



From the Principal



Mrs Gaynor Robson-Garth
Principal

We celebrated St Catherine's Day last Friday. The day began with a prayerful Mass at St Dominic's Church, presided over by Fr Paul Rankin OP. It was lovely to have Brother Patrick Arahatra OP from the Solomon Islands, preach the homily on a day where we raise funds to support the work of the Dominican Sisters in the Solomon Islands.

Our patron, St Catherine of Siena, offers us an extraordinary example of courage and determination, not surprising for someone who was the twenty-third child in a family of twenty-five! Her witness of God's humanity and presence in the world, her understanding of the dignity of every person and Jesus' message to us to love one another, was manifested in the way she reached out to the poor, the sick, the dying, and the condemned. St Catherine had a deep, compassionate love for each person that she met, particularly those who were suffering.

It has been a great start to the term, particularly in the Performing Arts. The Fiesta on St Catherine's Day was performed with great enthusiasm and much enjoyment. It was lovely to see each House's interpretation of a Shakespearian play 'bookended' by Year 7 'first timers' and the Year 12 'last timers'.

I joined a group of staff and students last week at the Melbourne Recital Centre for 'Top Class 2014', to see Guilia Frattaroli and Philippa Mills present their VCE Drama solo performances for which they received perfect scores in the 2013 October performance examinations. It was wonderful to see their talent on show, the development of ideas, their interpretations of the characters they portrayed and the seamless transition from one character to another, all presented with amazing energy.

The end of the week saw the Sienna/Whitefriars Musical, 'Barnum', come to life. It too was another quality performance with wonderful sets, choreography, singing, acting and amazing talent on display. Congratulations are extended to all involved, from those in the orchestra pit to the backstage crew and the staff who directed and produced the show, particularly the Head of Performing Arts, Georgina Plasto, and Director of Music, Kerry McGillen.

WEDNESDAY MASS

Mass is celebrated in the College chapel each Wednesday at 8.00am during school term.

Staff, students and parents are welcome.

This week, we are being treated to an Arts Festival and our Jazz musicians head off on Friday on a 'Generations in Jazz Tour to Mount Gambier.

I extend congratulations to Giulia Frattaroli and Sarah Canterbury who were the recipients of Premier's Awards for outstanding achievement in the 2013 VCE, and to their teachers, Georgina Plasto and Chris Clark. These awards celebrate the highest academic achievements in Victorian schools and we are very proud of them.

I also congratulate Tanisha Dal Santo who won gold and bronze medals and a place in the Australian Taekwondo Team that will compete in the Oceanic Taekwondo Championships in August.

Congratulations to Emilia Jackson (Class of 2007) and Laura Cassai (class of 2012) on being selected to compete on Master Chef.

As the second term unfolds, may St Catherine bless us with renewed energy for the things of God so that we too can '*be the change we wish to see in the world*'.

Premier's Awards for VCE Studies



Giulia with Ms Georgina Plasto



Sarah with Mr Chris Clark

Bereavements

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Alice Laming on the passing of her grandfather Evan Jenkins.

We also extend our condolences to the Harradine family on the passing of Senator Brian Harradine. Senator Harradine was Gabby, Bernadette, Loretta grandfather. Senator Harradine was Australia's longest-serving independent senator and was honoured at a State funeral in Hobart.

May they rest in peace.

Gaynor Robson-Garth

St Catherine's Day Celebrations



Development and Community Relations Update



Mrs Tracey Grobbelaar
Director of Development and Community Relations

Parent Breakfast Information Sessions

We warmly invite all parents to our upcoming Parent Breakfast Information Sessions.

This is an opportunity for parents to engage and gain a deeper understanding of our major projects for 2014 including the Butterfly Campaign and learning and teaching developments; as well as providing an opportunity to meet with staff, board members and other parents.

The breakfasts will be hosted in the Staff Room

Year Level Parent Breakfast	Date	Time
Year 7 Parent Breakfast	Thursday 22 May	7:30 – 8:30 am
Year 8 Parent Breakfast	Thursday 29 May	7:30 – 8:30 am
Year 9 Parent Breakfast	Thursday 5 June	7:30 – 8:30 am
Year 10 Parent Breakfast	Thursday 12 June	7:30 – 8:30 am
Year 11 Parent Breakfast	Thursday 19 June	7:30 – 8:30 am
Year 12 Parent Breakfast	Thursday 26 June	7:30 – 8:30 am

In addition, there will be a special gathering on 29 May at 7.00pm in the Staff Room for all current parents who are past students of Siena. Please RSVP to community@siena.vic.edu.au or call 9835 0209.

We are keen to get as many parents as possible to these sessions and will follow up with a formal email invite and phone call.

