MY SONG

Millie Morrisey, Year 11

Anticipation trickles into the courtyard
Aspiration blooms within me
Awaiting this nearing future
A different world, a different life

Rough surface bearing my weight
The sound of the buzzing generator hums in the distance
Rhythmic footsteps create a beat
While the leaves shuffle in their places

Three angels stand open for embrace
Their spirit is felt in the warmth around me
In the quiet chatter of children awaiting adulthood
Their pitches form a choir

A canopy of green shades me from the deep glare
Beyond this, blue peaks through soft clouds
Scattered ants creep across dull bricks
Smiles dance across delicate faces

Hopes and dreams are just the chords
How you achieve them is the lyrics
How will my song sound?
Will my voice dissipate into the crowd?

We are our own song.
Our harmonies flow in the breeze
Nature’s melody envelops us.
Together we are a symphony.
In this year of Mercy through Justice, I am very excited to share with you the College’s transformative vision to build a Teacher Professional Learning Centre in Maliana, Timor-Leste.

Driven by our core Mercy values of respect for human dignity, justice, service and option for the poor we are seeking to provide the opportunity of a quality education to the young women of Colegio Infante de Sagres, in rural Maliana.

During the College’s initial student immersion to the region in 2014, I had the privilege of observing the exceptional work being done by the Sisters of Mercy and associates for the betterment of the Timorese children.

In 2015, I worked with Father Natalino Verdeal de Sousa Gama, President of the Educational Foundation FSCJ, on the development of the strategic plan for the Diocese of Maliana, where we pledged our support for the girls at Colegio through the provision of scholarships and the building of a professional learning centre for teachers.

The Teacher Professional Learning Centre directly supports Father Natalino’s vision to improve educational opportunities for teachers and students in the Diocese of Maliana, of which there are 72 schools and over 6,000 students. It is his goal that this facility will provide contemporary training for teachers and form the cornerstone from which effective programs can be modelled and rolled out across the 72 schools in his diocese.

If we are to transform the educational outcomes for young people, it has to begin with quality teacher education.

This centre will allow teachers to return to their schools equipped with the skills to successfully educate the next generation of this young nation. It will facilitate the building of a shared vision and skills-based pedagogy to support successful teaching and effective learning.

This critical initiative is an opportunity for the Monte community to partner with the Timorese people as they continue to build a sustainable future.

KEY OBJECTIVES

- Improve the educational outcomes for young women in order to facilitate gender parity, employment and economic independence.
- Attract external organisations to Maliana to upskill and train local teachers in contemporary teaching practices.
- Create a self-funding teaching and learning centre that will provide an income stream that can be fed back into quality teaching and professional development.
- Provide an opportunity for Monte students and the community to experience transformational change through the sharing of culture, language, educational expertise and authentic relationships.
- Educate the Monte community, through a lived experience, to be advocates of change by contributing actively with their heads, their hearts and their hands.

JOIN US

Project Timor represents a remarkable opportunity to deliver a transformational facility that will change educational outcomes for the young women of Maliana and play a vital role in addressing the lack of trained teachers in Timor-Leste.

If your company has a Corporate Social Responsibility Program, and Project Timor meets the funding criteria, we would love the opportunity to seek your support for the Teacher Professional Learning Centre. Alternatively, if you would like to personally make a donation please visit our website.

Together, we will not only create a brighter future for the young women of Maliana, we will model what is possible when a community works together for the common good.

I invite you to join us on this journey towards justice.

For further information or to make a donation please visit www.monte.nsw.edu.au/community/project-timor or contact the Development Office on (02) 9409 6240.
The sensational production of Monte’s *High School Musical on Stage!* has been a highlight of the year so far. This Disney extravaganza drew keen singers, dancers and actors from our multi-talented Monte community, with more than 150 students auditioning.

A cast of 75 were selected, including boys from St Ignatius’ College, Newington College and Ku-Ring-Gai High School, who helped to make this a success. *High School Musical on Stage!* was the first College musical experience for most of the cast and crew. Under the skilful direction and organisation of the production team, the show did not disappoint.

In addition to the phenomenal talent on stage, a distinguishing feature of this year’s production was the incredible technical direction. Students developed their skills in live theatre performance while also taking part in the recording of a short film, which accompanied the show. The film became one part of an extensive catalogue of visual material the actors used to interact with and support action on stage; thus, launching a contemporary style for musical theatre at the College.

STUDENT REFLECTION

After hundreds of hours of rehearsal and many months of dedicated behind the scenes work, on the 20, 21, 23 and 24 of March 2018, the cast of the College’s production of *High School Musical on Stage!* was in action.

Reflecting back to August 2017, when the auditions began, it is amazing to see how far we came. It was an incredible project and journey, upon which we’ve made many lifelong friendships both inside and outside the Monte community. We now understand and appreciate the discipline and hard work it takes to be a part of a big production.

A valued element of the experience was working with the cast and crew who were constantly supportive, friendly, and encouraging. It was wonderful to see so many talented students step outside their comfort zone to participate in the experience. To all the students and staff - thank you for making *High School Musical on Stage!* an experience that we will never forget.

