The Feast of the Presentation, 2013 was celebrated at PCW with the unveiling of the magnificent mosaic mural which has been created to mark the College’s 140th anniversary. The brain child of art teacher, Ms Jill Allen and sponsored by the Parents’ Association, the mosaic was produced by Jill and her Year 10 art class. Many months and hundreds of hours work have produced a breathtakingly vast and beautiful depiction of the 140 years of our school. Sr Mary Kavanagh unveiled the work and commented that what used to be referred to as ‘the old grey building’ was now no longer grey but full of colour and life. Mary also told the assembled students, staff, Presentation Sisters and guests the story of the Sisters arrival in Melbourne and their early years here setting up the school and of the first group of 26 students who commenced classes in February 2014. The unveiling was a wonderful way to celebrate the feast of the Presentation and a fitting way to conclude this year of remembrance of the school’s foundation. The final event marking the 140 years of our school will be the Welcome Mass on February 13, 2014 which will be held at St Ignatius Church, Richmond and presided over by Bishop Vincent Long. Alumnae will be most welcome to attend.

Over the coming summer holidays work will begin on the long awaited move of the Aquinas Library to the Kavanagh building. The first floor spaces that originally housed boarders will be opened up to create a large new library and Writers Centre. The high ceilings and light filled rooms will provide a wonderful new resource for our school and, in the centre of the campus, will be a cross roads and meeting place. It will be a far cry from Sr Aquinas’s cupboard at the back of a classroom where the first library collection was held but the passion for learning and knowledge which she embodied with her initiative will continue to inspire.

It is often commented that PCW is a small version of the United Nations with students and families representing more than sixty nationalities. It is one of the great gifts of our community and one that is celebrated and treasured. The diverse and richly mixed community is a reflection of the world we seek to connect with, learn from and about, and engage with. Education is now viewed on global scale and the emerging generation sees interaction with other nations and cultures and travel to places near and distant as normal, expected, required. The global village cliché of the 1960s is a reality for the young people of 2013. PCW is engaged with the world at large in many ways. One group of students and staff are currently in Italy and another is in Japan. Next year the biennial trips will be to Vietnam and India. Our International student program has brought students to our school from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Thailand and next year from Singapore and Brazil. Recently I travelled to Singapore with a view to setting up a partnership with two or more schools there which will allow our students to complete a part of their senior studies in an Asian setting. The ‘PCW in the Asian Century’ project recognises the place of Asia in the 21st century and its significance for Australian wellbeing and prosperity. The project seeks to take the educational experience in an Asian country beyond the social and cultural to provide for a fully accredited exchange of learning programs which will deepen understandings and establish long-term relationships. We hope that an inaugural group of students and staff will launch the project in 2014. Our founding Sisters travelled across the seas to a new and strange place in the cause of education ... ‘over the rim of the world, where summer came in wintertime and the very stars hung strange’ (Raphael Considine, pbvm). Like them, might we continue to be stirred by ‘life’s insistent cry, the Spirit’s voice’.

Leonie Keaney, Principal
December 2013
Class of 2013 Graduates!

Excerpt from Graduation Speech, 2013 School Captain, Quynh Nguyen

For a long time, I thought that all I was ever worth was somehow dependent on, reflective of or intrinsically linked with the grades I could get. That somehow, academic validation is the only validation that people recognised in the real world. A decent ATAR that will get me into a decent UNI to set me up for a good job. But in all honesty, I have a friend that can watch 9 seasons of a TV show in 2 weeks, another who gives the best advice and someone who makes the best ‘Mie Goreng’ I’ve ever tasted. I would never do them the disservice of suggesting their grades diminishes any of that. So never do that to yourself.

I’m a school captain, badge hoarder and pedestal resident and I still spent most of this year trying to convince my shadow, and my girls who elected me, that I’m someone worth following. Turns out both my shadow and the girls were going nowhere, even if I almost fail unit 3 English. I read somewhere that mosaics are made from broken pieces but they’re still works of art and so are you.

Excerpt from Graduation Speech, 2013 School Vice-Captain, Maddison Sullivan-Thorpe

For majority of us we have shared six years together, whether it is in Nike airs with coloured Dobson’s with our bonds underwear displayed visibly over the top, or those cringe worthy leather jackets and the photos that graced MySpace capturing all of these moments we’d rather have forgotten; we’ve made it! At the start of the year my advice was you can do anything, but not everything; and while I employed this as my mantra for the entire year it always served as a constant challenge to us. Juggling sacs, music festivals, sporting carnivals, presentation day, emotional and physical wellbeing all the while trying to maintain your immune system, sanity and resilience; I am the first to admit at times it felt like we were doing anything and everything to keep ourselves afloat, but here we are.

