

LOWTHER NEWS



ISSUE No 67
DECEMBER 2009

PP 332224/0011

SAMOA TSUNAMI
BENEFIT CONCERT

FAREWELL
TO THE CLASS
OF 2009

LAUNCH OF NEW
SPORTS UNIFORM



10

diary dates

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 24, 8.00pm
Lowther Hall Old Grammarians
Association AGM (at the School)

MARCH

Tuesday 23
Golf Day – Northern Golf Club

MAY

Thursday 13 – Saturday 15
School Production – HONK
Clocktower Centre, Moonee Ponds

AUGUST

Friday 6, 6.30pm
Evening of Song (at the School)

Saturday 14, 4.00pm–6.00pm
Staff Reunion (at the School)

SEPTEMBER

Friday 3, 7.30pm
Spring Concert (at the School)

OCTOBER

Saturday 2
90th Birthday Celebration
Dinner Dance
Moonee Valley Racing Club

Friday 8 – Monday 11
Art and Design Exhibition
Joan M Garde Cultural Centre

DECEMBER

Thursday 2, 7.00pm
Carols Service
St Paul's Cathedral

Wednesday 8, 8.00pm
Exeunt – Melbourne Town Hall

Cover image: Year 12 student, Samantha Lakey
takes part in the Valedictory Service procession
(see story opposite)

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

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PRINCIPAL THOUGHTS

One evening an old Cherokee told her granddaughter about a battle that goes on inside people. She said, "My child, the battle is between two wolves inside us all.

"One is Evil – It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority and ego.

"The other is Good – It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandchild thought about this for a minute and then asked her grandmother, "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

As we approach Christmas we are called on once again to revisit the story of the birth of the baby Jesus, Immanuel, God with us. During this year there have been many moments that have tested our faith but our community has shown how godly it can be. If God is love then there is no doubt that God has been at work in our community this year.

In the dark moments of death and grief God has been present just as in the many times of joy, godliness has been equally present.

The message of Christmas is that God seeks to walk alongside us on our journey. Having been fully human himself he understands our nature and desires only to love us into wholeness.

At Lowther Hall we seek to educate the whole person for the whole of life. An acceptance of our spiritual nature and an investigation of what that means for us as we live our lives is a critical part of a Lowther Hall education.

We hope that all of our girls will, in the words of the wise Cherokee, choose to feed the good and godly in themselves.

Carolyn Grantskalns

Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns
Principal

FAREWELL

TO THE CLASS OF

2009

At the beginning of each year in the Assembly of Dedication, every Year 12 girl receives a candle lit from the altar candles. The altar candles are a sign of God's presence and light encompassing the earth and all people. The girls encircle the School with this light as a symbol of their promise to be leaders of the Lowther Hall student body through the year.

In October, at the Valedictory Service each girl receives, in like manner, a candle lit from the altar candle and walks, in procession, from the Cultural Centre, symbolically carrying her light out into the community and the wider world.

The girls in the Class of 2009 have made a unique contribution to Lowther Hall. We have particularly appreciated their support for co-curricular programs, their passion and the way they have been able to use humour in stressful times. We thank each Year 12 girl for all she has brought to the School during her time with us and we wish all girls the very best for the next phase of the journey as they shine their individual light in the world.

Ms Elisabeth Rhodes
Deputy Principal
Head of Senior School

STATE DEBATING CHAMPIONS

The Schools' Debating Competition in Victoria is the largest debating competition in the world. Winning a section of that competition is therefore an enormous challenge and we are very proud of our Year 10 Debating Team consisting of Carmelene Greco, Eleanor Currie and Beatrice Paull, which won the Grand Final of the competition, with Beatrice Paull being awarded Best Speaker.

The girls, who won ten successive debates to make the Grand Final, were supported by a large contingent of

Lowther Hall staff, parents and students. Leading up to the finals, the team had received valuable coaching from Mr Anthony Kung of Melbourne University and Debating Coordinator, Ms Olivia Grant.

The Lowther team was unanimously awarded the final by a team of three adjudicators after convincingly arguing "That dictators should be offered amnesty in return for giving up power".

Congratulations girls!



Writing Prize



Grace Bell shows her English teacher Mrs Catherine Moloney some of the books she won for her writing.

