



NEWS

Lowther

A.C.N. 006 660 984



ISSUE NO. 38

APRIL 2000

NEW CHALLENGES IN A NEW SCHOOL YEAR
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INSIDE



A NEW YEAR OF LEARNING

From the Principal

Another year, another good start! Yet of course every year is different, whether the millennium year or not. For students returning and new girls arriving the first term is exciting, daunting and challenging. New subjects, different teachers, new learning, new activities to join ... all combine to make each year an experience unlike any before. Assemblies of Dedication set the tone for the year; the student leaders of Senior and Junior School were presented with their badges of office and made their commitment to leadership and service for 2000. For the whole school there was a commitment to the year and its purpose, which is learning - academic, physical, social, personal and spiritual.



Year 12 students relax together after the Assembly of Dedication. Front (L to R); Chantelle Jamieson, Angelique Camm. Back (L to R); Antoinette Cerantonio, Lucy-Anna Hannemann, Elizabeth Bramich, Anthoula Goumas, Fiona Duffield, Christia Romero, Sophia Gielewski.



Staff and students celebrate at the Perry Millennium House Party. Left to Right; Ms Marita Sheehan, Stephanie Hedger (Year 8), Ms Cathy Moloney and Louise Cashen (Year 7).



Raymond House Captains for 2000. Front (L to R); Leah Rampling (Perry), Lauren Clarke (Clarke), Savanna Cahill (Hindley). Back (L to R); Katey Oakley (Booth), Sarah Nicolazzo (Lees), Shavina Wilson (Moorhouse).

Leadership development is characteristic of Lowther Hall. In a family sized school all girls have the opportunity to be leaders in a variety of activities and in home groups, in the houses and in the Student Council. I am sure that you will have been impressed by this year's House Performing Arts Competition which for the first time was held in the evening and at a venue which permitted an audience of parents. House Captains and their deputies and assistants manage the Performing Arts Competition without teacher direction. This is but one instance of the quality of our student leadership. The House leaders were prominent from the first week of term when the Millennium house parties brought together girls from Year 1 to Year 12, enjoying the company of the age groups and playing games.

The primary purpose of school, however, is academic learning and it is critical that teachers, students and parents promote this. There is a strong work ethic at Lowther Hall; we want it to be even stronger. Classwork and homework ought to be purposeful and exacting, which does not mean stressful. Whatever the achievement of any person there is the potential to learn more and achieve more. It is our earnest wish that the year 2000 will see every student believing in her capacity to learn and, with help from teachers and parents, finding success beyond her previous expectation.

Noelene Horton

Checkmate at Raymond House

Chess classes have been introduced at Junior School in Years 3 and 4 this term and students have taken up the challenge with relish.

Mr Ross Thomas, Director of the Chess Ideas Program, visits the two classes each week to deliver a formal lesson. This is followed by playing time, which allows students to put what they have just learned into practice.

Class chess sets have been purchased so that all students can play at the one time, with Mr Thomas in attendance to answer queries and give advice. It is planned that eventually an after school chess club, open to all Junior School students, will be created.

Mrs Noella Kershaw, Head of Junior School says, "Chess can have very positive effects on the thinking processes. It assists students with critical thinking, it exercises memory and extends special aptitude".



Chess Instructor Mr Ross Thomas assists Year 4 Students Ashton George (left) and Orania Theoharidis to learn some finer points of the game.

LOWTHER HALL ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PO Box 178 (Leslie Road)
Essendon Vic 3040

Telephone: (03) 9337 5011
Facsimile: (03) 9331 1247

Email: lowther@lowtherhall.vic.edu.au
Website: www.lowtherhall.vic.edu.au

Produced by the Lowther Hall Community Relations Department
Printed by Aberdeen Press

FRONT COVER: Lowther Hall's newly inducted prefects joined by The Right Reverend Andrew St John, President of the School and Bishop of the Western Region, Ms Noelene Horton and Rev Jean Penman, following the Assembly of Dedication on February 1 in the Joan M Garde Cultural Centre. Clockwise from Centre Front: Sarvath Hussain, Monica Przybyszewski (Deputy School Captain), Antoinette Cerantonio (Deputy School Captain), Kathryn Clancy, Hayley Bulman (School Captain), Hailey Boyd, Lauren Taylor, Jacinta White, Elli Jacovides, Amy Gavaghan, Eleni Tzimas and Sarah Moore.



