



spirit

ISSUE 97 April 2025

LORETO KIRRIBILLI



FRONT COVER: Year 5 students Emily and Zoe explore the constellations and patterns in the stars with an interactive planetarium.
FROM THE ARCHIVES: The Junior School has often had a starring role on the cover of Spirit magazine! From left: Junior School celebrates Loreto Week, November 1994; Students from Kindergarten with the Fire Brigade, October 2004; Centenary of Mother Gonzaga Barry's Death, April 2015; Year 2 celebrate a special TuTu day (22.02.2022) April 2022.



LORETO KIRRIBILLI

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SUSTAINABLE SPIRIT

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

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

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

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



New Staff,
Term 1



First Day
Term 1



Year 12 Common
Room Opening



Junior School
Verity Sessions



Twilight
Tour



Junior School
Tech and STEM Day



Year 2
Kirribilli Walk



Year 1 Prayers
to the Loreto Sisters



Wellbeing
Lunchtime Activities



Year 7
Family Mass



loretokirribilli



Loreto Kirribilli



LoretoKirribilliSchool

A Message from the Principal

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

STRATEGIC VISION 2025 - 2028

In setting the direction for Loreto Kirribilli over the next four years, we are very excited to share with our community the new *Strategic Vision 2025-2028: Women in Time: Deepening Hearts and Minds*.

At Loreto Kirribilli, our vision is to offer a Catholic education that liberates, empowers, and motivates students to use their gifts with confidence, creativity, and generosity. A vigorous belief in the capacity and responsibility of women to contribute significantly to society underlies our emphasis on the education of girls.

Our focus is to develop students who are socially just, globally aware, and ethically minded; learners who are curious in their pursuit of educational, personal, and spiritual growth. Thus, our Strategic Vision, centred on Catholic Education in the Mary Ward Tradition, is aimed at developing students to be women of influence and change. In achieving this, we acknowledge the importance of qualities such as confidence and resilience. We embrace the factors that lead to personal growth: learning through inquiry, innovation, and creativity. We recognise that our best outcomes are supported by a focus on communication and collaboration. These in turn allow us to develop the attributes of leadership needed to be women of positive influence within our local and global communities.

We are committed to our practices and programs being guided by this vision, ensuring our students remain at the centre of all that we do. By supporting our staff in their professional growth, we continue to deliver best-practice outcomes for the girls in our care.

Our Strategic Vision will be brought to life through annual strategies developed by staff and aimed at ensuring the deepening of our students' hearts and minds so that they become women of faith and action.

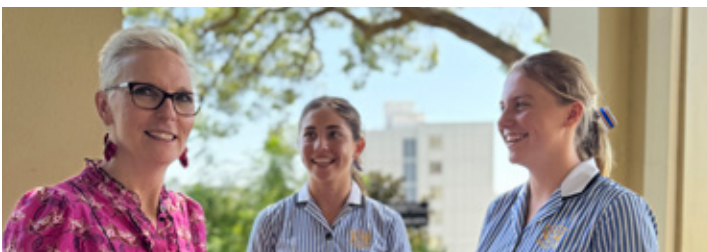


To assist us in implementing the Strategic Vision we have also developed the Loreto Kirribilli Education Framework. This framework provides a clear platform to:

- Articulate the School's underlying beliefs and values about education to students, teachers, and parents.
- Set the direction for learning, wellbeing, mission, and professional practice, thus ensuring the intent of the Strategic Vision is reflected in all programs and practices across the school.
- Provide a consistency of language so that we can share a common understanding.
- Respond to developments in education and the changing needs of learners so that the education we deliver to our girls is always reflective of best practice.

Whilst there will be many ways in which the Strategic Vision and Education Framework will be brought to life, the importance of these documents lies in providing a clear guiding map for our school, thus leading to a shared understanding of purpose and practice.

Page 22: Bringing the Framework to life



MEET KIRRI

At the beginning of the school year we launched Kirri, a new school system designed for parents, students and staff. These updates reflect our commitment to improving the way we share information and connect with our school community. Kirri replaces CH@LK Plus and is designed to simplify navigation, reduce duplication, and provide a clear K-12 structure.



In Loving Memory

SISTER MARY WRIGHT IBVM | 1945 – 2025

It is with great sadness that the Loreto Sisters of Australia and South East Asia announce the death of Sr Mary Wright ibvm, former Province Leader and Institute Leader, on 29 March 2025.

Mary was a remarkable woman, known both nationally and internationally as an educator, leader, canon lawyer, writer, facilitator and board director. As a Loreto sister, she was at various times, Principal of Loreto Schools, Province Consultor, Province Bursar, Province Leader, Delegate to Chapters and Congregations, and Institute Leader.

Mary began her life in Melbourne, the second of seven siblings born to Molleen and Davern Wright. She was educated at Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak and following a year studying medicine at university, she entered the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Loreto Sisters) in 1965.

After her first profession of vows in the Institute, Mary completed a Bachelor of Science, a Master of Science and a Diploma of Education. She worked at various Loreto Schools in Australia as a teacher and boarding school supervisor, inspiring countless students with her ever-curious mind and passion for learning.

In 1977, Mary was appointed Principal of Loreto Mary's Mount Ballarat, marking the beginning of a long and distinguished career in leadership and administration.



Mary was a 'renaissance woman'; knowledgeable, cultured and proficient in a wide range of fields.

Mary came to Sydney and served as Principal of Loreto Kirribilli from 1981 until 1985.

In 1987 Mary pursued a doctorate in canon law at the University of St Paul in Ottawa and went on to practise canon law in Australia and Rome.

Mary was appointed as Province Leader in 1996 and later elected as Institute Leader, serving in this latter position for eight years. After her term in Rome, Mary returned to Australia, and from her base in Melbourne, continued to work, both nationally and internationally, as a canonist, facilitator, presenter and board director.

Mary was a 'renaissance woman'; knowledgeable, cultured and proficient in a wide range of fields. Her commanding intellect and natural authority combined with her enviable ability to communicate profound and complex matters with refreshing clarity and simplicity made her a highly sought-after

adviser and speaker. Alongside her incisive intellect, Mary had a deep faith reflected in her motto "Come Lord Jesus," an abiding freedom "to refer all to God", practical compassion and a great capacity to enjoy life.

In November 2023 Mary was once again appointed the Leader of the Province of Australia and South East Asia; a position she held until January 2025 when she resigned due to ill health.

Mary's recent months were marked by illness, which she faced with remarkable grace and quiet dignity. She died peacefully, leaving behind a legacy of expertise, wisdom, generosity, and deep grounded faith.

Mary was a true Mary Ward woman. We celebrate her life and give thanks for her immeasurable contribution to the Province, the global Institute, the Church, and the wider community.

May she now rest in peace.
Sr Helen Maquire ibvm

Circle of Friends



Beginning with Mary Ward's 'Circle of Friends' more than 400 years ago, Loreto schools and communities around the world have forged close ties. In Australia, our schools connect through Principals' meetings, the Loreto Schools Australia Committee, and student initiatives such as Mary Ward Connect and our recent Year 6 'Circle of Friends' gathering in Canberra. Meanwhile, our ex-student community are connected with reunions, Young Loreto get-togethers, LK Connect events, and our bi-annual coming together of ex-students from around Australia, Loreto Federation. This gathering was the brainchild of Mother Gonzaga Barry, who had a vision for a 'federation' of ex-students throughout Australia 'for a noble end... for the cause of common sense and usefulness.' As we celebrate 150 years of Loreto in Australia, we salute our visionary foundress, Mary Ward, and her brave and inspired servant, Gonzaga Barry, who brought Loreto from Ireland and was responsible for the establishment of Catholic primary and secondary schools around Australia, including Loreto Kirribilli. Her vision for the education of girls contributed to a broad and rich curriculum and she had a significant influence on the development of education in this country.



Celebrating 150 Years of the Loreto Sisters in Australia

LINDA WALBURN | ASSISTANT HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



A MEMORABLE TRIP TO BALLARAT

This year marks a significant milestone in the history of Loreto in Australia - 150 years since the arrival of the Loreto Sisters in Ballarat, led by Mother Gonzaga Barry. To honour this occasion, I was able to accompany Dr Nicole Archard to Ballarat for a series of celebrations that paid tribute to the incredible legacy of the Sisters and their contribution to education in Australia.

Our visit to Loreto College Ballarat allowed us to walk through the historic classrooms, grounds and chapel where the Loreto story first began in this country. The school's deep sense of history and tradition was evident in the beautifully preserved buildings, as well as in the warmth and enthusiasm of the Loreto Ballarat students and staff who welcomed us.

The special exhibition provided an inspiring insight into the journey of the Loreto Sisters over the past 150 years. Through historical photographs, documents, and artifacts, we were able to reflect on the courage, vision, and dedication of these pioneering women. The beautiful mannequins, draped with printed skirts from every Loreto school, and Perspex story boxes served as a powerful reminder of how the Sisters' commitment to education and justice continues to shape the lives of young people today.

