

Lauram^{nt}



Mount Carmel College News | Edition 9 | Term 3 2022

*Courage.
Compassion.
Justice.*



Welcome

Contents

- 04** Blessing of the Well and the Trinity
- 06** We're Going on Bear Pear Hunt!!
- 07** Sisters of Charity Scholarship Recipient
- 08** 2022 College Theme
- 09** Returning Generations to Mount Carmel
- 10** Tales of Talented Women
- 14** Alumni News

From the Archives

We were recently sent this photo from the Hutchins School of a combined Mount Carmel/Hutchins Ski Trip in 1990. Do you recognise yourself or someone you know? Let us know by sending an email: oldscholars@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au



Edition 9

Editor

Caroline Jager

Development and Community
Relations Director
caroline.jager@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au

Graphic Design

Caitlin Moffatt

hello@caitlinmoffatt.com.au
caitlinmoffatt.com.au

Archives & Memorabilia

The work the College is undertaking on our archives is progressing and we now have memorabilia prepared to go on display around the College for students and visitors to see. All items are an important record of the existence of the College and provide us with our identity and give an insight to what it was like to be a student.

Donations of archival material are always welcome and will be catalogued, preserved and treasured within our collection. Please contact us via email or call the College directly if you have any items of memorabilia that you wish to donate.

A Word from the President

On Sunday 22 June 1847 history was created as three courageous Sisters – de Sales O’Brien, John Cahill, and Xavier Williams – chose to follow their charism and responded to an invitation from the Archbishop of Hobart to leave New South Wales and travel to Hobart on the square-rigger Louisa. Once in Hobart the three sisters maintained their vows of chastity, obedience and poverty and added an extra vow of service to the poor. As we know the sisters visited and supported those in jail, the women in the Female Factory, in South Hobart, children at the Queen’s Orphan School, New Town and they started St Joseph’s school in Harrington Street. This support continues today as we celebrate the 175 Year Anniversary of those three sisters – de Sales O’Brien, John Cahill, and Xavier Williams arriving in Hobart.*

Our celebrations for the 175 Year Anniversary have been finalised and as members of our Alumni you are invited to join the Mount Carmel College Community celebrations on Friday 26th August.

Students will be available to take you on a History Walk around the College. There will be morning

tours 9.00am to 10.00am for those wishing to start their day early. Later in the day, from 3.00pm to 5.00pm, guided history tours will resume and between 4.00pm and 6.00pm there will be drinks and light refreshments provided as you take time to listen to musical performances from former and current students.

Bookings are essential and can be made online at: <https://www.trybooking.com/CBLHP> or by scanning the QR code.

We are asking Alumni to bring along a friend to the 175 Year celebrations, who may not be on our database, so that we can resume contact with them and share their memories of their time at school and also for them to see the advancements and changes that have taken place at the College.

Anne (Woodhouse) Haward
(Class of 1977)
President

*sistersofcharity.org.au



Blessing of the Well and the Trinity

In the week of the 20 June 1847, three Sisters of Charity, Sister Mary John Cahill, Mary de Sales O'Brien and Mary Xavier Williams, arrived in Hobart on the Louisa. It was likely a cold and crisp arrival on the shores of the Derwent 175 years ago. The Sisters were a part of the contingent of the first religious sisters to arrive in Australia. They travelled from Sydney to Hobart and made an impact – their mission was impelled by the love of Christ. According to a letter from one of the Sisters, the three nuns were warmly welcomed by the community. Once settled in the Sisters immediately began work visiting the sick, the orphans and various convict establishments.

Fast forward 175 years and on Monday 20 June 2022, the College community gathered to bless the Trinity Cross and the Well. Both these symbolise our faith and remind us that we are a part of a much larger story. In one of my first meetings with the late Ms Ida Saracino (Director of Primary Mission and Identity), I was challenged to see the journey of the Sisters as one in which I played a part. For Ida, this journey needed Jesus. Not just any kind of Jesus but a Jesus that invites us to interact with him. To sit with him and to be with him. Staff and students alike have witnessed the power of Jesus at the Well - he is a gentle reminder that He is on our journey, that he is in fact central to our existence.

