FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Dear Avila College Community,

We suspect that St Teresa has some very powerful connections because the weather for our celebration of Avila Day on Friday 14 October was just perfect. We commenced with a beautiful Eucharist, prepared by Acting Director of Faith and Mission, Ms Carmela Marino and celebrated by Fr Martin Tanti. One of the features of our Mass was, of course, the music. We are blessed to have such talented staff and students who create a powerful and truly spiritual atmosphere through their music. It is a feature of liturgies at Avila of which we owe a huge thank you to Ms Roxane Lascaris and our musicians and singers who led all students and staff in participating so joyfully in the liturgy. Joining us for the Eucharist were Sr Maria Lazzaro pbvm, Congregation Leader of the Presentation Sisters, Michael Gidley, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Mt Waverley, Sally-Anne Petrie, Avila College Board Chair, members of the PFA, alumnae, parents and Deputy Principals Stephen Bourbon from St John’s, Dandenong and Tony Coghlan from Mazenod College, accompanied by student leaders from their respective schools. It was great to start our celebration with so many of our friends as guests.

Celebrations continued throughout the day with Avila’s annual Golden T-Bar trivia competition won by 7 Purple, followed by the fun and feasting of a carnival organized and run by Deputy Principal Wellbeing, Christine Kralj and Student Leadership Co-ordinator, Andrew Gutteridge with their energetic team of student leaders. The day gave all a great chance to celebrate what it means to belong to a community such as Avila College.

On Monday 17 October we farewelled our Year 12 students with a delicious breakfast followed by a whole school assembly. During the assembly, the Year 12 students screened a movie they had made portraying many of their best memories of Avila, as well as featuring cameos from those who will remain, such as teachers and younger students, bidding them goodbye and good luck for the future. In the evening, Year 12 students and their parents gathered with staff at Caulfield Racecourse for a Mass and graduation ceremony followed by dinner and dancing. Thanks are extended to Year 12 Co-ordinator, Anna Marvelli and all who assisted to ensure that the 2016 graduation was such a success and a fitting end to our graduates’ learning at Avila. We wish them well for their forthcoming exams.

Open Morning

Thursday 20 October was our final Open Morning for 2016. It was well attended with over 200 visitors. Many prospective parents had come because they had heard about the change to enrolment dates. Parents with daughters currently in grade 5 who would like to come to Avila must enrol by 17 February 2017. Offers of Year 7 places for 2018 will be made early in term 2 next year.

However, parents with daughters currently in grade 4 are advised of the change to enrolment processes that will occur from next year onwards. From 2017, parents will need to lodge applications for enrolments whilst their daughters are in grade 5. Enrolment dates will be in early term 3 of the grade 5 year with offers of places sent either late term 3 or early term 4 of the same year. This means that those wishing to start at Avila College in 2019 should secure their place by mid 2017 at the latest. This change to enrolment dates is consistent throughout the Melbourne archdiocese so all Catholic schools follow the same timeline. Enquiries about enrolments should be directed to College Registrar, Elizabeth Makhlout. Phone 9831-9600 or email registrar@avilacollege.vic.edu.au

See over…

Cover image: Emma Spencer and Zoe Evans open the Avila Day Mass
Community News
Congratulations are extended to our new student leaders for 2017.
College Captain: Sinead Coultar
College Vice Captain- Community: Tamara Ryan
College Vice Captain- Faith and Mission: Maeve Gill

We are eagerly awaiting announcement of the successful applicants for the remaining positions on the 2017 student leadership team over the coming weeks.

We offer prayers and extend deep sympathy to Anne Stephens, Year 11 Co-ordinator on the recent death of her mother, to Chris Nichols, Director of Operations on the recent death of her father-in-law and to Liz Plumridge, Student Services Administrator on the death of her mother-in-law.

With blessings to all,
Madeleine Franken
Acting Principal

LOTE

Dante Alighieri Poetry Competition

We would like to congratulate Chiara De Cruz for her achievement as a Finalista (Finalist) in the annual Dante Alighieri Poetry Competition.

Chiara recited the poem Le Mschere (The Masks) by John Lando.

It is an enormous accomplishment to reach this stage in the competition.

Salvatore La Fauci
Languages Curriculum Leader

STUDIO ARTS

The Year 9 Studio Arts students recently undertook a task nicknamed "Cake Boss" The students were required to research and investigate cake design and then identify ways of replicating it in ceramic form. The work was glazed achieving a high gloss finish - resulting in work that looks good enough to eat!

