

# FLAME



Pursuing Excellence

# From the Editor

The achievement of excellence can set a very high expectation and for some this can be daunting. One of the four OLSH pillars is pursuing excellence and this is what is asked of every member of the College community. We won't succeed in all of our endeavours but the important part is the trying.

At OLSH College we recognise that each one of us is capable of a different type of excellence. We are all born with individual abilities and talents and what is vital is that we do all in our power to achieve our own personal excellence. There are countless examples of this happening at OLSH College in this issue of *Flame* magazine. Dr Christine Connors is a past OLSH College student and she was awarded an OAM (Member of the Order of Australia) for service to Medicine over many years in the Northern Territory. Read about her journey and important work on page 2.

Academic excellence is one of the criteria parents prioritise when selecting a secondary school. Many parents choose to send their daughters to OLSH College for this reason but also because of the unique spirit and ethos which helps their girls to develop into exceptional young women. They indeed have the best of both worlds, the story is on page 3.

Students from all year levels are invited to apply for leadership positions at OLSH College and this prepares them very well for the future. You can read about our students leaders on page 4.

Celebrating the special people in our lives is a joyous occasion and this is what our senior VET students do when they present their 'Stories of

Significance' booklets. You can read about the girls' work on this project for their chosen person, who is often a family member, on page 5.

*Mary Poppins* was this year's senior musical with De La Salle College and it received rave reviews from audiences from all four shows, it really was an outstanding production. See page 6 for more details.

Moving from primary school to secondary school can be quite a transition and on page 7 we hear from some Year 7 girls about their experience of becoming an OLSH College girl.

As always, it is great to catch up on Alumnae news and profiles and they start on page 8. We have enjoyed welcoming ladies back to the College for their milestone reunions, see the photos on page 10. It is with sadness we acknowledge the passing of some past students on page 11, they have lived wonderful lives, may they rest in peace.

It has been a very busy year at the College and you can read the latest news on page 12.

I would like to thank the many contributors to this issue of *Flame*.

There were no shortage of stories for this issue of *Flame* as we are surrounded by so many examples of the pursuit of excellence. Every day, in so many ways, members of the OLSH College community are trying to be the best they can be. Sometimes it takes more than one attempt, but the pursuit is well worth the outcome.

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**Annie Opray**  
*Director of Development and Community*



Fr. Elio Capra celebrated Mass at the OLSH Links conference.

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Front and rear cover photos from the Academic Awards Ceremony.

### Disclaimer

All care has been taken to verify that the information contained in this edition of *Flame* is correct. However, we apologise if any inadvertent discrepancies have occurred. Please contact the College if you would like to reproduce any of the material in this edition of the *Flame* magazine.

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# From the Principal

One of the four pillars of Education in the OLSH Tradition is that we are Heart people who pursue excellence. The word 'excellence' is prolifically used in our modern language. In the secondary education context it is most often associated with academic results. This is shown by the highest ATAR scores a school achieves and the number of students at the school achieving these high scores. There is no doubt that the influence of media reporting on schools and their

results has heightened this narrow perception of pursuing excellence. To focus on a score or a particular result is merely a superficial understanding of excellence.

As the family of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Bentleigh our pursuit of excellence has its foundation in the words of Jesus, "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full!" (John 10:10) At our deepest level, God's desire within us is that we seek to be our fullest selves. This is a lifelong



process! We enter into each day of our life journey with an attitude of heart and mind that is open to learning and to achieving our best in whatever the day sends us. This, of course, is about the skills and talents we share and those we acquire, the learning we benefit from and, most importantly, the people we are in the encounters we have with others.

Being Heart people and pursuing excellence is intrinsically linked to the Heart Spirituality we live as members of the OLSH College Bentleigh community. Over the past 81 years this spirituality has transformed lives and will continue to do so. In short, our mission is always to pursue excellence and to *be on earth the Heart of Christ!*

***Regnet Christus***

***Our Lady of the Sacred Heart  
Pray for Us***

Anne O'Loughlin  
Principal

# In Fine Company

On Australia Day this year OLSH College Alumnae, Dr Christine Connors OAM, was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for service to Medicine through a range of roles. Dr Connors joins a select group of people who have been recognised for the outstanding contributions they have made to their communities. Amongst those also acknowledged by the Commonwealth is Sr. Elizabeth Little who in 2008 was awarded an OAM for services to Education and Indigenous Staff. In the same year her sister, Sr. Helen Little, also received an OAM for services to education in the Northern Territory and the community. In 2017, Sr. Anne Gardiner was named the Senior Australian of the Year for her tireless work for the past 50 years on Bathurst Island. Sr. Anne has helped to preserve Tiwi history and culture for future generations.

