Important Dates:

- 13 September - Year 12 last day of classes
- 13 September - Performing Arts Awards Presentation - 6pm - College Hall
- 17 September - Year 12 boarders parents/daughter dinner - 6pm
- 19 September - Year 12 Formal
- 21 September - Indigenous Experience commences
- 07 October - Labour Day Public Holiday

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REMINDER:

- 16 September - Year 12 Graduation
- 19 September - Last Day of classes for Term 3
- 08 October - Classes resume Term 4
Dear Parents and students,

I would like to begin this Bulletin by thanking the parents and friends who have made our Spring Fair this year a great community event. This year there were many new attractions including the jumping castle and a very comprehensive side show alley which featured the SVC DAD’S STALL. For a modest amount of money participants may have won a very desirable bottle of wine. Equally the prize could be less valuable, but as much fun to win.

This year the ‘chicken and champagne’ area at the back of Garcia was popular as a respite from walking from the car park to the lawn looking at the fantastic stalls and spending money on the chocolate wheel. There seemed to be something happening everywhere I looked and mostly there were happy and smiling faces. Many of those who attended were from our community but also we attracted a large number of our neighbours who have now marked this day on their annual calendar of events to attend. We have some local families of the college who own businesses and they were there with the stalls which brought colour and life to our fair.

The weather was on our side and it was a delightful day of fun. The concert which was happening throughout the day was organized by the students and Ms Catherine Johnson. The variety of talent was amazing and we were thoroughly entertained.

One of the highlights of the day and much anticipated, was the Country Stall which was organized by Georgie Forlico and with the support and contribution of country families. It is an opportunity for city families to enjoy fresh and home-made goods from the kitchens of our country friends. It is a highlight of our Spring Fair and it also reinforces the strong link we have with the families of the country.

As always these events take organization and perseverance to make the dream come to reality. The two lead organizers are Rob and Jo Goldrick who are parents of Year 8 girl, Madeleine. They had an energetic and enthusiastic committee which included the President of the P&F, Mrs Elizabeth, and a representative of the College, Ms Lyn O’Neill. The team were able to convince our parents to get behind this worthy fundraising event. It is opportunities like these that say to me the community of St Vincent’s College is alive and well with plenty of enthusiasm for the future.

The money raised from events such as these will go to the P&F who fund important improvements in the College. Some of these include this year, new chairs in the College Hall; furnishing the Food Technology kitchen and assisting in paying for the sound system in the College Hall. I am blessed to have such a generous group of families and supporters in our community and that all our girls benefit directly from the generosity of the parents and our neighbours.

Farewell to Year 12, 2013

This is the last Bulletin for our graduating students who will finish classes next Friday. This rite of passage is significant in the lives of young women who are making the transition from childhood to adulthood. It is a time of excitement and anxiety as there are still HSC exams to sit and the wait for results which may determine the future of each girl.

In the two weeks from the end of the Trial exams the girls have been involved in a program of review in their classes as well as listening to presentations on safe party behaviour, future career advice and practising for the upcoming Graduation Mass. This program is unique to this College and gives the girls excellent preparation for the HSC exams in October. The teachers have prepared the girls very well and they can be confident that they are ready for the next challenges in their lives. The whole College community will be present for the Graduation Mass and the Academic Assembly which follows. Parents of the Graduands then join staff for the Valedictory Dinner. This year will be the third year for this special occasion where girls who have graduated only a few hours earlier in the day are presented in their uniforms to parents and staff. They receive a gift from the College and then we all enjoy a dinner together. This event marks the end of a long day of celebration and for some families who leave the College family, it is tinged with sadness.

I look forward to seeing the many friends and family associated with this group of Year 12 students to the ceremonies which are planned, and I pray for their daughters in the upcoming exams that they are calm and confident. This group of young women are confident and positive and have had a successful year this year. They have been enthusiastic members of our community and they have set the standard for College spirit and support for the Houses for others to follow. They have much about which to be proud and we are proud of them.

Library Activities

When you read our Bulletin it is full of information and excitement. It reflects in a snapshot the many layers of commitment to the spirit of the College. The Library is a diverse and exciting place where girls with a wide range of interests are given an opportunity to thrive. The Book Week activities which are mostly organized by the girls, were a fun way to engage with reading and exploring ideas. This is also the case of the parent night held last month with special guests offering insights and challenge to us. Congratulations to Dr Sukovic and her staff for their creative and tireless efforts.

At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God. At different times as a community our faith is tested and we understand the strength of prayer in bringing us closer to God.
St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
HELPING PEOPLE

Crazy Hat and Sock Day

On Wednesday 7 August, the College hosted a Winter Appeal fundraiser ‘The Crazy Hat and Sock Day’ to support the work of St Vincent de Paul in our local community. Students and staff participated by wearing their craziest winter accessories including hats, socks, scarves, leg warmers and ear muffs in exchange for a gold coin donation.

The day culminated with a gathering of donations including blankets, toiletries and tinned food along with a BBQ, music and fashion parade in the paved area. Our guests from St Vincent de Paul, including the President of the Sydney Region, Hannah Rodrigues, were touched by the dedication and generosity of the College in helping those in need. It is important to remember those in our community who have been doing it tough this winter, in particular the increasing number of families with young children.

St Vincent’s College raised over $1,600 for SVDP which can provide food and assistance to those in need, school uniforms and books for kids, and a family with access to crisis accommodation, such as the services at Vincentian House where our students provide homework help every Wednesday afternoon.