It was a fantastic design task that thoroughly engaged and challenged the students' design concepts and practical skills. To view more of these impressive "cake" slices, see the display cabinet in the entrance to Reception.

Ann-Marie Wise
Teacher Year 9 Studio Arts
LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

Subject selection confirmation for 2017

All students currently in Years 9, 10 and 11 have been issued with details of their subject allocations for 2017. When the final pieces of the timetable grid are finalized in the next couple of weeks, students in Years 7 and 8 will be given booklists and written confirmation of their subjects for 2017.

Booklists

Students are reminded that to have the required resources for HeadStart, booklists for Years 11 & 12 need to be submitted online to Campion by Friday 28 October. All other orders may be submitted to Campion by Thursday 1 December. Hard copies of booklist orders cannot be submitted to Avila’s General Office. All orders must be lodged online directly with Campion.

Campion will distribute senior students’ orders, including oversized items, from the Gathering Space between 12:30pm and 4:00pm on Thursday 17 November. We encourage parents either to make arrangements to pick up their daughters and their booklisted resources or to send a family member or friend with a car to collect purchases between these times. Uncollected items will not be retained at the College; instead, they will go back to Campion for collection at a later date by the family.

Preparing for Exams - Growth Mindsets

As Year 12 students commence their final exams this week it often prompts us to reflect upon the journey of learning they have experienced. At the age of 87, Michelangelo said, “I am still learning”. This is what made him one of the best artists the world has ever had. It all begins with how you think. At the age of 65 Colonel Sanders started his famous KFC franchise, however many do not realise that in his attempt to find the perfect fried chicken recipe he failed 1009 times! Famous are those people who kept learning all the time with a thirst to improve. In preparing my students for their final English exam I often spoke to them about believing that their talents and abilities can be developed through passion and persistence.

Carol Dweck (2012) wrote about ‘Growth Mindsets’ and concluded, “In the growth mindset, people believe that their talents and abilities can be developed through passion, education and persistence. For them, it's not about looking smart or grooming their image. It’s about a commitment to learning – taking informed risks and learning from the results, surrounding yourself with people who will challenge you to grow, looking frankly at your deficiencies and seeking to remedy them.” Dweck. (2012). Mindset: How you can fulfil your potential. London: Constable and Robinson.

Developing a growth mindset enables us to take more risks and improve in all aspects of life. The following is a list of techniques that help you change from a ‘Fixed mindset’ to a ‘Growth mindset’.

1. Acknowledge your imperfections - take risks and don’t be afraid of making mistakes. Mistakes are how we learn and improve.
2. View challenges as opportunities - Setting challenges or overcoming obstacles can help us learn about our talents and areas that we want to improve.
3. Use ‘learning’ instead of ‘failing’ - No one is perfect. Some of the most successful people we know and have read about are a good example of it. They kept on trying despite failing several times, till they achieved what they wanted. What was their secret? Simple. They never looked at their failures as failures. They interpreted it as learning and areas to improve.
4. Learn from other people’s mistakes - Everyone around us is trying to improve, rise above their current situations and master their skills. Learn from their incidents.
5. Welcome criticism which come towards you - Accept it positively and work on it then. This is an important step to develop a growth mindset.
6. Keep on creating goals - Growth minded people know how to continue creating goals to keep them motivated. At the beginning of the year I asked my Year 12’s to set some goals for English. We recently reviewed them in our last few lessons and most had achieved them. The challenge now is to set more for the future.

I wish all the Year 12’s the best of luck in their up and coming exams. I remind them to believe in their talents and focus on goals well beyond secondary education. “Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn’t do than the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbour, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” Mark Twain

Angela Torelli
Acting DP Learning and Teaching
PASTORAL CARE
Year 12 School Leavers
Recently, all Year 12 students were emailed a link to a website called Good Times, Great Breaks http://goodtimesgreatbreaks.weebly.com and encouraged to read the information it holds. I would encourage parents of school leavers to do the same. The site allows students to register as a school leaver and contains valuable advice to parents. The site is also an easy way for our Year 12s to connect to support services such as Headspace, Red Frogs and ReachOut.com.