DR SUSAN LESLIE'S STUDY TOUR TO ISRAEL

Having been awarded a scholarship by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in Melbourne, I arrived in Jerusalem on Boxing Day to attend the Winter Institute at the International School for Holocaust Studies. I felt a mixture of anticipation and anxiety as I faced the prospect of studying a subject as daunting as the Jewish Holocaust for 26 days.

Fellow participants included educators, lawyers and religious leaders. Over the weeks we were to attend over 180 hours of lectures and workshops at Yad Vashem. Eminent academics from a range of disciplines, including history, literature, art history, theology, law and psychiatry addressed seminal questions about the Jewish Holocaust and human rights issues: what was lost, how and why?



Dr Susan Leslie (second row, fourth from right) and fellow participants in the Winter Institute at the International School for Holocaust Studies, with Jerusalem in the background.

I spent New Year's Eve at a Sabbath dinner. According to the Jewish calendar the year is 5370, so the Millennium was not celebrated. The issues we learnt about however, are of continuing relevance to this century and I hope to continue the discussion with many of my students at Lowther Hall.

DR SUSAN LESLIE (Humanities Coordinator)

Information Management in the Learning Resources Centre

Lowther Hall's dedicated team of volunteer Library Monitors contributes greatly to the atmosphere of industry and organisation in the Learning Resources Centre. The team for 2000, led by Library Captain Lauren Davis, consists of 13 students from Years 7 to 12. Some students are continuing monitors, while others are taking on a range of duties for the first time.



Library monitors in conference. Clockwise from left; Anna Kantzelis (Year 8), Katie Tanner (Year 8), Lauren Davis (Library Captain Year 12), Sarah-Jane Oska (Year 8) and Caroline Hine (Year 10).

These duties include working with Learning Resources Centre Manager, Mr Gary Garner and LRC Assistant, Mrs Judith Dove with the computer system, putting books onto shelves, arranging displays, checking periodicals, assisting new students to become familiar with the LRC and helping out in the Junior Library.

At present the Library Monitors are learning to facilitate the LRC's new software system AIMS/Masterfile, which will manage book collection and enable access through the school's Intranet. Teachers will now be able to put essential reading (eg scanned newspaper articles) onto the school network.

In recognition of the many hours of time Library Monitors volunteer to the school, Mr Garner and Mrs Dove assist the team to organise occasional 'special experiences' throughout the year,

related to the world of books and library technology. Recently, the experiences have included a trip to the State Library and workshop with a picture story book publisher. A tour of a daily newspaper office is on the planning board for 2000.

Year 12 Parents Resort to Murder and Mayhem

Suggestions that the experience of being the parent of a Year 12 student may result in murder and mayhem may be exaggerated. A group of 20 parents of the class of 1999 recently decided to put the theory to the test.

Dressed in the formal attire of the turn of the century, the previous one that is, we visited the Old Castlemaine Gaol to take part in a murder mystery weekend. The result: one 'corpse' who refused to die; one showgirl whose dancing would rival many a VCE offering and a great many opportunities for thwarted thespians to 'ham-up' their allocated role in the drama. Despite protestations from horrified daughters (you're not going to wear **that!**) the weekend was hugely entertaining as well as a wonderful opportunity to share the trials and tribulations of parenting through the VCE. For those who follow - we survived!

Nene Macwhirter

(Head of English, thwarted thespian and parent of the class of 1999)



Year 12 1999 parents join in the spirit of the occasion at a Murder Mystery Weekend at Old Castlemaine Gaol.



LOWTHER HALL WELCOMES



ANNA BAILEY

Ms Anna Bailey is beginning her teaching career in Year 2 at Lowther Hall. She was born and raised in Hobart (where her family still live) and studied at the University of Tasmania, graduating with a double major in Psychology.

Following tertiary study, Anna began working with children. She supervised an After School Care Program in Hobart for 18 months, before travelling extensively throughout Europe, the United States and Canada.