As a past student, Dr Connors is very familiar with the four OLSH pillars which are being faith-filled, reverencing relationships, pursuing excellence and touching the hearts of others. During her career she has lived out these values in the many positions she has held. Dr Connors is a public health physician and General Practitioner who works in the Northern Territory. Dr Connors said, "My education at OLSH was an important foundation and I had some excellent teachers who developed my curiosity and passion for learning, as well as being role models for strong female leadership. I also developed a group of friends who remain very close after so many years who support and nurture me in my life."



*Dr Christine Connors OAM*

Dr Connors was awarded the prestigious Menzies Medallion, which is the highest accolade offered by the Menzies School of Health Research. Dr Connors' desire to give back to the community started when she was a student and she commented, "Social justice and concern for your broader community were inherent values I learnt at OLSH. I didn't explicitly study medicine with that aim, but more because I thought it was an interesting field with many opportunities, and this has proved to be the case."

Dr Connors has had extensive experience in public health research and her main areas of focus include developing models of care for women with diabetes during pregnancy, treating chronic kidney disease and the reduction of childhood infectious diseases. She currently chairs the Northern Territory Continuous Improvement Committee for Aboriginal Health Care Services. Dr Connors said, "I ended up in the Northern Territory by chance and started working in an Aboriginal health service in Alice Springs and then remote communities in the Top End. I was a young doctor who had done my

GP training including obstetrics. Working in remote Aboriginal communities was a fantastic experience right from the start. My Aboriginal colleagues taught me so much about culture and effective ways of communicating. Within a few years I studied and became a specialist in public health medicine. These additional skills enabled me to really value add to the health system in the NT. Focusing on developing effective health systems and supports enables a very broad range of health professionals to develop skills in working in complex situations. Helping patients with very different beliefs and knowledge influences how any illness is managed. I have been fortunate to have had a medical career which has been very satisfying. It has led to significant population health improvements, which has involved clinical practice, public health, education and research."

Dr. Connors, Sr. Elizabeth, Sr. Helen and Sr. Anne have, over many years, dedicated themselves to working in their fields. They have set a fine example of contributing to their communities and making a positive difference to the lives of so many.

# Best of Both Worlds

Some parents choose a secondary school based solely on academic results. Parents who select OLSH College highly value the development of their daughters into independent life-long learners who act with compassion, integrity and courage.

One of the hallmarks of OLSH College is the integrated approach which supports students on their life's journey and helps them to choose the best learning pathway. The academic results from VCE Class of 2018 were outstanding. The median ATAR score increased by one point to 33 which was an excellent outcome. For the first time OLSH College made it into the Top Ten Catholic Secondary Schools in Victoria and both the girls and their dedicated teachers are to be congratulated on this achievement. The Dux of the College was Lauren Earls with a score of 96.85 and 12% of students attained a score of 90 or higher.

At OLSH College all students are expected to pursue excellence in all they undertake. There are many study pathways to follow at the College including VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education), VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) and VET (Vocational and Educational Training). It is understood and appreciated that

each girl has different abilities, but what is important is that they do all they can to make the most of their God-given gifts. Annie McGuire, Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching commented recently, "We are all learners and we need to be open to the possibility for failure and model that for our girls. We also need to take time for quiet reflection to gain greater self-awareness and to improve. Ultimately we become better people if we continually take the time for reflection."

It was a pleasure to welcome girls from the Class of 2018 back for the High Achievers Assembly earlier this year. Both Lauren Earls and Olivia May spoke to the school community, and they emphasised the importance of striving to always be your best and to continue to enjoy the activities that make you happy. Olivia said, "The opportunities provided by the College ensured I had the chance to balance my academic studies with the things I loved doing, including many sports, and I lived out this mantra

throughout my entire journey at OLSH. It was the endless support from the OLSH community that meant I was able to defy the idea that school is only about academic success. I followed a path that meant I could still enjoy all aspects of my life and achieve success."

