



# Lowther News

ABN 35 006 660 984

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Focus on early Japanese

See page 3



Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns at the first University Transition Program, organised by the Lowther Hall Old Grammarians Association. She is joined by Amanda-Jane Noonan, Class of 2006 and Bryony McCormack, Class of 2001.



Some of the guests who enjoyed the 2007 parent, staff and School Council drinks party.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2007

### SEPTEMBER

Thursday 13 September 7.30pm  
**Spring Concert** –  
Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

### OCTOBER

Friday 19 – Monday 22 October  
**Art Show** –  
Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

### DECEMBER

Thursday 6 December 8pm  
**Carols Service** –  
St Paul's Cathedral

Wednesday 12 December 8pm  
**Exeunt** –  
Melbourne Town Hall

For further information about any of these events please contact the Community Relations Department at the School.

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Cover Photograph: Prep students Alice Turnbull, Lucy Seager and Renee Lieu working on their Japanese this year.

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This year our theme is "Thinking Deeply" and we are using this theme to guide us as we consider our current curriculum and how well it meets our aspirations to enable each girl to build an education which nurtures her unique combination of skills and talents and strengths and weaknesses. We are also exploring our facilities both at Keilor and at Essendon in order to develop a master plan to enable us to ensure that our facilities are supporting our aims for our girls and their learning.

We are undertaking two research projects in conjunction with the Association of Independent Schools of Victoria and the Australian Council for Educational Research into the use of information and communication technologies and their effects on learning and on the effects of direct instruction at Years 4, 5 and 6 on learning in spelling and mathematics.

The Director of the new Centre for Differentiation, Ms Jane Hancock, has begun to review the ways in which we support girls who need a more challenging curriculum as well as those who need more time to cement basic skills and staff have also undertaken a range of professional learning activities to ensure that they are working with girls of all abilities to challenge and extend them.

We have also been thinking deeply about our extended school family – parents of our current students and Old Grammarians. This year we held a welcome drinks party at the start of the year and parents very much enjoyed the opportunity to meet other Lowther Hall parents both in their daughter's year level and throughout the school. The Old Grammarians have also explored a range of ways in which they can best serve their varied membership. One of their initiatives has been the university mentor scheme where each new Old Grammarian has access to a Lowther Hall Old Grammarian attending their university whom they can contact to discuss any transition issues which may arise as the girls begin the next phase of their educational journey.

Our aim is to ensure that our girls are ready at the end of their school education to leave us as young women certain of their first post school steps, confident to seize new opportunities as they emerge and with the skills, understandings and attitudes that will enable them to continue to learn and to live a happy and successful adult life.

*Carolyn Grantskalns*

**Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns  
Principal**

## MS NOELENE HORTON HONOURED ON AUSTRALIA DAY

Congratulations to former Lowther Hall Principal Ms Noelene Horton (1988-2005) on receiving the award of Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Ms Horton is recognised "for service to education, particularly through executive roles with professional associations, to the promotion of effective leadership in schools and the community." She was a Founding Director of the Alliance of Girls' Schools (Australasia) and Chair of the Association of Heads of Independent Schools of Australia from 2001 to 2003.

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Kindergarten students Kim-ly Ta and Macie Daniel working on a 3D problem solving activity.



Prep teacher Mrs Susan Maher works with Caitlin Griffiths, Lucia Borrello and Emily Lee in the early weeks of school.

## WHY WE PLAY WITH BLOCKS IN KINDERGARTEN

Young children learn best through play. As a girls' school we need to be particularly thoughtful about what research shows about the developmental phases that are usual for girls and to ensure that our programs take these into account. Historically we know that the majority of girls will acquire language skills with relative ease and that we need to direct them in a range of ways which utilise these skills to develop other cognitive functions. Working in 3 dimensional problem solving activities is an important way in which this can be achieved. Playing with blocks helps girls to develop their capacity to think about space, size, number, order, area, length, patterns and weight as they select the block and build their construction. All of these concepts are fundamental to a capacity to learn mathematics.

Working co-operatively to build something requires the girls to use their verbal skills to negotiate with each other as to which shape will work best and why. Their interpersonal skills are also developed through this kind of activity.

