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FLAME



OLSH College Vision

From the Editor

The theme for this issue of *Flame* is OLSH College Vision. Sometimes, particularly in the corporate sector, countless hours are devoted to developing a vision statement for an organisation. Once it is finalised the statement is framed and placed on the walls around the office and basically the job is considered done. However, the opposite is true at OLSH College, the vision is clearly and consistently expressed and lived out on a daily basis.

The OLSH College vision comes from our proclamation that we are faith-filled, reverence relationships, touch the hearts of others and who pursue excellence. I often see examples of these four pillars being enacted by students, staff, parents and other members of the community.

Many OLSH College girls take up the opportunity to get involved in the Performing Arts, as described on pages 2 and 3 of this issue. They collaborate with students from De La Salle and St James College to deliver some very impressive productions and they learn great life skills at the same time.

Facilities at OLSH College are constantly being reviewed and updated to provide optimum learning spaces for the girls and you can read more about this on page 4.

Touching the Hearts of Others is a key OLSH College pillar and our generous community raised over \$12,000 to help OLSH Sisters care for children orphaned by AIDS in South Africa.

As always, it is great to catch up on the news from past OLSH students

and their profiles are on pages 6 and 7. The Parents and Friends Committee has had a very busy year, see page 8 for details.

Reunions are always very happy occasions and they are a great example of reverencing relationships; photos are on page 9.

Inspiring global consciousness is an important part of the OLSH College Vision and the students who recently toured Europe appreciated this first hand; see page 12 for more.

Regnet Christus Day is a very significant day on the College calendar and this year was no exception. The pursuit of excellence is expected of each student and award winners, and student leaders were recognised in front of the entire school for their dedicated efforts; read more on page 13.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this edition of *Flame* including: Anne O'Loughlin, Bryan Smith, Lauren Quintal, Cileah Smillie, Orla Brooks, Keely Jamieson, Lee Toll, Jennifer Riddle, Kylie Smith, Loraine Browning, Judi Fasham, Kerry Wood, Senora Mendoza, Mia Jones and Katya Adkin.

Sharing in a vision unites a community and helps to create a special place where kindness and support are offered unconditionally; how fortunate we are to have this at OLSH College Bentlyigh.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of *Flame* magazine.

Annie Opray
Director of Development and Community



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 Follow OLSH College

Cover photo: Issoudun student, Bianca Labagnara, camped out for a night during her one month stay at the Hartzer campus in the Southern Highlands of NSW.

Rear cover photo: Students farewell the OLSH College VCE Class of 2017 at their final assembly.

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

OLSH girls can do anything! Throughout the year we have used this phrase as the reminder of our call to excellence and to live life to the full. Its origins are from our shared journey as we strive to be faithful to our vision as Heart people who are faith filled, reverence relationships, pursue excellence and touch the hearts of others.

The simple reality is that as members of this outstanding College community, or as we like to say, the OLSH family, each of us students, parents, staff, alumnae and friends has the capacity to do anything and to be anything, the possibilities are endless. That capacity is there because we are Heart people. We share in our motto *Regnet Christus* which means *May Christ Reign*. We know we are loved and, in freedom, we choose always to love. Christ or Jesus reigns in us and in our world and because of this we can do anything. This journey is one that we have to opt into and we must make a conscious decision to embark upon it. At OLSH College this means we need to continually deepen our understanding of who we are and what drives us forward in life. Identity, passion, commitment and meaning in life are all crucial aspects of who we are and at OLSH College Bentleigh we are Heart people.

Together we enter into our shared story, to come face to face with a journey that takes us to the Heart of the matter and to the Heart of life. This is the *Regnet Christus* and this is where Jesus reigns. It is this very discovery that will keep bringing us back to the realisation that our OLSH spirit truly lived



enables each of us to do anything. To be Heart people is to know that Jesus, “who lived for love and still more love” is the ultimate Heart person. His example of seeking to draw the best from himself and others for the good of all is the cornerstone of our Christian tradition. For Jesus, to be in the right relationships with others was the motivator for his living. His life story was the pursuit of excellence in all things – he lived life to the full!

He lived compassion, acceptance, forgiveness, justice, truth and love and this is the foundation of our core identity as people of the OLSH story, of the Jesus story. This is life par excellence!

Regnet Christus.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart pray for us.