On the day, we were fortunate to welcome to Mount Carmel College some very distinguished visitors who have come from both near and quite far afield for this special event. Father Michael Delaney, who blessed the Trinity and the Well, the Saracino family and Ida's close friends, the Chair and Board of the Mary Aikenhead Ministries Trustees, the College Board, Principals of Sisters of Charity schools along with past principals of Mount Carmel College.

In addition, we warmly welcomed a number of Charity sisters who made the journey down to join us. Their part in this journey continues to be significant and we hold them as role models for the College values of Courage, Compassion and Justice.

The Well came about from Ida's vision – it was to be a Jesus that we could all enter into dialogue with. The vision continued with Hullabaloo Studio's planning and artistry, the stone masonry work and Julie Brock's mosaic artistry. The space connects to the students and to the staff – it overlooks the playground, but at the same time is the quiet corner of our College campus. It is a sacred reminder of the strength and commitment to mission.

Fiona Nolan
Principal



Click on the following link or scan the QR code to view the recording of the Blessing of the Well and the Trinity.
<https://youtu.be/yQ2r7M5erG4>





We're Going on ~~Bear~~ Pear Hunt!!

Kinders love the book about a 'Bear' by Michael Rosen, but this year it took a strange twist!

This year the Kinder class were introduced to a very old and much-loved integral part of Mount Carmel – the Pear Tree. It stands almost centrally to the College grounds on the grassed area, where in days gone by an orchard stood.

"Lauramont", our College Office, housed the first enrolled students on this site. The property behind was formally an orchard and it is the building that borders Quorn Street that became the convent for the Sisters of Charity.

In earlier days, it was not uncommon to find a scattering of Mount Carmel girls sitting in the shade of the fruit trees at lunchtime. There were between 6 and 9 trees originally left on the school property, but in latter years all but 1 were removed to expand the College grounds.

The youngest members of our College were delighted to enjoy the fruit of the last remaining pear tree. It stands as a testimony to the 'roots' of our College. What fun they had picking their own pear to munch on as they sat beneath the tree in the "big girls" playground of Mount Carmel College.

Maureen (Pardoe) Fasnacht (1983)

Co-teacher of Kindergarten with Karen Giudici



Sisters of Charity Scholarship Recipient

Scarlett Sweeney

Year 7 – Loreto 5



Q1: When did you start your journey at Mount Carmel and what was your first impression?

I started my journey with Mount Carmel at the start of this year going into grade 7, at first, I was nervous and unsure about this school, but have become more comfortable with my surroundings as I met new people and discovered new things.

Q2: What have been some of the highlights of your time at Mount Carmel?

Some of the highlights of my year so far have included settling into high school. I entered Year 7 very unsure and feel I have settled well. I am also pleased with my marks and recent report and feel I am now heading in the right direction.

Q3: Can you share a memorable moment from your time at Mount Carmel?

Some of my more memorable moments so far during my experience would be meeting new people, learning and discovering new things and achieving my goals this includes playing in house band.

Q4: What are your future aspirations?

My future aspirations for the short term include extending myself to achieve better grades across my classes. I also want to be more present in the school community and be more active with the Sisters of Charity.

Q5: How are you implementing the qualities of the scholarship? Have you initiated a community project or been involved in a project that fulfils the mission of the Sisters of Charity?