To the group of young woman who make up the class of 2013, my we have come a long way. We walked through these gates as gawky teenage girls, but as time slipped by those unsure young teens have evolved into independent and determined young women. And while I must admit I had previously viewed graduation as a tearful celebration with the end in sight, and the taste of exams that were just around the corner; I was reminded of the weight of its true significance. While today we are faced with the conflicting emotions of joy and sadness, it’s important to remember in the midst of celebration, what we’ve struggled with to get to this very point. We all have our own story, and while each and every one of us has continued to attend school five days a week blending into a sea of 600 girls all dressed the same, following their same routine we are united by our individual stories and struggles. Each of us have faced struggles throughout our six years of high school; whether it be the visible suffering like sporting a moon boot for a month long period due to an Irish dancing accident or the heart wrenching struggle of losing a loved one; our struggles whether visible or not, have made us the people we are today. And while many of our struggles are masked by the similarities of our conformity to uniform, tied back hair and black lace ups, we could not be more different. But it is these differences, and our individual stories that have made us a year level more united than I could ever have imagined.

We Remember

At 11am on the 11/11, students and staff gathered in the Hall to REMEMBER.

Standing around a central cross draped in red and white material, and with a backdrop of amazing red poppy textile wall hangings by PCW teacher, Rosalie Lawler, the liturgy began with the singing of the Peace Prayer of St Francis.

Then the Year 8 student leaders explained the significance of Remembrance Day, a reading from John’s Gospel then read the poem “In Flanders Fields”.

The silence in the Hall during the playing of the Last Post was spine chilling.

As the students left the Hall they were given a red poppy as a reminder of loving service to country and the victory of life over death.
Congratulation to Elaine Leong who is Dux of PCW for 2013. Elaine has studied English, Art, History (Revolutions), Literature, Mathematical Methods and Psychology. Her self-portrait won the 2013 Sr Raymonde Taylor Art Award. The work has been submitted for Top Arts and is currently being considered for short listing. Elaine has hopes to study Professional Communication at RMIT in 2014. The College congratulates Elaine on her outstanding achievement and wishes her well for her future studies. A full report on the class of 2013’s results will be provided in the Lantern in February.

Maths STEPS Forum

As Australia follows the global trend of rising shortages of suitably qualified people in careers involving Mathematics and Science, Monash University has been conducting a longitudinal research program across a range of schools with the aim of understanding why young people are not pursuing careers in these fields. Presentation College Windsor has been involved in the Monash University STEPS (Study of Transitions and Education Pathways) research program since it began in 2012. On Wednesday 27th November, the inaugural STEPS Forum took place at PCW and all schools involved in this research program were invited. We were fortunate to have as our keynote speaker, Professor Katarina Salmela-Aro, Department of Psychology, University of Jyväskylä, in Finland and a member of the Centre of Excellence on Learning and Motivation. Professor Katarina Salmela-Aro discussed her current research looking at the motivation of various members of school communities and the critical life transitions of students. She linked this research to engagement within schools and its importance to career choices that lead to job satisfaction and well-being.

Associate Professor Helen Watt from the Faculty of Education, Monash University, chief investigator of the STEPS program presented a summary of her team’s research thus far. She explained how the program investigates the motivation of students starting at Year 10 from a selection of Melbourne and Sydney Colleges, including six additional schools that participated in the research program in 2013. Associate Professor Helen Watt discussed the factors that motivate students to choose careers in Mathematics and Science. One of these motivating factors being the belief teachers and parents have in a student’s ability to perform well in these subjects. Many interesting parallels were found in the research taking place here in Australia and in Finland and the importance of longitudinal studies and the difficulties associated with this type of research. The forum ended with a round table discussion on the future teaching of Science and Mathematics and the challenges that remain. This stimulating discussion involved members of the STEPS schools and all the Monash Research Assistants, including Associate Professor Paul Richardson from Monash University.

