Dear members of the Avila community,

The college community came together on Monday 23 November for one of our signature annual events – Presentation Night, held at Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University. Congratulations are extended to all award winners as well as all students who performed on the evening. This year we were delighted to have the Honourable Justice Sharon Johns, (Class of 1985) deliver the guest speaker’s address. My thanks to all involved in the night took months of planning and preparation. The evening was a great tribute to the many and varied talents of our Avila College students.

Our Golden Jubilee Year is almost over and what a successful year it has been. We have had many wonderful events and opportunities where alumnae have reconnected with each other and the college. We have welcomed many potential families to our college, our students, staff and parents have celebrated together on many occasions and we have proudly added two new physical spaces to our college this year. In particular, I would like to thank the staff and students who have worked together in planning and delivering on so many occasions this year to celebrate and share our college community with others. I would also like to thank our Parents and Friends Association who have supported many events throughout the year, in particular, our College Carnival held in late March which was an overwhelming success. I would also like to thank the members of our newly formed Avila Alumnae Committee who have many exciting ideas and activities planned for the future. Just recalling all the events, activities and celebrations we have held as a community throughout this year makes me confident that will build a wonderful and positive future for Avila College for the next fifty years.

I wish to advise that from the start of 2016 our canteen will operate under a new model. Metro Canteens has been appointed to provide a new food service and hospitality model that will operate in a new space in the college. The Dining Room (located adjacent to the new Gathering Space) will be renovated over the Christmas break and will operate a café style of food service for staff and students. The new model employs external staff and as a result we say farewell and sincere thanks to our canteen staff and volunteers who have helped for many years. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the 18 years of service and management from Seow Lee, 13 years of service and management from Cecily Addison and in the past few years Tina Mercuri’s time and dedication. To all our volunteer parents and friends who have offered their time over the years, we are most grateful.

Community news:
We bid farewell and express our thanks to the following staff members this year:
Gillian Goldsworthy, 27 years of service, Margaret Shelley, 24 years of service, Domenica Tarquinio, 21 years of service, Paul Ekers, 16 years of service and Carmel Nicolson, 16 years of service. We would also like to wish the following staff much success in their new positions and schools: Rebecca Cetrola moving to St Francis Xavier as Deputy Principal Head of Campus; Darcie Kane-Priestley who will take up the position as Drama Coordinator at Ruyton; Madelaine Scott-Jones who will move to Caroline Chisholm Catholic College as Science Curriculum Leader; Paul Taito will move to Aquinas College teaching Mathematics; and Roberta Wilson will move to Our Lady of Sion College as an administration assistant.

Thoughts and prayers are extended to Brenda Dent (staff member) following the recent death of her mother-in-law.

Best wishes to all our Avila College staff, students and families for the coming season of Advent and the holiday break. The College office will be closed from Friday 18 December at 1pm and re-open on Monday 18 January 2016. Students return on Friday 29 January.

With blessings to everyone in our Golden Jubilee Year,
Louise Gunther
Principal

Cover image: Principal, Louise Gunther with 2015 college Captain, Angela Stapleton on Presentation Evening

Prayer
At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:
For all the teaching and learning that have taken place in our school, both in and out of the classroom.
For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced, for the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed, for the respect and care that have been given.
We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.
For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles, for the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days, and for the love that has kept us going.
We give thanks for the community that we are and we ask you Lord - Bless our students as they begin their summer holiday: may your Spirit inspire them with faith, love and hope. Bless our families, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish.
Pour out your love on us that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey of Mercy together.
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

Calendar dates
Wed 2 Dec
- Year 9 Avila/Mazenod Reflection Day
- Second Hand Uniform Shop Open, 1-4pm

Thu 3 Dec
- Year 9 Careers Day

Fri 4 Dec
- Year 7-9 Eucharist, 12pm
- Year 7-9 finish

Wed 9 Dec
- Second Hand Uniform Shop Open, 1-4pm

Fri 11 Dec
- Staff finish (Office closed)

Wed 16 Dec
- Second Hand Uniform Shop Open, 1-4pm

Fri 18 Dec
- Office Closes, 1pm

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

The Avila College Board met for the October Reporting Meeting and also celebrated the work of the Board over 2015 with the Annual Board dinner.

At the October Meeting, Board name badges were distributed to all Board Members to assist with the visibility of Board Members in the community, as they attend official College events. The Board agreed that in 2016, an area of focus will be on improving Board representation at College functions.

The Constitution Working party distributed an Information pack to all Board Members to help in preparation for a special Board Constitution meeting held in November. The pack included proposals and relevant information and documents including the CEM ‘Guidelines for Boards of Regional and Diocesan Colleges’ around the 4 key Board Membership issues, identified by the working party.

At the October meeting, the Avila Board thanked and farewelled Kerry Wilson from Mulgrave Parish for 10 years of commitment service to the Board and the Avila community. At the same time, the Board congratulated the Principal, Ms Louise Gunther on the many Golden Jubilee events over 2015 and acknowledged the outstanding work of all community members in the organisation, advertisement, preparation and celebration of each of these unique events. The Golden Jubilee gatherings and events have indeed enabled the Avila College Community to celebrate our significant journey together as a unique community, in true Avila fashion.

The October meeting, the Avila Board thanked and farewelled Kerry Wilson from Mulgrave Parish for 10 years of commitment service to the Board and the Avila community. At the same time, the Board congratulated the Principal, Ms Louise Gunther on the many Golden Jubilee events over 2015 and acknowledged the outstanding work of all community members in the organisation, advertisement, preparation and celebration of each of these unique events. The Golden Jubilee gatherings and events have indeed enabled the Avila College Community to celebrate our significant journey together as a unique community, in true Avila fashion.