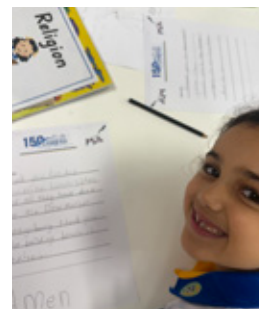
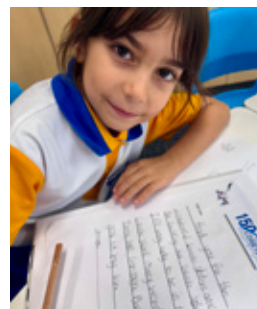
Another standout moment was the moving performance of *Serious Business*, a drama production depicting the life and work of Mother Gonzaga Barry with a contemporary flavour. This powerful piece brought to life the challenges and triumphs of her mission, highlighting her resilience and unwavering faith in the transformative power of



education. Seeing history so vividly portrayed on stage was both inspiring and deeply emotional.

Beyond the formal events, this trip provided me with a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow Loreto educators and share in the joy of this significant anniversary. The spirit of Mary Ward's vision - one of strong, compassionate, and determined women - was felt in every conversation, every shared story, and every moment of reflection on the past and future of Loreto education.

It was an honour to be part of such a special occasion and to celebrate the enduring legacy of the Loreto Sisters in Australia. A huge congratulations to Sr Sandra Perrett and her team for the preparation and outstanding delivery of such a special exhibition. We look forward to welcoming our community when the exhibition opens at Loreto Kirribilli on Monday 5 May at 5pm.



FOOD TECH BAKES LORETO BROWN BREAD

A part of our celebrations of 150 Years of Loreto in Australia, Year 12 Food Technology students prepared loaves of traditional Loreto Brown Bread, using the generations-old recipe attributed to Sr Bernarda ibvm. Loreto Brown Bread, similar to Irish soda bread, was a cherished Loreto tradition that was regularly served to boarders. Year 12 students described it as a hearty, rustic hybrid of scones and soda bread, with a dense yet tender crumb and a light crisp exterior. The recipe can be found in the *Felicity of Food Cookbook* and on a special recipe card designed by Rachel Flynn at Red Tractor Designs (Loreto Normanhurst alumnae).

RACHEL NOONAN
TAS Coordinator

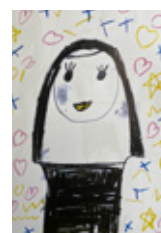


YEAR 1 LEARN ABOUT OUR PIONEERS

Our students are preparing for the event, learning about our pioneering sisters, their journey from Ireland, and the many achievements of their leader, Mother Gonzaga Barry. Year 1 students were practising their writing and spelling by composing some special prayers for those brave Loreto sisters.

"Thank you for the wonderful Loreto sisters for building us the Loreto school!"

SOFIA, YEAR 1



Sharing our Faith



ASH WEDNESDAY

Students marked the first day of Lent with reflection, prayer and the distribution of ashes during our Ash Wednesday Liturgies. Our Student Leaders also launched Project Compassion for 2025, with the theme 'Unite Against Poverty'.



FATHERS AND DAUGHTERS

It was standing room only at our annual Father Daughter Mass and Morning Tea, a celebration for our girls and their fathers, grandfathers and father figures. Thank you to Fr Brett O'Neill SJ for celebrating Mass, and Andrew Couper and his daughter Charlotte for an inspiring address about the bonds between fathers and daughters. Afterwards, dads and daughters enjoyed a sausage sizzle prepared by the mums. Matthew Talbot Hostel in Darlinghurst was grateful for a surprise delivery of barbecued sausages and fresh bread rolls.

Sharing our Faith

A CELEBRATION OF VERITY

Our Opening School Mass in Centenary Hall marked the beginning of our new school year with the theme of Verity, and the beginning of our celebrations of 150 years of Loreto Education in Australia. Fr Ramesh Richards SJ led our entire school community, including students from Kindergarten to Year 12, staff, and special guests including IBVM sisters, members of the Board, and P&F and ex-student representatives. The Mass concluded with a special blessing for new students, welcoming them into the Loreto family and encouraging them to embrace the challenges and opportunities of the new school year.

JOSIE RYAN
Liturgist

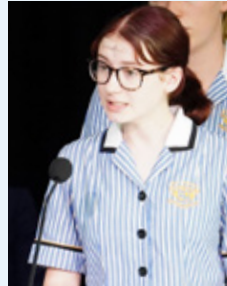
VERITY, VIBES AND VINYLs

Our Junior School Values Leaders launched their 'Verity Vibes' campaign with a heartwarming 'vox-pop' video (with mascot Verity in a starring role) filmed around the classes, asking "What does Verity mean to you?" We were also delighted to welcome two very special guests, Loreto sisters Sr Geraldine McAleer ibvm and Sr Maria Hyland ibvm, who were visiting from Rathfarnham in Ireland for the 150 Years of Loreto in Australia celebrations. The sisters spoke to the girls about our worldwide Loreto family, and Sister Maria reminded the girls, "Once a Loreto student, always a Loreto student."

In the Senior School, the Student Exec launched their 'Verity Vinyls' DJ deck, with the promise of plenty of happy tunes being added to the mix as we celebrate the year of Verity.



Social Justice K-12



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

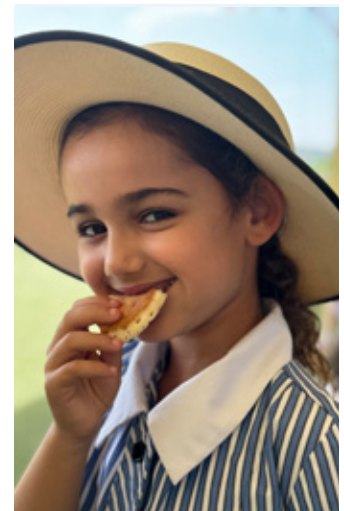
International Women's Day is not just a day of celebration, it is also a day of action and awareness. Seeing our Student Leaders unpack complex issues at the Senior School Assembly was inspiring.

School Vice Captain Eva Eales spoke of the need for action. "On International Women's Day, we're called to do more than just acknowledge the fight for gender equality. We need to turn our ambitions into actions... The theme of IWD this year is *#AccelerateAction*, which highlights the urgency of making real progress. At the current rate, it will take until 2158 - five generations from now - to reach gender parity. We know that change isn't automatic; it requires effort and commitment from all of us."

First Councillor, Romy Elliot, mentioned some ways our young women can get involved. "As Loreto students, we have a unique opportunity. Our education equips us not just with knowledge but with the ability to influence change. Through initiatives like Benenson, Community Service, and Model UN, we can use our voices to challenge inequalities and push for progress."

ROMALINA ROCCA

Deputy Principal



PROJECT COMPASSION

Shrove Tuesday heralds the beginning of Lent, and Student Leaders held the traditional pancake sale to raise funds for Project Compassion. This Lenten charity, run by Caritas, helps support people living in some of the most vulnerable communities across the world. During our Ash Wednesday Liturgies, students heard some of the stories of the people supported by Project Compassion. These powerful stories help us to understand the lives of those we are helping.



TOEFUATA'IGA'S STORY



Toefuata'iga, a 13-year-old student in Samoa, faced severe challenges and disruptions to her learning due to water scarcity. After Caritas Australia's partner Caritas Samoa installed a 10,000-litre water tank at her school, Toefuata'iga and her classmates saw improved health and more consistent class attendance.

Social Justice K-12



CANA COMMUNITIES

We were pleased to welcome guest speakers David and Julie from Cana Communities and Nagle House for a Social Awareness Live at Lunch session. Milson House student leaders organised the talk to raise awareness for their chosen charity, Nagle House, a shelter providing vital support for women fleeing unsafe circumstances or returning to society. Julie and David shared their insights and deepened the girls' understanding of this inspiring organisation.



GOOD SPORTS FOR CHARITY

Milson House student leaders organised a lunchtime Teacher vs Student Theatresports event, which proved to be a sellout! The entire Auditorium was filled with students who were laughing as much as the performers on stage. It was all in the name of raising funds for the Milson House charity, Cana Communities' Nagle House. And the winner of this close-fought competition was... the students, by one point!



EASTER EGG DRIVE

This Easter, Junior School once again supported Meals on Wheels with an Easter Egg Drive. The egg-sellent initiative helps to spread some joy at Easter time. Thank you to all our junior School families who responded so generously!



An Ex-Student Advocates for Change

After the tragic and avoidable death of her son Joe at Northern Beaches Hospital in September last year, ex-student Louise Hahn ('05) and her husband Danny Massa launched a campaign for change. They sought to prohibit the kind of public-private partnership arrangements that led to the failures in the emergency care provided to their son that day. The result of their advocacy is Joe's Law, which was introduced into state parliament in late March. Louise tells her story here, and reveals how the teachings of Mary Ward continue to inspire her.



