

2023

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 2023 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 29 May 2024

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 inspiring excellence in girls' education and nurturing a deep connection to each other.

This connection has at its foundation a commitment to growth as human beings who recognise and live compassion, who strive to give of our best in all that we undertake and who are captured by the call to reach out to others from our hearts.

Principal's Report

It is by the Heart that we are something! Jules Chevalier msc

Above all be very kind and considerate to each other....Have a great spirit of gratitude. Marie
Lousie Hartzler olsh

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Bentleigh proudly stands on the ancestral land of the Bunurong people of the Kulin nation. For this privilege, we are truly grateful. In our 85th anniversary year of foundation, we have had the opportunity to reflect on our shared story. The unfolding history of this College, by virtue of our connection to it, is intertwined with the history of our own personal life journey. In God's plan, our lives have come together because of our association with this great school. There is a sense of mystery in the moments of time that guide us through life; somewhere in each of our lives, moments, decisions to connect, and belonging to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College have brought us together. What an honour and blessing it is to be part of this great worldwide OLSH family.

As we reflect on the achievements of our students and staff throughout 2023, echoing the spirit of Mother Marie Louise Hartzler's words, we are filled with gratitude. In a special way, I want to acknowledge all students from Years 7 to 12. Thank you for the life and energy you have brought to your learning in the classroom and for the myriad of activities you have participated in outside the classroom. Thank you for your laughter, joy, and determination to overcome challenges. Most importantly, thank you for being Heart people who are faith-filled, reverence relationships, pursue excellence, and touch the hearts of others.

We deeply appreciate the dedication of every member of the OLSH College staff. Their steadfast commitment to providing exemplary educational experiences for our students and their faithfulness to the Spirit of the OLSH Sisters is an inspiration. The College's building project concluded in 2023 delivering significant upgrades for the Drama, Food Technology, Music learning areas and the Hall and Performing Arts Centre precincts. The OLSH College Board played a pivotal role in ensuring the success of this project, and we extend our gratitude to all Board members for their invaluable contributions.

More than 12,000 students have walked the halls and corridors of this hallowed ground. With 85 years of educating girls in the OLSH Tradition, this year has been a celebration of an amazing story. It began with Fr. Jules Chevalier, msc, a priest, and Mother Marie Louise Hartzler, an OLSH sister, in Issoudun, France. They were convinced of God's great love for them and wanted all people to experience that love deep in their hearts. From France to Australia and to more than 28 countries worldwide, the OLSH Sisters travelled and

established schools to educate girls and share the same story – that God loves us with a human heart – Jesus lived that love and showed us what God is like.

As members of this great school, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Bentleigh, we already live in that love of Jesus. We are the ones who now must keep the flame of Jesus' love alive. And we do that by promoting through our lives a world of truth and life; of holiness and grace; of justice, love, and peace.

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

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

Our Year 12s spent time at Hartzer Park in Bowral for their Retreat, which was a time for reflection, setting goals for the year ahead and celebrating their connection as they start their final year at the College together. They had time to connect deeply with peers and friends, allowing them to see unexplored aspects of each other and the year level.

- "Connecting with others we hadn't spoken to before provided a wonderful opportunity to deepen our understanding and world view. Reconnecting with nature on early morning runs through the gardens brought a much-needed sense of fulfilment to our souls. Coming back from retreat, we recognised the importance of taking deliberate time for ourselves to think deeply, to be present and also look forward to the future."

Our Year 11 Retreat was held at Lake Dewar, where students spent time together on reflection and outdoor activities. They were inspired to hear from humanitarian worker Moira Kelly AO and participate in activities lead by yLead.

- "Our Year 11 retreat was based on the theme 'The Heart Within'. We were encouraged to listen to and explore our own hearts – who we are as individuals - what we wish to achieve in the final year of our schooling and what we wish to pursue afterwards. On Tuesday night, Father Justin from Daylesford joined us and conducted our mass that consisted of a vibrant Gospel procession, choir and joyful songs."

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

- "We really enjoyed having Chris come and speak to us today as it gave us another look on life. Chris' words of inspiration taught us to not take anything for granted. We

learnt to be grateful for everyday and to count our blessings. The dancing and singing really brightened our day and we enjoyed it. We found Chris' jokes really funny and they made us laugh."

