Mathematics

Farewell - Mr David Romagnolo left the Mathematics Department this year. He has been teaching at Stella Maris College for three years and has made a significant contribution to the Mathematics Department. He has moved to Cairns with his family and we wish him all the very best for the future.

Welcome - We would like to welcome Mrs Hayley Humphreys as our new Head of Department this year. Also Mr David Gale has joined us from Oakhill College and Miss Danyell Evans from Waverley College.

Our first year of the SNAP examination proved very exciting. The students performed extremely well with a mean total score for the year group of 89.7 which reflects that Year 7 are a very bright group of students. To obtain a High Level of Achievement in the examination, in each of the strands assessed, the students had to individually score above 90.7 and so we are very pleased with our mean total score for the year group.

Our School Certificate results were very pleasing this years. 35% of our students achieved a Band 5 or above and 95% of students achieve above a Band 3. Well done to all of Year 10 and we hope to see some excellent results in Year 12.

The Higher School Certificate results were very good this year. The Mathematics Department is a very hard-working and committed team and this dedication is reflected in the overall results. All courses achieve some very good results and we would like to congratulate Year 12 on their achievements. Special congratulations are given to the following students who achieved excellent results and were placed in the top band in each course:

Mathematics
Monique Drielsma, Janelle Inkster, Samantha Thomas, Amy Ung

Mathematics Extension 1
Monique Drielsma, Shu Ting Liu, Chen Yi Ma, Samantha Thomas, Amy Ung, Yuan Wang, Ka Man Yang

Mathematics Extension 2
Chen Yi Ma, Ka Man Yang

Mathematics Co-ordinator
Hayley Humphreys

Multimedia Factory

Stella Maris College celebrated the opening of this new workspace in 2001. With a state of the art Darkroom, Mac Lab and Video Editing facilities the girls are able to begin developing skills in multimedia at a very young age which most would not gain access to, until a tertiary education level. Situated on a separate campus from the College, 'The Factory' as it is known, has become a new home away from home.

Ranee Fitzgerald
Design Coordinator
RETREAT
Friday March 23 was our Year 9 Retreat. Chris Doyle was our retreat leader. He taught us many lessons about life. He taught us to be ourselves and not to worry about what people think. He entertained us with songs, jokes, activities and lots of talks throughout the day. The day brought Year 9 closer together. The most enjoyable part of the day was to see Mr Puntillo walk down the catwalk. We will surely be looking forward to the many retreats to come. We will remember it always.

Vanessa, Jacqui, Amelia, Dominique and Simone

CAMP
Year 9 Camp was held at the Great Aussie Bushcamp at Tea Gardens. This camp has some of the most challenging ropes, climbing and vertically challenging activities of all camps. The staff are of the highest quality and provide the students with a safe and enjoyable time.
Some of the activities that the girls fondly remember are kayaking, high ropes, Giant swing, Vertical Challenge, Leap of Faith and of course beach swimming.
The girls participated very well in all activities and achieved beyond their expectations.
A big thank you to the staff who attended camp. Without them the camp would not have been such a great success.
Music is an important tradition for the Good Samaritan Sisters, and here at Stella Maris College, we strive to continue that tradition by providing opportunities for all students who wish to sing, perform, compose and play Music at the College.

As Music Director, I am very blessed with a talented and dedicated staff. I was delighted to welcome Miss Katie Gerber as a full-time member of staff as the College Vocal co-ordinator and Miss Jessica Short as the Instrumental Music Co-ordinator.

As you will read, 2001 was once again a very busy year, with many wonderful performances, opportunities and concerts for students. I would like to thank the Music Prefects for 2001, Miss Jessica Markwart and Miss Samantha Thomas for their contribution to the department, which was greatly appreciated.

VOCAL MUSIC

Within the month of starting school, Miss Katie Gerber and the Junior Choir were singing for the Manly Environmental awards which were hosted by Mr. Peter Garrett for Manly Environmental Centre. Later in the year, the Junior Choir performed again for Senator Robert Hill at another Manly Environmental Centre function.

It was our delight to be asked to perform at St. Scholastica’s for the Good Samaritans anniversary concert. One of our senior Music students, Miss Kathryn Cross was awarded the prestigious Associate of Music from Trinity College, London in Violin. Two Year 11 students, Miss Bridget Rothwell and Miss Sarah Mercer achieved 8th Grade A.M.E.B. and their dedication and talent is to be congratulated.