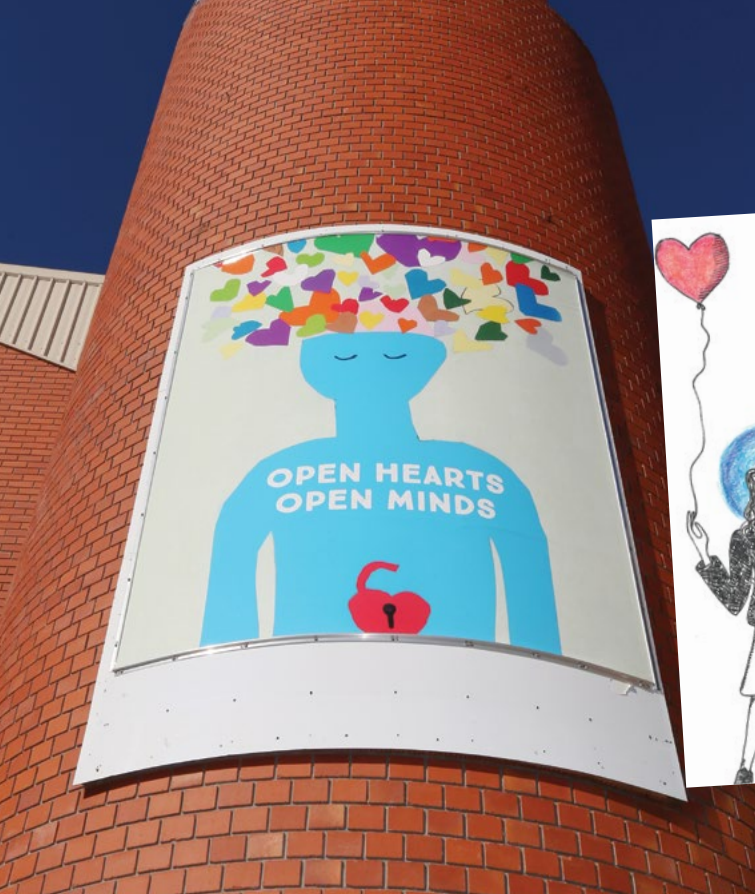
I do admit that I have forgotten to go to the last few Mission Sisters due to reading emails late, but to make up for this I have been trying to go out of my way for others inside and outside of school.

I have also needed this time to settle into Year 7. Next term, I will attend meetings and am looking forward to being an active member of the Mission Sisters community.

The Sisters of Charity Scholarships were introduced in 2015 for girls entering Year 7. Criteria specific to this scholarship includes volunteer work and service to the community, a link to, and enthusiasm for, social justice and the environment, understanding of the history of the Sisters of Charity, a present-day link to the mission of the Sisters of Charity and their values of courage, compassion and justice and the ability to articulate aspirational goals.

Applications are now being accepted for 2024 and both prospective and current Mount Carmel students are encouraged to apply. Visit mountcarmel.tas.edu.au/enrolments/scholarships for full details.





2022 College Theme



During the last term of 2021, the newly announced Year 10 Student Leadership team for 2022 came together and began planning out our year. As a group, we discussed our goals and aspirations for the school community and what we hope to achieve throughout the year.

Some of our main focuses were inclusiveness, relationships, communication and participation. We believe these words are very important to creating a strong community within Mount Carmel. After brainstorming these goals, we were able to create our theme for 2022. We wanted our theme to reflect these words and be something that everyone in the school can focus on especially during these difficult COVID times. We hope that the theme can create some discussions and encourage everyone to become the best version of themselves and say yes to more opportunities. With this in mind, we decided that **Open Hearts Open Minds** would be Mount Carmel's theme for 2022.

With **Open Hearts** we strive to improve and expand the connections and communication within our school community. This year we would like to consider how we as a College community can open our hearts to friendships and relationships amongst houses, year level and our own grades that before we may have never considered. Many of us are so comfortable with the friendships we have already made that we can forget to open our hearts to new friendships and

possibilities. By stepping out of our comfort zone and exhibiting compassion and faith we become one step closer to a school with no strangers. A school where everyone allows themselves to truly be their best self with an **open heart** and **open mind**.

Open Minds is about how too often we let the fear and uncertainty of what is ahead dictate our decisions. We let the fear of the unknown stop us in many different aspects of our life, the biggest for young people being their school life. Trying new things teaches us to push past this worry and to further expand our mind. It allows us to find hobbies, friendships and passions in a whole new life. This year we encourage the school community to open your minds to all the wonderful activities Mount Carmel has to offer. Let's allow ourselves to communicate comfortably with one another in our daily College lives.

We hope that this theme will strengthen communication and involvement throughout the Mount Carmel community. We set a mission for everyone to try something new this year. Sign up for something new. Find yourself somewhere you had never imagined before. You may hate it and choose something new, or you might love it and wish you had started sooner. Embrace this year with no regrets and **open hearts** and **open minds**.

