FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians, students and members of the Avila community,

It was wonderful to acknowledge our Avila ‘dads’ on Friday 2 September when our Parents and Friends Association (PFA) hosted a most successful and tasty Father’s Day breakfast with over 130 dads and daughters in attendance. I would like to thank our PFA and the behind the scenes work they undertake in making this event a regular now on our school calendar. It was a particularly special morning when many of our dads attended with their Year 12 daughters who for many would be their last Father’s Day breakfast.

Thursday September 9 was RUOK Day – a day that encourages everyone to engage and connect with people and support one another. St Teresa’s garden was transformed into a space that contained stalls personed by staff from out-reach organisations, stalls supported by our staff and students and a range of activities that prompted numerous chances for conversations with each other. I would like to thanks in particular Helen Tillinh, one of our College counselors who was instrumental in organizing the day.

I have been fortunate over recent weeks of attend a couple of Eucharists where the Sacrament of Confirmation was received by one of my nieces and nephews. At these celebrations Monsignor Greg Bennett, Vicar General, reminded us all about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit that are bestowed upon individuals when they make their Confirmation. These gifts include wisdom, understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and fear of the Lord. As a community I am sure we could all consider how we use these gifts that have been conferred upon us at the time of Confirmation and how we action these in our own lives. What was also interesting to hear amongst the candidates was their reasoning’s behind the choice of the Saints names that they chose for their Confirmation. It was a great joy to listen to the reasons behind their choices and how they relate the work of their chosen Saint to their own lives.

Community news:
I am pleased to share that our staff and students who have travelled to both Santa Teresa and Italy have arrived safely and are immersing themselves in their experiences. As Term 3 draws to a close I would like to wish all members of our Avila College community a safe and relaxing term break. We know these holidays will be for our Year 12 students a time of study away from school as they prepare for their last few weeks of school and prepare for their final examinations.

A reminder that VCE students undertaking Unit 3 and 4 studies will be completing practice exams at the College between Monday 26 September and Thursday 29 September. The College Office will be open throughout the holidays 9am – 4pm excluding Friday 30 September, due to the public holiday. Term 4 classes commence for all students on Monday 3 October 2016.

I would also like to invite our community to our Avila Day Mass – Friday 14 October 2016 commencing at 9am in the College Hall. Mass will be followed by morning tea. Please RSVP direct to avila@avilacollege.vic.edu.au by Tuesday 4 October. We look forward to welcoming you to this wonderful Avila College community celebration.

With blessings to everyone in this year of Mercy,

Louise Gunther
LEARNING AND TEACHING NEWS

Curriculum News

Year 12 Practice Exams

Students undertaking VCE units 3 and 4 studies will be sitting practice exams in the second week of the September school holidays. Avila College prepares all students studying a subject at Year 12 level for their final exams by creating the authentic experience of sitting a formal practice exam in each subject. The conditions of the exam arrangements in the holidays mirror those of the external exams, not only in length, but also with the use of external supervisors and instructions delivered according to the VCAA script. Students should use the first week of the holidays to revise so that they maximise their opportunity for learning from the practice experience. Students will receive feedback on their performance early next term that will identify areas that they need to address to maximise their success in the final exams.

Edrolo trial

Over the past few weeks, VCE students studying 15 different subjects at Years 11 and 12 level have had the opportunity to trial a new online resource called “Edrolo”. Our students have made extensive use of teaching videos and the immediate, specific feedback to quizzes and exam responses offered through Edrolo. Our free trial will expire on 25 November this year. As the feedback from students and staff has been so positive, we have decided to add this product to our booklist for 2017. Resources are not available for every subject but for those that are on the booklist, it will be essential that it is purchased.

Madeleine Franken
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

Year 9 Environmental Science collaboration with The Friends of Valley Reserve and Scotchman’s Creek

On Monday 8 August, 15 Year 9 students from Ms Millar’s Environmental Science group walked down to the Valley Reserve during class time to undertake some restoration works at the reserve. A range of indigenous flora were planted into a new area that will serve as an Education Hub for the local community to enjoy. The species planted will showcase the diverse array of local flora and help park users identify the plants as they walk through the reserve.

In the 2 hours that we were there the girls worked very hard and planted around 1100 plants between them, thoroughly enjoying the experience. The Friends of Valley Reserve and Scotchman’s Creek were so impressed with the Avila girls’ they have asked us to return in the near future to assist with maintaining the plants and ongoing conservation activities.
PUBLIC SPEAKING AND DEBATING NEWS

Public Speaking News
The Public Speakers and Debaters celebrated a successful season with a party at which awards were given and the leaders thanked. Highlights of the event were the awards for Public Speakers and Debaters of the year. This year the Public Speakers of the Year were: Mimi Chang and Emma Johnston joint winners at Year 7; Sanjana Nair Year 8; Sinead Kelly Year 9; Serena Battista Year 10; Dion Andrikopoulos Year 11; and Catherine Pagliaro Year 12.

