Avila College acknowledges the Wurundjeri people, the traditional custodians of the land on which the College is built.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

Dear members of the Avila community,

Our College Community gathers together again as we herald the start of a new academic year. We have welcomed our new Year 7s, new and returning staff as well as 14 new students to Avila College in Years 8-11. We have already had some opportunities to gather as a whole school community, including The Opening School Assembly on Thursday 30 January, at which our school leaders presented to us their message for 2014. In recognition of our high achievers from 2013, we held our High Achievers Assembly on Tuesday 4 February and congratulations are again extended to Genevieve Townsend, our Filomena Salvatore DUX for 2013, who scored an ATAR of 99.25. Today we celebrated our Opening of the School Year Eucharist and we look forward to sharing more about this celebration in our next newsletter. I thank all staff, parents and students who have attended many of our recent information nights and social events. Your support of these events clearly demonstrates your interest in your daughter’s education as well as your desire to connect more with other parents.

Towards the end of last year the College reviewed and re-wrote our Vision Statement. In conjunction with our Annual Action Plans for the next four years, which were formulated following our school review last year, we will be reporting throughout the year via the College newsletter on what is being done in each of the five sphere areas to link to school improvement. Our new Vision Statement will guide us in: What we do; What we are as a Catholic Secondary Girls’ College; and What we want others to know about Avila College. I urge all members of the Avila College community to read our Vision Statement on the College website or Avila College app.

Over the recent holiday break many areas of the College underwent renovations and upgrades. Some of the major works included a ‘new-look’ for the Year 10 area as well as air conditioning in most classroom spaces. Thanks to the money raised by the Avila College PFA Trivia Night last year, we have created a new garden area adjacent to the school canteen with seats and a large shade sail to provide increased shade for students. Thanks are extended to our College Maintenance department as well as the various trades people who worked on these projects.

**Community news** – we extend a sincere welcome to the following new and returning staff to Avila College in 2014:

**New Staff:**
- **Renee Fleeton** – Religious Education Curriculum Leader
- **Joana Champion** – Years 7, 9 and 10 Maths
- **David Bullock** – Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 Health and Physical Education, Homeroom Year 9
- **Carley Spiteri** – Years 7, 8, 9 and 9 Maths, Year 9 Science
- **Rebecca Cusmano** – Years 7 and 8 French, Years 7 and 8 Religious Education and Year 8 Homeroom
- **Rosa Phillips** – Learning Support Department
- **Kate Macklin** – Year 9 Geography, Year 9 Religious Education and Year 9 Homeroom
- **Emily Vining** – Years 7, 9 and 10 Health and Physical Education and Year 10 Homeroom
- **Alex Ntoumenopoulos** – Years 8 and 11 English, Year 7 ConnectED and Year 7 Homeroom
- **Greg Whiston** – Sport and Physical Education Assistant
- **Sarah Odgers** – Teacher Librarian
- **Amelia Smith** – Administration Officer

**Returning Staff:**
- **Andrea McCann** – Year 12 Geography, Year 9 History and Year 7 ConnectED
- **Rola Talj** – Year 11 Maths Methods and Years 7 and 10 Maths

With God’s blessing to all members of our Avila community.

*Ms Louise Gunther*
Principal

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**CALENDAR DATES**

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<td>YEAR 7 SWIM DAY</td>
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<td>Tues</td>
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<td>YEAR 8 &amp; 9 PARENT EVENING, 7PM</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
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<td>OPEN MORNING SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP</td>
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<td>LEVEL ASSEMBLIES, Assembly day timetable</td>
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<tr>
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**College Board Meeting**

The Annual Reporting Meeting of the College Board will be held in the Dining Room on **Tuesday, 18 March at 7pm.**

A warm invitation is extended to all parents to attend this meeting.

*Caryl Finnegan - Chair, Avila College Board*

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**PRAYER**

Love of Jesus, fill us,
Joy of Jesus, surprise us,
Peace of Jesus, flood us,
Light of Jesus, transform us,
Touch of Jesus, warm us,
Strength of Jesus, encourage us.
O Lord, in your agony, forgive us,
in your wounds, hide us,
and in your risen life take us with you,
for your love’s sake.
Amen.

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**AVILA NEWS**


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**Ecclesiae Filia – Daughter of the Church**
FAITH MATTERS
Welcome to a new school year. In a time when we look forward with anticipation, excitement and energy, sometimes it’s good to look back and reflect on what has been. Following is a reflection written by Jessica Frizziero, Liturgy Captain for 2014, on the Australian Catholic Youth Festival, which was held in Melbourne in early December 2013. The photos are supplied by Cathy Darbyshire, Liturgy Vice-Captain for 2014. Both girls, along with staff and a dozen students, were sponsored by Avila College to attend the Festival. I commend their report for your reflection and prayer.

Mr John Rhynehart
Director of Faith and Mission

Reflection on the Australian Catholic Youth Festival
3000 youth gathered together at Festival Hall; all singing at the top of their lungs, all doing the same actions, united through prayer and faith. Those were the most prominent moments I felt the presence of God with me at the Festival. The moments we were collectively united, sharing in the same; the moments when 3000 young people were absolutely silent and reflective within a stadium known for noise.

