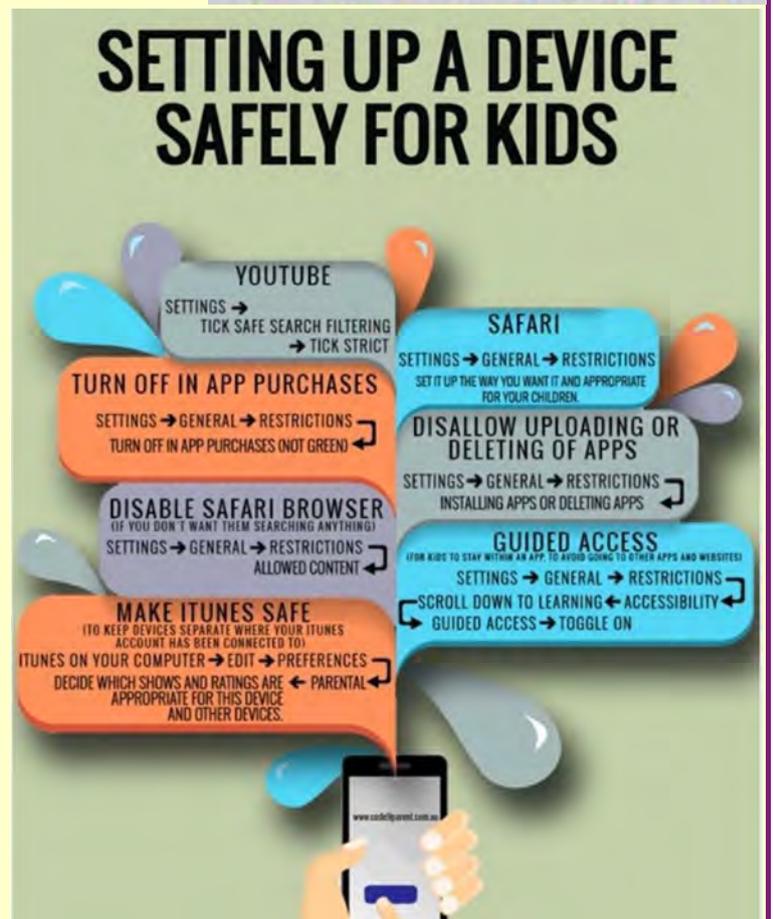
- Always make sure to proofread your message. While it is important to go over your email and make sure there are no spelling and punctuation mistakes, it also pays to ensure your email will make sense to the recipient, so getting a friend or colleague to read over it before you send it won't hurt.
- Make sure that emails start with a proper introduction and a formal tone.
- It is best not to include jokes and humour in emails as often jokes can be misinterpreted when not communicated face-to-face.
- Make sure you are careful not to overuse emojis, exclamation points and all capitals.
- Remember that if you are going to address a whole year level you must first have the permission of the Year Level Coordinator.

We hope these few tips will help you in your emails and it would be great to see these suggestions come into action.

We encourage all family members to continue to use all technology wisely.

Elizabeth Sprague (Year 10), Annie Squires (Year 10), Amelia Webb (Year 10), Matilda Davey (Year 8) and Hayley Sprague (Year 8)
Student Digital Technology Leaders

eSmart[®]



Environment Captain

The Environment Team is underway planning some exciting events for this term. Coming up soon on 5 June is World Environment Day. In recognition of this, we will be running our annual 'Clean Up Sion Day'. Through this, you will be able to earn a house point by working collaboratively to collect waste from around the school grounds.

Additionally, we will be running a program presented by SRC Group called 'Sustainable Students'. This program will involve students donating old pieces of clothing, which will be collected by SRC Group and recycled. The aim is to promote sustainable behaviours and raise awareness on our throwaway fast-fashion lifestyle.

This year, I would love to further instil positive environmental behaviours into the daily lives of all students through the coming events, so keep a look out for more information on these events from your year level Environment Representatives and in the Student Bulletin in the following weeks.

Ivana Pozega
Environment Captain

Religious Education



In Religious Education this semester, the Year 10 students have been focusing on Identity and Diversity, where they have explored the monotheistic faiths – Judaism and Christianity, and currently they are exploring the meaning of Humanity, with a particular focus on the Shoah (the Holocaust). To enhance and support their learning, the students recently visited the Jewish Museum of Australia and the Jewish Holocaust Centre. They participated in a range of activities that allowed them to gain a much greater understanding of Jewish history, faith, customs and beliefs and the terrible plight that the Jewish population in Europe experienced during the Holocaust.

