

INSPIRE



SHARED STORIES ANTHOLOGY 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Now in its 18th year of publication, Shared Stories remains an uplifting symbol of the special creativity across diverse Catholic schools in Victoria. In 2023, we have 29 schools involved in the project, with almost 1,000 students and teachers working together to collect, edit and produce the published material.

The theme for this year, Inspire, is perfect for exploring the people and places that make our world a better place. We honour all of our published young people, ranging in age from five to eighteen years, who have the courage to share their talents with an audience of many thousands of readers across the world. We also honour the teachers without whom this anthology would not be possible.

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MACS is essential to the ongoing success of the Shared Stories project.

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Peter Farrar
Anthology Manager



MELBOURNE
ARCHDIOCESE
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



SHARED STORIES SCHOOLS FOR 2023

Aquinas College
Caroline Chisholm Catholic College
Catholic Regional College
North Keilor
Catholic Regional College St Albans
De La Salle College
Emmaus College
Genazzano FCJ College
Holy Rosary Primary School,
Kensington
Killester College
Kolbe Catholic College
Lavalla Catholic College
Marymede Catholic College
Mazenod College
Nazareth College
Padua College

St Finbar's Primary School,
Brighton East
St Francis Catholic College, Melton
St Francis Xavier College, Officer
St James' Catholic Primary School,
Brighton
St John's Regional College,
Dandenong
St Joseph's Primary School, Springvale
St Mary's College, East St Kilda
St Mary's Primary School,
East St Kilda
St Mary's Primary School, Hampton
St. Peter's College, Cranbourne
Simonds Catholic College
Star of the Sea College
Trinity Primary School, Richmond
Whitefriars College

FRONT COVER ARTWORK

Hannah Sawa
Year 3 · Trinity Primary
School Richmond

My Parents Are My
Inspiration

My parents have always inspired me. My parents always tell me to do what I love. They help me so much. I don't know what I would do without them. My parents inspire me to live my life. They have inspired me my whole life. I know that if they can achieve their dreams, I can too.



Year 1 / 2 Students
Trinity Primary School Richmond

Australian Reefs

Along the coastline of Australia, underwater reefs are bustling with the most amazing sea creatures living on the planet. A deep dive into the biodiversity of Australia's remarkable coastline from sharks to octopuses to dolphins and manta rays and sea horses- and the most famous of all- The Great Barrier Reef.

MY MUM

*Grace Gill · Year Prep
Trinity Primary School Richmond*

My mum inspires me because she is kind and she keeps me safe and she snuggles me. ■

MY MUM

*Zoe Verschaeren · Year Prep
Trinity Primary School Richmond*

My mum inspires me because she is kind and she teaches me to be kind to everyone. ■

MARY MACKILLOP

*Goldie Holmes · Year 1
Trinity Primary School Richmond*

Mary MacKillop inspires me to never give up. I like that she stood up for other people. ■

MY DAD

*Sammy Gruber · Year 2
Trinity Primary School Richmond*

I am really inspired by my Dad because he helps me when I'm sad and he makes me happy. When we are together nothing can hurt us. ■

ASH BARTY

*Olivia Colaso · Year 1
Trinity Primary School Richmond*

Ash Barty inspires me because she is the best tennis player! She won the Australian Open trophy! When I was little, I heard lots of stories about her. When I grow up I want to be a tennis player, just like her. ■

MY DAD

*Thanh Thao Nguyen · Year 2
Trinity Primary School Richmond*

My dad inspires me because he helps other people. He works all night and all morning. My mum inspires me because she makes food as she is a chef. She works very hard. ■

WHO INSPIRES ME?

Khanh Ha · Year 3 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

The person I admire the most is my sister Linh because she is always there to help me with everything. She is such an amazing person. She is the best at a lot of things. She cooks as good as my mum and she spoils me. She buys me whatever I want. She is always kind to everyone.

My sister had the courage to give birth to a cute baby boy named Edric. She is a single mum who takes care of and loves her baby. She wants to be the best mum and sister. She loves blowing bubbles with Edric. She is always there when I am injured and she looks after me. Linh is super wonderful, as sweet as fairy floss. She is good at cooking, just like a master chef and she is a great baker, especially the way she makes cupcakes.

She is the greatest sister. She inspires me. ■

MARY MACKILLOP

Isabel Langvannavong · Year 2 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

Mary Mackillop is an inspiring woman because she dedicated her life to God and she said "In my school I want to take care of all the children equally." She built schools for children so that they could have a good education. Mary Mackillop even told her sisters "It's okay, we can only do what we can do and God will do the rest!" She was an honest and loving lady. I promise to follow in her footsteps. Whatever she does, she thinks of God. She taught people about kindness, love and how to be helpful. She has taught me to include everyone. God even spoke to her. I think God spoke to her because she had to move on in her life because of her kindness level and how much she dedicated her life to God.

Mary MacKillop inspires me. ■

THE MATILDAS

Amelia Vo · Year 1 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

I'm really inspired by the Australian Women's World Cup team, the Matildas, because of all of their hard work, the way they help each other and the way they communicate kind words to each other. They never gave up, and Sam Kerr is great at helping other people to play their best soccer. Keep up the great work Matildas. ■

MY DAD AND MUM

Charlie Telich · Year 3 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

My Dad and Mum inspire me because they have big, kind hearts. They work so hard to make me happy and care for me. My mum and dad want me to be successful and they help me to believe in myself. My parents are wonderful parents. ■

MY TEACHER

Maple Zhu · Year 1 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

My teacher inspires me because she is kind and helpful. When I grow up I want to be a teacher just like her. ■



Angus Quach
Year 4 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

MY PARENTS

Maisonya Nguyen · Year 6 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

My parents see something beyond my eyes
A new experience that is yet to arrive
Being the first to notice the most interesting things
Caring like a verdant tree sheltering a lone
 blooming flower from the hazardous sun
Influencing like the breeze that flows across my
 face after a tiring and hot day
Making me so much happier
Something you might not understand
It's like staring at a book, but realising that there's
 an adventure awaiting inside
Though you see my parents, I see a tree with the
 deepest roots.
My parents see something beyond my eyes ■

MARY MACKILLOP

Tsnukal Melaku · Year 2 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

Mary MacKillop inspires me because she helped the children to learn their ABC and numbers as she traveled around Australia teaching poor children. ■



Patrick Pearce-Sheehan
Year Prep · Trinity Primary
School Richmond

Inspire



Year Prep and Year 1 / 2
Students
Trinity Primary School
Richmond

The Birrarung - The Yarra

WHO INSPIRES ME?

Troy Ho · Year 4 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

My Mum and Dad inspire me because they always tell me to believe in myself. Like when I am playing soccer and I am running for the ball and I fall over, I hear my parents' voices saying "Don't give up!" So I stand back up on my feet and guess what? I score a goal! ■

MY PRINCIPAL

Thomas Nguyen · Year 2 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

My principal inspires me to be a good person. I want to be a principal when I grow up because of him. I like my principal because he is a very kind person in our school. He always says hello to everyone. When I was in Prep he always helped me to get out of my car. That's why my principal Mr. Rodrigues inspires me. ■

SAM KERR

Michele Cossari · Year 2 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

Sam Kerr inspires me and my sister because she is amazing. Everytime time I play soccer at school I feel like a real soccer player. I want to be a soccer player when I grow up! ■



Gracelyn Iong
*Year 5 · Trinity Primary School
Richmond*

This reflects my bright personality,
my individuality, my sense of fun.

BACK COVER ARTWORK

Yagmur Ozelik
Year 6 · Trinity Primary School Richmond

My Mum, The Chef

INSPIRE



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