SANTA'S AT THE CUTTING EDGE

FAREWELL MS CLANCY

MARIE BASHIR PEACE AWARD

HANNAH BRINGS HOME GOLD

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

THE MAGAZINE OF THE SANTA SABINA COLLEGE COMMUNITY

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A Final Word of Farewell

Welcome to the last edition of Encompass for 2012. The rhythm of the school year has seen us farewell our Year 12 students and welcome those who will join the College at key points in their learning journeys, most particularly Kindergarten and Year 7.

In providing a schooling experience which is responsive to our students, we need to be aware of what they bring to the learning here at Santa Sabina. At our Middle School Orientation Parent evening Michael McQueen, a well-regarded commentator on demographic shifts and generational change, spoke about Generation i; children who are tech savvy, their whole lives mediated by technology, prematurely mature, empowered, risk averse and protected. While these descriptions may be generalisations we do know that schools and families need to work together to counter the prevailing culture in developed countries, the marketing of what Hugh MacKay calls ‘Brand Me’, and provide education and life experiences that are life-affirming and conducive to moral development, health and well being.

Every year since 2002 Mission Australia has conducted an annual nation-wide survey of young Australians. The largest of its type, over the years it has asked thousands of young people to share their concerns, values and thoughts about the future. The survey results are always keenly anticipated by media, government, educators and the wider community, assisting them to more effectively communicate with and support young people. The 2012 results won’t be released until December, however the 2011 Report showed that young people are concerned about the big issues such as climate change, youth unemployment, the GFC. They often feel they have no control over these issues and it is concerning to find that depression is a major concern in the lives of almost one in five young people who completed the survey (18.1%) increasing with age (from 14.6% of 11-14 year olds to 35.1% for 20-24 year olds). Stress may be higher among the 20-24 year age group due to the added pressure that normally occurs around this age in the areas of work, employment, and financial issues, as well as issues with living arrangements.

Here at Santa Sabina the learning experiences are carefully designed to provide our students with a sense of efficacy, relevance and purpose. We continue to have a strong focus on student voice and our pastoral, co-curricular, leadership and social justice programs all support our students K-12 in meeting the challenges of their lives.

Human history tells us that every generation has its challenges. Our own Dominican tradition grew out of a turbulent time. St Dominic saw the suffering of the people of the thirteenth century who were being led astray, and his great gift to the Church was to form a religious order that would proclaim in an informed and sensitive way the genuine gospel of God’s love for all that He had made.

Dominican education with its commitment to truth sets out to prepare our young people to love all that is good, true and beautiful in this world, to cast off fear and embrace the world - as the articles in this edition indeed confirm about the education at SSC.

As the 2012 school year comes to an end it is a time to celebrate achievements and look to the possibilities the future holds for us. It has been a privilege to lead this College as Principal over the last five years; I thank all who welcomed and supported me during my time here. I have loved working with the parent community and have delighted in my daily interactions with your wonderful children. I believe our College is well placed to embrace the world and its future.

Ms Kate Clancy, College Principal

Parent Council Award for Kate Clancy

In a fitting honour during her final year as leader of our College, Ms Kate Clancy received a NSW Parent Council Highly Commended Award for Excellence as Principal. The award recognises a Principal’s commitment to building relationships with, supporting and engaging the parent community.

Kate was nominated for the award by P&F President Julienne McCarthy and her Executive, in collaboration with the two previous P&F Presidents. A number of parents wrote testimonials about Kate to accompany the submission from the P&F, and several attended the function.

The members of the Parent Council commented on the extent to which the nomination stood out from all the others in its expression of the parents’ affection, appreciation and esteem for Kate.

The awards were presented by the NSW Commissioner for Children & Young People, Megan Mitchell, at a function held at St Andrew’s Cathedral School.
In her five years as the first lay Principal of Santa Sabina College, Ms Kate Clancy has been a generous and committed leader. At the heart of her leadership has been her passion for teaching as a vocation, and her vision for continuing to develop the College as an innovative centre of contemporary learning, offering the best possible educational experiences and outcomes for our students.

Aware of the impact of science in understanding the brain and learning, and of the fast changing world of the 21st century, she has stressed the imperative for teaching and learning to reflect and prepare students for their future. She has recognised and promoted technology as a tool for learning and extended its access ‘anywhere, anytime’ across all areas of the College. Her depth of knowledge of the best educational pedagogies for boys and girls K-12, as well as a passion for exploring ideas and the ways they may apply in our context have been further hallmarks of her educational leadership. Ms Clancy has thus encouraged and facilitated innovation, provoked change through her questioning and empowered staff and students to explore and realise possibilities.

Kate’s faith-filled religious leadership and faithful stewardship of our Dominican charism has seen her foster its expression of service, community, learning and prayer in a myriad of ways. Her belief in the Dominican ideal of the teacher’s role in encouraging the child to the ‘intelligent use of liberty’ is an oft-quoted text, as is her recognition of the importance of ‘reading the signs of the times’. Continuing the tradition of Dominicans as preachers, in her weekly reflections on the Gospels in the Veritas Voice she has urged the community to seek God’s truth in their daily lives. Often she has reminded us that in a world where ‘truth’ is so often cast aside or compromised, Veritas can be our guide. She has shared with our students her belief that ‘our world needs Santa Sabina graduates’ and she has exhorted them to ‘live in a way that will promote the dream of God for this world.’ Her study of the words of Timothy Radcliffe OP and travels to the lands of Dominic and to South Africa added to the insights about life as a Dominican which she often shared with our community.

Parents have particularly valued Ms Clancy’s support, experience and leadership, as their nomination of her for the NSW Parent Council Award epitomised. ‘Ms Clancy is a strong leader, a visionary educator...and a warm and approachable person,’ they wrote in their submission to the Parent Council. Always generous with her time, there is hardly an event she has missed from K-12. A debating ‘groupie’, she has delighted in the involvement and successes of our students in all arenas of College life, while her dancing cameos in videos of ‘Santa’s Got Talent’ and times spent with them at Tallong or in classroom visits are just some examples of her support for the students. She has whispered words of encouragement to so many as they have received awards and certificates from her for their achievements. Music and the Creative Arts are a great passion; her initiative and support saw the realisation of last year’s glorious Chapel performance of the Fauré Requiem.

As one who values creativity and the life of the mind, Ms Clancy has encouraged students to be lifelong learners, to ‘think outside the square’ and to ‘Remember to look up at the stars...be curious’. Her establishment of the Albertus Magnus Team reflects her recognition of the significance of Dominican values for contemporary life, as well as her own commitment to ethical living, sustainability and love of the natural world.

