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On behalf of the Board of Directors of Stella Maris College, Manly, I present to you the Annual Report of the College for the 2011 year.

The 2011 year has built on the work of the 2010 year which was one of the most significant years in the College’s life. Again we have been inspired by the tradition of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan and the inspiration of St Benedict whose life, spirituality and example motivated the Sisters, the Board and the College in the Catholic education mission of Stella Maris College.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Vicki Comerford the College has progressed on a number of areas. The Board, the Leadership Team and staff endeavour to provide the best possible education to the young women in our care. This has been further developed this year through the dedicated pastoral care and the restructuring of the timetable to increase the learning opportunities for students. It has been done also through the desire to improve the resources and learning spaces of the College. Work has progressed on the new Benedict Campus and it should be ready for occupation at the commencement of the 2012 College year. This new campus will provide a great boost to the facilities of the College by providing new learning spaces for students and teaching areas for staff. The Factory has been wound down and will be closed in time while the Pittwater Road offices have been closed. The College now has improved and more centralised facilities. This will be a legacy for many generations of students and staff to come.

The Board farewelled Bronwyn Hession and Linda Cassell s.g.s during the year and we would like to thank them for all they have done as members of the Board. We wish them well for the future. We also welcomed Stephen Walsh to the Board. Stephen is an acknowledged Educator and Principal. He will be the Chair of the Education Committee as well as being a Director of the Board. Also the Board welcomed to the Governance and Nominations Committee Bill Anderson and Robert Keating. Both Bill and Robert have extensive experience and will add greatly to the good governance of the Board and the College.

All of the developments referred to in this Report should give us optimism, hope and a passion for the future. I would like to recognise all who contribute to the life of the College including the Committee Members and Board Directors, the College Leadership Team, Staff, Parents and Students. In particular, I would like to mention the Finance, Audit and Compliance Committee and the Building and Resources Committee under the respective leadership of Mrs. Cate Clewett and Mrs. Kelly Morrison. These and all Committees are constituted mostly of volunteers who have given generously to the College through their work. We are grateful to them all. With everyone working together in our common purpose of providing the very best possible educational opportunities for the young women of the College much will be achieved in 2012.

Mr Michael McDonald
Chair of Board of Directors
It has been a big year for us all at Stella with the renovation of Manly Fisho’s Club to become the Benedict Campus. This will come into use at the commencement of the 2012 school year and I’m sure the students will be delighted with this new facility which consolidates our activities and allows all our students to have their NAPLAN and HSC exams in a dedicated space.

Stella Maris is a school that presents fine young women to the world. Ours are girls who are keen to make a contribution and the many initiatives in 2012 that focused on improving their environment and improving the conditions of others in less privileged parts of the world indicated the strong sense of social justice that permeates the College.

2011 was a year of successes; Higher School Certificate, School Certificate and NAPLAN results all showed much improvement and indicated the work that teachers had put in to ‘raising the bar’ and creating situations where girls were challenged to achieve at higher levels. Later in this Yearbook will be a report from Mr Denis Lee outlining results in detail. Successes also came in Sport, and the Creative and Performing Arts in winning the Open Division of the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge.

As 2011 was the 80th anniversary of Stella Maris we had much to celebrate in the achievements over these last decades. We revitalised the Ex-students Association and connected with an ex-student; Mary Green, whose father was the architect of the Convent and the first school building. Mary commenced her education at Stella Maris in 1931. Mary is an astute and warm woman who seems far younger than her 93 years as she regaled us with tales of her school days.

In accentuating our Good Samaritan values we focused on 2011 as the Year of Stewardship where this value and activities were directed towards our responsibility for caring for each other and the resources of our planet, and for the girls to really gain an understanding of the greatness of God and creation.

I would like to thank the following staff members who have given long and dedicated service to the students of Stella Maris but will not be with us in 2012; John Mannah, Sebastian Puntillo and Jo Knight.

I would also like to acknowledge the Stella Maris Board who have worked voluntarily and tirelessly in support of the College. The Directors of the Board have given much personal time and their expertise has been invaluable in assisting me guide the College in 2011. The Board Directors are Michael McDonald (Chair), Cate Clewett (Deputy Chair), Kelly Morrison, Anne Day, Kim Nass, Colleen Robertson, Stephen Walsh and Malcolm Wallace. I am most grateful for their ongoing support.

Finally, we are blessed with dedicated staff members at Stella Maris who go beyond the call of duty to ensure that all girls feel part of the Stella family.

We all look forward with anticipation to 2012.

Mrs Vicki Comerford
Principal
Teaching and Learning Report

Learning at Stella Maris College

In the 80th year of Catholic Education in the Good Samaritan Benedictine Tradition in Manly, Stella Maris College has progressed well in developing a Culture of Learning among the College Community. We began the year as a College Staff reflecting on the Good Samaritan Schools Teaching and Learning Framework. This day was facilitated by the Good Samaritan Mission Team and provided a great foundation for the year’s work at Stella Maris College. The Framework includes the eleven Benedictine Values that all Good Samaritan Schools and Colleges strive to achieve in their daily work:

- Love of Christ and Neighbour
- Prayer
- Stability
- Conversatio
- Obedience
- Discipline
- Humility
- Stewardship
- Hospitality
- Community
- Justice and Peace

This year 60 students of the class of 2011 were listed on the Board of Studies’ Distinguished Achievers List for achieving a Band 6 or E4 result in one or more courses. In total 101 Band 6 or E4 results were achieved by the Class of 2011. 31 of these Band 6 or E4 results were achieved in General Mathematics (16), Mathematics (9), Mathematics Extension 1 (6). This is an increase of 11 Band 6 or E4 results from 2010.

The following students are to be commended for their excellence in the Higher School Certificate Examinations:

- Isabella Altenberger
- Marlise Bakker
- Georgina Bevan
- Jacqueline Campbell
- Huichen (Claire) Cao
- Sophie Carlberg
- Mia Casey
- Natalie Cavallaro
- Chloe Christensen
- Melissa Clark
- Elyse Connolly
- Georgia Cranfield
- Katherine Crimmins
- Le Ying (Ivy) Cui
- Madeline Curby
- Isabella Dobrijevich
- Shao Ting Fang
- Morena Fuentes
- Giulietta Gigliotti
- Sophie Gould
- Claire Gunner
- Jessica Henderson
- Lauren Hutton
- Alexa Kaufer
- Eloise Layard
- Manjie (Caroline) Li
- Xilin (Iris) Li
- Zonglie Li
- Ellie Macnamara
- Kate Mouldey
- Laura Mullooly
- German Continuers
- General Mathematics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics Extension 1
- General Mathematics
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Chinese Background Speakers
- Japanese Beginners
- Swedish Continuers
- General Mathematics
- Visual Arts
- Design and Technology
- Visual Arts
- Drama
- English (Advanced)
- Geography
- Studies of Religion 1
- Mathematics
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Studies of Religion 2
- Textiles and Design
- General Mathematics
- Visual Arts
- Information Processes and Technology
- Japanese Beginners
- General Mathematics
- History Extension
- Visual Arts
- Chinese Background Speakers
- Spanish Continuers
- Tourism and Events
- General Mathematics
- Textiles and Design
- Visual Arts
- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics
- English Extension 2
- Japanese Beginners
- Studies of Religion 1
- English Extension 2
- General Mathematics
- Modern History
- Studies of Religion 1
- Mathematics Extension 1
- Chinese Background Speakers
- Mathematics Extension 1
- General Mathematics
- Retail Services Examination
- General Mathematics
- Studies of Religion 1

Higher School Certificate Results 2011
"The Stars of Stella Shine!"

The Class of 2011 did the College proud with their outstanding results. Our top student was Nicole Olivera who received a Band 6 or E4 result in all of her courses including 99% for Mathematics! Nicole was recognised by the Board of Studies and the Premier of New South Wales, the Honourable Barry O’Farrell MLA with the Premier’s Award for All-Round Excellence medal.

Two other students also achieved commendable results. Kate Mouldey achieved third place in the State in the Retail Services Examination and Isabella Dobrijevich achieved sixth place in the State for Visual Arts.

Two other students who were accelerants also achieved outstanding results in the Higher School Certificate Examinations. Isabella Altenburger who is actually in Year 9 achieved a Band 6 result in German Continuers and Sophie Carlberg of Year 10 achieved a Band 6 result in Swedish Continuers.

In 2012 we will continue to further embed some of the Benedictine Values into the Learning Programmes of the College to ensure that we not only educate your daughters academically but morally and ethically as well.
the results the students achieved in all areas of the tests. The last cohort to sit these tests, we were equally proud of recent years Computing Skills, at the end of Year 10. As Science, Australian History, Australian Geography and in Certificate Tests in English in New South Wales have been sitting the School and the subsequent Public Education Act of 1961 students Tests were to be held. Since the Wyndham Report in 1957 2011 would be the last year that the School Certificate Results 2011 done us proud!

Congratulations to the Class of 2011! You have certainly Hongxuan (Rita) Zhu
Yige (Breaker) Zheng
Jiaqi (Ketty) Zhao
Hua Hua (Elvira) Zhang
Boyan (Emma) Zhang
Ellie Madeleine Whyte
Yating (Effie) Wang
Madeleine Whyte
Ellie-Rose Williams
Boyan (Emma) Zhang
Hua Hua (Elvira) Zhang
Jiaqi (Ketty) Zhao
Yige (Breaker) Zheng
Hongxuan (Rita) Zhu

Congratulations to the Class of 2011! You have certainly done us proud!

School Certificate Results 2011

The State Government announced earlier this year that 2011 would be the last year that the School Certificate Tests were to be held. Since the Wyndham Report in 1957 and the subsequent Public Education Act of 1961 students in New South Wales have been sitting the School Certificate Tests in English – Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Australian History, Australian Geography and in recent years Computing Skills, at the end of Year 10. As the last cohort to sit these tests, we were equally proud of the results the students achieved in all areas of the tests.

Tara van Herten received a Band 6 result in all test areas. The following students received a Band 6 result in one or more test areas:

Kimberley Allen
Rebecca Boucier
Ariana Cabrera
Sophie Carlberg
Kate Carrigan
Rebecca Connell
Ella Cope
Eloise Dossetor
Laura Gass
Aden Lewis
Rebecca Marsh
Rachael O’Brien
Olivia Papalia
Jemma Rob
Nicola Ronke
Velvet-Belle Templeman
Kate Turner
Caitlin Walmsley

The following students received a Band 6 result in one or more test areas:

Kimberley Allen
Liana Bonner
Rebecca Boucier
Madison Brown
Ariana Cabrera
Rebecca Carbone
Sophie Carlberg
Deborah Carr
Kate Carrigan
Cara Caterina
Rebecca Connell
Marianne Connors
Ella Cope
Ashleigh Dale
Eloise Dossetor
Jenna-Lee Felton
Laura Gass
Cassandra Green
Aden Lewis
Chelsea Karren
Rebecca Marsh
Courtney Liddle
Rachael O’Brien
Julia O’Brien
Olivia Papalia
Georgia Quinn
Jemma Rob
Danielle Robbie
Nicola Ronke
Clare Sainty-Cope
Velvet-Belle Templeman
Cinzia Tisano
Kate Turner
Tara van Herten
Caitlin Walmsley
Violet Warner

Congratulations to all the Year 10 students on their fine efforts this year. We look forward to similar results for those students who are continuing at Stella Maris College in Year 12 in 2013.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

Again, the students in Years 7 and 9 achieved very pleasing results in the NAPLAN tests in 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Stella</th>
<th>NSW</th>
<th>AIS</th>
<th>Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>583.4</td>
<td>544.2</td>
<td>572.7</td>
<td>540.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>588.3</td>
<td>527.8</td>
<td>555.5</td>
<td>529.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>566.5</td>
<td>547.0</td>
<td>564.9</td>
<td>537.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>577.1</td>
<td>538.4</td>
<td>567.7</td>
<td>533.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>574.0</td>
<td>550.4</td>
<td>580.9</td>
<td>544.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Stella</th>
<th>NSW</th>
<th>AIS</th>
<th>Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>619.8</td>
<td>584.4</td>
<td>613.6</td>
<td>579.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>648.8</td>
<td>564.7</td>
<td>601.7</td>
<td>567.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>613.8</td>
<td>589.4</td>
<td>610.2</td>
<td>581.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>614.3</td>
<td>576.5</td>
<td>607.9</td>
<td>572.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>608.1</td>
<td>592.3</td>
<td>624.0</td>
<td>583.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Far more important that any of the above data, in my opinion, is the Learning Growth that students achieve between the test dates. For us at Stella this is measured between Year 5 and Year 7 and between Year 7 and Year
9. Below is a comparison of the Average Learning Growth between Stella, State Girls, and AIS Girls. Remember that the Year 7 results reflect learning in Years 5 and 6 while the Year 9 results reflect learning in Years 7 and 8.

### Year 7 Learning Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Stella</th>
<th>State Girls</th>
<th>AIS Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>35.76</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>38.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>No data due to change in text type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>43.55</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>43.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>21.87</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>27.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>58.67</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>54.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Year 9 Learning Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Stella</th>
<th>State Girls</th>
<th>AIS Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>38.76</td>
<td>32.9</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>No data due to change in text type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>42.17</td>
<td>37.6</td>
<td>40.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>33.73</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>26.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>47.58</td>
<td>38.8</td>
<td>42.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following students demonstrated 100 or more points of learning growth in the various aspects of the NAPLAN tests:

#### Year 7 Reading
- Alyssa Adare
- Talia Bangel
- Sophie Chard
- Isabella Filacuridi
- Lucy Martin
- Elodie Rondot-Wilson
- Saskia Sassen
- Katie Shinada-Mudie
- Georgia Staley

#### Year 7 Spelling
- Charlotte Burton
- Ava Fletcher
- Mia Jennings
- Annaliese O’Connell
- Ruby Seres
- Rebecca Diaz
- Sarah Eades
- Ava Fletcher
- Gabrielle Harvey
- Kathleen Reedy
- Venice Warner

#### Year 7 Grammar and Punctuation
- Talia Bangel
- Emmylou Brasser
- Lucy Martin

#### Year 7 Numeracy
- Talia Bangel
- Elaine Barton
- Natasha Bernard
- Caitlyn Bright
- Olivia Brown
- Alison Candrick
- Grace Cox
- Sarah Eades

#### Year 7 Data, Measurement Space and Geometry
- Claire Allen
- Natasha Bernard
- Caitlyn Bright
- Talia Campanella
- Grace Cox
- Rachel Duesbury
- Miya Gualdi
- Gabrielle Harvey
- Bryanna Jones
- Annabelle Lee
- Anna McGrath
- Rachel O’Brien
- Lillian Smith
- Georgia Staley

#### Year 7 Number, Patterns and Algebra
- Tahlia Anderson
- Emily Batt
- Tyla Borg
- Caitlyn Bright
- Olivia Brown
- Charlotte Burton
- Rebecca Diaz
- Sophie Duke
- Isabella Filacuridi
- Amy Gosling
- Georgie Grover
- Lily Irving
- Georgia Josue
- Tara Maloney
- Victoria Mason
- Rachel O’Brien
- Jemima Rankin
- Saskia Sassen
- Georgia Staley
- Coriana Topia
- Georgia Whiston
- Stella
- State Girls
- AIS Girls

#### Year 9 Data, Measurement Space and Geometry
- Claire Allen
- Natasha Bernard
- Caitlyn Bright
- Talia Campanella
- Grace Cox
- Rachel Duesbury
- Miya Gualdi
- Gabrielle Harvey
- Bryanna Jones
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- Georgia Staley
- Coriana Topia
- Georgia Whiston
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- State Girls
- AIS Girls

#### Year 9 Reading
- Adriana Bowman
- Hannah Carlson
- Jacqueline Dossetor
- Eliza Earl
- Lauren French
- Madeline Lakeman
- Remi Siciliano

#### Year 9 Spelling
- Michaela Burchell
- Emily Edgar
- Kavita Naidu
- Grace Nixon
- Cristina Palaez-Sanchez
- Stephanie Simonetta

#### Year 9 Grammar and Punctuation
- Elise Andrew
- Lucy Chen
- Emily Edgar
- Isabella Hyslop
- Felicity Kerrigan
- Josie Martinuzzo
- Nina Nedachi

#### Year 9 Data, Measurement Space and Geometry
- Claire Allen
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- Coriana Topia
- Georgia Whiston
- Stella
- State Girls
- AIS Girls

#### Year 9 Reading
- Adriana Bowman
- Hannah Carlson
- Jacqueline Dossetor
- Eliza Earl
- Lauren French
- Madeline Lakeman
- Remi Siciliano

#### Year 9 Spelling
- Michaela Burchell
- Emily Edgar
- Kavita Naidu
- Grace Nixon
- Cristina Palaez-Sanchez
- Stephanie Simonetta

#### Year 9 Grammar and Punctuation
- Elise Andrew
- Lucy Chen
- Emily Edgar
- Isabella Hyslop
- Felicity Kerrigan
- Josie Martinuzzo
- Nina Nedachi
These are fantastic results which demonstrate the ability and talent of the students at Stella Maris College. With the abolition of the School Certificate Tests, NAPLAN in Year 9 will be one of the markers of student success in the future. It is very encouraging to see so many students demonstrating learning growth more than twice the average in the different aspects of NAPLAN. Once again, congratulations girls; we are very proud of you!

Quality Teaching Framework

In 2012 the College teaching staff will embark on professional learning around the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities Quality Teaching Framework. The framework is based in a wealth of pedagogical research and emphasises areas such as Intellectual Quality, Quality Learning Environment and Significance. The table below outlines each of the dimensions and what is included in them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension</th>
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<tr>
<td>Intellectual Quality</td>
<td>Deep Knowledge, Deep Understanding, Problematic Knowledge, Higher-Order Thinking, Metalanguage, Substantive Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality Learning Environment</td>
<td>Explicit Quality Criteria, Engagement, High Expectations, Social Support, Students’ Self-Regulation, Student Direction, Significance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Background Knowledge, Cultural Knowledge, Knowledge Integration, Inclusivity, Connectedness, Narrative</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

After another very busy year, we look forward to a well-earned rest and renewed enthusiasm for 2012. God bless!

Mr Denis Lee, Director of Teaching and Learning
Pastoral Care is at the forefront of every Good Samaritan institution and our College is no exception. It is inherent in all that we do, as we try to teach our girls the Benedictine values which underpin our Good Samaritan tradition and also by being an example ourselves through continually upholding those values.

2011 has seen the introduction of a new Student Diary. Each girl received a newly created diary which outlined at the beginning the Benedictine values which we espouse. This year at the College was the “Year of Stewardship” and this was the theme which was discussed in Pastoral Care time, at Year Meetings and at College assemblies. Each year the College will adopt a particular value which we feel is of prime importance to our community and work on finding strategies to best deliver this message to all, whilst still including, however, the other Benedictine values.

This year the College operated on a new timetable which incorporated Pastoral Care at the commencement of the day for all years. A 15 minute daily timeslot was devoted to this and during this time activities, celebrations and conversations between students and teachers took place. The Pastoral Care reports emanate from this and a positive relationship between your daughters and the Pastoral Care teacher is encouraged. I would like to thank the Pastoral Care teachers for their input into the daily lives of the girls. The Pastoral Care teacher is the constant in the lives of the girls, as well as her Year Coordinator.

I would like to pay tribute to the untiring work of all the Year Coordinators, the International Pastoral Coordinator and the Counsellor this year. Without these exceptional people, who are the support mechanisms for your daughters whilst they are at the College, the welfare of the girls would be wanting. They are on call throughout the school day to attend to the various and many requests for assistance, advice, information or simply to listen with the ear of their heart. This they do freely, willingly and without fuss. Some girls will never have the need to use their services but they are in the minority. Visits to the Junior and Senior Year Coordinators’ staffrooms and the Counsellor’s office are frequent and a welcoming smile is always ready to greet them. The College is blessed to have these compassionate educators on board.

Ms. Sarah Metcalfe left our team this year to go on maternity leave and I would like to thank her for all her work, dedication and effort during the past three years with her group. She will be missed. I welcome Ms Kristie Ferguson to the fold and she has taken on the role with energy and enthusiasm and fits the mould perfectly.

Our community values each and every individual and acknowledges the richness we have in our diversity. Inclusiveness is what our community endeavours to nurture, so that each girl feels that she is a part of a just and caring environment. Through the love of God and His guidance, through the search for peace, the right mix of work and prayer and a welcoming and hospitable manner, our College community is able to offer something for all in its care.

Mrs Shirley Slater, Director of Pastoral Services

Pastoral Coordinators from Left to Right:  
Marisa Quick (Year 8), Kristie Ferguson (Year 7), Kylie Andrew (Counsellor),  
Carolyn Collins (International Students), Victoria Scully-Power (Year 9), Nicole Boyde (Year 10),  
Colin Macallister (Year 11), Bronwyn Parker (Year 12) and Shirley Slater (Director of Pastoral Services)
This year has flown by!

As with every year, 2011 has again been hectic but thoroughly enjoyable. Visits to the Counsellor’s Office were made for many reasons, including friendship and family issues, assistance with study and organisation, as well as a range of mental health issues. Referrals come from parents, staff, and most often, from the students themselves.

The beginning of Term 2 saw the relocation of the Counsellor’s Office. The students and I are now lucky enough to enjoy a more private and peaceful space in the convent building.

The change this year to hour-long lessons has been a real bonus to the Counselling department. A full hour means that when each Year group attends their Year Meeting in the theatre every fortnight, there is time available for presentations and guest speakers. This is an invaluable way of educating a large group of students on a variety of mental health issues. This year we have had guest presentations from Brainstorm Productions, The Butterfly Foundation, Manly Drug Education and Counselling Centre, the local Police Youth Liaison Officer, as well as forums from local counselling services on sexual health and relationships. The aim for 2012 is to provide even more opportunities for students to benefit from these valuable presentations, as well as increasing the number of students attending individual counselling.

Mrs Kylie Andrew, School Psychologist

Quotes

You catch more flies with honey than with vinegar - Proverb

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life – Confucius

If you think you can’t, or you think you can, you are absolutely right – Henry Ford

I would rather aim at the stars and hit a tree, than aim at a tree and hit a rock - Proverb
College Captains

School Captain: Jessica Felton
School Vice Captains: Julia Rorke, Ketty Zhao
Prefects: Morena Fuentes, Ellie MacNamara, Nicole Olivera, Pelenaise Taufalele
Liturgy Prefects: Melanie Connell, Kelsey Wilson
International Prefects: Iris Li, Isabelle Stanley
SRC Captain: Alexa Kaufer
SRC Vice Captain: Sophie Gould
Social Justice Captains: Katie Rooney, Nicole Samson
Creative Arts Captain: Natalie Cavallaro
Performing Arts Prefect: Chloe Christensen
Sports Captain: Bethany Sweeny
The Stella Maris Student Representative Council (SRC) had a great year this year, achieving great things for both the Stella community and also the charities that we chose to work with.

