

2025

Annual Report to the School Community



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College

111 Jasper Road, BENTLEIGH 3204

Principal: Anne O'Loughlin

Web: www.olsh.vic.edu.au

Registration: 1481, E Number: E1160

Principal's Attestation

I, Anne O'Loughlin, attest that Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College is compliant with:

- The minimum standards and other requirements for school registration and school boarding premises (if applicable) as specified in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 (Vic).
- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2025 school year under the Australian Education Act 2013 (Cth) and the Australian Education Regulations 2023 (Cth).
- The Child Safe Standards as prescribed in Ministerial Order 1359 – Implementing the Child Safe Standards, Managing the Risk of Child Abuse in Schools and School Boarding Premises.

Attested on 05 Jun 2026

About this report

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College is registered by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA). The Annual Report to the School Community (ARSC), provides parents and the wider community with information about the school's activities and achievements throughout the year including information about various aspects of school performance. The Report is supplementary to other forms of regular communication to the school community regarding initiatives, activities and programs which support the learning and wellbeing of its students. Further information about the contents of this Report may be obtained by contacting the School directly or by visiting the School's website. Information can also be obtained from the [My School website](#).

Governing Authority Report

The College is overseen by a fully incorporated Board of Directors, appointed by the Trustees of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

The Directors meet monthly and conduct the business of the College through the following Board Committees:

- Finance, Audit and Risk Management
- Building and Facilities Development
- Policy and Governance

The Board continues to ensure the implementation of the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Strategic Directions Statement 2023 - 2027.

Vision and Mission

Our mission

"May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be everywhere loved!" is our tradition. All who belong to the family of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart are called to live out this motto. It is to live the very life of Jesus... to be on earth the Heart of Christ!

We are heart people who are faith filled, reverence relationships, pursue excellence and touch the hearts of others.

Our vision

We seek to uphold and strengthen our commitment to building an outstanding Catholic girls' college characterised by unity of purpose, professionalism and the drive for excellence.

College Overview

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College (OLSH) is an independent Catholic secondary school for girls, administered by the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

The College is built on a tradition of more than 88 years of driving excellence in girls' education, living our charism through sharing the Good News of Jesus' love for all, and nurturing a deep connection with one another. Grounded in this connection is a commitment to growth as human beings who recognise and live compassion, who strive to give their best in all they undertake, and who are moved by the call to reach out to others with open hearts.

Principal's Report

As I reflect on this year which is the 87th year of education at OLSH College, one word continually comes to mind: pioneering. A pioneer is someone who does something that has not been done before, and pioneers inspire others to follow in the same way.

In August this year our school community witnessed “pioneering work” when three of our students were selected to participate in the 2025 APEC Youth STEM Conference in Busan, South Korea. For these students and two staff to embark on this journey was truly ground breaking — representing Australia at this conference, working with students from other countries on study topics and presenting that work in another country to an audience of leaders in the field.

We have seen that pioneering spirit here at OLSH, in the staff and students who explore new frontiers with courage and confidence and inspiring others to follow their lead. We saw students, staff and families find new ways to support our fundraising on the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, when generosity of heart broke all previous records to raise over \$30,000 for the OLSH Sisters’ missions.

We witnessed the pioneering efforts of our student leaders with their theme “Take the dive, start the ripple of kindness” and they embodied this in their special new OLSH College member, Lizzie, our first-ever College mascot. Lizzie carries a name rich in meaning. ‘Elizabeth’—from which Lizzie comes—means “God is my pledge”, a call to trust God and live our OLSH Spirit every day. In the OLSH tradition, Lizzie honours Sr Liz, our College Chaplain, and all OLSH Sisters who have shown us what it means to love others, show deep kindness, and be Jesus’ love on earth.

This pioneering spirit is part of our OLSH DNA. It echoes the beginnings of the OLSH Sisters in Issoudun, France, when five Sisters set out to make the Sacred Heart of Jesus everywhere loved, arriving in Sydney on January 31, 1885. It is 140 years since that bold journey brought them to Australia.

One of the defining moments in world history for us as a Catholic school this year was the sadness of the passing of Pope Francis—a truly holy man. Yet, in a short time, we also delighted in the election of Pope Leo. In just six months as leader of our Church, Pope Leo has become a strong voice against injustice, calling us to seek a world of peace and harmony—amongst all peoples and with all of creation.

And so as we celebrate all the very best of OLSH College may we continue to be Heart People who are faith filled, reverence relationships, pursue excellence and touch the hearts of others. In the words of Jules Chevalier, always remember that “Love, real love, excludes no one.”

*Regnet Christus May Christ Reign
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart pray for us.*

Ms Anne O'Loughlin
Principal

Catholic Identity and Mission

Goals & Intended Outcomes

In line with our Strategic Directions statement, we strive to be a faith-filled Catholic community seeking Christ. We are 'called to live the very life of Jesus' (OLSH Proclamation).

As members of the Chevalier Family in the tradition of the OLSH Sisters we will:

- deepen our understanding of the OLSH charism and mission
- live a spirituality of the heart
- live the Gospel, seeking justice for all
- commit in word and deed to caring for our earth and sustaining our planet.

Achievements

This year has been a wonderful year for Faith and Mission at the College as we have deepened our commitment to living our OLSH pillars in our classrooms, through our outreach, in our prayer and Eucharistic celebrations and in our generous fundraising for those in need.

Growing in our understanding of what it means to be 'heart people'

At the start of their final year at OLSH College, our Year 12s visited Hartzer Park in Bowral for their Retreat, which was a time for connection with God, connection with one another and connection with creation as they prayed, reflected, shared, laughed, learned the 2025 school dance, set goals and celebrated the start of their final year together. It was a time which provided the space and opportunity to be aware of their deepest selves and the way they interact with the world.

Our Year 11 students enjoyed a two-day retreat at Lake Dewar Lodge, where they heard from humanitarian worker Moira Kelly AO and participated in team activities and a hike. They took time to reflect on their place in the world and their future and to connect with each other.

"Year 11 retreat was an amazing opportunity for me to grow my connections with both my peers and my teachers. We had the opportunity to listen to Moira Kelly talking about her life and what she has done for the world. It was so amazing and eye opening to see her help people who are less fortunate than us and I believe that we were all touched by her stories."

– Sophie

Our Year 10s had a Retreat Day with Chris Doyle from Karis Ministries.