Knowing that as you walked and smiled at someone, you already had this incredible mutual understanding because you shared something so great and life-fulfilling; the Catholic faith. That was the best part of the festival, meeting people like that, like minded people, where you felt safe and comfortable to talk about your religion in a casual way and as a practical part of our lives today. We learnt ways we are able to incorporate Catholicism as young people; something as simple as the way we look at the world or the way we interact with the people around us.

To see people all over Australia travel many kilometers to get to Melbourne just for the Catholic Youth Festival was amazing. To see the determination and effort they put in for their faith was an inspiration. Collectively we were so lucky for the opportunity we were given and are forever grateful to Avila for presenting it to us. Needless to say this wonderful event would not have been possible without all the organisation and preparation that went into it and I think we all are very much looking forward to the next Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

Jessica Frizziero
Liturgy Captain, 2014

APPLICATIONS FOR YEAR 7 IN 2015
If you have a Year 6 student at primary school, please ensure that you complete and return an Application forEnrolment form for her by Friday, 28 February 2014.
The new Application for Enrolment form is available on the College website – www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au - or from the General Office.
Please note that as from 1 March 2014, a $300 non-refundable application fee will be required when an Application for Enrolment form is lodged.
For any further information, please ring the Registrar, Maria Nankervis, on 9831 9600.
ADMINISTRATION NEWS

MYKI Cards
In 2014 all students are required to have their own MYKI card for excursion use where public transport is the method of travel. Students are also responsible for ensuring their MYKI is topped up prior to the excursion. A concession MYKI card costs $3. You can buy and top up a MYKI card in several ways, for more information please visit the following site: http://ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki/buying-your-myki

Traffic Management
Because safety is a key issue for all our Avila students, we ask for the support and cooperation from parents when either dropping off your daughters or picking them up at the end of the day. In order to assist with this process, we ask that parents refer to the diagram at right and follow a clockwise direction when dropping off or picking up students. Please look closely at the diagram at right that identifies:

- Parking areas for parents
- Drop off areas
- Bus parking only
- Staff parking only
- Flow of traffic

For the safety of all students, staff and parents, we ask that no cars come past Portsmouth Street to the dead-end part of Charles Street. We also ask that you are mindful of neighbours’ access to their driveways.

We urge parents to please follow the recommended route when dropping off or picking up their daughters.

VCE Teachers PL - Statistical Moderation
On Monday 10 February Nick Dobroff, Manager Statistical Moderation, from the Assessment and Reporting Division of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority conducted a professional learning session for all VCE staff. Nick delved into the process involved in statistical moderation and the calculation of study scores. We thank Nick for his time and sharing his expertise.

High Achievers Assembly
On Tuesday 4 February, the College community gathered together to acknowledge the achievements of our 2013 VCE and VCAL students at a College Assembly. We celebrated and acknowledged students who achieved outstanding ATAR scores of 90 and above, students who attained the highest study score in their subject at Avila in 2013, and celebrated the efforts and achievement of our VCAL High Achiever. Genevieve Townsend, 2013 College Dux, was presented with the Filomena Salvatore DUX gift, and then addressed the College community (her speech can be found on page 4). Evelyn Andrews and Anita Coffa also shared words of wisdom with current students about application to study and life at Avila.

Miss Rebecca Cetrola
Deputy Principal – Administration
Genevieve Townsend, 2013 Dux, reflects on her time at Avila

Good afternoon parents, staff, past and present Avila students.

It's an honour to be standing here as College Dux – I feel I have come a long way since year 7 when I didn't quite understand what a Dux was... but thought they perhaps received a little pin with a golden duck on it. Enough about me – how is everyone else today? … because if you're starting a new school year with endless opportunities and challenges, you should be pretty excited. While there will be ups and downs, I can confidently say I loved my time at Avila. But as I have the benefit of hindsight, I will share some of the things I wish I had learnt earlier, as well as some of the quotes which helped me through VCE.

1. A mind is like a parachute... it doesn't work if it's not open. High school is a time of change and new experiences – learning both within and out of school. It's important to keep an open mind to all the opportunities Avila has to offer. If not now, then when? You may not enjoy every thing, but it is only from experiencing that you will find out.

2. Don't let the fear of the time it will take to accomplish something stand in the way of doing it. The time will pass anyway, we might as well put that passing time to the best possible use. It can be easy to avoid extra activities because they require time. But the busier the schedule, the more organised you can be. I was more motivated to go to school when I had extra commitments and was involved in fun activities. Like many, I wanted to get the most out of my education through study and extra activities because Avila has taught me how lucky we are, particularly as girls, to be gifted with a high school education.

