



LORETO



YEAR 8 STUDENTS VISIT THE 150 YEARS TRAVELLING EXHIBITION AS SR SANDRA SHARES THE STORY BEHIND THE MANNEQUIN DESIGN, REFLECTING ON LORETO'S RICH HERITAGE IN AUSTRALIA.



WE CELEBRATE 2025
THE YEAR OF VERITY



We pay our respect to this ancient Land that breathed life for 300 million years. A Land that extends from the ridgeline of the Blue Mountains across the soft sandstone plateau to the coast into the ocean. These ridgelines are the water catchment areas. It's where the rain hits first and flows down into our rivers and creeks, rejuvenating the earth and filling waterholes and hanging swamps. A Land kissed by rainbows and home to the tall Blue Gums. We acknowledge this Land as mother to possums, lyrebirds, the laughing kookaburra, the tawny frogmouth and brush turkey. We recognise the deep cultural and spiritual connection of First Nations people to Country. We honour Elders, those past, present and emerging. We pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within our community.

Contents

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF LORETO IN AUSTRALIA: HONOURING OUR STORY, SHAPING OUR FUTURE

We invite you to explore this issue as we celebrate new beginnings, reflect on our rich history and showcase our vibrant present.

From our Principal	4
From our School Captains	6
From our Boarding Captains	8
Boarding: Our Story of Heritage, Community and Change	10
Boarding Voices: Our Community in Their Own Words	14
From Classroom to Construction: A Real-World Insight	16
150 Years of Loreto in Australia	18
Travelling Exhibition	20
Voices from the Past, Present and Future	22
Loreto Then & Now	24
Becoming One	28
Celebration of Service	29
Spotlight of the Year	30
Enabling Passion and Innovation in STEM	32
Faith & Justice in Action	34
Introducing our New Uniform	36
Loreto Women Beyond the Classroom	38
Community Events	40
Reunion Milestones	42
From our Parent Association of Loreto	46
From our Ex-Students' Association	57
Philanthropy Update	48
Giving Day	50
Community Announcements	52
Save the Date/Connect with us	54



18 150 Years of Loreto in Australia



38 Introducing our New Uniform



56 Giving Day

FROM OUR PRINCIPAL



“Our students, as always, have been at the heart of everything we do. Guided by the leadership of Year 12, our students have embraced the call to live with purpose and sincerity.”

MS MARINA UGONOTTI

PRINCIPAL

AS 2025 DREW TO A CLOSE, WE WERE INVITED TO PAUSE AND REFLECT ON A YEAR THAT WAS BOTH MOMENTOUS AND DEEPLY MOVING IN THE LIFE OF LORETO. ACROSS AUSTRALIA, LORETO SCHOOLS MARKED 150 YEARS SINCE MOTHER GONZAGA BARRY IBVM ARRIVED ON OUR SHORES, CARRYING WITH HER, MARY WARD'S VISION OF EDUCATION GROUNDED IN TRUTH, FAITH AND JUSTICE.

At Loreto Normanhurst, we joined this year-long national celebration, with the travelling exhibition 'Being Faithful to Grace', a particular highlight which wove together stories, images and creative works from Loreto schools across the country. The student performance of 'A Serious Business', chronicling the arrival of Mother Gonzaga Barry in Australia, offered another powerful reminder of her courage and determination to establish a legacy that continues to flourish today. These moments invited us to stand in deep gratitude, connected to the thousands of students, families and staff who have lived and shared the Loreto story over the past century and a half.

This reflection on legacy has been particularly significant for me personally, as 2025 also marks ten years since I began my own journey here at Loreto Normanhurst. A decade of working alongside students, families, staff, alumnae and friends of the school has been a privilege. Each day, I am reminded that the strength of Loreto lies not only in our traditions, but in the living community that continues to grow from them.

This year, our guiding value of Verity invited us to embrace truth with courage and authenticity. It has been inspiring to see this lived out across so many aspects of school life: in the classrooms where curiosity is nurtured, on the sporting fields where determination shines, in the creative arts where voices are heard, and in our liturgies where faith unites us. The Year 12 student council's motto, "Dare to be true", was a fitting echo of Verity and a challenge embraced wholeheartedly by our students.

Our community has also experienced tangible growth and change. The construction of our new boarding house, McCabe House – set to welcome boarders in Term 2 2026 – stands as a significant symbol of our commitment to future generations. Alongside this, the introduction of our new school uniform has given fresh expression to our identity, honouring our heritage while looking confidently to the future. Together, these milestones remind us that Loreto is ever evolving, grounded in tradition yet continually open to renewal.

Throughout 2025, the generosity and dedication of our community was evident. From the overwhelming success of our Giving Day to the joyful gatherings at Music Festival, Loreto Day and countless other moments of connection, there was a palpable spirit of unity. This shared spirit reflects Mary Ward's enduring call to "seek truth in all things" and to live with integrity and felicity.

As we look to the future, I am filled with hope and gratitude. The past 150 years of Loreto in Australia inspire us to dream boldly, to educate with purpose, and to nurture young people who will shape their world with courage and compassion. Here at Loreto Normanhurst, we remain faithful to this mission, confident that the chapters ahead will continue to be rich in spirit, grounded in our values, and guided by the same vision that has sustained us for generations. ✝

FROM OUR SCHOOL CAPTAINS



NAA DEDEI KEENOR SABAA & LUCY MCKENNA

SCHOOL CAPTAIN & SCHOOL VICE CAPTAIN
2024-2025

AS WE STEP INTO OUR FINAL MONTHS OF SCHOOL, WE'VE FOUND OURSELVES REFLECTING DEEPLY ON WHAT THIS YEAR OF LEADERSHIP HAS MEANT TO US. WHEN WE FIRST ACCEPTED THE ROLES OF SCHOOL CAPTAIN AND VICE CAPTAIN, WE KNEW IT WOULD BE A PRIVILEGE, BUT WE COULD NEVER HAVE FULLY IMAGINED THE LESSONS, CHALLENGES, AND MOMENTS OF JOY THAT WOULD FOLLOW.

For us, leadership has been a journey of growth. We have learnt to grow in unexpected ways; from learning to balance responsibility with study and friendships, to discovering the importance of listening before speaking. There were days of uncertainty, where problems felt larger than the solutions at hand, but often it was in those moments that we learnt the most. The support of teachers, mentors, and wider school, who generously shared wisdom and guidance, reminded us that leadership is never a single sport. It is always a shared journey.

Some of the highlights of this year have been the simple, unexpected moments. Whilst yes, there are times when you have set tasks to do as a leader, there are many random acts of leadership that leave lasting memories. Standing on stage to address the school and looking out at so many familiar faces brought both the weight and the joy of the role into sharp focus. Walking around the playground, stopping to chat with younger students, or hearing the voices of our peers filled with laughter at school events reminded us how small gestures, a smile, a word of encouragement, a quiet conversation, could ripple further than expected. The collective pride in representing our community has been one of the most enduring memories of our time in leadership.

Of course, the challenges have been real. At times, the responsibility felt overwhelming, and we had to learn how to lead with vulnerability as well as strength. There were moments when things didn't go to plan, when we questioned whether we were doing enough, or leading "well enough." Yet those moments became some of the most formative. They taught us that leadership is not about perfection, but persistence; not about always having the answers, but about being willing to listen, adapt, and grow alongside others.

We will both be forever grateful for this opportunity to lead the school. It has been one that has brought us closer to our year group as well as the rest of the Loreto community. Having the responsibility to create a supportive and safe environment for the broader school is one that we will cherish forever, and one that we hold close to our hearts. So rather than being upset that this experience is over, we recognise how important this role has been to the both of us and realise that it has provided us with the skills to accomplish anything and everything. ✱

“...leadership is not about perfection, but persistence; not about always having the answers, but about being willing to listen, adapt, and grow alongside others.”

SCHOOL AND BOARDING CAPTAINS

School Captain	Naa Dedei Keenor Sabaa
School Vice Captain	Lucy McKenna
Boarder Captain	Lucy Ball
Boarder Vice Captain	Phoebe Paul

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Aston	Audrey Hogg
Barry	Tessa Haire
Kendall	Ellie Wentworth Brown
Kuring-gai	Anika Banerji
Maye	Isabella Hillier
Mornane	Aimee Harrison
Mulhall	Mia Wallace
Ward	Sophia Slater

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CAPTAINS

Academic Activities	Grace Parker
Communications/SRC	Sabine Walton
Creative Arts	Catherine Sun
Ecology	Madeleine Grindon-Ekins
Liturgy	Sofia Storgato
Music	Christiana Vella
Performing Arts	Joy Wang
Social Justice	Sarah Zammit
Sport	Eliza Matthews

FROM OUR BOARDING CAPTAINS



LUCY BALL & PHOEBE PAUL

BOARDER CAPTAIN & BOARDER VICE CAPTAIN
2024-2025

DURING OUR TIME AS THE 2024/25 BOARDER CAPTAINS WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY LOVED LEADING SUCH AN ENTHUSIASTIC AND JOY FILLED COMMUNITY. THESE ROLES HAVE ALLOWED US TO FORM MEMORIES THAT WE WILL FOREVER CHERISH AND HAS ULTIMATELY BEEN AN OPPORTUNITY THAT WE ARE BEYOND GRATEFUL FOR.

