FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Dear members of the Avila community,

In a College as large as Avila our community is very lucky to be able to take part in so many events that add vibrancy to day-to-day College life. Our Mother’s Day/Special Persons breakfast held in the Gathering Space on Thursday 5 May was one of these wonderful events. The breakfast was a heartfelt celebration of gratitude. My thanks to the very special women who play a major part supporting our girls through their time at secondary school. Each mother received a scroll containing a beautiful Mother’s Day prayer and, if the vibe in the room was anything to go by, everyone thoroughly enjoyed catching up with other mothers during the morning. Sincere thanks to members of the Parents and Friends Association who generously gave of their time to run the event. I would also like to thank Wasana Fernando and Helen Colbourn who adeptly coordinated this event.

Our Open Morning on Tuesday 3 May was an opportunity to showcase the College to prospective families. Parents commented on the invitingly productive learning environment that has been created by staff and students along with the impressive facilities afforded to our girls. Angela Torelli, Acting Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching, highlighted to parents that our choice to be a specialist in girls’ education and engage our girls in contemporary learning practices was a deliberate focus of the College. I was justly proud of our Student Ambassadors who warmly welcomed primary school students, took families on tours and shared their own experiences of College life.

Diversity of learning experiences is the hallmark of an Avila education and this last fortnight has seen some of our Year 8 students explore Melbourne CBD and all it has to offer during the City Experience program, while our Year 12 Legal students experienced the implications of our justice system with a trip to Loddon Prison. On the sporting field, or more exactly the athletics track, our track and field team performed admirably to place 7th in Division 1 of the SCSA athletics.

On Thursday 19 May, we look forward to the Creative Arts Festival’s interpretation of ‘Peter Pan’. This student led initiative offers our girls a chance to work innovatively and build teams while challenging them to think creatively and imaginatively across several disciplines. The students experience is invaluable as they work in partnership with dedicated and talented staff to write, direct, act, create music and design. This is whole-brain thinking at its best! A reminder that Homeroom will commence one hour later, at 9.35am, on Friday 20 May as a result of the Creative Arts Festival the night before. Australiner buses will run all stops one hour later than usual.

Community News
We welcome Judy Brooks to the role of HR Co-ordinator. Judy commenced with us last week.

It is with great sadness that the Avila community sends its deep condolences to staff members Sue Liston on the passing of her father, Fred, and Sophie Clapperton on the passing of her father, Bruce. May our Lord bless and comfort them and their families during this time of sadness and grief.

With blessings to everyone in this year of Mercy,

Christine Kralj
Acting Principal

Cover image: Year 8 students on City Experience
LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

NAPLAN

Like students all across Australia, Avila College students in Years 7 and 9 sat the NAPLAN tests last week. Students are commended for their co-operative approach to this formal testing program. The results from NAPLAN are expected in late Term 3 and will be mailed home to parents and used by teachers to inform their teaching practices.

Exams

Semester examinations for Years 10 and 11 will be conducted from Friday 3 June to Friday 10 June. Examinations are scheduled in all Years 10 and 11 subjects. Year 9 students will undertake formal examinations in English, Maths and Science on Thursday 2 June. All students undertaking a Year 12 subject are required to sit the three hour General Achievement Test (GAT) on Tuesday 7 June.

To familiarise students with the requirements of examinations, Avila College uses a common set of conditions and protocols. Students are expected to follow formal procedures for all examinations. This means that they must take only prescribed materials into the examination room with particular regard to prohibited items (ie: mobile phones) and behaviour such as not communicating in any way with another student during an examination. Water bottles must be clear and have labels removed. Examination conditions have been outlined to the students and any breaches will result in serious consequences.

All students have been given advice about how to revise for their Semester One examinations. The student-free day on Thursday 2 June has been scheduled to provide students with a timely opportunity to prepare thoroughly for end of semester assessment. Formal examinations are one method of summative assessment and, in conjunction with other assessment tasks, identify some of the knowledge and skills each student has developed in each subject. Students with queries about exams should speak with their subject teacher or Year Level Co-ordinator. We wish students well for this important assessment period.

Angela Torrelli
Acting Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

MATHEMATICS PEER SUPPORT

A group of Year 11 and Year 12 students have set up a Peer Support Program to help students in Year 7 and Year 8 with mathematics. Every Wednesday they give up their lunchtime to help with mathematical concepts such as calculations involving fractions, decimals, percentages and integers.