3. Know thyself. The philosopher Plato's words and one of Mr Rhynehart's favourite quotes in Yr 12 English... Knowing your strengths and limitations is something that we must continually work on…and high school is the place to start. If you know you love and enjoy something, as I do art, do not be scared to follow your passions. …On the other hand, if you're unsure of your interests or don't consider yourself the biggest fan of school... take school as a risk free place to try new things and work out how best you study and organise yourself. Whether it be making a book of maths jokes, big mind maps or a lame song to revise for tests and exams, try viewing homework from a different perspective. For me, one of the keys to success is knowing what time you can work best and when you need a night off (trust me, it's allowed). You can still go to parties and see friends, as you need to be happy and balanced to stay motivated to study.

4. The only person you should try and be better than...is the person you were yesterday. Avoid comparing yourself to others. Reach for your personal best. By the end of year 12 I genuinely had little concern for my grades, I knew I had tried my hardest and I would get whatever score came my way.

5. An optimist: someone who figures that taking a step backwards after taking a step forwards is not a disaster... it’s more like a cha cha. We all make mistakes and there are times where we are disappointed with ourselves. Some people will have confidence in you, and others may believe your goals are set too high. Whatever you do, don't lose confidence in yourself or your abilities and potential. It can be so easy to forget that we all have different strengths and weaknesses.

6. Use your resources. Your teachers are here to support every student; they are the ones with confidence in you, you just need to involve yourself and show enthusiasm to learn. I cannot thank my teachers enough for their passion and the patience they had when explaining concepts that I did not, at first, understand. Never be afraid to ask questions, as your teachers are keen to make sure you achieve your best.

…Secondly, as an art and drama student, the best advice I got came from sharing my work with others. Though it's scary, try sharing your work and your writing with others, be it a younger sibling, mum, a friend or teacher. Explaining what you have learnt is an invaluable way to revise, gain constructive criticism and find any gaps in knowledge. I'm still working on the tips I just shared and am so excited to continue learning in my arts and visual arts degree this year at Monash. Whether you consider yourself academic or not, Avila has given me confidence to take up opportunities. So engage yourself in class discussions and try something new, you never know where it might lead. While you look forward to life outside of school, enjoy your time at Avila and make the most of your remaining years. I'll leave you with one of my favourite quotes last year.

Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.
Recently our school assembly was devoted to celebrating the success of Avila College’s high achievers in 2013. The excellent results of both VCE and VCAL students were acknowledged. College Dux, Genevieve Townsend, addressed the assembly and spoke about the importance of seizing opportunities. Evelyn Andrews, who achieved a perfect study score of 50 in English, explained the value of using a set back, such as a lower mark than hoped for in an assessment task, as a motivator to strive higher next time, as she did with great success. Avila College is particularly proud of the results in English last year with 33 students achieving scores above 40. Such excellent results in a core area provided the basis for much success across a broad range of studies.

Recognition of the benefits of reading widely has led to the re-introduction of a wide reading program for all students from years 7 to 10. According to university researchers (Herald Sun 20-01-14), “reading a great novel can produce measurable changes in the brain that linger for at least five days after reading”. Others have found that “reading is better and faster than other methods to calm frazzled nerves such as listening to music, going for a walk or settling down with a cup of tea” (Telegraph 09-02-13). In a busy world, the value of reading cannot be overstated.

Parents often worry about whether their daughters are doing too much or too little homework, especially at the beginning of a new year. In addition to regular reading of both fiction and non-fiction, students need to have a sound study routine. The following guidelines are published as a reminder that even if no work is set by a teacher, students should use the time to review their learning from the day or to undertake some preliminary research for future learning. To ease the transition to secondary school, students in year 7 are not set homework in the first two weeks of the year, with the exception of some Music tasks and revising their Maths times table. “Catch-up corner” operates at lunchtime with Maths teachers in attendance to support students’ learning beyond the classroom.

Homework Guidelines
Years 7 & 8: 1 to 1.5 hours per night (approximately 20 mins per subject the night of the lesson)
Years 9 & 10: 1.5 to 2 hours per night (approximately 30 mins per subject the night if the lesson)
Years 11 & 12: 3 to 3.5 hours per night (approximately 3 to 5 hours per subject per week)

Mrs Madeleine Franken
Deputy Principal - Curriculum

Year 12 Leaders’ Day
Our Year 12 Student Leaders spent Wednesday, 29 January preparing for the year ahead through attending a series of leadership seminars at Syndal Baptist Church. They embraced the spirit of the day with enthusiasm, engaging with the topics presented. Thanks are extended to Mrs Spurritt, Mrs Kralj, Sister Maria Lazzaro and Mrs Swift for preparing and presenting such thought-provoking seminars and workshops. Presentation topics ranged from personal leadership experiences, to the story of Nano Nagle’s Christian leadership, and from public speaking and communication, to the importance of empathy. Mr Rhynehart led a beautiful Commissioning Ceremony at the end of the seminars. The Year 12 Leaders recognised the significance of receiving a blessing from one another, making the ceremony particularly moving.