Principal, Anne O'Loughlin, recently took professional study leave and she had the opportunity to attend lectures at Harvard University and Boston College. She said, "To be inspired by the wisdom of others and their learnings is always an opportunity for personal growth. At OLSH College there is a true passion for learning and a real commitment to challenging students to go beyond their comfort zone."

OLSH College alumnae select a range of different tertiary journeys at various educational institutions. Whatever their chosen course of study we wish every OLSH student the best for a successful future because, as we and they know very well, OLSH girls can do anything!



VCE Class of 2018 High Achievers

# Leadership Opportunities

**“In future there will be no female leaders. There will just be leaders.”**

– Sheryl Sandberg, Chief Operating Officer, Facebook.

It has been suggested that there is no better time than now to be an aspiring female leader. We are surrounded by inspirational role models such as the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, who leads with grace and dignity, even during the most difficult of times. There is still a long way to go in terms of female representation in leadership roles in many sectors, including government ranks and the corporate world. Many have commented that significant progress will no doubt be made in this area in the near future and beyond.

At OLSH College students are offered many leadership opportunities across all year levels. There are currently 44 leadership positions available to the girls. The Student Leadership structure includes a College Captain, College Vice Captain, Senior Prefects, Faith and Mission Captains and House Captains from each year level. Specialist Captains of Environment, Performing Arts, Sports and Visual Arts are made available to Year 11 students. They work together to engender House spirit throughout the College and are responsible for the Regnet Christus Cup, the OLSH Performing Arts Spectacular, as well as the Lenten Appeal and Mission Carnival, which help to foster a sense of global responsibility in the girls.

College Captain Nickila De Silva said, “Being a leader at OLSH has allowed me to grow as an independent leader and a critical thinker. I am inspired by the mindset of Eckhart Tolle and I’ve learnt that every moment is a new opportunity to grow or make a change. I have tried to implement

this in my leadership style, with the view that the only way is forward and there is always a silver lining, no matter what the situation. The OLSH leadership selection process ensures that leaders with different styles are combined together to form an efficient and unique team. We continuously lift each other up and work together to be productive and have fun whilst doing so. Being a leader at OLSH, means leading a family and appreciating every girls’ gifts, which I’ve had the great privilege of doing.”

One of the many advantages of attending a single-sex female school is that all leadership positions are filled by girls. There are no preconceived stereotypes about whether a boy or a girl should take up leadership roles and this means that there is a myriad of opportunities available to OLSH College students.

Nickila featured recently in a Leader Newspaper article entitled ‘Tomorrow’s Leaders’. She was asked how she thought OLSH girls would make a difference in the world after they left school. She replied, “I strongly believe that OLSH students are already making a difference in the world. Age should not, and does not, limit our ability to have a positive impact on the world.” She went on to say, “We believe that each individual is capable of making a huge difference and this provides a great sense of hopefulness and optimism for the present and also our shared future.”

A strong leader is committed to continuous improvement, as Julia Gillard, Australia’s first female Prime Minister, said, “Try harder every day to be better than the day before.”



*College Vice Captain Honour Marshall, Senior Prefects Molly Mcleod and Hannah Gardiner and College Captain Nickila De Silva*

# Stories of Significance

One of the highlights of the VCE (Victorian Certificate of Education) / VET (Vocational Educational Training) Community Services Unit 3/4 curriculum is a project called Stories of Significance. This is the students first school assessment and the girls are required to produce a 'product', which, in this case, is a booklet.

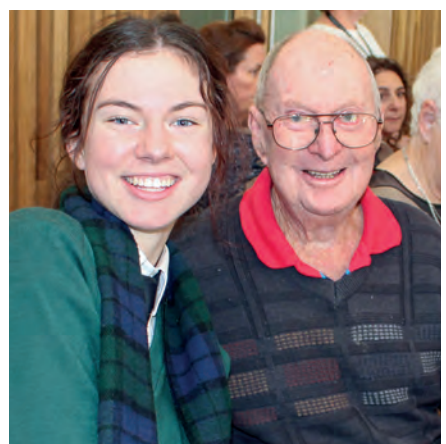
Students are asked to select a special someone close to them and to interview them about their life's journey. Some girls choose a relative such as an aunt, uncle or grandparent. Others have selected OLSH Sisters to profile as their stories are so inspiring, especially in the context of helping others. The girls then tap into their creative side to produce a memento book about the life of the person they selected. Year 12 student Bethanie Subramani catalogued the life of Sister Kathleen Moore and she said, "It was a privilege to have the opportunity to work with Sister Kathleen. I wanted the reader to see her philosophy and perspective on humanity. I've never met a person like her before. She's a rare gem. My parents loved meeting her, she is truly a spectacular person and I still keep in contact with her to this day."