In 1998, Anna moved to Melbourne to study for a Bachelor of Teaching at the University of Melbourne and last year graduated with honours. Her thesis focused on the development of metacognition (an awareness of own thinking and learning behaviours) in children. She discovered that such an awareness can be developed through the Philosophy for Children Program, which will run in her classroom.

Beyond the school, Anna likes to play hockey, watch movies and spend time with her friends. She loves to travel and plans to visit Greece and Turkey at the end of the year.

Anna says that it has been a busy start to the year for herself, as well as the Year 2 students and adds, "I am enjoying the challenges of a school for girls and the opportunity to put my educational ideas into practice."



BRIGID COOPER

Mrs Brigid Cooper joins Lowther Hall as part-time Archivist.

She hails from near Yarram in Gippsland and studied at Monash University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Japanese and German, as well as a Graduate Diploma in Archives

and records.

Brigid has previously worked as an Archival Consultant at Caulfield Grammar School and as Immigration Discovery Centre Coordinator at Melbourne's Immigration Museum.

In her recreation time, Brigid loves to sing. She is a member of the Gloriana Vocal Ensemble.

Through her work with the school's archives, Brigid hopes to promote an understanding of Lowther Hall's history and traditions throughout the whole school community.



DEBBIE GODSELL

Mrs Debbie Godsell joins Lowther Hall from Keilor Downs Primary, where she taught Grade 6 and Physical Education.

Debbie has studied for a Diploma of Teaching (Primary) and a Graduate Diploma in Health and Physical Education. During her teaching career,

she has been involved in State Government projects such as Exemplary Schools, Turning the Tide and the Fundamental Motor Skills program.

She is an experienced calisthenics coach, teaching a Championship Level class each week. She has also coached the Victorian State team to successes in national competition.

Debbie and her husband Ivor have two children, Penelope 11 and Mike 10. She enjoys listening to music, bike riding, reading and supporting her family's hobbies and sports.

Debbie is enjoying the beginning of the school year and meeting new friends amongst staff and students. "I believe working at Lowther Hall will greatly expand my educational knowledge and experience," she says.



CHRISTELLE HADDAD

Ms Christelle Haddad is welcomed back to Lowther Hall as a teacher of French, part-time. She was previously a student at the school from 1987 to 1992.

This is Christelle's first teaching position. She completed a Bachelor of Arts at Melbourne University in 1996 and worked as an Electoral Officer for the Federal Assistant Treasurer.

Before completing a Diploma of Education at Melbourne University in 1999, Christelle found time to write a novel, *Shadia's Promise*, which was published in 1998.

Christelle returned to Lowther Hall after her book was published and addressed the school assembly on her inspiration to write about a fictional Lebanese/Australian girl growing up in Melbourne, and her experiences in becoming a published author.

Reading and writing are Christelle's passions and take up most of her spare time.



GLENN HARRIS

Mr Glenn Harris joins Lowther Hall as member of the English faculty. His academic studies focused on English, English as a Second Language, Drama, Philosophy and Economics, culminating in a Bachelor of Education (Arts).

Glenn began his teaching career in 1985 at Yarram High School in Gippsland,

before a stint in Portugal at the Cambridge English Language School. He joins Lowther Hall from Altona Secondary College, where he held many positions of responsibility including Year Level Co-ordinator, Community Liason Manager, President of the Staff Association and most recently, English Co-ordinator.

Between 1997 and 1998 Glenn headed overseas again to Istanbul Turkey, where he took on the position of English Co-ordinator at the British International School.

Glenn is a keen participant in extra curricular activities and has been involved in the organisation of many camps and cycling tours. He has coached Australian Rules football, basketball, volleyball and triathlon teams and organised after school drama and games clubs and has assisted students to study for the SAT'S American university entrance exams.

His hobbies are running, reading, watching his 7 month old son William learn to crawl, bike touring and Irish movies.



HELEN MCCORRY

Mrs Helen McCorry joins the Lowther Hall staff as a member of the Music Department. Helen completed her tertiary education at the University of Melbourne, where she majored in Music Therapy and graduated in 1991 with Honors in Performance.

After university, she spent two years overseas working as a Music Therapist and in related occupations.

Helen has taught Piano and Theory over the past twelve years in both her private studio and at schools including Lauriston Girls' School, Melbourne Girls' Grammar School and Westbourne Grammar School. She studied singing for several years and has worked as an accompanist for many Soirees, Recitals and Examinations.

