

Celebrating intergenerational *mlc families*



THE BIANCO FAMILY

Carmen Bianco (1987), founder of Melbourne-based women's fashion company Lounge the Label, is enjoying seeing her daughters, Jade (Year 9) and Paris (Year 7), forge their own memories of learning and friendship at MLC.

"Even in our short time here, the girls both speak very highly of the school," says Carmen. "I feel honoured we can send our girls to MLC so they can have this positive educational experience."

"I was really excited to come to a school that mum loved," adds Paris. "We'd heard so much about it."

Carmen's fondest memories of MLC centre around friendship – she met one of her closest friends today when she was in Year 7.

Carmen sees MLC's underlying tradition as one of instilling a sense of community and empowering young women to make the most out of life.

"They're both creative girls and I felt they needed more choice apart from academics. That was one of my biggest reasons for sending them to MLC – the opportunities are extensive."

For now, the girls are returning home each day, excited by new friends and with stories to share.

"There are so many rich connections we can make together," says Carmen.

Carmen Bianco (1987) with daughters Paris Bianco (Year 7) (left) and Jade Bianco (Year 9).



THE BROWN FAMILY

Miranda Brown (1992) says it was "always a given" that she would send her two children, Georgie (Year 2) and Colby (MLC Kindle) to MLC.

"As a student in the 1980s and 1990s I loved all the opportunities that MLC offered. Both my children started at MLC Kindle and their journey to date has been exceptional."

Miranda is part of a truly intergenerational MLC family. Her mother, Meryl Galloway (Holdsworth 1961) attended MLC in the 1950s and 1960s, her grandmother, Marjorie Holdsworth (Wright 1931) attended in the 1920s and 30s and her aunt Robyn Williams (Holdsworth 1969) and sister Trepina Galloway (1990) were also MLC students.

"There's something special about being educated in the same school as other women in your family," says Miranda's mother, Meryl.

There are many differences in school experiences across this family's MLC journey.

"Technology in education represents a huge shift and the MLC learning environment has evolved too," says Miranda.

Yet many experiences are constant and both women feel strongly that MLC prepared them successfully for life beyond school.

"Whether you're a maths whiz, love playing sport or have dreams of working in hospitality, MLC gives you the chance to shine and the skills for success in a changing world."

(L – R): Meryl Galloway (Holdsworth 1961) with daughter Miranda Brown (1992) and grandchildren Colby Brown (MLC Kindle) and Georgia Brown (Year 2).



THE YUE FAMILY

Reflecting on a rich intergenerational history with MLC, Bonnie Yue (McCallum 1982) and her daughter, Emma (Year 11), often use the same word when describing what attending the College has meant to them: ‘opportunities’.

“When my great grandmother arrived at MLC on a scholarship in the late 1800s, it was an amazing opportunity for a woman of her time. In 2017, it remains a wonderful opportunity for girls who want to become well-rounded, progressive-thinking women,” says Bonnie.

Five generations of Bonnie’s family have attended MLC. The first was her great grandmother Lillian (Lily) Hutchings (Edwards 1891) who boarded as a senior student and subsequently sent her daughter, Gwendolyn Bolle (Hutchings 1917) to MLC.

Bonnie’s mother, Beverley McCallum (Bolle 1950), started as a day girl at MLC’s former Elsternwick campus before moving to Kew and boarding through to Matriculation. Bonnie and her sisters, Nanette McCallum (1976) and Alexandra McCallum (1979), were all MLC students and embraced the College’s diverse offerings, particularly in music and sport.

“Not only did MLC provide – and continues to provide – a well-rounded education and a wide range of extra curricular activities, it engenders a sense of community with an important emphasis on contribution and participation,” says Bonnie.

Bonnie Yue (McCallum 1982) with her daughter, Emma Yue (Year 11).



THE TREMBATH FAMILY

“Being educated at MLC is something of a family tradition,” says Jane Trembath (Godbehear 1963).

“My sisters and I all attended MLC and I subsequently chose to send my daughters – Andrea Suttle (Trembath 1991) and Belinda Seedsman (Trembath 1989) – to the College. Four of my nieces are also past students. It’s wonderful to have granddaughters Zoe Suttle and Amy Seedsman, and many of their cousins, at the school today, as well as grandsons who have attended MLC Kindle.”

“Core memories of my MLC years centre around friendship,” recalls Andrea. “There’s a friend for everybody at MLC.”

“MLC opens doors to new opportunities and allows you to develop a wide range of interests,” adds Belinda.

A former Chair of the MLC Board, Jane played a significant role in the school’s development during the 1990s, including the establishment of MLC Marshmead and the introduction of laptops.

As the third generation of Trembath girls to undertake their education at MLC, friendship and opportunity continue to be key themes.

“I love all the co-curricular activities,” says Amy. “In JSS there are so many opportunities to get involved.”

“I love making friends at MLC,” says Zoe. “It’s what I enjoy most about coming to school each day.”

Jane Trembath (Godbehear 1963) (centre) with daughters Andrea Suttle (Trembath 1991) (left) and Belinda Seedsman (Trembath 1989) and granddaughters Zoe (Year 2) (second from left) and Amy Seedsman (Year 8).