



FORWARD

In 2012, we celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the life of Overnewton Anglican Community College. Founded with the desire to provide a widely accessible independent school education in the North West of Melbourne, the College has grown from some three hundred students to its current 2260.

With an early focus on Science and Technology, the College supported strongly the Design and Technology and Materials and Technology aspects of the Visual Arts from its earliest days. The first bricks and mortar building in the College was the Visual Arts building at Keilor opened in 1989 with a later, more extensive, extension opening in 1996. The Visual Arts facility on the Taylors Lakes Campus equally was constructed as a strong statement about the importance of the visual arts to student learning in 2006.

With a focus on the life of the family in maximising a child's potential, our Parents and Friends Association has financially supported an Artist in Residence program on both campuses since 2003. Our students have enjoyed working with world renowned sculptors, painters, fabric makers, and glass blowers to create substantial pieces of work that adorn both of our campuses. The art work produced provides strong statements to the College and wider community about the value of aesthetically beautiful things in creating a sense of wonder, pride and harmony with the landscape and internal physical spaces.

The first student art work bought by the College was Karina Yaremenko's Serendipity, purchased in 1997. Adorning the walls of the College Board Room at Keilor, every time I look at this work I become lost in the beauty of the piece as well as being drawn back to the connection with Karina and the broader collection of art works and their artists that have been purchased over successive years.

As a College we are indebted not only to Louisa Zhagis for her vision in establishing a student collection but also to the incredible group of Visual Arts teachers who have inspired Overnewton students over twenty five years to explore deep inside themselves to discover a level of creativity many of them did not know they possessed.

Most particularly, I must thank Janinka Eva, Mike Harrison and Kristy Soos for using their creativity to ensure that we could own this catalogue of works that brings the College collection into one place for each of us to cherish, ponder, reflect upon, discuss and enjoy.

Jim Laussen
Principal
Overnewton Anglican Community College