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FLAME



Celebrating 80 Years

From the Editor

This year, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Bentleigh celebrates its 80th year, having been founded in 1938. That is eighty proud years of educating and caring for young women who share the qualities of being heart people, who pursue excellence, reverence relationships and are faith filled.

This significant occasion is well worth commemorating. We are looking forward to seeing many members of the OLSH community at the festivities which will occur from 5pm on Thursday 6 September, please see the enclosed invitation for details. We will have guests joining us from interstate and overseas and I encourage you to come and reconnect and to see first-hand the wonderful new buildings that we are now so fortunate to have at the College.

This issue of *Flame* magazine includes a look back at the rich history of OLSH College on pages 2 and 3. A new House structure was introduced this year and it has many benefits as described on page 4 of the magazine. The Performing Arts at OLSH showcase the amazing array of talent that we have at the College and it was on display for all to see in both *Legally Blonde The Musical* with De La Salle College and OLSH Stars this year as shown on page 5.

The new buildings just completed feature on pages 6 and 7 and they include the Performing Arts Centre and The Hub, both wonderful facilities for students to enjoy now and for many years to come.

It is always great to catch up on Alumnae News and the past student

profiles are on pages 8 and 9 and the recent reunion photos are on page 10 and 11. Also included are Vale notices for two wonderful OLSH Alumnae, Verion Stroud and Maria Egan. May they rest in peace.

Pages 12 and 13 contain a snapshot of recent happenings at the College, including the 2017 VCE results, Mother's Day Breakfast, Fire Carriers Induction and Reconciliation Week and Sacred Heart Day.

I would like to offer my thanks to all of those who have contributed to the edition of *Flame* magazine including: Anne O'Loughlin, Megan Donohue, Lee Toll, Dina Oro, Dianne Byers, Catherine Healy, Tasha Esteves, Melissa Caia, Bianca Fernandes, Samantha Chappell, Joan Ahern, Paula Francis and Elizabeth O'Meara. Please email me (aopray@olsh.vic.edu.au) with any news and updates for the next issue of *Flame* magazine.

I wonder what the Sisters who taught the original students in one room in Bentleigh would think of OLSH College today. I imagine they would marvel at the incredible diversity of subjects and co-curricular options available to students. They would also be amazed at the buildings and facilities at the College. However, I expect they would feel very comfortable in the incredibly warm and welcoming environment, because it all stems from the fine example they set for us to follow, all those years ago.

Annie Opray
Director of Development and Community



ANZAC Day Ceremony, Lest We Forget.

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Follow OLSH College

Cover photo: Students Stephanie and Lilly in the OLSH Centre.

Rear cover photo: OLSH College Chapel.

Correction: In the last issue of *Flame* the Year 7 winner of the Glen Eira Award was incorrectly named, the winner was actually Emily Collins and we congratulate her on such a great achievement.

Disclaimer

All care has been taken to verify that the information contained in this edition of *Flame* is correct. However, we apologise if any inadvertent discrepancies have occurred. Please contact the College if you would like to reproduce any of the material in this edition of the *Flame* magazine.

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From the Principal

In this 80th year of the foundation of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Bentlyigh we celebrate a wonderful story. The story of women of deep spirit attentive to the presence of God in their heart. These women, the OLSH Sisters, were bold risk takers who categorically believed in the palpable presence of God in their journey. Their vision was centred on bringing the love of the Heart of Christ to everyone. In our OLSH College Bentlyigh story, these pioneering OLSH sisters and all those who followed in their footsteps were passionate about girls' education.

With grateful hearts we celebrate these 80 years of education – the growing of young girls into great women of heart. We remember the story, in fact, we are the story! We continue to build this precious OLSH story of heart in our times and we look forward to a future that will be forever permeated with our spirit...

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



Anne O'Loughlin
Principal



80
1938 2018
OLSH COLLEGE
BENTLEIGH

The Principal of OLSH College Bentlyigh, Anne O'Loughlin, and the Chair of the Board, Michael Renwick, warmly invite you to attend the

80th Birthday Celebration

and the blessing and opening of the OLSH Centre, administration building, refurbished Chapel, the Hub and the Performing Arts Centre.

Where: OLSH College Bentlyigh 111 Jasper Road Bentlyigh

When: Thursday 6 September 2018

What: Drinks and savouries from 5:00pm in the OLSH Centre, followed by tours and the blessing and opening of the new buildings. The evening should conclude by 8:30pm.