Learning should be engrossing and the concentration that we see in our children as they work together to build something that represents their experiences of the world around them and the joy they show when they achieve their vision is inspiring to all of us.

**Miss Samantha Morris**  
Kindergarten Teacher

## FOCUS ON EARLY JAPANESE

Japanese lessons begin at Prep at Lowther Hall. It has long been recognised that the earlier a child is introduced to a second language the better, hence our introduction of Japanese in the first year of school. This year we have three teachers taking Japanese classes in the Junior School using the widely recommended teachers' resource 'Ohisama'.

In Prep and Year 1 the Japanese course focuses on developing confidence in essential daily language such as greetings, numbers, colours, classroom instructions and emotions. The aim is for the girls to grow in confidence in spoken Japanese and learn vocabulary

## KINDERGARTEN TO SCHOOL TRANSITION PROGRAM

Lowther Hall's Transition Program gives Prep teachers the opportunity to get to know their students so they can provide them with the best possible start to formal schooling.

Towards the end of 2006, the girls and their parents were invited to morning sessions where time was spent in the Prep classrooms, meeting new friends, enjoying morning tea and becoming more familiar with the school setting.

Parents also visited the school for an information session, where our Prep teachers Ms Saunders and Mrs Maher, talked about what the girls will experience in the first weeks. Finally, at the end of the holidays, families were invited to come for a visit to the classroom. This enabled the girls to reacquaint themselves with their new surroundings and ensure that all was in place for that special first day.

**Mrs Cheryl Penberthy**  
Head of Junior School

through songs, stories and games. The Japanese script Hiragana is introduced and students begin to recognise individual characters.

In Years 2 to 6 language is developed and extended through topic-based studies and enriched with cultural connections. Topics are integrated with other subject areas wherever possible. Learning another language is an important way of understanding the lives and experiences of other people.

**Mrs Clare Enright**  
Japanese Teacher



Year 8 students at work in the Centre for Differentiation.



## NEW IN 2007

### THE CENTRE FOR DIFFERENTIATION

The Centre for Differentiation was established at the beginning of the year to enable staff to better meet the needs of students requiring a different educational provision.

In 2007, the Centre for Differentiation is focused on catering for girls who require additional support in the core learning areas of Mathematics and English across the school, through specialised withdrawal programs. Enrichment and extension are being explored through classroom-based activities and courses such as University Biology.

**Mrs Jane Hancock**  
Director of the Centre for Differentiation

### UNITED NATIONS YOUTH FORUM

We were excited to represent Lowther Hall at the Victorian United Nations Youth Forum at Victoria's Parliament House on March 18. The forum enabled us to debate topics we had studied in the Humanities subject 'Struggles for Democracy'. We discussed the environment, sustainability, globalisation and human rights.

The delegations we were placed into represented Pakistan, Turkey and Africa and we were required to evaluate our 'developing' country in comparison with the Western World. A highlight was the model General Assembly, which debated the situation in the Middle East.

**Claire Hughes, Alexandra Johnson and Alana O'Neill**  
Year 10

### EXTENDING OUR STUDENTS: VCE/UNIVERSITY BIOLOGY CLASSES

Lowther Hall is currently the only school in Victoria offering VCE students the opportunity to study first year University Biology as part of the University of Melbourne Extension Program (UMEP).

Year 12 students Lucy Dang and Emma Fenech have enrolled in the course, along with twenty-six students from schools throughout Melbourne. The study requirements comprise three hours of weekly lectures at Lowther Hall and a fortnightly three hour practical session at Melbourne University, Parkville.

Mrs Bernadette Caulfield, Head of Science at Lowther Hall, is conducting the school-based lectures. An experienced VCE Biology assessor, Mrs Caulfield underwent an additional year of training in order to teach the course.



Mrs Bernadette Caulfield (back right) and some of her students in the VCE/University Biology class.

### PART TIME KINDERGARTEN

This year we were happy to be able to meet the needs of some families by introducing part time places in our Early Learning Centre. Part time places for the four year old Kindergarten program are offered for either 3 or 2 days per week.

Please contact our Registrar, **Ms Sandy Nelson**, on **9337 5011** or [registrar@lowtherhall.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@lowtherhall.vic.edu.au) if you wish to enquire about the possibility of your daughter attending Kindergarten on a part time basis.