Teaching and performing, particularly music, is a strong tradition in Helen's family. As an educator, she enjoys developing the music skills in students of all ages and encourages them to perform to the best of their ability.

Helen is married with a son Declan, aged 3. Her interests include walking, gym, theatre, ballet, gardening and thoroughbred racing.

She says, "I am enjoying a range of challenging duties at Lowther Hall, both in the classroom and beyond."

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF



KEVIN NOONAN

Mr Kevin Noonan joins Lowther Hall as a teacher of Mathematics and Science. He has taught at a number of Government and Independent schools in Victoria and South Australia, including Prince Alfred College, Adelaide.

Kevin hails from Melbourne and studied for a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Physics and Mathematics at the University of Melbourne. He then gained a Graduate Diploma in Humanities and a Graduate Diploma in Education.

Kevin most recently graduated from La Trobe University with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree in Chinese History and has done post graduate research on Australian Christian Missionaries in China. He combined his studies with caring for his son Christopher, now nine.

Kevin and his wife Denise, who is a Veterinary Scientist currently working at Monash University, share an interest in environmental regeneration. They are members of Trees for Life and the Victorian Tree Project, which involves taking part in community planting days and growing seedlings and trees at their home.

Kevin says he is enjoying meeting Lowther Hall's students and staff and feels inspired by their enthusiasm.



CAROL PHILACTIDES

Mrs Carol Philactides joins the Lowther Hall staff after spending some time teaching in the senior school during 1999. She is currently teaching English at Year 10 and 12 levels.

Carol was born in England and attended school there. After moving to Australia, she gained a Bachelor of Arts degree (majoring in English and History) and a Diploma of Education at La Trobe and Monash Universities as a mature-aged student.

Carol is an experienced teacher of senior English with a special passion for literature which she taught at Year 12 for eleven successive years. During her career, Carol has undertaken many positions of responsibility, including English coordination and coordination/coaching of inter-school debating teams. She has also been an active participant in administration and curriculum planning and special education.

When invited in 1998 and 1999 to appear as a panellist on Educational Video for the Classroom, Carol jumped at the chance to experience communicating with students through a different medium and enjoyed the challenge of discussing the texts with other educators. She has also contributed material to study guides and critiques.

Carol's three children have now embarked on their own careers in psychology, travel and hospitality, leaving her more time to pursue her interests, which in addition to reading, include film, theatre, travel and learning piano.

Carol says that she appreciates the family-like atmosphere at Lowther Hall and enjoys working with the professional, dedicated staff.



NICOLA SABBADINI

Mrs Nicola Sabbadini joins Lowther Hall as a teacher of English and Politics. She originally taught Politics at RMIT, largely to cadets in the Army, Navy and Air Forces, and later combined part-time political research with raising five children, now ranging in age from 9 to 21.

As well as being passionate about Politics, Nicola has always been a great reader and it was during her years at home that she developed a working interest in short story writing. After a time spent teaching at Melbourne Girls' Grammar School, she completed a Bachelor of Letters degree in Literature and

Cinema Studies, which she says, "Opened my eyes to the fascinating subject of movies, television and visual culture in general." At the same time, Nicola completed courses in script writing and the production of documentaries and current affairs.

Believing that practical experience is often the best teacher, Nicola obtained work at the ABC as a researcher/producer of a series of television programs for *Landline*. She says, "This experience of language and communication in the world outside teaching provided me with a fresh approach to teaching both English and Politics to students at school."

"I believe that the best thing about teaching is learning and that the learning process should be lifelong and wide-ranging. I'm very pleased to be continuing this learning journey at Lowther Hall and I hope I can help others to take up this habit."



JENNY WILSON

Ms Jenny Wilson joins Lowther Hall's Visual Arts Department after teaching in a variety of independent and secondary schools throughout Melbourne over the past 5 years. Originally from Melbourne, she previously lived in the rural centres of Horsham and Leongatha.

Jenny's qualifications include secondary Art and Craft teaching, a Graduate Diploma of Graphic Communication and a Certificate of Small Business Management.