A huge thank you to Meg Brideson, Sophia Suarez, Eliza Giuliano, Paige Harris, Isabella Marotta, Tav Kakkar, Frances Chan, Nicole Ng, Christine Erpismidis, Alecia Frizziero, Jovita Thomas, Artemis Capa, Natalie Cardaci, Jemma Newport, Erin Whitehead, Meenu Manickam, Manik Liyange, Stacey Wong, Maxine De Lima, Joella Fernando, Audrey Thoman and Danielle Khoury.

All Year 7 and Year 8 girls are welcome to come along to meet the girls and get some help with Maths! Room 76 - every Wednesday during lunchtime.

CATCH UP CORNER

Maths help is also offered at Catch Up Corner at lunchtimes for students in Years 7 to 10 who need extra help or a more detailed explanation of a difficult concept.

These sessions are held in Room 66.

Day 1: Mrs Talij  
Day 2: Ms Cummins  
Day 3: Mrs Trifilo  
Day 4: Mr Edwards  
Day 5: Ms R Ryan  
Day 6: Ms C Ryan  
Day 7: Mrs Lloyd  
Day 8: Ms Zammicheli  
Day 9: Ms Baka  
Day 10: Mr Francis

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Avila College uniform supplier PSW will have its Stephensons Rd retail outlet closed on Thursday 9 June 2016 for stocktaking. PSW does apologise for any inconvenience and would like to remind customers that all trading hours and contact details for queries are available at www.psw.com.au. Avila's own second hand uniform shop is open on May 18, June 1 and June 15 from 1 - 4pm if this is of any assistance.
YEAR 8 CITY EXPERIENCE

“Through dangers untold and hardships unnumbered I have fought my way here to the castle beyond the Goblin City…” - Sarah, ‘Labyrinth’

Much like the character Sarah in the 1986 Jim Henson film ‘Labyrinth’, the girls from Year 8 Silver, Red, Pink and Purple embarked, with trepidation, upon our quest. It was our time to leave our bedrooms, leave our books and toys and become young adults in the labyrinthine city of Melbourne. Though we actually had more than 13 hours to solve our labyrinth, it felt as though there was the same sense of urgency, for we had so much to learn. We had 5 days to complete a monumental project while also becoming acquainted with the ins and outs of our city. Much like myself, many of my fellow damsels had never journeyed to the city without our chaperones, let alone navigated the world of a working adult. Much like those in the working world, we had to operate in groups to complete a project based on a ‘big question’.

My cast of characters and I had to research and present ‘Homelessness is easily solved - all that is needed is more affordable accommodation.’ The project required us to gather information from various sources and numerous locations. We participated in many eye-opening activities such as visiting Urban Seed and The Big Issue, organisations that work with the homeless community of Melbourne. We had multiple guest speakers teach us about the common issues and stereotypes that are regularly misrepresented by the media. Saara, an intelligent Muslim woman, unpacked many stereotypes about the Muslim faith and Tony spoke of his gambling addiction and the consequences of his actions.

Throughout the week I couldn’t help but notice the analogies linking myself and my teammates to the loveable characters of ‘Labyrinth’. We were all, at times, cranky like Hoggle, apprehensive like Ludo, temperamental like Sarah and overzealous like Sir Didymus but we collaborated to get the job done and remained friends to the end. Not only did we learn a lot about others and the issues in our city, we also learned a lot about ourselves and our abilities to work with others and handle the stress of a large assignment. We faced many adversities including an injured member of the fellowship, our breadcrumbs being eaten by birds, and the weight of the one ring bearing down on our souls (actually just losing our way and having head-colds but as teenagers we feel we have the right to be melodramatic!) but we persevered and made it to the castle beyond the Goblin City.

“Quite often, young lady, it seems we are not getting anywhere, when in fact, we are” - The Wiseman, Labyrinth.

For those of you who are yet to step through the wardrobe, I shall not reveal too many of the details of my city experience journey, for then you would know what is in store for you and it wouldn’t be much of a learning experience. Those of you who have been ‘there and back again’ most likely empathise with our challenges and, I hope, share our sense of achievement.