The Retreat Day for Issoudun students was held during their Hartzler Park experience. They spent the day journal writing and thinking about their own morals and beliefs. The group also reflected on the growth they've achieved and challenges they've faced during their four weeks away from home at Hartzler Park. This special day is a wonderful time of consolidation and connection for the students as they begin to think about returning to Bentleigh and bringing with them the wisdom and experiences they've gathered during their time at Bowral.

- "I really enjoyed the positive affirmations because they made me feel happy and loved."
- "The Reflection Day touched my heart as it made me learn more about myself and others."

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. Our senior students helped out 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.

- "It was really nice getting to meet new people, but also building stronger friendships with so many people I already knew. I learnt about the orphanage in Papua New Guinea and Sister Liz's dedicated service there over many years. My highlight of the day was doing the Just Dances and building on existing friendships."

Strengthening and expanding initiatives and programs to enhance the unique Catholic identity of OLSH College

An induction program was delivered to new staff providing them with a structured formation in the Catholic tradition, and the OLSH story and spirituality.

Each of our Religious Education teachers and their classes took a turn to prepare and present Wednesday Morning Prayer for the College community onsite and via the College Facebook page.

Our two Feast days were a celebration of our Catholic identity and our shared history as part of the OLSH story. Our Sacred Heart Day commenced with a Mass of spirit and joy, led by Mark Hanns msc as we celebrated the great love of Jesus' heart for each and every one of us – and through us, for all of humanity and all of creation. We recognised National Sorry Day at the start of the eucharist and we remembered those in need through the prayers of intercession prayed in so many languages represented at the College. The Mass was followed by a barbecue lunch and our annual Performing Arts Spectacular.

The Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart celebrations were held at the end of Term 3. Our Feast Day mass was a beautiful start to this very special day, with joyful singing and a lovely feeling of our OLSH spirit filling the hall. Father Mark presented a wonderful homily and made mention of the energetic spirit of the students, staff and visitors participating in the mass. We held our Missions Carnival on this day, raising more than \$20,000 for the OLSH Sisters mission work in Cebu in the Philippines. Students and staff dressed up as 'Heroes of History' and we saw a great range of costumes representing figures from centuries ago, right through to present day heroes. There were sporting figures, wild-life warriors, women pioneers and everyday people who are heroes to us.

Embedding and animating our OLSH Proclamation in curriculum, pastoral care initiatives, and justice and peace activities

Through our Lenten Appeal fundraising activities, we raised more than \$6,000 for the OLSH Sisters Overseas Aid fund and Caritas Australia. Activities included bake sales, raffles, sausage sizzles and a pancake stall.

Our OLSH College FIRE carriers organised a sausage sizzle to raise funds for the Opening the Doors Foundation, an Aboriginal community organisation responding to the calls of Aboriginal families who want to nurture educational opportunities for their children in non-government schools across Victoria. As a FIRE carrier school, we actively support the Opening the Doors Foundation.

Students organised the donations of blankets and money to purchase blankets for our Winter Appeal for St Vincent De Paul, resulting in many blankets being handed over to representatives from Vinnies at our Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass.

Some of our senior students participated in the 2023 St Vinnies Winter Sleepout, to raise awareness for the challenges faced by people who are homeless. We were fortunate to have visitors Tracey, Di and Jaimie from the St Kilda food van that the College helps with each month, to share their stories.

Each month students spent an afternoon baking muffins to be shared with the street community who access food and friendship at the St. Kilda food van. Our senior students assisted with food distribution from the van one night per month, providing a way for us to connect with our local community and touch the hearts of others.

- "We are capable of helping those less fortunate and we make the effort to take action whenever possible. It may have been small, but it was still a way that we could make a difference in the world and that is something we value very highly. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity and to be able to play a part in this project."

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

Our new Year 7 students were welcomed, anointed and blessed in our Opening Mass and received their House badges from their Year 12 Big Sisters, who prayed a special prayer for them as they commenced their journey at OLSH College.

Our four new House designs, reflecting our OLSH College patrons and their important role in the OLSH story, were launched at our 2023 Opening School Mass.

We came together for our Holy Week Mass where we took time to remember the last week of Jesus' life. The OLSH Sisters joined us along with several College Board members as well as parents and friends of the College.