Jenny's philosophy for art education is a program which establishes a strong skill base from which creativity and individuality develops, and which encourages heightened visual perception. She is looking forward to the opportunity to get to know her students and follow their art education through from year to year.

This year, Jenny's daughter Tess begins VCE and her son Jock begins studying Commerce at Deakin University. In addition to teaching, she enjoys many activities with her husband Conrad, including renovating their home, visiting galleries, bookshops, antique shops and markets and vegetarian cooking.

Travel is another shared passion and Jenny has enjoyed many trips including riding pillion on her husband's motorcycle from Cairns to Cooktown, through the Daintree Forest.



SALLY WOODS

Ms Sally Woods joins Lowther Hall as a teacher of classroom music from Kindergarten to Year 8 and Director of the school choirs.

She has returned to Melbourne from Queensland where she recently completed a Masters degree in Music

Studies at the University of Queensland, with major studies in choral conducting, advanced aural studies and classroom music methodology.

Sally studied at Monash University and graduated with a Master of Arts degree. In 1989, during her studies, she was awarded a post-graduate scholarship to study and document multicultural music in Melbourne. She later studied Primary Teaching at LaTrobe University.

Sally's career in music education began in classrooms throughout country Victoria and later Brisbane, where she taught classroom music and piano as well as lecturing in World Music at the Queensland University of Technology.

Her love of singing and choral performance has led her to conducting a number of ensembles and choirs at Clayfield College and Somerville House in Brisbane as well as performing as a chorister and soloist in a number of choirs and amateur musical productions.

Sally also enjoys tennis, bushwalking, reading, travelling, cooking and sending E-mails. She says, "I am looking forward to contributing to the wonderful music program at Lowther Hall."



CLASS OF 99: CAREER DESTINATIONS

The excellent VCE results obtained by the class of 1999 have enabled them to continue on their chosen career paths by furthering their education at the tertiary level. Over 40% of the students received their first choice offer. The University of Melbourne was again the most popular choice of tertiary institution, closely followed by RMIT. A wide range of tertiary institutions and an equally wide range of courses were chosen, as the students followed their own dreams and aspirations.

Lowther Hall congratulates the class of 1999 and recognises the contribution of their highly professional teachers and supportive families. The school wishes all girls well in the future as they follow their paths through life into the new millennium.

ENTER ANALYSIS

Students with ENTER of over 95

13% of the class of 1999 obtained an ENTER of 95 or above. Congratulations to these students. Their ENTERs put them in the top 5% of the state.

Caroline Ayers	Univ. of Melb.	Arts
Kate Dullard	Univ. of Melb.	Arts/Music
Kate Gavaghan	Univ. of Melb.	Science/ Engineering
Lia Gianfriddo	Univ. of Melb.	Arts
Michelle Haeusler	Univ. of Melb.	Arts/Science
Kanchana Perera	Univ. of Melb.	Engineering - Mechatronics/ Computer Science
Cherine Simmons	Univ. of Melb.	Science
Roshi Weeratunge	Monash Univ.	Pharmacy/ Commerce

Students with ENTER of 90 - 95

Kate Agouridis	Univ. of Melb.	Arts
Alice Burgin	Univ. of Melb.	Arts
Imogen Clements	Univ. of Melb.	Arts
Angela Guest	Monash Univ.	Arts/Law
Vanessa Lee	Univ. of Melb.	Science
Theresa Lin	Univ. of Melb.	Engineering/ Commerce
Alana MacWhirter	Univ. of Melb.	Arts
Megan O'Donnell	RMIT Univ.	Psychology
Zara Soumbasis-Lee	RMIT Univ.	Criminal Justice Administration
Tania Trapla	RMIT Univ.	Marketing

29% of the class of 1999 obtained an ENTER of 90 or above, placing them in the top 10% of the state.

Special congratulations go to Lia Gianfriddo, who achieved a perfect score of 50/50 in two subjects, English and Literature.

