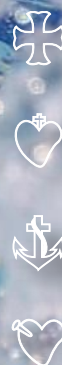


LORETO KIRRIBILLI | *celebrating 115 YEARS*

# spirit

ISSUE 91 April 2023





New Staff 2023



Year 7 Orientation Day



Kindergarten Bright Start



Year 12 Common Room Opening



Kindergarten First Day



Year of Justice Assembly



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion



Junior School Opening School Mass



Stolen Generation Apology



Library Lovers' Day



Twilight Tour



Year 11 Visual Arts Excursion



Swimming Carnival



Year 5 Camp



Shrove Tuesday



Junior School Yoga



Ash Wednesday



Junior School Captains' Assembly



UN International Womens' Day Lunch



Junior School Gardening



Father Daughter Mass



Year 8 TAS Woodwork



Dumplings Day



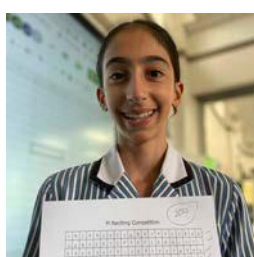
Lunchtime Learning with Taronga Zoo



Year 6 Canberra Excursion



Year 10 Mary Ward Connect



Pi Day



Chess Club



Junior School Clean-up Day



Parents & Friends' Lunch



Companions in Learning  
Harmony Day



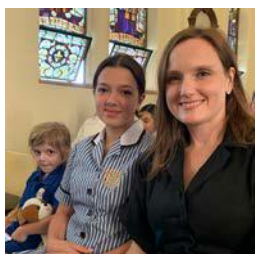
LK Connect Wildlife  
& the Environment



Junior School Buddies



Interhouse Theatresports  
Competition Grand Final



Year 7 Family Mass



Year 10 Food Technology  
Cake Decorating



Junior School Vege Week



Year 11 Geography Excursion



Parents & Friends  
Sausage Sizzle



Big Sister Little Sister  
Afternoon Tea



Junior School Vex Robotics



ANZAC Commemoration

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@Loreto\_LK



loretokirribilli



Loreto Kirribilli

**Cover:** The 2023 Senior School Swimming Carnival went off with a splash, a celebration of swimming talent and school spirit. The day culminated in each House's synchronised Water Ballet display, the **50th anniversary** of this much-loved event. Congratulations all, especially the winning team Barry!

© Anthony Khoury Photography

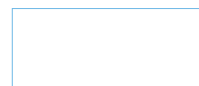
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Loreto Kirribilli's 2022 Environmental Sustainability Framework calls for us all to work towards a cleaner and more responsible future. As a result, we have purchased the required carbon credits to make this publication carbon neutral.

This *Spirit* magazine is also printed on Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC)® certified paper stock.



# A Message from the Principal

MRS ANNA DICKINSON

Term 1 has provided its usual busy and energising start to the year, with significant engagement and support from our parents. We are blessed at Loreto Kirribilli to have an extremely hard-working and committed Parents and Friends' Committee who provide opportunities for our parents to connect with one another and welcome new members of the community to our Loreto Kirribilli family.

A lovely event that is part of the beginning of each school year is the **Welcome Cocktail Party**, a fine showcase of parental support for the school and the strength of our school community. We enjoyed the glorious weather and a gathering of close to 600 people, sharing their love of the Loreto Kirribilli spirit over delicious food and drinks. Our team of parent volunteers welcomed parents and carers of new, current and past students with big smiles and warm hearts.

The **Parent Dinner** provided our new parents with an excellent opportunity to meet others who have joined the Loreto Kirribilli community, as well as those whose daughters have progressed from Junior to Senior School. The School Executive, Board, P&F Committee members and Bursary 'Think Tank' Committee enjoyed the opportunity to mingle amongst the parents and to formally welcome them to our school.

Our fathers, grandfathers and fatherly figures filled Centenary Hall to capacity during Term 1 to celebrate the **Father Daughter Mass** and give thanks for the love that they share with their daughters. We are very fortunate to have Fr Richard Leonard SJ as the Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Way, North Sydney and we thank him for celebrating Mass for us. I look forward to our Mother Daughter Mass in May, an equally joyful occasion.

Parents keenly supported our Senior School **Parent and Student Information Nights**, which provided parents and students with the key strategic priorities we will be focused on during the 2023 school year. I received a number of emails from parents expressing gratitude for the excellent presentations tailored to each year group delivered by the Year Wellbeing Coordinators, the Director of Teaching and Learning and Careers Advisors.

The events mentioned above are a few of the many opportunities our families are offered to engage in the



life of our school. Research indicates that when parents are involved in their child's schooling, there is significant benefit to their children. This is certainly evidenced at our school.

While parental engagement in the social and academic side of the school is so important, the most important role that we share with parents is in the formation of their child's faith and spirituality. Within our school environment, we attempt to do this in many ways, working to ensure that our Catholic faith, the foundation for all of the programs in the school, permeates all that we do and we greatly appreciate that this is strongly supported by our parent body.

One of the many things I have admired in my privileged time as Principal of Loreto Kirribilli is the wonderful Ignatian spirit of generosity that pervades our school. The magnificent contribution of our parents is one of its finest examples.

At the commencement of each year, the Term 1 edition of *Spirit* provides an opportunity to congratulate our graduates from the previous year and to reflect on their achievements. I am sure that you will have read of the wonderful results achieved by the **Class of 2022** and



you may also be aware of their significant contribution to the broader community. We congratulate the Class of 2022 because they embraced the importance of balance, committed to achieving the high expectations they had set for themselves academically, engaging actively in the many extra-curricular activities on offer, immersing themselves in a range of social justice and outreach activities modelling to the school community that they are ‘*women for others*.’ These young women who supported each other throughout their HSC journey, have gone out into the world strong, courageous, collaborative leaders willing and able to make a significant difference in the world. We are very proud of them indeed!

I also take this opportunity to celebrate the dedicated service of our **Deputy Principal, Mr Daniel Mahon**, who left Loreto Kirribilli at the end of the term to assume the position of Principal of John XXIII College in Perth, an associated school of Loreto Schools in Australia. Our school community will miss Mr Mahon and all that he has contributed to our school. He is a passionate educator, highly respected by staff, students, parents and the broader community. We congratulate him on his appointment and thank him for his outstanding leadership, his contribution to Board subcommittees, the development of our school’s risk framework and assisting with the school-based management of the construction of Spiritus. Mr Mahon also assisted me in many executive functions, including strategic planning and navigating the school’s response to COVID-19.

With Mr Mahon concluding his tenure at Loreto Kirribilli, we have commenced the process of recruiting a new Deputy Principal and will keep the school community informed about the progress of this appointment during Term 2.

Finally, a brief mention of our Loreto value focus for 2023. This year Loreto schools around Australia will focus on the value of Justice. We will endeavour to bring it to life through prayer, word, symbol and action. The School Captains of Loreto schools across Australia capture so well the need for justice in their collaboratively written Justice Prayer (see page 6).

2023 is also our 115th anniversary year, so fitting that this is in our ‘Year of Justice’. Mary Ward, who inspired the formation of the Loreto Sisters, had a great passion for justice and it is this passion that has motivated so many to recognise the inherent dignity of each individual and the natural environment, and to become aware of the rights and responsibilities of all.

I hope you enjoy our Term 1 edition of the *Spirit* magazine, illustrating the well-rounded education that we offer with examples of our faith in action, academic excellence, sporting prowess, and rich extra-curricular and community life. We also enjoy our vibrant and engaged alumni, and parents and friends that contribute so much to our spirit and life.

# Celebrating 115 years

## SR MARGARET HONNER IBVM



Top: Sr Margaret Honner on the front cover *Spirit* 1991  
Below: Sr Margaret Honner today

*"Loreto Kirribilli was a woman's world, and I thought it was fantastic."*

From its first incarnation as an eight-page, black and white newspaper in 1991, *Spirit* magazine has documented the life of the school, the achievements of our community, and the thoughts and aspirations of our Principals.

