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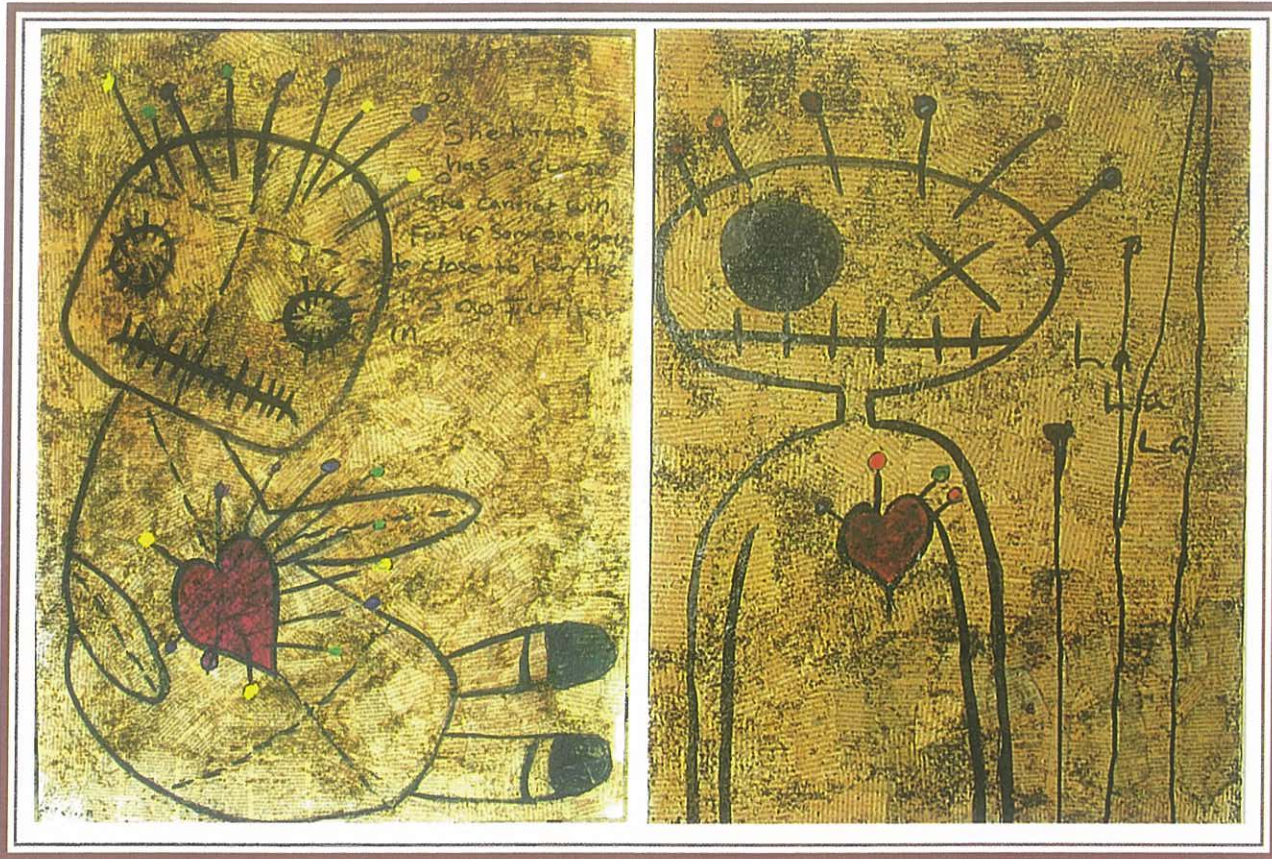
Celebrating fifty
years of Mentone
Girls' Secondary
College

Making Waves 2005

MAKING WAVES 2005



MENTONE GIRLS'
SECONDARY COLLEGE
Corner of Balcombe and
Charman Roads
Mentone 3194
www.mgsc.vic.edu.au



R Malcolm Art Award 2004

A stunning exhibition of student artwork in the creative ambience of our Arts building was held on Thursday, 2nd November 2004. Once again the time had come for our eagerly anticipated R Malcolm Art Award!

On display were fabulous artworks; drawing, painting and printmaking; beautifully produced examples of Visual Communication and Design; terrific photography and colourful and very ambitious ceramic sculpture. The artworks were as diverse and as inspiring as ever, reflecting the intense involvement the students have in making their art and the dedication and inspiration provided by our hardworking, visionary Arts staff.

As well as giving individual students recognition for their artistic efforts, the award provides the basis for an impressive and growing collection of student art. This generous acquisitive award is sponsored by Mr Frank Hellier on behalf of R Malcolm, the real estate agents of Cheltenham.

This year the judges were Ms Adele Flood, lecturer in Art Education at RMIT, Mr Frank Hellier of R Malcolm and Ms Deborah Lehner, College Principal. As is most often the case, these three had some difficulty in coming to a final decision.

However, the decision to give Hayley Anderson of Year 12 the Award was a popular one! Hayley's quirky, expressive paintings of doll-like figures on a tea coloured, textured ground, demonstrates an experimental and personal approach to artmaking.

Lauren Johnstone and Ashlee Collins were awarded the 'Encouragement Awards', also very generously donated by R Malcolm, for their artworks. Lauren showed a series of painted abstract panels, which were both decorative and thoughtful explorations of painting techniques and composition. Ashlee's impressive ceramic and copper pipe water sculpture and accompanying photographs also gained a very well deserved 'Encouragement Award'.

Ms Adele Flood commented on the high standard of all artworks exhibited, especially the presence of a spirited approach to creativity, which was evident in the great diversity of ideas and media explored.

Representative artworks from this exhibition will now take their places amongst the growing and quite inspiring collection of student artworks now gracing the offices and corridors of Mentone Girls' Secondary College.

1955 – 2005

Fifty years of education for girls at what is now Mentone Girls' Secondary College.

The young women who are completing Year 12 this year began in the year 2000. Their experience of the world is a very different one from the original 1955 girls. Apart from radical changes in the subjects they now take, the very face of the school has changed. Renovations and new buildings have been a part of their experience for their entire six years. In the next six years, there will be more changes that we hope will expand the ways learning is undertaken.

Since 2000 the world has become much more accessible through television, email, the internet and telephonic services, and much more uncertain. We knew instantly of the horrendous September 11 tragedy, the Bali bombings, the tsunami in Asia and the London suicide attacks on the Underground railway and these events have shaped the future in many ways for all of us.

The very fine tradition begun by Miss Nina Carr, the school's first Principal, of social justice and taking responsibility as a citizen of the world, continues strongly today. Through the Student Representative Council, funds are raised annually and sent to a variety of worthy causes, including those related to the disasters I mentioned above.

It is really important in our 50th year to take stock and to identify the things that we value.

As former Principal, Ms Lesley Boston, wrote in the 1995 School Magazine:

"It will be interesting, given the pace of change, to observe what is different in 2005 Given change is inevitable and knowledge and information will probably have more than doubled by then, it is very important for students today to learn to be adaptable young women, flexible thinkers and knowledgeable about how to access and use information."

.... Some things won't change, such as the enthusiasm and vitality of students and the need to direct that enthusiasm and vitality into striving for excellence in all things"

I am certain that, in another ten years, we will still seek to develop young women with these attributes and values, although the world will have changed in as many ways as it has in the last decade. I hope that Mentone Girls' continues to nurture and develop leaders for tomorrow, and that all our students and staff enjoy the journey forward.

Deborah M Lehner
Principal



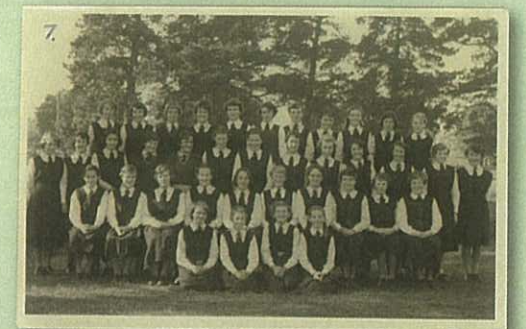
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Ms Deborah Lehner



Form 1 1955



Form 2 1955



Opening Ceremony 1955



Opening Ceremony 1955

Assistant Principals' Reports



This year the college has hosted a number of very special events in recognition of the school's 50th birthday including the invitational Art Exhibition, "She Sells Sea Shells", Past Students' Dinner, Arts Festival, Birthday party for students, "Back to Mentone" for past and present students and staff and the official opening of our new buildings. We continue to improve upon the solid foundations built since the school began in 1955 and continue to have a grand reputation in the local community. I am very proud to be part of such a wonderful school that continues to grow and develop successful, independent young women.

There are a number of feature activities that have captured the attention of the local media including the Vietnam expedition, continuing success in the sporting arena, a presentation by Kirstie Marshall at a college assembly, the arrival of our South African student Lesego Thebe, the CSIRO Student Science Research project and the planning for the exciting new reflective Learning Centre

that will be built during 2006. Each week there are several opportunities for students to engage in extra curricular activities that encompass a wide range of interests. These include music performances, poetry reading, debating, environment committee, drama performances, sporting competitions, science competitions, maths challenge activities, LOTE cultural days and tours to Japan and Noumea, Great Victorian Bike Ride, camps an excursions. This vast range of opportunities complements the work that the students do in their classrooms and assists in the building of positive relationships with teachers and connectedness to the school.

I am very proud of our student leaders who have done an outstanding job in fulfilling their roles. In particular, our senior leaders, School Captain, Meaghan Rennison, Vice Captain, Jennifer Wainwright, Year 11 Vice Captain, Megan Lowe and the SRC President, Rachel Flitman, have worked as a team to support each other and to ensure that all students are informed and given opportunities. They have had a strong voice at School Council and college assemblies and have admirably represented the views of their peers. Well done, girls!

I want to acknowledge and sincerely thank the host families who warmly welcomed Lesego Thebe into their homes this year. Lesego has enjoyed many life-changing experiences including a tour of Sydney, horse riding, snow skiing and learning a musical instrument. She has participated in the senior hockey team and the House Chorals. Lesego will take back to her country many life-times of memories that will be held dear to her heart. A huge thank you to Sandra, Peter, Bridey and Emily Sabin,

Alasdair MacDonald, Yvonne Honey and Jen MacDonald, Ruth Healy and Caitlyn Parker, Bruce, Barbara and Julia Eppingstall and Sue Krelsheim and Michaela Hosking for your very generous offers to host Lesego and for making her feel at home in Australia.

I also want to mention the inaugural Vietnam expedition which was in November last year. Mr Thomson and five girls from Mentone, together with students from Brighton and Rowville Secondary Colleges saved for, planned and conducted their own student-led expedition to Vietnam. The girls involved; Maddy Oates, Alex MacPherson, Lynley Beaver, Lizzie Stafford and Jessica Brady enjoyed a magnificent, month-long expedition that they planned in detail over an eighteen month period. The girls enjoyed many wonderful things, enjoyed being immersed in the Vietnamese culture and even assisted some disabled children in an orphanage for a week. It was wonderful to see them arrive home safely through customs wearing their little Vietnamese cone-shaped hats!

I continue to feel very proud of our girls and their achievements and grateful to our dedicated staff that they put so much time and effort into offering these opportunities to our students. I also want to thank the Parents and Friends group for a fantastic year. They have organised several social events this year, the highlight being the Father/Daughter Sports Trivia Night hosted by Nathan Burke from St Kilda.

Good luck to all students with their final reports. To the Year 12 girls, I hope you achieve your best and realise your dreams.

Heather Sarau
Assistant Principal



Congratulations, Mentone Girls' Secondary College on your 50th birthday. I hope all students in years to come will look back with a sense of pride, and remember that they attended Mentone Girls' Secondary College in its 50th anniversary year.

Education today is very different from when I started teaching at the College in 1982. There is a far richer curriculum offering across the whole school. Students today routinely undertake activities that had not even been thought of years ago. In 1982 the personal computer had just been invented, and the first ones were just appearing in schools. A major achievement in computing would have been to instruct the computer to correctly complete a simple arithmetic calculation. Word processing was called typing and was performed using a typewriter. Woodwork and electronics were not subjects that girls were able to study. The internet, e-mail and mobile phones were unheard of and a student was considered fortunate if she had

a scientific calculator to use in mathematics. There was no Gymnasium so Physical Education and Sport were held outside no matter what the weather and the whole school had to squeeze into the old Hall for Assemblies.

By the end of 2005 Stage 2 of the College Master Plan will be complete and the majority of facilities at the College will be amongst the best of any government schools. We will have modern Home Economics, Science and Art rooms, a magnificent Gymnasium for Phys Ed and regular access to computers and information technology throughout the College. VCE students will have proper

Mentone Girls' has an enviable reputation in its local community, a reputation that has been built steadily over its fifty year history. As a newcomer, one of the aspects of the school that has impressed me most has been the palpable pride that both current and past students display towards their school. This pride is the result of a strong sense of belonging to a school community, a recognition of the commitment and expertise of teachers, and a keen sense of the crucial role that the school has played in each individual's personal development. Working closely with the Past Students' Association, as well as with the current teachers and students who are organising the 50th birthday celebrations planned for October, I have had a crash-course in the traditions and history of the school - and I am very conscious of the privilege of being able to share in these celebrations. By the time that you are reading this magazine the celebrations will have already passed into the annals of the school's history, but I am sure that the focus of the celebrations, and the thing that will be remembered best by all who participated, is the warmth of the friendships that were established at school, a warmth that survives intact whether we remain in close contact throughout the years or not.

My focus in my first year here at Mentone Girls' has been on the development of all aspects of our core and co-curricular programs to ensure that the best possible learning outcomes can be achieved by all girls. Put very bluntly, student learning outcomes are the measure by which a school community assesses its success. Of course, student learning is not restricted to the academic sphere alone - learning occurs in the sporting, cultural, and artistic spheres as well as the academic, and the personal learning that each student achieves in terms of her emotional/psychological development is perhaps the most important of all. Nor is the measurement of learning, in all its manifestations, a simple thing.

A key focus of Mentone Girls' current curriculum evolution is our Leading Schools Fund Project, which will begin next year for our Year 9 students. Government funding of this project will provide us with a purpose-built centre for the Year 9 program, due to be completed by the start of Semester 2 in 2006. In the centre, students will be organised in groups of fifty for their "core" studies to work with a team of three teachers in both English/SOSE and Maths /Science. These core, integrated studies will be structured around themes that provide diverse opportunities for students to investigate, analyse and synthesise an understanding of their world at a deeper more complex level, with lots of time for experiential learning. Other "elective" studies will also connect with these themes to emphasise the

study and meeting facilities in the new VCE Centre and the teaching and administrative staff have appropriate working space.

This, together with the hard working and dedicated teaching staff we have at the College means you are provided with tremendous educational opportunities at Mentone Girls'. It is terrific to see so many students make the most of this opportunity, be it through their hard work and high levels of achievement in class, or their participation in the amazing range of co-curricular activities the College offers.

I would take this opportunity to congratulate all our departing Year 12 students on successfully completing their VCE and wish them all the very best for the future as they complete their secondary education and enter the next phase of their lives.

Simon Frazer
Assistant Principal



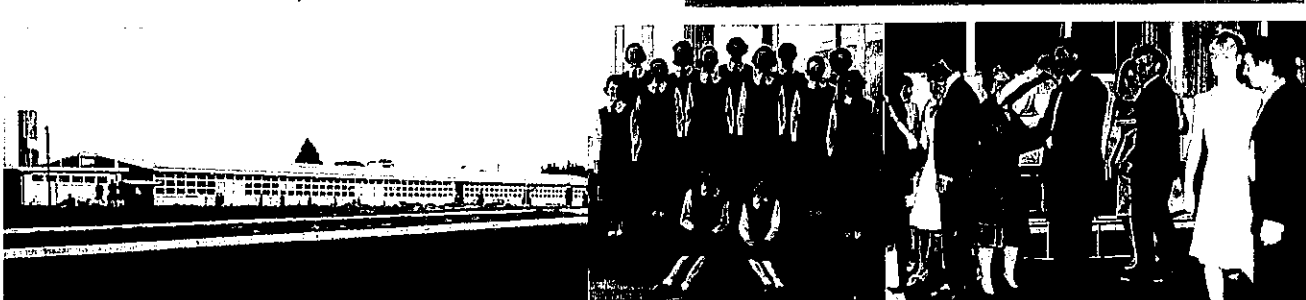
inter-relatedness of different areas of study. Our "vision" for the Year 9 program is that it will involve our students in the adventure of learning!

Of course, in line with the government's *Blueprint for Education*, we will also be introducing the *Victorian Essential Learning Standards* (VELS) in 2006, as well as introducing a new Timetable structure ... so it's full-steam ahead at Mentone Girls' Secondary College as we enter our sixth decade!

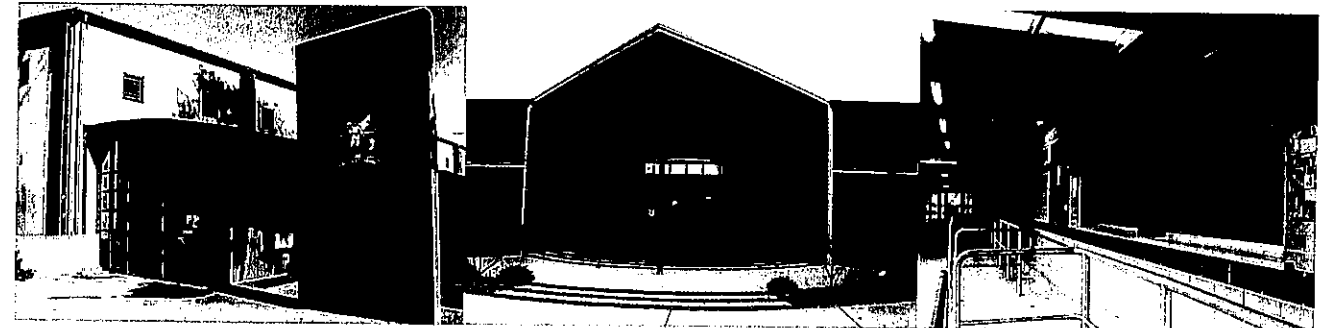
Jan Tallarida
Assistant Principal



Official Opening by the Education Minister, the Honourable J.S. Bloomfield, 11th October 1955



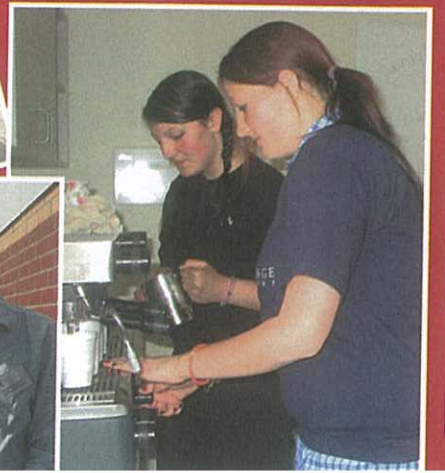
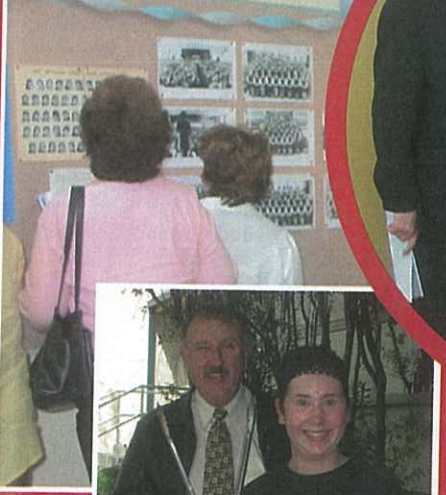
"I don't want to get to the end of my life and find that I have just lived the length of it. I want to have lived the breadth of it as well"



"The season of failure is the best time for sowing the seeds of success."

Happy 50th Birthday Mentore Girls' Secondary College

1955-2005



STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY POSITIONS 2005

COLLEGE CAPTAINS

College Captain: Meaghan Rennison
College Vice Captain: Jennifer Wainwright: (Year 12)
College Vice Captain: Megan Lowe (Year 11)

SRC Executive Committee

President: Rachel Flitman
Vice President: Noosha D'Cruze
Secretary: Anna Ngo
Treasurer: Claire Heath

SRC VCE Representatives Year 11

Jacqueline Younger
 Jessica Burns
 Alexandra Lewis
 Mieke Car
 Eliza Digby
 Kathryn Caplygin
 Melanie Ryan
Year 12
 Claire Heath
 Sheena Bouch
 Anna Ngo
 Alaa Bondok
 Noosha D'Cruze
 Belinda Hallinan

SRC Representatives

7A Tara Rose
 7B Ella Ruuskanen
 7C Louise Mapleston
 7D Shelley Maher
 7E Carla Iurato
 7F Sarah Miller
 7G Kendal Barber
 7H Madison Westwick

8A Charlotte Stubbs
 8B Brittany Lord
 8C Tilly Le Faou
 8D Harishilla Ranjan
 8E Matia Kuzma-Floyd
 8F Jordan Robinson
 8G Bronte Caswell
 8H Samantha Sleep

9A Bianca Stroh
 9B Kate Withers
 9C Lauren Geschke
 9D Jessie Pearce
 9E Laurel Bonner

9F Sarah Heath
 9G Emma Young
 9H Danika Alt

10A Stephanie Valcanis
 10B Felicity Wilson
 10C Cassandra Head
 10D Celia Cole
 10E Laura Smedley
 10F Amrita Simadri
 10G Loretta Lee

Form Captains

7A Katrina Bateman
 7B Megan Kruse
 7C Michelle Kiteley
 7D Jasmine Souki
 7E Jennifer Schiana
 7F Lucy Feben
 7G Caitlyn Platt
 7H Prudence Stewart

8A Ueidi Reis
 8B Cody Bltsonis
 8C Libby Charles
 8D Karly Funnell
 8E Ashleigh Puyol
 8F Heidi John
 8G Rebecca Stephens
 8H Su Yen Cheong

9A Olivia McConchie
 9B Eliza Carey
 9C Clare Burgess
 9D Amy Doherty
 9E Evsen Dogan
 9F Jessica Langworthy
 9G Sarah Sarau
 9H Melissa Arnis

10A Rebecca Orlando
 10B Paige Carroll
 10C Laura Lansdowne
 10D Jessica Guest
 10E Samantha Kruse
 10F Ricki McCombe
 10G Rachell Clark

Vice Captains

7A Tess Peverill
 7B Madeline Smedley
 7C Madison Pearce
 7D Georgia Fox
 7E Eleanor Murray
 7F Danielle Shannon
 7G Meg Humphrey
 7H Louisa Salmon
 8A Rosemary Haden
 8B Emily Worcester
 8C Saranya Siddulugari
 8D Vicki Karavasil
 8E Zoe Walsh
 8F Stephanie Strong
 8G Jaiden King
 8H Madison O'Neil

Music Captains

Senior
 Claire Heath
 Lauren Tomlinson (VC)
Middle
 Alexandra Madigan
 Danika Alt (VC)
Junior
 Lucy McPhate
 Alahana Somerville

9A Angie Zhang
 9B Casey Espie
 9C Hayley Pitman
 9D Katelyn Hatton
 9E Nicole Lowe
 9F Chelsie McLeod
 9G Brianna Robinson
 9H Sasha Kerdel

10A Chloe Tyas
 10B Cloe Dickson
 10C Mikaela Redlich
 10D Alexandra Madigan
 10E Olga Taranenko
 10F Joanne Pollitis
 10G Jamie Waterland

Performing Arts Captains

Choral Captain/s
Kenny
 Renee Parker
 Mieke Car
Melba
 Kate Monger
Jackson
 Carly Tims
 Clare Redshaw
Mackellar
 Claire Valentine

Instrumental Captains

Megan Lowe
 Hannah Jones
 Rose Kennedy
 Elizabeth Honing
 Anita Ratten
 Jennifer Mapleston
 Claire Heath
 Eloise Johnstone

Music Captains

Senior
 Claire Heath
 Lauren Tomlinson (VC)
Middle
 Alexandra Madigan
 Danika Alt (VC)
Junior
 Lucy McPhate
 Alahana Somerville

Drama Captains

Senior
 Sarah Watson
 Alice Lord (VC)
Middle
 Genevieve Ayre
 Kristle Vaughan (VC)
Junior
 Helen Ferguson
 Miranda Lord (VC)

VCE Committee

Year 11
 Megan Kiteley
 Tess de Munk
 Kate Steinfort
 Melisa Karakurt
 Lauren Muir
Year 12
 Katie Stewart
 Aleisha Powell
 Emma Fosternally
 Sarah Watson
 Sara Wilson
 Amelia Marriott
 Jenny McBride

Magazine Committee

Editors
 Emily Laidlaw
 Alexandra Lewis
Sub Editors
 Helen van't Hof
 Amelia Page
 Sharon Flitman
 Genevieve Ayre
 Gretta Nerenberg
 Tess Ryan
 Rosie Cangadis-Douglass
 Zoe Walsh
 Danielle Shannon

HOUSE CAPTAINS

KENNY

Senior School Captain:

Lauren Morecroft

Vice Captain:

Emma Funnell

Middle School Captain:

Cassandra Head

Vice Captain:

Madeline Cameron

Junior School Captain:

Samantha Robinson

Vice Captains:

Danielle Rancie
 Emma Milliken

JACKSON

Senior School Captain:

Lindsey Rouette

Vice Captain:

Emily Redmond

Middle School Captain:

Stephanie Brewer

Vice Captain:

Amy Doherty

Junior School Captain:

Vivienne Law

Vice Captain:

Laura Suckling

MACKELLAR

Senior School

Captain:

Joanne McKenna

Vice Captain:

Jenny McBride

Middle School

Captain:

Alana Gadsby

Vice Captains:

Tori Cameron
 Gemma Lonsdale

Junior School

Captain:

Tahnee Phippen

Vice Captain:

Danielle Everest

MELBA

Senior School

Captain:

Sharni Layton

Vice Captains:

Tess de Munk
 Elizabeth Stafford

Middle School

Captain:

Alice Boryslawski

Vice Captain:

Sally Buckley

Junior Captain:

Emma Dow

Vice Captain:

Elizabeth Culbertson

KLA Student Leaders

Maths

Senior

Jennifer Ashburn

Lisa Friend

Middle

Carolyn Hutchins

Laura Stuart

Junior

Piyumi Perera

Tegan Brown

English

Elizabeth Ryan

Bonnie McKernan

Middle

Laura Theobald

Maevie Pritchard

Junior

Ruby-Jean Jenkins

Megan Dalton

SOSE

Ashlea Stephens

Alex Dacy

Middle

Kavitha Burge

Molly Richards

Junior

Louise Keye

Iryna Ordynat

SCIENCE

Quinnie Trinh

Alison Slater

Middle

Sarah Strong

Fiona Lawman

Shelley Lyon

Junior

Ashlee Burn

VISUAL ARTS

Captain:

Jess Raubenheimer

(Captain)

Lauren Johnston

Georgina Karavasil

Middle

Kara Vale

Rebecca Vorwerk

Annie Tayleur

Bianca Stroh

Junior

Iryna Ordynat

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES

Captain:

Jaclyn Earle

Helen van't Hof

Middle

Jacqueline Tubb

Kim Melvin

Junior

Samantha Wells

Rhiannon Dewar

LOTE

French

Yee Ling Low

Japanese

Nataliya Friend

Emily Harrison

Sound and Lighting

Alicia Thompson

Kelsey Budge

Selina Green

Madeleine Ulbrick

Loretta Lee



Womens' Day Assembly



House Captains 1956

(left to right): J. McDonald, Jackson, E. Lowe, Melba; J. Robin, Kenny; G. Botterill, MacKellar



Form Captains 1956

(left to right): J. Quinn 3A, G. Aitken 2E, B. Hogan 1A, S. Stapleton 3B, L. Beavis 2B, F. McKenzie 1B, A. Smith 2F, D. Jenkins 3C, P. Kirby 2C, S. Holland 2D, M. Hobbs 1D, J. Watt 1C, J. Hunt 2A

"How monotonous the sounds of the forest would be if the music came only from the Top Ten birds."