On June 14 the SRC organised ‘Stella’s Big Day In’, a musical festival inspired Stella Day with great live bands, games, teacher student Spicks and Specks, as well as a soccer match and so much more. There was dancing on the basketball court and games played together by all year groups coming together to have some fun. The chosen charity for the day was Stewart House, designed to care for children from all parts of NSW and the ACT who are in need. We raised a significant amount of money on the day and the SRC girls were very proud of their efforts for putting on such a successful day for the school. After many weeks of meetings and lots of organization, we were finally able to show the school what we had been working so hard towards and would like to further thank our SRC teachers who helped us so much.

Aside from Stella Day, the SRC has also worked with various other charities this year, promoting awareness of teenage health and establishing a greater sense of community throughout the different year groups at Stella.

On behalf of the SRC, we would like to say thank you to all of the girls and staff who participated in our meetings this year to help us to achieve success.

Sophie Gould, SRC Vice Captain
House Groups

House Captains

CARMEL
Captain: Elysia Hall
Vice Captains: Georgia Nelson
Jessica Sekulich

FATIMA
Captain: Jacqueline Campbell
Vice Captains: Jessica Bull
Micaela Borger

LOURDES
Captain: Heninita Pakileata
Vice Captains: Georgia Bevan
Lily McMillan

ROSARIA
Captain: Kirsten Dunsmore
Vice Captains: Georgia Gibson
Jessie Quinn

Athletics Carnival

We had a good, but, wet day at our Athletics Carnival on Wednesday April 27. The students participated enthusiastically and there were some excellent results in all age groups. The cheering and war cries were also impressive.

Congratulations to the Age Champions:
12 Years: Tully Marr & Lillian Smith
13 Years: Ellyanne Slennett
14 Years: Margot O’Brien
15 Years: Mieke Kassulke
16 Years: Eliza Parish
17 Years: Morena Fuentes

The Open Invitation 100m winner was Stephanie Zervos.

The overall winners of the Carnival were ROSARIA.

Ms Cathy Douglas, PDHPE Coordinator
House Cup

Congratulations to our 2011 House Cup winner, Rosaria, with a total of 4093 points.

FINAL POINTS TALLY:

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<th>Lourdes</th>
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Swimming Carnival

What a wonderful day it was at the Stella Swimming Carnival on Tuesday March 8. The school spirit was fantastic and the participation by so many students was very impressive to see.

Congratulations to the Age Champions:
12 Years: Janice Quinn
13 Years: Sophia Brinkman
14 Years: Caitlin Werakso
15 Years: Georgia Miller
16 Years: Briella Brown
17 Years: Georgia Farrell
18 Years: Jessie Quinn

The overall winners of the Carnival were ROSARIA.

Ms Cathy Douglas, PDHPE Coordinator
Fatima
Lourdes
Rosaria
Dance

Dance – Years 7 and 8

All Year 7 students studied Dance this year! They focused on dance performance and safe dance, where they build technique and performance quality while gaining an understanding of their bodies’ capabilities and limitations and how movement can be safely executed. Two semesters worth of class effort paid off for the first Performing Arts night where a number of Year 7 groups performed their class work dances.

Year 8 Elective Dance students experienced dance as an art form through the interrelated study of performance, composition and appreciation. Topics included: the elements of dance with a focus on space; an introduction to motif, where the students got the opportunity to create their own dances in groups; and a study of Martha Graham.

Additional Dance – Years 9 and 10

The Years 9 and 10 courses cover content from a variety of context areas including popular dance, post modernism and dance and film. Students learnt about the elements of dance (space, time and dynamics) in detail and their relationship to all aspects of performance, composition and appreciation. Students continued technique classes and learnt choreography for half-yearly and yearly dance night performances. They began to choreograph their own movement to specific intents and began to critically analyze dance works by a number of choreographers.

Senior Dance – Years 11 and 12

Students studying Dance for the HSC brought a variety of prior learning experiences with them, ranging from extensive dance training outside school hours, the study of Dance 7-10 Syllabus for 100 hours or 200 hours, or no experience at all. In the HSC course, students continued their study in the three core components. Students also undertook an in-depth study of dance in one of the major study components: Performance, Composition, Appreciation or Dance and Technology. Two of our three HSC students also got nominated for ‘call back’ which showcases the State’s best HSC Dance performers.

Performance

Students were given the opportunity to perform at numerous events this year including:

- Stella Maris 80th Anniversary Mass
- Stella Alive
- Presentation Night
- Dance Nights
- Year 7 Performing Arts Night

Additionally, students studying dance got the opportunity to join extra-curricular Dance Ensemble groups, the winning Rock Eisteddfod Challenge group and attend an excursion to see Sydney Dance Company’s performance of ‘Land Forms’.

Ms Rochelle Jones, Dance Teacher

Drama

Drama at Stella Maris is a mandated subject in Years 7 and 8 where it is taught for one semester in each year. At this stage it is introductory, focusing on the collaborative nature of Drama, and developing an understanding through enactment. Students create their own plays – “playbuilding” – in small groups and perform these to their peers, reflecting and testing their understanding of their relationship with the world and the myriad people who inhabit it. Reflection is especially valued as students learn the negotiation of relationships, timetables, moods and ideas that playbuilding requires and articulate their understanding of the world known and hitherto unknown to them.

From Year 9 through to the HSC, Drama becomes an elective. The practice of enactment is continued at every level as understandings of the world become progressively more sophisticated, and knowledge of theatrical forms and traditions and the texts that are exemplars of them become more extensive and richer in texture. Appropriate to its respective level of development, each class practises performance and reflection as students learn to be not just effective and affecting performers but effective and critical audiences. These processes marry with the Benedictine values of Partnership, Community and Listening, all of which are necessary for the effective realisation of activities in Drama.

At the HSC level, the collaboration continues in the mandated Group Performance. HSC students also develop major individual projects in one of their choice of performance; design, director’s portfolio, scriptwriting, video production, critical essays or theatre review.

Mr Geoff Cartwright, Drama Teacher
Music

2011 has been an eventful year, full of interesting concerts, marvellous performances and exciting excursions!

This year, the Music Department was led very successfully by our Music Captain, Year 12 student, Melissa Clarke, who studied Music 2 and Music Extension at the College.

In 2011, the Music Department was delighted to be able to take students to excursions to enrich the Music education program to events such as:

- “Mary Poppins” Musical (Year 7 and Elective Music)
- “Meet the Music” (Year 10 and Senior Music)
- “Sydney Symphony Concert - Discover Music” (Year 7 Music and Years 8 - 10 Elective Music)
- “Encore” (Senior Music)

2011 has been a very busy year and I look forward to Music in 2012.

Mrs Kirsten Macaulay, Performing Arts Coordinator

What I Enjoyed About Music:

I enjoyed doing Music this year and it was interesting seeing and performing all of the different performances. I went to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra in August. It was good seeing all of the different instruments that I hadn’t seen before and to hear how musicians play them and how good they are. The symphony was a very good performance to watch and to learn about music and listen to the music that they play. They played lots of songs for us and they were extremely good at playing their instruments.

Melissa McDonagh 7.5

In August, all of Year 7 hopped onto a bus, went to Homebush and went to see the symphony. The symphony is a fantastic orchestra that has fantastic instruments. When we got there we had morning tea and then we went into the show. While we were there we learnt lots about all the different types of instruments. Going to see the symphony made me realize how much people love music and how they love to share their passion. It was fantastic to see that they got involved with the audience and a couple of the girls in Year 7 got to go on stage and conduct. We came back to school and had lunch. It was a great day that everybody loved. Symphony is a wonderful orchestra and I hope one day I go again.

Janice Quinn 7.2
**Photography**

Stella continues to offer wet and digital photography experiences across Years 9 - 12. This year we extended our College darkroom to accommodate the enlargers from the Factory when it was relocated in Term 3. We are now running 27 enlargers which ensures that all students can work independently in refining their wet photographic skills.

Our young photographers learn the processes of shooting and developing their own black and white 35mm film and printing their photographs with photo sensitive paper and chemicals. The basics and advanced skills in Photoshop, the tools and processes of digital manipulation using their laptops are also taught during the course.

**Junior Photographic & Digital Media**

Our Year 9 photographers were introduced to the course with a photoshoot in and around the city snapping architectural icons of Sydney as well as nature in the Botanical Gardens. Later in the year they learnt to be savvy with Photoshop applying the various tools, filters and visual tricks to make rich and layered imagery.

Within the Year 10 course, the girls completed a digital portraiture shoot exploring the possibilities of lighting and colour to enhance the atmosphere and mood of the sitter’s character. A visit to the Annie Leibovitz exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Term 1 informed the students practice and gave them an excellent insight into both fine art and commercial photographic practices.

**Senior Photography, Video & Digital Imaging: Photography**

Our senior students, including boys from St. Paul’s and St. Augustine’s Colleges, explored a range of Modules which allowed them to explore a range of subjects through wet and digital processing. Year 11 delved into Portraiture, Youth Culture and Photojournalism and created professional portfolios of their work. The HSC students created significant results within their own individual projects - a diverse range of subject matter was represented giving the audience a glimpse into their world views.

Congratulations on the compelling quality of the images this year!

_Mrs Jo Knight, Visual Arts Coordinator_
Video Production

It was another busy year for the Video Production Department. The girls worked really well in their groups and created some highly entertaining videos.

The year was highlighted by the highly anticipated excursions to Manly, Martin Place and ABC Studios.

The Year 9s had a great time shooting footage for their music videos. They started at school, through Queenscliff and the beachfront and finally concluding the shoot at Manly Wharf. The girls really got into the spirit, they hammed it up with not one ounce of self-consciousness in public.

The Years 10 and 12 classes visited Martin Place and the ABC Studios where they got up close and personal with the cast of Sunrise and various ABC presenters. This was a great experience for the girls to get some insight into working in the industry.

The following girls were commended for their outstanding efforts in Video:
- Year 9 Photographic & Digital Media - Taelah Saloumidis, Isabella Gilbert, Adriana Bowman, Michaela Burchell.
- Year 10 Photographic & Digital Media - Camille Campos, Aden Lewis, Zoe Deuxberry
- Year 11 Video Production - Molly McIndoe
- Year 12 Video Production - Georgia Gibson, Jess Bull, Erin Lewis

‘stellavision’ again showcased some of the key events of 2011 including all the action from the Swimming and Athletics Carnivals, Masses, The World’s Greatest Shave, the Walkathon, Rock The Schools, Stella Day and Mr Cartwright’s unforgettable production of ‘Romeo & Juliet’.

‘stellavision’ continues to provide students, family and friends with the opportunity to share in the great experiences had by our girls at the College.

To view the videos go to:
3. Click on the stellavision link and browse through the site.

Thank you to all of the students and staff involved.

Mr Lawrence Wong, Video Coordinator
The Visual Arts Department is very proud of the quality produced by our young artists showcased in Stella Alive in 2011.

As usual, our HSC students worked tirelessly to produce engaging and diverse Bodies of Work. All the students worked to achieve their best in their chosen media area and all experienced the highs and lows of the creative process! Two of our girls were nominated for Artexpress in 2012. Congratulations to Isabella Dobriejvich with her collection of works titled "Phototaxis: Of moth, moon and tide" and Nieve Allen with her painting series titled "After Fire and Ash: Lilith’s Lullaby." Congratulations also goes to Isabelle Stanley for her painting and sound piece series "Profoundly Deaf," and Neisha Mulham with her photomedia series "Highs and Lows" who, along with Isabella Dobriejvich, were selected by Curator Katherine Roberts to be part of the exhibition "Express Yourself" at Manly Art Gallery & Museum in 2012.

We have a highly committed and focused bunch of students coming through the senior Visual Arts ranks. The Year 11 group of students are quiet, but very talented artists and are certainly ones to watch! They had a wonderful experience at the annual art camp where they visited the Bundanon and Riversdale properties at The Arthur and Yvonne Boyd Education Centre, near Nowra. The girls enjoyed three nights and four days of artistic bliss; experimenting with materials and representing the landscape in many diverse ways. They also experienced personal growth as artists, and of course had lots of fun. This year Mrs Comerford as well as Ms Ryland took the time to visit our students and even did some artmaking of their own!

Our Year 10 artists worked in a range of media areas. They always enjoy the challenge of completing a large scale contemporary portrait painting and they enjoyed a visit to the Archibald Prize exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW as well as the Moran Portraiture Prize at the State Library this year. Congratulations to Lily Rasdall who won the People’s Choice Award at Stella Alive for her outstanding diptych of her father.

Year 9 students also experienced an intensive art making workshop day where an intensive program of responding to the beach environment was a focus. Students completed drawings, printmaking, stitching and photographing ‘water’ and its visual qualities; resulting in subtle works of art.

Years 7 and 8 created a range of works learning new skills and techniques in a variety of materials ranging from ceramics, printmaking, painting and digital media. Year 7 enjoyed an excursion to Manly Art Gallery & Museum visiting the OFF SHORE - Artists of Scotland Island and Pittwater's Western Foreshore exhibition as part of Manly Arts Festival. Year 8 took the opportunity to use their laptops to explore stop-motion animation in the creation of a short animated film of hand drawn, collaged and appropriated imagery inspired by 20th Century Dada artists and their contemporary counterparts.

On a personal note, as I will be leaving Stella at the end of 2011, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank my fellow Visual Arts colleagues for their professionalism, creativity, dedication and friendship over the last 12 years. I will miss the innovative spirit and positive atmosphere that I have always enjoyed at Stella and the wonderful students whom I have had the pleasure to know and teach.

Ms Jo Knight, Visual Arts Coordinator
Year 9 and 10 Visual Design students love their specialised space AWS (Art Workshop) located behind the Chapel where they can use sculptural tools and processes and have exclusive access.

Within this course, students develop jewellery making skills using precious metals of bronze and silver as well as non-precious plastics and found materials. Year 9 have the opportunity to deconstruct and construct Artist Books where an existing book object is altered and redesigned into an aesthetic art object of desire. The Year 10 group completed historical research on the cultures of the world and their textiles designs to inspire them to create motifs across a range of print products made by hand and digitally manipulated.

Students also experimented with packaging and marketing their designed objects through the production of logos, tags and display methods including developing their own designer Blogs with the aim to appeal to their target audience.

Overall the Visual Designers this year created works that were of refined quality and aesthetic excellence - Well done!

Ms Jo Knight, Visual Arts Coordinator
Studying English at Stella Maris in 2011 has been a busy, challenging, and enjoyable experience.

Year 7 looked at the topic “Change” in the first part of the year. They read novels and thought about films, and were able to use these texts to explore change in their own lives. Year 7 went to see A Midsummer Night’s Dream at Glen St Theatre.

Year 8 studied a Shakespeare play. Some students found this more challenging than others, but all students demonstrated in their essays that they understand the importance of Shakespeare as a great writer, and that they appreciate his ability to engage and entertain an audience.

Year 9 started the year with a study of various recent Australian speeches – including Kevin Rudd’s apology speech and Bindi Irwin’s speech at her father’s memorial service. They explored the issues these speeches raise about Australian society, and then worked on writing and delivering their own speech about an issue in Australian society.

Year 10 studied several classics, including To Kill A Mockingbird and Lord of the Flies. They also had the privilege of being the last cohort ever to sit the School Certificate. It was certainly an exciting day when those exams were over!

Years 11 and 12 students worked hard in their various courses. The Senior English courses are Standard, Advanced, ESL and Extension English, and each has a particular focus. The Extension 1 girls studied Gothic Literature in Year 11 and Crime Writing in Year 12. Students in other courses looked at a variety of texts such as the documentary Touching the Void and episodes from the series Seachange.

The Year 12 Extension 2 students again completed their Major Works with a great deal of dedication and flair. These Major Works included Short Stories and Critical Responses researched and completed over a 10 month period.

Ms Alison Tedman, English Coordinator

Here are some comments from students about their experiences in English in 2011:

I really enjoyed Extension English throughout 2011. We explored Gothic Literature in depth, learned about the conventions of the genre and researched its history. I especially enjoyed reading The Raven, a poem by Edgar Allan Poe, and The Yellow Wallpaper, a short story written by Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

Hannah Bester, Year 11

This year in English Year 8 studied Shakespeare for a term. We studied The Merchant of Venice. I really enjoyed Shakespeare because he has such an interesting style and conveys so many themes, meanings and political issues through different techniques. He opens the mind to the way we can communicate through writing.

Faith Hausler, Year 8

Year 10 English has been fantastic. To Kill a Mockingbird, and Macbeth have been surprisingly enjoyable to read and discuss; and we have looked forward to English! The lectures have been really interesting as well, to see what other teachers have to say on the books we have studied.

Violet Warner, Year 10

Year 11 ESL has so much fun. The most interesting part of the course is the topic Identity. It helps me to understand the kind of person I would like to be. We have a deep understanding of the topic through the study of different texts such as the movie My Big Fat Greek Wedding.

Jennifer Chen, Year 11
This year many students at Stella have taken the opportunity to participate in events and competitions to enhance their learning experiences beyond the classroom. Each participant receives a certificate of acknowledgement which will enhance their portfolio.

**ASX SCHOOLS SHAREMARKET GAME**

Stella Maris had 10 syndicates, from Years 8 to 11, who completed in the ASX Schools Sharemarket game in Term 3. The girls competed against 16,000 other syndicates from around Australia.

The top Stella Maris team was **AMELA** - Amy Tesoriero and Emanuela Orellana, Year 8. Amela actually made a profit, executing numerous trades in the 12 week trading period.

The following teams also successfully participated:

- **STOCKMEUP** - Cara Caterina, Isabella Augustyniak, Cinzia Tisano, Olivia Papalia, Year 9
- **HOT POTATO** - Amelia Russell, Felicity Kerrigan, Isabella Altenberger, Jessica Armay, Year 10
- **SHARING IS CARING** - Isabella Gilbert, Jessica Watson, Michaela Burchell, Year 9
- **WHATSINANAME** - anonymous
- **GANDA** - Georgia Gajardo, Angie Schroder, Year 8
- **LEGENDARY** - Laura Gass, Liana Bonner, Caitlin Bayles, Clare Sainty-Cope, Year 10
- **CHC** - Caitlin Baxter, Chloe McGeachie, Hayley Constantine, Year 9
- **SYNC** - Emily Edgar, Monica Olivera, Year 9
- **AAA** - Bridgette Barnes, Emily Bobis, Nicole Schroder, Year 11

**SCIENCE IQ QUIZ**

This year we had eight Year 10 teams and seven Year 8 teams competing in this online quiz for gifted and talented students. Students arrive at a collaborative decision for a problem, great for team building skills. Over 60 teams competed nationally. Our 2 top teams were within 2 points of the winners.

Results:
- Year 8 Stella 2 placed 4th – Mia Calabritto, Georgia Gajardo, Angie Schroder and Newbie Redding.
- Year 8 Stella 4 placed 6th – Nikki Henderson, Philippa Bamford, Kristina Key and Charlotte Robbie.
- Year 10 Stella 5, placed 5th – Catherine O’Grady, Violet Warner, Caitlin Bayles and Liana Bonner. Year 10 Stella 6, placed 6th – Deborah Carr, Rebecca Marsh, Sarah Saliba and Lucy Monte Leone.

**YEAR 8 MATHS DAY**

At the end of Term 3, eight Year 8 girls attended a Maths Fun Day at Pittwater House. The day consisted of 16 other high schools, all participating in Maths challenges such as head to head competitions and relays.

**DA VINCI DECATHALON**

Thirty two students from Years 7-10 participated in an academic Olympic Decathalon, with events of an academic nature. The challenging tasks placed particular emphasis on higher order thinking skills with 44 independent and selective schools and over 800 students competing each day. Although Stella Maris teams were not placed in the top 3 students of each year, the girls found the competition rewarding and are enthusiastic about returning next year.

Ms Ruth Longworth, Gifted and Talented Coordinator
History

History aims to stimulate students’ interest in and enjoyment of exploring the past and to enable students to participate as active, informed and responsible citizens.

Consideration of these words taken from our History syllabus emphasises how important the study of history is. History students at Stella Maris College certainly have the opportunity to study a broad range of topics to achieve this aim, and importantly, they also enjoy doing this!

In Stage 4 History students attended an excursion at the Nicholson Museum in Sydney University. Here the students played the role of historian – hypothesising about the use of various implements and examining pottery. They also studied the impact of contact and colonisation on indigenous peoples across the world, and learnt about societies and civilisations of the past.

In Stage 5 a focus on Australian History, civics and citizenship ensured an understanding of our constitution and of the forces that shaped our nation.

Keen historians elected to study Elective History, and investigated topics including Film as History; Ancient Greece; Crime and Punishment in the Elizabethan Era; Ancient Rome; Viking Society; Historical Fiction; World Myths and Legends and Slavery.

Finally HSC students studied a broad range of topics ranging from Ancient Greece to JFK in the HSC courses of Ancient History, Modern History or History Extension.

A highlight for the History Department was the burial of a time capsule on Stella Day this year. We included a broad range of items in the capsule, aiming to capture what life was like for a Stella Maris student in 2011. We cannot wait to open the time capsule in 2031!

Thanks must go to our wonderful staff for their wonderful work in the classroom with our students.

This year in Elective History we particularly enjoyed learning about Greek gods and goddesses as there are so many interesting myths and legends surrounding them. Eliza and Whitney Year 9

My favourite topics this year were the United Nations and the Vietnam War because they gave me an in depth understanding of Australia in the world today, and how the past has influenced this. Cinzia Year 10

I enjoyed studying the Vietnam War as it gave me more of an understanding of the event that is so often portrayed in film and television. Kimberley Year 10

In Year 11 Modern History I really enjoyed studying Indochina and gaining a new perspective on the origins of the Vietnam War. Kiri Year 11

Ancient History was a very exciting subject. I really enjoyed learning about ancient human remains including Ice Man. The ethical issues allowed us to form our own opinions and engage in debate. Joelle Year 11

Mrs Selina Han, History Coordinator

Social Sciences

A busy time for all this year! We have enjoyed a variety of excursions and student lecture days within our subject areas this year. A highlight for Year 11 Geography was their fieldtrip to the Macquarie Marshes earlier this year. The girls were so lucky to catch such a fragile and unique natural environment when it was brimming with water and wonderful wildlife... they had a lot of ‘fun’ tramping through the wetlands according to their teachers!

We have included some photos of some of our activities, including Year 12 Geography’s visit to the vineyards in the Hunter Valley, the Year 11 Economics girls visiting the Reserve Bank of Australia and also meeting the ‘Sunrise Team’ in Martin Place... so beautifully timed to the headlines at that time, of Greece and the European woes and what the RBA was doing with interest rates!

Years 8 and 10 Geography visited the Zoo and the Long Reef/ Collaroy coastal area on fieldtrips this year and Elective Geography visited the Sydney Aquarium and Imax to complete their unit on Oceanography. Year 10 Commerce and Year 11 Legal Studies visited the District Courts in Sydney and the Police and Justice Museum, and once again we found it difficult to drag the girls away...so many interesting cases to observe!