Congratulations to Year 11 student Grace Bell who was awarded first prize in the I Love Writing Competition, conducted by the youth book website Between the Lines.

Grace received an award of \$150 worth of books for her story The Glass City, which she initially wrote in an English Exam earlier in the year.

State Debating Champions Eleanor Currie, Beatrice Paull and Carmelene Greco.





Year 6 student Leta Elias proudly displays her gold medal for Future Problem Solving.

Year 6 student Leta Elias represented Victoria at the Future Problem Solving National Finals, held during October at the Gold Coast. Leta was the only Victorian to be selected in the Scenario Writing section. She took out the gold medal at the National Championships and was the Victorian flag bearer at the Award Ceremony.

Below is Leta's account of the experience:

The Future Problem Solving Program is an international educational activity that focuses on the development of creative thinking. Although there are many parts to the program, here at Lowther Hall with Ms Goulas as our coach, our class participated in Scenario Writing. Scenario Writing involves solving current day problems set at least twenty years into the future.

This year there were several topics to choose from and I selected "Pandemic". My story, "Tears from Heaven," came 6th in Australia and 1st in Victoria so I was invited to the national finals.

In the competition, held at AB Patterson College, Arundel there were two teams of three. We were given a scenario to read and had to write a solution to it. The topic was "Counterfeit Economy." Each member of the team wrote a part of the story that, when combined, created one complete story. It was challenging and very enjoyable.

I was delighted to be the flag bearer for Victoria. I couldn't believe it when it was announced that our team had won the Scenario Writing final!

SAMOA TSUNAMI BENEFIT CONCERT

Through the Year 9 Our Place program, a deep connection has developed between Samoan residents and many Lowther Hall students and staff who have visited Samoa over the past five years. Our community was therefore deeply affected by news of the devastating Tsunami which hit parts of Samoa in early October.

Past student Ms Sherini Oliva combined with current students to find a way to assist Samoan communities. Together, the girls decided to plan and run a fundraising concert in the Joan M Garde Cultural Centre on Sunday 18 October.

Lowther Hall girls, both past and present worked together over a two week period to stage a wonderful concert that raised \$8,000 to be distributed through the Red Cross Tsunami Appeal. They obtained sponsorship, organised performers from both the School and local Samoan communities and staged the entire concert – from ticket sales to sound and lighting.

A wonderful afternoon of music, singing and dance was enjoyed by all who attended and it is hoped that the students' contribution will be of great benefit as the community in Samoa enters the rebuilding phase.

Mrs Belinda Page
Head of Health

Lowther Hall students past and present who organised the Samoan Tsunami Benefit Concert.



AEROBICS

IN TERM 4 OUR AEROBICS TEAM "PINK HEROES" COMPETED IN THE SCHOOL AEROBICS VICTORIAN SPRING CHALLENGE.

Our team consisted of Year 5 and Year 6 girls and we trained very hard every Tuesday and Thursday morning. It took a lot of practice to perfect our routine but all of our hard work paid off.

The Pink Heroes performed brilliantly in the competition. All of the hours of training showed in our performance. We competed against many schools from throughout Victoria and we placed first in the competition and were awarded a gold medal.



"Pink Heroes" Sarah Plant (back), Olivia Pearson, Shanai-Rose Dale, Tess B, Chanel Kando (middle) Hayley Donohoe and Georgia Wooderson (front).

Many thanks to Ms Beattie and Mr Lyall for their time and effort in coaching us. A special mention must go to Androulla Lakkotripis who trained and competed with us all year but was injured on the day of our big competition and was unable to perform with us.

Sarah Plant & Georgia Wooderson
Year 6D

TOURNAMENT OF MINDS STATE FINALISTS

After placing first in the Northern Metropolitan region of the annual Tournament of Minds competition, Lowther Hall's applied technology team, the "Purple Hippos" moved on to the State finals. The girls competed against school teams from throughout Victoria and received Honours for making it to the final three, narrowly missing a place in the National finals.

A noteworthy feature of this team is that it included Olivia Muscat, whose vision impairment meant that she had to have the problem translated into Braille and Philippa Nicholas, who has a hearing impairment requiring a hearing aid.

Lowther Hall entered seven teams, each with seven girls, in the 2009 competition and all performed exceedingly well.