Swimming Sports

On the 22nd of February, Mentone made waves at Oakleigh Swimming Pool, which became a blur of blue, purple, yellow and green, as house-patriotic, bikini-clad girls swarmed through the gates, bearing house mascots, assorted shades of hair spray and slogans in zinc. Freestylers, breaststrokes, butterflyers and backstrokers churned down the pool in breakneck speed, cheer squads giving each individual a warm reception at the side.

Congratulations to the age group champions who were...

U/13 champion: Katrina Bateman (Jackson)

U/14 champion: Elizabeth Cuthbertson (Melba)

U/15 champion: Monique Mac (Kenny)

Lara-Jane Stevenson (Jackson)

U/16 champion: Sarah Grahame (Jackson)

U/17 champion: Yasmin Roos (Melba)

U/21 champion: Amanda Millar (Kenny)

And congratulations to Amanda Miller, Katrina Bateman, Ashleigh Phipps-Nelson, Louise Keye, Lilibeth Hall, Megan Kiteley, Alison Slater, Lara-Jane Stevenson, Clare Tytler, Sarah Grahame, Alice Boryslawski, Yasmin Roos and the U/14 Melba medley relay team, all of whom broke records on the day.

The overall scores for the day were...

1st: Melba (594.2 points)

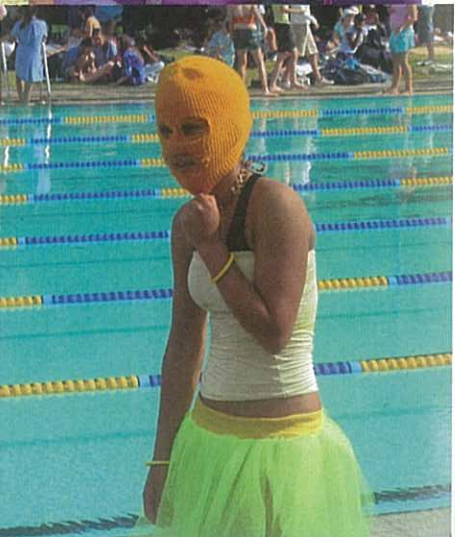
2nd: Kenny (543.6 points)

3rd: Jackson (518 points)

4th: Mackellar (449.2 points)

5th: Staff (20 points!!)

Sharon Flitman, 10G



Athletics

The sound of firing guns split the silence, punctuated by girlish screams as heavy objects spun dangerously through the air... calm down, I'm just talking about the annual MGSC athletics carnival!

As always, the carnival proved to be another smashing success, helped along by glorious weather, the SRC ice-cream stall and fantastic athletes!

Congratulations to the age group champions who were...

U/13 champion: Katrina Bateman (Jackson)

U/14 champion: Madeline Lee-Gow (Mackellar)

U/15 champion: Julia Curcio (Melba)

U/16 champion: Catherine Wilkie (Kenny)

U/17 champion: Luana Groves (Kenny)

U/21 champion: Sharni Layton (Melba)

The overall scores for the day were...

1st: Kenny (1127.6 points)

2nd: Melba (1098.2 points)

3rd: Mackellar (852.8 points)

4th: Jackson (704.3 points)

Sharon Flitman, 10G



What a year for our school's 50th anniversary! This year has been incredibly productive as we've progressed as a college, and we are extremely proud to have represented the college through its transformation.

As College Captains this year we've been privileged to be involved in so many aspects of the school, both educationally and in co curricular activities.

Our highlights for the year include the VCE formal, college assemblies, house music, organising the Lost Dogs' Home charity collection, VCE sausage sizzles and Open Night, just to mention a few.

Organising the formal was a challenging task, but very rewarding, when we saw how successful the night turned out to be. The hard work of the VCE committee definitely paid off and it was a night we will always remember. Thank you to the VCE committee for their continuing support this year. Their contributions at our meetings and their on-going cooperation helped to make the year run as smoothly as it did.

One of the VCE committees' annual tasks is the sausage sizzle at both the swimming and athletic sports days. Fortunately for us, both being on beautiful days, the sizzle was a huge success and we raised quite a bit of money to contribute to our formal. It was terrific to receive the fantastic support from the entire college for the VCE committee.



(l-r); Megan Lowe, Meaghan Rennison, Jennifer Wainwright.

Getting up at every college assembly was definitely a new, rewarding experience for us. Being able to give our opinion to the entire school is a privilege often taken advantage of, but it was a fantastic opportunity and we'd like to extend our thanks to the staff who organised this for us. Being a school leader you get to see closely the achievements of so many individuals in our college.

The Lost Dogs' Home charity, started last year and continuing this year was again a huge success. We collected cans of pet food and blankets for the animals from the Keysborough Home and the staff were incredibly appreciative. The idea of creating a competition sparked greater interest and it was fantastic to see so much involvement, especially from the younger year levels, with the winning form contributing over 70 cans. What a fantastic achievement for the college.

Moving around the school buildings this year has, at times, been frustrating, but it was definitely worth the added effort, as our college is now equipped with even better facilities that can be

enjoyed by future students. Not only has our school changed within the boundaries, but our image within society grows more positive every year. The introduction of wearing blazers to and from school has again added to our glowing reputation and it was great to see so many girls willing to support the college and embrace the changes they have faced this year.

VCE is a challenging time, and being a college captain also has its challenges. The step into VCE is enormous and it has been a busy year for all of us. We are incredibly fortunate to be supported by such giving and encouraging staff and we would like to make a special thanks to the entire VCE team, Mrs Egan, Mrs Wainwright, Mr Bartlett, Mr. Wallace and Mr. Feben. We couldn't have wished for better people and we are grateful for all of their efforts this year. They have made this year special for us in so many ways. We cannot thank them enough.

Finally we would like to thank all of the students of the school, especially the Year 11 and 12 girls who have made this year possible for us. To the Year 11s enjoy next year as it is your last and make the most of the year, as it goes too fast.

To all of the Year 12s; can you believe we've made it? What a year we have had! You've been wonderful friends to share the year with. Thank you.

Good luck to everyone for the future and always follow your heart. Remember to stay true to yourself and your beliefs and take your experiences from your time at the college on your journey.

The College Captains

*Meaghan Rennison: College Captain
Jennifer Wainwright: Vice College Captain
Megan Lowe: Year 11 Vice College Captain*



Some of the original students of Mentone Girls' High enjoying this year's Womens' Day Dinner

This is an extract from interviews of teachers who taught at the school during its formative years, transcribed from the DVD produced by Mr Michael Stewart as part of our 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Mrs Elsie Anderson

"I was a foundation member of the staff at the school - Feb 55 to 1968. Then a gap of ten years, then I came back just before retirement in the late 70's to 1982! That was a long stretch!

When we started of course, there were only years 7 and 8 so you were a bit of a jack of all trades - mainly History English and Geography. As the school got bigger and senior classes came along, I concentrated on mainly senior History - so I taught all the HSC Histories and a bit of Year 10 and 11, some English. In the course of doing that I became History Coordinator and Year 12 Coordinator for a great deal of the time. Towards the end of my stint I was Acting Vice Principal for a little while.

First impressions - well they were memorable - even now!

It was 1955. The population of the area was growing rapidly and the primary schools were bursting - but so was Mordialloc High School. It couldn't accommodate the numbers so the Education Department decided to found the Mentone Girls' High School, but it didn't have a building. So we started in the church halls on the corner of Chesterville Road and the Highway and at the Mechanics Institute. That meant we were two classes to a hall, the teachers faced each other, the students faced away from each other and you tried not to shout each other down. No facilities whatsoever! They did have seats for the children. They had drawing boards on their laps to write on because they had to pack everything up at the end of the day so that evening functions could be held in the halls, no books, portable blackboards - there were 6 or 9 months of this - there was nowhere to put students' belongings, nowhere for any kind of recreation - so it was a pretty rough start for many of them. In October we moved into the school - and that felt like a palace, even though it was just one of those chicken coop buildings that were being put up everywhere. Shiny brown linoleum floors, immaculate for a few hours, but then the mud got tramped in from the sea of mud all around the buildings. Still it was palatial compared with the halls and we had individual classrooms and that was good! Individual groups were relatively small and so that was a help to the children - they now had their lockers and they had places to put their books - how wonderful to have some books!

The staff in those days were almost all married women who had completed their families and wanted to come back to teaching. There had been very few secondary teachers trained during the 1930's, and of course the war years meant that they had to use married women. This was quite a revolution for them because they didn't normally employ married women (who were required to resign the minute they got married). However, they had to accept us. They gave us temporary appointments - we weren't allowed to be permanent for many years. But it was a wonderful staff because everyone was trying to hone their skills, revive them - everybody helped everybody else - and it became a cooperative endeavour to do the best you could with the facilities that we had.

When I look back on it, most of us still had young children at home, so we were very busy there too. I'm sure we did far more homework than the students, trying to keep ahead of what we had to do, so it was a very enjoyable, but very stressful time!

When I returned in '79 after ten years at a co-ed school, the differences did strike me. It was still a school dedicated to academic excellence as I had left it - but also concerned with a broader curriculum for girls who didn't want to go to Form 6. The retention rate was still excellent, indeed improved, there were a few overseas students starting to come into the community and of course there were now men on the staff. I think any difficulties if there were any of adjustment had already



Mrs Anderson loves to bushwalk despite steep hillsides!

been completed and everybody was quite comfortable with the situation. I found it quite interesting. The other thing I noticed was that there had been a lot of building in the 70's - desperately needed building. Looking back, the building never kept up with the student intake - the student intake occurred and then eventually some building occurred. However, there'd been a lot more and so it was a much better equipped school, a much larger school. But - very crowded! The accommodation wasn't adequate. I had one small form 6 class of 10 or 11 students for which I was allocated a store room because there just wasn't anywhere else. It was that or not having the subject on the curriculum - and since it was my subject I accepted the storeroom. It was not comfortable, but the girls accepted it and I accepted it and we got through.

When I stopped work I missed the companionship. It was very stimulating to have a group of women from varied backgrounds with whom you could have wonderful conversations (when we had time - lunchtime was often somewhat abridged). In the early days this was extremely welcome because we'd all been rearing children and to have adult conversations on a variety of topics helped to provide a very stimulating work environment.

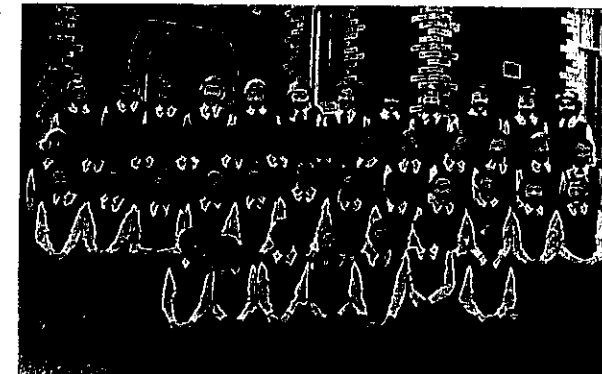
Because I taught senior students I was always very concerned about their careers. It was very stimulating to find out students' results and realise that they could go onto careers and that you had made a contribution - especially in the 60's when the girls were breaking new boundaries. They were moving into careers that women hadn't normally moved into. Parents mostly willingly accepted the new goals that their daughters were aiming for and achieving with a great deal of pride.

These days I am extremely busy, teaching U3A, bushwalking (although the hills are getting steeper) and voluntary conservation work. When I left work I taught HSC to adults for quite a long time.

Mentone GSC is a fine school, a credit to the Department and to the people who work and who have worked there and to the students who have made it."



Miss Nina Carr 1955



Outside the church hall in 1955



Music Camp

On the 25th of February, a busload of excited, happy and very vocal girls departed MGSC. Their destination? Arrabri Lodge, the location of Music Camp 2005, a fantastic opportunity to spend time with old friends, make plenty of new friends, and maybe even have the time to play some music!



Everyday, after breakfast, we would split up into our smaller groups for "classes". It was apparent right from the start that a huge amount of musical talent was floating around in our group. We all had plenty of time to veg out between lessons, and many girls took the chance to make use of the heated swimming pool and the trampoline, as well as playing with the cute guinea pigs and rabbits.

Bedtime was often a chaotic scene, with cries of "I can't find my toothbrush!" and "Where are my pyjamas?" floating across the camp. Many cabins didn't get to sleep until very late. These late nights were great fun, but many people regretted them the



following mornings, when the teachers came knocking bright and early to get people out of bed!

On the Saturday night, a Talent Quest was held, to give everyone the chance to strut their stuff. There was plenty of comedy, music, laughter and applause floating around that night, along with a healthy dose of teasing directed at the teachers.

Camp concluded with a concert on the Sunday afternoon, an opportunity to show each other all the hard work we'd been putting in. There was another concert on the Thursday night after our return, to let parents appreciate just how musically talented their daughters are.

Thank you to the teachers, who made our camp such a success, and so enjoyable for everyone. To those who were "mentioned" at the Talent Quest, our sincere apologies. To the ones who escaped; watch out next year!

Alex Lewis 11E



House Chorals



Diaphragms dilated, jaws dropped and epiglottises emerged for all to see on the night of the annual MGSC house music competition. Ferocious fiddling, hearty honking and dramatic drumming provided an exciting soundtrack to the night, where an enormous audience enjoyed a night of old classics, new tunes and hot competition!

The night proved to be incredibly close --although many disputed the adjudicator's decision...

- Final scores:
 1st: Mackellar and Jackson – both on 95 points
 2nd: Melba – 94 points
 3rd: Kenny – 93 points

Sharon Flitman 10G

Winter Concert

On Thursday the 23rd of June, the Nina Carr hall was full of talented music students. It was the night of the winter concert for 2005. The night was a great success, with music styles for everyone, ranging from "Another one bites the dust" by the Year Eight Band to "Summer is a'comin' in" by the Flute Ensemble. From "Wake me up before you go go" by the Jazz band to "Girl from Ipanema" by VCE vocal soloist Carly Tims and from "Beethoven's Sonata in C minor" by VCE piano soloist Symone Goddard to Madrigal's "True Colours".

All the performers were terrific and all of the students showed immense potential. It was an amazing night out that provided a lot of enjoyment for the audience and performers alike. The Year Eight Band, the Flute Ensemble, the Flute Duet, consisting of VCE flautists, Amy Clements and Lauren Tomlinson, Chamber Strings, Senior Winds, Jazz Band, Madrigal Stage Band, Carly Tims, and Symone Goddard; all deserve hearty congratulations.

A special thankyou goes to Mr Henry Silver, Ms Cook and all of the teachers involved for taking the time out to form the ensembles and organise the Winter Concert and many other musical events throughout the year. Thanks are also due to the staff and parents who helped make the night such a success by helping with front of house duties, refreshments and supervising the students. Thanks also to the Sound and Lighting crew.

It was a wonderful night.

Amelia Page 11F
 Amelia was a VCE vocal soloist in the Winter Concert.



The year in Music

2005 has been a very busy year for music students and their teachers, with many rehearsals and outstanding performances.

The year began on Friday 25th February with a camp to Arrabri Lodge. We spent three fantastic days learning new music, eating junk food and having lots of fun. During the following week the Music Camp Concert was held to showcase all that we had learnt over the weekend.

Soon after Music Camp was the launch of House Music. For almost 9 weeks, all that could be heard in the school corridors were the Houses madly rehearsing - from the set song

"Penny Lane", to their choice songs and the instrumental pieces. House Music conductors attended a conducting workshop, which was a great help in leading their instrumental and chorals sections. There was record student participation, and the standard was extremely high, with Mackellar and Jackson tying for equal first, followed closely by Melba and Kenny.

The end of second term was celebrated with the annual Winter Concert. A wide variety of instrumental and choral ensembles performed in front of an appreciative audience. It is fantastic to see the involvement, and improvement, of all our music ensembles, especially the string ensemble.

The highlight of third term was the 50th Anniversary Performing Arts Festival, which was held over three nights. The festival showcased our many music ensembles and included the finals of the Composition Competition.

Our hectic performance schedule was balanced by a relaxed performance of Jazz and Dinner Music at the Mentone R.S.L. Families and friends enjoyed dinner in a casual environment whilst being entertained by the students.

We are preparing to finish the year on a busy note, with scheduled performances at the 50th Anniversary celebrations in October and of course the grand finale at Presentation Night in November.

Congratulations to all music students for all their enthusiasm and hard work during the year.

The music program would not be as strong and vibrant as it is without the dedication of our talented music staff, in particular Mr Henry Silver, Ms Sue Cook, Mr Andrew Blyth, Mrs Firestone and Ms McCutcheon.

The music students and staff would like to thank Mr Silver for his passion and commitment to developing our music program over his many years at Mentone Girls' S.C. We will really miss him and wish him all the best for the future.

Claire Heath
 Senior Music Captain



SRC Reflections from 2005

To condense all we have done this year to under a page is near impossible. The Student Representative Council of 2005 (SRC) has organised an amazing number of events, attended mind-expanding leadership days, conferences and camps, supported charities from all around the world, and I think I can speak for everyone in saying we have had a ball doing it all!

I remember back at the first assembly of the year beginning by saying that to change the world you have to start small, such as changing your school to how you want it to be. I hope that everyone feels that the members of this year's SRC have achieved their goals of providing a group that has actively taken on suggestions, acting to enhance both our school and our wider community.

This year I've had the pleasure of working with girls from all year levels and have had the opportunity to see their passion and dedication in getting the voices of students heard, as well as organising activities from which everyone could benefit.

The Year 7 reps have worked hard to raise money for their sponsor-child Josephine, sold ice creams and wristbands at sports days and have provided many suggestions from the younger end of the school. The Year 8 reps ran a pyjama-theme casual dress day to coincide with the Winter sleep out and provided an appetising BBQ enjoyed by many. They also took part in "Spray Day", colouring students' hair in exchange for a gold coin donation.

The Year 9 reps coordinated an op-shop theme casual day, encouraged students to wear sunglasses on 'Sunnies for Sight Day' and provided many creative ideas for our 50th birthday celebrations. They also sold badges and noses and pins for Red Nose Day, Jeans for Genes Day, butterflies for the Deafness Foundation and daffodil merchandise for the Cancer Council.

The Year 10 reps ran a casual day that included the collection of food cans for the Salvation Army and organised a highly successful social with a Cocktail theme, complete with glitzy decorations, cocktail size delights and a choice of 'mocktails' behind the bar.

Senior representatives juggled their VCE work while co-ordinating the 40-hour Famine (thanks Jess Burns and Jacqui Younger), running mothers' and fathers' day stalls, conducting a popular chocolate egg drop, organising Australia's Biggest Morning Tea for both students and teachers, co-ordinating the SRC mural (representing the school in the past, present and future) and the SRC stage and activities for the school's 50th birthday celebrations (including the much loved annual SRC talent quest, which this year incorporated past, present and future students). This was in addition to overseeing all casual days and other activities.

This year as President, I've had the pleasure of working with a delightful executive team, comprising Noosha D'Cruze, Claire Heath, Anna Ngo, Mel Ryan and Alaa Bondok. Thank you also to the always wonderful Mrs Liakos, who has guided, supported and encouraged us all throughout the year and who never once let us down. These people have been the driving force behind the SRC this year and their passion, fresh outlook, enthusiasm and sense of humour have been inspirational, especially during the more stressful times of year 12!

Overall, I feel proud knowing that this year's SRC has achieved its goals of providing an active voice for the students, as well as working to improve the quality of both student and community life through leadership, listening to suggestions, school involvement and fundraising. I have had a truly fantastic time working with the SRC and I thank everyone who has helped to make the experience so much fun. John Quincy Adams, the 6th President of the United States once said, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader". I believe that all the girls on the SRC this year are leaders and have been an inspiration at showing what is possible with a few ideas, a bit of planning and the will to see ideas become realities.

Rachel Flitman,
SRC President 2005



(l-r): Melanie Ryan, Noosha D'Cruze, Rachel Flitman, Anna Ngo, Claire Heath and Alaa Bondok.

Student Representative Council

"The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavour."

SRC Events 2005



Pyjama Day Sausage Sizzle



Helen van't Hof of Year 11 has her head shaved to help cancer research



Mr Frazer enjoys a colour change

Mrs Pat Cerni taught at the school for 38 years – from 1957 to 1994, when she retired. During her time at the school she was English Coordinator, ran the Red Cross during the 1960's, was a student Counsellor and also introduced the Peer Support program which continues to be a valuable part of our school curriculum. She has many fond memories of the school and recalls:

"When I first arrived in 1957 the school was a very small school, a very small staff and a very small student body. My first impressions were that it was a compact, happy and cosy place. Everybody knew everybody else and everybody liked everybody else. The atmosphere then was like a little village, whereas today it is more like a big city.

In those days there was no technology, it was all chalk and talk – but it was a very enjoyable place to be. I suppose the things I miss most about the school are the friendships of the staffroom and in the classroom, the constant stimulation of the exchange of ideas and companionship.

The most memorable moment of my teaching career happened during Miss Carr's time. I drove up to the school one morning and hurriedly parked my car, rushing inside to find a seething mass of people in the corridor. They were all centred around Miss Carr, who was being given cups of tea, little pats and much reassurance. "What's the matter" I asked. Miss Carr pointed and I looked out through the window to where I had parked my car. There was half the school a charred and burning mass – half the school had burnt down overnight!

I wish the school a very happy Golden Anniversary. I would like to quote from the words of Miss Carr because I trust and hope that what she said fifty years ago is still true today.

"We hope that the time the students have spent at this school will help to give them courage to set for themselves and to pursue the highest possible standards and that they will become useful and respected members of the society of which they will form a part."

Mrs Lydia Denehey

"I arrived at the school in 1966 as PE teacher assisting the Sports Mistress who was Miss Val Roberts, an Olympic Gymnast. I was very pleased to be teaching at an all girls school, although we had to take many classes outdoors. Because of this I was compelled to wear a hat – which at one time ended up on top of the flag pole!

I miss the large community, the young enthusiastic students – and I especially liked to see the excited faces of the year 7s upon commencement at the school. These days I am amazed at the size of the VCE groups (when I was there the student numbers reached 770) when I attend Presentation Night. I am impressed that they once again wear school uniform (during the 80s Year 12 students wore casual dress) – and that they sing!

One of the most enduring memories for me was of the Principal, Miss Annie McLennan, who had arrived at the same time as I did. At her final Assembly on her retirement she challenged the students to be kind to one another. She intimated that if you are kind and pleasant to others you will receive the same treatment in return.

As I live in this area (only a couple of kilometres away) I've been aware of its development. I was teaching when the school celebrated 25 years and it's just wonderful that the school has continued to grow until now it has reached 50 years. I certainly wish everybody connected with the school the very best wishes for a happy birthday and a very bright future."



Mrs Judy Edwards (nee Quinn) and Mrs Judith Williamson (nee Munroe) students of '55, at the Annual Womens' Day Dinner.



"Life is a pure flame, and we live by an invisible sun within us." Sir Thomas Brown

SRC

Year 7 Softball State Finals win in 2004

A first in this sporting arena for Mentone Girls!

On Monday 29th November 2004 the Year 7 softball team consisting of Rachel Curnow (Captain), Samara Cook, Meagan Barlow, Meg Wardrop, Lily Marriott, Sarah Lund, Ueidi Reis, Nicole Vaughan, Amanda Rickard, Aleisha Cowie and Hannah Hurrell-Watts won the State Softball title. This is the first time that the school has had a team play in the final, let alone bring home the blue pennant. The girls worked very hard for their victory, improving their skills and team work enormously during the year. Some outstanding pitching from Rachel Curnow and Samara Cook's great reflexes as catcher, regularly sent the batters back to the dug out, which meant that the other teams found it very hard to score! The totals for the day were Mentone 56 against 4 schools with a total of 12 between them. The schools we defeated were Oberon, Myrtleford, Mill Park and Pascoe Vale Girls in a close 5/3 final. Thanks also to the parents for their support. Congratulations to the team for their magnificent effort. I was very proud of them.

Heather Sarau, Coach.



Cross Country 2005

"Bang!" and they're off. The Cross country for 2005 had now started. The Under 16's were first to run around the three kilometre course. Around the course we went, trying to keep a steady pace and save our energy for the last effort. Everyone was cheering as other people ran the last 100 metres. Scores were close. Kenny won, followed by Mackellar. Jackson and Melba closed the day on third and fourth place.

Congratulations to all the girls who made our school proud by representing us in the Bayside competition. I am sure everyone had a great day and we would like to sincerely thank everyone involved in the organisation of such a successful day.

Danielle Shannon 7F

Cross Country State Finals

After performing extremely well at the Southern Zone Finals on July 20th, our fantastic Cross Country team gained excellent results at the State Finals held at Bundoora Park on Friday, 29th July.

The Under 13 team ((Matilda Field, Katrina Bateman, Leah Martini, Tara Rose, Rhiannon Gakovic) finished second, the Under 14 team (Emma Milliken, Rebecca Stephens, Tess Durham, Elizabeth Cuthbertson, Maddie Lee Gow, Danielle Whittaker, Katherine Atkins) finished fourth and the Under 16 team (Sarah Grahame, Ricki McCombe, Alana Gadsby, Alice Boryslawski, Jessica Rankin) finished third. Sarah Grahame of Year 10 came second overall in the Under 16 age group while Courtney Weeks of Year 8 finished 12th in the Under 15 section. A terrific effort from all girls involved!



Inter-School Golf

Our inter-school golf team this year consisted of Alana Mattson (Year 12), Skye Boyd-Gerny (Year 12) and Macy Pitman (Year 7). The girls played in a nine hole Beachside stroke competition at Rosedale Golf Club, scoring 62, 67 and 67 respectively. All girls qualified for the Zone Finals and Macy won the Junior girls medal. Congratulations to you all - you were a credit to MGSC.



(l-r): Alana Mattson, Macy Pitman and Skye Boyd-Gerny.

Fancy Dress Party

On the 17th of March, MGSC met 'Tinsel Town' when both students and teachers, dressed to the nines, strutted up the red carpet to the sound of bulbs flashing and squeezed themselves into the Nina Carr Hall, for the annual welcome party for the Year Sevens hosted by the Year Twelves.

The night itself was a colourful blur of sequins and feather boas as everyone enthusiastically embraced the theme of "Hollywood Glamour/Hall of Fame".

The level of effort put in by everyone was remarkable. Costumes ranged from Sesame Street characters to Moulin Rouge dancers, with other highlights being Charlie Chaplain and Paris Hilton (handbag pooch included) impersonators.

Julia Knight walked away with the award for Best Dressed due to her novel take on Edward Scissorhands, while Jess Vale was crowned best look-alike after adorning the signature trademarks of Cyndi Lauper. The Year 7 winner of Best Dressed was Chanel Corner of 7D.

After dosing up on fairy bread and cordial, the form groups took to the stage and demonstrated the amazing hardwork they'd put in sacrificing lunchtimes to perfect their dancing routines. Ultimately, 7D were judged the victors of the night.

Thanks go to the Fancy Dress Committee, teachers and the many people who helped add a bit of sparkle to our moment of fame.

Emily Laidlaw 12D

Wow! What a night! The year Seven and Twelve Fancy Dress Party was a great hit at the start of the year. Everyone dressed to impress in their great looking costumes. We all have to thank the Year Twelves for their hard work and great dances. There was a lot of food to eat for all the hard working dancers and coaches.

