FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Dear Avila College Community,

As we prepare to celebrate Avila Day at the end of this week, the wisdom of our patron, Saint Teresa in Avila College’s song “Let nothing frighten you nor worry you for God is unchanging in His love” offers a way of responding to the unexpected.

In these days of change, we can draw inspiration from our role models St Teresa of Avila and Nano Nagle (founder of the Presentation Sisters). As women, they did not accept the status quo but rather sought to be disruptive. Throughout the 500 years since her birth, St Teresa’s writings have transcended the centuries and continue to remind us that remaining true to the Gospel values, including concern for others over self is what matters.

I was fortunate earlier this year to visit both Avila (St Teresa’s home city) in Spain, and many places in Ireland where Nano Nagle grew up and worked to bring about social change through education and care of the marginalised. The influence of these great women on Avila College today is clearly evident both across the curriculum and in the co-curricula programs offered.

**Congratulations**

We were wowed last week with students’ work displayed in the annual Art, Design and Technology Exhibition. I was reminded again of our teachers’ ability to elicit sophisticated and creative responses from students in years 7 to 12. Alumnae (class of 1974) and guest speaker, Veronica Aldous commended the students for their work using such diverse media and perspectives. She noted the work ranged from realistic to impressionistic with amazing insight and originality evident. An exceptionally high quality of student work was viewed, tasted and experienced by the hundreds who visited the exhibition over the three days it was open. Congratulations to all student exhibitors and to the staff involved, particularly Jolenta Kirkwood, Arts Curriculum Leader.

**Discovery Learning**

Last Friday evening I enjoyed the opportunity of listening to some of the students from 8 Blue, Green, Gold and Orange presenting to their parents on their social inquiry research projects conducted through their City Experience. This program provides a wonderful cross-curricular opportunity for students to learn about their city and themselves as they work in teams investigating social justice issues associated with homelessness, policing, street art and multiculturalism. I thank Discovery Learning Coordinator, Amanda Flynn, Year 8 Coordinator, Sam Carroll and homeroom teachers Nicole Sim, Nerida King, Marina Kelly and Liz Trembath for their work with the students at City Cite each day.

See over…

Cover image: Santa Teresa Immersion Tour Group 2016
Immersion Experiences
We welcome back to the school this term the staff and students who undertook immersion experiences as part of their learning during the final week of Term 3 and into the school holidays. Eighteen Year 10 and 11 students undertook an immersion study tour to Italy, including intensive language school for 5 days. They returned much more confident and fluent in Italian and looking forward to further study. Such valuable experiences cannot occur with the support of teachers willing to forgo holiday time with their own families. I thank Sal La Fauci (Languages Curriculum Leader), Anne Stephens (Year 11 Coordinator) and Amanda Flynn (Discovery Learning Coordinator) for volunteering to undertake the responsibility of caring for our girls so well whilst overseas.

College Counsellor Donna Teekans, accompanied by Year 9 Coordinator Janine Bauman, led this year’s Indigenous immersion tour to Santa Teresa in Central Australia. Sr Liz from Santa Teresa rang last week to convey her congratulations to all involved for their respectful behaviour and their genuine commitment to developing a greater appreciation of the complexities of the issues confronting Indigenous Australians. We are indeed fortunate to have such strong staff and student support to offer these rich learning opportunities and I thank and commend all involved.

Community News
All parents are invited to join our celebration of Avila Day on Friday 14 October with a Eucharist commencing at 9am followed by morning tea in the Gathering Space. Please RSVP to avila@avilacollege.vic.edu.au by Thursday 13 October.

We extend prayers and sympathy to Acting Director of Mission and Faith Carmela Marino and to Monica Fazzino in year 7 on the recent death of their father and grandfather.

We ask also for your prayers for our year 12 students as they prepare for their final examinations. They will be formally farewelled by the school community at a whole school assembly on Monday 17 October followed by a Mass and graduation dinner the same evening.

With blessings to all,
Madeleine Franken
Acting Principal

With blessings to all,
Madeleine Franken
BA, Dip Ed (Sec), M.Ed.Leadership, Grad Dip (Student Welfare),
Grad Cert (Careers Ed), MACE
Acting Principal
LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

Examinations
We wish all Year 12 students well as they prepare to undertake their VCE written examinations over the next few weeks. They will conclude their classes at the end of this week and the College community will farewell them on Monday 17 October. Year 12 students have been issued with advice about how to manage their exam preparation over the coming weeks. Our advice to students is to use their time wisely by revising and completing practice exams at home. If students need to contact a teacher they should do so by phone or email. Some students may have extra revision classes scheduled; however, the general advice is not to waste time travelling to school to see a teacher without making prior arrangements.

