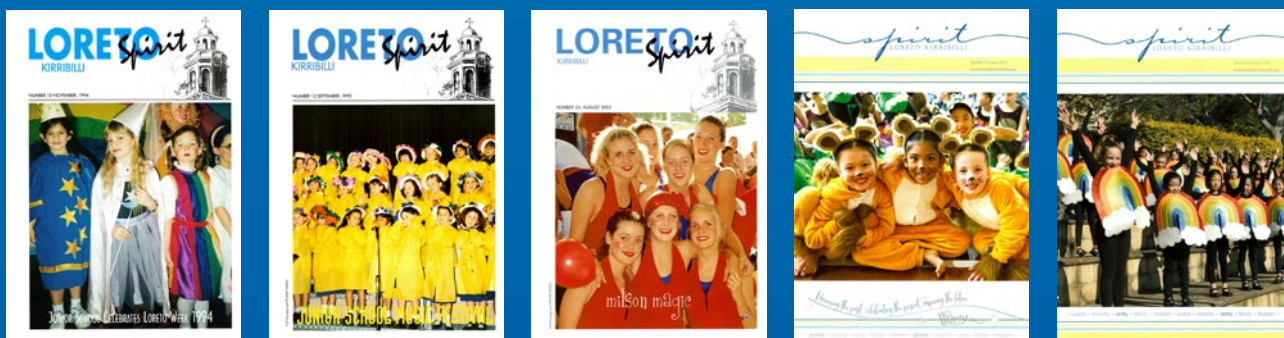




LORETO KIRRIBILLI

spirit

ISSUE 99 December 2025



FROM THE ARCHIVES: Spirit magazine covers from the archives prove that Loreto Kirribilli girls have always relished the opportunity to dress up, show spirit and perform! Above: Loreto Week, November 1994; Singing in the Rain, September 1995; Milson Magic, August 2003; African Safari, August 2018; Somewhere Over the Rainbow, August 2020. **FRONT COVER:** Ward House actors in their winning performance at the 2025 Years 7-9 House Drama Competition. Photo: Grant Leslie



LORETO KIRRIBILLI

Contributions for inclusion in *Spirit* should be sent to:
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85 Carabella Street, Kirribilli NSW 2061
Phone +61 2 9957 4722
communications@loreto.nsw.edu.au

SUSTAINABLE SPIRIT

As part of our drive to make our school more sustainable, we are no longer printing and mailing out *Spirit* magazine. However there will be a few copies available to be picked up from School Reception if desired.

Our magazine will always be available to read online at loreto.nsw.edu.au/connect/community/spirit-magazine/

Please remember also that our social media platforms are a great way to keep in touch! We hope you enjoy this edition of *Spirit*.

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Follow us to stay up to date with the latest Loreto Kirribilli news



Student Executive
Handover Afternoon Tea



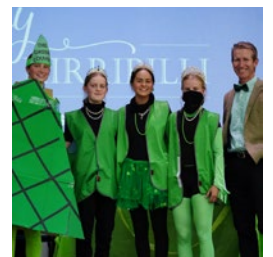
Year 4
Mandarin



2026 Years 3 & 5
Orientation Day



Year 10 STEM
students visit Qantas



LK Speaks
Assembly



Spring Fair



Year 4 Mass
and Learning Walk



Year 7
Drones



Senior School
End of Year Awards Ceremony



Junior School
'Cup of Christmas' Initiative



loretokirribilli



Loreto Kirribilli



LoretoKirribilliSchool

Blessings of the Way - Australian Loreto Principals' Retreat

DR NICOLE ARCHARD | **PRINCIPAL** BA DIPED, MA, MEDLEAD, MTHEOLST, PHD



In recognition of 150 years of Loreto education in Australia, during the September school holidays, I had the privilege of joining my Australian Loreto Principal colleagues on a pilgrimage and retreat entitled *Blessings of the Way*. This retreat traced the spiritual and historical journey of our foundresses, from the homeland of Teresa Ball and Gonzaga Barry in Ireland to the birthplace of Mary Ward in York, England. The experience offered an opportunity to reconnect with the origins of the Loreto mission and to reflect upon the enduring legacy entrusted to all of us who lead within Loreto education today.

Our journey commenced in Glendalough, a place of serenity and natural beauty and the location of the ruins of the ancient monastery of Saint Kevin. Our reflections in Glendalough centred upon the notion of liminality, the sacred threshold between what has been and what is yet to come. In these spaces of transition, transformation occurs, and it is here that we encounter the quiet invitation of God to embrace new beginnings with courage and commitment. The reflections shared during this time called us to listen deeply for the presence of the divine in the ordinariness of life, and to recognise that, as the Celtic tradition affirms, all is grace. These moments of stillness reminded us that true leadership in the Loreto tradition begins with discernment and trust in God's guiding presence.

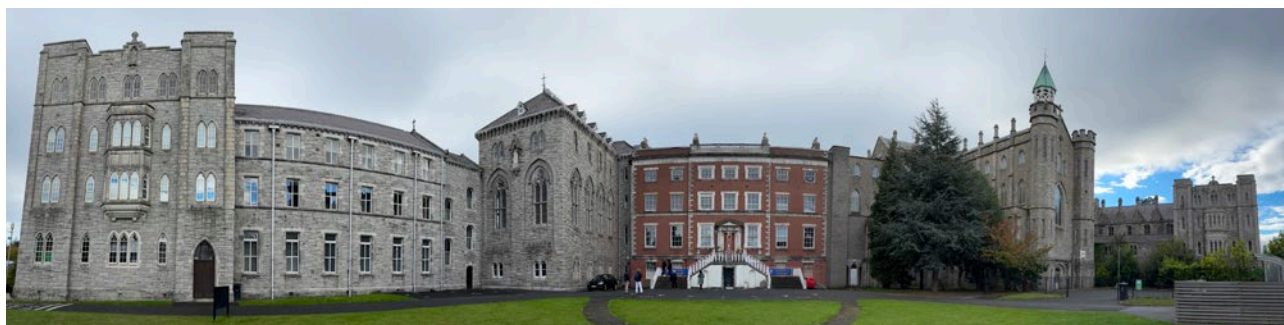
A visit to Loreto Gorey followed, where the vocation of our Australian foundress, Mother Gonzaga Barry, was first nurtured. Standing in the very place where a young Gonzaga Barry discerned her call to religious life was both moving and inspiring. Her courage to leave Ireland in 1875 to establish Loreto education in Australia continues to resonate deeply. Her reflection, "I felt I had to do it, or be unfaithful to grace," speaks powerfully to the essence of our shared mission, one that calls each of us to trust in divine providence, particularly when the path ahead is uncertain.



Main picture Members of the Blessings of the Way Retreat gathered in the ancient Celtic gardens of Glendalough.

Above Australian Loreto Principals with Sr Sandra Perrett cj at Rathfarnham, above the old wooden door through which Mother Gonzaga Barry departed for Australia in 1875.

Opposite main picture Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham (Dublin, Ireland), the original Loreto school founded by Teresa Ball in 1822.



Our time in Rathfarnham afforded us the opportunity to honour Mother Teresa Ball, whose vision and steadfast faith gave rise to the first Loreto foundation in Ireland in 1822. To stand in this first Loreto school, the same school from which Mother Gonzaga Barry later left to come to Australia, was an inspiring experience. We later held a prayer service with the Irish Loreto Sisters at the final resting place of Teresa Ball and reflected upon the countless generations of Loreto women who followed her example of courage and conviction. These sacred sites remind us that the work of Loreto education is not merely institutional; it is spiritual, relational, and enduring across time and place.

The pilgrimage concluded in York, the birthplace of Mary Ward and the spiritual home of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her belief that “women, in time to come, will do much” continues to serve as both inspiration and challenge for all engaged in Loreto education.

At the Bar Convent, the oldest surviving convent in England, we were immersed in the history of the Institute, a history marked by perseverance, faith, and unwavering commitment to justice and truth. Standing at Mary Ward’s burial place in Osbaldwick, we were reminded that every Loreto school across the world continues her mission: to educate in freedom, to form women of integrity, and to act always in the spirit of faith and justice.

The Loreto Principals’ Retreat was not only a journey across place but also a journey inward, a renewal of the call to lead with authenticity, humility, and grace. As we commemorate 150 years of Loreto education in Australia, this retreat reaffirmed our collective responsibility to continue the work begun by courageous women who were, in their time, truly faithful to grace.

At Loreto Kirribilli, this same spirit is alive in our classrooms, assemblies, and daily interactions. As educators, parents, and students, we are all called to ensure that Mary Ward’s vision continues to shine for the generations who follow.

Above left Glendalough Monastic Site (County Wicklow, Ireland), a place of pilgrimage and reflection for Loreto pilgrims.
Above centre Loreto plaque (York, England), part of the York heritage displays, commemorating one of the early Loreto communities established in the 1840s.
Above right Mary Ward Memorial Cross (York, England), a Celtic-style cross honouring Mary Ward.
Above A carved stone memorial to Mary Ward, preserved within the Bar Convent, the oldest surviving convent in England and a major Mary Ward heritage site.

New School Board Chair

DR NICOLE ARCHARD | **PRINCIPAL** BA DIPED, MA, MEDLEAD, MTHEOLST, PHD



After a tenure of eight and a half years, our Board Chair, Ms Sheila McGregor, is stepping down at the end of this year. Sheila's outstanding contribution to Loreto Kirribilli during challenging times, and stewardship during her term, will leave a lasting legacy. She leaves the School sustainably stronger and ideally positioned for the future.

On behalf of the School Executive team, the staff, students, parents, ex-students, and Loreto sisters, I would like to thank Sheila for all she has done so willingly as our Chair.

Whether it was helping the school navigate the challenges of the Covid pandemic, overseeing the construction of our seven-storey 'Spiritus' building, ensuring effective stewardship of the school's financial resources, or modelling best practice in governance, Sheila has been a wise, generous and supportive Chair.