2011 Presentation Ball DVDs

We have a number of 2011 Presentation Ball DVDs available at the front office.

If you know a past student who wishes to have a copy of this DVD, they are available at the College Reception.

SPA Mothers' Day Breakfast

The SPA looks forward to hosting the Mother's Day Breakfast on Thursday, 8 May, in the Gym at 7.15am.

Please note that we have limited parking. Parking is available in the surrounding streets or across the road at St Dominic's Church.

Tracey Grobbelaar

Dominican Corner

Feast of our Patron: St Catherine of Siena (29 April)



Sr Julianna Drobik OP



On Friday 2 May the College community celebrated the Feast of our Patroness St Catherine of Siena with a College Mass in St Dominic's Church followed by a day of festivities and fund raising for the Dominican Sisters in the Solomon Islands.

Year 7 students were introduced to St Catherine of Siena as part of the reflection days held at the end of last term and further study of her life is part of the Religious Education program. The following is some background on our patron saint especially for our new families who have joined the College community this year.

St Catherine of Siena was a Dominican mystic of the fourteenth century, who, by her charitable works, her gifts of discernment and prayer and her diplomatic skills, played a leading role in the history of Italy and the Church in a time of great social and religious ferment.



Benincasa Family Home – Siena

Catherine was born on the 25 March 1347. She was the twenty-third of her parents' twenty-five children. At a young age, Catherine decided that she wanted to give her life completely to God. Her desire to belong to God expressed itself first in her taking a vow of virginity and later in her joining the "mantellate", a group of lay Dominican women, who lived in their homes and dedicated their lives to prayer and charitable activity. Catherine spent the first three years as "mantellata" in a secluded life of prayer at home. After this time, she plunged herself into active service of neighbour, showing sensitive care of the sick and the poor.



Statue of Catherine at St Patrick's Cathedral

At twenty five, Catherine found herself drawn into the political life of her day. She was often requested to act as a peacemaker and ambassador between different Italian states that were at war with one another. She played an instrumental role in encouraging Gregory XI, the Pope of the day, who was living in Avignon in France, to move to Rome, the episcopal see. Gregory was timid and easily manipulated and was surrounded by French cardinals who were reluctant to leave their comfortable way of living for what they saw as an uncivilised Rome. Gregory did move to Rome but was not there long when he died. Urban VI was elected pope and set about reforming the church. This marked the beginning of the Great Schism.

For the rest of her short life, Catherine gave her time to working and praying for an end to the schism. She exhausted herself and became so ill that she died at the young age of thirty-three on 29 April 1380, surrounded by many friends and followers.

Catherine's body is entombed in the Basilica of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva in Rome. She was canonised in 1461 by Pope Pius 1, proclaimed co-patron of Italy in 1939 by Pope Pius X11 and declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Paul V1 in 1970.

Extracts taken from Catherine of Siena by Mary O'Driscoll OP 1994

Sr Julianna

Service to the Community

A life of service is central to our baptismal call. Siena College faithful to the Dominican tradition seeks to preach God's love, compassion and mercy through lives of service to the marginalised, the oppressed and the poor in our community. If we are to be truly Christian, we need to take our share of responsibility to care for others. Learning about our social responsibilities is an important part of education in our Christian tradition and to participate fully in civil society.

Rationale for Service to the Community Program 2014

Youth Engagement Program (YEP) 2014 Winter Sleep out: Saturday 7 to Sunday 8 June 2014



Time: 6pm Saturday to 9am Sunday
Cost: \$40
Venue: Burke Hall Campus, Xavier College, Kew

In June 2013, twenty-five Years 7 and 8 students participated in a **Winter Sleep out** organised by YEP (Youth Engagement Program) at Burke Hall in Kew. The Winter Sleep-out seeks to raise awareness of the growing number of Australians who sleep on the streets each night. There are an estimated 105,000 Australians who are homeless every night, of which about 45,000 are under the age of twenty-five.

An invitation is extended to students in Years 7 and 8 to join with students from Genazzano FCJ College, Burke Hall and local high schools in the Hawthorn-Deepdene-Camberwell parishes for the 2014 Winter Sleep-out. The program will include getting to know you activities, a visit from a local police officer working in the Boroondarra area and a young volunteer who works on the Vinnies' Soup van each week. Students can register online for the Winter Sleep-out www.yepmelbourne.com/ Click on Registration on the homepage. Students who participate will clock up seven hours towards the required hours for the *Service to the Community Program*.

Soup Van – Sandwich Making

students in Years 8 and 9 wishing to gain hours for the Service to the Community Program can volunteer for sandwich making on the first, third and fifth Tuesday of the month at St Dominic's Parish Centre (across the road). Sandwiches are made and delivered by the Soup Van to the homeless in the city of Melbourne.