A big thank you to the Year 11s for organising the collections, the Vinnies at SVC girls who organised and ran the day, and the College community for their ongoing support.

Ms Alice Dobson
Social Justice Co-ordinator
Archbishop’s Award for Excellence
On Tuesday 3 September Ms Gurr, Ms Tardo, Ms Hennessy and Ms McCabe accompanied Morgan Bryant to the Archbishop’s Awards for Excellence held at St Mary’s Cathedral. Since 1999 Catholic schools in the Sydney Archdiocese are invited to nominate students who contribute in tangible ways to supporting the mission of the Church through: involvement in Eucharistic ministry; engagement in social justice initiatives; demonstration of compassionate, courageous leadership; and academic achievement. This year Morgan Bryant and was the recipient of this award for St Vincent’s College. Erin O’Brien read the following citation at the celebration which outlined the reasons why Morgan was nominated.

Morgan encapsulates the most important Values of the College. She is involved in the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in the Sydney Archdiocese at St Mary’s Church, Erskineville and the Reconciliation Church, La Perouse. She was a youth representative at the 2012 NATSICC (National Aboriginal Torres Strait Island Catholic Council) Conference in Melbourne. She represents the College at many Aboriginal events such as the Sorry Day Mass at La Perouse in 2013. Morgan attended the Youth Conference with Cardinal Pell in 2013. She is currently Boarding House Co-Captain and has been a representative on the Boarding SRC while being heavily involved with organising Boarder’s Masses at St Canice’s, Elizabeth Bay.

From all accounts it was a wonderful celebration of the work and ministry of young people in the Archdiocese. Thank you to Morgan’s family and her friends who helped celebrate this outstanding achievement with her.

Events in the Chapel
Over the last month there has been much happening in the Chapel. Every Thursday morning we hold Mass which is prepared in Religion classes by the students and their teachers; we conclude the Class Mass program next Thursday with Religion Studies 10.3 and 10.4 Class Mass. Throughout this time we have been blessed to have Fr Chris Jenkins sj, Fr Paul Rouse op and Fr Phil Crotty sj celebrate the Masses with us; sharing stories of faith and times when they have encountered God. The Class Mass program allows students the opportunity to participate intimately in the Mass, with students preparing music, prayers, readings and in some cases, the Mass booklets. Thank you to the teachers who have guided the students in this program.

An exciting part of the Class Mass program at the College is the sacramental program which is run by Sr Anne in conjunction with Fr Chris as our Parish Priest. This year we celebrated the Confirmation of Lucy Doel, who on 23 August was welcomed into the full Communion of the Catholic Church. This special Mass was a wonderful celebration of community and faith. Lucy invited members of her family and her sponsor to the 9.3 and 9.4 Religion Studies Class Mass. Fr Phil, who celebrated the Mass reminded us all of the special graces we have been given and called on us to be magnanimous in the sharing of our gifts and talents. If you would like your daughter to participate in the Sacramental Program in 2014 (for Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation) please contact Sr Anne or me at the College. Preparations for the sacraments commence in Term 1 2014; celebration of the Sacraments will occur during the Class Mass program in Term 3 2013.

Another addition to our prayer life in the College this week has been the daily praying of a Novena for Greg Healey, the father of Gabrielle in Year 8. The Novena through the Intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop is being said in community over nine consecutive school days. Each lunch time the Chapel is filled with students and staff who come to pray for Mr Healey and his family, and their own special intentions. The Novena that we are currently praying is included on the following page.
This powerful form of prayer is available to all members of our community who are experiencing challenges and hardships in their lives. If you would like special intentions made there are a number of ways this can happen; including novenas, private intentions, rosaries and Masses. Please contact Sr Anne or me at the College to discuss how we can support you in prayer during these times.

**Novena Prayer**

Ever generous God,

You inspired Saint Mary MacKillop
to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely or needy.

With confidence in Your generous providence and through the intercession of Saint Mary MacKillop

we ask that You grant our request for your healing and care of Greg Healey, father of Gabrielle.

**Statement of Faith**

We believe in God’s loving kindness for all people.

Through our faith and hope in God’s love we are confident that our prayers will be granted.

We pray through the intercession of St Mary MacKillop whose life demonstrated the effects of God’s great love.

We humbly and joyfully acknowledge God’s honour and glory in our world.

Ms Rachel McLean

**Director Faith Formation and Mission**

**In Sympathy**

The College community offers its condolences to the following who have lost a love one recently:

Kodie Mason-Bunton (Year 7)  
Aunt; Meg Milross (Year 12)  
Grandmother; Grace Harding (Year 8)  
Grandmother; Ms Cheryl O’Brien (staff)  
Mother; Ms Alison Coates (staff)  
Brother.

Ms Helen Marshall

**Careers Adviser**

**Director of Teaching & Learning**

Last Thursday 29 August marked the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King’s “I have a Dream” speech. The speech may mean different things to different people but I think the essence is about striving for a just future. At St Vincent’s College we hold true the value of justice and use this value to underpin our assessment program. Our Year 12 students have completed their internal assessment program while Year 11 students are currently nearing the end of the Preliminary course assessment. I have noticed that there can be increased anxiety around assessment times. Nerves play their part and are natural but anxiety can be brought about by the perception that assessment is a measure of an individual’s worth. I would rather have perceptions change to see assessment as a formative process. Like Martin Luther’s dream, if individuals have a desire to be something else, they first need to know realistically who they are currently. Assessments provide and opportunity, a barometer if you like, that allows an individual to see what they currently do well and the areas they need to improve. Once perspectives change then assessments become more attractive and potentially more valuable.