Board meetings led by Sheila were always of the highest quality, expertly organised, and

collaborative. Sheila would draw out the strengths of each board member for the benefit of our school.

Ensuring the school delivers the best educational outcomes for the students in our care has always been Sheila's priority. She would take every opportunity to reinforce the exceptional work of teachers and staff at Loreto Kirribilli, offering praise and practical support, which was always highly valued.

With confidence, Sheila is handing over to Ms Kate Gillingham as her successor. Kate is a current Loreto Kirribilli Board member, a member of the Administrative Review Tribunal,

and has 30 years' experience as a legal practitioner, including as a partner at an international law firm.

Kate is also a generational Loreto girl. As the daughter of ex-student Maureen Gillingham (Scott '60), she is the eldest of four Gillingham sisters who attended Loreto Kirribilli, and mother of two graduates, Lucy Sheller ('20) and Emma Sheller ('21).

As she now takes up the position of Chair of Loreto Kirribilli Board, I look forward to working closely with Kate for the future of our wonderful school.

VALE SR MARGARET NOONE IBVM AM

It is with great sadness that the Loreto Sisters of Australia and Southeast Asia announce the death of Sr Margaret Noone ibvm AM. Margaret was a member of the Victorian Community; she died peacefully on Friday 3 January 2025 with many of our Sisters by her side.



Sr Margaret Noone was a student at Loreto Kirribilli from 1946 to 1950, along with her sister Bette Noone ('45).

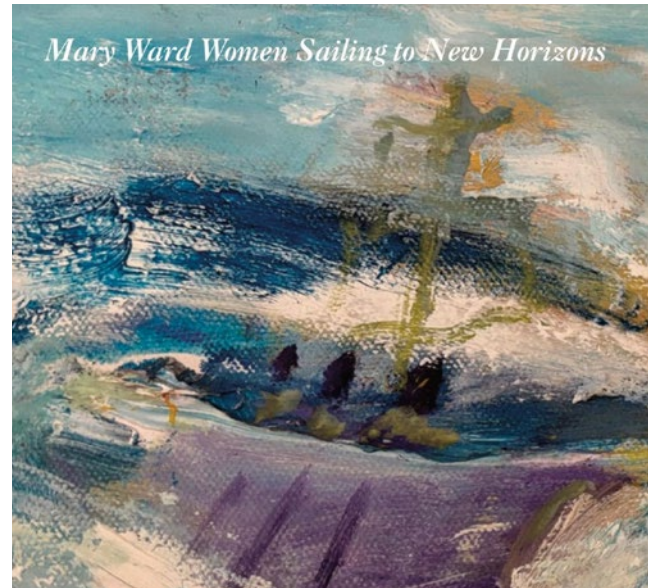
Sr Margaret devoted her life to serving others, dedicating thirty years to various teaching, educational leadership and pastoral care roles across Australia. After a period of study in the United States, Sr Margaret introduced hospice care to Australia in 1996 through Very Special Kids, which remains Victoria's sole children's hospice, delivering comprehensive palliative care to children and young people with life-limiting conditions, and offering personalised support to their families.

For over 40 years, Margaret was the heart and soul of Very Special Kids and after retiring in 2002, she remained very active in her role as patron. In 2000, Margaret received an Order of Australia award recognising her outstanding contribution to paediatric palliative care.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the countless people whose lives Margaret touched across her rich and colourful life.

May Margaret rest in peace surrounded by her Very Special angels.

LORETO MINISTRIES



IBVM MERGER

IBVM Global and the Congregatio Jesu shared the joyful news that IBVM members have voted in favour of merging with the CJ, "a truly historic and grace-filled moment" for the Mary Ward family around the world. As they take this significant step toward becoming one body, we join the Sisters in prayer and thanksgiving for the unity, hope, and courage this new chapter will bring.



MGB TRAILBLAZER AWARD

We warmly celebrate the induction of Mother Mary Gonzaga Barry ibvm into the 2025 Victorian Honour Roll of Women, recognised in the 'Trailblazer' category for her extraordinary contribution to education. This honour comes in the milestone year marking 150 years since the Loreto Sisters first arrived in Australia, bringing with them a vision of learning that continues to shape generations.

From the School Board

MS SHEILA MCGREGOR | SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR

As I approach my final days as School Board Chair, I wanted to share some heartfelt reflections with our community.

October's Mass of Gratitude, celebrated by Father Ross Jones SJ of St Aloysius' College, was right on point. It was a wonderful celebration of our volunteers and generous benefactors, including our outgoing and new P&F Committee, our amazing parents, some of our donors, our Ex-Students' Union President and members, and our incoming School Board Chair, Ms Kate Gillingham.

Fr Ross asked a thought-provoking question about St Ignatius Loyola's perspective on the worst sin, which he revealed as "ingratitude." This struck a chord with me, as not valuing what we receive, and forgetting what has been given is indeed a temptation for all of us. Reflecting on this, I was filled with immense gratitude for the experiences and interactions I've had in this role, and all of that is because of the people I have interacted with over this time.

First, I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as School Board Chair. I extend my appreciation to Mr Justice Peter Garling for entrusting me with this important role.

Working alongside all of my fellow Board members has been a privilege, and I'd like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of my Board colleagues over the years. In particular, I'd like to acknowledge those who are retiring this year. Your contributions have been invaluable.

I am grateful to John Eales, who led the successful capital campaign for Spiritus, and then agreed to join our School Board. His perspectives and thoughtful decision-making at the Board have greatly enhanced our discussions. With Evie, the third of the Eales' girls finishing this year, a very big thanks to both John and Lara for being such a key part of our Loreto Kirribilli community.

A big thanks also to Niall Ronan, who brought both a forensic eye for detail and also a broad perspective to our Board discussions. In addition to the Board, Niall



served on the Finance, Audit and Investment Committee and recently chaired the Cyber Security and Information Management Committee. Niall was also on the P&F Executive for four years, including as Treasurer and as P&F Joint President in 2016. Thanks also to Adrienne for making it possible for Niall to work above and beyond, and for helping us on several matters. We are not yet farewelling the Ronans who are with us for another year, as Gemma starts Year 12.

Much appreciation to Nell Hutton, with her deep connections to our school, as an ex-student, daughter of an ex-student and mother of Elsie, finishing Year 12 this year. Nell and Hamish have been tremendous supporters of many of our key programs, including Spiritus, our new scholarship program, and LK Connect from its inception in 2019 and most recently, the six Australian Loreto schools' combined Inaugural Loreto Voices, London event hosted by Westpac.

The commitment of our hardworking P&F Executive Committees and Year Class parents to build community and fundraising is truly the heart and soul of our school, with our Spring Fair continuing to be a key date in the calendar for all of us.



MOTHER DAUGHTER MASS 2025



LK CONNECT 2024



PRINCIPAL'S FAREWELL MASS 2023



SPIRITUS BLESSING & OPENING 2022

To our Development team led by Debbie Henry, you have made sure that our relationships and networks have continued to grow with the launch of the *LK Connect Mentoring & Networking* program six years ago, the many events at the school throughout each year, and with the *Loreto Global Voices* launched this year in London. You and your team's dedication and hard work never cease to amaze me.

I must also express my profound gratitude to our highly-skilled teachers, staff, and executive team led by Dr Archard. Your intelligence, generosity, and care for our students are the foundation of the exceptional education our school provides. To our many students, the way we see you develop, thrive and flourish over the years makes the work of all of us truly worthwhile.

Finally, a special and separate thank you to the two Principals I have worked with, for showing me how all the pieces come together to make a truly great school.

As I conclude my time in this role, I carry with me the warmth of these experiences and the joy of having been part of such a dedicated and compassionate community. Thank you all for your support, dedication, and the wonderful memories we have created together. I wish my successor, Ms Kate Gillingham, all the best as she assumes leadership of your School Board in 2026. With Ms Gillingham and Dr Archard in their roles, I am confident that I leave our school in the very best of hands.



P&F WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY 2019



LK CONNECT 2019



EX-STUDENTS' SPIRITUALITY DAY 2017

2025 Clancy Religious Art Prize

ISABELLA FABRIZIO | ART TEACHER

Congratulations to the Loreto Kirribilli students who entered the 2025 Clancy Religious Art Prize. Our students absolutely shone, receiving the most awards of any school, a remarkable achievement that reflects their hard work, creativity, and dedication.

Throughout the exhibition, our students received many compliments on both the calibre of their work and the way they carried themselves. They were so gracious and humble in their success. Parents were incredibly grateful and proud, and it was clear what a special experience this was for their families. These girls have worked so hard to manage all their other studies and to produce additional artworks for this very prestigious award.

A special congratulations to our award recipients:

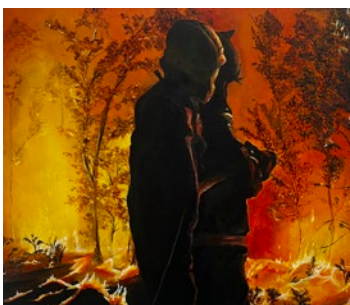
Lillian Wunder & Katy Toole Year 10
School of Education Award \$100

Evelyn Li Year 9
Monsignor Doherty 2nd Prize \$300

Elizabeth Moodey Year 9
Brian Jordan Art 2nd Prize

Ava Johnston Year 9
The Monsignor Doherty Prize 1st Prize \$1000

A special mention to Lulu Chidgey (Year 8) for her entry of *St Anne*, and Year 9 girls' joint entrants: Abigail Lee, Abigail Pearson, Eloise Roberts, Chanel Bellomo, Rosie Messara and Ava Johnston, whose life-size painting of Mary Ward was selected to be exhibited. The experience of exhibiting is so rewarding, and the Art Department are very proud of all the girls!



