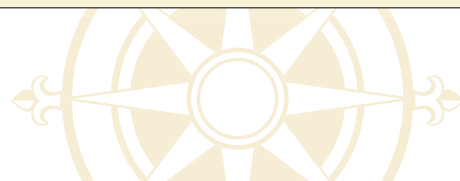


ISSUE 16, WINTER 2012



SANTA SABINA COLLEGE
AN INDEPENDENT CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS K-12, BOYS K-4



SPEAKING FAME

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SANTA HAS TALENT!



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



DREAMING BIG...





Principal's News



Dominicans are storytellers; the stories we tell each other remind us we share a purpose and a way of viewing the world. There are many ways to tell our story and in Benincasa, the Secondary School staff room, there are photos of places that figure prominently in our story - Caleruega, Fanjeaux, Prouilhe.

Earlier this year I took three weeks enrichment leave and joined staff from other Dominican schools on pilgrimage to the Lands of Dominic; to Caleruega the birth-place of Dominic, Fanjeaux where Dominic's house has been beautifully preserved, evoking the presence of the poor preacher and his years of struggle prior to the foundation of the Order that bears his name; and to the Monastery of Prouilhe, established in 1206, revered as the first Dominican community. Legend has it that on three successive nights in July 1206 while in Fanjeaux, Dominic saw the Signadou, a flame which he believed was a sign from God, come to rest over a ruined church in Prouilhe. It was then he realised his mission was to begin in southern France and the women at Prouilhe were to be central to it. This fact of history has shaped the Dominican approach to women and their place in the mission down through the ages and is something we celebrate today.



Tracing the life of Dominic we went to Toulouse and the house of Peter Seilhan, given to Dominic as the first residence for his preaching community. While in Toulouse we visited the Church of the Jacobins, given to the Dominicans in 1230 and where the relics of St Thomas Aquinas are venerated, and to Bologna, home to Italy's oldest university and where Dominic died in 1221; his tomb is in the Basilica di San Domenico. Although much has changed since Dominic walked these lands, being there in the countryside, seeing the fortifications built by the Cathars and reading the history on site evoked an understanding of the context, which gave rise to his mission. The religious, political and military alliances and the need seen by Dominic to preach the good news of God's love somehow came to life.

Other highlights of the trip included visiting the Chapel of the Rosary, by Matisse in Vence; the Museum of San Marco in Florence, a former Dominican Monastery and the place where Fra Angelico preached by his art, painting the walls of the friars cells with exquisite Gospel scenes; our visit to the home of Catherine in Siena.

Praying as a group and at times with the Sisters and Friars were special moments. I want you to know that the Santa Sabina community was remembered in prayer every day.

The story continues on a daily basis here at Santa Sabina College. The Dominican mission to preach the good news of God's love underpins the programs, learning experiences and our professional and personal interactions. Many of these moments are captured in this edition of Encompass – happy reading!

Ms Kate Clancy, College Principal ★

I am

*I am an inspired and unique Australian.
I wonder what I am destined to become.
I hear the piercing call of pink galahs
and the whispering of the waves.
I see my sunburnt country,
the frosted alpine mountains
and the lacy foam on the shore.
I want for every individual's
longing dream to become reality
I am an inspired and unique Australian
I pretend I am a bestselling novelist.
I feel the pen spilling my
imagination onto a page
I touch the newly bound cover
of my story in the bookshop.
I worry for the safety of my family,
friends and the less fortunate
I am an inspired and unique Australian.
I understand people's emotions
I say to follow your dreams
I try to spin magic through words
I hope for my success
I am an inspired and unique Australian*

By Zara Zadro Yr 6

Year 6 students have been studying Australian Identity and what they value as Australians.

The 'I Am' poem is a framework for creating students' own poems to share something unique about them and their Australian identity.

Zara has taken the idea and extended it to make it a unique expression of her identity. ★

Digi Maestros

The Year 4 Digi Ed experience continues to demonstrate the creative and technical capabilities of our students. From blocks of clay and blank screens to the whimsical movie animations, the students are rightly proud of their achievements. ★



New Science Labs

The new Science Labs on the Secondary Campus, for which the Annual Giving Appeal raised funds, have been designed as flexible, functional and practical work spaces. Separation of the "wet" areas allows the students to move freely from these areas to areas where various technologies can be used safely. With plenty of light and access to a covered, outdoor area with seating and tables, students can be actively engaged in a variety of activities. Wall mounted glass panels around the lab walls can be written on by staff and students, encouraging the sharing of ideas and enhancing collaborative learning. A design competition is engaging students in creating digital scientific images to be applied to the windows.



Above: The new science labs
Inset: The old science labs

Maths Problem Solving

The Maths Room dedicated specifically to Problem Solving has been fitted with a smartboard and furnished with tables and chairs conducive to group work. Many classes have already benefitted from using this space with students actively engaged in peer and discovery learning. Students are enjoying the casual setting provided by the green lounges and purple ottomans. The glass panels allow the girls to share their learning and are useful for the building of topic summaries. With the ongoing purchase of new resources, the room continues to evolve, providing exciting possibilities for learning. ★



Yr 7 students enjoying the challenge of Maths Problem Solving.

Technology Enhancing Learning



I 'm up to level 4!' announces Declan. For Kindergarten students the joy of learning Maths and English decked out with iPads and earphones is a matter of delight!

'The penguin falls in the water and misses the fish,' giggles Caitlin, as prompted by the audio, she uses her finger to make words from the letters scattered on the iPad screen.

Daily across the College technology transforms our students' learning experiences with applications unimaginable even a year ago. ICT Integrator Sonia Perri reminds us, 'it's not about the technology however, but the ways in which learning can be enhanced.'

In this context the 1:1 laptop computing model in Year 9 is seeing students participate in a learning environment that fosters relevant skills for today's world such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication and collaboration. Students are highly engaged in their learning, sharing information on blogging sites, participating in peer review, self evaluation and reflection about their learning. They are researching, designing, writing, creating and analysing – with access to technology anytime, anywhere.

Year 7 students also continue to be excited by the variety of apps and uses for their iPads. Learning to manage and

balance the use of technology is an important skill for the students both at school and at home. The instant start up, lightweight nature and ease of access to a wealth of resources is having a very positive impact on classroom activities and the way learning happens. ★





High Achievers' Assembly

Our community proudly welcomed back to the College 62 young women from the HSC Class of 2011 to acknowledge their outstanding HSC success. With speeches, awards and much applause parents, teachers and students of the Secondary School celebrated the great achievements of the 'women of fire'.

The 2011 HSC Results once again reflect Santa's tradition of strong performances in public examinations. Whilst we have much to celebrate through the many outstanding results attained by our top students, many students across all achievement levels were supported to achieve their personal best. Bringing out the best individual performances is something we continue to do very well at SSC.

The Class of 2011 has strongly endorsed the educational experiences available to them at the College, including the high academic standards and their positive learning experiences in a caring and supportive context. They acknowledged the range of opportunities they enjoyed – including the breadth of courses offered and the array of co-curricular, social justice and leadership opportunities available to them.

In congratulating the girls Ms Clancy quoted Stephen Hawking: 'Remember to look up at the stars, not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious!' ★



From Paris with Thanks

Paris Donnelly spoke on behalf of the Class of 2011 at the High Achievers' Assembly. Below are some extracts from her reflections.

I realise that an education at Santa Sabina is not merely restricted to reading, writing, and arithmetic. Education at Santa was, and will always be, instrumental in developing values and virtues which will equip all of you seated in this hall today with the skills, knowledge, and dispositions that are needed to pursue the future of your dreams...



Paris is pictured with her grandparents.