At a time of significant change in the world and the College, Kate has demonstrated integrity, courage, strength of character and inspiring resilience in dealing with the daily challenges and diverse demands of life at Santa Sabina. Her gracious presence, positive, affirming and hope-filled view of the world and constant advocacy for the best educational opportunities for all will long be remembered.

As her own communication reflects, she values story-telling in our lives. ‘The stories we tell each other remind us we share a purpose and a way of viewing the world.’

Her story and those of the members of our College community - staff, students and families - will be forever linked.

We thank her for her many contributions to life here at SSC and wish her God’s richest blessings for the future. ✠
Farewell Wonder Women

‘Be eternally proud of your Dominican heritage. It is an important part of what has shaped you & will stay with you forever. An education in the Dominican tradition is about the quest for truth.’

Thus the Year 12 class of 2012 has been sent forward into the world.

They were acknowledged on their Graduation Day for their extensive contribution to our community, academic achievements and co-curricular involvement by Ms Cath Horan, acting Head of Secondary. She exhorted the girls that ‘Your learning does not stop now... your education has been about preparing you to be lifelong learners. You must also know that with knowledge comes responsibility... and knowledge without action will never be what your education at Santa was intended to be about. Being a student educated in the Dominican tradition means you are called to serve... My hope is that our Year 12 students will in years to come be able to maintain significant connections to our community because they know the value of building and nurturing positive relationships.’

And so our Wonder Women have gathered their capes in the tradition of the original Wonder Woman, a fictional character with a mission to bring the ideals of love, peace and equality to all. A woman of strength who uses her ‘spinning power’ for good and transformation in the world, Wonder Woman was a woman of and for her time, as are our graduates.

In her reflection during the Graduation address on the girls’ choice of ‘Wonder Woman’ as their theme for the year, Ms Clancy encouraged the girls ‘never to doubt your capacity to make a difference in the world. Be confident in your abilities. With the education you have received here and God’s grace you have the power to imagine and work for a better world. Make the choice to be a voice shaped by love, mercy and compassion.’

On the theme of choice she reminded them: ‘the ability to argue effectively is a gift; civility is a choice. The skills, education, and social mobility necessary to acquire wealth are gifts; generosity is a choice. The capacity to formulate clearly one’s own thoughts is a gift; the willingness to take seriously the thoughts of those with whom one disagrees is a choice. Self-confidence is a gift; tolerance and humility and selflessness-these are choices... As St Paul reminds us tonight in our reading, make the choice to always be humble and gentle. Patiently put up with each other and love each other. Try your best to let God’s Spirit keep your hearts...’
united. Do this by living at peace. You are young women of courage, integrity, imagination and truth who can be a voice for life and hope, who know that happiness is bound up with others and nurtured in relationships with others; young women who know the difference between information and wisdom, fame and respect, love and infatuation.

The good wishes of our community go with the Class of 2012, and we look forward to featuring news of them in future editions of Encompass.

**Christian Leadership and Archbishop’s Award 2012**
LOUISE POW

**General Proficiency Award**
ALEXANDRA DEVLIN

**Overall Academic Excellence**
MINNA BOYLE  GEMMA KERRISON
GISELLE CAPACCHIONE  DARLIA LEE
ALEXANDRA DEVLIN  ALISON LEWIS
JESSICA DUSEVIC  LAUREN ROSILLO
JESSICA HUME  KRISTINA WAKIM

**Australian Defence Force Award**
ISABELLA MERCURI

**Paula Dawson Award**
REBECCA SHALALA

**Pierre De Coubertin Award**
ELIZABETH BORGER

**Steve Barrett Award**
MINNA BOYLE

I think it’s also important today that I take a moment to reflect back on the many things our school has taught us over the years. There’s no denying that we have learnt how to be independent and motivated young women in the ever-changing world. Instilled in us are values of respect and truth, which we will endeavour to live out, no matter our future walks of life.

We have learnt to support one another and the community, to embrace the strengths of each person, including ourselves, and to strive to be the best that we can, knowing we can make a real difference in our world.

As we graduate today we can be confident that Santa has equipped us to be women of the future. Wonder women of the future.

Innovative Science

One are the days of Science labs with long green benches and trough sinks! The new Science precinct boasts seven wonderful science labs in one light-filled area, all on one level, with easy access to two prep rooms. Its features include:

- Separation of areas allowing for easy movement between desks and practical spaces
- Flexible table and desk arrangement to encourage work in various combinations
- Small and mobile teacher benches to reflect the shift from teacher to student centered strategies
- Light filled learning spaces with visual appeal and common access to a covered outdoor space
- Glass wall panels to allow students to record data and ideas for general discussion to promote peer review
- The creation of a small study area where students can do individual work or small group tutorials can take place
- Easy access to technologies such as laptops and smart boards.

The changes recognise the importance of facilities supporting teaching pedagogy. In designing the new labs, Science Co-ordinator Dave Brewster and staff of the College visited several other schools and considered issues such as:

- the practical nature of Science – thus the need to provide as many opportunities for our girls to experience hands-on activities in meaningful contexts to broaden and deepen their understanding of the ‘big ideas’ in science
- the space needing to accommodate the diversity of ways in which science is taught - including laboratory based practical work, small group and individual project work, outdoor classroom based activities, research activities, computer modelling or simulations and theory lessons
- the specialised facilities required for Stage 6, such as Chemistry labs with access to fume cupboards and Physics labs needing more power outlets and fewer ‘wet’ areas
- mandatory OH&S requirements.

The Science faculty at SSC works hard to develop programs that motivate and interest our students and feedback from surveys such as the ESSA task reflect a more positive attitude towards Science at SSC compared to other AIS schools.

The College is appreciative of the donations to the Annual Giving Appeal over the last couple of years which have supported the development of this project.

Building Bridges

A team of 23 Year 9 and 10 students attended a challenging and fun day of Science and Engineering at Macquarie University. Working in teams of 2 or 3, the students were presented with a variety of challenges such as developing vehicles to travel smoothly over the surface of Mars, building hovercraft to negotiate obstacles, designing and constructing environmentally friendly houses and developing power grids that could cope with various blackout scenarios.

The highlight of the day was in the bridge-building task where the bridge designed by Yuvita Ie, Beatrice Khoury and Shannon Reid was the ONLY bridge that was able to successfully support the “bridge-buster” load without breaking! Indeed our world needs bridge builders with this skill!

Drama @ DM

This year has seen the introduction of Drama into the learning experiences of Years 3 and 4. The students learned a range of activities, ably facilitated by Mr Gallaway and their teachers working as a team.

Year 4 created their own short plays and performed them for the younger classes in the DM Hall. There was a genuine thrill amongst the student as they worked shopped, scripted and presented their original works. Year 3 contributed to the liturgy for St Dominic’s Day with their colourful and vigorous ‘under-the-sea’ dance. They then turned their attention to engaging with the Asian focus of their classroom learning by creating a dramatised performance of The Legend of Mulan, the Warrior Girl.