Mary Ward Connect

LINDA WALBURN | LSAC REPRESENTATIVE



Established in 2009, the Mary Ward Connect program is an annual student exchange event that develops connections between Loreto schools across Australia. The program involves Year 10 students from six participating schools (Loreto Ballarat, Loreto Coorparoo, Loreto Kirribilli, Loreto Marryatville, Loreto Normanhurst and Loreto Toorak). Each school hosts a total of 12 students and two staff for a three-day school exchange. At its heart, the program is a celebration of over 400 years of Mary Ward education, aiming to promote student leadership and build and strengthen connections between students, staff, and communities in Loreto schools nationwide.

"Throughout the week, we've shared classrooms, conversations, and countless laughs, gaining a real insight into the daily life of another Loreto community. It has been fascinating to notice the similarities that unite our schools, as well as the little differences that make each one unique. What has stood out the most, though, is the deep sense of connection that exists between Loreto girls, no matter where we're from."

CAROLINE BROWN
Year 10, visiting Loreto Coorparoo



"Singing 'Queen of Loreto' together at assembly truly captured the essence of what it means to be a part of the Loreto community... we're so grateful to have made new friendships and memories."

LUCIA CADE
Year 10, visiting Loreto Toorak

Sharing our Faith



MASS OF GRATITUDE

On behalf of Loreto Kirribilli, we sincerely thank our community who continue to support all aspects of life at Loreto Kirribilli. At October's Mass of Gratitude and brunch, our community of students, parents, ex-students, past parents and friends gathered in celebration of 'gratitude' to acknowledge the outstanding work of our volunteers and generous benefactors. The phrase 'parents in partnership' will never grow old and the Mass was testament to the wonderful support we receive from our Loreto community.

DEBBIE HENRY

Development Manager



JUNIOR SCHOOL FATHERS' DAY LITURGY

It was standing room only at the Junior School Fathers' Day "All Star Dads" Liturgy, with students singing their gratitude in a wonderful rendition of the gospel song, *This Little Light of Mine*. Thank you to Simon, dad of Chloe, for his heartfelt reflection on the challenges and rewards of fatherhood. Dads afterwards followed their daughters to their classrooms for a showcase of this semester's learning.

Sharing our Faith



FIRST EUCHARIST

Family members gathered in the Loreto Kirribilli Chapel to celebrate the Sacrament of First Eucharist with our students. Thank you to Father Ramesh Richards SJ, who presided over the Mass in the Chapel, and to those parents who led preparation groups, sharing your wisdom and faith with our First Communicants.

"First Communion is, above all, a celebration. We celebrate Jesus, who wants to remain always by our side." **POPE FRANCIS**



ARCHBISHOP'S AWARD

Congratulations to Marcrisse De Vera, our recipient of the Archbishop of Sydney Student Excellence Award. This prestigious award recognises young people who give witness to their Christian values and who actively contribute to the faith life of their school. Recipients are practising Catholics who show responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community.

Social Justice



WARD HOUSE RAISE FUNDS FOR CPA

Cerebral Palsy Australia (CPA) was Ward House's chosen charity in Term 3, and students attended a 'Live at Lunch' presentation by cerebral palsy advocate Pamela Rogers. Then the Ward House leaders organised a lunchtime Teachers vs Students Trivia event to raise funds. After a close competition, the students were declared the winners, naturally! This was followed by the much-anticipated raffle draw, where students and staff were delighted with their prizes. Well done Ward House for a fantastic social justice initiative.



BUSKING FOR CHANGE

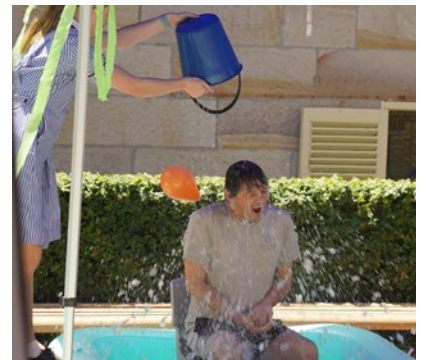
Our Junior School students were out in force for an early morning *Busking for Change* musical event, raising funds for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, to support literacy in remote communities around Australia.



Social Justice

R U OK? DAY BAKE SALE

Congratulations to the Year 12 leaders for the R U OK? Day Bake Sale. Led by Maeve Foley-Jones, the students were recognised as top contributors to Lifeline's fundraising activities, raising a total of \$1,282 to help support Lifeline's mental health services.



LOU'S PLACE FUNDRAISER

This term, Heaton House Leaders, Sarah Holt and Ruby Dickerson, chose as their charity Lou's Place, a non-government-funded refuge for women suffering from homelessness, domestic violence, mental health issues or addiction. The highlight of the fundraising was the Ice Bucket Challenge, where teachers volunteered to be dunked with an ice bucket once enough raffle tickets were sold!



Wellbeing

ROMALINA ROCCA | DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

In September, the whole school celebrated Wellbeing Week, with fun lunchtime games, a Quad sing-along, mindful colouring in the Library, and chalk drawing on the driveway. Staff enjoyed a morning yoga class and an early walk across the Harbour Bridge, and Junior School even had a visit from their favourite therapy dog, Peggy.

We were fortunate to welcome Dr Judith Locke, clinical psychologist, teacher and author, who spoke with our parent community about the importance of building resilience, independence, and strong parent-teen relationships. Her session was insightful, practical, and very warmly received, leaving us with much to reflect on in how we best support our young people.

Dr Locke has also written an article for us, titled *Is Your Child Good Company?*, which explores how parents can nurture their child's social skills and confidence in ways that prepare them to be empathetic, resilient and considerate companions. We encourage all families to take a few minutes to read her reflections here.

https://www.loreto.nsw.edu.au/documents/1185/Judith_Locke_article.pdf

LUNCHTIME SKIPPING



LUNCHTIME SING-A-LONG



MINDFUL MANDALAS



Wellbeing



R U OK? DAY



PAUL DILLON - DRUG EDUCATION



PEGGY THE THERAPY DOG



Focus on your character strengths

GROW YOUR MIND



Companions in Learning

LINDA WALBURN | ASSISTANT HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Our unique Companions in Learning program is now in its fourth year, and going from strength to strength. A highlight of this semester was the wonderful Choral Concert held in the St Aloysius' College Chapel, where the massed choir finale brought a tear to the eye of many in the audience.

Another heartwarming event was when St Aloysius' Year 9 boys visited the Junior School and performed a musical showcase designed specifically for our Kindergarten and Year 1 students. They shared original compositions, presented familiar songs and tunes, and introduced the girls to various instruments in an interactive and educational format. The girls loved every minute!



YEAR 9 SOCIAL



CAREERS BREAKFAST



MANDARIN STORYTIME



YEAR 4 STEM DAY



St Joseph's Building Upgrade

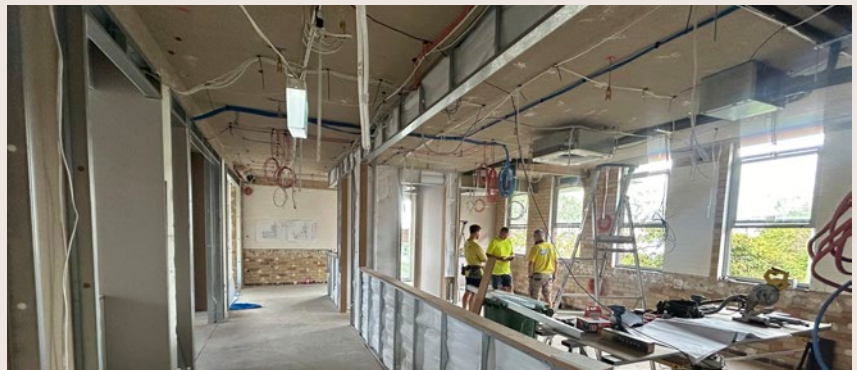
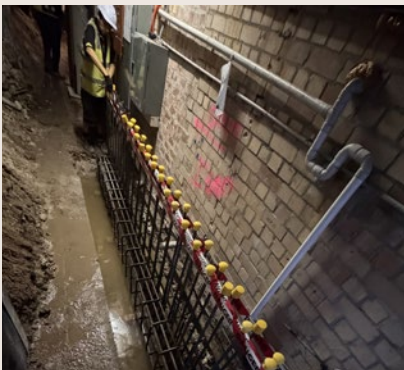
DR NICOLE ARCHARD | BA DIPED, MA, MEDLEAD, MTHEOLST, PHD

October saw the commencement of the upgrade of Levels 1 and 2 of St Joseph's Building ('J Block') in the Senior School, with completion due for the start of Term 1, 2026. The new design by BVN, Northrop and JHA will see all classrooms fully refurbished and a new home created for Senior School Student Reception, our Health Care Centre, and key staff, including the Head of Senior School and Coordinator of Students.

This is a wonderful step forward for our campus, and I am grateful to our community whose support makes such projects possible. The project is aligned with our 2025-2028 Strategic Vision and ensures that Loreto Kirribilli continues to provide the very best facilities for the education and wellbeing of our girls.



Architects' renders above: Student Reception with St Joseph statue and Locker Lounge Level 2.

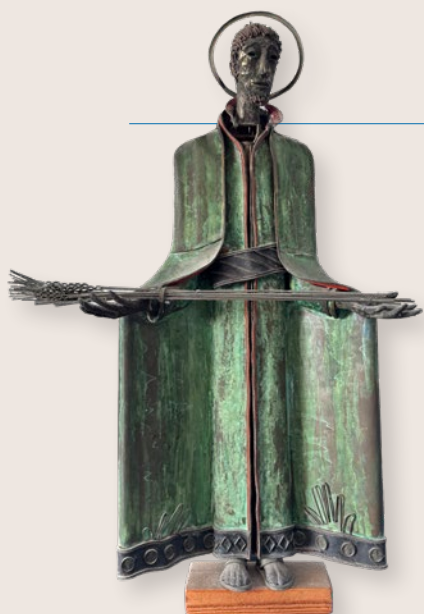


First stage of the project was excavation for new load-bearing wall foundations, allowing for larger, brighter classrooms and corridors.