We believe that Normo boarding is a community like no other, where each girl is united in a special way, highlighting our strong sense of sisterhood. Boarding school has provided us with an opportunity to form relationships across all year groups where we have created lifelong connections. These connections form the strong foundation of Loreto boarding and attending this school is truly a gift that we will be forever grateful to have received.

It is often the small, simple moments that hold the most meaning. Whether it is visiting other dorms, sharing laughs at the dinner table or even a small smile in the hallways, these are moments that we will never forget and that we will forever hold in our hearts.

While the future boarders may be living in a different building, we hope that Normo boarding is full of continued traditions and celebrations of each girl's achievements. We hope that the boarding school continues to be a 'home away from home' to every single girl living here and that they truly cherish each memory made. We hope that each boarder continues to abide by our think 'PINK' values (perseverance, integrity, nourishment and kindness) and that they use these as a guide in fostering not only success but also genuine, lasting friendships.

During our time in captaincy, we have developed numerous skills. Some of which include the skills of communication and organisation. This has allowed us to work with the Boarder Council to plan events and activities that run smoothly. We are so proud of the Boarder Council, for everything that they have done for us and their constant support over the year. Additionally, our year 12 cohort is always willing to get around every event, for this we are very grateful.

As we conclude our own boarding journey, we reflect with immense gratitude. We are grateful for the people who have shaped us, the friendships that have strengthened us, and the community that has uplifted us. Though our time as Boarder Captains comes to an end, the spirit of Loreto boarding will forever remain in our hearts.✝

“We hope that the boarding school continues to be a ‘home away from home’ to every single girl living here and that they truly cherish each memory made.”



BOARDING: OUR STORY OF HERITAGE, COMMUNITY AND CHANGE

SINCE WELCOMING OUR FIRST COUNTRY BOARDERS IN 1897, BOARDING HAS REMAINED AT THE HEART OF LORETO NORMANHURST. AS WE LOOK TOWARDS THE OPENING OF OUR NEW PURPOSE-BUILT BOARDING HOUSE IN TERM 2, 2026, THIS EDITION EXPLORES THE MILESTONES LEADING TO THIS MOMENT, THE NEXT STAGE OF THE MASTER PLAN – INCLUDING THE FUTURE USE OF THE CURRENT BOARDING SCHOOL – ALONG WITH STUDENT REFLECTIONS ON WHAT THEY LOVE ABOUT BOARDING, WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO, AND THE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES THE NEW BUILD HAS INSPIRED.

A Milestone Approaches for Loreto Normanhurst

The opening of our new Boarding House in Term 2, 2026 marks a transformative moment – one that will redefine the boarding experience while preserving its place at the heart of our community.

Over the past three years, the School has delivered a series of projects aligned with our long-term vision. The new Boarding House stands as the centrepiece of this renewal: a contemporary and welcoming home designed to enhance wellbeing, connection and the boarding sisterhood.

Honouring Our Heritage: Naming of the New Boarding House

In Term 4, 2025, the School proudly announced the name of our new Boarding House: McCabe House.

Named in honour of Sister Ellen Bruno McCabe ibvm, one of the pioneering Loreto Sisters who helped establish boarding at Normanhurst in 1897, the name reflects her legacy of quiet heroism, service and unwavering care for young women. McCabe House encapsulates the warmth and hospitality that have long defined our boarding tradition.

**TO FIND OUT MORE, WATCH
THE BOARDING HOUSE
NAMING VIDEO:**



INTRODUCING McCABE HOUSE

Named in honour of Sister Ellen Bruno McCabe ibvm



MCCABE HOUSE NEARS COMPLETION, WITH FINAL PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY AHEAD OF ITS OPENING IN TERM 2—AN INSPIRING NEW HOME FOR OUR BOARDING COMMUNITY.



Topping Out Ceremony

Earlier in Term 3, 2025, the community came together for the Topping Out Ceremony for McCabe House—celebrating the moment the structure reached its highest point. Representatives from Buildcorp, AJ&C Architects and Carmichael Tompkins Property Group joined staff and students to mark this important milestone.

A commemorative tree was gifted by Buildcorp, honouring the ceremony's ancient origins. Boarder Captain Lucy and Boarder Vice Captain Phoebe joined Principal Marina Ugonotti and Buildcorp Director Josephine Sukkar AM in a symbolic concrete trowelling, capturing the spirit of collaboration and craftsmanship behind this major project. Ms Ugonotti reflected on how this tradition connects the School's present with its past, echoing Mother Gonzaga Barry's vision of schools as places of strength, growth and love.

Looking Ahead: Phase Two of Master Plan

With McCabe House nearing completion, planning is well underway for Phase Two of the Master Plan – a reinforcement of our commitment to educational excellence in environments that allow students to learn, lead and thrive.

Technologies Precinct

A state-of-the-art hub uniting Hospitality, Food Technology, Design & Technology, Digital Technology and Textiles & Design – empowering students to create, innovate and problem solve with industry grade tools.

Music Precinct

A new purpose-built Music Precinct consolidating and elevating music learning and performance spaces, further enriching our creative and cultural life.
Expanded General & Open Learning Spaces
Additional classrooms and flexible learning spaces designed for contemporary, collaborative and curiosity driven learning.

Adaptive Reuse of Current Boarding Facilities

Following the move into McCabe House, the existing Boarding School will be transformed into modern classrooms, staff areas and flexible learning spaces – strategically future proofing our campus.

We look forward to sharing further updates as this next stage unfolds – and to welcoming our boarders into their beautiful new home in Term 2, 2026.✱



BOARDING VOICES: OUR COMMUNITY IN THEIR OWN WORDS

IN HEARING DIRECTLY FROM OUR BOARDERS, WE GAIN A WINDOW INTO THE FRIENDSHIPS, RESILIENCE, JOY AND SHARED PURPOSE THAT DEFINE LIFE WITHIN OUR BOARDING COMMUNITY. THEIR STORIES REMIND US WHY BOARDING REMAINS AT THE HEART OF LORETO NORMANHURST.



I began Boarding in Year 7. So many of my favourite boarding memories were made in the big dorm, Mulwith. I loved sharing a dorm with 20-30 girls across Year 7 to 8. I have enjoyed making new connections in boarding with girls from different years from all different places across Australia.

- ALICE, YEAR 10



Starting as Year 9 boarder in 2025 from Wagga Wagga, I have embraced the opportunity of boarding. The friendships, independence, and sense of community have shaped me in ways I'll carry forever. Living among girls from all over Australia has opened my eyes to different perspectives and built a second family. I feel like I have girls I can always lean on, and they will help me. I'm looking forward to the future of Loreto with the new boarding house coming along.

- JESSICA, YEAR 9



What makes our boarding community so great is how everyone looks out for each other; we're always there to help and cheer each other on. I'm really excited for the new boarding house and can't wait to make new memories there.

- ABIGAIL, YEAR 7



As we anticipate the opening of the new McCabe Boarding House, we look forward to carrying on the treasured spirit of Normo boarding, upholding the legacy and culture of our cherished school which makes Loreto Normanhurst so special to us.

- SOPHIE, YEAR 11



I think the atmosphere of living alongside girls from Year 7 to Year 12 makes the boarding community so special, as it is such a tight community, and all the girls are so welcoming and fun to be around.

- ISABELLA, YEAR 8



This year has been full of memorable moments, but one that stands out most is the conversations with my dorm mates. These moments of laughter, sharing stories and supporting each other have made boarding feel like a second home.

- FLORENCE, YEAR 7

FROM CLASSROOM TO CONSTRUCTION: A REAL-WORLD INSIGHT

IN TERM TWO, YEAR 10 MATHEMATICS STUDENTS ENGAGED IN A ROUND TABLE INCURSION WITH THE BUILDCORP TEAM, WHO ARE LEADING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BOARDING HOUSE. THIS EXPERIENCE REFLECTS OUR COMMITMENT TO EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THAT CONNECTS STUDENTS TO THE REAL-WORLD AND SUPPORTS THEM IN BECOMING CURIOUS, INFORMED AND FUTURE-FOCUSED WOMEN.

Students were first given an overview of the progress of the boarding house build, before beginning small group discussions with representatives from across the Buildcorp business, including site managers, project engineers, and the Chief Operating Officer.

This gave students a real-world glimpse of the construction industry, challenging assumptions and offering the chance to ask important questions. Reflections from students about the round table discussion revealed their growing insight into the construction industry, as they were encouraged to speak to every member and learn about their career journey, along with what their respective roles entail.

Charlotte, Year 10 reflected that "the round table discussion kind of changed my perception of the construction industry through the way it recognised that there's multiple different jobs available within the industry."