Margaret Nicholas
TOM Captain

JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY

This year twenty-four girls were excited when they found out that they had made it into the School Cross Country Team. Eleven of us went on to the Zone Championships.

This was much a tougher competition for all of us but Olivia Gallagher and I made it to the VPSSA State Championships on Monday October 26 at Olympic Park. Olivia ran extremely well and came 13th and I was delighted to come 6th.

We both learnt a lot from the experience and realised that there are some fantastic athletes out there. Olivia and I had a great time and saw many friends from Little Athletics. I can't wait for next year and I'm already working on my dad to take me on a beach holiday again, only for the training, of course.

Maddison Caulfield
Year 4D

Maddison Caulfield



EQUESTRIAN TEAM SUCCESS

Edwina Backwell, Emily O'Connell and Tamara Cole of Lowther Hall's Equestrian Team achieved a first for the School by winning the Dressage Team Championship at the Assumption College Interschool Equestrian competition in October. Well done girls!

Alice Backwell
Equestrian Captain

Equestrian Team members Edwina Backwell, Emily O'Connell and Tamara Cole.



IN THE LOWTHER SPOTLIGHT

In this edition of the Lowther News we introduce a new feature, "*In the Lowther Spotlight...*" which provides an opportunity to feature various members of our Lowther Hall community. This time our spotlight shines on our 2010 School Captain, Sarah Wilde. We hope you enjoy this new section.



SARAH WILDE
SCHOOL CAPTAIN 2010

My greatest hope is...

Well it depends on how you look at this question really,

I hope to do well in school and get a good ENTER so I can be a lawyer,

I hope that I can, in the course of my role as Captain next year, influence girls to strive and achieve and to have confidence in their abilities,

I hope that we will find solutions to our world problems like global warming,

But I think most of all I hope that all my friends and family are happy and healthy, because they are the people who matter the most.

My earliest memory is...

Singing the national anthem in Myer to win a Barbie when I was four. My love of singing is definitely still here, but maybe not the Barbie winning talent that I used to have.

My mother always tells me...

BEDTIME... no more study!!!

If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say it...

But I think my personal favourite is I love you.

I would time travel to...

The eighties? But the shoulder pads I could do without!

The website I visit most is...

Facebook... don't we all?

The best book I have read is... because...

Surprised that I'm not going to say *Twilight*?

I really enjoyed *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult. I don't think a book has ever made me cry so hard, I was literally bawling by the end. I found I could relate to some of the characters and that I grew quite attached throughout the story. I think that's why this book was able to have such a big impact on me.

I wish I had...

Taken the opportunity to go on exchange. I've realised how much I love to travel and I've been lucky in that I've been to many different countries already, but the opportunity for exchange is not one that will arise much after I leave school and from what I hear from friends who have been on exchange, it sounds like an amazing experience where you can make lifelong friends.

I wish I hadn't...

Introduced Sarah Jamison as the Australian World Record holder at Sports Awards night... wow that was embarrassing!

My best memory from primary school is...

Maybe our game of keepings off/dodge ball we invented in Year 6. Countless lunchtimes of fun.

My most treasured possession is...

My necklace I got from my grandma. Even though she's not here anymore, it's my reminder that she's always with me.

The funniest thing that has happened to me is...

Well when I think funny, I go straight to embarrassing. So when I was being toured around my primary school by the principal, I got shown into a classroom and a little intimidated I went to reach for my dad. I reached for his hand and looked up for some reassurance, only to find myself gazing up at the principal. Not that I want to quote television commercials but, Embarrassing – yes, the principal's face... priceless.

I would like to be remembered...

Not for the things that I may personally achieve, but by how the things I do may influence and encourage others to achieve their own personal goals. I would rather be a continuing inspiration rather than be remembered for a single achievement.

MUSICIANS TAKE THE STAGE

Second semester has been a busy time for Lowther Hall's musicians and singers. The Lowther Choristers and the Raymond Singers participated in the Kodaly Junior Choral Festival held at Caulfield Grammar School, Wheelers Hill campus.

Lowther's senior choir, the Festival Singers, performed with the Korowa Koristers and VoxSynergy (girls' choirs) of Melbourne Youth Music at the Tri-Choir Festival, held in the Joan M Garde Cultural Centre.