We were fortunate to have the Red Cross visit us for a talk on World Order and the role of the ICRC in regards to humanitarian law – the Legal Studies students found it fascinating.
Congratulations to Kayla Panetta in Ms Price’s Year 7 Geography class who won a ‘behind the scenes’ day at Ocean World, Manly, with her entry into the Manly Daily competition on ‘Why our oceans are so important’. Ms Price encouraged her class to enter and to link their answer to their Great Barrier Reef case study that was part of their World Heritage Site unit.

Two of our wonderful staff members became ‘Mums’ for the first time in April and May respectively – Kate Slik with Chiyo and Erica Gilchrist with Callum.

On a different type of leave, Mr Macallister decided to explore Australia on a wonderful road trip during his Long Service Leave this year and I know that he will be most sought after as a guest speaker to our Year 9 Geography classes next year!

We have been most fortunate in welcoming ‘the two Katies from England’ to our staff for this year – Katie Price, who will continue with us next year and Katie Holdstock who replaced Colin Macallister for a term. In addition we welcomed Gemma Mason (also from England) to our team to teach a couple of our junior Geography classes this semester. These three ladies have been a joy to work with and they have enriched both their colleagues as well as their students with their dynamic and passionate style of teaching.

Once again I must thank the dedicated teachers who have made up our Social Science team this year. We are looking forward to an exciting and rewarding 2012!

Ms Sally Hunt, Social Science Coordinator

Year 10 Australian Geography Excursion
On the 21st of June half of Year 10 Geography went on a fieldtrip starting at Dee Why Beach and ending at Collaroy Beach. The purpose of this fieldtrip was to learn about the coastal environment and what is impacting on it. In the first half of the excursion we learnt about the natural processes that shape and change coastal environments. We then made our way up to Long Reef Headland where we swapped tour guides, who took us to Collaroy. On this half of the excursion we learnt about the impact of human development on the dune system. This excursion was really fun as we got to learn about our local beaches and how the coastal systems work. It was also fun watching everyone trying to cross Long Reef Lagoon.

Ms Margaret Heraghty

Year 10 Elective Geography Excursion
On Tuesday 5th April the Year 10 Elective Geography class went to the city as part of our course on Oceanography. We caught a ferry from Manly Wharf to Circular Quay. We then made our way to Sydney Aquarium where we looked at many different species of fish and other creatures found in the ocean. After that we walked to Darling Harbour and had lunch in the food court. When we finished we walked to IMAX theatre to watch Under the Sea 3D which was amazing. All the younger kids kept reaching out trying to touch the screen and screamed when the underwater creatures ate their prey. The film was extremely interesting as it told us about life under the sea. It also taught us that human activities are having a negative impact on coral reefs. After the movie we caught a bus back to Circular Quay and ferry back to Manly. Overall everyone enjoyed the excursion and we are sure it taught us a lot about the ocean. Thank you Mrs Gilchrist and Ms Heraghty.

The Year 10 Elective Geography Class

Year 11 Economics Excursion
In August the Year 11 Economics class visited the Reserve Bank – who said Economists don’t know how to have fun! Throughout the year the RBA runs HSC lectures providing an insight into current Australian and global economic conditions. It is such an exciting time to be studying Economics with talk of another global recession and European governments defaulting on their loans (well we Economists find it very exciting). After the presentation the girls had the opportunity to look through the Bank Museum where currency from Australia and around the world is on display. Although the girls found the presentation to be very valuable for the Year 12 course they found it difficult not to nominate their photo opportunity with the Sunrise team as the highlight of the day. Kochie could barely contain his excitement when the girls told him they were going to the Reserve Bank!

Ms Margaret Heraghty

Year 12 Geography Excursion
Just after the Trial exams the Year 12 Geography class undertook fieldwork at Tyrell’s Vineyard in the Hunter Valley as part of their study of Viticulture. In the topic “People and Economic Activity”, students study a specific economic activity and we chose Viticulture. A requirement of the topic is to select a particular winery, hence our visit to Tyrell’s. Despite a number of students mentioning they were over 18, it was pointed out the purpose of the visit was educational not social. At the vineyard we gained an insight into the varieties of grapes grown and the conditions which make the Hunter Valley suited to grape growing. We also had the opportunity to take a tour of the winemaking area including the crushers, fermenting vats and storage area lined with large oak barrels filled with maturing varieties of red and white wine. The visit was a great success. It gave us the opportunity to complete our compulsory fieldwork hours and collect good quality first hand information.

Ms Margaret Heraghty

Curriculum
Languages Department Highlights of 2011:

- ALC Language Certificate exams: 6 High Distinctions, 27 Distinctions, 68 Credits
- Chinese Moon Festival celebration
- Chinese Dragon Boat Festival
- Chinese karaoke
- French trip to Noumea Years 9 and 10
- French exchange students at Stella Maris College
- French lunches at school
- Italian Years 11 and 12 to Leichhardt Forum
- Italian Year 10 to Mezzanotte restaurant
- Japanese Tokimeki Cup Speech Contest: Emily Adare, Regan Blackmore, Melissa Currie, Nichayla Palme, Year 9
- Language Perfect World Championships: gold medal Michelle Clark, bronze medals Lillian McCoy and Elise Andrew, Excellence certificates Ellen Spencer and Samantha Lynch, Year 9 French
- Manly Council/Odawara Student Exchange to Japan: Irene Pi Year 10
- Spanish celebrations, songs and video production
- Stella Alive

Japanese Speech Contest

The annual Japanese Speech Contest “Tokimeki Cup” was held in Manly Council Chamber in June. Four Year 9 students, Emily Adare, Regan Blackmore, Melissa Currie and Nichayla Palme, took part in the contest. All contestants read Japanese nursery rhymes, and the girls performed well.

Year 12 Italian

Year 12 celebrated their six years of language study at the Forum in Leichhardt. They delighted in the statue of Dante, the father of the Italian language, which is situated in the fountain in the middle of the Forum. They also enjoyed the cultural atmosphere that Leichhardt’s ‘Little Italy’ has to offer as well as enjoying cannoli, pizza, pasta and gelato.

Auguri e in bocca al lupo!

Mrs Teresa Milazzo, Italian Teacher

Year 9 French lunch

The Year 9 French class had a French cuisine lunch. Nine girls made a variety of French food, including chocolate mousse, croissants, baguettes, quiches, meringues, muffins and the favourite of the class, a French decorated cake. It was all about the French culture, including the tableware in French colours.

Everyone went to a lot of effort to make this the most enjoyable French lunch and it certainly was. C’était très délicieux! (It was very yummy!). We know we ate well that day because we had never been so full before. It was fun and it was an atmosphere in which we could experience a somewhat real-life French experience. There was of course an educational side to this, we learnt that the French have the yummiest cuisine!

Lilly McCoy, 9.10

Mrs Jennifer Murray, Language Coordinator
French Students’ Trip to Noumea

The trip was not only a chance to broaden our knowledge but also to bond with each other. Whether we went to the sunny beaches or the glamorous boutiques, we loved every minute of it! All in all, it was great experiencing another country’s culture and customs, including that the locals speak French of course! This holiday opened new horizons and opportunities for me and I’m sure it did for the other girls too.

Claudia Noone, 10.3

Noumea was a fantastic experience and a great way to really put into practice the French we have learnt over the last couple of years. The teachers, girls and I experienced the traditions of the Kanak people by visiting the amazing Amédée Island and the interesting Tjibaou Cultural Centre. Thank you Ms Murray and Ms Molloy for taking us on this magnificent trip!

Olivia Wilson, 10.4

Learning Support

The Learning Support Department has been very busy this year assisting a number of students from Years 7 to 12 with special needs. This assistance has been in the classroom and/or withdrawal to do reading, spelling and assignment work. There is always ongoing consultation with teachers and Kylie Andrew, the School Counsellor.

Early in the year, the ‘Hour of Power’ was introduced twice a cycle for Years 7 – 9, where small groups of students arrive to work on their assignments or homework, usually with two Learning Support staff assisting. This time has been most beneficial for the Learning Support students.

Another arm of Learning Support is in the area of Disability Provisions. A number of students this year were granted provisions for their School Certificate and Higher School Certificate with extra time and/or readers and writers. I would especially like to thank the many readers and writers - parents, staff and students who gave of their time so graciously to help these students through the year.

Learning Support or E17 as it has become known, provides a welcoming environment, a comfortable place for students to come to seek assistance, complete an examination, or simply pop in for a friendly chat. We have seen many of our students grow in confidence over the years. Our Year 12 students have now completed their HSC and are looking forward to attending TAFE, University or joining the work force.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the dedicated and talented staff who work tirelessly in this Department: Mrs Tiffany Blaikie, Mr Evan Browett, Sr Pauline Bulluss, Mrs Fran Byrne, Mrs Robyn Clarke, Ms Kate McGarty, Mrs Bronwyn Taylor and Ms Lindy Virtue.

Ms Marcia Charles, Learning Support Coordinator
This year has been a satisfying year for the Mathematics Department. The students have worked hard and have achieved pleasing grades that the College is very proud of.

Help and Support

Mathematics is a subject that requires lots of hard work and practice. Students need to be organised and dedicated to make good progress in Mathematics. Some certainly find the world of numbers to be a challenge but it is important to never give up. In Term 4 2011 the Mathematics Department started an after school Maths Club on Wednesday afternoons for Years 7 and 8 students. They were popular sessions where students could come and ask questions and seek further explanation. We are looking at expanding this Maths Club after school in 2012 to other year groups at the College.

Stella has a team of dedicated Mathematics teachers at the College who will spend endless hours helping individuals throughout the year. We also have programs structured in a way so that students reach their true potential in the subject. Mrs Ann Watchorn is available for students who really need individual attention.

It is important that all students seek help when required and share the same vision as the Mathematics Department - that all can succeed at some level of Mathematics and reach their true potential in the subject.

NAPLAN Testing in Years 7 and 9

The results in Numeracy continue to be positive and encouraging. This year the Numeracy results in the NAPLAN tests showed that students in Years 7 and Year 9 were consistently scoring above State average. There seemed to also be good positive growth at the College. The NAPLAN tests are a good tool for students and teachers to identify areas of concern and it was pleasing to see so many positive aspects being reported back to the College.

School Certificate Comes to an End in 2011

The year 2011 will be remembered as the last year that students completed the School Certificate Exams. The Year 10 students of 2011 should be proud of the effort they put into preparing for the examination. We all commend the students on the way they approached the trial exams and then the formal examinations set by the Board of Studies.

2012 Software for the Students

In 2012 all students in the College will be able to access the MYMATHS computer program that covers lots of content from early Year 7 to senior Mathematics. Students will be able to access the program from home or school and practise the concepts delivered in the classroom. The girls can watch worked examples, practise questions and complete small quizzes. The classes who used the program this year responded to it very positively, the girls finding it user-friendly and a useful learning tool.

Students in Years 7-10 will also be given a Mathletics password again in 2012. This program was heavily used in 2011 and the students certainly seemed to enjoy the way this program is structured and how it complements the syllabus. Practice tests, worked examples and immediate feedback continue to be all positive aspects of this program as well.

Maths Online will also continue to be available to all students in Years 7-12. This program is a fantastic resource that is filled with high quality worksheets and video explanations. Students found this program to be a great revision tool prior to examinations and assisted in the study process.

Mr Sebastian Puntillo, Mathematics Coordinator
Year 7 enjoyed different sports such as rollerblading, taekwondo and gymnastics as well as learning strategies for adapting to high school. They also designed their own ‘Teen magazines’.

Year 8 participated in sports such as rock climbing, tennis and pilates. The Year 8 students also learnt about nutrition, fitness and healthy relationships.

One area that Year 9 focused on was the ‘Power of the People’ and social justice in health areas in Australia. They got to enjoy Zumba, Pilates and swimming as well as other sports.

Year 10 participated in a range of recreational sports such as surfing and kayaking. They also examined issues that may affect them in their future, and looked at future career choices and preparation, along with learning the value of resilience.

In Years 9 and 10, students are given the chance to study Sports Science. This is an opportunity for keen students to further develop their knowledge and skills of a wider range of sports and theory topics. These include: bike riding, group exercise, various aquatic sports such as surfing, body boarding and teaching infant swimmers.

The Years 11 and 12 classes should be congratulated on their diligent efforts. The senior PDHPE course has a strong focus on the health issues in Australia as well as exercise physiology and sports medicine.

Ms Cathy Douglas, PDHPE Coordinator

Student Reflection - Year 10 Self Protection Day

On Thursday 19th May the Year 10 students’ perspective of self protection changed forever. Speaker Brent Sanders gave us a seminar on strategies to avoid confrontation with sex offenders and how to get out of difficult situations. He shared with us successful stories of girls who have used his techniques to get out of peril. Although with the good comes the bad, and we also heard of unfortunate stories of girls who didn’t have the knowledge to escape from harmful people. We learnt how these offenders think and discovered why we are in the high risk age group. After a day of highly entertaining talks and discussions we headed out to the basketball court where we were taught how to defend ourselves. We walked away from this day with the knowledge and awareness that could potentially get us out of harmful situations.

Ashleigh Dale 10.5, Sarah Saliba 10.6 and Olivia Papalia 10.3

Student Reflections - Year 8 Surf Survival Day

On the 21st of October Year 8 traipsed down to Manly Beach for a day of surf education. The day was split into two parts; in the water and not in the water. While we were in the water we learnt to swim and move around in currents, how to dive under waves and run in the water. The latter was particularly entertaining, as we all looked a bit like ducks. Another episode in the water took place at the beautiful Shelly Beach where we practised rescue scenarios using boards. We got to practise rescues where we would paddle out and drag our partners back to shore and then swap around. We did learn a lot - all the different ways to swim in strong currents float and wait for rescues. I now know how to board paddle, swim side-stroke and rescue a friend if I ever need to. So in the end, the unsightly rash vest tans and freezing water were worth it. Yes, really.

Matilda Gould 8.8

The Surf Survival Day consisted of 2 parts; a theory lesson where we learnt how to spot a rip, how to perform CPR and the different kinds of waves and how to deal with them. I must admit the theory lesson was the dull part of the day, but a few cheeky comments and funny demonstrations, did make things more interesting. To get to the room we had to walk up a staircase that looked a bit “shady” and pass a few boards that were literally 3 times my size, but then again I am not the tallest person on this earth. The room had a wall full of photo frames filled with images of both past and present life guards and might I say, most of them were very easy on the eye. The ceiling was weighed down with the weight of several surf life saving boats and boards. When the instructor began his Power Point he admitted to us the this would be very dull. Several girls let our frustrated and disappointed moans. After a day of battling the surf who would want to sit around listening to a dull version of what we had just learned firsthand? But surprisingly, it was rather enjoyable. The talk briefed us on how to perform CPR (remember, when giving CPR to an infant, only use 2 fingers to perform compressions) he also talked to us about beach safety in which 2 girls had to get up and attempt to tread water and float on their backs whilst standing up. The girl who had to tread water was asked to stand with her arms out to her sides with one foot off the ground and move as much as a fast as possible, resulting in her looking like a flamingo suffering from exhaustion. Whereas the girl asked to float on her back was just asked to stand like a star fish. Turns out that if you tread water, you get tired faster than if you float. It was a very interesting lesson and we certainly learned a lot whether it be about beach safety or a few new jokes. I’m sure all of Year 8 had a great day!

Georgia Gajardo 8.6
2011 saw Stella Girls engaging deeply in their Religious Education Studies. Our HSC classes received pleasing results again. Congratulations to the girls and their teachers on their hard work and dedication.

Year 7 settled in well learning about the history of the College, the Bible, the Liturgical Calendar and Jesus. For some students this was a little challenging as they had never completed formal religious studies. The Good Samaritan Mission team spent a day with the girls furthering their knowledge about the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, their history and mission today, St Scholastica and St Benedict. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff alike.

This year Stella Maris Year 8 girls completed the Catholic Education Office examination conducted by the University of NSW. Again we received excellent results.

Year 8 visited Mary MacKillop Place in October furthering their study about St Mary of the cross. The girls represented the College well and should be congratulated on their enthusiasm and behaviour. Girls also had the fun of creating their own Rosary bead bracelet. This activity reinforced their study of prayer and the Rosary. There are many budding jewellery makers.

The Year 9 course is divided into two semesters, the first focuses on Social Justice and the second on World Religions. Girls seem to enjoy both topics. Village Space a social justice organization presented a thought provoking presentation with the girls’ involvement. Many of the classes held their own fundraisers to draw attention to various issues and Mr Maker’s class arranged for “Thank You Water” to be sold in the Canteen for which all profits go to developing nations water programs. Semester two challenged the girls with expanding their knowledge on World Religions. For the first time for many girls the year group visited an Islamic Mosque in Auburn. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the day and learnt a lot.

Years 10 – 12 have had a busy academic year preparing for the School Certificate and the Higher School Certificate. Various activities were used by teachers to keep the girls stimulated and interested in their studies. Both Years 11 and 12 visited the Great Synagogue and the Jewish Museum. The day for both year groups was challenging, emotional and educational.

Thank you to the dedicated Religious Education team for their hard work and dedication to their classes.

To finish off, I have included some student comments from Years 7 and 8 about what they enjoyed this year in Religion. Here is a few of their thoughts:

Year 7
Religion has been fun this year and we have learnt a lot and we now know the true meaning of the word Religion.
Religious Education is good because it teaches you about Jesus and how to be better people.
I liked Religion and the stories because I learnt about God.
I am keen to learn about other Religions now.
I loved the stories.
It was fun to learn about how Jesus lived.
I learnt Religion from another person’s point of view and it was really interesting and I learnt heaps.
I did not know much so for me it was a great learning experience.

Year 8
This term, Year 8 had the fantastic opportunity to go and see the Mary MacKillop Chapel and Museum in North Sydney. It was a chance for us to see how Mary MacKillop lived and all of the adversities she went through before she became Mother Mary of the Cross. We were able to see her home, learn about her family and listen to the interactive monitors that recreated the various people that she met throughout her life. It was a very interesting experience and I’m sure everyone really enjoyed it.

We were also able to make our own Rosary Beads during the last weeks of term. We learnt about the order of the beads and what they symbolize, all while being able to bead our own one. We used different beads for the different prayers and we were also given a small crucifix to hang on the end. It was a fun activity to do and we learnt a lot about the prayers involved while using Rosary Beads.

Maggie Jacobson 8.9

Ms Rebecca Robin-True,
Religious Education Coordinator
"A careful analysis of the process of observation in atomic physics has shown that the subatomic particles have no meaning as isolated entities, but can only be understood as interconnections between the preparation of an experiment and the subsequent measurement."

Erwin Schrödinger

Schrödinger was an Austrian scientist famous for his cat! He didn’t really have a cat but he explained a complex principle of quantum mechanics in everyday terms using a cat to model particle behaviour. We use models in Science frequently to aid understanding. We can model the thoughts in Schrödinger’s quote using Science at Stella:

Our girls are like the subatomic particles, they do not work in isolation, they are connected via many relationships with each other, teachers and their family. Their success depends on their interconnectedness.

Stella girls have had a great year connecting with Science and are witnesses to the ideas of Benjamin Franklin:

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest"

Well done girls and we should let the pictures tell the story...

Mrs Louise Yeates, Science Coordinator

Did you know....

- The ears of a cricket are located on the front legs, just below the knee.
- The only letter not appearing on the Periodic Table is the letter “J”.
- The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.
- If you could drive to the sun at 80 km per hour it would take about 193 years.
- It’s impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

Laws of Thermodynamics or perhaps gambling!
1. You cannot win.
2. You cannot break even.
3. You cannot stop playing the game.

A limerick about the Theory of Relativity....
There was a young lady named Bright,
Whose speed was far faster than light.
She left one day
In a relative way,
And returned home the previous night!

Can you match the discovery with the scientist?
1. Antibiotics
2. Dynamite
3. Neptune
4. Spray on skin
5. Polonium

A. Fiona Wood
B. Johann Galle
C. Marie Curie
D. Alexander Fleming
E. Alfred Nobel

Answers: 1D, 2E, 3B, 4A, 5C
The Department Moves!

The Design and Technology Departments’ return to main campus was filled with mixed emotions. Having spent over six years at ‘The Factory’ our Department developed a working environment that allowed our independent existence to be functional and fun. We appreciated the ‘perks’ associated with being off campus, however, when the Benedict Campus was purchased and it became clear that we were returning to the main campus we noticed the drawbacks too, so we quickly got enthusiastic and began using Google Sketchup to plan how we would arrange the new rooms.

We have since taken up residence in a newly built staffroom in E14 adjoining the Elective Design and Technology room which has a new vinyl cutter and in coming years will get a vacuum former and laser cutter. E13 is now the Multimedia/Video room and Mr Wong is working towards making the far end into the Stellavision studio. E12 is the new Technology room and with the addition of a wet area we can continue working with paints.

We have been pleased to bring across an ethos whereby students and staff freely interact as a community across all three rooms. There is a casual atmosphere that we hope allows students to work creatively in a social environment that reflects what it is like to work at a design/media agency.

Year 12 Design and Technology

Year 12 were involved in completing a Major Design Project that fulfills a “genuine need”. This year some of the students came up with some very unique design solutions that addressed needs they identified. Anna Rose described a family need whereby there was not enough room for all the family and friends to sleep at Manyana so she renovated a dilapidated caravan into a stunning bedroom. Jacqueline Campbell put together a fashion parade that aimed to promote positive body image and her project involved event organisation and promotion. Kirsten Dunsmore designed and produced an entire magazine that overcame the issues she saw with magazine giveaways often obscuring the front cover. The group worked exceptionally hard and we were very proud of their efforts.

Year 11 Design and Technology

Year 11 began the year with the trip to Bundanon where they designed and produced a model cafe. The proposals involved thinking about what materials they would use and how they could design a sustainable addition to the rural environment they were in. They also completed a Minor Design Project. Each student designed and produced a lamp shape that created a mood appropriate for a specific room. The quality of the lampshades was outstanding and made a big impact at Stella Alive when they created a vibrant and eclectic light show.

Year 10 Design and Technology

Year 10 Design and Technology students were involved in two design projects this year. The first, a magazine cover where students devised, planned and executed a photo shoot and then edited it in Adobe Photoshop to create an interesting and professional looking cover for a magazine. The second project, a new addition to the Year 10 course, challenged students to create their own perfume, bottle, label and packaging. Both projects were engaging and interesting and although the perfumes were unique, they probably won’t be for sale just yet.

Year 10 Design and Technology

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**Year 9 Design and Technology**

The Year 9 course was revamped to place a major emphasis on acquiring skills essential to model making. The girls used these skills to create a range of 3-D paper toys complete with packaging and a concept model for a 3m x 3m teenage study pod/retreat. The planning and skills involved in these projects are beneficial for the students understanding of the notion of ‘working design’ and are also a fun challenge resulting in some very clever and sophisticated designs.