Of biggest impact for the students was hearing the stories from Holocaust survivors. They spoke about their great fear and anguish over constantly living in danger and the incredible sadness of losing many family members and friends. They did however, share great messages of hope.

Upon their return, the students had the opportunity to share their reflections on the significance of the day and the impact it had on them, especially hearing from Holocaust survivors.

Despite being forced to live through such terrible situations, the survivors managed to adopt such a positive attitude for the world, which is incredibly inspiring. Having experienced all those terrible things, the survivors are now able to teach people to not make the same mistakes again. These stories of survival made us feel grateful and fortunate for all the things we have and the lifestyle we live.

Caitlin Ashley, Year 10 Blue, Megan Green, Year 10 Gold, and Liliana Watts, Year 10 White.



Year 10 students with Holocaust survivor Gary Gray at the Jewish Holocaust Centre

As a College community we pray for peace in our world today and that all will have the courage to speak out against such atrocities ever happening again.

Anna Gionfriddo
Religious Education Learning Leader

Domain News



Humanities

Unit 2 Legal Studies Court Excursion

Going to the courts was an interesting and eye-opening experience. As a class, we got to learn about different aspects of the court and see parts of the court building that aren't open to the general public. We also spoke to a past Sion student, Judge Tsalamandris, who let us know all about her experiences after Sion. One of the best parts was acting out mock court cases in the Supreme Court, as well as

developing a deeper understanding of our justice system. We are so grateful for this experience and look forward to applying our newfound knowledge to our studies.

Paris Mansell and Stephanie Sparrow, Year 10 Gold



Year 10 Economics / Civics Excursion

Last Wednesday, the Year 10 Economics/Civics classes travelled to the Magistrate's Court. Here we were able to view a variety of court cases ranging from traffic offences to committal hearings for murder. This came as a bit of shock to us as we were used to only seeing these hearings on TV shows and on the news. Being at the courts and present for these hearings really made each case more compelling and engaging. Seeing the courts in action immensely broadened our understanding and perception of the world around us. Overall, this excursion truly enriched our knowledge as it added a new dimension to our learning.

Paris Mansell, Year 10 Gold, and Alex Boffa, Year 10 Purple



Sarah Chalmers
Humanities Learning Leader



Languages

In the last several years our Chinese, French and Italian students of Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been using *Language Perfect* to complement their studies of their chosen language.

This language resource is a motivating, fun and engaging way for Language students to learn vocabulary and grammar covered in class. It functions on a point-based system and means students are determined to learn faster and improve every time they log on to the program. It is also a very valuable tool for teachers to monitor student learning both inside and outside of the classroom, as it provides updates of their progress on their class profiles.

This week our students have been competing against other students around the world in the *Language Perfect World Championships*

2018, which started on Monday 21 May and will end on Thursday 31 May. Not only do students have the opportunity to represent their school but there are also many prizes to be won, including iTunes vouchers, 32GB iPads with WiFi, and the ultimate prize is a one-week Education Perfect student internship in New Zealand. We wish all of our students the best of luck!

Gail Amato
Languages Learning Leader



Domain News



Mathematics

Upcoming Exams and Calculators

For the upcoming Year 10 and Year 11 semester exams, all mathematics students are expected to have their own calculator. The College will not supply calculators to students for their examinations.

Students should ensure their calculator is charged* and is in good working order. It is also essential that all students have their calculators securely labeled (engraved).

The booklisted calculators are:

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 use the Texas Instruments TI-30XB Multiview scientific calculator. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 use the Texas Instruments TI-nspire CX CAS graphics calculator

Years 7–9	Years 10–12
Texas Instruments TI-30XB Multiview scientific calculator	Texas Instruments TI-nspire CX CAS graphics calculator
	

*Charging TI-nspire CX CAS Calculators:

Charging banks are located in the LRC, the VCE study room and Mr Kerr's office for student use. When charging calculators at home, only use slow USB chargers (4–5 hours full charge); fast USB chargers may cause the battery to overheat. If using a computer to charge a calculator, the computer should be plugged into power and have the TI software downloaded. Please note that rechargeable calculator battery has a life expectancy of two years. It is the student's responsibility to purchase a replacement battery if required.

Helen Mulvogue
Mathematics Learning Leader



Learning Resource Centre

In the last few weeks, the library staff has been introducing Year 7 classes to the concepts of plagiarism, copyright, creating a bibliography, and basic internet search tips. The girls are quite knowledgeable already, from their primary school education, which makes it easier for us; however, we still need to reiterate the importance of not copying from resources without acknowledging the person(s) responsible.