Anne O’Loughlin
Principal

Pursuing Excellence in Performing Arts

At OLSH College, students have a plethora of choice when it comes to the Performing Arts. Bryan Smith who teaches drama, sums it up by saying, “Teamwork, labour, creativity, invention, application, dedication, bonding, satisfaction, opening night elation and memories that last a lifetime, that is what Performing Arts at OLSH College is all about.”

As Lauren Quintal from Year 11 says, “Performing Arts at OLSH has given me the opportunity to express my love for singing, dancing and acting with all it has to offer. This includes participating in musicals, soirees and classes that let me grow and develop as a performer.”

Students can choose to be a member of the cast or part of the crew and both roles teach them different skills and lessons. It sometimes pushes their boundaries and Cileah Smillie from Year 10 comments, “The Arts offer me something different from normal

school life, it helps to build my character by testing my limits, whether it’s stage fright or thoughts of failure, it shows me that I can overcome them.”

The OLSH College Wakakirri team comprised over 60 students. They created the storyline, choreographed the dances, composed the music and designed the costumes. The powerful storyline was based on the fight for women’s rights through the decades. The girls were presented with two awards in the first round and they



Wakakirri

delivered a stellar performance in the final.

OLSH College students have the opportunity to collaborate with De La Salle students in the Performing Arts. The scale and standard of the productions are a testament to the strength of the partnership between the two Colleges. Year 11 student, Orla Brooks, who starred in a recent production said, “*The Importance of Being Earnest* was definitely one of the best Performing Arts experiences. I explored my range and realised what I am capable of achieving. I gained performing and theatre experience and I have made many friends in various year levels. This is by far my best achievement at school.”

Legally Blonde The Musical will be performed in May next year with De La Salle students, and Keely Jamieson from Year 11 will play the lead role Elle Woods. She says, “I was beyond joyful when I found out I would be playing the lead role in the musical *Legally Blonde*, and can only thank the lovely teachers and support staff in the Department of Performing Arts. The Arts at OLSH will stay with me for a very long time. I know everything that my



Wakakirri



The Importance of Being Earnest

teachers have pushed me to do, or put together for me, has made me the person I am today.”

OLSH Stars is one of the signature events on the College calendar and it features current and past

students performing, playing, singing and dancing in a variety of acts. It is a wonderful evening of entertainment and is a showcase for the high standard of performers from the College.

Many OLSH College Year 7 and 8 students participated in the junior drama presentation and they enjoyed working together with the boys from St James College to present *Across the Barricades*. After many rehearsals and much work behind the scenes, from both students and staff, a wonderful night of entertainment was delivered.

Increasingly, the skills developed through performing arts are being sought after by employers. The Director of Corporate Communications at the Xerox Corporation said, “Arts education aids students in skills needed in the workplace: flexibility, the ability to solve problems and communicate, the ability to learn new skills, to be creative and innovative and to strive for excellence.” These useful life skills are of benefit to our students of today and they will be invaluable as they join the workforce of tomorrow.



The Importance of Being Earnest

New Building Projects

Excellent progress is being made on the two new building projects currently underway at OLSH College, namely the redeveloped Performing Arts Precinct and the new Senior Centre. Both projects are due for completion in March 2018.

Senior Centre

The Senior Centre has been made possible due to the relocation of Administration to the convent building, thereby freeing up a significant amount of space for the new area adjacent to the Library. Once completed, the new zone will provide classroom spaces, as well as areas designed for senior students to work collaboratively.



New Senior Centre

Performing Arts Precinct

The redeveloped Performing Arts Precinct will provide a new facility to showcase the many recitals, shows and performances that we are fortunate to see at OLSH College.

There is no doubt the new facility will be much in demand with music, dance and drama to be performed in the new space.

The College Board and the Principal, Anne O’Loughlin, are committed to providing students with the facilities they require to achieve their best. The recently completed OLSH Centre and the two new projects will ensure OLSH College students can learn and excel in state of the art spaces.

Donations

The State Government has provided a partial grant of \$500,000 for the Performing Arts Precinct and the College needs to raise a further \$800,000. Financial assistance is also required from our community in terms of donations for the New Senior Centre. If you are in a position to do so, please make a tax deductible donation to the OLSH College building projects. If you have any enquiries please contact the College on 8520 9200. Thanking you in advance for considering this request and for your kind generosity.



Performing Arts Precinct

Touching the Hearts of Others

One of the highlights on the school calendar is the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart celebrated in September and it was a wonderful occasion.