We celebrated our Advent Mass together on the final day of term, taking time to reflect on what Advent invites us to as we prepared our hearts in readiness for Christmas. Our Advent Appeal fundraising of just over \$3,300 was presented to the local conferences of the St Vincent De Paul Society who joined us at Mass, to distribute to local families at Christmas.

Developing an ethics of ecology to grow in solidarity, responsibility and compassionate care of our world

We continued the work of our Laudato Si' Action Platform Steering Group led by Jacqui Remond, Joint Coordinator Ecology Taskforce Vatican, College Alumnae (Class of 1991) and including representatives from the OLSH Sisters, College leadership team, OLSH parents, grandparents and staff.

We were privileged to have Aboriginal Elder and proud Gunditjmara man Uncle Trevor at the College for a very special Welcome to Country. Uncle Trevor spoke of the gift that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity is in our modern world and led us in a beautiful smoking ceremony. Our students and staff were invited to place eucalyptus leaves in the fire as part of the smoking ceremony.

We marked National Reconciliation Week by participating in The Long Walk to the 'G. This was an opportunity for us to join with a huge crowd of others in the city, to demonstrate our support for and commitment to continuing to build positive relationships across our community. We proudly walked with our OLSH College banner, designed and created by our FIRE Carriers. We also placed the profiles of First Nations Changemakers around the College, each representing an Indigenous person who has made a significant contribution and enriched the lives of all Australians.

Value Added

Staff participated in our annual staff spirituality day, joining together to participate in three sessions led by Indigenous presenters who spoke about the work that they do, the important role we have in raising awareness for reconciliation and the history they share with various parts of our country.

Two staff members attended the Issoudun Pilgrimage in Issoudun, France from July 2nd to 9th. The purpose of this pilgrimage was to learn more about Jules Chevalier and the origins of MSC and OLSH Sisters and engage with the story of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

The program included tertiary level lectures on the life and times of Fr Jules Chevalier and the early MSC and OLSH, guided tours of the Basilica and places of significance for the Chevalier family in Issoudun and Bourges, along with time for group discussion and personal reflection.

- "It was a journey to a sacred place, a very special place for MSC and OLSH and for all who share their mission and spirituality. The pilgrimage provided me with a deeper appreciation for the vision and spirituality that inspires the MSC and OLSH mission in education."

Twelve students and two staff went to Samoa for an immersion, working with a local primary school and reinforcing our connection with the work of the OLSH Sisters overseas. The immersion was supported by the whole College through fundraising activities and all shared in the stories and learnings of those who travelled to Samoa.

Staff participated in a *Continuing the Journey*, formation program providing them with a deeper knowledge of the OLSH spirituality, charism and mission. Two staff also participated in the Bathurst Island staff immersion program, witnessing firsthand the work of the OLSH Sisters.

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

Throughout 2023 our focus continued to be on driving a pursuit of excellence in all that we do. Students ignited their passion for learning and developing study skills that have benefited them across multiple disciplines. We witnessed excellent academic results and significant growth for many students across all year levels.

Our Year 12 results were excellent, with the number of students receiving an ATAR over 90 increasing by 45.5 per cent on the previous year and two perfect scores of 50 being achieved. Students achieved scores of 40 and above in 58 subjects. We were pleased to witness significant growth in performance and results from many students in this cohort.

Classroom learning continued to be enhanced by immersive learning through incursions and excursion at all levels and in all faculties. In many instances we made use of the businesses and talents in our local community, such as the Danny Frawley Wellness Centre, local ceramicist Pamela Irving and fitness studio Triple 5 Fitness, for excursions, further developing relationships with our community. Field trips to our local beaches and waterways were a highlight for Geography students and our Physics students visited the world-class Synchrotron in Mulgrave.

Our students were encouraged to put their learning into practice with real-world activities, such as delivering physical education programs to the local primary school, providing technical support for College events and planning and delivering fundraising stalls.

We recognised the achievements of our students at three ceremonies during the year – the VCE Ceremony of Excellence, Semester 1 Academic Excellence Awards and our Regnet Christus Awards, recognising achievement across all areas of College life.

We celebrated special weeks including Technology Week, Languages Week, Maths Week and Health and Physical Education Week, with lunchtime activities, competitions and presentations, to engage students in the content of these disciplines.