"The whole year level really enjoyed our Retreat with Chris Doyle. The day was filled with singing, dancing, and fun activities, all of which really inspired us to think more deeply about our lives. Overall, it was a really great day that made all of us smile and laugh and gave us a great chance to slow down for reflection." – Imogen

During their Retreat Day at Hartzer Park, our Issoudun students spent the day in 'creative' mode, getting to know one another, working in different groups to produce stunning outfits for the 2025 Hartzer fashion parade, praying, reflecting and journaling their thoughts and feelings about faith and God. Students reflected on their growth and the challenges they've faced during their four weeks away from home at Hartzer Park and wrote special messages of 'affirmation' to one another, recognizing the gifts and strengths of each student. This special day was a wonderful time of consolidation and connection for the students as they began to think about returning to Bentleigh and bringing with them the wisdom and experiences they've gathered during their time at Bowral.

"My heart was touched when we went around in the homerooms and wrote little messages and my highlight was the newspaper fashion show." – Alexis

Our Year 7s experienced their first OLSH retreat, spending the day together getting to know each other and learning more about life at OLSH College and what it means to be OLSH! Through prayer, reflection, dancing and other engaging activities, our Year 7s reflected on their faith and who God is for them.

Our senior students and alumnae of the College helped with activities and there was great courage and enthusiasm shown by the Year 7s, putting up their hands to share stories and work in teams.

New staff were welcomed to the College and provided with a program comprising of three sequential sessions which focused on formation in the Catholic tradition and the OLSH story and spirituality.

Four OLSH College staff participated in two programs facilitated by the OLSH Sisters - Continuing the Journey and the Bathurst Island Staff Immersion. Both opportunities provide staff with a deeper knowledge of the OLSH charism, spirituality and mission. In turn, staff are able to share their experiences with colleagues and students alike, ensuring our unique OLSH story continues to be told!

We held a staff spirituality day in October, where we heard from Fr. Richard Leonard sj, a Jesuit priest who directed the Australian Catholic Office for Film and Broadcasting for 22 years, and has lectured globally. Fr. Richard offered the staff two sessions titled: "A Sane Approach to Mary, the Mother of Jesus" and "Will our Faith have Young People in the 21st Century?" offering all OLSH staff 'food for thought' around our Marian spirituality and the way we engage our young people in their faith journeys.

Live the Gospel, seeking justice for all

Our FIRE Carriers continued to play an important role around the College, raising awareness for Reconciliation and delivering our Acknowledgement of Country at assemblies, masses and special events.

We celebrated Reconciliation Awareness Week with our Indigenous friend, Sherry Balcombe visiting the College spending time speaking with classes and speaking with staff about the issues facing our First Nations people. In the week prior, we also participated in The Long Walk to the 'G under the OLSH FIRE Carriers banner. We enjoyed the opportunity to gather in Yarra Park, to engage with various displays and activities, listen to music and hear from Michael Long. We then joined in with a huge crowd of people on The Long Walk as we wound our way through Yarra Park and around the MCG.

Our 2025 Lenten Appeal fundraising generated \$8,127.50 which was given to the OLSH Sisters for their overseas aid work and to Caritas Australia for Project Compassion. Many fundraising activities, led by our students, contributed to this figure including House-led stalls, an Easter raffle, pancake stall and coin line competition.

During the mass for the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we presented blankets and warm clothing to the local chapter of St Vincent de Paul, to assist those in greatest need during the cold winter months.

Our fundraising continued with the OLSH Mission Carnival on the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart which raised \$22,500 for OLSH Overseas Aid and the work of the OLSH Sisters. We also contributed an extra \$4250 which went directly to the Brazilian OLSH Sisters for a particular project supporting a local community in need.

Our final fundraising activity for the year was our Advent appeal, raising \$4,864 which went directly to our local St Vincent De Paul conferences to provide much needed food, clothing and gifts for those in need this Christmas.

Our staff and students continued with their outreach support of the St Kilda food van, baking muffins for the van and preparing and distributing meals at the van one evening per month.

Building Relationships as we proclaim and celebrate our Catholic ethos in the OLSH Tradition

At our Opening Mass, the College community welcomed all new students and staff to OLSH. Our Year 7s were presented with their House badges and their Year 12 Big Sisters prayed a special prayer for them to begin their journey at OLSH. After communion, the 2025 Student Leaders were presented with their leadership badges and then commissioned for their year of service to the school community.

Our student leaders led the College in beautiful Ash Wednesday prayer service at the start of Lent and the school community came together at the end of the term for our Holy Week Mass where we took time to remember the last week of Jesus' life. Fr Martin Tanti led us in our Eucharistic celebration.

We celebrated two wonderful Feast Days – the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. These masses were celebrated by our MSC brothers Fathers Peter Hendricks and Mark Haas respectively. Both Feast Day Masses were spirit-filled, led beautifully by Peter and Mark and supported by our band and choir providing beautiful singing and music. Prayers were read in a variety of languages representing the richness of cultures in our College community. Remembering the OLSH Sisters and our OLSH story, a small group of staff and students sang the Ametur as the reflection after communion for both our Feast Days in 2025.

Our final mass for the year was our Advent Mass, celebrated again by Fr. Martin Tanti, where we came together to light the first Advent candle and remember the significance of making a heart-felt Advent journey. Our liturgical singers and band led us through our eucharistic celebration with a great spirit of joy and anticipation as we awaited the birth of Jesus.

To share our history and charism, during our senior RE classes, Sister Liz took each Year 12 RE class on a walk around the College pointing out key aspects that reflect our Catholic identity and our OLSH charism and our history, bringing a new perspective and deeper understanding for many students.

Commit in word and deed to caring for our earth and sustaining our planet

In March, we recognized the 19th Earth Hour where we stood in solidarity, supporting a healthy future for all people and nature by a week of awareness raising and then turning off our lights and screens for 60 minutes during the school day.

For the first time, our FIRE Carriers created Pasion for Fashion – an initiative to raise much needed funds for the Opening the Doors Foundation which supports indigenous children through the provision of books, uniforms and other school supplies. Bringing together our shared commitment to both our First Nations peoples and sustainability, the stall ran over several days and the initiative was well supported by students and staff through the purchase of second-hand clothing.

Value Added

To celebrate the life of Pope Francis and all he brought to the Catholic Church and the wider world through his 12 of years of leadership, we prepared and facilitated special prayer sessions which were facilitated in the OLSH Centre over the course of two weeks. Each RE class came to pray, reflect and remember the life of Pope Francis. All other teaching and non-teaching staff were invited to attend these times of prayer.

Pilgrimage to Issoudun

During the September holidays, 16 members of the OLSH community flew to Europe to participate in our We are OLSH! 2025 Issoudun Pilgrimage to celebrate 150 years since the foundation of the OLSH Sisters. They represented a microcosm of our OLSH family – current and past staff members, OLSH friends and family members, a Chaplain and an OLSH Sister.