Here, at PCW, we feel very fortunate to be at the coalface of this new research. Having such close proximity to Watts’ findings has enabled us to examine trends amongst our own student population and has put the significant need to encourage students into STEM pathways at the forefront of mind. Ideologically, this ties in seamlessly with the priorities of the Maths and Science faculties which are constantly looking for ways to engage and inspire our students. In 2012 we implemented a maths/science program at year 7 which means that all year 7 classes have the same teacher for both subjects the lessons can involve integrated work across both areas or separate consolidation of skills. This structure has the added benefit of students having more frequent contact with their maths/science teacher, encouraging them to seek support more readily. In 2014 we are also introducing a year 9 elective subject know as STEM, created to encourage and nurture those students who have a natural curiosity or interest in this field. With the continued partnership with Monash University and the STEPS team we are looking forward to deepening our understanding of the factors that motivate and influence students as they make significant choices about their pathways.

Each year a number of PCW students are published in Shared Stories – an anthology of creative writing from Catholic School students from across the state. English teachers submit the best creative writing from their classes to be considered, and after some discussion we choose what we feel to be the best writing for the year to be published. It is honour for the students to see their writing in print and to know other people will enjoy their writing as well. Not only is the anthology given to students, it is also kept in libraries throughout Victoria, including the State Library. Now in its ninth year, the anthology keeps on growing, with the 2013 edition amassing 400 pages of writing from 12 different Catholic Schools.

The launch of this year’s publication was a delightful day. In the beautiful spring morning sun, I accompanied 13 students to Xavier College, the location for this year’s launch. After some food and drinks, we were seated in the auditorium to enjoy the proceedings with the multitude of students, parents, teachers and media. There were musical performances, readings from students and inspirational words from our guest speaker, high-profile human rights activist Tasneem Chopra, who told students, ‘It takes a brave soul to showcase your creativity.’

Two PCW students were honored with awards. The Ellikon Awards (named after the publishing company) are given each year for the best piece of writing from each published school. Year 12 student Elaine Leong received this award for her starkly visceral and poetic piece exploring the experience of ballet performance.

Our other student to be awarded this year was Year 12 student Perrin Bosley, who received the inaugural Victoria Teachers Mutual Bank Award. This is given to one student who has consistently featured outstanding work in Shared Stories over a number of years. Therefore it is a brilliant achievement by Perrin as she stood out from hundreds of published students from all schools involved. We at PCW were not surprised by her achievement, as Perrin has been an exceptional student throughout her PCW education.

We are very proud of our involvement in Shared Stories, and we are sure that many great writers will emerge from the select pool of students that are published in the collection.

Brad Denny
Head of English
Presentation College Windsor
Sound of Music

Director’s notes

Sound of Music is a family favourite. Most of us would have seen the film version before a stage production. We fell in love with Maria, the von Trapp family and songs such as “Climb Ev’ry Mountain”, “My Favourite Things”, “Sixteen Going On Seventeen”. Returning to this favourite many of you will recall when you saw it for the first time and be able to sing along with the cast.

The music is by Richard Rogers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein and a book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. It is based on a true story written by Maria von Trapp.

The musical is a collaborative effort between the drama and music department involving a number of staff from each department working with students to produce a magical show.

This undertaking involves the broader school community of staff who take responsibility for; production management, orchestra, costume, sound, makeup, set construction, backstage crew, supervision, giving generously of their time contributing to the success and smooth running of the production. They are to be applauded and congratulated one and all.

Anne Sparks  Angela Mallia
Director                               Musical Director

Pcw140 Years: Celebratory Mosaic

“A luxuriant garden brimming with life, growth and diversity” was the design brief presented to a group of enthusiastic Year 10 Art students at the start of the semester. The brief was in response to the Parents Committee who were seeking to sponsor special projects marking the school’s 140th celebrations.

The exotic garden scenes of the French artist Henri Rousseau inspired the design.

The task began with students collecting and sketching a variety of plant forms and flowers. These were incorporated into a symbolic garden design for a mosaic mural communicating the story of the PCW community over the last 140 years.

The composition is dominated by the image of a ghost gum in the style of Albert Namatjira. This tree stands as an acknowledgement of the original inhabitants of the land our school is built on, the Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri people. Around the base of the tree are seven shamrocks a reference to our Irish founding sisters who left their homeland to set up our school in 1873. Amidst the profusion of foliage and greenery eighty-one frangipani are scattered. Each individual flower represents one of the eighty-one nuns who have devoted their lives to the education of young women and at times young boys in our school.

One colourful flower stands out from the others. This is our Sister Raymonde flower.
and is a tribute to the much loved and respected teacher who inspired so many students with her love of the visual arts.

Bright red poppies stand tall, symbolic of the 15 Presentation sisters who have led and nurtured our school as PCW principals. Our current principal Leonie Keaney is represented as an orange poppy to acknowledge her role as the first non-religious principal of the school.