**Year 8 Technology**

Year 8 Technology benefited from the implementation of full colour folios and the standard of projects this year was excellent. The skateboard took stencilling to a new level, and for the first time we used the top side of the deck to do various experiments. The sketchup designs simply amazed staff as students could spend their own time on their laptops perfecting living room designs that demonstrated highly developed spatial awareness.

**Year 7 Technology**

The cooking and toy making is always a highlight for Year 7 students and it is always good to see some budding chefs and textiles professionals early on. The badge unit this year was condensed into a two week unit and in 2012 will be replaced by a new unit called Kooky Clocks where students will make small ornamental cuckoo clocks for their room.

**Mr Scott Mellis,**
**Design and Technology Coordinator**

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**Food Technology**

**Excursion to Sydney Tower Restaurant**

On the 22nd September our Food Technology class attended an excursion to Sydney Tower Restaurant. A representative from the Tower gave us a guided tour of behind the scenes. It was interesting to see the commercial kitchens below ground level and then a tour of all the levels of the tower.

A highlight of the excursion was the buffet lunch in the revolving restaurant. We had the opportunity to try various foods whilst enjoying the amazing views of Sydney.

**Ashleigh Stuart 10.7 and Clare Sainty-Cope 10.5**
**Information Technology**

**Year 7 Information Technology**

Students in Year 7 have been learning and developing skills in information technology, including file management, word processing, desktop publishing, spreadsheets, presentation skills and keyboarding. A focus area for the students was E-Safety – keeping safe online. They were able to apply their skills and knowledge about this topic to create some informative brochures. The girls actively participated in all their lessons and should be congratulated on their enthusiasm and behaviour.

**Years 8 and 9 Information Technology**

Girls in Year 8 IT have been working through a computing skills course. The skills and concepts covered in Year 8 were file management, word processing, presentation skills and internet and communication. Year 9 students have been working on concepts of technology, spreadsheets and databases, with many students working on the completion of their International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL). The ICDL is an internationally recognised qualification and is the standard for computer literacy in over 140 countries.

**Years 9 and 10 Information and Software Technology**

Information and Software Technology (IST) is a fantastic subject that allows students with an interest in computers to further their knowledge. This course is project based with Year 9 students studying digital media, using programs such as Audacity for sound, Photoshop for graphics and Moviemaker for video. The girls also spent time designing and creating a website for a business of their choice as one of their projects. They were required to write the underlying code and managed to create some professional looking websites.

Year 10 were working on projects involving Flash animation and had fun creating a short movie to promote healthy teeth. Other projects involved setting up a wireless network and programming some computer games using GameMaker software.

Some of our IST students in Years 9 and 10 were given a fantastic experience to visit Microsoft for a DigiGirlz Conference, which is designed to help young women gain a better understanding of careers in ICT.

This year, the Year 9 and 10 IST class were invited to the Microsoft DigiGirlz event, which was a fabulous experience. The day was held at Microsoft, and we had the opportunity to meet many girls from different schools. We listened to a range of people speak, including Microsoft Australia’s managing director, Pip Marlow. She discussed her experiences working as a woman within Microsoft, and encouraged us to all consider pursuing a career within IT.

After this, we split into groups and had the chance to experience and learn about developments in Microsoft’s Xbox console. Following this, we were able to create our own smart phone apps, which was very enjoyable. Overall, I had a fantastic experience and have been inspired to work within computing.

Amelia Russell 9.7

**Senior Computing**

Considerable effort is given to providing opportunities for students to study computing and information technology courses for the Higher School Certificate. Our senior students are able to study Software Design and/or Information Processes and Technology. The Year 12 students have been working diligently all year, in particular in the completion of group projects to produce a business information system, which challenged them to put to use their newly acquired project management skills.

**Information Technology Scholarships**

Stella Maris College students have been particularly successful in achieving the Information Technology Scholarship at the University of Technology, Sydney (valued at $43,500). Congratulations to Penny Johnson on receiving this Scholarship for 2011 and good luck to our students who have been shortlisted for 2012.

Thank you to all teachers in the Department for their efforts in 2011.

Mrs Linda Clemesha, Information Technology Coordinator
Stella Maris College has a comprehensive Vocational Education and Training (VET) program that enables students to learn valuable work skills while they are still at school. Approximately 30-40% of the students in Years 11 and 12 include at least one VET course as part of their HSC pattern of study and some students elect to study more than one. VET students end up with dual accreditation as the chosen VET course appears on their HSC and students receive a nationally recognised qualification at a Certificate II or Certificate III level which they can use as advanced standing to further study in their chosen vocation. Additionally, in most cases the VET course is included in the calculation of the students’ ATAR.

The VET Courses that we offer include, Design Fundamentals, Entertainment Industry, Fitness, Health Services Assistance, Hospitality, Retail Services and Tourism and Events. I would like to thank the teachers in the VET Department for their commitment and dedication.

Australian Vocational Student Prize

Congratulations to Ebony Caterina and Nicollette Lever (Year 12, 2010) who were the two recipients of the 2010 Australian Vocational Student Prize.

The Australian Vocational Student Prize (AVSP) recognises Year 12 students who demonstrate exceptional skills, commitment and achievement while undertaking a VET in Schools program. Each year, the AVSP recognises up to 500 outstanding Year 12 students. Students are nominated by their school and each winner receives $2000 and a certificate. The AVSP promotes the value of vocational education and training in schools recognising students who choose to pursue a practical training pathway while completing their senior secondary studies.

Nicollette Lever completed her HSC studies in 2010 and received the prize based on her contributions and efforts while studying Certificate II in Hospitality (Kitchen Operations), Certificate III in Design Fundamentals and Certificate III in Live Production Theatre and Events (Technical Operations).

Ebony Caterina completed her HSC studies in 2010 and received the prize based on her contributions and efforts while studying Certificate II and Certificate III in Tourism.

Ms Katerina Stojanovski, Vocational Education and Training Coordinator

Retail Services

Congratulations to Kate Mouldey on achieving 3rd in the State for the Retail Services HSC Examination. This is a fantastic achievement.
Design Fundamentals

This course aims to develop students into competent designers who have the ability to complete design jobs such as chalkboard graphics, packaging design and blogging about their creative work.

Year 12 students completed this course with the Package Your Mug unit where they designed the graphics for a mug and then packaged it with a box that had matching graphics. The class finished with a blog and portfolio that was filled with their efforts, and along with their Certificate III we are hopeful they gain entry or employment in their chosen career.

Year 11 worked well on many design jobs including the yardage unit where they not only designed yardage in Adobe Illustrator but produced wearable shorts from the program too. The class demonstrated a broad range of creative flair and many have fledgling careers within the design industry.

Mr Ben Waters and Mr Scott Mellis, Design Fundamentals Teachers

Entertainment

After a year off campus, the Entertainment course returned to Stella Maris in 2011. There has been growing interest in the course and 2012 looks to be an exciting year. Thanks to our state of the art theatre facilities on campus there have been brilliant opportunities for the students to engage in both a classroom and a professional environment.

Entertainment has been a great learning experience. It’s been really fun to learn about new aspects of the industry as well as how concerts, plays and theatre productions are put together. It's interesting to learn about all the behind the scenes action that takes place before, during and after a production. The course engages us in all of the aspects of a show, such as the lighting, sound, staging and visual elements. It provides us with common skills in OH&S, communicating in the workplace, working as a team, dealing with conflict and resolving complaints. All this is taught in a fun and exciting environment, the Star of the Sea Theatre. We really enjoyed specific parts of our hands on activities, like when we get to make different effects with lights and audio.

Hannah Bester 11.8 and Rachel VanZyl 11.4

Mr Evan Browett and Mr Mitchell Smith, Entertainment Teachers
Hospitality

During term three Morgan Reid, Rebecca Cavallaro, Kiorie Bennett and Stephanie Kennewell competed in the World Skills Commercial Cookery competition. We competed against each other at school level to win the right to compete at the regional level. In less than four hours we had cooked and served an entree, main and dessert. In a very close competition, Morgan and I were the winners.

The Regional final was held at Ryde TAFE. We competed against the best upcoming chefs from the Northern Metropolitan Region. It was a daunting task cooking in an unfamiliar environment but we were pleased with the dishes we presented to the judges who were very complimentary.

Unfortunately neither of us got through to the next round but we enjoyed the experience and met lots of really nice people. We learnt lots of new skills while having a great time.

Stephanie Kennewell 11.9

Tourism

The students worked hard all year to achieve the required Tourism Certificate II competencies and to prepare for the Tourism HSC.

Over 20 work placements were completed for Years 11 and 12 at various travel and tourism businesses e.g. Driveaway Holidays, Q Station, Sydney Tower, ATS Pacific, YHA Central & Rocks, Manly Visitor Centre, among others. One Year 12 student was offered a permanent job at the Lakeside Caravan and Camping Park, Narrabeen, following her outstanding performance on work placement.

2012 will bring an exciting development when a ‘virtual travel agency’ (practice office) will be created at the newly fitted Benedictine campus. Here the tourism students will gain experience in the ‘travel agency’ performing office duties, conducting consultations with ‘clients’ and training on an industry recognised computer reservation system (called Galileo).

Ms Sharon Adams, Tourism Teacher
ANZAC Day

There were many ceremonies in the local community to commemorate ANZAC Day. At the ceremony held at Manly Nicole Olivera of Year 12 gave the address on behalf of the Youth of Manly. Following is an excerpt of her speech:

‘96 years ago, on this day, thousands of our Anzac soldiers landed at Gallipoli. There they met harsh resistance and faced experiences that we can never imagine. There, these husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and friends displayed courage, resilience and strength in honour of their homes and their people. They proved their loyalty to us, and today we pledge our loyalty to them.

Our troops were also known for their teamwork and inspiring mateship. In almost all accounts of Anzac soldiers who had survived the Great War, our men have stated that they only survived due to the power of comradeship. Their fellow troops and mates encouraged them to move forward, imagine their families back at home, and had simply strengthened their will to live. And, in fact, these strong relationships are what define us here in the northern beaches today, and are what form our Manly community. Each of us has these inbuilt senses of empathy, trust and compassion for one another, which I believe are the exact reflections of the mateship and humanity our Anzacs demonstrated at Gallipoli.

It is through these connections to our soldiers that I believe, we are able to commemorate this special day. Each year, on Anzac Day, not only do we commemorate but we learn. Due to these similarities, we are able to learn from our diggers and acknowledge what we know now and what they didn’t all those years ago. We have acquired resourcefulness and a maturity when we think about war. Through the courage, endurance and determination expressed by our soldiers, each year we are reminded to appreciate life and all the opportunities that we are fortunate to have. Our individuals are empowered by these similarities and are made aware of the differences they can make in their lives, this community, and our world.

To the families and friends of those who have been lost to the battlefields, our hearts are with you, we grieve with you and we commemorate with you.

For those fighting right now in current conflicts, we send out our support and we pray for an end to your suffering and that you may return home to your families and friends.

For the Anzacs and Manly’s fallen heroes, as well as as all the soldiers who died and served in military affairs for their countries: we honour their bravery, contribution and service to their countries.

We thank them for all the freedom we now have. Without them, we would not be able to appreciate this day, this place and this life. They have given us a chance to unite the community. They have been recorded in our memories and allowed us to share Australian history. They have shaped our identities, heightened our wisdom and allowed us to picture a future clear of war, bloodshed and suffering. They have given us peace, love, understanding and compassion.

Today, with both sadness and joy, we admire our soldiers who demonstrated strength and courage in the face of adversity and have allowed the Aussie spirit today, to soar.

Lest we forget.’

Careers Market
Dance Ensembles

Under the guidance of Miss Jones, and with the help of Miss Geoghegan, the Dance Ensembles have had yet another successful year. This year we had a total of 7 competitive Dance Ensembles from Years 7-11 and every Ensemble received a place at the Eisteddfod Competitions which is a fantastic achievement.

Highlights of 2011 include the Years 7 and 8 Jazz Ensemble “Work Me Down” winning 1st place at both the Ryde and Hornsby Eisteddfods and being one mark off the Highest Overall Point Score at Ryde. For their first year in competition this is a great result especially since they are our youngest performers. Also a huge congratulations to the Year 11 Contemporary group “Antrozous” who received the Most Promising Secondary School Group Perpetual Award at Hornsby Eisteddfod where they placed 2nd and to the Years 9 and 10 Jazz Group “Good Luck” who received 3rd place at the inaugural Sydney Eisteddfod where they competed against schools from all over Australia. Well done girls!

For Ex-Stella student Angela Geoghegan it was a proud moment when her Years 7 and 8 Contemporary Group “Rolling In The Deep” received a Highly Commended at Hornsby Eisteddfod. This is an amazing achievement for Angela’s first competitive choreography. I was also very proud of our first Years 10 and 11 Hip Hop Group who placed 2nd at both the Extreme and Hornsby Eisteddfods as well as Highly Commended at the prestigious Sydney Eisteddfod. For our first Senior Hip Hop competition group I could not have been happier!

2012 is going to be just as exciting!

Results for 2011:

Hornsby Eisteddfod
1st – Year 7/8 Jazz “Work Me Down”
2nd – Year 10/11 Hip Hop “Morning After Dark”
2nd – Year 11 Contemporary “Antrozous”
HC – Year 10 Lyrical “Fix You”
HC – Year 7/8 Contemporary “Rolling In The Deep”

Sydney Eisteddfod
3rd – Year 9/10 Jazz “Good Luck”
HC – Year 7/8 Jazz “Work Me Down”
HC – Year 10/11 Hip Hop “Morning After Dark”
HC – Year 11 Contemporary “Antrozous”

Ryde Eisteddfod
1st – Year 7/8 Jazz “Work Me Down”
HC – Year 9/10 Jazz “Good Luck”

Extreme Eisteddfod
2nd – Year 10/11 Hip Hop “Morning After Dark”
3rd – Year 7/8 Jazz “Work Me Down”

Northern Beaches Eisteddfod
HC – Year 7/8 Jazz “Work Me Down”

Well done to a highly dedicated team of girls who give up their mornings before school to rehearse relentlessly week after week! Your commitment and enthusiasm have earned you terrific results and it is always a pleasure to work with you! To Years 7 & 8 Jazz, I am so impressed with your hard work this year which made you our only group to receive a place at EVERY Eisteddfod Competition entered this year. What fantastic results!

Ms Rochelle Jones, Dance Ensemble Coordinator

Rock Eisteddfod

Stella Rocks! First Place Rock Eisteddfod - Open Division

At the Grand Final of the Open Division of the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge we were treated to a real entertainment feast at the Entertainment Centre. There were 10 schools in the finals and it was obvious that all had worked hard on their concept and had invested many months in rehearsals for the dancers so the competition was strong.

Ms Ryland and I were feeling quietly confident at half time, having seen the Stella production of “The Story of Echo and Narcissus” in rehearsal and feeling that the acts in the first half were not of the same calibre. We were a little nervous at one of the Sutherland Shire High Schools’ production in the second half but we were ‘blown away’ with the performance of our girls and, of course, the judges, who are expert in all things theatrical, awarded us first place.

Our production was slick, professional, tasteful and very clever in bringing to life Greek mythology. The costuming was beautiful and the dancing precise and impressive. I was very proud of our girls not only for the exceptional performance but for their behaviour throughout a long day but mostly for their commitment to this production over the past year. It is a long and exacting task to ensure the quality of public performance but it was evident that the whole team had worked exceptionally hard.

I am most grateful to the parents for their support, especially the mums who were responsible for the costumes. However, I am most appreciative of the talent and dedication of Melissa Smith and Lawrence Wong, the teachers who gave of themselves for months to ensure such success. Melissa and Lawrence are certainly inspiring teachers who have managed to bring out the best in the girls.

Congratulations to all involved. We are all proud of you.

Mrs Vicki Comerford, Principal
Debating

The Stella Maris debaters did an excellent job representing the College this year.

The highlight was the Year 10 appearance in the final of the Sydney Debating Network (SDN) competition; the team was comprised of Velvet Belle Templeman, Violet Warner, Cinzia Tisano, Nicola Rorke, Tara Van Herten and Marni Jo Mantell. The girls were defeated narrowly by their nemesis, Roseville College.

The Year 12 team, anchored by Julia Rorke and ably assisted by Nicole Olivera, Hannah Armstrong and Eloise Layard, fought admirably against debating teams that had an advantage of 5 years experience. They represented the College with strength and integrity.

Special mention must go to the the Year 8 team of Matilda Gould, Georgia Gajardo, Emanuela Orellano, Kimberly Drake and Amy Tesorerio, who narrowly missed the finals of both SDN and Independent Schools Debating Association (ISDA). Both competitions are fiercely fought and to be in the finals, or on the cusp, is a very good performance.

Well done to all who debated for Stella during 2011. A great effort.

Mr Deryck Pickering, Debating Coordinator

Fun Runs
Duke of Edinburgh

I had always heard that Duke of Edinburgh was fun, but after completing these two hikes I realise it was also a lot of pain. However, doing these two hikes with my friends was amazing. I will always remember them and the good and bad times we had. At the start I just wanted to do the hikes but now I realise how important everything else is as well. When I started my community service at the RSL Lifecare I didn’t realise how many friends I would make or how many lives I would be part of. I really enjoyed D of E and am looking forward to doing the Silver Award

Rebecca Connell 10.6

I loved this hike! It was very hard physically (and mentally) but was very rewarding, the feeling of accomplishment I felt when it was over was great. Also the walk was very beautiful. I liked the fact that we as a group got to take a break mid-walk to stop and admire the scenery.

Ruby Chippendall 10.5

It was quite sunny for winter, which made the hike quite enjoyable. The night however, reached 2 degrees and so the tents were very cold. The wallabies broke into my bag and ate all of my food so I had to share with other camping members

Amber Perks 10.9
Music Ensembles

2011 saw the expansion of the Music Ensembles to:
- Choir – Directed by Mrs Victoria Williams
- Clarinet Ensemble – Directed by Mrs Kirsten Macaulay
- Concert Band – Directed by Mrs Jessica Maker
- Guitar Ensemble – Directed by Mr Greg Arnold
- Junior Jazz – Directed by Mr Rob Sutcliffe
- Junior and Senior Vocal Ensembles – Directed by Mrs Victoria Williams and Mrs Leanne Haines
- Rock Bands (3) – Directed by Mr Evan Browett
- Saxophone Ensemble – Directed by Mr Rob Sutcliffe
- Senior Band – Directed by Mrs Kirsten Macaulay
- Stage Band – Mrs Jessica Maker
- String Ensemble – Directed by Miss Naomi Leviton

These ensembles, bands and choirs performed at a variety of functions this year that included:
- Stella Maris Opening Mass
- Stella Maris 80th Anniversary Mass
- Stella Maris Year 10 and Closing Mass
- Stella Maris Musicale
- Stella Maris Twilight Markets
- Stella Maris Elective, Senior and Year 7 Music Nights
- Stella Alive
- USA Music Tour
- Northern Beaches Eisteddfod
- Roundhouse Kindergarten
- Warringah Mall
- St. Mary’s Primary School
- St. John the Baptist School fete
- Dee Why RSL for the Association of Independent Retirees

One of the highlights of the year was the highly successful USA Music tour to Los Angeles and New York where our talented singers and musicians performed and work-shopped on Broadway; met with students from St. Xaverian College (New York) and Cornelia Connelly School (Anaheim). Students also sang at Mass at St. Boniface, Anaheim and at St. Malachy’s on Broadway.

Our private Music Staff have been working very hard with all student musicians at Stella Maris. A big thank you to:
- Ms Joanne Sharp – Clarinet
- Mr Evan Browett – Drums and Percussion
- Mrs Jacinta Mikus, Ms Jen O’Reily and Ms Cassandra White – Flute
- Mr Andrew Scott – Guitar
- Ms Lemin Luu – Lower Brass
- Mrs Leanne Haines – Music Theory
- Ms Emma Phillips – Oboe and Voice
- Ms Ana Lin – Piano and Music Theory
- Mr Ben Dickson – Saxophone
- Mr Nathan Milliner – Trumpet
- Ms Kathryn Crossing – Violin
- Ms Alexandra Page and Ms Melanie Pells – Voice

Mrs Kirsten Macaulay, Performing Arts Coordinator

On the 11th of November Stella Maris held the Stella Maris Christmas Markets on the deck. The Markets didn’t just have stalls, they also had Christmas carols. We had the entertainment of the Stage Band, Concert Band and Small choral groups. The Markets were a great way to get everybody into the Christmas spirit.

Riley McDonald 7.6

This year in the choir we have experienced many fun filled events. We went to the Sydney Symphony and listened to them play their spectacular songs, we learnt about all of the orchestra instruments and it was a really relaxing and interesting day. We also performed in the theatre for our parents at Musicale, we sang “Lean on me” and everyone got really into it and had a great time in the spotlight. We also have our usual classes which are always fun and bring smiles to our faces, we sing songs and have a great time.

Unknown
May 2011 saw a major production of Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, performed outdoors on the basketball court. Stella Maris students were joined by students from St Augustine’s College to form a company of more than sixty people involved as actors, stage manager, crew, fencing coach, lighting designer, designers and constructors of set elements, video production and poster designer. Mr Desmond James, Drama teacher at St Augustine’s selflessly offered his directorial assistance to me.

Chosen to give students the opportunity to perform very fine writing for the theatre and because it is such a teenagers’ play, telling of the passionate and impulsive nature of youth and the carelessness of the elders around them, *Romeo and Juliet* was performed on the traverse (audience sitting either side of the stage, like a fashion parade catwalk). This offered the company the opportunity to extend its understanding of theatre spaces and to learn the complexities of playing them. The court is a natural piazza where two major outdoor street brawls (a spectacle for the audience and great fun for the performers) could be staged. The auditorium created an ‘us and them’ scenario, Capulets on one side and Montagues on the other, highlighting the central premise of the narrative, the enmity between the two families.

The play is set in high summer. Little could we predict, back in the middle of 2010 when pre-production began, that it would be the coldest May in forty years. Rugs were a necessity for the audience. We were rained out on only one performance when the audience retreated into the Star of the Sea Theatre. Weather considerations are always a risk with outdoor theatre but the rewards can be exhilarating.

The title roles were shared, night on, night off over the four performance season, with deep commitment and an obvious love of the work by Year 11 students Joelle Turton and Sam Ruskin, and Gabrielle Tesoriero and Joe Murphy. Year 10 student Laura Gass, in the demanding role of stage manager, kept the production running smoothly. HSC student, Natalie Cavallaro’s evocative poster design captured perfectly the beauty of the lovers’ affection for each other and the fragility of their lives within those families.

