

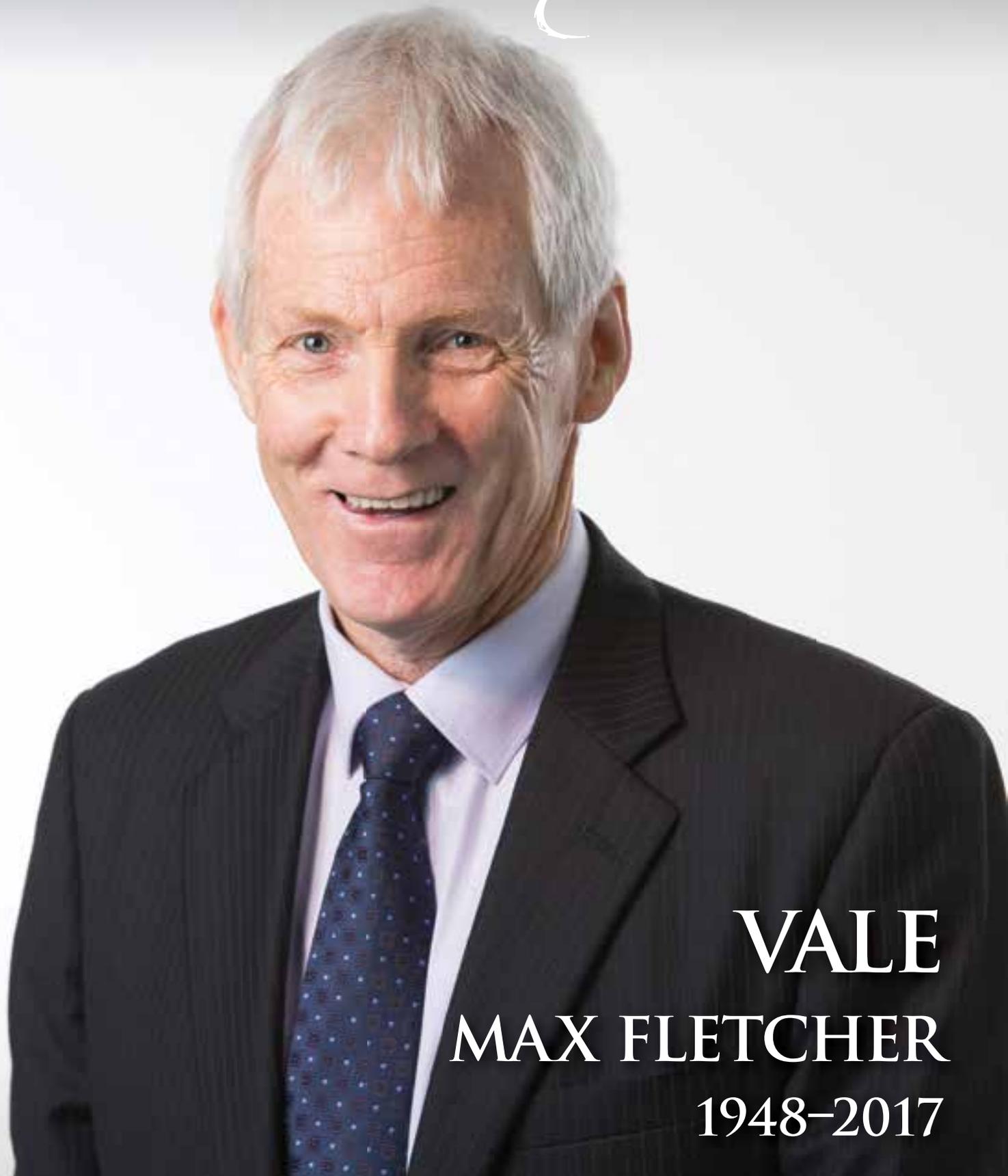


Vol. 22 No. 1 2017

MERCY

The Newsletter of Mercy Education ABN 69 154 531 870

Ed



VALE
MAX FLETCHER
1948–2017

INSIDE

2 Vale Max Fletcher **3** Celebrating Ursula Frayne and 170 Years of The Sisters of Mercy in Australia
4 Welcome to new Deputy Principals **6** Welcome To New Senior Staff **10** Strategic Plan 2017–2019
12 2016 Mercy Scholarships **16** Congratulations to Mercy Secondary School Yarapos, PNG



EDITORIAL

The 2017 academic year has started well for all our school communities with the usual high level of energy and excitement. The year holds much promise for new friendships, new challenges and initiatives and numerous events planned to celebrate either another year, or a significant anniversary year, in the rich tradition of Mercy Education. Following the 170th anniversary at Mercedes College, Perth last year, during 2017, the Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy will celebrate 160 years and St Aloysius College, North Melbourne 130 years. We also celebrate and warmly welcome Catholic College Wodonga joining Mercy Education Ltd as an affiliated school.

Amid the times of excitement and joy can come times of sadness and loss. The beautiful article written by MEL Board Chair, Lucy Molony, reflects on the recent loss of Board Director, Max Fletcher, and pays tribute to his enormous contribution to Catholic Education across Sandhurst and Ballarat, and to Mercy Education in recent years. Max was extremely generous with his time and spirit and he will be sadly missed.

The Board of Mercy Education has recently revised its Strategic Plan and will launch it publicly at each of the College Advisory Council seminars to be held in Perth, Adelaide and Melbourne in the first half of this year. While publicly launched at these seminars, it can be found on the MEL website at <http://www.mercy.edu.au/about/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=105>.

A warm welcome is extended to senior staff either new to Mercy Education or new to a senior role at their school. We wish them well as they undertake these significant leadership roles at their colleges. We also extend our heartiest congratulations to Mercy Secondary School, Yarapos PNG on its recent achievement of being in the Top 10 PNG schools and being the **Best Academic Performing School in Grade 10, 2016**. Principal, Alex Marcus, is very proud of the students and staff at the college and appreciates the on-going support from Mercy schools within Australia.

Finally congratulations to the many recipients of the 2016 Mercy scholarships and the way these students have shown leadership and a passion for social justice at their schools.

With blessings for 2017.

Eugene Lynch
Editor



VALE MAX FLETCHER

When we at Mercy Education heard of Max's retirement from his role as Assistant Director at the Sandhurst Catholic Education Office, we immediately considered him as a potential Director of Mercy Education Limited. Thankfully Max readily said "yes" to the invitation to be a Director and the Institute Leadership Team was very pleased to appoint him in December 2013. What a gift he was to us and we are still counting our blessings.

Max brought with him a vast range of experience, a great deal of know how and many skills. An appealing aspect was that Max knew country schools and their particular needs. Furthermore, he was used to travelling in the country and prepared to travel to be a presence in country schools as needed. He didn't confine himself to country Victoria however, travelling to Melbourne and interstate to scheduled Board Meetings and school functions as needed. He saw the value in being a presence in the schools MEL governed and presented a very human face of governance.

It is the gifts Max shared as a person that we valued so much and miss. At Board meetings Max was mostly quiet. He sat and listened acutely, discerned, said little but had the great gift of being able to synthesise and make crystal clear what others had been endeavouring to express. He was able to focus on the heart of a matter and enable the Board to move forward in its deliberations.

An advocate for the work of Principals, Max chaired and led Mercy Principals' meetings, consulting them on the agenda in an effort to ensure these meetings met their professional needs. He encouraged people to speak freely and enhanced a climate of mutual respect. Because of his wealth of experience he was able to offer pastoral support, sound advice, coaching and mediation if it was needed or requested.

Max was a person of integrity, quiet and unassuming, highly competent, ready to speak his mind but in a manner that was respectful and gently challenging. He connected easily with people and his warmth and humour were appreciated. A man of faith, he brought it to bear on the decisions he was part of. He cherished his family and of course was passionate about sport, which latterly involved cycling.

Those of us who were able to be at Max's funeral recognised truth in the many accolades we heard. He was indeed an authentic man of faith and a positive influence on many, many people.

Rest in peace Max. Your work is done but your influence continues.

Lucy Molony
Board Chair



CELEBRATING URSULA FRAYNE AND 170 YEARS OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY IN AUSTRALIA



A large gathering of Sisters and friends of the Institute assembled when the sculpture of Mother Ursula Frayne was blessed on 12 December 2016, by Perth Auxiliary Bishop Donald Sproston. Sr Barbara Bolster RSM undertook the role of opening the event on behalf of the Institute Leadership Team.