On 20 February 2025 we shared our story about Joe's tragic and avoidable death with Ben Fordham on Radio 2GB. This was the first step on our journey of advocating for meaningful change and accountability in our healthcare system in NSW.

Just over one month later we were standing side by side with Premier Chris Minns and Health Minister Ryan Park as we announced Joe's Law, a Legislative change to prohibit new public-private partnership arrangements for the provision of acute hospitals and services including emergency services, surgical services, in-patient services to public patients.

I have always been guided by the wisdom of Mary Ward, and in the

months prior to sharing our story, I drew an enormous amount of strength by being a Loreto woman who *acts not out of fear, but solely from love...* (MW 1615). Our endless and deep love for Joe drove this campaign and continues to propel us forward.

During that first day of media, I asked every single person in NSW and beyond to stand with us in seeking justice, truth, and systemic reform. And that is exactly what has and is transpiring.

The Health Services Amendment (PPP Prohibition) Bill 2025 is revolutionary and groundbreaking. It is the first Bill of its kind in Australia with other countries looking on from afar as Australia aims to deliver world-class healthcare.

We welcomed and congratulated the government on putting forward a vitally important Bill to prohibit new public-private partnership arrangements.

This legislation affirms the dignity and honours the humanity of every single person in NSW. It needs to be enacted swiftly, without delay, and with political agendas cast to the side.

We are resetting our moral compass on what is and what is not acceptable in our public healthcare system. Joe's Law shines a light on the shadows we need to see and will ensure our healthcare in NSW does not go down the path of a private-public partnership ever again that puts profit before community safety.

**JOE'S LAW – STAND
WITH US IN SEEKING
JUSTICE, TRUTH, AND
SYSTEMIC REFORM**

**A Bill for An Act to amend
the Health Services Act
1997 to prohibit new
public-private partnership
arrangements for the
provision of acute hospitals
and services; and for
related purposes.**



No good government policy change can happen without telling the truth. We must work together to seek justice for Joe so that this cannot happen to another child.

Danny and I are stopped daily by community members offering their heartfelt support.



In difficult times, I choose to focus on doing good, holding onto the belief that this, too, shall pass. Life may not unfold exactly as I wish, but I trust I'll be given what I need to give it my best.

This perspective leads me to trust in the promise of 2 Corinthians 4:8–10: *We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed...*



Joe's Law is vital to safeguarding and protecting our most vulnerable, especially those who can't speak up for themselves - our babies, toddlers, and elderly people - and for every person in our state who deserves to be supported by a safe and robust healthcare system. We have nothing without good health.

With Mary Ward's teachings etched in my mind when we speak about Joe, I refer to this passage which resonates with me deeply.

Grounded in the virtues of freedom, justice and sincerity, we shall gain God's gift of true wisdom and all that you need. Mary Ward 1615

Stay with us, Joe. Be with us forever and transform us.

ELOUISE HAHN ('05)

Wellbeing in the Junior School

JENNIFER YEH | MANDARIN TEACHER



HARMONY DAY

Junior School celebrated Harmony Day with a very cultural assembly with special guests parents, St Aloysius' College SRC students and Junior School Principal Mr El-Khoury.

Demonstrating a spirit of unity, respect, and cultural appreciation, Language students read prayers in Italian, French, Mandarin, Korean

and Indonesian. Year 1 students performed *Hello from All Over the World*. Then the assembly was filled with excitement as students participated in the super-fun Korean paper-rock-scissors 'Gawi-bawi-bo' game and chant.

It was amazing to see our students and staff proudly dressed in their special cultural costumes,

showcasing the rich and vibrant heritage of our school community. The colours, traditions, and stories shared truly highlighted the importance of embracing and celebrating our differences.

The day was topped off with a delicious sausage sizzle for lunch, provided by our amazing P&F.

Wellbeing in the Junior School

LINDA WALBURN | ASSISTANT HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



YEAR 5 HAVE AN ADVENTURE

Our intrepid Year 5 campers enjoyed two days of high adventure at the Collaroy Outdoor Education Camp, with abseiling, rock climbing, high ropes course, orienteering, laser tag, disco and more! 84 students, eight teachers and too much fun!



KINDNESS WORKSHOP

Our Year 6 School Leaders and Value Leaders joined students from St Ignatius' College, Riverview and St Aloysius' College for a Junior School 'b kinder' workshop with Dr Mark Williams, neuroscientist and bestselling author, and Danny Mayson-Kinder, the founder of the 'b kinder' program.



SPENDING TIME WITH BUDDIES

One of the highlights for our Year 6 and Kindergarten students is the opportunity to spend time with their Buddies, especially when our mascot Verity joins in the fun.

Wellbeing in the Senior School

CAMPS, RETREATS & PASTORAL DAYS



YEAR 7 CAMP



YEAR 8 CAMP



YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH



YEAR 11 RETREAT



Wellbeing in the Senior School

CAMPS, RETREATS & PASTORAL DAYS



YEAR 10 PASTORAL DAYS



Here
doo)
Here
and I



YEAR 12 RETREAT



Class of 2024

MATHEW CLAUSEN | DIRECTOR OF TEACHING & LEARNING

It is with great excitement that we share the outstanding HSC results from the Class of 2024. We are proud of these achievements, which reflect the girls' perseverance and hard work. These results would not be possible without the dedication and expertise of our exceptional teachers who have worked tirelessly with the girls to reach their full potential. Loreto Kirribilli was ranked 20th in The Sydney Morning Herald school list, making us the highest-ranked Catholic girls' school and second highest Catholic school in NSW. This is an outstanding achievement for a non-selective comprehensive school.

It is also with great pleasure that we announce Sarah D'Mello as Dux for 2024 with an ATAR of 99.85.

HSC STATE PLACINGS

The following girls were named as Top Achievers, attaining a top ten State placing:

Isabella Beverley	1st place English Standard
Alyssa Horan	1st place Italian Extension
Sian Egerton	5th place Dance (external)
Maria Wetherill	5th place Dance (external)
Sage Liew	5th place English Standard
Sybilla Delaney	6th place Studies of Religion II
Amelia Reichel	7th place Studies of Religion I
Chloe Cameron	10th place English Standard

ATAR RESULTS

Loreto Kirribilli students achieved the following ATAR results:

7% of students received an ATAR over 99
12% of students received an ATAR over 98
20% of students received an ATAR over 97
32% of students received an ATAR over 95
58% of students received an ATAR over 90
83% of students received an ATAR over 80



HSC ALL ROUNDERS

We congratulate the fifteen students who placed on the NSW HSC All Rounders list with ten units or more with a Band 6 or E4 result. They are:



Alice Austin



Georgina de Flamingh



Lily Kevans



Emma Bunbury



Sybilla Delaney



Olivia Neufeld



Chloe Cameron



Charlotte Dwyer



Amelia Otter



Sarah D'Mello



Lilli Hassanein



Annabelle Ross



Emily D'Souza



Alyssa Horan



Sophie Wagner

20

NSW RANKING
BY SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

99.85

DUX OF THE SCHOOL

7

STUDENTS ATTAINED AN
ATAR OF 99+

74%

STUDENTS PLACED ON THE
DISTINGUISHED
ACHIEVERS LIST

1

TOP PERFORMING
CATHOLIC GIRLS'
SCHOOL IN NSW

97.45%

OF STUDENTS ACHIEVED
A RESULT IN
BANDS 5 OR 6

HSC SUBJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The following courses achieved outstanding results:

- 87.5% of Ancient History students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 36.84% of the State.
- 79.99% of Business Studies students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 37.07% of the State.
- 100% of Drama students achieved a Band 6 result compared to 22.94% of the State.
- 100% of Economics students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 51.47% of the State.
- 87.49% of Geography students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 37.72% of the State.
- 96.29% of Legal Studies students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 43.22% of the State.
- 97.0% of Modern History students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 38.93% of the State.
- 100% of Music 1 students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 67.22% of the State.
- 83.86% of PDHPE students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 34.61% of the State.
- 79.99% of Studies of Religion I students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 43.65% of the State.
- 78.46% of Studies of Religion II students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 46.6% of the State.
- 100% of Visual Arts students achieved a Band 5/6 result compared to 66.75% of the State.