On the front cover of Issue 1 in 1991 is then Principal Sr Margaret Honner ibvm ('60), a familiar figure to many of us in the Loreto community. In fact, as Sr Margaret laughingly puts it, *"I've had three goes at Loreto Kirribilli... I was a child here, from the 'bubs' all the way through. Then I came back as Principal, and now I'm back next door. So in a way I'm three generations of Loreto Kirribilli!"*

In fact, it was her experience at Loreto that inspired Sr Margaret to join the convent. *"There was a spirit of freedom and broadmindedness. I liked that spirit in the nuns, and I wanted to be like them. Home was male dominated - I had a strong dad, three brothers, and no sisters. Loreto Kirribilli was a woman's world, and I thought it was fantastic."*

*"I wanted to give my life to God and do something good. And options for doing good, in those days, were a bit more limited."* So Sr Margaret, half way through studying Arts at University of Sydney, entered the convent. At the time, her mother objected, partly due to the enclosed nature of the convent in those days. *"The day I entered, she said to me, 'I can't believe you won't come to my funeral'. And she was right, it was a silly rule."*

Thankfully, changes were afoot. *"The second Vatican Council was happening, and if the changes hadn't come through, I don't think I would've stayed. The old way, and some of the things that had meaning in the past, had run out of meaning. It was the kind of convent Mary Ward didn't want. And so it wasn't really a great time to join, but it was a great time to stay when the changes came through."*

Therefore was Sr Margaret able to attend her mother's funeral? *"Oh, I did,"* she smiles, *"With the school behind me. It happened while I was Principal here."* Sr Margaret was Principal during a time of great change at Loreto Kirribilli. The nuns in teaching positions were mostly replaced by lay teachers. *"We were on the cusp of moving to a whole new professional way of doing things."*

She remembers feeling envious of all the Music, Art and Sports activities that were burgeoning at the time, comparing it to her own childhood. *"School was a lot simpler when I was a child. The campus was very simple, and we had one tiny Science room that was only used at Year 11. "Still, we had a lot of fun, in a very simple way."*

During her tenure Sr Margaret presided over the building of the new Centenary Hall and Science block. *"I had wonderful parent advisory boards and I couldn't have managed without them. They were just wonderful people."*

Sr Margaret and her fellow nuns look upon the Loreto Kirribilli of 2023 with pride. *"We are just so proud of the quality of staff and the leadership. I think they work too hard! And I do think that they're actually doing a better job than we did!"* she laughs.

**SR MARGARET HONNER IBVM** Principal 1986 - 1992

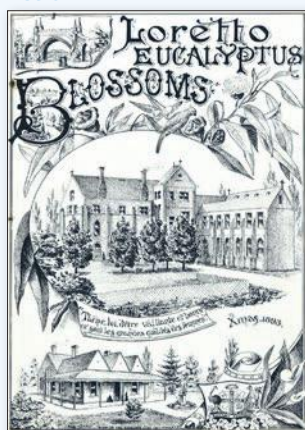
# Celebrating 115 years

## LIFE CYCLE OF *Spirit* MAGAZINE

As we celebrate 115 years of Loreto Kirribilli, we are looking back over 30 years of *Spirit* magazine. *Spirit* was introduced in 1991, part of an initiative to enhance communication with parents and ex-students, as well as creating a record of the life of the school. The magazine has evolved from black and white, to colour, and now to digital, with some design changes along the way. In this, the 91st Edition of *Spirit*, you might notice an updated cover design and page layout. Enjoy!

The Loreto tradition of a school magazine began long ago, with *Eucalyptus Blossoms*, a student-edited magazine published at Loreto Abbey, Mary's Mount Ballarat in the 1890s.

1890



1992



1992



1998



2003



2005



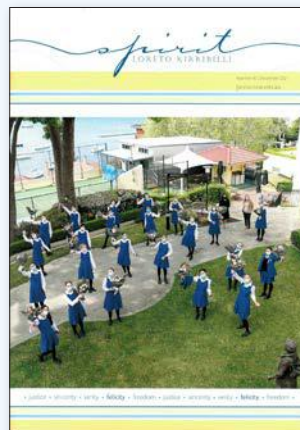
2008



2020



2021



2023



*Spirit* is now distributed as a more sustainable digital magazine. To opt out of your printed copy, please email [info@loreto.nsw.edu.au](mailto:info@loreto.nsw.edu.au)

# Sharing our Faith

## 2023 YEAR OF JUSTICE

This year Loreto schools around Australia are focusing on the value of Justice. Justice, as Mary Ward describes it, involves personal integrity based on a harmonious relationship with God, with other people and with the whole of creation. Mother Gonzaga Barry was profoundly committed to the support of those in need, and she urged her students to be aware of their surroundings and the situations of those less fortunate than themselves. In this vein, Loreto Kirribilli has a long tradition of challenging social inequity wherever it is found.

Father Sacha Bermudez-Goldman SJ spoke to staff at the 2023 Staff Opening Mass, reflecting on the theme of Justice. He spoke of a young adult organisation in India, whose activities and advocacy operate under the ambitious motto:

*"We have been born in an unjust society, and we are determined not to leave it as we have found it"*

**FATHER SACHA BERMUDEZ-GOLDMAN SJ**

## JUSTICE PRAYER

God of love, teach us to love without limits or borders, to open our hearts to all and to celebrate the diversity of our communities.

May we unite in our common goal of justice for all, and harness our capacity to affect long-lasting change that brings your love to life in our world.

Guide us to promote justice in the wider community and create respect for everyone's inherent human dignity.

Inspired by Mary Ward, may we answer the call to act wholeheartedly for genuine change that responds to the needs of our time.

May we be constant, efficacious and loving, so that we too may leave behind something on which others can build. May we follow in Mary Ward's footsteps as seekers of truth and doers of justice.

In Jesus' name and through the grace of the Holy Spirit, we say,

*Amen*



## YEAR OF JUSTICE LAUNCH

The Student Executive launched the Year of Justice at the Senior School Assembly at the beginning of term. They unveiled the Justice Jigsaw, expressing the need to be aware of how our school values relate to global climate, and challenging the students to consider what justice looks like for us today.

At the Junior School Assembly, our School Captains introduced the 2023 School mascot, Joy the Justice Jellyfish. "Joy is a friendly jellyfish," explained Molly. Frankie added, "Just like jellyfish, justice is everywhere - In our homes and in our classrooms." Joy will be swimming around amongst the busy days of our students with the message to be kind and include each other so that no one feels hurt or left out ever!



## Sharing our Faith



### OPENING SCHOOL MASS

We celebrated the opening of our new school year with a beautiful Mass with Fr Richard Leonard SJ, Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Way, North Sydney, who blessed the new Justice candle and helped us reflect on the year of Justice. He reinforced three things we must endeavour to do: act justly, love kindness and walk humbly with God. The whole school participated fully in the Liturgy by singing prayerfully with passion and spirit.

### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Our school community celebrated International Women's Day (IWD) with guest speakers at breakfast forums at the school and in the city.

We welcomed students from St Aloysius' College to our school breakfast with special guest, proud Yorta Yorta woman and Churchill Fellow Amanda Morgan. Amanda gave an inspiring address about discrimination, justice and effecting change. Representative students from Loreto Kirribilli also attended an assembly dedicated to this special day at St Aloysius' College, as part of our Companions in Learning program.

Our School Captain Coco Gracie and Vice Captain Danae Douroudis accompanied Mrs Dickinson to the Catholic Schools NSW and Council of Catholic School Parents' Breakfast. The JPICD Human Rights leaders attended the UN Women's International Women's Day lunch at the ICC.

*"More recently #MeToo may have lost its cultural momentum, but this does not mean we have solved the issue, or that it no longer deserves to be spoken about. As young people we must continue to be involved, educated, and doing the work, to create a more equitable and open environment."*

**CHLOE HARVEY** JPICD Human Rights Councillor

## Sharing our Faith

### FATHER DAUGHTER MASS

Fathers, grandfathers and father figures gathered to celebrate our annual Father Daughter Mass and give thanks for the love that they share with their daughters. Fr Richard Leonard SJ, Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Way, celebrated Mass for us, arriving by bicycle to avoid congestion caused by the Pride March across the Harbour Bridge. At the conclusion of Mass, John and Alice White delivered the traditional Father Daughter reflection.



*"There is something extremely special about a father daughter relationship that is never fully understood unless you are in it, even when it does come with challenges, that I'm sure my Dad will tell you!"*

**ALICE WHITE** Year 12



# Sharing our Faith

## SEASON OF LENT

We began our Lenten journey with the Ash Wednesday Liturgy, marking the beginning of the Church's season of Lent. The marking of the ashes on our foreheads on this day is a public expression of our faith and humility. It is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The forty days that follow draw us into a quiet time to reflect on our own lives and the ways we need to seek and share compassion and forgiveness with others.



At the end of Lent, our Senior School Holy Week Liturgy was a time of prayer and reflection, challenging us to speak words of truth and justice, act with compassion and be a sign of Jesus' love for all those who are suffering. At our Junior School Holy Week Liturgy, we came together in prayer, music and drama to reflect on the events of the Passion of our Lord and Saviour, reminding us of God's love and redemptive sacrifice.