Some other highlights included:

- RACI Titration competition – one OLSH team came first in the state, winning the Platinum award and other OLSH teams were awarded gold, silver and bronze.
- Big Science competition – 104 students participated, five High Distinctions and seven Distinctions were awarded.
- Teams participated in the RACI Crystal competition, the International Chemistry Quiz and the Australian Science Olympiads in Junior Science, Biology, Physics and Chemistry, providing these students with the ability to extend their science knowledge and put their classroom knowledge to the test.
- Students participated in the Australian Maths Competition, receiving one High Distinction and six Distinctions, and 21 students participated in the Maths Olympiad.
- A year 10 student won the Gold Award in the National History Challenge (Indigenous History category) for her historical inquiry on the 1970 Day of Mourning.
- Our Language students participated in OzCLO, the Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad, extending their language analysis skills and receiving four Silver and 11 Bronze certificates. The data they analysed included language from Permyak, spoken in the north-eastern part of European Russia, the Marmbiloid language of Nizaa and the Australian language, Lardil, spoken on Mornington Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria. Language students also participated in the Education Perfect competition, answering several hundred language questions and receiving two Silver, eight Bronze and eight Credit certificates.
- Food Studies students won a Silver medal in the SEGAP Teen Chef competition and Product Design and Technology students won several awards at the Melbourne Royal Show, with three students being selected to display their work in a fashion parade.
- Our Visual Arts and Design Exhibition was a wonderful showcase of the talents and creativity of our students in the Arts and Technology subjects. The volume and breadth of pieces displayed demonstrated the range of styles and techniques that the students worked on during the year, in traditional and new media areas. Our Product Design and Technology students presented a fast-paced fashion parade of the clothing they've produced this year, including hoodies, evening dresses and clothes made from reclaimed fabric.
- Several students completed Australian Music Education Board certificates and our Chante Choir received a Gold Award at the Victorian School Music Festival. Performing Arts students participated in the Wakakirri National Dance Story competition, presenting their story called *Rising Hope*, the story of resilience and hope following the catastrophic floods in Victoria. The team wrote, choreographed and rehearsed the performance and received several category awards.

- Students had the opportunity to develop their public speaking and analysis skills through debating, the Ethics Olympiad and Tournament of the Minds. Debaters from all year levels competed against other schools in regular competitions and in the Debaters Association of Victoria's Junior Debating Program, and several students were awarded 'best speaker'. In the Language Literature and The Arts sections of the Tournament of Minds, students solved authentic, open-ended challenges, fostering creative thinking and collaboration to present their work.
- Our VCE VM students presented to staff and families on their experience in the VM program, the skills they've developed and qualifications they've completed over the past three years, and their aspirations for their pathway once they finish at OLSH College. Each of the students presented with great insight, warmth and confidence and were truly inspiring.
- The College's Pathways and Careers resources helped to support student subject selection decisions and pathways to education and careers beyond the senior years of schooling. Guest speakers from tertiary institutions visited the College and a subject expo was held for our Year 10s to learn more about the subjects available to them in VCE.

Student Learning Outcomes

While there has been a change to how student data is reported, we saw a strong increase of students in the *Strong* and *Exceeding Expectations* groups, particularly at year 9. Literacy is an area of strength for our Year 9s, which can be attributed to our experiential learning immersions throughout the year. We provided in-class and out-of-class intervention classes in years 7 and 8 which supported the good attainment levels in the Numeracy sections of NAPLAN.

Learning Diversity provided interventions throughout the curriculum and assessment, and provided excellent support for our diverse learners. Our Learning Diversity Team provided support to students, teachers and families throughout the school day. Our Mathematics Team provided lunch and after-hours Mathematics Hub, supporting students with at all year levels. We ran a number of curriculum-based clubs that provided students with further opportunities to work with teachers.

Our students completed regular feedback on Learning and Teaching which fed into our staff professional learning. We had regular Performance and Development Conversations which allowed staff to implement best practice in the classroom. Our staff engaged with weekly professional learning in the areas of Learning Diversity, Pedagogy, Wellbeing and Current Technologies.

Our 2023 VCE results were excellent, with a shift at the top two quadrants. Across the board, we were incredibly pleased with the growth of this cohort.