Adelaide Hayes, Year 11

Congratulations to all those involved on stage, and those behind the scenes. The show would not have been possible without the commitment and expertise of our Monte community creatives. Their tireless dedication ensured the students performed an outstanding musical and theatrical success.
SELF is a holistic program encouraging professional development for staff to enhance their understanding of a person’s wellbeing. Informed and understanding staff are better equipped to relate to, impact and support a student in their classroom learning and to develop in them a growth mindset. Building capacity in all our students, the College focuses on the six pillars of GROWTH; in an age and stage specific program, to progressively upskill students so that they can successfully navigate secondary school. With an overarching framework of social and emotional learning, the College strives to match developmental needs with school structures. The six pillars form part of the backbone of the Pastoral Program and will be mapped from Years 7-12. Part of our research for this exciting new program involved student voice, where students asked for more authentic conversations with their peers and teachers as well as a greater connection with academic and pastoral experiences. In order to establish a healthy sense of self-efficacy in all students, a focus on the GROWTH framework provides the opportunity for girls to feel a sense of control during times of uncertainty and varied pressures. The GROWTH framework provides insight into nurturing healthy relationships and supporting times of transition to encourage students to see a broader perspective.

The College has completed a longitudinal study of student wellbeing. All students have completed the Social and Emotional Wellbeing Survey every year since 2012, with results of the survey driving program design as well as shedding light on trends in relation to issues that face the College student body. This systemic approach to Pastoral Care grounds theory in practice.

We foster positive and respectful relationships amongst students, and between students and adults. With a variety of different events being held as part of the SELF GROWTH program including Colour House Vertical Pastoral there have been many opportunities for students to identify with the College and their teachers in a unique way. To participate in activities with students from other years develops a sense of belonging and identification with a Colour House as well as offering meaningful interactions with teachers beyond the classroom.

Vertical Pastoral is also an opportunity for our senior students to guide their younger peers and to act as true ambassadors of our College motto, Religio Scientia Cultus - what we believe, what we know and what we value.

Student wellbeing requires an inclusive approach and we place importance on involving parents in the areas of student wellbeing and development. Dr Tim Sharp, a leader in positive psychology and parenting, along with Madonna King, author of Being 14, spoke to parents on teenage girls cognitive development and how we as adults can be supportive role models.

Our purpose is to empower and prepare our young Mercy women to be ‘fit for the future’. The SELF GROWTH program is designed to provide our girls with a resilient framework - a set of tools to equip them with adaptability for the future so that they can realise their true potential.

As Catherine McAuley wrote “The simplest and most practical lesson I know is to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow.”
Behind every student success is a large community of passionate, committed and caring teachers. In an age where technology and innovation are at the forefront of global change, challenging existing teaching and learning practices by embracing these changes is necessary and strategic. Our investment in a meaningful, diverse and rigorous professional learning program is not only for the development of innovative teaching and learning practices, it also fosters a pioneering culture of critical thinking and creativity.

Students require specific skill sets to enable movement through many jobs during their lifetimes, and whilst a sense of resilience and positivity can be fostered through the adoption of a growth mindset, we also need to be future-focused in teaching and learning. Moreover, the notion of what it means to collaborate and engage in quality conversations as a way of developing deeper and richer connections with students is more important than ever before.

Professional learning at Monte is continually focussed on developing the skills of academic and support staff as lifelong learners with the ability to reflect on the changing landscape we find ourselves in as educators: a ‘real-time’ and ‘always-on’ environment that provides instant answers by simply ‘Googling’. While education policy and infrastructure might, at times, move at a glacial pace, our students, teachers and learning environments do not; their world is changing at an exponential rate. Daniel Goleman (psychologist, science journalist and author) speaks widely about emotional intelligence, specifically cognitive control as the fundamental determinant of adult success in work and enterprise. Cognitive control, put simply, is the ability to lengthen the time between impulse and action. Goleman asserts that the brain does not multitask. Rather, the brain switches quickly from one task to another. He explains that we now take in five times more information than 10 years ago and this increased switching between tasks and information means that we are less effective when we return to the original task. At Monte, we are challenged to be actively aware of the need to teach our students cognitive control in a world where instant access and answers are dominant and pervasive.

THE MONTE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM INCLUDES:

Small scale professional learning workshops:
- Breakfast Club sessions are in-house professional learning workshops led by staff and focus on the use of learning technologies.
- In-conversation style sessions are led by teachers and provide presentations and open discussions relating to pedagogy and strategies.

STAFF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
- Staff Scholarships are offered to Monte staff to encourage continued engagement in authentic, meaningful and prolonged professional learning. Scholarships exist for Staff Formation, Post Graduate Study and Action Research.

COLLABORATIVE PROFESSIONAL ATTAINMENT (CPA) PROGRAM
- CPA is a program developed at Monte which provides opportunities for teachers to learn with and from each other through an evidenced-based process. CPA sits in a multilayered framework that provides for professional learning through staff collaboration. It involves all teaching staff in the giving and receiving of feedback on teaching practices at the College. Trust and professional relationships are the foundations of the model and it provides for authentic engagement in professional learning and action research.

ANNUAL STAFF LEARNING FAIR AND LEARNING WORKSHOPS
- These workshops provide opportunity for staff to share their innovative practice with colleagues, which include TED Talk-style presentations and longer workshops that allow staff to engage in discussion with colleagues around new technology and pedagogy.