## YEAR 7 FAMILY MASS

We were delighted to welcome Year 7 parents to our Family Mass celebrating the Feast of the Annunciation, recalling the Archangel Gabriel's announcement to Mary, and concluding with a special blessing for our Year 7 students. Parents enjoyed a morning tea afterwards.

# Social Justice



## CANICE'S KITCHEN COFFEE SHOP DONATIONS

Thank you to the Loreto Kirribilli community who have generously donated to our Canice's Kitchen Donation Drive. St Canice's is a Jesuit parish in Elizabeth Bay, just behind Kings Cross, and their outreach centre works to provide weekly health, legal and employment clinics, daily showers with access to toiletries and personal care items and brand new clothing, along with daily meals and a coffee shop to those experiencing homelessness and social exclusion. These services are entirely funded by donations from generous parishioners, local residents, businesses and schools.

This term our families have donated tea bags, instant coffee and bags of sugar to help stock their coffee shop, which runs alongside their daily meal service. The coffee shop runs seven days per week and serves around 200 cups of tea and coffee each day to both the homeless and disadvantaged. It is their hope that our community can continue to help this coffee shop provide its guests with a place to gather, pray and chat with a cup of coffee and a cake in hand.



## EASTER EGG DRIVE

For some people in our community, Easter is a time of feeling isolated and lonely. To spread the message of God's love and bring happiness to others, our Junior School families have generously donated Easter eggs which were included in the Easter meal for people receiving Meals on Wheels. The organisers of Meals on Wheels Crows Nest sincerely appreciate this gesture made by the Junior School each year.



## CLEAN UP DAY

In the spirit of Clean Up Australia Day, our superhero Year 6 Environment Leaders led a new initiative - 'Clean Up LKJS Day'. The students spoke to the school about the importance of acting justly in our environment and how this relates to looking after our surroundings. Then they led a whole school clean-up of all the Junior School play areas with the help of Mrs Rebecca McKelvey.

# Social Justice



## PANCAKE TUESDAY

Each year during Lent we commit to raising funds to help support Project Compassion, Caritas Australia's annual fundraising campaign. Project Compassion supports remote and vulnerable communities across Asia, Africa, the Pacific and Australia, with access to clean water, food security, skills training, health and sanitation and disaster risk reduction training. This term student leaders raised funds for Project Compassion with the customary Shrove Tuesday treat of pancakes on the morning before Lent.



## HEATON FUNDRAISERS

Heaton House Captains organised a fun-filled Teacher vs Student Pictionary game and Teacher vs Student Volleyball game, with funds raised going towards Project Compassion. These fundraising activities not only assist Caritas Australia in their international and national projects, they also help to build community spirit and raise awareness of those who most need our help.



## JUSTICE RIBBONS

In a wonderful Junior School tradition, Year 5 students present Year 6 students with a special black ribbon to signify the Year of Justice. The ribbon reminds us all to act and follow the words of Mary Ward each and every day, to 'be seekers of truth and doers of justice.'



# Student Wellbeing

## YEAR 12 COMMON ROOM



There were smiles and cheers all around as Year 12 students celebrated the beginning of their final year of Senior School with the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony, officially opening their Senior Common Room.

## BIG SISTER LITTLE SISTER



Centenary Hall was abuzz with chatter and laughter as Year 10 students hosted the annual Big Sister Little Sister Afternoon Tea for their Year 7 counterparts - a wonderful opportunity to share experiences and continue to build connections. All staff were very impressed with the leadership of our Year 10 students ensuring that the afternoon was engaging and fun for our Year 7 students.

## LEADERSHIP AFTERNOON TEA



The Student Leaders' Afternoon Tea in the Parlour was a welcome opportunity for our Student Executive to mentor and support their Junior School counterparts, and share insights on projects happening across the school campus. Students discussed the challenges and highlights of their leadership roles, and agreed to plan some whole school social justice and sustainability initiatives.

# Student Wellbeing

## CHARACTER BUILDERS' WORKSHOP



Years 5 and 6 enjoyed their day of learning experiences through Character Builders, a workshop with a range of activities around leadership. Through a series of motivating team building activities, students are inspired to encourage others, listen respectfully and contribute positively. The program is an effective contribution towards preparing students for current and future leadership roles within the school.

## JUNIOR SCHOOL YOGINIS



With scheduled yoga sessions for each class weekly, our Junior School students practised mindfulness, strength and flexibility, enjoying some relaxation while improving their concentration, self-awareness and self-control.

## FRIENDSHIP DAY



During Friendship Day, Year 7 engaged in fun activities to help forge new friendships and develop further connections throughout the year group. Amongst many highlights, the day included a workshop about positive relationships as part of our Consent Education program.

# Student Wellbeing

## YEARS 7 & 8 CAMP



Students in Years 7 and 8 embraced the opportunity to forge new friendships during a three day camp at Stanwell Tops. Challenges like the high ropes, cart racing and survivor are designed to build teamwork and encourage collaboration.

## YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH



This year our Duke of Edinburgh Camp saw all Year 9 students embark on an adventure that explored Cockatoo Island, Sydney Harbour National Park and Lane Cove River - hiking and canoeing and learning how to navigate, cook, set up tents, and work collaboratively as a group.

# Student Wellbeing

## YEAR 10 PASTORAL DAYS



Year 10 Pastoral Days gave students a chance to explore the theme of Justice, strengthen friendships and support of each other with activities including consent education, team challenges, games, rhythmic drumming, and Zumba.

## YEAR 11 RETREAT



Reflecting on this year's value of Justice, our Year 11 students enjoyed a three day retreat to Tallong Outdoor Education and Retreat Centre, an opportunity to spend time in prayer and contemplation, while connecting with new friends through a variety of team-building activities.

## YEAR 12 RETREAT



Our Year 12 students enjoyed an enriching retreat experience at the Edmund Rice Retreat and Conference Centre at Mulgoa, with time to reflect on their relationships with themselves, their families, their peers and God.

# Mary Ward Connect



**Mary Ward Connect 2023 demonstrated the strong friendship and sisterhood that exists between our Loreto Schools. A total of 16 Loreto Kirribilli students (two groups of eight) accompanied by two staff members travelled to Loreto Marryatville, Adelaide and Loreto Toorak, Melbourne. At the same time, we welcomed students and teachers from these schools.**

Our Year 10 Loreto Kirribilli students who travelled to Toorak, Indie and Charlotte, shared the joy of their experience with us below:

*"This was a great experience where we were able to join the Loreto Toorak community, along with the Loreto Marryatville students, to make connections with like-minded girls who share the same values as us. We prepared a presentation which showcased our school and outlined what was special about our school. We shared this with Years 10-12 students and Years 5-7 students. There was a lot of discussion about the similarities and differences between the schools. Similarities included the blue uniform, the same crest on our blazers, the same Mary Ward statue in each school, the Houses, the community spirit and the values. We learnt a lot from this experience and we will bring back great memories, friendships and connections that we formed and ideas to further grow our wonderful school and prepare for the 150 year celebration."*

# Companions in Learning

The Loreto Kirribilli and St Aloysius' College 'Companions in Learning' program is now in its second year. Designed to add an extra dimension to our respective schools, we are sharing extra-curricular co-educational experiences to promote healthy student relationships, foster effective learning and reflect 21st century realities and collaborations.



HARMONY DAY



INTERNATIONAL WOMENS' DAY BREAKFAST



IWD ASSEMBLY



## Class of 2022



We are delighted to share our students' outstanding achievements in the 2022 HSC, which reflect their resilience, resolve and spirit.

We celebrate all our students and their achievements; each one had their own challenges to face, and we could not be prouder that they overcame these. The Class of 2022 ran the HSC marathon with grit and grace, and they did so because they chose subjects they loved, and they focused on having a growth mindset. With the quietening of COVID, it is easy to forget that these young women had over two years of disruption to their lives. The school was committed to providing stability and consistency in the delivery of their education. They engaged with the challenges that 2022 presented, with determination, while at the same time already making a positive difference to the world around them. This was the class of girls who "took on parliament," who challenged politicians to do something about climate change, helping to develop a school-wide Sustainability Framework, who future problem solved their way to Boston, who engaged in sports and a range of other extra-curricular activities, while quietly going about the business of preparing themselves for their HSC.

These students were engaged and enthusiastic about their learning; they took advantage of all opportunities presented to them: evenings in the Library, Bookable

Teachers, Library Mentors, Winter Workshops, Mock Exams. They built strong relationships with their teachers, providing them with hundreds, perhaps thousands of practice responses, and delighted them with their commitment to their learning for the HSC and beyond.

The Class of 2022 was supported through every leg of the journey by their parents, teachers, and each other. They believed in themselves, generously sharing their learning and encouraging each other along the way. The bonds they have forged throughout their time at Loreto Kirribilli will last.