There is an allotment of 16 hours for the task which is divided into 8 hours for interviewing and the remaining 8 hours to create the booklet. The task includes planning, organisation, problem solving and evaluation. The evaluation takes into account the processes the girls have followed as well as their finished product, which is the booklet.

Head of Department Pathways/  
VCAL Maureen Malone said, "This

assessment task totally engages each student because they have the opportunity to produce, in many cases, an heirloom for the generations of their own family. I observe a young girl having the opportunity to conduct an in-depth interview and spend some quality time with a grandparent or an OLSH Sister. The presentation of these booklets is a great occasion." Year 11 student Isabella Convey-Ryan said, "I chose my Grandma as my special person because she has always been the person I could turn to when I needed to talk to or have a laugh with someone. My grandma does everything she can for me and I thought it would be a lovely way to show her how much I appreciate her. I knew she would be excited on the presentation day, but I didn't expect her to react with overwhelmed, happy tears. Writing this portfolio on my grandma gave me a different perspective on her life, and it was so rewarding and fulfilling."

The booklets are a true record of personal experiences, challenges and joys that will be treasured both now and in the future. As you can imagine, the experience is a highly emotional one that the students and the people profiled will remember forever.



# Mary Poppins

Congratulations to all involved with this year's OLSH College and De La Salle production of *Mary Poppins* which was performed at the Alexander Theatre at Monash University in May to rave reviews.



There were four wonderful shows with stellar performances from the leads including Paris Leveque as Mary and Eli Te Moni as Bert. They were so well supported by the very talented cast and hardworking crew. The standard of the singing and dancing was at a very high level and the countless hours devoted to rehearsals were evident in the performances which delighted the audiences. Emilia Brown from Year 9 who played Jane said, "The rehearsals taught me about commitment, time management and gave me an opportunity to grow closer to the cast. This show

also taught me a lot about how a professional show runs."

Principal Anne O'Loughlin said, "It was such a great thrill be in the final night audience of *Mary Poppins*."

This was the show that just kept giving joy to everyone. The outstanding performances of all students from OLSH College and De La Salle College were truly a delight to experience. The energy, commitment and absolute talent of the crew, orchestra and cast were amazing, in every way it was supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!"

The sets and costumes added a big splash of colour to the stage and thanks go to the hardworking staff and students behind the scenes for creating them. The Director of the show from OLSH College Ms Julie Freeman-Smith reflected that "It was a privilege and an honour to direct the show and the students worked exceptionally hard to produce a quality production worthy of Broadway. A timeless classic, that audiences of all ages enjoyed. And remember, anything can happen if you let it!"





# Becoming an OLSH Girl

Change, whether it be large or small, can be challenging for some people. Moving from primary to secondary school definitely qualifies as a major change and it can come with its own set of issues to handle. “Will I be able to find my way around?” “Will I know how to work my locker and laptop?” “Will I make friends with the other girls?” These are just a few of the questions on the minds of girls starting in Year 7 at OLSH College.



Year 7 students Lara, Lucy, Summer and Alexandra

The transition program at OLSH College is designed to help new students settle in quickly and to feel comfortable in their new environment. It begins before the girls even join us, with a family interview prior to students being offered a place. This helps to ensure that OLSH College is a good fit for each student and that each student will be a great OLSH girl.

After the enrolment process is finalised, the girls are invited to an

Orientation Day in Term 4 in the year before they start. On this day they become familiar with the campus, meet fellow students, are introduced to some of their teachers and meet the older girls.