The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge was launched last term, and we have three students that have completed the Challenge already: one Year 7, one Year 8, and one Year 10. Other students are very close to finishing, even though the event wraps up in September.

We continue to purchase beautiful novels for the fiction collection this term, including requests that have come in from students, as well as their recommendations. These include Meredith Gaston's range, *War Storm* by Victoria Aveyard (her fourth book in the Red Queen series), and novels by Kate McCaffrey, who also wrote the Year 9 book-listed title *Destroying Avalon*.

We are also looking into databases to subscribe to for the students to use as an online authoritative resource for their curriculum assessments.

Talei Valucava, Librarian

The Arts News



Music

To say our Music Department has been in full swing over the last month is an understatement!!

Generations in Jazz Festival

5500 young performers travelling from every state across the country,
125 schools,
1200 kms and 16 hours on the bus,
12 stages,
1 massive marquee,

3 incredible concerts,
1 Cat Empire,

Grammy Award-winning performers,

Australian Music Royalty, 6 fantastic workshops,

1 cookin' gig from our Jazz Ensemble awarded **SECOND PLACE!**,

joint Superband recipients (best Tenor Saxophones from entire division) – Jade Olsen & Emma Bury,

19 massively improved musicians,

and 1 immensely proud music director.



Generations was a truly inspiring trip that left me with memories that I'll cherish forever.

Kailynn Menzies – Year 11

For me, travelling to Mount Gambia, South Australia, for the iconic Generations in Jazz Festival has already been my highlight of the year. It was my first time attending the festival and I'm extremely proud of the family we have created within the College Jazz Ensemble. The performances and atmosphere were phenomenal and I can unquestionably say that I would go back in a heartbeat. **Kiara Fonseka – Year 10**

The feeling of being around others who love music (especially jazz) as much as you is really something special. Not only did I learn and gain inspiration from the incredible industry professionals, but also from the other students at the festival. **Chelsea Elder – Year 11**

This experience was truly unforgettable. It was a great opportunity to learn from the professionals, perform in front of some great composers and listen to some of the world's greatest jazz players. I remember listening to The Cat Empire on Saturday night and feeling the whole pavilion of 5,000 people fill with an amazing burst of joy and passion.

Melanie Veprek – Year 10

The Generations in Jazz Festival was incredible! The atmosphere and energy of this event is unlike anything I've experienced before, and it is great to see so many young musicians dedicating themselves to a style of music that is over 100 years old. I became much closer to everyone in the ensemble, and now feel as though I can talk to anyone.

Hanna Gassmann – Year 9

From playing three songs we love on stage, to watching the incredible performance by The Cat Empire, to the deep conversations on the bus, this weekend will be one I will never forget.

Nicola Gaudion – Year 10

GIJ was an amazing opportunity to expand my performance skills, observe other bands performing and learn from both other schools, professionals and from my own performance. **Emily Wans – Year 11**

The whole weekend was incredible, and the jazz band made it so much more memorable. I can't thank everyone that made it possible enough (especially Mr Le Fevre) and I can't wait for next year's GIJ! **Lauren Butler – Year 10**



The Arts News



Soloist Step into the Spotlight

In his book *Zen Guitar*, Philip Toshio Sudo writes, 'We needn't look any further ahead than today or commit to any more than taking one step. When we've taken one, we can commit to taking another. Pretty soon we've reached fifty. Pretty soon we've reached a hundred.' Congratulations to all students who took a giant step in their learning by performing at the VCE Music Recital, Year 9/10 Music Recital or Term 2 Soiree. We look forward to hearing you take another step very soon!

Open Rehearsals

The doors to the rehearsal rooms were thrown open for our series of Open Rehearsals and Debut Concerts featuring our Year 7 Musicians and the Sion First Band. Research shows that performances within the first months of learning an instrument have a tremendous impact on practice habits, sense of identity, and long-term application within the field of music. Thank you to everyone who joined us for these immensely beneficial 'concerts' and for your continued encouragement on the home front. We trust you enjoyed your visit to our junior ensembles and learnt a thing or two along the way.

Ensembles Encore

With the College celebrating 90 Years in Box Hill at a spectacularly successful reunion, it made sense for our third bi-annual *Ensembles Encore* to coincide with this celebration. Former members of the College Vocal Ensemble, Senior String Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble and Senior Concert Band returned to join forces with current members of these ensembles for a quick rehearsal in the morning, a catch-up over pizza lunch and a relaxed concert in the afternoon. Thank you to all of the past students who joined us and to our current students for supporting this community building venture (I think the *Ensembles Encore* in 2028 is going to be huge!).