There was a strong representation of women across a variety of roles in the business, showcasing the growth of women in leadership and women's impact in STEM industries.

In coordination with our core Loreto values, the incursion highlighted the importance of non-academic skills, alongside having academic knowledge. As reflected by Indy, Year 10, "being able to converse with people and lead a team [is] really important as it allows you to empathise with the people and really see how your design is going to impact them."✦

“It helped me look at many new job opportunities, particularly design managers and other project managers as well, because I didn't realise that there were so many roles in the construction area.”

– HANNAH, YEAR 10



150 YEARS OF LORETO IN AUSTRALIA



IN THIS YEAR OF 2025, WE CELEBRATE 150 YEARS SINCE MOTHER GONZAGA BARRY IBVM AND HER NINE COMPANIONS LEFT THE COMFORT OF THEIR HOMELAND OF IRELAND AND TRAVELLED TO AUSTRALIA, GUIDED BY MARY WARD'S VISION TO ESTABLISH AN EDUCATION GROUNDED IN FAITH AND JUSTICE.

Writing more than 25 years after her arrival in Australia, Mother Gonzaga reflected on the difficult choice to leave Ireland, writing, "I felt I had to do it, or be unfaithful to grace", exhibiting her commitment to God, who gave her the strength to embark on this incredible journey.

The 59-day journey was long and arduous, with the ship constantly swaying as it travelled across the rough seas, and the Sisters were often left in a perpetual state of sickness. They finally arrived in Victoria on the 19th of July, 1875, marking the beginning of Loreto's history in Australia.

Mother Gonzaga's vision for a broad curriculum that encouraged a holistic approach to education cemented her role as a trailblazer within the schooling space, as she wished to allow every student to achieve their full potential, according to their individual strengths.

She also faced significant financial challenges in establishing and maintaining the schools, and sometimes even received clerical obstruction to foundations and missions. However, her overwhelmingly positive outlook and trust in God's mission allowed her to persevere, always seeking to construct a world filled with love and truth.

Commemorating these 150 years, a symbolic artwork has been created by Loreto College Ballarat student Evie Davidson, a proud Dja Dja Wurrung woman, with the mentorship of Loreto Normanhurst alumna Lua Pelligrini (Class of 2019), a proud Wiradjuri woman. The design centres elements of history, nature, and connection to Country, capturing the enduring mission of justice that lives at the heart of Loreto. Symbols like the blue waters of Lake Wendouree, eucalyptus blossoms, yarnning circles, and a constellation of stars highlight our unique identity.

As part of the national celebrations, the 'Being Faithful to Grace' 150 Years of Loreto Exhibition travelled around Australia, between February and November. Featuring a series of banners, artworks and displays that honoured Mother Gonzaga Barry and her nine companions, the exhibition sought to keep alive the memory of these remarkable women.

In contemplating the bravery and sacrifice of the ten pioneering women who journeyed across the seas, we give thanks to them for depth of their belief, which has allowed the Loreto educational model to flourish, today and into the future.✦





TRAVELLING EXHIBITION

TO COMMEMORATE THIS SESQUICENTENARY YEAR OF THE FOUNDING OF THE LORETO PROVINCE OF AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA, THE 'BEING FAITHFUL TO GRACE' 150 YEARS OF LORETO EXHIBITION TRAVELLED AROUND AUSTRALIA. ESTABLISHED IN LINE WITH MOTHER GONZAGA BARRY'S VISION TO CONTINUE THE LORETO TRADITION — THE EXHIBITION HONOURED THE RICH HERITAGE AND CULTURE THAT FORMED THESE INSTITUTIONS.

Curated by Sr Sandra Perrett cj, the exhibition featured historical artefacts, artworks, banners, displays, and interactive installations that highlighted the rich history and legacy of Loreto, as well as the future direction of these exceptional schools. The exhibition also showcased the joint efforts of all Loreto schools in Australia, incorporating artworks created by current students to represent the creativity and collaboration present within the Loreto network.

Accompanying the art displays and installations, members of the Loreto Normanhurst community also came together on the launch evening to watch the debut performance of 'A Serious Business', a 21st-century reimagining of Sr Veronica Brady's centenary play of the sisters' arrival to Australia. Written by Loreto alumna and poet Brigid Coleridge, and beautifully performed by Loreto Normanhurst drama students, the performance was a powerful tribute to Mother Gonzaga's enduring voice and vision through the voices of our students.

We were also delighted to have our Golden Jubilarians (Loreto Normanhurst alumnae from the Class of 1975 and earlier) back on campus, and this year's event coincided with the travelling exhibition at Loreto Normanhurst. Our guests first enjoyed a moving performance of A Serious Business in the Curran Theatre, before moving to the Chapel for a private viewing of the exhibition. This provided an opportunity for reflection on the legacy our Golden Jubilarians helped shape, and the generations of Loreto women who have followed.

To honour Mother Gonzaga's Irish heritage, some students and staff also participated in a performance of Irish dancing outside the Chapel, embracing the spirit of creativity and bravery that formed our School.

A series of banners (the Pioneer Women Banners) documented the lives and journeys of the ten pioneering women who left Ireland in 1875, with the dream of providing a strong holistic education for girls. The banners contained historical timelines and quotes from the sisters, bringing their personalities and passions to life.

Another highlight of the exhibition was a series of breathtaking mannequin skirts, thoughtfully designed and crafted by students from each school. Taking inspiration from the Good Shepherd Sisters' Feminine Fortitude exhibit at Abbotsford Convent, the vibrant skirts each told a distinctive story about their school's legacy, ultimately linking the Loreto network together in a celebration of the resilient women who embarked on an unknown journey to Australia so many years ago. The intricate bands which



adorned the skirts also paid homage to First Nations culture, iconic buildings and architecture, and inspiring figures within the school community, acting as unique expressions of each school's individual identity.

The final installation, Planets, Pearls and Possibilities, showcased the power of collaboration within the Loreto schools, with each school contributing a special 3D display cube that expressed the vision and innovation of current students imagining possibilities for the future. This innovative collection of contemporary artworks served to reflect the wealth of opportunities afforded by a Loreto education, reminding us that our past, present, and future are all fundamentally intertwined.

To make the experience memorable and unique for our community, we incorporated a few special features into the exhibition, creating a living archive of memories, reflections, and our enduring Loreto spirit. These included:

- A ballgown made from hand cut pages of a dictionary, photograph petals and a handmade paper peony, inscribed with the school's values and significant quotes. This was created by Ms Millie Sinai, librarian for International Women's Day but was moved to feature as part of our exhibition.
- A media wall where Loreto staff, students, and members of the wider Loreto community could take photos.

- Mother Gonzaga's trunk from the Loreto Kirribilli archives, where visitors could write messages to Gonzaga and be added to the trunk.
- An audio guestbook, which included a recorded message from Mother Gonzaga, and invited visitors to share their reflections on the exhibition and their connection to the Loreto community.

Over the next two weeks after the launch, students, staff, families and alumnae were given the opportunity to continue exploring the exhibition through open afternoons and class visits, engaging with the people, places and principles that have shaped generations of Loreto women. It was wonderful to have Sr Sandra with us throughout this experience, generously sharing her deep knowledge of Loreto's origins.

Thank you to all members of the Loreto community who attended the exhibition. It was an incredibly moving few weeks, as we gathered in remembrance of the powerful women who introduced the Loreto values and tradition that we treasure so deeply, to Australia. We look forward to all that lies ahead, grounded in our values, inspired by our history, and open to the possibilities of the future. ✦

VOICES FROM THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



VISITORS TO THE 150 YEARS TRAVELLING EXHIBITION SHARED REFLECTIONS THAT CELEBRATE LORETO'S HISTORY, MISSION, AND THE INSPIRATION IT CONTINUES TO SPARK. FROM ALUMNAE AND STAFF WHO HAVE LIVED THE LORETO JOURNEY, TO STUDENTS DISCOVERING THEIR PLACE IN THIS LEGACY, THESE VOICES CAPTURE HOW LORETO HAS SHAPED LIVES ACROSS GENERATIONS.

Reflections from the Past

For those who have been part of Loreto for decades, the exhibition was a moving reminder of the school's enduring mission and vision.

"It's just wonderful to think that there were such creative minds looking at education way back then. And as somebody who has been 64 years in the Loreto Sisters, I'm just thrilled that we can have this memorial to the work that Gonzaga and her companions did."

"I have been inspired by the sacrifices of Mother Gonzaga Barry and her fellow nuns that came to Australia, so far away, and established this education for girls."

"It has surprised me with the strength of Gonzaga Barry and what she did and what she's achieved, and how contemporary her views are 150 years ago, that relate so much to society now."

"I just loved all of it. Especially Mother Gonzaga's words about being faithful to grace. I really enjoyed it very much indeed, and I hope there'll be more of it coming in the future. Maybe in the 200th anniversary. Well done Normanhurst, well done Kirribilli, well done Toorak, and Ballarat so far. Well done."