The student leadership team, along with their teachers, spent months planning the day and then promoted it to all students at assemblies and homerooms to gain maximum support. The girls selected the theme for the day, 'Hakuna Matata', from *The Lion King* which translates to 'No Worries.' The theme lent itself well to the creation of some very colorful, jungle themed costumes, which really added to the atmosphere of the day.



Feast Day began with an uplifting Eucharist and fourteen teachers from the Marianville Secondary OLSH College in Papua New Guinea, visiting at the time, were special guests at the Mass. We were privileged to see and hear the teachers dance and sing like angels.

A carnival was held after the Mass and there was a great choice of rides and amusements for the girls to enjoy. Many generous staff,



students and parents helped to organise the delicious lunch and there was a huge selection of food to choose from.

The fundraising focus for Feast Day was to raise as much money as possible for the orphanage run by the OLSH Sisters in Ofcoloco South Africa. We learn from the teachings of Pope Francis who said, "To change the world we must be good to those who cannot repay us." The OLSH Sisters care for children affected by HIV/AIDS and \$12,000 was raised for this very worthy cause. The money will make a huge difference in the daily lives of the children who live with the Sisters.

Gospel outreach initiatives are a constant at the College and the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Feast Day epitomises the caring and giving spirit of the OLSH community. Thanks must go to everyone involved who contributed so generously of their time, money and effort to ensure the day was such a success.

His Holiness said, "The measure of the greatness of a society is found in the way it treats those most in need, those who have nothing apart from their poverty." Touching the hearts of others is a fundamental pillar at OLSH College and it will continue to underpin all our efforts to make a difference to those in need.



Alumnae Profiles



Kylie Smith 1987

Favourite Subject: Art and Biology.

Occupation: Primary School Teacher.

Career highlight: Working with so many beautiful, talented and inspiring students and colleagues.

Family: My husband Steve, my son Jordan 22, my daughters Jessica 19 (OLSH graduate 2016) and Natasha 17.

Lives in: Parkdale.

Hobbies: Visual Arts/Painting (my job for a few years between teaching positions and raising my children), travelling, reading.

Fondest OLSH memory: Central Australia trip 1986 was my first big trip away from home and ignited a passion for travel.

What's your personal philosophy and what motivates you? 'Reflect, Be thankful, Look after yourself, Plan for tomorrow'; this quote resonates with me as it's a simple reminder to be a life-long learner, always be grateful and to look after your health.

Best advice to your younger self: Don't waste time looking in the rear-view mirror. Reflect, learn, move on and grow.



Loraine (Murphy) Browning 1957

Favourite subject: English.

Occupation: Retired Registered Nurse.

Career highlight: After fifty years, I appreciate the overall satisfaction and rewards of my profession with its frequent calamities and small miracles, it was so worthwhile.

Family: Four sons and a daughter, Leonie (OLSH Class of 1986), seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, and a demanding cat, Gemma.

Lives in: Mulgrave.

Hobbies: Gardening, classical music, theatre and catching up with family and friends.

Fondest OLSH memory: The faith-based education helped me to realise worship and prayer are a necessary part of daily life.

What's your personal philosophy and what motivates you? Make the most of each day, one person can make a difference. Always be kind and maintain a sense of humour.

Best advice to your younger self: Be a good listener, don't worry over what others may think, just be true to yourself.



Judi (Wood) Fasham 1970

Favourite subject: French.

Occupation: Retired, formerly in banking.

Career highlight: Working for Westpac in Sydney during the Olympic Games.

Family: Husband, Kevin, daughters, Natalie, Renee and Yvette and grandchildren, Jack, Madeleine and Max.

Lives in: Dromana.

Hobbies: Travelling, boating, reading and knitting.

Fondest OLSH memory: Looking back, being taught by the Nuns, a dynamic group of women, dedicated to our education. More recently, organising our first ever reunion, after 42 years, in 2012. We now have a yearly reunion every October.

What's your personal philosophy and what motivates you? The Serenity Prayer immediately comes to mind - God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

Best advice to your younger self: Don't be in a hurry to grow up.



Kerry Wood 1967

Favorite subject: English.

Occupation: Administration Accounts, Kilvington Grammar.

Career highlight: I have had quite a few jobs over the journey including working for P & O, which was a lot of fun. One day going to work I had an ‘altercation’ with a tram and came off second best. I woke up three days later, during which time the Prime Minister Harold Holt had gone “missing!”