Meg Butler and Aimée Stacey
College Co-Captains

Returning Generations to Mount Carmel

Around 10% of our student body have a family connection to Mount Carmel College, the most popular connection being that their mother was also a "Mount Carmel Girl". We spoke to a number of these alumni and asked them why they chose Mount Carmel for their daughter and whether there are many differences from when they walked the halls of 361 Sandy Bay Road.

Why did you choose Mount Carmel College for your child(ren)?

- Because it is smaller than the other colleges, the facilities, I really liked the culture at the Open Day and lastly because I went there!
- I felt as though Mount Carmel College gave me a head start in life and I had heard from other parents that they were very happy with the school for their daughters. My daughter and I toured a few schools and we both felt like Mount Carmel was the best fit for her and us as a family and the opportunities we wanted for her. Ultimately, she made the decision and is happy to be part of the school.
- We love the sense of community, of belonging and the opportunity that is available for our girls. This was present from first stepping back onto the school grounds!
- I loved my time at Mount Carmel so much and still have many beautiful friends and happy memories made in my school years. I chose Mount Carmel for my daughter in the hope that she will love it just as much as I did and feel the same.

What differences, if any, have you noticed between your time at Mount Carmel College and that of your child's?

- There is a lot more uniform, upgraded equipment and more buildings but less land to explore.
- The Uniform - this has obviously changed quite a bit. Our old Science rooms are now the Library, the Office (now Art Rooms) used to have a pool! Providence House was home to the Sisters of Charity, not for students. There are also a lot more sporting opportunities now.
- There have been many building changes and spaces created for the students. The uniform has certainly changed as well from brown to blue!
- They don't seem to be nearly as strict on uniform as they were in the 90s!

Is there anything unique to Mount Carmel College that you would not like to see lost?

- The culture of caring & inclusiveness.
- The values of giving, kindness and friendship were always held very high during my time at MCC and I can see they are still valued now. Also, that girls are encouraged to be whatever they wished without ceilings, hence the Woodwork classes that I loved!
- I always felt very fostered as a student at Mount Carmel, and this is still evident as my own children are moving through. There is an incredibly unique sense of belonging that makes all the girls feel very welcome.
- The caring community feel and the size - many other high schools are so big now.

Are you willing to share a story or treasured memory from your time at Mount Carmel College?

- I really enjoyed being in the school play - The Pirates of Penzance - with Hutchins and having work experience in Grade 10
- Sister Tess is someone I will never forget. Our Religion classes were always full of long, beautiful stories about her life, always with a lesson in there somewhere :)
- I often reflected on my time at Mount Carmel. Not only were we given so much opportunity but the friendship groups that I developed as a student are still present today! I treasured the time of self-reflection that was available to us, another great tool that has helped moving through adult life!
- I have so many. My favourite day of the year was always Mount Carmel Day, I especially loved the concert. Other fond memories include House Drama, Grade 6 camp at Waddamana and the school production of Hating Alison Ashley.

Thank you to Melissa Aylett (Fulton, 1986), Angelene Arnold (Chivers, 1994), Ashlee Nally (Wilcox, 2001) and Georgia Pearsall (Innes, 1998) for being so giving with their time.

Tales of Talented Women

Annabel Short – Class of 2003

My fondest memory from my time at Mount Carmel is also my oldest. On our first day as Prep students with Miss Dean (soon to become Mrs Wall), we were volunteering for class jobs, and it was no accident that I ended up on bin duty with Emily Woodgate. I can distinctly remember my joy that day when I discovered our birthdays were only a day apart, we knew we were destined to be best friends. Thirty years later, and having lived on three different continents between us, that friendship has remained strong. This friendship, and others, is a testament to the strong sense of community that we felt during our years at Mount Carmel.