The holistic education offered at the College – whether it is sport, music, drama, debating, social justice, or pastoral care allows talent to be recognised, nurtured and encouraged. The support from each and every member of this community has allowed all the high achievers of 2011 to strive for personal excellence in any aspect of College life in which we desired to participate. Both inside and outside the classroom, both in academic and in co-curricular activities; your potential is developed to a maximum extent as you are taught not to limit or underestimate yourself, but rather you are challenged and inspired to experience new things and to test the boundaries of your comfort zone. Sometimes, whilst being none the wiser, you may even surpass your wildest expectations of your abilities. This is due to the values of Veritas and the philosophy of Dominic which underpin our community, providing each of us with the courage to challenge not only ourselves, but the status quo of the world around us.

Our time at the College has not sheltered the 2011 graduates from the world outside of Dominic's Day, Santa Fest, Tallong, and the annual St Pat's dances. Rather, we have learned to tolerate, accept, and co-exist with diversity, to have our voices heard in this world as catalysts for hope or change, and to be resilient, confident, and influential young women of the 21st century. Some might say, Santa Sabina has taught us to be courageous and creative women of fire.

Santa Sabina teaches you that education is a lifelong process. As my fellow classmates and I evolved into mature young women the College instilled in us valuable ideals and principles that will assist us as we embark on unique and rewarding journeys after leaving the infamous falling pine cone sign behind. Ultimately, Santa has confirmed what my grandmother - the inspiration in my life – always says is in fact true; "The world steps aside for the woman who knows where she's going". ★



Order of Australia Award for Camille

The Class of 2011's Camille Pulanco has been one of only 21 students in NSW honoured by Her Excellency, Professor Marie Bashir AC, Governor of NSW with a Community Service Award by the Order of Australia Association - in recognition of her extensive and generous contributions to the community.

Some of the community groups Camille supported include St Lucy's School for students with special needs, St. Vincent de Paul Night Patrol, Matt Talbot Hostel for Homeless Men, the Multiple Sclerosis Walk and Fun



Run event, the Association for Blind Citizens NSW and the Sydney Ice Bear Event to create awareness about Climate Change. She supported SSC House and Homeroom Social Justice initiatives to assist Dominican causes in South Africa as well as those in need in the local community. In addition, Camille often volunteered to help at sports carnivals, camps and dances where her help was always invaluable.

Her many contributions to Santa Sabina and the wider community and her sense of justice and commitment to outreach activities were recognised by her peers and teaching staff at her graduation, with her election to the 'Christian Leadership Award' for 2011.

'Camille is most deserving of this great honor,' said Ms Clancy in congratulating Camille. 'Her generosity and sense of service to others, often quietly behind the scenes, have been exemplary – our world needs young women like Camille!' ★

Top ATAR: 99.80 (Ashleigh Barnes)
4 students: ATAR 99+
25 students: ATAR 95+
8 students: HSC Top All-Rounders
62 students: one or more Band 6
3 students: Top 10 in State/course



The Class of 2011 Says Thank You...

Subject: Thank you

Today was my first day at university and I am having the most exciting time attending my classes, learning and making new friends. However that's not what I am writing about, in fact I thought I would write to say thank you.

During my two lectures on anatomy and physiology I realised that I knew most of the ground work due to the senior science course. There is no doubt in my mind that having such an excellent teacher who was so passionate and involved in the subject set me up to succeed in this course...

Subject: Hello from a former student

Dear Ms,

I hope all is well for you! It was really good to see you the other week at the High Achiever's Assembly.

I am writing to thank you again for equipping me with sound analytical and writing skills fit for the topic areas of Economics and Finance! It has in fact been helping me the past week - I have picked up a job writing reports and publishing the afternoon bulletin newspaper... I continually check the stock market for dramatic movements, and then report on it using articles from the Dow Jones Bulletin or Bloomberg Terminal. Some of what I write reminds me a lot of Business Studies reports and Economics essays... Economics was a great subject - had a good balance of writing, numbers and reading Ross Gittins and the Monetary Policy statements!

(full details of the 2011 HSC Results are available on the College website: www.ssc.nsw.edu.au) ★



We congratulate Cecile Tran who won the **People's Choice Award** at ArtExpress. Cecile's HSC artworks were selected for display at the Armory at Sydney Olympic Park.



Michelle's Talent Time



Michelle Mutyora, who so quickly gained a place in the hearts of the Santa Sabina College community as a Year 7 student last year for her amazing voice and bright, gracious personality, has now become known for her vocal talent Australia-wide, as a member of the Young Talent Team on Channel 10's revival of Young Talent Time.

Michelle's friends encouraged her to audition for the show, having seen the ads on TV.

'So I said to my Mum and Dad that I'd like to give it a go,' explained Michelle.

Selected from thousands who also auditioned, Michelle took on a demanding schedule of afternoon and weekend rehearsals and filming – and she has loved it, while managing her school commitments as well! Having just completed the show's first season, Michelle and the Team are touring Australia.

'The best part is doing what we love to do; entertaining people, having fun!' she exclaims. 'The other members of the team are like family now, and Tina Arena is a great mentor.'

Having come to Australia from Zimbabwe as a 5 year old, Michelle only began singing and dancing lessons 3 years ago. Last year she won the College Festival of Music, from 250 entrants. She also won 'Bankstown's Got Talent' and the 13 years Vocal Performance section at the McDonald's Eisteddfod. She has a strong, soulful voice and natural rhythm.

Michelle's dream is to follow in the footsteps of Beyonce, though she says she is happy to 'see whatever comes.' She also aspires to be a doctor.

Our Del Monte students are some of her greatest fans; they have been glimpsed showing off the autographs that Michelle has so happily given them! ★

CaSPA Festival

Our own Emily Boyd, Carmelina DiChiara, Clare Dunkerley, Jessica Hume, Bernadette Macaraniag and Ariane Rees have lead roles in the CaSPA Performing Arts Festival 'Tell Me A Story' to be performed at the Sydney Entertainment Centre at the end of June. Over 50 students from the Santa Sabina and Del Monte choirs have been also been selected to participate in the choir, joining hundreds of students from Sydney's Catholic schools. ★

Another String in Jessica's Bow

The College is delighted to announce that Jessica Zhu of Yr 10 has gained a place in the Sydney Youth Orchestra's Youth Philharmonic for 2012. This wonderful opportunity will provide Jessica with the chance to work with some of Australia's leading conductors and musicians, as well as providing her diverse performance and touring opportunities. Jessica has been with the SYO in other ensembles since Yr 7, and says what she enjoys most are the friends, the great musical repertoire and the opportunity to learn so much.



Jessica is a member of the College Orchestra and Chamber Ensemble and is well known for her accomplished violin performances. We are very proud of her outstanding achievements as a musician! ★

STOP PRESS:

Jessica has just claimed First Place in the 2012 Festival of Music.



An Array of Awards

Congratulations to **Anna Power** of Year 11 who was one of 5 finalists in the Burwood Lions Club Youth of the Year Awards. Anna competed in sessions over 2 days involving prepared public speaking, impromptu speaking and interview. Anna was a most gracious and impressive representative of Santa Sabina and we congratulate her on her fine achievement.



Special congratulations also to **Melissa Carollo** who is the recipient of a Strathfield Rotary Citizenship Award for her outstanding service and citizenship in the community. We are very proud of the efforts Melissa has made for local groups.



Teangi House Leader **Katie Garsia** is the recipient of a Sydney University Academic Award, in recognition of her outstanding academic excellence. Following in the footsteps of her sister Anna, an award winning debater, and of Ashleigh Barnes from the class of 2011, Katie is also proceeding to the regional finals of the Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Award, a challenging competition which requires contestants to deliver a prepared and impromptu speech. Katie's first prepared speech on the power of photography was sophisticated and engaging.