Each year we hear back from students whose celebrations have not gone to plan and, thankfully to date, their misadventures have been minor. Please encourage your daughter to carefully plan the way she engages in ‘Schoolies’ event and highlight the value of staying together and looking after their mates.

The email to Year 12s also included a Beyond Blue fact sheet titled “Surviving Year 12”. Please remember that staff are here to support you and your daughter as she undertakes exams and transitions on to her next phase of life. We also encourage students, if they are worried about a friend, to seek the advice of a member of staff or their parents.

Important information for Metro Trains - Don’t get caught out!
Students who have celebrated their seventeenth birthday are required by law to obtain a Victoria Student Concession Card in order to continue using their concession Myki. Many students may not be aware of this. Application forms are available from any Metro premium station, or on-line http://ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/concessions/students/#p5”. Staff in the General Office will be able to fill in the school section of the form. The form requires photos so families are encouraged to complete it before it is needed. Fines for travelling without a Concession Card are often on the spot and costly.

Student Diaries
Student school diaries will be phased out this year and students will be encouraged to use digital technologies such as Google Calendar. This has been decided after a survey found that about 50% of students no longer use their diary, preferring to use their mobiles and laptops to store information. College information that would normally be found in the diary will be moved to SIMON so that parents (via PAM) and students have access to it.

Uniform - Parent Support needed
Parent support plays an important part in making sure that our students wear the uniform well. When students are coming to and from Avila, they must wear the blazer as the outer garment. It is never correct to wear the jumper, regardless of colour, as the outer garment. On hot days it is appropriate to wear just the dress. Sports socks are not to be worn with the summer academic uniform. The PE uniform is not to be worn to and from school in Term 4. We have put a reminder in the student bulletin and students will be issued with an after-school detention if they do not wear the uniform correctly. Please speak to your daughter about wearing the uniform correctly.

Chris Kralj
Deputy Principal Wellbeing

Correct uniform worn proudly by our College Captains
AVILA DAY

A Reflection of Avila Day

“Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours.”

These are the words of St Teresa of Avila, that have guided the Avila College community for the past 51 years. Her guidance continued into the year of 2016 and inspired the construction of Avila College’s first school prayer.

After many weeks of gathering and discussing, the Faith and Mission team of 2016 have produced a prayer that is intended to leave a lasting legacy in the hearts and minds of those who form the Avila community.

Avila Day on Friday 14 October marked the unveiling of Avila’s new school prayer, where each homeroom was presented with a copy to be displayed in their homerooms.

Avila College’s prayer aims to be a constant reminder of the Catholic faith we proudly follow and the great love and honour we have for our Patron Saint, St Teresa of Avila.

Tiana Chandraratne
Year 9 Captain of Faith and Mission

Avila College Prayer

Our patron, Saint Teresa of Avila, calls us to be the hands, feet and eyes of Christ.

Lord, you have blessed us with many gifts. Guide us so that we make the most of these in our everyday lives.

May we respond to your call to give generously, to welcome wholeheartedly and to support all of your creation.

Let us use our voices for thanks and praise as we grow in the light of Saint Teresa.

Grant us the wisdom to live out the Gospel as Daughters of the Church.

Saint Teresa of Avila, Pray for Us.

Students and staff enjoyed the food, fun and fellowship of Avila Day
CLASS OF 2016, YEAR 12 GRADUATION

Graduation is a significant milestone, signifying the conclusion of one journey and marking the beginning of another.

Last Monday evening, we had the privilege of celebrating the achievements of the class of 2016 and paying tribute to these successes, as well as acknowledging the people who have been an integral part of the journey.

During the ceremony College Captain, Caitlyn Quinn delivered the following address:

As the non-existent bell sounded for the final time last Thursday, after we finished our last ever high school classes I couldn't help but feel an amazing sense of unity amongst the cohort. We were leaving the college, saying goodbye to our 8:35 to 3:15 routine, to our uniform, to SACs and to our beloved teachers… But what we have taken with us is far greater. It is profound the effect that Avila College has had on our lives… as we graduate we know that what we have learnt from our time at the college, has well prepared us for this evening. Before me, I see a group of empowered young women who inspire me every day.

A group of young women that push the boundaries and are brave and courageous. A group of young women who have made Avila what it is today - our home.