What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.’ - Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Jamie Fitzsimons
Year 8 Silver student
2016 CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL – AN EVENING WITH PETER PAN

The annual Creative Arts Festival is fast approaching! This year’s theme is An Evening with Peter Pan and promises to be a delightful night of fun and laughter. Creative Arts celebrates the many talents of our students in the performing and visual arts, exploring drama, dance, music, art and multimedia. Girls from all year levels will be on stage and behind the scenes exploring their own version of the Peter Pan story we all know so well. Let's just say we've mixed it up a bit! Suitable for all ages. Don't miss out! One night only. Tickets selling fast.
Besen Centre, Burwood, Thursday 19 May at 7:30pm.
Bookings can be made directly at www.trybooking.com/198214.

Justin Cash
Drama Co-ordinator
CREATIVE ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT
YEAR 11 DRAMA ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES
The Year 11 Drama class will showcase their many talents in three student-devised group performances on Wednesday 25 May at 6:00pm in the Old Lecture Theatre at the College. All performances will explore the topic Social Media: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly from a teenager’s perspective. Free performance. One show only. No ticket necessary. All welcome!

YEAR 12 DRAMA ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES
The Year 12 Drama class will present two student-devised group performances on Monday 30 May at 4:30pm and 6:30pm (repeat performance) in the Multipurpose Space at the College.
All performances will explore the topic of Artificial Intelligence, possibly the biggest buzzword of 2016. Artificial intelligence has developed quickly in recent years and is now impacting many aspects of our lives. Come along and see a dramatisation of this fascinating topic.
Free performances, but seats are limited due to space restrictions. Please contact a Year 12 Drama student for tickets or email Justin Cash, Drama Coordinator, at jcash@avilacollege.vic.edu.au.

YEAR 9 REFLECTION DAY
On Friday 6 May, the Year 9 students were incredibly lucky to share their Reflection Day with the The NETeam (The National Evangelisation Team). The NET is a national organisation that travels to different places in Australia to share the joy of God’s word.
Our Year 9 Reflection Day was based on the theme of ‘God’s Love and Self Image.’ The aim of the day was to reflect and embrace that we are made in the image and likeness of God and that all people are unique and part of God’s creation. The day was filled with many different sessions; one second we were laughing and listening to funny jokes and then we were all silent and reflecting on our own personal lives and the journey we are on. The young, lively members of the NET team always had something interesting happening, with drama performances, different team work games and even some interesting stories about two of the team members and the way that they got over hardships in their lives.
This day wouldn’t have been possible without Mrs Marino, Director of Faith and Mission, and her vision that allowed us to have a great day. It was also inspiring to see our RE teachers and some of our Homeroom Teachers as part of the day. They are good role models and showed us how to get the most out of the day. Overall, a great day was had by everyone; full of laughs, reverence and participation.
Chiara Smith
Year 9 Faith and Mission Captain

OLIVIA GODER RETURNS TO AVILA
On Thursday 12 May, past student and athlete, Miss Olivia Goder returned to Avila to speak to the SCSA Athletics Team prior to the SCSA sports. Olivia currently holds 13 Avila athletics records and 2 SCSA records. She left Avila in 2006 and gained a Bachelor of Education (P-12) from Victoria University.
Olivia started her athletics career at the age of 8 at Knox Athletic Club and continued her involvement through school and SCSA. Olivia went on to win National Medals at Under 20 and Under 23 in the Triple Jump. Her personal best in this event is 12.58m. Olivia has personal bests of 5.80m in the long jump, 1.65m in the High Jump, 57.60 in the 400m and 2.14.21 in the 800m.
Olivia spoke to the girls about her time at Avila, her studies and current career as a Primary PE teacher at Thomas Mitchell in Endeavour Hills and her love of athletics. She found the triple jump very difficult to master and considered it her most challenging event, yet highlighted to the girls her persistence and determination to succeed in this event. Olivia gave valuable tips and helped the girls to believe and achieve.
Olivia followed up her talk with a tour of the school and was excited to see the new PE facilities.
David Bullock
Head of Athletics
DEBATING NEWS

The Avila debaters faced cold winds and rain as they made their way to Round 3. This was the first round of secret topics for Years 10, 11 and 12 - always a scary night, especially for first timers at Year 10. The question is always, “What will the topics be?”