RSVP: Monday 3 September, via www.ols.vic.edu.au > News and Events > Upcoming Events

Enquiries: Annie Opray, (03) 8520 9200, or aopray@ols.vic.edu.au

OLSH College Celebrates 80 Years

In order to understand how OLSH College Bentleigh came to be, it is necessary to go back in time to France in 1824, which was the year of the birth of Jules Chevalier. From the time he was a young boy, Jules wanted to be a priest but his family was poor and could not afford to send him to the seminary. Eventually he did study for the priesthood and later founded the men's congregation, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in 1855 and a congregation of Sisters, the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in 1874. Their shared mission was to make God's love known to the world.



Another significant figure in the history of the College is Marie Louise Hartzler who was the first Superior General of the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart. Marie Louise was a woman of faith, courage and prayer, kind, prudent and wise. She sent five of the Sisters to Oceania in 1885 and they lived in Botany whilst setting up the first school. Later they established the OLSH school in Kensington.

In the early 1930s, six Sisters were sent to Melbourne and they took over the running of two small primary schools that we know today as St Paul's and St Peter's. The Sisters lived in a small cottage in Robert Street before moving to the newly built convent in Jasper Road in 1934. At this time Bentleigh was

a sparsely populated area, mostly occupied by market gardens. Over the course of the next 30 years it developed into the residential suburb we know today.

In 1938 OLSH College Bentleigh was established as a commercial College for five students in one room located at St Paul's School. Enrolments grew rapidly and so in November 1934 the school moved to the cottage in Robert Street, which had been the original Convent.

1951 was the year of the first Matriculation (Year 12) class, so the College was by then a complete secondary school. As numbers increased at the College so did the building projects. Science laboratories were built in the 1960s, a library was added in the early 70s

and the art room was extended in 1975. Two new wings for classrooms and administration were constructed in 1981 and the Hall complex was completed in 1988. A computer area was included in the refurbishment works in 1993 and a new staff area was added in 1996. The Theatrette was finished in the Diamond Jubilee year in 1998. In 2004 Archbishop Denis Hart blessed and opened the new Resource Centre, Science laboratories and the VCE Centre and most classrooms were refurbished at this time. The new OLSH Centre and administration area and the refurbished Chapel were completed in 2017. The new student precinct called The Hub and the extensively redeveloped Performing Arts Centre have just been completed.

The College uniform has also moved with the times from the original royal blue and gold to the brown and gold colours in 1949 to the navy and green garments worn by the students today. The College crest has also evolved through the decades, as can be seen from the versions shown here. 2005 saw a new chapter in the governance of the College, with the Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart establishing a College Board.

OLSH College Bentleigh promotes academic excellence but this alone is not what defines the College. An OLSH education is based on four pillars and pursuing excellence is certainly one of them. The other pillars include touching the hearts of others, reverencing relationships and being faith-filled. These virtues have been shared by OLSH Alumnae over the last 80 years and this will no doubt continue far into the future.

OLSH College Principals and Crests



1994 SRC Leaders

Sister M. Juliana
1938–1943



Sister M. Giovanni
1944–1956

Sister Patricia Walsh
1957–1958

Sister Maria Shanahan
1959–1967



Sister Gertrude Mary
1968–1972



Sister Jane Dalton
1973–1977



Sister St. Bernard
1978–1981

Sister Elaine Troy
1982–1989



Sister Pauline Compton
1990–1996



Mrs Judith Lamb
1997–2007



Ms Anne O'Loughlin
2008–present

Four Houses, One Shared Spirit

The four Houses at OLSH College are named after important people in the history of the school, namely Chevalier, Hartzler, Sweeney and Xavier. The Houses provide a great opportunity for students to come together and connect in a variety of ways including athletics, swimming and the Performing Arts Spectacular (PAS), just to name a few.

After much consideration and consultation it was decided to introduce a new pastoral care system at the College in 2018 based around the four Houses. Head of House positions were created and teachers took up the role of Learning Mentors. Learning Mentors meet with their students most mornings in cross age House groups and time is set aside for Pastoral Care sessions for each House throughout the year. There are many advantages that come with the new system including the senior girls taking on more of a leadership role as they look after younger students. In addition, all students have the chance to broaden their friendship groups across the different year levels.