Reflections from the Present

For current student, parents and staff, the exhibition offered a chance to connect with the richness of Loreto's community, traditions, and creativity.

"This is Hannah and Ella from the Class of Loreto Normanhurst 2025, boarders from Newcastle and Mudgee, and we thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition and feel very privileged to have come and seen it, and to have learnt about our history. Thank you."

"We're celebrating 150 years of Loreto! We're so grateful to have the opportunity to come here and hope that generations to come enjoy the lovely life of Loreto and Normanhurst."

"It's been really nice to see the history of my school, and know that, still, 150 years later, the history and the community is still very much alive."

"The exhibition has moved me by being able to see where the school, that I go to, was first established and how the people have first established it."

"I've learnt a lot about the development of Loreto Normanhurst, and the beauty of the contribution of the boarders. It's definitely sparked creativity and imagination, and I'm so grateful my daughter attends this school."
"This exhibition has made me learn so much about Loreto's history, I'm so proud to be part of the legacy."

"It's certainly a profound exhibition, let's just put it that way."

"We love Loreto!"

Reflections for the Future

Many visitors were inspired to imagine what the next generations of Loreto women might achieve, reflecting the mission's ongoing relevance.

"It has sparked my imagination because the skirts are so beautiful and reminded me that women can do anything."

"The exhibition has sparked me with all the creative ideas and things that could happen in the future."

"It has sparked my imagination because it shows me that women can do a lot, and they have a lot of imagination, and it shows me how Loreto has evolved and what women can really do to change our world."

"May more Gonzaga Barry women grace this planet."

"I feel inspired to think about what is next for this community."

The exhibition offered a space for reflection, celebration, and imagination — honoring the past, embracing the present, and inspiring the future.✱



LORETO THEN & NOW





THE HERITAGE GATES
C. 1930, C. 1950, 2022



THE CHAPEL
C. 1950, 1975, 2022



THE TERESA BALL PRIMARY CENTRE
2007, 2015, 2021



THE VERONICA REID BUILDINGS
1969, 2009, 2016



THE MARY WARD QUAD
1965, 2011, 2021



THE GYM
1998, 2003, 2025

BECOMING ONE

THE MERGER OF THE CONGREGATIO JESU (CJ) AND THE INSTITUTE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (IBVM) HAS NOW BEEN FORMALLY AFFIRMED BY DECREE, MARKING A HISTORIC MOMENT IN THE LIFE OF MARY WARD'S INSTITUTE.

This long-awaited union realises Mary Ward's vision that "all may be one", bringing together the final two branches of her Institute into a single congregation. The formal proclamation took place in Loyola, Spain, on 4 November 2025, followed by a symposium on 5 November. Representing the Loreto Province of Australia and South East Asia in Loyola were Sisters Wendy Hildebrand cj (Province Leader), Rachel McLoughlin cj, Margaret Burke cj, Rosalina Belo cj and Vi Thi Nguyen cj.

What does this mean for us as a Mary Ward community?

This merger is the culmination of centuries of shared mission, spirituality, and service, uniting all who walk in Mary Ward's footsteps under one congregation. It is a powerful affirmation of our shared values and our commitment to the vision of unity, justice, and compassion that Mary Ward championed.

For Loreto schools and alumnae, this step strengthens our global connections and opens new opportunities for collaboration, learning, and support across continents. It is a moment to celebrate our shared heritage and look forward to a future of renewed purpose and unity.

The merger does not change the core identity or mission of Loreto schools, but it does deepen our ties with the wider Mary Ward network, reinforcing our place in a vibrant, international community inspired by the same founding spirit.

While the Loreto Sisters will continue to be known as Loreto Sisters, they are now officially recognised as members of the Congregatio Jesu (CJ), rather than the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (IBVM). This change will be reflected from now on in the way their names are presented, with the letters "CJ" appearing after their name instead of "IBVM". Note, Sisters who have passed away will continue to be referred to by the designation IBVM.

The new congregation may be referred to as Congregatio Jesu (CJ) or Congregation of Jesus.

Watch the celebrations

Recordings of both the proclamation and the symposium are available for viewing. We invite you to watch and reflect on this significant milestone for our community by scanning the QR code below. ✦



CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

IN OCTOBER, THE LORETO NORMANHURST COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER FOR ONE OF THE MOST MEANINGFUL EVENTS IN OUR CALENDAR — THE CELEBRATION OF SERVICE. THIS ANNUAL GATHERING OFFERS A MOMENT TO PAUSE AND RECOGNISE THE STAFF WHOSE DEDICATION, CARE AND COMMITMENT HAVE SHAPED GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS AND STRENGTHENED THE RICH TAPESTRY OF OUR SCHOOL.

This year, we honoured staff marking milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and an extraordinary 30 years of service. Each milestone reflects not only the length of time given, but the depth of impact these staff members have had on our students, families and colleagues.

Those recognised for 30 years of service were Bridget Andersen and Jenelle Minto, whose enduring leadership and energy have contributed immensely to life at Loreto Normanhurst. Joanne Hallinan was acknowledged for 25 years of outstanding commitment, while Mick Stojanovic was honoured for 20 years of loyal and dedicated service. Marking 15 years, Natalie Brumby was celebrated for her many years of generosity, expertise and care.

A significant group reached the 10-year milestone: Kierny Bateman, Janelle Hall, Alexandra Lam, Marina Ugonotti, Mitchell Blackburn, Rowena Bryce, Cathy Cao, Adam Chesterman, Kim Proctor-Messham, Rebecca Quayle, Michael Rafe, Marco Scali and Sonia Solo.

Among these acknowledgements, a particularly special moment was dedicated to Principal, Marina Ugonotti, for her decade of contribution, spanning leadership, vision and her deep commitment to the values of the School. Her stewardship, especially in recent years of growth and renewal, continues to inspire students, staff and families alike.

Those marking 5 years of service were Helen Naylor, Sally Munro, Mengya Gu, Maree Badgery-Parker, Heather Cave, Lauren Wood, Catherine Beckett, Hannah Montgomery, Susan Terravecchia, Elisabeth Sorbara and Marysa Boland, each already making a meaningful contribution to the School.

This year also saw the introduction of the STAR (Special Thanks & Recognition) Awards, a new initiative acknowledging staff whose contribution extends beyond their role and resonates across our community. The inaugural recipients, Jenelle Minto, Karyn MacQuillan and Patti Taaffe, were recognised for their exceptional dedication, generosity and the spirit of service that enriches our school.

The Celebration of Service is a beautiful reminder of the people who shape the culture, care and character of Loreto Normanhurst. Whether marking five years or thirty, each person honoured has played a vital role in enriching the lives of students and strengthening the community we cherish. We offer our deepest thanks to all who were acknowledged this year, and to every staff member who continues to give so generously each day. ✱



2025 SNAPSHOT



FRIENDSHIP CAMP

Year 5 and 6 began the year at Narrabeen, making friends and building confidence through abseiling, canoeing and raft building, all while surrounded by breathtaking views.



LORETO RURAL PARTNERSHIP

Year 10 students immersed themselves in rural life, volunteering at local schools and farms across Dunedoo, Coolah and Gulgong, experiencing firsthand the warmth and hospitality of country communities.



MUSIC FESTIVAL

The ICC came alive for our annual Music Festival. With the theme 'Voices of Verity', students showcased passion and authenticity through inspiring solo, group and House performances.

TERM ONE



CLOTHES SWAP MARKET

Students embraced sustainability at the Clothes Swap Market, exchanging preloved clothes in the main quad and discovering hidden treasures, all while promoting environmentally conscious choices.



MARY WARD CONNECT

Marking 150 years of Loreto in Australia, Year 10 students connected with peers at Loreto Ballarat and Marryatville, experiencing daily school life and strengthening bonds across our Loreto network.



YEAR 5 SYDNEY ZOO EXCURSION

Year 5 explored Sydney Zoo, engaging with Australia's unique wildlife and applying their classroom learning in a hands-on experience that sparked curiosity and wonder.

TERM THREE

This year has been defined by much laughter, connection and reflection, as we celebrated 150 years of Loreto in Australia. Guided by our value of Verity, we strived to centre authenticity and truth in our words and actions across faith, academic, community, and extra-curricular events. While there were so many memorable experiences across the terms, we've picked some key highlights from the year.



BOARDING WEEK

Boarding Week celebrated our spirited boarders with joyful events, from the Boarder vs Day Girl benchball match to the Main Event, highlighting the unique friendships that define boarding life.



BUSH TO BOWL

During Reconciliation Week, students learnt from Bush to Bowl about native plants, bushfoods and caring for Country, deepening understanding of culture and connection to the land.



DRAMA TOUR TO LONDON

Drama students travelled to London, taking part in intensive acting workshops, exploring Shakespeare's Globe, and experiencing world-class theatre, returning enriched and inspired by their international adventure.

TERM TWO



HOUSE AND YEAR MASSES

Families joined together for House and Year Masses throughout 2025, celebrating faith and friendship in a true spirit of community.