NOMINATIONS

In recognition of courses with practical components, the following students were nominated in their various fields:

ARTEXPRESS (Visual Arts)

- Heidi Ahrens
- Freya Bateman
- Isabella Beverley
- Beatrix Farley
- Natalia Honan *selected*
- Billie Hurley
- Alice Kearney
- Olivia Kiely *selected*
- Caoimhe Oliver *selected*
- Abigail Porter
- Jessica Rich
- Emilia Rigoli
- Zoe Ryan
- Sienna Shirvington
- Amelia Zammit

Callback (Dance)

Core Performance

- Isabella Beverley
- Stella Cooper
- Sian Egerton *selected as reserve*
- Lilli Hassanein
- Maria Wetherill *selected as reserve*

Callback (Dance)

Core Composition

- Sian Egerton *selected as reserve*
- Lilli Hassanein
- Maria Wetherill *selected as reserve*

Callback (Dance)

Major Study Performance

- Isabella Beverley
- Stella Cooper
- Sian Egerton *selected as reserve*
- Lilli Hassanein
- Maria Wetherill *selected to perform*

Encore (Music)

- Greta Elliott
- Sage Liew
- Phoebe Lill

OnSTAGE (Drama)

Individual Performance

- Olivia Arthur
- Allanah Davies
- Harriet Dinning
- Zoe Gelagin
- Isabella Northcott
- Phoebe O'Connor

OnSTAGE (Drama) Group

Devised Performance

- Olivia Arthur
- Elsie Brooks
- Allanah Davies
- Harriet Dinning
- Zoe Gelagin
- Isabella Northcott
- Phoebe O'Connor
- Leila Shanahan
- Greta Van Rijswijk

Class of 2024 Celebration Assembly

We were delighted to welcome back our Class of 2024 to celebrate their outstanding HSC results. Our Dux of 2024, Sarah D'Mello, who achieved an ATAR of 99.85, addressed the assembled students, celebrating the 'fabulousness' of her year group, and their teamwork, collaboration and willingness to help each other. Sarah also thanked her teachers and family for all their support.

Sarah's main point was that Year 12 is not to be done alone. She celebrated the love and friendship that characterised her Year 12 journey:

Year 12 was characterised by our willingness to work together and to work hard for what became more than our individual HSCs - what became a common goal...

... and on the academic side, I wholeheartedly believe that the success of our grade is due to our willingness to always help each other out ... we collectively became each other's helpdesk.

"I love you all so much for this because whilst NESAs might present the HSC as a competition, we knew that it would only be won as a team and so we were first, and foremost, always there as friends."

Perhaps we still do not know the perfect formula for time management, and we might not yet be convinced



that the economy isn't just a conspiracy, but I dare say that we - at least to some extent - enjoyed the study we were doing because we were always either learning, or confused, together.

So whilst I can't say Year 12 is particularly something I would ever want to repeat, I must also say it's something I never want to forget, because of the weird and wonderful people I've become close to.

Beyond this, I have also come closer to understanding what an experience like this requires of us as individuals. So to the class of 2025, as we reluctantly let go of our time in the Loreto spotlight, I encourage you to:

- 1. Hold your friends and family close.*
- 2. Throw away the word 'perfection'. You can't know absolutely everything, and please don't worry about appearing 'perfect' either.*



- 3. Don't forget to breathe (thanks Mrs Ellem!) I discovered just how important taking a deep breath actually is, both physically and mentally.*
- 4. Have a sparkle of confidence - remember that you are entirely capable!*

Congratulations Sarah, and we wish you and all the Class of 2024 the best in your future endeavours.



Serendipitously, Sarah and her sister Anne were on the cover of December Spirit.

Companions in Learning K-12



YEAR 12 MASS AND BARBECUE

Thank you to St Aloysius' College for hosting our Year 12 students for a Companions in Learning Mass and Barbecue, a welcome opportunity for students to reflect on the year ahead, make new friends and compare notes with their companions.



YEAR 8 SOCIAL AFTERNOON

Year 8 students from Loreto Kirribilli and St Aloysius' College enjoyed an afternoon social get-together. The two groups engaged in some fun icebreaker activities, including holding 'speed interviews' to get to know one another.



COMPANIONS' BOOK CLUB

In a very literary Companions in Learning session, our Library Leaders in the Junior School welcomed the Year 6 St Aloysius' College Library Leaders to a lunchtime Book Club session. Students engaged in some deep discussions about their current favourite books and girls were keen to showcase our beautiful Noni Mitchell Library.



IWD LUNCHTIME FORUM

St Aloysius' College hosted an International Women's Day lunchtime event, attended by Loreto Kirribilli staff and more than thirty Year 11 student leaders. Students shared stories of inspirational women in their lives and then heard from Mary's House CEO Yvette Vignando in a student-led Q&A session. The Mary's House refuge was established to address the significant gap in government-funded services, providing support for women and children impacted by domestic and family violence.

Education Framework

MATHEW CLAUSEN & SHARON PORTLOCK



How do we prepare our students for the future? What do we want the students we teach to be like as adults? A framework for education acts like a compass for schools in responding to these questions. This term we launched the new Loreto Kirribilli Education Framework at the first full-staff professional learning day. The framework was developed over the 2024 calendar year, referencing education research, our 2025 - 2028 Strategic Vision, survey data, and feedback from staff and students.



The framework is a holistic vision for education, drawing on contemporary research and evidence-based practice.

By placing students at the centre, surrounded by our Loreto values, a powerful synergy is achieved between Learning, Wellbeing, Professional Practice and Mission, leading to transformative personal and academic growth.

View the Education Framework here loreto.nsw.edu.au/learn/learning-loreto-kirribilli/education-framework/



Future of Learning

TEACHING TECHNOLOGY

Loreto Kirribilli's Director of Innovation, Dr Jonathon Mascarella and E-Learning Teacher Educator, Maria Emmi, explain the importance of tech education in schools, how Loreto Kirribilli integrates tech into the curriculum, and the significance having a purpose-built technology space for teaching and learning.



Why is it important to give students access to, and education in, tech?

JM: Technology is ubiquitous in school and work; students, and young people, need to understand the potential, moral, and ethical dilemmas and the risks of technology. Like learning to run or ride a bike, if they learn to use and mitigate the risks of technology, they can make informed choices as they grow to be independent adults. That said, they need guidance, support, and above all, carefully co-determined constraints to ensure this learning is appropriate and nurtured.

How do you integrate technology into the curriculum?

ME: Rather than treating technology as a standalone subject, we integrate it seamlessly across the curriculum to enhance learning and engagement. By taking a transdisciplinary approach, technology serves as a bridge between subjects,

fostering deeper connections and meaningful applications of knowledge. For instance, coding and digital storytelling not only support literacy development in English but also provide students with innovative ways to demonstrate their understanding of historical events. In Science, simulations create immersive, hands-on learning experiences, while augmented reality brings abstract concepts to life across multiple disciplines. When thoughtfully embedded, technology is not merely an add-on but a transformative tool that enriches learning, fosters creativity, and deepens student engagement.

What sort of feedback do you get from the students and their families?

ME: The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Students love the opportunity to engage with technology in a hands-on way, and many have expressed excitement

about exploring new fields like Augmented Reality, AI, coding, creating multimedia products, robotics, and engineering. Parents appreciate that their children are developing future-ready skills and often comment on how these experiences build confidence and curiosity. Some families have even shared stories of students bringing their learning home, inspiring siblings and parents to engage with tech.

What are the benefits of the Spiritus project/building?

JM: Spiritus was designed to be flexible and not constrained by specific technologies or space design. Its open design, integrated technologies and option to bring the technology into the learning environment are its strengths. Furthermore, the building can evolve with time and context, allowing it to change as the culture and direction of the school change with the trends in education and technology.

Junior School Learning



YEAR 6 EXPLORE COLLAGE

Year 6 engaged in a very special art incursion in which Kubi Vasak, Director of Sydney Collage Society, guided the students to explore opportunities for abstract portraiture. Using outdated books and core images of glamorous bygone Hollywood actresses, the students experimented with texture, colour, scale and composition to create their artworks. With inspiration from famous collage artists such as Hannah Hoch, their surreal photo montages are an impressive nod to their study of surrealism and the earlier Dada movement.

JACQUI BROWNE

Year 6 Teacher



CITIES OF THE FUTURE

In our first Tech and STEM Challenge day for 2025, Year 6 students from St Aloysius' College and Redlands visited Loreto Kirribilli for an exciting day of innovation and collaboration. Students worked in mixed-school teams to solve some real-world problems of the future. Immersed in the world of 2045, and armed with drones and Sphero robots, teams strategised how land and air robotics could revolutionise daily life, solving problems like traffic congestion, ageing population, energy consumption, water scarcity and waste management. Using critical and creative thinking, students refined their ideas and the day concluded with some very impressive presentations!



INTERNATIONAL MATHS DAY

Junior School delved into the magical world of Maths to celebrate International Maths Day (a.k.a. Einstein's birthday and Pi Day, 14 March) and this year's theme, Maths, Art and Creativity. Students explored creativity in Maths lessons, and Mathematics in Art lessons, discovered shapes and patterns in the playground, and enjoyed Maths and Art games during lunch.

YEAR 4 EXPLORE THE GALAXY

As part of their Explorers unit, Year 4 students became celestial navigators, diving into the wonders of star constellations and discovering how sailors used the stars to navigate the vast oceans. This cosmic adventure was also a Maths mission, where students practised their geometry, identifying 2D shapes and angles hidden within the constellations.

Junior School Learning



YEAR 6 VISIT OUR NATION'S CAPITAL ...