The Debaters of the Year were: Tina Varone Year 7; Shivaani Sivaraj Year 8; Ashley Ng Year 9; Atara Thenabadu Year 10; Emma Spencer Year 11 and Catherine Pagliaro, Year 12.

The Debaters are also very excited as Zoe Evans of Year 11 has been awarded the Swannie Award for B Grade in the Toorak zone. This is a very prestigious award and is an indication of the strength of Zoe’s contribution as third speaker in our Year 11 finals team.

Also this week two Year 10s competed in the first heat of the Rotary 4 Way challenge Public Speaking Competition. Congratulations to Atara Thenabadu and Sophia Grubnic who were both winners and go through to the semifinals. A great effort.

Christine Valladares
Public Speaking and Debating Co-ordinator

LOTE INCURSION

Professeur Crêpe Visits Avila!

“Bonjour! Je voudrais une crêpe au chocolat, s’il vous plaît?” were the words of the French students as they ordered their crêpes.

Last week the French students of Avila had the wonderful opportunity to eat and speak French through the visit of a genuine French crêpe maker, Professeur Crêpe, Alain, and his assistant, Omar. The French classes each received their crêpes during their lessons, while the rest of the school were offered the opportunity to purchase a crêpe during recess and lunch.

We ordered, in French, a crêpe of our choice, for example, “une crêpe au chocolat,” “une crêpe à la confiture” or “une crêpe au caramel”. We marvelled at the method used to create them, longing to taste one. After exchanging our coupon for a crêpe, we said “Merci!” and bit into the soft, warm, pancake-like treat, savouring every mouthful. We truly loved it. “The crêpes were delightful!”. Mia Loh
8 Silver

By visiting Avila, Professeur Crêpe has reinforced our learning and vocabulary usage by placing us in a practical situation. We were put on the spot to answer questions posed by Alain and Omar while they were making the crêpes and because of this we were able speak basic French confidently, how we might do so in France one day. Alain visits schools around Melbourne giving French students the opportunity to use their French skills in an authentic situation. Previously a teacher, Alain was compelled to teach students French skills through the method of direct learning and so became ‘Professeur Crêpe’. He donates 10% of the profits to charities such as Educate Girls and the Aboriginal Literacy Foundation. Alongside this, he sets up his small cart in festivals and markets.

Overall, students thoroughly enjoyed the experience of being able to communicate in French. It was ‘Fantastique!’. We had been whisked away to France for a fraction of a second, discovering something uniquely French and yearning for more. We thank the Languages Department for giving us this chance to eat a crêpe and speak French and we hope that Professeur Crêpe will return to Avila many times in the future!

Isabel Amoranto, Sanjana Nair, Pooja Soni and Beatrice Van Rest
Year 8 students of French
THE ARTS

Art Week

During the week of 29 August to 1 September the Art Department and Art Captains organised an Art Week.

On the Monday, Kate our Year 10 captain was taking photos with Katrina our Year 12 captain for the mobile 'photo booth'. The theme was “The faces of Avila”. Everyone was really excited to take photos with their friends and be involved and it was lovely to see how happy they were when they saw the outcome and found their images displayed in the cafe.

On the Tuesday, we had a Mascot 3D Making competition which was a great success! House teams worked hard to create the most innovative and symbolic house spirited mascot designs out of cardboard rolls, tissue papers, blue tack and sticky tape. In the end we had Mary MacKillop, Flynn the Lion, Peacock of Nagel and the lucky Leprechaun of Chisholm.

Throughout the rest of the week we had House Pictionary, an installation in Saint Teresa’s garden and guest speaker. The House Pictionary created fun and humorous competitive spirits amongst the houses. We had much involvement and enthusiasm, and in the end came a close score for all the houses. Then spring visited early in Saint Teresa’s garden will an installation of flowers.

We would also like to thank Allana Constance who shared her journey studying art at Avila as a student and her time at RMIT where she studied a Bachelor of Photography - and now is completing her Masters in teaching.

Thank you to everyone who participated. It was such an exciting week and we are all glad it worked out as well as it did.