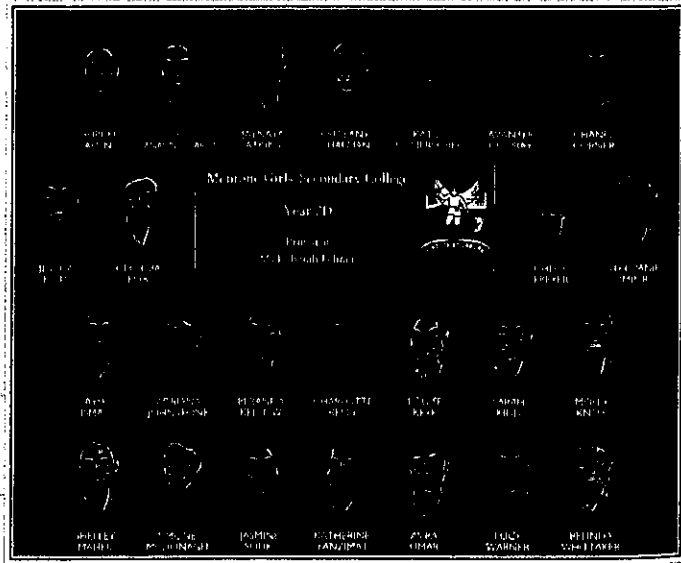
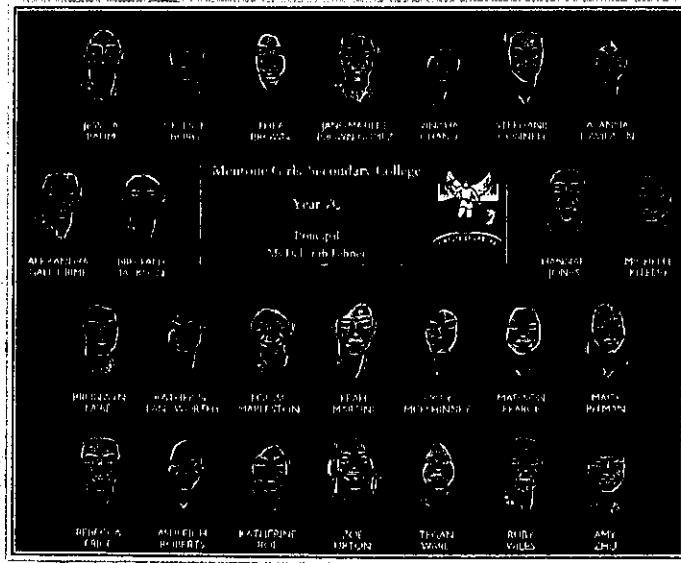
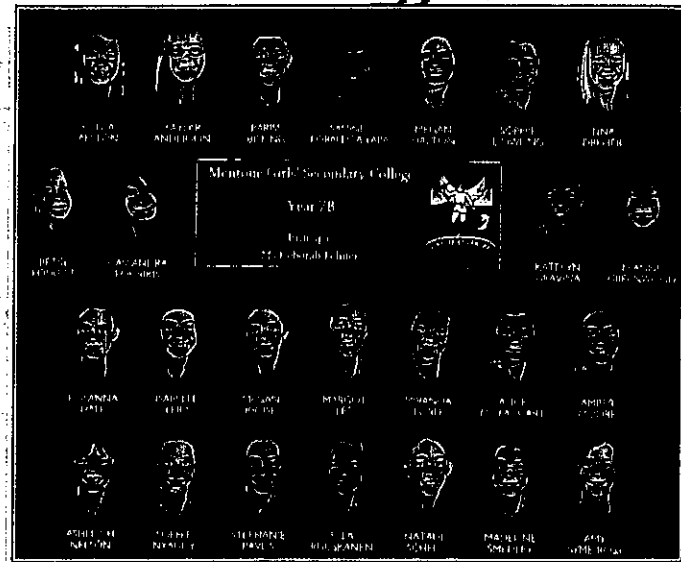
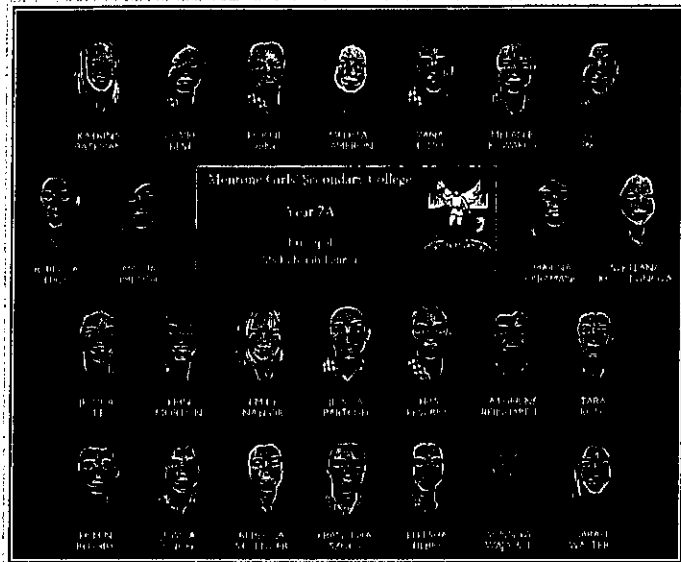
First we came in and danced casually and talked. We 'oohed' and 'ahhed' over all of the great costumes. Then the judges randomly picked a form to perform their dance to everyone. We all had a fabulous night and would like to thank all the wonderful people who helped to organise the night.

Danielle Shannon 7F



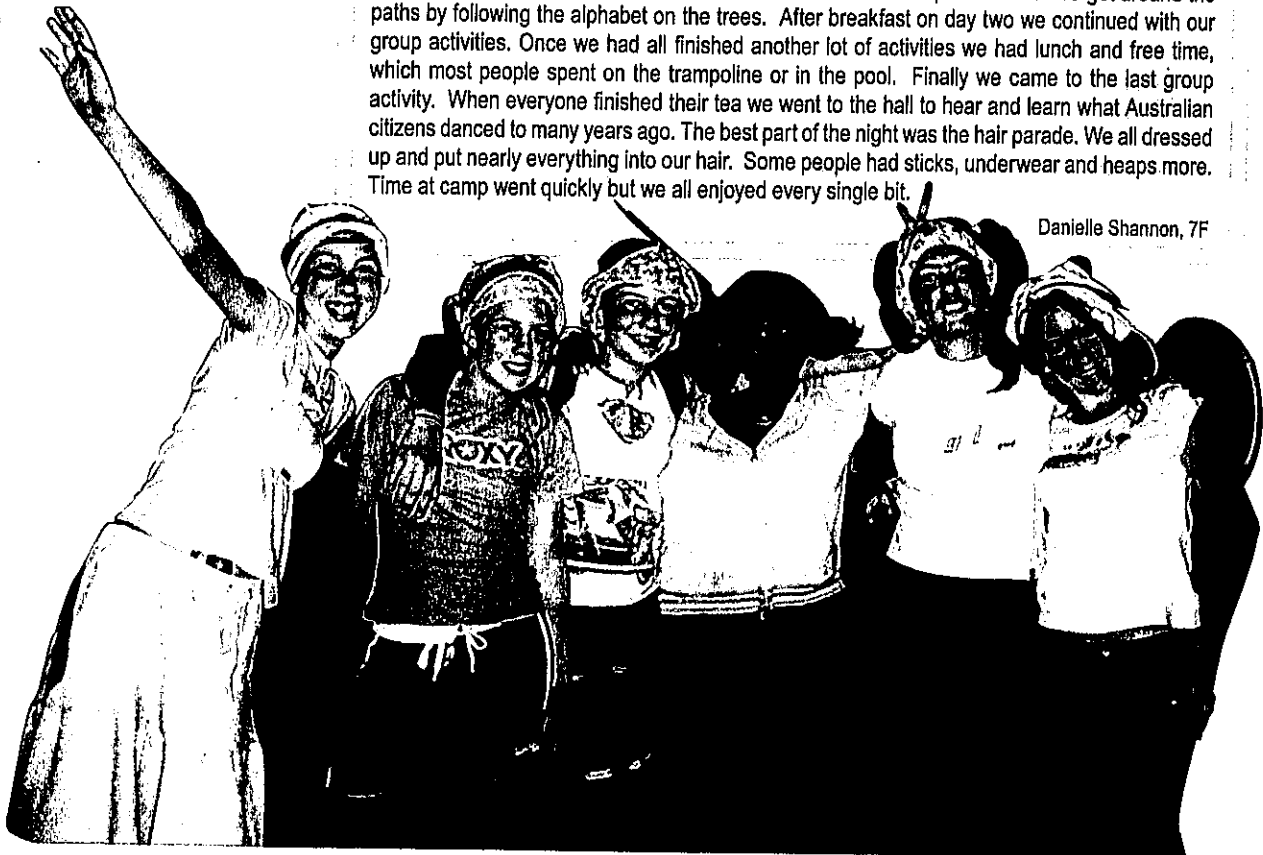


Year Seven



All Year Sevens were waiting for the first day of camp. Everyone was so excited leaving their parents at home and travelling the long bus trip to Camp Arrabri. Day One consisted of finding out where our rooms were and finding out where our friends were sleeping. We started with team building activities. After we had gone through all the exercises, we had some free time, then we started our group activities. There was abselling, swimming, trampolining and many more great activities. After tea we went on a nocturnal alphabet trail. We got around the paths by following the alphabet on the trees. After breakfast on day two we continued with our group activities. Once we had all finished another lot of activities we had lunch and free time, which most people spent on the trampoline or in the pool. Finally we came to the last group activity. When everyone finished their tea we went to the hall to hear and learn what Australian citizens danced to many years ago. The best part of the night was the hair parade. We all dressed up and put nearly everything into our hair. Some people had sticks, underwear and heaps more. Time at camp went quickly but we all enjoyed every single bit.

Danielle Shannon, 7F



Year Seven Camp



Year Seven



Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 7E
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

EMILY BROWNE	AMANDA BURCHETT	STEPHANIE CHILDRINE	EMILY COOKE	STEPHANIE COOKILL	BRIANNA GARDNER	KIMBERLY HANFORD
CAITLYN HOLLEY	CARLA ILIAPATI	EMMA PARKINER	EMMA RAY	JENNIFER KEPP	MALUENE MUIR	KALESHA BURRHE
LEANNIE MURRAY	JESSIE DANIEL	KATELIN PARKER	CLAUDIA PELLERS	THELMA BULLSTON	JENNIFER G. LUSMA	FRIGIANI SOAL
LARAIN TONKIN	MARISSE LUSKIN	CLARE FITZGERALD	JOY VAN HILLOWYK			

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 7F
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

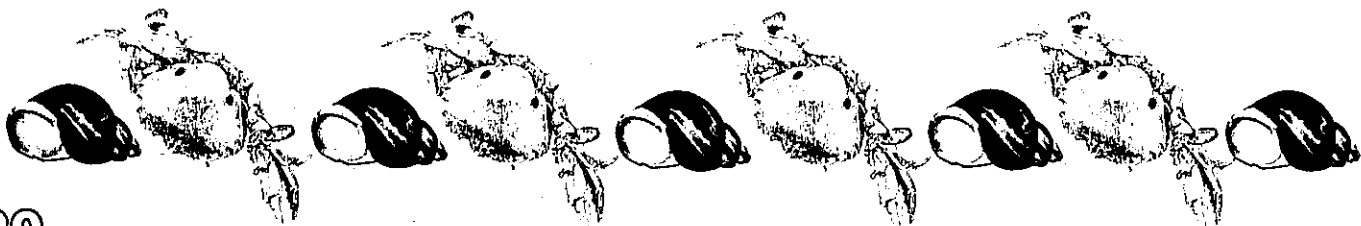
CAROL BROWN	ILLIAN BRIDGEMAN	AMELIA COLEMAN	CELIA COLEMAN	ROSE COLEMAN	CLYDE KELLEN	JESSICA KELLEN
LEAH HARRIS	EMILY LOZANO	ANITA MARGHERIT	KATELYN MULLAGH	ALICE McAREN	DAVID McBRIDE	SARAH MILLER
NAVATHI NARENDRA	SARAH PENN	ANASTASIA SHIPP NELSON	CALLIGRUE BUCKLE	DANIELLE SHANNON	DAN GING SHI	ALAMANA SOMERVELL
JESSICA STRONG	MARIA TSANTERKLOS	AMY WHITEFIELD	KATE WILSON			

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 7G
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

KENTRA BARBER	MICHELLE BISHOP	JORDAN DOWDY	BRIANNA DOWDY	AMELIA FEVRIANS	MATELOA FITZ	ILIANA FLETCHER
SAHANIELA HILLMAN	MENIQUE GARRATANA	ASHLEIGH HALLICAY	KATE HITCHINS	CELIA McCLARY	MICHELLE BURRIDGE	CLARE KENNY
CARLIN McCAUSTY	GEORGIA McLEOD	KATE McBRIDEN	DANNY McLEOD	NATALIA McLEOD	CAITLYN PLATT	DANIELLE ROYAL
MOLLY SCAPETIS	ISABELLE STEWART	MARLENE TINDALL	RENEE WINDSOR	MELBA WILSON		

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 7H
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

NEER ANSLAN	LIZA BERNAL	ASHLEY BROWNE	SIMONE CARR	ASHLEY COLEMAN	BRITANNY DAVIS	MICHELLE EDJER
STEPHANIE GUNVILLE	ANITA CLARKE	ASHLEY HEDGECOCK	JANELLE McLEOD	KELLY McKENZIE	ASHLEY HUIK	STELLA PYLE
JESSICA BENNETT	TEENA MARRAS	LOUISA SALMON	JASPERINE SMITH	MADELINE SPITTI	SAMANTHA SMITH	PRUDENCE STEWART
REBECCA SIMONS	PAIGE THYNGARAH	TEENA TRUONG	LAUREN WANE	MADISON WESTWICK		



Chants and Spells

Part A
 Skin of hippo, tongue of snake
 Mould from a year old cake.
 Eye of frog, rooster's wing,
 Whiskers the cat, bumblebee sting.
 Eagle's talon, wizard's port,
 Budgie beak, lion's wart.
 Fur of cat, nose of dog,
 Termites from an infested log.
 For a spell of mischief and troubles
 Stir these till the cauldron bubbles.
 Pour it into your window sill,
 And drink it through a flounder's gill.

Part B
To lose a friend
 1 cup of rumours
 3 teaspoons of critical looks (evil eye makes a good substitute)
 3 cups of insults
 1 tablespoon of sabotage
 1 teaspoon of crushed hopes

Blend the critical looks and rumours together, carefully slip in the insults, and then mix in the sabotage. Sprinkle the crushed hopes over the mix and freeze it until effective.

Georgie Peters 7E

Untitled

I have an important announcement
 I want everybody to know.
 On Monday all classes are cancelled,
 The teachers will put on a show.

Ms Burgess will be juggling meatballs,
 Ms Burgess will dance with a bear.
 Ms Burgess and Ms King will yodel,
 Ms Burgess will turn out her hair.

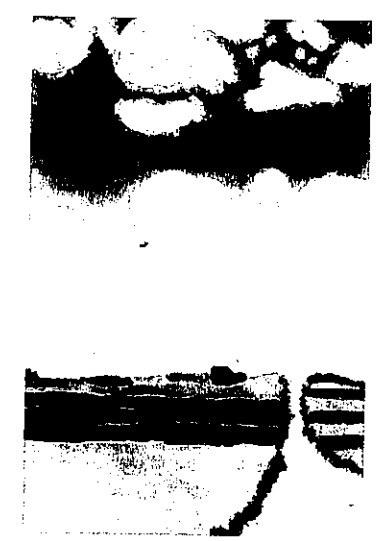
Ms Burgess is quite entertaining,
 She does something you've never seen.
 If you want a bad case of the measles,
 She'll paint them on, red, white and green.

Ms Lehner is also performing,
 She's come up with something quite new...
 She's doing her act in the kitchen,
 She's dumping the cook in the stew!

Your parents are certainly welcome,
 But make sure you tell them the rule,
 If any of them arrive tardy,
 They'll have to be kept after school.

I know that our show is exciting,
 I wish that you all could be here.
 But school will be closed for vacation,
 I can't wait to see you next year!

Rachel Merrill & Margarita Lozano 7F



Tegan Brown 7F

Colour poetry

Yellow is the grainy sand
 Covering the rocks.
 Yellow is the colour
 Of my favourite socks.
 Yellow is the colour
 Of my sisters hair.
 Yellow is the blanket
 On my pinto mare.
 In the autumn breeze
 When the leaves are falling,
 Yellow is the colour,
 Blanketing the awning.
 Yellow is comfort,
 In my mother's hug.
 Baby blanket on my lap
 And my christening mug.
 Yellow is the sun,
 Shining up above.
 Yellow is my family.
 Yellow is their love.

Georgie Peters 7E

Year Seven



A Miracle

The sun beat down on the small boy's back; its cruel heat burning the barren land. His feet were blistered and peeling, dried smears of blood blotched his dark skin. The boy sprinted across the hard, cracked soil, his shrivelled hands clasped tightly, stubbornly against the will to give in. His feet thudded over the rough shrubs sprouting through the dusty, red dirt, gaining more scratches to his torn heels. A wince escaped through his tightly sealed lips but he intrepidly continued to race, with all the remains of his energy, towards a small shape in the distance. Under a dozen trees he spotted the desiccated land, barely a smudge in the distance. Only the desert shrubs and tough weeds were able to survive in the forbidding heat.

When the boy finally reached a forlorn bark hut, he collapsed heavily by its side, gasping for breath. Gradually the pain in his throbbing head ebbed away, leaving nothing but a cold dread to settle over him. He lay, panting up at the brilliant blue sky until a soft moan sounded from underneath the feeble layers of bark. The boy hastily scrambled up. "Mum!" he cried fearfully, plunging into the cool shade inside. "Mum? What...?" his eyes fell upon a skeletal figure curled in a corner of the hut, enveloped by shadows like a black ghost.

"You found nothing, then." The woman had raised her head hopefully at the sound of her son's return. But he had nothing with him. No food. No water.

The boy shrugged off his mother's watery gaze. He turned away from her sharply and began to stalk from the sagging hut. From his ungrateful mother.

"Where are you going" asked the woman, her voice shaking now, growing weaker. The boy paused. "Where's Dad?" he asked quietly, "you said he would be back today. With help for us." His empty stomach growled angrily. "With food. It's been a week!"

The feeble woman sighed. "I don't think ..."

"But you promised!" interrupted her son. He spun around to face his silent mother.

"You promised," he whispered.

The frail woman was cradling her baby daughter lovingly now. Tears mingled with black dust slowly trailed down her hollow cheeks.

"He's not coming home," she finally whispered. The young boy swore under his breath furiously and threw a withering look at his mother. She caught his gaze and covered away, shrinking back in the darkness. The mother placed her baby onto a patch of scratchy shrubbery and stroked her black hair gently, lulling her to sleep.

The boy frowned and began to walk away again when a sudden shriek sounded from behind him. In the shadows his mother lay, clasping her chest with a bony hand, eyes glazed blindly. The boy was by her side in an instant, grasping her hand tightly. Fear reflected in his grim eyes.

"Go," gasped the woman through gritted teeth. "Take Eva and..." Her voice began to fade away and the boy bent forward to catch her next words.

"Go to the road," she whispered. "Go to the road."

"No!" cried her son in distress. "Don't leave us Mum!" Her grip was slackening. "Do not disobey me! I don't want you to see me in such pain!" she rasped, eyes staring into the distance. After an agonising moment the boy nodded quickly, bundled his little sister into

trembling arms and walked bravely from the hut without casting a second glance at his dying mother.

Outside in the hot, desert wind, the boy felt lost and insignificant in the huge world. He buried his wet face into Eva's frizzy hair and began the journey to the road.

A car rolled across the dirt track, brown stones cracking under its menacing big wheels. A dark man pressed his face desperately against the cool glass window, straining his eyes. He surveyed the landscape with growing despair. It was useless.

"Is this the place, mate?" asked his friend quietly, his rough hands gripping the steering wheel. His companion nodded wearily and looked up at him with big, sad eyes. The dark man turned back to the window and his heart gave an abrupt, frightening leap. What is that on the roadside? Up ahead...

The driver, sensing the urgency in the father, pressed down forcefully on the accelerator.

The car plunged forward. His friend gasped.

"It's them," he whispered gutturally. "It's them!" a gleeful shout.

The white man squinted into the distance, smiling.

"The boy," he mumbled, "he's holding something..."

"Eva!" cried the father. "He's carrying my daughter!" the father turned to his companion with such an expression of joy that his friend's face split into a wide grin. They both laughed in relief. The dark man turned back to the window and bowed his head in a silent, thankful prayer. They're alive, they're safe, he thought.

The car neared the two children with increasing speed.

"Well I'll say," muttered the man under his breath, "it's got to be a miracle."

Ella Ruuskanen 7B

Untitled

I am like a snow-pea with a surprise on the inside.

I am like metallic pink because in the sun I glow.

I am like a piranha because I like to bite.

I am like cat/dog because I argue with myself.

I am like an eyelash because I am protective.

I am like liquorice allsorts because I have my pink and yellow days.

Louise Keye 7D

I Am

I am like a strawberry because I'm sweet not sour.

Pink is like me because I can be bright.

Minnie Mouse is sweet and always there to help people like me.

I like Summer because I'm always having fun at the beach.

Kookaburra and me are alike because we both like to laugh.

I'm like the eye because I'm always watching people.

Lucy Warner 7D

Billy Liar

We sat down to dinner with the fine silverware,

The witch sat quietly twirling her hair.

Mum came in with the lamb on a plate,

Staring at the witch, deciding her fate.

Her hair was scraggly like a shrivelled up weed,

Her anger was growing like a just planted seed.

She hated me for what I had done,

The truth will be exposed, I could feel it had begun.

Why had I said lethal lies and not the truth?

I had caused so much pain, I'm an aching tooth.

I reached for the potatoes, and looked at her face,

I ate some tomatoes and shoved a lie in her place.

"I really love you Becky and I want to be with you,

Can we put these lies behind us, my little angel-poo?"

"No I hate you!" she said with an expression quite frankly,

As the witch shook her head and stared at me blankly.

A tear fell from my eyes as I hung my head in shame,

It was fair that she had chosen me for all the blame.

"We could never work," I told myself lightly,

As the witch stood up, and left my house quietly.

Miranda Lord 7B

Lily

An elegant lady In a big yellow hat.

She sways in the breeze With her flowing green skirt

And sweetly scented perfume.

She is tall and slender A flush of pink in her cheek

She shines with light,

And turns many heads,

As she lies at the bottom of my garden.

Megan Dalton 7B

Year Seven

Year Seven



"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new." Albert Einstein.



"It is a funny thing about life; if you refuse to accept anything but the best you very often get it." Somerset Maugham



Year Eight



Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 8A
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

SOPHIA ANDREWS	MICALAN BARLOW	MELAN BYLAND	TARA COURCHILL	SIMARA COOK	SAMANTHA EUNNE	VANESSA FYFE
BENEL GARRETT						ULURIA GLOVER
ROSEMARY TRADIN	AMY ROBERT	LEMMA LONCALI	TIEM LOPE	LAURA LUXTON	HILLY MARSHALL	IGRA MCGROW
ALYSE NEWMAN	JASH ROUSSELL	LEIGH IDY	LAURA SHULMAN	CHARLOTT STOBBS	LAURA SUCKLING	NICOLE VAUGHAN
SAMANTHA WILLS						

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 8B
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

ELLANUR BLAVAN	CAITLIN BENNETT	COOY BRYSON	ASHLEY BURN	LAUREN CAMPBELL	ISABELL CLEMENTS	LAUREN COOK	CARLY DRAPER	
LARA HUNING	STEPHANIE BEE						AMY JONES	HUBERAN BENKIN
MICHELLE KULKIS	ALEXANDRA LAURENT	BRITTANY LORD	GINIEVEVA MAYES	HOLLY MCCREFFY	ELANUR CINE	ASHLEIGH SPOND		
AMY SHARMAN	ROSEMARY SHEPPARD	FRANCISCA STONE	JACQUELINE VAWDREY	MEG WARDROP	EMILY WORLESTER	STEPHANIE YARWOOD		

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 8C
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

COURTNEY BRIDGEMAN	ELIZABETH CHARLES	ALEXIA COOPER	MARY GEMRI	KUSTIE FISHER	GEORGIA GOLDEN	EMILY GORDON	
BRONWYKE HOPWELL						KATRINA KUTUBELLY	
TILL L'ADU	NATASHA PARFARIS	THELY MATTHEWS	MINDIEY TACE	FELLY PULLER	ZAKHARIE RYAN	CECILIA SKILL	
SAPANYA SODOLUKARI	LIA SHENKARICZ	LAKI SHIBI	HARVIN SILVESTER	KIMBERLEY THOMPSON	TAMARA UMAR	NINA WEIS	KATRINA WILSON
NOT FEATURED: AMANDA ASHA, SARAH CALLAGHAN							

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 8D
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehner

LINNEA BIER	KEE KANJOS-DARVIS	HEDI CHAPMAN	LAURA FIEBESCHMAN	MADDON CHODZIEVNER	AFRIE GRAIN	EMMA DROW		
OLIVA FLIA	KARLY FINNIFEL						SAMANTHA GOLDMAN	ISCKO HILTON
HANNAH HURDLE WATTS	VOLPE KARAYASIL	RETRIEESH HANNOUS	ILLIAMI HARRISSETT	ENGELERDA MURPHY	DI NAYLOR	ROSA OUDYHAT		
KATHERINE PATTY	CAITLYN POWELL	HARRIHELLA RAJAN	TESS RYAN	MADONAH SIEMERS	SAMANTHA SEVY	COLUMENY WELLS		
NOT FEATURED: ALANA CAMP								



From the 25th of July to the 5th of August, all the year 8's went to Camp Allambee. It was a great learning experience because the year eights planned the whole camp themselves (with a bit of help from the teachers). When we first arrived at Allambee Camp after the long bus ride, it was freezing! Luckily, we all got used to it after a while. We enjoyed a range of activities including the giant swing, abseiling tree, flying fox, billy carts, rock climbing, forest walks and a session of art with artist John Burge. We prepared all the delicious meals ourselves, which we were all very proud of. On the last day, after a big clean up and a lot of complaints, we visited a country school that has a farm. All the girls were shouted a sausage sizzle by the teachers and had lots of fun playing with the animals. The ostriches and llamas were a big hit. We then returned to the bus for the long trip home, with Shrek Two as our entertainment. Overall, the camp was great fun and enjoyed by all. Thank you to all the teachers who came on the camp and all the year eights for planning it.

Tess Ryan and Rosie Cangadis-Douglass



Year Eight Camp



"All things are difficult before they are easy."

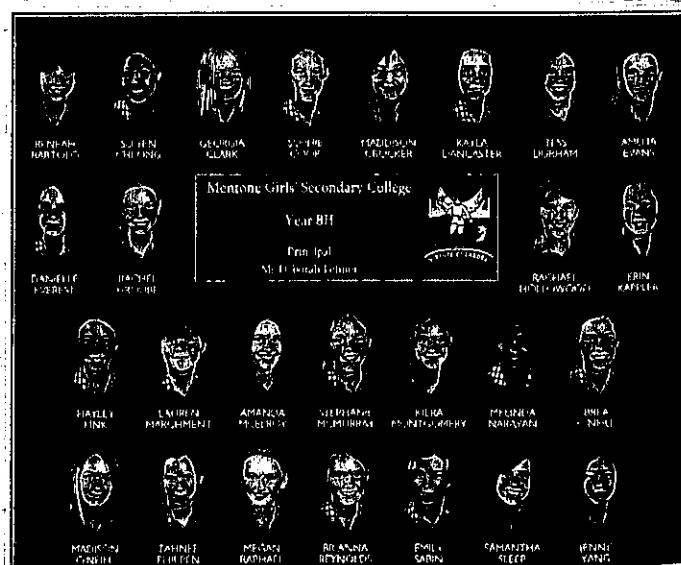
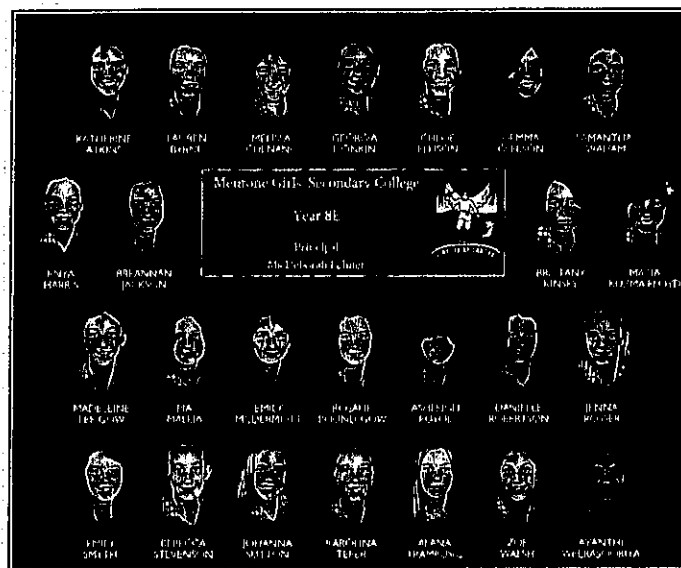


Year 8 Maths Games Day

On Wednesday 20th July, 8 students from Year 8 travelled to Penleigh and Essendon Grammar to compete in the Year 8 Maths Games Day. We entered two teams, consisting of, Laura Suckling, Emily McDermott, Iryna Ordynat, Merve Duman, Danielle Everest, Stephanie McMurray, Reneah Bartello and Ayanthi Weerasooriya. The girls participated competitively against about 500 students from schools across the state in a series of games, puzzles and problem-solving tasks. Although our teams were not among the major prize winners, they had a fantastic day and extended their mathematical skills.