There are three vacancies on each of the following dates. Each session can be logged for one hour in your Log Book.

Dates		Times
Tuesday	20 May	8.05am - 8.55am
	3 June	
	17 June	

Please email Sr Julianna if you wish to volunteer on one or more of the above dates by **Monday 12 May**.

Sr Julianna

Mission and Catholic Identity

Jesus, illuminating mind and heart



In the first week of Term, the College gathered on Thursday morning to celebrate Anzac Day and the Feast of the Resurrection. The Easter liturgy was led by Taylor Kennedy, Vice Ministry Captain and Angelique Barbuto, Social Justice Captain. The focus of the reflection was to celebrate the gifts of the resurrection in all aspects of our lives.



Ms Deborah Kent
Deputy Principal
Mission and Catholic Identity

On Friday May 2 the whole community journeyed across the road at St. Dominic's Church to celebrate Mass for the feast of the patron of our College, Catherine of Siena. Fr. Paul Rankin OP presided over the mass and Deacon Patrick Arahatara OP gave a homily focusing on St Catherine of Siena and the Solomon Islands. This was especially fitting as the students fund raising following the Mass goes to support the Dominic Sisters missions in the Solomon Islands.

A highlight of the Mass this year was the dramatic performance of the second reading by Ms Leahy's Year 11 Drama class. The reading was taken from dialogue on Divine Providence by St Catherine of Siena which is included in the Divine Office readings for St Catherine's feast. The students presented Catherine's message in word and movement, presenting Jesus as "a fire that takes away the coldness, illuminates the mind with his light and causes knowledge of the truth." The students lived out this message in service and joy throughout this special day.

Earlier in the week, Year 9 students attended their Reflection days at St Paul's Missionary College in Wantirna. The day was opened by Rachel Shields, a Gamilaroi and Weilwan Woman from North Western New South Wales. Rachel's spiritual foundation is grounded in her ancient cultural heritage. The importance of this knowledge of Indigenous spiritual culture was summed up by Pope Paul VI during his visit to Australia in 1970,

"We know that you have a life style proper to your own ethnic genius or culture – a culture which the Church respects and which she does not in any way ask you to renounce... Society itself is enriched by the presence of different cultural and ethnic elements. For us, you and the values you represent are precious. We deeply respect your dignity and reiterate our deep affection for you".."

The students then reflected deeply on their own spirituality and expressed this creatively through rock painting. The day concluded with Mass presided over by our College Chaplain, Fr Dominic Murphy OP.

On this joyous feast, let us ask St Catherine to continue to intercede for us and may she lead us to Christ when we reflect on her life and service.



Year 9 Reflection Day

Ms Deb Kent

Palm Sunday Peace March

Members of the Siena community joined thousands of people around the country who marched in the Palm Sunday Walk for Justice. The rally and march were intended to send a clear message to government regarding asylum seeker policies and to refugees that they are welcome in our community.



Mrs Ann Sanciole

Uniting Church Minister, Alistair McCrae, gave a rousing speech which reminded us *“we are here today to acknowledge the current trickle, not a flood, of displaced and desperate people coming here. Most of them are fleeing persecution and danger. They have a right which we as a nation have recognised in international agreements, to seek safety in this land.”*

Many Christian churches combined to form a crowd that filled the centre of the city and Siena students, parents, teachers and Dominican religious joined this peaceful procession.



March for Refugees

Mrs Ann Sanciole

Extension Philosophy Program

“Studies have demonstrated that children who study philosophy are more likely to achieve better academic results. The young mind that queries and demands justification for accepted norms hints at an instinctive search for meaning.”



Ms Michelle Robertson
Learning Leader

(Laura D’Olimpio: Lecturer in Philosophy and Ethics at the University of Notre Dame, Australia.)

As part of our Learning Enhancement Department at Siena College, selected Year 7 and 8 students are chosen to participate in a ‘Philosophy Program’. This Philosophy course is designed to provide extension for students who enjoy an extra challenge and who would benefit from working with like-minded students to enhance their thinking skills. Philosophy is an activity: a quest after wisdom. It requires a unique style of thinking and contemplation of many of the ‘big’ universal questions.

Students selected for the program meet once a cycle to discuss philosophy with an emphasis on developing their own thinking skills. They explore a wide range of philosophical questions and are introduced to Ancient Greek Philosophers. Skills developed through the Philosophy program are transferable across the curriculum and can aid students in both their current and future studies.

The following reflections are from our current Year 8 Extension Philosophy students:

‘Philosophy involves discussing the ‘bigger’ questions in life that most people don’t usually take into consideration – and thinking about thinking.’

‘Philosophy challenges me to question my reality and to question the things I’ve been told, rather than experienced.’