Mr Mitchell Smith created and operated a lighting plot that highlighted the ever changing moods and pace of the action. Ms Melissa Smith and Ms Cara Brown choreographed the huge ballroom scene; rehearsals that the actors always loved. Mr Lawrence Wong and his classes created huge banners that set the social standing of the two families and added to the audience’s appreciation of the feud. Costumes had many hands on deck including Ms Christina Burke and Ms Luci Kelly and the Year 10 Textiles class and ex-Stella students Louise Harding and Caitlin Pentecost. Ms Gabrielle Lee and the team, along with Ms Nora Daly provided much needed interval food and beverages for the audience. Ms Amy Smith set up an administrative system on Moodle that facilitated auditions and communication with the company. Mr Terry Bartlett and Mr Joe Comerford did myriad jobs of preparing the court for the construction of the seating and set. Ms Trish Hobson in finance gave valuable and always friendly advice on money matters. Ms Dianna Hall believed and encouraged, and encouraged and encouraged. Add to that some fifty committed and learning students and you can appreciate the scale of the project.

My sincere thanks go to all who gave their time and skill to make this, in the words of many of the actors in the company, ‘the best experience of my life’.

Mr Geoff Cartwright, Director
Representative Sport

2011 was a great year for Stella Maris College in Representative Sport. We have had many students compete at various levels of competition to achieve amazing personal goals!

Congratulations to all the students who were selected to represent Stella Maris at the Broken Bay Secondary Schools Sports Association competitions throughout the year. Through this pathway, the following students were chosen to represent at the next level, Combined Catholic Colleges, and then some were chosen to compete at NSW All Schools. We congratulate them:

**CCC Touch:**
Laura Peattie, Luseanne Cook, Eliza Parish, Jodie Trim, Maddie Jones

**All Schools Touch:**
Laura Peattie

**CCC Basketball:**
Kirsten Dunsmore

**CCC Swimming:**
Jessie Quinn, Lily Rassdale, Georgia Miller, Caitlin Werakso, Sophia Brinkman, Janice Quinn, Kirsten Dunsmore, Samantha Pickering, Mieke Kassulke

**All Schools Swimming:**
Jessie Quinn, Lily Rassdale, Georgia Miller, Caitlin Werakso, Sophia Brinkman, Janice Quinn

**CCC Softball:**
Izabella Welsh, Logan Mounsey, Siobhan Nealon, Grace Loughland, Maddison Marsh

**CCC Netball:**
Bronte Halligan, Izabella Welsh, Hollie O’Shannassy

**CCC Soccer:**
Luseanne Cook, Jessica Sekulich, Micaela Borger

**CCC Cross Country:**
Sophia Brinkman, Tully Marr, Ella Cope, Emma McGlinn, Kiri English-Hawke

**All Schools Cross Country:**
Tully Marr, Sophia Brinkman, Ellyanne Slennett

**CCC Rowing:**
Kiri English-Hawke

**CCC Athletics:**
Lillian Smith, Mieke Kassulke, Stephanie Zervos, Tully Marr, Ellyanne Slennett, Newbie Redding

**All Schools Athletics:**
Lillian Smith, Newbie Redding, Stephanie Zervos

**CCC Water Polo:**
Carla Woolley, Laura Woolley, Clare Freakly, Matlida Griffiths, Natasha Carr, Danielle Carr, Bronte Halligan, Paige Wiseman, Samantha Pickering, Mieke Kassulke, Holly Bray, Josie Martinuzzo, Rachel Flemming, Siobhan O’Hara, Brodie Forsyth, Taylor Bird, Gemma Warmelsey, Madeline Kilpatrick, Jodie Trim, Chelsea Karren, Michaela Bamford, Eliza Parish, Kelsey McKeen, Ella Cope, Lissa Woolven, Rebecca Tardif.
**Student Success Project**

The Student Success Project is part of the College’s Gifted and Talented Program. Student Success offers high achieving students the opportunity to extend their learning by completing a personal project in their area of interest. These projects cover all subject areas and are a fascinating insight into the curiosities and concerns that engage our students.

Projects are displayed each year at Stella Alive. Once students have completed their projects they are invited to remain a part of the Student Success Program by mentoring other students, receiving a gold certificate and developing a leadership role within the school community.

This following observation was written by a participant in her personal blog: “Now I realise the benefits of completing Student Success. You learn valuable research skills, complete a project of a high standard and much more. It is not what you write down on paper that matters but the things you learn along the way”.

The Student Success Projects are as diverse as the students themselves:

- Liana Bonner researched the challenging question - Is animal testing ethically correct?

- Jenna-Lee Felton developed a critical interpretation of Collette Dinnigan as an Australian fashion icon, her work and contribution to the fashion Industry.

- Laura Gass researched the modern day question of Does the use of mobile phones increase the likelihood of cancer?

- Violet Warner’s Project consisted of how to make a movie. The focus of her interviews was the sound technician and she wrote a script titled Stuck. ‘Stuck’ is a short film about a group of seventeen year old female students who break into a rock-climbing centre after hours and decide to try out an obstacle-like tunnel.

Gina Gonzalez examined the theory of choreography and used this research to critically analyse the production of the classical ballet Giselle by two international dance companies. Gina’s creative synthesis was the Fundraising Performance titled ‘Hope’. Hope was held in November and raised over $3,500 for the National Breast Cancer Foundation, whilst providing entertainment and an empowering growth experience for the young performers.

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**Rock the Schools**

On the 4th of May ‘Rock the Schools’ came out to Stella. The day involved a number of different initiatives engaging students from the Entertainment Industry class as well as Music and Business Studies.

Bumping in early, the Entertainment class got to help out with the setup of this professional show. Sessions were then run encompassing everything from the business aspects of the industry to the finer points of sound checking.

The concert was at lunchtime, kicking off with a dance competition that resulted in one of our senior girls winning a Wii. The main gig, featured the Band ‘Delamare’ and the girls’ enthusiasm was unbelievable. In fact, it was so fantastic that the school was selected by Channel 7’s ‘Sunrise’ program to host the (heavily rock themed) live weather crosses the following week.

Having ‘Sunrise’ at school allowed us to show off some of our rock bands as well as allowing the girls to learn a great deal about what is involved behind the scenes. Apart from rocking out, discussing social justice initiatives at the school, describing Stella as an ‘elite Catholic girls school’, it was impressive to see how many girls could present so well at 4:30 in the morning - ah, the magic of television!

**Mr Evan Browett, Music Teacher**
World Youth Day

Starting in Barcelona we settled into the Spanish lifestyle and experienced some of the remarkable, world known highlights of the coastal city. Going to Gaudi’s La Sagrada Familia was very moving. The intricate detail of the outside facade, explaining the whole Catholic faith was mind blowing. The tour that we got around the Cathedral was beneficial to our understanding and appreciation of this masterpiece. Going to the Dali Museum was wonderful for our artists on the trip but also was a highlight to see that side of Spanish culture.

Montserrat was the highlight for all of us. The mix of spirituality, socialising with people from around the world, all there for one common purpose as well as the natural beauty of the mountain just an hour outside of Barcelona was like nowhere else. Living in a very similar lifestyle to the Benedictine Monks, having Mass at 7.30, morning prayer, siestas, Leccio Divina, night vigils and prayers were important factors of learning about our faith and finding God in each of our lives.

Madrid felt like a party that continued for the entire week. The atmosphere was unbelievable and for us Sydney-siders somewhat overwhelming. Meeting people constantly on trains, events, and just roaming the streets was a lovely thing to be a part of. As this was the last phase of our trip many were getting tireder by the day however we all fed off each other’s energy getting as much out of it as possible. We went to Catechesis which was a really interesting experience for all of us as well as a Reggae concert in a park which was just a whole lot of fun.

This trip was certainly one that we would all do again in a heartbeat. A big thank you needs to go to the school and Sr. Meg and Monica Dutton (the Good Samaritan schools team) for leading us on this pilgrimage that will stick with us for the rest of our lives.

Gabrielle Tesoriero 11.10, Ellie Davies 11.2, Rose Outred 11.1 and Savannah Stimson 11.6
GOOD SAMARITAN STAFF IMMERSION TO EAST TIMOR

Cristina De Souza-Bell and I were given the opportunity to visit East Timor as part of an immersion experience run by the Good Samaritan Order. We spoke to the Stella Maris students about our experiences at the school assembly. It is often suggested in the media that our privileged and closeted Australian girls will not be touched by the lives of others. I am happy to tell you that this negative view is incorrect and that our girls are compassionate and caring individuals who would like to make a difference but do not always know how. This was the purpose of our trip to East Timor, to bring back the stories of others, find out the East Timorese students’ needs and hopefully have our school community share in their journey toward positive outcomes for both school communities.

The affirmation of “Education is the key” is being lived by the East Timor youth, with an intensity that is absent from the students educated in Australia. We had the opportunity to visit two schools, Our Lady of Fatima School, Colégio Canossa and Baucau Teachers College. We observed students so hungry for education that in the long term absence of their teacher, students sat in silence writing down notes in their books. Their 11 year old classmate taking the class and writing notes on the blackboard did not even pause to look at visiting teachers walking down the corridor.

There were so many tearful moments; a teacher's absence of 3 months, students travelling long distances to school with the hope of receiving an education. I wondered, how well I would teach if I taught students minus text books, no senior curriculum, children who arrive hungry (and not because they are dieting) and having to teach in Portuguese when I had not mastered the language myself.

These are just a few of the challenges facing the educators of East Timor. The highlight of our immersion was to witness how much the students wished to learn, despite facing every educational challenge imaginable. It is important for the world educational community to support the East Timorese students, teachers and those mentoring the teachers before they become too tired, lose hope and give up.

We met Nanda at the Tais Markets in Dili. Nanda is 12 years old and as the sole bread winner of her family of 6, she does not go to school. She spends her day weaving tais to sell at the markets. Nanda started weaving tais at 5 years old; she shares her work space with her family and 2 chickens. She first dyes the thread and then stretches the base thread over the loom, she will then place sticks in the threads to create the pattern and a thread will be woven between the guiding sticks. The most difficult part of weaving is keeping the tension consistent.

The tais that we purchased from Nanda took one day to weave and cost $3. The average wage of the East Timorese is $1 a day.

Historical Significance of the Tais for the East Timorese people - “The weaving and wearing of tais strengthened Timorese identity by representing a form of passive resistance during the Indonesian occupation. The weaving of tais has also helped women overcome the tragedies of the past by providing a familiar and meaningful structure around which a community renews itself. Communities of women often come together to weave”. (Dr Niner, 2008).

We would like to express our gratitude to Stella Maris for giving us this unique opportunity. Thank you to the fabulous people we met in East Timor who were so honest about their hopes, dreams and frustrations and the biggest thank you of all to the Good Samaritan Community for guiding us through such a special experience.

Mrs Jocelyn Christensen
STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Throughout 2011, staff members at Stella Maris were engaged in many sessions examining school improvement with Michael Addicoat, a retired Catholic Principal who has had much personal success in raising the standards in schools where he was leader. Michael focused on examining data and looking at teaching strategies to improve student outcomes. Michael also worked with the Year 12 students to assist them to maximise their potential in their HSC studies.

The sessions with Michael led us to adopting the Quality Teaching Framework with which we will work over the next few years to focus on the Intellectual Quality of lessons and assessment, providing a high quality learning environment and ensuring that learning is significant.

2011 was our Year of Stewardship so the Staff Spirituality Day focused on this aspect of our mission.

LONG SERVICE

During September and October, Ms Ryland had the opportunity to travel to the United States and Canada as part of her Long Service Leave. Apart from enjoying the delights of Autumn in the north Eastern States, Nova Scotia and New York, Mary spent some time at the Western Priory in Vermont as an enrichment experience.

As we all realise, Mary is extremely hard working and it would be impossible for Stella Maris to function without her so it was good that she was able to take some time to herself and have the opportunity for reflection.

FAREWELL TO SOME LOVED STAFF MEMBERS

It is with much regret that we say farewell to some loved and dedicated members of staff.

Sebastian Puntillo, who came to Stella Maris as an intern teacher of Mathematics many years ago, rose to become an inspirational leader of the Maths Department. Sebastian leaves us to take up the position of Maths Coordinator at St Scholastica’s College, Glebe. This is an opportunity for him to gain broader experience and to be much closer to home and will enable him to spend more time with his wife and young children.

Jo Knight, our Visual Arts Coordinator and the force behind Stella Alive also leaves us to take up a position closer to home, at PLC Croydon. Jo has been an exceptional leader in the Visual Arts Department and leaves behind a strong legacy of excellence in the Visual Arts.

Helena George takes up a position as English Coordinator at St Maroun’s, Dulwich Hill, after many years at Stella. Helena has much to offer as an experienced, well organised and professional English teacher with an in-depth knowledge of ESL and overseas students.

Kay O’Leary, who has not been with us for most of the year because of ill health, has decided to resign as she still has ongoing serious health issues. Kay was instrumental in setting up the Gifted and Talented program at the College and although only at Stella for a short time will be sorely missed. We wish Kay all the best as she takes time to look after herself.

John Mannah, who taught Religion at Stella for 10 years, took up a position at St Marouns College, Dulwich Hill, much closer to home.

We also farewell some staff members who have been in temporary or maternity leave positions at Stella Maris; Tracey Walters in Visual Arts, Katie Holdstock in HSIE, Gemma Mason in History, Cara Brown in Dance and Tracey Mahoney in Maths. I thank each of these teachers for the considerable contribution they have made to the students of Stella Maris and wish them well in their future endeavours.
This year has been an exciting one for our Year 7 group with many great memories being created from camp, sporting events, music and dance nights, and excursions. We have a very talented group of young ladies who have excelled in many areas and I have really enjoyed watching the girls develop and mature into lovely, well mannered students. Year 7 have been a pleasure to work with, each day bringing many laughs and smiles from all the girls. They have done an outstanding job in fundraising for our Year 7 charity, Mater Dei School at Camden, and continue to think about others in need. No matter what tragedy is happening in the world or our local community, Year 7 have shown that they always are willing to respond to the need. I commend the group on being such fine examples of Good Samaritan “Stella Girls”.

Miss Kristie Ferguson, Year 7 Coordinator

Summary of Year 7

Wow, what fun we have had here at Stella Maris in 2011! My year group and I have participated in many fun and challenging activities. With help from each other and the wonderful teachers we were all able to seek our talents and find ways of using them for good. We have also been able to realise our weaknesses, however we are all supporting each other and are improving more and more every day. Some of the students in Year 7 have been selected to represent Stella Maris in activities outside of school areas. This has been a great opportunity to make new friends and show off our talents.

All of us as a year group have received many awards all for a variety of different events. Our Dance Ensemble has done amazingly well receiving two highly commended, two 1st place and one 3rd place. Our sport teams have done astonishingly well too. Our Year 7 Water Polo Team were undefeated and won the grand final. There are many more activities Year 7 has participated in and received great marks such as Debating and Music. Stella Maris has a sports carnival and a swimming carnival every year. This is another great opportunity to share our talents and commend others.

On the 23rd – 25th of March we hit the road on three big buses to Morisset. When we arrived we were all amazed at the games and activities this camping ground offered, we all couldn’t wait to get started. We all participated in many activities such as canoeing/kayaking, abseiling, sailing, fencing, orienteering, high ropes course, giant flying fox, archery and the giant swing. We had so much fun and had a life-changing experience and would all love to go back.

Year 7, along with the rest of the school, participated in a school Walkathon in Term Two. We walked all the way from school to Dee Why and back which adds up to around 15 km. We were all being sponsored to walk the 15 km to raise money for the new part of our school, the Benedict Campus. It’s exciting to see what it will look like.

Year 7 has been a wonderful year and we will certainly carry all our memories all throughout our lives. We all can’t wait until Year 8 to continue having fun.

Bronte Oldfield 7.9

Camp Reflection

The Year 7 Camp was a great adventure! I enjoyed myself very much. It was a great chance for us, Year 7s, to take a break and make new friends. We did some pretty thrilling activities. There was 5 or 10 metre abseiling, 7 or 10 metre high ropes and even the giant swing made my heart stop. I loved the night activities. The first three groups had challenge night on the first night and then the following night they watched a movie. Challenge night was a night with lots of team spirit and team work. For movie night lots of us brought some lollies while watching Toy Story 3. On the last day we did our last activities and said good bye to the lovely camp leaders. I’m glad the weather was so beautiful and warm so we could enjoy ourselves and make the most of our time at camp.

Emmylou Brasser 7.3
Summary of Year 7

When I first came to Stella, I was pretty scared but now I’m okay with it, because I know most of the people in my year group and all my teachers, plus there have been quite a few pretty fun times this year. Here are some of the highlights:

Camp – Camp was really cool; my favourite thing about Morisset was definitely the giant swing. Some of the other great things we experienced at camp were the slushies and sugary doughnuts that we got to eat in breaks. Wow they were sooooo good!

Design & Technology – This was my absolute favourite subject of the whole year. It’s so fun, creative and we get to make and bake the best things! It has been a really fun class, and I think everyone would agree it’s one of the absolute best. Plus Mr Wong was my teacher for this class and he is really cool and funny.

Friends – This year I’ve made heaps of nice and funny friends. When I first came to Stella I remember I only knew people from primary school and a few others. I didn’t think I’d make new friends apart from them, I thought we’d keep our group, but we didn’t and it wasn’t a bad thing. We all found different groups. Luckily I’ve stayed friends with those people but I’ve made new friends too, who are fun to be around and nice people.

So that sums up all the best parts of my first year at Stella. I’ll probably never forget it.

Tayla Bracey 7.2
7.3
Top Row: Madeliene Greenwood, Ava Fletcher, Riley Allen, Sophie Duke.
Middle Row: Emmylou Brasser, Maddison White, Caitlin Smith, Jemima Rankin, Molly King.
Teacher: Ms Sally Hunt

7.4
Middle Row: Bryanna Jones, Cristina Crapis, Lillian Smith, Lana Tramonte, Lara Mueller Sewell.
Bottom Row: Zoe Beetar, Caitlyn Bright, Alicia Hickey, Grace Kirkby, Victoria Mason, Jennifer Ridgway, Kayla Panetta.
Teacher: Ms Wendy Topham

7.5
Top Row: Madison Hill, Maddison Rob, Chloe Curby, Annika Altenburger, Abigail Turner, Rebecka Einspinner, Ella Seaver, Lauren Fraietta.
Bottom Row: Cara Reedy, Alexandra Broe, Natasha Bernard, Peyton Smith, Melissa McDonagh, Emilia Jones, Sophia Brinkman, Lexy Wildash.
Absent: Alison Candrick
Teacher: Ms Ana Gonzalez

7.6
Top Row: Riley McDonald, Rebecca Diaz, Rubie Seres, Christina Turner.
Middle Row: Georgia Josue, Rebecca Chapman, Rachel O’Brien, Miya Gualdi, Jenna Gair, Hannah Yeates.
Bottom Row: Chloe Kupczyk, Kathleen Reedy, Hannah Solomons, Tara Elford, Briana Brown, Hannah Rogers, Tahlia Anderson.
Absent: Emma Hughes
Teacher: Mr John Mannah
7.7
Bottom Row: Georgia Staley, West (Jackie) Elliott, Stephanie Severino, Caitriona Laing, Yasmin McFadden, Abbey Baker, Elodie Rondot-Wilson, Kirra Kissane, Lucinda Josue.
Teacher: Ms Katerina Stojanovski

7.8
Top Row: Misha Emond, Talia Bangel, Alexandra Van Vliet, Anna McGrath, Chloe Diggin, Teigan O’Shannassy, Saskia Rorke, Elyssia Kanellopoulos.
Teacher: Mrs Jessica Maker & Mr Evan Browett

7.9
Absent: Georgina Borzi, Daisy Keane.
Teacher: Ms Cathy Douglas

7.10
Top Row: Olivia Clemesha, Amy Candrick, Venice Warner, Elaine Barton, Tara Maloney, Sophie Hanrahan, Grier Stewart.
Bottom Row: Kate Bowker, Lilly Mills, Lauren Bird, Sarah Jago, Annalise Burcham, Juliana Falasca, Tiarna Palme, Claudia Dragasevich.
Absent: Lara Kelley, Capucine Rymer.
Teacher: Mrs Tracey Mahoney
Stella Day
On Stella Day the whole school united to raise funds to help our community and the 'New Benedict Campus'. It was a wonderful day organised by the Stella Maris SRC. We enjoyed a range of different activities and games which built stronger friendships and most of all we had fun. We were treated to a yummy cake stall and entertainment by girls at the school showing off their wonderful talent. My favourite part was when my friends and I went to the photo room and we got to have a photo sesh. This event was very important as we were able to stop and reflect that we are better off than some people but we could help while still enjoying ourselves. I'm looking forward to the next Stella Day!

Georgia Lavis-Rowan 8.9

Surf Survival Day
On the 21st of October the Year 8s had Surf Survival Day. This was a great experience. We did many activities such as boards and saving people on boards. When my group finished with all the water activities we went to the Surf Life Club and learned how rips work, what to do when you are stuck in a rip, what to do when you are drowning and what to do while waiting for the surf life saver to come. It was a great time to spend with all our friends at Manly Beach.

Nisha Saini 8.8

Swimming Carnival
The Swimming Carnival this year was pretty hard in my age group. It was also fun! My favourite part was singing the Lourdes cheers and having the moves to go with it.

Carla Woolley 8.5

Taronga Zoo
When Year 8 went to Taronga Zoo for a Geography excursion, it was a really educational and fun day! We went to a lesson on conservation of the animals and their habitats in the morning and we learnt about turtles, shingle back lizards and how we shouldn't introduce animals from different countries into Australia. We then spent the rest of the day looking at the elephants, lions, going to the seal show and bird show and the night life exhibition.

Brigid Mackenzie 8.3

Year 8 Retreat
In Term 2, Year 8 went to Retreat and it was great! We got to go into cabins with our friends and also some other girls which was good because we got a bit closer to those who we weren't really that close to. We spent most of the time in our PC classes, and that was fun because we did really good exercises and games and we had a different teacher to our normal PC teacher. We had Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Dinner, Dessert and Supper so we had a lot of food. We would meet in the hall every morning before we did anything and would listen to what we would be doing for the day. We also had a few hours of free time every day to spend with friends. There was a big oval and a pool but only a few girls swam because it was so cold! One night we all went to our PC rooms and we made wedding dresses out of newspaper, it was really fun. My friend and I made a really long train and we spent so long on it, but it was fun. Overall Retreat was great and got to make heaps of new friends and got closer to a lot of other people that I never thought I would.

Walkathon
The Walkathon gave me an opportunity to give back to the school community that has enriched my life in the short time I have been here. The idea of the students contributing towards their own learning opportunity is important and Stella allowed that to happen. The day of the walkathon was gorgeous and the scenery was pristine. What a great community initiative to raise funds for The Benedict Campus!