Year 7 Mathematics Enrichment  
Scholarship winners Sarah Taylor (left)  
and Emma Swannie.

International Music Camp  
Scholarship winners  
Claire Hughes and Alice Backwell.



## MATHEMATICS ENRICHMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of the school's commitment to extending our most able students, in 2007 Lowther Hall is offering the Australian Mathematics Challenge Enrichment stage to students in Years 7 and 8. The program, conducted by the Australian Mathematics Trust, runs over sixteen weeks. The topics covered are designed to broaden students' mathematical experience.

There are fourteen Year 7 students and eighteen Year 8 students enrolled in the program and scholarships have been awarded to the following students:-

**Year 7: Stephanie Nicdao, Emma Swannie,  
Sarah Taylor, Rigan Tytherleigh and Holly Wulf**

**Year 8: Mandy Bo, Melissa Dang, Bianca Lu,  
Beatrice Paull and Julia Quach**

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**Vivan Nguyen (Year 12)** recently won an online competition conducted by the *Herald Sun* newspaper on Great Inventors. The prize is a trip to the zoo for a class at Lowther Hall and Vivan has kindly nominated Year 11 Biology as the recipients.



Vivan Nguyen (centre) with fellow Biology students.

## MUSICAL HIGH NOTES

**Stephanie Nicdao (Year 7/flute)** successfully auditioned for the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra/Art Play Ensemble, which runs for two days each school holidays and includes performances throughout the year.

**Francesca Valladares (Year 8)** sang her way into the semi finals of the TV talent competition "*Australia's Got Talent*".

**Tessa White (Year 9)** and **Darcy Ryan (Year 7)**, members of the Australian Girls' Choir, performed in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the FINA World Swimming Championships at Rod Laver Arena during March.

**Year 10 students Alice Backwell (trumpet), Claire Hughes (flute) and Charlotte Nicdao (clarinet)** have been awarded scholarships as Australia's representatives to the International Music Camp, North Dakota USA, in July. During their stay the girls will play in ensembles, attend classes and study individually with leading music educators. Up to seventy countries are represented at the long-established camp. Alice has also been selected to perform in the Victorian Opera's production of *The Snow Queen* in June.

Charlotte Nicdao



Stephanie Nicdao



Under 16 Kayaking Gold Medallist  
Alexandra Johnson



## SPORTING SUCCESS

### KAYAKING VICTORY

**Alexandra Johnson (Year 10)** represented Lowther Hall at the Victorian Schools Under 16 Kayaking State Championships and took a Gold Medal in the K1 category.

### TENNIS AND SOFTBALL TEAMS REACH FINALS

Lowther Hall continues to be successful in GSV tennis, with the Junior, Intermediate and Senior 'A' teams all making it through to the finals play-offs. The Junior team was the Zone Winner and competed in the Grand Final at Melbourne Park, where they played valiantly against Star of the Sea.

The Intermediate 'A' Softball Team also capped off a great season by becoming Zone Winners and GSV Semi-Finalists.

### SENIOR ROWERS ASSIST WITH MEDAL PRESENTATIONS AT THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Lowther Hall was invited to send members of the Senior Rowing Squad to assist with the awards ceremonies at the National Rowing Championships. Girls in Years 10, 11 and 12 volunteered their time to attend sessions at Nagambie Lakes from March 7 to 12. The rowers assisted at medal presentations and received a donation to the School from Rowing Victoria.

Year 12 Morongo Medallists  
Diana Hudson and Nicole Jagger.

### ROWING HIGHLIGHTS

The Head of Schoolgirls Regatta, the largest regatta in the Southern Hemisphere was held at Geelong on March 17 and 18 and saw the end of a great season for Lowther Hall's rowers. The hard work by rowers and coaches over Term 4, 2006 and Term 1, 2007, including camps at the beginning and end of the school holidays, paid off. The School had one Open crew (Years 11 and 12) and three Year 9 crews competing and achieved two Semi Final places and two B Final places.

Three of our single scullers **Emma Thomason (Year 9)**, **Alice Backwell (Year 10)** and **Diana Hudson (Open)** placed in prestigious A finals with Emma taking third in Year 9 Division 1, Alice second in Year 10 Division 1 and Diana second in Open Division 2. All three girls thus gained a top three ranking for school rowing.