The old corridors and classrooms will be transformed with more space and light.

St Joseph's Building History



The bronze, copper and sterling silver sculpture of St Joseph was made for the new building by sculptor and silversmith Dan Flynn of Kyneton, Victoria.



The 'old terrace flats' and land on Carabella St were acquired in 1958 and demolished in 1964 to make way for the St Joseph's Building.



The new 'J Block' building was designed and constructed by Civil & Civic, and overseen by Managing Director and benefactor Mr Dick Dusseldorp.



The completed St Joseph's Building in 1965. In 1970, a top floor was added, including art rooms and a larger Library.



Blessing Ceremony 21 March 1965 by Cardinal Gilroy, Archbishop of Sydney.



The new Mother Philomena Heaton Library, March 1965



The J Block was home to classrooms, science labs, art rooms, the 'Gum Trees' Canteen and a Lecture theatre with tiered seating.

Innovation and Creativity



METRO MINDS CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to our Year 8 Technology students Mary-Lou Doolan, Sienna Livermore, Juliet Khoury, Alicia Fleming and Ruby Little, who won the finals of the 2025 Metro Minds STEAM Challenge, a prestigious competition that brings together schools across Sydney to tackle real-world transport and sustainability challenges.

The girls worked collaboratively to design and prototype 'Luminex', an innovative kinetic floor tile that generates electricity. The team had to present their ideas under pressure, and showcase their thinking to industry judges, with tough competition from the five teams in the finals.

"The presentation pitch included detailed design prototyping, costs, and thoughtful consideration of implementation challenges."

METRO MINDS JUDGING PANEL

The Luminex Idea

The winning team's idea, called 'Luminex', is to introduce kinetic energy floor tiles in Sydney Metro stations. Strategically placed in high-traffic areas - near Opal gates, outside restrooms, and by platform screen doors - these tiles could harness commuter footfall to generate clean energy, allowing station amenities to be powered sustainably. The tiles could also be programmable, enabling dynamic visual displays that can celebrate key moments throughout the year, such as Pride, breast cancer awareness and New Year's Eve, as well as local Indigenous art, showcased respectfully and with permission.

RICK DUFOURQ

STEM Coordinator



TAS EXPO

It was a wonderful evening of celebration for our Year 12 Design & Technology students who showcased their creativity and technological capabilities at the 2025 Major Design Project Expo. Parents, friends, staff, and students gathered to hear from brilliant lighting designer and ex-student, Simone Chua ('04), who spoke about the design process and some of the work of her company, Amigo & Amigo. (see page 44)

Congratulations to Year 12 Design & Technology student Annie Peel, whose HSC Major Project 'Modstack', a design for affordable, flexible modular living spaces, has been nominated for inclusion in the SHAPE exhibition next year. A fantastic achievement, well done Annie!

RACHEL NOONAN

TAS Coordinator

Innovation and Creativity

GLOBAL FUTURES CHALLENGE

Congratulations Caroline Brown and Juliet Khoury who both took part in the 2025 Global Futures Challenge and were successful in their respective age groups.



Caroline Brown (Year 10) was awarded a partial Merit Scholarship of £750 (AUD \$1,570). Her short essay, *Silenced by Software: Securing Algorithmic Fairness in Justice Systems*, is a timely reminder of the dangers of AI becoming embedded in courtrooms. Read the essay here:

<https://www.loreto.nsw.edu.au/documents/1214/student-essay.pdf>

Juliet Khoury (Year 8) came Runner Up and was awarded a partial scholarship of £1,500 (AUD \$2,720). Her project focused on the development of biopolymer plastics as a sustainable alternative to conventional plastics.



Juliet explained the results of research. "While the initial cost of producing gelatin-based biopolymer films is significantly higher than traditional synthetic plastics - ranging from approximately \$8,000 to \$14,000 AUD per tonne compared to around \$1,500-\$2,000 AUD for conventional plastics - the long-term benefits present a compelling case for investment. These biopolymers are derived from renewable resources, are fully biodegradable, and break down in natural environments without releasing microplastics or harmful greenhouse gases. As demand rises and technology advances, gelatin-based bioplastics could become a cost-effective, sustainable alternative that aligns with both economic and environmental goals."

LARA STRATI

Gifted & Talented Teacher (7-12)



SCIENCE FAIR

Our Years 8 and 10 Science students had their research, creativity, and innovation skills on display at this year's Science Fair. We welcomed esteemed expert judges Dr Ian Jamie and Mayes Kanoun, and guest judges and ex-students Olivia Jacobs ('22), Tara Miller ('24), and Anna Huynh ('24), who commented on the excellent standard of the projects on display.

Students heard inspiring stories from ex-student guest speakers and young scientists Elza Svilans ('23), Aislinn Lenehan ('18), and Niamh Rex Craw ('17). Our Junior School students were fascinated to hear about some of the clever experimentation of the older students!

Innovation and Creativity

CHANGEMAKERS@LK

It was wonderful to hear the excited chatter as our Year 6 Changemakers presented their digital projects to an impressed audience of parents, families and staff. This was the finale of a semester-long transdisciplinary project, where the girls worked in teams to create an app to support a United Nations Sustainable Development Goal. Thank you to our industry mentors working in business, marketing, product development and IT who provided real-world insights and assisted the girls in the development of their apps.



FUTURE ANYTHING GRAND FINAL WINNERS

Congratulations to Year 10 students Mimey Yard-Smith and Eliza De Lorenzo, who won the Grand Final of the 2025 Future Anything National competition.

Future Anything is a national program that challenges young people to create innovative solutions to real-world problems. In 2025, more than 8,200 students across 85 schools participated, and the Grand Final brings together the top eight student teams from across Australia as they pitch their ideas live to a panel of expert judges.

The students have won an incredibly generous prize package of cash and mentorship, valued at \$42,000, to take their idea to the next stage of development. Their achievement stems from their participation in our SEED Program, where they developed 'Eco Drive', a system that detects wildlife activity to reduce vehicle-related accidents.

As Mimey and Eliza explained, "Our research indicated that Dubbo has the highest incidence of road collisions with wildlife in NSW, so we would hope to collaborate with local council, wildlife organisations, and Dubbo Western Plains Zoo to see our idea fully conceptualised." A great idea and an amazing achievement, well done girls!

RACHEL NOONAN
TAS Coordinator

Building Futures through STEM

DR JONATHON MASCORELLA | DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

At Loreto Kirribilli, learning is more than what happens in the classroom - it's an exploration of ideas that connect curiosity with real-world purpose. Our approach to STEM blends Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (and often the Arts) to create a truly transdisciplinary experience. STEM is more than a collection of subjects. It's a mindset, a way of thinking about learning that encourages students to connect ideas across disciplines, to innovate, and to solve meaningful problems.



NEW STEM ELECTIVES

When we recently reviewed our STEM programs, one message from our students stood out loud and clear: they wanted more challenge, more creativity, and more connection to the industries shaping their future. They spoke of their fascination with rocketry, car racing, drones, aviation, and robotics, fields that capture the imagination and inspire ambition.

Our new iSTEM elective, for Years 9 and 10, based on the NESA-endorsed iSTEM curriculum, immerses students in large-scale, collaborative projects. From designing space settlements inspired by biomimicry with the Taronga Conservation Society, to competing in FIRST Robotics, to building and racing a 1/10th scale solar car, students will be constantly challenged to think critically and creatively.

Beyond the classroom, new programs such as the EV Racing Team, Flight Futures, Drone Certification Project, and of course, our established VEX IQ Robotics Teams, provide rich opportunities for students to apply their learning in authentic, industry-aligned contexts.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ISTEM TAKES OFF



In our new **EV Racing Program** students will design, build, and race their very own electric-powered car. For students in Years 5-11.



Now in its 8th year at Loreto Kirribilli, **VEX Robotics** teaches students in Years 4 to 11 how to design, build and code robots.



In the **Aviation Program**, students in Years 10 to 11 can begin their journey toward earning a Recreational Pilot Licence (RPL) while exploring the physics, engineering, and aerodynamics of real-world flight. Drone Certification Project gives students the knowledge and skills required to become a certified drone pilot. For students in Years 9 and 10, exclusively as part of the iSTEM elective.

Learning Experiences

ROMALINA ROCCA | DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

In the Loreto Kirribilli Strategic Vision for 2025-28, the 'Learning and Inquiry' section articulates 'practical experiences', 'real world problems', and the development of 'transdisciplinary intelligence'. As we look ahead to the coming year, we are planning a range of exceptional experiential learning opportunities for our students, aimed at achieving these outcomes through cultural immersion, environmental engagement, and outdoor adventure.



NEW ZEALAND NETBALL TOUR

Term 1 Holidays | 6 - 15 April | Years 8 & 9

A sporting and cultural event giving students the opportunity to compete in Netball games against local schools and clubs in New Zealand while exploring Maori traditions and New Zealand landscapes.



LADY ELLIOT ISLAND

Term 1 Holidays | 13 - 17 April | Year 10

Led by the Science and Geography departments, students will explore the southernmost point of the Great Barrier Reef through guided reef walks, snorkelling, field sampling and glass-bottom boat tours.



SKI CAMP

Term 2 Holidays | 28 June - 3 July | Years 10 & 11

A snow-filled adventure to Perisher Ski Resort where students to ski or snowboard under the instruction of qualified Perisher staff, engaging in daily group lessons tailored to their ability, gaining both technical skills and cherished memories.



EAST ARNHEM LAND

Term 2 Holidays | 29 June - 5 July | Years 11

In collaboration with Culture College, this program invites students into the heart of East Arnhem Land to engage directly with First Nations communities, deepening their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.



