Invitation to Parents

On Monday, 2 June, 2014, you are invited to participate in a discussion about Ave Maria College as part of the School Improvement Framework process, coordinated by the Catholic Education Office. This discussion will reflect on what has been achieved at the College over the last four years and what directions we need to take over the next four years to continue to provide excellence in our Catholic Education of young women. This process is part of our four Yearly Review process and will be facilitated by an External Reviewer, Mrs Liz Monahan. This is a great opportunity for parents to participate in the life of the College and help to shape our agenda for 2015 – 2018.

We would love to see you there! The open forum session will run for just 45mins at the College and will take place from 8.30am – 9.15am on Monday, 2 June. For further information or to register your interest, please contact Chris Mann, Principal’s PA via email: chris.mann@avemaria.vic.edu.au

Italy Study Tour 2014

After months of waiting, organising and suitcase shopping, Friday, 5 April 2014 had finally arrived. The Ave Maria College study tour group boarded their late night flight to Rome, stopover Doha. Each group named after one of the following artists; Raphael, Donatello, Michaelangelo or Leonardo, spent the first three days experiencing Rome and all its cultural and historical wonders. Here, the students had their first opportunity to demonstrate their language skills, conversing with locals, shop assistants and tour guides.

Soon after we found ourselves in Orvieto, a small town in the heart of Italy with picturesque views, rich in art history. The students experienced three days of either language or art classes depending on their subjects. Here, they had the opportunity to explore the town and apply their knowledge and skills in a practical setting, even treating all of us to an educational session in the duomo facilitated by the art students themselves. After a hectic few days we hopped on a bus and made our way to Assisi where we explored churches and buildings helping us to understand more deeply St Francis’ past. Although our stay in Assisi was short we made time to experience the 5km walk St Francis would make from his home into the main town on a daily basis, a journey I’m sure the students will never forget.

Florence was our second last destination. We were fortunate enough to experience a great deal of Italy’s history here. We visited the beautiful Florence Duomo, the Pitti Palace, the Uffizi Gallery, the Academia Gallery and we walked along the Ponte Vecchio. It was much busier, bigger in size and more populated by commercial shopping than our previous two destinations. Here, as predicted, the students had an opportunity to shop, and that they did. In the words of Mr Tony Spanti ‘we came, we saw, we shopped.”

What better place to end such an amazing tour than in Venice. The trip wasn’t complete without a ride on a gondola, a trip to St Mark’s square, a glass blowing demonstration and some last minute Murano glass or Venetian mask purchases. Venice did not disappoint weather wise, nor did the previous 11 days of the trip. We were blessed with sunny skies and mild days. We were also blessed with wonderful students, enthusiastic teachers, and extremely knowledgeable guides. The 2014 Italy Study Tour was a huge success, well worth the waiting, organising and suitcase shopping.

Tania Stangherlin
Year 9 Level Team Leader

SEASONS Program

The SEASONS Grief and Loss Program will no longer be taking place during Term 2 of this year. Instead, it will be taking place during Term 3 of this year. Carolyn Mills will be managing the program, with the assistance of another member of staff. Later on this term, an Expression of Interest Newsletter regarding the program will be sent to all families.

Carolyn Mills
Year 8 Level Team Leader

Shopping in Florence 2014 Italy Study Tour
View of Assisi during 5km walk 2014 Italy