Dear Parents and Students,

As this is the last Newsletter of the term, I wanted to take the time to thank and farewell several members of staff who are leaving Loreto College. Some of these individuals have been long serving staff members, others only briefly, but all have touched the lives of the students of Loreto College.

- **Irena Green** is leaving at the end of the term after nearly seventeen years at Loreto College. Irena has worked at both School Offices and has contributed a great deal to the school in a variety of ways.

- **Annmaree Perry** is retiring at the end of the term after nine years as a Library Officer and teacher at Dawson Street. She has encouraged hundreds of readers over the years with her love of books. Her presence will be missed enormously.

- **Ian Burrows and Angela Moore** are leaving after six months of remarkably flexible and enthusiastic work on staff.

- **Gail Shannon** is taking Long Service Leave for one term to travel to Europe and America.

We will welcome back Mr Graham Thurgood and Mrs Erica Myers who have been on Long Service Leave. Mrs Robyn O’Keefe will return after an extended period of sick leave. Mrs Leonie Darken will commence at the Dawson Street Library. Mrs Phillippa Neal will cover Mrs Gail Shannon’s French classes and Mrs Carmel Parker will cover her RE classes. Mrs Beverley Firth will move to the Dawson Street Office.

It is always sad to see people go who have been important in the life of Loreto College but they go with our blessings and our gratitude.

I also wanted to commend the efforts of all involved in this week’s Father and Daughter Night. It was a ‘baptism of fire’ for our new Parents’ and Friends’ Association President Mr Gavin Day who showed remarkable calmness amidst chaos. In the end it was a fantastic night for all who attended with the attributes of fun and scullduggery typifying inter-family competition. My sincere gratitude to staff members Ms Trish Gray, Mr Roger Morris, Mr Damian Ryan, Mrs Nola Kersley and to our sensational senior students Erin Gordon, Georgina Conlan, Cassandra Lucas, Sinead Hehir, Jennifer Hipke, Michelle Currie, Jessica Reid, Rebecca Goodbourn and Bridget Joosten who were fantastic helpers. A really good community night!

My attention was attracted yesterday afternoon by the sight of one of our Year 12 students walking along Sturt Street in her winter uniform. I was struck by how smart our uniform looks when worn well – tie correctly positioned, blazer on and worn with pride! I have spoken to this student and thanked her and I encourage all our students to wear their uniform well.

As the winter term commences, I ask that parents exercise common sense with the length of their daughter’s skirts. Skirts, for safety reasons, must be well clear of the ankle. Students who do not comply with this regulation will be sent home.

As our brief School Rowing season is now over, I would like to thank Mr Steve Coleman, all coaches and crews for representing the School so well. Our crews performed extremely well in both regattas and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. I would also like to thank Ms Kelli Baird, our Sports Co-ordinator, for her support of the Rowing program.

I was invited to the Ballarat premiere of “Dalkeith” last Friday and I enjoyed the evening very much. Congratulations to Ms Sandra Rosenow for her featured role, the Sisters of the Mary’s Mount Community for their ‘extras’ appearance and Mr Geoff Stevenson for his logistical support of the production. Our city, school buildings and gardens looked beautiful and I believe it will be a great promotional vehicle for our region.

It is hard to believe that the first term has gone! We have so much to thank God for and I hope your celebration of the Easter Mysteries gives you a chance to renew your commitment to the life-giving, joy-giving God of the Resurrection.