Following the seminars and Commissioning Ceremony, the girls and their parents joined the Leadership Team at Avila College for a BBQ. In her address to the parents, Monica De Rango (College Vice-Captain) thanked the parents of the Leaders in anticipation of the supportive role they will play in guiding their daughters through their final year of school. The evening was a lovely opportunity for students, parents and staff to meet. Many thanks to all of the parents of the Year 12 Leaders who attended the BBQ. Particular thanks are extended to the Muling, Stathopoulos and Frizziero families for their help throughout the evening.

Madelaine Scott-Jones
Student Leadership Co-ordinator
Drama Girls Shine
A small number of past and present Avila College students have had success in the field of drama and theatre in recent weeks.

Margaret Tanjutco (2013) and Lauren Trantino (2013) were invited by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority to audition for the prestigious Top Class Drama program to be held at the Melbourne Recital Centre in late April and early May. The girls’ invitations to audition were based on high scoring solo performance examinations in Year 12 Drama last October. Margaret and Lauren will discover in the next few weeks whether they gained a place in one of the Top Class Drama concerts.

Margaret has had further success in this field by being accepted into the one-year Music Theatre Foundation Program at the Victorian College of the Arts for 2014. Participants selected for this program are acknowledged as being highly skilled in the area of music theatre, but missed out on a place in the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Music Theatre). Entry into all courses at the Victorian College of the Arts is very competitive, with places in high demand.

Meanwhile, Year 11 student Eliza Engellenner has been accepted into the National Institute of Dramatic Art Young Actors Studio course for 2014. Eliza will continue with her studies at Avila College this year while doing her NIDA workshops each Sunday afternoon. Over 800 students auditioned for sixteen places in this program.

These success stories follow hot on the heels of current Year 12 student Madeleine Durrant, who was accepted last September to be a part of the Melbourne Theatre Company’s Youth Scholarship Course, a weeklong intensive series of drama workshops run by some of the best tutors in the business.

Justin Cash
The Arts Curriculum Assistant

Language Learning at Avila: Broadening Horizons

The Avila College community is a diverse and linguistically rich one!

Year 7 students have begun a semester-length study of either French, Indonesian or Italian. They will study another language in semester two before making their language choice for Year 8 and beyond, in August. Students in Years 8 - 12 have recommenced their language studies, with revision of vocabulary and grammar points covered in the past.

Over a hundred students are also undertaking language studies outside of the College, at the Victorian School of Languages or a number of other providers. Languages studied include: Portuguese, Greek, Mandarin, Korean, Polish, Singhalese. Each year, we collect information about the language backgrounds of students at the College and these students will be asked to complete the ‘Avila Languages Census’ online in the coming weeks.

The department is also gearing up for the departure of students of Italian in Years 10 and 11 in September, under the leadership of Signora Cornell. This promises to be a most rewarding opportunity for the girls to improve their language skills. Preparations are also underway for study tours to Indonesia and France in 2015.

Catherine Spurritt
Curriculum Leader – Languages

Tips for language learning success in 2014:

- Don’t be afraid to make mistakes
- Use the language in class to ask questions and interact with your peers and teachers
- Ask questions in class to clarify your understanding
- Seek out additional opportunities to engage with the language through music, film and print media
- Persist - it took you many years to perfect your first language, so why would acquiring your second language be any different?
Art at Avila

The major event on the Art calendar for summer is Melbourne Now at the NGV. If you haven’t already visited the gallery it is a “must see” contemporary art exhibition that is open until March 23. The exhibition is free, family friendly and encompasses works across both art spaces; site one at NGV(A) Federation Square and site two NGV(I) on St. Kilda Road. The teachers and students of Art and Design have been making the most of this unique opportunity by attending the gallery over the past weeks. Marjolyn Willis and myself attended a three day teacher workshop in January run by curators, educators and artists. Some students attended holiday programs. Last week all VCE students studying Studio Arts were taken on a school excursion to visit this large and impressive exhibition. The teachers in the Arts faculty here at Avila College understand that visual arts, music and drama teaches students complex problem solving, and by visiting art galleries and studying contemporary art we enable our students to have experiences that they can not have from other sources and through such experience students can discover the range and variety of what we are capable of feeling or thinking.

Jolenta Kirkwood
The Arts Curriculum Leader

‘Melbourne Now’ at the NGV

The Melbourne Now exhibition is a showcase of the latest art, architecture, design, and performance that uniquely reflects Melbourne’s current creative landscape. It is located at the Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia and the NGV International. On Thursday, 6 February, all Year 11 and 12 Studio Arts students had the wonderful opportunity to experience this exhibition, with sessions guided by an education officer. As we walked around the spaces in our free time, we came across pieces such as “Degustation” by Julia Deville; an installation made up of taxidermied animals like fawns, cats and crows, in a baroque style setting.

“Hotham Street Ladies” are installations in the Ian Potter Centre. It is a collaboration where the materials used include everyday items such as pot plants, furniture, lampshades; however the major feature is the use of icing, which makes up the paisley on the wall, the rug on the floor and cushions, just to name a few examples. This piece, compared to traditional or ‘high’ art, depicts everyday life of ordinary people. Pieces like this are perfect examples of how this exhibition challenges the traditional view of what art is. With our education officer by our side, we learnt about several outstanding pieces that capture today’s Melbourne art culture including “Northside Boxing Gym” by Richard Lewer and Maree Clark’s “Men in mourning”. The entire exhibition was a brilliant learning tool to help us understand the depth and complexity of contemporary art, and the way in which contemporary artists respond to the world around them.