Family: Husband Greg, daughter Sally, who also went to OLSH, obtaining the highest TER ever (99.55) and son Thomas.

Lives in: An apartment in the City, after living in Bentleigh for 28 years.

Hobbies: Reading, theatre, walking around Albert Park Lake.

Fondest OLSH memory: We went on a class trip to Tasmania which I remember being great fun, but the details are a little sketchy as it was so long ago.

Best advice to your younger self: Grab every opportunity you are offered – you never know where/what it may lead to.



Senora Mendonca 2010

Favourite subject: Biology.

Occupation: Research Scientist at the Monash University Biomedicine Discovery Institute.

Career highlight: Working in stem cell research to find a therapy for asthma.

Family: Mum (Nancy), Dad (Simon) and my Sister (Nicova: who also went to OLSH in 2017).

Lives in: Clayton.

Hobbies: Travelling, watching movies and hanging out with friends.

Fondest OLSH memory: Getting the year level together, including a few teachers, to play Dog and the Bone during our Year 11 lunchtimes.

What’s your personal philosophy and what motivates you? Undertake every opportunity to the best of your ability and surround yourself with people who motivate you to be your best.

Best advice to your younger self: Stress less and enjoy your time in high school because they will be some of the best years of your life.



Jennifer Riddle (Lane) 1988

Favorite subject: Art.

Occupation: Artist.

Career highlight: In 2016, Parliament House acquired two of my paintings for their permanent art collection, one titled ‘Totem - Bathurst Harbour’ and the other, ‘Descend to Rise’.

Family: My husband Danny, with two children, Matilda and Henry, aged 12 and 9.

Lives in: Red Hill.

Hobbies: Gardening, bushwalking, tennis.

Fondest OLSH memory: School camp at Harrietville, we sang songs from Countdown, roared with laughter at the talent quest and disco danced. I’ll never forget Sharon Dooley’s Peter Garrett impersonation!

What’s your personal philosophy and what motivates you: To follow your heart. I had always wanted to be an artist, but it wasn’t until my sister faced her own battle with cancer, that she expressed how important it was for me to be painting and to live in the natural environment that I had always dreamed of. Sadly Andrea passed away, but her courage and words “follow my heart” stay with me every day and is a great inspiration for my work.

Parents and Friends Association

As the Australian politician Elizabeth Andrews said, "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have heart" and this is most certainly true of our hardworking Parents and Friends Committee at OLSH College.

It has been an extremely busy year for the P & F and they have organised guest speakers, a pasta offer to give Mum the night off cooking for Mother's Day, a sell-out Father's Day Breakfast, assisted at OLSH Stars, not to mention the BABBA parent night, definitely one to remember!

Members of the P & F have also been in attendance at the local primary school fetes at the OLSH College information table, kindly sharing the positive experiences they have had at the College. They have also spoken to parents considering an OLSH education for their daughters at Open Mornings throughout 2017.



Father's Day Breakfast

Alumnae News

Please send us all your news: wedding, baby, study qualification, new job, promotion, travel, overseas adventure etc. Email Annie Opray, Director of Development and Community aopray@olsh.vic.edu.au



St Pauls Fete

Vale

We remember in prayer

Joan T Mealing (Reade) who died peacefully on 8 November 2017. Joan was a student at OLSH College in the 1940's and subsequently enrolled her daughters Catherine and Elizabeth (dec).

In recent weeks, the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart have farewelled two greatly loved Sisters.

Sr Marilyn Knolder fdnsc died on 2 November at St Joseph's Aged Care Centre in Kensington, New South Wales. Sister Marilyn had celebrated her 50th Jubilee of Religious Profession in 2015. She had experienced ill health in recent years, but she had been a dedicated and much loved Primary and Secondary Teacher in many of our OLSH and MSC schools throughout Australia, including Chevalier College in Burradoo in the Southern Highlands of NSW.

Sr Berenice Twohill fdnsc died on 3 November, just three days before her one hundred and first birthday. Sr Berenice was one of the Sisters who was taken prisoner by the Japanese and spent three years and seven months imprisoned in a POW Camp in Ramale, New Britain. Her story has been shown on our television screens in the ABC Drama, 'Sisters at War'.