Yours sincerely

(Mrs) Anne Fry

**PRINCIPAL**

**PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

Stephen Hill

Interim Reports for all Years 7-11 students will be sent home in the last week of Term 1. The Parent/Teacher interviews which follow these reports will take place early in Term 2. The dates and locations are:

- **Thursday, 26 April – Years 8-11 students.**
  - **Sturt Street campus**

- **Tuesday, 1 May – Year 7 Gold & White students.**
  - **Dawson Street campus**

- **Wednesday, 2 May - Years 8-11 students.**
  - **Sturt Street campus**

- **Monday, 7 May – Year 7 Blue, Green and Red.**
  - **Dawson Street campus**

Years 8-11 students will shortly receive a Parent/Teacher Interview Booking Sheet, which they are to use to negotiate an interview date and time with their teachers. If you plan to attend the Years 8-11 interview session on Thursday, 26 April could you please ensure that your daughter makes the appropriate arrangements before the end of Term 1. You may make a booking through the School Office in the holidays if your daughter is unable to complete all arrangements.
On Wednesday, March 14 a team of nearly fifty students, Captained by Katie Bourke and Jessica Davey, represented Loreto College in the Annual CHISSA Swimming Competition. It was the culmination of five weeks of early morning training and a commitment to the team by a large number of students. Never before have we had so many positive, cheerful, energetic swimmers at training.

I would like to say a special thank you to the teachers who helped before school – Mrs Margaret Ferguson, Ms Trish Gray and Ms Kelli Baird. Without their help the team would not be in a position to do the work necessary to improve. I would like to thank the Sports Captains and Vice Captains who came to the carnival and provided the invaluable service of team managers - their proficiency and expertise was a credit to them. To the cheer squad who came, a special thank-you! Your chant and rendition of the school war cry stopped proceedings, provided invaluable support for the team and received a justifiable round of applause from all present.

Never before has Loreto College won three CHISSA Swimming Carnivals in a row and it was good to do so. The team should be proud of what they have achieved. Well done.

- First in the Junior Girls’
- First in the Intermediate Girls’
- Second in the Senior Girls’
- First in the Girls’ Aggregate
- We combined with St Patrick’s College to win the Combined Aggregate

We had some fine swimmers on the day. Claire Mc Ardle and Rebecca Lowry Under 13; Samantha Gilbert Under 14; Erin Kirby and Erica Roden Under 15; Jacqueline Gerick and Stacey Berry Under 16 and Jessica Davey and Katie Bourke in the Open. There were many others who swam personal best times and they should be congratulated for their hard work and success. All swimmers present helped with encouragement, enthusiasm and a genuine desire and willingness to do their best. It was a great team of students to be associated with and they represented their school very well. Their positive approach to training and competing as Loreto College students is a credit to them personally and to their families who have helped them get to early morning training and supported them throughout the season. Because of the nature of the competition, some students missed this year and I am disappointed for them. Thank you for your perseverance, your dedication and for pushing those students who did represent the school. You helped bring out the best in them and with a little improvement you will be part of the team next year.

Parents have already received a notice about the Wednesday, April 4 VRAP Program with students and staff travelling to the Victorian Arts Centre. This will involve a full day from 9.00am to 4.30pm. On Thursday and Friday morning, workshops in dance, creative writing, sculpture, team building, resume writing for part-time jobs, food preparation, art and drama will be offered. Students have also requested a round robin netball competition and a talent show for Thursday afternoon.

Students will be required to wear their correct school uniform for the Melbourne trip on Wednesday while comfortable casual clothes are required for involvement in the Thursday and Friday workshops. Students will be dismissed at 12.30pm on Friday, April 6 however staff supervision will be provided for any students needing to stay on site until the buses leave at 2.30pm.

We are looking forward to a productive, creative and enjoyable final three days of term for all students.

YEAR 9 ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM
Margaret Adams

While students in Years 10 to 12 are involved in Retreats from April 4 to April 6, we will offer an alternative program for Year 9 students. A combination of ‘artists in residence’ and school staff will run a range of workshops relevant to Year 9 students. We will also take advantage of this time to allow some specialist classes missed due to retreats, holidays and excursions to make up for time lost.

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PARENTS’ AND FRIENDS’ ASSOCIATION
Gavin Day

NEXT MEETING
The next meeting of the Parents’ and Friends’ Association will be held on Tuesday, May 1 at 7.45pm in The Cottage at Sturt Street.