Jorja Hope
11 Green

VCE Art and Design Start

In anticipation of our units 3 & 4 studies, we decided to begin the year early for our Studio Art units. An art course offered each summer at the National Gallery of Victoria, known as the ‘VCE Art and Design Start’, invites VCE students from around the state to get a head start into the content that will be covered throughout the year. This three-day-long course was so jam-packed that it felt more like a week than just the three days from the number of activities we participated in and how much we learnt. Each day there was something new and exciting to look forward to. We were fortunate enough to meet some of the artists who are currently exhibited in the ‘Melbourne Now’ Exhibition including Jess Johnson, Selina Ou and Anastasia Klose. This programme gave us an insight into the expectations of units 3 & 4 Studio Art, with folio sessions and drawing workshops, as well as a once in a lifetime journey to the conservation labs, which are not generally accessible to the public. In our time at the NGV, we were well looked after by our supervisors, always making sure that we were enjoying ourselves and encouraging us to ask questions when we didn’t understand something. As well as this, we made so many friends amongst the 13 other students that were participating- planning to get together again to help each other out in our folios and thought processes. We were both intrigued by what this program had to offer and by what we gained from this experience. We hope to encourage other students planning to pursue units 3 & 4 in Studio Art to try it out, it’s definitely worth it! We both kicked off 2014 to a great start.

Fotini Hrambanis & Aikaterini Karanikas
Year 12 Studio Arts
PASTORAL CARE

A warm welcome back to all of our Avila families, and a special welcome to families who have joined us in Year 7, or have daughters starting in other year levels. Across 2014, the Pastoral team will be bringing you information each fortnight on programs, forums, courses and organisations that may be of interest to Avila families. We will also provide you with updates on pastoral issues at the College.

Each year level brings its own special challenges and it is important that students and their parents are well aware of the expectations of the College, especially with respect to student behaviour and study criteria. Parents play a vital role in guiding the decision making of their daughter and they do this far more effectively if they are aware of expectations. Parents are advised to take time to read through their daughter’s school diary and all correspondence from the College as it is assumed that parents are aware and support these expectations.

While it is important for parents to have the most up to date information, it is also important for the College to hold accurate medical information and parental contact details. If there has been a change in these over the holidays, please ensure that you contact the College and inform us. Good communication is an extremely important key to successful pastoral care and we always strive to keep the lines of communication open.

Pastoral Care Team 2014

Year 7: Co-ordinator – Ms Karis Dalton
Assistant Co-ordinator - Mrs Maureen Adams

Year 8: Co-ordinator – Ms Ingrid O’Sullivan
Assistant Co-ordinator – Mrs Jason Isma

Year 9: Co-ordinator - Mrs Anne Stephens
Assistant Co-ordinator - Mr Jason Isma

Year 10: Co-ordinator - Ms Amanda Flynn
Assistant Co-ordinator - Ms Clare Baker

Year 11: Co-ordinator - Ms Anna Marvelli
Assistant Co-ordinator - Mr Philip Cornell

Year 12: Co-ordinator - Mrs Louise Swift
Assistant Co-ordinator - Mrs Fiona Wright

Learning Support Coordinator: Mrs Maureen Adams
Pathways Co-ordinator: Ms Jenny Dunn

College Chaplain: Sr Marie Lazzaro pvbm (Tues and Wed)
School Psychologist: Ms Helen Tillinh

Counsellors: Donna Teekens (Mon and Tues)
Rachael Janssen (Tue, Wed Fri)

Director of Faith and Mission: Mr John Rhynehart
Deputy Principal – Wellbeing: Mrs Christine Kralj

Peer Programs

Congratulations to the 20, Year 10 students who have been appointed as Peer Helpers:

- Melanie Linden
- Jessica McLean
- Catherine Pagliaro
- Chloe Azarraga
- Natalie Cardaci
- Katrina Amoranto
- Isha Shah
- Marlene Meki
- Claudia Coloneri
- Stephanie Bentivegna
- Eleni Giakouris
- Andrea Phua
- Elena Montague
- Lisa Dupuy
- Madeline Dyer
- Georgia D’Souza
- Georgia Abbott
- Sarah Papadimitriou
- Bianca Baldwin
- Nancy Christodoulakis

Over the year these students will generously give their time and talents to support younger members of our College community. Peer Helpers run lunchtime activities, visit homerooms and support Year 7 students to settle in. Thank you to Helen Tillinh (School Psychologist) for undertaking the training of our students and their ongoing supervision.