Year Eight



15th April 2005
In the Pacific Ocean

Dear Diary,

This is my first entry in this new diary. I have never had a diary before. I will confide in you from now on. I will write about what has happened to me and a little bit about me. I am Bobby, a humpback whale, I am now migrating to the Antarctic. So far the migration has been interesting but dangerous. I have been through a lot of stuff. I am writing to remember what happened.

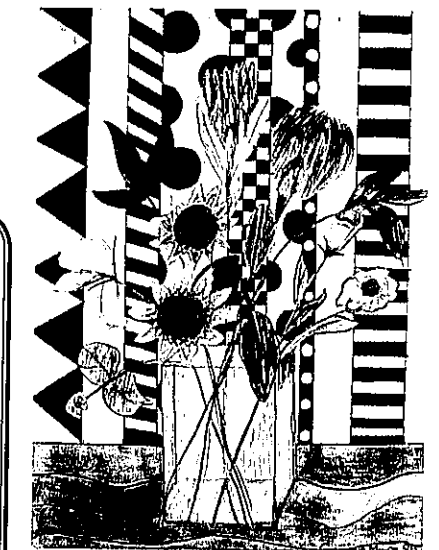
Everything started normally. It was like any other migration I had done. We were all singing and enjoying the swim when there was a sudden whirlpool. It was too strong for me to swim against. I was getting really giddy and nauseous. As a result of this, I lost my sense of direction and I had no idea where I was going.

Two days later, I was washed up on a beach. Those moments were the hardest of my life. I can't explain in words how painful and also how hot it was. I was screaming endlessly. I caused a lot of attention on the beach. Generally humans seem like nice creatures except for the ones who kill my relatives. Humans look weird and speak strangely. Some of them came and pushed me back to the ocean. Although I didn't know their language, I could understand that they were trying to comfort me. I was so glad when I was back in the water. For the rest of my life I will always be grateful to them.

Now I am swimming back to the Antarctic to reunite with my family and friends. I know where I am going. However, I am getting a bit sick of eating plankton. Hope I will get something different to eat in the Antarctic. Anyway, my future looks brighter now and I am looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Bobby.

Hadrin Sylvester 8C



Genevieve Mayes 8B



Rosemary Sheppard 8B

Year Eight



The Rainbow

The chimes sounded. Charlotte knew it was time for her to get out of bed. She rolled over. She wanted to sleep for longer but she really had to get up. Slowly, she sat up, slid her feet into her slippers and stood up. She looked around her room and sighed.

She didn't want to move out of her Mum's house and go to live with Dad. But her Mum had insisted, "Charlotte, it's for your own good, I'll come and visit you upstate some time, I promise, and if you get up bright and early when the church chimes ring, I'll be able to drive you to the airport before I go to work."

After a quick shower and breakfast, Charlotte climbed into her Mum's car, along with all her luggage. As her Mum locked the front door, Charlotte began to feel sad. She loved living with her Mum. She loved her old bedroom and how the walls were so thin that she could talk to her Mum through them when they went to bed. Could she do that at Dad's? What if the walls were too thick or if Dad didn't even want to talk late at night?

The car stopped. They had arrived at the airport. By now it was raining. As Charlotte kissed her Mum goodbye, a raindrop splashed on her head. Wasn't it funny? Whenever sad things happened, it was raining.

Charlotte boarded the plane. She took out a photo of her Dad from her wallet. Maybe it would be fun to stay with Dad. Besides, Mum said she would visit. The engine whirred and the plane began to move. Gradually, the speed built up and Charlotte felt the ground disappear beneath her. Charlotte looked out the window and saw the rain slowly stop and beyond the hills she saw a rainbow glimmer in the sunlight. It made her feel happy. Perhaps it was foreshadowing that things might just be alright.

Katherine Atkins 8E

Teen Shot... Hospital treatment denied

Reported by Saranya Siddulugari 8C

Yesterday, an eighteen year old teenager and his girlfriend, Corrie (who was brought to the hospital with a serious gunshot wound) were interrogated by soldiers at about six p.m.

The war in Wirrawee continues as residents are locked up in the Show Ground. Soldiers still have Wirrawee under control. Kevin and Corrie are recognised as residents of Wirrawee. Yesterday, the Wirrawee Bridge was blown up, just before Kevin brought Corrie in for treatment. Soldiers suspect that the teenagers might have been involved in the blast and that they have been in hiding from the soldiers all this time.

Kevin stated:

"Corrie and I are residents of Wirrawee. We were in Hell when the war began here. I rushed to the hospital just to get help from the doctors to save Corrie's life."

Kevin is believed to have pleaded with the soldiers to allow treatment to be given to his girlfriend but still the enquiry was incomplete and Corrie was not given immediate treatment. During enquiries about the gunshot Corrie was unable to give a reply and fell unconscious. Her critical condition was finally recognised and she was later given much needed treatment.

According to the medical report there is very little chance that Corrie will survive. As she was not treated immediately her spine has been badly affected and she is likely to lapse into a coma.

When asked about how Corrie was shot, Kevin said,

"We heard a blast from nearby so we rushed to see what had happened. When we got there we saw soldiers shooting everywhere. We decided that it wasn't safe to stay here. We ran and Corrie was behind me. A soldier shot Corrie in the back and I hurried her to the hospital."

Kevin is being tortured in every imaginable way by soldiers as they attempt to get at the truth about him and anyone else involved.

Kevin gave his final statement in tears.

"I don't know anything about the bridge. I am innocent. I just wanted to save Corrie's life."

Soldiers have placed Kevin in custody. He has been taken to another site outside Wirrawee for further investigation.

The Queen's Change

The Queen is having a wonderful time. Dangling off her royal monkey-bars she jumps down into the autumn foliage. It's getting dark and soon the stars will shine and glimmer in the night sky. The Queen decides to return to the castle for dinner.

The Queen is skipping down the hall, humming to herself, when she hears two of her maids talking in one of the bedrooms. She creeps up to the doorway and peers around the corner. She hears her name a few times. The Queen listens more carefully.

"The Queen is such a worry!" one of the maids is saying. The other agrees and then remarks, "This morning I saw her dancing around her room and singing into her hairbrush! She had the music turned up so loud!"

Then the cleaning maid walked into the room with a feather duster in her hand. She said "Sometimes I wonder if she's adopted! She doesn't look like a Queen, speak like a Queen or act like a Queen!"

"Queens certainly don't wear jeans and sneakers seven days a week either!"

Another maid chimes in, "Her tangled hair makes me sick!!"

As the Queen continues to eavesdrop she feels sadder and sadder.

The Queen can't believe what she has just heard. Tears appear in her eyes and she runs to her room to weep.

After sulking in her room for an hour, the Queen decides it is time to change, to become a different person, to become a better Queen.

The next morning the Queen throws out her torn jeans and her dirty shoes. She pulls out a rainbow silk gown from the very back of her wardrobe and puts it on. She finds her hairbrush (AKA microphone) and brushes her matted hair till it shines.

As she walks out of her room she feels like a Queen, not like herself at all. She feels rather that she should be saying 'trick or treat' as if she were in a costume at Halloween. "You are supposed to feel different, you've changed now!" she whispers to herself.

After the Queen tells her husband about her new image, he tells her a welcome piece of news. For their anniversary they will be going on a ski trip to the snow for a few days. The Queen jumps up and down with excitement and claps her hands with joy. Suddenly, she stops, looks around the room for a moment, adjusts her dress and says quietly, "Um, I mean, how delightful!"

A few days later the Queen is skiing with her husband, having a wonderful time.

Following her relaxing trip to the snow the Queen had been to twelve meetings, made all the decisions that she had put off for years and donated money to six charities.

After a few months of hard work the Queen was very pleased with herself, but there was still a problem. She wasn't happy. She hadn't played in the garden or worn casual clothes for such a long time that she began to think that she wouldn't be able to live like this for ever. She couldn't go back to her old ways either; she had to prove that she could handle being a serious person and an organised Queen. Something had to be done.

During this time, while the Queen was being so formal, she realised that ruling her country was a good feeling. She didn't want to stop doing that but she did want to be her old messy self at the same time.

So the Queen did.

She still attended all her meetings and did all the important stuff, but without wearing gowns, hairspray and high heels. The Queen would rule as herself.

Laura Luxton 8A

Year Eight

Year Eight



Tournament of Minds

Tournament of the Minds is an annual event in which students from primary school through to Year 10 participate in one of the areas of Maths Engineering, English Literature or Social Science. From our school this year we had a team for each of these areas. Our three teams participated at La Trobe University on the weekend of August the 20th.

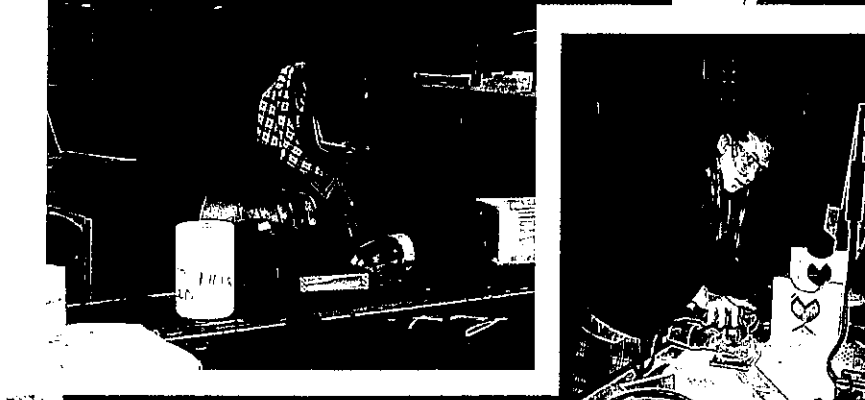
Each team was supervised by a member of the MGSC staff. The maths engineering team was supervised by Mr John Seddon, the English literature team by Mr Donald Uahwatanasakul and the social science by Mr Bill Murray.

All teams were issued a long term problem earlier in term two and were to come up with a solution with the assistance of props, costumes and a script, all designed by the team. The teams were also given a spontaneous problem on the day and as a team were to come up with a solution within three minutes.

All of our girls did well and put a lot of time and effort into preparing for the day. All teams performed very well on the day, the highlight being the bridge built by the Maths Engineering team. The girls spent many hours out of school time designing and building the bridge and even managed to persuade Mr. Seddon to come to school on the weekend which is no mean feat.

On behalf of all the girls who participated we would like to thank all the staff and parents who assisted throughout the process and we encourage all girls from years 7 to 10 next year to give it a go because it is a rewarding and worthwhile experience.

Vivienne Law 9D, Danika Alt 9H and Nicola Beavan 9D



Flying High

As the wind rushes under my wings
A new life comes to me.
And then my eyes spy the sea
Oh what glee.
Oh how free it is to be me.
Now as I go to land,
My wing span drops and I feel land.
How free it feels to be me
To see the sea.
To be a bird maybe absurd
But I am a bird
And will live my life in the sky with the wind
Oh how free it feels to be me.

Gretta Nerenberg 9A

My Future

The sky lingers
with thick layers of unhealthy, dark smog.
The noisy sounds of a foreign language
and crowded streets
filled with roaming cows
and explosions of colour
from garlands of flowers
and women in decorative saris.
The smells of exotic incense
hang among the humid sticky heat.

Standing in front of the Taj Mahal
backpack on my back
thinking about
my city apartment
and university course that awaits me.

I stand on my toes,
eager to explore the rest of the world.

Bianca Stroh 9A

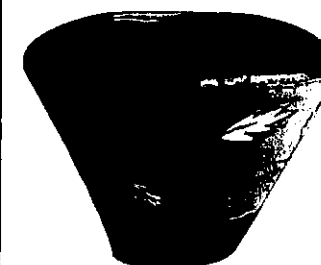
A Play

The rustling of the costumes,
The whispers of the actors,
The suspense of the audience,
All waiting for the show to start.

The lights shine,
The music swells,
The actors step on stage.

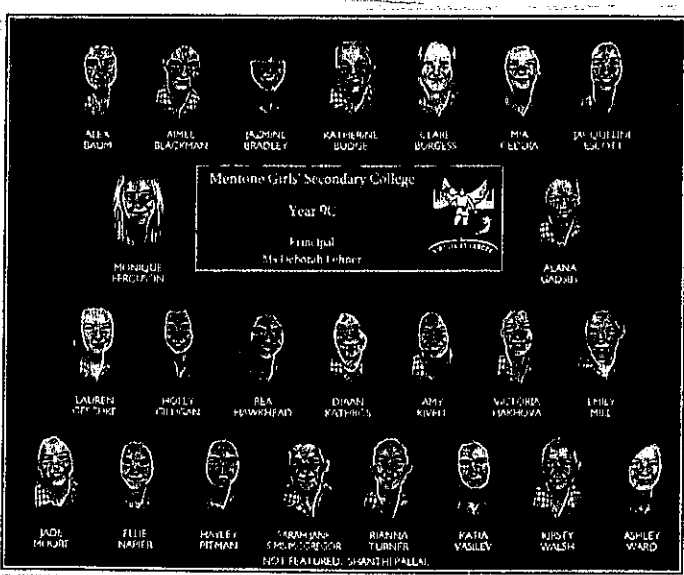
The audience's breath is held,
As the show comes to an end.
The lights fade up,
The actors bow,
The applause rings as the curtain falls

Kristina Doucouliagos 9A



Nicola Beavan 9D

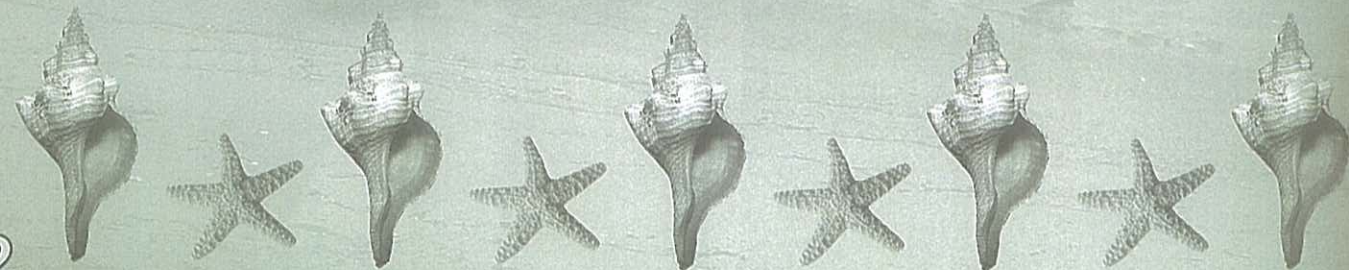
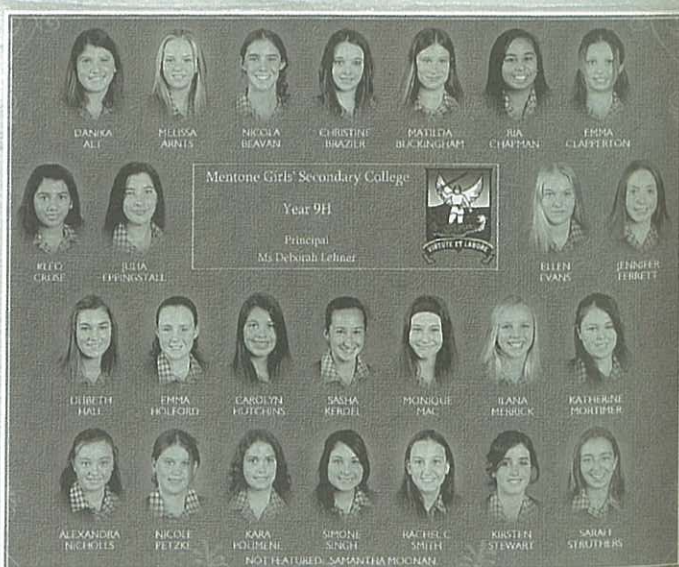
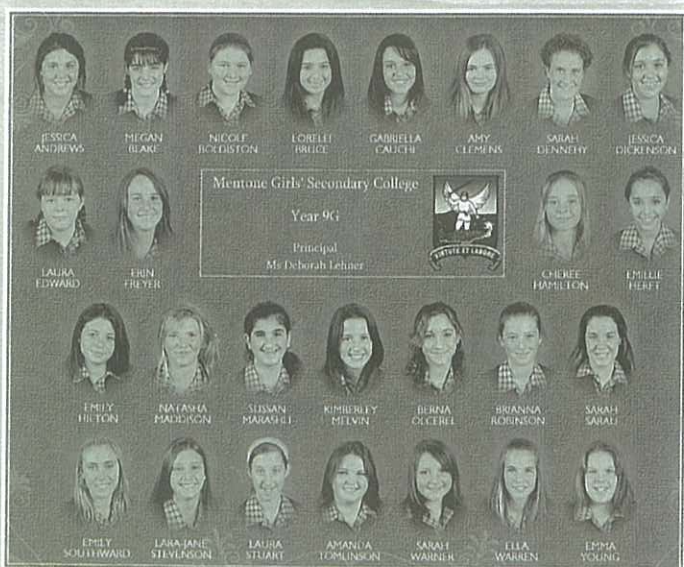
Year Nine



Year Nine



Year Nine



City Project Year 9



During term three the Year 9's took part in the 'City Project'. The City Project involved researching certain aspects of Melbourne. The topics ranged from media, architecture, living in the city, music and more. The students in each form were allocated groups of approximately 3 - 4 people and were asked to answer the rich task, "How can we improve the city of Melbourne?"

On Wednesday 3rd August all of Year 9 went on their first visit into the city. In the city the groups were divided into topic areas and spent the day going on informational tours and talking to people relating to their topics. The next day at school we began work on our projects. We were given time throughout the term to work on our projects in all SOSE and English lessons. As we all started working we collected and analysed our notes taken from the previous day in the city and came up with our focus question. Each group was required to choose a focus question relating to their topic areas. My group investigated the topic "Living in the city" and our focus question was "How can the issue of Homelessness be improved in the city of Melbourne?"

From there the groups began planning their projects which involved creating a final product (ie., a brochure, website or documentary) and an ICT component was also required. We researched our topics and made plans for our second visit into the city which took place on Tuesday the 16th August. Over the next three weeks we continued working on our projects in preparation for our final expo.

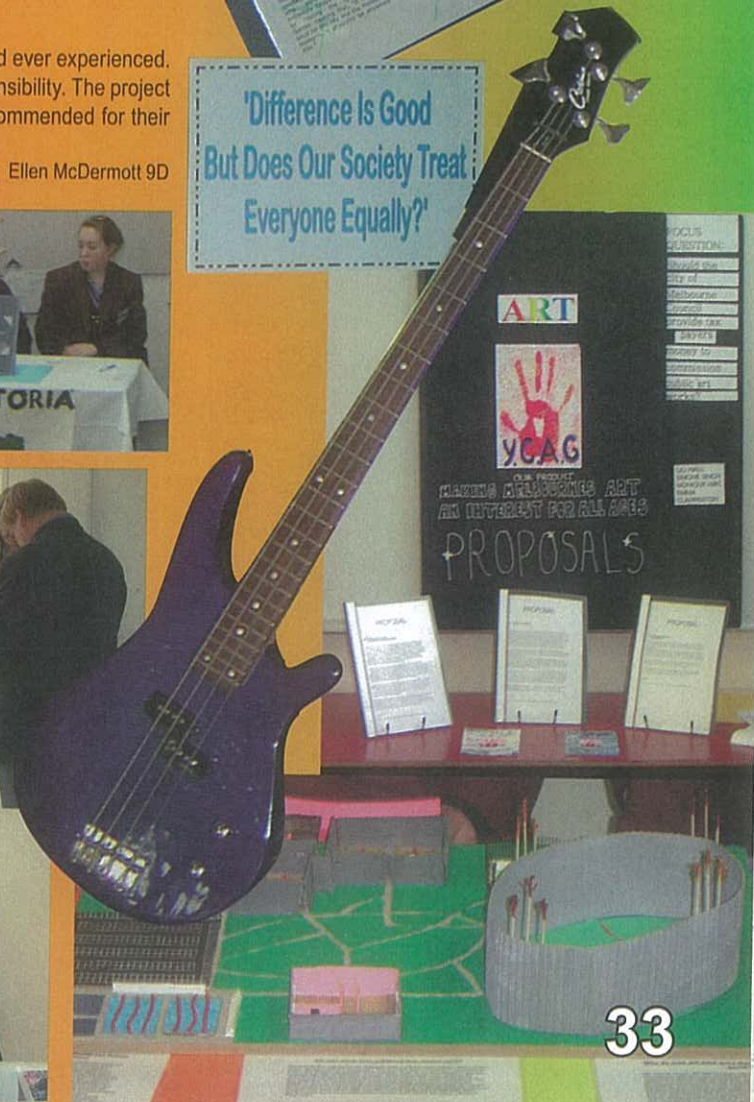
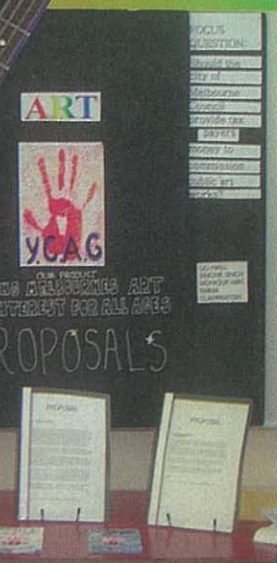
Friday 9th September was the day of the City Project Expo where we presented our City Projects. Each topic was given a room to set up in and we all madly rushed and stressed in preparation for our final presentation to certain members of the community who evaluated our work. The Year 8s, family members and teachers also came to our expo. The day was really successful and our evaluators commented on how impressed they were with our projects.

The Year 9 City Project was dramatically different from any other project we had ever experienced. The project enabled us to work independently and gave us a real sense of responsibility. The project gave us many new experiences and all the students and teachers should be commended for their hard work.

Ellen McDermott 9D



"Difference Is Good
But Does Our Society Treat
Everyone Equally?"



Hat-trick for Mentone

Mentone Girls' Secondary College junior football team completed an historic hat-trick when they defeated Corryong Secondary College to win the Victorian Secondary Schools Sports Association State final at Optus Oval last week. The team has won the title for three consecutive years with Captain Alana Gadsby and vice-captains Sarah Sims- McGregor and Michelle Palmer being members of the team for each of these victories. They have now extended their winning sequence to an imposing thirty games straight. Mentone has created quite a dynasty for itself in football with its senior team also capturing the past two state titles.

Kicking with the wind, Mentone made a strong start with two goals in the first quarter. They had most of the play and their quarter time lead would have been greater had it not been for inaccurate kicking.

Corryong hit back in the second quarter with two goals, but late goals by Aimee Benton and Tori Cameron later proved to be defining moments as they were the only goals kicked into the wind for the game.

Mentone failed to kick a goal in the second half as close checking by Corryong negated Mentone's normally impressive running game and the big ground at Optus Oval began to take its toll. Kicking against the wind in the last quarter, Mentone fought gamely and our backline and a tired midfield stood resolute against a fast finishing Corryong.

Final Score: Mentone Girls' Secondary College 4.3- 27 defeated Corryong Secondary College 3.6- 24. An inspiring performance (including three contested defensive marks in the last quarter) by midfielder and captain Alana Gadsby was rewarded with the medallion for best on ground.

Coaches Peter Bartlett and Luke de Munk were exceptionally proud of the girls' gritty performance and they are looking forward to defending the title next year.

Goalkickers were Tori Cameron (2) Claire Burgess (1) and Aimee Benton (1)

The best players for Mentone in a terrific team effort were : Alana Gadsby, Claire Burgess, Sarah Simms- MacGregor, Tori Cameron, Vana Dimu, Monique Ferguson and Erin Freyer

Team members were:

Backs: Monique Ferguson, Erin Freyer, Kate Withers

Half Backs: Danielle Royal, Aimee Blackman, Sarah Denehey

Centre Forwards: Claire Burgess, Alana Gadsby (Captain), Thea Brown

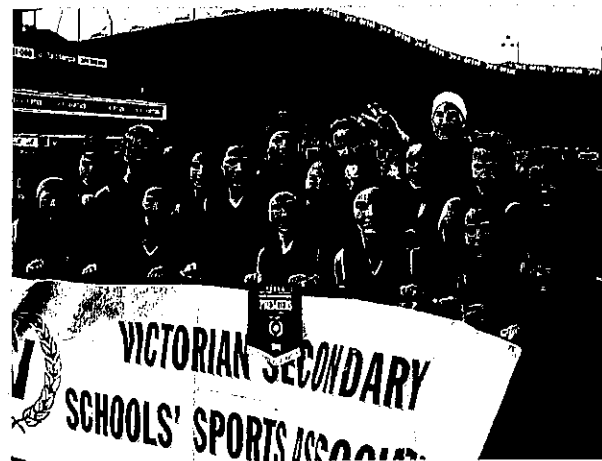
Half Forwards: Katrina Bateman, Michelle Palmer (Vice Captain), Brea O'Neill

Forwards: Tori Cameron, Louise Nelson, Aimee Benton

FOLL: Julia Curcio Sarah Simms- MacGregor(vc), Vana Dimu

Interchange: Lauren Geschke, Chelsie McLeod, Alex Baum, Meg Barlow, Ashley Ward

Thanks to Peter Bartlett and Luke de Munk for their excellent efforts in training the girls. Once again Mentone's tradition of being a top Australian Rules Football school has been upheld. We are lucky to have the expertise that these two coaches bring to their teams at our disposal.



(l-r): Mr Peter Bartlett, Michelle Palmer, Alana Gadsby (Captain), and Sarah Sims-McGregor. These girls have been part of the team which has won three titles in a row.



Senior Football

Southern Zone Grand Final
Koo Wee Rup Secondary College vs Mentone Girls Secondary College at Koo Wee Rup Central Recreation Reserve
Mentone 7 11 53 df Koo Wee Rup 2 0 12
Best Sharni Layton , Lauren Morecroft, Kate Steinfert, Luana Groves, Sally Buckley and Claire Weiss
Goals Sally Buckley 3, Lauren Morecroft 3, Emily Redmond 1
A terrific effort by the whole team.
Thanks to Mr Bartlett for his help with umpiring and transport.

Intermediate Soccer State Championships

This was another outstanding performance by Mentone Girls' Secondary College's intermediate soccer team. They achieved the ultimate : a hat-trick of wins at state level.

Throughout 2005 Mentone beat : Parkdale 5-0, Brighton 2-0, McKinnon 2-0, Cheltenham 2-0, Dandenong 4-0, Fountain Gate 5-0, Mt. Eliza 2-0, Brauer 1-0 and Chaffey 1-0. We also drew with Dandenong 0-0 which took us into the State Final and an appointment with Wangaratta. We were successful here 1-0.

A total of twenty-five goals was scored without conceding one. This is a highly meritorious performance.

On behalf of the team we wish to thank all parents involved for their support throughout the tournament, especially those who attended the final : (Craig, Martin, Harry, Lee, Peter, Chris, Lisa, Jan and Barb). A special mention to our assistant coach Mark Georgeson and our coach Mr Santos for their sterling efforts during the campaign. Well done girls and congratulations to all.



The intermediate team : Jess Warren, Sharon Flitman, Elise O'Connor, Natalie Aramian, Ellie Stewart, Lucy Georgeson, Vanessa Stewart, Sarah Brewer, Kim Melvin, Maddy Cameron, Kate Budge, Bella Leber Smeaton, Claire Burgess, Emily Southward, Michelle Palmer, Sarah Sims-MacGregor, Stephanie Brewer, Nicky Petzke and Ella Warren.