### HSC RESULTS

HSC results are released as a combination of assessment marks and examination marks which are added together to give the final HSC mark for the student in that subject. School assessment marks are moderated against the student's HSC examination mark. The final HSC mark is then awarded a grade or Band. For all 2-unit and 1-unit courses the top Band is Band 6 and the lowest is Band 1. In Extension courses, the Bands are from Extension 4 (E4 = top) to Extension 1 (E1 = lowest).

## ATAR RESULTS

It is with great pleasure that we announce Lydia Colla as Dux for 2022 with an ATAR of 99.95, one of only 48 students across NSW to achieve this perfect score.

10% (13 students) with an ATAR over 99
19% with an ATAR over 98
25% with an ATAR over 97

35% with an ATAR over 95
62% with an ATAR over 90

22 of our students placed on the NSW HSC All Rounders list with ten units or more with a Band 6 or E4 result. They are:

Sophie Blanks	Matilda Damian	Olivia Menzies	Mia Grace Otter	Charlie York
Danielle Butt	Sophia Doyle	Hannah Merlin	Greta Perrignon	Mia Young
Joanna Carey	Isabella Dunstan	Lauren Moloney	Eve Sheffield	
Gemma Chittendon	Amelia Jenkins	Lauren Moran	Chelsea Spiteri	
Lydia Colla <i>Dux</i>	Kaitlyn Lee	Amelia Newman	Eve Warburton	

## HIGH ACHIEVERS

335 Distinguished Achievements (attaining a Band 6) were shared among 108 students. We had 96% of students achieve a result in Bands 5 or 6 and 61 students attained 3 or more Band 6 results. Loreto Kirribilli was ranked 12th in the state and 1st Catholic school in NSW by the Sydney Morning Herald.

### 1ST IN STATE

Stella Constable	1st Place Music 2
Sophia Tosley	1st Place Korean Continuers
Mia Young	1st Place PDHPE
Mia Young	1st Place Visual Arts

Eve Sheffield	6th Place Business Studies
Joanna Carey	11th Place Business Studies
Matilda Damian	3rd Place PDHPE
Lauren Moran	5th Place Legal Studies
Sophie Blanks	20th Place Biology

## ARTEXPRESS NOMINATIONS (VISUAL ARTS)

Gemma Chittendon <i>selected</i>	Zoe Davis	Madeline Gale <i>selected</i>
Aimee Georgiades <i>selected</i>	Genevieve Hockey <i>selected</i>	Tiana Kasalo <i>selected</i>
Matilda O'Sullivan <i>selected</i>	Mia Grace Otter <i>selected</i>	Miranda Stretch <i>selected</i>
Emilia Walsh	Sophia Watkins <i>selected</i>	Mia Young <i>selected</i>
Jessica Zaknic		

## ONSTAGE INDIVIDUAL NOMINATIONS (DRAMA)

Annabelle Ryan	Kate Hendren	Scarlett Price
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### ONSTAGE GROUP NOMINATIONS (DRAMA)

Kate Hendren	Scarlett Price	Annabelle Ryan
Tara Sim	Mia Wood	

### SHAPE NOMINATIONS (DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY)

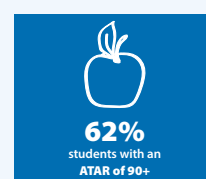
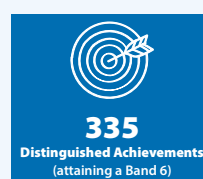
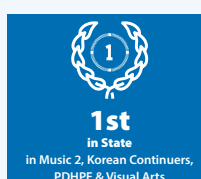
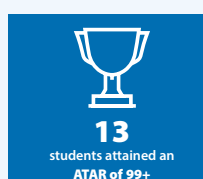
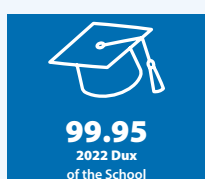
Claudia Drinnan	Mietta Jones
Kaitlyn Lee	Matilda O'Sullivan

### ENCORE NOMINATIONS (MUSIC)

Stella Constable
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### CALLBACK NOMINATIONS (DANCE)

Mia Young	Amelia Newman
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# Class of 2022

## DUX ASSEMBLY



We were delighted to welcome back our Class of 2022 to celebrate their outstanding HSC results. Our Dux Lydia Colla addressed her fellow graduates and the Senior School, thanking her family, teachers and friends.

Here is an excerpt of her address:

*To the Class of 2022 - congratulations.*

*We did it!*

*To the Class of 2023 - here are my two-cents:*

*Firstly, you have to want it more than you are afraid of it. This was the best advice I received. The truth is, the moment you stop letting your fear of criticism prevent you from taking on feedback, will be the moment that you grow the most in your learning. You have to want to improve more than you are afraid of someone's criticism.*

*Secondly, do remember balance. It's a phrase that's overused and undervalued.*

*As I've tried to express, the HSC isn't really a marathon, and it's not the only thing happening in your life. Remember that!*

*I wish you the best of luck. You've got this - and I can't wait to see you on the other side.*

**LYDIA COLLA** (DUX '22)



# Future of Learning

## YEAR 9 PHILOSOPHERS TACKLE THE BIG QUESTIONS



Students enact Plato's Allegory of the Cave in Year 9 Philosophy class.

Loreto Kirribilli has recently added a 100-hour Philosophy course to our Year 9 elective offering. The course is designed to give the students a basic grounding in philosophical enquiry, and stimulate students to engage in its questions, arguments and rigorous methods of thinking.

The course is divided into four units; Introduction to Philosophy; Logic, Argument and Reasoning; Ethics; and Political Philosophy. The study of Philosophy has been shown in research to improve reasoning skills and contribute to the students' ability to think critically. The students engage and contest the validity of ideas, then present their version of the how those ideas are, or are not, valid in the modern world. The students are enthusiastic about their new subject:



*'Discussing problems with no definite ethical answer was a fascinating way to reflect on why we make the choices we do, and what right and wrong really mean to us. We collaborated on the idea of a 'Good Life', considering queries such as "Who determines if a life is good?" and "Is there a deeper purpose to life that could make it good?" We upload our classwork to personal blogs we have created, as we learn to present ideas in a clear and engaging way. The Philosophy course has encouraged us to reflect on ourselves and how we live.'*

**SOPHIE HIRSCHHORN**

*'From Plato's Allegory of the Cave to artificial intelligence, in Year 9 Philosophy we cover a variety of different topics, both modern and timeless, to get our minds thinking creatively and critically. Each lesson we investigate a different philosophical scenario and collaboratively share our different approaches about the problems and expand our ways of thinking.'*

**ARABELLA GRAY**

*'The discussions are great. It's like we have a big mixing pot of everyone's ideas and what they think and we get a lot of different viewpoints in. We see each other's perspectives, and we cover a lot of different topics that can help us in all our subjects, and through our life as well. It's a really diverse area of study.'*

**REN TAN**

## Junior School Learning

### BACK TO SCHOOL



After a fantastic summer we were so happy to have the students back together again. Sparkling shoes, fresh faces, longer uniforms and clean white hats - what a magical start to 2023. Our Kindergarten students began their Loreto Kirribilli journey with a Bright Start, a fun and carefully curated one-on-one session where teacher and student get to know each other with play-based learning and conversation. Our Year 6 buddies were ready and waiting to warmly welcome our 2023 Kindergarten families, as our youngest students stepped through the gates for their first day of school. Parents enjoyed a cup of tea and a catch up afterwards.

### NEW YEAR 4 CLASSROOM



Our Year 4 students had a super surprise on the first day of term – not only did they have a new teacher, Ms Kate Archer, but they were also all set up in their new classroom, which was created during a busy holiday period when the library was reconfigured.

### K-1 GARDENING



Our budding gardeners in Kindergarten and Year 1 were busy planting lettuces, carrots, eggplants and tomatoes in preparation for Vegetable Week at the end of term.

## Junior School Learning

### YEAR 6 CANBERRA



Our Year 6 students enjoyed an action-packed three day visit to our national capital, visiting the National Museum of Australia, Australian War Memorial, Questacon, Mt Ainslie Lookout and Parliament House. Students had a wonderful experience meeting His Excellency Governor General David Hurley and his wife whilst touring Government House.

### YEAR 5 CAMP



Our intrepid Year 5 campers enjoyed two days of high adventure on historic Milson Island on the Hawkesbury River, with canoeing, raft-building, low ropes, a scavenger hunt and making damper, topping the list of favourite activities!

### KYLEA TINK MP



We were delighted to welcome our local Federal MP, Ms Kylea Tink, to the school to address our Year 6 students in the build up to their excursion to our nation's capital. Kylea explained our structures of government and spoke about her role as an independent in Parliament, to help the students understand the democratic process and how our system of Government works.

