



student or working with a design brief for a client who wants a sustainable house, our Year 9s build on prior knowledge, work together and individually, develop new skills and enjoy applying their learning to authentic real-life tasks.

This year the Year 9s have experienced great success in sport, public speaking and many other co-curricular activities. Like the Middle School, there have been many Grand Final wins in both the summer and winter ACS seasons. The highlight would have to be the Model Solar Vehicle Challenge team achieving great success in their competition by attaining a third placing in the state competition with their solar powered boat and then being invited to participate in the National Championship in Adelaide to compete with students from all across Australia. This was an outstanding achievement.

Performing Arts across the College have had a wonderful year. This year's College musical was *Disney's High School Musical*. As with all College musicals, it gave the opportunity to many students from Year 7 to Year 12 to showcase their singing, dancing and acting skills. Our College is blessed with such a broad and diverse pool of talented students that step up each year and thoroughly entertain and captivate their audiences with their performances.

The Year 5 and 6 musical *Annie Jr* was a delightfully entertaining performance by all of the students involved. It was clearly obvious the students were having a wonderful time performing this musical as the smiles on their faces would not stop beaming.

Across the College, our music ensembles have been outstanding. The Stringlings and String Ensemble have taken their performances to another level. This was brilliantly highlighted at Presentation Night where their performance had the audience spellbound. The *Out of the Blue* concert evening held at the Keilor Hotel where our rock band type groups had the opportunity to perform was an outstanding event. So many students from Years 9 – 12 were involved and they thoroughly enjoyed performing for all in attendance. It was a great night of music as was the Ensemble Concert later in the year.

Our students do an amazing job of rising to the occasion, showcasing their talents and representing their College with pride. Whether it is sport, music, performing arts, public speaking or any other type of co-curricular involvement or major event, their commitment and dedication is to be commended. Presentation Night each year continues to give us the opportunity to celebrate all of the wonderful achievements of our students and the College for the year and the Founders' Day Services at St Paul's Cathedral gave us the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the vision of the founders of our College and to be thankful for who and where we are today as a College and very proud of all that we have achieved as a College community.

With 2015's theme of *Thinking First*, it brings to mind a quote from Dr Martin Luther King Jr. when he said, "***The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.***" For us as a College our goal this year was to be *Thinking First* with everything we did and in every situation in which we found ourselves, and as we learnt from all of our experiences let us always strive to be better people.

Thank you to every member of the Overnewton Community for contributing to another successful and rewarding year.

Gabe Alessandrini,
Head of Taylors Lakes Campus