"Traveller", as the statue is called, is a symbolic, life size, sculpture depicting courage, faith, travel and prayer. Ursula, at age 29, was the leader of the first group of Sisters of Mercy to arrive in Australia in January 1846. Sister Ursula Frayne was an intrepid, resourceful traveller who, with a brave band of Sisters, crossed the world to share the message of mercy, justice and compassion. The statue sits on the Heritage Centre verandah very close to the Mercedes College chapel. An engaging statue, which invites students and staff alike to sit on the opposite suitcases, inviting them to commute with her.



The event honoured the outstanding work of the Sisters of Mercy in Australia and applauded Ursula Frayne's faith and courage, celebrating the life of an extraordinary and wonderful woman. The blessing of the statue culminated a year of celebrating the 170 year anniversary of the Sister of Mercy's arrival to Western Australia.

Extracts from article by Marco Ceccarelli: Legacy of Sisters of Mercy lives on with unveiling of Ursula Frayne sculpture



TOP: Perth Auxiliary Bishop Don Sproston (left) and Emeritus Archbishop Barry Hickey (right) stand behind the newly unveiled bronze statue of Ursula Frayne. Photo: Feby Plando

CENTRE: Mercedes College students surround the bronze statue of Ursula Frayne

BOTTOM: Members of the Leadership Team of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy Australia and Papua New Guinea, Sister Theresia Tina and Sister Barbara Bolster, stand behind the newly unveiled bronze statue of Ursula Frayne at the Mercy Heritage Centre. Photo: Feby Plando

WELCOME TO NEW



SUSAN MACDONALD

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
FAITH AND MISSION
Mercedes College, Perth

I am new to both Mercy Education and all girls' education, but am looking forward to taking on the role of Deputy Principal – Faith and Mission at Mercedes College. It is such an honour to work in one of the oldest Catholic schools in Australia and to continue the work that Ursula Frayne began 171 years ago. Mercedes College's values of compassion, excellence, justice, integrity and service resonate with me and I am excited to immerse myself in the Mercy ethos.

I have had many and varied experiences in my 20 years of teaching. I have taught in the public and Catholic sectors of the education system and have been privileged to teach in primary and secondary school settings. I began my teaching career in Kalgoorlie and after having two children moved to the remote communities of Djaridjin Lombadina. My time in the Kimberley was amazing and was where I began to really experience the beautiful charism of schools established by various Irish Sisters. Nothing was too difficult or too much of a challenge for these inspirational women.

My previous position was Director of Ministry at Mandurah Catholic College and during this time I studied a Graduate Certificate in Religious Education and a Master of Education in Leadership and Management. As Director of Ministry I looked after all aspects of the Faith Life of the College including Liturgies, Prayer, the Sacramental Program, Retreats, Service Learning, Mission trips and staff and student wellbeing.

The appointment to Mercedes College is an exciting opportunity to continue working within the Faith Life of a community. I am proud to be a member of Mercedes College and have made the commitment to ensure the girls have continuous support to nurture their Faith, build strong relationships within the College community and endeavour to walk in the footsteps of Christ. The heritage of the Sisters of Mercy, in particular Catherine McAuley, is an integral part of the ethos of Mercedes College and it is my hope that I fulfil the spirit of Catherine McAuley and **"be like shining lamps giving light to all around us!"** Together with the great leadership team and the committed staff of Mercedes College I am looking forward to adding value and innovations to the wonderful programs already in place and introducing some new ideas to enrich the Faith side of the girls' education.



PAUL FINNERAN

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy

Let me begin by expressing how happy I am to have been given the opportunity to work at the Academy of Mary Immaculate. Its rich history and storied success are steeped in the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy and this makes it all the more exciting to be here.

Born and raised in Sydney, my twenty-four year educational background encompasses a vast array of contexts, spanning from Sydney to rural NSW and regional Melbourne. I have worked across the spectrum of Catholic schools – all girls, coeducational and all boys.

Throughout my leadership journey I have had the opportunity to be a pastoral and curriculum leader within these contexts. In more recent times, I have been a senior leader as Campus Director at Trinity Catholic College Auburn/Regents Park (2011-2012) and for the past four years I was Assistant Principal at De La Salle College, Revesby Heights (2013–2016), both schools situated in Sydney. I have a Master of Educational Leadership and I am currently studying my Master of Religious Education.

I have a strong passion for education and the importance it has for our young people today cannot be underestimated. Moreover I see it as a moral imperative that faith leadership is vital not only in instilling gospel values in our young, but in giving them a sense of hope in a contemporary landscape which will constantly challenge them in many ways. I am thrilled to be on this journey upon which I have embarked; a journey I know that will teach me much and I hope to contribute much to the already rich narrative that is the Academy of Mary Immaculate.

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS



LOUIS PAPADIMITRIOU

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL,
ORGANISATION
Mount Lilydale Mercy College

It is my sincere pleasure and honour to take on the role of Deputy Principal – Organisation at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. Taking on a leadership role of this nature is a wonderful opportunity to actively support and contribute to the reputation for excellence within the Mercy tradition. Having previously worked at Our Lady of Mercy in Heidelberg, I have a good understanding of the history and values of the Mercy charism.

I am passionate about Catholic education and have over 25 years' experience, with 20 of those years in leadership roles educating young men and women. My leadership roles have allowed me to develop the practices that support others to experience and respond to the Gospel challenges of bringing about God's kingdom. During my time at Kilibreda College I was an active member of our social justice team. As part of my ongoing commitment to working with those who are less fortunate and in developing a spirituality in our students that leads to social justice action, I led a number of staff and students to East Timor in 2012 and 2014. I look forward to being involved in the social justice program at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. My teaching background has been predominately in the subject areas of Business Management, Legal Studies and Religious Education.

Walking around the Mount Lilydale Mercy campus I have noticed a strong College community. I have also noticed a great sense of self esteem and confidence in our students, which is reflected in how they interact in their daily lives within the College. You are always greeted with a smile, a great sense of school pride and a noticeable generosity towards others. This expression of welcome and generosity demonstrates who we are and how we value each other.

As part of my professional journey, in 2000 I completed a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education. In 2012 I completed a Master of Educational Leadership, and again supported through sponsorship by the Catholic Education Melbourne in 2015, I commenced my studies in Master of Business Administration which I hope to have completed by 2017.



TANYA HUTTON

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL,
LEARNING AND TEACHING
Mount Lilydale Mercy College

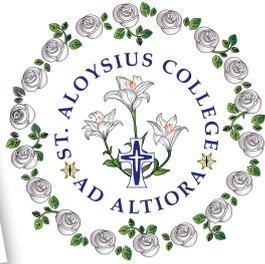
It is with great pleasure and excitement that I commence the year at Mount Lilydale Mercy College as Deputy Principal – Learning and Teaching. Over the past four weeks I have been humbled by the warm welcome received by students, staff and parents.

Prior to 2017 I have taught Religious Education, Mathematics and Science at a number of Catholic secondary schools in the Melbourne metropolitan area including the Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy; Thomas Carr College, Tarneit; and Kolbe Catholic College, Greenvale Lakes. During this time I have held a number of different leadership roles, most recently as Deputy Principal at Kolbe Catholic College and prior to this, Director of School Operations at Thomas Carr College. Since obtaining my initial teaching qualification I have completed a Master of Education (Educational Leadership) and a Graduate Certificate (Catholic Studies). In 2015 I was also privileged to visit the Mercy International Centre as part of the 2015 Charism Tour.

As a teacher and leader within a Catholic school my passion for learning and teaching remains in the forefront of my work. I truly believe that excellence in teaching and reflective practice lead to improved outcomes for students, promotes excellence within students and ensures that as learners students become confident and self-directed. Essential to this is to know who students are, how best they learn and the factors that impact on their learning.

With this in mind I look forward to working with members of our community to further developing the vision for learning and teaching and to develop a shared language of learning, shared by all, so that our students can be challenged, confident and engaged learners who can be their best representation of self.

WELCOME TO NEW



JONATHAN STRINGFELLOW

BUSINESS MANAGER
St Aloysius College, North Melbourne

As the new Business Manager of St Aloysius College, North Melbourne last year, I consider myself both lucky and honoured to work in a vibrant environment where staff and students work together to uphold the ways of Catherine McAuley as well as the Mercy tradition.