Retracing the steps of Father Jules Chevalier, they journeyed from his birthplace in Richelieu, to Bourges where he studied and was ordained, and finally to Issoudun where he founded the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart 151 years ago. The pilgrimage was underpinned by a program of daily presentations that covered the beginnings and growth of the OLSH Sisters charism. The focus on the influence of the life and vision of Jules Chevalier and Mother Marie Louise Hartzler assisted all participants to come to a greater understanding of what it means to make the Sacred Heart of Jesus everywhere loved.

The group shared morning prayer and evening eucharist each day and were nourished by the sharing of faith, friendship and fun together. Towards the end of the pilgrimage, they took time to reflect on our OLSH story and the vital part they each play in being OLSH today!

"I hope and pray the pilgrimage spirit will never leave me, revitalizing my faith, helping me to become a better person and reminding me that life is meant to be a hope-filled journey of love, empathy and kindness." - Lee

Footnote: All participants paid their own way for this pilgrimage. We are grateful to the OLSH Sisters for the opportunity to honour their 150th anniversary milestone in this way.

Celebrating the Year of Jubilee

To celebrate this special Year of Jubilee, twenty Year 10 students participated in a youth festival held at St. Bede's. More than 250 young people gathered to share faith, fun and friendship with one another. Musician and singer, Gen Bryant was the facilitator for our day together. After a lot of group discussion, interaction and a delicious lunch, the students went on pilgrimage together, walking along the beach towards St. Brigid's Catholic Church, Mordialloc where Fr. Andrew Jekot celebrated Mass for us. Here are some reflections from our students.

"The Southern Region Youth Pilgrimage was such a special day. I really enjoyed every single part. It was great opportunity to build new connections and get to know people from other schools, whether it was about them personally or their faith journey. With around 12 schools gathered, it was truly amazing and uplifting seeing how, throughout the day, everyone really came together as one. The welcoming and open environment made by all the students and our host, Gen Bryant and her team made it easy to feel comfortable, get involved and step outside our comfort zones. It was truly a day filled with fun, friendship, and faith." - Ahaana

"It was a fantastic day at the St. Bede's Youth Festival! We had meaningful discussions about our faith and our Catholic community, sharing our thoughts as a whole group. It was great to mix with students from different schools and gain insight into how their communities operate, which led to some amazing conversations. We also enjoyed a beautiful singing concert from Gen Bryant's team, which felt truly therapeutic. The day concluded with a pilgrimage walk to Mordialloc St Brigid's Church, followed by a beautiful Mass, leaving us all inspired after a faith-filled and memorable experience." - Dollwia

Visit to Tonga

Following on from the 150th celebrations in 2024, OLSH College Board member Sr. Liz Taylor and Deputy Principal Faith and Mission Megan Donohue travelled to Tonga to visit Sr. Annabelle Muller – a previous staff member at OLSH College Bently – to understand the mission of the OLSH Sisters in Tonga and ascertain whether Tonga could be a viable future immersion experience for the College. After visiting this small, committed community, Sr. Liz and Megan had a new understanding of the needs of the local people and how OLSH College might be able to assist through fundraising.

As with previous years, our Religious Education teachers and their classes took a turn to prepare and lead Wednesday Morning Prayer for the College community in our Regnet Christus Chapel. In 2025, seeking strengthening relationships with our OLSH families, we began to invite parents to join their daughters for their scheduled class prayer. Parents enjoyed the opportunity to come onsite and they also enjoyed the takeaway coffees we offered following prayer!

Learning and Teaching

Goals & Intended Outcomes

In line with our Strategic Directions statement, we strive to be a learning community living wisdom excellence in all we do.

As members of the Chevalier Family in the tradition of the OLSH Sisters we will:

- know, understand and respond to the learning needs of each student
- prioritise teamwork and collaboration, and engage in reflective practice
- be consistent in our learning and teaching practices
- seek continuous improvement: grow confidence, have high expectations.

Achievements

We have had another extraordinary year of learning, growth and achievement, marked by curiosity, collaboration, and a genuine passion for excellence across all areas of learning and teaching.

Our students continued to set an exceptional academic standard, and the Class of 2025 led the way with dedication, perseverance, and commitment to their goals. It was wonderful to have our DUX receive an ATAR of 99.45, highlighting her drive for success and our teacher's capacity to support the pursuit of excellence by our students.

Learning beyond the classroom continued to enrich student understanding. Year 12 History students benefited from lectures delivered by guest experts on the French Revolution, deepening their insight into the complexities of the subject. Physics students experienced the thrill of applying theoretical concepts to real-world scenarios during their excursion to Luna Park. Across Years 7 to 10, Geography students engaged in meaningful fieldwork, exploring landscapes, collecting data, and developing their analytical skills through hands-on investigation.

Our co-curricular programs flourished as well, with Teen Chef remaining a student favourite. This year's participants showcased creativity, teamwork, and culinary skill, producing dishes that impressed both staff and guest judges alike.

OLSH students lead climate innovation at APEC Conference

Three OLSH College students were invited to attend the APEC STEM Youth Conference in Busan, South Korea in August 2025. They were selected from students across 14 Asia-Pacific countries to research and present a topic that provides a youth-led STEM solution for

the competition theme Strengthening Climate Resilience for a Prosperous and Connected APEC.

At the start of the competition, nearly 130 students were allocated to a multi-national team of two to three participants from across the Asia Pacific region, and they collaborated for six months on their research project. The top ten teams (28 participants) were invited to attend the conference at the Korea Science Academy in Busan to present their findings. The students from OLSH were in these teams and were the only Australian delegates.

The goal of the conference was to foster future talent and strengthen science and technology cooperation among APEC member economies. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Science and ICT and organized by the APEC Science and Gifted Mentoring Center.

The students will continue to put their research experience into practice and will share it with their peers in the classroom, to continue to engage those around them in this exciting and important work.

"I presented my original research report on sustainable mangrove coastal defence systems with an international teammate—a project we began eight months ago, progressing through multiple stages of research, analysis, and refinement. The conference included a booth presentation and a live Q&A session, which were part of the evaluation process for our work."

- Isabelle

Learning highlights

Department-specific highlights included:

- Our Year 8 students attended the Jewish Museum in St. Kilda, as part of the Year 8 Unit on the life and times of Jesus. The students were taken on a historical tour of what life was like for a Jewish person during the time Jesus lived. It was a wonderful insight into Jewish life as the students were also taken into the Synagogue and then recreated a traditional Seder meal.
- Our Learning and Pathways expo was a great opportunity for students and parents to find out more about senior learning options and post-school pathways through exploration and conversation. Our Heads of Department were joined by representatives from tertiary institutions to provide information and answer questions about subject selection and pathway opportunities.
- In English, our Year 10 English students were treated to a 'peek behind the curtain' when the Bell Shakespeare company presented a rehearsal of excerpts from Shakespeare's Macbeth. It was a very engaging way to bring the story to life in a contemporary setting, and an opportunity for some audience participation by some of our students and staff.
- Year 7s had the opportunity to try various instruments as part of our Instrumental Music classroom program and our VCE Music students showcased their repertoire in a 20 minute performance which included a reimagined work in a different style to reflect

their individual style. Their commitment and countless hours of practice shone through, with an inspiring display of talent across the cohort.