ENGLAND

Term 2 Holidays | 5 - 17 July | Years 9, 10 & 11

With a blend of history, culture, and live performance, this trip will focus on exploring key literary and dramatic landmarks in London and Stratford-upon-Avon and will include a visit to the grave of Mary Ward.



CULTURAL TOUR OF ITALY

Term 3 Holidays | 26 September - 10 October | Years 9, 10 & 11 Italian Elective students only

This cultural journey includes stops in Milan, Lake Garda, Verona, Venice, Florence, Pisa, and Rome. Students will enjoy language lessons, hands-on cooking classes, museum visits, and historical explorations led by expert local guides.



NEPAL IMMERSION

Term 4 Holidays | 5 December - 20 December | Year 11

In partnership with World Expeditions Schools, this transformative journey is grounded in sustainability, conservation, and social justice. Students will participate in regenerative service projects and engage with the local Nepali culture.

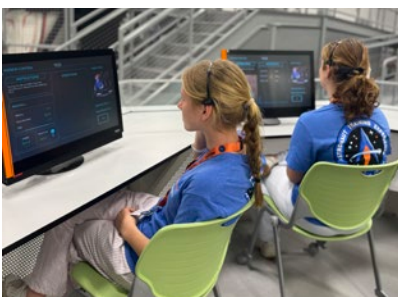
STEM Tour USA

ROMALINA ROCCA | DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Our STEM Tour USA in the Term 3 holidays was an inspiring journey through the wonders of science and nature. A group of Years 10 and 11 students, and accompanying staff, took in stunning landforms, scientific research, and technological innovation - from advances in aerospace to astrophysics, biodiversity to natural history.

We visited the Lowell Observatory in Arizona; explored the Grand Canyon, diving deep into millions of years of geological history; visited Barringer Crater, the best-preserved meteor crater site on Earth; spent an inspirational few days at Kennedy Space Centre, learning about the history and future of space exploration, and had an epic 12-hour Universal Studios experience!



Our STEM USA tour ended with an unforgettable few days visiting Washington D.C. and New York City. In D.C., the students explored the Spy Museum, the National Museum of Natural History, the National Mall, the Lincoln Memorial, Capitol Hill, and even had a glimpse of the White House. Then it was off to NYC, for a Circle Line Landmark Cruise, a walk on The High Line, a planetarium show at the American Museum of Natural History, strolling through Times Square, walking and bike ride through Central Park, visiting MoMath, a little shopping, and wrapping it all up with an epic Broadway show, *Hell's Kitchen*, the story of Alicia Keys. What an amazing trip!



Farewell Class of 2025

DR NICOLE ARCHARD | PRINCIPAL BA DIPED, MA, MEDLEAD, MTHEOLST, PHD

Farewells to our Year 12 students included a 'thank you' breakfast for staff, followed by the traditional ringing of the school bell - a ritual that echoes through generations of Loreto Kirribilli students. The Awards Ceremony, Graduation Mass, and Graduation Dinner celebrated the girls' achievements over time, as well as their connection to and expression of our beautiful Loreto values.

This farewell is especially meaningful to us as a Loreto community, as we celebrate 150 years of Loreto education in Australia. Our theme this year, *Being faithful to grace*, echoes the courage of Mother Gonzaga Barry who, in 1875, left her homeland in Ireland to bring the gift of a Loreto education to this country. Just as she was asked to step into the unknown, so too are our Year 12s being called to trust in themselves, in God, and in the journey that lies ahead.



GRADUATION CEREMONY



Farewell Class of 2025

STAFF THANK YOU MORNING TEA



BUCKET GIVING CEREMONY



RINGING THE BELL



CHAPEL TOWER



New Student Leaders

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL CAPTAIN 2025/26

In Term 3, Gemma Ronan, Lucy Henry, Amy Hill, Kaitlyn Siow, and I were incredibly privileged to have been entrusted by our peers to form the Student Executive for 2025/2026. I remember feeling a sense of excitement to be undertaking the position of School Captain but above all, feeling extremely humbled and honoured for the trust placed in us to serve and lead as a team.

What I love most about our school is the sense of community and spirit amongst our Loreto family. It's seen in the way we cheer for one another at Carnivals from the stands, our energy at the Music Festival, and in the displays of support we show our peers. This spirit doesn't just appear on its own, but each and every one of us makes our school the community it is.

The heart and spirit of our school is guided by the five values of our foundress, Mary Ward: Freedom, Justice, Sincerity, Verity and Felicity. In 2026, we enter the year of Felicity at Loreto Kirribilli. Felicity is more than simply being happy and good-humoured. Felicity is about bringing joy, kindness and optimism to others, and uplifting those around us to create a sense of belonging. This value is seen in the smallest of gestures, whether it's making a friend smile, laugh or simply saying hi to our peers in the corridors.

Our leadership team aspires to foster the joyful and friendly spirit within our community and to create a home in our school for every student. We aim to lead with enthusiasm and nurture an environment filled with support and encouragement. To undertake the position of School Captain is truly an honour, and I am inspired to follow the legacy of Mother Gonzaga Barry, to "leave after you something on which others can build". I could not be more grateful to be taking on this position alongside my team of the Student Executive, and I am very excited for the Felicity-filled year ahead.

CAITLIN WONG
School Captain 2025/26



New School Uniform

GENEVIEVE SMART ('90) RETURNS TO SCHOOL

The school has been fortunate to be working with renowned fashion designer and ex-student, Genevieve Smart ('90), and our uniform manufacturers, on some new additional components to the Loreto Kirribilli school uniform. This includes tailored trousers, and a shorts option for girls in the Junior School, to be paired with a striped short-sleeved or long-sleeved shirt.



The trousers and shorts are navy blue, crafted from a cool wool blend that is machine washable and suitable for year-round wear.

The new short and long-sleeved shirts are made with a blue stripe similar to the summer dress, made from a breathable, easy-care cotton blend. The shirt layers easily under the jumper and blazer.

"This new capsule honours the school's heritage through timeless designs inspired by iconic Loreto Kirribilli elements. These new uniforms are unique within the school landscape, featuring purposeful and identifiable signature pieces that represent a school embracing the future while respecting the past."

GENEVIEVE SMART Designer



Book Week

From *Alice in Wonderland* to *Green Eggs and Ham*, from *Matilda* to the *Midnight Gang*, our Junior School Book Week Parade was a spectacle of book characters wonderfully imagined. Congratulations to all our students (and their parents!) for the clever, creative and crafty costumes. Junior School staff joined in the fun, dressing up as the adventuresome Alice-Miranda, from the Jaqueline Harvey series.

Senior School celebrated Book Week with staff and students parading in an imaginative array of literary-themed costumes, from *Lady Macbeth*, to *David Malouf*, to *Thing One* and *Thing Two*! Students voted for the best-dressed staff member (*Dracula*) and applauded the Principal for her android-hunter outfit.



We Love Books!

August is always a fabulous celebration of books and stories across Australia. At Loreto Kirribilli, we were honoured to welcome incredible authors Tristan Bancks and Morris Gleitzman, as well as illustrator Kate James and playwright Alannah Valentine, who generously shared with our students their passions for writing and illustrating.

Morris Gleitzman spoke to Year 8 students and shared how stories explore emotion, empathy, and human connection. Students learned how he plans his stories, develops characters by showing rather than telling, and draws inspiration from the people and experiences around him.



Year 12 English Standard students heard from acclaimed playwright Alannah Valentine, whose insights greatly deepened our appreciation of her play *Shafana and Aunt Sarrinah*. Hearing directly from the writer allowed students to explore the complexities of culture, religion, and identity that underpin the work, as well as Valentine's intentions in crafting these themes.



Students in Years 3 to 6 enjoyed an engaging visit from Tristan Bancks, who shared his journey as a writer and the inspiration behind his popular books. He spoke about how his own real-life experiences sparked great story ideas and encouraged students to keep writing, reading, and exploring their imaginations.



Kindergarten to Year 2 students enjoyed a hands-on drawing workshop with the fabulous illustrator Cate James, who guided them through the process of bringing fictional characters to life through illustration.

An author visit encourages curiosity and critical thinking, giving students the confidence to ask questions and be inspired by meeting a real writer and seeing how ideas move from thought to published work.



ELA SIRCELJ

Senior School Library Resource Manager

JOANNA STAIKOS

Junior School Teacher Librarian

CLARE THOMAS

Senior School English Coordinator

Junior School Concert

DANIELLE ABBOTT | JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC TEACHER

Our 2025 Junior School Concert 'Sheroes' was all about celebrating girl power through an inspiring evening of music, dance and performance. Led by our fantastic student presenters, who introduced themselves as superhero alter egos, the concert featured performances from every year level as well as from our talented Ensembles, various Dance Troupes, and our Choirs. Through voice, movement, and hearts, the girls reminded us that our world is brighter when girls are empowered to lead, speak up, and lift others.





Performing Arts



SENIOR SCHOOL ENSEMBLES CONCERT

At the Senior School Ensembles Concert, our student musicians from Years 7-11 entertained an audience of family, friends, staff and students with a wide variety of musical genres, representing their vast array of musical talents.



JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC ASSEMBLY

It was standing room only at the Junior School Music Assembly, an opportunity for our Ensembles, Bands and Choirs to showcase their musical talents, and entertain everybody with their confidence and joy. The rock band's rendition of *All I Want for Christmas* had the whole audience singing along.



JUNIOR SCHOOL HOUSE JAZZ

The 2025 House Jazz Competition was a joyful celebration of dance, teamwork and fun! Congratulations to our Junior School House Leaders who choreographed, rehearsed, and led the team performances. The judges had a very difficult decision to award Heaton the trophy!

