

Co-curricular Connections at Keilor Campus.

Throughout 2011, there were a huge range of events in which our students participated.

In Senior School, the 2011 House Performance was one of the best we have had. It had some real cleverness beyond the mere use of the talented students in years 10 to 12. The short history of House Performance has seen performances develop from the early years of some modest performances laced with cameo highlights by the talented few, to a highly coordinated House team production in which the very skilled and the complete novice could stand side by side and entertain. There are many students who may never have done performing arts like this before and this opportunity may just be that X-factor they needed for their own self esteem.

The College musical, *Once on this Island*, was really an event not to be missed. It was exceptionally well chosen and well cast. This production was sophisticated and challenged the emotions, as well as being truly entertaining. The cast included students ranging from Years 2 to 12 with a fabulous mix of singers and dancers. Kaylah Attard was outstanding, as were fellow leads Samuel Di Natale, Katherine Kropf, Daniel Hernandez, Saskia Johnson, Miranda Phaedonas, Sian Hughes, Ashley Apap, Jonathon Reeves, Mikaela Farrugia, Stefanie White, Beth Turner-Summerton and the amazing Chanel Scalise of Year 2, with a great cameo performance in Act II by Campbell Bonello. The supporting cast were clearly highly skilled and well-rehearsed.

The Year 5/6 Musical, *A Night at the Performing Arts Museum*, was a production of great colour and light, wonderful song and dance routines and many musical favourites for the older audience. Some fabulous talent was on display and we clearly have a raft of great performers moving through the student ranks. Year 6 teacher, Aaron Booker, wrote, directed and produced this uplifting show.

Senior School English teacher Drew Mason developed the concept of Shakespeare Shorts for our Senior School students in which to perform. It included scenes from Shakespearean plays that are part of our current curriculum at Years 9 to 12, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *Hamlet*. Senior School students spent several weeks preparing for

the production and each of them performed several roles, which was a challenging task that they managed very well. It was an enjoyable event, which included a number of students who had not previously participated on stage in performing arts productions.

For many years, Overnewton has been synonymous with high quality JRock and Rock Eisteddfod teams and the 2011 performances were simply superb, with great choreography, costumes, staging and, most importantly, outstanding teamwork. Overnewton's performance achieved a third place in the Premier Division which was particularly impressive, in a very closely contested competition. Both JRock and the revamped version of our Senior Rock Eisteddfod team '*Make Connections*' between students from both campuses.

In music, the College String Orchestra was awarded 3rd place for its performance at the prestigious Royal South Street Eisteddfod. This is the best result for this ensemble since they have been entering the Royal South Street Competition. There have been a number of examples of music ensembles showing improvements that are measurable against their counterparts from other schools.



The same is true in sport. We had over thirty teams make grand finals in sport during 2011, which is a record for the College. It culminated with eight of thirteen Year 7 and 8 teams winning premierships in the ACS Summer season; this is more than any other school in the competition. These teams all consist of a mixture of Keilor and Taylors Lakes Campus students which provides an important connection for them prior to them coming together in the classroom at Year 9. The College Athletics Team has also improved spectacularly from seventh position in every ACS carnival until 2009, to fourth place last year and third this year. This is the result of a detailed training program that students want to attend and great attention to detail by the Team Managers, Nikki Little and Carolyn Sadler. The team captains, Tayla Raniolo and Greg Georgiadis, led by example and their encouragement of fellow students was excellent.

Rob Huntington,
Head of Keilor Campus