My most recent experience was as Group Financial Controller at a listed entity out of the Company head office in Chadstone, with responsibility for all things financial. While this has held me in good stead to deal with the day to day financial demands of running the College budget it perhaps does not prepare you for the varied, other, requirements on your time as the Business Manager of school with many stakeholders and a small knit leadership group. With a responsibility for IT infrastructure, facilities management, site security, Finance and Office administration functions it is a job that you cannot rely on a 9:00 to 5:00 attitude to perform the role effectively.

My initial experiences in the school environment were gained while working at BDO and Deloitte as an Audit Manager performing Catholic School AFS audits as well as a number of Business Plan reviews for Independent secondary colleges.

I have been extremely lucky to land in a role which has a cohesive leadership team, from the Principal, Mary Farah, through the Deputy Principal Rachel Valentine to the rest of the team, all of whom have shown me unwavering support whilst I have been finding my feet and learning to deal with the nuances of balancing property, finance and people matters.

I am looking forward to the continuing challenges of the education sector and believe that the way St Aloysius has started 2017, is a great omen for continuing the improvements that we have achieved in a short time. These include implementation of a number of initiatives such as educational quotes throughout the college to brighten up the school environment and provide inspiration for the students.

I hope I can keep up with the enthusiasm of the team at St Als throughout 2017 and beyond.



JUDITH MURFITT

BUSINESS MANAGER
Mercy Regional College, Camperdown

Mrs Judith Murfitt joined Mercy Regional College at the start of the 2017 school year following the retirement of Mrs Lynn Wadley who had been the College's Business Manager for seven years. As an old Collegian and resident of Camperdown, Jude is delighted to return to Mercy Regional College after more than twenty years at the Shire of Corangamite where she held the roles of Finance Manager and Strategic Finance Coordinator.

Jude is very well qualified in the fields of accountancy and strategic planning holding a Bachelor of Accounting (Deakin University) and is a Certified Practising Accountant. She has also worked for a number of years as the Business Manager of the Camperdown Preschool which has provided Jude with unique insights into the fundamental area of early childhood education. Jude's eldest daughter, Jaala, graduated in 2012 and we look forward to welcoming her younger sons into Mercy Regional College in future years.

I am looking forward to the continuing challenges of the education sector...

SENIOR STAFF



NADA JARNI

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING
Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy

Helping each student flourish is at the heart of what I stand for as an educator and sharing my passion for teaching and learning at a broader whole school level as Director of Learning is an exciting and humbling prospect. More so as this year we are celebrating our 160th anniversary at Academy. In a Mercy context, a great education is more than the dissemination of facts and includes a mission to imbue our students with a thirst for social justice. I am strongly committed to the idea of education as being transformative for both individuals and society more broadly.

My intention is to honour the past, affirm the current good work of teachers and staff and to celebrate the possibilities of an unknown future. Honouring the past means ensuring that the Mercy Values of respect, justice, compassion, service, courage and hospitality are at the heart of our teaching and learning policies, curriculum documents and that they are explicitly visible in all of our endeavours.

Academy is a college with an agenda for continuous improvement. Alongside the core work of ensuring we have a rich, stimulating curriculum provision and dynamic teaching and learning practices, my focus will be to build capacity. This will be achieved through whole school professional learning which reflects whole school priorities, building and embedding collaborative practices, nurturing and supporting leadership development of Learning Area Leaders and recognising and acknowledging excellence in teaching.

While we are working in the present, it will be my role to engage the school community in conversations about the future. Important conversations will focus on what we want our young women to know, do and be. These conversations are inclusive of how technology can be used in the service of teaching and learning and must extend beyond this. Rapidly changing technologies and what we know from reports generated by organisations such as CSIRO (2017) about the future world of work demand that we reflect on our existing practices and question if we are getting our students 'future ready'. The literature suggests that skills such as high capacity to communicate, ability to negotiate, being self-aware, and being able to create and innovate will be essential. It will be exciting to invite students to this conversation. It is through these early experiences of nurturing voice and choice that we teach our students through action and deed what it means to be Mercy women. Mercy women are confident, courageous and capable, and are positive change agents in the world. I am honoured to be a small part of this bigger journey.



KATE GARRONE

FAITH AND MISSION
COORDINATOR

Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg

It is with a sense of delight that I take up the position of Faith and Mission Coordinator at Our Lady of Mercy College. I am passionate about finding contemporary and relevant ways to engage young people and staff in spirituality and action for justice that is core to the identity of Catholic schools. I resonate strongly with the values of Mercy Education and have sought to live and promote these values throughout my professional and personal life. Educating young women today is a complex and creative endeavour that requires innovative approaches to forming young people who can step out into the world as confident and engaged citizens. Being able to support, shape and enable that process gets me up in the morning, and it is a joy to call it my work.

Over the last 20 years I have worked as an educator, psychologist, faith formator and community development worker with people in educational, religious and community settings in Australia and the majority world. This work has included living and working in South Africa with Street women and setting up Edmund Rice Camps; facilitating the Mercy Young Adult Network across Australia and PNG; co-ordinating numerous global immersion programs for students, staff and young adults to South Africa and Cambodia; formation of staff and young adults within the Edmund Rice Network. My areas of passion are the development of people's potential, change facilitation and developing community. I love supporting the shifts and changes that happen in people's thinking and hearts as they become more skilled and motivated to build a more just and compassionate world.

I look forward to the work ahead at OLMC in ensuring a vital and relevant faith presence in our community. I know that it will require creativity, discernment, prayer, seeking out new ideas and wisdom from near and far, and a willingness to fail. To this end I look forward to connecting and sharing the journey with others with similar hopes and dreams in the wider network of Mercy and Catholic Education.

WELCOME TO NEW SENIOR STAFF CONT.



MOIRA WEST

DIRECTOR OF STAFF FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Sacred Heart College, Kyneton

What a welcome Sacred Heart College Kyneton has given me. They have certainly embraced the Mercy value of Hospitality. Interestingly I began my secondary education at another Sacred Heart College – in Shepparton, which was also a Mercy school. It feels like I have come home.

Prior to this year I worked in a variety of schools, both mainstream and alternative, predominantly in student wellbeing. For the last eight years, I worked at Kolbe Catholic College starting in their second year of operation. I taught a variety of subjects; Physical Education in my earlier years and then moved into Religious Education, English and Humanities.

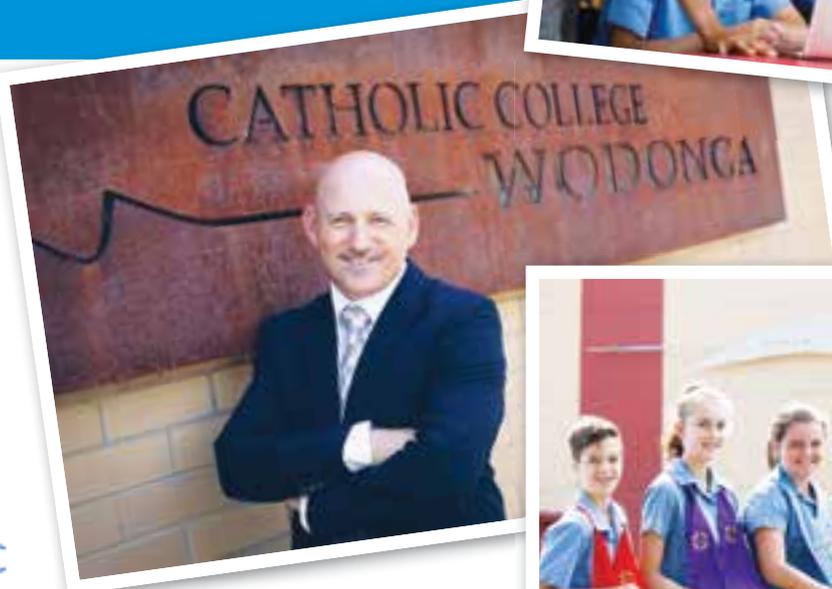
With a teaching career starting over forty years ago and with a ten-year break to raise a young family, I strongly believe that successful outcomes for students rely on student wellbeing and wellbeing of staff. The positive education approach adopted by Sacred Heart College drew me to the school and as the Director of Staff Formation and Development I am looking forward to working with staff in identifying strengths and building on them to make them more accomplished and flourishing teachers. This, in turn, will flow on to the students resulting in improved outcomes.

My educational philosophy is simple. *"In truth I tell you, in as far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.* (Matthew). Every person has the right to human dignity, not least of all our children, who have a limited voice. In all we do as educators, this needs to be the core.



...I am looking forward to working with staff in identifying strengths and building on them to make them more accomplished and flourishing teachers.