The Deputy Principal, Student Wellbeing Dina Oro said, "Studies tell us that if students are well known and feel a great sense of belonging that this impacts learning. Our girls will now not only meet and have conversations with peers horizontally, at their year level, but also vertically in Houses, leading to greater interconnectedness across year levels."

Peter Bernard (2010) states this enables confidence, trust and leadership to grow and allows

the students to be responsible for each other. As confidence and self-esteem increases this in turn leads to "students becoming better learners"- Peter Bernard (2010).

To see how well the new House system is working at OLSH College we need to look no further than the Athletics House Carnival held in Term 1 and the Performing Arts Spectacular competition held in June. There was unprecedented support within each House and there was a sea of red, blue, green and yellow proudly on display.

Year level identity is also very important at OLSH College and there are many occasions for the girls to connect with their peers through assemblies, excursions, regular classes, pastoral care sessions and camps. Year Level Program Leaders were also appointed as part of the new approach this year.

Change can be challenging sometimes but, if it is for the better, it is worthwhile. The Principal, Anne O'Loughlin is strong supporter of all Houses as she clearly showed on the recent Feast of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Day. The students have embraced the introduction of the new House structure this year in true OLSH style, with positivity and enthusiasm.



Bravo

OLSH College Bentleigh has a fine reputation in the Performing Arts field and the recent productions of *Legally Blonde The Musical* and OLSH Stars more than lived up to expectations.

Legally Blonde The Musical showcased the amazing talent of students from both OLSH College and De La Salle College. After many months in rehearsal, the four performances at the Alexander Theatre at Monash University wowed the audiences.

OLSH Stars is a highlight on the College calendar and this year the program included a great mix of acts from soloists, ensembles, bands, drama, dancers and instrumentalists. The sell-out crowd of students, families and friends were treated to a wonderful evening of entertainment which has set the bar very high for next year's show.

Legally Blonde The Musical



OLSH Stars



New Buildings

A lot can happen in a year and the most recent building programs at OLSH College are testament to this fact. Two new facilities have just been completed and they will provide state of the art environments for students to learn and to perform.

The Hub

The new Hub adjoins the Library and it comprises five new learning zones and a tiered seating area. The Hub features the very latest in technology with large wireless touch screens in all areas and has ample space for individual study as well as collaborative work.

Performing Arts Centre

The new Performing Arts Centre is barely recognisable from days gone

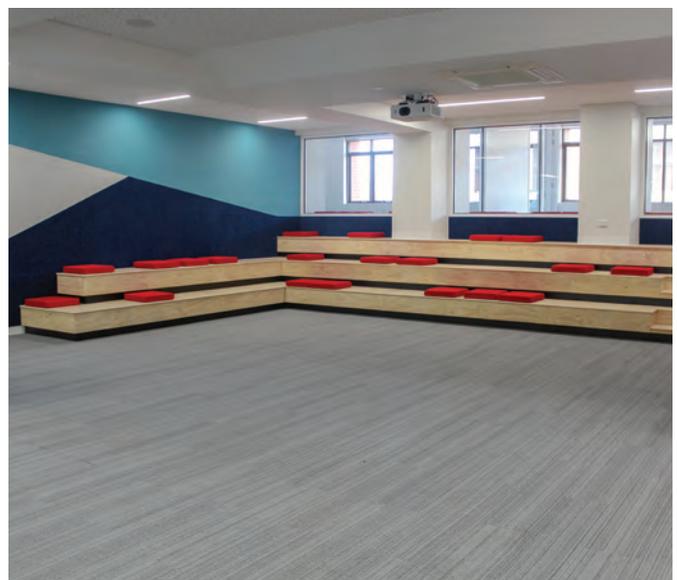
by as it was completely gutted and it has been refurbished to the highest standard. It now has retractable seating for 240 people, as well as the most advanced lighting and sound system designed to take us well into the future. There is no doubt that the new Dance Studio will be a very popular place with Performing Arts students.

Light and bright new buildings, combined with a very dedicated teaching staff, give OLSH College students every opportunity to achieve their best.

Donations

The construction of the new buildings represents a significant investment which will be of benefit to both current and future students. The State Government contributed a partial grant of \$500,000 for the new Performing Arts Centre however we still need to raise funds from the community to help finance the building. We also need assistance to cover the cost of construction of The Hub and therefore would be most grateful for donations for these projects. If you are able to assist with a donation, please contact the Business Manager Gary Minihan on (03) 8520 9200 or email gminihan@olsh.vic.edu.au; your support is greatly appreciated.