Nestled on a branch overlooking the scene is a small Irish Blue Jay. The spirit of Nano Nagle is always present. Another white bird a dove illuminates the side panel.

This is the traditional Christian symbol of the Holy Spirit and references the Catholic nature and heritage of PCW.

Our garden is full of life and energy just like the people who are our school. The plants and flowers are beautifully diverse just like us. And over us all a dawn sky communicates the start of a new day, the future.

This project began as a small idea and ended as a testament to the big things that can be achieved when a group of people work together. The girls of the Year 10 Art class have performed beyond expectation on this laborious task and in the process have been rewarded with a unique opportunity to create something of lasting beauty and meaning for us all to enjoy. Thank you girls!

Jill Allen
PCW Art Teacher

Mural Project
It often sticks in our memory where we are when events happened throughout history….the first man on the moon, the assignation of John F Kennedy, Live Aid concert in London, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the election of the first black American President Barack Obama. However as I write this the world mourns the loss of a true man of courage, Nelson Mandela - Madiba. All of us will be touched in some way or other and I hope will be encouraged to learn from his life, his leadership, his devotion to humanity and humanitarian causes.

At this significant historical moment in the life of Presentation here at Windsor, celebrating 140 years of education, the College Mission team has been working on the notion of Windsor blessing. In addition with working with students and staff on the history and purpose of blessing, the mission has produced the below blessing, using the work of John O’Donohue.

As members of this Presentation Family, we share this blessing with you, we pray this blessing for you, and invite you to use it.

**Windsor Blessing**

*May the light of Nano bless you*

*May the light of your soul guide you,*

*May the Angel of awakening stir your heart for what is right and just*

*May you see in what you do the beauty of your soul*

*May you feel that love, we call God, within you.*

I have included the reunion dates for 2014 in this edition, please make a note of them in your diaries. If you would like to help with the organisation of your decade reunion, please email me alumnae@pcw.vic.edu.au

Thank you to the many alumnae who continue to support our scholarship programs. If you are able to donate in any way (small or large) to scholarships or other capital programs at PCW please feel free to give me a call to discuss.

Thanks for the ongoing support of the alumnae office…after 2 years we have connected with so many alumnae… and many have come back to visit their old school after 30 years.

**Lynaire Falkenstein**

PCW Alumnae Office

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### PCW Alumnae Reunions 2014

| Class of 2013 (1 year reunion) | Tuesday 20 May |
| Class of 2004 (10 year reunion) | Saturday 29 March |
| Class of 1994 (20 year reunion) | Saturday 3 May |
| Class of 1984 (30 year reunion) | Saturday 10 May |
| Class of 1974 (40 year reunion) | Saturday 14 June |
| Class of 1964 (50 year reunion) | Saturday 21 June |
| Annual Reunion | Sunday 23 November |

These reunions will be held at Presentation College Windsor. Invitations will be sent to all on our database. Please email alumnae@pcw.vic.edu.au if you can help us get the contact names and details from more of your leaving year. Please also advise if you are able to help with the organisation of your reunion.

**Interstate & International Reunions**

Please advise the Alumnae Office of your reunions and the dates and details will be added to the reunion calendar and promoted on the website and within Entre Nous E-News.

**Non Decade Reunions**

Other year levels that wish to organise additional reunions are encouraged to do so and they will be supported with database information and promotion. Please advise the Alumnae Office and the dates and details will be added to the reunion calendar and promoted on the website and within Entre Nous E-News.

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### From the archives...

We are always interested in receiving donations to our archives. Do you have some PCW memorabilia or photos that you would be willing to donate?

Marie McCann Embroidery... embroidered in 1937 at the age of 12 years. The Semco lady came each week with her threads needles and stamped materials for students to work with.

**From the Class of 1974.....who is this?**
Did you know....

Introduction to Sr Mary Kavanagh PBVM

The name of Sr Mary Kavanagh means many things, whether it be what we call the person after whom the annual English award is named; or the name we see when we attend classes in the Kavanagh building. Some might know her as a teacher or as a principal; and some would know her by sharing community life with her in the convent. We want to share with you some additional information about Sr Mary as a person we have come to value as a living treasure of PCW.

She graduated from PCW as a student in 1939, at the outbreak of the Second World War. She entered the Presentation Sisters straight after school and was professed in 1944, being given the name Sr Mary Rosaria. At university, Sr Mary majored in Latin and philosophy, achieving top of her philosophy class in her first year. Sr Mary was a teacher at PCW from 1947 until 1960. She taught English, Latin, Geography, History and nearly every other subject. In those days, the sisters taught whatever subject needed a teacher.