Parent Access Module

Last year we launched the College’s Parent Access Module (PAM) that enables parents access to their daughter’s current timetable, names of teaching staff and past reports as well as attendance and punctuality records. It has been necessary to issue parents with a new login and passwords this year. You should receive a letter, via your daughter, next week that will contain these new access details. If your new login or password does not work, please ask your daughter to raise the concern at our IT Help Desk at recess or lunchtime or parents can contact the Help Desk on 9831 9600.
Application for Extension of Work (Year 7-10)

To provide students and staff with a consistent process under which extensions are given, the College has developed a new ‘Extension of Work’ procedure. Students must apply in writing requesting an extension for major pieces of work. The application is co-signed by a parent and submitted to the subject teacher at least one day before the work is due in. Completing the form is no guarantee that an extension will be granted. It is at the subject teacher’s discretion as to if, and for how long an extension will be.

Students should only apply if they have genuine difficulties that are out of their control. Extensions will not be granted if the difficulty was foreseeable and good planning could have avoided the problem, nor if the student cannot show that a reasonable amount of the work has already been completed. Applications on or after the due date will not be accepted unless the student has been away due to illness and a medical certificate is supplied. A link to the application form is on the Simon database and students have had this new process explained to them during orientation last week.

We trust that the new process will:
• provide a consistent approach across all classes in Years 7 – 10
• ensure that students know what is required when asking for more time to complete tasks
• improve record keeping and accountability
• help to identify students who need support developing their time management skills.

Kind regards,
The Pastoral Care Team

Safer Internet Day

As part of Safer Internet Day on Tuesday, 11 February, Avila students were challenged to think about their own levels of e.Safety.

The SRC launched an awareness raising campaign, prompting students to ask themselves “Who am I online?”. Students were urged to look at their own digital footprint, think about what they post online as well as how they appear to others through their social media posts.

As part of the day the App Group showed off some of the iPad apps they have created, students signed up to become part of the Avila Innovators group and others gave suggestions of areas of technology about which they would like to be better informed.

Eager students enjoyed cool, refreshing icy treats along with their take-away ‘to do’ list of actions aimed at developing awareness about their online persona.

For our Year 7 and 8 Parent Community, we have a Conversations About Social Media evening on Wednesday 26 March in the Year 7 and 8 building. The Counselling Team will present and facilitate conversations on embracing the benefits as well as handling the challenges of social media.

Parents and students may also find the following links useful:

Jason Isma
e.Learning Leader

Members of the SRC and App group celebrate a successful Safer Internet Day with our newly acquired 3D printer.
PFA REPORT

A very warm welcome to all members of the Avila community and best wishes for a wonderful 2014.

Year 7 Welcome Morning Tea

It was lovely to see so many Year 7 students and their parents walk through the Avila College gates on Thursday 30 January.

I could sense there was a combination of excitement and also a little apprehension in the air. The welcome from the Avila girls and Staff was amazing and our new families felt quickly at home. Once the students settled in to their classroom many parents joined us for morning tea and the room was buzzing with conversation. Like many parents I know, I am happy to be back into the school routine and am looking forward to the many events and activities the PFA has planned for this year.

Year 7 Families Welcome Picnic

The first PFA event for the year was the Year 7 Welcome Picnic, which was held from 3.30-7.00pm on Friday 7 February in front of the Year 7 classrooms. Many families joined us and they were pleased to be able to meet other members of the Avila community in such a relaxed setting.

The weather was kind and the marquees, mist fans and icy poles all helped to keep us cool. It was so lovely to see the senior students organising games and activities for the new Year 7 girls. Everyone was so impressed with the performances from the students; there are certainly many talented musicians at Avila. My thanks go to the students who helped out and to Ms Roxane Lascaris and Ms Maddie Scott-Jones for organising the music and the student leaders. Thanks also to the Leadership Team, led by Ms Gunther, who were there to welcome new families to the College.

New Garden

I am pleased to advise that the funds raised from the 2013 Trivia Night have been very well invested in a beautiful new landscaped garden for students located near the Canteen. The area features an array of plants, a sailcloth for shade and seating and it will be well used by students for many years to come.

2014 PFA Meetings

The PFA meets once a month from 7pm in the Dining Room and all parents are most welcome at attend. Please just email Annie Opray (aopray@avilacollege.vic.edu.au), Director of Marketing and Development at the College to let her know you will be attending.

The meeting dates for 2014 are:

Thursday 27 February  
Thursday 15 May  
Wednesday 27 August

Thursday 27 March  
Wednesday 18 June  
Monday 13 October

Wednesday 30 April  
Thursday 31 July  
Thursday 20 November

Loretta Stapleton
PFA President
MEET… the COLLEGE CAPTAIN and VICE-CAPTAIN

Georgia Muling

It still feels very surreal to not only be in Year 12, but also be the College Captain for this year. I feel so incredibly humbled and blessed to be a part of the leadership team at a school that I love so much.

While reflecting on the year ahead, I could only think of one word to help describe my feelings, excited. I am excited! Excited to learn so many wonderful things in my new role. Excited to see the Avila community grow in faith, companionship and spirit. Excited to see Hawthorn possibly win back to back premierships. Excited to see where the end of my Avila life will lead me. But perhaps the thing I am most excited for, is to see the Avila community embrace this year’s theme, ‘Give over get.’