‘Philosophy requires me to “think outside of the box”.’

‘A philosophical discussion requires me to think about things from different perspectives.’

‘Philosophy enables my mind to think much more...’

Ms Michelle Robertson

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

As previously advised, all students in Years 7 and 9 will complete the NAPLAN tests from Tuesday 13 to Thursday 15 May as detailed below. Students are reminded that it is their responsibility to bring a pencil, blue/black pen, eraser and sharpener to every test and a calculator to the numeracy (calculator) test.



Mrs Claire Jenkinson
NAPLAN Coordinator

DATE	TEST	TIME
Tuesday 13 May	LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS	Periods 1 & 2
	WRITING	Periods 3 & 4
Wednesday 14 May	READING	Periods 1 & 2
Thursday 15 May	NUMERACY (calculator)	Periods 1 & 2
	NUMERACY (non-calculator)	Periods 3 & 4

Mrs Claire Jenkinson

Psychology in Action: Child Development

The Year 11 Psychology classes had the opportunity to see in real life the cognitive development and abilities of children when we visited St Dominic's Primary School. It was lovely to see our students interacting with Grade 1 children and applying their knowledge.



Ms Anita Galli

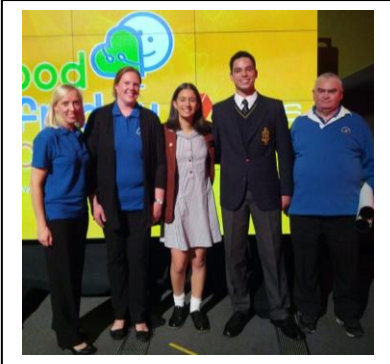
With one primary student to a pair, we engaged in a series of activities to look at the developmental stage of a six to seven year olds. Engaging in friendly discussion, we were able to determine their operational stages while getting to know their hobbies and interests. Returning to my old primary school definitely made it an even more interesting experience.

Fiona Trask



Ms Anita Galli

Pied Pipers Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal



On Good Friday (18th April), one hundred and five Siena students and twenty-seven parents volunteered to participate in the annual Good Friday Appeal with the Pied Pipers, raising money for the Royal Children's Hospital. Despite weather conditions that were less than ideal, our volunteers donned their raincoats and managed to collect a grand total of \$13,042.80 for the Royal Children's Hospital.



Ms Claire Moody

The Pied Pipers presented their cheque to the Royal Children's Hospital at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre on the evening of Good Friday. Katia Pellicciotta, represented both Siena College and the Pied Pipers, and attended the cheque presentation, which was broadcast on Channel 7.

Caritas Project Compassion

During Lent, students and staff participated in Caritas' annual Project Compassion, raising money for Caritas' development work, both locally and internationally. Students were given the opportunity to learn about the important work undertaken by Caritas and how all funds raised can be used to build a better world, especially for the poor and oppressed. Students collected funds over the last four weeks of term and raised a total of \$1311.20 for Caritas. We thank all students and staff who contributed to our fundraising efforts.

Oaktree Film Festival

On 27 March, our Social Justice and Social Welfare Captains, Angelique Barbuto and Katia Pellicciotta, held the Oaktree Film Festival, a lunch time activity designed to raise awareness of social justice issues as well as raise funds to support Oaktree's efforts in addressing global poverty. The 'film festival' consisted of a series of short films that depict poverty in a variety of countries around the world. The short films were followed by a discussion about poverty, and ways in which we can inspire change from within our own communities.



Veritas Magazine



Throughout term 1, our Veritas Captain, Cassie Bethune and Vice Captain, Margarita Bodrina, worked very hard developing the first issue of our student magazine 'Veritas'.

The magazine is completely student produced, and includes a variety of articles covering school events, Captains' reports, interviews with students and staff, book reviews, recipes and much more! Veritas has been electronically distributed to all students and staff, and any students who are interested in contributing to future editions are invited to contact our Veritas Captains.

Common Ground Experience 2014

Every two years, the Dominican Education Committee holds 'Common Ground' – a special gathering of students from Dominican inspired schools from across Australia and New Zealand. The 2014 Common Ground conference will involve an exploration of our Dominican heritage and how we are being called as followers of Dominic in this new millennium to keep the Dominican charism and spirit alive in our school and the wider world. Students with leadership potential, an interest in social issues and creative skills have been invited to attend. The sessions will involve input, small group tasks, creative work, leisure time, prayer and reflection.

This year, Common Ground will be held from Monday 30 June to Wednesday 2 July, and will be hosted by Blackfriars Priory School in Adelaide. The conference will be held at Encounters Conference Centre, Victor Harbour, located approximately 80km south of Adelaide. Expressions of interest are invited from students in Years 10 or 11 who wish to participate in Common Ground 2014. Further information and application forms are available from Ms Moody's office.