It was not just friendships and community that I gained during my time at Mount Carmel, but it was also the start of my science journey. I have always had a need to understand how things work; as a child I would take apart my toys to see what made them run, although it was usually left to my father to put them back together. During my time at Mount Carmel that interest was nurtured, and I was always challenged to extend myself and ask more questions. I was encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities such as the Australian Schools Science Competition, Tasmanian Science Talent Search, and the CSIRO CREST Awards, which deepened my understanding of what a scientific career could look like.



“I feel extremely lucky to have experienced such a safe and encouraging environment during my early life”.

While my love for science started at Mount Carmel, I found my passion for medical research at the University of Tasmania where I completed my Bachelor of Medical Research. I then went on to do an honours year, and was subsequently employed as a laboratory assistant, at the Menzies Research Institute in Hobart. Here I was working to understand how environmental changes to our DNA are associated with tumour development.

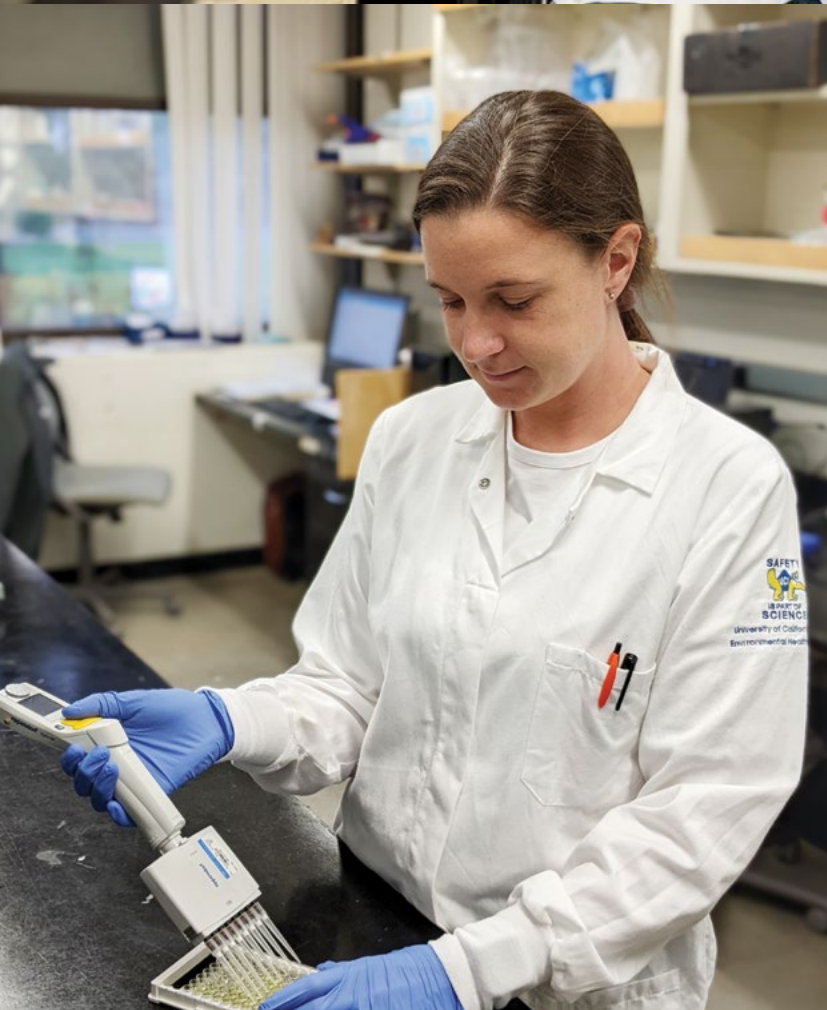
Deciding to pursue a PhD in Neuroscience at the University of Melbourne and the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health felt like a natural progression. Here, my research focussed on how these environmental changes to our DNA could influence the mental health outcomes of future generations. We found that stress in the father could be transmitted to the offspring via the germline and negatively impact brain development in the offspring.

I still had many unanswered questions and wanted to understand how what happens to us early in life can shape our brain development and behaviour as adults. For the last five years, I have been a Postdoctoral Scholar in the United States at the University of California, Irvine where my research aims to understand how early-life experiences are programmed into the brain. This work has identified populations of brain cells that are particularly sensitive to environmental changes in the developing brain.

