



St Mary's College

One pace beyond



Striving for excellence

NEWLY opened facilities at St Mary's College are taking students a step beyond traditional learning.

A new Student Resource and Science Centre was opened last Friday by Labor Senator Carol Brown and blessed by the Archbishop of Hobart.

Principal Mr Tom Dorey says the new centre caters for students from Kindergarten through to Year 12 and is designed to allow them to strive for excellence.

The new facilities were funded under the Federal Government's BER (Building the Education Revolution) initiative. The school received more than \$4 million to finance this monumental project as well as minor redevelopments on the Junior School Campus.

Some \$2 million was designated to building the cutting-edge Science Centre and a further \$2 million went towards the Student Resource Centre.

The new facility includes a larger library which serves the senior and junior schools. It contains upgraded technological facilities including touch-screen computers and a Skype bar which will allow students studying languages to talk to people their own age in foreign countries, enabling them develop relationships with people from different cultures.

The new science facilities will allow students to further explore the world

ADVANCED: Students trying out the touch screen computers in the new Student Resource Centre.



of science and broaden their scientific knowledge.

More fields of science will be available, creating a more diverse learning environment.

The project included the building of four new science laboratories and a larger preparation room.

Additional equipment will be available to the students, enabling them to

experience practical science in a more advanced manner.

St Mary's is also connecting to state-of-the-art internet facilities that are currently being shared by the University of Tasmania and the Australian Antarctic Division.

At present, this is the fastest internet available in the state. In August, the school will install a 900

metre fibre-optic link to allow direct access to the super-fast AARNet Network.

As well as drastically improving internet services at the college, new developments by the ICT department will also give students the opportunity to watch video tutorials and take part in virtual tours of galleries and museums.

School Talk

How do you go "One Pace Beyond" at St Mary's College?



By working hard and keeping focussed. **Chloe Paynter, Grade 5.**



Having friends to keep you grounded. **Meg Messer, Grade 6.**



I help around the school as much as I can. **Payton Bygraves, Grade 8.**



I study hard and put 110 per cent into everything I do. **Taylor Hawkesford, Grade 10.**



By getting involved with everything I can. **Megan Goudsouzian, Grade 11.**



I try to focus on the needs of others. **Mrs Margaret Rootes.**

Cultural adventure

ST Mary's College students from Grades 9 to 12 are given the opportunity to go "one pace beyond" and experience the different cultures of Italy and Japan.

The most recent trip was the Italian Cultural Tour which occurred in the May-June holidays.

Students stayed with host families in the towns of Trento and Assisi, and attended school with their host brother or sister.

Students also had time to see some of Italy's iconic sights, such as the Sistine Chapel, the Leaning Tower of Pisa and Pompeii.

"The highlight of the trip was seeing the girls immerse themselves in the Italian lifestyle and coming away from the trip with a true cultural experience," teacher Paola Keller said.

The college also offers a similar Japanese adventure, including a homestay. Teacher Di Irons believes the homestays are a wonderful opportunity for the girls, outside their normal comfort zone.

Head prefect Sarah Bray took part in last year's trip and agrees that the homestays were the highlight of the experience.

Students go a pace beyond

THE Student Extension Program is designed to extend and challenge gifted pupils from Prep to Grade 8.

Last year's Grade 7 students were given the opportunity to compete in the Future Problem Solving Competition in Victoria, where they ranked in the top 10 per cent of the nation.

Extension students from Grades 5 and 6 who competed in the Tournament of Minds were placed equal second in the state.

Mrs Angela Fraser co-ordinates the Extension Program and hopes this opportunity to go one pace beyond will be available to the entire school by 2013.

In other academic achievements, Grade 11 student Bridget Anderson is soon to travel to Mexico as part of the Australian team competing in the Asia Pacific Regional Geography Olympiad for 2011.

Grade 11 student Kaitlin Morgan is ranked number two in the world in Under 18 high jumping and hopes to represent Australia at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games.

St Mary's students also excel in artistic and cultural pursuits. Grade 8 student Lilly Quarrel has been part of an intensive training program with the Australian Ballet Company since she was 11.

Thank you

THIS Mercury School Page was produced by the Grade 10 English Extension Class at St Mary's College, with thanks to all sponsors.

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BYA Architects are proud to have been working with St Mary's College since 1985, resulting in great projects including the Mary Morgan Wing, the Nagle Centre Multipurpose Hall and the new Women in Science building.

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Spaces available for Grades 9, 11 and 12 (2012)

Limited number of scholarships available for Grade 11/12

Fee assistance available.

Please phone the Enrolment Officer
Wendy Jarvis on 6234 3381