We would not be here tonight without the constant support of our families. To our mums, dads, brothers, sisters and other family members… We thank you for standing by us through this challenging year. We feel incredibly lucky to be celebrating with you tonight. We graduate tonight owing to the support and ongoing guidance of our teachers. They have shaped who we are today and who we will become once we leave Avila. So on behalf of the graduating class of 2016, I would like to extend our greatest thanks for impacting our lives in such a positive manner. It has been a privilege to share our journey with you over this past six years. We hope to make you proud.

It is a strange feeling to be leaving the safety of Avila. We look forward to what the future may hold, but also reflect on the past and on the memories forged within the walls of the college. Endless Avila Days, Opening School Masses, whole school assemblies, reflection days, Creative Arts, Athletics Days and Music Nights. It is simply too difficult to sum up our entire high school experience in a few words. But what I can tell you is this; the memories and the friendships made are ones that will never be forgotten. The truth is, that these years are some of the best years of our lives. They will be the ones we tell our own children about and the ones that will bring us the most happiness when we stumble across photos of ourselves in oversized blazers and year 9 camp photos. I know when we look back on our final year of high school we will no doubt remember the challenges and the tough times, the singing on Reflection Days, the enthusiasm of Year 12 Trivia Night, the dance parties in the common room and singing the College hymn with so much pride. But I’m sure what we will all remember the most, is feeling so supported and loved as we walked through the corridors of the school. I’ve been inspired by the compassion that you have for each other and the endless care that you provide for one another in times of need.

“In oneself lies the whole world and if you know how to look and learn, the door is there and the key is in your hand. Nobody on earth can give you either the key or the door to open except yourself.” I began the school year with this quote and I feel it is fitting to be ending with it now. The opportunities are just beginning for all of us and now is the time that we take all we have learnt from Avila to go and seize them with two hands.

Since year 7, we’ve been told that Avila women are can-do women. I could never really fathom the extent to which this rung true, until I had been given the privilege of sharing this high school experience with such an extraordinary cohort. I am not sure what the future holds and I am not sure where we will be in ten years from now, but I am confident that wherever you may be, and whatever you may be doing… you will always be an Avila girl. Thank you for your friendship and for teaching me so much over the past 6 years. I’d wish you luck, but I know you don’t need it, so I’ll catch you around class of 2016.

Caitlyn Quinn
Avila College Captain 2016

See over…
A message from Mrs Marvelli to the class of 2016,

William Butler Yeats wrote this statement “Education is not about filling a bucket, but about lighting a fire” - and for the class of 2016 this has been the case. Not only have you been inspired to seek knowledge, but also through your actions you have contributed to ensuring that other young women in Africa might also have the opportunity of a life-changing education.

As the reality of school draws to an end, a myriad of emotions will be experienced ranging from absolute joy and relief, all of which will be vividly contrasted by feelings of sadness and trepidation especially as you prepare to depart from what has been a safe haven for the past six years to the exciting unknown.

The next few weeks will be a time of great excitement, hard work and effort but hopefully a time where you will reap the rewards of your commitment. I encourage you to seek inspiration – we can find inspiration in very simple things, in the everyday things. As teachers we might be asked, “Where do you get the inspiration to do the job?” For the most part, teachers will respond quite simply, “We are inspired by our students, by the talents, gifts, generosity or the courage of the students we interact with daily – whether it is in a piece of art, a music performance or a kind deed.” Finding inspiration is not always easy as sometimes it is hidden from us, especially if we are not open to see what is before us.

Nelson Mandela once quoted “there is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won’t feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It’s not just in some of us; it’s in everyone”.

As women of faith who have been part of Avila’s history and who have been privileged to have experienced an Avila education we know that you will go confidently and be strong ambassadors for the kind of world you want to live in. Go and shine and be a beacon of light for others so that they can shine too.

It is with a great deal of pride that we farewell the class of 2016.

Anna Marvelli
Year 12 Co-ordinator
Year 12 Final Assembly – Dress Up Day

[Images of students dressed in various costumes, including a blue wig, a banana costume, a thinking cap, a clown, and different themed outfits.]
Monday morning, off the train at Flinders Street Station, I’m in the city, the best in the nation. Eventually I get to Highlander Lane, where the next few hours, I would remain.

Everywhere around, there is lots of sound, sounds of talking when people are walking, trains rolling, trams tooting, cars in traffic jams.

Liveable city, well that’s a pity, for those other cities around, but what a great place it must be, with lots of things around to see.