SUBJECT RESULTS

31 students obtained a study score of 40 or more, placing them in the top 8% of the state for that subject:

Art:	Megan O'Donnell Fiona Plowman Lauren Taylor
Biology:	Rachel Grant
Chemistry:	Michelle Haeusler Roshi Weeratunge
Dance:	Elizabeth Davis
Economics:	Tania Trapla
English:	Kate Agouridis Caroline Ayers Kate Dullard Lia Gianfriddo Michelle Haeusler Monique le Grand Alana MacWhirter Kanchana Perera Zara Soumbasis-Lee Roshi Weeratunge
Further Mathematics:	Renee Schneider Zara Soumbasis-Lee
Geography:	Josephine Barbaro Fiona Blacck Qin Si Da Vanessa Lee Cherine Simmons
Graphic Communication:	De'arne Black Aomi Hongo Fiona Plowman
History: The City in History:	Caroline Ayers Lia Gianfriddo Zara Soumbasis-Lee
Human Development:	Alev Seyit
Information Technology:	Neeru Luddu Sarah Moore
Literature:	Lia Gianfriddo
Materials and Technology:	Irene Tsiavos
Mathematical Methods:	Qin Si Da Michelle Haeusler Ceri le Feuvre Roshi Weeratunge
Physical Education	Imogen Clements Erin Cordwell Kate Dullard
Psychology:	Michelle Haeusler Zara Soumbasis-Lee



VCE HIGHLIGHTS

The highest ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank) for the year of 1999 was achieved by Lia Gianfriddo, who scored 99.0. The Lowther Clarke Scholar, Michelle Haeusler, scored an ENTER of 98.9. Congratulations to both girls.



Lia Gianfriddo, scored Lowther Hall's highest ENTER score of 99.0.

LIA GIANFRIDDO Ready to Take on the World

At "just 99, no decimal places" Lia was the highest achieving scholar in the class of 1999 and says she simply "did not believe it", when she discovered that she had achieved two perfect scores of 50.

She entered Year 7 at Lowther Hall in 1994 from Pascoe Vale Primary and describes her progress through Years 7 to 12 as "not eventful, yet not unenjoyable".

In spite of her modest appraisal of her school days, Lia contributed to many aspects of life at Lowther Hall. She played the violin in the school orchestra for some years and took part in all House Sports, but it was in the House Debating and Performing Arts that she excelled.

Lia's entertaining dialogues on stage with Kate Dullard were enjoyed by all present. Her pithy observations of life showed her interest in people and her passion for writing.

Lia has accepted a place at the University of Melbourne to study for an Arts degree and has enrolled in Cinema Studies, Japanese, History and Anthropology. With such a smorgasbord of course choices under the Arts umbrella, she is still unsure of her final path through tertiary education, but a post-graduate course "somewhere overseas, maybe in Europe," is a strong possibility.

Lia's other passions are travel and film. She is soon off on a visit to Vietnam and notes that the Nova cinema in Carlton (just around the corner from the University), which shows mainly Art-House films, is "\$4.50 on Mondays".

Congratulations, Lia. You make the written word sing.

BRONWYN ANDREWS (Careers Coordinator)



Michelle Haeusler, Lowther Clarke Scholar 1999.

MICHELLE HAEUSLER Fourteen Years of Commitment to her School

Michelle Haeusler, the Lowther Clarke Scholar, joined Lower Prep at Lowther Hall in 1986 and completed her VCE in 1999, being at the school for a total of 14 years. She was Raymond House Scholar in 1993, gained a scholarship for Years 7 to 12 and was dux of all levels up to Year 12.

Her excellent ENTER score of 98.9 meant that she was offered a place in the combined degree of Art/Science at the University of Melbourne.

In Raymond House it soon became obvious that if anything was "on offer", Michelle was keen to try it out, a trait she demonstrated throughout her school career. She tried hockey, rowing, tennis, softball, athletics and volleyball and represented Lowther Hall in the annual Victorian Interschool Ski Championships.

Michelle is passionate about volleyball and was school volleyball captain in 1998 and 1999. She may lack the height of most volleyball players, but anyone who has seen her rocket around the court would know she makes up for it in "bounce" and speed.

Music also captured Michelle's interest. She sang in the school choir and was a member of the school orchestra, playing the violin. She has a thirst for knowledge and loves a challenge. Science and mathematics have fascinated her for a long time, but she also has an interest in the Arts. She simply loves learning, yet she is generous with her knowledge, as many a fellow student will know. She believes that knowledge is to be shared, not held to oneself. Michelle's last passion is travel. After the exams last year, she spent two weeks in New York. She has deferred her place at the University of Melbourne for one year and has taken a place through the GAP program at Cargilfield School, Edinburgh, Scotland, where she is a teacher's aid and an assistant in the boarding house.