PRIMARY JUSTICE MARKET

The Primary Justice Crew's annual Justice Market raised funds for St Vincent de Paul hampers, with students donating preloved items to support families in need.



NORMO FUSION

Normo Fusion lit up the stage as Houses performed with passion and creativity. From dance to drama, the talent on display made judging an almost impossible task!

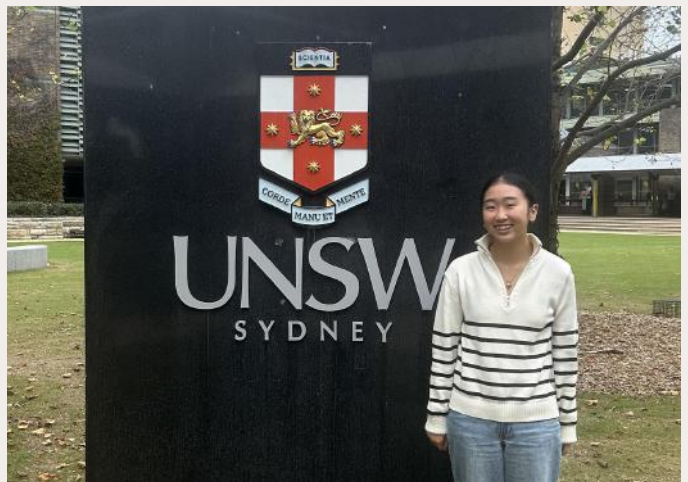
TERM FOUR

ENABLING PASSION AND INNOVATION IN STEM

AT LORETO NORMANHURST, WE ARE DEDICATED TO ENCOURAGING YOUNG WOMEN TO EXPLORE STEM-RELATED STUDIES AND CAREERS, FOSTERING CURIOSITY, PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS, AND A PASSION FOR DISCOVERY. ACROSS ALL YEAR LEVELS, STUDENTS ARE SUPPORTED TO PURSUE PROJECTS, RESEARCH, AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES THAT DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS AND HELP SHAPE THEIR AMBITIONS. FROM GUIDED CLASSROOM PROJECTS TO COMPETITIONS AND EXTERNAL WORK EXPERIENCES, LORETO NORMANHURST PROVIDES A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO DEEPEN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF STEM AND EXPLORE POTENTIAL PATHWAYS FOR FUTURE STUDY AND CAREERS.

Exploring Engineering Through Real-World Immersion

Hannah in Year 10 completed her work experience at UNSW, exploring civil and environmental engineering through a series of interactive workshops and projects. One of her projects involved constructing a paper straw bridge, and she visited sites including the Opera House, Botanical Gardens, and a construction site to understand how engineering systems are designed and implemented in real life. "I gained a strong understanding of how design thinking is used in engineering and how to calculate water usage and integrate sustainable technologies into home design," Hannah reflects. "What surprised me most was how complex sustainable design really is, there's so much more to it than adding solar panels or rain tanks. This experience enhanced my interest in engineering and STEM, and I'd definitely like to pursue further study and career pathways in this area."



Award-Winning Scientific Investigation and Collaboration

Year 8 students Julia, Julia, and Zoe placed third in the 2025 Think Science Competition, producing an in-depth study comparing vitamin C levels in different fruits and vegetables. They created a video detailing their research, conducted experiments using dichlorophenolindophenol, and drew conclusions to recommend healthy snack options during flu season. "We picked to explore this topic because during winter it's much easier to catch colds, and it's important to keep yourself healthy during this time," the team explains. "We enjoyed the process, learned how to divide work effectively, and may consider doing more science projects in the future." Their success was recognised with ANSTO medals, certificates, and \$400 of educational resources for their classroom, demonstrating how participation in STEM competitions can offer both recognition and practical learning benefits.

Creativity and Sustainability

In the primary school, Brigid in Year 5 presented her Passion Project to her class, designing a model chicken coop focused on animal welfare and sustainability. "I liked researching the most because I could learn so much more about my chicken, Biscuit, and about sustainability, greenhouse gas and food waste," Brigid says. "I would definitely like to work on projects like this in the future." Brigid's project required her to answer research questions, design and build a product, and deliver a lesson to her peers, an experience that fostered both critical thinking and creativity at a young age.

Across the school, Loreto Normanhurst provides access to mentorship, workshops, and competitions that challenge students to apply their knowledge in practical ways. Whether through hands-on engineering projects, collaborative research, or independent investigations, students are encouraged to take initiative, solve problems creatively, and develop confidence in STEM disciplines. ✨





FAITH & JUSTICE IN ACTION

AT LORETO NORMANHURST, FAITH AND JUSTICE ARE AT THE HEART OF OUR IDENTITY. IN THE SPIRIT OF MARY WARD AND ALL THE COURAGEOUS WOMEN WHO HAVE FOLLOWED IN HER FOOTSTEPS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO LIVE OUT THESE KEY LORETO VALUES THROUGH SCHOOL-BASED AND STUDENT-LED INITIATIVES.

Faith in Our Daily School Life

In developing our School culture, our Catholic faith is vital to the daily rhythms of life at Loreto. Every Friday morning before class begins, students and staff gather in the Chapel, engaging in a weekly reflection led by our Chaplain, Kerry McCullough. This ritual allows for a beautiful moment of prayer, contemplation and music after a busy week, centring us back in our faith and reminding us of importance of acting with integrity.

Sofia Storgato, our Liturgy Captain for 2024-25, expresses that, "At Loreto, chapel life reminds us that faith is not confined to prayer alone but woven into the everyday. In the warmth of a Friday morning hymn, in the care of a Eucharistic Minister, or in the laughter of the primary students at Open Circle at Lunch, we see God's love alive among us. Our Catholic faith calls us to live with courage, integrity, and compassion, to follow in the footsteps to Mary Ward, leading with confidence and care in all that we do. We, as Loreto students, are called to dare to be true in both quiet and bold ways alike."

In the Primary School, faith is similarly integrated into daily school life. Students have the opportunity to attend Mass every week, and a Primary Liturgy Leader is appointed each year, to select prayers, and choose students to read during the ceremony.

Social Justice at Loreto

Our strong faith also appears within our student-led social justice initiatives, particularly JPIC (Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation) and Green Team, two student groups which meet every week during lunchtime to engage in important dialogues about social and environmental issues, existing as "places of love, care, and activism" (Sarah Zammit, Social Justice Captain for 2024-25).

Inspired by the Mary Ward charism which advocates for the disenfranchised, these groups often collaborate to bring a variety of local and school-wide initiatives to life. A few examples include Wrap with Love, No Sew Blankets, the Vinnies Sandwich Service, and the annual Clothes Swap Market. Wrap with Love is an important yearly initiative, inviting students to knit or crochet squares during their lunchtimes, which are later developed into blankets to be distributed to those in need, helping to keep these individuals warm over the coming winter. Hands-on projects like this work to foster empathy and our spirit of giving, reflecting Loreto's commitment to caring for the vulnerable.

As reflected by Pope Leo XIV earlier this year, "In [the] promotion of the common good, our social responsibility is grounded in God's creative act, which gives everyone a share in the goods of the earth". Growing our students into conscious women of faith is



a key principle that we seek to develop throughout their journey at our School, and is embodied within these social justice initiatives.

In the Primary School, the student-led Justice Crew also works to integrate our value of Justice into their daily lives. Alongside their weekly lunchtime meetings, the Justice Crew also organise and run the annual Primary Justice Market, where they generously donate preloved items to help keep toys, books and games out of landfill. All proceeds then go towards purchasing gifts for the St Vincent de Paul Hampers, which are given out to those in need. This initiative again epitomises the importance of showing care and compassion for others, as inspired by the Church's call. "Loreto has truly fostered a community empowered by social justice education, activism and most importantly, action," asserts Sarah, our Social Justice Captain for 2024-25.

Building on Our Values: Mary Ward Connect and Retreats

Our Mary Ward Connect Experience offers students another opportunity to embrace our school values and heritage. This year was extra special, as we marked 150 Years of Loreto in Australia, which gave students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the academic, cultural, and social life of another Loreto community, as well as reflecting on the rich history and enduring sisterhood that connects Loreto girls across the country.

All Loreto schools nationwide connected through an online Forum, which highlighted the long-standing tradition, shared values, and nationwide network that have shaped generations of Loreto girls. "We were really surprised by how similar all Loreto girls are. Despite coming from different places, we shared similar stories, values, and even mannerisms. It was fascinating to see how the Loreto spirit connects us all," reflected Eliza, Hannah and Harriet from Year 10.

At Loreto Normanhurst, we welcomed students from Loreto Ballarat and Loreto Marrayville, introducing them to our unique school culture, while also learning about the lives they lead back home. This reminded us that while each and every Loreto school in Australia can embrace their individuality as a community, we are also bonded through our foundress, Mary Ward, Mother Gonzaga Barry, and our strong values, which define all that we do.