Hannah Kneipp 8.5
Mary Mackillop
On Thursday 27 and Friday 28 October, Year 8 ventured out to North Sydney to visit the final resting place of Australia’s first Saint - Mary MacKillop. A lot of girls found the day boring, having no interest in the historical monuments surrounding them. I on the other hand, found this trip immensely interesting, entertaining, inspirational and at some points in the day emotional. We walked through the very house she lived in; her kitchen, living room and we even saw the desk that Mary herself wrote letters at. We walked into the room in which she took her final breath before passing into God’s Kingdom. This was the most amazing part of the day. To be in the very house that a Saint lived. The old fashioned kitchen sent many girls crazy with longing. The cute little iron oven, the old fashioned stove and bench and even all the old cookie jars and food packaging that were there were all subjects of jealousy of almost 200 girls. We then proceeded to go into the gallery in which we looked at the life of Mary, her Irish sisters and Mary’s family - all of which we learned in class back at Stella. The girls in my group impressed our lovely tour guide with the amount of knowledge we had on Mary and the people in her life.

Next we went into the Chapel, the final resting place for Mary MacKillop, we walked in and the first thing we saw was a marble tomb with a white cross at the head of it. The tomb had Mary’s words carved around the sides in gold and the room was just vibrant. We went into the actual church area where we sat down and were told about the church we sat in. The church wasn’t originally part of the complex but was built because Mary always wanted a place for her sisters to pray and be closer to God. Unfortunately Mary passed away before the chapel was built. There we met a gorgeous lady who was one of the Irish sisters to come to Australia. She was amazing - telling us that every single one of us was a saint and that if we ever feel sad or upset that we should repeat her mantra “God loves me, nothing else matters”. She was the sweetest woman all the girls and I have ever met and we wanted to take her back to Stella with us. We were then given the chance to kneel down next to the tomb and pray to Mary. This is the part where a few of us, including myself, got emotional. We prayed for loved ones to get better, for Mary to be with us through our lives and inspire us to live a life like hers. Some even just told her about their troubles or even mundane things like food, pets, etc. Whatever it was, we were all given the chance to pray next to a saint. It was the most wonderful day and I didn’t want to leave!

Georgia Gajardo 8.6
8.3
Bottom Row: Charlotte Robbie, Olivia Taylor, Leah Bousamra, Nicole Saldern, Kristina Key, Antonia Di Donato, Mia Knight-Jackman, Emanuela Orellana.
Absent: Allegra Monckton
Teacher: Mrs Robyn Clarke

8.4
Top Row: Amber Roberts, Amy Tesoriero, Angie Schroder, Audrey Mellor, Molly Doran, Logan Mounsey, Hannah Papandrea.
Bottom Row: Karlee Purkiss, Nina Frazer, Emily Anderson, Caroline Nevouet, Ellyanne Stennett, Isabella Campana, Emily Boyde, Kate Baselgia.
Absent: Lana Chryssavgis, Kaitlyn King, Georgia Wood.
Teacher: Ms Georgina Green

8.5
Bottom Row: Georgia Parsons, Hannah Stubley, Juliana Murace, Sophie Bray, Eliza Quaine, Sarah Conlon, Danielle De Nysschen, Lily Baselgia.
Absent: Jemimah Dove, Isabella Tobin.
Teacher: Mr Sean Daly

8.6
Top Row: Hannah Naylor, Georgia Mascarenhas, Madeleine Spencer, Bridget Paul, Ashley Bekker, Lucinda Connolly, Tayla Brunis, Nikki Henderson.
Bottom Row: Brittany Vescario, Gemma Young, Emily McNaughton, Rebecca Koopman, Georgina Rafferty, Suzanna Rourke, Kimberley Drake, Georgia Gajardo.
Teacher: Ms Elizabeth Bulman
8.7
Bottom Row: Miku Nedachi, Daniella Zanko, Megan Connolly, Rebecca Walter, Samantha Bell, Sarah Elmore, Yasmine Rais, Taylah Stain.
Absent: Tayla Antonopoulos
Teacher: Ms Gemma Mason

8.8
Absent: Ruby Costello, Amber Warnock.
Teacher: Ms Alison Tedman

8.9
Top Row: Carla Watts, Caitlyn Birrell, Tess Stephen-Sujdovic, Lucy Eagleton, Georgia Lavis-Rowan, Sieana Graham, Louise Rance.
Absent: Mia Calabritto, Meg Plush.
Teacher: Ms Mika Sennett

8.10
Top Row: Eliza Earl, Serena Lentell, Ciara Lennon, Emily Power.
Middle Row: Alana Ellis, Jaime Stevenson, Laurien Bakker, Taylah Curley, Annabella La Spina, Olivia Sandlant, Alice Holdsworth.
Bottom Row: Newbie Redding, Jessika Gray, Clare Pockaj, Ellisa Bizinger, Stella Callintzis, Grace O’Brien, Mikaela McNamara.
Teacher: Mr Andrew Latham
Reflection Day

On November 9, all of Year 9 went to the Queenscliff Surf Club for a Reflection day. I had an extremely amazing day! Chris Doyle was the facilitator for the day. We began in song which led to asking volunteers to sing a solo. I went up and sang ‘Imagine’ by John Lennon. After recess Chris Doyle had all of us, including teachers participate in different positive interaction activities, such as giving each friend a positive comment about them. After lunch each of us participated in a self reflection activity. We wrote a letter to our ‘future selves’ about everything such as our dreams, our life right now, what we want to become. These letters will be given back to us during our Year 11 Retreat. At the end of the day, together we said a prayer and looked back on all the positive aspects of the day. I personally had an amazing time and enjoyed the day greatly!

Holly Head 9.8

Overall, it was a great experience that challenged us and allowed us to reflect upon who we are and what we want to gain out of life. We were also taught the word ‘Shalom’ and had to try and wish every one of our peers ‘shalom’ so they may have a harmonious and tranquil life and live it to the fullest – making the most of our lives.

Monica Olivera 9.8

Year 9 Camp

Year 9 Camp was the best experience I’ve had since coming to Stella Maris College. I made a few new friends and got to know my best friends a little better. I also learned things about myself. I conquered my fear of heights (thanks to my camp Instructor Jess), jumped off 10 metre high poles into mid-air, went on a 16 metre high swing (so much fun) and many more experiences. The point of this camp was to meet new people and teach yourself about you inside. Other fun we had was cooking marshmallows on the fire each night, getting capsized in kayaks and the Challenge Night. On Challenge Night, there were two teams and 2 people from each team would volunteer not knowing what they were doing and would play each round for points. I went up twice, and it was such a wonderful experience. Nobody judged you for what you were doing, because it was hilarious. Some games we played were tossing the coin in the cup (using you bottom), balancing water on your head whilst getting up, table game (4 people in a table formation and staying in that formation for a few minutes), flexibility, and many more. Altogether, it was the most fun I have ever had. Thank you Ms. Scully-Power and all the teachers who came along, for organizing such a fun experience at The Great Aussie Bush Camp.

Sarah Jarvis 9.9

Monica Olivera 9.8
Altitude Day Leadership Conference
Whilst at the Altitude Day Leadership Conference we had a talk from one of the most inspirational people I have met. His name was Matt Kershaw and he is now the CEO of yLead. His story of how he got to this position was amazing. He told us his life story and taught us some life lessons including a quote that I took away from the day that stated…
“Success isn’t a destination, it’s a journey.” He taught us about leadership and reminded us that leaders don’t always have badges, they can do things that can go unnoticed that really change or make a big difference in someone else’s life. He is an inspiring, enthusiastic young Australian who wants to make a difference in the world. He really wants to change the world and has already done so by talking to over a quarter of a million people. He was an amazing inspiration and I can’t wait to go to another conference that will help me to make a difference.

Taylor Mills 9.1

"Leadership is any action that makes the world I touch a better place." This quote was a theme in our Altitude Day Conference where we learnt that your individual leadership in any situation can make the world a better place. Our special guest speaker Jack Sinclair, told us about his amazing journey bike riding across Australia as the youngest person ever to do so. His inspirational achievement raised thousands of dollars which he has donated to create the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Association. His dedication to being a leader and making the world a better place has inspired us all to take action as students and live our dreams just like he has done. The Altitude Day Conference was uplifting and it has influenced my perspective on all aspects of leadership. I had a wonderful day and all the other girls from Year 9 did too.

Samantha Lynch 9.1

Swimming and Athletic Carnivals
The Swimming and Athletic Carnivals are a time when there is a competitive spirit, but at the same time it is when the whole of the Stella Maris community comes together to cheer on their peers. It is the time that if we win or lose, it doesn’t matter because we all know that we did our best. "We all are the Champions!" Every sport house at the Swimming and Athletic Carnivals put on a fantastic cheering event, where we all yell, scream, sing and have fun. The sport houses are Rosaria-green, Carmel-blue, Fatima-red and Lourdes-yellow. When we all enter the arena there is a swarm of bright colours. For the races, there are two options: you can go in the competitive race or a non-competitive race. With either race option there is still the same amount of support, whether you are first, second or third, or whether you don’t qualify. Going in a race also means that you get one point for your house. I think that this gets people motivated to go in more races, and gets people more involved in the event. Overall the Swimming and Athletic Carnivals are big events, and everyone feels a sense of accomplishment when they succeed, support, and get into the spirit!

Jessica Jarvis 9.2
9.3
Top Row: Ebony Morrison, Maddison Kelly, Stevi Ambler, Rachel Duncan, Mackenzi Wichman, Sarah Hickey, Samantha Page, Jessica Sandtner.
Absent: Bella Charlesworth
Teacher: Ms Margaret Heraghty

9.4
Top Row: Regan Blackmore, Nicola Bradley, Elise Andrew, Jessica Watson, Annabelle Elvy, Emily O’Connell, Jessica Arman, Paje Wigney.
Bottom Row: Victoria Asquith, Abbey Tredinnick, Acacia Jennings, Georgia Peniston-Bird, Lucy Jordon, Gemma Walmsley, Michaela Burchell, Siobhan Nealon.
Absent: Bronte Halligan
Teacher: Mrs Teresa Milazzo

9.5
Top Row: Hannah Carlson, Chloe Dalton, Olivia Booth, Georgia Briggs.
Middle Row: Lauren French, Grace Bonnor, Isabella Altenburger, Brigette Currie, Madeleine Claret, Isabelle Wilcox.
Teacher: Ms Amy Smith

9.6
Top Row: Ashlee Harju, Dominique Antico, Jessica Collings, Ellen Spencer, Lauren Pearce, Gabriella Bruzzese, Sarah Eagleton, Remi Siciliano.
Absent: Ricci Newton, Emily Stenta
Teacher: Ms Victoria Scully-Power
9.7
Top Row: Allison Scott, Stephanie Probst, Natasha Carr, Phoebe Wood.
Middle Row: Tori Casazza, Bianca Nati, Sally Doyle, Molly Cave-Bramwell, Amelia Russell, Sarah Thompson.
Bottom Row: Alex Nasko, Ruby Tonkin, Mia Harris, Natalie O’Connor, Georgia Prior, Katarina Gomola, Belinda Walsh
Teacher: Mrs Diana Shilland

9.8
Top Row: Monica Olivera, Caitlin O’Shannassy, Felicity Kerrigan, Ruby Law.
Middle Row: Gina Gonzalez, Roxana Rogan, Holly Head, Danielle Carr, Staphie Millett.
Bottom Row: Charlie Carmichael-Rulten, Whitney-May Lever, Michelle Clark, Isabella Rust, Lauren Campling, Jacqueline Cooper, Chantelle Iezza.
Teacher: Ms Luci Kelly

9.9
Top Row: Jessica Hapl, Josie Martinuzzo, Sarah Jarvis, Amanda Miller, Claudia Murphy, Kitty Dubourdieu, Olivia Smith, Monica Postle.
Bottom Row: Emily Adare, Larissa Mesiti, Alexandra Zappia, Jacqueline Dossetor, Kayla Biasi, Emily Hay, Kendall Nicholls, Jessica Lawson.
Absent: Emma Jago, Holly Johnson.
Teacher: Mrs Jeanette Dayeh

9.10
Top Row: Lillian McCoy, Jordan Bennett, Cristina Pelaez-Sanchez, Laura Butcher.
Middle Row: Jessica Montgomery, Sarah McCurley, Charlie Pope, Belle Mackay, Jemma Morris, Evelyn Zervos.
Absent: Michaela Hauff
Teacher: Mr Lawrence Wong
Day of Hope

Some student comments about ‘Day of Hope’ Megafest which was held at Christian City Church:

“Day of Hope was very motivating and an eye opening experience, thoroughly enjoyed by all!”

“Day of Hope was a fantastic day, we all had a lot of fun and learnt many fantastic stories. I learnt to never give up about your dream. Glen was a great inspiration for many of us”. Grace Heidke

“The Day of Hope was a very uplifting and positive day that really opened up my hopes for my future and dreams – despite how unrealistic they may have been.”

“Day of Hope was fun and interesting. I learnt how to control a situation and how to accomplish a dream.”

“Day of Hope was fun, exciting and very interesting. I learnt a lot of things about myself and the things I could do in life.”

“Even if you fail, try again!”

“Nothing comes first time you try!”

“Now we know to dream bigger and never give up! Glen was an inspiration to all of us. He taught us there was no ‘box’ and that it’s ok to think a little silly.”

“The day was great, it helped me believe in myself and want to have dreams.”

“The day taught us that we can reach our dreams if we believe in ourselves. The donuts and jumping castle were great too”. Marianne

“ Inspiring and fun day that taught us not to give up”. Zoe and Megan

“Glen was so inspiring with his talk. Because of what he said, I found the courage to get up and sing in front of the whole room. It was so much fun!” Courtney

Year 10 Retreat

The Year 10 Retreat was an awesome and memorable experience filled with happiness. It was a great opportunity for me as a new student to get to know the girls from our Year 10 family. We spent the shiny morning doing different sorts of activities in separate groups and having heaps of fun. We all had a chance to get to know the personalities of each other and strengthen our group working skills. Apart from that, the evening activities were interesting. I really enjoyed the Bingo game and the Fashion Parade made up of the clothes we designed which was challenging but still fun. The food was so yummy on our camp as well. It was so hilarious getting the chance to spend our free time swimming and canoeing with friends. We strengthened our friendships and met so many new faces in our warm family. Our amazing retreat ended with the creative and splendid Mass and I didn’t even want to say goodbye to it.

All in all, the camp was really wonderful. We appreciated the teachers’ efforts in providing us an enjoyable time and I am so glad being in the happy community in Year 10 at Stella which helps me to reduce my homesickness a lot.

Wing Sum (Winnie) So 10.10
**10.1**

**Top Row:** Kelsey McKeand, Kimberley Allen, Liana Bonner, Rose Petrass, Emma McGlinn.

**Middle Row:** Xiaoyu (Rose) Gu, Rebecca Carbone, Laura Gass, Deborah Carr, Ellie Linaker, Bronte Denmead.

**Bottom Row:** Tay Rockett, Rebecca Bourcier, Bethany Lyell, Chelsea Karren, Madeline McDonagh, Ella Cope, Lucy Blanshard.

**Absent:** Rhian Borger, Luseane Cook.

**Teacher:** Mrs Danyell Maguire & Ms Kim Naylor

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**10.2**

**Top Row:** Hannah McGlenn, Nina Meehan, Sophia Bernard, Izabella Welsh.

**Middle Row:** Danika Choy, Danielle Mirosevich, Marni-Jo Mantell, Talia Bull, Millie Mayn.

**Bottom Row:** Mary Bloomfield, Madison Mansion, Madeleine Kilpatrick, Lucy McNulty, Lissa Woolven, Jade Mills, Erin French.

**Absent:** Isobel Fletcher, Summer Simonetta.

**Teacher:** Mr Scott Mellis
10.3
Top Row: Gabriel Imbrailo, Grace Nolan, Caitlin Bayles, Maddison Marsh, Hannah Griffiths, Sophie Ingram.
Middle Row: Ava Kirkby, Alexandra Munrol, Kate Carrigan, Xiaofang (Fiona) Wang, Lydia Leckie.
Teacher: Mr David Ford

10.4
Top Row: Kate McAleer, Michaela Bamford, Charlotte Prior, Chloe Campana, Georgia Quinn.
Middle Row: Meaghan McLean, Natasha Kukulka, Kristie Luchseic, Bianca Murphy, Karina Size, Leonie Antoniou.
Bottom Row: Yuwen (Jade) Pan, Cassandra Green, Monica Cablao, Olivia Wilson, Irene Pi, Jodie Randell, Elena Mesiti.
Absent: Jasmin Buono.
Teacher: Mrs Nicole Boyde

10.5
Bottom Row: Georgia Hardcastle, Cara Caterina, Holly Barcham, Rebecca Conlon, Charlotte Cuneo, Tiarne Epifania, Ashleigh Dale, Daisy Jones.
Absent: Sally Atherton, Gabrielle Semisi.
Teacher: Ms Rowena Wharton

10.6
Top Row: Georgia Miller, Kate Lodder, Rebecca Connell, Sarah Saliba.
Middle Row: Alexa Collins, Millie Slennett, Maddison Smith, Velvet-Belle Templeman, Dana Hardin, Emily Pride.
Bottom Row: Silvie Sanders, Xiaoyin (Jo-Jo) Qian, Rebecca Marsh, Jemma Rob, Taylor Smith, Amanda Luscri, Georgina Richardson.
Absent: Genna Saunders, Ashleigh Signorelli
Teacher: Ms Joanne Knight
10.7
Top Row: Lily Rasdall, Ashleigh Stuart, Ellie Gall, Rebecca Tardif.
Middle Row: Kelly Tzintzios, Catherine O’Grady, Halamehi Taufalele, Alice Edwards, Emilie Neal, Romy Johnson.
Bottom Row: Camille Campos, Zoe Deuxberry, Bianca Rose, Isabelle Catteau, Shu Yan (Jessie) Hang, Georgina Cuzzilla, Emma Stewart.
Absent: Carmen Bruce, Louise Nolan.
Teacher: Mrs Nicole Boyd

10.8
Top Row: Laura Elliott, Sophie Jones, Sophie Calabro, Cassandra Vavouris, Carina Anderson, Zoe Kanellopoulos, Arabella Boyce, Georgia Van Grieken.
Bottom Row: Caitlin Walmsley, Megan Lutze, Coutney Liddle, Tara van Herten, Danielle Robbie, Laura Dickie, Ebony Lohr, Lauren Ingham-Rhodes.
Absent: Isabella Caterina, Marianne Connors.
Teacher: Ms Helena George

10.9
Top Row: Eloise Dossetor, Meaghan Syme, Rachel Weatherley, Kate Turner, Jenna-Lee Felton, Jaimi Edwards.
Middle Row: Violet Warner, Ellan Grattan, Smantha Pickering, Samantha Ball, Courtney McLeod, Cinzia Tisano, Cyrielle Giger Dechavanne.
Bottom Row: Rachel Macri, Taylor Donegal, Emma Webber, Daniela Tesoriero, Amber Perks, Annika O’Callaghan, Haein (Mina) Shin.
Absent: Georgia Kieman
Teacher: Mr Robert Sutcliffe

10.10
Top Row: Georgia Bond, Jessica Yeates, Sophie Carlberg, Caitlin Nelson, Madison Brown, Paige Wiseman, Brae Wildash, Wan-Ting Chan.
Bottom Row: Zoe Plain, Sarah Bojko, Isabella Augustyniai, Chase Clayton, Tayla Wright, Laura Woolley, Monica Eastwood, Rachael O’Brien, Wing Sum (Winnie) So.
Absent: Lucy Monteleone, Eliza Parish.
Teacher: Mrs Nicole Boyd
2011 has been another wonderful year for this group of students. This is our second year together in partnership as we move ever so closer to the HSC year and the completion of school. Over the year students have made extraordinary advancements in maturity and consciousness in regards to our community at Stella Maris demonstrating constantly that the group is full of potential.

The year opened with our now traditional Mass at St Mary's Cathedral in the city where the year group were superb in every sense as senior students of the College. The Year 11 Welcome Night held in mid February was supported well with many families participating in the hospitality and enjoying the balmy summer evening that was bestowed on us. Driver education also took place in February where our aspiring motorists were bombarded with the responsibilities of piloting a motor vehicle in an ever increasingly congested and frantic city, and provided with a further reality check on the financial aspects of car ownership. End result; not so glamorous!

The swimming carnival was supported very well by the year group with near full attendance with the participation and engagement of the event a credit to all. Term One came to a conclusion with the Careers Market Day, now an annual event that is valued by all our senior students with the Easter recess providing respite from a hectic term.

If Term 1 was hectic then Term 2 could only be described as frenzied, with an Athletics Carnival, a Walk-a-thon, Mother's Day Breakfast, Year 11 half yearly examinations, Stella Maris 80th Anniversary Celebration at St Marys Cathedral, and to close the term, Stella Day. The highlight of the term, for me, was the 80th Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral in Sydney. Our year group was splendid, displaying a level of maturity and sense of community that did them proud and re-enforced the view that they are a high quality group of students with extraordinary potential.

Term 3 saw the conclusion of the Preliminary Higher School Certificate where many students developed the skills and maturity to advance to the HSC year. Preliminary examinations were formal and rigorous providing a taste of what waits in the HSC examination room. This term also included leadership development days where students were encouraged to reflect on what a difference they might make in our community. The end result of this was the election of the leadership group for 2012. The appointment of Gabrielle Tesoriero as College Captain, Carla Christmas and Rachel Nunn as Vice-Captains and a string of 23 other exceptional students to leadership roles suggests that 2012 will be a very good year.

Term 4 is the commencement of HSC studies along with all the regulation and rigidities imposed by the Board of Studies. All girls seemed to have taken this in their stride as we moved into our new residence, the Convent. This was met with great excitement as is the case with most year groups with the rite of passage to senior student finally realised.

The most momentous occasion of the whole year must have been the retreat at Kurrajong. Well, it will live long in the memory! All were so cooperative that I was dumbfounded. All in bed at the right time, no one leaving their rooms after ‘lights out’, total engagement with the sessions, no post midnight activities, a team building game of football with some 40 on each side, the Melbourne Cup fashion event, and the presence of the neo-catechumenate who provided us with amazing religious chanting at lunch and dinner time. The pinnacle of the 3 day event was the charge of the possessed in their ninja outfits all totally released from their inhibitions.

A most important occasion in November was the Stella Market Day which for this year raised funds for Bear Cottage. The ever contributing Rachel Nunn was the brainchild of this event and she was caringly assisted by the SRC and other civic minded members of the form.

The year concluded well with assessments in the last few weeks and a convent cleanout ready for the big year of 2012. A great year!

Mr Colin Macallister, Year 11 Coordinator
Year 12 Retreat

At the beginning of Year 12, we went on a camp near the Blue Mountains for retreat. It was a wonderful experience to be written on our first page of Year 12 life! On the day, everyone was so excited and a two hour trip seemed so fast with all the chattering and laughter. The moment when I got off the bus, I could sense that faint scent of fresh grass and soil and it was so refreshing and mind clearing. The girls were all excited and we couldn’t wait to rush to our rooms and see what they were like. After lunch, we did some PC group activities, learning about leaders and what they have done to make this world a better place. I think it is a really good idea to learn things outside the school, just like the main theme of this retreat—‘Balance of life’, it helps us to understand the importance of participating in extra curricular activities, also helps to broaden our knowledge, build self-confidence and of course to make the group more united as one because these are the things that are as essential as academic achievement.