This year, I will be returning to Australia to take up a Senior Research Fellow position at the Telethon Kids Institute in Perth, Western Australia. Here I will be using my background in neuroscience and cancer genetics to help understand how brain tumours develop in children.

My eleven years at Mount Carmel shaped who I am today and is still very much a part of me and my family. When my husband and I were married, it was important to us that those present had been part of our lives and we were honoured that the ceremony was performed by Mrs Kerr (I never quite got used to using her first name, Maura, sorry Mrs Kerr!).

Looking back on my schooling through the lens of my scientific career, I feel extremely lucky to have experienced such a safe and encouraging environment during my early life. I am certain that encouragement continues to help me achieve my goals.



“For the last five years, I have been a Postdoctoral Scholar in the United States at the University of California, Irvine where my research aims to understand how early-life experiences are programmed into the brain”.



Tales of Talented Women

Laura Jackson – Class of 2006

I started at Mount Carmel College in 2002 as a shy and unsure Year 6 student. Having just moved schools, I was well behind my new classmates and catching up seemed all too difficult. If it wasn't for Therese McDevitt, who both encouraged me to learn, inspired me, and didn't let me fall behind, I would never have dreamed of starting a University degree, let alone receiving a PhD.

Most of my family and friends work in medicine. Growing up I always felt I had to follow their lead, so when I got to Uni, I enrolled in a pharmacy degree. After the first year of pharmacy, I realised this career path wasn't for me. Dropping out and changing

“I never expected that geology would be my favourite, but after finishing my Bachelor Degree and going on to do an Honours year, I'd stumbled across something I was truly passionate about— Geo-environmental Science.”



degrees was one of the hardest things I've done, but without a doubt, one of the best. I re-enrolled into a science degree, which gave me the opportunity to try lots of different subjects. I never expected that geology would be my favourite, but after finishing my Bachelor Degree and going on to do an Honours year, I'd stumbled across something I was truly passionate about— Geo-environmental Science. I completed my PhD in this field and have worked as an industry consultant and a researcher ever since.

I am passionate about Geo-environmental science because it gives me the chance to work on some of the big problems we currently face in building a sustainable and environmentally friendly future. My research focuses in particular on mine waste. Every year, billions of tonnes of rock and soil are mined to find the mineral resources that our modern society relies on, like gold, silver, and copper. Without these minerals, we couldn't have computers, phones, or cars. However, only a tiny fraction of the billions of tonnes of material mined each year contains these mineral resources— the rest is thrown out as waste. But it turns out, all of this waste contains other minerals that are essential to green technologies like solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, and electric vehicles. These minerals have been ignored by the mining industry for hundreds of years, but with a growing commitment to a clean, green future, they are now highly sought-after.

I am currently the deputy leader of a research team at the University of Queensland that is finding ways to recycle these important green technology minerals in waste material from abandoned mines across Australia.

This is our 'war on mine waste' and we're trying to win it for both the environment and society's need for these critical minerals. As well as helping tackle the exciting challenge of developing a sustainable and environmentally friendly future, my work takes me all over the country, from mines deep underground in the wild west of Tasmania, tiny tropical Islands in the Torres Strait, to the absolute middle of nowhere in NSW, and just about everywhere in between.

If I had to give advice to my younger self I would say: be comfortable with the fact that you won't be the best at everything, and that quitting isn't failure. Be open to new ideas so you can find what fuels the fire in your belly and it will take you further than you would have ever imagined.



"... this waste contains other minerals that are essential to green technologies like solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, and electric vehicles. These minerals have been ignored by the mining industry for hundreds of years..."



Alumni News



Class of 2012 (10 Years)

A warm invitation to all Mount Carmel College students who graduated from Year 10 in 2012 or who were part of this year group at any point during their school years. Staff who taught during this time are also warmly welcome.