The College is currently developing an online platform to deliver professional learning that can be accessed anytime and anywhere. This platform will feature professional learning courses created and curated by our Learning Design team.
Il Bel Paese allowed us to immerse ourselves in the history, culture, language and traditions of this enchanting country for three weeks as we travelled from the North to the South. Our arrival began in Milan, just in time to soak up the surroundings of the region of Lombardia as we welcomed 2018 before continuing to the cities of Venice, Bologna and Florence prior to arriving at our base in Siena. It was here that students attended classes at the Dante Alighieri Language School in order to further develop their Italian language skills.

The eternal city of Rome showered us in warmth as we walked along its cobbled ancient streets and marvelled at the beauty of the endless historical sites. Our journey took us to the region of Puglia, to visit the UNESCO heritage listed city of Monte Sant’Angelo. Here on the mountain, we followed the footsteps of past pilgrims to the cave of Saint Michael the archangel before arriving at the Baroque marvel of Lecce, where students attended the Scuola Media Scipione Ammirato and spent three memorable days learning from their Italian peers.

We encourage our students to remember that the challenges of learning a foreign language brings with it many priceless rewards.

Ms Annalisa Ramundi and Ms Maria Gaudioso Italian Language and Cultural Immersion Tour Coordinators

Students are required to undertake a CAS Project, which challenges the students to show initiative, demonstrate perseverance and develop skills such as collaboration, problem solving and decision making.

Three Year 11 IB DP students used their recent experience of their cultural and language exchange programs to Germany, France and Italy as the basis for their CAS Project.

“A different language is a different vision of life” Federico Fellini

As part of the College’s student exchange program, we each embarked on a cultural and language journey where we developed a sense of independence, met many interesting people and learnt about a whole new social customs. Through living each day as the locals do, we gained a deeper understanding of the culture. This experience was both highly rewarding and challenging at times, and we have become more mature through navigating unfamiliar situations.

We have now utilised our unique experiences to form the basis for our CAS project. Understanding that Monte students considering a Language and Cultural exchange have a lot of questions, led us to develop a website and information video to enlighten them on what to expect. To further assist students with questions or concerns, we also spoke with Year 10 students and attended the annual exchange evening.

Through our project of creativity, activity and service, it is our hope that more students will be inspired to embark on their own journey of Language and Cultural exchange.

Lucy Cook, Germany
Madeleine Dunne, France
Sofia Augimeri, Italy

Students visit the Sanctuary of Monte Sant’Angelo

GLOBAL LEARNING INSPIRES LEADERSHIP

Creativity, activity, service (CAS) is one of the three essential elements that every student must complete as part of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB DP). CAS provides opportunities for self-determination and collaboration, and enables students to learn through experience, fostering a sense of accomplishment and enjoyment in their work.

STUDENT REFLECTION

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MIDDLE SCHOOL LEADERS

We welcome and congratulate the 2018 Middle School Leaders, Maree Labbozetta, Isabella Doyle, Monique Lozina, Bridget Cunningham, Sofia Heanly and Lara Zannino. These students will be encouraged to develop their self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy and social skills; enabling them to maximise their own and others’ potential.

2018 YOUNG WHARFIES

Congratulations to Year 11, IB DP Theatre students, Olivia Morahan and Charlotte Leamon on being selected from over 100 applicants state-wide to take part in the Young Wharfies Program run by Sydney Theatre Company. The program extends students’ knowledge of the backstage and performance components of a major theatre company in a real-world context.

DEBATING SUCCESS

Monte enjoyed outstanding success in its inaugural year of debating in the FED (Friday Evening Debating) Competition. An impressive seven out of eight teams reached the semi-final with four teams out of seven reaching the Grand Final. Congratulations to our Year 8A team for their ultimate win against St Aloysius’ College.

ROOM WITH A VIEW

Congratulations to Phoebe Ralston (Year 10) who had her poignant photograph Room with a View showing as part of the 9th annual Head On Photo Festival, which showed at various venues around Sydney.

Phoebe says of her work:

“This photo was taken at my grandparents’ old farm near Wagga Wagga. We visited them last June when my Pa retired. My uncles drove my cousins and I to where they used to live. For my uncles it was quite confronting to see their old home in ruins, however for me it was exciting to see the place where so many family memories had been made. I used my Canon to take photos of the different areas of the farm as I went. As I was looking back through the photos I was drawn to this particular image of what used to be my grandparents’ bedroom. The image was edited using Photoshop, only to increase the saturation and brightness in certain areas.”

HOUSE PLAYS

Congratulations to Xavier, who were the 2018 House Plays competition winners. Compliments to each of the Colour Houses for their outstanding effort and achievement. The College was delighted to welcome more than 1500 family and friends as exuberant guests to our House Plays concerts. Over 800 students participated, showcasing the unique talents of our girls and the remarkable leadership, creativity and direction of our Year 11 students.

SYDNEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Congratulations to Ruby Skillcorn (Year 9) on her successful audition for Sydney Youth Orchestra’s Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Caitlin Flannery (Year 12), our Music Captain is also a member of the Sydney Youth Orchestra.