The students in our college have been recognised to be very talented, with over 70 students completing an A.M.E.B. examination, with a 100% pass average this year. This is largely due to the hard work of the students, but more importantly with the efforts of the 11 Private Music staff here at the College.

Other highlights for the Vocal department were:
- Performing at Warringah Eisteddfod
- Piano Recital Night
- Senior Performance at the St. Mary’s Autumn Fete
- All Bands performing at the College Musical
- Concert given by Andrew Oh, Internationally acclaimed saxophonist
- All Bands performing at Presentation Night
- May and August series of Australian Music Examinations being held at the college

Other highlights for the Vocal department were:
- Vocal Night
- Performing at Warringah Mall as part of the celebrations for Seniors’ Week
- Singing at Manly Council, for the Mayor’s Volunteers morning tea
- Performing at the Warringah Eisteddfod
- Participating in the College Musicale evenings

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

2001 was a year of change for the Instrumental Music department. The year began with Mrs. Kirsten Macaulay literally ‘handing over the baton’ to Miss Jessica Short, who is now the Instrumental Music Co-ordinator. Miss Short has directed all the College ensembles with great enthusiasm and much success.

In June, all the College Concert Bands performed at the Yamaha Music Festival, with every band being given a ‘Silver’ award, along with many Excellence awards for individual performers.

I am pleased to report that Miss Kathryn Cross was awarded the prestigious Associate of Music from Trinity College, London in Violin. Two Year 11 students, Miss Bridget Rothwell and Miss Sarah Mercer achieved 8th Grade A.M.E.B. and their dedication and talent is to be congratulated.

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Kirsten Macaulay
Music Co-ordinator

JUNIOR CHOIR

During this year, the Stella Maris Junior Choir has had many wonderful experiences and opportunities to remember. Some of these include the Warringah Eisteddfod, Vocal Night, the Musicale and more.
I thought the highlight of this year’s performances was being able to sing at the Queenscliff Surf Club for the Manly Environment Centre. We listened to many people such as Senator Hill, Peter Garrett, other members of the Environmental Council and many other significant people. This was a very honourable experience and will be a memory to always keep.

On behalf of Stella Maris Junior Choir for 2001, I would like to say that this year has been very enjoyable and I hope that in the years to come the singing talent and vocal sound will continue to grow.

Amy Lydiate
8.2

SENIOR BAND

Every Wednesday morning at 7:30 the twenty or so dedicated members of the Stella Maris Senior Band sleepily set up their instruments for the next hour’s practice. Senior Band consists of the most talented instrumental musicians at Stella. There are a variety of instruments such as the flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, French horn, euphonium, bass guitar and percussion. We play music ranging from classical to contemporary, catering for a variety of skill levels. Senior Band is great fun and is made enjoyable by our enthusiastic and inspiring conductor, Miss Jessica Short. But most of all, we enjoy Senior Band because we rock!
2001 saw the Junior History students embark on a new syllabus ready for the first full state wide testing for the School Certificate in Term 4, 2002. The Senior students grappled with new syllabi and brand new HSC exams and a whole new subject - Extension History. We were all very happy with the wonderful results of our HSC History students, who gained up to 15 marks above the state average in these subjects.

Many parents and students have asked about Extension History which was examined for the first time in 2001. It is a difficult or challenging course for enthusiastic students of either Modern or Ancient History. These students must have proved themselves to be competent, independent workers in their Preliminary Course in Year 11. Our girls all gained over 40 out of 50 which added considerably to their UAI score. Most pleasing was the very positive feedback about how much both they and their teacher, Mrs. Wood enjoyed the course.

The course has two components. First, there is a study of various historians, their aims and methods and a discussion of how history is constructed and recorded. This is complemented by a case study of J. F. Kennedy. Students evaluate the various views of J.F.K. from American and other historical perspectives.

The second component of the course is an individual history project. With teacher guidance, each student finds her own topic and develops her own methodology. Interesting projects which students did were:
- The Spanish Civil War
- The Polish Ghetto in World War II
- Anwar Sadat
- American soldiers in the Vietnam War
- One Australian soldier’s experience of the Vietnam War.

All the projects showed outstanding research and were fascinating to read. Mrs. Wood has already taken the new class to the Macquarie University Library to show them how to use the resources and facilities available to them.

Anne Coyte
History Co-ordinator
Year 8 students admire a Medieval castle presented by some of their classmates.

Year 9 students examining a now burnt out hospital ward at the Quarantine Station.