Lauren Rosillo and **Tayla Field** have been selected from a state-wide cohort for awards in the Geography Teachers' Association (GTA) Arthur Phillip Fieldwork competition. The girls had their Senior Geography Projects (SGP) selected as entries. The SGP is completed over 6 months during the Preliminary Geography course where the students are required to undertake primary research to complete a study of an issue that interests them personally. Lauren's SGP involved a study of the impact of the Breakfast Point development on local business, whilst Tayla chose to explore the effect of sustainable practices at Santa Sabina College. The students have achieved outstanding results in two categories of the competition: The Brock Rowe Senior Geography Award - Lauren Rosillo: 2nd Place; Tayla Field: 3rd Place; The Dr Maurine Goldston-Morris Award for Excellence in Civics & Citizenship-Lauren Rosillo: Winner. ★



Speaking Fame



*The Macquarie University Schools' Debating team.
L-R: Olivia Fehon,
Katie Garsia,
Emilia Anderson
and Anna Power*

Our famed debaters have continued their winning ways, claiming the Senior Division of the Macquarie University Schools' Debating Cup. Topics considered during the competition included coal seam gas exploration, streamed education, Syria and lowering the voting age. Congratulations to Olivia Fehon, Katie Garsia, Emilia Anderson and Anna Power, of whom we continue to be so proud. ★

VET Excellence



Students at SSC continue to excel in VET courses such as Business Services and Entertainment. Alicia Fazzolari has received an award for Outstanding Performance at her workplace, Chameleon Touring Systems, where she completed her 35 hour placement as part of her VET Entertainment course. Alicia is pictured at the Annual Awards Function held by our Local Community Partnership, Canterbury Bankstown Career Connections. ★

Jaycee's in Business



Aspiring to work as a business woman in the beauty industry, Year 12 student Jaycee Bechara has taken the first step by successfully entering the Burwood Westfield fashion competition. Having described her reasons for entering the competition and submitted a photo wearing a fashion item, Jaycee won prizes, made contacts and was selected for a professional photo shoot which was later displayed at Westfield. This 'taste' of the future has further inspired Jaycee to gain experience in the beauty industry while pursuing her HSC studies. ★



Kindy Welcome

The tradition of Kindergarten dancing on St Dominic's Plot in their first term at SSC has continued with the new cohort of girls and boys kicking up their heels on the Plot following their Welcome Liturgy. This has been just one of the delights of commencing Kindergarten at Del Monte as the children have embraced Better Buddies, Harmony Day, Enviro initiatives, Assemblies and the adventures of daily life at school. ★



Year 12 Wonder Women

Year 12 students have claimed 'Wonder Women' as their theme for 2012. As a woman of strength who uses her spinning power for good and transformation in the world the analogy between Wonder Woman and our graduating class is apt! ★



Celebrating Friendship: Better Buddies and The Project

The visit of Allanah and Madeline Foundation patron Jesinta Campbell to Del Monte for our purple-themed National Better Buddies Day was greeted with much joy by the students. Jesinta participated in some of the activities, including story reading, the secret 'buddy handshake' and the playing of the buddy game on iPads. A runner up as Miss Universe Australia and contestant on Celebrity Apprentice, Jesinta was very generous with her time and delighted the children with her warm and friendly interactions with them.

Jesinta's promotion of the College with film from her visit that night on Channel 10's 'The Project' was very positive!



The Better Buddies Program has been operating at Del Monte since 2007 and nurtures friendships, belonging and skills for well being. As Georgia Feltham of Year 5 explains, 'As an older buddy, I take care of Everlyn (of Yr 2) and we have become good friends.' John Boumelhem of Year 4 adds, 'If my buddy needs me he will come up and tell me... I make sure he is safe.' ★

Kopanang

Later this year we will celebrate 10 years of Middle Schooling at Santa Sabina. One delight as you walk into the foyer of the Martin De Porres Middle School is the beautiful House banners which were designed and crafted by the women of Kopanang in South Africa. They depict in vibrant colours the symbols of our 6 Houses. ★





Indimenticabile!

Year 11 Italian Accelerant students Olivia Fehon and Emilia Anderson have described their experiences on exchange in Italy as 'unforgettable!' They boast that their language skills are now indeed 'bravissima'. For Olivia one highlight of her three months away in Southern Italy was the touring with her host family to the Amalfi Coast; she also loved studying Ethics, Philosophy, Art History and Latin at her school where there were no assignments, just many tests. Emilia similarly enjoyed her schooling experience in Rome, where she lived with two host sisters, one of whom had stayed previously with her family on exchange to Santa two years ago. Finishing school at lunchtimes was another significant schooling difference for the girls – who would recommend 'absolutely' an exchange experience for all. ★



Empowering Women

Santa's student representatives attended the United Nations International Women's Day Breakfast at the Convention Centre in Darling Harbour to mark the 101st anniversary of the first International Women's Day in 1911. The day recognises the importance of women as global citizens and as catalysts for change in their communities.

This year, students were lucky enough to hear from some of Australia's most influential women, including Quentin Bryce, Julia Gillard, Gail Kelly and Sally Sara. As a journalist with the ABC, Sally was the first female appointed to the South Asia, Africa and Kabul bureau and has spent the last year covering the news from the frontline of the war in Afghanistan. Sally impressed the girls, speaking about her experiences as a woman in a war zone.

'Supporting International Women's Day is just one way we can attempt to bridge the gap in gender equality and bring lasting change to women the world over,' explained Olivia Fehon from Year 11 after the event. ★



Megan's Community Service – in Vietnam

Iwent to Vietnam with a local charity Communities for Communities to help build houses for Vietnamese families living on a rubbish tip.

The building site was located in a small town in the south of Vietnam. We spent 5 days on the site taking turns in transporting sand and gravel in wheel barrows, making concrete bricks, bending steel rods, making steel and wire foundations, stamping down sand and building walls. After our first day visiting the site we went down to the school and each received a conical straw hat with our name on it. Each hat was made by a different member of the community who we then had the chance of meeting with their family. At first it was a bit confronting but after a while I felt comfortable with them.

The trip wasn't just about the physical service. We were also able to interact with the local kids and

families at the school. After each day of building we went to the local school and painted a mural with aspects of both Australian and Vietnamese life.

Although faced with a language barrier, the kids barely seemed to notice as they used hand gestures and the simple English they knew to communicate with us. They were so full of life and excited by our visit. The trip isn't all about the building but is about building on the relationships between our community and theirs. It is an amazing experience.

The trip has given me a new way of thinking about helping others in the future. ★



Kings and Queens of Green

The first week of May saw Santa's student eco leaders ensuring that all students maintain Santa Sabina College's commitment to 'all things green' with the celebration of Environment Week.

From nude food (wrapping free lunches) to a daily dose of green facts, awareness raising activities assisted students to be mindful of their roles as stewards of our fragile planet. Tallies were taken of the amount of waste that is recycled each day while at Del Monte children from Kindergarten to Year 5 competed for the title of 'Kings and Queens of Green' for the best class at paper recycling.

A new 'Winter Garden' was dug and planted on the Secondary School campus following the success of the first garden which has seen flourishing herbs and delicious spinach flavouring lunch time food stalls such as that which sold out of the delicious pesto pizzas made from our own garden. A low energy awareness afternoon was also a feature of the week.

Already this year Santa Sabina students have celebrated Earth Hour, Clean Up Schools Day, while recycling occurs every week and tree planting is a

feature of Outdoor Education Camps for students from Years 4-9. Children from Mary Bailey House have visited the nursery to choose the plants for their garden which they tend.

'Energy conservation and sustainable practices are an important feature of our futures- focused learning community at Santa Sabina College,' affirms College Principal Ms Kate Clancy. 'Our students of today are the leaders of our future; they need to be encouraged to live sustainably and ethically,' she adds.