The Constitution meeting in November provided Board Members with an opportunity to engage in robust discussion of the following membership issues:

1) The representation of Avila students at Board level
2) The inclusion of an Avila Alumnae position at Board level
3) Staff Representation at Board level
4) The presence of Representatives from high enrolment Parishes at Board level

A most productive and engaging discussion between Board Members followed and the Working Party will now revise the Constitution based on this discussion and agreements that occurred within this meeting. This document will be presented for approval at an upcoming 2016 Board meeting of all Board Members and Fr Brendan Dillon, President of the Canonical Administrators. Following this, the revised Avila Board Constitution will be reviewed for approval by Archbishop Hart.

Finally, the Avila College Board, wishes to thank Rebecca Cetrola, Deputy Principal Administration, for her contribution and unwavering commitment to both the work of the Board and the Avila College Community. Thank you sincerely Rebecca, we wish you every blessing as you take up your new role as Deputy Principal Head of Campus at St Francis Xavier College, Officer Campus.

Sally-Anne Petrie
Chairperson, Avila College Board

AVILA COLLEGE COMMUNITY REMEMBERS
MS FILOMENA SALVATORE: College Principal
1995 - 2005

On Friday 13 November the Avila Community commemorated the 10th anniversary of the death of Ms Filomena Salvatore, Principal of the College from 1995 to 2005, who died after a prolonged struggle with cancer at the age of 52. Ms Salvatore came to Avila at a time of expansion with a vision to foster a Catholic school for girls, which emphasised the intellectual and spiritual development of every student.

She was much loved and respected by all because she made it her business to foster close relationships with her staff, students and parents. The staff recognised in Ms Salvatore a woman of intellect and integrity; the students found her to be approachable and compassionate; the wider Avila Community appreciated her leadership and vision for the school. She was a woman of great intellect so it is fitting that the Avila College Dux Award is named in her honour. She had a keen interest in many disciplines and a clear educational philosophy garnered from her reading of wide ranging educational theories and based on Gospel values.

Overarching all of this was a woman who walked humbly with her God. With age came a deepening spiritually which calls to mind the teaching of Teresa of Avila. People who were touched by Ms Salvatore still miss her and recognise that in her relatively short life she accomplished much in her role as Avila Principal, and contributed much to Catholic education.

Louise Swift
LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

HeadStart

Last week, students undertaking VCE, VCAL or VET units in 2016 were involved in the HeadStart program that was designed to provide a genuine introduction to their senior studies. All students undertook three lessons in each of their Semester One subjects. This program assists students to become familiar with the expectations of each subject and to make a serious start on their learning. Students were set holiday homework that will build on the teaching and learning from the HeadStart program.

As a consequence of the HeadStart program, a few students may decide that they have chosen a subject that is not the best fit for them. In some cases, students may realise that the subject will require more or different learning than expected. They are urged to discuss such concerns both with their parents and teachers before the end of this week. Parents can be crucial in encouraging resilience in the students at this point. However, experience shows us that, for some students, a subject change may be necessary. These students should contact Mrs Franken as soon as possible to ascertain whether a subject change may be feasible. Subject change requests are limited by class sizes or clashes in the timetable grid. In addition, students making subject changes are expected to catch up, not only on the learning missed in HeadStart, but also with all the holiday homework that has been set.

Examination Feedback

Careful review and reflection on examination performance provides a rich learning opportunity. Year 9 students either have been or will be given feedback from their English, Maths and Science teachers during class time. Students in Years 10 and 11 should collect their marked exams between 9am-10am on Monday 7 December. The annual Avila magazine will also be available at the same time. Any uncollected exams will be available during business hours from the General Office until 17 December only.

Semester Reports

Reports for students from Years 7 to 11 will be released to parents on Monday 14 December. An email alert will be sent to parents to advise when reports have been uploaded to PAM.

VCE units 3 & 4 results from the VCAA will be issued on Monday 14 December. Year 12 students have been given details of how to register to receive their results via SMS. They are reminded to do this soon to receive their results when they are released. Year 12 students are also reminded that should they wish to discuss a change of tertiary preference, Ms Jenny Dunn and Ms Geraldine McKenna will be available in the Careers Hub from Monday 14 to Wednesday 16 December. Please see Careers news page later in this newsletter.

Booklists

Families are reminded that the final date to lodge their booklist order online is Thursday 3 December. After that date, there could be delays with delivery due to late lodgment of orders. Orders lodged on time may be collected from Campion representatives in the Gathering Space at Avila on Tuesday 19 January between 9am and 1pm. Please note that uncollected orders will be returned to Campion and parents will need to visit Campion to collect them. Alternatively, parents can select when ordering to have their orders home delivered.

Madeleine Franken
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

PRESENTATION EVENING PHOTOGRAPHS

Photos from the Presentation Evening are now online! Here is some information about how to register to view and order photos online.

REGISTRATION: Simply click on the link below to sign up on our website:
Enter your details as prompted and once signed up, you will receive a confirmation email. Please read the confirmation email and follow the link in the email to verify your account. You will need to verify the account before you can log in.

VIEW AND ORDER PHOTOS ONLINE: To view photos online go to: www.HikariEventsPhotography.com.au
Simply login with your email address and password. You will be able to see all galleries from the evening. The images are sorted according to the order of the house groups that were presented.