When: Saturday 19 November, 3.00pm

Where: Mount Carmel College, Art House

RSVP: Chelsea Alderton
chelsea.alderton@hotmail.com

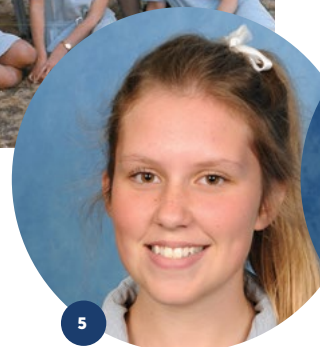
For privacy, a closed Facebook page has been established for this Reunion. Alumni from the Class are encouraged to search "Class of 2012 – 10 Year Reunion" and request to join. Updates will be posted to this page and classmates can engage in conversations.



Keeping in Touch

Stephanie (Alcock) Terry (2001) is a lawyer employed at Legal Aid in Launceston, but presently is on maternity leave with her third child. Stephanie has been a family and property lawyer in private practice for most of her career. She and her husband own and run a commercial berry business over two sites in the Deloraine region, employing over 400 workers in peak season. They produce for Driscolls and Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm Café. Stephanie is also the Vice President of Primary Employers Tasmania.

After finished her education at Mount Carmel and Guilford Young College, **Zoe (Cupit) Noye (2006)** like so many other became a Registered Nurse. She married and after having her first child, graduated in Midwifery. She is pleased to say that she was a 'golden oldie' as was her mother. The Schofield family had four generations educated at St Josephs and Mount Carmel and Zoe is hoping to start the fifth generation.



In the second half of 2021, Madeleine Fasnacht (2015) graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing and was chosen from all of the nursing graduates to deliver the Valedictory Speech at the Graduation Ceremony. The speech is an honour bestowed on exceptional students.



1. Class of 2012 (10 Years)
2. The Fasnacht Family: (l-r) Maureen (Pardoe)(1983), Bridget (2013), Madeleine (2015) and Ben.
3. Zoe (Cupit) Noye (2006)
4. Stephanie (Alcock) Terry (2001) circled
5. Ellena Mitchelmore
6. Isobel Mitchelmore
7. Madeleine Fasnacht (2015)

The Mitchelmore sisters are forging their careers in different fields of Public Health. Dr Ellena Mitchelmore (2013) graduated in 2020 from the University of Tasmania with a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery and is currently working an Internship Year at the Royal Hobart Hospital. Younger sister, Isobel Mitchelmore (2015) is currently completing her Bachelor of Commerce degree combined with a Bachelor of Public Health & Health Promotion at Deakin University, Victoria.

We encourage past and present students, families and staff to keep in touch with the many aspects of Mount Carmel College through our website, publications and social media. Let us know your contact details, keep us updated with your news and if you would like to visit the College, we can organise a tour for you. If you wish to hold a class reunion, please make contact with us. All contributions to Lauramont are greatly appreciated.

2022 Calendar Events

Upcoming School Events and Term Dates

Monday 22 – Friday 26 August: 175 Year Anniversary Celebration Week

Friday 9 September: Arts Festival Family & Friends Evening

Friday 30 September: Term 3 concludes

Monday 17 October: Term 4 commences

Wednesday 30 November: Year 10 Thanksgiving Mass

Thursday 1 December: Year 10 Farewell Assembly

Thursday 1 December: Celebration Evening and Year 10 Farewell Dinner

Tuesday 6 December: Nativity Play

Tuesday 13 December: Kinder – Year 9 End of Year Liturgy

Tuesday 13 December: Term 4 concludes


Upcoming Alumni events

Friday 26 August: 175 Year Anniversary History Tours and Refreshments

Saturday 19 November: Class of 2012 Reunion (10 Years)

361 Sandy Bay Road, Sandy Bay, Tasmania, 7005
PO Box 217, Sandy Bay, Tasmania, 7006
Phone: +61 3 6216 7900 | Fax: +61 3 6216 7999
Email: info@mountcarmel.tas.edu.au

Follow us on social media

 facebook.com/MountCarmelCollegeHobart

 instagram.com/mount_carmel_college_hobart

Mount Carmel College Alumni Association

 facebook.com/mount.carmel.college.old.scholars

mountcarmel.tas.edu.au



**Mount
Carmel
College**

Courage.
Compassion.
Justice.