

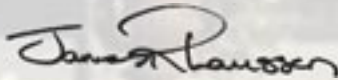
And there are some unexpected surprises such as realising, as your child hits their teenage years, that you already know their friends and their friends' parents. You can feel confident when your children spend time with a friend's family, safe in the knowledge that they are with people who generally share similar values to your own.

There are, too, the many times when parents are contributing together, and an informal chat about a particular issue with their child can result in helpful support and wisdom from other parents who have experienced similar things themselves and survived.

Or there are the times when parents leave the College and realise that their close friends are those people they met while making sandwiches together, digging a garden bed together, planning a Ball together or one of the myriad other ways in which parents meet at Overnewton.

The expectation of family commitment and parental involvement is central to who we are as a community. We believe the emphasis on the important role of family in our community is essential for the future wellbeing of our students and, indeed, our country.

Nevertheless, the College is well aware that giving time to a school is demanding on parents and families. Therefore, revisiting the family contribution scheme to ensure that it is meeting the needs of both the College and its families will be a priority in the next year.



*Jim Laussen, Principal*