The new Year 7 students share their first day with the senior students from Year 12 who are assigned as ‘Big Sisters’ to help the younger girls. Students in other year levels start the following day. The Year 12 girls really enjoy looking after the new

girls and the friendships they forge on the first day grow throughout the year. Lucy who is a Year 7 student said, “I only knew one girl coming to OLSH but on the first day I made a few friends who were in my Learning Mentor Group and I also met my big sister. I made lots of friends in my class and met a few at Year 7 camp too. At the beginning it was quite hard doing all the homework but I slowly got into the way of it and being organised.”

The Year 7 girls also benefit from being in a Learning Mentor Group which has a mix of girls from Years 7 to 12. They meet four times a week with the same teacher and the students are all in the same House.

Belonging to a House also provides new students with the chance to get to know another group of girls from all year levels. Students are encouraged to sign up for as many co-curricular activities as they can as this provides a great opportunity to meet a wider circle of friends. Summer, who is in Year 7 said, “I was nervous to come to OLSH but really excited to move on from primary school. I quickly found a group of friends from many different schools and started to grow the friendships I have today. Starting new subjects and meeting all of the new girls was so much fun.”

Feedback from new OLSH families tells us that their daughters feel welcome and supported from their very first visit to the College. What we do know is that these girls will pay it forward, because in the blink of an eye, it will be them looking after the newest OLSH girls.

# Alumnae Profiles



## Dr Wendy Bottroff 1979

**Favourite subjects:** Maths, Chemistry, Biology and English.

**Occupation:** General Practitioner.

**Family:** Sisters Krina and Noelle both OLSH College girls, brother Gavin, husband Brian and son Harrie.

**Lives in:** Adelaide.

**Hobbies:** Reading, wine, gardening and football.

**Fondest OLSH memories:** The comradery and sense of sisterhood that was promoted by the Sisters and the support I received from my teachers. Also a highlight was the 1979 Central Australia road trip with the Year 11's. We got bogged in the mud more than once and had to push the bus out. We slept under the stars and had a ball.

**What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?:** Just to care for people and that family are the most important thing in life so treasure them. My family and friends are my greatest motivation.

**Best advice to your younger self:** Don't sweat the small stuff. Do not spend too much time worrying about things. You will achieve well with so much less anxiety.



## Merilena Delli'Bergoli 1979

**Favourite subjects:** Art and Geography.

**Occupation:** Interior Designer.

**Career highlights:** Every time I draw a line on a page with complex forms complemented by colours, patterns, materials and finishes. Watching people interact, engage and experience the new space that started as a single line is always rewarding.

**Family:** Mum, Dad, three brothers and sisters-in-law. Three nephews and one beautiful niece.

**Lives in:** Bentleigh East

**Hobbies:** Cooking (new recipes), gardening and drawing.

**Fondest OLSH memories:** Camp at Alice Springs with Sr Elaine Troy leading, setting up tents and decamping, 10 second cold showers, climbing Ayers Rock and water logged tents, treasured memories.

**What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?:** Be courageous. Be determined. Be passionate. Be kind and respectful. Don't hold on to regrets, mistakes or disappointments, these are in the past and lessons learnt, look forward.

**Best advice to your younger self:** Take what every day has to offer, grab opportunities and challenges. Don't take anyone or anything for granted. What you do now will shape who you become. Look after your health, save and invest, you never know when you might need it.



## Angela Rando (nee Coviello) 1988

**Favourite subjects:** Health and Human Development and Textiles.

**Occupation:** Secondary school teacher and Head of Technology at OLSH College.

**Career highlights:** Writing a Student/Teacher VET Fashion Resource book and taking on a position at OLSH College. Also, taking students on various trips like to New Zealand for a Textiles experience and to Gamiliraay country in northern N.S.W. to work with Indigenous children.

**Family:** Husband Steve and two beautiful children Paul (20) and Liana (19).

**Lives in:** Keysborough.

**Hobbies:** Travel, catching up with family and friends, reading and cooking.

**Fondest OLSH memories:** I really enjoyed our GAP (General Activities Program) sessions every week when we were given the opportunity to try new things. Some of the activities I loved were lampshade making, the City Experience, Hobbytex and making soft toys.

**What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?:** Each day is a new opportunity to live your life to the fullest. Be grateful for all that you have. Count your blessings.

**Best advice to younger self:** Give everything a go. Never give up, even if you don't get it right the first time. Try your hardest and be the best you can be. Stay positive.