Music Day was held at the school on Saturday 15 August. This busy day allowed ensembles and their leaders the opportunity for concentrated practice leading up to the Spring Concert. This annual event, held on September 4 featured a number of the School's ensembles playing a variety of musical styles. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience made up of members of the Lowther Hall community.



Orchestra members in rehearsal for the Spring Concert.

In 2009 seven Year 12 students have completed VCE music performance as instrumental soloists and singers. These girls have been active members of Lowther Hall's music program for most of their school life, performing in choirs, bands and orchestras. We wish them all the best for their future studies and careers in music.

Cinzia Posega and Stephanie Veber
Music Captains 2009



Caitlin Minney, Eleanor Golding and Gillian Tang took part in the MS Readathon. Photo courtesy of News Ltd.

LOWTHER TOPS READATHON

43 Junior School students took part in the MS Readathon to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis. Lowther Hall was named the top fund raising school in the Moonee Valley region.

This project benefits the girls through encouraging wider reading and also those who suffer from MS.



Junior and Senior School students present the new Sports Uniform.



LAUNCH OF NEW SPORTS UNIFORM

The much anticipated launch of Lowther's new sports uniform took place at the whole school assembly on the first day of Term 4 with a sparkling fashion parade.

Students from Kindergarten through to Senior School modelled the mix'n'match options which are designed to distinguish Lowther Hall from other schools, while retaining our gold and blue school colours.

Designer Ms Natalie Lippiatt was present at the launch to describe the features of each piece and outline the easy care nature of the fabrics used.



Trivia Night Quiz Director Jill Brewer.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Thank you to the following businesses which supported the Lowther Hall Trivia Night which raised over \$4000. It was once again a night enjoyed by all who attended with many teams vying for the major prize. It is amazing how much trivia it is possible to remember and how much we are sure we know when we really don't! Much laughter and enjoyment resulted from the work of the parent committee which planned and ran the night and special thanks to Ms Jillian Brewer who once again prepared the questions and ran the night and to her trustee helper Ms Glenda Shaw who made sure that everything ran smoothly.

Angelique

Napier Street Essendon

Beauty on Rose

Rose Street Essendon

Back in Motion

Melton Highway Sydenham

The Flower Merchant

Puckle Street Moonee Ponds

Stonz

Buckley Street Essendon

Presence on Puckle

Puckle Street Moonee Ponds

The Frame Shop

Cnr Margaret and Puckle Streets
Moonee Ponds

Blue Illusion

Puckle Street Moonee Ponds



Lowther girls visit the Meiji Shrine in Tokyo.

JAPAN STUDY TOUR

This year the Japanese Study Tour took place during the September holidays. We started by spending three days and two nights in the lively city of Tokyo. There we visited the beautiful Meiji Shrine, the colourful Harajuku Lane, the various modern shops of Akihabara and the amazing Edo-Tokyo museum.

Living with our host families in Osaka was definitely the highlight of the whole trip. By getting involved with family activities, making small talk with our classmates and playing charades with our host sisters – we were able to live our temporary Japanese lives to the fullest. Many strong relationships were developed and many beautiful memories created during our stay in Japan.

There is not yet a word in the English language that could possibly describe the experiences we had in Japan – but exhilarating, exciting, educational, excellent and entertaining come close.

Doan Nguyen Year 10

FOUNDATION NEWS



Foundation President Mr Lorne Cole welcomes Drs Zamil and Satma Karim as members of the Foundation.

The Lowther Hall Foundation, through the donation of funds, pledged gifts and bequests, continues to assist in the creation of a wonderful learning environment for our students.

Members of the Foundation gathered in the Mansion's Drawing Room for drinks before the Spring Concert. New members were also presented with their membership badges. Our final function for 2009 will be Christmas drinks with the Principal Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns, hosted by Chair Mr Lorne Cole, at his home.

If you would like to become a member of the Lowther Hall Foundation, or make any enquiries, please contact the **Principal Mrs Carolyn Grantskalns**, or the **Foundation Assistant, Mrs Lyn Carroll**. Tel. 93255000
foundation@lowtherhall.vic.edu.au

LHOGA

Annual General Meeting 2010

The LHOGA Committee invites members to join them for the 2010 AGM on Wednesday 24 February at 8pm in the Mansion. Members will have an opportunity to hear first hand about the many events the school has planned for its 90th Anniversary celebrations which the LHOGA will be part of.