IF YOU ALREADY HAVE AN ACCOUNT...
If you already have an account with us you can login to your account and click on “My Profile”. Then you’ll see a menu bar on the right side of the page. Click “Add Another Event” at the bottom of the bar, and enter code AVL51123
If you have any questions, please email orders@hikari.com.au
ADMIN NEWS

2016 Important Dates

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<td>Fri 29 January</td>
<td>Start of Term 2</td>
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<td>Tue 2 February</td>
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TERM 2

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<th>Mon 11 July</th>
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<td>Tue 16 August</td>
<td>Oral Reports (3:15-8.30pm)</td>
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TERM 4

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<td>Mon 17 October</td>
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<td>Mon 28 November</td>
<td>Yr 12 Graduation Evening</td>
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<td>Wed 7 December</td>
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Years 7-9 Program

Students in Years 7 – 9 will be involved in a range of engaging learning programs from Tuesday 1 December to Friday 4 December.

Year 7 students will be involved in a World Integrated Unit over the three days. This program is student driven and involves students creating their own countries and undertaking a range of activities that cover many key learning areas, with specific links to AusVELS Civics and Citizenship and Economics.

Year 8 students will be involved in:
- Tue 1 December: Technologies activities & Reconciliation activities.
- Wed 2 December: A fun-filled day of Maths activities and forensic science activities.
- Thu 3 December: Health Education Day; guest speaker Sonya Karrass will work with our Year 8 students. This presentation will be followed by alcohol education workshops run by Avila health staff.

Year 9 students will be involved in:
- Tue 1 December: Careers Program 1.
- Wed 2 December: Avila/Mazenod Reflection Day; activities and shared Eucharist with students from both schools.
- Thu 3 December: Careers Program 2.

On Friday 4 December students will participate in Year Level activities. All students are required to wear their sport uniform, and it can be worn to and from the College on this day.

The College community will gather for a Eucharist at 12pm at Holy Family Church. Parents are welcomed to join us. Students will be dismissed at 1:05pm on this day.

Rebecca Cetrola
Deputy Principal Administration
STAFF FAREWELLS

Gill Goldsworthy
In 1988, Gill Goldsworthy, an Avila treasure, arrived as a casual relief teacher. Her creativity and outstanding rapport with the students were immediately recognised and she was appointed as a permanent member of staff the following year. In the last 27 years Gill’s skill has been rewarded through her work as contributor to two Monash University publications on Teaching and Learning; and also as co-recipient of a Victorian Independent Teachers’ Union Award for Innovation in Schools. These were a product of her work with Monash University on the PEEL Project (The Program for Enhancing Effective Learning). She was given a leadership position at Avila in order to disseminate these skills to teachers in the Junior School at the college. From this came invitations to speak at other Catholic schools to give advice on the introduction of 80-minute periods.

Gill moved from Professional Development work to the role of Year 7 Co-ordinator - a position she loved. The Year 7 corridor became a mass of colourful messages affirming in students wholesome values, teamwork and academic rigor. The students were welcomed with Friendship Day, given “Avila Showbags” to encourage them to undertake extra-curricular activities, introduced to Literature Circles and, overall, encouraged to be adventurous.

At the end of this time she moved to the Senior School as a Psychology teacher with classes filled with lasting insights into child development through activities such as a hands-on introduction to Piaget using maternity leave staff members’ children as the subjects for their observations!

Gill’s retirement should allow her the time to enrich life with her many passions from Geocaching with grandchildren, putting her green thumb to work, creating masterpieces in the kitchen with her husband, Andris, and then relaxing with a cup of quality tea in her favourite cup as she immerses herself in a good read. Thank you, Gill for all you have given us.

Christine Valladares

Margaret Shelley
Margaret joined the Avila community back in 1991. She worked in the General Office undertaking administrative responsibilities. However, she went on to study part time to earn her Accounting Degree. Her wide knowledge and experience of the administration workings of the office have enabled her to be an excellent ‘all rounder’ while carrying out her main role of accounts payable and payroll, and in recent times in the office Accounts Receivable role.

In her 24+ years of service Margaret has seen much change and has always done her best to support the College in her roles. She holds a wealth of knowledge about the College and has been the “go-to person” for historical insights. The office staff in particular will miss her as we have shared in many fun and challenging experiences.

Margaret has decided it’s time for a sea change, leaving Avila for the Goldfields. Now as Margaret packs up house, horse and dog to head for Bendigo, we wish her all the best for golden and successful times.

Colleen Burns

Paul Ekers
Paul Ekers came to Avila in 1999 when he returned to Melbourne, following a stint overseas teaching at the Singapore International School. Prior to this he worked at a number of schools during his thirty-three year career as a teacher, including Hurstbridge High School, Kingswood College Doncaster, Trinity Grammar School, Kildara and Ruyton.

In the past seventeen years Paul has been the guru of Geography at Avila, teaching numerous classes from years 7 to 12 and establishing, running and attending many of the fieldwork experiences offered to our students. His passion for Geography is always evident. He has inspired many students to travel and experience the world, and to pursue careers relevant to Geography. He has also supported and collaborated with colleagues to extend their knowledge and skills as Geography teachers. So often you will find Paul chatting with staff, students or parents about something related to Geography, although Paul will tell you this is because everything is related to Geography! Paul’s ability to make connections has also made him a valuable teacher in other subjects he has taught, including History, Science and Commerce.

Paul will be greatly missed at Avila for his expertise, enthusiasm, warmth and humour. He leaves behind a great legacy, for which we are very grateful. We wish Paul all the very best and know he will make the most of his retirement for more travel opportunities and enjoying all the good things in life.

Andrea McCann
Domenica Tarquinio
Domenica Tarquinio, who retires this year has been a much loved and respected member of the Languages Department at Avila College for twenty-one years. She brought with her many years of experience as a dedicated Italian teacher at Sacred Heart College and the Victorian School of Languages. She had also been a very popular teacher of adult education classes. Domenica joined the Avila teaching staff in 1995 after a brief stint in a replacement position the previous year, but her connection with Avila really began in 1988 when her eldest daughter, Natalie, started year 7.