Indigenous Immersion Experience 2014

Expressions of interest are invited from students who wish to participate in a unique cultural experience that will take them to remote aboriginal communities north of Uluru.

The project aims to provide a unique cultural experience with highlights including:

- Visiting Yipirinya School, an independent school which caters for Aboriginal students
- Experiencing the rugged and spectacular scenery of the Central Australian desert
- Introduction to the culture, protocols and the history of Mbantua (Alice Springs)
- Camping at Angkerle Arrenge just near Standley Chasm, and participating in activities such as digging for honey ants, learning about bush medicine, creation time, tools ,weapons and bush tucker
- Walking section seven of the award winning Larapinta Trail
- Visiting the Ochre Pits and Ormiston Gorge to do the Pound walk including fantastic views and highlights
- Camping for two nights at the Lilla Community and meeting with community members
- Exploring Kings Canyon
- Travelling to an outstation near Uluru, meeting traditional owners and participating in ceremonial activities
- Visiting the cultural centre, walking around Uluru (14 km) before heading out to Kata Tjuta

The Indigenous Immersion Experience is open to students from Years 9, 10 and 11. Interested students are encouraged to speak to Ms Moody to obtain further information and an application form.

Application forms must be submitted by the required date, as places on the trip are limited.



Ms Claire Moody

LOTE News



Mrs Tina Di Camillo
Head of LOTE

Pantalone’s Inn

Last term, Year 8 Italian students enjoyed an entertaining performance of ‘Pantalone’s Inn.’ Based on our Commedia dell’Arte unit, it showed us what an Italian Carnevale play would be like. The performance began with a bang... literally! As the main character suddenly popped out from back stage it definitely created a stir causing every girl to jump. The play was filled with comedy and typical Italian, over-exaggerated scenes that made us laugh. As entertaining as the play was, it was also educational, teaching us many Italian adjectives and phrases. We were also introduced to the characters of Carnevale. Most of us got involved in the performance including two confident Siena chefs competing in ‘PASTA CHEF’. We enjoyed the performance staged by the production company ‘Make a Scene’.

Mia Catalano and Katia Manariti

There were two actors in the play who between them, played seven characters. The performance was energetic, funny and the actors encouraged the audience to become involved and to call out encouragement or advice, just as they would have done in the historic Commedia dell’Arte performances. In one scene there was a performance called “Pasta Chef”. It allowed two students to get involved with the fictional preparation of Italian food. We learnt about the different characters like Pantalone, Il Capitano, Arlecchino, Beatrice, Flaviano, Dottore and Brighella. The masks, facial expressions and body movement provided us with information we could use in our own “Commedia dell’Arte” assignments. We enjoyed the performance very much.

Rosemary Bagaric and Victoria Kalomallos



2014 “Top Designs” Exhibition

On 23 April, VCE students who are involved in either Visual Communication Design or Product Design visited the VCE Annual Top Designs Exhibition. Students were able to observe developmental folios and finished designs to see, first hand, what they are working towards. They gained a great insight into how they are to approach the rest of the year. The design work and accompanying folios were of a high standard and very detailed. Students were able to learn much in regards to the required standard and commitment.

Thank you to Mrs Svendsen for coordinating the visit and to Mr Palomares and Mrs Davies for accompanying the group.

Paige Linden



Mr John Palomares
Head of Visual Arts & Technology



Mr John Palomares

From the Director of Music

Generations in Jazz Workshop

On 24 April from 4.00 to 8.00pm the Stage Band and Sisters of Swing students attended a Jazz workshop. This was an intensive rehearsal and sectional workshop and it finished with a fine concert for parents. It was a fantastic chance for our stage bands to improve their full program in preparation for the Generations in Jazz festival. We are all counting down the days until we head off to Mount Gambier. I would like to thank all students and staff for their hard work over the past months, especially Mrs Emily Caracella and Mr Ivan Rosa.



Mrs Kerryn McGillen
Director of Music

Fundraising – Entertainment Books



During Term Two, the Siena College Music Department will be fundraising to buy new instruments. We will be selling Entertainment Books for \$65 each and 20% from each book sold will go directly towards supporting the Music Department. This year's Entertainment Book features many of the most popular businesses in the area and in Greater Melbourne. These are a fantastic gift idea for birthdays, Christmas and Mothers' Day.

To purchase one or more Entertainment books please order online via: [//www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/181w869](http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/181w869) or contact Tracey Lawson on 9835 0243 or tlawson@siena.vic.edu.au to have an order form emailed to you. Get in early to get the most value out of your Entertainment Book.