CATHOLIC COLLEGE WODONGA



Catholic College Wodonga's Principal, Mr Darren Hovey



Welcome Mass



Catholic Education began in Wodonga on 4 October 1860 when Bishop Goold dedicated a chapel to St Francis. To this chapel was attached a wooden school building. The story of St Augustine's and Catholic College began in 1876 with a co-educational school built on the corner of High Street and Osburn Street. Dean Tierney of Beechworth and Father M O'Connor of Chiltern were responsible for erecting and maintaining this school until 1892.

In 1892 four Sisters of Mercy from Albury were invited to make a foundation at Wodonga, and thus began St Augustine's School. By 1899 they had completed new school buildings and Mother M Aloysius Tierney and the three Sisters moved from temporary classrooms. At this stage St. Augustine's was catering for primary, secondary and commercial classes. Meanwhile a Boarding School was established at the convent to provide for girls from outlying areas.

In the 1970s Albury-Wodonga was declared the National Growth Centre. The expansion in numbers at St Augustine's Girls Secondary College led to its relocation to Wodonga West in 1979 under the direction of Sr Mary Duffy. The name changed to Catholic College Wodonga. Today, we share our

two campuses in Bowman Court with 1170 students across Years 7–12. If you ask staff, one of our strengths is our focus on establishing strong, long term rapport with our whole school community. If you ask families, they often mention our attention to pastoral care and wellbeing and how that leads to a fantastic sense of belonging, involvement and endeavour in their children. While there are many contributing factors to our reputation, Learning Mentors are key. They each guide 13 students through their school journeys and encourage them to be part of their wider 'family of Community' that supports 195 students. Overall, we have six Communities that effectively create small 'schools' within our big school. We explore our faith and engage in action within this rich learning environment.

Year 7 and 8 students experience an integrated curriculum where enquiry based learning sees the development of key skills. In Year 9 they move across the court to our smaller campus, Nganala, where a bridge is constructed between middle and senior school through personal and project based learning.

Students return to our main campus for Year 10–12 to study discipline based subjects with an emphasis on personalised programs. There is a pathway for each student (VCE or VCAL) and students may choose to access any of 10 VET programs. Importantly there is capacity to reconstruct a pathway and take new routes.

We continue to be grateful to the men and women of Wodonga who had the vision and determination to create and nurture this wonderful school for young people of the region and we continue to thrive with the Mercy charism providing a solid base from which to grow.

MERCY EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2017–2019

Mercy Education Limited

Strategic Plan

Our Mission

Mercy Education Limited is entrusted by the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy (New Guinea) (ISMANG) to provide governance for its member colleges of Colleges to offer excellence in contemporary education enriched by the Gospels and faithful to the legacy of Catherine McAuley.

Our Vision

Mercy Education Limited supports a dynamic network of:

- a commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- fidelity to the tradition and spirit of Catherine McAuley
- the provision of innovative, contemporary educational programs
- a passion for social justice

Goal One Catholic and Mercy Identity

To ensure that Catherine McAuley's vision of the lived Gospel is at the heart of each education community

STRATEGIES

- Work in partnership with the Sisters of Mercy and the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea to achieve this Goal
- Promote and live out the Mercy Education values of Compassion, Justice, Respect, Hospitality, Service and Courage
- Participate in and support the development of programs in Mercy schools for staff and students
- Celebrate and promote the works of Mercy Education in the wider community and at appropriate forums
- Build and strengthen relationships with other Mercy ministries
- Work with school committees to encourage actions which contribute to ecological sustainability
- Increase the access to our schools for low income families and the marginalized

Goal Two Corporate Governance

To function effectively as a corporate and legal entity and to exercise prudent stewardship that protects the communities and resources of our Colleges in order to ensure the continuation of our mission.

STRATEGIES

- Ensure legal and fiduciary compliance requirements are met
- Oversee and approve financial management of schools including supervision of the annual audit and budget approval functions
- Oversee the process by which risk is regularly identified, managed, monitored and mitigated
- Ensure our schools are child safe schools where student safety and wellbeing are at the core of our mission and operations
- Monitor, develop and enhance the policy, procedures and operational structures framework of Mercy Education at Board and school level
- Investigate provision of governance for additional schools who articulate interest in joining Mercy Education
- Investigate opening new schools on discussion invitation
- Develop a process of regular review of the Board's effectiveness and engage in succession-planning processes

Service
Courage
Hospitality

The 2017–2019 MEL Strategic Plan will continue to provide a guiding framework that will enable the Board directors, executive staff, college principals, college advisory councils, staff, students and school communities to work together, inspired by the charism of the Sisters of Mercy, in the service of our educational mission and ministry.



Our Story...

...given further systems and works of Mercy in the special ... to educate ... the need ... develop in all ... the poor alike, a ... willing of all ... community ... she sought ... needs with ... up the union and ... the loved such ... presence of young ... their development ... in schools, but ... many laws, for if you ... it will break"

...ula Fayre, who had ... McAuley, led the first ... to Australia, arriving in ... ing a school ... ed on to Melbourne, ... school and an orphanage ... y secondary schools and ... y schools around Australia ... function back to the Sisters

... How do I carry out the work of Jesus Christ, Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy in my life, work and vocation?"

...bers of Sisters of Mercy in ... been decreasing but some ... remain a powerful force

Our Story includes extracts from 'The Life and Legacy of Catherine McAuley' by Mary Sullivan OSM.



In their own right and continue to adapt Catherine's mission in new ways - leading the fight against violence against women, human trafficking, and pushing out toylum seekers.

In 2011, on the 180th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of Mercy, fifteen different groups of sisters came together to form one new Congregation known as the Institute of Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea (ISMAPPNG).

In partnership with a broad community of lay people, the institutional ministries of the Sisters of Mercy continue to labour in the service of the Gospel - in schools, hospitals, aged care facilities, domestic violence shelters and welfare agencies. Each person who works in these ministries is to be regularly challenged with the Mercy story. Each person is to be confronted with the question:



Carole College Berkeley VC



St Aloysius College Adelaide SA



St Aloysius College North Melbourne VC



Sisters of Mercy Kyrleton South Coast College Kyrleton VC



Our Lady of Mercy College Heidelberg VC



St Brigid's College Launceston TAS



Sisters of Mercy College Hobart TAS

Sister Mary Catherine OSM
 120 Heidelberg Road Appin NSW 2518
 Appin NSW 2518 Ph: 02 4475 5633 Fax: 02 4475 3811
 Email: secretary@mercy.edu.au www.mercy.edu.au

Goal Three Excellent Educational Communities

To support a culture of excellence and high expectations in a safe, contemporary and inclusive learning environment.

STRATEGIES

- Develop a charter which articulates the characteristics of an exemplary Mercy school
- Foster continuous school improvement processes
- Provide opportunities and forums for senior leaders to share their knowledge and resources which reflect best practice in the pursuit of high standards and quality outcomes
- Continue to monitor the relevant government and diocesan processes of school issues
- Represent Mercy Education at significant school events
- Engage with the Bishops and Catholic Education Offices in the dioceses in which our colleges are located
- Participate in strategic systemic policy and committee work

Goal Four Outstanding Leadership

To select, support and develop outstanding senior leaders in each of our schools.

STRATEGIES

- Oversee a rigorous process of selection, appointment and appraisal of senior leaders
- Contribute to the building of leadership capacity
- Investigate and implement ways to strengthen the relationship between College Advisory Council and Mercy Education in order to support the leadership and strategic planning of the College
- Support Principals in establishing a personal and professional wellbeing plan and monitor it through goal setting and appraisal processes

Respect
Compassion
Justice

2016 MERCY SCHOLARSHIPS

The annual Mercy scholarship offered to each of the Mercy sponsored and co-sponsored schools, recognises students who demonstrate leadership in the Mercy tradition. Students chosen by their schools are acknowledged for their involvement in promoting school spirit, community service, fund raising and for their genuine concern for others less fortunate. Students featured below were the recipients of the 2016 Mercy Scholarship and we offer them, their families and their schools hearty congratulations.



MERCEDES COLLEGE, PERTH

Emily Roberts – Year 11

Emily has consistently been recognised for her leadership potential throughout the year with successful appointments in a variety of roles including Student Representative Council and Altar Serving. Emily has continually taken every opportunity to immerse herself in a range of co-curricular activities including Drama Dance, House Choir, House Film, Hockey, Cross Country, Athletics, Swimming and Speech. It is so pleasing to see Emily consciously making time to associate with and befriend the younger students.