Rowing Captain **Diana Hudson** and fellow senior rower **Nicole Jagger** received Morongo Medals for Year 12 students who have competed in the Head of Schoolgirls Regatta for three or more years.





Julia Sheldrake (centre) is joined by 2007 School Captain Ellen Mathews and Deputy Captain Samantha Flores on Celebration Day.



Yipirinya School students enjoy sharing the books donated by Lowther Hall.

## PAPER CRANE FUNDRAISING

In Term 4 2006, I arranged a 'Paper Crane Assembly' to fundraise for the Victorian Cancer Council. After gathering 1500 sheets of origami paper and with the support of volunteers from each year level and the teachers, we finally had an assembly with all the students and teachers trying their hand at paper crane making. We raised \$372.20 which was added to Lowther Hall's total fundraising towards cancer research.

In the Easter holidays the girls taking part in the Japan exchange, including myself, will deliver Lowther Hall's cranes to the Hiroshima Peace Park, as symbols of peace and reconciliation.

**Julia Sheldrake**  
Year 11

## CAOS – CHRISTIANS AT OUR SCHOOL

CAOS welcomes all students and is held every Wednesday lunchtime in the Agora. The group's main aim is to encourage each other in our faith by having fun together.

Our Chaplain, Revd Lauersen coordinates our meetings and this term we've made craft items including "sock monkeys". The rocky road was our best cooking effort. We play games each week to encourage us to have fun and get to know each other and the all time favourite is 'The Family Serious', where the goal is not to laugh – or you are out. We usually end the meetings talking about the Bible and the topic of Chapel during that week.

**Jennifer Cooper**  
Year 9

## BOOKS FOR YIPIRINYA SCHOOL ALICE SPRINGS

The Junior Learning Resource Centre ran a Book Fair last November and we decided to use Lowther Hall's motto Non Nobis Solum (not for ourselves alone) as the theme. At the conclusion of the Fair, Lowther Hall was entitled to over \$1,200 of books and we decided to find a school which would appreciate our prize as a donation.

We discovered the Yipirinya School in Alice Springs. It is an indigenous, independent school with many primary and secondary students from missions near Alice Springs. We sent books along with letters and photographs from some of our students. The Yipirinya School was delighted to receive them and has continued to correspond with the Junior LRC through email, letters and photographs.

**Ms Marissa Caluzzi**  
Junior School Librarian

## VICTORIAN MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION AWARDS

Two staff members at Lowther Hall were recipients of a joint award in Victoria's Awards for Excellence in Multicultural Affairs for 2006. English and Humanities teacher Mrs Cathy Moloney and Chaplain, The Revd Tracy Lauersen, were honoured for their contribution to the after school tutoring and homework program which Lowther Hall girls undertake with Sudanese/ Australian students in the Footscray region.





Josephine Suen

## VCE RESULTS 2006

Congratulations to the Class of 2006. Lowther Hall's VCE students have again achieved excellent results.

Of particular note:

- All girls successfully completed their VCE – a 100% pass rate.
- 11 students achieved an ENTER (Equivalent National Tertiary Entrance Rank) of 95 or above, placing 13% of our girls in the top 5% of the state.
- 26 students obtained an ENTER of 90 or above, placing 37% of the class of 2006 in the top 10% of all students in the state and 52% of students obtained an ENTER of 85 or above placing them in the top 15% of the state.
- A perfect score of 50/50 was obtained by one student in the study of Chinese Second Language Advanced.
- 12% of study scores were 40 or above out of a possible 50, placing these students in the top 8% for the particular study.
- 31% of scores were A+ or A.

These results are a testimony to the dedicated hard work of the girls and the skill and support offered to them by teachers throughout their school years.