Alumnae Profiles



Catherine Healy 1967

Favourite subjects: English, English Literature and Art.

Occupation: Lawyer – 20 years.

Career highlights: Developing equal employment opportunity policies and practices. My work with the Australian Council and Arbitration Commission. Starting my own law firm and being Chair of the Disciplinary Appeals Boards in Education.

Family: Three sisters, nieces, nephews and great niece and nephews.

Lives in: Brighton.

Hobbies: Travelling, socialising, gardening, reading, theatre and arts, football, tennis, cricket, walking.

Fondest OLSH memories: All of it, the nuns who taught me were my first role models. I played all of the sports I could. I still love art today thanks to Sr, St Anne.

What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?: Be grateful for everything. Make at least one random act of kindness each day. Remember your own personal autonomy and be true to yourself.

Best advice to your younger self: Love yourself and lead a meaningful life. Don't put up with any bad behaviour. Enjoy life, it's going to be great, it flashes by, appreciate it.



Elizabeth O'Meara 1968

Favourite subjects: Geography and Art.

Occupation: Retired secondary teacher.

Career highlights: Teaching beautiful students and seeing them come to a new realisation and understanding. Having fun with learning. Meeting Pope John Paul II at St Leo The Great School.

Family: Married to John. One wonderful son, Xavier and daughter-in-law, Gemma. Waiting for the first grandchild to be born in October.

Lives in: The Sunshine Coast, Queensland.

Hobbies: Gardening, cycling, yoga and baking. Travelling to see more of Australia.

Fondest OLSH memories: Chosen to be a prefect in Form 3. Processions around the College in honour of Our Lady. The responsibility of starting the music in Sister Maria's office for the students to march into class at the start of the school day.

What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?: Be grateful for everything you have. Have faith and trust in God.

Best advice to my younger self: Appreciate all that has been given to and done for you. Enjoy learning and live life to the full.



Tasha Esteves 2010

Favourite subjects: Dance and Art.

Occupation: School teacher and photographer.

Career highlight: In 2013 I travelled with some of my dance students to London and Paris for a 'Dance Around the World' trip. Whilst overseas we competed in an international dance competition at Disneyland Paris with the dance I choreographed coming in first place.

Family: Mum (Jasmine), Dad (Carlos) and sisters (Natalya and Tiahna).

Lives in: Oakleigh.

Hobbies: Dancing, photography and travelling.

Fondest OLSH memories: I have had so many incredible memories at OLSH College including being part of the leadership team and performing in school musicals. I also enjoyed travelling to Sydney in 2009 to meet students from other OLSH schools from around Australia.

What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?: I always believe in striving to achieve your personal best and being happy with the effort rather than the result.

Best advice to your younger self: Don't compare yourself to others and continuously set your own goals.



Samantha Chappell 2013

Favourite subjects: Psychology, History and Textiles.

Occupation: Early Childhood and Primary Teacher.

Career highlights: Children having a creative perspective and opening my eyes to life's possibilities.

Family: Father Nicholas, mother Debra (OLSH graduate 1978), sister Amber (OLSH graduate 2002), brothers Stephen and Nicholas, sisters Stephanie (OLSH graduate 2015), Shantelle (OLSH graduate 2016).

Lives in: East Bentleigh.

Hobbies: Travelling, reading, cooking vegan food, exercising and going to the beach.

Fondest OLSH memories: Having rewarding discussions with open-minded teachers (especially religion with Kristie (Gaff) Bertschik, history with Philip Cassell and psychology with Dianne Byers) and like-minded young women.

What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?: To love without conditions. Trust in the universe. Change yourself and you have the power to change the world.

Best advice to your younger self: One day you'll look back and everything will align, you'll realise you never had the road map after all and nothing is more beautiful than having no plan at all.



Bianca Fernandes 2013

Favourite subjects: Health and Human Development, English and Food Technology.

Occupation: Registered Nurse.

Career highlights: Achieving my goal of becoming a paediatric registered nurse at Monash Children's Hospital six months after completing my graduate year at Monash Health. I also work as a junior faculty member at Holmesglen Institute teaching clinical labs for Bachelor of Nursing students.