She starts the day at 7.30am, assisting staff, tutoring students, helping on the school's outdoor education program and finishing at 9.30pm. As with everything else she does . . . she is loving it. Congratulations Michelle. The world, quite literally, is your oyster.

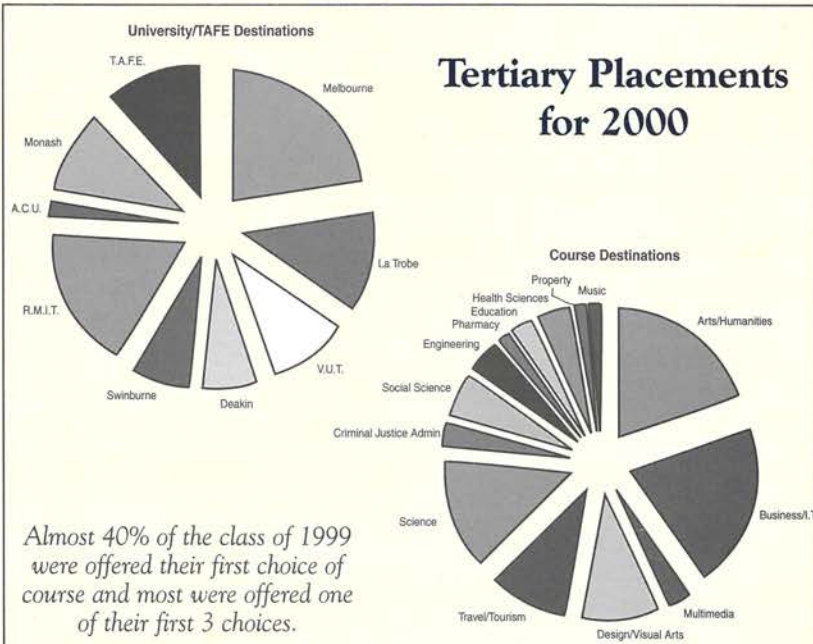
BRONWYN ANDREWS (Careers Coordinator)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Lia Gianfriddo, Year 12 1999, won second place in the Monash University History Prize last December. Schools were invited to submit outstanding Year 12 research essays and Lia's essay on the lives of nuns in Renaissance Florence was selected as a prize winner from an extremely strong field.

Briony McCormack, Year 11, won the Swanee Award for Inter-School Debating in Term 4, 1999. Although in Year 10, Briony competed in A Grade (Year 12 level) in the St Bernards Region and was the highest scoring speaker in all five rounds of competition. She was presented with her award in a ceremony held at Methodist Ladies College, Kew.

Alana Macwhirter, Year 12 1999, was awarded 1st prize in the Youth Poetry Section of the Hume-Moonee Valley Annual Literary Competition during Term 4 last year. She also won the Jim Hamilton Memorial Prize for the best entry from a 14-17 year old living in the region.





NEW DEVELOPMENTS

THE MASTER PLAN

January saw another step in the implementation of Lowther Hall's Master Plan. The Sherbourne Street cyclone wire fence was replaced with fencing to match that at the front of the school and the Inglebrae Court end of the new Junior School playground area was prepared for student use as a passive open space. We acknowledge the work of the parents who came to the November working bee; the brick wall adjoining Inglebrae Court was taken down for safety reasons and more cyclone wire fencing installed as a temporary measure. A further project undertaken was the installation of the staircase at the Child Development Centre, to be used in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Next year we plan to construct a new Junior School building after which the Inglebrae Court fencing will be the same as elsewhere on the school's boundary. We have applied to the