The Albertus Magnus Team, responsible for leading Environmental Education and Sustainability, continues to develop an approach which is embedded in programs and procedures here at the College. The current United Nations goal for a Decade of Education for Sustainable Development highlights the need for young people to become aware of the need for making good decisions in relation to sustainable development, while The Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative (AuSSI) encourages students to develop a perspective which includes working for social justice, considering diversity, making ethical decisions and including the process of reflection when making decisions for a sustainable future. ★

Europe's on the Santa Map

France was the destination for exchange for 4 Year 11 students earlier in the year, while during the Easter holidays 23 art and history students from Years 10-12 toured Italy, France and Belgium. Highlights of their trip included visiting Villers-Bretonneux and the Menin Gate just prior to ANZAC Day, the medieval-style Easter Vigil parade along the Amalfi Coast as well as the exploration of Pompeii and the climb up Mt Vesuvius. The sites, galleries, shopping and food of Paris and Rome also delighted the travellers. ★





Dreaming Big...

At Santa Sabina we are encouraged to dream and pursue our goals. Dreams and aspirations are important in our lives as they help us reach our goals and give us hope for the future. In order to pursue our dreams we need a strong faith at our centre.

In today's Gospel Jesus dares the Pharisees to question how they demonstrate their faith. Let us reflect on our own actions at home and at school. Our generation needs to find ways to nourish our faith and let God be at the center of our ever busy lives of iPads, sports, social life and schoolwork.

From the Reflection on the Gospel by school leaders Mary Kennedy and Concetta Caristo



A New Labyrinth

To mark the transition from religious to lay leadership at Santa Sabina College at the retirement of Sr Judith Lawson in 2007, the College community, both past and present, contributed to a gift to the Dominican Sisters in appreciation of 114 years of leadership and stewardship. This year has seen the creation of a Labyrinth, located just outside the Sisters' Administration Centre near the Middle School. This place of prayer and meditation provides a calm and beautiful natural environment for those who walk it to reflect and nurture one's spirituality. The labyrinth at our Tallong campus is a great favourite; this one in the midst of the busyness of daily life in Strathfield is also proving to be very popular! ★

Social Justice Outreach

As always our commitment to outreach has a high priority at SSC. Pictured are students fundraising for Caritas and cooking at lunchtime for Night Patrol ★



Mission & Identity

This year we have welcomed to the new role as Head of Mission and Identity Mrs Dominique Marturia. Dominique had been the Assistant to the Head, Pastoral on the Secondary Campus for several years, having previously taught at Riverview and in Canada. Dominique is a Santa ex-student (Alice, class of 1986). Through the implementation of programs and coordination of liturgies and other events, as well as strategic planning, Dominique's role ensures that our identity as a Catholic school is clearly communicated and lived, and continues to echo our Dominican heritage.

Conscious of the importance of the Dominican commitment to contemplation: *'contemplate and share with others the fruits of one's contemplation'*, so often difficult to prioritise in the busyness of our lives, Dominique and RE teacher Rita Armen are offering a weekly lunch time prayer service in Dadirri. The time may be spent in structured prayer, personal reflection, meditation and/or in prayer for special intentions and is intended to encourage



and support students to incorporate quiet time and prayer into their daily lives.

Year 10 students are also excited about the Pillars Program, a formation course to nurture the development of leadership, so integral to Dominican education. The course is based around the 4 pillars of Dominican life as re-imagined by Donald Goergen OP in 2110 – Prayer, Community, Learning and Service, all of which have as their foundation *Veritas*.

The girls are enjoying interactive workshops, guest speakers, discussions and personal reflection time as part of the after school program. ★

To Seek, To Speak, To Serve

The Pastoral Theme across the College this year is to *seek, to speak, to serve*. The theme came from the Secondary student leaders at the end of last year when they were invited to contribute to planning for 2012. The theme has been incorporated into our liturgies and interpreted by the students at a range of different levels; individually and within House groups.

At a whole College level, framed by the Dominican values, the students are encouraged to seek, speak and give service, guided by the light of God's truth.

The images below were designed by Del Monte student Josephine Paz. ★



Del Monte Says Sorry

Del Monte children commemorated Kevin Rudd's 2008 apology to Australia's Aboriginal people with a special gathering. Called to the assembly by the sound of the clapping sticks over the PA, the children wore red, yellow and black ribbons and badges, proclaiming, 'I Feel Proud Today'.

During the assembly Cassandra Gibbs, a Gamilaraay woman and Indigenous Education Officer at the Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education and her daughter from Year 2 spoke the Acknowledgement. A slide show of photos documented the College's links with indigenous people on our annual immersion experiences to the Anangu people in Central Australia, during visits by Aunty Ali Golding, a Birupi Elder, and previous celebrations of National Reconciliation Week. The children sang along to songs such as 'From Little Things Big Things Grow'.

We prayed that the members of our community would have an open mind, speak for those who are voiceless, listen with open ears and see with new eyes. Classes explored what it means to say sorry when you have hurt someone, and what it is like to feel sorry for someone who is hurt. Older students considered the Apology's significant place in our history. ★



Felix Yeung and Danielle Bettridge of Year 1 share a picture book.

Creating Ripples for Reconciliation

Students from Kindergarten to Year 12 welcomed three Aboriginal visitors to the College for a day of art-making, story-telling and friendship for National Reconciliation Week. Maureen, Jean and Jungala joined the assemblies on each campus. At the end of the assemblies students placed a pebble in a large bowl of water, symbolising the ripple effect - like a drop in the ocean, there may be little impact by itself, but if we work together, we can bridge the gap and build positive and respectful relationships and a shared sense of fairness and justice.

During the day Maureen and Jean painted 4 dot paintings of dreamtime stories, much to the delight of the staff and students who gathered around them. ★





You Can Do It!

Tallong continues to be at the heart of so many of the learning programs for our students.

Year 5 has experienced the joy of campfire stories and the challenges of prussiking and orienteering.

Middle School students have planted trees, mountain biked, camped out in tents and veered down the flying fox, so often repeating their mantra: You Can Do It!

Outdoor Leaders have mastered skills and gained confidence as they hiked and biked, learned to belay and prepared for their role as group leaders to younger students.

Year 12 Retreaters have taken time to walk the labyrinth and reflected upon their relationships and spirituality in the beautiful bushland setting.

Secondary School leaders have worked in teams to plan Santa Fest and create goals as leaders.

Visual Artists have sculptured spirit creatures.

Drama Ensemble members have workshopped their segment of our forthcoming St Dominic's Day celebrations.

...And families at Open Day have come to know why Tallong offers so much – and is so special to our students! ★







Harmony Day

The photos say it all – Santa's annual celebration of our belonging to a diverse K-12 community brought delight as the sporting theme of Harmony Day 2012 'Play, Engage, Inspire' brought to life the fun of participation, friendship and belonging. ★



Santa Under the Southern Cross

Our celebration of music at the K-12 concert, 'Santa Under the Southern Cross' was a testament to the creativity, talent, commitment and enthusiasm of our students and staff.

We were entertained by students with a range of musical experience, from our youngest Del Monte and Middle School students who have only been members of an ensemble for a few weeks, and who may be new this year to learning an instrument, to those 'old hands' such as our music leaders Laura Edwards and Emma Randall who have developed their love of music over their 12 years at the College.

There was a wide range of repertoire for the audience to enjoy and the state of the art facilities and support of our VET Entertainment students all combined to provide for a wonderful evening for performers and audience as we celebrated Santa's long tradition of musical excellence and the gift that music is in our school community. ✨





On the run...

Tori Scanlon of Year 10 has been selected for the Australian Hockey Team. She is a member of the NSW All Schools' team; since Year 9 the fast-paced Tori has played in our Santa 1 Team.

The College CGSSSA Diving Team won every section as well as the overall point score at the recent competition held at Homebush. Such success was the result of a huge team effort!

After making Santa Sabina Golf history in March at the NSW CCC Golf Championships, Santa's Year 8 golf star Doey Choi has competed in the NSW All School Strokeplay & Matchplay Championships against the best school girls from NSW, playing off a handicap of 5. Her performance on the first day secured her 11th place in NSW. Doey will play again later in the year at the NSW All Schools Selections, another step towards the Australia School competition.