Told in three parts, perhaps the most impressive feature of the exercise was the ‘flashmob’ element of the performance which saw the performance commence amidst the normal geography of the learning space during the annual ‘walk the walls’ showcasing of the students’ work. The parents were engaged and surprised to see the story being played throughout the learning space. The focus of the students was impressive as they wound their way amongst their surprised and pleased parents.

A surprise Flash Mob also took over the Del Monte Assembly. In the midst of Mrs Portlock’s announcement the cohort of brightly dressed children emerged from the Hall to dance with joy on the stage to the delight of the audience.

Year 6 Go Global

Year 6 students are delighting in their SKYPE sessions with students from Kent School in San Francisco.

As well as discovering the challenges of negotiating the time zones for the two classes to be able to meet ‘face to face’, they have exchanged questions about their favourite hobbies, sports, TV shows and subjects and swapped stories of life in their home cities.

They are writing ‘Spooky Stories’ together in pairs, using Edmodo and Google Docs to upload and exchange their writings. One benefit of this is the extra care they are taking with their writing because they have a ‘live’ audience.

One student from the class, Lily, visited Kent School while in the USA in the recent holidays and enjoyed a tour of the school and the chance to meet the students she had previously only viewed on the screen.

‘I love every aspect of this project!’ exclaimed one student. ‘It is so exciting!’
The Art of Designing

The Textiles & Design, Design & Technology and Visual Arts Exhibitions were wonderful celebrations of the creativity and commitment of our Year 12 students.

The ex-student who opened the Textiles & Design exhibition, Stephanie Caltabiano, Class of 2006, now a successful designer, inspired her audience with her insights into the industry, while also reflecting on her education here at the College.

‘Being a Santa girl is not something you just shake off at the gates… the feeling of community spirit, tradition… a school which nurtured and valued my creative skills… the support of my teachers who gave me the space, time and tools I needed… I believe a lot of my self-discipline and determination formed during my time here.’ Stephanie commended the students on their outstanding designs and the hard work which was reflected in them.

Architect Faith Halliday from the Class of 2000, now working in Hong Kong after several years in America, was Skyped in to open the Design & Technology and Visual Arts Exhibition. She inspired her audience when speaking of the ‘playground’ of creativity which the design world offers, and recalled the nurturing of teachers such as Mr Henderson who supported and inspired Faith’s career since her days in Year 9 Design and Technology.

** Since opening the exhibition, Stephanie has been one of 8 finalists in the Mercedes Benz Australian Fashion Graduate of the Year Awards which were to be held in Brisbane, where she showed 6 ‘looks’. She has also travelled to China for her work on the Kardashian Collection.

The Mystery of Wookie Hole

Year 10 Music Theatre and Food Technology classes have collaborated on the production of a Theatre Restaurant. Music Theatre students performed the humorous “The Mystery of Wookie Hole” which they had written as a class, while the Food Technology students designed and prepared a delicious two course menu which included roast pork belly and decadent desserts for an appreciative dining audience of parents and staff.

It’s all adding up for Maths at SSC

As part of our celebration of Numeracy Week, Mathematics students participated in a range of challenging and fun maths activities, including a Mathematical Masterpiece Video Competition.

We also welcomed Numeracy Ambassador Lily Serna to the College who joined us for our own Letters and Numbers SSC Championship Playoff. Contestants had to use 6 given numbers to arrive at a given target number by using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division - in 45 seconds! Students were delighted by the competition to problem solve their way to create the ‘special number’ and by Lily’s exhortation that ‘Maths is a playground of infinite possibilities!’

‘By the end of the week everyone became professional mental arithmeticians. We were so lucky to have Lily Serna join us. Just listening to the way she tackles her hard maths problems and life itself inspired us all. Defying all stereotypes, Lily brought a ‘fresh and cool’ attitude to maths!’ exclaimed Year 10 student Chanelle Sleiman.

As the Numeracy Ambassador for Numeracy week Lily seeks to redress the stereotype of the ‘maths geek’, believing that ‘maths is applicable to so many different areas of life; it’s not just about sums and algebra’. Lily inspired students with her images from nature of Fibonacci numbers, seen in the petals of daisies, sunflowers and the bones of the foot.

“Patterns are everywhere!” she exclaimed, as she then went on to talk of the probability of catching a good wave on her surfboard.

Del Monte Parents Do Maths!

As part of our continued commitment to our educational partnerships with parents, a range of ‘Curriculum and Coffee’ mornings have occurred, with staff outlining and demonstrating the variety of teaching and learning approaches to Literacy and Numeracy, followed by some ‘hands on’ activities for parents to work on together.
Santa’s at the Cutting Edge!

Year 10 student Sarah Boyle has had her Art Deco-inspired table displayed at the Sydney Timber and Working with Wood Show as a model of what can be created using laser cutting technology. The College is one of only 20 schools in Sydney using a laser cutter.

‘In the past students would design the top and cut by hand the thin timber veneers, which was very time consuming and limited the detail of the designs,’ explained TAS teacher Scott Henderson.

‘With the laser cutter now the students create their design using AutoCAD, then copy their designs into Adobe Illustrator. From Illustrator students change the colour of lines so the laser cutter recognises which lines to cut. The files are then cut by the laser cutter in less than 2 or 3 minutes. The introduction of this technology has allowed our students to create more intricate designs with greater precision. It has opened up a whole new world of design options and we are very grateful to the College for supporting the purchase of this new technology which our students love using with a range of materials – including acrylic, polypropylene, timber and fabric.’

In her future Sarah hopes to be a physio or occupational therapist who designs houses and equipment for people with special needs; her use of this technology for creating complex designs has given her a sense of what is possible!

Australian Vocational Student Prizes

Congratulations to Isabelle Turnbull-Finnegan and Jinnez Chen from the HSC Class of 2011 who have been awarded an Australian Vocational Student Prize. Jinnez received her award for her studies in VET Business Services while Isabelle received her award for her work in VET Entertainment.

The awards recognise students who have demonstrated outstanding vocational and employability skills, high achievement, determination and commitment while undertaking a VET in Schools Program. Winners receive $2000 and a certificate from the Minister for Education in recognition of their achievements.

Both students attest to the value of the VET course they studied, with Isabelle saying that, ‘Studying VET for my HSC gave me retreat from other essay-based subjects that required long hours of study.