Top Acts – Emma Squires

2017 Music Dux, Emma Squires, continues to shine brightly throughout the VCAA Season of Excellence. Emma was one of just two Music Performance soloists invited to perform at the prestigious Top Acts held at the glorious Melbourne Recital Centre. Congratulations on your truly captivating performance Emma! We looking forward to hearing you perform in the Miriam Theatre once again for our joint *Nurture* concert with the Grainger Wind Symphony this Sunday.

9/10 Recording Session

The Year 9/10 Music class visited the Oaklands Production music studio in Nunawading on Friday 18 May. In three groups, we have each been arranging, preparing and practising a song over many weeks, which we then recorded on Friday. The recording studio was intriguing and a great opportunity to learn the behind-the-scenes of how successful musicians create and record music. This also gave us the chance to learn how to use a sound board and taught us how much work the recording process actually is.

It was interesting to learn that we had to record the rhythm section first (such as piano, bass and drums) and then record the vocals and melody instruments after. Often, we were working in isolation with singers and drums in solo studios and instrumentalists in small booths to stop 'bleed', working with earphones to hear each other electronically, rather than acoustically. It required a great deal of concentration, courage and independence as well as communicating as a group.

Matilda Davey, Year 9 Gold, and Stephanie Joshua, Year 9 Red

**James Le Fevre
Director of Bands**



The Arts News



DRAMA

Last Tuesday night, the Year 12 Drama class performed their ensemble performances. The class was given the stimulus of the *ABC Cabinet Files* in Term 1, where they were asked to brainstorm, research, script, rehearse and then edit in order to create a 20-minute non-naturalistic ensemble performance. The performances were thought-provoking, insightful and incorporated clever uses of both Poor and Epic Theatre. This task is a lot of work and the Year 12 class should feel very proud of all they have achieved. Well done girls.

On Monday night both the Year 9 and 10 classes presented performances of their Shakespeare scenes to their family and friends. The girls prepared scenes from some Shakespeare's most well-known plays such as *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Macbeth*. All the girls did an amazing job and performed with great focus, energy and passion. It was fantastic to see the growth and development of each girl as she has worked really hard throughout this unit in learning lines and developing strong characters. Both classes should be proud of the work they have achieved.

It has also been really pleasing to see some drama work happening outside the classroom, including a number of lunchtime workshops run over the past few weeks. These have included a Year 7/8 Workshop on Improvisation led by Year 8 Drama Rep Francesca Zeccola, and a Drama Games session led by Year 7 Drama reps Amali North and Haylee Stagg. These girls are to be congratulated for their leadership and willingness to share their drama skills with others, and it was great to see so many students there! We hope to see lots more students at some more lunchtime events coming up later this term.

The Drama Team



Generations in Jazz Super Band Super Stars, Emma and Jade jointly won the best Tenor Saxophone players for our whole division at the recent Festival held in Mount Gambier.

Emma Bury & Jade Olsen

College Jazz Band



Sports & House News



Athletics Carnival

On Tuesday 8 May the College held our annual House Athletics Carnival at Doncaster Athletics Track. As always, the day was filled with excitement, colour and plenty of House pride!

The Year 12 Carmel House students dressed as Bananas, the Fatima House students were Incredible's, the Loreto students were Aliens and the Lourdes House students were Cookie Monsters! The creativity of the costumes was fabulous and showed their true colours perfectly.

Novelty

Carmel House won the Novelty Cup with an impressive display of 'Two in a Hoop,' 'Bat and Ball,' and 'Relays,' up and down the back stretch of the track. As always the House with the most number of participants won the day as Carmel students flocked to the novelty events.

Cheering

This year's Cheering Cup was won by Loreto House. The Year 12 Alien costumes, alongside their amazing renditions of their songs and chants was an excellent display of House Spirit.