Family: Father Xavier, mother Marina and brother Aaron.

Lives: Clayton South.

Hobbies: Cooking, reading, board games and trying new things.

Fondest OLSH memory: Looking back now receiving the first *Flame* scholarship in 2011 which motivated me to succeed and to achieve my dream of being a paediatric nurse, after undergoing many medical procedures during my school years.

What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?: A quote by Mother Teresa comes to mind "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples" which I try to incorporate through the many people I meet in my nursing and personal life.

Best advice to your younger self: Always be true to who you are and be comfortable in the skin you were born in.



Melissa Caia 1998

Favourite subjects: Materials Technology, Food and Italian.

Occupation: Coffee Academy Teacher Coordinator at William Angliss Institute.

Career highlights: Connecting with other coffee industry professionals all over the world, sharing the same love for coffee. I have been a World Barista Championship Sensory Judge since 2013 and recently awarded the inaugural Australian Coffee Woman of the Year 2016.

Lives in: Chadstone.

Hobbies: Baking, travelling, running, yoga and AFL football.

Fondest OLSH memories: There are so many! We had a 'vibrant' friendship group, Year 7 and 9 camps, the Rock Eisteddfod especially in 1997.

What is your personal philosophy and what motivates you?: To think and be positive in your life as this creates rewarding and happy outcomes. Live life to the fullest, act with love and honesty, be open to opportunities and be grateful for the experiences.

Best advice to your younger self: Be present in the moment as you never know where your next steps will lead you, trust your intuition, believe and have faith.

Reunions – Class of 1968



Reunions – Class of 1998



Reunions – Class of 2008



Reunions – Class of 2013



Vale

Verion Stroud

Verion was an OLSH girl through and through. She was educated by the OLSH Sisters for her whole school life, beginning at St Paul's, Bentleigh. Verion was an Alumnae of the Class of 1963–1969. Until her death, she maintained contact with the nuns at Kensington, especially Sr Gertrude and Sr Valerie.

She was a loyal and kind friend to many and is remembered for her sense of fun and her generosity, and her amazing blue eyes. Sports, history and music were subjects she enjoyed. Her parents, Wally and Fran, were always so welcoming, and many happy times were had at their home in Ellen Street, Bentleigh.

Verion had a long and very successful career as a teacher, which included a posting to Penang for two years. Sadly, she battled cancer for the past few years, but was always positive and encouraging to others facing their own battles.

Verion's death has left a huge hole in many lives, especially her sister, Helen Bilston (Class of 59), brother-in-law John, their six children and

their families. Verion was more than a sister and aunt, she was an integral part of their lives.

We will miss Verion at our luncheons. She generously volunteered many hours of painstaking work filling in some gaps in the OLSH Alumnae records, and we are all grateful for her commitment. She will be sadly missed, for many years to come.

– Joan Ahern

Maria (Ree) Egan

Maria (Ree) Egan passed away suddenly in January, leaving her family and friends devastated. She was the last of three sisters (Paula and Christine) to attend OLSH. After finishing Year 12, Maria graduated as a teacher and she decided to enter the Mercy Convent. She worked in Pakistan and absolutely loved the people and culture, and she made lifelong friends, some of whom even named their child after her.

After 10 years Ree decided that life had more in store for her and she left the Mercy Congregation. She headed for Notre Dame University

in Broome where she fell in love with the Kimberley. Ree then moved to Sydney to Notre Dame University and after that she took up the Position of Director of Mission at Calvary Hospital Canberra.

Deciding to come home to Victoria, Ree was appointed Director of Mission, Villa Maria Catholic Homes. She was a loving daughter and lived with our mother who has vascular dementia and she provided her with the very best of care.

Twelve months ago Ree was appointed Executive Director of Mission at St Vincent's Public Hospital and her colleagues held a Memorial Service to honour her wonderful work. Her friendships are of the greatest number attesting to her personality and generosity.

Ree's funeral was concelebrated by 14 Priests, and more than 500 people attended, travelling from as far as Kuala Lumpur, Broome, Sydney and Perth. Ree was our lovely, loving, hilarious, generous, caring daughter, sister, aunty and friend, and she will be forever missed.

– Paula Francis

OLSH College News

2017 VCE Results

All of the staff at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College Bentleigh would like to offer congratulations to the Class of 2017 on their excellent academic results.