I take this opportunity to reinforce our practices which are underpinned by the value of justice. While assessments are part of any education system, St Vincent’s has processes for appeals in place for any student who suffers illness and misadventure. However, it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that the necessary communication and documentation is presented fully and in a timely manner. Details about assessment appeals vary slightly for students in Years 7-9 to those in Years 10-12. Note that for external assessment, such as the Higher School Certificate and other institutions, there are similar but separate processes each with their necessary paperwork. In all cases the recommendation is, if all possible, a student should sit the task and make it known of the illness/ misadventure suffered prior to the task. There are many benefits to this course of action which include:

1. That a student may perform better than a possible estimated result.
2. The student receives valuable feedback.

Mr Robert Graham

**Director of Teaching & Learning**

**Careers News**

**LAW at ACU - 'More than one Career' Panel Discussion**

*Date: 12 September 2013    Time: 6pm-7.30pm*

*Venue: ACU North Sydney Campus - Ryan Auditorium, 40 Edward Street, North Sydney*

*Cost: FREE    Contact: Kate Fenech: 03 9953 3539*

The Faculty of Law is hosting a panel of leading law professionals who will discuss the benefits and opportunities from studying law at university. This event is an opportunity for students to find out about the diverse range of careers and opportunities that ACU law graduates may undertake.

**The Hotel School Sydney Open Day**

*Date: 13 September 2013    Time: 10am-3pm*

*Venue: 60 Phillip St. Sydney*

*Cost: FREE    Contact: Anne McGory 02 8249 3200*

The Hotel School Sydney offers a Bachelor of Business in Hotel Management. This Open Day is offered to groups of students who wish to research a degree in hotel management.

Ms Helen Marshall

**Careers Adviser**
Have you heard of Ask.fm? Ask.fm is a popular site amongst teens, especially girls, with over 40 million users world-wide. The site allows users to ask questions anonymously. These questions can be hurtful, sexually explicit and enables bullying.

The Heads of House and I have been dealing with incidents of misuse of this website. Earlier in the year I wrote to parents through the Bulletin about the site and of how to disable an account. It is important that we work with parents in the girls’ management of their online activity. The below information will be useful for you and your daughters, so as to manage their online activity.

One smart tip for students that are going to use this site is to know how to disable anonymous questions, and know how to block a user. These steps won’t eliminate bullying however it’s a small step towards increasing their safety. It only takes one nasty comment to undo 100 nice ones, so disabling anonymous questions is not only about safety, but about keeping their self-esteem intact.

It’s also handy to let your daughter know that every single click they make in the cyber world is connected to an IP address and that IP address can be traced back to them. The below is from http://ask.fm/about/privacy

Ms Marina Ugonotti
Director of Welfare

Disclaimer
However, any information collected by ask.fm may be shared if it is necessary to investigate, prevent or prosecute illegal activities, suspected fraud, violations to the Terms and Conditions, or as otherwise required by law or a valid government request (including, but not limited to, search warrants, subpoenas or court orders). Ask.fm may also share information if it is acquired by or merged with another company. In this event, ask.fm will notify you before information is transferred and becomes subject to a different privacy policy. Ask.fm reserves the right to use and disclose any information collected that is not in personally identifiable form.
From the English Department

This has been a very busy term for the English Department.

Extension 2 English

English Extension 2 Major Works were sent to the Board of Studies on Friday 16 August. Two candidates completed Major Works. Olivia Costa’s Major Work, titled Two Hundred Billion, is a short story that explores the need for love and connectedness in the postmodern context of uncertainty and cynicism. Henriette Tkalec’s critical response, Articulating Silence, examines the role of literature in helping to heal the trauma of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the USA.

Oratory

The annual St Vincent’s Oratory competition was held in week 3. All students in Years 7-10 completed a speaking assessment task in their classes. This task develops the girls’ confidence in public speaking and certainly showcases the talented speakers in the College. Class finalists were then invited to deliver their speeches in front of the whole form.

Year Group Oratory finalists were:

**Year 7**
Ellie Sabados
Juliet Harms
Bronte Funnell
Olivia Passerini
Eugenie Maynard
Josie Larkin
Catherine Chesher
April O’Donnell
Annabelle Barnsley
Gabriella Turco

**Year 8**
Kate King
Stephanie Mano
Ellena Constantinou
Lara Somers
Charlotte Ramsay
Sarah Keogh
Joey Diroy
Bridie Molihan
Shana Morales
Dominica Crosby

**Year 9**
Lilianne Hatfield
Elena Waring
India Wyvill
Hana Michaelis-Robertson
Chloe Morrissey
Georgie Starr
Henrietta Gruzman
Paris Stoker

**Year 8 Oratory Finalists**

**Year 7 Oratory Finalists**

**Year 10**
Harriet Benjamin
Georgia Zanarini
Claudia Jelic
Polly Sayers
Miranda Cross
Grace Mitchell
Sophie Burton Clark
Gabi Stapleton

**Year 9 Oratory Finalists**

**Year 7 Oratory Finalists**

**Year 10 Oratory Finalists**
Runner up in each Year Group:
Year 7: Gabriella Turco
Year 8: Dominica Crosby
Year 9: Georgie Starr and Paris Stoker
Year 10: Grace Mitchell

Congratulations to the Year Group Oratory winners:
Year 7: Ellie Sabados
Year 8: Ellena Constantinou
Year 9: Henrietta Gruzman
Year 10: Gabi Stapleton
The Oratory final will be held later in the term to determine the College Oratory Champion for 2013.