Busy a place, Melbourne, with crowds of people, lots with concern, whether it be students or business people or even families on a trip, there’s always someone about with a coffee they sip.

Over the next few days, my senses will be confused, with all the things that they can be used, taste, touch, see, hear, smell, all can be accounted for, I can tell!

Unusual art, some of it, but art is art and in Melbourne there’s quite a bit. Art in streets, gallery’s or in building or sculpture form, or even on a stage, in the way people perform.

Raining on Tuesday, Wednesday is sunny, the unpredictable weather sure is funny.

Newcomers around, tourists or students, lots of cultures and their English may be difficult or fluent.

Eager I am, to try new foods, in the wide range of restaurants to complement my moods. From dumplings to subway, or maybe the market on Friday. They’ll all tame my tastebuds the same!

Melbourne is a great city and I will definitely enjoy spending time here!
SPORT NEWS
Properly equipped with blankets and umbrellas the Avila softball teams took off on 12 October ready to go!

Arriving at Jells Park, we quickly settled in to the first round of games. The Seniors got off to a tricky start with their matches, playing in a few tight games where they came close to winning and were able to seal one victory for the day.

The Intermediates declared that they had won themselves the ‘spirit award’ but despite their smiles, laughter and determination they were unable to finish a game victorious.

The Juniors came out flying and had a successful day, winning all of their matches finishing first on the ladder.

As expected in Melbourne, the weather took a turn for the worse during the last match, meaning that the finals games were cancelled. Despite this, it was very exciting for our Juniors as it meant that they had won their competition - congratulations girls!!

A special thank you to all of the coaches who assisted us throughout the day and in training - Ms Bauman, Ms Crowe and Mrs Williams and to our Softball captain - Sarah Papadimitriou, who was able to assist all the teams in their training and offer her words of wisdom for the team on the day.

Niamh Smith
Year 11 SCSA Softball Student

MATHEMATICS
Great fun and learning with robots

On Thursday 13 October, twenty-one girls from Years 7 to 11 gathered in the junior building to take part in a Robotics Workshop, where three students from the University of Melbourne came along to teach us the skills to program a robot and to inform us about engineering.

The session started off by looking at all the different types of engineering and how we use them in our daily lives. We then moved on to learning how to program the robots and make them move in a square by using a computer program then loading the directions onto the robot which would then carry out the movements. Shortly afterward, we advanced to making the robot use a light sensor to navigate its way through a maze.

Lastly, we attached buttons used for steering the robot manually to then battle a pre-programmed robot “the boss” that belonged to the university students. Our robot, Steven, beat “the boss” twice as we were able to knock theirs over before they could knock over Steven.

Overall, the workshop was a great insight to see what working with robots would be like. We were all very grateful that the university students took the time to inform us about engineering and programming robots.

Leah Dyer, Monique Larose, Jessica D’Rozario
Year 10 Students

Excited students with the robots

Amanda, Nicole and Tiana sharing their work with Mrs Kralj
Mathematics Achievements

It gives me great delight to report some outstanding achievements in the area of Mathematics here at Avila College. A number of students have undertaken a variety of opportunities presented to them throughout the year.

Maths Championships 2016:
The Education Perfect Maths Championships run once a year for a certain time frame and by answering questions correctly, students receive points which goes towards awards and prizes. The competition is suitable for students from Year 7 upwards and relevant for students of all learning abilities. This is a global competition and it is exciting for the students who choose to participate. This year we have had some fantastic results. I would like to congratulate the following students:

Credit Award:
Pooja Soni answered 758 questions during the competition placing her in the top 20% of the 30,000 competitors from around the world.

Kavia Pynadath earned 887 points during the competition placing her in the top 20% of the 30,000 competitors from around the world.

Dinara Fonseka earned 1871 points during the competition placing her in the top 10% of the 30,000 competitors from around the world.

Tiana Pincic earned 2283 points during the competition placing her in the top 5% of the 30,000 competitors from around the world.

Alisa Baldwin earned 3566 points during the competition placing her in the top 2% of the 30,000 competitors from around the world.