## JOSEPHINE SUEN

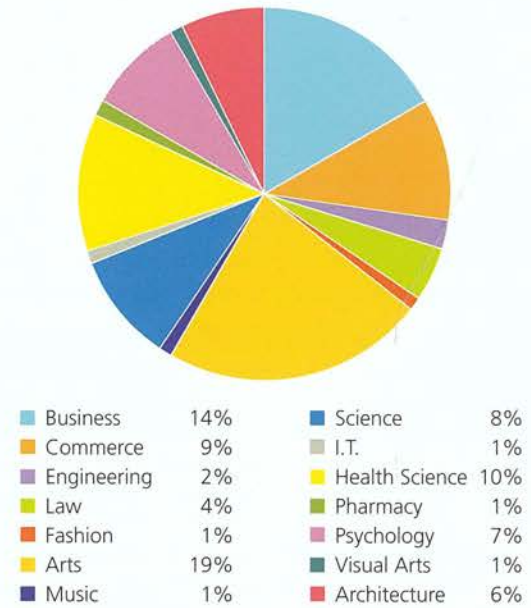
### DUX OF 2006 AND LOWTHER CLARKE SCHOLAR

Josephine Suen was Lowther Hall's top VCE student for 2006, Josephine achieved an ENTER of 99.7 and is studying Commerce/Law at the University of Melbourne.

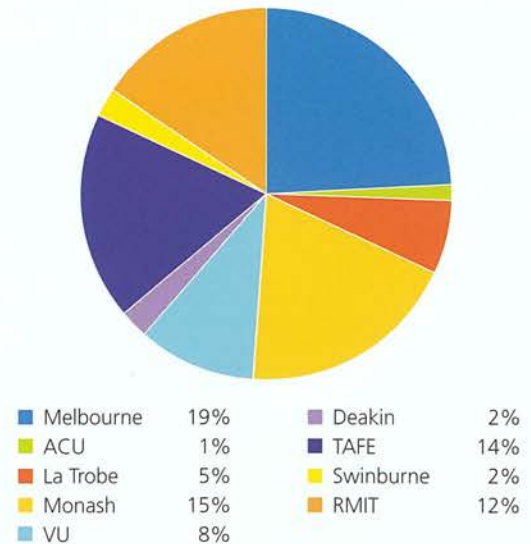
During 2006 Josephine studied English, Specialist Mathematics, Legal Studies, Japanese and Chemistry and in 2005 she took Mathematical Methods.

Josephine was an active participant in the life of the school as well as being a dedicated student. In 2006 she was the Social Justice Prefect and was instrumental in arranging a number of successful fundraisers including the introduction of the Leukaemia Foundation's Shave or Colour for a Cause which saw many staff shave or colour their hair to raise funds for research and support for leukaemia sufferers.

### Course Destinations – 2006 VCE Students



### Tertiary Destinations – 2006 VCE Students





University Mentors Renata De Marco, Danielle Romagnano and Michelle Hoggan with Emma Leech, VCE 2006 (2nd from left).

Karen Lau



## NEW LHOGA UNIVERSITY MENTOR PROGRAM

Monday 12 February saw the first University Mentor Program held in the Senior Learning Resource Centre. Organised by the LHOGA, in conjunction with Lowther Hall's careers program, the event brought together girls who completed Year 12 in 2006 with past Lowther Hall students now studying at universities in Melbourne.

The recent graduates were introduced to mentors from the university they will be attending this year who were able to give them useful hints and information about their courses and university life in general. The mentors will continue to be available for support and guidance throughout the academic year. The evening was very successful and the LHOGA is planning for it to be an annual event on the School calendar.

**Bryony McCormack**  
LHOGA Committee

## 2006 STUDENT AWARDED UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Karen Lau, who was awarded a Melbourne Access Scholarship at the Melbourne University Faculty of Economics and Commerce Dean's Awards Ceremony on March 27. The Dean's Awards recognise exceptional student achievements both at university and school level. Karen, who achieved an ENTER of 98.45, recently commenced a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Commerce combined degree at Melbourne University.

## VCE 2006 COURSE DESTINATIONS

Below is a cross section of the courses that some members of the Class of 2006 have chosen to study:-

**Annie Chan**  
Property and Construction at the University of Melbourne

**Angela Dam**  
Biomedical Science at Monash University

**Samantha Del Ciotto**  
Science/Information Systems at the University of Melbourne

**Tamara Ingram**  
Architecture at the University of Melbourne

**Peri Hasan**  
Business/Arts (Japanese) at Swinburne University of Technology

**Laura King**  
Psychology at the University of Melbourne

**Laurenne Obeid**  
Public Relations at RMIT

**Candice Reith**  
Engineering (Civil and Infrastructure Management) at the University of Melbourne

**Louise Stary**  
Arts (Global) at Monash University

**Claudia Swift**  
Clothing/Fashion at Box Hill TAFE

**Vanessa Tran**  
Engineering/Science at the University of Melbourne





Retiring LHOGA Treasurer with the school Archivist Mrs Brigid Cooper. Mrs Royston donated her school choir book to the Archives.