## Dr Joanne Caldwell 1999

**Favourite subjects:** Biology and Physical Education.

**Occupation:** Scientist and University Lecturer.

**Career highlights:** Successfully completing my doctoral thesis in human thermoregulation during exercise and travelling to international conferences.

**Family:** Husband Darren who is a helicopter engineer, beautiful daughter Audrey (2) and dog Max (14).

**Lives in:** East Brighton.

**Hobbies:** Watching AFL, travelling and having fun with friends and family.

**Fondest OLSH memories:** Inter-school sports, science class with Miss Oro, being Dorothy in the *Wizard of Oz* and choreographing dances for musicals and the Rock Eisteddfod.

**What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?:** Always choose the things that interest you, because if you are doing something you are passionate about you will always succeed. It isn't always about the finish line, but the journey that got you there.

**Best advice to your younger self:** Don't sweat the small stuff. You will be amazing no matter what you do as long as you have fun along the way.



## Anna Vassadis 2002

**Favourite subjects:** English and History.

**Occupation:** Project Officer at the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University.

**Career highlights:** Travelling to New Zealand to present my work at The Australian Sociological Association annual conference. I was lucky enough to be able to stay on and explore the North Island and am determined to revisit and see the South.

**Family:** Husband George and our 21 month old son, Stergios.

**Lives in:** Mordialloc.

**Hobbies:** Reading, writing, hiking, travel and cooking.

**Fondest OLSH memories:** Year 12 History with Mrs Noble and our visit to Grossi Florentino and the endless laughs among friends.

**What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?:** When you wake up every morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive – to discover, to connect, to share, to laugh, to express and to love. I'm determined to make the most of every day.

**Best advice to your younger self:** Have the courage and enthusiasm to explore, have many experiences and find your passion. Pursue whatever it is that makes you happy!



## Cailin Robinson 2017

**Favourite subjects:** I always loved my Psychology classes and found them so interesting.

**Occupation:** Mobile mechanic.

**Career highlights:** Going into a career that is still largely male dominated has been my highlight so far but I am only four months in as I write this.

**Family:** I live with my amazing Uncle and Aunty, and also my two beautiful cousins.

**Lives in:** Cranbourne.

**Hobbies:** I do adult tap dance classes on Wednesday nights and recently started working out with my partner which has turned into a very big hobby of mine.

**Fondest OLSH memories:** Once during mid-year exams, I think I was in Year 10 and my friend and I decided to make chairs out of bubble wrap and study in them because we thought it was funny.

**What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?:** That no matter how dark or hard life gets or for how long it stays like that, it doesn't mean you won't ever be happy again.

**Best advice to your younger self:** Have no regrets, don't look back and always try your hardest for things you love.

## Reunion – Class of 1979

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## Reunion – Class of 1999

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## Reunion – Class of 2009

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# Reunion – Class of 2014



## Vale

We remember in prayer:

### Liz Freeman-Hume (nee Child)



Liz Freeman-Hume was a student at OLSH College from 1958 to 1963 and she was a great supporter of the Alumnae organising many get togethers for her fellow past students throughout the years. After being diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer, Liz passed away on November 24 last year. Liz's wonderful life was celebrated at the Holy Saviour Church in Vermont South and her brother, three sisters (all OLSH girls), five children, three stepsons and twenty grandchildren will miss her dearly.

Kate Murray  
(Liz's Sister)

### Deborah McGlone (nee McAulliffe)

It is with regret that I inform you that a past student, and my friend, Deborah McGlone (Nee McAulliffe) from the Class of 1988, passed away in January of this year. She was 48, and had in recent years, battled and then succumbed to cancer. Deborah appreciated the communications from the College and they would often result in us having conversations and a good laugh about our school days and the friends made as I was a St. James boy myself.

Brett Bajada

### Mary Sikand (nee Lyons)

Born 1945, Mary came to the city from Korumburra in South Gippsland. She started at OLSH College in 1958 in Year 8 and left school at end of Year 10. Mary went on to work briefly in the ANZ Bank before going on to the Mercy Convent Novitiate at Rosanna. She returned home before her

profession. Mary completed her nursing studies at St Vincent's. She met and married John Sikand and together they had 10 children. Unfortunately, John died suddenly only two days before their last child Andrew was born. Mary Sikand suffered cancer for a number of years and she passed away last November in Palliative Care in Parkdale.