VET Entertainment was a practical and hands-on way of learning which was enriched by the presence of the VET course. With the laser cutter now the students create their design using AutoCAD, then copy their designs into Adobe Illustrator. From Illustrator students change the colour of lines so the laser cutter recognises which lines to cut. The files are then cut by the laser cutter in less than 2 or 3 minutes. The introduction of this technology has allowed our students to create more intricate designs with greater precision. It has opened up a whole new world of design options and we are very grateful to the College for supporting the purchase of this new technology which our students love using with a range of materials – including acrylic, polypropylene, timber and fabric.’

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Joyce’s Japanese Success

Year 12 student Joyce Wong has applied for a scholarship to do her undergraduate degree at university in Japan. Joyce has been selected by the Japanese Embassy to go on to the next round for selection by the Japanese Department of Education. Joyce took exams and interviews in both Japanese and English at the consulate in Sydney as part of the selection process. We wish her well for the next round, from which only one person from Australia will be selected.

Santa’s Winning Speakers!

Our Year 11 Debating team who were featured on the front cover of the last edition of Encompass as the winners of the Macquarie University Schools Cup have risen to fame again this semester, having won, for the 5th consecutive year, the Catholic Schools’ Debating Association Metropolitan Finals.

Emilia Anderson, Olivia Fehon, Katie Garsia and Anna Power will proceed to the State Finals on November 16 when they will debate the winner of the country schools’ competition.

The Yr 11 Mock Trial Team, comprising Anna Power, Olivia Fehon, Rebecca Kazzi, Patrice Elias, Marrianna Izgi, Tatjana Dotzauer, Chloe Mansour, Gabrielle Shima, Stephanie Dickson, Lisa Philpotts and Reanna Roberts contested 8 rounds and went through to the quarter finals of their competition as prosecution or defence in fine style – don’t be surprised to see them in the courts in the coming years.

Our youngest have spoken with confidence and conviction in the Del Monte Public Speaking finals. Congratulations to Justin Wong - Year 1; Darcey Babbage - Year 2; Isabella Azzopardi - Year 3; Mariette Kaado - Year 4; Kate Coyne - Year 5.

Wheelchair Athletes

To coincide with the London Paralympics our Middle School students enthusiastically participated in a Mini-Paralympics competition. The event was organized by Year 9 PASS as part of their study of Event Management and Sport For All. The girls were also featured in the SMH Olympics feature due to their efforts to raise awareness of people with disabilities within our community through inclusive practices in sport.

The students competed in their colour houses in a range of disability sports including Sitting Volleyball, Goalball, Wheelchair Basketball and Purjá (a modified netball game with wheelchairs).

Weelya earned the ‘Paralympic Fever’ Award for the enthusiasm and spirit displayed throughout the competition. Teangi were the Middle School Mini-Paralympic Champions for 2012, having fought hard to win the Sitting Volleyball Grand Final.

The girls also raised funds for the Australian Paralympic Committee to help Paralympians realise their dreams at the highest level.

Peter Brooks, dual Gold medallist from the 2004 Paralympics, presented the trophies and shared his inspiring story with the Middle School students. Students in Year 9 and Middle School were able to experience wheelchair sport over the term thanks to the loan of wheelchairs from NSW Sport and Recreation.
St Dominic’s Day

Our celebration of Santa’s favourite day, the Feast of St Dominic, was held in glorious sunshine around ‘the Plot’. This year in a particular way the school community – staff, parents, students and friends – acknowledged those pioneering Dominican Sisters who travelled on the Martha Birnie, from Kingstown in Ireland to Australia, a journey of 88 days, which commenced on June 8, 1867.

The small wooden sailing ship, which was replicated on ‘the Plot’ for this year’s celebration, measured just 57 metres long. It carried 18 passengers and a crew of 28; livestock and provisions for the long voyage were also on board, as was a piano for the school the Sisters would establish. The weather and the sea were often harsh.

We celebrated the faith and courage of those ‘can do’ women whose spirit lives on in our community here in Strathfield 118 years later.

Our collection to support one of the ministries of the Dominican sisters was this year for the Catherine Sullivan Centre, housed at Del Monte, which supports and educates children with a hearing loss from birth to school age through an early intervention program.

As is our tradition, Year 12 danced on ‘the Plot’; they crowned St Dominic ‘wonder-woman’ style. The day was another wonderful celebration of community!

Leadership and Laughter with Sr Sheila

The annual visit of Sr Sheila Flynn OP from South Africa provided the opportunity for Year 10 and 11 leaders to work with her. Team work and problem solving were the focus of one session which saw the ‘egg drop’ activity test the ingenuity of the students. In addition to a weekend spent preparing the Year 11 students travelling on Immersion to South Africa, Sr Sheila gathered the children of Mary Bailey House in Dadirri for a wonderful time of matching shapes and colours on the glass windows with scatters of coloured cut outs. Middle School students were able to hear first hand from her the impact of their fundraising, while staff engaged with her in reflection over a number of inspiring sessions.
South African Immersion

Once again our Year 11 travellers to South Africa have spoken of the inspiration they experienced with Sr Sheila Flynn OP and the life changing opportunity the immersion provided for them. Two snippets from Patrice and Lizzie provide a glimpse of this experience:

The experience that I had in South Africa was incredible! I have learned so much and have gained a greater insight and understanding into such a unique culture. For two weeks, I was constantly being challenged however I enjoyed every minute of it. I taught a lesson at a primary school where the children couldn’t speak English, visited a chronic care unit where I interacted with disabled children and lived with a family for a week in a township. I was amazed by how my host family welcomed me and treated me as one of their own despite having never met them before. They were so hospitable and caring and shared their culture with me.

(Patrice)

The invaluable connections and special bond we made with people who became family extend to the entire Santa Sabina community. We encourage a continuation of enthusiasm and generosity during the Santafest week, because the donations are really going to a wonderful place where they are much needed and appreciated.

(Lizzie)

Central Australia

Students have again been transformed by the annual immersion experience and interaction with the Anangu People in the Pitjantjatjara lands south west of Uluru. The girls’ journey focused on the building of relationships and saw students draw on courage, determination and self awareness amid the isolation. ‘I realised that all the materialistic things I thought I needed around me are not that important’, one student shared.

The girls also came to know their Aboriginal hosts and each other as family as they shared stories and meals, laughter and song in an experience free of schedules, timetables and mobile phones.

Some of the girls’ reflections also indicate the life changing nature of the experience.

Sarah reflected that ‘during the trip you could see God in the land, the people, but most of all the stars. Whenever I went to sleep I wasn’t scared because God was watching over me; I think that was one of the most spiritual parts...’

‘We were blessed with an amazing ‘once in a lifetime’ opportunity!’ exclaimed Bethany.
**SantaFest**

This year’s SantaFest was a wonderful demonstration of the Santa spirit of community as the student leaders worked together to plan and host a range of activities for their fellow students and in doing so raised significant funds for Montebello. From activities which included sales of hot chocolate, cakes, a BBQ, an inaugural breakfast, table tennis competitions, a photo booth and the fabulous concert there was much involvement and great generosity from our community.