BULB DRIVE
Special thanks to Sue Cornish who did a fantastic job of co-ordinating the drive and to all Loreto College families who supported this fundraising event. $1200.00 was raised.

Bulbs orders can be collected on Friday March 30, Monday April 2 and Tuesday April 3.

CANTEEN ROSTER

Week beginning Monday, April 2, 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sturt Street</th>
<th>Dawson Street</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon: J Crowe, K Cartledge</td>
<td>M Neale, A Edgar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues: J Foley, S Shuttleworth</td>
<td>S Boswerger, C Drake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed: V Bourke, J Beames, J Polson</td>
<td>L Lang, K Skelton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs: J Collins, S Warke</td>
<td>J. Shepherd, C Vrieze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri: A Johnson, C Driscoll</td>
<td>F Peerman, L Elford</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA**
Anne Conti – Team Manager

**INTER-SCHOOL STATE COMPETITION**
Nominations from students wishing to compete in this competition are now being called for and interested students are asked to contact Anne Conti on 5344 8478 (evenings only).

Students must be willing to compete in four of the following categories.
- Dressage
- Best Rider on the Flat
- Games
- Smartest on Parade
- Jumping Equitation
- Show Jumping

Students must be experienced riders, own their own horses, have all appropriate safety equipment and be able to transport horse and self to the competition in Werribee on Saturday, July 7 and Sunday, July 8.

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**SCIENCE**
Stephanie Porter

Super Science Sites:
[www.learner.org/exhibits/parkphysics](http://www.learner.org/exhibits/parkphysics)

This is a fun site based on the physics of amusement park rides. You can design your own roller coaster and have it’s safety assessed (mine failed!) or you can find out why you feel sick after going on the Pirate Ship. This site is easy to follow and also provides links for more detailed information on each area. A very handy site for Physics students.

If you come across any Super Science Sites you would like to share with others, please hand the address, a short review (optional), your name and year level to Ms Porter.

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**ENGLISH**
Jacinta McArdle

YEAR 9 ENGLISH TEXTBOOK
Ballarat Books has informed us that the English novel “Daughter of the Wind” is now out of print. This affects twenty-five students who had new copies on order. As this novel has been on the Loreto College booklist for some years, I am hoping that there are copies available for purchase in some households. If families have a copy of “Daughter of the Wind” and would like to sell this, would they please bring it to the school with owner’s name clearly marked so cost can be reimbursed.

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**MUSIC**
Simone Segrave

**SENIOR BAND WORKSHOP**
A Workshop Day for Senior Band Members will be held on Sunday, April 1 at the Sturt Street Campus. Purple Choir members at 10.00am, all Senior Band Members at 12.30pm. An informal concert for family and friends will be held at 4.00pm. Lunch will be provided. There will not be a Band rehearsal on Wednesday, April 4.

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**MT FEATHERTOP REPORT**
Jane Basham/Eileen Coleman

After many attempts in 2000, the trip to Mt Feathertop finally took place on Friday, March 9. At 4.00pm we loaded our ‘limited’ amount of luggage and set off for Wodonga. After five hours of singing, in various keys, we arrived at the local Catholic School, who were very generous in allowing us to use their facilities. We received our wake up call at 6.00am and by 9.30am we were at the base of Mt. Feathertop.

Ten minutes later we were all feeling the effects of the climb, but by our first stop for Ms Baird’s blistered feet we had all settled into a comfortable pace. After hours of waiting to reach, according to Mr Leask, a raging torrent of spring water to refill our canteens, we came to a small trickle falling from a dirty pipe into a muddy puddle.

We reached Federation Hut at 2.00pm where we had lunch before navigating the final peaks of the second highest mountain in Victoria. At 3.00pm we arrived at one of the most beautiful views Australia has to offer. A role of film later we began our descent. The return walk took three hours and we have never been so happy to see a metallic white bus in our lives.

We would like to thank Ms Baird for her entertaining stories which helped us down the mountain, Ms Howard for her amazing knowledge of the weird and wonderful and Mr Leask, otherwise known as JL, for his expertise in mountaineering, even if his ability to judge time and distance was a little off.