Year 11 History students represent the school at a World War II Commemoration at North Head.
This year has been a very busy and productive one for teachers and students alike. Year 12 classes faced the new HSC and countless hours of preparation by both teachers and students were undertaken. I particularly want to thank the senior teachers for all their hard work in programming, assessment task preparation and extra lessons they were involved in. Our department is responsible for a wide number of subjects including Economics, Business Studies, Business Services Administration, Geography, Legal Studies and Society and Culture in the senior school and Geography and Commerce in the junior school. All staff have been involved in programming for the new syllabu, new assessment tasks and new style of reporting this year. Mrs. Christensen has been a popular and welcome addition to the staff this year in junior geography and we have it on good authority that she will look after one of our junior geography classes again next year. Miss Stojanovski and Miss Robin have also been busy in junior geography and they are to be commended for their creative use of IT in their classes.

Our students have participated in a number of activities this year. Not only the excursions for Year 8 and Year 10 Geography to the Zoo and Homebush Bicentennial Park respectively, but Senior Geography visited the winery in the Hunter Valley and the city for their excursions.

Years 9 and 10 Geography participated in the Australian Geography Competition earlier this year and we achieved results above the state average with a number of distinctions and credits awarded. Well done to those students! Year 10 Geography students also participated in the Centenary Naval Review Diverse Media High School Competition and one group won. Those girls were Larissa Bettison, Hester van Eersel, Elle Halliwell and Christina Kukurov. Runners up were Nicole Robb and Alicia MacDonald. These girls, accompanied by Miss Robin won a day and a night on a naval ship, including participation in the naval sea trials. A most exciting prize. Well done girls!

Karen Nathan in Year 12 Legal Studies was also selected as a NSW representative at the Centenary Parliament in Melbourne earlier this year. This was a great honour and was based on regional and state parliamentary sessions in 2000.

Year 9 Commerce created amazing “Starting up a Business” Assignments, and it never ceases to amaze me the degree of initiative and creativity that are displayed in these tasks.

Next year will be an exciting one for the department. Colin Macallister and myself are talking leave at the commencement of next year. Miss Margaret Heraghty will be the subject co-ordinator, a position to which she will bring new ideas and flair, and I wish her every success in it. Two new teachers will join us next year, as well as Miss Kate Slick who will bring considerable expertise to junior geography with her environmental science background.

Sally Hunt
Social Science Co-ordinator
Years 7 and 8 geography tasks

Year 10 geography excursion to Long Reef to study the coastal ecosystem 2000
RETREAT
On Tuesday May 8 PC classes 8.1, 8.3 and 8.4 went on a Religious retreat to Curl Curl Netball Centre. The host of this Retreat was Father Kevin who was lovely and sang while he played his guitar. We played many games such as relays and links and we learnt how to talk with each other more meaningfully, get in touch with who we are and how to stand up for ourselves. We had a mass where we all made up a prayer, poem or play. Father Kevin was great fun and we had a great time learning about God and ourselves.
Kiah Spratt

On Tuesday May 8 PC classes 8.1, 8.3 and 8.4 went on a Retreat to Curl Curl Netball Centre. We met up with Father Kevin and our PC teachers where we began our Retreat. Firstly we played some games like role play and relays where we all got to know each other better. The focus of our retreat was standing up for ourselves. We did many things at the Retreat as well as getting to know ourselves as individuals and getting to know God. As well as all these things we sang songs while Father Kevin played his guitar. Later on in the day we had Mass and everyone presented a poem, prayer or play. When the day was over we all went home while knowing more about ourselves and other people.
Alice Slazak

As we walked around we filled out sheets and had to hand them in at the end of the day.

We had lots of fun and gained lots of valuable knowledge.
Kathryn Smith

In the second last week of school, Year 8 History classes built up their courage and went to Manly Cemetery. We walked there with Mrs Coyte leading us. A couple of laughs were shared along the way. When we finally got there we were given our sheets and let ‘wild’ in the graveyard (of course, still respecting the dead)!

It was a really fun excursion and I hope the next year that goes enjoys it as much as we did.
Renee Ashley

TARONGA ZOO EXCURSION
During Terms 2 & 4 Year 8 Geography visited Taronga Zoo. The classes had been studying Endangered Species and Threatened Habitats. The students had a lesson in the Zoo’s classrooms where they were able to observe owls, koalas, birds and snakes (which scared a few girls). After the lesson, the students walked around the zoo observing other endangered species. This was an enjoyable day out for Year 8 Geography.
Clare Scully
Alice Slazak

HISTORY EXCURSION
On Friday the 22nd of June, the History students of Year 8 went on an excursion to the Art Gallery of New South Wales. While we were there we looked at some exhibitions. They included the Asian exhibition, the Jon Clover exhibition and the Heroes and Villains exhibition.