Markus Zusak
On Friday 23 August we were again fortunate to have renowned Australian author Markus Zusak speak to all Year 10 students and hold a workshop with Year 11 English Extension students. Year 10 study his novel *The Book Thief* as part of their English course. The book has been listed on the *New York Times'* list of best-selling fiction for several years and a film of the novel is due to be released early next year.

Both Markus’ presentation to Year 10 and the writing workshop were great successes. Markus has been coming to the College for 7 years now. We are very lucky to have him as he rarely speaks at schools. We hope that Markus will be able to come back to St Vincent’s next year.

A special mention to the Year 10 girls who chaired the talk: Edwina Waters introduced Markus, Louisa Flach and Georgia Devenish posed questions on behalf of the year group and Rebecca Carr gave the vote of thanks.

Ms Deborah Quigley
Head of English

As part of the College’s 2013 Design + Create + Perform celebration of the achievements of our HSC students, the Visual Arts and Design and Technology Departments exhibited the works of our 2013 Year 12 students.

These works represent the examination submissions for our students and the months of dedicated engagement with the practical components of these courses was evident in the works exhibited.

For Design and Technology students, their examination submissions were represented through Major Design Projects. The exhibition presented the fully realised designed objects that students had produced. Included with the completed designs were samples of the experimentation and investigation undertaken as part of the design process. The beautifully produced and detailed design folios also exhibited provided an insight into the meticulous documentation that students are required to produce in this course.

Visual Arts students are required to present a body of work which represents their development of an artmaking practice over the Year 12 course. Unlike Design and Technology, these students do not present any of the extensive supporting work that leads to the development of their body or work. It is easiest to think of the examination submission as an exhibition of an artist’s work; the work is required to speak for itself. Besides being impressed by the quality of work produced, we were impressed by the wide variety of concerns, styles and media evident across the students’ work.

I would like to thank Ms Margaret Murton and Ms Sana Issa for their care and direction of the students, and Ms Stella O'Toole and Ms Helen McCarthy for their assistance to both teachers and students.

Mr Graeme Colman
Head of Visual Arts and Design
POCKET AUTHORITY

CALLING ALL STUDENTS WHO REQUIRE A POCKET AUTHORITY.
YOU WILL NEED TO DROP OFF YOUR DRY CLEANED BLAZER TO
THE UNIFORM SHOP BY

WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

IN ORDER TO HAVE THEM READY FOR TERM 4.
Any queries please call Maria at the uniform shop 9331 1693.

St Vincent’s College Uniform Shop

Term 4 - Full summer uniform

Please check now if any summer uniform items are needed
for the start of Term 4 (Tuesday 8 October).

Last trading day for Term 3:
Wednesday 18 September 2013

First trading day for Term 4:
Wednesday 9 October 2013

Please note this shop will be closed during these holidays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trading hours during each term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 12.30pm - 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 8.00am - 1.15pm</td>
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To make an appointment

- Call Mrs Maria Vlachos: (02) 9331 1693
  (During shop hours or please leave a message at anytime and
  your call will be returned on the next trading day).


St Vincent’s College Uniform Shop - 1 Challis Avenue, Potts Point 2011
Gifted Education

Two weeks ago I had the privilege of accompanying twelve of the College’s most enthusiastic and deep thinking students from Years 8 and 9 to a conference for gifted and talented students. The conference held at Cranbrook School, was attended by students from fifteen schools within the greater Sydney area and was hosted by Judy Artiss (Oxford University) and Jeff Hodges (Australian sport psychologist). The students participated with gusto and replied a resounding ‘yes’ when asked whether the College should attend again. Their stories of the day follow:

We entered Cranbrook School ready to meet new people and learn new things. The first session was a lecture about Quantum Science, possibly explaining telepathy, different dimensions and how Schrödinger’s cat can be both alive and dead. Quantum Science challenges both Einstein and Newton’s theories. We all came out of the lecture more confused than when we started but as the lecturer explained, this was as it should be. Quantum Science challenges accepted thinking and confuses the idea we have of Science. Quantum Science changes variable completely, possibly changing the way we conduct experiments because the experimenter becomes part of the experiment.

Quantum Science also suggests that the minds of humans are connected when focused on one thing. This was indicated on September 11 when random number generators produced numbers that were no longer as random as chance would expect, coinciding with the times of each of the aircraft crashes. At this time a large percentage of the world’s population was focused on each event. Some students inspired by this lecture, have reserved seats to a public lecture on Quantum Mechanics to be held at Sydney University next month.

Eliza Cotis and Madeleine Goldrick

The second activity we participated in was a motivational speech. This showed us that in order to achieve we need to be confident and have positive views on the issues in our lives. We learnt how much more we can achieve by taking risks and having a positive outlook on life. We are all able to reach our true potential and that in life we have a pile of poker chips representing our self esteem and that with every successful or unsuccessful attempt we gain or lose poker chips accordingly. The more chips we have the more likely we are to take the risks needed to succeed, and that to gain more chips we need to risk losing some chips. This was all aimed at getting us to fully understand ourselves and what motivates us to succeed in life. It’s up to us to believe and encourage ourselves to take the risks necessary for success.

The best part of the day was the motivational speech, this gave us a new found confidence and a different view on things. We thought it was very interesting the way Jeff Hodges made an analogy about the hidden treasure of the golden Budda and how to deal with positive and negative thoughts. We want to continue the mindset the talk gave us, so that we can achieve more by being willing to take the risk of making a mistake.

