

## Shopping in Venice high on list

SHOPPING, history, art and food, not necessarily in that order, were topping a shortlist of things to do and see in Italy as Catholic Regional College students prepared for an overseas study trip.

Stephanie Mauro had shopping in Florence and Venice as high priorities. "Shopping for shoes," she emphasised

The prospect of catching up with extended family in Florence was also a winner for the 17-year-old.

A group of 21 senior students from CRC in Sydenham will tour the major cities of Italy during the next two weeks.

Ten of those will remain for another week, staying with the families of students at Catholic Regional College's sister city, the Istituto Panzini in Senigallia near the coast in the Marche region.

Anthony Lo Guarro is no stranger to Italy, having visited family in the south on four previous occasions.

But he said travelling as a tourist in northern Italy with teenage companions would bring a whole new light to his ancestral home.

"Now, on tour, we'll see more of the landscape and history of the place," Anthony said.

The 17-year-old was aiming to



Charmaine, Anthony and Stephanie get prepared for their trip to Italy.

Picture: GLENN DANIELS N41BM600

improve his fluency in Italian and was hoping total immersion in the culture would lead to better results with his VCE Italian oral exams at the end of the year.

Charmaine Cini, 17, from Taylors Lakes, is from a Maltese background, but a fan of all Italian

cuisine and was not anticipating any problem adjusting culturally to Italy. "I'm looking forward to sight-seeing and the shopping, the Colosseum and the art," she said.

Teacher Helene van Iersel said students came back from the overseas trips more keen to maintain the

Italian language and also inspired to travel to other countries

"It's great for developing their independence and gives them insight into what life is really like on a day-to-day basis rather than what they've heard from others or family," Ms van Iersel said.

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Students: Charmaine Cini, Stephanie Mauro and Anthony Lo Guarro