Charlotte Nunn, Art Captain Year 9

Art, Design and Technology Exhibition

The Art, Design and Technology Exhibition will kick off in Term 4 with the official opening scheduled on the first Wednesday back from holidays. Please take note of the details and Save the Date – Wednesday 5 October, 6.00pm. This important event on the calendar is highly anticipated by students, teachers, family and friends of Avila College.

Many of you will know the calibre of our creative students is exceptional. The range of art, design and technology subjects on offer enables our students to develop their imagination, practice critical thinking and demands them to become more organised and manage their own learning. The invitation to exhibit their work to the community is indeed an honour. All students who have had their work selected have been emailed an invitation, but we encourage all students and families to come and celebrate their achievements.

The exhibition will showcase work from all year levels. In the College Hall we will display work and include a runway fashion parade and the gathering space will be reserved for our senior graduating art and design students.

The opening event includes food, hospitality, music and a visiting artist to open the exhibition. We hope to see you there!

Jolenta Kirkwood
Arts Curriculum Leader
Between the 30 August and the 2 September Avila’s gymnasts went down to The Eastern Gymnastics Club to show off all of their hard work, training and stunning routines that they had been preparing for many weeks in advance.

As the competition lasted for four days, our girls had many opportunities to show off their incredible skills. Across each day the girls performed exceptionally well, which allowed Avila’s tally of points to get higher and higher by every skill and every routine.

On Tuesday we saw some outstanding results with our A division girls coming 3rd all around, as well as our senior D division girls coming 6th. Thursday was an early morning for some, having to be at school at 7:30am however they prevailed when it came time to perform. Our C division girls also came 3rd all around, and the other teams all placing in the top 8. On the final day of competition we had some spectacular results by both Samara Egglezos and Taneisha Thom placing 1st in their divisions and amazing performances by all the other girls coming in close 2nd and 3rds.

Overall Avila was extremely fortunate to place 4th out of the 26 schools who competed. Each of the days was equally as good as the previous. The girls were so incredible to watch and the results were just the icing on the cake for everyone who put their hard work into their routines in training and on the day. Big congratulations to all the girls who competed and a big thank you to Miss King, Miss Lewis, and Caitlyn Wood for the outstanding coaching and support given at every training and on the floor.

Cristina Maiolo and Logan Sharrock
Gymnastics Captains
**Music Festival**

Music Festival 2016 was a fantastic evening filled with music performed by the extensive cast of musicians and singers from Year 7 to 12 at Avila College.

The theme this year was ‘Screen Sounds’ and computer games, films and television soundtracks featured strongly during the evening.

David Attenborough, under the guise of Year 9 Music Captain Emma Gare, welcomed the audience and introduced us to some new phenomena at Avila - the F.O.W.T. (Females Obsessed With Technology) in a fun video, featuring all the music captains, that sent up students’ obsession with computer screens.

Orchestra opened the show with computer and video game medleys including; ‘Super Mario Brothers’; ‘Legend of Zelda’; ‘Tetris’; ‘Portal’; ‘Bounty Hunter’ and ‘Kingdom Hearts’ as well as music from the film ‘How To Train A Dragon’ and the series ‘Game Of Thrones’.

The newly formed Year 7 choir, directed and coordinated by year 12 student Amelia David, provided an energetic choral version of the song ‘Take On The World’.

The Percussion Ensemble made everyone ‘Happy’, the Brass Ensemble, with 7 trumpets, 5 french horns, 5 trombones and 1 tuba, marched the audience straight to Indiana’s Lost Ark and our beloved Year 10 Hobbits blew us away with their rendition of ‘I See Fire’.

Towards the end of the evening, the year 12 musicians and members of stage crew were acknowledged for their years of service to music.

To conclude the night, the entire cast, as well as our keen audience, sang the lullaby ‘Dream A Little Dream Of Me’.

Congratulations and thank you to all involved.

*Roxane Lascaris*

Music Co-ordinator

**Year 9 Student Leaders**

On Friday 26 August, the Year 9 leaders, Ms Bauman and Mrs Tarquinio met in the Gathering Space for a delicious lunch. During our lunch meeting, we discussed what we had learnt this year and described some of the challenges that have helped us to grow as leaders. We talked about the benefits of running our year level assemblies and how we have learnt to collaborate well, especially when it comes to organizing the many agenda items, student performance, guest presenters and area reports amongst other things. Although we still have a term left of school, discussing our progress at this stage is important, because it allows us to reflect and make improvements with the opportunities we have left.

As we look back on all the things that our year level has achieved so far, and everything we have been involved in, it is satisfying to see how far we have come along as a Year 9 community

*Sarah Ang* and the Year 9 Student Leaders
Melbourne Writers Festival Excursion

On Monday 29 August, 20 students from Years 10 -12 together with Ms Odgers and Mrs O’Neill, attended the Melbourne Writers Festival at Federation Square. It was a great day full of many different sessions from interesting authors talking about their books and more.