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Sydney Symphony Orchestra

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THE YEAR 7 RIPPLE EFFECT

Year 7 students formed eight concentric circles symbolising the Ripple Effect, signifying that our decisions and actions have the potential to ripple out and affect others. Students brought a bottle of water from home on their first day of high school, representing all the diverse areas within Sydney that the girls have come from. The students poured their water onto the Holy Grass, connecting them as the Year 7 Monte Class of 2018, unifying them with the concept ‘Together we are stronger than the strength of each individual’. Water was also collected from the House of Mercy in Dublin, a place so special in the life of Catherine McAuley. Known as the Wellspring of Mercy, the water was poured onto the Holy Grass by Sister Carmel McDonough RSM, linking the global family of Mercy to the College. In 2018, our Year 7 students continue to be part of the ripple effect of Catherine McAuley’s transformational actions.

LION DANCE IN CELEBRATION OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

Students were treated to a Lion Dance on the Circular Drive in celebration of the Lunar New Year and the introduction of a new pop-up Mandarin class at the College.

BLUE RIBBON DAY

Limited edition 2018 Blue Ribbon pins were sold by the Senior Leaders to students to raise funds and awareness for the Monte Bursary Blue Ribbon Appeal.

ANZAC DAY

The College marked the Armistice Centenary - 100 years since Australia’s involvement in the First World War. We were honoured to hear from Sarah-Jane Boas’ grandfather - Holocaust survivor and author Eddy Boas, as well as her father Marc Boas, a former member of the Peace Corp in Cambodia.

HARMONY DAY

Senior Leaders gifted orange ribbons to students this year in recognition of Harmony Day and in celebration of the strength of our inclusive Monte community.

WOMEN IN DEFENCE HIGH TEA

Year 11 students Jessica Cooke and Frederique Blosscher attended the International Women’s Day high tea presented by the Australian Defence Force, which ran with the theme ‘Leave No Woman Behind’.

OPEN DAY

Our Mercy spirit was in abundance at the College Open Day, where we welcomed an estimated 2500 guests through the gates of Monte to experience the warmth, hospitality and diversity of our extraordinary College.

MRS NICOLE CHRISTENSEN (PRINCIPAL) ACCOMPANIED BY MARC, EDDY AND SARAH-JANE BOAS (YEAR 10) TOGETHER WITH CADET, TALIA CARAVELLA (YEAR 10)
On Wednesday 7 March, our community united at the College’s annual International Women’s Day Breakfast. Fathers, brothers, student leaders from St Aloysius’ College as well as Mercy men on staff, all stood in partnership with Monte’s Mercy women in celebration of women’s achievements.

Master of Ceremonies, Jessica Elliott (Class of 2012) explained “Celebrating and empowering women is not simply the right thing to do, it’s the smart thing to do.” At the breakfast, we were fortunate to hear from international human rights lawyer and refugee advocate, Madeline Gleeson. In her thought-provoking address, Madeline shared her five core values for justice that pertain to advocating for the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

1. **Show Compassion.** Not just empathy, but kindness, solidarity and a sense of humanity.
2. **Summon Courage.** It is far easier to fear and give in to hate than it is to show strength in advocating for justice.
3. **Display Resilience.** Recognise that a path to justice is never an easy one, it takes flexibility and determination as you are certain to face resistance.
4. **Display Creativity.** Find creative solutions to the contemporary problems you identify.
5. **Think Critically.** Cultivate your ability to see nuance, to evaluate opposing viewpoints with an educated and compassionate voice.

**Mercy Action Group** (MAG) and our Timor-Leste immersion participants inspired their Monte sisters to raise funds in support of the educational and nutritional needs of young women in Colegio Infante De Sagres Maliana, Timor-Leste. Project Timor initiative, fun Colour House competitions, numerous food stalls and Year 8’s fabulous sell-out Mother’s Day stall. Thank you to our Monte community for your encouragement and support of our students who have raised an incredible $28,000 for Project Timor to date.

*ECO-JUSTICE IN ACTION*

Inspired by Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato si’* which promotes the care for our common home, Sophia Skarparis (Year 10) petitioned the NSW State Government to ban single use plastic bags. Sophia presented the NSW Premier, Gladys Berejiklian, with 7000 signatures gathered from students, staff and the community.

**A UNIQUE PROJECT OF FRIENDSHIP AND LIGHT**

In our dedicated year of Mercy through Justice, the College has been fortunate to incorporate a unique pilot project into the regular visits Year 9 students make to the residents of the James Milson Retirement Village in Kirribilli.

Year 9 students and James Milson Village residents have been working together to build solar lights and write personalised letters for recipients in Maliana, Timor-Leste. The lights play an important role in allowing Timorese students the opportunity to read, study and learn after the sun has set. The recipients of the lights send photos and letters back to the James Milson Village residents and Year 9 students; establishing a connection and the potential for developing ongoing friendships.