The Cook Cluster Swimming Championships saw Hannah Moloney of Year 5 win 1st place overall in 5 individual events, with a record as well in the 50m Jnr Girls' Breaststroke. Hannah was also awarded the Junior Girls Championship medal. Hannah is also a Cross Country star, coming 1st in the 10 years' section of the Combined Sydney Region's Cross Country Championships. Her next championship event is the Catholic Primary Schools' Championships.



Hannah Moloney

Joey Cliff of Year 4 is also a star Cross Country competitor and will join Hannah at the CPS Championships.



Emma Iuliano

Our K-2 boys and girls have enjoyed their first season of baseball, playing T-ball with the Concord Comets in the local competition.

Emma Iuliano of Year 11 has played winning softball for NSW at the Australian Under 17s Championships in Tasmania.



Michelle Shi

Michelle Shi of Year 11 has travelled overseas as a member of the Majestic Ice Synchronised ice Skating Team. The team competed in Sweden, France, the UK, Hong Kong and Singapore.

The College has 2 eareobics teams through to the FISAF national championships in Adelaide. The Middle School and Primary teams depart for the competition on St Dominic's Day. ★



Kate Shore

Saving Lives!

Georgia Ryan, Luci Ryan and Kate Shore have achieved personal bests in the Royal Lifesaving Pool Championships in Adelaide, with Georgia stepping up an age group to compete in U/16 events when she was only U/14. Year 12's Kate Shore, attending her 4th Life Saving championship, brought home gold and bronze medals in the team and individual competition. For Kate the highlight, she says, was winning her third gold medal. ★

Honours for Morgan

Champion Santa Sabina Water polo player Morgan Baxter from the Class of 2011 was honoured with a prestigious NSW CCC Blues 'Bar' Award and named the NSW CCC Most Outstanding Female Athlete for 2011, receiving the Vince Villa Award at a ceremony earlier this year.

Morgan is currently training with the Australian Olympic squad having received a scholarship for emerging athletes. She is also studying physiotherapy at Sydney University.



Morgan Baxter

Morgan has recently been selected for a number of events where she has represented Australia in Water Polo. Her most recent achievement was in an Australian open age event in April, with the squad which has been already chosen to go to the London Olympics. She was also selected in the National League Southern All Stars which won the inaugural Cathy Parkes trophy in the National League All Stars game conducted at the AIS. Morgan also played for the Australian Born 1993 squad in a 3 test series against the New Zealanders, which was won by the Australians. She has also been selected in the Australian Born 1993 squad to tour Hungary, Greece and the Netherlands in August/September this year.

Last year she captained the NSW Blues A Team at the Under 20s Australian Championships in Adelaide and participated in a European tour with the Australian School Girls' Water Polo Team. Morgan also won gold for NSW in Perth in the Under 18 National Championships and played for the NSW Waratahs.

Upon Morgan's graduation from the College at the end of last year she was recognised for her consistent participation, sporting behaviour, contributions to sport and outstanding performance with the Pierre de Coubertin Award. Morgan has always been a very hard worker with her training for water polo and now she is reaping the rewards so richly deserved. We are very proud of Morgan!

Reflecting the depth of Santa Sabina's sporting program and talent, **Caroline Stalmachowski** from the Year 12 HSC class of 2011 was also the recipient of a NSW CCC Blues Award for Volleyball, as was Year 11 student **Elizabeth Borger**. Both girls play volleyball in the UTS Open Team. Caroline is trialling this year for the Australian Junior Volleyball Team while Elizabeth continues to play for NSW. She was selected last year in the Australian Youth Team but was unable to compete due to injury. ★



L-R: Elizabeth Bennett, Head of Secondary School with Morgan Baxter, Caroline Stalmachowski and Elizabeth Borger at the Awards evening.



Mary Bailey House

Life at Mary Bailey House continues to be challenging and exciting for the children in the Daintree Rainforest, Cradle Mountain and Lilly Pilly Gully. Apple and sultana muffins and decorated cupcakes are some of their latest gourmet creations, while in the sandpit and with playdough the MasterChefs have also been at work.

Bubble blowing is a new favourite, while the Wiggles remain the old favourites. For the older children stories, song and drama based on picture books and the children's own experience of weddings, families, building and stories have led to many rich learning experiences.

The visits of Aboriginal guests, including Aunt Wendy's interactive performance have generated an exploration of Aboriginal painting, tradition and culture; the children also joined the Del Monte community for the Reconciliation Assembly.

Recycling and stewardship of our environment are prominent daily themes, with the Tree Frogs enjoying a visit to Reverse Garbage to select a range of recycled materials for creative construction.

The Centre continues its fundraising support of Montebello, while staff and parents together are working on a Mission Statement which reflects the aspirations and goals of this SSC jewel.

The children having been visiting staff work places as part of their learning about work. They have enjoyed activities in the Science Labs, Maths Rooms, offices and on the sporting fields – dancing the Hokey Pokey was a great hit, as were the relay races – Joe Doran and Austin Daher are pictured. ★



Innovation and Collaboration

In another first for Santa, which leads the way in providing Professional Learning opportunities for staff, the College has held its inaugural **TeachMeet**, offering inspiration and professional learning to an appreciative audience.

Our teachers across a range of KLA's presented brief examples of successful teaching and learning strategies to their peers in segments of 2 minutes or 7 minutes. Staff enjoyed demonstrations of iMovie and Show Me using iPads and laptops; the potential for the use of QR codes for data collection was shown via a 'treasure hunt' style activity, as were examples of student web design for research. We are hosting a TeachMeet for colleagues from other schools later this year.

'Open the Doors to Learning' is another initiative promoting the sharing of professional expertise and learning. This will see teachers welcoming other teachers into their classrooms at any time over a two week period. Such mentoring and sharing of expertise and strategy ensures an innovative, collaborative and quality culture of teaching and learning. ★

Welcome!
Come in...
Open the door
to learning.

Looking at the Learning in someone else's classroom is a powerful way for teachers to learn from other teachers and enhance the learning for their own classes.



SANTA SABINA COLLEGE

Travelling Technologically: from Singapore to Santa

Sonia Perri, ICT Integrator, was one of the recipients of a College Board Scholarship for 2012.

She provides a snapshot of her learning experiences in Singapore.

As a Teacher's Scholarship recipient this year, I had the opportunity to attend the International Conference on Teaching and Learning with Technology (ICTLT) in Singapore. The experience was an excellent opportunity to learn about ICT in education abroad and understand how new technologies and initiatives can impact on contemporary learning.

In the late 1990s, The Ministry of Education (MOE) devised a master plan, consisting of 3 stages, to totally revamp the Singapore education system in order to cater for the new needs of 21st Century students. In the process, a list of 21st century skills were defined: commitment, confidence, courage, collaboration, communication, cross cultural, citizenship, curiosity, critical thinking, and creative thinking. These skills now form the basis of all education curricula in Singapore and ICT plays a huge role in achieving these skills. Outlined below are 3 important innovations that are having, or will have in the future, a great impact on teaching and learning not only in Singapore but worldwide.

1. Mobile devices. Learning theorists all over the world have recognised that students need ubiquitous access to the internet, resources and online tools for communication and collaboration. Today mobile devices such as smartphones, tablets and slates are so prevalent in society that educators are now able to design programs to utilise these devices to truly redefine education.

These portable devices provide functionality such as audio, video recording and play back, inking, handwriting recognition, voice recognition, full processing, storage and retrieval.