Mr Bernardo had kindly spent a lunchtime going over the principles of effective taxation and negative gearing; and Sophia Elliott (College Vice-Captain of 2015 and ex Swanee Winner) came back to run a workshop on thematic rebuttal. The topics ended up being on the privatisation of the ABC; removing Australian content regulations for TV; and military service instead of imprisonment.

All of the debates were very close with eight Avila teams winning. Congratulations to the following students who won Best Speaker Awards: Monique Drake, Alecia Frizziero, Emma Spencer, Atara Thenabadu and Ashley Ng.

As we make our way into the break we have three undefeated teams - a fabulous effort given the competition in the Toorak zone this year. Well done to the following students:

B Grade Avila 1: Zoe Evans, Tynah Pearson, Georgia Pitt and Tamara Ryan
C Grade Avila 1: Anokhi De Silva, Dinelle Hettiarachchi, Atara Thenabadu, Kate Tidswell
D Grade Avila 3: Amy Cheshire, Tricia Cowan, Elena Di Silvestro, Clare McMorrow, Mia Sinclair

I wish the students well for the remaining two rounds of the season.

Christine Valladares
Public Speaking and Debating Coordinator

DINE WITH HEART

Sacred Heart Mission’s Dine With Heart Month is taking place all through May and we’d love you to join us! Dine with Heart is a month-long celebration of food and community. It brings together the culinary community of St Kilda and beyond in support of our Meals Program, which provides 400 free, hot and nutritious meals each day to people who are experiencing homelessness, social isolation and disadvantage.

Throughout the month of May, restaurants and cafes are joining forces with their diners to raise funds for the Meals Program. There will be special fundraising events and unique menus at participating venues. All restaurants and events are listed on our website. Check here: Dine with Heart Month

The Meals Program is supplemented by generous food donations from the community. Demands are high and it still costs us the equivalent of $4 per person to prepare and serve meals. For a donation of as little as $4 you could help us ensure no-one is left hungry, particularly as winter approaches.

JOIN US THIS MAY
DINE WITH HEART
Find out more at sacredheartmission.org

PFA NEWS

Mother’s Day / Special Person’s Breakfast
Thank you to all mums and daughters who came along to the breakfast on Thursday 5 May in the Gathering Space. Sincere thanks also to the hard working PFA Committee members who worked until late the evening before and reported for duty at 6.30am on the morning of the breakfast. Their efforts were very much appreciated by the guests, many of whom commented that the food was delicious.
There was a selection of lucky door prizes and girls were asked to give their Mum a scroll with a blessing inscribed on it.
The PFA enjoys hosting the breakfast and the ever-growing numbers show that this is an event that the community want to enjoy together.

Trivia Night – Friday 22 July
Win Half Price Tickets
Question: What is the smallest country in Europe?
Email your answer to aopray@avilacollege.vic.edu.au. First correct entry wins two half-price tickets ($10 each) to the Trivia Night.
Please mark 7.30pm Friday 22 July in your diary so you can come along to the Avila College Trivia Night held at the College. Now is the time to get a table together or join with other parents to test your knowledge on a wide range of topics and have some fun. The cost is $20 per person and bookings can be made via the College website, www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au News and Events, Bookings. It will be a great night out and I look forward to seeing you there. We are looking for donations and prizes for the evening and so would appreciate you emailing pfa@avilacollege.vic.edu.au if you are able to assist. Food and drinks are BYO. Funds raised on the Trivia Night will be donated back to the College.

Parent Volunteers
If you have an hour or two to spare to help with the Trivia Night, please email pfa@avilacollege.vic.edu.au We will need assistance with set up and preparation and then pack down.

Upcoming Year Level Events
Year 7 Families Rollerama Roller Skating
All Year 7 families are invited by their Class Reps to a fun afternoon of Roller skating at Caribbean Rollerama from 1.30 – 4pm on Sunday 5 June. Cost is $10 per person. RSVP to Verity Coates by 23 May on 0432 669 308. The whole family is very welcome.

Year 9 Parent Function - Friday 3 June
All Year 9 parents are warmly invited by their Class Reps to a gathering at the Wheelers Hill Hotel from 7 – 10pm on Friday 3 June. Finger food will be served and drinks can be purchased at bar prices. Come along and meet other Year 9 parents in a casual setting and enjoy a night out. The cost is $20 per person and bookings can be made via the College website, www.avila.college.vic.edu.au News and Events, Bookings.