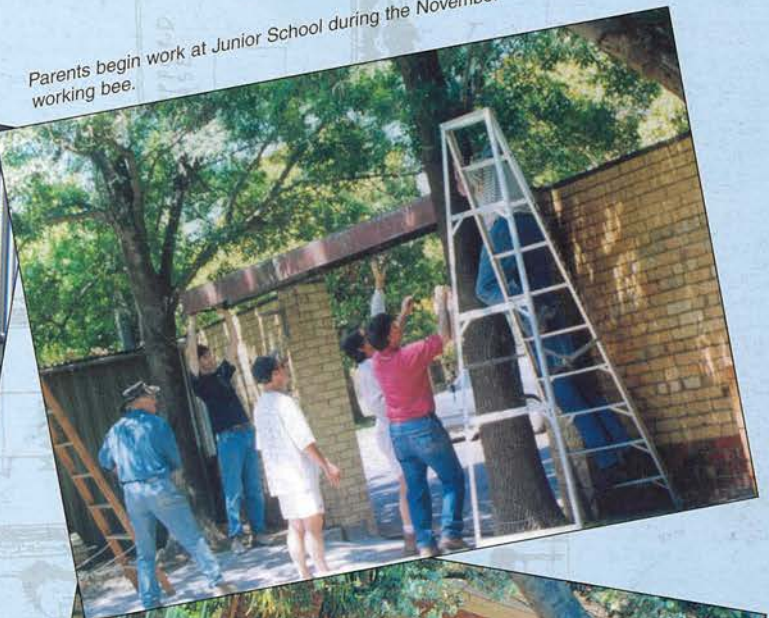
City of Moonee Valley for a permit for our plans. Raymond House was built in the 1960s for a smaller school; the proposed construction will house two classes at each level in spacious accommodation. During the twelve months of building Years Prep to 6 will be relocated to temporary buildings alongside the rear of the Cultural Centre.

Improvements next to be considered include the traffic management in the streets around the school and the pavement in Leslie Road where the nature strip grass is unable to support the heavy duty use it receives. All of the above require careful planning by the School Council, which is prudent in overseeing the school's financial plan. We receive no government funding for capital works which must all be funded out of fees, the building fund contributions and donations from the school community.

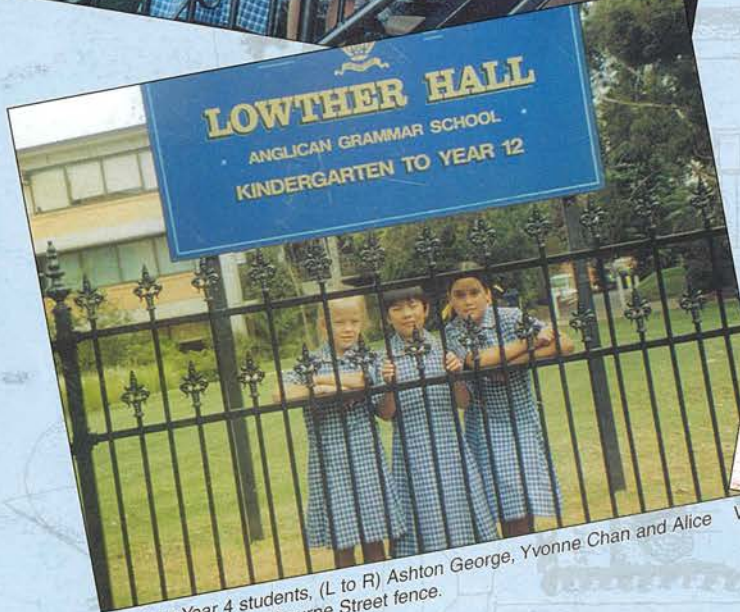
Prep students on the newly installed CDC staircase. (From top) Audrey Forte-Oddo, Raffaella Slawitschka, Natasha Oddo and Sarah Fry.



Parents begin work at Junior School during the November working bee.



LOWTHER HALL
ANGELICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 12



New Year 4 students, (L to R) Ashton George, Yvonne Chan and Alice Varraso behind the Sherbourne Street fence.



Mrs Julie Posega takes a break at the working bee.

2000 Diary Dates

Saturday 3 June	Morning Tour of School – Leslie Road
Saturday 22 July	Morning Tour of School – Leslie Road
Thursday 3, Friday 4 and Saturday 5 August	School Musical 42nd Street – Joan M Garde Cultural Centre
Friday 1 September	Spring Concert – Joan M Garde Cultural Centre
Tuesday 5 December	Service of Carols – St Paul's Cathedral
Monday 11 December	Exeunt – Victorian Arts Centre