It is the hope that the success of this joint program between National Psychology Services, a specialist mental health service for aged care and the Australian charity, SolarBuddy, combined with the support of our Year 9 girls, will help end the cycle of energy poverty for every child, family and community in need in Timor-Leste.
Parents & Friends

PARENTS’ AND FRIENDS’ ASSOCIATION

The Parents’ & Friends’ Association (P&F) has had another busy start to the year, connecting our parents and broader Monte community in a variety of ways. The P&F plays a number of roles on behalf of parents and friends of Monte. We represent the interests of parents in our interactions with the College Executive by attending official events, holding regular P&F meetings and through informal meetings and discussions with staff and parents. We also promote education in the Mercy tradition and, through the generosity of the parent body, we are able to modestly assist the College with targeted funding of specific initiatives. We support parental engagement by providing information through the annual calendar, organising public speakers, and driving community support initiatives such as #SupportCrew and #SupportCrewMeals.

However, perhaps the most important aspect of the P&F’s role is the work we do to promote the building of friendships and sustaining community. We do this primarily through arranging a host of fun and enjoyable social events during the year. We started the calendar year with the College Open Day, where some of the visitors to the P&F stall were lucky enough to secure a delightful recycled teapot or a Monte cookbook. We have also begun the significant process of farewelling our Year 12 students by hosting the annual Father Daughter Dinner Dance and the Mother Daughter High Tea. Both events were extremely well attended, well organised and beautifully catered. The events were much anticipated and greatly enjoyed by students, parents and carers alike.

Cocktail functions have been hosted for the parents of each year group. These are a way of encouraging parents and carers to become well acquainted with their daughter’s year group in a relaxed environment. Throughout Term 2, the P&F also hosted a series of morning teas as well as the iconic Year 7 Father Daughter Pizza Night, which is a chance for fathers to share a night out (and a dance) with their daughters as they begin their high school journey. In June, we organised the mid-year Winter Function, which was an opportunity for parents from different year groups to engage and connect. Later in the year we will hold our popular Trivia Night which engages parents and carers in a light-hearted and entertaining evening.

I would like to thank our P&F Executive and Class Parent volunteers, who give so generously of their time and energy to organise and host these events. We look forward to continuing to strengthen the bonds between the school, parents and wider community.

CONNECTING OUR MONTE COMMUNITY

Mr Peter Gallagher,
President, Parents’ and Friends’ Association

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FOR TIME AND ETERNITY

PRESERVING AND SHARING OUR MISSION AND HERITAGE

The Mercy Mission and Heritage Centre, honouring the history and transformational work of the Sisters of Mercy North Sydney, was opened in historic Stormanston House in May.

The Centre is a celebration of the North Sydney Mercy story over the past 152 years, as well as the vast legacy of Elizabeth McQuoin beginning with her arrival at The Rocks from Liverpool in 1865.

Interactive pictorial and audio exhibitions, together with significant memorabilia and commemorative pieces, strikingly showcase the Sisters’ significant work in Health Care, Education, Child Care, Aged Care and helping women in need.

Mercy families, friends and staff, as well as members of the public are warmly encouraged to visit the centre and be inspired by the Mercy mission and values of the Sisters in a contemporary context.

Access to the centre is by appointment. Please contact Sr Margaret Farrell RSM or Sr Jennie Ryan RSM, by phoning 0418 294 693 or (02) 9959 3921.

www.nsmercy.org.au

“We have the privilege of knowing it, we have the responsibility to understand it, we have the duty to protect it and we have the honour of living it!”

Maria McGuinness
SPORT REPORT

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR BASKETBALL TEAMS, WHO HAVE BOTH WON THE CGSSSA BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

CGSSSA TOUCH FOOTBALL
Congratulations to the Monte Junior and Senior Touch Football teams who won the CGSSSA Touch Championships in both grades. This is the first time Monte has won both titles in the same year.

NSWCCC BLUE AWARDS
Congratulations to Sara Dougan (Year 11) who was presented with an Athletics Blue Award at the NSWCCC Blue Awards Ceremony in February.

COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The College Swimming Carnival was held in near perfect conditions at the picturesque North Sydney Pool.

12 Years Age Champion
Gracie Henry (Xavier)

13 Years Age Champion
Chloe Le Blond (McAuley)

14 Years Age Champion
Natasha Hill (McAuley)

15 Years Age Champion
Sophie Walsh (McQuoin)

16 Years Age Champion
Taylah Thompson (McQuoin)

17+ Years Age Champion
Madison Ward (McGuirk)

200m IM Champion
Madison Ward (McGuirk)

100m Freestyle Champion
Jami Prowse (Rankin)

Junior Relay Champions - McAuley
Intermediate Relay Champions - McQuoin
Senior Relay Champions - Rankin
Cheering Champions - Xavier
Champion House - McAuley

NETBALL
Monte 1 Netball won the 10th McAuley Ward Cup against Loreto Kirribilli 1sts, with a closely contested match, scoring 34-32.

CRICKET
In a first for Monte, our Representative Cricket team won the CGSSSA Cricket Championships.

MONTE SAILING TEAM
Congratulations to the inaugural Monte Sailing team who competed in their first regatta earlier this year.

SWIMMING
The tradition continues with the Monte Representative Swimming team winning the CGSSA Swimming Championships, winning Division 1 and the overall Champion School trophy for 2018.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MCAULEY FOR WINNING CHAMPION COLOUR HOUSE

NSWCCC BLUE AWARDS
Congratulations to Sara Dougan (Year 11) who was presented with an Athletics Blue Award at the NSWCCC Blue Awards Ceremony in February.