We had a wonderful time and encourage others to join in our next quest. We leave you now with a quote from the famous Julius Caesar – ‘I came, I saw, I conquered’.

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**CHOCOLATE AND LOLLY DRIVE**
Trudy Nicholson

Thankyou to everyone who supported the Chocolate and Lolly Drive. A magnificent sum of $892.00 was raised. Chocolate and Lolly orders can be collected from both School Offices on Monday, April 2 between 3.30pm and 4.00pm.
SENATE REPORT
Erin Gordon

Once again, it seems as though the conclusion of Term 1 has crept upon us surreptitiously. Even at the end of this week the enthusiasm and optimism of the students is still evident as they wind up their activities for this first quarter of the school year. This week has seen the School Counsellor, Miss Tanya Sherritt, and her entourage of peer mediators help the school celebrate Youth Week. This week is celebrated all around Australia with the emphasis on encouraging young people to express themselves and celebrate being young. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all involved in the organisation of such an immense project; not only has the week run smoothly, but the diversity of activities has captured and maintained the attention of students and staff.

Apart from the Senate Footy Tipping Competition and visiting Dawson Street twice during the past week, the Senate is able to breathe a sigh of relief as we prepare to ‘kick back and relax’ over the Easter break. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to wish all families a safe and enjoyable Easter break. Take the opportunity to celebrate Lent, relax and enjoy the superfluous amounts of chocolate.

CHESS
Pat O’Shea

Along with other inter-school activities, Chess Competitions are being run next term. Any students interested in being involved should leave their name with Mr O’Shea.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Uniting Outreach Centre will be presenting Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

Evening performances will be held on Thursday May 3, Friday May 4 and Saturday May 5 at 8.00pm sharp and a Matinee performance on Saturday May 5 at 2.00pm sharp.

Ticket costs are Child under 14 - $5.00, Adult - $15.00, Concession - $10.00, Family (2 adults, 2 children) - $35.00 and a Group of 20 or more - $10.00 per person.

Tickets are available at the Outreach Office, 105 Dana Street, Ballarat or phone 5332 1286.

LORETO COLLEGE
Ballarat
Invites you to an evening with
Dr Loretta Giorcelli

“Strategies for more inclusive practices for Students with Learning Difficulties/Disabilities in the Regular Classroom”

Targeted participants include teachers, administrators, parents and teacher aides from primary, secondary and special school settings. Small groups from school teams are encouraged.

• Dr Loretta Giorcelli is Director of Educational Consultancy Services.
• She is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Western Sydney and Visiting Professor at San Francisco State University.
• Dr Giorcelli trained as a primary/special education teacher in Queensland in the late 1960’s and has taught hearing impaired students and students with a range of disabilities in segregated and integrated settings at pre-school, primary and secondary levels in both the United Kingdom and Australia.
• She has a B. Ed., a Masters degree with Honours in Special Education and a Doctorate in Linguistics and Communication Disabilities from the University of Illinois (USA).
• Dr Giorcelli worked as a Special Education teacher, consultant and school principal in Queensland and London schools. She was the State Director of Special Education in NSW until April 1993.
• She has been an Honorary Visiting Fellow at Macquarie University since 1989, an Honorary Consultant to the New Children’s Hospital in Sydney and to the Beijing ENT Institute since 1995.
• Dr Giorcelli now works extensively with schools, government and private agencies as well as with parent groups as a keynote speaker, staff developer, long-range planner, expert witness and disability advocate both locally and internationally.

Please join us on Monday, April 23 in the Loreto College Hall, 1600 Sturt Street, Ballarat from 7.00pm to 9.30pm. A light supper will follow.

For further information and registration forms please contact Susan Rampling, Catholic Education Office, PO Box 562, Ballarat. Telephone 5331 4944 or fax 5331 8603. RSVP: Friday, April 6, 2001.