FOMPA (Friends of Music and Performing Arts)

FOMPA- Raffle donations and Sausage Sizzle: Friends of Music and Performing Arts (FOMPA) is a subcommittee of the SPA who will be assisting with our Music and Performing Arts events. Please contact FOMPA's president, Susie Dalton dalton.susie@gmail.com if you can assist casually or in a more regular way as part of FOMPA. We very much appreciate your help. Helpers are welcome throughout the year.

Upcoming Events:

- **First Semester Concert – 27 May**

A raffle will be held at the First Semester Concert. We would greatly appreciate donations towards hampers that will be for prizes. Donations can be dropped off at the Music Office. We will also need a number of FOMPA parents to assist in selling tickets at the concert.

Siena Music Office – Instrumental supplies

Due to increasing costs of reeds and other instrumental music supplies, Siena will now charge the following for items as listed:

- Clarinet reeds \$4.00
- Saxophone reeds \$4.00
- Slide oil \$5.00
- Trumpet Value oil \$5.00

Up Coming Music Dates

Date	Event	Venue/Location
9 – 11 May	Generations in Jazz Tour	
12 – 16 May	Instrumental Assessment Week (Assessed by teachers during lessons)	
27 May	First Semester Ensemble Concert	College Hall - 7.00pm
28 May	VCE Music Performance Recital Evening	College Hall - 7.00pm
19 June	Siena's Night of Jazz	Monte Carlo Receptions - 7.00pm
14 – 16 July	Music Camp	Lady Northcote Recreation Camp



Mrs Kerryn McGillen

Sports Report

Below is a snapshot of the past month of sport at Siena. The action has been taking place in the swimming pool, athletics track and at other sporting venues and well as across 'the ditch' in New Zealand.



Mr Chris Clark
Head of Sport

New Zealand Sports Tour

Thirty-two excited students and four staff travelled to New Zealand's North Island to participate in a Netball, Basketball and Soccer sports trip. The itinerary took in Auckland, Rotorua and Hamilton, five school matches and a host of cultural and tourist activities. Highlights of the trip included:

- A visit to St Dominic's College, a fellow Dominican school. We received a traditional Maori welcome at a College assembly in our honour, a most humbling experience. We also played sporting matches and our girls were billeted for two evenings by St Dominic's Families. The diverse venues that the girls stayed in ranged from fully operational farms, waterside mansions and even on an Army base.
- A weekend in Rotorua saw the group visit a natural thermal spa venue, take a trip up the gondola above the town and attend a traditional Maori show and enjoy a Hangi meal.
- A morning of 'Zorbing' (travelling down a hill inside a large PVC ball full of water)
- Watching an ANZ Championship Netball match in Hamilton
- Playing sport against the largest secondary college in the southern hemisphere, three thousand students in Years 9 to 3!)
- Taking a boat trip out onto the harbour and visiting the Skytower observation deck in Auckland
- Enjoying a 'fluoro themed' evening at our hotel in a specially allocated 'Penthouse suite'
- Taking a walk up famous Mt. Eden

The sporting matches the girls played offered great a great challenge as our girls were pitted against some of the strongest sporting schools in New Zealand. While there were some matches that proved very difficult, we also had some great success including a basketball victory against the National Runner Up school from 2013.

Results as follows:

	Basketball	Netball	Soccer
St Dominic's	Siena 65-35 (Win)	15-31 (loss)	1-2 (loss)
Westlake Girls School	51 – 55 (loss)	21-50 (loss)	1 – 8 (loss)
Waikato Diocesan School	55 – 27 (Win)	28 – 35 (loss)	0 -2 (loss)
Rangitoto School	50 – 34 (Win)	(vs Albany) 35 – 36 (loss)	0-14 (loss)
Papatoetoe (and Aorere – Netball)	71 – 21 (Win)	17-21 (loss) – Papatoetoe 14 – 21 (Loss) – Aorere	3 – 1 (Win)

Thank you to Sue Lee, John Palomares and Sarah Collett for the professionalism, enthusiasm and support they showed the girls whilst on the trip. The girls who attended were wonderful ambassadors for Siena College. My congratulations to the following girls:

Basketball	Netball	Soccer
Casey Warren-Smith	Kristen Monteiro	Meg Rusher
Jasmine Ballestrin	Katherine Viti	Stephanie Geros
Bridget Mimmo	Sally Cussen	Kimberley Bravo
Kara White	Claire Bolton	Eleanor Fowler
Hannah Masotti	Claire McGibbon	Samantha Cecchetto
Natasha Contin	Peta Terrell	Emily Cecchetto
Kate Ryan	Millie Fitzpatrick	Nicola Cope
Georgia Sjodin	Catherine Garlick	Jordan Bellamy
	Ella-Mae Watkins	Alexandra Tasios
	Holly Raftery	Niamh O'Farrell
	Anna Smethurst	Jaya Gaillard
		Sara Santostefano
		Johanna Zikas



GSV Finals Wrap up – Term 1

In the final week of Term 1, we had both our Senior and Intermediate Indoor Cricket team's play off in GSV Grand Finals. The girls had wonderful seasons, but unfortunately could not overcome Lauriston and Lowther Hall in their respective games. Congratulations to Mr Smith, Mr Houghton and the girls involved.