Performing Arts

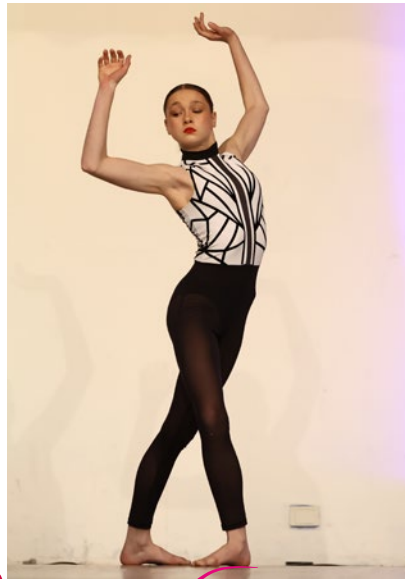


CGSSSA DANCE

Congratulations to our Senior Dance Troupes who had a great day of dance at the 2025 CGSSSA Dance Competition, securing 1st in Junior Jazz, 1st in Open Contemporary, and 1st in Open Jazz. Well done to Junior solo dancers Lucy Wilson (Year 8) and Sabella Bates (Year 9) who placed first and third respectively. Congratulations also to Senior soloist Hailey Jorstad (Year 11) for her beautiful performance.

CAROLINE BROWN

Dance Troupe Captain



HSC MUSIC & DRAMA SHOWCASES

Over the past 12 months, our HSC Drama and Music students have worked tirelessly to develop their HSC programs, refining their performances and major works. The students presented their works to family and friends at showcases, celebrating their passion, creativity, commitment to learning.



YEARS 7 - 9 HOUSE DRAMA

This term, students in Years 7 - 9 took to the stage for our annual House Drama Competition, bringing this year's Book Week theme - *Book an Adventure* - to life in the most creative and compelling ways. Each House, led by its dedicated Drama leaders, devised and performed original plays inspired by literary journeys, showcasing their talent and teamwork.

STACEY WHITMORE

Drama Teacher

Sport



FOOTBALL

Once again, our Open Football team claimed victory in the CGSSA Football Tournament, and continuing their impressive winning streak, went on to win the NSWCCC Knockout Competition. Thank you to our Loreto Football community who always show so much support from the sidelines!

Special mention to Annabelle Croll, who shone on the international stage with the Junior Matildas, earning the Best Goalkeeper award at the ASEAN U16 Championships and wearing the captain's armband for a few games. She is continuing her success by joining the Western Sydney Wanderers team for the upcoming A-League season.

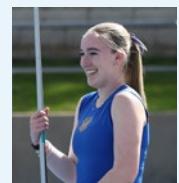


Congratulations to the Junior School Firsts who won the Stage 3 Cup at the inaugural Sydney FC Primary Schools Cup 2025.



LORETO KIRRIBILLI REGATTA

The Loreto Kirribilli Regatta was a great day of racing, with parents and supporters lining the banks SIRC at Penrith to cheer our rowers on with gusto. Our Junior rowers performed well in their first formal regatta of the season, while the squad finished an impressive Second Overall in the pointscore, missing out on the win by just ten points! To finish the thrilling day, our new quad, Grace, was christened by Dr Nicole Archard, Miss Romalina Rocca and Mrs Donna Baker OAM.



ATHLETICS AWARDS

Congratulations to our talented athletes, Ava Jacob (Year 8) and Jessica Johnston (Year 12), who were recognised at the 2025 Catholic Schools NSW Sports Awards for their outstanding achievements in sport.

Sport



SENIOR NETBALL

The unstoppable force that is Netball at Loreto Kirribilli was on display again this season. We fielded 63 teams comprising over 600 students, with 30 teams reaching the semi-finals, 16 progressing to grand finals, and 11 securing premiership victories. Special congratulations to our Senior 2nds who played an undefeated season.



Meanwhile, it was 'game on' at the highly contested McAuley Ward Cup between the Loreto Kirribilli 'A' team and their rivals at Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College. After an exciting match with a score that see-sawed between one team and the other, Loreto Kirribilli prevailed over Monte 44-42.



JUNIOR NETBALL

Our Junior School netballers had a great season in the NSNA Winter Competition. Pictured here: Team 56 with their Senior School coaches, Emily Critchfield and Pippa Harrison, after coming runners-up in the Grand Final.



TOUCH FOOTBALL

The CGSSA Touch Gala Day was packed with energy, teamwork and smiles. Despite the extreme heat and four intense games, every Loreto girl powered through with determination and a whole lot of melted sunscreen. There were tries left, right, and centre with everyone stepping up (and around) showing off some slick skills. One of the best parts of the day was seeing the Seniors cheering on the Juniors during their final game, offering support and keeping in touch with that Loreto spirit as we know it.

AVA PRENTICE & AMY LLOYD

Touch Football Captains



CRICKET

Congratulations to star cricketers Alexis Kav (Year 9) and Chloe Guazzarotto (Year 8) who were selected to play in the NSW All Schools 15&U Cricket Championships in Maitland.

Extra-Curricular



ARCHDALE DEBATING

At this year's Archdale Debating Grand Final, our Year 9 team, consisting of Sasha Dickerson, Olivia Tang, Emily Buriak, Abigail Pearson and Miriam Coorey, endeavoured to win our first Archdale premiership in any age group since 2007.

Competing against SCEGGS Darlinghurst, we argued the negative 'That we should have a quota of 50% women in senior leadership positions'. Despite having the challenging side of the motion, our girls did a phenomenal job. In the end, though, it wasn't to be: SCEGGS clinched the debate in a tight one, with the panel congratulating all speakers on their high level of debating and a level of insight beyond their years.

WILL LOVATT

Debating Convenor



VEX V5 ROBOTICS TOURNAMENT

Loreto Kirribilli proudly hosted its first VEX V5 Robotics Tournament, with Spiritus in full force and the atmosphere buzzing with excitement. More than 80 students from eight schools came together to compete in the middle and high school divisions, showcasing extraordinary robots designed to solve a variety of challenges with creativity and precision.

The most anticipated moment of the day is alliance selection, where teams strategically choose partners to compete alongside them in a thrilling final series of matches that determine the tournament champions. With over 150 students, parents, and teachers gathered around the competition arena, the atmosphere becomes a vibrant mix of excitement, collaboration, and healthy rivalry.

It is a long and demanding day, but the smiles on the faces of every student as they depart, trophies in hand, make it all worthwhile.

DR JONATHON MASCORELLA

Director of Technology & Innovation



36 Years of Mock Trial

PHILLIP BAIN | MOCK TRIAL CONVENOR

For 36 years now, Loreto Kirribilli has competed in the Law Society of New South Wales' interschool Mock Trial Competition.

Mock Trial is a fun, intellectually challenging activity, where teamwork is essential. To succeed, you need to think on your feet, display public speaking and acting skills, be thoroughly prepared, and learn how a law court operates.

The Law Society of New South Wales coordinates the Mock Trial Competition, with 100 schools participating. A team of six students take on the roles of barristers, solicitor, witnesses, and a court official. Across a courtroom-style contest, student lawyers examine witnesses, interpret legislation, justify the admissibility of evidence, and argue persuasively for their client. A distinctive feature of the competition is the opportunity for students to raise objections during questioning, requiring the Magistrate to make an immediate ruling before proceedings continue. Teams may act as either Prosecution or Defence in cases that explore a wide range of civil and criminal matters.

Loreto Kirribilli's Mock Trial teams are always well prepared. With guidance from me, and the support of ex-student Supreme Court judge, the Hon. Justice Julia Lonergan ('78) and retired barrister Mr John Berry, students spend three weeks

preparing for each trial, which typically runs for up to three hours. The competition comprises three preliminary rounds before progressing to a knockout series for the top 32 teams.

Mock Trial builds confidence, resilience, and critical thinking, encouraging students to step beyond their comfort zone. Loreto Kirribilli has a proud history of success in the competition, including Grand Final victories in 2019, 2021, and 2023, with several students recognised for outstanding advocacy across the years.

SOME INTERESTING MOCK CASES

Murder
Negligent scaffolding
Drug Importation
Cuckoo clock robbery
Attack by vicious dog
Prohibited fishing
Negligent plastic surgery
Armed Robbery



2009



2011



2019



2021



2023

Development

DEBBIE HENRY | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The level of volunteerism and enthusiasm from our parents, especially our P&F and Class Parents, for the benefit of our Loreto Kirribilli community remains extraordinary. Thank you all!



In the 150-year celebrations of Loreto in Australia, we are reminded of the outstanding work of Mother Gonzaga Barry, who brought Loreto to Australia in 1875 and to Sydney in 1892. From origins in Randwick, a new chapter began at Kirribilli, where so many of us have experienced the values of a Loreto education.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Whilst our girls are privileged to receive a Loreto education, it also becomes a responsibility to give back to others and embrace the true meaning of community. Our community of parents and ex-students are to be commended for embracing our philanthropic programs to support the ongoing development and education pioneered by our Loreto Sisters. Thank you to our families who lead by example in gifting through our Bursary, Building and Green funds and bestowing a bequest through our Philomena Heaton Bequest Society.

For more information on our 'educational giving platforms', please email Debbie Henry at development@loreto.nsw.edu.au

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

Or make a tax-deductible donation on our Spirit of Giving page.

All donations, small or large, are valued and appreciated and will have an ongoing impact.



Thank You to our Donors

DEBBIE HENRY | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

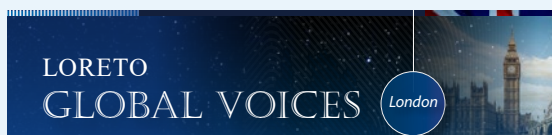
The Principal, Dr Nicole Archard, and Ms Sheila McGregor, Chair of the Loreto Kirribilli School Board, join with our school community in gratefully acknowledging the generosity of our donor families. Below is a list for this year's donors as at 27 November 2025, including those who wish to remain anonymous.