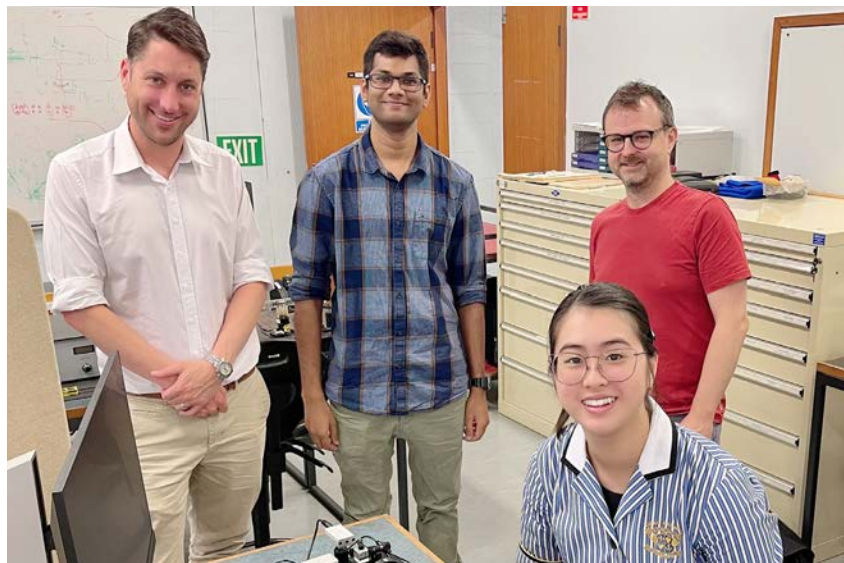
## Senior School Learning



### CHAU CHAK WING

Years 11 and 12 Ancient History students visited the Chau Chak Wing Museum at Sydney University to engage with ancient world artefacts. Our informative resident archaeologist had perceptive insights into the society that would have once used these artefacts.

A few days later our Year 7 historians also visited the museum where they were fascinated by an x-ray exposition of an ancient Egyptian mummy, and were able to examine artefacts from ancient civilisations of Greece, Rome, the Middle East and Egypt.



### SCIENCE EXTENSION

Emma Ko is studying Science Extension for her HSC and has decided to pursue her passion for Physics and complete her major project to investigate quantum cryptography. Quantum cryptography is the science of exploiting quantum mechanical properties (such as quantum entanglement) to encrypt information to keep it secure. After the recent data breaches from Medibank and Optus, this has important implications for the real world. Over the summer holidays, Emma worked with Macquarie University Physicists Associate Professor Thomas Voltz and Dr Harish Vallabhapurapu to model quantum cryptography using lasers and polarisation to send and receive coded messages.

**JOSH CLARKE** *Science Coordinator*



### GEOGRAPHERS IN THE FIELD

Field Work is an important and assessed component of the Stage 6 HSC Geography course. The Urban Places Year 12 case study field trip provided students with a first-hand opportunity to observe Sydney's urban morphology and character and the processes and planning decisions that have shaped the city. Year 11 Geographers braved the rain in the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area to investigate interactions in the biophysical environment, giving the students a deeper understanding of the impact of fire on the biosphere.

**KEITH HOPKINS** *Social Science Coordinator*

## Senior School Learning



### VISUAL ARTS

Year 11 Visual Arts students explored the new spaces at the Art Gallery of NSW's Sydney Modern, expanding their study of modernist and postmodernist art and also viewing the student art works in the 2022 HSC ARTEXPRESS exhibition.

Year 9 Visual Arts students explored printmaking techniques of etching, collagraphy and chine collé in their unit of work Nature - Mapping the Landscape.



### PI DAY

On Tuesday 14 March we celebrated Pi Day and Einstein's birthday.

Students from Years 7 and 8 Mathematics classes had been excitedly waiting for Pi Day ( $\pi = 3.14\dots$ ). Their Mathematics lesson on this day involved discussions about irrational numbers and the history of pi as well as measuring the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. They enjoyed a pi themed cupcake and participated in a Pi Reciting Competition.

Congratulations to the winner of the Pi Reciting Competition, Amelie Elias in Year 7, who wrote pi correctly to 200 decimal places.

The cake decorating competition was enthusiastically entered by a number of students who showed both their mathematical and creative flair for decorating. The winning entry for a very clever mathematical statement and professionally decorated cake was also awarded in Amelie Elias in Year 7. Highly Commended Awards were presented to Jessica Ryan, Alannah Toouli, Sabella Bates, Maya Sullivan, Eleanor Lauren.

**DANIELLE INMAN** *Mathematics Teacher*



# Sustainability

*Loreto Kirribilli is committed to environmental sustainability, inspiring our community to care for our common home by being mindful and informed agents for change.*

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY VISION STATEMENT

### LK KEEP CUP CHALLENGE



This term our JIPCD Environment Council, with our fearless leader Mr Rob Wagner, have been busy. Some of our initiatives are outlined below and we would love your support!

- 1 The **RETURN and EARN bin** has been reinstated, in a central location in the Quad, where students can contribute 10c bottles.
- 2 The **LK Keep Cup Challenge**. The House Captains have been running a 'selfie challenge', where staff and students can show their commitment to sustainability and earn House points by loading images onto a Padlet page!
- 3 **Sushi is now wrapped in paper** (not plastic) in the canteen. Whilst this may not have the shiny nice plastic look that a takeaway shop has, it still tastes the same and is better for the environment.
- 4 **Don't lose your water bottle!** As students seem to lose their water bottle with regularity, which, as you will agree, is a waste to the environment and families, we are encouraging all students to write their name and class on their bottles. Sharpie markers in Circle Classes have helped in this campaign.
- 5 **Give something up for Lent.** Students were encouraged to have a think about what they could give up for Lent that would have an impact on sustainability.

**LUCY POWELL, GEORGINA AUCHTERLONIE, LAUREN BROWN**

*JIPCD Environment Leaders*



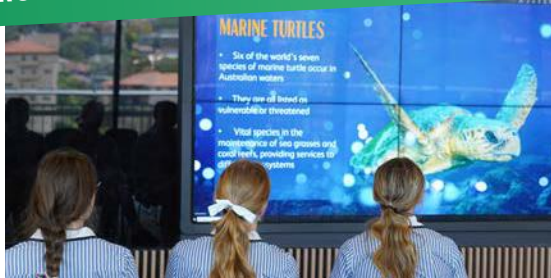
# Sustainability

## NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL COMMUNITY AWARDS



In February 2023, our last year's JPICD Environment Councillors Imogen Wills, Olivia Menzies and Lauren Moloney were recognised at North Sydney Community Awards Day as "Young Achievers" for their contribution to the community and environment. Mrs Mel Smith (our Canteen Manager of eight years) was also nominated and received recognition for her "Eco Warrior" contribution.

## TARONGA CONSERVATION SOCIETY SESSION



In our inaugural Lunchtime Learning in our new Spiritus presentation space, we heard from Belinda Fairbrother, Manager of Guest Learning and Community Impact from Taronga Conservation Society Australia. In her role at Taronga, Belinda is leading the campaign on Litter Free Oceans and reducing single-use plastics. Belinda's thought-provoking presentation outlined the key threats to biodiversity, the global challenge around plastic pollution, and tips to help students be a voice for change.

## ENVIRONMENT LEADERS



Our Environment Leaders and the Environment Committee from St Aloysius' College visited Milson Community Garden where Coordinator Yumi Sakauchi took the students on a tour of the garden and explained how it operates. Students were invited to share ideas on how we could contribute to this community engagement initiative.

# Dance Night

Dance Night 2023 demonstrated once again the amazing talent we have in our school community and the leadership skills of our senior students. The very appreciative audience witnessed the culmination of many hours of dedication and passion for excellence in dance.

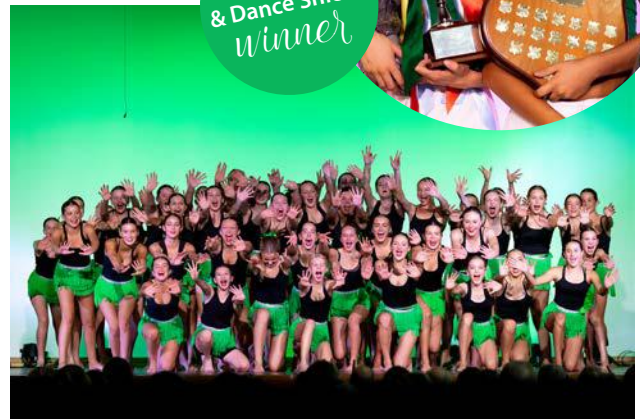
Congratulations to all of the girls who auditioned during the term and those who performed on the night, either as individuals or part of house and dance troupes. Congratulations to Heaton who won both the Spirit Cup and the Dance Shield and will now perform at Music Festival next term.