On top of her heavy involvement in the range of co-curricular activities Emily has continued her participation in a variety of Service activities such as, Mercy Conference, Just Leadership, Altar Serving, Tour Guide, volunteering at the Ability Centre and partaking in the Cambodia Immersion Tour. Emily has always gone above and beyond in everything she signs up to do and without question is always willing to lend a hand or put in the extra effort, often without even being asked.

Emily continually strives for excellence and should be commended for maintaining her straight 'A' average across all subjects. Her peers and College staff have recently recognised her leadership potential by electing her a Prefect in 2017.

Brianna Lim – Year 11

Brianna has been involved in many activities over the year that allow her to be recognised as living the Mercy Values. She is a polite and respectful young lady who treats every individual with dignity and respect and her actions speak wonders about her character.

Brianna has taken part in Food Rescue, Street Soccer, Mini Mercies and the Red Shield appeal, allowing her to achieve over 80 hours of service as part of the Mercy Service-Learning program offered at the College. It is so pleasing to witness a student not only

upholding her commitment but continuing her involvement in activities far beyond expectations; a quality that has seen Brianna fulfil the role of Altar Server for the past eight years.

The Cambodia Immersion is a tour offered by the College allowing students to volunteer their time and efforts to assist the communities and families in Cambodia. Brianna will be attending the tour and her fundraising efforts have seen her raise over \$4200, a commitment and effort I am sure will continue until the day she leaves. Brianna has been recognised for her leadership potential by the College and has been appointed as the Young Mercy Leader for 2017.

Hannah Skinner – Year 10

Hannah is an outstanding young woman who since Year Seven has humbly surpassed expectations of a Mercedes College student. She takes the time to talk to everyone and has a kind word for each person she encounters. Hannah also has a very keen sense of humour and loves to converse over a wide range of topics. She upholds Mercy Values in very practical ways and encourages others by setting an excellent example.

Hannah is a straight 'A' student, who has been awarded Academic Excellence prizes from Years 8-10. She has represented the College in Philosophy and problem solving competitions. Her enquiring mind and strong ethical stand on moral issues is continually in evidence. In Year Eight Hannah was selected as Student Principal for a Day (SP4D), with her leadership skills being recognised.

Hannah has been voted by her peers as a member of the SRC and is a Peer Mentor to the Year Seven students. She was presented with a Living the Mercy Values Certificate by the College Alumni earlier this year. Hannah gained the Pastoral Care award for her class in 2016 due to her excellent leadership skills, resilience, friendly nature and her ability to problem solve. She ran the footy-tipping competition single-handedly and managed to inspire everyone, even those who were not interested in football. This activity bonded the class.

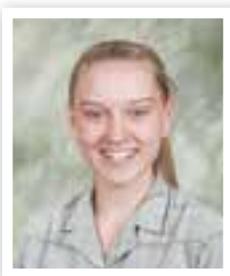
Hannah's compassion has been evident through her service at The Ability Centre and at Mercy Care Childcare. She was the



Emily Roberts



Brianna Lim



Hannah Skinner



Biba Guario



Phoebe Baillon

driving force behind the compilation of care packages for young mothers organised by Mercy Care. Without her enthusiasm and ability to galvanize other students into action, the packs would not have been completed. Hannah is currently completing the School Curriculum and Standards Authority 50 Hour Service Unit. Hannah puts 100% into her Mercy Service.

The College looks forward to seeing Hannah's potential and leadership skills develop in the next two years and we are confident that she will become an influential leader.



ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE, FITZROY

Biba Guario – Year 7

It is within the classroom and involvement in Social Justice Team that we see Biba's strengths shine. Biba is kind, hardworking and helpful and her efforts in ensuring everyone is looked after and cared for are admirable. Her maturity in her approach to helping organise her class's fantastic Project Compassion fundraising events throughout the year was second to none and highly appreciated by her peers and homeroom teacher.

Biba's leadership, care and genuineness within the classroom have resulted in her election to class vice-captain. She is a leader with drive and enthusiasm and she will no doubt excel in this role as the years go on. We also see her passion for justice and care for others shine through her involvement in the Social Justice team where she has given up much of her time to address many of the issues that our local, national and global community face. Helping bring to the forefront concerns such as poverty, homelessness and discrimination, we see a young woman who has put her own needs aside to help raise awareness and give a voice to those who may not necessarily be able to.

Radiating the Mercy values of compassion, respect, courage, service and justice, Biba works hard and is determined to achieve her best in all aspects of her life here at the Academy. She is giving and kind in her approach to everything and has proven herself to be a true woman of Mercy. Biba is a worthy recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.

Phoebe Baillon – Year 8

Throughout 2016, Phoebe consistently demonstrated the spirit of Mercy. Since her arrival at the Academy she has shown care for others and a desire for the development of social justice in the local and international community. In Year 7 she was quick to join the Justice Group and has been a tireless worker for the group ever since.



Angela D'Souza



Caterina Monea

In her daily life at the Academy Phoebe has consistently exercised genuine concern for others and her classmates will be the first to attest to this. Whether in the playground, the corridor or the classroom she does her best to ensure those around her are treated in the spirit of mercy. Her promotion of school spirit is evidenced in her participation in swimming, athletics and volleyball at a school and representative level. Her willingness to be involved in fundraising for different organisations is notable and it is clear that this desire to work for justice is motivated by her caring nature. This concern for the welfare of those less fortunate extends to her taking a stand on human rights, particularly in relation to family violence.

Phoebe is a worthy recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.

Angela D'Souza – Year 11

Angela is a student who is always punctual, polite and in good spirits. She is a positive influence on everyone around her. Her teachers describe her as committed to her studies, conscientious and hard working. She leaves no stone unturned in trying to achieve her best. Angela has been a consistent high performer, always completes classwork and is willing to help other students in the class.

Although a recent addition to Justice Group, Angela is enthusiastic and willing to express her beliefs. She works well with others and embraces ideas other than her own after thoughtful reflection. She recently attended Mercy Seeds of Justice Camp, the theme of which was homelessness, a topic that she is very passionate about. She also attends Yarra Youth Ambassadors. She has embraced the opportunities to help others through the Justice Group and the connections she has made. Angela is a worthy recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.



SACRED HEART COLLEGE, GEELONG

Caterina Monea – Year 12

Caterina has exceeded the full criteria and is a worthy recipient of the Mercy scholarship. She has been involved in Social Justice outreach projects and has participated in the Circle of Mercy. She is a wonderful representative as a Faith and Spirituality leader and represents the College at many events.

Caterina exercises genuine concern for others and actively promotes the school spirit. She is involved in fundraising and assisting other less fortunate and is also involved in community service activities and taking a stand on human rights.

She is giving and kind in her approach to everything and has proven herself to be a true woman of Mercy.



CATHOLIC COLLEGE BENDIGO, BENDIGO

Haydn Stephens – Year 9

Haydn has been a highly active and involved member of Catholic College Bendigo for the past five years. He has consistently volunteered to help out for any College or House-based activity and always shows initiative and supports any fund raising activities.

Haydn has clearly demonstrated servant leadership within his peer group which was evident when he was elected as Year 9 La Valla McAuley House Leader. During this time he demonstrated great leadership in supporting members of the school community, encouraging them to get involved and to show Mercy in Action. These leadership qualities have been recognised by the Catholic College Bendigo staff when he was chosen to be a member of the Student Leadership team elected as the McAuley House Captain for 2017.

Due to his strong leadership qualities and excellent communication skills, Haydn was selected to represent the College in the 2015 Mindshop Excellence Program. He is a member of the College choir and regularly gives up his own time to represent the CCB in a variety of ways. Haydn displays a quiet concern for those around him and he has a strong passion for social justice and representing the rights of those less fortunate. Catholic College Bendigo is proud to announce Hayden as the very worthy recipient of the 2016 Mercy Scholarship.



ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, ADELAIDE

Clare Peterson – Year 11

Clare makes a significant contribution to the St Aloysius College community through her involvement in a range of school activities, her commitment to justice and her respect for peers and teachers. Clare exemplifies such qualities as humility, motivation, mercy and leadership. Clare's commitment to the Justice and Mercy Group at the College is invaluable; she has the ability to communicate her ideas in ways that are understood by students of all ages, and importantly, she follows these initiatives through.