Further education:

- 86% received an offer to attend University
- 11% received an offer to attend TAFE

Destinations include:

- Australian Catholic University – 18%
- Deakin University – 25%
- La Trobe University – 4%
- Monash University – 30%
- RMIT University – 14%
- Swinburne University of Technology – 2%
- Victoria University – 2%
- The University of Melbourne – 5%

Areas of Study include:

Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies, Architecture and Building, Creative Arts, Education, Engineering and Related Technologies, Food, Hospitality and Personal Services, Health, Information Technology, Management and Commerce, Natural and Physical Sciences, Society and Culture

NAPLAN - Proportion of students meeting the proficient standards			
Domain	Year level	Mean Scale score	Proficient
Grammar & Punctuation	Year 7	569	78%
	Year 9	609	85%
Numeracy	Year 7	553	77%
	Year 9	591	83%
Reading	Year 7	566	81%
	Year 9	608	88%
Spelling	Year 7	550	78%
	Year 9	592	85%
Writing	Year 7	574	78%
	Year 9	620	87%

*A school's NAPLAN test must have a minimum of 11 participants and 80% participation rate. Data not reported for 2023 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 (includes VCE VM completions)	99.10%
VCAL Completion Rate (VCAL Intermediate)	*

*Not reported due to insufficient data i.e. less than 4 student enrolments for VCE/VCAL.

Post-School Destinations as at 2023	
Tertiary Study	*
TAFE / VET	*
Apprenticeship / Traineeship	*
Deferred	*
Employment	*
Other - The category of Other includes both students Looking for Work and those classed as Other	*

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

Student Wellbeing activities for 2023 included:

- Big Sister and Little Sister connections were formed during their interactions during Learning Mentor time, a highlight being the teddy bear picnic they shared at the end of the year.
- Year 12s went to Hartzler Park and Sydney for the first time after missing due to COVID, developing bonds with this special place and with each other.
- Issoudun students were inducted as Issoudun XI, and worked towards meeting the inaugural Issoudun Challenge, physically, emotionally, spiritually and cognitively.
- Led outstandingly by our Regnet Christus Leaders we were encouraged each week to *Dare to Care*, spreading elements of kindness throughout the community.
- *Be True Tuesday* gave students the chance to express their thoughts around designated topics, sharing who they truly are, with their learning mentor group.
- Our student-led theme was *All Heart – No Regrets*, and our leaders reminded our student community through their assembly presentations and written messages to keep that top of mind in their approach to work, co-curricular activities and relationships with others.
- Camps or overnight experiences occurred at each year level helping to develop friendships, build confidence and connections.
- Pastoral Care lessons were designed and focused on social and emotional learning, social awareness, self awareness, self management and relationships.
- Engaging the services of Toolbox Education, Digital Compass, Brainstorm productions, providing tools for tough moments, reflection of practices online, safety online and positive behaviours.

- We recognised R U OK? Day, International Women's Day, Mental Health Week, National Day Against Bullying and Body Kind week.
- We continued to build and enhance our House Spirit at each Feast Day, Carnival and Performing Arts Spectacular.

Value Added

The Student Wellbeing team worked together to continuously improve our support for students and staff and identification of new opportunities and ways of working. Three ways in which this was implemented in 2023 were:

- Identifying opportunities for students to represent the College and take on leadership opportunities, formal and informal, to develop their skills and confidence. This included speaking at parent events and participating in local community events such as ANZAC Day and International Women's Day.
- Continuing to encourage and support active participation in the rituals and traditions of the life and spirit of the College.
- Reviewing and enhancing our programs, to reflect feedback and changing needs of students and staff. For example, we have included a mindfulness and reset session into the daily Hartzel program to improve engagement and participation in afternoon sessions.

Student Satisfaction

We measure qualitative and quantitative student satisfaction through surveys and by gathering reflections after key activities.

Issoudun XI Hartzel Residential Experience

We had 115 students in two groups, each spend 24 days living at Hartzel Park in 2023. Here is some of their feedback:

More than **70 per cent** of 2023 students rated eleven of the activities as *worthwhile* or *very worthwhile*.

Students rate their achievement of attributes such as *independence*, *teamwork* and *relationships with others*. In the 2023 cohort, **82 per cent** gave the highest rating (*Very well achieved*) for independence and **74 per cent** gave this rating for *strengthening relationships*.

Eighty-nine per cent of students rated the program as *worthwhile* or *extremely worthwhile*.