Australian Mathematics Competition 2016
The AMC is a fun competition with many of the problems set in situations familiar to students and showing the relevance of mathematics in their everyday lives. The problems are also designed to stimulate discussion and can be used by teachers and students as springboards for investigation. This year at Avila College we had approximately 200 students undertaking the competition in July. We recently received our results and the students are in the process of receiving their certificates in their respective year level assemblies. I would like to congratulate all students who undertook the competition and had a go. It was fantastic to see so many students get involved. However, I would like to congratulate the students who achieved results of Credit, Distinction and High Distinction.

Year 7
Credit
Selena Ahangama
Jemima Morrison
Thehansa Seneviratne
Deema Jeby
Kiara Molaeb
Sheethal Ajithkumar
Angelique Dayandas
Martina Go
Isabella Soehanto

Lily Bunning
Faith Chung
Kathy Ho
Julia Grubnic
Joyce Lay
Gurnoor Sohal
Mimi Chang
Natalie Khoo
Sarah Krasovec

Distinction
Srira Yadvalli
Rachelle Patturajan
Niamh Gallagher
Neha Nair
Chris Sequeira
Neha Cherayath
Kimberly Berger

High Distinction
Jocelyn Satya-Graha

Jocelyn Satya-Graha also won the Best in School Award, an outstanding result for a student in Year 7.
Year 8
Credit
Margaret Allan
Mieke De-Vries
Kaycee Lucchese
Rebecca Wright
Gianna Skafidas
Jaida Di Stasio
Kyra Ashley Deleon
Casey Dimitrakas
Catherine De Roza
Pavithra Sridhar
Katerina Akritidis

Year 8
Distinction
Tiana Pincic
Hashani Ekanayake
Hannah White
Amelia Qi
Ria Edward
Stephanie Michaud
Elly Morgan

Year 8
High Distinction
Shivaani Sivaraj
Kimberly Chan

Year 9
Credit
Prabhloyan Gill
Stephanie Hunt
Mia Sinclair
Vera Fan
Elise Cramer
Amanda Kosasih
Chiara Smith
Sarah Ang
Shenuri Fernando

Year 9
Distinction
Alice Russo
Emma Faraone
Vivian Le
Grace Kim
Ixya Shrestha
Amelya Laurence
Sophie Gregson
Ashley Ng
Sinead Kelly
Monique Mason

Year 9
Distinction
Johanna Hempenstall
Emily Wang

Maths Talent Quest
The focus of the Maths Talent Quest is on the process of mathematical investigations. Open to all primary and secondary students, the Maths Talent Quest aims to promote interest in mathematics and foster positive attitudes. The Maths Talent Quest allows students to investigate mathematics on an individual, group or class basis with the opportunity to have fun exploring mathematics in real life situations.

Congratulations are extended to Kathy Ho and Jocelyn Satya Graha from Year 7. Kathy and Jocelyn received a High Distinction for their project, The Golden Tower. They were presented with their certificates at the Maths Talent Quest Awards on Thursday October 20th at La Trobe University.

Klara Baka
Curriculum Leader Mathematics
LEGAL STUDIES

On Wednesday 19 October, those Year 11 students undertaking Legal Studies in Semester 2 visited the County and Supreme Courts. The visit provided an opportunity to not only learn about the important role of each of the courts within the Victorian justice system, but also to observe the court in session.

At the County Court, the group was addressed by Judge Andrea Tsalamandris who was appointed to the bench at the beginning of 2016. Her Honour spoke about her background as a solicitor, her elevation to the bench and she provided an insight into the most satisfying and challenging aspects of her judicial career to date. Judge Tsalamandris even happily posed for photos.

At the conclusion of this meeting, the group moved to another court to observe the plea hearing of an offender charged with a number of theft, robbery and burglary offences.

At the Supreme Court, the group was addressed by Justice Tim Ginnane before touring the judicial complex.

Philip Cornell
Teacher Year 11 Legal Studies
**GEOGRAPHY**

**Fieldwork Excursion to Echuca**

On October 19 - 20, 43 very excited senior Geography students headed to the state’s north to enjoy two days of sun, fun and of course, Geography fieldwork, in Echuca. Whilst in town, students enjoyed a paddle steamer ride, collected data about key tourism and forest management strategies, met with guest speakers and indulged in some of the gourmet ice-cream and chocolate products available in the area.

Year 11 students have been studying the impacts of tourism and Echuca provided a great opportunity to see the positive impact tourism can have on Victoria’s towns and regional centres. Students undertook surveys, made key observations and took time out to have a tourist experience whilst in town!

