

MEDIA RELEASE

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GRAND OPENING OF NEW LIBRARY AND RESOURCE CENTRE AND OPEN DAY AT HOWQUA – SPECIAL GUEST, MELINA MARCHETTA

Lauriston Girls' School's opening of the new Library and Resource Centre and Open Day will be held on Sunday 28 October 2007 at the Howqua campus.

As part of our vision 'A School for Life', we have now completed our exciting project - the building of a new Resource Centre at Howqua. To help celebrate this step forward in education for girls, the special guest will be renowned Author, Melina Marchetta.

Ever since her debut novel, *Looking for Alibrandi* burst onto the scene in 1992, writer Melina Marchetta has developed a huge following among teenage and adult readers alike. Winner of the CBC Book of the Year for older readers in 1993, *Looking for Alibrandi* has remained on the best-seller lists ever since. The novel has won numerous other awards and is one of the most popular texts on school English syllabuses. *Looking for Alibrandi* was released as a major feature film in 2000, receiving rave reviews and success at the box office.

Born in Sydney, Marchetta attended business college and became a commercial consultant in a large travel company, before training as a teacher. In addition to *Looking for Alibrandi*, she is the author of *Saving Francesca* and *On the Jellicoe Road*.

"The new exciting Centre incorporates a new library, information technology and multi-purpose learning spaces, specifically designed for our Year 9 girls." Principal Meg Hansen.

Lauriston's Howqua Campus offers girls challenges and a chance to succeed in a unique environment, a place to explore and experience life, form friendships and receive positive encouragement in the development of self worth.

Event Details: Opening of Library and Resource Centre and Open Day at Howqua. Commencing 11.30am, campus tours from 11.40am, lunch at 12.30pm, official opening of the Library and Resource Centre 1.30pm, conclusion of Open Day at 2.30pm. Photos attached and photo opportunities available at event.

For more information please contact Gina Bowden, Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator, Lauriston Girls' School, 38 Huntingtower Road, Armadale 3143. Phone 98647559 or 0433161501. bowdengi@lauriston.vic.edu.au