Overall Results

Congratulations to Fatima who claimed victory in the Track and Field events:

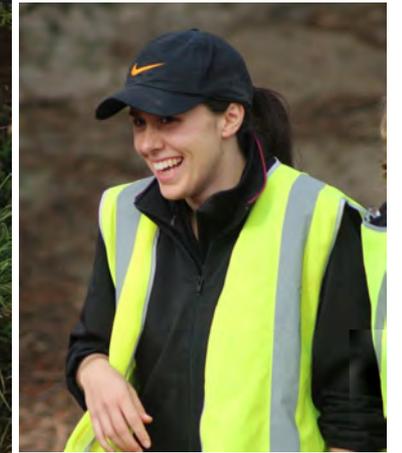
Place	House	Points
1 st	FATIMA	1804
2 nd	CARMEL	1706
3 rd	LORETO	1365
4 th	LOURDES	1302

Special congratulations must go to the following individuals who finished as Champions or Runner Up in their respective year levels. These students achieved some outstanding individual results throughout the day and will be recognized shortly in their year level assemblies at the College:

YEAR LEVEL	CHAMPION	RUNNER UP
7	Charlotte Newton	Tyler Relf
8	Sophie Wong	Talia Poldermans
9	Alicia De Santis	Imogen Van Rensburg
10	Charlotte McKinley	Emma Daly
11	Isabelle Rebecca	Kali Dolphin
12	Hannah Shanley	Macey De Jong

The following students broke Sion House Athletics records on the day. Congratulations to:

- Emily Napier, Year 7 – 400m (1:12.56)
- Tyler Relf, Year 7 – High Jump (equalled the record of 1.3m)
- Jessica McKinley, Year 9 – 400m (1:07.16)
- Emma Daly, Year 10 – Triple Jump (10.56m) and Long Jump (4.99m)
- Kali Dolphin, Year 11 – Triple Jump (9.59m)
- Tess Mitchell, Year 12 – 1500m (4:56.70) and 800m (2:31.00).



Sports Stars of the Week

Tess Mitchell of Year 12 is our Sports Star for this week. Not only did Tess break two records at the House Athletics Carnival, she has been putting in a huge amount of work (with fellow Cross Country captain Madeline Daws) for the upcoming Cross Country season. Tess is a talented sportswoman and has improved enormously with regard to her running over the last two years. She has also developed as a leader and watching the progression in her ability to communicate with younger students and lead those around her has been incredibly pleasing. Well done Tess!



Sports & House News

Fatima Feast Day

Monday 14 May was Fatima Feast Day. Alyssa Tassone and Kaylee Fitzmaurice, the Fatima House Captains, led a wonderful prayer and celebration of Fatima House in the Chapel. The students were then invited to a shared BBQ lunch in the Shalom Garden.

Students are encouraged to stay in the Shalom Garden and make more connections with students across the year levels from their House during these Feast Days. Thank you to all staff and students who helped make the day run so smoothly.

Sporting Excellence

Isabella O'Donnell-Fernando of Year 9 has had some outstanding results in various Equestrian competitions over the last few years. This year, she has been competing in a higher division:

On Friday 12 May I competed in interschool show jumping. I entered in the 75–85 cm class with a new horse. I got two clear rounds but unfortunately got a refusal in my last round. I placed 5th in my first round out of 42 competitors.

Well done Isabella!

Anna Kipping of Year 12 was selected in two Swimming events as a part of the GSV All Schools Swimming team that competed against other Victorian school sporting associations at MSAC on Monday 7 May. She competed in the Women's 17 and Over 200m Butterfly Relay and 200m Backstroke relay. Anna and her team won both events, with GSV being declared the overall female champions of the evening. Congratulations Anna on this outstanding achievement!

Siobhan Taylor – House Coordinator
Katrina Gurciullo – Sport Coordinator



GSV Cross Country

We are so proud of the girls for their outstanding performance in the Preliminary championship on Tuesday. We knew we were ready to smash it out of the (Yarra Bend) park.

Coming into Tuesday, spirits were high having seen great numbers at training for the weeks prior, which we hope to continue to build on especially with the athletics season approaching.

The girls showed great enthusiasm and determination throughout the day, showcasing their high levels of athleticism and our potential to improve as a school.

To the results: It was great to see a whole bunch of juniors taking on the course, placing an amazing fourth place overall. Following on from this we had another outstanding performance from our intermediates to take out fourth place as well for the day. These performances were again replicated by our seniors after a whole day of helping organise and support our team, receiving a phenomenal third place. These results are something that everyone should be proud of, as this allowed us to place third overall. We are extremely excited for the championship carnival where we know the cross-country team will put their best foot forward.

Tess Mitchell and Maddie Daws
Cross Country Carnival Leaders



Our Lady of Sion College

Apply
now for
2020

Information Evening

Tuesday 5 June, 7.00 to 8.00 pm

Prospective families are invited to register their attendance.