LHOGA continues to support the School through its Scholarship and Bursary program, in addition to participating in annual school events. 2010 is going to be an exciting year for everyone connected with Lowther Hall, including Old Grammarians.

The Committee is looking forward to seeing you for refreshments beforehand, so please RSVP to:

Sue Isles sueisles@optusnet.com

Kay Trounson 0412 574 713

Mary Armour 9374 2161

GOLDEN MITRE REUNION



Members of the Class of 1959 welcomed to the Golden Mitre Club.

This special event, hosted by the Lowther Hall Old Grammarians' Association, celebrates past students who left the school fifty or more years ago and was held in the Forum on Saturday October 3.

New members from the Class of 1959 were welcomed and presented with a gift to mark the occasion. Many past students have made this reunion an annual event.

The LHOGA thanks past parent Mrs Jeanette Demaria for the donation of a beautifully decorated cake to raffle. It was won by Mrs Pat Dawe (Weisheit), who had done a great deal of work behind the scenes to gather her year level for their 50th anniversary of leaving Lowther Hall

We look forward to welcoming the Class of 1960 to the Golden Mitre Club in 2010.

Ms Donna Doughty
President LHOGA

BEQUEST OFFICER – A NEW ROLE

After 26 years of teaching Accounting and Economics at Lowther Hall, Old Grammarian Mrs Anne Saunders has a new role from 2010 onwards. Anne has been appointed as the Bequest Officer for the School. She will be working with Old Grammarians, School Council members, staff and parents who wish to enhance the long term future of the School. A bequest is one way in which people can donate to the School. It is particularly appropriate where current circumstances make a donation difficult.

As is now the custom in many schools, those who make a bequest and notify the school of that bequest will become members of a special group to be known as the Lowther Hall Society. Events for this select group will be arranged by the Lowther Hall Foundation to celebrate their generosity and commitment to the school.

A notified bequest also entitles the donor to membership of the Lowther Hall Foundation at the appropriate level and their name will appear on the donor board in the Cultural Centre so that their generosity is recognised by the whole school family. Anne can be contacted at the School on 9325 5000.



Bequest Officer
Mrs Anne Saunders.

REUNIONS

RECENT REUNIONS AT THE SCHOOL HAVE INCLUDED THE CLASSES OF 2004, 1999 AND 1969. MANY DAUGHTERS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO FORMER CLASSMATES BY THEIR PROUD MOTHERS AND TOURS OF THE SCHOOL CONTINUE TO BE A HIGHLIGHT.

Please note Reunion Dates for 2010 below.



The Class of 2004 revisits the Mansion.



Members of the Class of 1999 get together at the Ten Year Reunion.

REUNION DATES 2010

Sat March 27

Macedon Ranges Reunion

Telegraph Hotel Gisborne 12 noon

Sat April 10

Mornington Reunion

Royal Hotel Mornington 12 noon

Sat May 8

Class of 1995 Fifteen Year Reunion

School 4-6 pm

Sat May 15

Class of 1985 Twenty-Five Year Reunion

School 4-6 pm

Sat May 29

Class of 1990 Twenty Year Reunion

School 4-6 pm

Fri July 23

Class of 2009 Reunion

School 4-6 pm

Sat July 24

Thirty to Forty-Nine Year Reunion

School 4-6 pm

Fri September 3

Class of 2005 Five Year Reunion

School 5-7 pm

Sat September 18

Macedon Ranges Reunion

Telegraph Hotel Gisborne 12 noon

Sat October 2

Golden Mitre Club Reunion

School 1.30 pm

Fri. October 8

Class of 2000 Ten Year Reunion

School 5-7 pm

Sat October 16

Mornington Reunion

Royal Hotel Mornington 12 noon

Celebrations

Congratulations to **Shauna Peebles** (Class of 1996) and **Paul Lombardo** on their marriage on Saturday 22 August. Shauna is a member of the LHOGA Committee.

Congratulations to **Cara Haydon** (Class of 1998) and **Salvatori Bombagi** on their marriage on October 24.

Congratulations to **Glenn Gault** (Russell, Class of 1964) on being awarded Volunteer of the Year by Equestrian Victoria. Glenn was recognised for her contribution to dressage judging and competition coordination.