I can’t wait to see all of the Avila girls give their time, gifts, talents, friendship and love throughout 2014, because I know that if they do, they too will receive. Since year seven, it seems that I made it my goal to try out for every possible team and join every club I could think of (even if it clearly was not my forte). Looking back on my time at Avila, I would not change one thing. I love that I am heavily involved in the Drama department and that Sport is a huge part of my life. I feel nothing but pride when someone asks what school I go to, because Avila is a place that has fostered my passions and beliefs, to help me grow into the person I am today.

Next year, I plan to take a gap year to travel overseas to do volunteer work, and in 2015 I hope to study teaching. I can’t wait to face this year, alongside Monica and the rest of the leadership team. I am positive 2014 will be one of the best years yet!

Monica De Rango

My name is Monica De Rango and I feel so privileged and excited to be College Vice-Captain this year. I cannot wait to work with the student leadership team and see what we can accomplish together!

Over the past five years at Avila I have loved participating in groups and events such as DAV Debating, Creative Arts and SCSA Athletics. I have been an SRC leader for the last few years and have enjoyed volunteering for the Red Cross Door Knock appeal and helping to organise events including Avila Day and the SRC Expo.

This year my aim is for everyone to embrace our theme of ‘Give over get’, whether this be by selflessly putting others before yourself, by acting without seeking recognition or by simply giving all your enthusiasm and participation. I would also like to see everyone make the most of the many opportunities available at Avila, as they will enrich your experience and make it all the more enjoyable and memorable.

I look forward to the challenging but exciting year ahead.

Give Over Get

This year the Year 12 Student Leaders have decided upon the theme ‘GIVE over get’. The Year 12 leaders chose this theme with the intention of encouraging our Avila community to think about selfless giving, without any expectation to receive in return. Whilst Avila girls are excellent at spending up large at cake stalls, and bringing in a gold coin on free-dress days, the student leaders are going to work creatively to encourage their peers to GIVE to others selflessly, rather than to give for personal gain. To our Maths teachers’ delight, they have represented their theme as an improper fraction.
Note from the HEALTH CENTRE

It is wonderful to be back in 2014! Welcome to the Year 7’s and any students new to the school. Let me tell you about where I work at Avila College.

The Health Centre is a place where students can come if they have an accident or for temporary rest when they are in pain, ill, or unable to concentrate in class. It is not the school’s intention that students spend a long time in the Health Centre, so depending on the problem; we may ring a parent to discuss it. Someone will be required to collect a student who is unable to return to class.

If you would like to leave medication for your daughter we are happy to store it in the Health Centre to dispense to your daughter, when she needs it. (Please attach a note with your daughter’s name, medication amount, expiry date, etc.) It saves trying to track down a parent, who may be at work, and your daughter’s pain will be relieved sooner. We only have Panadol, Ibuprofen and Zyrtec (for emergencies) in stock here, to give after contacting a parent. Please be assured that your daughter’s well being is very important to staff at Avila College, and we (myself, Veronica and Jenny) will endeavor to make her visit to the Health Centre helpful and friendly even if it is at a time when she is not feeling the best.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you want to discuss any aspect of your daughter’s health. I really appreciate being notified by parents about changes or updates to your daughter’s health.

Anaphylaxis, Allergy, Seizure and Asthma plans should be updated annually for school. Allergy, Anaphylaxis and Asthma forms require a doctor’s signature. If you need a new form, I have them in stock. All staff at Avila College need to be aware of students who have high risk medical issues. And the forms spell out treatment required. It is best if the forms are returned as soon as possible at the start of the year.

Looking forward to the year ahead and getting to know the students.

Cathy Angus (Registered Nurse)
Phone: 9831 9646. Email: cangus@avilacollege.vic.edu.au

CANTEEN ROSTER

MON, 17 Feb
Maria Arhondis
Jenny Satya Graha
Monique Heyn

TUE, 18 Feb
Maree Bentivegna
Cathy Jarvis Peace
Teresa Pascuzzi
Narelle Palmara

WED, 19 Feb
Louise Carl
Madeline Barbis
Maria G

THU, 20 Feb
Maryanne
Macpherson-Caldeira
Stella Rechichi
Jan Hugheson

FRI, 21 Feb
Kanella Ttasas
Karen Loughnan

MON, 24 Feb
Nicole Woolley
Maria Biviano
Bec Mazzarella

TUE, 25 Feb
Jane Karagianis
Kayleen Mclean
Meredith Kelly
Rosie Karipidis

WED, 26 Feb
Tina Mercuri
Elizabeth Dabrowski
Marcia Janky

THU, 27 Feb
Kathryn Cougan
Nancy Abdou
Louise philp

FRI, 28 Feb
Susan Anderson
Kaye Greenaway
Judy Fernando

AVILA Second Hand Uniform Shop

The Avila Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open on the following days from 1.00-4.00pm:
Wed 19 February, 5 March, 19 March, 2014

The Second Hand Uniform Shop is located behind the VCAL House, diagonally opposite the front gates of the school. Students can visit the shop during their lunch break or after school.