College DUX	
Maria Farag	97.20

12% of students scored an ATAR score of 90 or above

High Achievers

Student name	ATAR Score
Maria Farag	97.20
Divya Patel	96.35
Yulia Boganova	94.75
Mollie Duncanson	94.60
Doris Tran	93.85
Genevieve Gallucci	93.75
Sophie Nash	93.70
Amanda Jambu	93.50
Jessica Thatcher	93.25
Felicia Didulo	92.40
Katelyn Fitchett	92.05

Fire Carriers Induction and Reconciliation Week



Students acknowledged Reconciliation Week by writing personal messages of support which were then displayed in Hartzer Place for all to appreciate. Fire Carrier students were blessed on the 10th anniversary of the apology. Sherry Balcombe from the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry visited the College and she spoke about the significance of the apology and the important work the student Fire Carriers do in increasing the understanding and the appreciation of Indigenous causes. Sherry welcomed two Year 8 girls to the group and spoke to all students from this year level. Sherry then performed a spiritual smoking ceremony for the Fire Carriers and wished them well in bringing all of their fellow students on the reconciliation journey.



Tennis Success



We are so proud of the OLSH College Tennis Teams who competed in the SCSA Division 1 section at Geelong. The OLSH girls really stepped it up in the face of tough competition. After many training sessions the girls were ready to bring their A game. The Intermediate team came 1st and Evelyn Lama was awarded the best player medal. The Senior Team played really well all day and gave it their best shot; and the Junior Team were runners up, with Emily Collins receiving the best player medal. It was a fantastic effort from all of the girls and just as impressive was their spirited support for their fellow team members during the tournament.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Feast Day



Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Feast Day began with a Mass celebrated by Father Chris Murphy and he led the congregation of students, staff, families and friends in a very uplifting Eucharist. The readings and prayers gave thanks for all of our blessings and the music was wonderful. Students presented the winter blankets they donated and representatives from St Vincent De Paul thanked the community for their generosity saying the blankets would bring comfort and warmth to many people in the colder months. They then joined the OLSH College staff for morning tea.

Baptcare and Soup Van



Students from Years 7 to 12 have the opportunity to participate in The Baptcare Experience. Baptcare is a day respite centre for people with dementia or acquired brain injuries

and it is located next door to OLSH College in Jasper Road. Every Thursday at lunchtime, four students and a teacher go to visit the residents at Baptcare. Whilst there, the students interact with the clients and enjoy chatting to them. They are always very happy to see the OLSH girls visit. The students also help with many activities, including doing artwork, playing ball games, Zumba and other physical activities. Senior students and staff members also volunteer each month to assist in serving food to the homeless in the City at the Soup Van.

Mother's Day Breakfast



There was a real buzz in the OLSH Centre as students and their mother's enjoyed a delicious breakfast on Friday 11 May. Guest speaker Catherine Healy is a past OLSH student, successful lawyer and current OLSH College Board member. Catherine told the girls that on their journey through life there would be challenges. She advised the girls to pursue a career that they loved, to always be kind and respectful and to seek out guidance from mentors. Many mothers were fortunate to take home some beautiful door prizes of flower arrangements and fresh herb pots. Special thanks go to

the Parents and Friends Committee for organising such a special morning.

Girl Power in STEM



Congratulations to Issoudun students, Danielle Simpfendorfer and Chiara Bertolini who have been selected to participate in the University of Melbourne's Girl Power in STEM Program.

The application process included the completion of forms, referee reports and interviews before they were selected. Over 600 students applied which speaks volumes about the calibre of these students. The students are involved in a three stage program commencing in Year 9 with a camp where they learn about careers in STEM, participate in workshops and interact with Melbourne University Engineering students and staff. They also hear from industry experts and become part of a group of like-minded individuals with a passion for STEM. In the second stage of the program, Year 10 students have the opportunity to complete the Faculty of Science Work Experience Program and then choose from a range of disciplines including Engineering and IT. The final stage of the program facilitates mentoring opportunities between Year 11 and 12 students and University of Melbourne Engineering and IT students.

We wish Dani and Chiara all the very best in this Program as it is an incredible learning opportunity.



OLSH College Bentleigh
111 Jasper Road
Bentleigh, Victoria, 3204
T: +61 (03) 8520 9200
www.olsb.vic.edu.au