In 2015, Clare represented St Aloysius College at 'DV Snapshots', a domestic violence conference held in Adelaide. With three fellow students, she spoke to an audience of survivors, government officials and social workers about the need for positive-relationships based education in schools and the commitment of St Aloysius College to empowering young women. Clare has led a number of other justice initiatives, including the Fair Trade Fortnight Café, Walk Together for Refugees, anti-litter and environmental awareness campaigns. She often sacrifices her time outside school to attend justice-themed events. Clare serves on the altar for our school Masses and her faith underpins all her actions. She is a true 'young woman of Mercy'.



ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE, NORTH MELBOURNE

Maggie Twford – Year 7

Maggie is a friendly and warm student who is keen to make students feel welcome, always displaying patience, compassion and a genuine concern for those around her. She has been an active member of the College's Social Justice Committee and has helped organise fundraising activities for the College's Annual Mercy Day.

Maggie has demonstrated a positive school spirit, involving herself in a variety of school initiatives and co-curricular activities. She was a cast member in the College production 'Annie' and is a member of the College Choir performing in many music performances over the year. She is also a member of Art Club and a member of the Junior Debating Team.

Maggie is well respected by her peers and was nominated as the Year 7 Verdon House Leader where she has developed strong leadership skills. She has represented the College in interschool sports and has participated in a wide range of House Sports. She is also a member of the St Aloysius Rowing Team. Maggie is a valued member of our College community and a deserving recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.

Aanisha Monteiro – Year 8

Aanisha has shown herself to be a dedicated student, always willing to help and take on extra responsibilities. She has given her time generously throughout the year to be involved in different community events and co-curricular activities. These activities include Junior Debating, the College Production, 'Annie', performer at the North Melbourne Music Spring Fling and College Choir. Aanisha is well respected by her peers and was elected Class Co-Captain for 2016. During her time as Captain she demonstrated leadership skills as she led her class in the fundraising activity for Mercy Day. Aanisha is a young lady who is always considerate and welcoming of others. With her determined attitude and caring nature Aanisha is a great role model to others and a valued member of the St Aloysius College community.

Yar Teirkath – Year 9

Yar is a compassionate young lady who consistently lives out the Mercy Education values, taking every opportunity and embracing every moment. Her respect for staff, students and family members is exemplary and she is widely known for being, humble, inclusive and welcoming. Yar actively participated in the Mercy Day celebrations and believes in social justice causes. When Yar was on the Year 9 Sydney Educational Trip, she read the stories of the female convicts at the Hyde Park Barracks and reflected on the stories with empathy. She listens and supports others in class and is extremely dedicated to her studies. Yar is a most deserving co-recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.



Haydn Stephens



Clare Peterson



Maggie Twford



Aanisha Monteiro



Yar Teirkath



SACRED HEART COLLEGE, KYNETON

Jessica Morris – Year 12

Jessica has been a hard working student at Sacred Heart College, Kyneton. She is a tireless worker at the Sacred Heart Community Kitchen; you will find her helping there come rain, hail or shine and she has also been a driving force behind the Camp Campaspe School Holiday Program, which is run at the College during school holidays, making a difference to the lives of the children who attend. Jessica has also hosted people from McAuley House when they come to visit Kyneton. McAuley House is a safe haven for women and their children escaping family violence and for women who are homeless.

During her time at the College, Jessica participated in the immersion program at the Jarlmadangah Burru Community School in the Kimberley region in Western Australia. While there, she was generous to all and totally embraced what was offered with the Spirit of Mercy.

Jessica is an exceptional person and gives much to our Sacred Heart College Community and beyond.



MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE, LILYDALE

Chloe De Groot – Year 11

Chloe has an excellent attitude towards her academic studies and has achieved some outstanding results. She is a mature young lady who regularly displays the virtues of courage, compassion and justice. Chloe has been gifted with a beautiful voice and in addition to her commitment and dedication to the College Musical and the Kool Skools program, she has been very involved in college liturgical events, often as a cantor.

Chloe is always willing to volunteer for community events and has assisted at college functions such as open nights, theatre productions and Old Collegians' celebrations. She took on a significant leadership role for our Mercy Day celebrations and worked with incredible energy and expertise. She can relate to people of all ages and as a member of the Youth Ministry Team has engaged with younger students, peers and staff members to share her own journey. Chloe represented the College at the Seeds of Justice Conference and returned to school energised and ready to take on new challenges. She has since visited Oznam House and Broadmeadows Detention Centre showing her willingness to reach out to others.

Chloe has held a number of leadership positions and has also been a Yellow Ribbon Ambassador. In 2017 she will hold the position of Mercy and Justice Prefect, a role that will benefit from her many wonderful qualities. Chloe is a worthy co-recipient of the Mercy scholarship.

Isabella Preston – Year 11

Isabella is a young lady dedicated to all that the Mercy tradition stands for. She is a caring and compassionate student who goes out of her way to create a sense of belonging for other students. Isabella is a great role model for younger students; she participates fully in the life of the college assisting at Open days, Tournament of the Mind, Liturgical Celebrations, Choir and the College Musical. She is always one of the first students to volunteer to help the community whether it be singing at a Remembrance Service, serving in the Ministry Lounge or assisting with car parking for college events.

Isabella is an active member of the Youth Ministry Team and has worked extensively with younger students to help them feel comfortable in sharing their own gifts and talents. Her commitment to the preparation for Mercy Day celebrations was outstanding and her excellent communication skills enabled her to work seamlessly with students and staff alike. She has the courage to be her own person and will always seek solutions that have justice at the core. Isabella represented Mount Lilydale Mercy College at the 2016 AMSSA Conference and returned with even greater motivation and energy for making this world a better place. She has held a variety of leadership roles and in 2017 will take up the position of College Vice Captain. Isabella is a worthy co-recipient of the Mercy scholarship.



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, MILDURA

Shikira Mitchell – Year 11

Shikira is a dedicated young woman with a strong passion for social justice. She is a hardworking and compassionate young lady standing up for equality and the human rights of those less fortunate. Shikira is well known for her active involvement in our student social justice body, the Mercy Action Group.

Shikira has been involved in many aspects of school life since Year 7. She exercises a genuine concern for others and is well regarded by her peers and staff within the College. She is an excellent motivator for her peers to get involved and assists those in need. She leads by example, lending a hand where necessary such as shaking a donation tin, cooking a BBQ, talking to a lonely student or standing up against injustices.

Shikira has become a very valuable member of our College community with her enthusiasm to assist in all areas of Mercy. She has been involved in volunteering as an assistant at our local Catholic Primary School and also offers her time to tutor junior secondary students in her local area. She is an inspiration to both staff and students alike and she will continue to live the Mercy ethos through her involvement in the Mercy Action Group during her final year at St Joseph's College.



Jessica Morris



Chloe De Groot



Isabella Preston



Shikira Mitchell



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE, HEIDELBERG

Alexandra Arnaboldi – Year 11

Alexandra is a student who demonstrates formal and informal leadership. She has always volunteered in a variety of activities and has taken on a number of formal leadership positions since Year 7. These include House Delegate, Peer Support leader and class captain roles. Outside of school she has been a member of our action group, worked on her parish fete and volunteered at the RSPCA and the lost dogs home. She also works in a number of school social justice initiatives such as Dare to Donate which raises funds to support a school in Cambodia.

Alexandra balances all this involvement with excellent academic results and a passion for College productions.



ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE, LESMURDIE

Sage Lockyer – Year 10

Sage is an outstanding young woman who has made a splendid contribution to St Brigid's College and the wider community. Now completing her Year 10 studies, she has filled several important leadership roles with distinction, including that of Sports Representative for her House for the past three years, and has been appointed as Little Athletics Club Captain for Kalamunda Lesmurdie Little Athletics for 2016-17. She is also a committee member for the Altiora Student Programme for 2017.

Sage has represented St Brigid's College in tennis, swimming, athletics, triathlon and cross-country, is a member of the combined school choir, and has participated in numerous House events including the drama and media sections of our Cultural Festival. She was involved in several external programs including two Camp Hero sessions which focussed on mental health issues and leadership. She participated in the College's Altiora Sydney Shakespeare Tour and attended the 'In Your Head' Mental Health Youth Forum.

Sage's excellence has been recognised by major College Awards, including the Year 10 Mercy Award and the Christian Leadership Award 2016. In Year 9, she received the Ethics Award. Her wonderful community spirit, infectious enthusiasm and living of the Mercy values have been foregrounded in the nominations for these awards.