SantaFest has a significant history at Santa Sabina. It was begun 20 years ago by student leaders to raise funds for Montebello (Our Lady of the Rosary High School) conducted by the Dominican Sisters near Durban in South Africa. The funds raised by the students through their activities allow the Sisters to provide tuition for students who would not otherwise receive an education, thus assisting in breaking the cycle of poverty for the girls’ families.

**St Lucy’s Camp**

‘The St Lucy’s Camp was an incredible opportunity to form special friendships, learn a lot and have fun. Each of the activities allowed the children to push their boundaries, whilst allowing the Santa girls to be supportive and encouraging friends to the St Lucy’s kids. We were captured by the incredible dedication of the teachers to their students and their individual needs.’

So wrote Isabel Virgona on behalf of the 20 Year 11 students who travelled to Tallong for the annual St Lucy’s Camp. The camp involved the girls supporting the children to experience the high ropes, low ropes, flying fox, and rafting.

‘The experience was sometimes difficult but extremely rewarding. We learnt different methods of communication to connect with the kids, which we all enjoyed. We are grateful for Tallong and the dedicated staff for preparing the camp, and are thankful to St Lucy’s for having us. There were some tears, but many high-fives, lots of smiles, and it was an overall enriching experience,’ added Isabel.

**Blessing of the Labyrinth**

It was with joy that Ms Clancy welcomed the Dominican Sisters, parents, staff and students who gathered for the blessing of the labyrinth. The creation of the labyrinth, in the grounds between the Middle School and the Sisters’ Rosary Lodge Admin Centre acknowledges the outstanding leadership of so many Dominican Sisters here at Santa since 1893. A collection towards this gift to the Sisters occurred at Sr Judith’s conclusion of her time as Principal in 2007 and was generously contributed to by the P&F and Ex-Students’ Associations and the College, as well as by individual and family donors. At the blessing of the labyrinth, Marg O’Shea, Promoter of Dominican Charism, outlined some of the reasons for the choice of this gift to honour the Sisters:

- The walking of the labyrinth reminds us of the itinerancy of Dominic. Inward and outward we walk a journey in the labyrinth, reflecting as we walk.
- Its connection to the Earth. The shuffle of the feet on the labyrinth reminds us we are not on the journey alone and are connected to the Earth. We are grounded.
- The labyrinth is not a maze. You cannot get lost. There is one strong path. It may twist and turn but you will always be on the right path.
- Walking the labyrinth enables contemplation - which is so important in our Dominican Tradition.

The blessing expressed the hope that the gift of the labyrinth will be enjoyed for many years to come, and that it will enrich the lives of all who walk it.
Community Outreach

The efforts of the Middle School community in baking and selling delicious cakes and cookies have raised in excess of $3,000, enabling 43 uniforms to be purchased for the Kopanang children to be able to attend school. The potential that education will bring for them cannot be measured in dollars! Great stories of our students’ generosity accompanied these efforts.

In a new initiative, Kurrawa House collected, styled and modelled outfits for donation to the “Dress for Success” organisation in Sydney. This organisation provides appropriate clothing for women who may be re-entering the workforce after a period of unemployment, appearing in court, or attending a funeral. Fabulous models from every Homeroom strutted their professional attires down the runway, demonstrating flair, creativity and generosity.

Four representatives from the current cohort of ‘Homework Help’ volunteers have accepted an award and a cheque in the West’s Ashfield Community Citizenship Awards. Since 2004, groups of Santa students have gone to St Joachim’s Primary School in Lidcombe each Monday afternoon after school to help refugee children with their homework.

Marie Bashir Peace Award

The Santa Sabina community is proud to congratulate Year 11 student and 2011-2012 Social Justice Leader Karen Krakue, who has been recognized with one of four Highly Commended Certificates for her efforts towards fostering peace and harmony in The Marie Bashir Peace Awards 2012.

Karen has made an enormous contribution to Social Justice in our College community and beyond through involvement in caring for the homeless, Night Patrol, fundraising for numerous charities and hosting and attending Social Justice Conferences, which amongst other topics have addressed child abuse and violence against women. She has raised awareness of fair trading, assisted with signing for deaf students and supported our sister school at Montebello in South Africa by introducing a letter writing activity for our students to get to know Montebello school students better.

Karen is also a strong advocate for Reconciliation and demonstrates concern for indigenous Australians.

Her perspective is both local and global and her contribution has and continues to be multidimensional and transformative.

Creating and Celebrating Community – the SSC Parents and Friends’ Association

Three highlights from the P&F’s celebrations in recent months have been the College Dinner, the Fair, and the Trivia Night, at which Elizabeth Pooley was acknowledged for her generous contributions to the College P&F for 20 years. Each occasion has been a wonderful experience of the spirit of community here at SSC.
Celebrating 10 years of Middle Schooling

Ten years of Middle Schooling has been joyfully celebrated with Mass and a gathering of those involved in Martin De Porres since its inception. Former staff, ex-students from the class of 2012 and current students and their families came together in acknowledgement of times and stories shared.

Current students wrote their biographies and hopes for the future having read from the archives the stories of those who had been in the Middle School in 2002. Our Year 6 and 7s enjoyed a BBQ and Jumping Castle which were provided by the generosity of our P&F, and followed up the day with the flying of their home-made kites and a concert.

Our Middle School supports students to successfully bridge the years between primary school and high school and is a much loved campus of the College.

DM Community Day

The Del Monte Community Day commenced with students providing wonderful entertainment as buskers in the Piazza, raising money for charities of their choice such as Kopanang and the Catherine Sullivan Centre while demonstrating their talent and confidence as musicians.

During the morning parents were also able to view a repeat session of the Year 5 girls’ Night of the Notables and Walk the Walls experience in which students engaged in role with their audience as a human rights advocate or organisation which they had researched.

The highlight of the day for all was the book character dress up as part of our celebration of Literacy Week. There was a great spirit of joy and celebration as a plethora of fairytale characters, superheroes, Harry Potter characters, sporting heroes and some very individual choices across a wide range of genres paraded in celebration of reading. It was fantastic to welcome so many parents to this day of joy!
Getting Loud at Tallong

Tallong welcomed over 40 music students to Music Camp at the beginning of the spring holidays. Let’s Get Loud and Viva La Vida rang through the surrounding bush land as intensive rehearsals saw the creation of four part and improvised a cappella versions of the songs. New friends were made, broken bows mended and sore throats soothed in preparation for the games night and talent quests which indeed were highlights, as were the outdoor activities and trip to Canberra to the National Portrait Gallery where students discovered the influence on art and culture of musicians and composers.