- “I very much enjoyed my Hartzler experience. Going to Hartzler let me grow as a person away from my family and helped me find what I like and dislike. It also helped me strengthen relationships with my friends.”
- “Hartzler was one of the most growing independent, building relationship experience I will forever love and hold. Hartzler helped me gain so many memories and cherish the relationship with friends to create new ones, something I will never forget.”
- “I enjoyed Hartzler as I created new friendships and I learnt new skills all in a very hands-on independent learning structure that I enjoyed very much.”

Student feedback about other aspects of their experience at OLSH College:

- “The first few days of Year 7 were really exciting for me. I only knew a few people from my primary school but other than that, everyone else was a stranger. It barely took me a day to meet new people and make many friends. I was really nervous but now I have so many people that support me every day.”
- “Our Year 8 incursions and excursions were a highlight for me. We had a number of presentations by a wellbeing and support company called Toolbox. Through their workshops we learned about mental health and were able to bond by learning new things about each other.”
- “One of the many highlights this year for me was Feast day. It was so rewarding and joyous to see the OLSH community celebrating and raising funds to support the Sisters in the Philippines. The day was buzzing with excitement, as everyone celebrated, dressed in the costumes based around the theme of heroines and heroes in history.”
- “One of my personal highlights from this year was participating in Wakakirri! For me, it was truly special to get back on the dance floor and work along such a passionate and enthusiastic group of girls to help tell a beautiful story through dance. A dance we created together! From the energy, the love, the team spirit; everything about this experience was so much fun and truly rewarding.”

Student Attendance

The roll is taken every period by the subject teacher and during learning mentor time. Parents receive a text for any unexplained absence. Unexplained absences are followed up during the day immediately by the Wellbeing Team and parents are notified.

Learning Mentors contact parents when students are absent for more than two days. Students are followed up by the Head of House and supports are put in place if required.

Years 9 - 12 Student Retention Rate	
Years 9 to 12 Student Retention Rate	88.1%

Average Student Attendance Rate by Year Level	
Y07	91.0%
Y08	90.3%
Y09	88.3%
Y10	85.2%
Overall average attendance	88.7%

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

In 2023 we completed the major renovation project at the College, delivering:

- Upgraded Food Technology learning space and theory room
- New music rooms, individual practice rooms and backstage spaces
- A major renovation to the Performing Arts precinct, joining up the Hall and Performing Arts Centre with a larger foyer, lift between the two spaces and refurbished kitchen. The interior of the Hall was painted, screens and AV technology were upgraded and a new PE studio was built at the back of the Hall for specialist PE programs.

The Leadership team worked together to develop a strategic plan for 2023 to 2027 and identified their specific objectives for 2023 which were shared with staff.

Two new Board members were appointed to the OLSH College Board – Mr Ray Purcell (20 February 2023) and Ms Kylie Fitzpatrick (27 March 2023).

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.

Expenditure And Teacher Participation in Professional Learning
List Professional Learning undertaken in 2023
<p>Teachers participated in weekly professional leadership sessions each Wednesday afternoon. These sessions covered topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Diversity - Autism Spectrum Disorder • Leave Information, Evacuation Information & Instructions Model - Engage & Motivate • Synergetic 102 and the Instructional Model • Learning Intentions and Success Criteria • Overview of the OLSH College Strategic Direction for 2024 <p>Staff also participated in professional leadership sessions delivered by external providers, in a range of specialty areas relating to their role. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VCAL Numeracy • Deakin Career Practitioners Seminar Day • Swinburne Career Practitioners Seminar Day • National Teacher Certification Workshop • The School Library Toolkit • VCE VM and VPC Work Related Skills: Essentials • New Diversity Leaders Network • Teaching Excellence Program Conference • The rules and foundations of Pseudocode Pt 1 (VCE) • 26th Annual Psychology Teachers' Conference • ACU Careers Advisory Conference • VALA introduction to VCE VM numeracy • Teaching Excellence Program Discipline • Box Hill Institute Career's Practitioners Day • MAV conference • Teaching Excellence Learning Community Program • Choral Reading Day • CDES Psychology Teachers Conference • National Teacher Certification Workshop • VALA 2024 Induction • AI and the school library • VASS Training • 2024 MACS new LDLs NCCD 101 • Climate Science in the Curriculum • Pedagogy of Systems Thinking • Special Relativity online PD • Secondary RE Leaders Network 2024