Carmel Allum – Year 9

Carmel is a Year 9 student at St Brigid's College and has been an active member of the Seeds of Justice Group for just over a year. She demonstrates a great 'Spirit of Mercy' and is very respectful of others. Carmel can be relied on to cheerfully assist, in her own time, with tasks undertaken by the Group.



SANTA MARIA COLLEGE, ATTADALE

Eve Miller – Year 11

Eve is an exemplar of Mercy. Her attitude towards others always has a foundation in compassion, care and love. She has carried out her leadership role as a Student Councillor this year with dedication and a genuine zeal to serve others. Her optimistic attitude to life and her humility endear her to many. As such she is a positive and steady influence in her year group.

Eve is an excellent role model in her ability to consistently challenge herself academically and personally. She works hard to achieve success and has been the recipient of Achievement Certificates in French and Chemistry this year.

The commitment Eve has shown in living out the Mercy value of Service is shown in her selfless involvement in the Young Vinnies and Seeds of Justice groups. Here she has exhibited the virtues of selflessness and integrity and sees herself as an instrument of justice. She strongly reflects the faith of our foundress. Like Catherine McAuley, Eve shows herself to be intelligent, practical and prayerful and above all, deeply kind to others.

Breanna Tory – Year 11

Breanna also lives out the Mercy Values of Hospitality, Compassion, Justice, Service and Excellence. She has actively sought to be involved in groups which promote the dignity of others. As a member of the Social Justice group this year, she has demonstrated an innate desire to work for the good of all in our community. As a leader in Young Vinnies, she shows empathy and sensitivity to those who are in a situations of hardship. Her confidence and assuredness endear her to many in her peer group.

To the younger students, she is an excellent role model in terms of her natural ability to reach out to others in need, and offer service. Her compassion for humanity is evident in her search for an understanding of those suffering on a global scale. Despite excelling in many areas, Breanna is a person of humility. She pursues excellence in all areas of her studies and works hard to achieve this. This is evident in the academic arena and also discernible in her co-curricular pursuits, winning the Public Speaking Competition this year.

Breanna strongly reflects the faith of Catherine McAuley in terms of her compassionate, practical response to others and is a very worthy co-recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.



Alexandra Arnaboldi



Sage Lockyer



Carmel Allum



Eve Miller



Breanna Tory



EMMANUEL COLLEGE, WARRNAMBOOL

Faith Heijnen-McKinnon – Year 11

Faith is an outstanding student demonstrating the Mercy values through her leadership roles at the College and her passion for promoting awareness of human rights issues within Amnesty International. Faith has presented at school assemblies, organised activities and conducted meetings to engage positive conversation and support for refugees and asylum seekers within Australia. Faith is committed to her studies and actively participates in a range of school activities. This has been recognised by staff and students who have elected Faith as their College Captain for 2017.

Sarah Zerbe – Year 11

Sarah is an active member of the Young Vinnies group at Emmanuel College. In 2016 the group ran baking stalls to fundraise for local families in need or those suffering in third-world countries. The Young Vinnies also supported and promoted awareness of the homeless by participating in a "Winter Sleepout" at St Joseph's Church, and visited Melbourne to volunteer at soup kitchens and distribute toiletries that were collected through a toiletry drive ran by the group. Sarah is a hard working student and her community services work has helped to provide an insight into social injustices and to "see the world through new eyes".

Bronte Rayner – Year 11

Bronte is a caring and thoughtful student demonstrating the Mercy values through her involvement in many community and social justice activities, including being a member of the Young Vinnies group at Emmanuel College. She has participated in discussions on human trafficking as part of the Mercy International Reflection Group and attended the regional Mercy Seeds of Justice conference. In 2016 Bronte participated in the World Challenge trip to Cambodia and Laos which included fundraising for the Battambang community and Cooperative Orthotic & Prosthetic Enterprise (COPE).



MERCY COLLEGE, COBURG

Nicole Nabbout – Year 10

Nicole is a lions, leads by example and participates fully in activities.

Nicole leads students of all year levels informally through her commitment to the Mercy Values, which she demonstrates every day in her manner and actions at school. This is very evident by the fact junior students know her name and seek her support when needed.

Nicole is a role model to other students in the respectful and positive relationships she has with staff and other students. She can be relied upon to represent the College at any event she is asked to support – and she does so enthusiastically.

Nicole has excellent communication skills and can bring others along with her by leading with an energy and commitment that is contagious

Theodoula Vorenas – Year 9

Theodoula is a positive and compassionate member of Year 9. She is always looking out for the wellbeing of others. As the Year 9B Wellbeing Captain, she has taken on the role of ensuring that those experiencing a tough time in their learning are looked after. Her care and consideration extends to those within her class, year level and to the wider school community, including teachers.

During MAD Week she participated passionately in all activities and showed a genuine concern for the people affected by domestic violence and homelessness, and for refugees. Theodoula helped with fundraising for whole school events and played a role in the Year 9 stall for Mercy day which gathered funds for Project Mercy. She is always actively promoting the Mercy values and is able to express her opinions and ideas on social injustice in the world.

Theodoula is a really proud Mercy girl. She is a part of the Student Interview Panel and is also one of the most accomplished and valued college tour guides. Her participation in the performing arts life of the college is extensive and includes the musical, the Crescendos and the college liturgical choirs.

Rawan Yaqoob – Year 8

Rawan is a student who goes above and beyond the expectations of a Mercy student. She is a caring girl who always looks out for others; both students and staff. She shows compassion for everyone she feels needs support or assistance and quietly offers them her help. Rawan is willing to undertake any task and undertakes duties that she can see that may be needed to be completed without having to be asked..

Rawan played an integral part in the planning and execution of the Mercy Day celebration and helped raise funds for the nominated charity. She encouraged other students to partake in this celebration day. Academically, Rawan tries her very best and always seeks feedback. She is always willing to assist others in their learning and her own academic results have improved through the development of strategies to help her own understanding.

Rawan pays such close attention to the assessment criteria sheets and uses them to enhance her work prior to submission. She has a knack of picking up all of the little nuances within a task and is a very independent learner. Rawan has an extremely mature outlook and is grateful for all of the opportunities that are presented to her. Rawan values her education and where it will lead her in the future. She is a very worthy co-recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.



Faith Heijnen-McKinnon



Sarah Zerbe



Bronte Rayner



Nicole Nabbout



Theodoula Vorenas



Rawan Yaqoob



MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE, CAMPERDOWN

Ripley Watt – Year 11

Ripley is a worthy recipient of the Mercy Scholarship. She shows genuine concern for her peers and all members of the school community. She is sensitive to the needs of others and has shown this through her involvement in the Corangamite Shire Youth Council where she continues to play an active role.

Ripley has been a constant voice on the College’s Social Justice Committee and actively organised and participated in the very successful fundraising efforts for our local hospital. She strongly supports the Core Values of the school and is passionate about the dignity of the person.

Thomas Bennett – Year 11

Thomas was a very significant contributor to Mercy Regional College’s inaugural Cambodia trip. He is a quiet member of our Year 12 student cohort but found the time overseas energizing and inspiring. He brought his strong personal integrity and sincerity to the relationships he formed in Cambodia working to engage all members of the travelling party as well as those in the local communities. Thomas is very well respected by his peers and teachers and has strong links in his local community. He is a worthy co-recipient of the Mercy Scholarship.

Evie Mellis – Year 11

Evie has a genuine passion for social justice, demonstrated in her commitment and involvement in the Notre Dame College Seeds of Justice Group. She has been an active member of the group for the past two years. Evie has also fostered her sense of social justice through her attendance at the statewide Mercy Seeds of Justice Camp and the 2016 Australian Mercy Schools Association Conference in Sydney.

Evie has participated in various Seeds of Justice fundraising and awareness raising campaigns. She has been a reliable member of the group and always happy to help organise events. These have included collecting funds at the Good Friday Appeal, presentations at staff briefings and assemblies and the promotion of fair-trade products.

Evie has contributed in a variety of College areas and also volunteered for other school functions. She has shown a keen involvement in other social justice initiatives and has participated in this year’s Ration Challenge where she lived off the rations of a Syrian refugee for one week, raising funds to help support refugees around the world. Her enthusiasm for the cause inspired College staff to participate.



MARIST REGIONAL COLLEGE, BURNIE

Jayde Northcott-Cannell – Year 9

Jayde has been an energetic participant of Young Vinnies over the past two years. She has a passion for helping those less fortunate. She has willingly participated in the can drives that were run last year and this year at Marist Regional College. Additionally, Jayde was an active supporter of our Movie Night fundraiser last year for Young Vinnies. She has a generous spirit and is always ready to assist in any way possible.