Mary-Anne Armstrong	Pierre Jacob	Claire Purnell
Julie and Chris Beverley	Georgina Johnson	Sarah Rennie
Richard Black	Lydia Kav	Anne Ridley
Chester Brown	Rory and Jackie Kennard	Virginia Robertson
Susan Burke	Dr Chris Kitching	Ben and Ania Roberts
Emilie Capes	Kirstie Kollar	Sue Roberts
Rahoul and Edy Chowdry	Susanne Kruusamagi	Helen Ross
Dr Matthew Cleary	Miriam and Anthony Lambert	Monique Sheman
Colleen Coolican	Patrick Lauren	Georgie Smith
Nikki Robinson and Justin Coss	John Leon	Scott Stephens
Timothy Courtney	Philippa Liddell	Fiona Stephinson
Catrina Cresswell	Joyleen Lim	Ben Dunstan and Miriam Stiel
The Damian Family	Emma Livingston	Gavin Sultana
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Anthony and Mary Elias	Amy Mahony	Christina Xiang
Jemma Essa	Margaret Mahony	Denis Yang
Jason Falinski	Lois Malone	Estate of the late Monica Bullen
Andrew Francis	Dr Frank and Mrs Moya Martin	Estate of the late Marie McCann
Paul and Rachael Franklin	Andrzej Masztak	Class of 1975
Anne Gray	Claudia Matthews	Class of 1985
Elisabeth Hall	Andrew McFarlane	Class of 1995
Brian and Gai Hamer	Elizabeth Moorhouse	Class of 2025
Robert Harrison	Dr Gates Moss and Ms Meg Morrison	Class of 2033
Matthew and Fiona Hartcher	Peter and Michelle Mulveney	Junior School Grandparents' High Tea
Amanda and Geoffrey Hartigan	Annabelle Nash	Years 7 & 8 Grandparents' High Tea
Tony and Nancy Herro	Philippa O'Dea	Ex-Students' Union Mother
Paul and Jodie Hines	Michael and Marianne O'Dea	Daughter Mass
Dr Jane Ho	Maddie Ong	Anonymous family donors
Madeleine Hoang	Michelle Pedersen	
Victoria Hoeben	Gabrielle Pither	
Bernadette Howlett	Cristina Piccioli and Matteo Piva	
Joseph Jacob	Dr Catherine Playoust	

thank you

LK Connect

DEBBIE HENRY | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



In the first event of its kind, Loreto Global Voices - London brought together alumnae from Loreto Ballarat, Coorparoo, Kirribilli, Marryatville, Normanhurst and Toorak, for an enjoyable evening of engagement and connection.

The event was hosted by Westpac, London, in their beautiful head office in the City of London. Our thanks to Andrew Martin, Regional Head UK, Head of FM E&A, Westpac, for not only hosting the event but also making sure every guest felt welcomed.

Facilitated by Joanne Sawicki (Kirribilli '78), the panel featured representatives from each school, and these Loreto women revealed the course of their fascinating careers in roles as diverse as digital advertising, Formula 1 management, refugee law and forensic medicine. In every story we heard the desire to make a difference and leave the world a better place.

Dr Nicole Archard, Principal of Loreto Kirribilli in Sydney, attended the event with the other Principals of Loreto Schools Australia. In her closing remarks, she wove a narrative around our schools, in the context of Mary Ward's, Teresa Ball's and Gonzaga Barry's legacy.



LK CONNECT, WOMEN IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

Our appreciation to current parents Miriam Stiel and Mel Yard-Smith for hosting *LK Connect, Women in the Legal Profession* at Allens. An opportunity for our community of ex-students, students, staff and parents to gain an inspirational insight into the field of law and the extensive opportunities for women in professional and leadership roles. Allen's hospitality and spectacular harbour views certainly created a warm ambience in which to network and engage with our wider Loreto community.

The panel comprised of ex-students, the Hon. Justice Julia Loneragan ('78), Supreme Court of NSW; Chloe Burnett SC ('98), Barrister, Selbourne Wentworth Chambers; Clementine Robertson ('13), Associate, Allens and Lara Baker ('09), Senior Corporate Counsel, Safety Culture with our parent facilitator Miriam Stiel, Partner, Allens. In the words of the Hon. Justice Julia Loneragan, "I really enjoyed being on the panel with intelligent, thoughtful, wonderful women".

LK Connect

DEBBIE HENRY | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



LK CONNECT, WOMEN IN TECH

For our third consecutive year, Amazon hosted LK Connect, Women in Tech. The ever-changing world of tech provides challenging opportunities for women in a variety of professional areas and leadership roles. Our deepest appreciation to past parent Janet Menzies, Director, Asia Pacific Stores, Amazon Australia, who champions women in leadership as not simply an aspiration but a reality! This year the baton was passed to ex-students Lara Bartolotta ('18) and Grace Moore ('20) to host this event - two ex-students who were introduced to roles within through networking with LK Connect!

The panel also included Verity Dolan ('05), Principal Customer Success Manager at Zendesk, and Sophie Troy ('02), CTO at Vamp, with Louise Stigwood, Managing Director, ANZ Public Sector, Amazon Web Services.

These successful networking professional industry events could not be possible without the generosity of our corporate connections, through our parent and ex-student network. We are delighted to offer these corporate networking opportunities each term and welcome submissions of interest from corporate family contacts.

2026 SAVE THE DATES

WOMEN IN HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

Hosted by FB Rice
Wednesday 25 February

INAUGURAL INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

Thursday 5 March

WOMEN IN MEDIA

Hosted by Seven Network
Wednesday 27 May

WOMEN IN FINANCE

Hosted by PwC
Wednesday 26 August

WOMEN *in* HEALTH & LIFE SCIENCES

Save the Date 5.30pm-7.30pm Wednesday 25 February 2026

LKconnect

hosted by

FB RICE



The IP Navigators

Sharing our Community



SIMONE CHUA ('04) LIGHTING DESIGNER

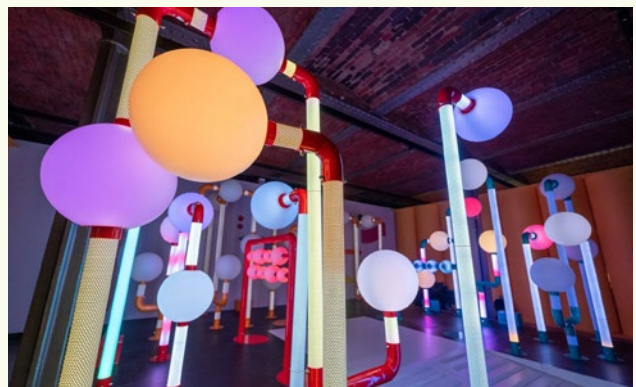
When, in early September, our Year 12 Design & Technology students showcased their creativity and technological capabilities at the 2025 Major Design Project Expo, they were lucky enough to hear from ex-student Simone Chua ('04), who, since leaving school, has become one of Australia's foremost artistic lighting designers.

Simone founded her company, Amigo & Amigo, in 2012 and is now in demand internationally for the artistic, interactive sculptural light installations that "bring joy to public spaces".

After completing an Industrial Design degree at UTS, Simone's first commission was to create a sculptural piece for TEDx Macquarie University. She was using origami techniques to build a paper sculpture, and while working on it, placed a light inside the form. "I was immediately surprised and in love with how the light elevated the sculpture - it cast beautiful shadows and added an entirely new dimension. From that moment, I knew I wanted to keep exploring how light and sculpture could work together, and that's where my journey into lighting design really began."

Simone's advice to students graduating these days?

"I think finishing school is such an exciting time - it's a moment full of new possibilities. My advice is to stay open-minded and non-judgemental, meet people who are different from you, and learn from everyone around you. And most importantly, have fun!"



Sharing our Community



EDITH CLARK ('97)

Edith Clark ('97) is an architect and founder and Director at Archebiosis, a Sydney-based architectural practice specialising in design and project management of residential, commercial and hospitality projects. She has visited the school in recent years to talk to Year 9 students at Entrepreneurs' Day.

Edith believes her family and her education gave her the courage to start her own business. "My parents always supported me to do what I loved. Growing up in an environment that valued happiness, and having a Loreto education, meant that once I entered the workforce, I had the confidence to build strong relationships. And ultimately, those relationships gave me the courage and foundation to start my own architectural practice."

"What I like best about being an entrepreneur is providing jobs for people you genuinely like, and working alongside a great team of like-minded people. You get to choose how you treat them - and in return, you're rewarded with their loyalty. And the wins feel huge - there's a real sense of pride when your hard work pays off."

JESS WOODWARD ('12)

A guest speaker for several years running at the Year 9 Entrepreneurs' Day, Jess Woodward ('12) had some very entrepreneurial news to share with the students: she has set up her own sparring gym! Previously Jess has worked in People and Culture roles within Dyson, Daydream Island Resorts, and Couriers Please, and has advised Year 9 students on job applications and interviews.

Jess's experience in recruiting employees and people management has stood her in good stead in her new role as Director of her own company, a boxing gym in Leichhardt called Flow Sparring.

She spoke to the students about her experience as an entrepreneur. "Nothing is easy when you start a business! If it was, more people would do it. I spoke to the girls about the 'cheat sheet for life' - looking at those who have already done what you are trying to achieve, taking their lived experiences and applying their learnings, so you don't need to make the same mistakes."

Ex-Students' Union

CELIA SHELDON (ROBERTS '88) | PRESIDENT

LORETO FEDERATION

Mark your diary now. We hope you will join us for Federation 2026, a celebration of the enduring spirit and purpose of Loreto education, and a weekend not to be missed! Founded by Mother Gonzaga Barry, a visionary committed to the empowerment of young women, Loreto Federation brings together students, alumni and educators, to reflect, connect and be inspired.

At Federation 2026 we will be celebrating how faith, creativity, technology and dialogue continue to shape leaders who drive positive change in the world - honouring our past while inspiring the next generation.