Expenditure And Teacher Participation in Professional Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith and Mission Leaders Conference 	
Number of teachers who participated in PL in 2023	70
Average expenditure per teacher for PL	\$420.00

Teacher Satisfaction

Feedback from staff about the professional learning sessions they attended included the following:

- "I attended a number of Career Practitioner Seminar days at a number of different universities. These events provided an invaluable opportunity to network with colleagues, participate in workshops, tour the facilities and hear about updates and plans for the year. All of this then informs the work that I do with the students."
- "It was valuable to meet other practitioners working in the Development space to share knowledge and discuss approaches to similar issues specific to this aspect of education. It was good to take time to discuss with others the impact of developments such as AI and data management platforms impact and support the work we do."
- "I attended the SLAV Masterclass: *The School Library Toolkit*, focusing on articulating a library vision, implementing programs and policy documentation. After attending the workshop I have access to a repository of inspiring exemplars and templates to assist my planning and documentation."

Teacher Qualifications	
Doctorate	1.5%
Masters	14.4%
Graduate	21.2%
Graduate Certificate	4.5%
Bachelor Degree	48.5%
Advanced Diploma	6.8%
No Qualifications Listed	3.0%

Staff Composition	
Principal Class (Headcount)	4
Teaching Staff (Headcount)	76
Teaching Staff (FTE)	68.6
Non-Teaching Staff (Headcount)	45
Non-Teaching Staff (FTE)	35.9
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 range of activities and initiatives were planned and implemented to support connection with our OLSH community and the OLSH story, to provide opportunities for students to connect with each other outside the classroom and to develop the skills of our students.

Connecting with our current community

Twelve newsletters were sent to parents over the course of the year, providing news about activities at the College including classroom and co-curricular activities, student leader activities, sporting and performing arts initiatives and community events.

Students were provided with a yearbook, recording the highlights in narrative and photographic form for 2023. Students provided contributions to the yearbook in the form of photos of portfolio work, reflections on activities and messages from leaders.

Year 12 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.

Content was posted to our social media channels including Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn. We have more than 2,900 Facebook followers and 1,280 Instagram followers and there were approximately 346 posts to Facebook and 309 posts to Instagram for the year, generating a reach of 34,284 and 8,933 respectively.

Parents were welcomed for several events during the year include a Year 7 Welcome Evening, Mother's Day and Father's Day breakfasts, masses and award ceremonies.

Parents also attended instrumental music concerts, dance show, our sports awards evening and year level information evenings.

We invited alumnae who are mothers or grandmothers of current new students to our special Generations assembly, recognising second and third generation connections with the College.

We celebrated the 85th year of the College throughout the year, including developing a special logo, taking a whole College photo and sharing stories of the College's history throughout the year via a range of media and events.

Connecting with our past and future community

We welcomed six groups back for reunions during the year to celebrate their 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 year anniversary since their graduation from OLSH College. These reunions provided the opportunity to take alumnae on a tour of the College and share hospitality together.

We produced two editions of our Flame magazine, sharing stories of current OLSH College activities, profiles of past students and stories about the achievements of our alumnae. This magazine is sent out to more than 4,000 past students via email.

We held four Open Mornings, four College Tours and numerous private tours with prospective OLSH College families. More than 900 people registered for these activities across a range of year levels and from more than 40 feeder schools.

Students from the local primary schools were invited to attend dress rehearsals of our performing arts productions, strengthening our relationships with these important stakeholders.

More than 50 students participated in our inaugural Discover Day, a half day program providing students in grades 4, 5 and 6 to participate in classroom and co-curricular activities at the College to assist them in making a decision about their secondary schooling.

Staff had the opportunity to connect with our OLSH story through the OLSH Links *Continuing the Journey* two day activity at OLSH Kensington, an immersion to Bathurst Island to learn more about the work of the OLSH Sisters there and to Issoudun in France to learn more of the story of Jules Chevalier and the OLSH Sisters' history.

Two of our past students returned to present to current students - newly appointed Chief Health Officer of the Northern Territory, Christine Connors (Class of 1976) and Emergency Nurse Sue Smith (Class of 1985).

Opportunities to connect for our students

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 80 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.