Subject selection confirmation for 2017
Over the next week, students currently in Years 9, 10 and 11 will be issued with booklists and slips confirming their subject allocations for 2017. Of course, developing a timetable for over 1100 students is a complex task that takes much time. So far, only the senior timetable grid has been finalized with Years 8 and 9 expected to be completed within the next couple of weeks. If there are serious concerns with subject allocation, students should let Ms Torelli know immediately.

Booklists
When subject selections are confirmed, students will be issued with hard copies of their booklist for 2017. Please note that all orders must be lodged online with Campion. Those who place senior booklist orders before Friday 28 October may collect their books or large art supplies between 12:30pm and 4:00pm from the Gathering Space on Thursday 17 November. Alternatively, parents may arrange for home delivery from Campion to arrive in time for HeadStart. Books and materials not collected on 17 November will be returned to Campion so senior students may need to make arrangements with another family member or friend to collect their package. To accommodate the many students who undertake accelerated learning in Years 10, 11 and 12, the booklist for the senior students contains all three year levels’ requirements in the one document.

It is important that all students studying VCE or VCAL subjects in 2017 have the correct resources for use during HeadStart (25 Nov – 2 Dec) and with holiday homework. Our bookseller, Campion has been very supportive in lodging orders early with publishers so that, as far as possible, resources will be available for HeadStart. Many VCE subjects have listed a new online product called Edrolo. We have trialled this product with great success this year. Where it is listed for a subject, it must be ordered by 28 October so that students can use it in class during HeadStart.

The HeadStart program for Years 11 and 12 is designed to prepare students for the following year’s study. VCE and VCAL students will be introduced to each course and given homework for the holidays that must be completed by the first day of classes in 2017. We ask that parents support their daughter’s senior studies by submitting booklist orders by 28 October so that students can keep up with the expected learning, both during HeadStart and over the holidays. Orders for booklists for years 7 to 9 will need to be completed online by Thursday 1 December for home delivery in January or for collection from the College between 9:00am and 2:00pm on Tuesday 24 January 2017.

It is important that students have the correct edition of resources and access to the rich and interactive facility that many products offer to support student learning. There are various online sites such as Sustainable School Shop and eBay that offer an opportunity to buy or sell second-hand books. We urge caution if purchasing second-hand resources and ask that all Avila families check carefully for the edition and licence. Due to licensing limits, many online resources cannot be sold second-hand. Please check very carefully if considering this option.

Angela Torelli
Acting DP Learning and Teaching
FROM THE CHAIR

The Avila College Board’s Third Reporting Meeting for 2016 occurred in August. The Board’s Final meeting for the year is scheduled for November.

Avila Principal, Ms Louise Gunther began our meeting with a beautiful reflection highlighting some of her experiences and insights from her recent pilgrimage to Ireland, following the footsteps of Nano Nagle, founder of the Presentation Sisters.

At our August meeting the Board Development Working Party provided some feedback to the Board about the progress to date regarding the development of a Board Handbook to support the Board Constitution. The BDWP is currently seeking input from Board Members to this handbook, particularly around the conduct and commitment required from Board Members to their work on the Board. The Board has agreed to put any further work on the Constitution on hold until this supporting document is drafted.

The Avila College Board is committed to the implementation of Child-Safe Standards at Avila. All Board Members have current Working with Children Checks and have now completed a Mandatory Reporting Module, as required by Avila Teaching Staff. The Board has also now ratified the following Avila College policies: Child Safe Policy, Code of Conduct and Mandatory Reporting Policy, all directly related to this space.

Avila College recently hosted the bi-annual Nagle Education Alliance of Australia Student Leadership Conference. It was an amazing success with 100 students and 20 Principals or Senior Leaders from NEAA Schools across Australia involved in three days of collaborative leadership activities. The Board congratulates Ms Gunther for providing Avila College with this opportunity and Mrs Christine Kralj for her outstanding coordination of the conference.

Avila Day celebrations will begin with Eucharist for the community on Friday October 14. On behalf of the Avila Board I look forward to celebrating with you.

*Sally-Anne Petrie
Chairperson
Avila College Board

AVILA DAY

On Friday 14 October our College will celebrate Avila Day in acknowledgement of the feast of St Teresa of Avila (15 October).

The Avila Day Eucharist will begin at 9am in the College Hall. This is a significant celebration for our College community and we warmly invite all our parents and friends of the College to attend the Eucharist and morning tea. RSVP for the Eucharist and/or morning tea to avila@avilacollege.vic.edu.au by Thursday 13 October.