After these we went to lunch and then we walked to Hyde Park Barracks and St. James Church. While we were there we stopped in at the Mint.
CHALKFEST 2001 MANLY BEACH

Louise Allen, Malorie Barton and Leonie Wilkinson of Year 8 participated in this Rotary sponsored event. Louise was involved in reproducing a logo for Sommers Pharmacy, located in Manly Corso. Malorie and Leonie combined efforts and entered a chalk design in an open event. The girls' art works were admired by many passers by and they should be congratulated on their efforts. This has become an annual event and Stella Maris looks forward to future budding artists representing our school in the local community.

Joanne Knight
Visual Arts Co-ordinator
This year was another strong and exciting one for all students who studied Visual Arts. A broad range of artworks from all types of media areas were showcased at Stella Alive, the annual Visual and Performing Arts evening at the school. The girls are to be congratulated for the quality of aesthetics and diversity of works which were produced from Years 7-12.

Our students studied a variety of themes for inspiration from which to explore and to create artworks, ranging from portraiture to Post Modernism. They attended excursions to ArtExpress, Art Gallery of NSW, Express Yourself, Manly Gallery, Archibald Prize Exhibition and the Museum of Contemporary Art for a view of what's happening in the current artworld which is ever changing.

Our Year 11 students attended a 5 day camp at Bundanoon, near Nowra, along with Design students to expand and develop their creative skills within a natural setting and to investigate the possibilities of artists’ practice.

We are particularly proud of our Year 12 students this year who took on the challenge of the new H.S.C. with dedication and tenacity. The girls produced what is now titled a Body of Work rather than a Major Work for practical submission, working very hard throughout the year and experiencing moments of frustration and 'eureka' alike. The girls produced excellent results over a range of media areas including film, painting, sculpture, photography, digital media and drawing.

This year five girls were pre-selected for the prestigious ArtExpress Exhibition including Meghan Heffernan, Peta Dzubiel, Candice Van Hulsen, Louise Klerks and Jolanda Moyle with Louise and Jolanda included in the final selection for the 2002 show. The girls also developed very strong theoretical analysis and written skills which did them justice in their final H.S.C. examination. Congratulations to all Year 12 students of Visual Arts.

CERAMICS
The Visual Arts department offered a new elective to Year 9 students this year. Ceramics provides students with the opportunity to expand their creative sculptural skills with clay.

The Ceramics course allows the girls to enjoy themselves while getting their hands dirty! At the same time students were able to develop specialist skills which are both expressive and refined. A whole range of skills were introduced from traditional handbuilding techniques, use of glazes and inclusion of mixed media, as well as studying the historical developments of Ceramic Art.

Congratulations go to all the girls for their high level of results this year. Well done!

STELLA ALIVE
This year's Stella Alive was larger and livelier than ever. With record crowds, parents, students and friends enjoyed outstanding exhibitions of photography, Design and Arts, and enjoyed performances of Music and Dance.

The official opening was made by Mr Trevor Harvey from the Trevor Victor Harvey Gallery on Sydney Road, Seaforth. He gave a wholehearted endorsement to the standard of our girls work from the eyes of our local Art community.

Congratulations go to all students and staff involved as the high standard in quality made the evening a great success.

Jo Knight
The International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL) was introduced into the College this year. This course is based on modules in Word Processing, Spreadsheets, Databases, Presentation Software, Networking and Communication, Managing Files and Concepts of IT. The student-centred delivery of this course enables students to take on more responsibility for their own learning.

The Board of Studies will conduct a Computing Skills Assessment, starting in 2003. The ICDL is an important vehicle in the delivery of the skills and knowledge required for this assessment.

The ICDL is endorsed by the Australian Computer Society and is an internationally recognised qualification. The ultimate aim is that all students achieve this qualification by the end of Year 10.

Information Technology is a rapidly evolving area and we have a responsibility to keep abreast of new developments and encourage students to become independent learners. In this way we will be giving them the knowledge and skills that are relevant to a wide range of employment, training and further education settings.

Congratulations to all those students who managed to complete all seven modules and achieve the International Computer Driving Licence.

Linda Clemesha
Information Technology Co-ordinator