Sympathy

Lowther Hall extends sympathy to the families and friends of the following members of the Lowther Hall community who passed away recently:

Ilma Impols: Mother of Marie Pedlow (Impols, Class of 1987). Former President of the Mothers Social Group and dedicated volunteer at School events.

Jacqueline Fox (Cavka, Class of 1985): Jacqui attended Lowther Hall for her entire school life. She was married to Jason Fox and mother to Charlie, Oscar and Remy.

ALL OLD GRAMMARIANS ARE INVITED TO RETURN TO SCHOOL TO JOIN IN SINGING THE STORY OF THE CROSS IN THE CULTURAL CENTRE FROM 2.30PM ON THURSDAY 25 MARCH 2010. AFTERNOON TEA WILL BE SERVED IN THE DRAWING ROOM FROM 3.15PM.

LOWTHER HALL HAS CONTINUED TO DELIVER A FINANCIAL RESULT THAT HAS MET BUDGET TARGETS SET BY THE SCHOOL COUNCIL.

In 2008 the School finalised the installation of new computer servers which increase data storage capacity. With the introduction of a new high speed fibre optic internet connection coupled with new firewall and web security devices, this has significantly contributed to the security, speed and efficiency of our IT services.

I would like to welcome Mr Hoach Nguyen to the IT staff as Network Engineer whose responsibility will be to ensure the School's IT infrastructure is performing at its optimum. At the beginning of 2009, the School engaged Computelec IT solutions to manage the school's student notebook program. This service has included an onsite hardware technician to ensure that in the case of a notebook hardware failure the notebook is returned fully operational to the student within a 24 hour time frame. I would also like to welcome Ms Lana Rose who has joined Mr Mike Dias to provide IT and notebook customer service to our staff and students.

You would be aware that a ceiling collapsed in an office in the Mansion building at the start of the school year. Fortunately no-one was injured, but structural engineers determined that the majority of the ceilings in the building should be replaced. Due to the extent of works, which not only included plastering work but a total repainting of the interior, the School took the opportunity to rewire the building and reposition reception from the north side to the front of the building. This \$700,000 six month

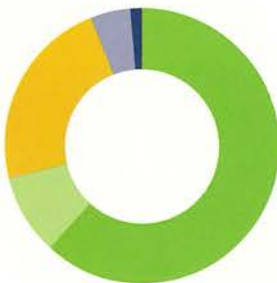
project was managed by the School's Property Manager, Mr Larry Rouse and involved numerous tradespeople to meet a tight deadline so as to allow commencement on the new Science and Technology building by July 1. They all deserve our congratulations for a job well done. This project was partially funded by the Commonwealth Government BER PRIDE grant.

The construction of the new \$7m Science and Technology building commenced on July 1 with the demolition of the "Monkey House" building. Designed by McIlldowie Partners, the building will have 5 Science laboratories and a Junior School Multi-Purpose space in the basement. The basement space (excluding the music tuition rooms also to be housed there) will be 300sqm and this will be able to be split into three separate spaces with the use of operable walls. The multi-purpose space has been funded by the Commonwealth Government's BER P21 Grant. The APM construction group has been engaged to construct the building and we expect completion in December 2010.

Mrs Sue Gepp and Mrs Jenny Williams have ensured finance and administration functions have continued to operate smoothly and we welcome Mrs Tracey Tyrrell to the team whose responsibilities will include administration, human resources and compliance functions.

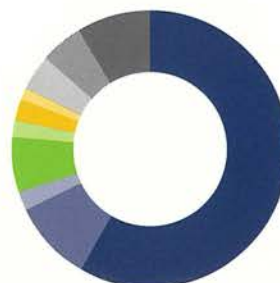
Mr Simon Oldham
Business Manager

LOWTHER HALL – INCOME



- Tuition Fees
- Composite Fees
- C'wealth Grants
- State Grants
- Other Income

LOWTHER HALL – EXPENDITURE



- Salaries
- Other Staff Costs
- Community Relations
- Banking and Interest
- Audit, Insurance and Legal
- Administration Costs
- IT & Communications
- Property Maintenance
- Tuition Expenditure

'Learning which is deep, authentic and motivational'

At Lowther Hall we strive to provide opportunities where the girls can be actively involved in learning. The writing of education scholar, Erica McWilliams, talks about the need to put behind us routine ways of thinking and doing things if we are to enable students to grapple with issues such as climate change and poverty, problems that we, as 20th century citizens, have been unable to solve. Students need to feel secure, free and encouraged to discover and nurture their passions.