Another concrete way in which students embody their faith is through retreats. Particularly, Year 11 and Year 12 Retreat both provide a chance for students to wind down amongst nature, disconnected from technology, and the busy nature of school life. Students are encouraged to take some time to themselves, engaging in meditation, music and prayer, in the spirit of our Ignatian spiritual practice.

These are only a few of many different experiences, immersions, initiatives and retreats that help to bring faith and justice to life at Loreto Normanhurst. Our rich heritage and deep connection to our Catholic faith intrinsically shapes our holistic model of education, which seeks to foster a spirit of compassion and justice among our students, who become conscious women of faith as they step into their futures.✝

INTRODUCING OUR NEW UNIFORM



AT THE BEGINNING OF TERM THREE, WE PROUDLY INTRODUCED THE NEW LORETO NORMANHURST SCHOOL UNIFORM. DESIGNED WITH CARE AND INTENTION, THE UNIFORM IS A THOUGHTFUL BLEND OF TRADITION AND INNOVATION, BRINGING TOGETHER HERITAGE ELEMENTS AND CONTEMPORARY STYLE TO PROVIDE A COMFORTABLE, FLEXIBLE AND HIGH-QUALITY UNIFORM FOR OUR STUDENTS.

After extensive consultation with our community, we developed a 'capsule wardrobe' collection with sustainability, comfort, and adaptability the key priorities throughout the redesign process.

As students trialed samples over time, we continued gathering feedback, with each version thoughtfully evaluated. The two-year process reflected the School's commitment to creating a uniform that reflects the needs and spirit of our community.

The final design adopts a 'capsule wardrobe' approach, featuring a core Academic Uniform with optional items that students may choose from. A similar model was applied to the PDHPE and Sport Uniform, ensuring a trans-seasonal wardrobe that supports individual comfort, weather adaptability, and student choice.

To mark the launch of the new uniform, students involved in the photoshoot choreographed and presented a runway show at the first school assembly of the term. The students modelled items in a fun and memorable debut for a project shaped so strongly by student voice.

We look forward to seeing our students wear the new Loreto Normanhurst uniform with pride as we move into this exciting new chapter.✱



“Leave after you
something on which
others may build”

- MOTHER GONZAGA BARRY IBVM



LORETO WOMEN BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

A LORETO NORMANHURST ALUMNA REFLECTS ON HER JOURNEY AND THE IMPACT OF A LORETO EDUCATION.

A Life Shaped By Curiosity, Courage And Kindness

Jane Moffat ('91)

Jane Moffat's journey from Normanhurst boarder to international doctor and advocate shows the power of curiosity, resilience, and self-belief. Growing up in Maureen, northwest New South Wales, Jane spent six years at Loreto, where she immersed herself in leadership roles. "I became very involved in leadership, serving as both House and School Captain," she recalls. "I loved this aspect of school, though I didn't always get the balance right academically."

After leaving Loreto in 1991, Jane repeated the HSC at Mosman High to improve her results, before studying law at ANU. She went on to work with a Federal Court judge and one of Sydney's major law firms, before moving to London to pursue international corporate law. "I specialised in antitrust law, and I had the incredible opportunity to live in Brussels and Rome while developing my career and learning Italian," she says.

Her professional path took another turn when she became General Counsel for Williams Formula One, sitting on the board and working closely with drivers and management. Later, she spent ten years in Florence with General Electric, balancing work with family life, including caring for her daughter Victoria, who was born extremely premature. "That experience really changed my perspective on life and purpose," Jane reflects.

It was during this time that Jane decided to study medicine in the UK, a dramatic shift from law with no prior science background. She is now a practicing doctor with a focus on pediatric pathology and has contributed to initiatives such as early intervention programs for preterm children, now adopted globally. She also collaborated on a major study addressing human trafficking in the Mediterranean. "These projects were completely outside anything I imagined for myself," she says.

Looking back, Jane's advice to students is simple but profound. She encourages them to "let school shape you, but don't let it define you," and to "be infinitely curious. Follow new interests and don't put barriers on yourself." She also reminds students to "take kindness into the world. Even small acts can make a difference," and to "believe in yourself. There will be times when no one else does—but that self-belief is essential."

"Loreto taught me that women in time will come to do much," Jane says. "If you combine self-belief with curiosity and hard work, you can achieve more than you ever imagined."✦



“If you combine
self-belief with
curiosity and hard
work, you can
achieve more than
you ever imagined.”





CLASS OF 1995 REUNION



CLASS OF 1985 REUNION



LORETO LUNCH AND LYRICS





NORMO NETWORKING



REGIONAL VISITS



WOMEN OF INFLUENCE



REUNION LUNCH



GENERATIONS MORNING TEA

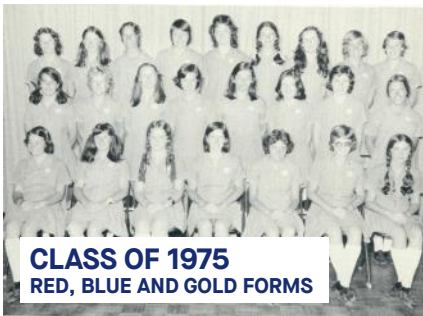


REUNION

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE YEAR GROUPS WHO
CELEBRATED MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES IN 2025.



MILESTONES







CLASS OF 2020



CLASS OF 2025

DO YOU HAVE STORIES
FROM YOUR SCHOOL DAYS?

SHARE YOUR STORY ON
THE NORMO NETWORK

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
[NORMONETWORK.NSW.EDU.AU](https://normonetwork.nsw.edu.au)



FROM OUR PARENT ASSOCIATION OF LORETO (PAL)



JOCELYN
HORDERN-SMITH

PRESIDENT OF THE
PARENT ASSOCIATION
OF LORETO

MARKING 150 YEARS OF LORETO IN AUSTRALIA, OUR COMMUNITY WAS INVITED TO BE FAITHFUL TO GRACE BY LIVING GENEROUSLY, RESPECTING ONE ANOTHER, ACTING WITH PURPOSE, SHOWING COMPASSION, AND CARRYING THE NORMO SPIRIT WITH ENERGY. IN 2025, THESE VALUES CAME TO LIFE IN COUNTLESS WAYS, AS PARENTS GATHERED IN FRIENDSHIP, CELEBRATED MILESTONES, AND SUPPORTED OUR GIRLS WITH ENTHUSIASM AND JOY.

Our community's generosity shone brightly. The inaugural Giving Day in May was an outstanding success, a testament to the spirit of parents, alumnae, staff, and friends working together for a common purpose. The much-loved Sportsmen's Lunch once again brought dads together in camaraderie and good humour, raising vital funds for the Equity Scholarship Program and PAL. Special thanks to Paul Timmins, whose leadership of this event over many years has been nothing short of inspiring.

Parents shared so many moments of school life this year, from House liturgies to the Music Festival, Primary dinners, and year group social events, each one a chance to connect and celebrate together. Our mums, from both city and country, relished the opportunity to come together in Orange, sharing laughter and stories while celebrating the joy of community. We saw that same spirit on the sidelines of sport, where families gathered with pride to cheer on the girls. Another special moment was the Topping Out Ceremony for the new Boarding House, a milestone that marked exciting progress in the life of Loreto Normanhurst.

This was also a year of renewal and innovation. Parent representatives embraced new systems for events and communications, while initiatives like year-based WhatsApp groups and Dads' Chats gave parents fresh ways to connect. We also joined with the School Counselling Team to navigate changes in social media regulations, standing alongside one another to support our daughters.

Compassion and care were at the heart of 2025. We walked with our Year 12 families through their milestone moments, from lunches and go-karting days to the anticipation of graduation. We were inspired by the stories shared at the Women of Influence Evening and reminded of our rich history at the 150 Years of Loreto Exhibition. Together, these experiences deepened our connection as a community of faith and friendship.

I am so grateful to every parent who gave their time, talents, and energy this year. A very special thank you to Kim Miller, whose tireless dedication to running the Sport BBQ brought people together week after week. To Jo LaFace, for her creativity and commitment in growing our merchandise, not only giving us a way to show our Loreto pride but also strengthening the sense of belonging in our community. To our wonderful parent representatives, who worked so generously to create opportunities for connection and friendship across every year group.

I would also like to acknowledge past PAL President Kath Walton for her years of leadership, generosity, and unwavering commitment. The strong foundations she built continue to support our work today, and we remain deeply grateful for all that she has given to our community.

We have welcomed new parents into PAL roles, keeping our community vibrant. It was wonderful to come together for events this year, including a fun and memorable Trivia Night. We also look forward to the colour, warmth, and joy of the Spring Fair in 2026.