We saw people like David Levithan who spoke about the art of editing books for other authors. He also told us about publishing his own books and choosing a title that will grab the attention of potential readers. Alice Pung and Melina Marchetta spoke about their experiences of growing up in Australia with another cultural background and how they were able to incorporate their experiences into their writing. We also went to a session to hear Rainbow Rowell, a popular American author who had travelled out to Melbourne for the Writers Festival. She talked about how her writing career has taken off dramatically in the last few years and how she enjoys including unusual characters in her books.

In the final session, we heard live readings from a collection of stories compiled by Alice Pung and written by high school students from around the country. The book is called ‘My First Lesson’ and was inspired by ‘Laurinda’, a novel written by Alice that deals with her own school experiences.

It was an amazing day, very interesting and I have lots of suggestions of new books to read now!

Jessica Hunt, Year 11 Gold
Member of the Avila Book Club

A Presentation Visitor

Sr Joan Kennedy pbvm came to Avila last week to talk about her work with ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against the Trafficking of Human Persons) to the Unit 3 & 4 Religion and Society students. Her commitment to using her vocation as a Presentation Sister to transform society was an inspiration to the students. She spoke to the students about being a voice to develop awareness of trafficking in the circles in which they mix. She offered evidence that trafficking is an issue for Australia that as consumers we all have a responsibility to ensure that our purchases aren't the product of slave labour.; that as women we have a responsibility to ensure that other girls aren't forced into marriage against their will; that we are alert to the possibility that we may be coming into contact with people who have been forced into slavery in factories, retail establishments, hospitality or prostitution. More information about ACRATH's work can be found at this site: http://acrath.org.au/
Drama Comedy

Comedy is one of many things that come naturally to some people. This is a complete contrast to traditional acting, which some people are good at from birth or do it for other reasons. Combine the two and you have a masterpiece of a semester two Drama subject about different types of comedy. Comedy comes in many forms, most of them without us realising what they are. So far, we have studied slapstick. This form of comedy that can be traced back to old Italian plays where the smart character would ‘slap’ the dumb character with a ‘stick’, and before you knew it, “slapstick” was born. This form of comedy includes lots of physical movement – slapping, punching, hitting an object against someone’s head, throwing pies at someone; in fact anything to do with physical contact. One of the most famous examples of slapstick comedy are The Three Stoogers.

Then there’s farce. Farcical situations are basically things out of place and are not meant to happen. For example, in the middle of a hurricane, it would be farcical to be told to go outside. The tricky part is to make it funny and outrageous without overdoing it. Farce gives the actors more room to run around, be loud and crazy, with stereotypical two dimensional characters. This was exactly the kind of comedy drama we performed last Tuesday. Our scene involved a self-absorbed mum, her husband who wishes he married someone else, a shop owner who is aggressive and two kids (Grace and myself) that seem like normal, loud, annoying kids – until we use a water gun to take the ‘shop’ hostage. The farce in our play was simple. An annoying mum who throws around the groceries, a shop owner who hits her customers and two kids dressed as Batman and Superman who have a sword fight in the middle of the hostage with a neon-green plastic water gun.

This masterpiece of a play was completely improvised through extended rehearsals and wouldn’t have been accomplished without Anastasia Romanoff, Gabriella Ishak and Rozetta Thomas, all of whom have quite wild imaginations and excellent acting skills. And of course, that you to Mr Cash for letting us parade around dressed as superheroes for a bit. A dream come true.

Caitlyn Kechichian and Grace Boesch
Year 9

General Notices

Class of 1976 40 Year Reunion
We would love as many Alumnae who were with Avila College for any part of that six year journey to join us.
Date: Saturday 8 October 2016 Venue: to be confirmed Contact: Jo Fernando 0417 357 358

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 Our College, Parents and Friends Association.

Melbourne Water’s mini hydro-electricity plant project
Melbourne Water is planning to construct a new mini hydro-electricity plant at the Mount Waverley Reservoir. The hydro-electricity plant will be within their property boundary, with access from Stewart Street. Early work will be undertaken in late August/early September 2016. Testing and commissioning of the plant is expected to be completed in March/April 2017. All work will take place from Monday to Friday, from 7am to 5.30pm, weather permitting. Should they need to work outside these hours, residents will be notified. For more information: Phone 1800 712 434 or email MiniHydros@melbournewater.com.au
Santa Teresa Immersion Trip

The Santa Teresa Immersion Trip, is a journey undertaken by a group of Avila students and teachers, who travel around the Northern Territory for 10 days. It is a unique opportunity that allows the travelers to understand and learn about Aboriginal culture and history as well as continue building on Avila’s strong connection with the community in Santa Teresa.