CGSSSA TOUCH FOOTBALL
Congratulations to the Monte Junior and Senior Touch Football teams who won the CGSSSA Touch Championships in both grades. This is the first time Monte has won both titles in the same year.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ms Annette Benaud (Class of 1974), President, Monte Sant’Angelo Mercy College Alumni Association

It was a great honour to be formally elected as Alumni President at the AGM in March. I am looking forward to growing our Alumni engagement with the College and our community. I encourage you to visit our Monte Alumni website (alumni.monte.nsw.edu.au), which provides opportunities to stay connected and informed about upcoming reunions, events and College activities. Please use the website to update your contact details to ensure you receive invitations and future correspondence. It is a platform to assist in searching for, contacting and reconnecting with Monte Alumni.

The fun and excitement of re-connecting with your school friends and acquaintances you haven’t seen for years is such a special gift; and it is so wonderful to see a number of reunions taking place in 2018. The Canberra reunion was held earlier this year for Alumni living, working and studying in our nation’s capital. The Class of 1958 recently came together to celebrate their 60 year reunion. The Classes of 1968, 1973, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2008 and 2013 have reunions planned for later this year. We thank the representatives from individual years who have taken on the organisation of these reunions.

Thank you to those who attended our Alumni Association’s Annual General Meeting and helped support our Alumni Netball girls in the annual Open Day exhibition match. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces as well as a few new ones.

Our Career Insights Evening was held on Wednesday 20 June and it was once again a unique opportunity for students and their parents and carers to connect with our Alumni leaders of industry. The evening was a great success with 340 attendees and 38 Alumni guest speakers. The event truly highlighted the extraordinary talents and generous expertise of our Alumni body.

This year the Masalu Lunch will be held at the College on Tuesday 16 October. It promises to be a wonderful celebration for Alumni who graduated more than fifty years ago.

I wish you every happiness for the remainder of 2018 as we come together to celebrate our year of Mercy through Justice.

Ms Caitlin Richards (Class of 2007)

ALUMNI SPORT REPORT

The Alumni Netball Club had another fantastic start to the sport season, registering seven teams in the Northern Suburbs Netball competition, playing both competitively and socially.

This year, after much anticipation and planning, the club has introduced a new uniform for all players. The old uniform has been in use since the club’s inception in 2008 and was given as a donation from the College Sports Department in support of the founding of our club.

At the College Open Day on 11 March, the Alumni Netball Club participated in the annual exhibition match against Monte students in the McQuoin Centre. Monte Alumni, accompanied by students, parent and teachers witnessed a fun and competitive netball game. Unfortunately, the Alumni Netball Club’s prowess on the court was no match for the speed and agility of our younger counterparts with Monte 1 students winning for the third year in a row.

Each year, the Alumni Netball Club endeavours to promote and facilitate young women’s ongoing involvement in team sport following their completion of high school. We welcome not only Monte Alumni, but friends and family of Alumni as well. For expressions of interest and enquiries please email exmontenetball@gmail.com and follow us on facebook.com/exstudentsnetballclub for regular updates on our season.
MONTE ALUMNI SHOWCASE

MERCY MADE VISIBLE
SISTER CARMEL MCDONOUGH RSM

On Australia Day, Sister Carmel McDonough RSM was presented with the honorary North Sydney Citizen of the Year Award. This prestigious award recognised “her unwavering social conviction and commitment to young women in North Sydney to live a life of influence, significance and purpose.”

It is fitting that 2018 marks Sr Carmel’s Golden Jubilee year, a joyous celebration of 50 years as a Sister of Mercy North Sydney. As Director of Mission at Monte, she continues to inspire students to advocate for social justice issues and to be leading agents of change within their local communities and beyond.

The College also acknowledges the significant contribution Sr Carmel has made to the awareness and understanding of social justice issues within our broader community. The focus of Sr Carmel’s work has always been social justice and to transform the lives of others beyond the gates of Monte. This is brought to life by the many Alumni who are walking the path of Mercy in their careers and daily lives with a constant mindfulness of the values of mercy, justice, service and option for the poor.

“Sr Carmel had a great influence on me at school and in the years afterward, encouraging me to learn and become passionate about social justice issues. I now work primarily in indigenous health because of her enthusiasm for reconciliation and Indigenous issues, and her drive to send me to the National Youth Reconciliation Convention and to set up a Student Reconciliation Network across Sydney. She showed me that social justice needs to be an integral part of all of our lives. I feel privileged to know her.”

Dr Angela Titmuss (Class of 1999)
B Sci (Med) (Hons) MBBS (Hons) MPH FRACP

“Sr Carmel instilled in me a passion for social justice, a recognition of my own privilege and of the social responsibility that goes with that privilege. The Mercy Action Group, led by Sr Carmel, gave me an opportunity to learn about issues in the world around us, and to find constructive practical ways to address these issues. Sr Carmel encouraged me to see that no matter how overwhelming the injustices around us are, every little positive action that we take, is part of a bigger picture that contributes to making the world a better place.”

