

### Celebrating the Co-curriculum.

In 2010, there have been many great experiences shared by our students and some significant developments on the Campus that augment College life.

The College production of *Seussical* was fantastic. The leading performers were very accomplished, managing a range of difficult songs and dances, whilst many other students had significant supporting ensemble parts. It also included back-to-back music and the orchestra included current and past Keilor students who played with great technical accuracy and flair.

Our two Junior School choirs performed together for the first time at the Independent Primary Schools Head of Australia (Victorian Branch) 2010 Music Festival at the Dallas Brooks Hall and combined beautifully in three songs conducted by the respective campus Junior Music teachers.

The Overnewton Combined Middle School Choir performed at Royal South Street Eisteddfod, which is the premier music eisteddfod in Victoria. Even though this is nominally an Under 15s event, our choir was ranked equal highest of the eight competing schools. Our trios finished first, fourth and fifth respectively, while the symphonic band and the string orchestra finished fifth and sixth in their categories. These are great results.

Overnewton hosted the ACS Public Speaking Competition and Mikaela Farrugia won first prize in the Junior Division, which is the first time an Overnewton student has won an ACS public speaking event. There was also success in the Senior Division with Joseph Pensa taking out second place.

The Year 9 and Senior School teams did a fantastic job performing at VicMoves which is the replacement event for the Rock Eisteddfod this year. Both teams won a number of awards and the Year 9 item was unlucky not to be declared the winner of its section. The great news was that the Senior School won their section and this was based on the performances of all the participant schools over three nights. The Year 5 and 6 students were successful in reaching the final of the Wakakirri Festival in September.

At the ACS Carnivals, our College teams achieved best-ever results, with the swimming team finishing fifth and the cross country and athletics teams both finishing fourth. In particular the College athletics team had never finished better than seventh place in any previous year of ACS competition and rocketed up the table this year to

narrowly miss third place – a great improvement. At the cross country, the Year 7 Boys and Girls races were both won by Overnewton students, James Wrout and Brittany Wunhym, and the Year 7 Overnewton boys won the pennant for the best team in their age group. Later in the year, those students took part in the Under 14 races at the All Schools competition. This is the pinnacle cross country event for Victorian schools and our girls team finished third overall amongst all participant co-educational schools while the boys team finished second!

Fourteen of our students were chosen to represent the ACS in their respective senior sports against the Ballarat Association of Schools and we also had fourteen teams reach ACS winter finals, of which eight teams finished their season as premiers.

When we compete in the highest level competitions, we unashamedly measure ourselves against the best schools in the state, and we stand up very well. Through these activities students work collaboratively, know each other in a different context and share great experiences, regardless of their different backgrounds and academic abilities. These

are great examples of where students walk in each other's shoes and this provides enormous benefit to them in day-to-day school life.

### Valuing the Environment.

The Overnewton community is leading the push for sustainability. We have over 100 solar panels operating across the College and have installed more energy efficient lighting into several of our classrooms. Our Walking School Bus is one of the largest of any school in the area, and helps reduce vehicle emissions. In March, the Future Sparks bike riding activity utilised student muscle power to put energy back into the electricity grid.

The new cover over the amphitheatre represented the completion of one of the projects made possible by funding from the Building Education Revolution program and a new shade space has been created between the Senior School and the tennis courts which will provide significant weather protection for our students for years to come. The building and grounds team continue to do a great job improving the gardens and the appearance of the campus has also greatly benefitted from some decent rainfall.

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*Rob Huntington,  
Head of Keilor Campus*