Madelaine Renshaw, Belinda Terry and Fern Sirikasemlert

During the Circle of Enquiry we looked at medical ethics and we were asked a question about who should receive a kidney from a list of six different candidates. Each school formed their own circle, and our circle discussed the different factors we thought were important to consider when deciding who would get the kidney. Half way through the exercise we were given extra information about each candidate. This had a big impact on our decision and made us rethink what we had previously assumed. After another discussion, we were then asked to rank the candidates from who we thought most deserved the kidney most, to who we thought least deserved it.

At the end all of the groups came together and shared who they had nominated in first and last position, and we discussed and debated the reasons for our choices. The purpose of this exercise was to demonstrate that sometimes, even in difficult circumstances, we have to make a decision that we can’t always dismiss others ideas, and walk away from making decisions because we can’t agree. We enjoyed this activity because it showed us how difficult it is to make a medical ethics decision and allowed us to work together as a team.

Lauren Anderson and Maxine Phillips

We think the best part of the day was the discussion about medical ethics because it was interesting, interactive and really got us thinking. We had no idea how hard it could be to make a choice, especially working with everyone else, and hearing and understanding everyone’s different points of view. It was interesting learning how these decisions are made in the real world.

Our last activity was a debate where the two speakers argued their positions for and against the necessity of vivisection for medical research. Vivisection is a practice where an animal is given drugs, anaesthetised and then cut open to observe how the drug is affecting their body. The debate was both educational and entertaining as both sides of the argument were very well stated. Students were then invited to share their opinions on the topic. It was interesting how different student’s opinions were stated and
made us rethink our opinions on the issue. The principles and consequences to each side of the issue were argued and in the final vote the majority of students surprisingly voted that vivisection was essential for the progression of medical research for our society.

We enjoyed the debate on vivisection because it was educational and entertaining, and participating and voicing our opinions throughout the day. We liked the opportunity to think more deeply about the different topics presented. We had fun meeting and interacting with different people from different schools. One of the best parts of the enrichment excursion was seeing the two speakers so passionate about their work and so eager to share that knowledge with us. It was also great to hear all the students from other schools contributing to the discussions and sharing their points of view (as well as Vinnies!). The excursion really expanded our idea of Science and showed us how much knowledge there is to gain, so much that even scientists haven’t got all the answers.

Sarah Keogh, Liz Lucas and Annabelle Powell

On September 5-8 at Centennial Park, the New South Wales Government will host the inaugural Australian Garden Show Sydney (www.australiangardenshowsydney.com.au).

It will be the largest garden show in the southern hemisphere occupying three and half acres of Centennial parkland behind the existing restaurant and café complex. 10,000 people are expected to visit the show each day from all over the country and the world.

Students attending the Gifted and Talented Conference L to R:  Maxine Phillips, Liz Lucas, Maddy Goldrick, Belinda Terry, Frances Arambasic (back) Eliza Colls, Lauren Anderson (back), Fern Sirikasemlert, Sarah Jones (back), Maddy Renshaw, Sarah Keogh and Annabelle Powell

Cheryl McArthur
Gifted Education Co-ordinator
mcarthur@stvincents.nsw.edu.au

Australian Garden Show

On September 5-8 at Centennial Park, the New South Wales Government will host the inaugural Australian Garden Show Sydney (www.australiangardenshowsydney.com.au).

It will be the largest garden show in the southern hemisphere occupying three and half acres of Centennial parkland behind the existing restaurant and café complex. 10,000 people are expected to visit the show each day from all over the country and the world.

As part of the show, television broadcaster and gardener, Indira Naidoo has been appointed to curate the sustainable garden installations at the show. One of her installations will be a vertical strawberry wall made from recycled milk containers”.

Following is a report of the event from St Vincent’s College Year 10 boarding students, Edwina Waters and Gabriella Puntoriero.

Last Sunday on 25 August, Gabriella Puntoriero and I were offered the opportunity to volunteer our time to help Indira Naidoo paint recycled milk bottles. For those who do not know of Indira Naidoo, she is a journalist and environmental activist whose ideas of self-efficient gardening are often published works.

The desired result to this planned, chaotic event was to have around 800 milk bottles painted two different colours and for an animal face to be painted on the front. However, we managed to tackle 600 milk containers but not all with painted faces, though after four hours of non-stop painting we were all pretty pleased with our hard work.

The purpose of these painted milk containers is to use them as hanging wall pots, which will hold strawberry plants. Not only is this an innovative design but also is both practical and aesthetically pleasing. Each pot will have a personalized touch, as part of Indira’s installation is for each individual person to plant a strawberry plant, and to have written a message on each milk container.

This process is only one part of a much larger scaled garden; Indira is responsible to curate the sustainable garden installations at the show; the vertical strawberry wall being a part of this.

At the time of writing this article, this garden is expected to be seen by ten’s of thousands of people each day at the Australian Garden Show in Sydney on 8 September. We are both very proud to have taken part in this exciting event, and cannot wait to see our recycled pot plants hanging proudly for all to see.

Edwina Waters - Year 10 Boarder

Sarah Keogh, Liz Lucas and Annabelle Powell
Book Week 2013 - Read Across the Universe

The middle of August is the LRC’s favourite time of year as it marks one of the biggest celebrations of reading and writing on our calendar and it’s an opportunity to reward and showcase the works of the many talented students at St Vincent’s College. This year the theme for Book Week was *Read Across the Universe* and we did our best to make sure our celebrations were out of this world!