Senior Soccer

The girls in the senior soccer team competed very well and won all of their games at the Sub Region stage of competition. They narrowly missed out on qualifying for the state finals. Nevertheless there were some excellent performances and all team members are to be congratulated.

The team: Jacqui Banfield, Natasha Giarratana, Tinka Beer, Caitlyn McKenzie, Nataliya Friend, Joanna Gee, Lauren Morecroft, Natalie Doyle, Rose Kennedy, Melisa Karakurt, Jenny McBride, Gen White, Saskia Oosthuizen, Amelia Marriott, Heather Stewart, Natalie Alexander and Aria Iliov.



Junior Soccer



The girls have shown that they are excellent soccer players and won both the Sub Regional tournament and the regional tournament. They played in the State Finals on the 14th September. It was a great game and the girls missed taking the final by only one goal!

Mr Dom Santos has great enthusiasm and expertise in the game and the girls are lucky to have his coaching tips at their disposal.

Team members: Katherine Finlay, Alyssa MacKenzie, Kate Southward, Kiera Montgomery, Anna Pereyra, Vicki Karavasil, Courtney Meares-Whitty, Maddie Lee Gow, Tahnee Phippen, Aimee Benton, Sarah Southward, Lily O'Connell, Merve Duman, Nicole Vaughan, Rhiannon Gakovic, Stefani Zamora.

Year 7 Soccer

When the year 7 trials were completed it became clear that we had a very talented squad of soccer players. It was very difficult to finalise the squad because of the quality of players.

In the sub regional tournament we entered two teams. Both teams won all of their group games and played off in the finals.

The final squad played the sub region final and won convincingly. Next came the Regional Finals at Bentleigh Greens and the girls again won without losing a game.

In the State Finals, the team played well but lost one game. They were very unlucky to miss out on the Final by 1 point.

A great effort and well done to the year 7s.

Mr Bill Murray, coach.



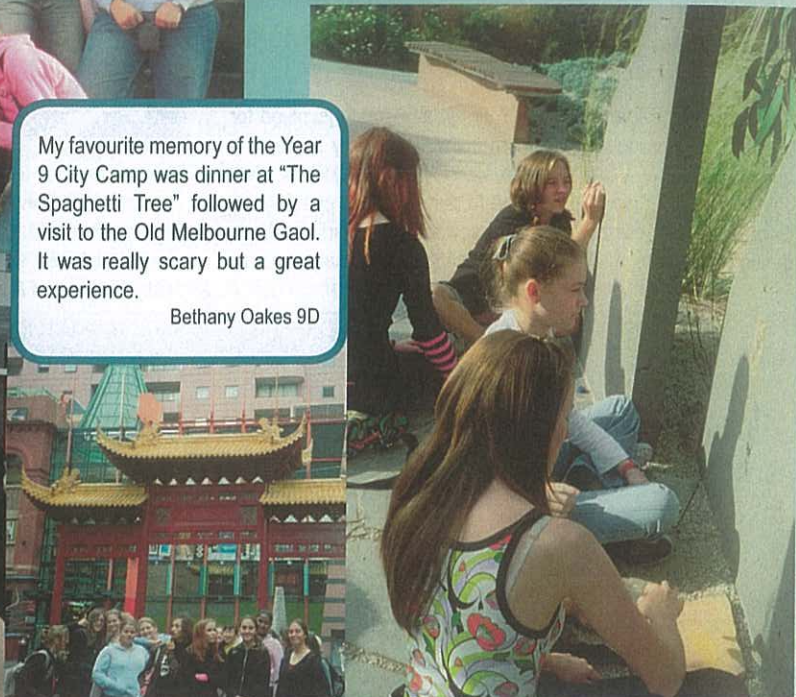
Team members : Anita Gurrieri, Ashleigh Phipps-Nelson, Amelia Collins, Zoe Anagnostakos, Zoe Upton, Natalie Schell, Jenny Kemp, Claire Best, Bronwyn Laird, Leah Martini, Erin Morton, Vana Dimu, Marina Karamanis, Rosie Hall, Alice McLaren and Jane Matilda Gomez.

City Camp



I enjoyed the Year 9 Camp because we were allowed to be very independent.
Jenny Lee 9D

My favourite memory of the Year 9 City Camp was dinner at "The Spaghetti Tree" followed by a visit to the Old Melbourne Gaol. It was really scary but a great experience.
Bethany Oakes 9D



Tasmania

Year 9 Camp was awesome! The ghost tour at Port Arthur and the Cadbury factory were the best...the trip back on "The Spirit of Tasmania" was my favourite part of the trip. In Tasmania it was really cold. We all had to rug up in warm clothes and PJ's.
Stacey Lewis 9D



Of the many destinations we visited, Port Arthur was my favourite. This is where we went on a ghost tour at night and were told many scary and frightening stories...I really enjoyed the camp and would like to say a big thank you to the teachers who bravely came with us.
Ellen McDermott 9D

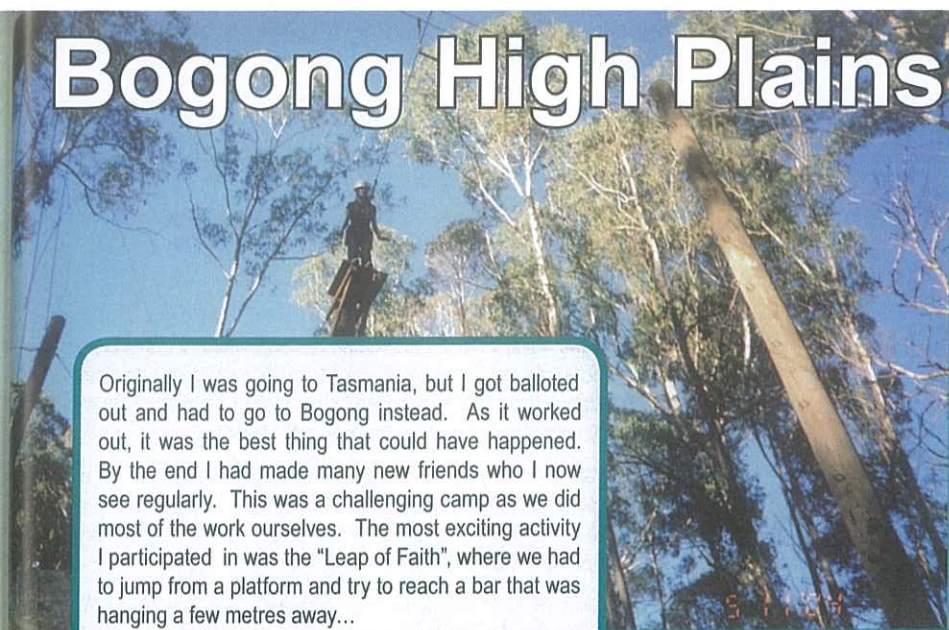
...we received our boarding pass and were let loose to roam and explore the ferry. The cruise was smooth and safe. Only two girls got motion sickness. When we reached Devonport the next morning we had an original breakfast at a cute little café. This was the best breakfast I ever had!
Amy Doherty 9D

...sadly some of the girls had to leave the ghost tour because it was just too scary and they thought they saw ghosts.
Vivienne Law 9D



The ghost tour was really scary but I don't think half the stories are true...
Angela Bornyan 9D

Bogong High Plains



Originally I was going to Tasmania, but I got balloted out and had to go to Bogong instead. As it worked out, it was the best thing that could have happened. By the end I had made many new friends who I now see regularly. This was a challenging camp as we did most of the work ourselves. The most exciting activity I participated in was the "Leap of Faith", where we had to jump from a platform and try to reach a bar that was hanging a few metres away...
Stacey Galloway 9D



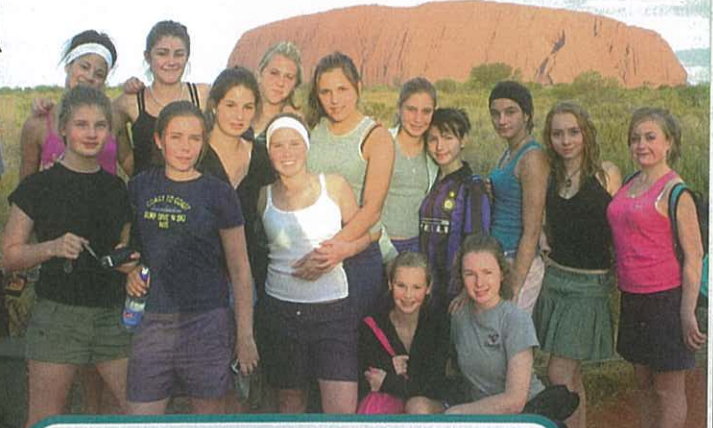
...we boarded the bus at 7.30am not knowing what was ahead of us! We shared the camp with Westernport Secondary College and we became good friends...I would never trade any of my memories for money because they are priceless!
Maddy Cameron 9D



Bogong was very challenging and lots of fun especially the high ropes course. We got wet canoeing but it was very invigorating! Bogong's Backyard was an interesting discovery on how the Bogong's eco-system works.
Bryley Quinton 9D

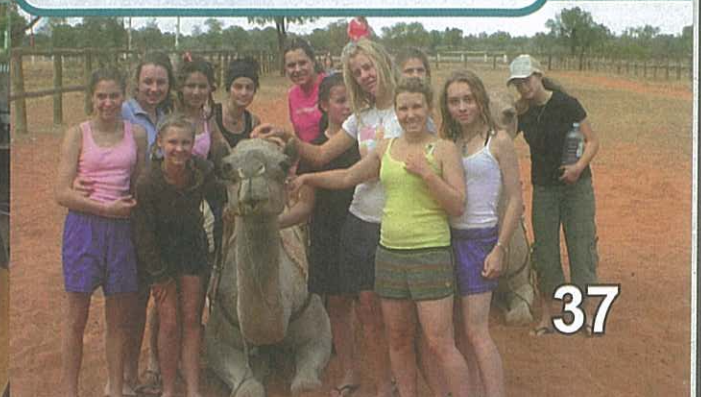


Central Australia



Year 9 camp was great! I went to Central Australia and it was one of the best trips I have ever been on. My camp highlight was climbing Uluru and walking through the Olgas and King's Canyon. Overall the Central Australia camp was excellent and I would do it again any day!
Krissy Zamora 9D

...the views from Uluru were breathtaking. Climbing Uluru was one of the best things I have ever done. We went camel riding, walked through opal mines and flew over King's Canyon in a helicopter! Although our bus did break down one day, we would all do it again if we had the opportunity.
Nicole Symons 9D



Rotary Youth Exchange to Germany 2004



How do you write about an event that is in my mind categorised under the heading 'best time of my life' and keep it under 30,000 pages. This was my first problem when asked to write about my year in Germany, 2004 - but I'll do my best!

I was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Moorleigh/Bentleigh-East, Australia and hosted by the Rotary Club of Grevesmuehlen, Germany.

When I first found out that I was going to Germany, I really didn't know what to expect.

I arrived in Hamburg, Flughafen in the snow, rain and darkness...even though it was only 9.30am. That was my first shock.

My first host Dad was there to meet me. Right from the first words spoken between us, I realised that I had a lot to learn!

After finding our car and my host Dad lifting my 32 kilo case into the boot, we set off for home, some two hours away. On the way, we played 'guess the English word'. My host Dad had learnt Russian at school, because he lived in the old East Germany, unlike people who lived in West Germany who had had the opportunity to learn English. So from the very beginning I was constantly asking, 'where's the dictionary?' - and for the first few weeks, that's how all my conversations were spoken...with a dictionary in hand.

After 36 hours of travelling I finally arrived at my new home, a place to learn not just another language and culture, but a lot about me!

Just after my second week in Germany my second host family took me to the Italian Alps for a two week skiing holiday. It would have to be the most spectacular scenery I have ever seen, particularly as I had never seen snow before. My host sister and I had snowboarding lessons and believe me, it's not as easy as it looks!

After returning from this holiday I started school. For the first few days it was great, I didn't have to work because I couldn't understand anything. However, after a short time, that became very boring. I had read all my English books from home, written my diary in such huge detail that I could tell everything I had eaten every day and I have never written so many letters in my life!

So then I started to become annoyed with the situation. I took 17 subjects and there were lessons going on around me that I didn't understand, and so many friendly faces, always smiling at me but

with nothing to say. Then my views on my exchange changed and I realised it was time to sit down and try to learn the funny language they called German.

I translated newspaper articles to begin with and I had to translate every word. As the days, weeks and months went on, I had to translate fewer and fewer words until one day I picked up the newspaper and read a whole article without having to reach for the dictionary once. That was in early May - and that was when my year really began.

I made real friends and life became a lot more normal and so much easier. Sometimes people would mistake me for being German and I thought that was pretty cool because that meant that I was speaking well and accent free (Aussie accent that is!)

I stayed with my first host family in Boltenhagen until June then I moved to Oberhof to my second host family.

This family own a working farm and I was living there during the harvest. So it was quite a contrast from living in a city of four million people to living on a farm during the very important harvest time.

During the year, I was very fortunate and had many opportunities to travel. Apart from my trips to the Italian Alps, I went to Denmark, Italy, France, London and Ireland. In late April I went on a three week Euro Tour with 62 other exchange students from 40 countries around the world.

The New Year came and went and it was time to start thinking about packing and my return to Australia. In that last week, although it's hard to imagine, I cried more than I did in my first week in Germany! And I never thought that that would be possible! My year was challenging - I had my ups and downs but in the end it only made me a better person.

It was very difficult to say goodbye to all my families and friends who had all become such an important part of my life, especially knowing that I may never see some of them again!

I had a fantastic year and I'd like to thank the Rotary Club of Moorleigh, Bentleigh-East, Rotary International, MGSC and my family and friends for always being there for me and supporting me and also giving me the wonderful opportunity of experiencing the enrichment of another culture through the Rotary Youth Exchange Program. I have absolutely no doubt I will reap the benefits of this experience for the rest of my life.

I would encourage everyone to go on exchange - you have fun and learn a lot - and as the song goes 'its something unpredictable but in the end its right' - and I had the best time of my life!

Camille Peucker 11F



Overseas Exchange

Model United Nations

MUNA

- and what does this mean? It means "Model United Nations Assembly" - and a whole lot of fun! This Assembly was held at Parliament House on the weekend of the 14th and 15th of May. Promptly at ten past seven on Saturday morning the six of us jumped on a train headed for Parliament. Tess de Munk and I, representing the USA, were clad in our 'Peace Keeping' outfits, while Camille Peucker and Jacqueline Younger wore the traditional robes and headscarves of Zimbabwe. They were followed by the Italian delegates, Amrita Simadris and Kimberley Mouritz who dressed as a Roman Cardinal and Julius Caesar.

There we were, in Parliament House, eyeing all the other delegates in their international outfits, all of whom had come from the state of Victoria, district 9810. We were taken into the Green Chamber of Parliament to commence the debate. Here we proceeded to argue over such resolutions as "whether a member state can pre-emptively attack another nation", "whether all permanent seats of the UN should be removed to make more room for others", "worldwide protection of refugees" and so on. Naturally, representing the United States and arguing these as 'unbiased' views, made us not very popular during debates. However, it was all said in jest. By the end of the weekend we had toured the Red Chamber with all its fineries, dined in Parliament, listened to MPs - and of course, made many new friends. As the Assembly drew to a close, the awards and winners were announced. The delegates from Israel (Wesley College) and the delegates from Egypt (Avila College) took home first and second prize and will go on to compete in the National Competition in Canberra. As for Tess and myself, we were lucky enough to each leave with the District Governor's award and a \$50 gift voucher.

I speak for the five other delegates when I say we all had a fabulous time and wouldn't hesitate to return for next year's competition.

Mieke Car 11B



Legacy Public Speaking Competition 2005



Sharon Flitman, 10G

Most of the teachers at Mentone Girls' Secondary College would be able to verify that a large percentage of the girls at the school are naturally capable talkers. However few choose to take their natural abilities further than gossiping in small groups at school. Of course, this is far from unnatural, considering that approximately 75% of the population fears public speaking more than death, but Sharon Flitman is one of the remaining 25% who can withstand the pressure.

entered the Legacy Public Speaking Competition for the third year in a row. The competition requires a prepared speech of five minutes duration, as well as an impromptu speech where each contestant is expected to deliver for two minutes after being given a topic with only five minutes to prepare.

Despite the enormous pressure of the competition, Sharon reached the State finals for the third consecutive year.

'I really want to reach Nationals this year,' Sharon confides during an exclusive interview. 'Coz next year I'm too old for the competition!'

In order to reach the State finals, Sharon had to pass first the regional final where she came first out of nine contestants, as well as the preliminary final where she was one of four who went through to the State final out of eight finalists.

Although the thought of speaking in public still evokes fear and dread in her, Sharon thrives on the thrill of public speaking, and in 2005 she

Debating

Mentone Girls' Secondary College boasts some of the most talented talkers, capable chatterboxes and gifted gas-baggers of all time. Ask any teacher - I'm sure they won't argue! However, only a select group of girls ranging from years eight, nine and ten have taken their natural talking abilities to a whole new level... and joined the debating team.

fund controversial art'. The two year-ten teams, participating at C grade level, also had one advised topic, where until an hour before the debate, all they knew was 'the royals'. They then had to prepare the entire debate in the space of only one hour.

Ok, I know that a lot of people fear public speaking more than death... which essentially means people would rather be in the coffin than giving the eulogy... but debating really isn't all that terrifying! Contrary to popular belief, a debate is actually only held in a school classroom in front of your team which consists

of three people, your opposition (also three people), the adjudicator who judges who wins the debate plus a few stray parents, siblings and supporters who float in to watch. That's only about 10 people all up!

So don't dismiss the debating team as something for only nerds, intellectuals and people who enjoy inflicting pain upon themselves. Get a real excuse to talk in class - it's worked for me!

Sharon Flitman, 10G

Visual Art



Michelle Kulkus 8B



Celeste Hopcraft 7G



Amy Jeges 8B



Jacqueline Vawdrey 8B



Michelle Bui Huang 7G



Madison O'Neill 8H



Maddy Crocker 8H



Alexandra Laurent 8B



Meg Humphrey 7G



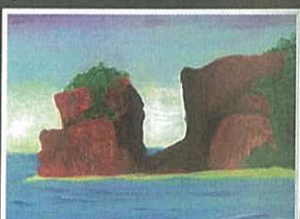
Franciska Szucs 7A



Prudence Stewart 7H



Ruth Cowburn 7F



Natalie Schell 7B



Kalysha Murphy 7E



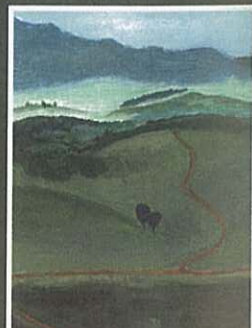
Sophie Nyaguy 7B



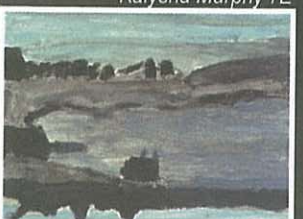
Louisa Salmon 7H



Leanne Greenwood 7B



Ella Ruuskanen 7B



Calliope Riddle 7F



Carly Bowden 7F



Sophie Nyaguy 7B



Pariss Billing 7B



Natalie Schell 7B



Madeline Smedley 7B

Visual Art



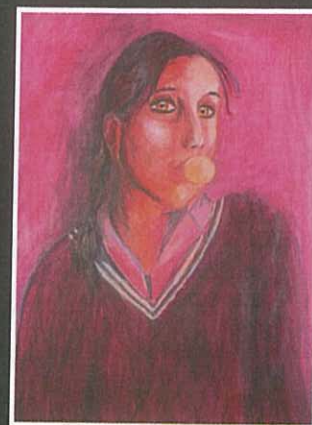
Rebecca Vorwerk 10F



Nicole Boldiston 9G



Jade Moore 9C



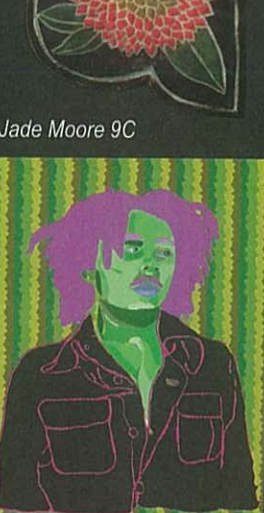
Cherie Conway 10C



Kara Vale 10F



Hannah Funnell 10E



Kimberley Mouritz 10E



Stephanie Hallinan 10B



Shelley Lyon 10G



Amrita Simadri 10F



Georgia Kay 10F



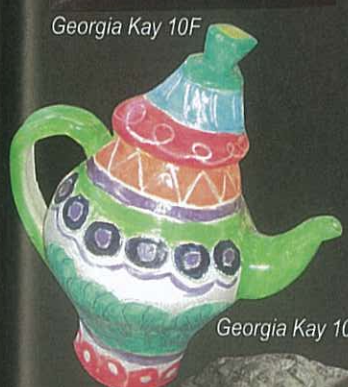
Hayley Crocker 10D



Joanne Politis 10F



Jennifer Ashburn 10B



Georgia Kay 10F



Paige Carroll 10B



Mikaela Redlich 10C



Melis Duman 10B



Jamie Waterland 10G



Danika Alt 9H

VSSSA Senior State Netball Finals 2005



Senior Netball 2005
Naomi Floyd, Courtney Voss, Talita Haddad, Sharni Layton, Kate Steinfort, Sarah Howlett, Jo Stevens, Lindsey Rouette, Evie Blackman.

Awesome, determined, extremely talented, excited, thrilled, proud – all these words could be used to describe our senior netball team last Tuesday at the State Netball finals. And yes we won, and yes it was heart stopping.

HOW WE GOT TO THE GRAND FINAL

First round we played Vermont who have been State Champions for the past two years. The girls came out very strongly and finished with a draw. Next match we played Bendigo Senior Secondary College, who made very few mistakes and beat us by three goals. Not a good start! Undeterred, we then beat Ballarat SC 32 – 13 and made it into the finals on percentage.

We then played and beat Gisborne SC by 9 goals and met Bendigo Senior SC for a re-match in the Grand Final. At half time we were 4 goals down, but the girls persevered, stayed calm and played their game which paid off. Half way through the

second half we drew level and then went ahead. The last five minutes went agonisingly slowly as the girls kept the pressure on to maintain their lead. Final score was 22-20.

Captain Sharni Layton, Naomi Floyd and Talita Haddad were brilliant in defence, continuously intercepting Bendigo's attempts at goals. Courtney Voss, Kate Steinfort, Lindsey Rouette and Evie Blackman ran forever through the mid court attacking, defending and keeping the pressure on. Sarah Howlett and Jo Stevens played the game of their lives; they stayed calm and patiently worked to get the best shots at goal – over and over again.

The girls were a pleasure to watch. They motivated and encouraged each other; they played beautifully as a team and they were determined to do the best they could in an extremely high standard of competition.

And now they are State champions of 2005.

Gayle Steinfort
Coach



The senior B Netball team had a relatively easy win against Berwick SC at the Southern Zone Finals but always knew that it would be tough against Frankston High School. Tess de Munk, Kelly Rouette, and Claire Weiss were sensational in defence. Emma Funnell, Luana Groves and Jenna King worked tirelessly through the centre court to get the ball to the shooters, Maddy Gabron and Tess Handley. Maddy and Tess had to work very hard and be very patient in the goal circle but their grit and determination won through on the day and both teams were Southern Zone champions. The team members exhibited fine sportsmanship and their desire to do their best was a pleasure to watch.

Special thanks to Gayle Steinfort for her guidance to the girls and excellent coaching of the team.

Senior Touch Footy

The Senior Touch Football team played in the Victorian Under 18 State Titles All Schools Competition in May at Haileybury College, Keysborough.

Mentone finished a respectable 4th having been defeated by Canterbury GSC (4 – 0) and Blackburn High School (6 – 0). MGSC defeated Good Shepard College, Shepparton (1 – 0) (Evie Blackman scorer) and Kingswood Secondary College (1 – 0) (Maddy Gabron scorer). Billanook College def MGSC (1 – 0).

All members put in a great day's play.

Mr Luke de Munk



Team: Naomi Floyd, Claire Weiss, Tess de Munk, Maddy Gabron, Evie Blackman, Shannyn Floyd, Sarah Grahame, Jane Dow

INTER SCHOOL GYMNASTICS 2005

Four teams competed at the Donvale Sports Complex in the Victoria Schools Gymnastic Competition. The competition was held over three days requiring a lot of organization and help to ensure all went well. Thanks to Mr de Munk, Mr Shannon and Mrs Bainbridge for help with transport. Thanks also to parents, Mrs Beavan for help with transport and Mrs Lindley for organizing the use of Cheltenham Gymnastic Club for practice sessions.

It was a great effort by all team members, who competed enthusiastically and represented the school well.

The Junior Modified 4 team finished in third place in the High Schools section.

The team members were Abbey Young, Michelle Kiteley, Zoe Upton and Svetlana Kolotvinova.

Senior Modified Team finished in second place in the Private and High schools section.

This was a great effort by the Year 11 students who had very little time to practice.

The team members were Megan Kiteley, Lauren Muir, Tess de Munk, Maddie Evans and Katie Salmon. Maddie Evans received a silver medal for finishing second in the overall individual competition.

Junior C Level 4 team Eleanor Beavan, Danielle Shannon, Tegan Brown. They finished in fifth place which was a great effort as their fourth team member Caitlyn Bennett was unable to compete due to injury.



Gymnastics Team: (l-r) Svetlana Kolotvinova, Talia Alt, Genevieve Mayes, Danielle Shannon, Michelle Kiteley, Abbey Young, Zoe Upton, Tegan Brown; Eleanor Beavan at back.

The A2 Division Team was again successful in finishing first in the Private and High School section. They have worked very hard outside of school at their gymnastics and their participation in the school team was appreciated. Congratulations to Genevieve Mayes who won the gold medal in the overall individual competition.

The team members were Genevieve Mayes, Jade Northcott, Berna Olceral and Talia Alt. I would especially like to thank Talia Alt for her help with training the Modified 4 Junior and the Junior Level 4 teams and organizing the Division A2 team.

This year we competed in the Cheer Squad competition for the first time. The squad consisted of 12 members who worked very hard for two terms at lunchtime and after school. Their hard work paid off and they finished equal first. Their success on the day is due to the efforts of Alana Lindley Year 9 who displayed a great talent for choreography and coaching. She was assisted by Ellen Evans and Christine Brazier. A great effort from the girls.

The team members were Abbey Young, Michelle Kiteley, Katherine Langworthy, Danielle Shannon, Alanna Davidson, Louise Mapleston, Taniae Wong, Amelia Delany, Rebecca Stephens, Jaiden King, Zoe Upton and Talissa Shekelton.

Mrs J M Barnett
Gymnastic Coordinator



Sporting Champions

Gymnastics

Noumea

This year the New Caledonia trip got underway on the 22nd of June. It was an eight day long trip that had 10 students and 2 teachers very excited. We'd all been looking forward to leaving since we got the go ahead for our trip. With mixed emotions we left Australian soil and could only hope for the best on our foreign expedition.