Thank you for the many ways you remained Faithful to Grace in 2025, and for the generosity, spirit, and heart you bring to our Loreto community. In this Year of Verity, we have seen how living truthfully and wholeheartedly strengthens not only our daughters, but the bonds of our parent community.✦

FROM OUR EX-STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A TRULY SPECIAL ONE FOR LORETO NORMANHURST AND THE WIDER LORETO COMMUNITY, AS WE CELEBRATED 150 YEARS OF LORETO IN AUSTRALIA. IT HAS BEEN INSPIRING TO SEE HOW THE VALUES AND VISION OF MARY WARD CONTINUE TO GUIDE OUR COMMUNITY, CONNECTING PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS AND ALUMNAE.

The 150-year celebrations provided many moments to pause and reflect on the rich legacy of a Loreto education, and the remarkable ways in which our community continues to thrive. The travelling exhibition, showcasing creative works from Loreto schools across the country, offered a beautiful opportunity for alumnae, students, and families to engage with our shared history and the enduring spirit of our network.

Alumnae gatherings this year were particularly memorable. The Alumnae Reunion, enhanced by a screening of the play 'Serious Business', a guided tour of the School, a final walk through the current Boarding School, and an exclusive preview of the new Boarding House, was a highlight. It reminded us how deeply our connections endure, and how meaningful it is to share memories and experiences across the decades. The Canberra "Young Loreto" gathering and Normo Networking continued to foster professional and personal connections, providing opportunities for mentorship and collaboration that enrich both our alumnae and the current school community.

Another milestone this year was the inaugural Loreto Normanhurst Giving Day. It was heartening to see so many ex-students contribute their time, volunteering in the call centre, as well as their donations to support the School's future. This event demonstrated not only the generosity of our community but also the ongoing commitment of alumnae to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive at Normo.

Recognition of excellence remains central to the Ex-Students' Association, and it was a joy to celebrate the achievements of Keenor Sabaa, school captain and recipient of the Prix D'Honneur, and Isobel Haire, recipient of the Pat Taylor Award. Their dedication and embodiment of the Loreto values continue to inspire us all.

On behalf of the Ex-Students' Association, I extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to our community this year — whether by attending events, volunteering, or supporting initiatives like Giving Day. Your involvement keeps the spirit of Loreto vibrant, welcoming, and deeply connected across generations.

As we look to 2026 and the opening of the new Boarding House, we carry forward the energy of this landmark year with gratitude and hope. It is a privilege to remain part of this extraordinary community, and I encourage all alumnae to continue embracing opportunities to connect, support, and celebrate the unique spirit of Loreto Normanhurst. ✦



**JANE PARKER
(NÉE ANDERSON), '84**

**PRESIDENT OF THE
EX-STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION**

**TO JOIN US ON THE
NORMO NETWORK AND
CONNECT WITH YOUR
COMMUNITY, SCAN HERE:**



PHILANTHROPY UPDATE

THIS PAST YEAR HAS BEEN ONE OF EXTRAORDINARY MOMENTUM FOR PHILANTHROPY AT LORETO NORMANHURST. ACROSS OUR COMMUNITY, THE GENEROSITY OF PARENTS, ALUMNAE, STUDENTS, STAFF AND FRIENDS HAS CREATED OPPORTUNITIES THAT WILL SHAPE THE LIVES OF STUDENTS FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. FROM LANDMARK INITIATIVES TO RENEWED TRADITIONS OF GIVING, THE SPIRIT OF LORETO HAS BEEN EVIDENT IN EVERY ACT OF SUPPORT.

We began a new chapter with the launch of the Infinity Fund, a revitalised philanthropic identity that unites our three key areas of impact: Equity Scholarships (formerly Bursary Welfare Fund), First Nations Scholarships (formerly Indigenous Scholarships) and Building Initiatives (formerly Building Fund). The Infinity Fund reflects the ripple effect of generosity, the idea that every gift, whether large or small, creates lasting change. This new structure has helped families and supporters connect their giving to the School's mission with even greater clarity and purpose.

One of the most memorable moments of the year was our inaugural Giving Day, themed One Gift, Infinite Possibilities. In just 24 hours, our community raised an incredible \$321,740, with every donation matched by major donors. It was a day filled with connection and joy, students forming a human Infinity Knot, alumnae and families staffing the call centre, and supporters from graduation years spanning seven decades giving back to the School. The success of Giving Day reflects a deepening culture of philanthropy across our community.

There has also been tremendous progress in our commitment to access and opportunity. Through the steadfast support of the Infinity Fund and the School, Equity and First Nations Scholarships continue to open doors for young women who may otherwise be unable to access a Loreto education. This year, four new full Equity Scholarships were awarded, adding to the many students already supported through these life-changing programs.

Philanthropy has also played a vital role in advancing major projects, including the ongoing construction of our new Boarding House, McCabe House, which is due to welcome our boarders in Term 2, 2026. As a home for 216 students, McCabe House stands as both a tribute to our heritage and a symbol of our commitment to fostering community, connection and growth.

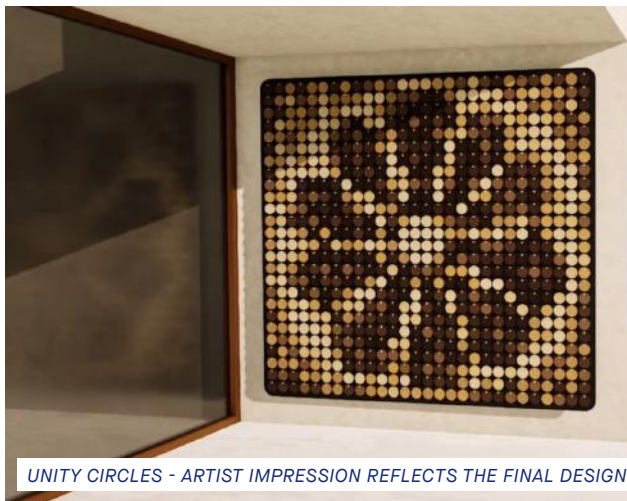
Across the year, our community events once again demonstrated the strength of shared purpose. The City Country Mothers' Lunch, Sportsmen's Lunch and a range of alumnae and parent gatherings provided opportunities to connect, celebrate and raise important funds that directly support scholarships and school initiatives. Every event, every gift and every volunteer contribution has helped strengthen the fabric of our community.

This year also marks a moment of transition as we welcome new leadership to the Advancement team. Rebecca Curran, our new Director of Advancement and a proud alumna of Loreto Kirribilli, joined us in October. Rebecca brings deep experience in philanthropy, community engagement and development and will lead the next chapter of our philanthropic program with warmth, vision and energy. Alongside Rebecca, we welcomed Milly Arundell, Philanthropy Manager, who commenced in December. Their arrival comes at a time of significant opportunity for Loreto Normanhurst, and our community has already embraced them with the generosity and spirit for which our School is known.

As we reflect on an exceptional year and look toward 2026 and beyond, we are reminded that the heart of philanthropy at Loreto Normanhurst is not simply financial support, it is the shared belief that education transforms lives. Thank you to every member of our community who has given time, care or resources to further this mission. Your generosity ensures that our students continue to flourish, guided by hope, courage and the enduring values of the Loreto tradition. ✦



\$1,149,483 TOTAL DONATIONS
\$226,359 RAISED FROM EVENTS
856 NUMBER OF DONORS



UNITY CIRCLES - ARTIST IMPRESSION REFLECTS THE FINAL DESIGN



CITY COUNTRY MOTHERS' LUNCH



SPORTSMEN'S LUNCH



GIVING DAY

SCAN HERE TO FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT THE INFINITY FUND!



GIVING DAY



GIVING DAY AT LORETO NORMANHURST WAS ALIVE WITH ENERGY, JOY, AND CREATIVITY AS STUDENTS, STAFF, AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE GENEROSITY IN ACTION. FROM THE VERY FIRST MOMENT, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THIS WAS A DAY DEFINED BY STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ENTHUSIASM.

The Aim of Giving Day

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, and the matching contributions from our special donors, we raised an incredible \$361,040, surpassing our original target. These funds will support Phase Two of our Master Plan, including:

- A new Technologies Precinct with commercial kitchens, workshops, and learning spaces
- A vibrant Music Precinct designed for creativity, rehearsal, and performance
- Expanded General and Open Learning Spaces that foster connection, curiosity, and contemporary teaching

The Day

The quad became a hub of laughter and movement during the very special 'Dancing in the Quad'. Students and staff danced and sang along to the Giving Day anthem, 'Treat People with Kindness', with a few standout moments stealing the show. Our Principal, Ms Marina Ugonotti, and Deputy Principal, Mrs Lynn Long, joined in the fun, donning feather boas and paying homage to Harry Styles, who was also represented by a life-size cutout. The energy was contagious, and when Lili from Year 7 was announced as the dancing winner of the Harry Styles cutout, cheers erupted as her peers celebrated her victory.

Another unforgettable highlight was the creation of the huminty infinity knot, that stretched around the entire campus. Students and staff collaborated across age groups, using teamwork, communication, and a shared sense of purpose to construct this powerful symbol. The infinity knot represented the infinite possibilities that emerge when our community comes together, and the pride and excitement on everyone's faces made it a truly magical moment.