Domenica has a great love of music, art, literature, film and all things beautiful related to Italy. Her love of the arts has inspired many creative activities in her classes and many of her students have achieved outstanding success in the Dante Alighieri Poetry Competition. Mrs Tarquinio is innovative and imaginative and she regularly shared her ideas with her colleagues in the Languages Department. Domenica has a genuine interest in people; she has a great gift of being able to connect with people and put them at ease. The ability to connect with people has made Domenica an ideal ambassador for the college and she willingly volunteered her time to meet and greet the public on school open days. The nurturing support she has given her students over the years means that she is still fondly remembered by many of them nearly forty years on.

Domenica’s working life has been characterised by a generosity of spirit and concern for others. This year her students have been writing cards and letters to residents of the Assisi Centre, bringing much joy to the residents of this aged care home for elderly Italian people. Retirement will allow Domenica more time to spend with Jim, her family and her friends, but she will also continue to nurture her gift for connecting with people through her volunteer work. Do not be surprised if next time you are visiting an Open Day at one of Melbourne’s stately homes to find Domenica as your guide. We wish her every joy and blessing in her retirement.

Angela Patterson

Carmel Nicolson
Carmel will retire from teaching at Avila at the end of 2015, after 15 years of exceptional teaching within the Mathematics Department. Carmel is a genuinely humble and expert teacher, the kind of person you want on your team. Her energetic and hardworking nature has earned her the affectionate nickname of “EverReady Bunny”.

When Carmel applied for a job at Avila, Barb Woods, the Head of Mathematics, immediately recognized Carmel’s exceptional abilities and set to keep her at Avila. Carmel has taught here ever since. She has described her 15 years at Avila as the highlight of her teaching career. She has felt nurtured and supported by a caring group of fellow teachers. Carmel has commented on how much she has enjoyed the willingness to share resources and the freedom to try new methods and styles in an effort to discover the best practice for our girls at Avila. She has loved working with our fantastic and professional staff and our wonderful students.

Her fellow teachers describe Carmel as one who always has a positive outlook, constant good humour, someone who is totally reliable, dependable and loyal. Carmel is passionate about teaching; she is both creative and pedagogically sound. She is excited and animated when talking about student learning that has gone well in the classroom and is always keen to draw others into the discussion. Carmel is someone that leads by example. Recently one of her Year 12 students wrote her a card. In it she expressed her appreciation for a wonderful and enjoyable year due to Carmel’s “great enthusiasm, the work and time that you put into every lesson.”

Carmel leaves Avila at the top of her game - a much loved, energetic and skilled teacher. Her plans for next year include volunteer tutoring at Ronald McDonald House and maybe a bit of relaxing? We wish her well in this new stage of life.

Allan Kennedy

Rebecca Cetrola
Rebecca Cetrola’s Avila journey began as a student in 1990. During her time as a student, she participated in numerous school activities, many associated with her love for music. Under the guidance of the then Music Director, Mary Saunders, Rebecca was encouraged to join and play with various concert bands, ensembles and the College Orchestra. She was elected College Music Captain in 1995 and her passion and love of music, especially the piano and saxophone, is still a part of her life today.

Upon finishing her studies at Avila, Rebecca went on to complete a teaching degree at Deakin University and later, her Masters at ACU. Her first appointment was at St Joseph’s Ferntree Gully. Rebecca enjoyed teaching at St Joseph’s, but when an opportunity arose to teach music and RE at Avila, she knew she had to apply! Filomena Salvatore, Avila’s 6th Principal, was one of the many strong, guiding influences in her life and was quick to offer her a position.
In the 14 years she has been at Avila, she has undertaken many diverse and challenging roles. From classroom teacher, to Year Level Coordinator of Years 7 and 10, to her most recent appointment as Deputy Principal Administration. Rebecca’s numerous achievements and initiatives, particularly as Deputy Principal are both impressive and to be admired. She has organised and accompanied overseas study tours and Santa Teresa Immersions, ensuring these were enriching and rewarding experiences for both staff and students. She has been on most camps, conducted musical groups and choirs, performed in Music Festivals, Creative Arts Festivals, organised whole school events and oversaw the administration of the VCE program.

An exceptional and inspiring teacher, students have always been drawn to her dynamic, passionate and caring nature, a tribute to her unwavering belief that all girls can achieve. Her vibrant and cheerful disposition, coupled with both her capacity to have fun and relate compassionately to others, has meant that she has left an imprint on the lives of so many: Rebecca truly embodies what an ‘Avila’ girl should and could be.

A loyal, respected colleague and trusted friend, Rebecca will be deeply missed. On behalf of the Avila community, I would like to sincerely thank her for her many contributions to the College, and I wish her every success as she begins the next phase of her journey as Deputy Principal Head of Campus at St Francis Xavier in Officer.

Anna Cornell

**Bobbie Wilson**

Bobbie Wilson commenced work at Avila College in 2011. Like Lourdes Rank and Anna Franceschini who also work at Avila College, Bobbie belongs to the Focolare Movement, a community committed to unity in the mission of the church. She quickly established herself at Avila as a selfless, highly competent staff member with an ability to learn new skills easily. In her role as Personal Assistant to the Deputy Principals, Bobbie took on the task of learning the intricate details of the new “Simon” Reporting system. Her quick and excellent mastery of this provided valuable assistance, not only to the DP’s, but to the Systems Administrator, Russell Curr and to the Curriculum Leaders as she set up and adjusted semester reports and templates. Many, who had struggled previously with annoying glitches in reports that Bobbie could now resolve effortlessly, appreciated her calm ‘can do’ manner. Bobbie managed calendars, correspondence, typing, filing, organization of key events such as NAPLAN administration and developed systems to streamline record keeping in a number of areas, including professional learning at Avila.