Eucharist will be followed by a variety of festivities for our staff and students. Students will be dismissed at 2pm on this day. The Australiner School bus service will operate from 2pm. Please note that all students are expected to be in their summer uniform, including blazer, for Avila Day. The canteen will not be open at lunchtime. Students are encouraged to support the House Leaders fundraising effort by bringing money (change and small notes) along and buying food and drinks.

Please be aware of these Important times:
8:30am Students to attend Homeroom
9am Avila Day Eucharist
2pm Dismissal of students
3pm School Office closes
LOTE
Italian Study Tour – Prato Italy

How does one describe the Prato experience for a secondary school student from Avila College in Melbourne? One needs to take into account the fragrant smells of the food, the Tuscan fashion, the beauty of the historic buildings, the ringing church bells and the interaction with the locals. A true immersion!

Upon arrival, our group of eighteen girls and three teachers took what we thought to be a leisurely Sunday stroll into the town centre. In fact we were met by an ancient, medieval castle of which the group climbed the battlements and then observed a wedding below in Piazza Santa Maria dei Carceri. Once exiting this piazza and taking a right turn past the Piazza Comune with its historic Palazzo Pretorio, we followed the road to Piazza Duomo where a festival of food, music, culture and the stunning view of the façade of the Duomo di Santo Stefano welcomed us. The girls immediately felt at home in Prato.

The Avila College students experienced five days at Monash University Prato learning Italian. But it was not just the language they learnt. They learnt what life is really like for a young person living in Prato. The lessons were made relevant for the students as they were linked to life in the town and in the region. Moreover, the cultural aspects of the course were linked to their own age group. On two occasions the students were able to practise conversation with local students as well as visit their school and sit in on classes. The looks of anticipation prior to the local students’ arrival was soon replaced by laughter and exchanges of details on social media. Friends for years to come perhaps?

See over…..

A visit to ancient Rome and the Colosseo

Making new friends in conversation classes with local students in Prato

An evening in Prato’s Piazza with the Duomo in the background
Italian Study Tour – Prato Italy continued

The girls also took part in cooking lessons at a local restaurant. They cooked two separate menus for the entire group, each course made entirely by hand. The course also involved a theatre performance, in which the students made all their own props and sets and then recited their own interpretation of Carlo Collodi’s ‘Pinocchio’ in Italian.

One of the highlights of the week was a visit to the Textile Museum. The students not only were able to see the origins of the industry, but were able to create their own garment to take home as a memorable souvenir of their time in Prato. The week concluded with a treasure hunt around the city and a celebration commemorating their week of learning.

Prato will always have a special place in the heart of the Avila College students and for the college itself, a place for future learning and relationships for years to come.

Salvatore La Fausci
Languages Curriculum Leader

The first of two nights the group cook for each other in a restaurant in Prato

A visit to the Prato textiles museum

The view of Firenze from Piazza Michelangelo

An audience with the Pope – one of the highlights of the tour
THE ARTS
Art, Design and Technology Exhibition – 5, 6 and 7 October 2016
SPORT NEWS

Avila College’s Annual Sports Awards Night was held on Thursday 15 September. As always the evening was a wonderful opportunity for the school community to come together to celebrate the sporting achievements of our students both on an individual and a team level, recognizing not only performance, but also leadership, sportsmanship and commitment.

The evening was superbly hosted by our five Sports Captains: Erin Flatters, Georgia Abbott, Jorjia Cotte, Abbey Goullet and Monique Louey. We were also treated to some amazing choreography displays from our gymnastics, aerobics and basketball teams.

Avila was fortunate to have with us, guest speaker, Eleni Glouftsis, the first female AFL field umpire. Eleni shared with us her inspirational story and the wonderful impact she has had in terms of raising the profile of women not just in the sport of AFL, but in all sports.

A special thank you to everyone involved in the lead up to the night, in particular the PE department and coaches for the dedication and support that they offer our programme and our teams.

Congratulations also to all our awards winners on their wonderful achievements throughout the year, in particular our 2016 sportswomen of the year:

Year 7 Sportswoman of the Year: Stephanie Wales
Year 8 Sportswoman of the Year: Hannah Rapp
Year 9 Sportswoman of the Year: Chiara Smith
Year 10 Sportswoman of the Year: Logan Sharrock
Year 11 Sportswoman of the Year: Alana Nikcevich
Year 12 Sportswoman of the Year: Erin Flatters
Overall Sportswoman of the Year: Erin Flatters

Attendees enjoyed an excellent display of aerobics

AFL Umpire Eleni Glouftsis with Avila Sports Captain and Vice Captain

Erin Flatters – Sportswomen of the year
2016 Santa Teresa Immersion Trip

Santa Teresa 2016 was a wonderful immersion experience open to Year 10 students who were interested in pushing themselves, exploring new perspectives and willing to open themselves to the rich and historic Aboriginal culture.