Junior School Student Council aims to provide students with opportunities to interact across year levels, to collaborate, to actively engage them in a project that they feel connected to and to work towards achieving goals that are set and agreed on by the group. The Council consists of 2 representatives from each class from Year 1 to Year 6. The girls gather in weekly meetings at lunchtimes. At the start of the year they began to establish together what they wanted to achieve this year in representing their classes and in their leadership role.

The following report was written by the Year 5 representatives;

This year the Junior School Student Council has worked together to organise a Fete Day. We had to share ideas, collaborate and use a team effort to pull it off. We had an idea of having a plant a tree day and a fete so we decided to join the two ideas together and with the money we would put in a water tank and plant some more trees in our garden. We started planning in Term 2 and worked through weekly meetings in Terms 3 and 4 up to the Fete Day on Friday 6 November.

The Junior School Student Council collected ideas from their classes and brought them to meetings where we sorted through and decided what stalls there would be.

The stalls were fairy wands, charm bracelets, show bags, face painting, second-hand books and toys, badges, coloured hairspray, bubbles, beaded hair ties, painting plaster casts, apple slinkies, games, fruit cups, cupcakes, popcorn, pizza and a sausage sizzle. Each class had to make signs for their stall and each item was priced at \$1.00.

The desired outcome for the fete was to make sure everybody participated in the selling of the products and that everyone shared in the day as a community.

Through the planning of the Fete Day as Junior School Student Council representatives we learnt how to work successfully as a team, how to listen to each other and get everyone's ideas to link together. We learnt to plan out what we need to do and to work towards doing it. We felt satisfied and happy that we achieved the goals that we had set. The Fete Day was a great success and it makes us feel proud to be part of our school, Lowther Hall.

Montana Apap, Anoushka Das, Evelyne Mandoukos and Sarah Hayes

The girls were able to feel a wonderful sense of achievement and ownership of the day in part due to the marvelous donations of items, food, drinks and time by our parents. Much of this took place in the background to support and encourage the girls. The Fete Day is a wonderful example of the ways in which students, teachers and parents work collaboratively together in our learning community.

Mrs Cheryl Penberthy

Deputy Principal – Head of Junior School



Lowther Hall

DONATIONS FOR 2008/2009 – THANK YOU



The School acknowledges and is grateful to the following donors who have contributed to the Foundation. Funds from this source assisted with the provision of air-conditioning in classrooms and new floor coverings in the Dance and Drama rooms. All future donations received will be directed towards the construction of the new Science and Technology Building. The School is delighted that so many parents are willing to join the Foundation to assist in the creation of a wonderful teaching environment for our students.

FOUNDATION

Mary Armour
Mandy Bo
Mr & Mrs Peter Cannan
Monique & Lucy Carroll
Mr I & Mrs M Caruana
Mr M & Mrs J Casey
The Cheung Family
The Cindrić Family
Ann & Lorne Cole
Kelsey B Collins
John & Margaret Cozzolino
The Di Stefano Family
The Dimitrio Family
The Dyson Family
Leta & Anne Elias
Alun & Katy Evans
Norman & Barbara Fary
Hannah Fitzpatrick
Roger & Sarah Grant
Carolyn & Ervin Grantskalns
Laetitia & Jacinta Greco
Emily & Lucy Gregg
Rosemarie Hemsworth
The Hepburn Family
Mr W & Mrs T Holcombe
Dianne Holland
Noelene Horton AM
Hong Jie Hu
Isabella & Stephanie Iannazzo
Johanna Isaacs
Wilson & Valentine Kando
The Karim Family
The Kermonde Family
Robert King & Bernadette De Corte

Mr A & Mrs M Kwok
Jessica Yun Le
Lillian Li
The Limone Family
Peter & Carole Malcolm
Evelyne Mandoukos
Andrea & David Markland
Mr B & Mrs M Marks
Demi Marston
Jackie Matthews
Kevin & Janice Memery
The Minney Family
The Ngwenya-Neil Family
The Nicdao Family
The Nowak Family
The Nuciforo Family
The O'Neil Family
Poh-Yen Pierce
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