If you would like to submit uniform items for resale, drop them off during shop times or leave them at the Avila General Office. EACH item must be clearly labelled with name, address and phone number. Only parents/guardians may sign the form authorising the sale of second hand uniforms and agreeing to the terms and conditions of sale. Please dry clean blazers and skirts. We welcome donations of uniforms that can be given to families in need.

If you need a second hand uniform but cannot come on the dates above, please phone the Avila Office 9831 9600 on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday mornings to arrange another time.

Alternatively, you can email vnicoll@avilacollege.vic.edu.au with any query about a second hand uniform.
SPORT NEWS

We have literally hit the ground running with sport at Avila in 2014! Tennis, Diving, Swimming and Aerobics have already begun training and Athletics will begin next week. We encourage all students to try out for a sporting team in 2014. Keep an eye on the bulletin each day for updates on trials and trainings.

Carly Randle
Sports Co-ordinator

BREAKFAST REMINDER

A reminder to students and parents that after each morning training session there is breakfast available in the dining room. Breakfast normally consists of toast and cereal. It is very important for students to eat breakfast after their morning training and before heading off to class for the day.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

The Genazzano Swim Meet, Friday 14 February, 4-6pm at Genazzano JCJ College, 301 Cotham Road, Kew
SCSA Tennis – Thursday 6 March at Boroondara Tennis Club, Bulleen

TRAINING SESSIONS

Tennis – Tuesday 3.30-4.30pm Gym/Courts
Diving – Monday 6.45-7.45am at Aqualink Box Hill
Swimming – Wednesday and Friday 7-8am at Just Swimming Syndal
Aerobics – Tuesday and Thursday 7-8am in the gym
Athletics – will begin Tuesday February 18 3.30-4.30pm

House Athletics 2013 Results

On Friday 6 December, we finished off the school year with the House Athletics Carnival. Grey skies in the morning soon cleared to a beautiful sunny day for our Avila Athletes. Congratulations to all girls who competed.

The results on the day were:
1st – MacKillop – 762 Points
2nd – Nagle – 647 Points
3rd – Flynn – 629 Points
4th – Chisholm – 556 Points
Congratulations to our Year 12 Graduates of 2013. 100% of students who made VTAC preference applications received an offer in rounds 1 or 2. Over 90% of students received an offer for their top first to third preference. The graphs below indicate the interest areas and institutes of preferences received.

On Monday 17 February current Year 12 students will commence their initial careers counselling meetings. Please be sure to discuss the outcomes of this meeting with your daughter and encourage her to complete any follow up activities.

The Age VCE and Careers Expo 2014
The Age VCE and Careers Expo 2014 is being held at Caulfield Racetrack from Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 May. All families of all year levels are encouraged to attend. More than 170 exhibitors will have displays and 156 seminars will be held ranging from specific VCE subject material, Gap Year information, Subject Selection tips, how to prepare a folio or for audition and presentations from industry specific organisations.
The following link will provide details and the seminar timetable.
vceandcareers.com.au

Work Experience
A reminder to Year 9 students that many Work Experience placements require you to apply one year in advance. These include hospitals, media outlets, RSPCA, Zoos, police force, airlines, military organisations, art galleries and museums and some private providers. If you wish to complete Work experience in Year 10 you are best to begin applying and confirming your dates and placement NOW!
All required paperwork is available in the Careers Hub.

Deborah Parton is on leave this year and I warmly welcome Geraldine McKenna to the Pathways team. We are both located in the Careers Hub, Room 6, or can be contacted by email:
jdunn@avilacollege.vic.edu.au
gmckenna@avilacollege.vic.edu.au

Jenny Dunn
Pathways Leader
FUN SUNDAY APPEAL
PROUDLY SUPPORTING MONASH CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

HAVE A GREAT DAY OUT AT THE FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR!

Kids! Come dressed up in your favourite costume! There will be great PRIZES for the best costumes! Heaps of great PRIZES will be raffled off to raise much needed funds for specialty equipment and facilities for the new Monash Children’s Hospital.

All proceeds go to Monash Children’s Hospital.

Lots of fun activities for the whole family to enjoy including: LIVE ENTERTAINMENT (Monash Medical Orchestra, Blue Vinyl Lounge, and Melbourne’s biggest rock band The Party Animals), BAREFOOT BOWLS, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, JUMPING CASTLE, FACE PAINTING AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!!

SAVE THE DATE!

11AM TILL 5PM
SUNDAY 16TH MARCH 2014

ADDRESS
CAULFIELD BOWLS CLUB
CAULFIELD PARK
BALACLAVA RD,
CAULFIELD, 3162

PRICE
GOLD COIN DONATION PER PERSON ON ENTRY

@Funsundayappeal
facebook.com/funsundayappeal

CONTACT: funsundayappeal@gmail.com

Proudly supporting
Monash Children’s Hospital
MONASH HEALTH FOUNDATION

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