- Our Year 11 Visual Communication Design investigated good design, in the context of Dieter Ram's 10 principles of good design. They were encouraged to look at items around them and consider the design of these items against the principles of innovation, usefulness, aesthetics and longevity.
- Junior language students participated in the Chinese Language Association of Victoria's Year 7 Reading Award Ceremony. Students read an unseen text in Chinese, showcasing their language learning and confidence. Our Year 10 Italian and Chinese students shared their knowledge of cultural traditions and practices with each other, including the significance and customs of Chinese New Year, the Carnevale and the theatrical style of 'Commedia dell'Arte.' Our senior language students completed a detailed study of Immigration to Italy and the personal experiences of refugees embarking on this perilous journey. A variety of text types and mediums were studied (articles, anecdotes, street art murals, documentaries and films).
- Our Year 7 Geography students used the information collected during a Field Work Excursion to inform their studies on Place and Livability. They researched the elements of livability such as housing, parking and shops which influence a person's decision about where to live.
- Physical Education and Sport Science students had the opportunity to put their learning into practice through many incursions and excursions during the year including Self Defence lessons (awareness and safety), wheelchair basketball (Disability in sport), ice-skating (biomechanics), VO2 max and Wingate fitness testing (energy system, fatigue and recovery) and a visit to a physiotherapy studio (injury management).
- Our VCE Business Management students completed a practical exercise in costing and producing chocolate and visited the Yakult factory as part of their unit of study on Operations Management. They viewed the production line and discussed processes with the staff.
- We held Dance Showcases each semester to provide our Dance students with the opportunity to present their talent and creativity. The audiences were treated to an inspiring display of energy and artistry, reflecting the hard work and passion of every performer.
- A highlight in the creative space was our Visual Art and Design Exhibition. The runway fashion show was a vibrant showcase of garments ranging from hoodies and PJs to evening wear and street wear. Our exhibition spaces were filled with diverse and thoughtful artworks, each reflecting the styles and themes explored in class, enriched by the students' own unique interpretations.

Enhancing our learning

The opportunity to build on classroom learning through extension activities such as competitions and collaborative work, continued to be a highlight for many students.

From local competitions such as Teen Chef, through to global opportunities such as the STEM APEC conference in South Korea, our students matched their talents across many disciplines with students from other schools and in other countries.

Here are some of the highlights from the year.

Model United Nations

In March, eight OLSH students took part in Model United Nations (MUN) at Brighton Grammar. This was a fantastic opportunity to research global issues, collaborate with others, and represent different countries with diverse perspectives.

The students discussed the topic of: Zero Hunger: Addressing Global Poverty and Universal Food Security, with a large number of delegates (who were students representing their school).

The MUN Assembly runs according to the UN protocols and procedures followed by the UN General Assembly. Students were required to suspend their own opinions and represent their countries' position, not their personal point of view throughout the entire process. The day resulted in school team's presenting their country's position on Zero Hunger and putting forward amendment(s) to the Draft Resolution, seeking support from their fellow delegates by collaborating, debating, and using their negotiation and diplomacy skills.

"Participating in Model UN as Japan with my peers allowed me to deepen my understanding of international affairs and the workings of the United Nations. I also learned how to navigate complex global issues, such as 'Zero Hunger: Addressing Global Poverty and Universal Food Insecurity,' with a focus on cooperation and peacebuilding." - Amber, Year 10

Debating

Our Debating teams participated in the Debating Association of Victoria competition against other schools in the area this year. Six teams across all year levels represented OLSH, debating topics including 'That all school and university exams should be open-book', 'That tickets to all sporting events should be free' and 'That the government should prohibit businesses from being cashless'. Debating provides a great opportunity to develop analytical and public speaking skills and we're grateful to our debating coaches for their work preparing students for these debates.

Teen Chef

Teen Chef participants Neeve, Harlie, Alana and Lily spent many weeks after school preparing for the CGSAV Teen Chef competition. Each team had to prepare a main course and dessert to time with two qualified chefs judging their preparation, presentation and taste. All teams received great feedback and tips from the chefs who rated the dishes as

'restaurant worthy'! OLSH and Kilbreda received Gold Medals, Killester received Silver and Kilbreda were the overall winners.

Textiles winners at the Melbourne Royal Show

OLSH entered nearly 30 Textiles pieces in the 2025 Melbourne Royal Art, Craft & Cookery Competition. All works were on display in the Spotlight Makers Pavilion. Our students received a range of awards from 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Commended and Highly Commended. The judges were very impressed with their creativity and level of expertise.

Ethics Olympiad

Ten students participated in the Middle School Ethics Olympiad, debating both sides of the ethical story on topics such as 'Should bull fighting be banned?', 'Is verbal bullying just as bad as physical bullying?' and "Should parents be allowed to name children whatever they choose?'.

The two teams, who spent several weeks preparing, competed against 31 other schools and both OLSH teams were awarded an Honourable Mention for their effort and great ideas.

The strength of our College community lies in the genuine partnerships formed between students and teachers. Built on trust, encouragement and mutual respect, these relationships inspire students to challenge themselves, embrace new opportunities and grow with confidence. Throughout 2025, our commitment to excellence was reflected in the many achievements, experiences and moments of learning that shaped and enriched our community.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering excellence, curiosity, and a deep love of learning. The achievements of 2025 are a testament to the remarkable young women in our community and the educators who walk alongside them. We are immensely proud of all that we have accomplished together this year.

Student Learning Outcomes

Our NAPLAN results in 2025 continued to demonstrate strong growth across all year levels. This cohort showed particularly impressive progress in Literacy, with students building on the solid foundation established in previous years. In our Year 7 cohort, several students achieved results in the Exceeding Expectations category, with three students performing more than two years above the expected level. Our Year 9 cohort also performed strongly, achieving results well above the state average across all NAPLAN domains.

While our Numeracy results remained above the state average, they were again slightly lower than our Literacy outcomes. In response, our Mathematics team continued to provide targeted in-class support and additional intervention through the Math Hub. We also maintained the support of a dedicated Learning Support Officer, trained in mathematics, who

worked closely with small groups and individual students to build confidence, fluency, and problem-solving skills. As a result, we have seen the largest number of students study Mathematical Methods at the senior level.

