

The 2015 school year has provided numerous learning opportunities and experiences for our students to continue to help each of them to develop and grow as a person. Our three schools, Junior School, Middle School and Canowindra, continue to provide enriching and nurturing environments where our students can think, question, share ideas, discuss possibilities and be creative. Our schools are highly supportive learning communities that provide our students with enriching learning opportunities and experiences. Watching our students enjoying their learning is what makes being an educator so rewarding.

The Junior School continues to provide the youngest members of our student community with the best possible start to their learning adventure and sets the foundations upon which a desire and curiosity for learning is built. There is always something great going on in Junior School. From House Days and camps, incursions and excursions, carnivals and Book Week activities to the many other activities and opportunities that take place, all of these experiences mesh perfectly and complement brilliantly the formal learning program. Assemblies regularly provide students with the opportunity to showcase their learning and celebrate their successes. Whether it is singing in Mandarin or sharing what they have learnt in a particular unit of work, the enthusiasm and sense of pride with which they share their achievements is a joy to behold.

Like Junior School, so much goes on in Middle School and it is always pleasing to see the students engaged in all of the learning activities that are taking place. Wherever they are, the Middle School students are always enthusiastically engaged in learning activities. It is so pleasing to watch the dedication with which they tackle their learning and the enjoyment and fun that they have with it all too.

The introduction of 1:1 iPads for each student across the entire Middle School has enhanced their learning experience tremendously. The ability to be creative with and within their learning, have ready access to resources, share what they have learnt with the class easily, use collaborative learning tools and engage in learning anywhere within the Middle School and the Campus as a whole has added another dimension to the already engaging and supportive learning environment in the Middle School. These fantastic learning tools allow our Middle School students to further engage in the learning opportunities presented to them, explore



and ask questions and experience authentic tasks all designed to build their skills and knowledge.

Middle School has had a very rewarding year from a co-curricular perspective as well. The house carnivals and house activities are always a highlight for the students and a great opportunity to show house spirit and have a great time competing for house points. Interschool sport has seen the Middle School students have a very successful year. Grand final wins in the summer and winter seasons for the Year 7 and 8 students in a variety of sports have really showcased the sporting prowess of many of our students. Improved results in the ACS carnivals have been very pleasing and a well deserved reward for all of the hard work of our students and their team managers. The Year 5 and 6 students have had a great year in sports also with many students going on to competing at a district and state level.

Canowindra continues to provide our Year 9 students with a stand-alone year where they combine the rigors of the academic program with the broad variety of learning choices and many other learning opportunities. The authentic learning experiences have, at times, taken the students outside of their comfort zones and given them all the opportunity to take their learning to another level. Each year a new group of students brings with it a unique set of individuals whose character embraces all of the learning opportunities presented to them with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm similar to the previous year's group but in a manner that distinguishes it from the previous year's group.

The Year 9 program at Canowindra provides a learning environment where our students are not only challenged academically but also personally. Our Year 9s develop the confidence to work in a variety of group and individual situations where they are encouraged to step up, use their initiative and take the lead when needed or to step back and provide support and encouragement where appropriate. The opportunities to take on these challenges occur all the time but especially more so during the eight Focus Weeks that take place across the year. Whether it is canoeing down a river, setting up camp and cooking your own meals, navigating through the Melbourne central business district, creating a personalised story for a Junior School