On the second day of camp, during free time in the afternoon, there were several activities we could do such as water slide, swimming, tennis and canoeing. My friends and I decided to go canoeing and we had a great time canoe racing with local girls. Although we all got our shoes muddy when we stepped into a swamp on the way back, everyone had a laugh! We played different games with the local girls, we taught each other different games and it was so much fun!

On that night, the girls had to dress up using newspapers and plastic paper as if they were attending Melbourne Cup Day. I volunteered to be the model of my PC group and the group made me a beautiful dress which got second in the competition!

It was such a lovely camp, however, like the Chinese saying “all good things must come to an end”, the camp was about to finish but nobody wanted to leave. The girls were put in different groups to prepare for the liturgy and it worked out perfectly, especially the beautiful choir singing and hearing what Mr. Camilleri said which I think meant a lot to all the girls. In this coming last year of school, we will have to come together and work as one strong community. We thank all the teachers who cared for and looked after us, and gave us such an unforgettable experience. On the way back home on that 5-star coach, I looked out the window for the last time to remember this moment, but I know in my heart that our journey has not yet finished and there is still a ‘long way’ to go. Good-bye camp!

Miranda Tan 11.2
11.3
Top Row: Emily-Rose Weir, Georgia Hall, Alix Pashley, Jiamei Liu, Marlise Latta, Claudia Altanasio, Jodie Trim, Wenjing Yin.
Bottom Row: Libby Gair, Eloise Armstrong, Georgia Thomson, Kristi Matea, Holly Mandlik, Rebecca Cavallaro, Shanni Chen, Abbey Gibson.
Absent: Jiehuan Ye
Teacher: Ms Rebecca Robin-True

11.4
Top Row: Madeline Velk, Jessica Gostelow, Samantha Chalmers, Rachel Diaz, Kiri English-Hawke, Rachel Van Zyl, Elena Knaap.
Bottom Row: Eloise Vozzo, Emily Bobis, Nga Sze (Alice) Chan, Emily McConochie, Margaret Weir, Susan Chen, Rachael Zhou, Gracie Hay.
Absent: Hannah Ledieu.
Teacher: Ms Jennifer Murray

11.5
Top Row: Amy Rath, Sarah Millington, Annalise Dracopoulos, Clare Freakley, Catelyn-Jude O’Brien, Rachel Nunn, Kiorie Bennett, Ashley O’Donell.
Bottom Row: Sara Connell, Sophie McNay, Bryony Morgan, Danielle de Rome, Jie Bing Yang, Maddison Jones, Nikki Sheppard, Vanessa Teofilo.
Teacher: Mr Deryck Pickering

11.6
Top Row: Jessica Cunningham, Madeleine Papp, Paris Stephenson, Hannah Paul, Alysha Harrold, Casey Eagleton, Melanie Higgins, Anika Miller.
Absent: Shu Hui (Blair) Zhang
Teacher: Ms Susan Jo
11.7

Top Row: Carly Frost, Joelle Turton, Amber DeLisle, Isabelle Horder, Georgia Sweeney, Emily Gerethy, Rachael Dudman.

Bottom Row: Yalan (Remi) Li, Briella Brown, Chloe Huggett, Emma Ashcroft, Emma Crimmins, Rebecca Hill, Lucy Bell, Valentine Guillemin, Jiajie (June) Zhu.

Absent: Emma Sward
Teacher: Ms Lindy Virtue

11.8

Top Row: Caitlin Richardson, Teas Mitchell, Hannah Bester, Rowena Meredith, Sian Moloney, Hannah Janssen, Amy Palin.

Bottom Row: Jiayi (Gloria) Wang, Racquel Bridge, Yiling (Cynthia) Hou, Jiahui (Elanie) Liu, Rebecca Horne, Zoe Couriel, Aylin Rust.

Absent: Melanie Hayes, Esitia Pouhila.
Teacher: Mr Ben Waters

11.9

Top Row: Tianqi (Kathy) Lou, Luana Bowman, Georgina Mailey, Madeleine Fysh, Stephanie Kennewell, Annabel Knowles, Natasha Capstick.

Bottom Row: Jennifer Dineen, Hayley Andrews, Sophie McGrath, Charlotte Mayer, Nicole Schroder, Lauren Moorhouse, Yan (Jennifer) Chen, Jingfang (Sarah) Gong.

Absent: Molly McIndoe
Teacher: Mrs Kirsten Macaulay

11.10

Top Row: Sophie Ordner, Aisha Kirkby, Jessica Brown, Gabrielle Tesoriero.

Bottom Row: Erin Seeto, Kemberley Butterfield, Jose Waller, Camille Rennie, Jessica Boyde, Louise Harrold, Simona Sidoti.

Absent: Annabella Gray, Karolina Gabanyiova, Laura Peattie, Nannan Wang, Ying Chu Zheng.
Teacher: Ms Katie Holdstock
Address from 2011 College Captain

This year Stella Maris College expanded its foundations as a school that prides itself on upholding the Benedictine traditions and values. These values enrich a student’s schooling and continue to resonate into one’s adult life. During the course of 2011, Year 12 ensured these values remained present, with the main focus being on that of Stewardship. Stewardship not only refers to greater care of resources but a wider notion of the responsibility and duty to protect and care for our environment as a whole.

Year 12 2011 was an extremely close knit group and we experienced many happy, as well as ‘character building’ times together. Throughout the year the sense of community continued to grow resulting in a school life filled with glee and excitement as well as support and encouragement.

Term 1 of Year 12 began with the grade attempting to find their feet in what was to be a hectic year ahead. With the support of the teachers and the rest of the school community this was achievable and resulted in a fairly smooth transition into our HSC.

As the school year progressed, Year 12 established themselves as hard working and driven with the end goal of the HSC ever present. Through a variety of challenging assessment tasks, Year 12 students were able to express their hard work and push to do better, always with the patient and helpful guidance of the teachers.

During the course of the HSC, Year 12 2011 remained strong and harmonious, supporting one another in the stressful times and enjoying each other’s company, always with a healthy sense of fun and humour coming to the fore.

As the school year drew to a close, a sense of both sadness and excitement overcame the grade. We understood that after thirteen years of schooling it was our time to depart and move on to bigger and better things.

Stella Maris College has once again unleashed the talents of its students and ensured that each individual’s ability has been nurtured, furthering not only their potential, but also a great sense of achievement for the school.

The school will forever be our second home and as we plant our roots in the wider world the values and morals passed down to us from the College will forever be part of us and the strong, independent and courageous women it has helped us to become.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to have represented Year 12 as their School Captain in 2011, and my great honour to have been their friend.

Jessica Felton, 12.4
Graduation Mass and Assembly

Our Graduation Mass and Final Assembly, were as expected, very reverent and emotional occasions; official ceremonies commemorating the milestone of finishing thirteen years of education, and specifically, six years at Stella Maris. Encompassed within the title of ‘thirteen years of schooling’, were the strongly forged relationships with friends and teachers, and the school community in general. We were also leaving those behind. School, particularly Year 12, meant school work, homework etc., which were at times tedious. However also included, was the effortlessness in upholding and maintaining relationships with so many people, as you automatically saw them every day. The painful realization that this convenience, often taken for granted, was coming to a close, was the source of many tears on those final few days.

Poignant moments of the Thursday night ceremony included the song sung by the select group of teachers to the students, celebrating this milestone and wishing us luck for the future, which was received gratefully, as well as Mrs Parker’s and Mrs Comerford’s encouraging and reflective addresses. The reflection given by myself, Jessica and Ketty was also a moment where personally I felt the finality of the night. We expressed our thanks, gratitude and appreciation to our teachers for the education they have provided us and to our fellow students for graciously allowing us to lead them over the past year. For the first time the Year 12 subject and academic awards were awarded after the official Mass, instead of at the end of year Presentation Night, which many Year 12 students are unable to attend. This was excellent as we as a year group were allowed to celebrate everyone’s individual achievements; those who have put in a genuinely big effort this year were rightfully recognized. Congratulations to all receivers of subject and academic awards. Special thanks goes to Mr Camilleri, Mrs Parker the Music staff and the choir for their contributions and organization of the evening.

The Final Assembly was slightly more casual and included the whole school community, a superb way to end things. The students recognized the efforts of the whole school community in their individual contributions to our rounded experience at Stella Maris, through the giving of gifts, flowers and cards. Then followed a morning tea with Year 12, teachers and parents. Final goodbyes between students and teachers were exchanged and many photographs were taken. It was a highly enjoyable occasion, one that I will remember with much warmth and affection.

Julie Rorke 12.9
Year 12 Formal

On the 14th November, Year 12 had their Formal at Waters Edge in The Rocks. It was a great night for us all to dress up and have a really enjoyable night with one another for one last time before we all move on with our lives. All of the girls looked incredible in their dresses and there were lots of snaps being taken both outside under the Harbour Bridge, and inside where everyone was having loads of fun dancing. The weather could not have been better and we were very fortunate on the night to have a lovely sunset background. It was great to see everyone having a good time, and especially to see and speak to the staff following our HSC exams. Parents were also invited to join in the fun, dance and chat with their friends, and I’m sure they all enjoyed the special occasion. It was definitely a night to remember and as we all finally leave Stella we will be forever grateful for all of the effort that was put in to organizing the night and making it so exciting for everyone. On behalf of Year 12 I would like to thank Mrs Parker for all her effort and also thank all of the staff who came to celebrate the occasion.

Sophie Gould 12.1
ARTEXPRESS Nominations

Congratulations to two of our students who were nominated for Artexpress 2012: Nieve Allen for *After Fire and Ash; Lilith’s Lullaby* Painting and Isabella Dobrijevich for *(Phototaxis) Of moon, moth and tide* Collection of Works. Unfortunately neither girl was selected for inclusion in the exhibition, however, it is important to note the hard work put in to create some strong bodies of work.

Ms Jo Knight, Visual Arts Coordinator

Broken Bay Diocese Mass

On the 3rd May, Year 12 joined approximately 2000 other Year 12 students attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay for the annual BYTE (Big Year Twelve Event) at St Pius X College. The day was led by Bishop David Walker and consisted of activities and talks discussing the theme, ‘Freedom is Coming’. We ended the day with a Eucharistic Mass service in which the different schools contributed in various aspects. Overall the day was very lively and action packed and will be remembered by the class of 2011 as one of our final events together as a year group.

Melanie Connell

NSW International Student of the Year

Congratulations to Ketty Zhao who won the award of NSW International Student of the Year at the NSW International Student Festival in Glebe in early 2012. This award is to acknowledge international students for their social engagement, not only within the international student community, but with the broader NSW community. Stella Maris College nominated Ketty in the High School category and she was one of seven finalists. There was only one winner so we are very proud!

Ms Carolyn Collins, International Students Pastoral Care

Top Row: Susannah Kalucy, Kirsten Dunsmore, Georgia Nelson, Isabelle Stanley.

Middle Row: Alexandra Award, Le Ying (Ivy) Cui, Kejun (Vikki) Zhang, Carolyn Keegan, Stephanie Dunne.

Bottom Row: Xin (Jacqueline) Ruan, Samantha Raymundo, Sophie Gould, Jessica Berry, Scarlett Pollet, Rachel Vescio, Manjie (Caroline) Li.

Absent: Kate Stacey

Teacher: Ms Marcia Charles

Top Row: Cathryn Bonser, Lisa McLean, Sarah Bonanno, Jayde Porep, Claire Gunner.

Middle Row: Georgia Cranfield, Sophie Blanshard, Nichola Webb, Huichen (Claire) Cao, Sy Hyun (Sally) So.


Teacher: Mr Denis Lee
12.3
Top Row: Micaela Borger, Jiaqi (Ketty) Zhao, Nadine Hahn, Lily McMillan.
Middle Row: Nuoyi (Nora) Li, Ellen Cooper, Coutney Pynsent, Ruo Qi (Violet) Gan.
Bottom Row: Julianne Khong, Katherine Crimmins, Georgia Farrell, Ashleigh Holmes, Madeleine Whyte, Charlotte Baker, Sarah Chirillo.
Absent: Devon Halligan
Teacher: Mrs Jeanette Ferguson

12.4
Top Row: Jessica Felton, Jessie Quinn, Jessica McPherson, Chloe Christensen.
Middle Row: Eloise Layard, Elysia Hall, Alexandra Boverman, Marlies Bakker, Yige (Breaker) Zheng.
Bottom Row: Pei Wn (Mandy) Shao, Ellie-Rose Williams, Laura House, Xiao Fang (Jasmine) Gao, Yating (Effie) Wang, Caitlin O'Connor, Emiko Stuart.
Absent: Melissa Golding
Teacher: Mrs Jeanette Ferguson

12.5
Top Row: Melissa Clark, Gemma Rawson, Alexandra Bracey, Jasmine Mirosevich.
Middle Row: Sophie Hamester, Xilin (Iris) Li, Vivien Bartel, Lauren Hutton, Nicole Samson, Scarlett Cross.
Bottom Row: Jing (Grace) He, Mariko Stuart, Nicole Olivera, Grace Lee, Morena Fuentes, Hongxuan (Rita) Zhu, Yanting (Remi) Wu.
Absent: Kelsey Wilson
Teacher: Ms Bronwyn Parker

12.6
Top Row: Tara Handley, Madeleine Curby, Winona Clayton, Bethany Sweeney.
Middle Row: Yana Wolf, Yingshan (Sandra) Zhu, Jessica Bull, Rachel Gallagher, Michele Jones, Gabrielle O’Sullivan.
Bottom Row: Huijun (Analeigh) Kong, Zonglei Li, Jiayun (Karen) Liao, Olivia Basham, Kate Mouldey, Yutong (Rainie) He, Anna Regan.
Absent: Erin Lewis
Teacher: Mr Geoff Cartwright
**12.7**

Top Row: Neisha Mulham, Lauren Szewczyk, Nieve Allen.

Middle Row: Shasha (Macie) Hu, Ahslee Wyngaard, Isabella Dobrjevich, Heninita Pakileata, Jin (Jane) Lu, Stephanie Jones.

Bottom Row: Jessica Sekulich, Ziling (Elaine) Liang, Kellie Reid, Emily Gaughan, Kanyarat (Fern) Bupphaves, Isabella Heath, Melissa Luscri.

Absent: Yeman (Vicky) Yu.

Teacher: Ms Jennifer Molloy

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**12.8**

Top Row: Sophie Selles, Jacqueline Campbell, Emily Nelson, Melanie Connell, India Tarasin, Boyan (Emma) Zhang, Georgia Gibson, Jade York.

Bottom Row: Ashley Amoroso, Hei Tung Ng, Ashley Lutze, Sophie Heffernan, Katie Rooney, Laura Mullolly, Minli (Sara) Huang, Rebecca Pahsley, Natalie Cavallaro.

Teacher: Mrs Linda Clemesha

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**12.9**

Top Row: Giulietta Gigliotti, Phoebe Rose, Ashley Smith, Pelenaise Taufalele, Jessica Pockett, Georgia Beukers, Hannah Sellwood.

Bottom Row: Elly Pipiciello, Xiaoting (Candy) Huang, Erin Heidke, Julia Rorke, Chuyan (Winnie) Zhang, Elyse Connolly, Sarah Lyell, Jessica Murace.

Absent: Deana Antonopoulos, Laura Kathner.

Teacher: Mrs Selina Han

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**12.10**


Bottom Row: Danielle Ursino, Yoori (Kayla) Mok, Allee Cooper, Alexa Kaufer, Lisa Tricksey, Billie Murphy, Rebecca Gigliotti, Hua Hua (Elvira) Zhang.

Absent: Anna Rose

Teacher: Mrs Victoria Williams
### Calendar of Events

#### JANUARY
- **Fri 28**  Staff Day
- **Mon 31**  Term 1 Commences for Years 7, 11 & 12

#### FEBRUARY
- **Tue 1**  Term 1 Commences for Years 8, 9 & 10
- **Mon 7**  Opening Mass Rehearsal
- **Tue 8**  Year 7 Dinner
- **Wed 9**  P & F Meeting
- **Mon 14**  Opening Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral, Sydney
- **Tue 15**  Year 11 Welcome Night
- **Thu 17**  Vaccinations (til 18 February)
- **Tue 22**  Year 12 (2010) Afternoon Tea
- **Wed 23**  P & F Meeting & AGM

#### MARCH
- **Tue 1**  Year 12 Welcome Evening
- **Wed 2**  Year 10 Retreat, Merroo Centre Kurrajong (til 4 March)
- **Fri 4**  Year 11 Driver Education
- **Mon 7**  Year 11 Bundanon VA Camp (til 10 March)
- **Years 8 - 10 Elective Music Night**
- **Worlds Greatest Shave**
- **Tue 8**  Stella Maris Swimming Carnival
- **Wed 9**  Ash Wednesday
- **Thu 10**  Year 11 Bundanon DT Camp (til 12 March)
- **Sat 12**  Year 7 2012 SMC Scholarship Examinations
- **Tue 15**  Tertiary and Careers Expo
- **Year 10 Welcome Night**
- **Thu 17**  St Patrick’s Day
- **Fri 18**  Year 7 Benedict Day
- **Tue 22**  Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Parent Info Night
- **Wed 23**  Year 7 Camp at Morisset (til 25 March)
- **Mon 28**  Year 12 Examinations (til 7 April)
- **USA Tour Farewell Concert and Vocal Night**
- **Tue 29**  Year 9 Welcome Night
- **Wed 30**  P & F Meeting

#### APRIL
- **Fri 1**  Music Tour to USA (til 12 April)
- **Tue 5**  Year 8 Welcome Night
- **Fri 8**  Term 1 Concludes
- **Wed 27**  Term 2 Commences

#### MAY
- **Mon 2**  Walkathon
- **Wed 4**  Year 7 Parent /Teacher Interviews
- **Fri 6**  Mother’s Day Breakfast
- **Tue 10**  Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN (til 12 May)
- **Wed 11**  P & F Meeting
- **Thu 12**  Year 8 Retreat (til 13 May)
- **Fri 13**  NAPLAN (make-up)
- **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Hike (til 14 May)**
- **Tue 17**  Year 12 Parent /Teacher Interviews
- **Year 10 Fundraiser for Red Cross**
- **Wed 18**  P & F Meeting
- **Thu 19**  Year 10 Self Protection Day
- **Wed 25**  Romeo & Juliet “Under The Stars” (til 27 May)
- **Mon 30**  Years 9 & 10 Parent /Teacher Interviews
- **Tue 31**  80th Anniversary Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral, Sydney

#### JUNE
- **Wed 1**  Musicale (til 2 June)
- **Mon 6**  Years 8 & 11 Parent / Teacher Interviews
- **Year 9 Reflection Day**
- **Year 10 Examinations (til 17 June)**
- **Thu 9**  Duke of Edinburgh Combined Hike (til 12 June)
- **Fri 10**  Staff Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
- **Wed 15**  P & F Meeting

#### JULY
- **Sat 18**  P & F Trivia Night, St Kieran’s Parish Hall, Manly Vale
- **Thu 23**  Duke of Edinburgh Combined Hike (til 26 June)
- **Fri 24**  Stella Day
- **Term 2 Concludes**

#### AUGUST
- **Mon 1**  HSC Trial Examinations (til 15 August)
- **Mon 8**  Year 10 “Day of Hope” Christian City Church, Oxford Falls
- **Tue 9**  Years 8 – 11 Elective Music Night
- **Thu 11**  Year 11 Leadership Day
- **Fri 12**  Duke of Edinburgh Bronze (til 13 August)
- **Mon 22**  HSC Music Performance Night
- **Tue 26**  International Night
- **Wed 27**  P & F Executive Meeting

#### SEPTEMBER
- **Mon 7**  School Photos
- **Fri 11**  Stella Markets - SRC Fundraiser for Bear Cottage
- **Mon 14**  Years 9 & 10 Examinations (til 23 November)
- **Year 12 Formal, Watersedge, The Rocks**
- **Tue 15**  Year 7 Performance Evening
- **Wed 23**  Volunteers’ Dinner
- **Thu 29**  Year 7 Performance Evening
- **Wed 30**  Duke of Edinburgh Gold Cambodia (til 10 December)

#### OCTOBER
- **Fri 28**  Staff Day
- **Mon 31**  Term 1 Commences for Years 7, 11 & 12

#### NOVEMBER
- **Mon 18**  Term 3 Commences
- **Wed 20**  Year 11 (2012) Subject Selection Parent Information Night
- **Mon 25**  School Photos
- **Wed 27**  P & F Executive Meeting
- **Fri 29**  School Photos

#### DECEMBER
- **Mon 5**  Presentation Evening, Christian City Church, Oxford Falls
- **Term 4 Concludes**
- **Thu 1**  Year 10 Mass, St Kieran’s Church, Manly Vale
- **Thu 8**  Year 12 Assembly and Evening Tea
- **Term 3 Concludes**
In 2011, Stella Maris College celebrated 80 years since the Sisters of the Good Samaritan established our school as a Catholic Girls College in Manly. The Sisters established the College based on the values inherent in their Benedictine tradition and it is these values that we want to ensure that we keep alive. Each year we focus on a particular value and in 2011 it was the Year of Stewardship.

Living as good stewards of God’s gifts will satisfy the deepest, strongest longings of our hearts. It will fill us with joy, happiness and satisfaction. Stewards know the meaning of life - and make real sacrifices to make the world a better place - making their own lives better in the process. At Stella Maris, we want to make a commitment to take a step to better stewardship today.

Apart from the Opening Mass there were various opportunities to celebrate our 80th Anniversary which included the introduction of a Benedictine Day for Year 7 students and Stella Day on 24th June. Stella Day is organised by the students and is always lots of fun.

A most memorable event was when our Development Coordinator, Ms Carolyn Collins, discovered one of our ex-students, Mary Green (photo below) living in Lavender Bay. Mary joined Carolyn and I for lunch and regaled us with stories of her school days in the 1930s. Mary commenced at Stella Maris in the very first year and her father was the architect who designed the present day heritage Convent at Stella Maris. We are hoping that Mary will be able to join us for the opening of Benedict Campus in 2012.

Mrs Vicki Comerford, Principal
Special Awards

These awards represent the culmination of hard work - not only within the subject areas of the College but some in addition acknowledge extra-curricular involvement and special circumstances.