The preparation prior to the trip had helped us learn about the Arrernte people; however, the next 10 days was something none of us could truly encapsulate with words. Not only was it an experience of a lifetime, but it was a life lesson we were not aware was needed.

We left on September 8, excited and nervous, wondering what was waiting for us when we landed in Alice Springs. The first thing we all noticed was the intense heat (unlike anything in Melbourne at this time of year!) and the vastness of the land.

We embarked on our journey, starting in Alice Springs, where we spent 3 days visiting various locations. Some of the highlights were Simpsons Gap, where it was so overwhelmingly quiet and reflective, the Akeyulerre Healing Centre, where we got to help make traditional healing remedies, and the Desert Mob Marketplace, filled with the most amazing art and artists.

Past student, Miranda Koroknai, joined us for our journey down to Santa Teresa. All of us agree that this was the best part of the trip - we got to help out in the school, the Women’s Centre and the Spirituality Centre. We even got to hang out with the kids of the community at the Recreational Centre, and attend Masses with the community. To see the immense difference in living and health conditions was such an eye opener, and to feel as though we were helping the community made it all worth it.

....See over
2016 Santa Teresa Immersion Trip continued

On our last day, we took part in a smoking ceremony. This was a very special and unique spiritual experience, and made all of us feel very different, yet strong emotions. That evening, we spent the night out bush with Sister Liz and Brother Paul, reflecting on our journey and enjoying our last meal in Santa Teresa together. It was such a beautiful end to our journey. We then embarked for Uluru and Kata Tjuta the next day.

Thanks to our time in Santa Teresa, we approached the the next two and a half days with a different outlook. We stayed in the camping ground at Yulara, sleeping under the stars in swags and explored parts of Kata Tjuta and Uluru together. The scenery, stories and company were all lovely and Bob and Steve, our tour guides, really looked after us whilst we were there.

We flew home on September 18th with changed outlooks on the Indigenous Community, as well as so many different memories. We all took something so different from the experience and it was truly one that we will never forget. Thank you to Donna Teekens and Janine Bauman for going on this journey with us, to everyone who made sure it ran smoothly, and to the community of Santa Teresa, for welcoming us in. It was definitely 10 days that will be remembered for years to come.

*Emma, Dani, Tiana, Cat, Liv, Carly, Millie, Janine, Donna and Ellie*
Santa Teresa team, 2016

General Notices

PFA News

All Avila College Parents and Friends Committee positions will be declared vacant at the annual AGM to be held 25 October 2016 in the Gathering Space at the College. Nominations will be tabled for each office bearer at the AGM and outgoing members will vote to accept each nomination. Members will be elected for a period of twelve months.

The role descriptions and nomination form are located at: [www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au](http://www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au), Our College, Parents and Friends Association.

Applications for Year 7 in 2018

Applications for Year 7 entry in 2018 at Avila College close on Friday, 17 February 2017.

If you are considering an enrolment please return your application by this day. Application forms are available on the College website – [www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au](http://www.avilacollege.vic.edu.au) or from the School Office.

If you require a tour of the School, we will be holding an “Open Morning” on Thursday 20 October from 9.00am. Online registration of attendance is available under Enrolment/Open Mornings also on the College website. All families and friends are welcome.

Should you require any further information, please call the Registrar on 9831 9600.
ST JUSTIN’S PARISH AND SCHOOL
SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER, 10AM–3PM
48 WHALLEY DRIVE WHEELERS HILL

HUGE KIDS RIDES
ITALIAN & INDIAN FOOD
MILKSHAKES
CAKE STALL
HEALTH FOODS

CUSTOM BIKE SHOW
WOODEN OVEN PIZZA
LIVE PERFORMANCES
FRUIT & VEG STALL
LUCKY JARS

KIDS CARD & BADGE MAKING
HOT & COLD DRINKS
RAFFLES & AUCTION ITEMS
GREAT AUSSIE BBQ
SHOW BAGS
AND MUCH MUCH MORE...
**Bikes on the Hill 2016**

5th November
10:00 – 3:00
St. Justin’s Primary School
42 Whalley Dr. Wheelers Hill

Trophies:
- Cafe Racer
- Chopper
- Japanese
- Vintage
- British
- Bobber/Old School
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- Best Paint

Show Bikes - $10 Entry

Contact: Andrew - 0402 449 999

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