On Monday 29 August, the families of each Santa Teresa girl were invited to an Information Evening held in the Gathering Space. The night began with the Acknowledgement of the Land and a prayer that was read to us beautifully and then proceeded into talking about the upcoming and exciting travels to Santa Teresa.

The families were gathered to talk about what to expect and the process that the students have gone through to be best prepared for their time together. They were also informed about what would be happening in the days that are spend there. Caterina Abell, Danielle Apidopoulos, Olivia Bruce, Tiana Chandraratne, Emma Deegan, Amelia Harris, Carly King and Ellie Kleins of Year 10 shared with the families what they had learnt so far and what they are hoping to learn during their time in Alice Springs, Santa Teresa and Uluru.

The formalities were concluded with the lighting of the candles by each student attending the Immersion, and their families, as a symbol to show that everyone stands together on this journey. It was a beautiful way to end the evening and brought everyone closer together.

A huge thank you to Donna Teekens and Janine Bauman for their tremendous support and efforts in organizing not only the night but the expedition that will be taken.

The trip departed on Thursday 8 September with all of the girls and teachers looking forward to their time in the Northern Territory. They can’t wait to come back and share their experience with everyone.

Written by the 2016 Santa Teresa Immersion Students
Avila Editor Published

Recently your daughter may have come home with a copy of the Australian Catholics Magazine, *Mercy and Youth*. Please take the time to read it or view it on line at [www.australiancatholics.com.au](http://www.australiancatholics.com.au). One of Avila’s Year 10 students, Dinelle Hettarachchi is featured as one of the editors after partaking in work experience at the magazine. She has been part of a team creating an informative and youthful issue. It’s a joy to read.

“Avila Earlier this year, six other students across Australia and myself embarked on an amazing experience. We spent the week as journalists, planning and writing for the spring edition of the *Australian Catholics Magazine*. Our theme for the edition was “Small Mercies, Huge Blessings.” This edition had been composed of our own thoughts and ideas, each of us had written about three articles in which we had full reigns! It was such an eventful week in the office and I gained knowledge from many experienced journalists. I hope you enjoy this year’s Youth edition of the *Australian Catholics Magazine.*”

Dinelle (far right) with 4 other guest editors from Victoria, NSW and Tasmania.

*Kate Johnston*
Religious Education Curriculum Leader

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ACMI 2016 Hothouse Student Program

In the second week of the mid-year school holidays, 10 students from all over Victoria, including myself, working in groups of 5, got the chance to create two virtual reality games, at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image.

We got to experience and use all kinds of special equipment and programs to make our games. I worked on creating the environment of the game using photogrammetry this is when you take a series of many photos of a room, and are then able to join them all together in a program called Photoscan to create the world which the game is in! We also got to use photogrammetry to create some of the objects in our game such as a hat and a muffin. Some other objects such as books and cups were made in Blender which is a 3D modelling program.

I also worked on some programming to make certain objects break if dropped or if force is applied to them (such as a glass). We used Unreal Engine 4 for the programming which was really fun to learn about. Not only did we do all this but we also had guest speakers that work in the game or television industry come and talk to us about their work which I found very inspiring.

Overall I felt it was a once in a lifetime experience and I had heaps of fun.
AVILA SPORTS AWARDS NIGHT

Thursday, 15th September 2016
Time: 6.30pm - Photo Displays | Gathering Space
7.00pm - Presentations | Bunjil.
Ticket Bookings: https://www.trybooking.com/220353
Tickets On Sale 29th August

Avila College
Inspiring today for tomorrow
HOLY FAMILY NETBALL CLUB 1979 - 2016

REUNION AND SOCIAL NIGHT

Holy Family Netball Club is having a reunion, inviting present and past parents, committee members and players (over 18) to celebrate and reminisce the last 37 years.

When: Saturday October 15th 2016
Time: 7.30pm to 11.30pm
Venue: Riversdale Golf Club
        220-280 Huntingdale Road
        Mount Waverley

Cost: $35.00 per person
      Finger Food, Wine on arrival, Tea & Coffee

Tickets on sale until the 1st October via the link below:

1. Holy Family Netball Club

Or contact via email:

Andrea Saunders: arsaunders@optusnet.com.au
Naomi James: tjames@netspace.net.au

Please invite your fellow H.F.N.C community to this event page, as we hope to get as many people together for what will be a great night!