The College's outreach programs provided ways for our students to connect and understand the lives of others, including our Winter blanket appeal, our first winter sleepout and volunteering with the St Kilda soup van.

Our FIRE Carriers had the opportunity to meet with a local Aboriginal elder Uncle Trevor and discuss ways of raising awareness for reconciliation with him. They participated in the Long Walk to the 'G and raised funds for the Open the Doors foundation through a sausage sizzle.

The immersion to Samoa that 12 of our students and two staff participated in reinforced our connection with the work of the OLSH Sisters overseas. The immersion was supported by the whole College through fundraising activities and all shared in the stories and learnings of those who travelled to Samoa.

Connecting outside the classroom

Our year in Performing Arts was filled with skillful dance, courageous and clever acting and inspiring music presented for concerts, competitions, assemblies and major productions. These events provided students with the opportunity to display and develop their talents performing on stage and working off stage in tech crews, on choreography, set and prop making and hair and make up. Our instrumental music students had the opportunity to showcase their talents individually and in ensembles at evening concerts for families, supporting our masses and assemblies and our choir competed at the Victorian Schools Music Festival.

We presented two Junior Productions - *Holes*, presented in partnership with St Bedes College and *Deck the Stage*, a Christmas variety show. Our senior students presented *Agatha Rex*, in partnership with De La Salle College and our musical, *School of Rock*, was a great success for the cast and crew from OLSH and De La Salle colleges.

Students had the opportunity to perform at many lunchtime concerts, assemblies and masses and several ensemble groups rehearsed and grew throughout the year.

Students participated 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.

All sporting teams achieved great results, with individuals developing their skills and many teams winning their divisions. Our Triathlon team came first in their competition, our Tennis Team had great success at the Division 1 competition winning the senior and intermediate categories and our Cross Country team placed first overall.

We celebrated all sporting results and participation at our annual Sports Awards, recognising the efforts and talents of our students in all sports across the year.

Our clubs continued to bring likeminded students together to talk about books in Book Club, pursue the deep mysteries of life in Philosophy Club and advocate and celebrate the things that make us different in Diversity Club. Students valued these opportunities to come together and participate in student-led discussions and activities.

- "Through Book Club we have been given the opportunity to expand our views on the reading world and open ourselves up to different genres and book styles."
- "Diversity club creates such a welcoming environment, where everyone feels comfortable being themselves, and expressing their distinctive identities."
- "By joining the *Just Make It* club, we tried new things, found out what we knew about textiles and most importantly had fun. This has developed our love for textiles and our wish to continue the subject."

Our Environment Leaders ran a series of activities during the year to raise awareness for reducing our environmental footprint and engaging in sustainable practices. This included making beeswax wraps, running an environment art competition and encouraging people to keep our grounds clean.

Parent Satisfaction

Feedback is sought from parents about the Hartzler program. These comments represent a sample of the comments provided:

- "My daughter found the Hartzler experience very worthwhile, enriching and memorable. She thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the journey and was very thankful for being allowed this opportunity to grow as a person and form more solid and genuine connections with her friendship group."
- "An amazing and enlightening shared experience with her friends. An opportunity to grow and build resilience in a safe and rewarding environment."

- "The first week and a half were hard adapting to the changes and missing her family. But after she loved it and was sad it came to an end so quick."

Parents also shared other feedback regarding activities their daughters were involved in and support provided by the College:

- "Thank you very much. Our daughter finds it a comfort just knowing that there is someone at school like you who has her back and who she can lean on for support."
- "Thank you so much for your patience, love and support towards our daughter. We truly feel grateful. I am blessed and grateful to have such a great care team for her. You guys did a tremendous job and to be there to support her."
- "Our family was so blessed to have a beautiful and caring Head of House who made our daughters feel safe, nurtured, cared for and always gave them challenges to be their best. She set up an environment where they were allowed to make mistakes and learn from them. They always felt included and welcome at school. Thank you for all you have done to bring out the best in our girls and allow them to grow as individuals."
- "Our daughter's Head of House goes above and beyond her job description to ensure her students are educated and their well being is met. She takes time to really get to know her students, gains their trust and respect. She creates a loving caring and safe environment. Her years of experience and ability to move with the times is a testament to her. It has been great as a parents knowing we are leaving our daughters in her capable hands."

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