Stella Award:
Gabrielle Tesoriero

House Trophy:
Rosaria

Ex-Students’ Award:
Sophie Gould

Australian Defence Force Award:
Sophie Gould, Rachel Nunn & Kate Turner

Australian Vocational Student Prize:
Ebony Caterina & Nicolette Lever
(Year 12 2010)

Caltex Award:
Nicole Olivera

Pierre de Coubertin Award:
Bethany Sweeny

Scarf Foundation Award:
Natalie Cavallaro

Debating Award:
Junior: Velvet-Belle Templeman
Senior: Sara Connell

Duke of Edinburgh Trophy:
Gold: Sarah Bonnano & Lauren Szewczyk
Silver: Emily Edgar, Felicity Kerrigan & Chloe McGeachie

Academic Excellence Awards

Year 7
Christina Turner
Claudia Lanzarone
Emilia Jones
Emily Batt
Emma Collins
Kirra Kissane
Lexy Wildash
Lilly Mills
Natasha Bernard
Rebecca Chapman
Rebecca Diaz
Venice Warner

Year 8
Amy Tesoriero
Angie Schoder
Brigid Mackenzie
Cara Jacobs
Cassandra Armenio
Emanuela Orellana
Emily Anderson
Gemma Young
Kimberley Drake
Maggie Jacobson
Matilda Gould
Megan Connolly
Ruby Reid
Taylor Curley

Year 9
Elise Andrew
Jessica Arman
Nicola Arman
Bella Bradley
Michelle Clark
Melissa Currie
Amelia Rysell
Remi Siciliano
Gemma Walmsley
Grace Wheatley

Year 10
Rebecca Connell
Jenna-Lee Felton
Cassandra Green
Chelsea Karren
Rebecca Marsh
Catherine O’Grady
Eliza Parish
Clare Sainty-Cope
Velvet-Belle Templeman
Tara van Herten
Violet Warner

Year 11
Korie Bennett
Emily Bobis
Sara Connell
Casey Eagleton
Kiri English-Hawke
Jessica Gostelow
Alysha Harrold
Gracie Hay
Marilse Latta
Rachel Nunn
Rose Outred
Hannah Paul
Nicole Schroder
Wing Kwan (Annie) So
Wei Jia (Miranda) Tan
Jiajie (June) Zhu

Year 12
Eloise Layard
Jessica Henderson
Chloe Christensen
Melissa Clark
Sophie Selles
Alexa Kafer
Laura Mullooly
Lisa Tricksey
Georgina Bevan
Julia Rorke
Jessica Sekulich
Jiayi (Ketty) Zhao
Mia Casey
Marko Stuart
Nicole Olivera

Excellence of Effort Awards

Year 7
Aija Draguns
Anna McGrath
Chloe Curby
Cristina Crapis
Elaine Barton
Isabella Filacuridi
Lauren Fraitetta
Melissa McDonagh
Nicola Green
Stephanie Severino

Year 8
Audrey Mellor
Caitlin Werakso
Cassandra De Rooy
Elizabeth Smith
Grace O’Brien
Kiera Boag
Laura Williams
Lily Langman
Miki Nedachi
Molly Doran
Nisha Saini
Ruby Costello

Year 9
Gabriella Buzzese
Jessica Collins
Jessica Jarvis
Sarah Jarvis
Felicity Kerrigan
Jessica Lawson
Lillian McCoy
Larissa Mesiti
Taylor Mills
Siobhan Nealon
Roxana Rogan
Mackenzi Wichman
Phoebe Wood

Year 10
Sophia Bernard
Rhian Borger
Alice Edwards
Tiarné Epitania
Laura Gass
Elia Gratten
Courtney Liddle
Olivia Papalia
Irene Pi
Ashleigh Signorelli
Emma Stewart
Jessica Yeates

Year 11
Carla Christmas
Stephanie Kennewell
Yalan (Remi) Li
Ashley O’Donell
Amy Palin
Zhang Qin Song
Jiayi (Gloria) Wang
Isabel Zappia

Year 12
Kellie Reid
Lauren Hutton
Zonglei Li
Isabelle Stanley
Cathryn Bonser
Huichen (Claire) Cao
Le Ying (Ivy) Cui
Jacqueline Campbell
### Subject Awards

These awards are presented to the high achieving students in each subject.

#### Year 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tahlia Anderson</td>
<td>Technology</td>
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#### Year 9

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Year 9 Continued

Lillian McCoy
2nd Commerce
1st Textiles (100 Hours)
2nd Food Technology (200 Hours)

Taylor Mills
1st Music (100 Hours)
2nd Food Technology (100 Hours)
2nd Elective History

Kavita Naidu
1st Visual Arts (100 Hours)
2nd Food Technology (100 Hours)

Alex Nasko
1st PDHPE

Kendall Nichols
=3rd Dance (200 Hours)

Rebecca O'Brien
=1st Video Production

Natalie O'Connor
1st Visual Arts (200 Hours)
3rd Photography (100 Hours)

Monica Olivera
1st Spanish

Samantha Page
1st Sports Science

Ashley Raso
2nd Textiles (200 Hours)

Amelia Russell
=1st Information and Software Technology
2nd Science
2nd Photography (200 Hours)

Taelah Saloumids
=1st English
1st Visual Design (100 Hours)
2nd Visual Arts (200 Hours)
3rd PDHPE

Remi Siciliano

Ava Maree St John
=2nd Video Production
3rd Textiles (200 Hours)

Rachel Stackpool
1st Drama

Sarah Thompson
2nd Spanish

Gemma Walmsley
2nd Sports Science
2nd Mathematics
2nd History
2nd Food Technology (100 Hours)
=3rd Science
=3rd Visual Arts (200 Hours)

Grace Wheatley
3rd Mathematics

Phoebe Wood
3rd Visual Arts (100 Hours)

Alexandra Zappia
1st Italian

Year 10

Kimberley Allen
=3rd Video Production
1st Elective History
1st Sports Science (200 Hours)

Caillt Bayles
=2nd Sports Science (200 Hours)
1st Design and Technology

Rhian Borger
2nd Food Technology (200 Hours)

Jasmin Buono
1st Visual Arts (100 Hours)

Ariana Cabrera
1st Science
1st Spanish

Camille Campos
1st Video Production

Rebecca Carbone
1st History

Deborah Carr
=2nd Visual Arts (200 Hours)
1st Commerce

Cara Caterina
=1st Commerce

Rebecca Connell
=2nd Photographic and Digital Media (100 Hrs)
2nd PDHPE
2nd Textiles (100 Hours)

Ashleigh Dale
1st Music

Zoe Deuxberry
=3rd Video Production
1st Dance

Eloise Dossetor
=2nd Photographic and Digital Media (100 Hrs)
2nd Music

Laura Elliott
=2nd Visual Arts (100 Hours)

Jenna-Lee Felton
=3rd Religion
1st Elective Geography
1st Textiles (200 Hours)
2nd Geography

Laura Gass
=2nd Photographic and Digital Media (100 Hrs)

Cassandra Green
=3rd Religion
1st Geography
2nd Dance
2nd History
3rd Textiles (100 Hours)

Ellessandra Hills
1st Drama

Gabriel Imbrailo
3rd Drama

Lauren Ingham-Rhodes
=2nd Information and Software Technology

Sophie Ingram
1st Photographic and Digital Media (100 Hrs)

Chelsea Karren
=2nd Sports Science (200 Hours)
1st PDHPE
1st Religion
1st Visual Design (100 Hours)
2nd Mathematics
3rd Geography
3rd Science
2nd Video Production

Aden Lewis

Courtney Liddle
2nd Visual Arts (100 Hours)

Ellie Linaker
1st Religion

Megan Lutze
2nd Design and Technology

Rachel Macri
3rd PDHPE

Rebecca Marsh
=2nd Visual Design (100 Hours)
2nd Science
3rd Dance
3rd Design and Technology
1st Food Technology (200 Hours)
3rd Food Technology (200 Hours)
3rd Textiles (200 Hours)
1st Sports Science (100 Hours)
1st Food Technology (100 Hours)
1st Japanese

Lily Radall
=2nd Visual Arts (200 Hours)

Danielle Robbie
2nd Elective Geography
2nd Drama
2nd English
3rd Elective History

Nicola Rorke

Clare Santo-Cope
1st French

Halamehi Taufalele
=2nd Visual Design (100 Hours)

Velvet-Belle Templeman
=1st Commerce

Daniela Tesoriero

Cinzia Tesiuro

Kate Tumer

Tara van Herten

Year 11

Hayley Andrews
1st Dance

Eloise Armstrong

Korie Bennett

Sophie Carsten

Wendy Cheng

Renee Chong

Jo Cheng

Yee Cun

Emma Davenport

Emily Daukeler

Kimberley Butterfield

3rd English Advanced

Business Studies
1st Information, Processes & Technology

Xiaohong Cai
1st Extension 1 Mathematics

Natasha Cappell
2nd Visual Arts

Alana Caten
Legal Studies

Susan Chen
2nd Modern History

Yan (Jennifer) Chen
3rd Chinese for Background Speakers

Antoniette Chirillo
Community & Family Studies

Carla Christmas
3rd Business Studies

Sara Connell
=1st Studies of Religion 2 Unit

Jessica Cunningham
3rd Hospitality

Eleanor Davies
1st Economics

Danielle de Rome
=3rd Visual Arts
Year 11 Continued

Amber DeLisle
1st Geography
1st Studies of Religion 2 Unit
3rd Ancient History
3rd Biology
Casey Eagleton
2nd Chemistry
3rd Physics
Kiri English-Hawke
=2nd Extension 1 English
1st Photography, Video & Digital Imaging
3rd Studies of Religion 1 Unit
Clare Freakley
2nd Biology
3rd Spanish Continuers
Madeleine Fysy
2nd Tourism
Rachel Gaughan
2nd Ancient History
Jessica Gostelow
1st PDHPE
2nd English Advanced
2nd Physics
Alysha Harrol
1st Biology
1st Hospitality
Gracie Hay
=1st Studies of Religion 2 Unit
Isabelle Horder
=3rd General Mathematics
Hannah Janssen
=3rd Visual Arts
Stephanie Kennewell
2nd General Mathematics
Aimee Kieran
3rd English Standard
Aisha Kirkby
1st Ancient History
Elena Knaap
1st Tourism
Marlise Latta
2nd Food Technology
2nd Society & Culture
Cassandra Maguire
1st Drama
Sophie McNay
3rd Design & Technology
Rowena Merdith
1st Design & Technology
1st Fitness
Lauren Moorhouse
=3rd General Mathematics
Rachel Nunn
=2nd English Extension 1
3rd Society & Culture
Rose Outred
1st English Extension 1
1st Visual Arts
2nd Studies of Religion 1 Unit
Hannah Paul
1st English Advanced
1st General Mathematics
1st Legal Studies
2nd Economics
Amy Rath
1st Society & Culture
Nicole Schroder
1st Chemistry
Nicole Olivera
2nd Mathematics
2nd Mathematics Extension 1
Simona Sidoti
1st Italian Continuers
Wing Kwan (Annie) So
1st Chinese for Background Speakers
1st Mathematics
1st Mathematics Extension 1
2nd English as a Second Language
2nd Japanese Beginners
Paris Stephenson
=1st English Standard
Emma Sward
2nd Design Fundamentals
Wei Jia (Miranda) Tan
1st English as a Second Language
1st Japanese Beginners
3rd Mathematics
Vanessa Teofilo
1st Music 1
1st Community & Family Studies
2nd Business Studies
Rachel Van Zyl
1st Entertainment
Elise Vozzo
3rd Modern History
Isabel Zappia
=1st English Standard
Ji jie (June) Zhu
2nd Chinese for Background Speakers
2nd English as a Second Language

Year 12

Amber DeLisle
1st English Standard
Rachel Diaz
2nd General Mathematics
Jodie Trim
3rd Studies of Religion II
2nd Mathematics
Rachel Van Zyl
2nd Ancient History
Wei Jia (Miranda) Tan
1st Entertainment
Eloise Vozzo
3rd Modern History
Isabel Zappia
=1st English Standard
Ji jie (June) Zhu
2nd Chinese for Background Speakers
2nd English as a Second Language

Interest Articles
In 1910, the Good Samaritan Sisters who later established Stella Maris in 1931, sold off much of the property they owned at the northern end of Manly. Times were not easy and they wished to buy some land at Narellan to build a school for students with special needs.

One hundred years later the opportunity arose for Stella Maris to buy back a small section of this land through the acquisition of the Manly Fishing and Sporting Club, affectionately known as the Fisho’s! A wonderful addition as a second campus and throughout 2011 the refurbishment took place ready for occupation at the commencement of the 2012 school year.

In May, we held a walkathon to raise money for furniture for the new Campus and with enthusiasm, both for the project and the beautiful walk between the College and Dee Why, the students joined in the fun and it was obvious that there was a great sense of community and a common goal. The students raised close to $40,000 which then provided most of the furniture for the new facility. We have been fortunate to receive some excellent furniture from some of our parents. I would like to thank Vince Bird, David Wakeley and Liliana Aramayo who very generously sourced some great resources for our new centre.

We now have 10 extra classrooms, an examination centre, large Year 11 study area, a fitness centre and a wet weather playground area. This is an asset that will see us into the future.

Mrs Vicki Comerford, Principal
On Friday 13th November 2011, Stella Markets was held. The event, which was made annual in 2010, was held to raise money for local charity Bear Cottage. Bear Cottage is one of only two children’s hospices in Australia and we were absolutely delighted to be given the opportunity to fundraise for them. Stella Maris held their very first Christmas Carols on the same night. Prior to the event, generous Stella girls donated clothes, books and shoes to be sold and a selection of exquisitely talented students arranged to have stalls at the market, selling everything from pillows to friendship bracelets. Local primary school St. Marys sent some students over in the afternoon of the 13th to do a workshop with the Stella Music Department. At 4pm, proud parents arrived to watch their children perform the songs they had learnt that afternoon. A beautiful ambience was created – Bandage Bear gave out hugs, delicious cakes were sold, artistic talents were realised at the craft table, hopeful families bought tickets in the exciting raffle and the spirit of Christmas was felt with a mix of traditional and contemporary carols. A huge thank you goes to the Music Department, the SRC, Bear Cottage and our sponsors The Novotel Manly, Manly Wine Restaurant, Manly Waterworks, Bellaroma, Honey Body Salon and Star Car Wash. Over $3000 was raised for Bear Cottage and the event is set to continue for many years at Stella Maris!

Rachel Nunn
This year we have resurrected the Ex-Stella Girls Association which has been an exciting venture. We have received news from some of our first students at the College and many others from over the years.

I have had the privilege of meeting with the class of 1961 at their 50 Year Reunion on 19th November. They were full of stories as they revisited their old classroom which is now the Junior Year Coordinators’ Office. They used to refer to it as ‘the broom closet’ as it was so small. They reminisced about marching around the school yard and how they were required to wear denier stockings all year round (thick tights with a seam running down the back). However, some of the girls would draw a line down the back of their tanned legs so the nuns would just think they were wearing them. There were many laughs and photos along the way as we escorted the ‘girls’ around the College. For many of them, it was the first time they had entered the Convent or crossed the Nuns’ Garden as these were out of bounds to the students. We were delighted to share the experience with Sister Marie Therese whom they all refer to as their favourite teacher.

Only two weeks earlier, Vicki Comerford and I met up with Mary Green, one of the first students of the College. Mary is an astute 92 year old who lives independently in a hostel close to her 98 year old sister, Bridgette. Over lunch she shared stories about her father, Edward Green, who was the architect who designed the Convent and the original school building. She remembers visiting the grounds as a young girl to see the progress of the buildings and we were thrilled to see some of the original photos.

We discovered that not only was Mary witty and intelligent but had a cheeky sense of humour. She confessed that when she was a pupil, there was a time she fired a water pistol during class, the jet passing by the nun and spraying on the blackboard. The nun assumed it was raining and there was a leak in the ceiling. We then discovered that Mary had gone on to study Arts at University and majored in Psychology and then worked in Fiji for 15 years teaching. She is still actively involved in her local parish and The Grail. Mary Green is a picture of what we hope to shape in Stella girls: strong, independent women who are intelligent, compassionate and actively involved in the world.

I would like to thank Lyn Martin and Mary Lynas who have been in contact with me and handed over their collection of Stella Maris history.
World’s Greatest Shave

Congratulations to Esitia Pouhila (Year 11), Alice Edwards and Violet Warner (Year 10), and Chloe McGeachie (Year 9) for their efforts with the World’s Greatest Shave. All four young women had their long locks snipped and the razor taken to the scalps on Monday 7th March as they combined to raise money for Leukaemia sufferers. Well done!

Evening of Hope

Congratulations to Gina Gonzales on her initiative in organising ‘HOPE’ a very successful evening on Wednesday 30th November in the Theatre in aid of the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

The entertainment, whilst providing amusement for the audience, provided an empowering growth experience for the young performers and was of a first class standard. The guest speaker was inspirational, ex-student Krystal Barter who founded the ‘Pink Hope Community’ www.pinkhope.org.au, shared her difficult family history with a genetic pre-disposition to breast cancer and emerging from this to be a confident and positive mother of three who wishes to share her message of hope.

Gina raised close to $4,000. This is a wonderful achievement, well done!
Welcome BBQ

At the beginning of the new term, school organised a welcoming barbecue for the international students. We had the most amazing and funniest time with interesting games and delicious food. The most enjoyable games were the netball match and the casual dance. Besides that, we had the lucky draw and the tug of war which is my favourite. The warmest afternoon ended with the Aussie sausage sizzle, yummy chocolate mud cake and the special key ring of kangaroo and koala. As a new student this year, I got a perfect opportunity to get to meet other girls outside our regular friendship group and the friendly leadership team. Their kindness and inclusiveness gives me courage and confidence to stay happy at Stella.

Winnie So 10.10

International Night

International Night is a night of talented Stella Maris overseas students. We have our own stage, we can sing, dance, and show every talented thing. A warm atmosphere was created by all of the international girls.

The 2011 International Night was my first. It was an unforgettable night and became a part of my memory of Stella. The Year 11s chorus showed us a united friendly group; I feel they have got really strong power to overcome every difficulty. They will always stick together and help each other like a family. The Year 12s dance was really funny, the colorful hair; funny shorts. It gave us a lot of fun.

I can’t wait to go up to the stage next year and am looking forward to joining the International Night of 2012. It will be fun again!

Jojo Qian 10.6

Cooking Competition

At the end of 2011, we started a cooking competition which is held every month. This activity is basically between the international girls and some local students. We cooked different dishes and shared them at school. I was treated to all the yummy food. This competition allows us to see how talented our peers are, it’s a great chance to get together as a big group and we can taste food from different countries. We chat, we laugh, it is just like a family lunch. It makes the international girls feel welcome and warm in the ‘Stella Family’. At the end of every competition, we celebrate the birthday girls of the month and give a prize to the winner. We come together as a community every month and I hope this will continue!

Annie So 11.2
Redefining Libraries for the Future

Our Information Centre hums with energy as students busy themselves in the business of research. Our students are becoming more and more capable of 'free ranging' through the information minefield because of an emphasis on information literacy skills that sees them maturing in their capacity to manage and direct their own learning. These are the skills that will set them up for long term success at university and in life. As educators, this is one of the greatest gifts we can give them.

Amazingly, given the access to online data sources, the Library's shelves are bulging with wonderful new resources. Given the pressure from the virtual world, it might surprise many to know that students are still turning to books, both for research and leisure, and it seems that books are still a viable, and in many cases preferred, option.

Far from libraries becoming dinosaurs from ages past, the vitality and expertise of the Librarian and the structures and processes of the library environment are more necessary than ever. What has happened is a redefining of libraries. As all healthy organisms grow and change, so too has the Library at Stella Maris and in seeking out opportunities for positive change, we are thriving because of it, staff and students included.

Our collection covers a tremendous range of curriculum-specific topics as well as providing broad coverage of topics outside the curriculum. The collection is designed specifically to support students undertaking independent research across all subjects and to encourage serendipitous discovery of new and interesting information.

We can only expect the Library, in all its functions and processes, to grow and change exponentially with the rapidly increasing knowledge management needs of our students. The core function of a Library is, after all, to respond to the information needs of the people it serves – our students, your daughters.

Ms Donna Stimson, Library Manager

Number of resources in Destiny, our library catalogue: 41,354  
Estimated value of the collection: $900,000  
Number of loans this year (to end of November so not including most holiday borrowing): 16,904  
Number of books read by our top two most avid readers: 193 and 87
Parents and Friends Committee

The P&F supported several important functions during 2011 including the Year 7 Welcome Dinner, Year 8 – 12 year group functions, the Walk-a-thon and Stella Alive. Each of these functions provided a valuable point of contact between the College and parent body. In particular the P&F believes its support enables parents to meet other parents and teachers in a less formal environment. The benefit not only extends to getting to know parents of your daughters friends, but, meeting parents from other year groups who may share experiences that lie ahead of you.

The P&F organised the annual Trivia Night at the St Kieran’s Parish Hall. The evening was the best attended to date, with many prizes and a good deal of fun. The support by the local business community by the way of prizes was outstanding and demonstrated how the College is viewed by the broader community. The P&F raised record funds this year at this event. December 2011 at our Annual Presentation the P&F were delighted to make a contribution towards furniture to the Benedict Campus of $7000.

The P&F also assisted in the Walk-a-thon to raise additional funds for the Benedict Campus. This was a fantastic event, I personally was so pleased to be at James Meehan Reserve, the turnaround point, to see all those smiles on the students’ faces and the rapport with our fantastic teachers that were group leaders.

My thanks go to our wonderful P&F Executive and other parents who volunteered their time and assistance over the year. I would like to express my gratitude to Vicki Comerford and Mary Ryland for their support, interest and encouragement towards the activities of the P&F.

Finally, the success of 2011 rests on the effort of the dedicated and hardworking Executive, who make it such fun to be a volunteer at this school.

Mrs Diane Mantell, P&F President

Volunteers’ Committee

Without the generous support of our volunteers we could not provide the girls with the following services:

- A canteen that provides nutritious food and drink
- A uniform shop open 3 days a week
- Book covering and shelf tidying in the Library
- Learning support with exam supervision and scribing for students
- Helping with the various activities of the P&F
- The work that went on behind the scenes to make the Rock Eisteddfod such a spectacle
- The wonderful array of sports that are provided because of your expertise and help

Thank you to the parents and grandparents who give their time, the students love having a family member taking an interest in the school and in their activities. We look forward to seeing most of you again in 2012.

Special thanks to the following volunteers, whose daughters leave Stella at the end of 2011; Debra Aiken, Phylis Bartel, Susan Epifania, Cutty Felton, Trisha Gibson, Anna Heath, Jane House, Nicole Kaufer, Leigh McPherson, Anna Mesiti, Tanya Reid, Marisa Signorelli, Jill Tumbridge and Geraldine Whyte.

Our Volunteers’ Dinner, an event acknowledging the generosity of our volunteers during the year, was held in the school grounds and was a wonderful night. The weather was a little chilly to begin with but as the night wore on it seemed to warm up.

Mrs Maree Sewell, Uniform Shop & Mrs Bernie McGrath, Canteen
Time Capsule

Name:

Nickname/s:

Subjects Studied:

Extra Curricular Activities:

Favourite Subject:
Most Hated Subject:
Favourite Teacher:
Greatest Achievement:

Funniest Moment:

My best friends were:

Hangout Place:
Favourite Canteen Food:
My current crush is on:
I am obsessed with:

In FIVE years time I hope to ….

In TEN years time I hope to ….