Tess Kelly (Class of 2010) Royal Commission Project Officer at Danila Dilba Health Service

MONTE BURSARIES 2019
NOW OPEN

At Monte we believe in preparing young women for a life of significance and purpose

2019 Bursaries are now available for young women to receive a Mercy education at Monte Sant’ Angelo Mercy College, North Sydney. All Bursaries are means-related.

Eligible to apply:
- Students in Years 7-11 currently attending the College
- Students not currently attending the College in Years 6-10

Full details and the 2019 Application Form are available on the website: monte.nsw.edu.au/admissions/bursaries

The next Information Morning and College Tour is TUESDAY 28 AUGUST

Enquiries to registrar@monte.nsw.edu.au

APPLICATIONS CLOSE TUESDAY 28 AUGUST

MONTE ALUMNI FROM THE CLASS OF 2010, LIVING AND WORKING IN DARWIN

From left to right: Michaela Vaughan, Associate to Justice Kelly at the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory; Ella Tracey, Paediatric Resident Medical Officer at Royal Darwin Hospital and Tess Kelly, Research and Policy Officer at Danila Dilba, an Aboriginal Health Service in Darwin.

RACHEL GRUNDY (CLASS OF 2006) AND ALICIA LIM (née DUNN, CLASS OF 1997)

Rachel and Alicia returned to the College to speak with Year 11 students about their careers in Health & Community Services. They generously provided the students with insight and guidance into their chosen career paths.
MONTE ALUMNI WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

TESS KELLY (CLASS OF 2010)

After completing her Honours thesis on racial discrimination law and graduating with a Bachelor of Arts/Law (Honours) at the Australian National University (ANU), Tess moved to the Northern Territory (NT) to pursue her interests in criminal law, law reform and social justice. Whilst at ANU, Tess utilised her connections in Mutitjulu (formed through Monte's Indigenous Biamunga program) to establish an annual trip for ANU students to Mutitjulu, and reciprocal trips for Maruku artists to travel to exhibit and sell their work in Canberra. These projects are ongoing with ANU, and saw Tess receive the 2014 ANU Undergraduate of the Year award.

Tess completed internships at the Aboriginal Legal Service in Canberra and the Top End Women’s Legal Service in Darwin, which highlighted the disadvantaged circumstances for many Aboriginal people, leading to and perpetuating the cycle of mass incarceration. Tess then worked as the Associate to His Honour Justice Hiley at the NT Supreme Court, gaining insight into criminal law and practice in the NT, where the tough realities of the vicious cycle of disadvantage motivated Tess to continue working to help address some of these complex issues.

Tess is now working with Danila Dilba - an Aboriginal health service in Darwin and is focussing on implementing the recommendations set by the Royal Commission regarding the protection and detention of young people in the NT. Tess loves her life in Darwin, surrounded by many friends, including fellow Monte Alumni, Michaela Vaughan and Ella Tracey (Class of 2010).

PENELOPE WILLIAMSON (nee BUTLER, CLASS OF 1968)

After graduating from Monte, Penelope travelled the world following in the footsteps of her parents, who travelled extensively at the conclusion of World War II. On Penelope’s return from overseas, she married her childhood sweetheart and joined a luxury hotel as an Administration Manager. After the birth of her daughter Amanda, and son Todd, she had a variety of roles in public relations, international marketing and international trade. During the 1980s Penelope founded two successful companies, which facilitated trade opportunities between Australia and Japan. In 1995 Penelope was appointed General Manager of the American Chamber of Commerce in Western Australia, where she facilitates business opportunities to members of the Chamber in Australia and overseas. She has been responsible for significantly increasing the profile of Australia’s Premier International Business Organisation and she continues to implement successful initiatives to help generate new members.

Her career, both as an employee and an employer, has been challenging, interesting and stimulating. However, the best gift she ever received, was without doubt her amazing children who make her proud every day.

KIYA SIUTZ (CLASS OF 2014)

During her time at the College, Kiya showed a significant interest and talent within the technology and audio visual (AV) space. Her skills and strong work ethic were evident, and after graduating, the College offered Kiya an internship working under the AV Coordinator. Kiya commenced her internship while also studying a Bachelor of Arts (Media) at Macquarie University (full-time).

Kiya excelled at university and was awarded two Highest Achiever Awards in screen production, and in her final year received a significant award for creative achievement in editing. As part of her degree Kiya travelled to Peru, Cusco for a month working with ‘Peru’s Challenge’ as project leader for Macquarie University. Her role included coordinating media and marketing projects and Kiya still remains in contact with the organisation today.

Kiya has now completed her degree and works full time for the College as the AV Coordinator. Kiya enjoys her role, including student engagement initiatives and the Creative Industry Partnership Program, where she is responsible for guiding and inspiring current students.

Kiya is very passionate about her involvement with Project Timor. In 2017, She travelled to Maliana and Dili, documenting the project through videos, to educate others about the importance of the project. Kiya looks forward to travelling back to Maliana in the near future to see the progress and impact of Monte’s contribution.

ROSEMARY BLYTHE (CLASS OF 2009) and ALEX JOLLEY on 1 October 2017.

ALEXANDRA BRAYSHAW (Class of 2000) was Maid of Honour.

RACHELLE MEDLEY (Class of 2000) and SEAN MCLINTOCK on 30 September 2017.