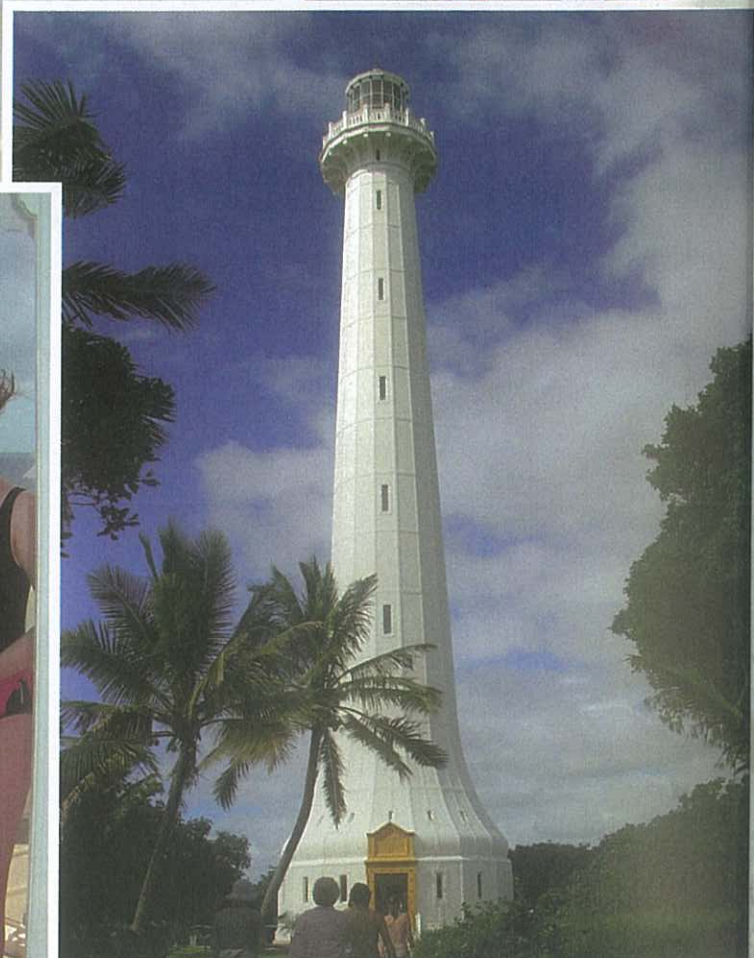
While in Noumea, we crammed in many unforgettable experiences. These included sitting very close to The Cat Empire on the plane flight to Sydney, lying on the lovely beaches lapping up the sun while thinking of all our friends back in Melbourne with the miserable weather, trying to communicate with locals without looking like typical tourists, visiting the aquarium where there was an albino stingray and glowing coral, Parc Forestier where there was an adventure playground with an attitude of its own, trying all the French cuisine we could get our hands on, staying with host families, roaming the markets and shopping arcades for some serious souvenir shopping, going to the French cinemas, visiting Amédée lighthouse, buying out the chocolate shop and all the while taking photos in the hope we would capture the moments so we'd never forget them.

One of the most unforgettable things on the trip was the chance to stay in a French home, with a French family. For most of us the Home Stay was great, others had to try a little harder to get the most out of things. One group even attempted to make Anzac biscuits for their host family. The home stay gave us all a great insight to French Culture at its best. The families were lovely, and those with young children were highly entertaining.

A big thanks to both Mrs McLeod and Mrs Kiernan, who both made the trip so much funnier with their witty comments and funny moments. Some of these included watching Mrs McLeod dancing with Tao the hunky Kanak during their makeshift wedding ceremony and Mrs McLeod losing her quiche only to find it tucked safely under the coat that she was wearing! We could not have got through our trip without all their help and intelligent advice.

The Noumea Trip is a once in a lifetime opportunity and we all enjoyed every minute of it. I would like to encourage anyone who has the opportunity to go to Noumea to take the chance, it is a great way to experience the French language being used in real life, outside the classroom.

Vive les mémoires
Samantha Kruse 10E



Japan

Our journey began on Saturday 9th of April. Twenty-six girls and four teachers, Mr Trigellis-Smith, Mrs Witt, Mr Frazer and Mrs Barnett, were off to Japan!

Our sight-seeing started in Tokyo, where we did lots of shopping in all the main places like Shinjuku, Harajuku, Ginza and Shibuya, Akihabara (Tokyo's discount electrical and electronics centre), Asakusa, and, best of all, the 100-yen shops where everything costs approximately \$1.25.

The shrines in Tokyo that we visited included Asakusa, which was founded in the 7th century, and the Meiji Jingu Shrine, built in 1920.

For me, Tokyo Disneyland was the highlight of the trip. I mean, how often do you get to go to Disneyland with all your friends? It was pouring with rain all day but it wasn't all bad in that there were hardly any queues!

Our next stop was Hiroshima, known for becoming the world's first atomic bomb target on 6th August 1945. We visited Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park, the A-Bomb Dome and the A-Bomb museum, which was very moving... some girls were also rather moved by the sight of the Japanese boys also visiting the museum!

That night we ate Okinomiyaaki, a savoury Japanese pancake, for dinner. I think the only reason it tasted any good was because the teachers paid for it!

Next we went to Miyajima, where we saw the famous 'floating torii', dating from the 6th century. Miyajima is an island, well known among the Japanese as one of Japan's most beautiful places, and an ancient place of pilgrimage.

From there we went to the homestay. It was scary at first but overall an extremely rewarding experience and some people thought it was the best part of the trip. It lasted for six nights. Shiga Girls' High School organised some classes especially for us. Including calligraphy, food tech, ikebana (flower arrangement), tea ceremony, Japanese language, yukata (kimono wearing) and we spent one class with our host sisters. We also went to the Lake Biwa Museum, Shigaraki ceramics and Miho museum.

Our host families gave us a taste of what normal life in Japan was like, as well as spoiling us. They cooked traditional food for us, though perhaps our use of chopsticks wasn't exactly traditional! Our families were extremely kind, thoughtful and generous hosts! We all learnt a lot we could not have experienced by just staying in hotels. Many tears were shed when at last we had to leave.

Off to Kyoto. We went to Nijo Castle, built in 1603, with the 'nightingale' floors to detect intruders by the squeaking boards. Then Ryoanji, founded in 1473, with the garden arranged in the karesansui (waterless stream) style. Later Kinkakuji, built in 1397, with the gold foil covering. Next, Kiyomizudera Temple, built in 798, with the three waterfalls, which are believed to have therapeutic properties. At night we had the Gion/Pontocho night walk and some of the more adventurous girls went to the public baths, where you only had a hand towel to cover yourself with.

After Kyoto, we went to Nara, which became Japan's first permanent capital in 710. We went to yet another temple – Todaiji. This temple has the Nandaimon Gate and houses the Great Buddha, which is over 16 metres high and is made from 437 tonnes of bronze and 130kg of gold. Only two-thirds the size of the original!

It was the best two weeks of my entire life and I only have one suggestion for next time...it was far too short!

Genevieve Ayre 10E



Shelley and Zoe Booth

Shelley Booth's recollections of her secondary school years personify her perfectly! They are gentle and positive memories of an environment where "everything was done for you", uniforms removed the hassle of wondering what to wear each morning and friends were plentiful and loyal. Shelley misses the people with whom she went to school, even though she keeps in contact with a vast array of girls who graduated in 1998.



Zoe and Shelley Booth in 2005

Having completed her degree in Applied Arts at Monash University in 2001 with electives in Design and Digital Imaging, Shelley decided that she had to look for alternative and related employment options as she did not want to teach and the prospect of being an artist appeared to be somewhat daunting! Consequently, Shelley completed Certificate III in Dog Training, sold shoes, worked as a waitress in a café and, having accumulated sufficient funds, backpacked through Europe with her boyfriend.

Shelley now works for Business Print Centre in Bentleigh as a Graphic Artist, designing stationery, invitations, business cards etc. She uses Corel Draw and Photoshop in her work and finds what she is doing fulfilling and satisfying.

As if all these achievements are not enough, Shelley wants to pursue her song writing and TV work career. She has already recorded five songs on a demo CD in the Missy Higgins style, owns property in the country and is looking to buy locally.

When asked for any anecdotes of her years at MGSC, Shelley smiled shyly and said she did not have any. "I was boring when I was at school..." she said quietly... we don't think so Shelley!

Zoe Booth was amazed with the school's transformation. She loved the use of vibrant colours, the new canteen and the contemporary look of the school as a whole. These observations are not surprising coming from a student whose VCE Art work was awarded the R Malcolm

Encouragement Award for two years running and whose Year 12 folio piece graces the cover of the 2001 school magazine! The inspiration for the painting which is of her three friends as captured on the day of the school swimming sports in 2000, came from a photograph she took. Zoe describes it as "perfect" The perfect photo of the perfect day of a perfect group of friends...the light was bright, the colours were vibrant and her three friends, Cara, Danielle and Gabby were perfectly content.

After Zoe completed VCE she worked and travelled for a few years as she was not accepted into the VCA (some places don't recognise real talent even when its thrust under their noses). She worked at a shoe shop, as a waitress and as a PA at Hallmark Computers in Carlton. Overcome by the tedium of the retail world she found solace in a weekend course she attended in Carlton. This motivated her to study Holistic Kinesiology, a two year course, which she completed last year. Holistic Kinesiology for the uninitiated, uses traditional Chinese medicine, Anatomy, Physiology, counselling and the alignment of the muscles to gauge energy and well being. Zoe is busily working towards setting up her own practice while she still pursues her art. She has been commissioned repeatedly to paint portraits of friends and acquaintances and her reputation as a portrait painter is increasing rapidly.

Mrs Georgia Smith

Kalina Nerenberg

Kalina Nerenberg completed Year 12 at Mentone in 1992 after having spent most of her secondary schooling at MacRoberston Girls' High School. She still remembers how friendly and accepting the girls were at Mentone. She found the staff very supportive and caring and she only regrets that she did not change schools earlier. Mentone really 'taught me to be realistic about myself and to value others for their uniqueness not just their academic abilities.



Kalina in 1990 and today, in 2005

Kalina has positive memories of all of her teachers but especially of her Year 12 Biology teacher, Mrs Rienets. "She was really great and inspired you to learn and never made you look stupid if you didn't know something."

Kalina admits that she was not always the most diligent student, talked too much and could be a smart aleck to some of her teachers. These are things she now regrets, especially the 'headaches' she caused Mr Frazer.

Not achieving the score she needed to get into medicine, Kalina chose to complete a nursing degree at Latrobe University. She then went into Emergency nursing at Monash Medical Centre where she lived out her ER fantasy for five years. She also worked in geriatric nursing.

For a while she really enjoyed nursing and 'learnt a lot about life and the human spirit' and helped save many lives. However, it's a tough, undervalued job and as she matured she could not see herself spending the rest of her life in nursing.

In 1997 Kalina began studying law part time at Monash University and Criminology at Melbourne University. Her new dream was to become a Criminal Barrister.

During the eight years of balancing work and part time study, she managed to take out the Monash University Forensic Law Prize. This was quite an achievement considering the demands on her time. In the course of her studies, Kalina began to realise that her interests were turning more towards Family Law but she is still not sure what area of Law to settle in. "The beauty of a law degree is that it can get you work in almost any industry."

In 2005 she gave up nursing altogether and finally finished her Law studies. She now has a Bachelor of Nursing, a Bachelor of Laws and half a Graduate Degree in Criminology.

Kalina is currently working as a legal consultant in the mortgage industry and has put some of her legal ambitions on hold while she prepares for yet another major career change - motherhood.

Kalina was married last year and is expecting her first child in November.

If there is anything that Kalina can pass on to other girls it is that you should not feel locked in by the score you obtain or the career choices you make in Year 12. Your goals and interests will probably change but no matter what, "it is education that can continue to open new doors for you."

Gretta Nerenberg 9A

Robyn Smith

Graduating in the class of 1998, Robyn Smith was a part of our school only 7 years ago.

While she was here, she enjoyed art and psychology. Robyn was passionate about art because she found it enjoyable, different and she likes doing things with her hands. Robyn always found it difficult to sit in a classroom and watch a whiteboard. She loved psychology because she thought it was a fantastic subject and she also loved the teacher, Mrs. Gillett. Another teacher that Robyn liked was Mrs. McDonald. She thought she was harsh sometimes, but mostly extremely nice. She always knew when something was wrong and tried her best to help you out, even if it was something as trivial as boy problems. Robyn also mentioned that she thought Mrs. Kinneally is cool and a great teacher.



Robyn in 1997

Although Robyn only graduated a few years ago, the description she gave us of Mentone Girls' back in 1998 sounded a lot different to our modern school. There was no gym, science or art centre yet, and the library had only just been built. She thought the toilets, canteen, classrooms and schoolyard needed a bit of updating as well.

When we asked Robyn about some of her outstanding memories, she came up with a few interesting stories. One was the time she discovered a room filled with boxes of fundraising chocolates. She couldn't resist them and ate as much as she could, until she was caught by an angry teacher, that is.

Robyn said that she enjoyed her year twelve formal, but she thought it was a bit overrated and she enjoyed the after party much more.

After Robyn left school, she applied for university but sadly missed out by two points on her VCE score. Five years later she applied again and now she is in her third year of studying horticulture. Now Robyn is also working full time at a plant nursery in Dingley. She said it wasn't what she wanted to be when she was younger (a teacher), but is still enjoying her job very much.

Like most students, Robyn took her high school days for granted. She never really liked school, but now that she reflects back on it, she realizes that she really enjoyed her time here.

Robyn's advice to all younger girls at Mentone is that they shouldn't get too stressed or down on themselves about university, it isn't for everyone. She also wanted to say to enjoy your time at Mentone Girls', she didn't appreciate it when she was there, but always had fun.

Rosie Cangadis-Douglass and Tess Ryan 8D



Robyn in 2005



Students and staff of our wonderful music department, 2005.

Where are they now?

Where are they now?

Year Ten Social



July 29th, the night every year ten had been waiting for, finally arrived! I could hardly recognise the Nina Carr Hall, let alone the teachers and students inside it. The theme for the night was "Cocktail" and everyone's outfits reflected this – except, perhaps, Mr Warden and Mrs Steinfort's unusual choice of dress! We walked down the red carpet and onto the dance floor, which never saw a dull moment! The DJ provided everything from ACDC to current dance tracks to classics like the nutbush.

Everyone looked amazing and I couldn't believe these people were the same ones I see at school everyday and had seen only hours before. The weeks of anticipation, excitement, preparation, anxiety and nervousness leading up to this night were justified in its success! We could almost taste the excitement in the air. The night was as we'd dreamed - loud music, bright lights, beautiful dresses, stylish hair, handsome boys, glamorous smiles and crazy dance moves.

Set up in the foyer was the professional photographer who was kept busy all night. Everyone received a free mocktail thanks to the SRC. Around the room were tables of nibbles set up by the SRC, who did an amazing job organising and preparing the incredibly successful evening.

The title of Prince went to Candice O'Neil's date, Daniel Campisano and Princess was awarded to the stunning Kristy Waller.

When the last song finished, and probably for the first time in my life, I wanted to stay at school for longer. The night was all that I had hoped for... and that's saying a lot! A huge thankyou from everyone who went, to the teachers, SRC, photographer, DJ and everyone else who helped put together this memorable and magical evening.

Genevieve Ayre 10E



During the week of the 2nd to the 6th of May, students in Year 10 ventured out from Mentone Girls' Secondary College into the world of work. They gained valuable experience in a wide variety of occupations and work environments. Here are the accounts of two of our students...

'All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players.'



I was lucky enough to do work experience with 'The Bell Shakespeare Company' in Sydney. The Company was established by John Bell who does a modern take on Shakespeare's plays to attract younger audiences. I have admired them for a long time and seen many of their productions including 'War of the Roses', so I was absolutely thrilled to be spending a week in such a creative environment.

I travelled up to Sydney on Monday morning excited and nervous about what was in store for me. The rehearsals took place in the Bell Shakespeare's premises at The Rocks, an historic area of Sydney overlooking the harbour and the Opera House. I was met by the assistant Stage Manager, Claire, who showed me into the rehearsal rooms where the cast was already in deep discussion. My heart was in my mouth and I thought I was going to die. Suddenly, all the actors I'd admired for so long were sitting just feet away from me. I had to pinch myself; I couldn't believe I was there!

The stage manager Peter got up and introduced himself, getting a chair for me so I could also sit in the circle and be part of the discussion. I sat there listening to their debate for a while until John Bell suddenly said "we've got a guest." And that was how it all started.

The play they were rehearsing was 'Measure for Measure' which I knew nothing about. But I quickly discovered that it had a complicated plot about love, power and corruption and some very interesting characters. The small cast included actors of all ages, some of whom had to play more than one role. I was particularly impressed by the freedom John Bell gave everyone to have a say about every aspect of the production and the spirited debate that followed. Once they discussed the meaning of a sentence for twenty minutes!

Each day was structured and well organised. It began with a reading of a scene, the cast and me sitting in a circle. Then John Bell would ask the actors probing questions about their characters and how they should interpret their lines. Everyone knew their characters back to front! The next step involved putting the scene on the floor and blocking it. I was asked to operate the Tele-prompter to allow the actors to perform without scripts. One of the days I was taken 'prop shopping'. We searched the city for several hours for a toy chihuahua, finding every other breed and returning empty handed.

My week with the Bell Shakespeare Company was memorable for the insights I gained into the theatre world. I learnt how important the production time-line is and how to give constructive criticism. I was intrigued to discover how much swearing and good fun was had by all. It was just like one of our School Productions! It was a bit of a let-down to find quite a number of the cast were overly self-absorbed and had rather inflated egos, but I guess it goes with the profession. One of the younger actresses befriended me and wished me good luck and kindly said she hoped she would work with me in the future and I also talked to John Bell about career options in the industry. I went to the opening night of "Measure for Measure" in Melbourne and it was great to see the final product.

All in all, my work experience week was one I will never forget and it has only made my ambitions to make theatre my life, even stronger!

Annabel Green 10E

The second week of August was a quiet one at MGSC... because no Year 10 students arrived at school. Was it some deathly plague affecting only those in the tenth grade? Or was it a unanimous strike against the sadistic teaching methods used at the school? No... it was work experience!

For my work experience week, I dressed myself incognito, posing as a journalist at the Melbourne Weekly Magazine. Accompanied by only my lunch, mobile and a stomach full of butterflies, I entered the dreaded workplace for the first time. My first assignment (after meeting 'the team') was to gather information on an article about the Commonwealth Games baton relay, and further into the week I undertook three more projects - reading two books and writing reviews for each, as well as writing up a short filler – all of which would be published in the following weeks' editions. I also got the chance to practice my editing skills on a television guide, learn how to use a photocopier and observe how a newspaper/magazine office is run – extremely useful considering it's the career path I'm hoping to take!

The end of the week was heralded by their weekly 'lunch at a restaurant,' and as the day drew to a close, I regretfully bade farewell to my newly acquainted boss promising it would NOT be the last she saw of me!

Sharon Flitman 10G



Catherine Wilkie worked in an osteopath's surgery



Courtney Sullivan worked in a dental surgery



Kristy Waller worked with Community Services at Southern Mental Health.

Work Experience



Year Ten



Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 10A
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehrer

Students: NLESE APPEA, MARINA ASHA, SAMANTHA BEHLER, JACQUEA BETHA, LAURA LAMM, LAURA LOURIE, HONNANH DUNNIP, JAY MAE LUTHE, HELENA MARLING, PATRICIA FRANKS, JACOB ERIC, SHANNON FOLEY, EMMA FRIDLE, REBEKA FREEMAN, KYLE GUMBLE, NICK STEWART, ROACHEE HILLIER, MYLINDH THAMMARAJ, CHRISTINE THOMAS, PHILIPPA THOMAS, CHLOE THOMAS, VERONIQUE WICKHAM, NICKY HAYLOR, JACOB BROWN, LAURENCE JEL, ELSA GALELLI, GUY LABYRETT.

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 10B
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehrer

Students: CARLY ZIBI, SIENNE AMON, EMILY BARLOW, ALICE BOURNASSI, PAIGE CARROLL, ALICE FAYSON, SAMANTHA FERRIE, MELANIE DUNNIP, ELIE LUTHE, SARAH CARROLL, STEPHANIE HAYLOR, JESSICA LEVETTE, NICKY THOMAS, ROSIEA THOMAS, LAUREN CARROLL, YAMIR BOND, ALICE FAYSON, ELIE LUTHE, JACOB WILKINSON, CHRISTINE THOMAS, KYLE GUMBLE, JAY GUMBLE, JENNIFER VAUGHAN, KYLE WILKINSON, NICKY HAYLOR, NICKY HAYLOR.

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 10C
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehrer

Students: JULIE AITKEN, AMELIA ANDERSON, EMMA BOND, EMMA BOND, ME AND THOMAS, MELANIE THOMAS, LAUREN THOMAS, GUY MAE LUTHE, LUCY ANN O'BRIEN, LAVANNA HELM, ANTOINETTE HAYLOR, ADRIE KEMP, LAURA KENNEDY, JESSICA KEMP, JAMES LANGRISH, EMMA MCLAUGHLIN, THOMAS MCLAUGHLIN, ELIE GUMBLE, JAY GUMBLE, CANDICE O'NEILL, GUY MAE LUTHE, ANITA WILKINSON, MIKALA REGINTE, RAHMI THOMAS, STEPHANIE THOMAS, FELICITY WYATT.

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 10D
Principal: Ms Deborah Lehrer

Students: REBEKA CARROLL, EMMA CLARK, ELIE CLARK, RAYE CLARK, HAYLEE CLARK, FREDERICK THOMAS, JENNIFER THOMAS, ELIE THOMAS, SEBASTIAN THOMAS, JESSICA THOMAS, ERIN THOMAS, FREDERICK THOMAS, ELISA KEMP, JESSICA KEMP, ALYSSA KEMP, ALYSSA KEMP, JESSICA KEMP, AMIE MILLER, JESSICA KEMP, LAUREN O'NEILL, NATALIE RYAN, BRIDGET SAUNDERS, ANNAISSE SAUNDERS, ALICIA THOMAS, DANICA THOMAS, KYLE WILKINSON.



The Year 10 Social

Across the car park a sparkle in the night. As I moved closer it evolved into people and a hall. There was a group of girls in the distance, giggling and squealing with delight and looking each other up and down with utter glee plastered on their faces. The 'dates' that they had brought stood about like a flock of timid sheep, trying to look manly. The people began to make their way into the light, almost skipping as they went. I slowly emerged from my mother's van and made my way from my observation point, moving from the observer to the observed and towards the building - ready to make my impact.

I stepped cautiously through the bright red doors and was frozen to the spot, my gaze riveted by the shocking image that stood before me. Mr Warden stood staring back at me, his face full of self-satisfaction. His blue velvet dress, complete with matching bonnet, took me aback, it made him look like a drag queen who has lost her fashion sense completely. After realising I had been staring at Mr Warden's attire long enough for people to notice I diverted my gaze which now landed on Mrs Steinfort, his partner in crime, her head held high, a confidence matched by the black and white tuxedo she sported. These two were a pair to brighten up anyone's day and reminded me of an old married couple.

The sequined red carpet that glistened under my feet ensured I entered the room like a queen. Darkness fell as I entered the hall and sensed the eyes of ten girls burn into my back as I registered as more prey for their critical judgement. The strobe lighting flickered and made the dancers, flipping their hair and swaying their hips, appear almost as if in freeze frame. Their images flashed, bringing a feeling of mystery to the dance floor. The moment of mystery vanished when I saw the supervising teachers in full flight, their 1960's dance moves standing out like pink at a funeral.

The glow of the fluorescent lights caught my eye as I joined the flow of dressed up princesses who were complete with their own clouds of perfume floating around them, smelling sweetly of roses and the strapping young boys who were making their way to the bar. The bar was crowded, the flash of the photographer's camera snapped in the corner, the teachers crammed their faces with finger food as they discussed politics, their high pitched laughter could be heard from across the busy and chaotic room. 'You know he could never do that!'

I lined up, carefully watching the smiles and actions of everyone in front of me. It was eventually my turn for picture time, after a long wait for the boys hogging the stage, and the crowds of faces pressing in, to smile for the camera. The photographer with his short spiky hair and cheesy smile pressed his sweaty finger and captured another priceless memory.

Jamil Waterland 10G

Explosions

A hand grenade lives inside me
Ready to explode.
Waiting for someone to pull the pin.
The universe is bottled up
inside my soul.
Love. Hate. Fear. Passion.
So many emotions building up
wanting to come out.
But they are slowly escaping
and its hard to contain them.
If people aren't going to listen
to what I have to say
I am likely to...

EXPLODE!
Loretta Lee 10G



Amelia Anderson 10C

Reflections

The face looking back through the mirror,
Searched by critical eyes
always seeing a flaw,
Focused on finding the negatives,
As though it's some unwritten law.

The face looking back through the mirror,
The face that's just there as
a mask, a disguise
Deceptively veiling what's hidden beneath,
But up top, it's a game I sensationalise.

The face looking back through the mirror,
The face that I see once in a while,
Sometimes stained with a
tear, or frozen with fear,
All speckled with freckles,
and a euphoric smile.

The face looking back through the mirror,
The face I don't mind...to a certain degree,
The face I accept, for I never can change,
The person I am...and that person is me.

Sharon Flitman 10G

The routine slice of life

Southland is an empty place
People coming and going
The same routine
Like the plot in horror movies
Never changing.
1,2,3...

I walk through it day after day
For years
The shops sometimes change
The people change
But the routine is the same.
1,2,3...

They enter
Hoping to find something they need
To make their lives complete
They shuffle around
Enter a shop, another, another
Then they think they find it...
1,2,3...

BANG
The one thing, what they were looking for
Their day is done
They are finished

And then they return
And begin searching again.
1,2,3...

I see it in their faces
They are addicts,
Like gamblers at the pokies
Just one more win
Just one more item

Only one
And the routine ends
But then they come
Again,
Again.

Olga Taranenko 10E



Tracey Vuat 10G

The Fifty Year Itch

For the 'Performing Arts Festival' I decided to write a play "The Fifty Year Itch" in two scenes exploring both the public and the private life of Marilyn Monroe. The opening scene takes place at the premier of "The Seven Year Itch" where Marilyn and her ex-baseballer husband, Joe Dimaggio are trying to live up to the image of Hollywood's golden couple. But Marilyn's flirtatious antics with the press appear too much for Joe who drags her away from the spotlight.

In the excerpt from Scene Two, Marilyn and Joe discuss her career and their troubled relationship. We see another side to Marilyn. We see the real Marilyn.

Marilyn: Joe why can't you just talk to me? I know you've never wanted me to work like I do but it's my life. I know I belong to the public not because I'm talented or even beautiful, but because I have never belonged to anything or anyone else.

Joe: You don't belong to the public or anyone else - you belong to me. *(looks guilty)*. I didn't mean that. Look Marilyn - you don't have to work anymore. I've got enough money for the...

Marilyn: It's not the money I want Joe. I want to work. Like I said, it's my life.

Joe: And there's no room for me. That's it, isn't it.

Marilyn: No, of course not. But you can't just expect me to drop a career it's taken me years to get to the top of, just so you can go off and train your baseball teams and I can sit at home being the housewife. It means too much to me, Joe.

At this point Marilyn has her head on her hands. Joe grabs her wrists.

Joe: Sometimes I just wanna destroy that pretty face. I wanna lock it up and have no one look at it but me.

Marilyn: don't hit me Joe, not here.

Joe lets go of her wrist as the waiter approaches the table placing two coffees before them.

Waiter: Two coffees.

He looks at Marilyn and Joe and decides he should quickly leave.

Joe: (quietly) I'm sorry Marilyn. But...but if I asked you to drop it...drop the acting ...for us...so that our relationship can work would you?

Silence - Joe slams his hand on the table in frustration.

Oh damn it Marilyn. If I ask you to quit acting you should quit acting. I call the shots remember? Or have you forgotten our wedding vows? Your duty to love, honour and obey me?

Marilyn: You forget Joe. I said I'd love, honour and cherish you. I left out the obey, because I don't think that's the route to a happy marriage.

Joe: Well what about children Marilyn? I've always wanted kids and so have you.

Marilyn: Yes I know Joe, but my career...

Joe: Oh it's always about your career Marilyn. How can you be so selfish? You'd rather sacrifice our relationship and a chance of children than give up your career?

Marilyn: Well it's alright for you. You're a man, it's easier for men. You have options, women usually just get to be housewives, do charity work or just do nothing. Well I'm not a "do nothing" girl Joe. I chose to make something of my life, I'm at the peak of my career and you just want to take it away. You're destroying me Joe. Why do you have to make me choose? Can't you just accept that I love both you and my career, but I could never give one one up just because the other was feeling the heat? I want to be with you, I want a family and a career. I want all of those things. But I can't have them can I? you won't let me have them.

She breaks down crying. Peter Brookes, a reporter, enters and stands overlooking Marilyn and Joe.

Peter Brookes: Miss Monroe, Mr Dimaggio, Peter Brookes from the Brooklyn Star. That was a pretty big scene back there at the premiere wasn't it?