Topics will include:

- Impact of a Loreto Education: How our values continue to shape leaders for good
- AI and Social Media: "Using AI for good" to connect, learn, and innovate
- Thoughtful Disagreement: Embracing respectful debate and courage of ideas
- Renewable Energy & Sustainability: Leading change for a better world
- Book Club: Telling Her Story - Sharing women's voices and achievements
- Women in the Arts: Creativity as a force to unite, educate, and inspire

The goals of Federation 2026 are to inspire and educate, strengthen communication across all schools, reconnect and engage younger alumni, refresh the Federation concept, enhance engagement with ex-students and maintain a strong spiritual foundation that remains central to the Loreto identity.

Be part of a weekend of connection, inspiration, and celebration - where the Loreto spirit comes alive!



EX-STUDENTS' UNION KEY DATES

**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST**
Thursday 5 March

**YOUNG LORETO
GATHERING IN CANBERRA**
Friday 13 March

**MWIA THEATRE PARTY
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**
Sunday 19 April

MOTHER DAUGHTER MASS
Sunday 3 May

EX-STUDENTS' CARD DAY
Wednesday 1 July

**YEAR 12 EX-STUDENTS'
UNION LUNCH**
Wednesday 16 September

FEDERATION 2026
Friday 9 - Sunday 11 October

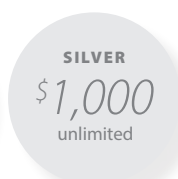
ANNUAL MASS & AGM
Sunday 22 November

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Promote your business and assist with our operating costs. We would greatly appreciate your support. For more information please contact:

Celia Sheldon | exstudentspresident@loreto.nsw.edu.au

Debbie Henry | development@loreto.nsw.edu.au



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Loreto Kirribilli Ex-Students Union

Ex-Students' Reunions



CLASS of
2005

Around 30 alumnae of Class of 2005 joined a school tour, delighted to see the upgrades and to revisit their old stomping grounds. Many commented on how the beauty of the school's setting felt even more special with the perspective of time. Later, more than 80 classmates gathered at Foy's for the reunion celebration, sharing memories and their deep appreciation for the enduring connection to their school community.

DANNI HUDSON ('05)



CLASS of
1995

Loreto Kirribilli's Class of 1995 Reunion was an enormous success. We had 75 attendees - there was great energy in the room, with everyone eager to connect more regularly. The Loreto Spirit was still going strong that night. We all commented how lucky we were to have such a great cohort, with such engagement. We have donated \$700 to the Loreto Kirribilli Bursary fund on behalf of the Class of 1995.

EMILIE CAPES (ALLEN '95)



CLASS of
1985

More than 60 of us gathered at the home of Alex Tiffin for a joyful evening filled with laughter, memories, and plenty of reminiscing. Our 1985 School Captain, Julia Burke, made the long trip from Alice Springs, while others travelled from Brisbane, rural Queensland, and New South Wales to join in the celebrations. A small group - including several who started together in Prep back in 1973 - enjoyed a nostalgic tour of the school.

ANTOINETTE DARIN ('85)



CLASS of
1965

The 60th reunion was definitely worth it for the fun, laughter, stories, memories and general friendships we rekindled. We remembered all who couldn't come for reasons of travel, family get-togethers, distance and other reasons. We also remembered our classmates who are no longer with us, mentioning Head Prefect, Virginia, who passed away in 2018. Thanks, Antoinette, for all you did to make it a warm welcome back to school.

JULIA HAEGE (SHANNON '65)

Staff News

Congratulations to our teachers who continue to raise the bar in our education community with their inspired teaching and dedication to continuous learning.



HALT AWARDS

Nicola Kingsley-Jones and Robert Wagner received Highly Accomplished and Lead Teacher (HALT) medals at a HALT Recognition Ceremony at the State Library of NSW. Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Greg Warren MP, presented the medals on behalf of the NSW Government. HALT is a national accreditation that acknowledges teachers for their impact on student learning and recognises leadership and commitment to excellence in teaching.



TEACHERS' GUILD OF NSW AWARDS

At the 2025 Teachers' Guild of New South Wales Award Presentation evening, Alissa Warren, Senior School English teacher, was recognised with the Award for Teachers in their Early Years of Teaching, while Linda Walburn, Assistant Head of Junior School, was presented with the World Teachers' Recognition Award. The awards celebrate the talented educators whose work ensures that every student receives the best possible education. Well-deserved acknowledgment for these outstanding teachers!

RETIREMENTS



KEITH HOPKINS

Farewell Keith, who is retiring after 13 years as Social Sciences Subject Coordinator. An exceptional educator, Keith's passion for his subject was infectious: over the years his students have excelled in Geography, Economics, Business Studies and Legal Studies. Keith will be remembered for his championing of world causes, his geopolitical insights and his love of the environment.



AMADA VICENCIO

Farewell to Amada, who served Loreto Kirribilli faithfully for 25 years as Assistant Accountant in the Business Office. A warm, kind, faith-filled woman, Amada was a steady presence who, even in the busiest of periods, was always a calming influence. Her smiling face and gentle spirit will be deeply missed. We wish her every blessing and all the best for the future.

Parents & Friends

JACQUIE MURRAY & JORDAN KENNEDY | JOINT P&F PRESIDENTS

The P&F at Loreto Kirribilli are custodians of the parent culture of the school and this custodianship is best evidenced by the coordination of countless events across the year. We value the opportunity for parents to come together, to meet new parents and form friendships that last a lifetime.



Thank you to the P&F Committee of 2025 for their outstanding leadership and service. Thanks in particular to Joint Presidents, Katrina Damian and John Leon, and committee members Louisa Casali, Joanne Bonomo, Lisa Rodrigues, Mark De Vera, Shauna Anderson and Elizabeth Hachem. We are very grateful for all that they have undertaken so generously for our community. We also thank our incredible BBQ Master, John Nandlal, for all his hard work and generosity of time in ensuring our girls get fed at our P&F-hosted BBQ days.

Volunteers are an important part of our community, and we acknowledge the countless hours the P&F committee has given this year. Your time, commitment, and generosity in focusing to bring everyone together resulted in a very successful year, both in fundraising and in friend-raising.

2026 promises a rich array of events that bring our community together. Our first community event of the year is the Welcome Cocktail Party which will be held on Friday 27 February 2026. Other key events for the year include our Mother Daughter and Father Daughter Masses, the P&F Luncheon at Sergeants' Mess, the popular Sports Lunch and, of course, the Spring Fair. We are also excited to be launching a new line of supporter merchandise, beginning with the new LK House towels, perfect for beach or pool. Find out more here: <https://events.humanitix.com/2026-loreto-kirribilli-house-towels>

An important part of the P&F association is to provide feedback from the parents to the school, and we encourage continuing dialogue. We thank the school for being open to our conversations and we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

JO, JACQUIE, AMY F, NICOLE, AMY C, MARIA, MICHELLE, BILL, NIC & JORDAN



Ex-Students' News

ENGAGEMENTS

Bettina Thasler ('17) to Mitchell Hargreaves

Elizabeth Fennel ('13) to Joshua McCathy

BIRTHS | GIRLS

Ella Grace to Mikaela Weston (Samios '14)

Aurelia to Sarah Nicita (Cogar '04)

Emily Grace Victoria to Zerah Bennett ('02)

MARRIAGES

Alexandra Fennel ('11) to Louis Fry

Sarah Gardiner ('12) to David Walshe

BIRTHS | BOYS

Thomas Edward Dorney (Teddy) to Stephanie Lane ('08)

Harry Michael to Natalie Watson (Cox '08)

Isaiah Felix to Darcie Chan ('08)

DEATHS | EX-STUDENTS

Claire Hutchings (Smith '38), sister of Helen Randall (Smith '29) (dec), Noreen Hawke (Smith '33) (dec) and Lorna Barlett AM (Smith '35) (dec)

Mary O'Regan (Hore '47), sister of Margaret Allen (Hore '48)

Helen Patterson (Sherwood '50), mother of Virginia Patterson ('86), daughter of Grace Sherwood (O'Neill '25) (dec), sister of Patricia Snow (Sherwood '58) (dec)

Adrienne Leonard ('54)

Alexandra Small ('83), sister of Jane Anne Dempsey (Small '79) and Susan Tuckwell (Small '80), aunt of Claudia Tuckwell ('11) and Annabel Dempsey ('10)

Matthew Hunter (LK '72), son of Anne Hunter (Borthwick '51) and brother of Julie Levins ('76), Angela Smith ('85) and Jacqueline Garment ('90)

Dorothy "Chic" Gillespie OAM ('45) sister of Ruth Hill (Farrow '46) (dec), mother of Catherine Hill (Gillespie '71) grandmother of Louise Gillespie ('14), Alice Hill ('96) and Lucy Hill ('02)

Virginia Pieterse (Salverda '71)

Sr Margaret Noone ibvm AM ('51) sister of Bette Noone ('45)

DEATHS | RELATIVES OF EX-STUDENTS

Barry Hayes, father of Kate Abhayaratna (Hayes '85), Danielle Hayes ('89), father-in-law of Stephanie Hayes (Clarkin '84), grandfather of Sarah Hayes ('09), Laura Hayes ('13) and Isabel Craig (Year 11) and godfather of Susie Burke (Harris '89)

Martin Porter, father of Abigail Porter ('24)

John Makepeace, husband of Anne Makepeace (Wilkinson '69), grandson-in-law of Vida Hayres (Thomson, Mary's Mount 1918) (dec), son-in-law of Joan Wilkinson (Roche '45) (dec), brother-in-law of Helen Davis (Wilkinson '74), Chris Wilkinson (LK '66) (dec), Paul Wilkinson (LK '69), Mark Wilkinson (LK '72) (dec) and Tim Wilkinson (LK '77)

Sandy Sinclair (Jones LN '77), mother of Sarah Sinclair ('04), Emily Sinclair ('05) and Hannah Bowers (Sinclair '07)