2. Another trend that is beginning to have an impact on education is Cloud Computing. A technology that uses the internet and central remote servers to maintain data allowing users to create, access, share and collaborate with others, their data from anywhere (with access to the internet). Companies such as Google, Dropbox, iCloud and SkyDrive (Microsoft) are providing cloud services to schools which are beginning to have huge impacts on student learning. Students with access to cloud services can access their work from anywhere and share it with others without having to use email or portable storage devices.
3. A look forward to the future indicates that rather than textbooks becoming obsolete, new digital textbooks could have the following features, such as: being tactile and interactive; containing videos, and resources; providing formative assessment with interactive quizzes and tests; allowing students to take notes in the margins; allowing students to be socially connected e.g. I will meet you at 7pm on page x of the textbook; allowing students to follow each other and see their notes; facilitating connection both asynchronous and in real time; allowing student notes to go into an organised notebook; facilitating discussion forums.

With all these tools in the digital textbook, they will become the learning management system.

These are exciting times, and Information and Communication Technologies are transforming education. ★



Where Are They Now?...

South African Connections

Students, ex-students and their families, staff and current parents have come together over dinner to raise money for much needed toys, books and resources for the orphanage at Montebello to which our Year 11 students travelled on Immersion at the end of last year. Our students spoke with great passion of their experiences on their travels and there was a wonderful spirit as all who shared the desire to support our friends in South Africa enjoyed the evening.



Tess Corkish (class of 2009) continues as an advocate for sustainable living while using her gifts as a musician. She has composed, written and recorded a song about climate change and its ramifications for the world for the Rio+20 Global Youth Music Contest, a competition associated with the UN Climate conference in Rio in June this year. This is the link to the song and video <http://www.global-rockstar.net/power-the-world/> Tess wrote most of the lyrics and the violin parts and also sang and played violin and guitar in the recording.

Catherine Watters (class of 2010), **Bianca Mercuri** (class of 2010), **Morgan Baxter** (class of 2011) and Ellen Hahn, currently in Year 11 have won the National Championships as members of the NSW U/20 Blues women's water polo team. Catherine, Bianca and Morgan are all now coaching water polo teams here at Santa, sharing their expertise with our current students.



Another of our Water Polo Queens, **Alicia Brightwell** (class of 2007) is playing for the Arizona State Water Polo Team – and very successfully! She finished the 2012 season as the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation top scoring champion. This year in her first week of competition, Alicia was named as Player of the Week and as the season has progressed she has continued to score impressively, being named 3 times as Player of the Week and leading the competition with 44 goals in 16 games played this year, six more than her closest competition. In her most recent match it is said that Alicia's seven goals on the afternoon also tied a record for goals scored in a single game, a feat achieved on only three other occasions in their school history. Alicia has gone to America after spending the past several seasons competing for the University of Sydney and the Australian Senior National Team. She has competed for the Australian squad in 16 international competitions and helped the team to a runner-up finish at the 2010 World League Finals in San Diego and a fifth-place finish at the 2011 World University Games.



Go Alicia, we are so proud of you!

News has come from St Lucy's School that **Alessandra Picone** (class of 1999) has been honoured with a Rotary Vocational Excellence Award. The citation for Ali's award reads:

Alessandra Picone is the Creative Arts Co-ordinator and Drama Teacher at St Lucy's. She trained at the Ensemble Theatre Acting Studio and is currently completing her Primary Education degree. Alessandra is a magical drama teacher. There were no models or precedents for her to follow when she began at St Lucy's using drama to develop skills and understanding in children with intellectual disabilities and/or autism. Alessandra has invented a wide range of creative strategies to teach everything from social skills to film genres. Drama is every child's favourite lesson. She has used it to teach children to accept going to the doctor or the hair dresser, to help them develop empathy for each other (very hard for autistic children) and to stimulate their imaginations and introduce fantasy play. Alessandra manages a whole Department of artists in dance, music, painting and mime. Each year she stages two or three performances both at St Lucy's and at the

Ensemble Theatre that feature St Lucy's children but also bring in students from mainstream schools. For the past five years, Alessandra has introduced and run an out-of-school all-abilities Theatre Company to train St Lucy's children, their siblings, and children from other schools in live theatre. She has also introduced holiday programs in the creative arts and Talent Programs that include a Master Chef day as well as science experiments. In addition to all of this, Alessandra is responsible for guiding and inspiring St Lucy's classroom teachers in the Reggio Emilia approach to learning and has been instrumental in developing teaching at St Lucy's to its current high standard. In recognition of her exceptional qualities and leadership, the St Lucy's School Board has twice sent Alessandra to study in Italy at the Reggio Emilia centre.

Congratulations Ali! Ali is pictured as part of the Dominican Pilgrimage group which visited the lands of Dominic during Easter.



Gold DEAS

We congratulate our Gold Duke of Edinburgh recipients who were recently presented with their awards by Governor Marie Bashir. The girls commenced the DEAS Award during their years at school and it is fantastic to see they have attained their Gold since leaving school:

Sophie Marshall, Sarah Romanous, Brooke Simmons, Georgie Woods and Catherine Giammarco





Congratulations Sr Diana

For the past forty years **Sister Diana Santleben** OP (class of 1964) has been a member of the Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands. In recognition of her contribution to the community through her work as an advocate for refugees, Sister Diana has been honoured with an award from the Prime Minister as a 'People of Australia Ambassador'.

Interviewed for an Aurora article: 'Local Ambassador with Big Dreams', Sr Diana describes her education Santa Sabina as "the best thing that happened to me, the best gift my parents ever gave me."

'She responded to the expectation (at Santa) to "be ourselves, not clones of others, and to achieve whatever our lot is in life," reports Aurora.

At Penola House, her Newcastle 'eco' home with a community of volunteers, literacy, parenting, women's health, sewing, men's and women's cooking, lawn mowing, house maintenance and English programs are offered to refugees.

Bridget Ahearn (class of 2004) is currently the Associate Producer of the Afternoon Show on 2GB Radio. When she left school she studied for a Bachelor of International Studies [Sydney University] and then a Masters of Journalism [University of Technology]. Throughout university, she dabbled in all types of journalism, including sports reporting at the Youth Olympics in Singapore and opinion writing for News Limited site The Punch. Although she works hard in her job, Bridget admits that getting the role at 2GB was a case of 'right place, right time' like many things in the journalism industry. After putting in some hard hours in an unpaid internship, the role popped up a just few weeks before she would graduate from UTS with a Masters in Journalism.

In addition to her work at 2GB, she was also lucky enough to live and work in New Zealand as a reporter for the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

Loretta Moore (class of 2003) has been working in research to better understand the causes of schizophrenia and early psychosis, in order to discover new treatments. Previously, she had worked at Neuroscience Research Australia in the cognitive neural systems unit of the Schizophrenia Research Laboratory. Here she managed research projects and conducted cognitive and psychiatric assessments. Her research there particularly focused on the role of sex steroids in schizophrenia and their relation to symptoms and cognitive deficits. Currently, she is working at the Brain and Mind Research Institute on a trial examining the impact of social cognitive training and Oxytocin (a natural hormone) on social function in early psychosis. In the future, Loretta hopes to continue studies in clinical neuropsychology to enable her to diagnose, assess, and treat those with neurological and psychiatric conditions. Since leaving school Loretta has gained a Bachelor of Science (Psychology), University of Sydney; Post Graduate Diploma of Psychology, Macquarie University; Masters of Public Health, University of Sydney.

Sarah Dale (class of 2004) has written to the College to request support for the 'Walk for Justice' to support and promote universal access to justice. During her years at the College, including as SRC President, Sarah was very active in social justice. She writes: 'I very much credit the teachings at Santa of truth and justice as forming the path at which I am now on as a solicitor at PILCH NSW (Public Interest Law Clearing House).'

Belinda Macedone (class of 1992) works as a teacher of Drama and Film at Newtown Performing Arts High School. She also teaches at Aerialize, the circus school at Marrickville. Belinda trains and directs the Youth Performance Troupe and is herself a circus performer and stilt walker. Currently she is taking a break from the high ropes, having just given birth to her first child, a daughter, Aria.

Megan Caristo (class of 2002) has been awarded two Sydney University Law School prizes, the Nancy Gordon Smith Memorial Prize and a University of Sydney Academic Merit Prize.