Our Learning Diversity Team at OLSH has continued to develop innovative approaches to support teachers, students, and families. Literacy support and intervention students were identified through Year 6 data, NAPLAN results, and ongoing assessment throughout the year. Our committed team of teachers implemented a range of evidence-based strategies, including the MacqLit intervention program, ensuring support was explicit, systematic, and responsive to student needs. In 2025, our senior English teachers ran structured sessions for the cohort and provided targeted support in the Senior Study Lines.

Professional learning remained closely aligned with our Instructional Model, with a continued focus on strengthening teacher practice and building collective capacity. Staff engaged in professional reading, collaborative planning, and resource development to further enhance classroom instruction. There was also a continued emphasis on partnering with families to support student learning. Our main areas of investment in 2025 were Pedagogy, Wellbeing, and Learning Diversity, with AI being an identified area for 2026.

Our 2025 data reflected the positive impact of these strategic efforts. We observed the highest ATAR that the College has had and a continued strength in scores above 80. Our Median Study Score remained the same and our Year 11 students improved their exam readiness in preparation for their final year. Students demonstrated commitment and resilience throughout the year, supported by structured goal setting and consistent exam preparation. This sustained focus has resulted in a continued improvement in results and a five year trend of improvement.

Further education:

- 86% received an offer to attend University
- 5% received an offer to attend TAFE

Destinations include:

- Australian Catholic University – 9%
- Deakin University –18%
- Monash University – 22%
- RMIT University – 19%

- Swinburne University of Technology – 7%
- Victoria University – 6%
- The University of Melbourne – 7%

Areas of Study include Health, Society and Culture, Creative Arts, Management and Commerce, Natural and Physical Science, Education and Engineering and Related Technologies.

NAPLAN - Proportion of students meeting the proficient standards					
	2025 (current year)			2-Year Average	
Domain	Year level	Mean Scale score	Proficient	Mean Scale score	Proficient
Grammar & Punctuation	Year 7	565	81%	567	80%
	Year 9	600	75%	604	75%
Numeracy	Year 7	559	82%	554	82%
	Year 9	581	73%	583	76%
Reading	Year 7	569	87%	569	86%
	Year 9	608	83%	608	83%
Spelling	Year 7	561	86%	554	81%
	Year 9	580	77%	585	81%
Writing	Year 7	586	86%	582	87%
	Year 9	617	82%	622	85%

*A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate. Data not reported for 2025 due to participation not meeting these criteria or no students were assessed. Participants include students who were assessed, including non-attempt, or those exempted from the test.

Senior Secondary Outcomes	
VCE Median Score	31
VCE Completion Rate	99.20%
VCE VM Completion Rate	100%
VPC Completion Rate	*

*Data not reported for 2025 due to insufficient data i.e. less than 4 student enrolments for VCE/VCE VM/VPC or none of the students in a school received study scores.

Post-School Destinations as at 2025	
Tertiary Study	86%
TAFE / VET	5%
Apprenticeship / Traineeship	0.8%
Deferred	0%
Employment	5.7%
Other - The category of Other includes both students Looking for Work and those classed as Other	2.5%

Student Wellbeing

Goals & Intended Outcomes

In line with our Strategic Directions statement, we strive to be a connected community strengthening relationships.

As members of the Chevalier Family in the tradition of the OLSH Sisters we will:

- provide opportunities for every student to flourish understand, build and foster connections between wellbeing and learning
- empower students to have agency, voice and leadership opportunities
- engage with parents and caregivers as partners in student learning and growth
- ensure OLSH contributes to, and is known in, the wider community.

Achievements

When we take the dive into school life, we begin to see the ripple effect it creates across so many areas. Whether it's stretching ourselves in learning, developing new skills, or forming new connections, stepping into something for the first time often leads to positive and unexpected growth. *'Take the Dive, Start the Ripple'* the student leadership theme for 2025, inspired the wellbeing team to explore new uncharted waters.

Highlights for the year included:

- Providing targeted support to help students enhance their attendance, improving student engagement, strengthening learning routines, and ensuring early intervention when concerns arise.
- Staff workshops on emotional coaching, building staff capacity to better understand student behaviour, strengthen relationships, and support positive emotional regulation.
- Launching Lizzie, our Heart mascot to symbolise our OLSH spirit, fostering a stronger sense of belonging, school pride, and connection across the community.
- A record-breaking year of fundraising, with more than \$30,000 raised at our Mission Carnival, driven by our student leaders, developing their leadership skills and teamwork.
- Introducing peer-nominated awards during House assemblies to reflect the spirit of the House, encouraging positive student recognition, strengthening House culture, and celebrating everyday acts of kindness and leadership.
- Delivering Brainstorm Productions' evidence-based drama on anti-bullying, cyber safety, and positive online behaviours, increasing student awareness, promoting respectful choices, and supporting safer online interactions.

- Facilitating Toolbox Education on emotional regulation, helping students build resilience, self-awareness, and stronger coping strategies.
- Stretching ourselves on camps and retreats, building independence, resilience, and stronger peer connections and reflection.
- Our Red Heart Crew of past students, were on hand to lend a hand and guide students during Year 7 Transition, camps and retreats, providing positive role models, supporting smoother transitions into school life and providing our Alumnae with continued connection with the College.

Value Added

The Student Wellbeing team worked collaboratively to continually strengthen the support provided to students and staff, while also identifying new opportunities and more effective ways of working. Three key ways this was implemented in 2025 were:

- Providing targeted support to help students enhance their attendance through clear processes and procedures for staff, ensuring prompt follow up of students, early intervention, stronger communication with families, and improved consistency in supporting students to remain engaged in their learning.
- Engaging SchoolTV for parents, a wellbeing resource that provides guidance on the issues young people face today, helping parents access trusted information, practical strategies, and timely support to strengthen communication and wellbeing at home.
- Offering a series of staff workshops on emotional coaching to strengthen staff understanding of students' emotions and behaviours, supporting more effective responses, stronger relationships, improved student self-regulation, and a more positive and supportive learning environment.

Student Satisfaction

Classroom feedback

Year 7 to 11 students were asked to provide feedback on their learning in December 2025 and 375 students completed the survey. Key findings included:

- I understand what success looks like for each lesson: **66.1% Agree/Strongly Agree**
- I have opportunities to work with others and share ideas: **62.4% Agree/Strongly Agree**
- My teacher communicates clearly and respectfully: **60.0% Agree/Strongly Agree**
- Technology is used in ways that make learning meaningful: **64.8% Agree/Strongly Agree**
- I feel challenged to do my best in class: **60.0% Agree/Strongly Agree**
- Overall, my classroom learning experience is positive and effective: **61.1% Agree/Strongly Agree**

Hartzer Experience feedback

Each year, our Year 9 students, also known as our Issoudun students, participate in a one month residential program at Hartzer Park, Burradoo. This unique experience provides students with opportunities to grow in confidence, leadership, independence, and collaboration, while also deepening their connection to our OLSH story.