LHOGA golfers at the Moya Knight Memorial Golf Competition. Karen Scarfe, Jill Righton, Vicki Rees, Janet Hibbins, Lorraine Clothier, Lynne Wells and Annie Jebb.

## LHOGA NEWS

### LHOGA COMMITTEE 2007

- PRESIDENT:** Donna Doughty  
**SECRETARY:** Sue Isles  
**TREASURER:** Kay Trounson  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Valerie Fautley  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Bryony McCormack  
**COMMITTEE:** Mary Armour  
 Jessica Meilak  
 Courtney O'Brien  
 Danielle Romagnano

Two of the Old Grammarian office bearers retired at the recent AGM. Mrs Mary Armour will remain on the committee but has retired from the position of President. Mary has long been a stalwart in the work of the Committee and all Old Grammarians are grateful for her hard work in developing the Association and its links with past students and the school. Mrs Margaret Royston has retired from the LHOGA Committee. Margaret held the position of Treasurer of the Association for many years. She is also a long serving Committee member and a member of the Golden Mitre Club. We thank Margaret for her dedication to the School and wish her well for the future.

## LHOGA GOLF

### MOYA KNIGHT MEMORIAL GOLF COMPETITION

The inaugural event took place in October 2006 and was a great success. Jill Scott won the perpetual trophy donated by Karen Scarfe in memory of LHOGA golfer Moya Knight. The event will again take place in October 2007 and all Lowther Hall Old Grammarians, parents, students and friends are invited to take part. More information in the next edition of the Lowther News.

### ANNUAL WOMEN'S INTERSCHOOL GOLF CHALLENGE CUP

Lowther Hall has been part of this competition for over twenty-five years and again fielded a team in the 2007 Challenge, held at Barwon Heads on March 26. Players for the LHOGA team were Fran Crimmons, Annie Jepp, Jill Scott and Lynne Wells.

## REUNION DATES 2007

- |                          |  |                         |  |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Sat. May 5:</b>       | <b>Mornington Reunion</b><br>Royal Hotel Mornington 12 noon                              | <b>Sat. October 6:</b>  | <b>Golden Mitre Club Reunion</b><br>School 1.30pm  |
| <b>Sat. August 4:</b>    | <b>Class of 1992 Fifteen Year Reunion</b><br>School 4.00pm – 6.00pm                      | <b>Sat. October 13:</b> | <b>Mornington Reunion</b><br>Royal Hotel Mornington 12 noon                              |
| <b>Sat. August 18:</b>   | <b>Class of 1982 Twenty-Five Year Reunion</b><br>School 4.00pm – 6.00pm                  | <b>Sat. October 20:</b> | <b>Class of 1967 and 1962 combined 40 and 45 Years Reunion</b><br>School 4.00pm – 6.00pm |
| <b>Fri. September 7:</b> | <b>Class of 2002 Five Year Reunion</b><br>School 5.00pm – 7.00pm                         | <b>Fri. October 26:</b> | <b>Class of 1997 Ten year Reunion</b><br>School 5.00pm – 7.00pm                          |
| <b>Sat. September 8:</b> | <b>Class of 1977 and 1972 combined 30 and 35 Years Reunion</b><br>School 4.00pm – 6.00pm |                         |  |



Erin Wamala talks books with Year 9 students.



Jue Jiang (seated) is crowned Miss Melbourne Chinese.

## PAST STUDENT PROFILES

### ERIN WAMALA

Erin is currently the National Education Consultant for Penguin publishing group. She visited Lowther Hall recently in her role, which takes her to classrooms and libraries in schools throughout Australia.

After Year 12 at Lowther Hall in 1997, Erin completed a Bachelor of Education at the University of Melbourne before taking on post graduate studies at RMIT in publishing and editing.