The week began with fun at a Book Fair organised by Charlotte Burton-Clark, Jinx Moore, Lauren Brooks and Sophie Burton-Clark. Students were able to get their book fortunes told, play Book Charades, do a literary crossword and participate in some Speed Booking. They were also able to get their photograph taken in our custom-built Starship Vinnies rocket photo booth.

Throughout Book Week, entries to the photo competition gradually built up. The competition challenged students to take a creative ‘selfie’ (self-portrait) with their favourite book. Students were also asked to guess the number of pages in a specific book, the winner receiving a small prize and points for their house.

What would Book Week be without talented writers to produce all the amazing literature we enjoy? On Thursday all students were invited to a Writing Jam, where different activities were set up to inspire creativity. By far the most popular activity was the ‘cut and paste poetry’, where students arranged letters, words and images from magazines onto paper to create a new poem.

To cap off our celebrations, the whole College got involved with a literary tutor quiz. The grand finale of Book Week was held at lunch in the LRC on Friday. We revisited some of the popular activities from earlier in the week with another cut-and-paste and magnetic poetry session. The official Book Week challenge winners were announced and prizes were given.

Congratulations to all of our winners.
• Charlotte Burton-Clark (O’Brien House) won the photo competition
• Cater House won the tutor quiz
• Gabi Turco (O’Brien House) won the guessing competition
• **O’BRIEN HOUSE** RECEIVED THE MOST POINTS FOR THE WEEK.

**Many thanks to the following local businesses who have supported our events.**

◊ Bottega del Vino  
◊ Potts Point Book Shop  
◊ Berkelouw Books

A special thank you also to all the student volunteers who worked so hard to make sure Book Week was a success.

Ms Alycia Bailey  
**Librarian**

**Our Digital Lives**

Evening events for parents and other adults in our College community are becoming a traditional part of our Book Week celebrations. Following the success of last year’s panel discussion *The future of writing*, this year we organised a similar event. Parents, teachers and neighbours had a chance to relax and chat over a glass of wine, and then participate in a discussion with guest speakers. We feel that Book Week is good time to think about some of the changes which are affecting us all in the transition from print to digital media. The topic, *Our digital lives*, was chosen to reflect on the reality that some important aspects of our lives are now happening online. A conversation about online living was also seen as a continuation and deepening of an ongoing discussion in schools and libraries about cyber safety. We all know that safety is critically important, but it is only one aspect of our online activities.

Three guest speakers, all experts in their field, were invited to the event: Carole Cusack, Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Sydney; Dr Jonathan Marshall, researcher from the University of Technology Sydney, and Mr Steven Lewis, journalist and public speaker. They talked about three aspects of our digital lives - religion, relationships and personal branding.

Professor Cusack’s talk focused on religion on the internet. After giving the audience a sense of historical transition, Professor Cusack raised some thought provoking questions about worship, pilgrimage and the nature of authority online. Her points were supported by numerous interesting and, at times, humorous details. Prof Cusack gave us a brief overview of “invented” religions such as The Church of all Worlds, Matrixism, Jediism and The Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster. She made a point that with all its superficial and less serious varieties, the internet provides an important space for alternative forms of expression and worship.

Dr Marshall discussed some unique situations, which occur in online communication and have a profound effect on participants, but we don’t have ready models how to respond to these situations. What do we do when we have a few friends in crisis on a chat line? How do we deal with a hurt friend, offended by the lack of response to sad news on Facebook when we didn’t see the post? Dr Marshall made some thoughtful observations about our innate need for regular interaction with others and inner growth extending to online forums, which can’t fulfil either. He also stressed that fantasy is a big part of online living. “Horrible” and “wonderful” internet are just another fantasy.
Finally, Mr Lewis gave us a different perspective at traces we leave online. He told the audience an interesting story he patched by following online leads warning us about a track record we leave on the internet. While we often can’t choose how we appear online (and new technologies such as Google glasses are going to make it even more difficult), we need to be aware of our digital traces. Watching our digital reputation may be a daunting task at times, but opting out isn’t realistic or even a desirable option. Businesses increasingly rely on social media for recruitment and professionals can use digital tools for self-promotion. Being absent online will increasingly mean missing opportunities.

The thoughtful, engaging and often amusing talks ended in a very interesting discussion with the audience. I believe that everyone had an idea or a thought to take away with them. A video recording of the panel discussion will be available online. Keep an eye on announcements on the school website and the Bulletin or get in touch with us by email if you wish to check the progress (library@stvincents.nsw.edu.au).

Dr Suzana Sukovic
Head of the Learning Resource Centre

Sport Report

**Term 3 Sports:** New IGSSA WET WEATHER NUMBER to TEXT - 1992 5465. Text the Sport and then the first letter of the venue, eg Netball at Moore Park - netballm

**NETBALL**

**Semi Finals and Finals**
Semis will be held at various venues on Saturday 7 September. **Finals follow on Saturday 14 September.** At this stage St Vincent’s has 17 teams in the semi-finals. That’s a great accomplishment. Well done girls, coaches (and parents for travelling all over Sydney!).

The semis and finals draws will be provided by IGSSA. As soon as it is received it will be uploaded onto the College website and will also be displayed on the netball notice board. Good luck to all teams. Play hard, play fair, have fun.

**General Semis and Finals Rules:** Semis will be based on results at the end of the rounds and will be played as follows: 1st v 4th and 2nd v 3rd.

**THANK YOU Isabella Noon** of Year 11, for offering to convene all timings of games at Indoor Central Mascot on Saturday 24 August. Bella did a great job! See her in action!