Beyond the quad and the infinity knot, volunteers worked tirelessly in the Operations Call Centre, connecting with alumnae, parents, and friends to encourage donations and thank supporters. Their dedication and enthusiasm helped build a sense of unity and participation that truly defined Giving Day.

From the buzzing Operations Call Centre to the high-energy dancing and the collaborative infinity knot, Giving Day was a celebration of generosity, creativity, and community. It was a joyful reminder that every contribution, big or small, helps unlock the infinite possibilities for the students of Loreto Normanhurst. ✦

**“Your gift means
more music, more
creativity, more joy.”**

– ANDREA, YEAR 9 MUSIC STUDENT



“It’s not just classrooms, it’s where ideas become real.”

– KEENOR, SCHOOL CAPTAIN



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



BIRTHS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNAE AND HER PARTNER UPON THE BIRTH OF THEIR BABIES.

Grace Ridge (née Murray, '09) and her husband on the birth of their son Angus, born April 2024 and daughter Sophia, born May 2025. They join big brother William (Billy), born June 2022.

MARRIAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY ON THE NEWEST CHAPTER OF THEIR LIVES.

Caitlyn Mossie ('14) and Robert Barakat who were married on 5 April 2025 in the Loreto Normanhurst Chapel.

Annabelle Radford ('13) and Jeremy Kindl who tied the knot on 12 April 2025.

Fleur Tropea ('07) who was married in the Loreto Normanhurst Chapel on 25 May 2025.

Rochelle Martin ('11) who was married in the Loreto Normanhurst Chapel on 6 September 2025.

VALE

WE OFFER OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

The White Family on the passing of **Jan White**. Mother to Camilla Walpole (White '96).

The White Family on the passing of **Alison White (née Burns, '69)**, sister to Barbara Halligan (née Burns, '65), Elizabeth Hawkins (née Burns, '72) and Margaret Morgan (née Burns, '74).

The Roche Family on the passing of **Nerida Roche ('95)**.

The Dodds family on the passing of **Helen Dodds**, a beloved teacher at Loreto from 1978 to 1997, as well as the mother to alumna Ashlee Dodds ('89).

The Cotter family on the passing of **Monica Cotter (née McGrath, '43)**.

The Lee Family on the passing of **Patricia Lee**, mother of Louise Lowe (née Lee, '80), Anna Cusack (née Lee, '80) and Kate Benecke (née Lee, '83).

The Beckley family on the passing of **Diana Beckley (née Mellick, '45)**.

The Carson family on the passing of **Michelle Carson ('96)**, sister to Nicole Bolger (née Carson, '82), Simone Carson ('84), Jackie Benson (née Carson, '85), Danielle Holmes (née Carson, '89) and Genevieve Quoyne (née Carson, '92), as well as the aunt to Gabrielle Benson ('24).

The Bremner family on the passing of **Jennifer Mary Bremner (née Gates, '59)**, wife to Rick (Warwick) Bremner and mother to Duncan, Belinda ('94) and Amanda Woods (née Bremner, '99).

The O'Shea family on the passing of **Kerry Patrick O'Shea**, husband to Akemi (Ex LN Staff) and father to Marie Claire De Vito (née O'Shea '98).

The Trotter family on the passing of **Jennifer Trotter**, a past staff member of Loreto Normanhurst.

REMEMBERING MRS HELEN DODDS

We offer our sincerest sympathy to the family and friends of Mrs Helen Dodds, who passed away on 25 June this year.

Helen taught at Loreto Normanhurst from 1978 to 1997, specialising in Latin, although she also worked as a teacher within the subjects of French and Religion. She then joined the leadership team as an Administrator Coordinator, shaping both the academic excellence and the emphasis on community that still defines our school to this day.

Over her years at Loreto, Helen performed a wide range of tasks beyond her teaching role, including setting up the school's early computer network, acting as Year coordinator, helping with the Debating program and training various Mock Trial teams. The 1988 team even won the State Competition under her guidance.

Her daughter Ashlee also went on to become a Loreto student, graduating with the Class of 1989. Helen leaves behind her loving husband John, who also enjoyed a long career as a teacher, along with her daughter Ashlee and her son-in-law, Andrew. She was a cherished grandmother of Lachlan, William and Piper.

Helen was a much-loved and long-time member of our Loreto community, and she is fondly remembered by all.

She was truly an inspiration for everyone, extremely dedicated to her students, and passionate about her subject matter, especially Latin.

She fostered a love of learning and a desire to do well in all her students. She is remembered to have greeted her students at the beginning of every class in Latin, with 'salvete puellae' along with an obligatory class recital of the Hail Mary in Latin.

In 1985, her Year 11 Latin class put together a 30-page parchment booklet containing quotations collected in class over the course of the year which give some insight into the relaxed atmosphere and warm relationship that prevailed in her senior classes, her quirky sense of humour and the way in which she lived her life.

Helen will continue to be remembered and cherished for the impact she has made on countless students, staff and alumnae over her many years at Loreto Normanhurst.

"Once you understand it, you wonder why you couldn't. Until you understand it, you wonder how you can." (Mrs Dodds, 1986 Yearbook)



REMEMBERING MONICA COTTER

Monica Cotter (née McGrath), Class of 1943 lived and breathed all things Loreto Normanhurst. She was one of a kind!

She attended Normanhurst from 1940-1943 as a boarder and continued a strong connection with the school for many years especially through the Ex-Students' Association where she was Secretary for seven years from 1947-1953 and President for two terms in the 1960s and 1970s. Monica was an integral part of Loreto Federation from its inception in 1955, representing Normanhurst at the biannual event through to the 1970s when she was Treasurer.

Monica had 6 children, including 4 daughters who attended Normanhurst from the 1960s-1980s: Monica ('68), Virginia ('72) deceased, Gabrielle ('73), and Elizabeth ('83) deceased and her granddaughter Samara Simmons ('99).

Monica was our eldest ex-student and her legacy lives on through our ex-student community.

We're constantly seeking to highlight the accomplishments of our alumnae and celebrate any significant milestones in your life.

Share your news and photos by reaching out to our Advancement Team at news@loretohn.nsw.edu.au.

We look forward to hearing from you!

SAVE THE DATE

OUR 2026 CALENDAR IS FULL OF CELEBRATION AND COMMUNITY EVENTS. POP THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY AND WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Wednesday, 1 April

You are warmly invited to join our Loreto Normanhurst community for the 2025 Music Festival! A night to celebrate music, dance, felicity and house spirit.

LORETO, LUNCH AND LYRICS

Thursday, 11 June

A special celebration for our Golden Jubilarians, Loreto Normanhurst alumnae who graduated prior to and including 1975. A wonderful afternoon to reunite and reminisce about cherished Loreto Normanhurst memories.

SPORTSMEN'S LUNCH

Friday, 19 June

Please join us for the Loreto Normanhurst Sportsmen's Lunch, an event for Loreto Normanhurst fathers and friends. A wonderful opportunity to meet other fathers and friends from Normo and to hear inspiring stories from our alumnae.

GENERATIONS MORNING TEA

Friday, 24 July

Loreto Normanhurst has a proud tradition of generations of families. We warmly invite any parent or relative of a current student who has attended a Loreto school to join us for this event to celebrate the generations of connection that run through our community.

CITY COUNTRY MOTHERS' WEEKEND AWAY

Friday, 21 – Sunday, 23 August

The Parent Association of Loreto Normanhurst welcome current LN mothers to the City Country Mothers' Weekend Away!

ALUMNAE NETWORKING EVENINGS

Wednesday, 27 May & Wednesday, 19 August

Alumnae, current senior students and their parents are invited to us for this invaluable opportunity to connect and form meaningful relationships, share knowledge and gain inspiration.

ALUMNAE REUNION LUNCH

Saturday, 26 September

All alumnae are invited to join us for a wonderful day at Loreto Normanhurst, reconnecting and reminiscing across the years.

CONNECT WITH US

FACEBOOK + INSTAGRAM

@loretonh

LINKEDIN

au.linkedin.com/school/loreto-normanhurst

LORETO WEBSITE

loretonh.nsw.edu.au

Visit the website for all information about life at Loreto Normanhurst.

NORMO NETWORK

normonetwork.loretonh.nsw.edu.au

Visit this online community hub designed for Loreto Normanhurst alumnae and former parents.

STAY CONNECTED

To share news with the Loreto community, please email: news@loretonh.nsw.edu.au

STAY IN CONTACT

To update your details, please email: normonetwork@loretonh.nsw.edu.au



Loreto
Normanhurst

Loreto Normanhurst Spring Fair

Sunday, 8 November 2026
10:00am - 3:00pm



**WIN A MAZDA CX-3!
GET YOUR TICKETS TO WIN!
OUR RAFFLE IS OPEN TO
EVERYONE!**

**SCAN HERE
TO ENTER**



I felt I had
to do it,
or be
unfaithful
to grace

- MOTHER GONZAGA BARRY IBVM
(1853 - 1915)