Judy Stenmark (class of 1975) has been appointed as CEO of the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) in Geneva. Judy has been Chief Operating Officer of the IOF since 2009 and will be CEO from June 2012.

Barbara Ryan (class of '56) has been honoured with an Australia Day Award (OAM) for services to the community through the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Justine Schofield (class of '03) continues to enjoy great success as a celebrity chef with her TV show on Channel 10 'Everyday Gourmet' and her own catering company.

Julia Morris (class of '85) comedian, and Australia's first 'Celebrity Apprentice' winner recently appeared on the Channel 7 show 'Pictures of You' during which she spoke of the influence of her former music teacher Sr Margaret Hill OP (Sr Mildred). She showed a photo of Sr Margaret and described her as 'a guru' who taught the girls so much about different styles of music, including taking groups to 'Soup Plus' to experience jazz. Julia described Sr Margaret as one who inspired her, and with whom she still keeps in touch. Sr Margaret, now very frail, continues to live in the convent at Santa Sabina. ★



YEAR 11 — ST. PETER'S
Front Row (l-r): M. Kazzl, F. Ratti, L. Genovesi, A. Suter, M. Donaghy, K. Leary, A. Nekic, L. Aquino
Second Row: D. Simicovic, M. Burns, K. Brand, M. O'Dowd, J. Morris, M. Brown, J. Scremin, E. Wojczak, Mrs. D. Jones
Back Row: F. White, M. Tadros, A. Kelly, P. Biviano, T. De Bortoli, M. Manenti, L. Jansen, R. Garcea

Do you have news of a member of your class – what they are doing now, an achievement or success? Please send it to us – we can't publish it if we don't know!

Are members of your family or friends not receiving Encompass? Please send us their contact details. Please also register your contact details with us on the Ex-Students' Networking site via the College website: <http://www.ssc.nsw.edu.au/community/ex-students.cfm>

Ex-Students' Playgroup

Friday August 3, 10am

Meet at Del Monte

All welcome!

Contact Peta Magee: p.magee@ssc.nsw.edu.au



You're Invited:

- **Join us** for our celebration of **St Dominic's Day 2012** around St Dominic's Plot from 9:15am on Friday July 27
- **Bring friends** and family to the **College Fair on Saturday September 8** on the Secondary School Campus. See www.santafair.weebly.com
- **Farewell Ms Clancy** as College Principal on Tuesday November 27, commencing with Mass in the Chapel at 7pm, followed by a gathering in the Hall (ex-students and parents from the classes of 2008-2011 are especially welcome – please RSVP to b.tyree@ssc.nsw.edu.au or by phone to Briony on 9745 7079)
- **Purchase a Cookbook**

Santa Sabina College is publishing a beautiful coffee table style cookbook which celebrates the community spirit of our school. Ex-students and current parents have been invited to contribute recipes to this collection which will offer plenty of inspiration to prepare delicious food. Stories from our vibrant and proud tradition and a pictorial history through photographs will be unique features of this book. Many of our past as well as current students participating in a wide variety of activities will be showcased. This book will be a memento to be treasured and kept in the family for years to come.

Books can be purchased online via the College website – click on Pay Fees and in the Message section write that you are an ex-student. Please also include details of your address/phone etc **OR** cheques/credit card details can be mailed to:

Cook Book @ The Business Office, Santa Sabina College, 90 The Boulevard Strathfield NSW 2135 with the following details:

SSC COOKBOOK ORDER FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of Books: _____ (1 Book @ \$50; 3 Books @ \$120; additional books @ an extra \$40 each)

Total cost, including postage: _____

(If you require the book to be posted please add additional postage; postage for 1 book \$10; postage for 3 books \$20)

Please circle: VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____ / _____

Cardholder Name: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Signature: _____

OR Enclosed is a cheque for \$ _____ Please make cheques payable to: Santa Sabina College Ltd

During the last twelve months The Cookbook Team have been busy collecting recipes, stories and photographs so that this book will be ready to launch by November 2012.

It will be a perfect gift or great Christmas present.

This book is a fundraising initiative by the Parents and Friends' and the Ex-Students' Associations in conjunction with the College to support all students who attend the College. It will cost \$55. However, you have the opportunity to pre-order your copy for only \$50. There is also an extra pre-order special of 3 books for only \$120. During Term 4, the books will be available from the College for collection or can be posted to you at an additional cost.

- **Golden Girls and Boys** will be held on Friday July 20, commencing with Mass in the Chapel at 10:30am, followed by High Tea in the Hall.

Ex-students from the classes of 1962 and earlier for whom we have addresses should have received an invitation in the mail.

If you did not receive an invitation and would like to join us, please phone us on 9745 7079 and we will mail you an invitation.

We hope you will support this initiative.

Grandparents Day @ DM

Our celebration of Grandparents' Day at Del Monte was an opportunity for many family members to visit classrooms and experience first-hand the learning, friends and environment which are so significant in their grandchildren's lives. The concert items were a highlight, as was the hospitality provided by our many P&F representatives.





Jan Logan: From Narrabri to Double Bay - via Santa

It is a pleasure and an honour to be invited to be with you tonight to celebrate the 88th Annual Santa Sabina Dominican Ex Students Debutante Ball. I would like to congratulate the Debutantes and their Partners on their presentation, grace and poise on this special occasion. The community of Santa Sabina can be well proud of you.

I started here as a boarder in 1952, I remember vividly my parents dropping me off early on that first afternoon. I sensed that my father was emotional about leaving me and wanted to get it over and done with. In fact I did much better than Peg, he said good bye to her at Burwood station, vacated the train, and left our mother to it.

I was the third of 4 children and lived in relative isolation on a farm outside Narrabri, North Western NSW. I remember being terrified of the many platforms on Strathfield station on my monthly Sunday visit to my Auntie Madge at Stanmore.

I settled in quickly and as I was talkative I soon came to the attention of Sister Norbert who would silence me with a wooden clicker held in the palm of her hand, it was a small hinged instrument similar to a castanet. No doubt an anachronism these days, but then it was used frequently and certainly had an effect.

As boarders we were up at 6am walking in silence around the grounds saying the Rosary, we then went to Mass followed by breakfast and we were not allowed to speak until we finished eating and the clicker sounded. I am grateful to Sister Joan as she was very strict about table manners and would walk around the refectory admonishing us. We all obeyed her dutifully.

We lived in a strict and cloistered environment. As boarders we were allowed out one Sunday a



month always in our uniform, we were not allowed any civilian clothes at all, and with had a limited amount of pocket money. Visitors to the school on the other Sundays were rare and if a girl's brother did show up we would hang over the balcony to have a look. I think the boys secretly enjoyed this.

My academic record was not exceptional and my school reports invariably said 'Jan has ability, however she does not use it'. My best subject was music where I passed with honours and I went on to 8th grade. As far as our parents were concerned my sister and I were being groomed for early marriage. Cooking and sewing were encouraged from the home front.

During our discussions, my sister asked me who was the leader in my class, it made me think, and I replied that may have been me. I was not the perfect student and did occasionally lead in the classroom and not always in the right direction. In Year 9 Sister Vincentia recognised a spark and suggested I use these qualities in a more positive manner. This encouragement did have a productive outcome as I performed well in my Intermediate Certificate that year, (the then equivalent of the School Certificate).



My time at Santa Sabina was happy, I loved singing in the choir during Mass, made many friends and was Captain of the A Netball team and Captain of the Gold sports team.

Last weekend I was in Canberra to see the Renaissance Exhibition at the National Gallery. I was drawn to a painting of St. Dominic, he was standing in a group of saints in his black cloak and long ivory garment, so similar to the habit worn by the nuns at Santa in the 1950's. Dominic founded the Dominican order in the 13th Century and his philosophy of excellence exemplified here tonight, lives on some eight hundred years later.