Geraldine Wain (Lyons)  
(Mary's Sister)

### Susanne Morton

Michael Morton, Susanne's husband, advised of the sad passing of Suzanne in 2017. Susanne started as a student at the College in 1964 and she was living in Mentone prior to passing away from uterine cancer following a short but courageous battle to overcome the disease. Susanne often spoke of her time at OLSH College and enjoyed going to reunions to catch up with former class members.

May Our Lady of the Sacred Heart hold them gently in her care and may their souls rest in peace.

# OLSH College News

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## Hartzer Canberra Visit

After spending our first three days on the Hartzer campus we headed to Canberra where we visited the Australian War Memorial, Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), Mount Ainslie, Regatta Point, Parliament House, National Gallery of Australia (NGA), Museum of Democracy (Old Parliament House), International Embassy and The Royal Australian Mint. These tours provided us with the information we needed for our Canberra Story inquiry project: “How does our nation’s capital tell the stories of Australians?” The Australian Government contributed funding to assist in meeting the costs of the Canberra excursion.



Charlotte Bree and Stephanie Hendricks  
*Issoudun VII Hartzer Group*

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## Sacred Heart Day and Performing Arts Spectacular (PAS)



On Friday 31 May our College community enjoyed an inspiring Sacred Heart Day. Our hearts were deeply touched by the prayerful and

reflective celebration of Mass that began our day. Father Terry Bowman MSC, centred our day on the love of the Heart of Christ for each one of us, *That we may know that God loves us unconditionally* which is the message of Sacred Heart Day.

Following Mass and after months of rehearsals OLSH College Bentleigh students brought their A game to the highly competitive Performing Arts Spectacular (PAS). All Houses were assigned a location and from there they had to work together to develop a storyline, dialogue,

choreography and costumes around a holiday theme. All of the groups performances were so creative but only one House can win and this year it was Hartzer House, who reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. Congratulations to all involved. A wonderful line up followed for ‘OLSH You’ve Got Talent’! Well done to everyone for your dedication, confidence and enthusiasm, it was a fantastic afternoon of talent.

## Academic Awards Ceremony

One of the highlights on the College calendar is the Academic Awards ceremony which was held on 24 July. Students and teachers were joined on this special occasion by members of the Board, parents and friends of OLSH. The awards recognise students for Consistent Application to Study as well as those who have achieved excellent results in a range of subjects in each year level. We offer congratulations to all award recipients for their dedication to their studies. After the presentations, students and their special guests enjoyed morning tea together in the OLSH Centre.

## SCSA Athletics

After weeks of training sessions, the OLSH College Athletics Team headed to Lakeside Stadium in May for the SCSA Division 2 Athletics Carnival. We had the largest team of the year with over 65 girls who ran, jumped and threw their best in what was a tough day of competition. Overall, OLSH College finished in 3rd place. Jezlyn from Year 11 said, "It was an understatement to say that 2019 Athletics was a great experience. Being my fifth year, it is fair to say I love going time and time again. We proved that our school has students with many athletic talents and that they are great representatives for us. Bring on 2020!"



## Year 10 Drama Performance

Students from the Year 10 Drama class participated in the Drama Victoria Theatre Festival where we created a performance piece in response to an Indigenous art piece, called 'Empty Coolamons'. Coolamons are vessels used by the Indigenous community to carry food, objects and most importantly they are a cradle for children. The emptiness of these Coolamons represents the taking of children over many generations. The focus of the work was on the Stolen Generation and the hope for reconciliation. Our performance titled 'Ties Broken, Lies Spoken' attempted to show the abuse and how the forceful disconnect with culture, often resulted in confusion and pain for those being raised: white yet feeling black. Many family members have managed to reunite, yet many never found their way home.



Sarah Daniel and Zoe Stafilis  
Year 10

## Generations Assembly

On Wednesday 3 May the OLSH College community welcomed Year 7 girls whose relatives had also attended OLSH College. We celebrated the second generation students who were joined by their mothers and aunts and there was even a third generation girl; great connections through the history of OLSH College. The girls were presented with a certificate and our past students received an OLSH candle.





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