Jayde displays generosity not only in her work with Young Vinnies but also within the classroom setting. She has had involvement with her family performing community work in activities and maintenance at the running of the Sheffield’s Steamfest. Jayde shows a tremendous attitude to service in all areas of her life. It has been a privilege to watch Jayde grow in self-confidence and to witness her actively seek out new opportunities to serve.

Isobella Nicholls – Year 11

Over the past four years Isobella has shown herself to be a mature and dedicated student. She has shown a great deal of resilience and an immense sense of empathy for others. She stands up for her own personal beliefs and values, demonstrating an ability to live up to the Marist Regional College values which stem from the Mercy tradition.

An example of this was in 2015 when Isobella and other members of her Religion class made a proposal to the



NOTRE DAME COLLEGE, SHEPPARTON

Thomas Hammond – Year 11

Thomas is involved in Seeds of Justice and has a genuine care for this mission. He has committed many hours of ministry for others and is always putting his hand up to help out. Thomas has been involved in the Community Kitchen on many occasions and is an active member of the Remar Blue Caravel. Thomas has contributed to Remar fundraising activities, selling chocolates for solidarity, raising awareness for important causes and assisting with fundraising and participating in Relay for Life.

Thomas participated in the Circle of Silence event that was run through the College and attended the 2016 Australian Mercy Secondary Schools Association Student Conference in Sydney where he had the opportunity to connect with other like-minded students, build friendships and share ideas of Mercy in their lives, their school communities and in the world. This involved learning, reflection and story sharing.

Thomas proudly wears the College uniform and has respectful relationships with his teachers and other staff at the College. He is always willing to help others, and shows great conviction, humility, and a sense of purpose.



Ripley Watt



Thomas Bennett



Thomas Hammond



Evie Mellis



Jayde Northcott-Cannell

Leadership Team. The proposal was for a Marist Immersion Trip, something that the College had not undertaken for many years, designed to enable students to immerse themselves in another culture, tradition and values. This enabled them to gain a greater understanding and appreciation of other cultures whilst at the same time challenging their own beliefs and things we take for granted in life. Isobella was central to the organisation and implementation of this trip and the fundraising that enabled us to provide the local community basic medical supplies, books and sporting equipment. She has continued demonstrating her commitment to serving others by being involved in the City Kitchens Program, providing meals for the less fortunate around the Burnie area. Isobella has a genuine, happy and enthusiastic attitude with a desire to help others and a commitment to understanding and acting out the Catholic values of the College.

Gabrielle Gee – Year 12

In her time at Marist Regional College, Gabrielle has proven herself to be a respectful, dedicated student with a keen interest in social justice. She has actively represented the school in such events as MSA and NSATIS Netball and has undertaken leadership roles of Sports Leader and Peer leader where she has developed a keen interest in helping others. During 2016, Gabrielle was instrumental in fundraising and supporting the inaugural Immersion Experience for students in Fiji. As a participant in this experience, Gabrielle undertook tasks such as building a toilet block for a village. Whilst in Fiji, her keen interest in helping others developed greatly as she willingly took on extra duties to help those in need and spent much of her time talking with locals and learning about their culture.

In 2017, as a member of the Student Representative Council, Gabrielle aims to use her skills and knowledge gained from her previous leadership roles and her experience in Fiji to continue making Marist Regional College the warm, open and accepting community it has become. Through her open, kind and accepting nature, Gabrielle embodies the foundation of Jesus' teaching of 'love thy neighbour'.



PADUA COLLEGE

Megan Perry – Year 9
Mornington campus

The recipient of the Mercy Scholarship on the Mornington 7–10 Campus is Megan Perry of Year 9 – Frayne House. Megan is a young person who has shown an awareness of those people on the fringes. This year Megan took the lead in raising awareness regarding the Leukaemia Foundation which supports families of those suffering from Leukaemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma. Megan approached her House Coordinator to ask if she could be permitted to participate in the World's Greatest Shave. Megan is a quiet, young person and being at the centre of something such as this was certainly outside her comfort zone.

Megan then went on to speak to Frayne House and a College staff meeting to further raise awareness and promote the cause. She was able to raise a significant amount of money for the Leukaemia Foundation, and more importantly, raised awareness on the need for further research for cures all forms of Blood Cancer.

Monique Machin – Year 9 – Rosebud campus

Last year Monique Machin received a Mercy Social Justice Award. She was truly a deserving recipient. In her three years at Padua Rosebud, Monique has shown care and compassion for her fellow students. Last year her passion for a deeper sense of social justice was sparked after she attended a day on the issue at Abbotsford.

After listening to speakers on the issues of People Seeking Asylum and Being a Refugee, Monique wanted to know more. This led her to conducting a great deal of research. Once understanding the facts, Monique wrote an article that was published in the Catholic Alliance of People Seeking Asylum newsletter. This paper was also presented at Campus Assembly. That was still not enough! Monique organised a speaker to visit the school to broaden the awareness of other students.

Monique's desire to help others continues. This year she has taken on the role of Social Justice leader for her House Group. She was nominated as a Fire Carrier which is an initiative of CEM to develop bonds between Indigenous Australians and the wider Australian community. Last week Monique was on Year 7 camp helping the new Year 7s assimilate into secondary school. Her help was invaluable; not only did she keep a watchful eye out for those girls who may be feeling homesick but she also initiated soccer games and tried to encourage lots of students to get involved. Catholic Education and Padua College is enriched and blessed to have students of the calibre of Monique Machin.

Ella Hinson – Year 9 – Tyabb campus

On the 3rd of July 2016 Ella travelled to Timor Leste with her grandmother and seven other people from the Mornington Peninsula. They were part of the Humanitarian Projects International group, an Australian based not-for-profit organisation that assists by sending teams of caring volunteer workers to help relieve poverty and distress.

The aim of the trip is to use the shipping containers that the Timorese people can't afford to send back to Australia to turn into classrooms. Before they arrived in Timor the group had sent two shipping containers to Timor filled with wired doors, glass windows and all sorts of tools that could be left for use in the future.

Ella showed great maturity and concern for others in taking on the challenge of travelling to a developing country and supporting those less fortunate than herself. She learned much from the trip and shared her experiences at school in an effort to encourage others to take on such opportunities and to work for social justice. In speaking about her trip she said, "Timor Leste will forever hold a special place in my heart".



Isobella Nicholls



Gabrielle Gee



Megan Perry



Monique Machin



Ella Hinson



MERCEDES COLLEGE
Perth, WA
1846



ACADEMY OF MARY IMMACULATE
Fitzroy, VIC
1857



SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Geelong, VIC
1860



CATHOLIC COLLEGE BENDIGO
Bendigo, VIC
1876



ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
Adelaide, SA
1880



ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
North Melbourne, VIC
1887



SACRED HEART COLLEGE
Kyneton, VIC
1889



MOUNT LILYDALE MERCY COLLEGE
Lilydale, VIC
1896



ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE
Mildura, VIC
1906



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE
Heidelberg, VIC
1910



ST BRIGID'S COLLEGE
Lesmurdie, WA
1929



SANTA MARIA COLLEGE
Attadale WA
1937



St Ann's College amalgamated to
EMMANUEL COLLEGE
Warrnambool, VIC 1872
Co-sponsored College



MERCY COLLEGE
Coburg, VIC
1965
Affiliated School



MERCY REGIONAL COLLEGE
Camperdown, VIC
1973
Affiliated School



Sacred Heart College amalgamated to
NOTRE DAME COLLEGE
Shepparton, VIC
1902
Affiliated School



Stella Maris Regional Girls' College amalgamated to
MARIST REGIONAL COLLEGE
Burnie, TAS
1900
Affiliated School



College of Our Lady of the Sea – 1898 / Padua Preparatory House for Little Boys – 1899; amalgamated to Padua College, Mornington 1946
PADUA COLLEGE
Mornington 1946
Affiliated School



WODONGA
Wodonga, VIC
1979
Affiliated School

CONGRATULATIONS TO MERCY SECONDARY SCHOOL YARAPOS, PNG



We extend our heartiest congratulations to Mercy Secondary School, Yarapos PNG on its recent achievement of being in the Top 10 PNG schools and being the Best Academic Performing School in Grade 10, 2016. Principal, Alex Marcus, is very proud of the students and staff at the college and appreciates the on-going support from Mercy schools within Australia.