Sr Mary was appointed Principal of PCW from 1961 until 1970. During this time, she completed a Master’s degree in Education at the University of Melbourne. Her thesis detailed the journey, struggles and joys of Presentation Education here at Windsor and her words were used extensively for the text “Adventures in Faith.”

Sr Mary always preferred teaching to administration although she has lead with exemplary service. She has been superior of the Presentation Convents at Gardenvale, at Windsor and at Dandenong and she has been on the congregational leadership council for 12 years.

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She lectured in philosophy at Christ College Oakleigh, an early campus of the Australian Catholic University.

Sr Mary always loved the boarders especially – since she was from the country herself. Sr Mary ran the boarding house from 1987 – 2010. Sr Mary retired from full time work at age 85.
Eachtra 2013

Year 9 students participate in the Eachtra Program (‘Eachtra’ is Gaelic for Adventure). It was chosen as the name of the Year 9 program as we believe it gives meaning to the mission and vision of Presentation College Windsor and honours the long tradition of the Presentation Sisters, of educating independent young women to embrace challenges both local and global.

The Eachtra program is made up of many parts and runs throughout the year. It is recognised that Middle School students need to be given opportunities to learn in a variety of ways. The range of activities is designed to achieve this.

In the four weeks of school, students are involved in the Year 9 program to complete their Eachtra program for the year. The program incorporates different workshops/excursions where the girls will be developing unique skills, knowledge and experiences that complement and enhance her academic learning and personal development.

Camp

The Year 9 Camp is held at the Presentation Family Centre in a holiday facility at Balnarring Beach. A supervised surfing lesson is part of the camp experience at Point Leo, the lessons are run by experienced and qualified instructors. (East Coast Surf School, Merricks North) Another activity the girls participated in is Tree Surfing; Tree Surfing is an exciting new high ropes adventure on the Mornington Peninsula. Tree Surfing delivers all the thrills of an outdoor climbing adventure without the need for guided tours or prior training. Set in the native woodland park at The Enchanted Adventure Garden the Grand course spans nearly 3 acres across 5 levels.

The course is made up of a series of tree-fixed platforms linked by suspended rope bridges, climbing ladders, aerial rope nets, wooden tunnels and trapeze like challenges. Taking on the aerial obstacles from the tree canopy is a great confidence-building activity, a beautiful nature based experience and is also heaps of fun! After the Tree Surfing the girls make their way to the Peninsula Hot Springs where they can unwind and relax after a day of climbing and swinging through the tree tops.

Throughout each camp there will be an emphasis not only on mastering individual skills, but also on building friendships, developing leadership skills and group co-operation.

Eachtra has been developed as an important part of the Year 9 Learning Program at PCW and it is important that students have the opportunity to participate in all activities to enable the successful completion of Year 9 in readiness for transition into the Senior School.

End of Year Program

There are three distinct components to this year’s Eachtra program in November and December:

Melbourne: Inside and Out (Melbourne Tour and BIG Questions)

Healthy, Wealthy and Wise (Proud Race initiative, Missing piece, Drug Education and SmartStart)

Body, Mind and Spirit (Balnarring Camp)

Recipes from Windsor

Calling all PCW Cooks! In 2014 we are putting together a PCW Cookbook and would love to be inundated by recipes from both our current families and our alumnae.

Being that PCW is a small version of the United Nations I am looking forward to recipes from so many cultures.

What is your favourite? Your ‘go to’ recipe! And does it have a story behind it?

When sending them through, please also include your full name and contact details...and if alumnae could also include your leaving year.

Email to: lfalkenstein@pcw.vic.edu.au

Art @ PCW

The following artworks have been selected by PCW for entry into the Catholic Art week exhibition for 2014.

1. Perrin Boseley year 12
2. Bonnie Maher year 12
3. Indigo Tait-Atkin year 9
4. Damaris Kean year 11
5. Elaine Leong year 12

PCW Alumnae Life Membership

We encourage all past pupils to support the ongoing Alumnae work by becoming a financial Life Member of your Alumnae. It is a once only fee of $100 and this supports the ongoing work of the Alumnae office to run reunions, produce Windsor News & Entre Nous eNews and our work to increase communications and connections with all Windsor past pupils.

Please go to the College website www.pcw.vic.edu.au/alumnae and download your membership form and post into our office today. All Life Members receive an Alumnae Key Ring in recognition of support. Thank You.