# Dance Night



Spirit Cup  
& Dance Shield  
winner



# Junior School Swimming Carnival



OPEN 50M FREESTYLE	
1st	Lucy Matthews
2nd	Alexandra Bova
3rd	Francesca Kong
JUNIOR CHAMPION	
1st	Stephanie Wyke
2nd	Arabella Avery
3rd	Edith Kyngdon
SENIOR CHAMPION	
1st	Lucy Matthews
2nd	Alexandra Bova
3rd	Francesca Kong
SPIRIT AWARD	
1st	Ward
CHAMPION HOUSE	
1st	Heaton



# Senior School Swimming Carnival



SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP	
1st	Alice Austin
2nd	Eliza Damian
3rd	Gabrielle Perkins
JUNIOR POINTSCORE	
1st	Eliza Damian
2nd	Madeline Murphy
3rd	Abigail Damian
IMMEDIATE POINTSCORE	
1st	Alice Austin
2nd	Isabelle Bannan
3rd	Ava Garrett
SENIOR POINTSCORE	
1st	Layla Smith
2nd	Sofia Duran
3rd	Charlotte Sutherland
OVERALL POINTSCORE	
1st	Ward
2nd	Milson
3rd	Heaton
4th	Barry
SPIRIT AWARD	
1st	Heaton
2nd	Barry
3rd	Ward
4th	Ward
WATER BALLET	
1st	Barry
2nd	Milson & Ward
3rd	Heaton



# Sport

## WATER POLO



### WARD M'AULEY CUP

For the mere slightest of moments, it looked like one of the laws that govern the universe could be broken as Loreto Kirribilli took on Monte Sant' Angelo in the annual Ward McAuley Cup game between the Senior 1st Water Polo teams of both schools.

As the last quarter of what had been a rugged and see-sawing match began, Loreto Kirribilli was in the unfamiliar position of being behind and Monte could see the very slimmest, dimmest, glimmers of light at the end of a very, very long tunnel.

As the final eight minutes began to play out, the scores were level, 8-8.

The Monte defence was resolute and no options were available. Until, with mere seconds remaining on the clock, the ball fell to Indi Smith. She launched a rocket shot at the Monte goal from an acute angle. Loreto 9. Monte 8. Loreto ecstatic, fans ecstatic.

### CHRIS HOOK

*Water Polo Convenor*



### JUNIOR WATER POLO

Our Years 5 and 6 Water Polo teams have enjoyed a great season of competition.

For their first-ever season, our Year 5 team played exceptionally well, learning the rules and best way to move the ball up the pool as they went, and scoring plenty of goals in the process.

Our Year 6 team were able to work together as a cohesive team to move, pass and challenge the opposition's every move, taking home a few big wins!

## TILDESLEY TENNIS



Game. Set. Match! Our Tildesley Tennis Squad has been working extremely hard over the past two terms, training in anticipation of the two-day tournament. Fielding nine singles players and five doubles pairings, we had some outstanding results. Singles player Alice Denison made it through to Round 4, and in Doubles, two pairings made it through to Round 5! A special shout out to Amelie Collins and Rosie Oxenham (Year 12) who, in their final year of Tildesley Tennis, progressed to Round 5 in the tournament. In their first tournament, Alexandra Birch and Amelia Otter (Year 11) also played some quality tennis to make it through to Round 5.

### YOLANDE JURY

*Tennis Convenor*

# Sport

## TOUCH FOOTBALL



Congratulations to our **LOK 12 Touch Football** who came home with the trophy this season. The entire squad stepped up for this Grand Final win, with special mention to Amy Lloyd who was awarded Best and Fairest of the entire Junior B competition.

All our teams have grown so much in their Touch Football development this term and we look forward to seeing what Term 4 brings. A big thank you to all our supporters, the sidelines were definitely alive with competitive spirit.

**CHRIS FRYAR**

*Touch Football Convenor*

## SWIMMING



Congratulations to Lucy Matthews (Year 6) on her outstanding swimming achievements. Lucy placed 4th in the 11yrs Girls 50m Freestyle at the NSWPSA Swimming Championships in April, and is now representing the state in the NSW Primary Swim team for the 2023 School Sports Australia National Swimming Championships later this year.

## ROWING



Our rowers performed exceptionally well at the 2023 Australian Rowing Championships in Perth. Alyssa Fickers and Libby Carey won Silver in the U19 Double Scull. Alice Watkins won the D Final, Alyssa Fickers came 2nd in the B final and Libby Carey came 4th in the A Final of the Schoolgirls Single Scull. Our U17 Eight also performed well and were just pipped at the finish by Loreto Ballarat to come 4th in the A Final. A great achievement.

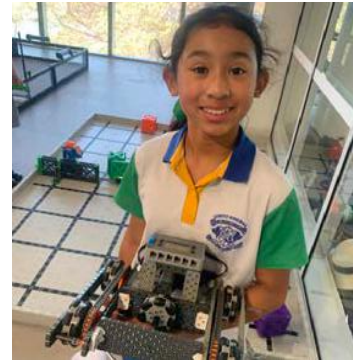
Congratulations to all our rowers this season. A very special thank you to Lachlan Allen in his last season with Loreto Kirribilli as our Head Coach, and Laryssa Biesenthal for her outstanding coaching and leadership of our girls.

**DONNA BAKER**

*Sports Coordinator*

## Extra-Curricular

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### ROBOTICS

Junior School (Years 5 and 6) Robotics students have begun their training for the VEX competition, collaborating in teams to develop their skills in designing, building and coding a robot. The robot must be engineered in a way so that it can manoeuvre elements on the competition field. Our coaches are University of New South Wales and University of Sydney students of Mechatronics, Engineering and Coding.

---



### THE POWER OF SPEECH

It has been a hectic but very focused start to the year for our public speakers with two major competitions this term. More than 20 students have been drafting, refining and performing speeches to audiences of parents, teachers and fellow competitors from schools across Sydney and New South Wales. These competitions give young people the chance to speak their truths, and to encourage their audiences to think and act, from their perspectives on a theme chosen from several possible topics.

In the Catholic Schools' Debating Association Public Speaking Competition, Rosie Khoury in Year 7, along with Dom Elias and Coco Gracie, both from Year 12, made it through to the Finals. Genevieve Hynes of Year 8 achieved a place in the Grand Final, keeping the audience completely engaged with her take on sculpture and how we have the power to shape our own lives through our choices and experiences. Her thoughtful and sophisticated words were awarded 2nd place. Congratulations Genevieve!

Meanwhile, the Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition is underway. This event is run by retired public speakers who want oratory skills to flourish among the younger generation. Six students from Years 7, 8, 10 and 11 competed and gave excellent performances against their peers.

So, a terrific start to Public Speaking in 2023, with many more opportunities to come later in the year.

#### ANTON JARVIS

*Public Speaking Convenor*



# Extra-Curricular

## THEATRESPORTS



The Auditorium resounded with cheers and laughter at this year's amazing Inter-House Theatresports Grand Final, a contest of improvisation, teamwork, vocal techniques, and stage presence. The House Senior and Intermediate teams competed against each other to win trophies for Best Senior Team and Best Intermediate Team. Despite a very busy and complex start to the competition, all Drama leaders demonstrated the qualities that we love in our Loreto Kirribilli student leaders - passion, drive, good humour and exceptional drama skills. Congratulations to all.



Amelia Feeney, Madeleine Hockey, Romy Elliott, Victoria Digges



Coco Gracie, Nicola Bartholomew, Ruby Parker, Camille Perrignon, Piper Anderson



## BELL SHAKESPEARE WORKSHOPS



Loreto Kirribilli, St Aloysius' College and Bell Shakespeare teamed up to create a series of acting workshops at Bell Shakespeare's new studio at Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay. Approximately twenty Drama students from Years 10-12 worked together on short scenes from a range of Shakespeare's plays with a Bell Shakespeare teacher. Workshop activities included such exercises as movement, unpacking Sonnet 116 or the hilarious hurling of Shakespearean insults! A final performance of rehearsed scenes was presented to friends and family at the Walsh Bay studio on Saturday 6 May.