Bobbie’s genuine warmth and initiative will be deeply missed by many at Avila. Bobbie has given generously of her time and expertise and we wish her well in her new position at Our Lady of Sion College in Box Hill.

Madeleine Franken

**Madelaine Scott-Jones**

It is with great pride tinged with sadness that Avila College farewells Madeline Scott-Jones as she moves on to Caroline Chisholm College to assume the position of Science Curriculum Leader. You would be hard-pressed to find a harder working, more committed teacher than Maddie. She has completed a Masters of Teaching, a Masters of Education and most recently a Masters of Educational Leadership since she began her teaching career at Avila College in 2011. In addition to this she has also been a member of the Emerging Leaders program (2014) and in 2015 was involved in Ed Fellows, a program designed to build policy and advocacy capacity and skills and establish professional networks.

As a classroom teacher Maddie taught junior Science and Maths and VCE Biology and Psychology. She has been a much loved homeroom teacher for Years 7 and 11, contributing significantly to the Living and Values program. She has been on the E-Learning, Mission and Curriculum committees and has led Gifted and Talented and for the last year 2 years been the Student Leadership Co-ordinator. What stands out even more than her formal accomplishments are the relationships she has formed with parents, staff and most importantly, students. Maddie believes each student should be exposed to high quality teaching that is best achieved when there is a relationship of mutual respect. Her ability to create an engaging, creative environment allowing students to engage confidently with curriculum has resulted in students achieving success in the classroom. Her encouraging nature and sense of humour have further influenced students’ interest and motivation. She will be sorely missed in the staff and classroom and we wish her every success with her new challenges.

Kelly Bunning
Darcie Kane-Priestley

Affectionately known by students as Miss KP, Darcie has been an inspiring educator and role model to our students. She has been a leader in exploring contemporary educational pedagogy and embedding it into her classes, modelling the power of creativity to her students and affording them the opportunity to develop their individual talents. Always an advocate for student-led learning, Darcie has sought to implement a challenging curriculum that gives students the skills to become leaders while connecting with global issues in meaningful ways. Her innovative approach to integrating social justice and wellbeing issues into the Year 10 Drama Festival has led to work with Caritas on the development of Global Education curriculum materials.

Over her seven years at the College, Darcie’s journey has played a pivotal role in the production of the Creative Arts Festivals, leading a cast of over 300 staff and students in the 2015 festival. She has directed and produced the annual Year 10 Drama Festival and numerous drama performances, coordinated extraordinarily successful cake stalls, supported Avila sporting events and played in the annual Staff vs Students Marmgrook matches. However, it is her commitment to Reconciliation and her leadership of the Santa Teresa Immersion that has shone brightly in her time at Avila. Darcie’s ability to build strong and authentic relationships in community has made the Santa Teresa Immersion so successful. She is a woman who walks the talk, and reaches out to others with compassion, grace and understanding.

Darcie is a woman of honesty and integrity, and these core values shine through in all she does. They underpin her commitment to social justice and her passion for fostering social awareness in her students, empowering them to become young women who lead with compassion.

Amy Foster & Rebecca Cetrola

Paul Tato

Paul Tato arrived at Avila in July 2011. In the last five years, Paul has built many great relationships with staff and students in our community. Paul’s approachability, compassion for others, willingness to speak his mind, to engage in decision making, to involve himself across a wide range of extra-curricula activities, and to make strong personal connections with his students, made him a perfect fit for Avila College and a great role model for our young ladies. The students love his sense of humour, his passion for teaching and the guidance he gives to them. Everyone in the community wishes Paul all the best at his new school and we are sure his two young sons will appreciate his reduced travel time to and from work.

Steven Francis

Sophie Adamek

Sophie Adamek arrived at Avila College in late 2013 as a pre-service English and Drama teacher from Deakin University. Over the course of the next year and a bit, Ms Adamek spent a whopping fifty-five days teaching Drama with myself and teaching English with Ms DiBari. She passed her final teaching placement with flying colours and Avila quickly snapped up this talented and fiercely motivated young teacher. In 2015, Ms Adamek continued at Avila College as a graduate teacher of English. She flourished in the junior school looking after a Year 7 homeroom, while teaching English and Humanities. Before long, Ms Adamek became an honorary member of the Drama department, working with students in the Junior Drama Club, Creative Arts Festival and Year 10 Drama Festival throughout the year. Ms Adamek combined her teaching disciplines by exploring the value of drama role-play with students when studying texts in her Year 7 English classroom, as a research project for her full registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching. Students loved Ms Adamek’s colourful lessons and immersed themselves in her rigorous teaching and learning programs.

Avila College will miss Ms Adamek’s passion for teaching, her genuine warmth with students, her professionalism beyond her years, and that fabulous sense of fashion! We wish Sophie Adamek well in her endeavours at her new school in 2016.

Justin Cash
WELCOME TO AVILA DAY

The transition from primary school to secondary school is a significant time of change for families. The Year 7 students of 2016 were welcomed into the College on Monday 30 November as part of the orientation process, where they were warmly greeted by our Year 7 Ambassadors and Year 10 Peer Helpers.

The day began with a Year Level Assembly in Bunjil, before students spent time getting to know their peers through a range of organised activities. They spent time in the Year 7 area, played games in the new Gym, and engaged with activities in the Art and Science curriculum areas. We also extend our thanks to our many talented musicians, coordinated by Roxane Lascaris, who gave an insight into the rich extra-curricular life of the College.