Congratulations also to Emily Crawshaw and Hannah Mikleus on their superb efforts at the GSV Swimming Finals evening. Emily won a silver medal – her fourth medal in as many years, in the Year 12 Breastroke event. Hannah competing at her first GSV Finals evening, placed fourth and unfortunately missed a medal by 7/100ths of a second in the Year 10 Backstroke.

Congratulations also to Tanisha Dal Santo who flew over to Perth to compete for a place on the Australian Taekwondo team. Out of her two events Tanisha won a gold and bronze medal and secured her place on the team. Tanisha will be travelling to Sydney in August to compete with the team at the Oceanic Taekwondo championships.

House Athletics Wrap up

Under bright blue skies at Doncaster during the final week of term, we held our annual House Athletics event. The weather must have known something about how the day would unfold as well, as Dianella completely dominated the event to clean sweep the two carnivals this year.

Congratulations to Chelsea Velona (Year 8) on winning her first Michele Timms Open 100m final and to Sophie Griffin (Year 7), Chloe Connolly/Georgie Kirkwood (Year 8), Isabella Villani (Year 9), Mikayla Dutton (Year 10), Ella Madigan (Year 11) and Victoria Punturere (Year 12) on their Year level champion awards.

GSV Term 2 – Follow the action on Twitter

A massive term of sport is underway with the following teams competing during the term:

- Nineteen Netball teams
- Four AFL teams
- Three Hockey teams
- One Water Polo team
- Teams in Aerobics, Cross Country and Basketball.

Don't forget you can stay up to date with all that is happening with sport at Siena on Twitter - @sienasport

Mr Chris Clark

Alex Deed 2014-2015 Rotary exchange student in Taiwan

Hi from Taiwan

I promised to write about my exchange so here it is...

It all began in the first term in Year 9 2013. I read a notice calling for applications for the Rotary 2014 International Exchange program in the Siena Careers Guide. Straight away I prepared my applications, which lead to interviews, then presentations and.. well... the rest is history.

Each year, Rotary sponsors an International Student Exchange, inviting applications to participate in a twelve month international student exchange program promoting cultural understanding, advocacy and peace between people around the world. I was lucky to be selected as ambassador for the 2014 Manningham Rotary District 9810 Exchange Program to Taiwan.

2013 became my year to prepare. Rotary challenged me to research my host country, my own country and my motivation for wanting to go on exchange. This had to be presented as written assignments and spoken presentations. My participation in the 2013 Siena Indigenous Immersion helped me understand a few cultural issues and challenges within Australia. Of course one of my biggest challenges was to learn Mandarin, the native language to Taiwan. I began an introductory course for non-Chinese nationals and completed twenty lessons at night school. I attended regular Rotary meetings and became involved in community programs. One was working in the Doncaster Op Shop. I discovered people doing extraordinary things behind the scenes, helping communities locally and all over the world. In June 2013, I met the eight amazing 2013 inbound International Exchange Students from Asia, Europe and South America. We became good friends and together explored all things in Australian. This included kangaroos, sunbathing, surfing and squirting sauce on two thousand five hundred (2,500) sausages in bread at Manningham's Carols by Candlelight! Eight months passed quickly and suddenly it was January 19 when all outbound Australian Rotary students met at airports nationwide and flew away to their host countries.

I arrived in Taiwan thirteen weeks ago. I live in an apartment in Jiangzicui which is located in New Taipei, with my new family who are fabulous. My host parents don't speak English so I have to work hard to speak Mandarin. There are a lot of hand gestures involved so that we can understand each other. My week days start at 5.30am. School starts at 7.30am and finishes at 9.00pm. Travelling to my school takes one and a half hours each way by train, (three hours a day), so I've been allowed an 8.00am start and a five day week instead of the usual seven that students of Chi Jen High School willingly do. I study Mandarin, English, Arts and Craft, Sport, Shooting and other special activities they think I might enjoy!! After each day of school and study, it's time to relax and go out with exchange friends. The Taipei social calendar is incredible. There is so much to do in the middle of a city of nearly six million people, (one of the most densely populated cities in the world). There are also a lot of Rotary events including the recent District 3480 National Conference. I can now write and present my own short speeches in Mandarin. My communication is improving through attending multiple Chinese classes each week and I also through every day conversations with my host mum, dad and sisters even though they laugh at me some times because they find me funny.