Next Meeting
The PFA meets at the college for an hour or so once a month, please feel free to come along, we would love to see some new faces. The next meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 24 May.

Kind Regards,

Wasana Fernando
PFA President
Invites
Avila College Parents to a
TRIVIA NIGHT

Date: Friday 22 July
Time: 7.30pm – 11pm
Venue: Avila College Gathering Space
Cost: $20.00 per person
BYO: Food and drinks
Bookings: www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au News & Events, Bookings

Limited Places…Bookings Essential
SCSA ATHLETICS

Avila College athletes nervously awaited the starters gun in the school’s first appearance back in the SCSA Division One for over 22 years. Our guest speaker prior to the meet was former Avila athlete, Olivia Goder, and she gave the girls some expert tips which settled their nerves.

The students willingly filled extra spots in events and cheered loudly for their team throughout the whole carnival. Many students returned to the stands with ribbons awarded for 1st to 4th place and athletes were seen with multiple ribbons from a number of events.

One of the highlights was watching the Stawell Gift winner from Loreto College, Ballarat sprint down the track. Avila had many highlights, which will be acknowledged when the individual results are sent from the SCSA.

Overall, Avila placed 7th and a look at the numbers revealed that the team was only 18 points away from finishing 4th. This highlights the depth of athletes that we have at Avila and their total commitment to striving for their best in all conditions and stages of adversity. Massive congratulations to the team for digging so deep in every event, and Captains Erin Flatters and Breanna Beltrame for such professional leadership of the team.

David Bullock
Athletics Head Coach

The team results are:

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PATHWAYS AND CAREER NEWS:

TRIPOD
TRIPOD is totally unique in career education. It’s the first and only immersive two-day program in Australia for Years 10-12 students that focuses on both soft skills and best practice job hunter tools. It’s also the only program that so comprehensively connects school students with young alumni mentors to share their knowledge of career pathways. It is also the only program that provides equally comprehensive content for parents and caregivers—so families can engage in the career conversation together, with the same valuable information.
The Youth and Adult Programs combined feature more than 60 master class seminars and workshops with outstanding presenters, diverse interactive activities, and opportunities to explore the career journey in a fun, safe and supportive environment.
Dates: 28-29 May 2016
Venue: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
To find out more, visit www.tripod.edu.au

UniExperience
UniExperience gives Year 11 students the opportunity to be on campus and experience university life first hand. The two day program demystifies the university experience by giving you the chance to stay at our Parkville campus and take part in a range of sessions covering many aspects of tertiary study.
UniExperience Thursday 7 July — Friday 8 July 2016 University of Melbourne, Parkville campus
futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au

Aviation For Women Conference
Moorabin Flying School in conjunction with the Australian Women Pilots Association are holding their inaugural conference this year. A shortage of skilled employees in this area is predicted and the conference aims to encourage and inspire teenage girls to take the first step in pursuing a challenging and fulfilling career in the aviation sector. Possible careers include Airline Pilot, Air Traffic Controller, Aviation Rescue Fire Fighter and Cabin Crew.
4 June 2016 10.00 am to 3.30 pm
MFS Ground Theory Centre, 55 Grange Road, Cheltenham, VIC, 3192
For more information please contact Moorabin Flying School on (03) 9580 8822 or at markd@mfs.com.au
Bookings are essential.

Work Experience
We have a number of students seeking Work Experience placements in the June/July holidays. In particular we are after a medical placement, preferably paediatric, for a very keen Year 10 student.
If you are able to offer a placement please contact Ms Jenny Dunn at jdunn@avilacollege.vic.edu.au and we will try to match up a suitable student. Any type of placement is valuable and our students have a wide array of interests.

Items in the Career News this cycle include:
• Bond with Bond Event
• Australian Mining Industry
• UNSW CO-OP Program
• Careers in the Army
• News from Moorabin Flying Services
  o Open Day 2016
  o Airline Pilot Workshop
• News from the University of Melbourne
  o Important Changes to Psychology stream in the Bachelor of Commerce
  o Guaranteed Entry for Onshore International Students
  o Subscribe to the My Melbourne Newsletter
• Tripod - Empowering Australian Youth
• Business Degrees in Victoria
• Commerce Degrees in Victoria
All Careers Newsletter are available on the Careers Guidance tab on SIMON

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

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