These are some of their reflections.

"I loved the Hartzer experience, it made me become independent and closer to my friends, as well as making new friends and making new memories I will remember forever."

"Amazingly surprising in a good way. I had so much fun and I made new friends after coming into the experience with none. Would do it again 100%!!"

"The Hartzer experience is one that I will never forget. I have grown in confidence, independence and have learnt to give new things a go."

"Such a positive and fun experience. It strengthened many relationships and I made new ones. It was definitely the best part of Year 9!"

"Hartzer was an experience that others wouldn't normally get. It was a time where you can bond and deepen the connections with your peers. It was a time to learn independence, responsibility and resilience."

Camp feedback

Camps are an important part of our collective story, providing students with opportunities to grow as individuals and strengthen their connections with one another. These are some of their reflections.

"We loved the activities and making new friends. Our favourite activities were stand up paddle boarding and raft building."

"We loved the experiences on camp, meeting new people. We learnt if you keep going you can push through your limits. Our favourite activities were the dual flying fox and standup paddle boarding."

"Camp was amazing as we learnt how to work together in teams and how to make new friends. Our favourite activities were jumping off the jetty and standup paddle boarding."

"We enjoyed jumping off the jetty as it pushed us to our limits, it was so good doing it with our friends."

Student Attendance

A key focus in 2025 was strengthening attendance through clear procedures and consistent follow-up to ensure every student was supported. Attendance is recorded every period by subject teachers and during Learning Mentor time, allowing concerns to be identified early.

Parents receive a text message for any unexplained absence, with the Wellbeing Team following up immediately during the day and notifying families. Learning Mentors contact parents when students are absent for more than two days. Heads of House work closely with students and families to provide support strategies where needed, helping students remain engaged in their learning and connected to school.

Years 9 - 12 Student Retention Rate	
Years 9 to 12 Student Retention Rate	90.37

Average Student Attendance Rate by Year Level	
Y07	90.62
Y08	86.76
Y09	88.9
Y10	83.81
Overall average attendance	87.52

Leadership

Goals & Intended Outcomes

OLSH College Bentleigh seeks to strengthen and uphold its commitment to building an outstanding Catholic girls' college, characterised by professionalism and enthusiasm for girls' education in the OLSH tradition.

Our goals are articulated in our Strategic Directions Statement 2023 - 2027.

A Faith Filled Catholic Community Seeking Christ:

- living a spirituality of the heart
- committing in word and deed to caring for our earth and sustaining our planet.

A Learning Community Living Wisdom Excellence in all we do:

- being consistent in our learning and teaching practices
- seeking continuous improvement: grow confidence, have high expectations.

A Connected Community Strengthening Relationships:

- empowering students to have agency, voice and leadership opportunities
- providing opportunities for every student to flourish.

Achievements

No major capital works were carried out during 2025. Plans have been developed for the creation of a designated Year 9 area which will also provide access to all areas of the school for anyone with a disability. Funding has been sought via a capital grant from the State Government.

Continuous upgrades to facilities and Grounds were made throughout the year, especially in the areas of painting classrooms, carpeting and replacement of fluorescent lighting. Numerous repairs by the school's plumber due to leaking roofs were also made during the year.

Ms. April Honeyman resigned from the School Board at years end after 4 years of service.

Expenditure And Teacher Participation in Professional Learning	
List Professional Learning undertaken in 2025	
Staff were provided with opportunities to apply for acting roles in leadership positions to cover planned absences and changes of roles. All staff were active in professional learning, attending weekly Wednesday professional learning sessions as well as externally run programs and seminars. Our staff participated in a range of external professional learning sessions, including: • Drama Victoria Conference • MAV Conference • Psychology - 2025 Written Assessor Training Meeting • Preparation Workshop Units 1-4 Religion and Society • SLAV School libraries transforming readers • Skills-based Training on Suicide Risk Management • TI Technology: Learn Energise Connect • VCAA Mark 3 Art Making and Exhibiting • Creating Languages Units • Ausdance Moderation Session • Assessor - Language Chinese First Language (Oral and Written) We held internal professional learning sessions for teaching staff every Wednesday and topics included: • Tuning Into Students - Emotional Intelligence and Emotional Coaching (3 sessions run by Dr Christiane Kehoe, University of Melbourne) • OLSH Instructional Model - Explicit Teaching and New Information (8 sessions) • Using the MACS WalkThrus Hub to support teaching • Familiarisation with the 'SchoolTV' platform • Technology update sessions (Canvas and Synergetic) • Exploration of the use of generative artificial intelligence by both teachers and students • Australian social media ban for people under 16	
Number of teachers who participated in PL in 2025	68
Average expenditure per teacher for PL	\$382.00

Teacher Satisfaction

Staff provided the following feedback in response the questions about their satisfaction with working at OLSH College, teaching at OLSH College and working with students.

Most satisfying part of working at OLSH College in 2025

"The OLSH spirit. While it cannot be seen, measured, or quantified, it is something that is deeply felt. The opportunity to visit our foundations in Issoudun and journey alongside staff who share this spirit, on a Pilgrimage of the Heart was one of the highlights of my 2025."

"How full and varied the work is. I have good working relationships here and often get the opportunity to influence change. I've been provided with the opportunity to move into different areas to keep my work interesting and challenging leading to continual job satisfaction."

"One of the most satisfying parts of my working at OLSH in 2025 was knowing the positive impacts of my efforts and making a difference to students and staff."

"Continuing the Journey at Kensington because of the fantastic group of other OLSH staff we met in our shared journey; and of course, the highlight visiting Issoudun on our Pilgrimage. I felt blessed to be able to visit and share again with a wonderful group all wanting to learn about our OLSH family history."

"Driving to work, with a smile on my face, knowing that I work at a site with beautiful grounds, that I can and do make a difference to the education of our students by ensuring that they and the teaching staff have the necessary tools to deliver a well-rounded education, both in the academic realm as well as co-curricular activities. To see the students arrive with smiles on their faces and full of chatter shows that they too enjoy being part of OLSH College."

"As a new member of staff, getting to know the people and the team that I was going to be working with. It didn't take long at all to get to know people, as everyone from the office staff to team members were just so supportive and helpful."

"Contributing to a school community that places faith, relationships, wellbeing, learning and the pursuit of excellence in all areas, at the centre of all that we do. Having opportunities to lead and collaborate with colleagues who share a genuine commitment to the growth of every student and how this positively impacts both students and staff and their connection to the community."