In January 2016, these students will walk through the gates in their crisp, new Avila College uniforms. We look forward to working in partnership with their families and sharing this next, exciting part of their educational journey with them.

Pauline Catrice and Catherine Spurritt
Transition Co-ordinator and Year 7 Co-ordinator

AUSTRALIAM MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD (AMEB) EXAM RESULTS

Congratulations to the following students who achieved excellent results on their AMEB exams:

Emily Glennon, 9 Orange- Trumpet 2nd Grade: A+
Leah Dyer, 9 Silver- Trumpet 2nd Grade: A+
Stephanie Cooper, 8 Purple- Piano Prem Grade: A
Johanna Hempenstall, 8 Green- Piano 3rd Grade: A
Amy Li, 8 Red- Flute 4th Grade: A
Zoe Evans, 10 Blue- Bassoon 3rd Grade: A
Tessa Canning, 11 Purple- Singing 6th Grade: A
Niamh Holmes, 9 Pink- Trumpet 1st Grade: A
Atara Thenabadu, 9 Red- Saxophone 2nd Grade: A
Inalya Altmann, 11 Red- Flute 6th Grade: B+
Isabella Marotta, 9 Green- Piano 2nd Grade: B
Eliza Kin, 10 Blue- Piano 4th Grade: B
Dhileena Basnayake, 8 Green- Piano 5th Grade: B
Laura Burns, 9 Gold- Harp 3rd Grade: B
Nicole Trawicka, 7 Green- Flute 2nd Grade: B
Jessica Bishop, 9 Green- Flute 2nd Grade: B
Kathryn Ashe, 11 Pink- Theory 4th Grade: Honors 87/100

Pictured above: Year 7 Students of 2016 engaging in Science and Art activities on Welcome to Avila Day
SHARED STORIES

The 2015 Shared Stories anthology celebrates its 10th Anniversary with 20 Avila students contributing to this very special publication.

The following students had their pieces published in this commemorative edition:

- Taylah Hutchinson,
- Mieke de Vries,
- Tiana Chandraratne,
- Sanjana Nair,
- Chloe Luk,
- Hannah Faraone,
- Anita Mandarino,
- Alicia Roy,
- Shiyon Manickatham,
- Mia Sinclair,
- Brittany Moore,
- Isabella Marotta,
- Jessica Senzio,
- Delani David,
- Catherine Aidone,
- Dena Tissera,
- Cristina Maiolo,
- Emma Spencer,
- Svetlana Reay,
- Sally Hu.

This edition of the Shared Stories anthology runs to 572 full colour pages, and contains written pieces and artwork from 21 primary and secondary Catholic schools across Victoria. At Avila we celebrate 5 years of participation. Shared Stories forms part of the permanent collection of the State Library of Victoria and every student involved receives a copy.

The theme ‘Remembering’ gave the student writers a lot of scope and the breadth of their talents was obvious in the completed creative pieces. Incorporating sophisticated writing skills and the voice of youth, the writing captured moments of sorrow, loss, memories and personal experiences.

Congratulations to this year’s Shared Stories Avila Award recipient: Anita Mandarino, Year 9.

Pauline Catrice
Curriculum Assistant English

Pictured above: Avila students, (L-R) Jessica Senzio, Anita Mandarino and Tiana Chandraratne, at the shared Stories launch with the 2015 Shared Stories anthology, ‘Remembering’. 
MELLIKA’S MISSION

A past Avila student battling cancer, Mellica was a strong and optimistic student. Her will and passion to help others, especially those most in need, makes her an inspiration to all. As the Year 9 cohort, it was our duty to see that her desire to uplift others in need was fulfilled.

On Friday 27 November, we held a fundraiser to support this mission. A total of just over $2000 was raised in her name and cause. The day couldn’t have been completed without the support and encouragement of Ms Bauman, Mrs Fleeton and the Year 9 Homeroom teachers. Thank you everyone for your efforts and involvement in the day.

Tiana Chandraratne
Faith and Mission Captain

PROFESSEUR CRÊPE: SPEAK FRENCH, EAT FRENCH

A French teacher turned entrepreneur, Professeur Crêpe, paid a fortunate visit to the students and staff of Avila College in late October this year. Over two days, students across Years 7 to 11 were given the opportunity to put their French skills into practice, through ordering crêpes with their desired topping and/or filling in French. Having ready-made cards also allowed non-French practising students to participate and interact in the incursion as well.

“I really liked the whole experience and enjoyed ordering the crêpes in French. It was so fun eating them with all my friends in my class.” - Ally Peake, Year 8

“I liked how we got to not only eat the crêpes, but we also got to watch them being made in front of us.” - Georgia Dunne, Year 9

Travelling to different schools to make his freshly made and mouthwatering warm crêpes (an extremely thin pancake), Professeur Crêpe uses a portion of the profits to help support charities that improve the education of children all over the world.

Food is an important part of the French culture and crêpes are very popular all throughout France.

A huge thank you to all the hardworking staff behind the organisation of this memorable and unique experience and of course, Professor Crêpe and his lovely assistant for allowing us to enjoy a little taste of France!

Shenuri Fernando, Tiana Chandraratne and Georgia Dunne
Year 9 Students

Pictured above: Year 9 French classes ordering from Professeur Crêpe.
MATHS AT AVILA

Congratulations to all students who participated in three Maths competitions offered at Avila this year. Students mentioned below were presented with their certificates at the most recent school assembly.