Our Year 6 students and their teachers have enjoyed an action-packed two-night stay in Canberra. Their experience in the nation's Capital included a tour of Parliament House and Government House, a visit to the Australian War Memorial, National Museum, Royal Australian Mint, Museum of Australian Democracy, and an electoral education session. Our School Captain and Vice Captain were invited to sign in at Government House on behalf of the school.



... AND MEET THEIR LORETO PEERS

While visiting Questacon, Year 6 students were very excited to have the opportunity to meet and engage with students from our sister schools, Loreto Toorak and Loreto Marryatville. This was our inaugural Canberra Circle of Friends event.

When Year 6 arrived at Questacon, we met up with Loreto Toorak and Loreto Marryatville. It was a fun opportunity to meet new people. We could all see how the Loreto values have spread across every Loreto school. All the girls there were so kind and open to meeting us. Not only did we make many new friendships, but we also developed and displayed other character strengths, for example, perseverance and independence, but also having the courage to talk to new people. It was such a fun experience and all of the different rooms at Questacon were so creative and realistic, especially the lightning and earthquake rooms. When our session was coming to an end, none of us wanted to leave. Our memories will definitely last forever, or until we meet again. **GRACE YUEN 6G**



CHICKS IN THE CLASSROOM

Excitement was in the air as Year 1 welcomed some very special arrivals - our baby chicks and ducklings! We started with nine eggs and eagerly watched and waited for them to hatch. Students created digital drawings on the chick theme and watched a video about clicking chicken who wasn't being a responsible digital citizen. It was a wonderful hands-on learning experience as the students observed the hatching process, care for the chicks, and discussed the differences between baby chicks and ducklings. Principal Dr Archard couldn't resist a morning visit to see the chicks and ducklings.

KATE ARCHER

Year 1 Teacher

Senior School Learning



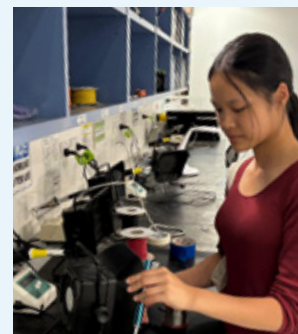
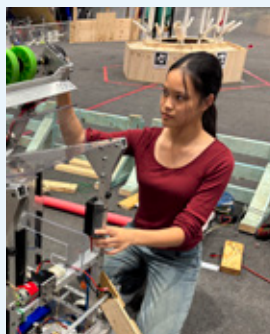
PI DAY

On Pi Day (International Mathematics Day and Einstein's birthday), Year 7 Maths students celebrated with a Pi reciting contest, Pi quizzes and a display of cake-baking creativity. Congratulations to Maggie who succeeded in reciting Pi correctly to 242 decimal places!



YEAR 12 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

Our Year 12 Geography class embarked on a two-day fieldwork excursion, combining with students and staff from St Ignatius' College, Riverview and Kinross Wolaroi School in Orange. Students started with a fieldwork and case study of Sydney Olympic Park and then travelled to Orange to hear from guest speakers and carry out fieldwork learning about the rural settlement of Orange.



TRINITY GOES TO HOUSTON

We are excited to report that Trinity Chiang (Year 10) has been selected to be part of the Macquarie University robotics team participating in the 2025 First Robotics Championship in Houston this April.

Trinity shared with us that she is part of a sub-team responsible for building and processing the robot. During the competition, her role will involve helping to repair or perform a quick redesign of the robot as needed. This is undoubtedly a valuable experience and eye-opening exposure for her.

The trip is scheduled in April, which includes the 4-day competition, a social event with other Hall of Fame teams, a visit to NASA, and possibly a trip to the National Museum in Houston.

Trinity told us a few times that she really appreciates the skills and knowledge in robotics that she gained at Loreto Kirribilli over the past few years. She firmly believes that this foundation was instrumental in enabling her to secure a spot on her current team.

Trinity is one of two engineering-minded sisters, with Tabatha in Year 4 already eagerly looking forward to joining Loreto's robotics team next year, following in Trinity's footsteps. It is wonderful to see them both developing a passion for STEM and exploring their interests in robotics - thanks to the school curriculum in planting the mindset and technology skills since Kindy.

TERESA TAM

Loreto Kirribilli Parent and Mentor

Senior School Learning



PINBALL WIZARDS

Year 8 Technology students are incorporating engineering principles to design and produce a timber pinball machine, each with a unique theme and range of mechanisms. Students learn to use a combination of tools and machinery including drills, scroll saws, laser cutters and 3D printers.



YEAR 9 PRINTMAKERS

Year 9 Elective Art students are continuing their study of Modern Australian Women Printmakers, using various printmaking techniques to design and cut a lino block featuring drawings of Australian flora and fauna. The bold graphic designs are then hand-coloured, with the results reminiscent of 1920s woodblock artists.



A DATE WITH A BOOK

Our community's love for reading and books was celebrated with the annual Library Lovers' Day book dating event. Students and staff opted in to be 'matched' with a 'Book Date.' There were smiles, surprises, and connections over the wonderful selection of books made by our matchmaking Librarians.

MONIQUE NORTH

Head Teacher Librarian



YEAR 8 EXPLORE MEDIEVAL TIMES

Loreto Kirribilli Year 8 History students and teachers enjoyed a hands-on presentation of all things medieval, highlighting various aspects of Medieval European life, particularly that of warfare and weaponry – swords, shields, spears, helmets and armour. The chainmail armour and wooden stocks were particularly popular with the students!



UNIVERSITY AWARD

Congratulations to Year 11 student Ruby Dickerson who was awarded the University of Sydney Year 10 Academic Achievement Award for her success in 2024. The Year 10 Academic Achievement Award acknowledges students who have shown: dedication to achieving academic success; the desire to collaborate with their peers; and commitment to the school community. Congratulations Ruby!

Junior School Swimming Carnival



OPEN 50M FREESTYLE

1st	Isabella Volpato
2nd	Olivia Guidera
3rd	Stephanie Wyke

JUNIOR CHAMPION

1st	Evie Arthur
2nd	Eva Cordaro
3rd	Estelle Kennedy

SENIOR CHAMPION

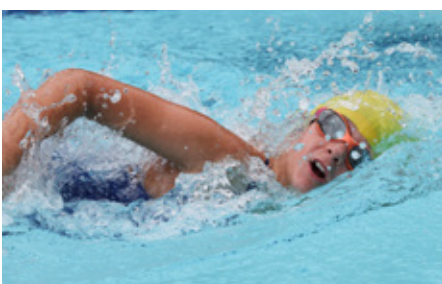
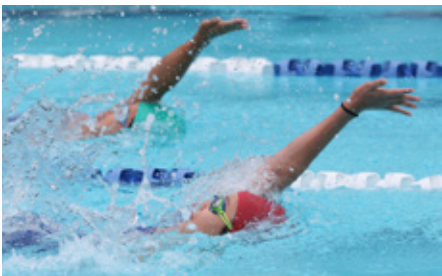
1st	Isabella Volpato
2nd	Stephanie Wyke
3rd	Olivia Guidera

SPIRIT AWARD

1st	Heaton
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CHAMPION HOUSE

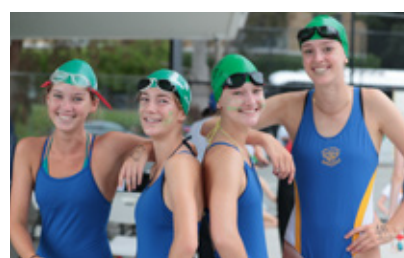
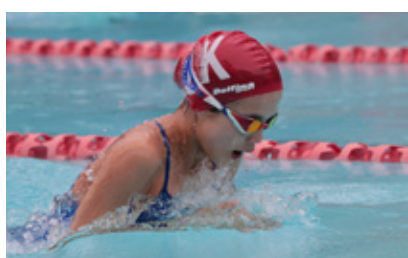
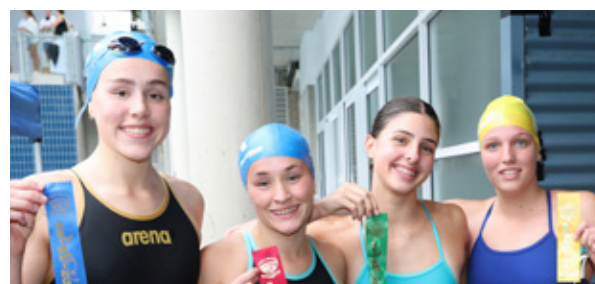
1st	Barry
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Senior School Swimming Carnival



OPEN 50M FREESTYLE	
1st	Eliza Damian
2nd	Abigail Damian
3rd	Alessia Eerenstein
JUNIOR POINTSCORE	
1st	Hannah Jamieson & Abigail Damian
2nd	Lucy Matthews
3rd	Ella Liu
IMMEDIATE POINTSCORE	
1st	Eliza Damian
2nd	Alessia Eerenstein
3rd	Amelie Harvey
SENIOR POINTSCORE	
1st	Isabelle Bannan
2nd	Amy Hill
3rd	Saskia Davis
OVERALL POINTSCORE	
1st	Ward
SPIRIT AWARD	
1st	Barry
WATER BALLET	
1st	Milson



Sport K-12

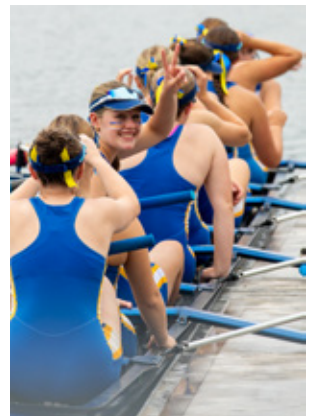


HEAD OF THE RIVER

Congratulations to our mighty rowers who had a fantastic finale to the season at the NSW Schoolgirls' Head of the River, bringing the coveted Betty Deer Rosebowl Overall Point Score Championship Trophy back home for the second year running. This is an incredible result and was achieved by the collaborative success and contribution from every single athlete on the day. Our crews were on the podium to pick up four Gold, five Silver and two Bronze medals! The rowers were also super-excited to see ex-student and Australian Olympian Tara Rigney ('17) competing in a series of sprint events. Thank you to all of our wonderful parent volunteers for everything you did to make it such a special day.