After the war, she returned to Australia and became a music teacher in many of our Australian OLSH schools. In later years, she enjoyed being involved in parish work, visiting people in their homes, and working at a drop-in centre for homeless and street people.

And any other members of the OLSH College Bentleigh community who have recently passed away.

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

Reunions – Class of 1952–1957



Reunions – Class of 1987



Reunions – Class of 2007





Reunions – Class of 2012



Touring Europe

Two groups of very fortunate OLSH College students recently enjoyed Ametur trips to Europe; the first group went on a Performing Arts trip to London and the second group went on an Italian Cultural Immersion.



The girls on the London trip enjoyed an array of theatrical experiences, which included being in the audience at the iconic Globe Theatre for a performance of the Shakespearian play *Much Ado About Nothing*. Afterwards, they took a tour of the playhouse and attended a session which explored the logistics of how performances are staged and how the actors use the space available to them for maximum effect.

Year 8 student Mia Jones said "When our group finally arrived



in London we were ecstatic. From there, it was a whirlwind of amazing and unforgettable experiences. A highlight was having a Director of the National Theatre lead us in a workshop. We focused on the book *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*. We looked at some of the challenges the Director would have faced transferring it from a book to a performance and the ways to overcome this."

The girls also went to *The Lion King*, which included a backstage tour, *Mamma Mia* and *Alice in Wonderland*, which was performed as a ballet. Seeing such high standard productions taught them many lessons in terms of delivering a professional performance.

Students on the Italian Cultural Immersion Tour really got to live like a local in many respects and to continuously practise their language skills. They had many opportunities to appreciate Italian culture and history during their travels which included a farm stay. They visited the town of Orvieto where they had cooking classes and enjoyed a delicious lunch.

The students visited landmarks in Rome, Assisi, Venice and Florence. Katya Adkin from Year 9 said, "Personally, the favourite place I visited was Florence, as the architecture of the city is phenomenal and the use of colour stands out from the rest. We got to tackle new challenges and experiences, like climbing bell towers and domes in churches and seeing a personal demonstration on how the famous Italian mask is made."



The groups met up in Paris where they saw the famous sites of the City of Eternal Lights. They visited the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Eiffel Tower and the Sacre Coeur Basilica. They also had guided tours of Claude Monet's House and Gardens, Versailles and the Louvre.

They then went on a pilgrimage together to Issoudun, for a reflection day at the birthplace of Fr Jules Chevalier before journeying home.

Students on both trips consider themselves lucky to have had such an incredible experience and to have memories they will treasure for a lifetime.

Regnet Christus Day

All students at OLSH College are encouraged in their pursuit of excellence. On Regnet Christus Day we acknowledged students who attained a level of distinction in a particular field such as academic accomplishments, leadership, applied learning, learning growth and sport. The day began with a formal Celebration of Excellence Ceremony which was attended by the whole school community including the families of award winners.

Nick Staikos, the State Member for Bentleigh, was a special guest at the ceremony and he also presented an award. Later in the day award recipients were also recognised in their individual year levels by teachers and fellow students.

College Board members and staff presented major awards to the following recipients:

Defence Awards

Year 10 Molly Rosenberger
Year 12 Maria Farag

Caltex Allrounder

Emma Medland

Nick Staikos Award

Piwainashe Kahonde

Glen Eira Awards

Year 7 Emily Campbell
Year 8 Elizabeth Zhevelyuk
Issoudun Katya Adkin
Year 10 Kiya Campbell-Cowan
Year 11 Georgia Shepherd-
Petrocco
Year 12 Lisa Kirui

Josie Gleeson Cultural Award

Katelyn Fitchett

Amy Taylor Award

Karina Mercuri

Karen Park Memorial Award

Hannah Gardiner

Pierre de Coubertin Award

Olivia May



Outstanding Sportsgirl of the Year

Olivia May

Sport Rising Star Award

Aimee Grella

Regnet Christus Trophy

Hartzer

College Vice Captain Award

Genevieve Gallucci

Sr. Mary Fyfe Memorial Leadership Award (College Captain)

Piwainashe Kahonde

Principal's Growth Awards

Cileah Smillie
Sophie Nash
Ruby Looker

Principal's Awards – Outstanding Sporting Achievement

Emma Medland
Kate Kelly-Oman

Marie Louise Hartzer Award

Piwainashe Kahonde

Jules Chevalier Awards

Maria Farag
Lisa Kirui.



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