*"You scullion! You rampallian! You fustilarian! I'll tickle your catastrophe!"*

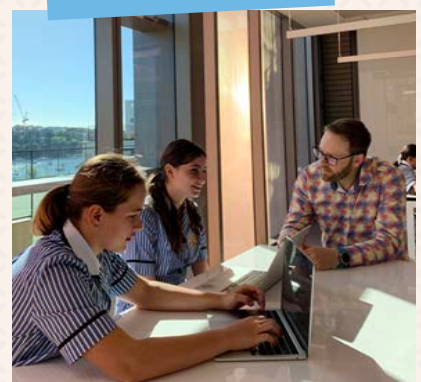
*Henry IV Part 2 (Act 2, Scene 1)*

# Spiritus in Action

WOODWORKING



COLLABORATION



ROBOTICS



# Spiritus in Action



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



VEGGIE PATCH



YOGA



FITNESS SESSIONS





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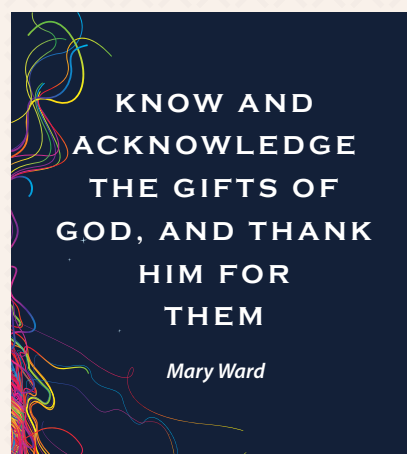
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Andrew and Melissa O'Donnell  
Fiona and Mark O'Farrell  
Dr Niamh Kinchin and Paul Oliver  
Belinda Falsone and Reine Otter  
Phillipa and Mark Oxenham  
Jane and Philip Parker  
Charlie and Catherine Perrignon  
Gabrielle and Simon Pither  
Alex Hill and Cherie Pittman  
Plenary Group Holdings Pty Ltd  
Dr Terrence Poon and Be Be Poon  
David and Kylie Rampa  
Ben Reichel and Assoc Prof Juliette Overland  
Natalie and Damian Reichel  
Reid Family  
Elizabeth Rex and Matthew Craw  
Risbey Family  
Ben and Ania Roberts  
Adrian Robertson and Sonia Hay  
Damienne Cahalan and Tim Robinson  
David and Gaenor Robison  
Rodney and Lisa Rodrigues  
Niall and Adrienne Ronan  
Simon and Kristen Rooney  
Daniel and Di Rose  
Craig and Melinda Ross  
Doug and Amanda Ross  
Rossi Family  
David and Jodie Roughley  
Adam and Margaret Rowilson  
Paul and Trish Russo  
Justin and Joanna Ryan  
Goldman Sachs  
Ros Cameron Salteri  
Gerard and Rebecca Satur  
John and Karen Schembri  
David and Carla Schmidt  
Mark Schnellhaus  
Damian and Frances Scroope  
Angela and Bill Segart  
Senden-White Family

Lachlan and Celia Sheldon  
Michael and Camille Simeon  
Dr Michael Soo and Elliser Soo  
Stanton-Gracie Family  
Scott and Alison Stephens  
Melinda and Mark Stewart  
Lorna Voikin Strickland  
Richard Sutherland  
Paul Svilans and Ieva Lapina  
TAG Family Foundation  
Maggie Leung and Michael Tam  
Jackie Taylor  
Dr Robert and Jodie Tesoriero  
Alexandra and Peter Tiffin  
Kim and Matt Turner  
Ray Uzcilas  
Geoffrey Van Den Bos and Deirdre Duggan  
Anthony and Amy Vass  
James Vella Bardon and Donna Madden  
Penny Virgona  
Michelle and Aaron Wagner  
Mark and Jacqueline Warburton  
Sarah and Anthony Warren  
David Watkins and Trish Daley  
Leigh and Maria Watson  
John and Bianca White  
Justin and Monica Williams  
Matthew and Fiona Williams  
Maureen Williams-Barrow  
Brendan and Justine Wills  
Belinda Wilson  
Felicity Wilson  
David and Jill Wood  
Tom and Dr Sarah Woodbury  
Ben and Yvette Wyeth  
Chris and Anna Wyke  
Kai and Lili Yuan  
Philip and Janelle Zammit  
Catherine Mustaca and Ross Zaurrini  
Melina and Gerry Zipparo



## Parents & Friends



True to style, the 2023 school year began in a fast and furious fashion with our Preloved Uniform Committee hosting the first event of the term - the day before school even started! We were so proud to see so many quality uniforms being re-circulated to thankful families, saving a whole lot of landfill and adding to our fundraising bottom line.

Next up were our Welcome Morning Teas to our families joining in Kindergarten and Years 3, 5 and 7. Welcoming new families into our school community is always such a treat, and who doesn't love a cuppa and a biscuit over which to chat about backgrounds and interests?

On to the Welcome Cocktail Party, where, this year, we were able to up the ante by providing a vista over Sydney Harbour from the sweeping balconies of our very shiny, brand new Spiritus building. The evening was a tremendous success, with not a cloud in the sky.

We switched gear at our next event, celebrating the relationship between fathers, grandfathers and father figures and daughters at our annual Father Daughter Mass. On a sunny Sunday morning, we welcomed over 500 people into the Centenary Hall where mass was celebrated, and thanks was given. Following mass, a team of Year 8 Super Mums cooked up a storm on the BBQ.

## Parents & Friends



SAUSAGE SIZZLE



SERGEANTS' MESS LUNCH



Staying with all things sizzle...our trusty team of lunchtime BBQ'ers gathered to deliver their first Sausage Sizzle of 2023. This trusty crew donned their aprons, tongs, knives and plastic gloves to supply over 700 sausages in bread rolls to our ravenous girls.

To finish off the term we celebrated our much loved P&F Lunch, with 257 guests gathered at Sergeants' Mess to celebrate the spirit of Loreto Kirribilli, hear from the fabulous Grace Brennan (Clark '01) - what a woman! - and fundraise our way towards our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

All of these events couldn't have happened without a team of volunteer helpers behind them. The P&F extends our sincerest of thanks to all these individuals for so generously giving up your time and effort.

If you would like to offer your help as a volunteer, please email [parents@loreto.nsw.edu.au](mailto:parents@loreto.nsw.edu.au)

**ANNEKE SENDEN**  
P&F President

*"Our local bus driver, a mother of three, is also a fire fighter and the local barista."*

**GRACE BRENNAN** #buyfromthebush

# LK Connect

## MENTORING AND NETWORKING PROGRAM



### WILDLIFE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Our latest networking event LK Connect: Wildlife and the Environment was generously hosted by our educational partner Taronga Institute of Science & Learning and current parent Richard Kovacs, Chairman of the Ottomin Foundation. An extraordinary line up of panellists highlighted the variety of roles at Taronga in conservation, research, education and recreation - with the one goal, protecting the environment.

Words of advice were shared by Dr Justine O'Brien, Belinda Fairbrother, Emma Thompson and our own alumni, Rebecca Maas ('87) and Dr Gabrielle Tobias ('88). Each panellist was passionate about their chosen field in wildlife and conservation, and profiled the many twists and turns in their career journey. Our alumni highlighted the generosity of spirit and values they received from a Loreto Kirribilli education, establishing foundations to form good workplace relationships and shared opportunities. All panellists encouraged our students and alumni to embrace volunteer opportunities. The message was clear: *"Persist with your passion to achieve your goals"*. Thank you to our hosts and panellists and Stephanie Hart from the Taronga Foundation for facilitating this event.

LK Connect events provide a corporate platform to mentor and network our alumni, whilst providing opportunities for our current students to explore career avenues in a variety of industries.

A video recording of this evening will be available on our website shortly. We encourage to visit [loreto.nsw.edu.au/connect/lk-connect/](http://loreto.nsw.edu.au/connect/lk-connect/) to review previous networking events.

For further information please email [lkconnect@loreto.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lkconnect@loreto.nsw.edu.au)



# Ex-Students' Union



DRINKS ON THE VERANDAH COCKTAIL PARTY



We commenced the year with a Spirituality Day, this time celebrating the Spirituality of Song. Ably lead by Josie Ryan ('88) with guest appearances by Sr Deirdre Brown ibvm OAM and ex-students Marnie Rowe ('91) and Natalija Lambert ('22), it was a beautiful, musical morning with almost 30 ex-students aged from 19 to 90 enjoying a fabulously uplifting experience.

Our Cocktail Party - Drinks on the Verandah was an opportunity for ex-students of all ages to come together and mingle with friends from other year groups as well as other Loreto friends. We are also very happy to be able to share our events with and be supported by the P&F Association.

The 40th annual Mother Daughter Mass is just around the corner and we look forward catching up with many of you there. This special tradition was initiated back in 1983, by sisters Deirdre Manning (Burke '60) and Mary Wales (Burke '64). Little did they know how well loved and supported it would become all these years later.