Please contact the College on 9890 9097 or
info@sion.catholic.edu.au

1065 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill | www.sion.catholic.edu.au



CATHOLIC EDUCATION MELBOURNE
PROUDLY PRESENTS

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CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
MELBOURNE

SATURDAY 28 JULY 2018
2.00 pm and 7.30 pm | State Theatre

Tickets on sale now!
www.cem.edu.au/T2S18



OUR LADY OF SION PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Our first meeting for Term 2 will be held:

Monday 28 May 2018, 7 PM, Ratisbonne Boardroom
(park in the front car park and enter through reception)

I look forward to seeing new and existing parents and guardians.

Adele Pasquini
President



Year 8 & 9 Parents' Dinner

Our Lady of Sion College Parents' Association warmly invites members of our Year 8 & 9 community to the Year 8 & 9 Parents' Dinner.

Friday 15 June 2018, 6:30 pm
Mythos House Greek Restaurant
11-13 Victoria Street, Doncaster

Set Banquet
\$35.00 per head (normal cost \$49.00 per head – \$15.00 has been subsidised by the Parents' Association)
(drinks available at bar prices / BYO Wine)

Bookings Close 9:00pm, Wednesday 13 June 2018
Please note no bookings can be accepted after this time

Bookings www.trybooking.com/VLYI

Enquiries Athy Paschalis – 0439 356 889
Jo Reid – 0407 870 030



All funds raised go to Breast Cancer Network Australia

Sion past student Jane's breast cancer movie fundraiser

Ocean's 8

Not suitable for persons under 15 years of age

Sunday 10 June
Palace Cinemas Balwyn

2pm - 2.30pm movie start (exact time TBA by email)

\$30 adult / \$22 student
(includes welcome drink or snack (one per person)
(plus a \$0.30 booking fee)

Tickets at <https://www.trybooking.com/VRJG>

Enquiries: 9761 8827 / janewg2010@hotmail.com
(Jane Graham)



SION DAY
OP SHOP

DONATIONS NEEDED

ALL DONATIONS TO STUDENT RECEPTION

- Clothes
- Jewellery
- Miscellaneous
- No electrical items please

See Mr Steward for further details

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Dear Parents/Guardians

The Victorian Government has announced \$148 million over four years for the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF). Families who hold a valid means-tested concession card or are temporary foster parents are eligible to apply to the fund. An allowance of \$225 per eligible student will be paid to the College to use towards school trips and sporting activities for the eligible student. The above flyer provides more information. An application form is available from the CSEF website:

www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

You can also obtain an application form from the College office.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

NEW FOR 2018!

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2017, you do not need to complete an application form in 2018 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2018 or you did not apply in 2017.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2018.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.





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www.sion.catholic.edu.au

30 April 2018

Dear Friends, Colleagues and Business Associates of Our Lady of Sion College,

On Thursday 31 May, the students and staff of the College will be celebrating our 'Sion Day'. This is a very special day in the College calendar where we focus our efforts on raising awareness and much needed funds for a particular international social justice project led by the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion.

This year all proceeds from 'Sion Day' go directly to the San Luis Lumad Community High School in the Philippines.

San Luis Lumad Community High School (SLLCHS) will be the focus of our fundraising efforts on the day. This school has served the indigenous youth of the five indigenous tribes of the Manobo, Banwaon, Mamanwa, Talaandig and Higaonon communities in the field of alternative indigenous education. It is especially designed for the cause of the indigenous people: the struggle for their ancestral land and domain, cultural identity, the right to self-determination and progress and prosperity within the larger Filipino and world community.

Each year on Sion Day, students and staff from the College aim to raise as much money as possible to support the work of the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion and we would appreciate any donations or services that you can offer to help support this year's social justice project. In the past families and friends have been able to donate items that were used as prizes or that could be auctioned or raffled. The funds raised from these donations have gone a long way to supporting the staff and students' efforts. The assistance needed is as follows:

1. The school needs to develop its library and laboratory science equipment.
2. The school needs computers for each class.
3. The school needs to repair/renovate its dormitories for boys and girls.

If you are able to support the social justice efforts of the students and staff of the College with 'Sion Day' through donations or services, rest assured that you or your business will be recognised in the form of a letter of thanks, a certificate and reference in the College newsletter.

Donations can be left at the office or we can arrange for them to be picked up if needed. Please ensure that you leave a family or business name with the item/s. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at the College on 9890 9097.

Yours sincerely

Mr John McInerney
Deputy Principal, Faith and Mission
Our Lady of Sion College

Speaking the Truth in love. Ephs. 4:15