Joe: Look pal, either say what you've gotta say or get out.

Peter Brookes: Just give me an exclusive on the story and I'll never bother you again. Not making any promises of course.

Marilyn: (standing up) I'll give you an exclusive. We're getting a DIVORCE!!!

Marilyn storms off. Joe puts his head in his hands and the lights dim.

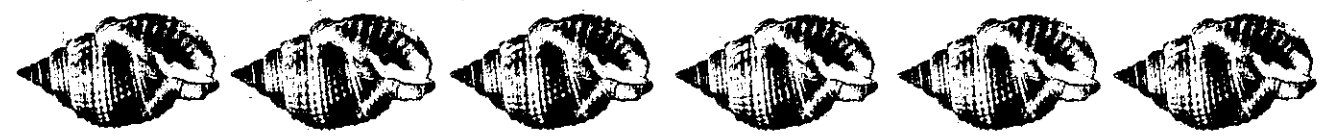
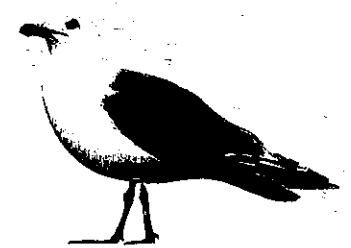
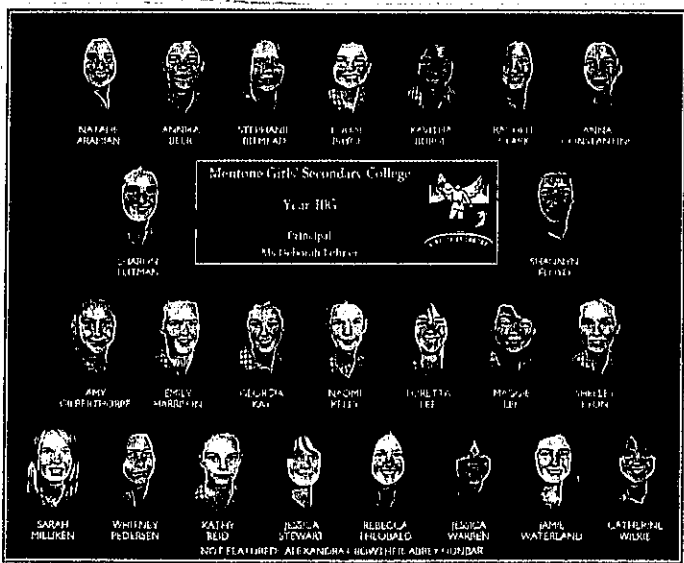
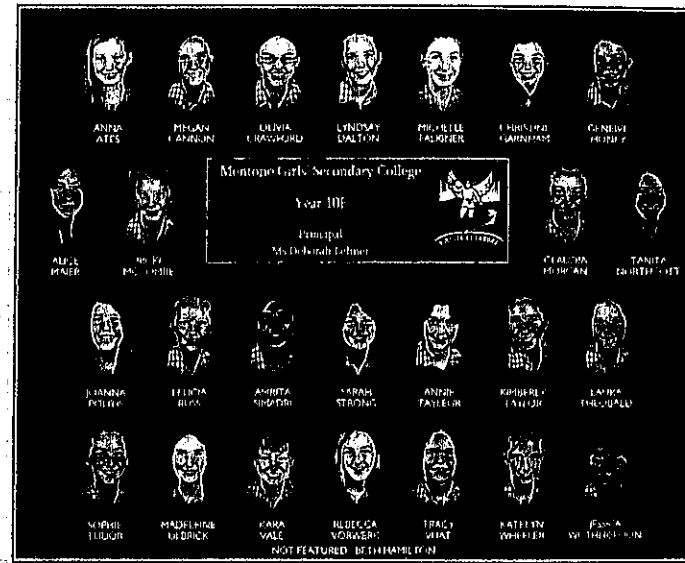
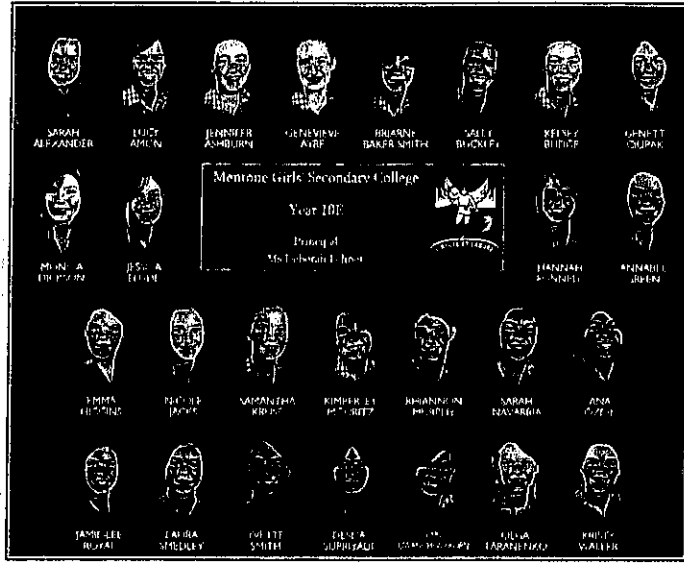
Annabel Green 10E



"Why not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is?"



Year Ten



The Football Match

It has taken an immensely long hour, but we are finally here. We step off the old, packed train and on to the greying concrete bridge where a painfully chilly wind pierces our skin.

You can almost smell the excitement in the air. The third level of the illuminated stadium is packed with thousands of blurry faces chattering excitedly and the smell of hot pies and spilt beer reaches my nostrils. I can feel my feet sticking to the cold floor where some sort of drink had been spilt, as the blurry faces start to scream and catcall as the popsicle sized players prance onto the freshly cut turf. The shouting and screaming gets louder and louder at each passing minute and the occasional "records, get your records" reaches my ears. The screeching siren plays over and over until the stone-sized ball is thrown into the air and the game begins.

Flashing advertisements surprise us when goals are kicked and the gigantic figure of Bill (a loyal St Kilda fan) can be seen yelling abuse at the "always wrong" umpires. Drunken yells from below echo and hundreds of flags wave from the stands. I feel one brush my face. The crazed fan next to me yells in my ear and my anger towards him steadily increases. A mixture of ocean air from the Docklands and sweat surrounds me as I make my way to the kiosk. Brightly coloured lights coming from the city shine like stars in the dark, cloudless night sky. I feel my shoe stick strangely to the ground - a large, slimy, green piece of gum is stuck to my shoe - *fantastic!*

I sit on my hard, uncomfortable seat while listening to two men arguing about rules. Their strident voices start to give me a headache. I can hear the sound of the St Kilda theme song mixed with ecstatic applause. Thousands of those blurry people are standing and singing.

We brave the piercing wind to get back onto the old, packed train for the long ride home.

Jess Stewart 10G

Grandma

My Grandma patiently waits at the school gate for me to come out when its time to go home. My Grandma makes me clothes that warm me up in winter made of wool or clothes to cool me down during hot summer days made of fine fabric. My grandma bakes me treats that light up my face as I slowly chew savouring the taste. My Grandma holds my family together looking after everyone making sure we're happy. My Grandma left her homeland gave away the comfort and attachment to offer her children a better life that she never had. Only my Grandma is keen to share with me her skills and knowledge. Only my Grandma is keen to learn from me my skills and knowledge. Wish she was your Grandma, don't you?

Maggie Lee 10G

Grandma Poem

I am told
My grandma has pale skin and green eyes.
I am told
My grandma enjoys ice-skating and skiing.
I am told
My grandma lives in Finland.
I am told
My grandma plays the piano and knits.
I am told
My grandma's birthday is on the same date as mine.
I am told
My grandma makes excellent Finnish macaroni.
I am told
To look at these photos of her.
I tell myself
I should go and visit my grandma
Before I'm told
My grandma has left...

Natalie Aramian 10G



Emily Harrison 10G

Sorrento, the place I love

I remember waking up to the feeling of cool salty air on my face. I'd open my door and the sun seemed to pour in like honey. The smile on my freckled face grew with each step I took.

I loved the main street of Sorrento. The hill at the bottom of the shops, which seemed to go on for days when walking up it, was forgotten when I caught the first glimpse of the beautiful sandstone buildings and swarms of joyful people. The burning sun hit the shiny cars and caused a great ball of light; all was relaxation and happiness.

The restaurants produced mouth-watering food. I still remember the greasy taste of fish and chips from the little place on the corner.

My favourite place in the whole world when I was a kid was the 'Old Fashioned Lolly Shop'. I remember walking through the bright pink door curtains from the street into my 'heaven'. Jars, which contained every lolly imaginable from giant gobstoppers to gummy bears, lined the walls. Lonely but overjoyed children's pockets were full of money. The course touch of the white, bursting lolly bag is still fixed in my brain.

The calm water felt like silk on my skin. My friends tanned (well, sunburnt) and relaxed lay about on the beach all day in front of the shrubs. The sand was fine and white like sifted icing sugar. Unused tiny boats lay on the beach all day waiting to be taken for a ride. Pebbles and shells were scattered over the beach in an almost abstract pattern, constantly being trampled by beach goers.

The jetty, rough to touch, brought joy to so many as it stretched for what seemed like miles over the pristine ocean. In the blistering sun, squawking seagulls sat perched on the rotten wooden-railings, watching my friends and I leap from the end of the jetty into the refreshing water below. At nighttime, when the full moon rose over the bay like a light bulb glowing in the night air, my mum liked to stand on the end of the jetty and gaze up at the spectacular night sky.

I loved nighttime- the greasy food at the newly refurbished pub; the happy families going for ice-cream at the local parlour, crammed like sardines in a tin. Even the annoying people driving past in their loud cars didn't burst my bubble of happiness.

Winding roads like a labyrinth brought me back to my favourite place of all- the back beach: aggressive but soothing waves, threatening sandstone cliffs and cool white sand. Whenever I stand on this beach I feel I am where I belong.

Amelia Anderson 10C

Who Am I?

I don't know who I am
I don't know where I am going
But many things influence my life
My family, they try to understand me
My friends, they think they know me
My responsibilities, they try to help me
My worries, they think they own me
My fears, they try to scare me
I see them all and they bear down on me
I don't know where I am
I don't know where I am going
But I will get there soon

Shelley Lyon Year 10



Rebecca Vorwerk 10F



Grandpa

One thing that amazes me about my grandpa is that he wouldn't be able to tell you what he had for dinner the previous day, but he would be able to rattle on about his life story without missing one tiny detail. He can remember everything from growing up to illegally making and selling alcohol in World War Two.

His voice cracked and choked slightly as he talked about his late wife, my grandmother. "You look just like her, you know." I could just make out a tear forming in his striking blue eyes, "You would have loved her."

The aged black and white photograph of this radiant woman filled my mind. Her eyes soft with kindness and full of love. I could now see the resemblance between the face of this stranger and my own.

I can't really imagine what Grandpa feels or how he felt so long ago, but I do know that time has slowly healed his wounds.

Rachelle St Ledger 10A

Loretta Lee 10 10G



"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast,"



Year Eleven

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 11
Principal: Ms. Elizabeth Leabart

Vietnam Trip 2004

Arrived in Ho Chi Minh City at 4.30 pm Tuesday 23rd November, 2004

Along the road from Gian to Ban Ho we descended a mountain to see an amazing view of the village.

The Cuchi tunnels were amazing...we explored 10-20 metres below the ground.

In Ban Ho we went down to the river near a beautiful waterfall.

The environment and friendly atmosphere were completely amazing. We feasted on deer, rice, soup, bread and vegetable curry.

We discovered some boys playing soccer outside a school. We played soccer with them and introduced them to AFL. It was great to communicate with them with laughter and smiles.

The children were already there when we arrived. There were many hesitant faces at first - but smiles and hugs filled the room as they seemed happy to have us there.

We spotted a wild elephant and passed through jungles, over rivers, past waterfalls, through fields of tall grasses and so much more...

Painted outside wall (at the Morning Star home for disabled children) with hearts, butterflies, trees, flowers etc. We wrote THE GIOI DIEU KY - meaning "Magical World."

...with sore feet, blisters, scratches, sweaty backs, knees, legs, foreheads, underarms and everywhere else! We set off for another exhausting (but beautiful) couple more hours of trekking. Ouch!

In Chicken Village...Liz and Hoang played feather (shuttle cock hacky sack) with the local kids...the kids were ace, as were their families.

We arrived at Hang Song Sot, a huge cave...inside was amazing, breathtaking views from the top.

Said goodbye to the lovely family who let us stay with them and started our trek out of the valley.

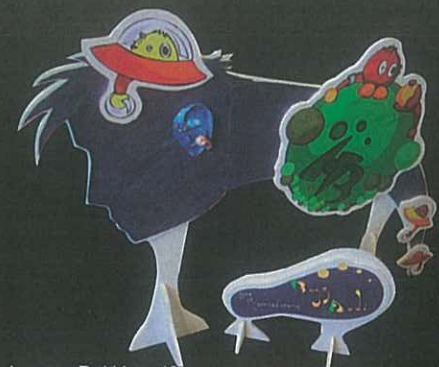
We had a great time and I'd like to say SEE VIETNAM!

Maddy Oates, Alex MacPherson, Lynley Beaver, Lizzie Stafford and Jessica Brady, 2004 Vietnam Trip. Teacher - Russell Thomson

Year Eleven

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 11
Principal
Ms Deborah Lohner

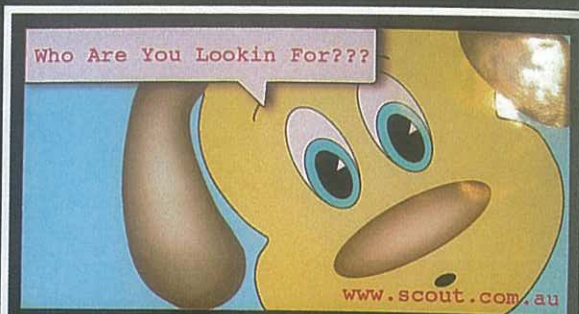
Visual Communication and Design



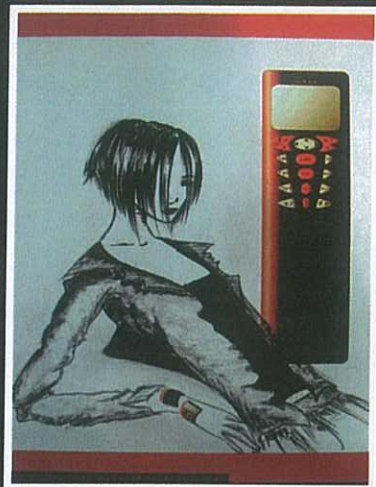
Lauren Rui Year 12



Jemma Phillips Year 12



Bronwyn Hopkins Year 12



Anna Durneva Year 12



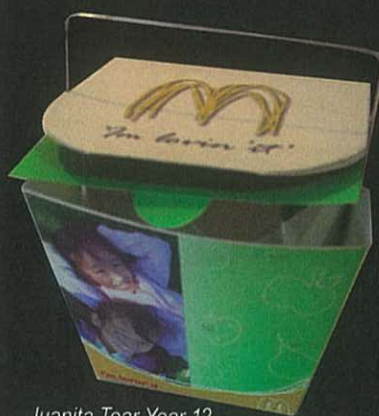
Bronwyn Hopkins Year 12



Alana Corra Year 12



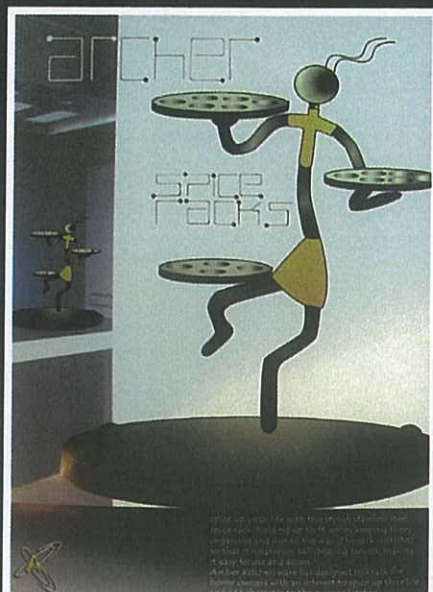
Amelia Marriott Year 12



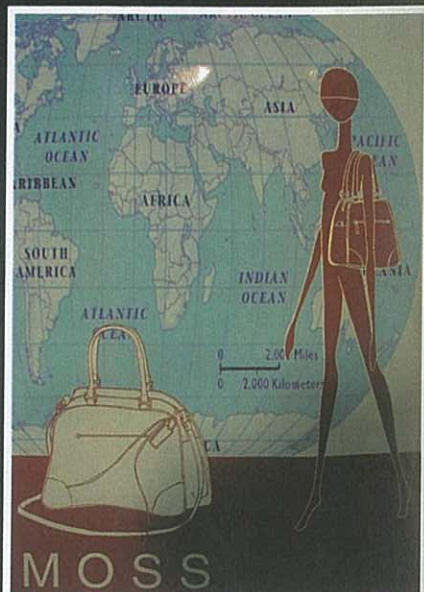
Juanita Tear Year 12



Angela Ladds Year 12



Lauren Banham Year 12



Jemma Phillips Year 12

VCE Art



Juanita Tear Year 12



Juanita Tear Year 12



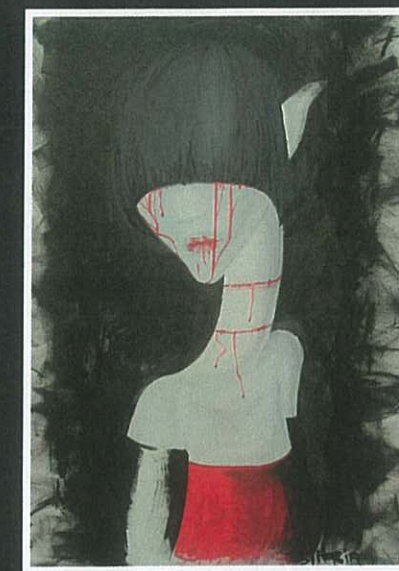
Rachel O'Keefe Year 12



Sara Son Year 12



Anna Durneva Year 12



Anna Durneva Year 12



Sara Son Year 12



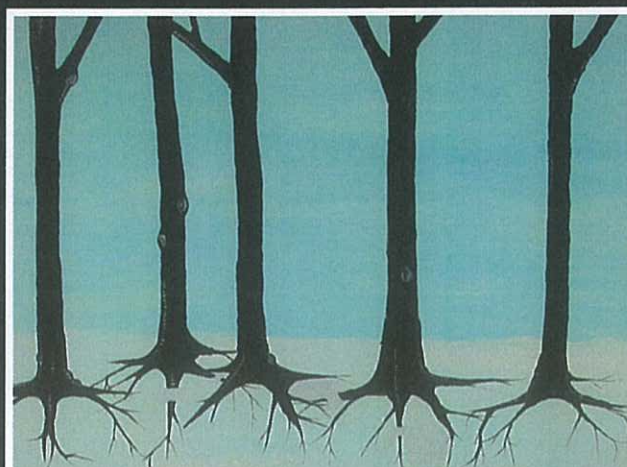
Alana Corra Year 12



Emma Fosternally Year 12



Jemma Phillips Year 12



Jemma Phillips Year 12



Alana Corra Year 12



Jemma Phillips Year 12

Year Twelve

CATINA BEER	ERICA BROOKS	NOOSHIA DRAUZE	EMMA FUNNELL	CANTYNI HOGGART	ANTRIA MARAFIRELLA	JESSICA LAU
LYNLY BEAVER	RYAN BOLD-GERNY	MEGHAN CUNNINGHAM	KATALJA EBEND	EMMA HILLIARD	SARAH KALLS	EMILY LADDAN
SAPAI BEAUGHERLE	SHAYLA BOUCH	ALANA CHIRIA	EMMA FOSTERHALLY	CLAIRE HEATH	RACHAEL JONES	ANGELA LADLES
SARACE BENTONLO	ALAN BOBROCK	CHARITTE CONWAY	MEGAN FOLKS	JACQUELINE HEAD	ELCISE JOHNSTONE	MARZITA KEMAROVY
MALORY BIRCAV	GEORGINA CLOAK	NADINE FLOYD	EMMA HOPKINS	LAUREN JOHNSTON	ELIE KOSTOPOLIS	ELIE KOSTOPOLIS
LAUREN BIRNBY	SARAH CLARKE	RACHEL RUTMAN	BEINDA HALUNAN	KELLY JENSEN	HILJA KRUGT	JESSICA DANIE ALBERTA DRIPSON
JACQUELINE BANFIELD	JENNY CHU	KARA FISHER	KATHRIN HALDANE	FELICITY JENNIN	JENNA KING	JESSICA DANIE ALBERTA DRIPSON
LESA BAMBURY	NESI CEUK	LAURA FETTES	TRAIITA HADDAD	FELICIA JABLONSKI	WHITNEY KESSEK	NOT FEATURED
TAYCE ALSTIN	FELICITY CAMPBELL	JESSICA FALKNER	CARRE GORMAN	REBECCA HUDSON	CARLY KENT	
VICKI ANTONIOPOULOS	JENNA CAMERON	DANIELLE EDWARDS	STYONE GODDARD	CLAIRE HOPKINS	ROSE KENNEDY	
MHE ANTONIOPOULOS	STACEY BURN	JACKIN FABLE	GEORGINA GIOANNILE	BRIANWYN HOPKINS	AMY KELLY	
SURESHA ANTHONY	HANNAH BURCE	ANNA JOURNEVA	CARLY GILMOIE	ELIZABETH HOPKING	LETTIA KEARNEY	
TALIA ALT	LAUREN BENNETT	NATALIE DOYLE	CATHERIN GILBERTHOZE	ASHLEIGH HOLDEN	MARTINA KARANAVIS	

Mentione Girls' Secondary College
Year 12
Principal
Ms Deborah Lehrer

Year Twelve

It's been a long day...

Fran was pregnant, so she didn't work right now. Jimmy was doing a PhD on something scientific. He had explained many times what it was on, but she never seemed to understand. Fran worked at a local newsagent, until the tests came back positive. He was delighted. They would finally start a real family. Both sets of parents were thrilled, and called weekly to check on progress and enquire about any ideas for names. Both grandmothers were knitting day and night. They had agreed not to know the sex. It would be a surprise, the greatest surprise of their lives. Everything would be just as it should.

"Are you happy?" she asked him.

"Of course," he said. "I'm so happy."

The weeks passed, and the miracle diminished. Jimmy grew thinner, and Fran expanded. His study was taken away, and he was forced to walk five blocks to the library.

She had been reading restlessly when he arrived home. One of his books. It was a very profound book, full of philosophy for a utopian world. It didn't make sense to her. When the apartment door rattled open, though, she didn't put the book down too quickly. He dropped his briefcase by the door and sighed, unwinding his scarf. He seemed to sigh more and more as the months passed.

"Hey, baby." Fran said. "How was your day? I wasn't sure what to do for dinner. I could make something. Jimmy? We could just order something in. I think that new Thai place delivers. Whatever you want."

"I don't mind," Jimmy said, and lowered himself onto the couch. "I don't mind."

"I'll just make something. We have some eggs. I could make an omelette. Would you like an omelette?" she said.

"It sounds good. I don't mind. It's been a long day," he said. Jimmy waited until she was in the kitchen to turn the TV on. She heard it click on, and her face crumpled. Fran took the eggs and the cheese and then went to the freezer. She pulled out some bacon, but the thought of it made her sick to her stomach. Jimmy loved bacon.

While the omelette crackled in the pan, Fran kicked her shoes off and danced a little on the cool linoleum floor. She looked at the ultrasound photo on the fridge, next to a photo from their honeymoon. Jimmy had his arms round her waist, and they were both laughing. Her hair was longer then. Fran touched her stomach. Perhaps they had been too young.

She used the good plates, the first time since they got them. They were going to have dinner parties, eating cheap meals off good plates with friends who understood what it was to be married young. They would laugh at their own formalities, and be witty and clever and beautiful. They would reinvent the idea of marriage within their small circle. Nothing would really change.

Fran carefully balanced the plates and cutlery and tottered out of the kitchen. Jimmy's eyes were fixed on the TV. She sat down next to him, and handed him his dinner. He smiled at her fleetingly, and looked back to the TV. Fran settled in and turned to him.

"How was your day?" she asked.

"Good. I got a lot of reactions," he answered. "Is this bacon?"

"That's great, baby," Fran said. "I'm so proud of you." Jimmy didn't reply. Fran racked her brains.

"I was hoping you might take a day off tomorrow. We still haven't found a stroller, and there's a sale down at the warehouse in the city." Jimmy didn't say anything, and kept chewing slowly. Fran remembered a talk show she had seen that afternoon. A man wanted to propose to his girlfriend on this show. But before he could, she told him she was leaving him for his cousin. Fran had laughed at his surprise, and then stopped abruptly. Her laugh seemed to echo through the apartment, disturbed only by the pleading of the man and the booing of the audience. She had cried loudly and switched the TV off. Why did she remember that?

"Are you listening to me, or watching TV?" she suddenly demanded.

"I'm watching TV. Please, Fran, it's been a long day. I just want to..." he said. Jimmy put his empty plate on the coffee table and pulled out a cigarette. He lit it and inhaled slowly.

"We'll talk after. I just wanted to -- never mind..." she said. Fran collected the plates and returned to the kitchen, away from the smoke. She washed the dishes, and Jimmy turned the TV off. She went in.

"Remember what I said? About the stroller? We could go in the morning, and then get some lunch. You can take the day off, can't you?" she asked quickly.

"Do we have to talk about this now? It's been a long day. I'm just so tired," he said.

"I just thought it'd be good for us to do it together. You've been so busy. And we have to see the doctor on Thursday. Remember?" she said.

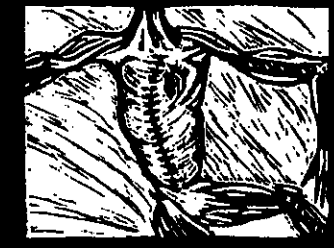
"I remember. I remember," he said. Jimmy stood up and turned off the light. He walked into their bedroom. Fran heard him start to undress. She stared at the book she had tried to read, in the dim light. She looked at the black and silent TV. She saw a piece of bacon that had escaped Jimmy's plate, and looked at the end of his cigarette, cold and black. She heard their bed creak.

Fran thought about herself. She thought about the child. She imagined the stroller she would buy. A brightly coloured stroller with a string of toys for the baby. A matching blanket and lacy pillow. She picked up the book again. She didn't need to understand it, she decided. She thought about the child again. Fran tried to imagine what it would look like. She couldn't see its face. She threw the book onto the couch. Fran shut her eyes. She saw the stroller.

Elizabeth Ryan Year 12



Rose Kennedy Year 12



Rose Kennedy Year 12



Anna Durneva Year 12

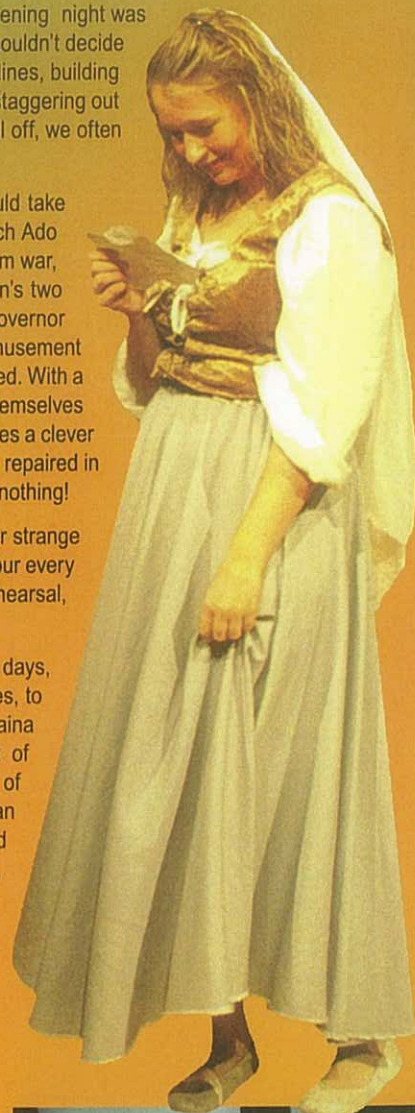
Much Ado About Nothing

It began with sunshine. The Year 11 theatre studies play, performed in the first semester. Opening night was a moment some of us were ecstatic about, some were scared witless about, and some just couldn't decide how they felt. The small class of 11 took on the massive task of deciding on a play, learning lines, building sets, making costumes and props, and rigging lights. Our class slowly pulled itself together, staggering out of bed on Sunday mornings to run over lines, block scenes and start building our set. To top it all off, we often found ourselves at school until after dark.