Theatre Party for 2023 is The Sound of Music, on Sunday 21 May. This is the 18th time Loreto Kirribilli and Normanhurst have come together to raise funds for Mary Ward International (MWIA) in this way, wonderfully organised over all those years by Ruth Tighe (Kirribilli) and Patsy Shannon (Normanhurst). In almost 20 years we estimate they have raised over \$75,000 for MWIA.

The annual Card Day for 2023 is on again at Killara Golf Club, on Thursday 15 June. Tickets include morning tea, plenty of cards and a delicious lunch. Tickets on sale in May. Keep an eye on our social media or contact us via the email below for details.

Federation 2024 will be held at Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak with dates and details yet to be announced.

**CELIA SHELDON** (Roberts '88) Loreto Kirribilli Ex-Students' Union President  
For further information please email [exstudents@loreto.nsw.edu.au](mailto:exstudents@loreto.nsw.edu.au)

Follow us to stay up to date with the latest Loreto Kirribilli Ex-students Union news



loretokirribilli\_exstudents



Loreto Kirribilli Ex-students Union

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Mother Daughter Mass

Sunday 7 May

### Theatre Party

Sunday 21 May

Chatswood Concourse

### Card Day

Thursday 15 June

Killara Golf Club

### Federation 2024

Loreto Mandeville Hall

Toorak, Melbourne



We finally had our Class of 1960 Reunion, 63 years since we left Kirribilli! Much chit chat and catching up occurred. A special moment was the cutting of the Loreto cake with us all singing Queen of Loreto.

Deirdre Crichton-Browne ('60)

# Sharing Our Community

## VALE JANET COOMBS AM ('48) 1932-2022



*Far left: Janet Coombs with her Dame of the Order of St Gregory the Great Medal.*

*Left: Portrait of Janet Coombs 'One of the Girls' by Mario Telese. COURTESY OF THE NSW BAR ASSOCIATION.*

*Above: A trailblazer in a man's world. Janet Coombs at a Bar Association Dinner in 1972. COURTESY OF THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD.*

Last year, our community was saddened to hear of the death of Janet Coombs AM, a giant amongst the legal fraternity in Sydney, a trailblazer for women at the bar, and a champion for civil rights.

Janet Coombs graduated from Loreto Kirribilli in 1948, in a post war era where women's options were usually limited to teaching, nursing, marriage or the sisterhood. Instead Janet embraced the law, inspired by the law books of friends of her father, who was the economist and first Governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr HC (Nugget) Coombs.

Janet was admitted as a barrister on 13 March 1959 at the age of 27, the eighth woman in New South Wales to be called to the bar. Rather than being discouraged by the cold reception from some of her male colleagues, Janet built a flourishing practice and a fearsome reputation. Her particular interests included Canon Law, civil matters, moral standards and the status of women. Barrister Michael McCauley from the St Thomas More Society remembers his friend fondly, saying:

*"Janet was fearless in pursuing the true and the good. She was outspoken, and suffered for this. Yet Janet was forgiving, always warm, never bitter, always generous... She was a feminist before many had heard of feminism".*

Janet became a champion for young female barristers, mentoring, offering them the use of her chambers and

taking them out to lunch. That lunch has developed into a tradition, the Janet Coombs Annual Lunch for New Female Barristers.

Janet was also a fervent and open-hearted Catholic. She received the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Award for her long service the St Thomas More Society, and was made Dame Grand Cross of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. In 2021, she was honoured by Pope Francis with a Dame of the Order of St Gregory the Great, in recognition of her charitable activities and her dedication to the pursuit of justice.

In 1997 Janet was made Member of the Order of Australia (AM), and in 1998 she retired as the longest-serving female barrister in NSW. She will be remembered as the trailblazer who made the path easier for the scores of women who have followed in her footsteps to the bar.

### References

Malcolm Brown, 'Coombs, Janet Viola (1932–2022)', *Obituaries Australia*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University.

Michael McCauley, 'Vale Janet Coombs AM', *St Thomas More Society*.

## Sharing Our Community

### MAEVE O'MEARA OAM ('77)



Founder of Gourmet Safaris, and award-winning food and cooking author, broadcaster and television producer, Maeve O'Meara is no stranger to the spotlight. Last year she was distinguished with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to the food media industry.

After a lifetime of enjoying exploring food and cuisines, Maeve is deeply appreciative of the award. "Receiving recognition for a life's work is wonderful," acknowledges Maeve, who is also an ambassador for the Sydney charity OzHarvest.

*"One of my best congratulations came from our Loreto Kirribilli Home Science teacher Sister Agnes (Margaret Scully) who I'm in contact with after she phoned in to a Melbourne radio station when I was being interviewed, reminding me of our sunny room with ovens and benches where we made useful things like scones. Not a hint of spice or other cultures back then!"*

*"Coming out of high school, we felt that anything we put our minds to, we could do... it was a great start to life. I also have to say that one of my life's achievements is the friends from those school years who are still a treasured part of my life."*

### ADRIENNE LOWE OAM (DODDS '80)



When Adrienne Lowe OAM (Dodds '80) was a student at Loreto Kirribilli, she was given some advice she has never forgotten. "Sr Paula told us, 'Do your best, no matter what you choose to do'"

Adrienne has followed this advice in a lifelong career that has gone from swim coach, to surf life saver, to Bronze Medallion Training Officer, to Sydney Northern Beaches Branch Director of Education, and in 2022, recipient of a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to Surf Life Saving.

A highly experienced and skilled educator, Adrienne has trained countless volunteers in life saving and first aid awards and has held just about every role at her club, Dee Why Surf Life Saving Club, including President!

Adrienne would like her OAM Award to send a message about achievement to the students of today as well. "You don't have to be dux or the top of the class. There are plenty of things you can do."

The values Adrienne learnt at Loreto Kirribilli have stayed with her. "Those years at high school really formulate your values, and the friends I had at Loreto are still my friends today."

## Ex-Students' News

### ENGAGEMENTS

Maddie Perkins ('10)

Louisa Cheok ('14)

### WEDDINGS

Mikaela Samios ('13) to John Weston

Georgina Mesa ('13) to James Clarke

### BIRTHS | DAUGHTERS

Felicity Madeleine to Ellen Marlow (McFarlane '03)

Isla Tan to Kimberly Piddington (Kishore '05)

### BIRTHS | SONS

Sebastian Francis to Rachel Riseley (Surgeon '01)

Maxwell Pierce Rivett to Isabelle O'Connor ('04)

Benjamin Peter to Mikaela Weston (Samios '13)

### DEATHS | EX-STUDENTS

Pauline Doyle (Jenkins '43), sister of Margaret Young (Jenkins '39), Molly Barry (Jenkins '47) and Judith White (Jenkins '50)

Mary Barneveld (Murphy '47)

Claire Jenkins (Larkin '48), sister of Anne McAuliffe (Larkin '53) (dec) and Sue Wilkins (Larkin '57), mother of Maria Hobson (Jenkins '75) and Margaret Reynolds (Jenkins '86), grandmother of Emily Hobson ('05), Elizabeth Jenkins ('13) and Sophia Reynolds ('20), sister-in-law of Gwenda Jenkins ('47) (dec)


Roslyn Griffiths (Cregan '64), sister of Janet Bohane (Cregan '62), niece and ward of Joan Bradley ('36) (dec) and Betty Bradley (Dempsey '31) (dec), cousin of Virginia Armytage (Bradley '56) (dec), Margo Wood (Bradley '58) (dec) and Rosemary Limn (Bradley '62)

### DEATHS | RELATIVES OF EX-STUDENTS

Eric Cannell, husband of Lucie Cannell (O'Connor '98), son-in-law to Maureen O'Connor (Larbalestier '73), and brother-in-law to Alicia O'Connor ('00) and Isabell O'Connor ('04)

Vivienne Kissane, mother of Sally Darrow (Kissane '86) and Katy Sheil (Kissane '90) and grandmother of Imogen Sheil (Year 9)

Bruce Dixon, father of Amanda Sheridan (Dixon '88), grandfather of Elise Dixon ('17) and Mim Dixon ('19)



AN EDUCATION FOR OTHERS

**THE LORETO KIRRIBILLI BURSARY FUND**

*This new tax-deductible fund will enable girls from diverse backgrounds to benefit from a Loreto Kirribilli education. Whilst our girls are privileged to receive a Loreto Kirribilli education, it also becomes a responsibility for us to give back to others less fortunate and embrace the true meaning of community.*

To make a tax-deductible contribution to the new Bursary Fund please visit [www.loreto.nsw.edu.au](http://www.loreto.nsw.edu.au)

THE SPIRIT OF *giving*