Australian Mathematics Competition
In the Australian Maths Competition (AMC) students use their mathematical knowledge to solve problems ranging from straightforward to extremely challenging. The competition aims to be accessible to all students, not just the mathematically gifted. The AMC is an internationally recognised competition open to all Australian school students as well as students from other countries. This year 158 Avila students achieved a credit, distinction or high distinction certificate.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved a distinction.
Year 7: Beatrice Van Rest
Year 8: Johanna Hempenstall, Harinie Soori
Year 9: Niamh Holmes, Claire Peethamparam
Year 10: Claire Esler, Zoe Evans, Eliza Giuliano
Year 11: Lisa Dupuy

Victorian Maths Talent Quest
A group of enthusiastic Year 7 students took on the challenge of the Maths Talent Quest, which focuses on investigating the use of mathematics in real life situations. Students investigated a topic of their choice and, with the guidance of their Maths teacher, Miss Scott-Jones, researched, designed, solved problems and communicated their mathematical thinking in relation to their area of interest.

Congratulations to the following girls who were recognised for their work in their projects:
Credit: Meg Allan, Jaida di Stasio, Catherine De Roza, Savannah Grima, Hannah Lawrence, Mackenzie Richards, Nicole Trawicka, Isabella Walsh.

Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads
The Australasian Maths Olympiad involves students using their problem solving skills to independently solve challenging problems. Under the guidance of Mrs Carmel Nicolson, the Year 7 Olympiad team met regularly during Terms 2 and 3 at lunchtimes to prepare for and undertake five separate contests.

Congratulations to Hashani Ekanayake who achieved the highest result in her team.

Year 7 Sporty Maths
Year 7 students had the wonderful opportunity to spend half a day applying their Mathematical skills to real life settings when they participated in Sporty Maths activities on Friday 6 November.
For half the day, they skipped, sprinted, jumped, took free-throws, and judged gymnastics. While playing sport and having fun, the girls had to measure their heart rate, draw a diagram to scale, work out the nutritional value of popular breakfast cereals and solve logic problems. They used their knowledge of symmetry to design a locker room and apply statistical measures to determine the strength of their grip.

Year 8 Amazing Maths Race
On Wednesday 2 December Year 8 students will participate in the Amazing Maths Race where they will use their Maths skills to complete a variety of challenges. Competing in teams, the students will require speed, accuracy and problem solving skills to determine who will be the overall winner!

Thank you to all students for their enthusiastic participation in these activities and competitions and to all staff for their supervision and support.

Rosie Ryan
Curriculum Leader Mathematics
FROM THE IT HELP DESK

Are you having Technical issues with Caremonkey? Caremonkey has made it easier than ever to ask for technical support. If you have forgotten your password or you would like to change your email address please try the following.

Go to the CareMonkey website http://caremonkey.com. At the bottom of the screen you will see a chat window will open, you will be directly connected to the CareMonkey and they will start helping you with your issue.

Connecting with CareMonkey directly regarding technical issues with Passwords and email address is the easiest way to have the issue resolved. If you need clarification regarding forms/ letters please contact the Avila IT Help Desk directly.

Jodie Dean
IT Administrator
PFA REPORT

2016 Year Level Representatives and Class Email Lists

Thank you to all parents for the prompt and positive response to the request for nominations for Year Level Representatives.

We were delighted with the number of parents who have put their hand up for these roles in 2016. In fact, there are more nominations than positions. We will advise those parents who nominated first that they have been appointed. We will also send a note to those people who offered but will not be appointed, as the positions will already be filled. I would encourage all parents to offer to help their Year Level Representatives throughout next year in organising social occasions.

It was also most pleasing that the vast majority of parents wanted to be included on a year level email list. Work will now commence on compiling year level email lists, which will be used by the college to forward invitations to year level social functions. We will have a briefing early in 2016 to ensure the Year Level Reps’ understand their role and the support the college will provide.

New Members

We are looking for new members to join the PFA in 2016. We meet once each month on a weeknight at the college and I would like to say it is so enjoyable working with a wonderful group of fun and committed Avila parents. Please email pfa@avilacollege.vic.edu.au if you would like to join us.

Like many of you, I find it hard to believe that December has arrived. Avila PFA members look back on this milestone year with much pride and satisfaction. Thank you to all members of the Avila community for your generosity in helping the PFA in 2015. Big or small your contribution has helped us to celebrate Avila’s Golden Jubilee year in grand style.

I wish all Avila families a joyous Christmas and a new year full of many blessings.

Regards

Wasana Fernando
PFA President

YEAR 11 DRIVER ETIQUETTE CLASS- CALL FOR PARENTS’ HELP

In our Year 11 LAV Program next year, we hope to present a lesson on Safe and Respectful Driving or Driving Etiquette.

We would love to have some parents who would be willing to be filmed, discussing their biggest bug-bears on the road, eg: tail-gaters. Each clip would be very brief and all would be amalgamated into a collage to show the Year 11 students. This would then be used as stimulus for discussion.

If you would be willing to help, please contact Anne Stephens, Year 11 Co-ordinator, 9831 9600.

Thank you, in anticipation of your help.

Anne Stephens
Year 11 Co-ordinator

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 30/11</th>
<th>Tue 1/12</th>
<th>Wed 2/12</th>
<th>Thu 3/12</th>
<th>Fri 4/12</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Woolley</td>
<td>Susan Natoli</td>
<td>Kim Middleton</td>
<td>Sharon Rice</td>
<td>CANTEEN CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Biviano</td>
<td>Bronwen Mancini</td>
<td>Sharon Pankhurst</td>
<td>Karen Roache</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Olga Aliotta</td>
<td>Corina Chung</td>
<td>Lora Domne</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SPORT NEWS

2016 Sports Trials and Training Dates
2016 is already shaping up to be a huge year for Sport. Swimming, Diving, Tennis and Athletics will all resume first week back in 2016. Tennis trials will be held Tuesday afternoon from 3.30-4.30pm on the courts.