Taiwan is now my second home. In three months I've explored all over the island of Taiwan with people from all corners of the planet. I have already enjoyed many new experiences. Particularly interesting is trying all the exotic foods, some of which I love and some I will never eat again. I have been made so welcome by my host family, school, teachers and so many other people. I am discovering friends in my new world that I could never have imagined. Now I can't imagine life without them on my return to Melbourne in January 2015. Sadly there are only nine short months to go... but in this time I aim to keep my eyes open and to seize every amazing opportunity with both hands. Living in, and being immersed in another culture is an experience beyond a short visit. The everyday life cultural and social differences are challenging and broaden my understanding and way of looking at the world. So my advice to anyone thinking going on exchange is of course .. Do it! Grab the chance of a lifetime.

I am incredibly grateful to all the people who have made this life changing experience possible me, and especially Manningham Rotary District 9810.

Alex

Alex Deed: 2014-2015 Rotary exchange student in Taiwan

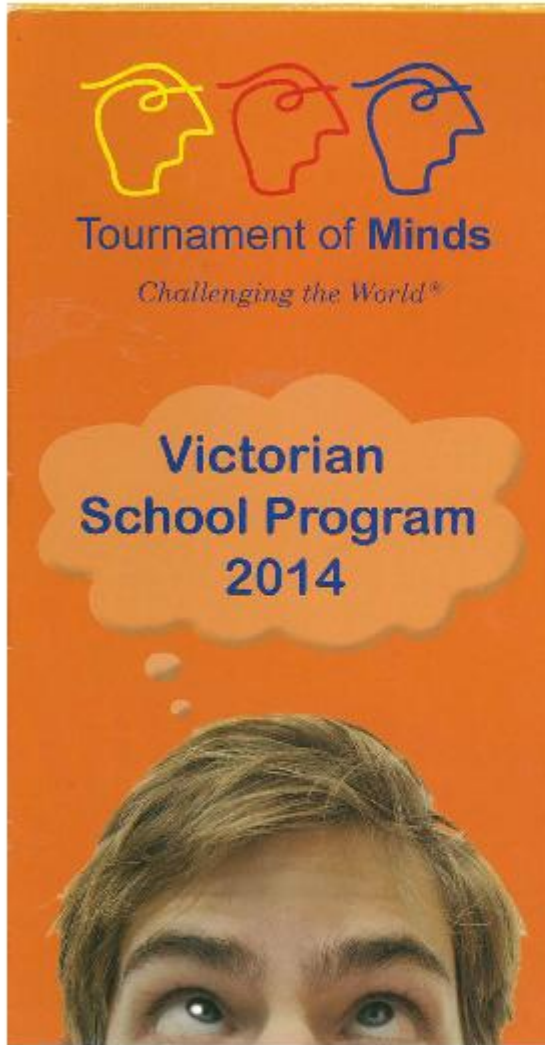


2014 Key Dates

Term 2 - 2014	
Monday 9 June	Queen's Birthday holiday
Friday 27 June	End of Term 2 (For staff and students)

Term 3 - 2014	
Monday 14 July	Commencement of Term 3 for Staff and Students
Thursday 24 July	Photography for all Music bands/ensembles
Friday 25 July	Photography for all Sport teams
Friday 19 September	End of Term 3 (For staff and students)

Term 4 - 2014	
Monday 6 October	Commencement of Term 4 (For staff and students)
Tuesday 21 October	Last day of classes for Year 12 students
Wednesday 22 October	Class of 2014 Graduation Mass
Monday 3 November	Non-teaching day
Tuesday 4 November	Melbourne Cup holiday
Thursday 20 November	Year 12 Graduation Dinner
Thursday 27 November	Last day for Year 11 students
Thursday 4 December	Last day for Year 10 students
Friday 5 December	Last day for Year 7 - 9 students
Thursday 11 December	Academic Awards Evening
Friday 12 December	Last day for Teaching Staff



What is TOM?

Tournament of Minds (TOM) is a fun problem solving program for multi-age team in Years 7-10 who work together to solve a demanding open ended Long Term Challenge and a Spontaneous Challenge on the Tournament Day.

TOM-s aim to enhance the potential in a fun environment by developing diverse skills in:

- Enterprise
- Time management
- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Experimentation & risk taking with ideas
- Drama

TOM is open to all students in Year 7-10

To ensure a successful TOM performance it takes commitment to the workshops, incursions and your team members.

If you're interested please email Mrs Simon Ryan for further information sryan@siena.vic.edu.au

Be quick - limited spaces only
Registrations of interest close on Tuesday
6th May