Embrace the World: www.ssc.nsw.edu.au

Ms Clancy has launched Santa’s new website with a video hosted on the SSC You Tube channel.

Visit our new website to read, view and hear about the fantastic learning and community experiences happening in the College. Follow us on Twitter on the home page to read the latest news at SSC.

For the latest happenings in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at the College, log in to the site created by Ben Binder, Outdoor Education Co-ordinator - http://outdooredlive.wordpress.com

Debating Dinner

The inaugural Debating Dinner and presentation evening saw a team of Year 10 students debate the coaches on the topic ‘That truth is stranger than fiction.’ Marilyn Monroe’s 6 toes seemed to feature strongly in the affirmative team’s case line, perhaps explaining why the debate was awarded to the negative side.

Parents, staff, debaters and public speakers celebrated a year of great success and enjoyment of our students’ abilities to develop and confidently argue a sustained response in the many competitions which have featured on the Debating and Public Speaking calendar in 2012.

Tallong Comes to Del Monte

Students in Years 2 and 3 have enjoyed an afternoon of problem solving and outdoor challenges as Tallong travelled to Del Monte.
Hannah brings home Gold!

Ten year old Year 5 Del Monte School Leader Hannah Moloney returned from the Adelaide School Sport Australia Cross Country Championships with 3 medals - 2 gold and a bronze.

Hannah competed in the 10 year old 2km event where she finished 4th in Australia out of 29 runners. The success of Hannah and her team mates from NSW saw them awarded the Gold Medal for the 10 year girls’ team event. Hannah’s second gold medal resulted from her selection to run for NSW in the 1000m 10 year old relay. Hannah ran the fastest 1000m leg of any 10 year old in Australia.

Hannah was also then selected to run in the age composite relay for NSW. The team for this event brought home the Bronze Medal.

All at the College are very proud of Hannah’s success and great sportsmanship, and we look forward to following Hannah’s sporting career with great interest.

CGSSSA Dance Champions

Santa dancers wowed the judges to win the 2012 CGSSSA Championships with our best ever results.

As one of 14 schools, Santa contested each of the 7 sections at the championship and along with over 400 dancers in 51 teams they entertained the audience and judges in what proved to be a creative day of dance.

The natural talent of the Santa performers combined with the fantastic choreography of our dedicated teachers led to some amazing displays of skill, energy, technical excellence and showmanship.
Educating in the Dominican Tradition

Annually the College celebrates the service and commitment of our staff with a Recognition of Service afternoon. This year we celebrated the contribution of staff who have been at the College for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years. Elizabeth Brooks, a Tamworth Dominican ex-student since Kindergarten and leader of the Pastoral Team in the Secondary School this year celebrates 20 years at the College. As the speaker for the afternoon, she challenged the staff to consider what is important and unique about the features of Education in the Dominican Tradition, identifying the following key characteristics:

- Contemplation and study of Christ’s truth
- Working for and living Gospel values
- Responding to the contemporary world
- Lived in communion with all people
- Probing of challenges whilst being hope-filled
- Questions matter more than a single answer
- Prepared to live with ambiguity, open to possibilities
- Freedom to think with a realisation of responsibility

She emphasised what is at the heart of our Dominican education - that it is embedded in the search for truth.

‘A Santa Sabina education exposes the truths of our world to our students. In turn this challenges them to seek truth within themselves, helping thus to shape them into independent people of integrity who can make a difference to the world.’

Our very best wishes go with four very long serving members of the College staff who are retiring at the end of 2013. They have served our community as outstanding teachers for many years.

Farewell to:
Mrs Irene Holt Teacher of Science and House Co-ordinator
Mrs Jeannette Baird Co-ordinator of Languages
Mrs Di Reed Teacher of Science
Mrs Therese Curtis Teacher of English

Board Scholarship

As recipients of the 2012 SSC Board Teacher Scholarships we attended the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) annual conference in San Diego, USA in June. The ISTE conference is one of the largest in the world with over 15,000 attendees, and it provided a rich learning experience. We learned first-hand from educational leaders about the role of technology in creating engaging learning environments and the need to build capacity in our students to manage their learning to be global contributors thriving in our connected world.

We made the most of networking opportunities, sharing classroom ideas with other educators from all over the world about current thinking in areas such as mobile learning, iPads, Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) and flipped learning.

Our challenge now is to adapt and apply these experiences for our students to ensure we are responding to the opportunities that technology affords for the teaching and learning in our classrooms.

Angela Thomas and Mike Wheadon
Thank You

The College is appreciative of the support of the following families and individuals who have contributed to the Building Fund and/or Annual Giving Appeal during 2012. Their generosity assists us in providing and maintaining the best possible resources for the education of our students:

Abdelah
Alfonso
Agus
Aguina
Aile
Alexiou
Alexiou
Alimonti
Alimonti
Almasjoyo
Allicock
Amor
Amor
Anderson
An
Antoun
Amour
Assaf
Aunedi
Aze
Azzopardi
Babbage
Bachalan
Baker
Baldas
Baldini
Ball
Banjo
Bana
Barakat
Barlow
Bastable
Beatcha
Bennett
Bergia
Bertuen
Beyer
Birger
Bouls
Boyle
Bridge
Bromley
Brooks
Brown
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Burk
Burtuck
Burtuck
Burtick
Butch
Burnam
Burnett
Burrell-McDonald
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Cabrera
Calavan
Campbell
Campian
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Carolin
Caroll
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Canough
Canavan
Casimaty
Casterton
Chahine
Chen
Cheng
Chidson
Chiefari
Chiu
Choi
Chow
Chung
Cicco
Cliny
Cohen
Colley
Colletta
Coomastri
Cowan
Connor
Connolly
Conpland
Costa
Coyne
Craneley
Crosser
Cuddick
Cue
Curtis
Cuzzozena
Daher
D'arcy
Dawes-Smith
Dawson
De Angeli
De Miranda
Demos
Deming
Dedlin
Di Francesco
Di Stefano
Dickery
Donaldson
Dong
Donohley
Dorza
Douglas
Drivas
Duncan
Dunster
Durland
Dusjipoh
Duvapla
Eboi
Edwards
Eldureidous
Elias
Elias
Elliot
Eli
Espina
Estell
Faddoul
Faker
Fan
Faros
Fassendi
Fateneh
Faug
Fazzilari
Fehon
Feltham
Fernell
Fernandez
Ferrari-Puglia
Fiddler
Filipini
Flaxton
Foley
Foran
Fonster
Fountain
France
Freeman
Fury
Gallagher
Galluzzo
Ganba
Garard
Garzia
Garnery
Gatto
Ghio
Ghione
Giammoni
Gilbert
Giuppi
Giovacino
Gloy
Graham
Graham
Green
Greenberg
Greig
Gregory
Guillotta
Hagios
Hagen
Hanna
Hanna
Hanna
Hanna
Harrison
Harrington
Hassaroul
Hatem
Hayat
Hayes
Hennessey
Highfield
Huang
Hume
Humphrey
Ie
Iexadu
Incamp
Ipi
Izgi
Ibabour
Jackson
Jabez
Jenkins
Johnston
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Kang
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Karasia
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Loncar
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Oya
Macedonian
Macedosi
Macher
Mackie
Magdino
Mahmou
Macgou
Magouls
Malataluo
Manco
Mangubanbun
Marrang
Marshall
Martin
Marzin
Mauselli
Maugeri
Maurel
McCarthy
McCauskey
McDonald
McKay
Mckee
Mclaughlin
Lee
Mehem
Mehmi
Menzi
Middleton
Mick
Molly
Moloney
Moran
Moreno
Morgan
Montensen
Mossia
Mudge
Muckle
Mum
Munro
Muntal
Murasco
Myint
Nakhte
Narayan
Nava
Naylor
Neddy
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Nicola
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Nico
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Nowlan
O'Brien
O'Ding
O'Halloran
O'Hanlon
O'Hara
O'Malley
O'Shea
Ozdemir
Palhos
Panopoulos
Parsi
Parteering
Parsons
Pascual
Pereta
Phan
Phillips
Philpotts
Pinter
Pisano
Poginson
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Pomare
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Pow
Price
Quintal
Rachela
Rati
Rajman
Randall
Rasiah
Riha
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Rees
Renes
Ristovski
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Roberts
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Rossley
Rudd
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Ryan
Roidal
Said
Sally
Samos
Sanzari
Sargent
Savoca
Scaife
Sebastian
Seeto
Sey
Sepokas
Shalalia
Shanahan
Sharpe
Shea
Sidney
Siganos
Simc
Simmons
Sind
Singh
Slattery
Smith
Smoiti
Smolensic
Snooz
Sommer
Songberg
Springall
Spongberg
Srir
Stalmadovski
Stevens
Stewart
Story
Styleidos
Sufferni
Sukar
Symenus
Tang
Tamorous
Taylor
Teec
Thompson
Tibberta
Tifard
Tolme
Touma
Touma
Townsend
Trajano
Tse
Tyene
Valdez
Vincenru
Villar
Wakim
Waller
Wang
Wanney
Watts
Wells
Whang
Whitbread
Wilco
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Where Are They Now?...

Megan Bell (class of 2002), now living in London, based her Year 12 Drama performance on Lindy Chamberlain’s story. Given the recent publicity surrounding the Chamberlains this year, Megan’s friends made contact on Facebook, remembering her top performance. Her mother Sue then made contact with Lindy Chamberlain herself. Lindy has requested a copy of the DVD of Megan’s performance.

Margaret Mulcahy (class of 1973) and former head of Middle School at SSC has been awarded a Churchill Fellowship. Margaret is travelling in Finland, the UK and USA to explore the ways in which environments can successfully re-engage and re-ignite learning in middle years students in the 21st century. We congratulate Margaret on this wonderful achievement and wish her well on her travels.

Lucy Virgona (School Leader class of 2010) has been profiled in The Land having won 2nd place in a Wool Corporation Wool Design Competition. In 2011 Lucy took a gap year, which fuelled her interest in wool which derives from her family’s involvement in the wool industry both here and in Italy and which was reflected in her HSC Textiles & Design Project which was exhibited in the best of HSC Showcase, TexStyle.

Lucy gained 9th place in the State for her HSC Textiles course.

During her year in Italy she worked as a nanny and taught English for the Botto Pola family, owners of a wool mill in the town of Biella. During her time in Italy, she attended Fashion Week in Milan and spent two weeks going around the woolen mill learning about all the different departments.

‘It helped me network with people, learn about all of the processes and talk about wool,’ Lucy said. ‘It was great to see the way they use wool over there and how much the people appreciate its qualities’.

Upon her return from Italy and wanting to get creative again, Lucy entered her HSC designs and extra complimentary pieces in TAWFA, held in Armidale earlier this year. She attained second place in the evening wear section for a woollen shawl and lace gloves. She also has four Advanced Diplomas from the Australasian College of Natural Therapies (in Nutrition, Naturopathy, Herbal Medicine and Homoeopathy). After graduating in 2008 she took a year off to travel in Europe, basing herself in Rome for 6 months. This is where she resides today. Currently she is finishing a Masters Degree in Human Development and Food Security at a university in Rome. Its focus is on international development.

For the last two years Jessica has been working as a Research Assistant at a CGIAR (http://www.cgiar.org/) Research Institute called Bioversity International (http://www.bioversityinternational.org/). The focus is on how agriculture can be used in development to work towards food security and improved nutrition in developing countries. Out of the office Jessica works casually with event management, focusing on client care for international music groups whilst touring in Rome. She also sings for an electro-pop group, which often tours around Europe.

Lorette Quinlan (class of 1972) who is a teacher at SSC in the Middle School, travelled to Alaska this year for a cruise to celebrate her 40 year friendship with her penfriend from her schooldays. She started writing to Susan in 1969 while at Santa. The Australian American Association had written to Santa Sabina asking for girls to correspond with American girls of a similar age. Lorette and Susan have met four times, in 1976,
2008, 2009 and 2012. Susan has recently retired from the US Environmental Protection Agency in law enforcement. Lorette says the cruise was ‘a truly wonderful holiday together celebrating our long friendship and Susan’s retirement’.

Amy Hume (class of 2005) is living and studying in New York where she is continuing her training as a Linklater voice coach at Columbia University in New York with Professor Kristin Linklater. Amy has a studio in Ashfield and has been a much loved teacher of speech and drama here at SSC.

**South African Immersion Reunion: 2005-2011**

Following the success of the South African fundraiser earlier this year, which brought some of our former Immersion travellers together, Promoter of Dominican Charism Margaret O’Shea organised a reunion which brought together 30 students who were delighted to see each other, the staff who travelled with them, and Sr Sheila Flynn OP, our very own ‘nun on the run’ during her annual visit to Australia.

**Playgroup**

The 2nd Jane of Aza playgroup was held on the Del Monte Campus on Friday 3rd August. The playgroup had over 30 alumni mothers & friends with nearly 40 babies accompanying them, all under 5 years of age.

The sun shone, the mums chatted, the babies giggled and the toddlers played in the sand pit.