AMY CLAY

Head Rowing Coach



SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our swimmers have once again shown their talent, determination, and team spirit at recent competitions, delivering outstanding results across both events. At the IGSA Swimming Championships, our team achieved 11 finals, 2 B finals, and secured a first-place finish overall in the 13yrs and 16yrs Breaststroke (Michiko and Eliza) - a fantastic accomplishment! The girls worked hard all day taking home the Most Improved School trophy and were crowned Division 3 Winners. The momentum continued at the CGSSSA Swimming Championships, where our swimmers dominated the competition and walked away with the overall point score trophy! Our medallists will now represent the school at NSWCCC Swimming.

ELE WINSTON

Acting Assistant Head of Sport K-12

Sport K-12



TOUCH FOOTBALL GRAND FINALS

And just like that, the 2024/25 Touch Football season has come to an end. A massive congratulations to all our teams for their dedication and resilience throughout the season, especially on those scorching hot mornings and the times when they had to dig deep to cover for missing players. Each and every player should be incredibly proud of their efforts and take the lessons learned into next season, which will be here before you know it!

A special shoutout to our Grand Final winners: LOK07, LOK09, LOK12, LOK14, and LOK15, who represented Loreto Kirribilli with immense pride in their matches.

An impressive 80% of our teams reached the semi-final round and 40% of those teams made it to the Grand Final. This is a true testament to the courage, commitment, and teamwork the girls displayed on and off the field.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents, grandparents, siblings, family members, supporters (and even pets!) for your unwavering encouragement. Your support means the world to the girls and to the Loreto Kirribilli Sports department - we couldn't do it without you!

LUCY REEDER

Touch Football Convenor



JUNIOR SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Years 5 and 6 have enjoyed a great season of Football (Soccer), with four Year 6 nine-a-side teams and five Year 5 five-a-side teams playing in the Saturday morning IPSHA competition. The smaller-sided games allow the girls to develop their ball control skills, goalkeeping skills, and the opportunity to play and experience a variety of positions on the field. All teams have demonstrated sportsmanship, teamwork, and skill progression over the term all while having plenty of fun whether they are winning, losing or drawing!

ELIZA PEIRCE

JS PE Teacher / JS Sports Administrator

Public Speaking

CARLA FIELD ('18) | PUBLIC SPEAKING COORDINATOR

The 2025 Public Speaking program has commenced with a flurry of activity and excitement. Loreto Kirribilli has entered five major competitions, with students competing in the CSDA and the Dame Enid Lyons Oratory Competition. Upcoming competitions include Rostrum's 'Voice of Youth,' the Plain English Speaking Award, and the Junior Public Speaking Award.

A special congratulations to the students who represented the school at the CSDA local finals: Victoria Kitnar, Winter Wawn, Juliet Khoury, Amelie Elias, Chantelle Wilson, and Willow Wawn.

Well done to Juliet Khoury (Year 8) and Amelie Elias (Year 9) for advancing to the CSDA Zone Finals. Juliet performed an entertaining and heartwarming speech on the topic of *Falling into Place*, while Amelie chose the topic *The Narrative is Missing*, and performed a thought-provoking and powerful speech on mental health.

The inaugural IGSA Dame Enid Lyons Oratory Competition has also begun. Congratulations to Charlotte Currie (Year 10), who delivered an impressive and highly charismatic impromptu speech on the topic, *The way you tell your story to yourself matters*, focusing on navigating growing up and self-perception. This competition celebrates the exceptional skill of extemporaneous speaking. Students are given three unseen topics and only 15 minutes to prepare an eight-minute speech.

The IGSA will announce the selected finalists after the preliminary rounds are completed. Well done Charlotte!



CSDA ZONE FINALS



IGSA DAME ENID LYONS ORATORY COMPETITION



Extra-Curricular



THEATRESPORTS

Laughter, creativity, and quick thinking took centre stage at this year's Theatresports Grand Final, where eight incredible teams from Years 9 to 12 battled it out in an evening of fast-paced, improvised brilliance. Each house was coached by their Drama Captain, Vice Captain and Councillor. The competition was fierce, with teams showcasing their ability to think on their feet, work together, and embrace the chaos of improvisation. From outrageous characters to unexpected plot twists, every team brought energy, wit, and bold storytelling to the stage.

A huge congratulations to our champions: Heaton, winner of the Spirit Cup; Barry, the Intermediate winner; and Ward, the Senior winner. Thank you to everyone who participated, supported, and cheered on the teams. Theatresports is all about creativity, collaboration, and fun, and this year's final was a spectacular showcase of all three.

STACEY WHITMORE

Drama Teacher

DANCE NIGHT ADJUDICATIONS

In the lead-up to the much-anticipated Dance Night at the end of the term, our Performing Arts department held adjudications for solo and group dance entries, in front of an enthusiastic and supportive audience of parents and students. Our talented dancers performed in a variety of styles including lyrical, contemporary, jazz, and hip-hop, with the addition of Irish dancing and tap dancing this year. Congratulations to all our performers, who delighted us with their wonderful display of skill and artistry.

Parents & Friends

KATRINA DAMIAN & JOHN LEON | JOINT P&F PRESIDENTS

The Parent & Friends Committee has had a busy start to 2025, beginning with welcoming our new families to the community during our Orientation Morning Teas. It is always wonderful to share the renowned Loreto Kirribilli hospitality with new families. We enjoyed meeting new faces and appreciated all the help of 'old' families who catered and served morning tea.



WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY

Our much-anticipated Welcome Cocktail Party kicked off with an Irish 'green' theme to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Mother Gonzaga Barry arriving in Australia from Ireland and bringing Loreto to Australia. The Hall was lit up in green and the Lawn decorated with fairy lights and Irish Green colours, thanks to the creative efforts of our Communications Executive, Elizabeth Hachem. The party was the first time the new kitchen in our Hall (which was installed with help from funds raised by the P&F) was put to use - and it definitely shone! Parents enjoyed delicious canapes, Mumm Champagne and local craft beer provided by White Bay Beer, which we were lucky to enjoy with the help of generous parent sponsors.



FATHER DAUGHTER MASS AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Our annual Father Daughter Mass had a fabulous turnout of fathers, grandfathers, father-like figures for this special mass. We extend our gratitude to Father Brett O'Neil SJ for leading the Mass, and to Andrew and Charlotte Couper for their heartfelt reflections on the father-daughter relationship. A special thanks to our Year 8 Mothers, who braved the hot and humid conditions to cook a delicious sausage sizzle for all the fathers and daughters present. This was followed shortly afterwards by the Harmony Day sausage sizzle on Friday 21 March. Our BBQ master parents with the help of Year 6 parents cooked 1100 sausages and 40kg of onions, serving the masses of girls as they arrived for lunch.





ANNUAL P&F LUNCHEON

Our annual P&F Luncheon at Sergeants' Mess had an overwhelming response from our parent community, with the event selling out within 24 hours! Our inspiring guest speaker, Caro Meldrum-Hanna ('99), is an ex-student and distinguished investigative journalist. We had fabulous raffles and silent auction items which generated a lot of interest. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the donors for their generosity. A special mention and warm thank you to our P&F Members Lisa Rodrigues, Jo Bonomo, and Jacquie Murray for their outstanding efforts in organising this fabulous event.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SUBCOMMITTEE

Georgia Ahrens and Emma Woods have led this Subcommittee for many years, with every year seeing increasing popularity, more stock, and greater sales than ever. This initiative has been a remarkable success, contributing significantly to affordability, sustainability, and fundraising. The Subcommittee is currently seeking long-term and committed members to join the team. This is a wonderful parent-led initiative, and those interested are encouraged to contact Georgia and Emma via the P&F email parents@loreto.nsw.edu.au

SUPPORTING PARENTS IN NEED – P&F PROGRAM

The P&F Committee has developed a program to help cover the cost of some social events such as Year Group events for 2025. If you are experiencing hardship and think this could be of some assistance, please reach out in confidence to Loreto Kirribilli's Acting Business Manager via email rgreen@loreto.nsw.edu.au

SPORTS LUNCH

We are excited to announce our upcoming Sports Lunch on Friday 8 August at the beautiful Doltone House. This event promises to be a highlight of the year, featuring thrilling guest speakers and fantastic raffle and auction prizes. Make sure to mark your calendars - you won't want to miss it!