As a publishing consultant she speaks to librarians and teachers about new releases and makes suggestions for book lists. However, one of Erin's favourite aspects of her work is finding the opportunity to visit classrooms to speak to school aged readers about what they are reading. She did this with Year 9 students during a recent visit to Lowther Hall and will return to the school in May to conduct workshops for teachers.

### JUE JIANG

Jue is in her second year of Dentistry studies at the University of Melbourne and she has been busily involved in Melbourne's Chinese community. In November 2006, Jue was crowned Miss Melbourne Chinese.

Jue's next adventure was travelling to Hong Kong in January 2007 to represent Melbourne in the Miss International Chinese competition. The judging of the twenty-two entrants from the USA, Canada, Europe and Asia Pacific took four weeks and the final night was aired world wide via satellite TV. Although she did not take the crown, Jue enjoyed the experience and has made new friends and contacts from around the world.

As Miss Melbourne Chinese, Jue attends a number of functions and speaking engagements for Melbourne's Chinese and wider community. She assisted Melbourne's Lord Mayor John So with Chinese New Year celebrations.

### MEREDITH ANGWIN

During February, while on a visit to Australia from her current home in Shanghai, China, Meredith visited Senior School assembly as guest speaker.

She outlined her school days at Lowther Hall during the 1970s and reminded students how few girls were enrolled in Engineering at Melbourne University when she chose this course in 1981.

Meredith gave her audience a glimpse of what it is like to live and work in another country. She is currently a business consultant with Price Waterhouse Coopers in China, leading a team of over four hundred people in implementing business information technology systems. Meredith described her current working experience as the highlight of her career in information consulting which has spanned over twenty years. She encouraged current students to seize opportunities which bring them together with people from different cultures and backgrounds.



Meredith Angwin with Year 12 students Maryanne Florias and Jessica Maitland.





Jody Levine explores the LRC.



Mrs Sue-Anne Ure and her daughter Grace on the first day of Term 1.

## MY FIRST WEEKS AT LOWTHER

### STUDENT

On my first day at Lowther Hall, I was nervous but excited about starting at a new school. Everyone was really welcoming and I made a lot of friends. On the second day back at school we went on an excursion to the Zoo and had a great time competing in Year 7's own version of 'The Amazing Race'.

In the second week of school we went on the Year 7 camp which was held at 'Weekaway' at Benloch. This gave me the opportunity to meet a lot more girls and get to know our teachers and have fun.

Something that was really great about starting school at Lowther Hall was trying out for the aerobics squad. Our Year 7 group now trains twice a week at 7.00am

**Jody Levine**  
Year 7

### PARENTS

We have really enjoyed our first weeks at Lowther Hall. We have met many lovely people and have enjoyed watching Grace learn about the day to day routines of classroom life. It helped that Grace was so excited about starting Prep and the first day of school lived up to her expectations. The Lowther Hall teddy bear she found in her locker made her feel right at home.

The activities that Lowther Hall has organised to help us get to know other families have been great. The picnic for Kindergarten to Year 2 families was a very happy event and the Sports Day for the lower primary students was fantastic. The coffee mornings have been a nice, informal way to get to know other parents and we are looking forward to the Prep parents' dinner.

**Sue-Ann and David Ure**  
Parents of Grace (Prep)

### STAFF MEMBER

On the first day of school this year I met my Year 9S Home Group, experienced my first whole school assembly and received my Lowther Hall teddy bear.

Over the course of the next few weeks I met my Year 12 Legal Studies class and we have journeyed into the Supreme Court to hear a murder trial. I have 'Struggled for Democracy' with my Year 10 class and I have been inspired by their words of hope and belief in prosperity for the future.

My Year 12 International Politics class has grappled with 'An Inconvenient Truth' and the Kyoto Protocol.

The students in my Year 11 Politics class have been journeying through the political spectrum with the help of 'V for Vendetta' and my Year 9 "Our Place" class has been working on what it means to be truly Australian.

All this in addition to viewing the spectacular House Performing Arts Competition and hearing the constant reminders of the "World's Greatest Shave Day".

**Martin Gibbs**  
Head of Humanities

Mr Martin Gibbs (after the World's Greatest Shave) and Year 9 Humanities students Sarah Wilde and Taylor Hemsworth.