The Dominican nuns had a profound effect on me, their immaculate cream habit and black veil were visually perfect, Coco Chanel would have been as inspired as I was. The nuns were always dignified with a presence that commanded respect. From these Dominican Sisters I learnt that women could be strong, independent and courageous. The values imparted were that life was not handed to you on a platter, that one had to strive for excellence, and earn respect. These values contributed greatly to my raising 3 sons and throughout my business career.

My start in the jewellery industry was after the boys had commenced secondary school, I was in my mid 40's. It was a serendipitous beginning with the local jewellery store in Narrabri where I took out a personal loan and bought a 20% shareholding. After moving to live in Sydney in the mid 1980's I opened my first store in Double Bay in 1989, I was 50 years old at the time. We now have 5 stores, including a presence in David Jones, stores in Melbourne, Perth, & Hong Kong. The message here is, it is never too late.

Santa Sabina has played a significant role in shaping my life. I am proud to be an ex student of this great school – I look forward to following its continued success. Thank you. ★





Reunions

Class of 1981 30 Year Reunion

It was absolutely wonderful to see so many on 5 November in Sydney. Close to 80 girls joined us, many making a mammoth effort to travel from Israel, USA, Thailand, Christmas Island, WA, Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and country NSW. It was such a thrill to see everyone, and our cohort was delighted to see some of our teachers... you don't look a day older!

From the 'noise' and the continued laughter I would say everyone had a great time. I certainly had no voice the next day!

We certainly missed those who couldn't make it, and hope that you will be able to join us in the future.



The following day, around 20 took a guided tour of Santa (thanks Miss O'Shea!), which was great – and we caught up with Sr Rose-Marie Taranto, which was lovely.

Some early discussion has raised the prospect of future gatherings. We would love to suggest a BIG gathering every five years (so pencil in 2016 now) – and a very casual yearly get-together (where you have a time and place - and turn up if you can for a drink and chat). It is always impossible to find a regular date that suits everybody, but quite a few have recommended the same bat time, same bat channel... First Saturday in November – 2pm, Bungalow8, King Street Wharf Sydney.

That is certainly a start – so any feedback would be welcomed.

Annie Carrett (nee Cummins)
annie.carrett@dbb.org.au



Class of 1991 20 Year Reunion



After 20 years the class of 1991 met up again at the Nude Bar Australian Youth Hotel, Glebe. This was the perfect place for 50 women, no longer girls, to catch up. The volume of the night was loud with conversation and selected 80's music. Canapes were served and drinks flowed.

All up it was a very successful and enjoyable reunion. Thank you to all who attended. Will the next one be to mark our 30 years since leaving school?

Amanda Oates

Class of 2001 10 Year Reunion

Armed with some old stories of crazy times at school and a slideshow of photos to prove them, the Santa girls of 2001 reunited in Surry Hills at The White Horse in November. We shared drinks and nibbles and ignited old friendships, with an attendance of 65 girls throughout the night.

Peta Magee

President's Report

The Santa Sabina Ex-Students' Association is very pleased to be able to offer our first Networking Breakfast in the Sydney CBD. We are particularly hoping that those of you who work in the city will come and join us at City Tats in the heart of the city and take the opportunity to reconnect with other ex student s working in the city. If you have a business card I encourage you to bring them. Breakfast will be served from 7.30am so call in on your way to work. This event is sponsored by the Ex-Students' Association. Numbers are limited so please RSVP via www.ssc.nsw.edu.au/community/ex-students.cfm

It was wonderful to see so many ex-students at the 88th Annual Debutante Ball held on 31 March. Jan Logan was our Guest of Honour and she spoke fondly of her year as a boarder at Santa Sabina. She said, 'The nuns were always dignified with a presence that commanded respect. From these Dominican Sisters I learnt that women could be strong, independent and courageous.'

Our beautiful debutants certainly also demonstrated that they were strong, independent and courageous as they progressed through the Debutant Program which culminated in their exceptional presentation at the Ball. I would like to thank the hard working Debut Committee led by Mrs Sue Bell for their dedication to making this night such a success.



Elizabeth is pictured with Gabby Shina, the recipient of the Sr Marcia Hall Ex-Students' Association Award for Integrity

I would also like to welcome Anne Hayes (d'Arbon '75) to our Committee. Ann has had a long association with the College and it is a pleasure to have her on the Committee.

Elizabeth Mulcahy



REUNIONS

Those from the classes of 2002, 1972, 1962 and any others wishing to hold reunions this year - please contact the College for assistance.

Class of 1982 30 Year Reunion Sat 15 Sep 2012
Time TBC

Where: The Union Hotel
Cnr Pacific Highway & West Street
North Sydney

Facebook: Santa Sabina Class of 1982

Contact: Caroline Chackley-Arve
Caroline.arve@yahoo.com.au
Ph: 9810 2116

Class of 1992 20 Year Reunion Sat 21 Jul 2012
7pm

Where: Mrs Sippy
37 Bay Street
Double Bay

Contact: Meredith Schappeler
Meredith.schappeler@coastwatch.com

DEATHS

We offer sympathy and prayers of support to:

The parents, brother and friends of Cathy Wallace from the class of 1980

The family and friends of Catherine (Cate) Brophy from the class of 1975

The Rice family (Debbie '84, Cecilia '76, Margaret '76) on the deaths of their mother and brother

The Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia on the death of Sr Joyce Adams OP

The family and friends of Jane Trainor (Fleming '73), especially her sister Lexi ('71), husband Michael Trainor and 4 children.

Hanaan Indari (class of '90) and her family on the death of her father

BIRTHS

Congratulations to:

Katherine Klamka ('99) and Ben Ackland, a son
Gabriel Vincent

Emma MacDonald ('99) and Liam Maley, a daughter
Sophie Louise

Samantha Davidson ('87) and Martin Rowden, a daughter
Scarlett Bernice De Garis

Tania Zaitseff ('01) and her husband, a son,
Anatoli Tobin

Cate O'Neill ('96) and Ashley, a son, Owen Ignatius

MARRIAGES



Stephanie Caltabiano ('06) to Nathan Cherrington



Dominique Perri ('04) to Magnus Eggers



Felicity Mulcahy ('03) to Andrew Vuckovic
(All the bridesmaids were Santa girls: Genevieve Mulcahy ('06), Victoria Mulcahy ('09), Siobhan Drury ('06), Amy Russo ('03), Robyn Tierney ('03). Groomsman Patrick Mulcahy is a del Monte old boy)



Yvette Guerin ('00) to Patrick Bolster

Yvette's bridesmaids were Lucy Guerin ('95), and Renee Colussi (Hall) ('00)



Sarah Fisher ('99)
to Kim Timmins



Alessandra Giunta ('02)
to Phillip Mediati

Anissa San Juan ('99) to Brian Gordon

Terry Biviano ('92) to Anthony Minichiello

SANTA SABINA DOMINICAN EX-STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Friday 3 August 2012

Omega Lounge, City Tattersalls Club
194-204 Pitt Street Sydney
From 7.30am-9am. Breakfast will be served

Come along and reconnect with school friends and share your stories.

To register for this event please log on to the Santa Sabina Ex-Students website - www.ssc.nsw.edu.au/community/ex-students.cfm (Numbers are limited so please register early).

For further information please contact Elizabeth Mulcahy 0417 484 072

If your household is receiving more than one copy of Encompass, please notify the Ex-Students' Association by contacting:

Phone: 9745 7035 Fax: 9745 7032 Email: exstudents@ssc.nsw.edu.au Mail to: 90 The Boulevard Strathfield NSW 2135

Visit our page: ssc.nsw.edu.au/exstudents for more photos, reports and updates.

The Editor has compiled 'Around the Plot' from various sources. While every care has been taken to ensure the information provided is published accurately, the Editor cannot accept responsibility for any inaccuracies in the content or authenticity of that information.



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