Year 10 students have been examining forest environments in class and have completed some critical evaluation on the timber industry and its presence in Victoria’s forests. Whilst in Echuca, students met with a former timber industry employee and found a unique perspective on forest management.

The fieldwork excursion was a huge success. Many thanks are extended to Andrea McCann, Kate Macklin, Ingrid O’Sullivan and Brenda Dent for giving up their time to join us in Echuca. My very sincere thanks also go to our wonderful students who worked so productively and engaged with such enthusiasm whilst in Echuca - well done, girls.

*Marina Kelly*

Year 10 Unit 2 Geography Teacher
Building Bridges Interfaith Program 2016

Building Bridges was an unbelievable experience that has changed my views. It was an interfaith program in which schools of different faiths came together to break down walls and build bridges. This year 11 students from Year 10 participated. They were:- Marsha Fernando, Emma Wooley, Niamh McCosker, Tiana Chandraratne, Kina Vaihu, Sophie Colbourn, Anita Mandarino, Olivia Bruce, Renata Raux, Jessica D’Rozario and myself.

The first day at Emmaus College was nerve-wracking. None of us knew what to expect. When we arrived we were welcomed with warm and inviting hands. On the first day, we automatically made friends from different schools including Luther College, Emmaus College, Aquinas College, Mount Scopus, Minaret College, Caulfield Grammar and Donvale Christian College. We bonded over pizza and the incredibly delicious Kosher food at Mount Scopus. We discussed our common interests and found that there were many, even though we were from different religions and backgrounds. After filling our stomachs we broke off into small groups and discussed the questions given to us. The discussion was not run by teachers, but rather facilitators. It was a free-flowing conversation which brought up controversial questions that broke down the barriers in between our religions and made us question, “What’s so different about us?”

At the beginning of each session, schools welcomed everyone and explained their religion. This diminished all the stereotypical views and acknowledged everyone as equal. In the end, we understood we are just regular teenagers who in the future will lead the next generation with understanding and love. We learnt that our generation has to make the difference in the world and that we are the leaders of the future. The most memorable presentation was the spoken word poetry presented by Minaret College. This was performed passionately, with overflowing emotion that nearly brought me to tears. It was such an eye-opener - one which I will never forget.

The three final destinations were the Immigration Museum, Creative Day at Luther College and a presentation at Minaret College. My experience at the Museum was incredible. We had conversations, shared our ideas, and even if we disagreed with each other, we all knew we were in a safe environment. The Creative day was incredible especially when we played Kahoot with a partner of a different religion. Our final moments came with our last farewell. It was a time where we shared our experiences with our friends and family and looked back at the progress of how our views had changed.

It was sad to know that we would not be going on another bus with Mrs. Macklin or Ms. Stuart to take us to a different school to have a great time with other people. Overall, all of us came to this program with an open mind. We received many wonderful experiences and gained many happy memories and friendships that we will never forget.

Jessica Satya Graha
Year 10
PFA News
All Avila College Parents and Friends Committee positions will be declared vacant at the annual AGM to be held at 7pm, 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/Our College/Parents and Friends Association.

YEAR 10 DRAMA FESTIVAL

‘THE STREETS ARE TALKING’
-INSPIRED BY STREET ARTIST BANKSY

DATES: 26TH & 27TH OCTOBER
VENUE: OLD LECTURE THEATRE
TIME: 7:30PM

TICKETS: AVILA WEBSITE: EVENTS
**2016 Family Fun Day**

Ashwood & Chadstone Neighbourhood Event

Sunday 6 November
11am ~ 3pm
Batesford Reserve Chadstone

Info Line: 9518 3636 | www.monash.vic.gov.au

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**Holy Saviour Community Festival**

Saturday 12th November
765 Highbury Road
Vermont South

Huge Variety of Stalls from 11am
Delicious Food All Day
Carnival Rides 12pm - 8.30pm
**STAR WARS** Characters
11.30 - 12.30pm
Bring your cameras!
Free Music & Activities All Day
Entertainment, Food, Drinks till 8:30pm

**ALL WELCOME**

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**St. Mary Magdalen's Great Fete**

Saturday 5th Nov
10am to 4pm
20 Bolwarra St, Chadstone

Pre-loved Toys & Books: Bar: Plants: BBQ
Classic Fair Competitions: Petting Zoo