Ms. Engblom presented us with a choice of five Shakespeare plays, and warned us that it would take about two weeks to make the final decision on our play. Ten minutes later, we'd all settled on Much Ado About Nothing. Much Ado tells the story of Don Pedro of Aragon, who comes home victorious from war, accompanied by his friends Benedick and Claudio, his evil half-brother Don John and Don John's two henchmen Borachio and Conrad. They are invited to stay at the house of Leonato, the wealthy governor of Messina. Beatrice, Leonato's niece, and Benedick argue every time they meet, much to the amusement of others. Hero, Leonato's daughter, and Claudio fall desperately in love and soon plan to be married. With a little 'persuasion' from Don Pedro, Leonato, Hero and Claudio, Beatrice and Benedick soon find themselves falling in love. Don John, disgusted with the happiness generated by the upcoming wedding, creates a clever plan to ruin the marriages with the help of Borachio. However, the plot is discovered, the damage repaired in the nick of time and the whole affair turns out to be much ado about nothing!

We found that a great way to beat stress is to dance crazily to rather strange music, tell bad jokes, eat lots of hot chips, and indulge in silly behaviour every once in a while. Actually, 'once in a while' seemed to be every rehearsal, production meeting and in the hours leading up to a performance.

A huge thanks to Ms. Engblom for putting up with us on those stressful days, to Ms Smith and some of our mothers for all their help with costumes, to Sarah Watson for her help with lighting and to Sarah Navarra, Helaina Robinson and Jacqueline Younger for helping us out with front of house. And most importantly to our extras, who all brought a touch of something special to the play by adding their own influences. And an extra big thanks to Jessica Heard and Sharon Flitman, who wrote and sang original music just for the play! Our play began with sunshine, and we feel it ended with some too.



Therein do men from children nothing differ - Antonio

And Master, sir, do not forget to specify, when time and place shall assert, that I am an ass. - Dogberry

Alex Lewis and Helen van't Hof Year 11



CROW

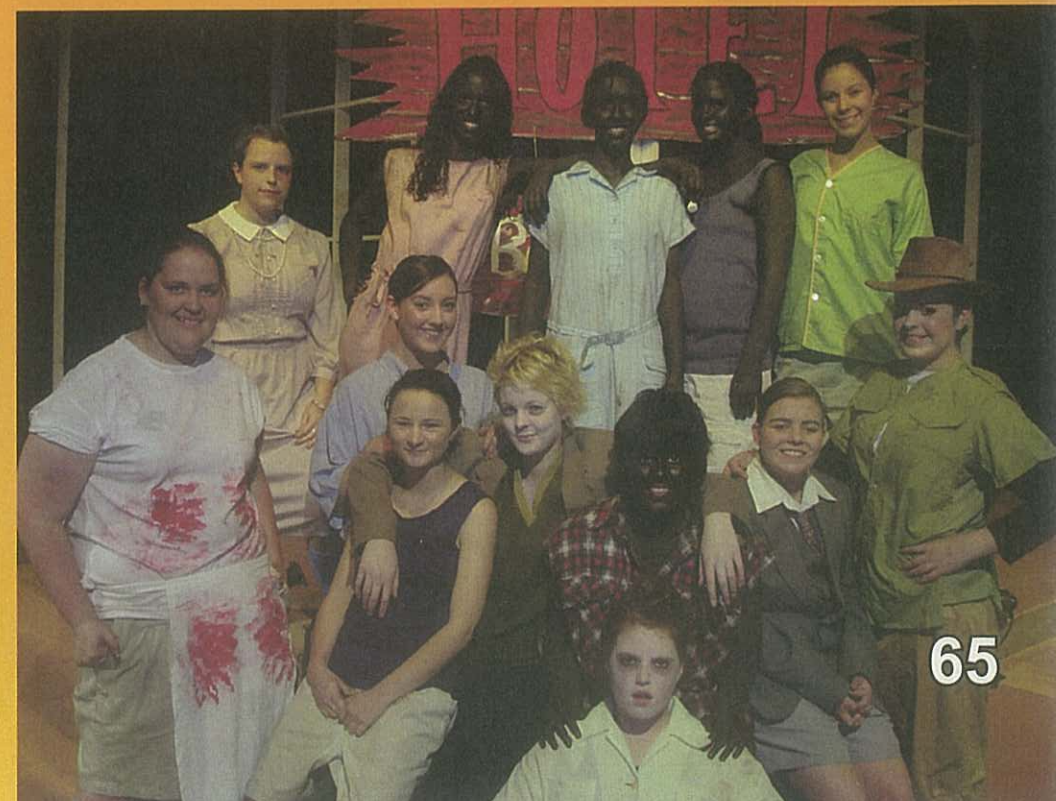
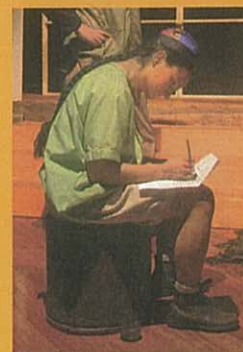
YEAR TWELVE THEATRE STUDIES

In the second week of Term Two, the fabulous Year Twelve Theatre Studies class performed an authentic Australian play "Crow", written by Louis Nowra. Set in 1940's Darwin, the time of the Japanese bombings, the play centers around Crow, a determined Aboriginal woman who continually fights the authorities for the rights to her tin mine. We watch her battle through thick and thin with her two sons, Vince, a passionate boxer who is in love with a half-caste called Ruth, and Michael, more commonly known as Boofhead, who is an energetic young man who swallows anything from live mice to money and papers. The invalid involved in the black market who controls his business from a wheelchair; the nightsoil collector; the level-headed lawyer, Darwin's Governor; a provost officer who gets Ruth pregnant, and a Chinese man, are all thrown into the struggles of Aboriginal rights and war.

Many hours were spent rehearsing at school, many trips taken across the road for hot chips, lines were constantly memorized and many frustrated tears shed. Miraculously, it all came together and our play was a great success. Nor will we forget the greatly appreciated help we had from certain fathers on our complex set. All four of our audiences were taken through a constant ride of emotions; whether laughing, crying or shaking in their seats, there was always a reaction.

But who can forget the one who put the whole show on the road, Mr. Perks. He not only directed but helped out with various aspects, taught us so much about the life of theatre as well as put up with thirteen highly stressed girls! Without his dedication and constant support, we would not have been as confident or successful as I believe we were. A huge thank you to him as well as the rest of his family who helped us when we were in humongous need.

I believe it's safe to say that Crow not only had an impact on the audience, but it has also melded our class into a huge family. We may have all had the occasional bicker but by the closing night we had made unbreakable friendships and priceless memories that will stay with us for the rest of our theatrical lives.
Jemma Hilliard 12 C



Year Twelve

Mentone Girls' Secondary College
Year 12
Principal
Ms Deborah Leiber



Mention "Study Camp" to any already stressed Year 12 and you're bound to provoke sighs of disbelief at the prospect of 'more work'.

However, much to everyone's delight, Year 12 Camp was not only a great chance to ready ourselves for the big year ahead, but a thoroughly enjoyable time in which we bonded with our peers and teachers and were able to have our first real taste of university life.

Thursday night was spent in the company of our teachers at a special orientation dinner, where we received a special visit and inspiring talk from Ms Lehner who wished us luck for the year ahead.



Afterwards, a Talent Show that gave students a chance to embrace and share their silly sides was staged. So amusing was the night that the teachers dubbed our year the "funniest yet". First place went to Brittany Harding-Farrenberg who entertained us all with her unique guitar playing, closing with a love serenade to Mr Feben!

However the best act was saved till last. Mr Kan impressed both students and teachers with his talented guitar playing, only to be upstaged by the VCE teachers taking the stage and lulling us into sleep with their wistful rendition of "The Wiggles".

Our residence for the three days was Mannix College, Monash University's residential college.

The first day, Wednesday, was spent listening to talks on crucial VCE matters, followed by a highly engaging and witty talk from Sonya Cameron who taught us how we could have a fun time exploring the night life while still being responsible.

Dragging ourselves out of bed the next morning, we embarked on an enlightening tour of Monash University which gave everyone a chance to contemplate the different courses offered. After lunch, the members of the VCE Committee were announced and everyone was proud to receive their special Year 12 badges.

Returning on Thursday with our heavy bags, we were issued our individual dorm rooms. As the rooms were small, many were excited to find ample room in the nearby common rooms to house secret late night poker matches...

The day's activities began with a lecture from Ms Gillet who reminded us that if we're to survive this year without having any major breakdowns we have to balance our social lives with the overwhelming amount of homework we're going to receive. Everyone then filled in a questionnaire that endeavoured to link our personalities to future professions.

In the afternoon, the pressure was alleviated by Ms Smith and Ms Engblom who taught us relaxation techniques and gave us a very welcome crash course in massage.



We then braved the wind and the rain and headed across the road to Monash Uni's sporting facilities to participate in different activities ranging from basketball to a step class.

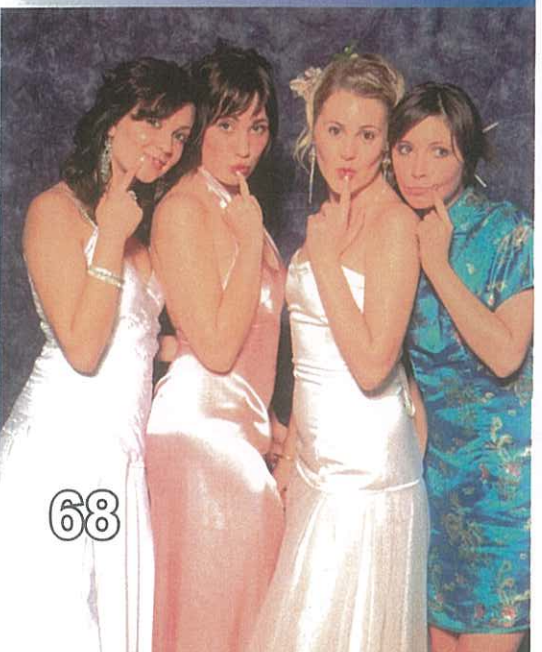
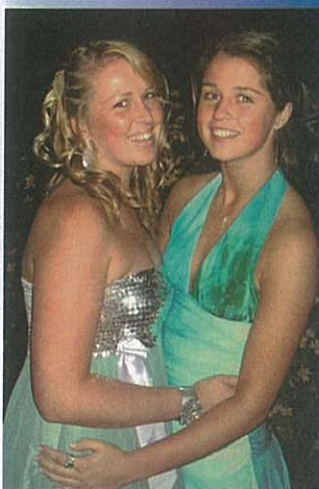
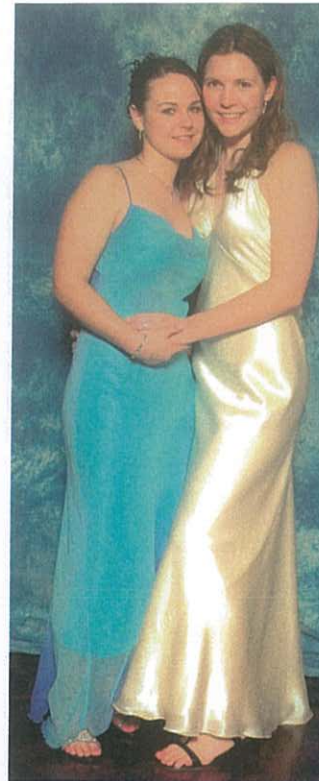
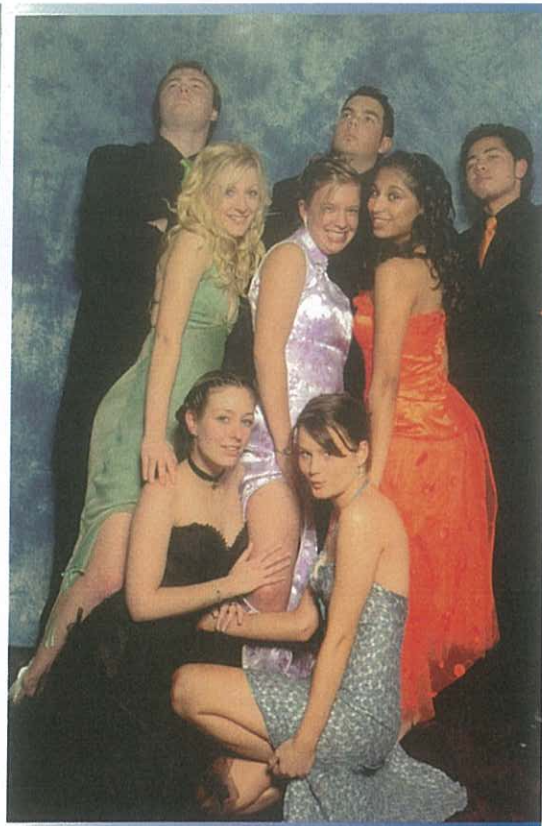
VCE Camp was a great way for the year twelves to kick off their last year together. Everyone learnt a lot over the three days and, most importantly, all agreed it was the best camp food ever.

Emily Laidlaw 12D



Year Twelve Camp

"Accept the challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory."



VCE BALL

One essential question needs to be addressed when considering the VCE Ball: *Could such a night ever live up to the hype and anticipation that had gripped everyone in the preceding months?*

After all, no other event in the school calendar has the power to dominate entire classes with fervent discussions about the intricate details of the chosen outfits (much to the annoyance of the teachers), as a school formal can.

By the time July 7th rolled around, the fake tan had set and the perfect lipstick hue had been decided on, leaving the Year Elevens and Twelves ready to descend on the 'International of Brighton' for the 'Big Night'.

The theme of the evening was "Simply Elegant" and that's exactly how everyone looked as they were chauffeured by limousines (and the odd Combi Van) into the classy environs of the reception centre.

Teachers, students and dates somehow managed to pack themselves into the ballroom, busy with waiters and photographers dashing about.

The excitement was palpable, with many having to shout above the squeals of how amazing everyone looked in order to be heard. Not even the tempting entrée of spring rolls and main course of chicken or lamb could quieten the racket.

After gorging on a dessert of chocolate mousse, it was time for the awards. Lisa Bambery of Year Twelve was crowned Queen of the Ball while Natalie Nanayakkara of Year Eleven was crowned Princess.

The always fabulous Mr Dunkley was dubbed 'Best Dressed Male Teacher' while Ms Wolf, sporting chic lace gloves, was awarded 'Best Dressed Female Teacher'. Eloise Johnstone of Year Twelve, resplendent in powder blue tulle, walked away with 'Most Unique Outfit'.

On the romance side of things, wedding bells chimed for Bonnie McKernan of Year Eleven and her beau who won 'Most Likely to get Married' whereas Riana Tucker of Year Twelve and her partner were awarded the dubious honour of most "Affectionate Couple."

The night, however, was not without controversy with many songs halted midplay by the DJ, telling us to return to our seats. All was forgiven, though, with the final number, "Love Shack", which summoned everyone on to the "D-Floor" for one last boogie into the night.

Hyperbole aside, the VCE Ball was a resounding success.

DISCLAIMER: the author still maintains the omission of "My Sharona" from the set list was unforgivable, but had a good night all the same.

Emily Laidlaw 12D



Mr Henry Silver Director of Music

What are your passions in life?

I like to teach, certainly music, listening and playing. I like reading and writing, bike riding and sport. They're the main things, and watching and guiding students to perform. I love spending time with my family, being involved in the education of my grown-up children. I see them now and again when I can and enjoy following their careers.

How long have you been doing music for?

As a teacher, this will be my twenty-seventh year, from the time I went to a country high school in Tallangatta (about five hours drive from Melbourne), and was given five hundred dollars to set up their music department. They didn't have one until then and did not even know where the nearest music store was. But as far as playing music, my parents told me that I was playing the piano at three.

What drove you to become a teacher?

I think having tried different careers or having studied science, traveled the world, having half-completed various courses, then coming back and discovering that after not having been involved in music for a few years that I missed it. I decided that I would change my degree from science to arts and music, so I ended up doing my teaching degree in my mid and late twenties.

How long have you been teaching at MGSC?

This is my thirteenth year, I came in an intake with a lot of other teachers, with Mrs Burgess, Miss Brown, Mrs Grebler and Miss Engblom. A whole lot of us came at a time when the school was getting new blood. In a similar way, some of us are now moving on and waiting for the school to get new blood again.

How has the school changed since you've been here?

It's hard to notice when you're actually there, change is more noticeable when you are away and come back. But I think the main thing that has changed would be the number of activities that we are all involved in, such as all the sports, the music, all the extra curricular activities and the level of student involvement. These days there are also many more opportunities for students to become leaders, with the school captain places available. There are also the obvious changes, with the new buildings that have gone up. But apart from that, the teachers and the girls in many ways have not changed, except I get the feeling that these days, the girls are a lot busier and perhaps we are asking more of them than we ever have before. Certainly in the performing arts.

Have you got any stories about your days as a teacher?

There was a time, I think it must have been about five or six years ago, when the Jazz Band used to do a regular gig at the Melbourne Town Hall. It was for the Hollingsworth annual dinner which was a huge occasion attended by the Lord Mayor, people from industry and the Governor General. I remember that it was always very difficult to park the bus. So I would drop the girls off, we would set up and then I'd park the bus a little while away in a lane way. It was rather difficult to manoeuvre the bus and walk back. On one particular occasion I had forgotten where I had parked the bus. It took me a long time to find the bus, and when I did find the it, for



some reason the key wouldn't fit! I called the RACV. They came and told me that I had the wrong set of keys. I had left the right set of keys in the Hall.

What are your plans for retirement?

Well I don't actually plan to retire, I intend to ease off a bit. Which means having more of the weekends and evenings to myself to do some more family things and to do a lot of the physical things while I still can, you know, doing some long tours and some hikes that I've always wanted to do like Cradle Mountain and Hinchonbrook Island, do some longer bike trips, maybe go to Europe and some other places while my body still stands up. And tutor English, teach some music, maybe do some part time, or relieving work at Mentone or other schools in the area.

Anything else you would like to say?

With all such moves, it is very difficult to leave. Just wondering what your life is going to be like, stepping into the unknown, an experience that you don't have very many times in your life, is an adventure in itself. I will regret leaving all the staff and the students here. I've already received a lot of messages from students saying they will be sorry to see me go and it makes me feel a little sad. Even so, I am happily looking forward to moving on, because I am not going when it's finally 'time to go', but because I still have many useful things to do in life.

Amelia Page 11F

Mrs Sue Kinneally



How long have you been teaching?

29 years.

And how old are you?

175 (laughs)

Have you always taught painting, ceramics & graphics?

No. I have taught History, English, needlework, general Art, Set Design, Multimedia – and lots of other stuff that I can't remember – Technical Drawing being one of those subjects that I'd rather not remember! At my first school (in 1973) I was asked to teach physics – this was rather a tall order but reflects the dire shortage of teachers that Victoria had to deal with in those days. Needless to say I convinced the school quite rapidly that I was not the science teacher they had hoped I might be (they did need an art teacher too – but hoped I might be a bit more 'multi-skilled'). I trained originally as a general art teacher at the National Art School in Newcastle.

Teaching at this school has given me many opportunities to learn new things. For me that is really important and helped to keep my enthusiasm alive. I am a regular participant in workshops, especially those in practical ceramics, multi media and painting where I can learn new skills to take back to the classroom as well as to enrich my own art practice. This has been the best part of teaching for me – I am a great believer in investigating stuff that looks 'interesting', getting 'down and dirty' with materials and techniques, learning to use new computer programmes, trialling new ideas and making things. Especially making things! Learning really is for life if you want satisfaction and joy in achieving challenges that you set for yourself. I found I had to keep moving and learning if I was going to have a good time in the classroom and hopefully give students the best opportunities I could. And of course art itself is a fluid thing – the certainties that I learnt at art school just don't apply anymore. But it is exciting and rewarding if you get involved. Of course to me art is the one most important and challenging subject on the curriculum. It's certainly not about just having a good time "expressing yourself" and making groovy things with paint and clay, although that is part of it of course – it is every bit as intellectually stimulating and demanding as any other subject – in fact I think that it probably asks more of you in terms of analysis and thought. (I would say that of course!)

Did you aspire to be a teacher?

No! I wanted to be an artist, but that's a rather unsure career. And I also got a scholarship to Teachers College, which paid better than a scholarship to Art College (which I had to refuse!) My mother wasn't keen on me taking the chance. I really hated being a teacher at first; I really wanted to get away from school. And I'm STILL at school! (Strangely I don't regret it!)

What are you going to do when you leave?

I have a wonderful studio at my house that I've just set up. (I'm saving up for a new kiln – otherwise it is heaven on earth and I am lucky to have a wonderful husband who has made it all possible for me.) I'm going to do ceramic work, paint pictures, and multimedia. But mostly paint pictures. I'm also hoping to give some after school classes for interested people. I'm looking forward to spending the rest of my life making art. I might do some relief teaching too.

I'm also really looking forward to spending more time with my family – my husband who is kind and fun and who is a musician with the bass guitar and pedal steel as his abiding passions in life; and my son and daughter who are both charming, intelligent and amazingly capable young people of whom I am inordinately proud.

What are you going to miss?

(She pauses)

The girls. The girls, obviously, and all the great friends I have on this super fantastic staff. The stress I can do without!

Have you worked at any other school?

Elwood High (first year!). It was a disaster! I had spent a year at teachers college, writing a thesis on free schooling, and of course I didn't get to teach at a free school! (Note: on reflection I'm quite glad I didn't!) I lived in America for a year and did a bit of travelling. I then didn't go back to teaching until after I had my first child. Then I went to Eaglehawk High school in Bendigo for a year, followed by a year at John Gardiner High School in Hawthorn. I arrived at Mentone in 1979 and haven't left here since!

Do you have any regrets coming to MGSC?

Only that it's taken me so long to get back to my own studio.

Sue Kinneally has been doing the magazine since 1997 when they were using bromides and layout pages! Thanks so much for all your work over the years! We'll miss you.

Helen van't Hof 11H

Mr Michael Stewart

Teaching was in the blood. My Dad was the first teaching Chaplain in Victoria and my Mum was Principal class at Mentone Primary school. I arrived at Mentone Girls' High School in 1977. I am one of the longest concurrently serving staff members at the school. I look back to THEN and I look at NOW and I think to myself "Wow! What a great trip that was!"

I have learnt so much! On reflection of course that's what schools are about aren't they?

I started teaching in the Metal Technology area called Material Studies. I taught "Jewellery/Silver smithing/Sculpture from Forms 1-6. I finished setting up and running a Media Studies Unit. Simply put, it has all been about "learning how to do" and then teaching "how to do!" Learn, achieve and above all have fun.

The school has given me the privilege of being at the very fore front of Media Technology and Education in Victoria and in Australia. In 1995 we were the first Secondary College to have a "computer off line video editing system" It was cutting edge technology then. It is now available in most home personal computers. A decade is such a short time. My time here has been very much like those of the students taught here. I tried new things, people believed in what I was doing and that I could do it. I made mistakes and had great successes, and in the middle of it all was all the "boring must do stuff", the hard yakka.

Schools can be very sheltered environments and often divorced from the real world. This school has a great academic tradition and historically broad girl orientated-curriculum. That is fantastic. What do I think this school does best? It creates strong independent survivors, who are tough. They need to be in a real world that still disadvantages women in so many different ways. I have tried to encourage my media students to be risk takers, tough and resilient and above all to be passionate about what they do and to never give, up no matter how bad it gets.

Education is an ongoing life-long experience. I leave one path and move in new directions. Develop my media production company, become a primary home carer for my young family. New skills, new challenges.

I wish to thank all those with whom I had the privilege of coming in contact with on my journey. It's been great. I'm getting off at this station. The train moves on. Thank you.

Mike Stewart 1977-2005



Editors Report



Emily Laidlaw

The start of the year was fairly daunting for the magazine committee. From where we were standing, it looked like we were about to drown in a sea of articles, photos and school events to be reported on.

Yet, we feel incredibly honoured to have had the opportunity to record such a momentous year in the life of MGSC: The school's 50th Year Anniversary.

Thanks go to the tireless effort of the Magazine Committee who spent many lunchtimes and Monday nights slaving away to perfect this keepsake you will now enjoy for years to come.

A huge thankyou to Mrs Kinneally and Ms Smith for lending us their ideas, support, experience and time, and for putting up with our sometimes utterly bizarre moods...oh, and for supplying us with a small treasure of sugary delights. Maybe they were just bribing us to come to meetings?

Most importantly, thank you to the students who submitted their work for the Magazine. It wouldn't be nearly as interesting if it wasn't for your masterpieces, and we dare say there might be a few blank pages!!

Emily Laidlaw 12D and Alex Lewis 11E



(l-r): from back Rosie Cangadis-Douglass, Helen van't Hof, Zoe Walsh; second row: Alex Lewis, Tess Ryan, Genevieve Ayre, Amelia Page front: Danielle Shannon, Sharon Filtman. (abs: Gretta Nerenberg, Emily Laidlaw)



Performing Arts Festival

Elephants paraded across the stage of the Nina Carr hall, as the hired clowns juggled nine rods of flaming fire, while riding crazily around on ten foot unicycles... well, not quite, but the 2005 Performing Arts Festival was good! From August 31st – September 2nd, students from MGSC donned music uniforms, school uniforms and other outfits almost as wacky. For three nights students from all year levels put their talent out on the line (or should we say stage) for all to see.

During the course of the festival, renowned bands performed including the school Madrigal, Drum Ensemble, Stage Band, String Ensemble and the Jazz Band, as well as some new faces such as the Anniversary Band and Schism.

For three consecutive nights, a cast of 25 students from years 7-12 entertained fascinated audiences each night in a play written, directed and starred in by Annabel Green of Year 10. The play, about Marilyn Monroe and her struggle to handle both career and relationship in a performance titled 'The 50 Year Itch' was written to commemorate the school's 50 year anniversary celebration and received rave reviews from audience members, who were amazed that such a professional and entertaining show was put on without any adult assistance.

Finalists from the song writing competition entranced the audience as they performed their unique compositions before the captivated crowd. From dozens of hopefuls, Schism – a foursome from year 9 came in at second place in the instrumental section, with first place going to a group of year 12's who performed a jazzy number. In the song writing section, Claire Valentine brought in second place with her enchanting song, to which she accompanied herself on the piano, and first place in the competition went to the Flitman sisters, who performed a composition written by Rachel, complete with spine tingling harmonies.

Two groups of year eight students wrote and performed plays, contrasting today's school life to that of 50 years ago, and highlighting the differences of life today to life back then.

Nina Carr also made a 'haunting' appearance in the form of creepy lighting, technical difficulties and some spooky banging from beneath the seats, she obviously isn't pleased with what has happened to her school. Kudos to the year 11s for their academy-worthy performance. Although Helen van't Hof, Sarah Watson and Sarah Navarria worked from behind the scenes in sound and lighting, they really did light up the stage!

Everyone who put in to the Arts Festival 2005 shone like a star from wherever they were. It was a fabulous three nights and I'm sure it won't be the last you'll be seeing of many of these talented young people!

Sharon Flitman and Genevieve Ayre, year 10



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NOT FEATURED: FRANCOIS BHUGON, PETER BLICK, MARGARET BOSTAILLE, MICHELLE CLELAND, LYNNE COOK, LUKE DE MUNCK, MARIA FAKTOPOULOS, VALERIE FELSENFAL

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NOT FEATURED: LEONID GRIGORYAN, SOPHIE JANKA, ROBIN LIDDELL, BARBARA LIVETT, RON PARKER, GALINA SHAFIR, REGINA SLAVSKY, MARJORIE THOURON.