AIMEE O’SHEA (Class of 2007) and ALBERT MOUJALLI on 7 October 2017.

Amanda Amore (Class of 2007) was Maid of Honour. Rebecca O’Shea (Class of 2009), Danielle O’Shea (Class of 2010), Tessa O’Shea (Class of 2013) and Rosie O’Shea (2018) were in the bridal party.

Other Alumni in attendance included: From the Class of 2007; Isabelle Billrett, Jessica Yammine, Angela Diamant, Melanie Barbieri, Melinda Nass, Emma Williams, Anastasia Drakopoulos, Ashleigh Johnston (nee Gallagher) and Alessia Calvi. Also, in attendance were Kathleen Drakopoulos (nee Chalmers, Class of 1982), Gemma Wright (Class of 2009), Georgina Thurecht (Class of 2010) and Nicola Drakopoulos (Class of 2011).
REUNIONS

CLASS OF 2008 REUNION
(10 YEARS)
FRIDAY 24 AUGUST
Greenwood Hotel, North Sydney
Contact: monteclassof2008@gmail.com

CLASS OF 2013 REUNION
(5 YEARS)
FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER
Greenwood Hotel, North Sydney
Contact: monteclassof2013@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1973 REUNION
(45 YEARS)
SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER
Contact: maggiebowdensmith@yahoo.com
or luciayharvey@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1978 REUNION
(40 YEARS)
SATURDAY 20 OCTOBER
Cammeray Golf Club
Contact: monteclassof1978@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1988 REUNION
(30 YEARS)
FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER
The Union Hotel, North Sydney
Contact: ctremain@optusnet.com.au

CLASS OF 1993 REUNION
(25 YEARS)
Contact: monte93reunion@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1968 REUNION
(50 YEARS)
Contact: ehartman@ozemail.com.au

CLASS OF 2018 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CANBERRA REUNION
Canberra Alumni enjoyed a lively evening of connecting at the CIT Restaurant in Canberra’s Institute of Technology. Carmel McCrow (nee Harrington, Class of 1961) was a guest speaker on the night, sharing her story of life as an artist.

SUNSHINE COAST REUNION
LesaMay Wilson (Class of 1981) is organising a Monte Reunion for Alumni living on the Sunshine Coast. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet, re-connect and enjoy each other’s company.

If you are interested in attending this event, please contact LesaMay lesamaywilson@gmail.com

We would love to hear from Alumni of the below year groups who would be interested in organising their reunion:
15 Year Reunion: Class of 2003
35 Year Reunion: Class of 1983
55 Year Reunion: Class of 1963

CLASS OF 1987, 30 YEAR REUNION
Alumni from the Class of 1987 had a memorable evening at The Oaks in Neutral Bay. More than 65 Alumni enjoyed much fun and laughter catching up with friends.

ALUMNI DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2018

CLASS OF 1998 REUNION
(20 YEARS)
SATURDAY 3 NOVEMBER
The Treehouse Hotel, North Sydney
Contact: monteclassof1998@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1983 REUNION
(35 YEARS)
FRIDAY 9 NOVEMBER
The Union Hotel, North Sydney
Contact: ctemain@optusnet.com.au

CLASS OF 1968 REUNION
(55 YEARS)
Contact: ehartman@ozemail.com.au

CLASS OF 1999 REUNION
(25 YEARS)
Contact: monte99reunion@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1993 REUNION
(50 YEARS)
Contact: monte93reunion@gmail.com

MASALOU LUNCH
(50 YEARS AND OVER)
TUESDAY 16 OCTOBER
Contact: alumni@monte.nsw.edu.au
We warmly welcome all Alumni commemorating 50 years or more since graduating.

VALE

Johanna Bruniges
(nee Brody, Class of 1959)

Vanessa Juresic
(Class of 1999)

Elizabeth (Betty) Williams
(nee Impey, Class of 1941)

Pamela Bonetti
(nee Benjamin, Class of 1967)

Margaret Sullivan
(Nee Ryan, Class of 1946)

Anne Towner
(nee Smith, Class of 1952)

Margaret Coombes
(nee Dudgeon, Class of 1933)
The Monte Bursary Blue Ribbon Appeal raises funds to support young Monte women whose families are struggling to cope with extraordinary personal and financial hardship.

Financial hardship and unexpected personal grief does not discriminate, we are all susceptible to life’s unexpected twists and turns. For a young woman these are harrowing times, and to be able to continue their routine at school each day supported by their teachers and friends is invaluable. Your gift will make it possible for families to give their daughters stability in their school environment while their wider world is in turmoil.

Matching gift – double the impact of your gift
In 2018, gifts to the Bursary Blue Ribbon Appeal will be generously matched by an anonymous donor. Our goal is to raise $100,000 and with your support we can turn this into an incredible $200,000.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to ensure that all Monte women are supported. Help us to meet the growing need, please consider a gift as every dollar you give will be matched!

Mrs Nicole Christensen
Principal

Why give to Bursaries?
We asked members of our community why they gave to the Bursary Blue Ribbon Appeal. Please watch our video and consider why you should give www.monte.nsw.edu.au

For further information please contact the Monte Development Office (02) 9409 6240

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