**SPRING FAIR**
After seven games of netball, all players were still smiling and enjoying the fun in the sun. Netball at the Fair included dads v daughters game; Waverley versus junior girls, Waverley v senior girls, Scots v senior girls and Scots Year 7 v SVC Year 7.

Thanks to Elana White (Year 12 netball captain) who assisted with great umpiring. To the seniors who were so helpful in motivating the young Year 7 boys plus playing many games; and to Ruby Fifield (Year 7) for her ‘superior’ time keeping and scoring. Lastly, a big thank you to the dads who donned light blue skirts and were great sports to join in!

Ms Kat McGrath
**Head Coach Netball**
HOCKEY
A huge thank you to all parents, coaches and students for your commitment over the 2013 hockey season. There were some very close games this season but unfortunately a few didn’t fall our way resulting in us missing out on the semis. The results are as follows:

SVC 1 - 5th place
SVC 2 - 6th place
SVC 3 - 7th place

I was very proud that the girls always played to the best of their ability and never gave up!

Jo Timmins
Head Coach
Hockey

TENNIS LESSONS AND CARDIO TENNIS
Tildesley Tennis Trials: Any tennis players interested in for the prestigious three day tournament held in March next year are to come to trials on Wednesday 11 September at Rushcutters Bay tennis courts 3.30pm-5.30pm. A squad of singles and doubles players will be chosen.

Sports Photos for Term 3 teams plus Term 4 teams are to be held on TUESDAY 10 September. Please wear your full College uniform, including blazer. The roster will be up on the Sports noticeboard as soon as it is finalised and will also be in admin announcements. Students are responsible for making sure they are on time for their photograph.

Sports Stars: This section is to make the College community aware of some of the exceptional athletes we have in the College. If your daughter has represented her state or country recently in her chosen sport, please send us any results, photos or blurbs on their performance.

Please send to sport@stvincents.nsw.edu.au

ATHLETICS
Congratulations to Isabel Di Paolantonio (Year 7), Samantha Kiss (Year 8) and Sophie Forlico (Year 11), who have been selected in the IGSSA Athletics team to compete at the NSWCIS Championships at Homebush on 18 September. Samantha was selected for 13 years high jump, Isabel for 13 years 100m and 200m, and Sophie 17 years high jump.

The whole athletics squad is to be congratulated on their recent win at of Division 3 at the IGSSA Carnival. Unfortunately the photos did not make it into the last Bulletin so we have included a few here.
Recommended Reading

I will admit that I judged "The Aftermath" by Rhidian Brook by its cover which features a photograph by Cecil Beaton. As well, the novel's plot is based on an action taken by his father. At the end of World War II, when the victorious allies occupied Germany, many Germans had their houses requisitioned, a euphemism for "taken". Lewis is a colonel in the British army and is given a spacious house. He offers the owner and his daughter the chance to stay in the house. This generosity or foolishness causes much comment, especially as Lewis and his wife had lost one of their sons in a German bombing raid. This is NOT a suitable book for junior students; life in Germany from 1945 to 1950 was harsh and dangerous. However, for Extension 1 students this could be an excellent Related Text.

Will Kostakis' first novel "The First Third" is a story set in Sydney, specifically suburbs like Bexley and Brighton-Le-Sands form the background. Bill is in Year 12, from a single parent family, with an older brother who has moved to Brisbane and a younger brother who has become sullen and hostile except to his Greek grandmother. It is this grandmother who not only dominates the family but changes it before she dies. She has a bucket list but it is Bill who has to complete it. Although this could have been just another book about a formless male adolescent, it is not, because Bill is much more interesting than just a whining, hormone-driven child. And to add to the interest, an ex-student is mentioned in the acknowledgements.

It is perhaps unfortunate that I read Maria Semple's "Where'd You Go, Bernadette?" in India because the contrast between India and the obscenely privileged world of the novel was irritating. Elgin and Bernadette are a talented couple. However, sixteen years ago Bernadette had suffered a huge professional blow from which she has not recovered. Her daughter, Bee, short for a pretentious name, is a delightful fifteen year old; it is Bernadette who is the adolescent - and not in a good way. Bee's parents have promised her any treat she wants if she does well at school. Of course she does and she asks for a family trip to the Antarctic. Just before they are due to leave, Bernadette disappears. The targets of the clever satire deserve the mockery: self-help psycho babble, very twee private schools, helicopter parents and Microsoft where Elgin works. However, towards the end, in order to resolve the plot, Semple changes tone in a rather awkward manner. It is worth reading for the satire and has potential as a Related Text for Discovery. Just don't read it in Varanasi.

I spent my time reading "Code Name Verity" by Elizabeth Wein switching back and forth about whether I would recommend it or not. The first half seems to be the confession of a female pilot in World War II who has been shot down over France and handed over to the Gestapo. She has given away all of her secrets under torture. Or has she? The second half of this novel is written by her best friend who had to make a dreadful decision to save her friend further suffering. This would be suitable only for seniors because much of the violence is explicit. If you can deal with that aspect of the book, it has the potential to be an interesting Related Text for Discovery.

"The Marrying of Chani Kaufman" by Eve Harris will interest anyone who is curious about how how Orthodox Jews live in a modern society. The novel is set in London in 2008 and the main story is about a earnest young man from a wealthy family who wants to marry a girl from a poor one. However, Eve Harris presents us with other dilemmas: what happens if you fall deeply in love with a non-Jew; what happens when an exhausted wife leaves her husband and family; what compromises are possible between tradition and the twenty-first century? This book is not great literature but it is clearly educational for students of Studies of Religion and could be used as a Related Text for Belonging.