SPRING FAIR

Plans are well underway for the Spring Fair on Sunday 31 August. We are looking forward to the traditional stalls as well as some new and exciting ones. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Volvo Australia for their ongoing partnership as the Major Sponsor for our Spring Fair, which will provide some exciting offers for our parent community, so stay tuned!

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. Here's to a fantastic year ahead! Please mark your calendars with the following important upcoming events - we look forward to seeing you at there!

KATRINA, JOHN, JACQUIE, JORDAN, MARK, SHAUNA, LISA, JO, LIZ AND LOUISA

2025 P&F Executive Committee

2025 KEY DATES

P&F BBQ May Day	7 May
P&F/Class Parent Meeting	2 June
P&F/Class Parent Meeting	8 July
P&F BBQ Int'l Friendship Day	30 July
Sports Lunch at Doltone House	8 August
Spring Fair	31 August
P&F/Class Parent Meeting	3 November

Development

DEBBIE HENRY | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

OUR EX-STUDENTS ARE INSPIRATIONAL

Loreto Kirribilli's ex-students continue to follow in the footsteps of Mary Ward and Mother Gonzaga Barry. In the 150th year of Mother Gonzaga Barry and her nine companions' arrival in Australia, we continue to hear inspirational stories from the work of our ex-students leading with a 'moral compass'.

Heartfelt stories are shared with our community of ex-students who are faced with adversity, yet who triumph with optimism and hope for the future. One such story is Elouise Hahn's, which you can read on page 12.

Elouise's words remind us that a Loreto education transcends beyond our Loreto gates, inspiring women who reinforce Mother Gonzaga Barry's words – "Do all you can... with a great and generous heart".

This is a celebration of the kindness and goodness that are at the heart of our unique 'school of spirit'. Whether parent, student, staff member, or alumni, we are blessed with the opportunity to embrace the values of a Loreto-inspired education, as envisioned by Mary Ward more than 400 years ago.

Kindness and goodness are at the heart of our unique 'school of spirit'.

As a community, we are a part of the worldwide Loreto tapestry, witness to the outstanding work of our Loreto Sisters through the IBVM and Mary Ward International. Loreto Kirribilli is part of a global network with over 150 schools worldwide. Our students are taught that with the privilege of their Loreto education comes the responsibility to 'look beyond our world for the greater good'.

Thank you to our ex-students who are in the world 'making a difference' with the power of faith, albeit through the human exploration of adversity, grief and resilience. Please share your stories so we can continue to drive positive change for the benefit of all.

development@loreto.nsw.edu.au



FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2025 6PM

The Principals of Loreto Schools Australia are pleased to invite you to a Loreto networking and connection event in London, featuring a panel of ex-students working in the United Kingdom, and hosted by Westpac at their City of London headquarters.

The event will explore the stories of talented Loreto ex-students who have pursued careers in the UK and Europe. It will be an informal evening of engagement, an opportunity to hear about the experiences of our alumni living and working abroad and establish connections amongst our far-flung ex-student community.

Further details will be forthcoming, but in the meantime, please mark the date in your diaries.

THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL IS EDUCATION

Thanks to the generosity of our community, we are able to offer a means-tested Loreto Kirribilli Bursary to at least two students for their education from Years 10-12. The bursary allows girls to complete their Senior School education in the tradition of the Loreto Sisters.

All donations, small or large, are valued and appreciated, and will have an ongoing impact. Donations are tax-deductible. Visit our giving page, loreto.nsw.edu.au/giving/

THE LORETO KIRRIBILLI BURSARY FUND

Proudly supported by the Ex-Students' Union and our parents and friends.

LK Connect Showcases Women in Advertising

DEBBIE HENRY | DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Thank you to Ogilvy Australia and particularly ex-student Sally Kissane ('86), CEO of Ogilvy Network ANZ, for hosting an exceptional LK Connect Women in Advertising event, exploring the fast-paced and ever-evolving landscape of advertising. Students, ex-students, parents and staff gathered to hear from an impressive panel of women who have forged careers in advertising.



The panellists were drawn from across the industry, representing a broad range of professional opportunities in marketing, client service, strategy, and creative. Thank you to Anneliese Douglass ('90), Director-Marketing & Communication, Nestle Oceania; Rachel McEwan ('09), Team Lead, Special Australia; Bridget Jung, Creative Director, Ogilvy Australia; and Fran Clayton, Chief Strategy Officer, Ogilvy AUNZ.

Bridget Jung spoke of the importance of curiosity and collaboration, paraphrasing the famous quote of spy novelist John Le Carré: "Your desk is a dangerous place to be for too long."

Rachel McEwan described the journey of her fledgling agency, winning the new start-up Uber as a client more than ten years ago.

Anneliese Douglass demonstrated how successful products are born at the junction between strategy, marketing and creativity.

Sally Kissane shared some of the details of the Ogilvy graduate program, a fantastic opportunity for young graduates to discover the workings of an agency in account management, creative, and planning. Her advice to young graduates is to "always say yes!"

Panellists delved into the background of some memorable marketing and advertising campaigns for clients such as Dove, Arnott's, Uber, and the Opera

House, and spoke of the importance of collaboration, persistence and being a good listener.

Recent graduate Madeleine Newman ('20) was enthusiastic about the evening. "For me the key take-away was that advertising can be a powerful force for social change – it has the potential to spark conversations and drive meaningful progress. I feel incredibly inspired and grateful for the chance to learn from such a talented group of women in the industry. I'm excited to carry these insights forward."

Year 12 student

Clementine was similarly

inspired. "Hearing these stories about navigating the landscape of

advertising – whether it's the importance of staying

adaptable, embracing innovation, or truly understanding the power of human connection in crafting impactful campaigns – have been incredibly inspiring. The wisdom they imparted about the role of collaboration, the value of persistence and the need for continual learning is something we will carry forward as we embark on our own journeys."

If you would like to be part of LK Connect and support our networking and mentoring opportunities, please contact lkconnect@loreto.nsw.edu.au



Ex-Students' Union

CELIA SHELDON (ROBERTS '88) | PRESIDENT



Canberra was the place to be, with two successful regional gatherings taking place in March again this year.

The Annual Loreto Canberra Chapter Reunion Lunch was held on 15 March in the suburb of Hall, Canberra. This is always a fabulous gathering of Loreto alumnae from all schools and all ages and has been a raging success since its inception over fifty years ago. Ex-students came from Loreto Claremont (WA), Marryatville, Ballarat, Toorak, Kirribilli, Normanhurst & Kenya! Raffle and donations raised close to \$1000 for MWIA at this truly wonderful event. Congratulations and thank you to Cynthia Kimlin (Holmes, '65) and Merran Hunter (Whittaker, LN '67) who organise this event brilliantly every year. Contact loreto.canberra@gmail.com for more details.

To kickstart this same connection for the younger generations and recognising that they are less able to travel beyond the city, we held another Young Loreto Gathering at the Rugby Union Club (The RUC) in Canberra. This evening gathering over drinks and barefoot bowls provides an opportunity for young ex-students, studying at ANU or working in Canberra, to connect with their counterparts from other Loreto schools. This year brought together graduates from



Kirribilli, Normanhurst and Coorparoo, from the Classes of 2019 through to 2024. There were cries of, "What are you doing here – I didn't know you went to Loreto!!" and some useful connections for work and study exchanges. All opportunities that surely come from being in the right place at the right time!

Another occasion to make a special note of is the Celebrating 150 Years of Loreto in Australia commencing at Kirribilli on Monday 5 May with a special reception and performance to open the travelling exhibition.

We also hope to also see you at the 42nd Annual Mother Daughter Mass on Sunday 4 May.

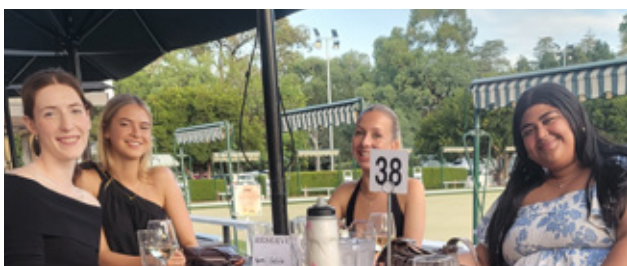
We love to recognise the significant events in your life by sharing them in the Spirit, but we can only do this if you tell us about them. Births, deaths and marriages can be advised by emailing ex-students@loreto.nsw.edu.au



loretokirribilli_exstudents



Loreto Kirribilli Ex-Students Union



SAVE THE DATE!