Amongst the conversations and informal play, there was a wonderful sense of community in welcoming back old faces and introducing new guests to the college. Kate Clancy greeted the group and reminded the ex-students ‘that the door is always open to Santa’. We look forward to many more playgroups and Alumni events.
Golden Girls

175 very proud ex-students from the 1940s, 50’s and 60’s returned to the College for the third annual reunion, which we celebrated with Mass and High Tea. Many travelled from interstate as well as from all over NSW. They enjoyed the beauty of the College today as well as the opportunity to catch up with old friends. The event was overflowing with stories and laughter of memories created as young women of the College. Their presence at Santa Sabina illustrated the great bond ex-students continue to share with each other and the College community.

Our Motet Choir sang for them at the Mass and Mrs Martin’s Year 6 class were wonderfully welcoming.

Next year our Year 7 students are lined up to record the memories on their iPads!

Sandra Riach (class of 1960) returned to the College after the Golden Girls’ reunion to share some of her memories of life as a boarder with Year 7 Geography students. She told the story about the time she was caught raiding the College vegetable garden and was made to eat nothing but a raw carrot for dinner as her punishment. The girls found it hard to believe that the College uniform policy required girls to wear their long tunics for sport and to polish their shoes every morning, while they were intrigued by her account of students using shoe polish cans to pass messages through the fence to the Trinity Grammar boys!

We look forward to video interviewing the Golden Girls at the reunion next year, so that some of their many stories can be captured for future generations of Santa students.
Networking Breakfast

The Santa Sabina Dominican Ex-students’ Association held the inaugural Alumni Networking Breakfast on Friday 3rd August.

Ex-students of the College gathered before work or study at The Omega Lounge at City Tattersall’s. Over coffee, pastries and scones the girls reminisced and reconnected.

This event is designed to offer a convenient way to stay in touch, socialise, and establish mutually beneficial career or study relationships.

After such a success the Association will host other networking events in the future.

Gathering Around the Table

The SSC Community Cookbook is now available

Santa Sabina College has published a beautiful coffee table style cookbook which celebrates the community spirit of our school. Ex-students and current parents have contributed recipes to this collection which offers inspiration for delicious food. Stories from our vibrant and proud tradition and a history through photographs are unique features of this cookbook. It is a memento to be treasured and kept in the family for years to come and a perfect gift for Christmas.

The cookbook 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. The cost is $55. 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 number etc.

Alternatively, cheques / credit card details can be mailed to:
Cook Book @ The Business Office,
Santa Sabina College,
90 The Boulevarde Strathfield NSW 2135
with the following details:

SSC COOKBOOK ORDER FORM

Name: _____________________________
Address: _____________________________
Number of Books: ___________________
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
President’s Report

In 2012 a dedicated and passionate committee have proudly offered a variety of activities of an academic, cultural, social, spiritual and professional nature to connect our alumni community and present students.

The Ex-Students’ Association celebrated the 88th Annual Debutante Ball, and was privileged to have Jan Logan, a leading Australian jewellery designer and ex student as our Guest of honour. This was a beautiful evening for debutantes, their accompanying family, ex-students and members of the College.

2012 also involved fundraising at the annual Golden Girls & Boys Reunion, with record numbers of attendance with 185 guests.

We supported the Jane of Aza Playgroup held at Del Monte in August. Ex-students and friends with children under the age of 5 were welcomed back to the College to connect with other parents.

The playgroup is a regular event, all are encouraged to join, refer to the Ex-students’ Calendar of Events on the SSC website for upcoming dates in 2013.

A crowd of ex-student professionals gathered at City Tattersalls Club for a networking breakfast, to reminisce and reconnect. ‘Cocktails to Connect’, an after work drinks followed the breakfast.

Ex-students & friends met to stay in touch, socialise, and establish career or study relationships. These events have set a trend which will continue into 2013.

The Melbourne Cup luncheon was held in style with canapés and sparkling wine at Angelo’s on the Bay, with sweeps, raffles, big screens, fashions on the field and a delicious 3 course meal.

We look forward to the year ahead with much in store for the Ex-Students’ Association, including the launch of the Debutante Enrichment program, Ex-Students’ Ball, various career networking events for past and present students, reunions, fundraising and new opportunities to reconnect.

We encourage you to stay in touch and be an active member of this ever growing, ever changing and thriving community. The Ex-Students online community also has a lot to offer, please become a member through the SSC website via Ex-Students – www.ssc.nsw.edu.au

Peta Magee, President

Reunions

The Class of 1972 Reunion

The Class of 1992 Reunion

We will report on the reunions being held at the end of this year in the 2013 edition of Encompass. Photo Galleries will be available on the Ex Students’ Networking site. Those planning reunions for 2013 are asked to contact Peta Magee at the College on 9745 7035

Peta Magee is pictured at the Melbourne Cup Luncheon with fellow Committee member Alison Bagdon
DEATHS

Our prayers of sympathy and support go to:
Sr Philippa Fennell and the Dominican Sisters at the death of their Sister Kay Fennell OP.
Sr Kay attended the Golden Girls Reunion only a couple of weeks before her death.

The family of Florence Mottram (Rowe) who was Head Prefect of the class of 1930
Therese Curtis (class of 1960) and Dominique (class of 1991) on the death of their son and brother, Joe
The family of Judith Moore (Oates), (class of 1959)
Carolyn (class of 1985), Judy’s daughter writes that many of Judy’s Santa friends formed her core group of friends even after 53 years and she attended lots of ex-student functions. She adds:
‘I am also an ex-student and have only recently reconnected with my school friends, which has been wonderful. Santa turns out some very amazing women.’

The Treloar family at the death of John (srn) a former President of the P&F Association who worked generously and tirelessly for the College over many years.
Vanessa Hassett (Class of 1992) on the death of her grandmother
Sr Elizabeth Hellwig OP, Dominican Archivist, at the death of her mother.
Deirdre O’Reilly and Lesley, Maria, Elizabeth, Kathleen and Brigid on the death of their husband and father
Elizabeth Mulcahy (Linley) and Felicity, Genevieve, Victoria and Patrick on the death of their father and grandfather
Sarah Lantry on the death of her father

MARRIAGES

Rachael Stephenson

JUBILEES 2012

Congratulations to the Dominican Sisters who are celebrating their Jubilees in December:
Diamond (60 years)
Srs Margaret Hill, Kath Maher, Maureen O’Connor, Marie O’Regan, Marie Weeks, Diana Woods
Golden (50 years)
Sr Geraldine O’Sullivan

BIRTHS

Congratulations to:
Amy Whenman (’01) a son Tiago John George Fisher
Alison Jinga (’90) a daughter, Madison
Dominique Curtis (’91) a daughter, Ellena Rose, a sister for her 2 brothers

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

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 Boulevarde 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.