There is a certain irony reading "Growing Up Amish" by Ira Wagler while lying under a slow moving ceiling fan in Kolkata. This is the memoir of a tortured soul who grew up in the 1970's in a huge Amish family and left the community a number of times, only to return as he became crushed by the modern world. He loves and hates both worlds and seems to be an outsider in whatever world he finds himself. The word "belonging" occurs a number of times. He also undergoes a final spiritual discovery that means he stays kin the modern world but he remains anguished and guilty about his choice. The memoir could also be a useful reference for students of Studies of Religion.

There is a cynical part of me that recognises "Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe" by Benjamin Alire Saenz as part of a new sub-genre of Young Adult fiction. This is to present gay adolescents as human beings, really nice human beings. These two boys also have wonderful parents who support their sons in their coming out. It is just a little too perfect and pat, and the assumption that no one knows that gay people can be really good people is rather offensive in that there seems to be a message that no one knew this before. The book is well written but like many Sydney Theatre Company productions tends to rely on political correctness as its main source of energy. Obviously, I need to revisit a Buddhist temple to write less tetchy reviews.

Ms Suzanne O'Connor

English Teacher
Dear Parents and Friends

Well done and a huge thank you to everyone involved in last week’s Spring Fair. Especially thank you to parents Robert and Joanne Goldrick (Madeleine, class of 2017) and their fellow Fair committee members, Paula Valenzuela (Eliza, class of 2017) and Lyn O’Neill (Development and Foundation office), for your hard work and enthusiasm in putting it all together. We were lucky with another dose of delightful spring weather to help the Fair go off with a bang. Thank you everyone for coming along and sharing the St Vincent’s spirit.

Elizabeth Roydhouse
2013 P&F President
(Stephanie, class of 2014; Jennifer, class of 2016)

Next P&F Meeting

Thank you to those who attended our Term 3 meeting held Tuesday 6 August. The next P&F Meeting will be in Term 4 on Tuesday 29 October, and will be the AGM. If you’re interested in holding a P&F Executive position in 2014, please come forward! voting on all positions will be held at the AGM. Please contact any of the current P&F Executive with any queries (details at end of the page).

Year 11 News

A free night out for Year 11 parents to meet and chat!

When: Friday 6 September 2013 from 7pm
Where: Front bar, Centennial Hotel, Moore Park Road, Paddington (opposite the touch football playing fields).
Cost: FREE!
There will be some finger food but people can buy their own drinks and order food over the bar. Please contact Mary with any queries (mary@brettoaten.com.au)

Ex-Students Join Fun Run to help the School of St Jude

A group of enthusiastic former students are forming a team to take part in the Blackmore’s 9km Bridge Run on Sunday 22 September. The team is raising funds for the School of St Jude in Tanzania, established by former St Vincent’s College student/boarder Gemma Sisia (nee Rice). If you would like to join their team, any parents or students are welcome, or could you help by a donation to their cause (details below).

To join the ‘Run for St Jude’s’ team go to http://sydneyrunningfestival.com.au/ click on Register, select Blackmore’s Bridge Run 9km, and select Run for St Jude’s (Password: stjudes).

Alternatively, to donate to St Jude’s simply transfer funds via direct bank transfer to the account; Lavender Hill Interiors; BSB: 032 058 / Account No: 297480. We will be pooling all the funds raised and sending directly to St Jude’s.

Please include your name and “St Jude’s” in the transfer information. Please contact Geraldine King for further information or queries. svc.class2013@gmail.com

Canteen Duty - Volunteers Always Welcome

Would you be able to help out in the College canteen? Please call Reception on 9368 1611, and ask for Vicky.
Canteen volunteers who use the Kings Cross Parking Station are eligible for a special rate – please call in to Reception on the day of your canteen duty to have your ticket stamped.

P&F Webpage

Check out our webpage on the College website. You can find us in the Our Community tab, Parents & Friends. We welcome any comments or suggestions. Here’s the link: http://www.stvincents.nsw.edu.au/page/our-community/parents-and-friends-association/

Inspired! The SVC Cookbook

The SVC cookbook, Inspired, makes a lovely gift or a great keepsake of your daughter’s years at St Vincent’s. Inspired is still available for sale, now at a special price of $25, or two for $40. Simply download the order form on the P&F Webpage (see above) or contact Rebecca Hugonnet (rebecca@hugonnetdesign.com).

Year Group Parent Coordinators:

Each Year group has one or more designated volunteers to keep parents informed particularly on College P&F events such as the Fair or Year events for families in your Year group. If you have not received any emails, perhaps it is because the P&F does not have your details. You can opt to have your details included in the class contact list.
Please advise any of us if you want to stay informed.
Contact: Sally Ayto (sallyhux@tpg.com.au), or your Year group coordinator, as follows:

Year 7 (Trish Pryke and Zoe Sabados)
svc.class2018pf@gmail.com
Year 8 (Geraldine King, Adrienne Ruz, Katherine Aitken)
svc.class2017pf@gmail.com
Year 9 (Annette Tighe)
svc.class2016pf@gmail.com
Year 10 (Rebecca Hugonnet and Lynne Carr)
svc.class2015pf@gmail.com
Year 11 (Abigail Gruzman, Sally Doyle and Mary O’Sullivan)
svc.class2014pf@gmail.com
Year 12 (Geraldine King, Deborah Blancquart and Kerry Donohoe)
svc.class2013pf@gmail.com

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