FEDERATION IS COMING TO KIRIBILLI!

Friday 9 - Sunday 11 October 2026

Federation is an old-fashioned word meaning 'coming together', of all the Loreto schools in Australia - an opportunity for all generations and all Loreto girls across Australia to come together - to share ideas, get creative and be inspired!

2025 KEY DATES

Mother Daughter Mass	Sunday 4 May
Mother Gonzaga Barry 150 years Celebration & Exhibition Opening at Loreto Kirribilli	Monday 5 May
Card Day	Wednesday 2 July
Spring Fair & Mass	Sunday 31 August
Annual Mass & AGM	Sunday 16 November

REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1965 - 60 YEAR REUNION

Friday 19 September

Four Hundred Bar and Kitchen,
The Greenwood, North Sydney

Contact Julia Haege juleshaege@hotmail.com

CLASS OF 1975 - 50 YEAR REUNION

Saturday 8 November

Greenwich

Contact Sally Rossi sallyrossiford@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1985 - 40 YEAR REUNION

Saturday 1 November

Greenwich

Contact Antoinette Darin adarin@loreto.nsw.edu.au

CLASS OF 1995 - 30 YEAR REUNION

Saturday 23 August

The Rawson Hotel, The Rocks

Contact Emilie Allen emilieallen@hotmail.com

CLASS OF 2005 - 20 YEAR REUNION

Saturday 20 September

Foys Kirribilli

Contact Danni Hudson danni.hudson1@gmail.com



1975 'PREP' REUNION



Sharing our Community

KATE HORAN ('94)

Kate Horan ('94) has just published her first novel, *The Inheritance*, a gripping family intrigue currently gracing Dymock's Bestsellers list.

After graduating from Loreto Kirribilli, Kate briefly studied Architecture before switching to English Literature. She completed an Honours degree and then worked as an English teacher for five years before 'jumping ship' to the corporate world as a communication consultant.

It was only recently that Kate decided to "have a crack" at being a writer. "In 2020 I did the Faber writing a novel course," Kate recounts, "which was great. And then I had the idea for *The Inheritance*. It felt like a bit of a zeitgeisty kind of idea to me."



Fellow author and ex-student Cassie Hamer ('93) enthuses, "*The Inheritance* is full of all the things I love in a novel - family secrets, small-town intrigue, and rich people behaving badly. I ripped through it faster than you can say the words 'DNA test!'"

Kate is now working on the edits for her second book and is still slightly

bemused by her success. "The thought that this time next year I'll have two books out is ... crazy!"

Kate credits her education at Loreto Kirribilli for instilling her love of literature. "I've got vivid memories of my English teachers at Loreto. I was fortunate enough to have some absolutely brilliant teachers. I think being a good writer depends on being a good reader, and my love of reading was fostered really strongly by those amazing English teachers that I had.

"I am still very close with a number of the girls that I did three-unit English with. It was an amazing environment to become a real lover of literature."

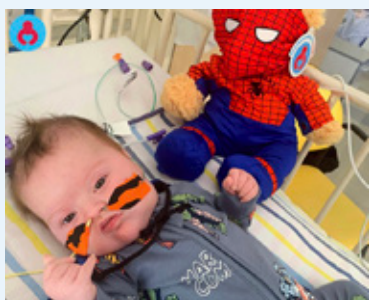


TANIA MASTROIANNI ('12)

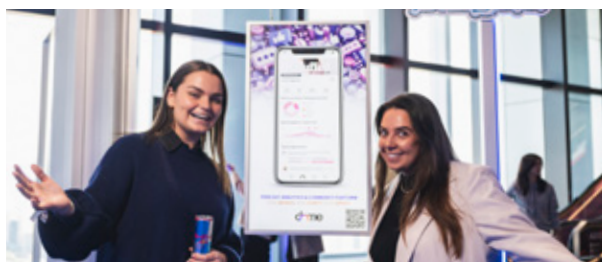
Tania Mastroianni ('12) was born with a rare congenital heart condition and a 2% chance of survival. Within her first six months, Tania had three open heart surgeries, a stroke, and was given a permanent pacemaker. Over the years, she has overcome numerous medical challenges, including five heart surgeries.

Tania's childhood experiences led her to create her *Business With A Heart*, an initiative she founded to bring joy and comfort to children in hospitals. Tania collaborates with businesses and individuals to sponsor teddy bears for children in need.

Tania believes her time at Loreto Kirribilli played a pivotal role in shaping her outlook on life and her commitment to service. "I was surrounded by a community of teachers and peers who encouraged me to persevere and embrace those core values of the Loreto tradition: compassion, courage, and justice. These principles continue to guide me today."



Sharing our Community



SOPHIE GREINER ('20)

In the five years since Sophie Greiner graduated from Loreto Kirribilli, she has been busy discovering her love for tech startups and entrepreneurship.

Her first start-up, Dome, has developed into a social media platform connecting like-minded podcast listeners. "For listeners, a space to engage in meaningful discussions, connect with people who share their passion, and empower the community in the real world. And for hosts, AI-powered audience intelligence so they truly know who their listeners are and what resonates", Sophie explains.

The award-winning idea has attracted plenty of attention from podcasters and the startup community. Recently Dome was named Australia's top innovation in the Red Bull Basement challenge, ranking in the top 10 globally out of 110,000 startups from 40 countries – all before the actual launching of the product.

Outside of Dome, Sophie is completing her final year at UTS and working with Hannah Ferguson at Cheek Media, an independent digital news outlet. Despite her frantic schedule, Sophie enjoyed networking at a recent LK Connect event. "As a Loreto Kirribilli alumna, participating in networking events through LK Connect has expanded valuable connections, and I am truly grateful to be part of such a community."



SALLY KISSANE ('86)

The host of our recent LK Connect industry evening, *Women in Advertising - Client Leadership, Strategy, Creative* - was ex-student Sally Kissane ('86), CEO of Ogilvy Network ANZ.

Sally's career spans three decades in the agency world, in both Australia and the USA, across advertising, direct marketing, CRM, digital, and public relations in a variety of management roles.

Under her leadership, Ogilvy has won a range of significant global, regional, and local awards and was last year named Employer of Choice for the seventh year in a row in The Australian Business Awards. She has also introduced several category-breaking initiatives to help foster female leadership including 'Changing the Face' and 'SheCD' among other talent development programs.

This year Sally was recognised by The CEO Magazine ANZ in their inaugural Women of Influence Spotlight in the lead-up to International Women's Day.

Speaking at the recent LK Connect event in Ogilvy's new offices at Barangaroo, Sally counselled her young audience to take up the challenges they are offered. "My advice is to always say yes! Too often we doubt ourselves or think there is someone more deserving."

Ex-Students' News

BIRTHS | GIRLS

Harriette Alexandra to Jennifer Dodge ('07)

Lottie Belle to Rachel Deegan ('08)

Amelia Louise to Kate McMahon (McRae '08)

Daisy Kerryanne Georgina to Emily Hartman ('08)

Lucia Daisy to Alexandra Parker ('08)

Poppy Grace to Greta Beale ('08)

Adeline Jelena to Charlotte Breznik (Lewis '12)

Amelie Maree to Claudia Herisson ('14)

BIRTHS | BOYS

Archer James to Kate McMahon (McRae '08)

Harry Hamish & Angus Anthony to Naomi Ford (Dodds '03)

Patrick Michael to Alicia O'Connor ('00)

Sullivan Smith to Sophia Roche-West ('11)

Alexander and Archibald to Lauren Harle ('11)

MARRIAGES

Lucy Wills ('13) to Cormac Sullivan

Lauren Henry ('09) to Stu Gardner

Claudia Herisson ('14) to Nicholas Short

Alexa Tonkin ('13) to Tom Flood

ENGAGEMENTS

Ella Walburn ('15) to Chay White

DEATHS | EX-STUDENTS

Cynthia Dawn Smith (Wells '42), grandmother of Madeleine Perkins ('10), aunt of Kim Wells ('64) and Jan Smith (Wells '68)

Jean Swinton (Hall '44), sister of Margaret Pemberton (Hall '53)

Athena Mclver (Kollar '72), mother of Olivia Mclver ('09)

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

Janet Kaine ('51), Ex-President of Loreto Federation, mother of Lisa Kaine ('85)

Sister Mary Wright ibvm, (Loreto Toorak, '63)

DEATHS | RELATIVES OF EX-STUDENTS

Joe Massa, son of Elouise Hahn ('05)

John Francis O'Gorman, brother of Mary Anne Larkin (O'Gorman '56), June Booker (O'Gorman '58) and Virginia Cross (O'Gorman '60)

LORETO GLOBAL VOICES

London

save the date

FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER 2025 6PM - 8PM



BALLARAT • COORPAROO • KIRRIBILLI • MARRYATVILLE • NORMANHURST • TOORAK