Most satisfying part of teaching at OLSH College in 2025

"Watching our Year 9 students grow throughout their time at Hartzer is one of the most fulfilling parts of teaching and a privilege."

"Witnessing students grow in confidence, independence and skills throughout the year. Seeing students embrace challenges, develop resilience and take pride in their achievements was very rewarding. As a Head of House and teacher, I particularly enjoyed building positive relationships with students and supporting them to reach their potential, both academically and personally. Being able to contribute to a learning environment where students feel encouraged, valued and empowered has made this year especially fulfilling."

"Being asked to contribute to discussions with colleagues which improve student experiences such as the Masterchef Competition and the Nous Sommes "invite a friend for lunch" days."

"Watching the students grow in confidence and belief in their capacity as learners so that their goals can be achieved. Supporting students to overcome challenges and acknowledge and celebrate their academic achievements no matter how large or small."

Most satisfying experience with students at OLSH College in 2025

"The Issoudun XIII Hartzler Residential Experience, which provides staff with the opportunity to journey alongside students for a month away from home, was one of the most rewarding experiences of 2025. It is a privilege to accompany our Year 9 students during their time at Hartzler and to witness their growth, resilience, and increasing independence throughout the journey."

"Working with students who genuinely wanted to do well and worked consistently. I noticed this in all my classes; students who sought extra help, feedback and guidance and who acted on suggestions. Working with committed students like this makes teaching so rewarding."

"When the VCE VM Numeracy Christmas stall came together. It was truly an honour to watch as students applied their maths skills in a practical way by serving their OLSH community with a stall selling everything from artistic creations to snacks to games. The profits went to a good cause and the leadership, creativity, problem-solving, and numerical skills demonstrated by the students makes it a day I reflect upon with a lot of pride."

"Seeing how the student leaders involved themselves in all the whole-school activities, particularly the House Swimming, House Athletics and the Performing Arts Spectacular. The student leaders were organised, passionate and worked extremely hard. The House chants at both the swimming and athletics were particular highlights – very impressive displays that required a lot of rehearsal and guidance."

"Being able to run Photography Club as part of co-curricular to observe the students' progress using the cameras and the way they were inspired, taking beautiful photographs of the school environment and seeing them be genuinely proud of what they had achieved."

Being able to experience the end-of-year art exhibition and seeing how genuinely proud the students and their families were of what they had achieved in the year."

"Celebrating the individual journeys of students and witnessing the growth that can occur when young people feel supported and believed in. Seeing students flourish not only academically but also personally, growing in confidence, compassion and character."

Teacher Qualifications	
Doctorate	2
Masters	17
Graduate	25
Graduate Certificate	5
Bachelor Degree	63
Advanced Diploma	12
No Qualifications Listed	7

Staff Composition	
Principal Class (Headcount)	4
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	73
Teaching Staff (FTE)	66.45
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	39
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	28.91
Indigenous Teaching Staff (Headcount)	0

Community Engagement

Goals & Intended Outcomes

Our goal is to provide a contemporary, inspiring environment where our students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of activities and our broader community, including parents and past students, feel welcome and enthusiastic about attending events.

Through academic and co-curricular activities, we provide opportunities for students to try new things, build real-world skills and develop their talents.

Through connection with our local and global community, we encourage students to pursue excellence in all that they do and to develop an awareness for the needs and challenges of others.

Achievements

A wide range of activities and initiatives were planned and delivered to strengthen connections with the OLSH community and our shared story, create opportunities for students to build relationships beyond the classroom, and further develop their skills and talents.

Connecting with community

We welcomed 141 Year 7 students and 20 students at other levels to the OLSH College community during the year. These students and their families were welcomed with a transition program, including a Big Sister or buddy to support them, as well as the support of the wellbeing team and Heads of House.

Parents were provided with a number of different channels to connect with the College and stay up to date with news and events, including 12 newsletters sent out across the year, social media posts and stories, two editions of Flame magazine and content delivered via our portal Ametur or directly via email.

Students were provided with a yearbook, recording the highlights in narrative and photographic form for 2025. Students provided contributions to the yearbook in the form of photos of portfolio work, reflections on activities and messages from leaders.

Our Class of 2025 students received a Graduation book, providing an overview of their six years at the College and including messages from staff and students wishing them well for their life beyond OLSH College.

Parents were welcomed to several events during the year including our Welcome Evening, Mother's Day and Father's Day breakfasts, masses and award ceremonies. Parents also attended instrumental music concerts, dance shows, our sports awards evening, Visual Art and Design Exhibition and year level information evenings.

We held seven reunions during the year, welcoming back nearly 200 past students to the College to share hospitality together, reconnect with each other and tour the College grounds.

We recognised second and third generation OLSH students who joined the College in 2025, at our annual Generations Assembly held on International Women's Day. This special assembly recognises our past students who have chosen to send their daughters to OLSH College and acknowledges the contribution of many OLSH alumnae through their careers and community work.

Our two editions of Flame magazine provided our OLSH parent and alumnae community with news of special events at the College, including the Issoudun pilgrimage, outreach work of our students and celebrating the achievements of past students.

We held four Open Mornings, four College Tours and numerous private tours with prospective OLSH College families. More than 1000 people registered for these activities across a range of year levels and from more than 40 feeder schools.

Students were provided with the opportunity to represent the College and connect with our community, through activities such as Open Mornings, social outreach and parent events. More than 65 Student Ambassadors assisted with each Open Morning, taking groups on tours of the College and providing the wisdom of their experience at the College to prospective families.

Students had the opportunity to present at Open Mornings and other parent events, further developing their public speaking and leadership skills. These opportunities were extended to those in formal student leadership positions as well as others in the student community.

On the sporting front, students had the opportunity to participate in 18 individual and team sports, representing the College in competitions against other schools. Our annual swimming and athletics carnivals were joyous occasions where our Student House Leaders encouraged their teams to participate and represent their House, growing our House spirit immensely.

Cultural immersion to China

Nearly 40 students and staff shared an incredible 10 days in China in September 2025, immersing themselves in the culture and history of the country and exploring Beijing, Shanghai, Wuzhen and Hangzhou.

From walking the Great Wall to catching a bullet train, riding rickshaws, exploring temples, and tasting local cuisine, the group deepened their understanding of China's history and contemporary life. They finished the trip in Shanghai, enjoying a river cruise, an acrobat show, and a visit to St Ignatius Cathedral.

"This was a once-in-a-lifetime trip to China and I have learnt so much about the history of China, including the dynasties, the culture and the cuisines. Travelling through the different cities has broadened my deep appreciation of China and I've also made lifelong friends, developed skills and, most importantly, made memories that I'll treasure forever." - Ivory

OLSH Links

Four students and two teachers participated in OLSH Links, our annual connection with OLSH Enfield and OLSH Kensington colleges, where the students celebrate Feast Day together. This year's OLSH Links was hosted by OLSH Enfield in Adelaide.