Below are the dates and locations for Diving, Swimming and Athletics. Information will be on SIMON early in 2016 regarding CareMonkey permission forms and information.

### AVILA DIVING TRAINING TIMELINE 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 1</td>
<td>Aqualink</td>
<td>6.45-7.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 8</td>
<td>Aqualink</td>
<td>6.45-7.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 15</td>
<td>Aqualink</td>
<td>6.45-7.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 22</td>
<td>Aqualink</td>
<td>6.45-7.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Feb 29</td>
<td>Aqualink</td>
<td>6.45-7.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday March 7</td>
<td>No Training – Avila House Swimming Carnival</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday March 14</td>
<td>No Training – Year 7 and 9 Camps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday March 21</td>
<td>Aqualink</td>
<td>6.45-7.45am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday March 23</td>
<td>SCSA Swimming Meet - MSAC</td>
<td>6.00-10.00pm</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### AVILA SWIMMING TRAINING TIMELINE 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 3</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 5</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 10</td>
<td>MARC</td>
<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 12</td>
<td>No Training – Genazzano Swim Meet 4-6pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 17</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 19</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Feb 24</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 26</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday March 2</td>
<td>MARC</td>
<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 4</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday March 9</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 11</td>
<td>Syndal</td>
<td>7.00-8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday March 16</td>
<td>No Training – Year 7 and 9 Camps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday March 18</td>
<td>No Training – Year 7 and 9 Camps</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday March 23</td>
<td>SCSA Swimming Meet - MSAC</td>
<td>6.00-10.00pm</td>
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### AVILA ATHLETICS TRAINING TIMELINE 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>VENUE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday February 2</td>
<td>Holy Family PS</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 4</td>
<td>Holy Family PS</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday February 9</td>
<td>Holy Family PS</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 11</td>
<td>No Training – Year 7 Swim Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday February 16</td>
<td>No Training – Staff Camp Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 18</td>
<td>Holy Family PS</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday February 23</td>
<td>No Training – Point Leo Excursion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 25</td>
<td>No Training – Point Leo Excursion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 1</td>
<td>Bill Sewert</td>
<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 3</td>
<td>Holy Family</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 8</td>
<td>Bill Sewart</td>
<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 10</td>
<td>Bill Sewart</td>
<td>3.30-5.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 15</td>
<td>No Training – Year 7 &amp; 9 Camp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 17</td>
<td>No Training – Year 7 &amp; 9 Camp</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday March 22</td>
<td>Holy Family PS</td>
<td>3.30-4.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday March 24</td>
<td>No Training – Last Day of Term</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
PATHWAYS AND CAREER NEWS

Happy Holidays
As this is the final Pathways News for this year, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and their families a wonderful summer holiday - filled with special times shared with friends and loved ones. Keep safe!

2015 VCAA Results
Year 12’s, and Year 11 students who may have sat Unit 3/4 exams, are reminded that the study scores come out on Monday 14 December 2015. To access these results students can:

• Log on to Results and ATAR any time from 7am on Monday 14 December to 5pm on Friday 18 December AEDST. This service is free and operates 24 hours a day.

• Type in your VCAA student number and where a PIN is required, type in the first four digits of your birth date, e.g. 22 August = 2208

It should be pointed out that the school is not in a position to release results or ATARs to parents or other parties as the results are the property of the student.

CHANGE OF PREFERENCE (COP) -
Remember, you can change your application (preferences) from 23 November till 12 noon on 21 December, 2015. VCE students will receive their results on Monday 14 December, so you will have a week to re-consider your VTAC application. Use this time to contact or visit tertiary institutions if you are uncertain, or contact the Careers Hub for advice.

OFFERS of places at tertiary institutions commence on 18 January 2016, with more places on offer later on (there will be five ‘rounds’ of offers in total). You are advised to accept the first offer you receive as most likely it will be your only offer (around 80% of applicants will only receive one offer); however, accepting an offer does not mean you cannot receive another offer in a later round of offers.

WHERE CAN I GET ASSISTANCE DURING ‘CHANGE OF PREFERENCE’ WEEK? The week after you receive your ATAR is generally known as Change of Preference (COP) week (Mon 14 – Mon 21 December). During this time tertiary institutions run information sessions, COP Expos, have phone assistance available and will assist you in any way they can. See Avila’s Career Guidance site for further details about COP week at the various universities and institutes. You can also obtain assistance from the Careers Hub at school from Monday 14th - Wednesday 16th December and after that time please email Ms Dunn or Ms McKenna if you have any further queries.

UMAT2016
Students commencing Year 12 in 2016, and planning to apply for courses in Medicine or Optometry at any Australian or New Zealand University are reminded that part of selection into these courses requires that students sit the UMAT – Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test. Applications open early in December 2015. For more information, and/or to apply visit https://umat.acer.edu.au/ or call (03) 8508 7643.

All students have been emailed the latest Career News newsletters which includes information about:

• 2015 VCAA Results
• ANU Change of Preference Advisory Day in Melbourne
• News from Monash University
  o What happens if something occurs after the VTAC SEAS deadline?
  o Important Information for International Students
  o The New Bachelor of Laws (Honours)/Bachelor of Global Studies
• UniLink Diplomas at Swinburne University
• UMAT2016
• Careers as a Police Custody Officer
• Work Experience Opportunities in 2016
• Gap Medics
• VCE 2016 Summer Schools
• YHA Fact Sheet for Safe Travel

A copy of the Newsletter is available on Avila’s Careers Guidance site (see link on Simon).

Jenny Dunn - Pathways Coordinator
Email: jdunn@avilacollege.vic.edu.au

Geraldine McKenna - Careers Counsellor
Email: gmckenna@avilacollege.vic.edu.au