"When we first arrived at OLSH Adelaide, we were welcomed by smiling faces and the reminder that all three OLSH schools across the nation, have the same four pillars as the cornerstone of Catholic education. Meeting new people from varying backgrounds and faiths was inspiring, as it is a true testament to our combined OLSH spirit. In addition, after the school day ended, we were fortunate enough to spend dinner with the OLSH Sydney girls, where we continued to foster new relationships and an innate sense of belonging to a wider community than our own school.

On the day of Sacred Heart Day, we were immersed in a new way of celebrating, highlighting our similarities in liturgy such as "Shine Jesus shine" a song often sung at school masses. An interesting fact I found out was that OLSH Bentleigh is the only school across the nation which runs a carnival after mass to raise money for OLSH missions abroad. Although all three OLSH schools have vast differences in education and opportunities, at the end of the day each school shares a common understanding of love and compassion, stemming from our founder Jules Chevalier." – Ava

Celebrating achievement

We celebrated the achievements and contributions of students in the classroom, in cocurricular activities and in pursuing their interests outside the College. This recognition included our major award ceremonies, the presentation of certificates at assemblies, items in our newsletter and stories in our Yearbook.

We recognised our 2024 VCE achievers at our Ceremony of Excellence. It was lovely to welcome back students from the Class of 2024 and to recognise our current students who

completed a VCE subject in 2024. Our Dux, Holly Watters addressed the audience and reflected on her experience at OLSH, sharing her wisdom for balancing academic and cocurricular opportunities, along with investing time in connecting with others and valuing every moment as a student.

Our Semester 1 Awards and Regnet Christus Awards ceremonies recognised and celebrated the achievements of students during the year. We celebrated students across all year levels who achieved academic excellence, displayed consistent application to studies and demonstrated the OLSH College values.

Principal Anne O'Loughlin spoke of the pioneering spirit of the first OLSH Sisters and how that has been a recurring theme in 2025 in the initiatives of our students – from representing Australia at the APEC Stem Conference, to developing the student theme that has left a legacy of creating a ripple of kindness. It was a joy to celebrate growth, excellence and all that it means to be a Heart person.

We celebrated our sporting achievements for 2025 at the OLSH College Sports Awards in November. Across the year, students had the opportunity to participate in 17 sports, competing against other schools to represent OLSH, develop their skills, take on coaching roles and form friendships with their teammates. We recognised best athletes and those who demonstrated team spirit in each sport, as well as our overall sports champions, rising star, all rounder and team player of the year.

In November we hosted a brilliant night of creativity, colour and innovation at our annual Visual Art and Design Exhibition. The runway fashion show was a vibrant showcase of garments ranging from hoodies and PJs to evening wear and street wear. Our exhibition spaces were filled with diverse and thoughtful artworks, each reflecting the styles and themes explored in class, enriched by the students' own unique interpretations. We are incredibly proud of every student who contributed, and deeply grateful to our dedicated staff for guiding and showcasing this inspiring work for our OLSH community to enjoy.

Looking to the future

As the College looks towards nearly nine decades of operation, the focus continues to be on building and nurturing our OLSH College community so that many can enjoy the privilege of being a part of our special community for decades to come.

The Development of the College focused on building admissions, creating marketing campaigns to build awareness and partnering with others in the community.

Forecasting of student enrolments and an analysis of historical enrolment data was created to assist in establishing budgets and identifying areas for growth. This data helped to set annual targets for enrolments and to track year-on-year progress against these targets.

New families were supported with a planned schedule of communications to support their transition to OLSH College and engage them in the stories and daily operations of the College prior to their start. For our bulk Year 7 intake, this program of communication, onsite activities and information sharing has been instrumental in retaining close to 100 per cent of enrolments from acceptance to first day.

A planned schedule of marketing campaigns supported awareness building for the College and for key activities such as Open Mornings and our third Discover Day, an opportunity for primary school students to spend a day onsite. Nearly 90 per cent of attendees at Discover Day enrolled at the College to start in 2026 or 2027, demonstrating the value of this low-cost development initiative.

We launched a new marketing campaign in 2025, featuring the positioning statement 'Each of us is OLSH', reflecting the charism of the OLSH Sisters and the values of the College. From our junior students who have spent just one term at OLSH to our Year 12 students who are heading into their final semester at OLSH – each person is equally part of OLSH. From those who display academic talents or sporting prowess, to those who do their best every day and show personal growth – each student is important to who we are and how we achieve together. From those who quietly live our values every day to those who take on leadership roles to provide service to our community – each are part of making OLSH the special and unique place it is. The tagline also reflects our belief that the connection with OLSH does not end when students leave. We value that ongoing connection with our alumnae and their families and take pride in the legacy they have shaped and the impact they carry with them from their time at OLSH into their lives.

We also took up opportunities to partner with local organisations, to build awareness for OLSH College and our facilities. This included providing use of the Hall to St Pauls primary school for their annual concert, inviting local primary schools to dress rehearsal of our performing arts productions, and hosting primary school students so that our Sports Coaching students could run programs with them. We presented our senior and junior productions and school musical in partnership with De La Salle College and St Bede's College, hosting two of these productions onsite and opening the doors of our performing arts spaces to the public for these performances.

Parent Satisfaction

Feedback is regularly provided by parents about academic and wellbeing follow up, classroom and co-curricular programs, communications and events.

Parents were asked to provide feedback about their experience with Parent Teacher Interviews and 166 parents responded.

- Rate the feedback that you received on how your daughter is currently performing - on a scale from 1 to 5, 57.2% gave a 5 rating, 34.3% gave a 4 rating
- Rate the level of strategies that your daughter received to continue their improvement - on a scale from 1 to 5, 51.2% gave a 5 rating, 27.7% gave a 4 rating

Parents were also asked to provide feedback about the Issoudun (Year 9) Hartzer experience. Here is a sample of their responses.

"Truly life-changing, opening her eyes to new places and opportunities."

"Wonderful experience. She has grown up, gained more independence, self-confidence, and her friendships have grown stronger."

"We are beyond delighted at the experience for our daughter - how lucky she is being an OLSH student and having had this wonderful experience."

"Amazing, she grew in independence and learnt how to work together with others, how to problem solve and organise herself for different situations. Wonderful to see Sydney and Canberra and do outreach with elders and school children too. Less focused on technology and also learnt to appreciate the needs and differences of others."

Financial Performance

The school's financial performance information and a report of the financial activities of the school's boarding premises (if applicable) have been provided to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and will be available for the community to access from their website at www.acnc.gov.au.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at www.olsh.vic.edu.au