

NEW CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Each year brings with it many new challenges and opportunities for all of us to become better learners and, ultimately, better people.

Our theme for the year was ‘We rise by lifting others’ and, when reflecting on the achievements of our students for the year, they have certainly conducted themselves in a manner that lived up to our theme and the challenge presented to them.

Our three schools have each had very successful years filled with many experiences and opportunities. Each school continues to provide age appropriate caring environments where important relationships are formed and learning flourishes. These supportive environments strive to provide students with the opportunities to build the confidence needed to ask questions, be creative, share ideas, think deeply and discuss possibilities. Creating collaborative and creative learning communities, enables our students to experience enriched learning opportunities that build from one activity to the next, one year to the next, inspiring them to become lifelong learners and confident global citizens. Seeing our students embrace the learning opportunities presented to them with enthusiasm and genuine enjoyment, is the best outcome for which every educator strives.

Junior School lays the foundations for the youngest members of our learning community, helping them through those early first steps and introducing skills that set them on their quest for learning. Middle School builds on those foundations, further developing thinking, questioning, researching, communication and collaborative skills, adding more rows and patterns to this intricate tapestry of learning. The building continues at Canowindra with an even greater emphasis on the use of technology and the responsibility that comes with that. The inclusion of learning choices enables students to begin to define their own learning path, whilst still being supported and guided. It is a great privilege to watch this learning tapestry take shape over the years for each student.



The emphasis on student learning and developing lifelong learners is our priority and, while NAPLAN testing is only a snapshot of all of the learning that takes place, we celebrate the great results our students achieved this year. Involvement in the many University of NSW ICAS competitions gives our students additional opportunities to extend themselves and apply their learning in different settings. Continued good results in these competitions are great rewards for the students’ efforts.

Each of our schools continue to enjoy a very rich and comprehensive co-curricular program. House activities, swimming, athletics and cross-country carnivals provide our students with great sporting opportunities to participate, have fun, compete for their Houses, and potentially represent the College via the School Sports Victoria carnivals and ACS competitions. There have been many sporting successes this year across the year levels and it is always pleasing to see our students and teams working hard to improve their results and being rewarded for their efforts with success.

The College continues to achieve success in debating and public speaking with many more students getting involved in these areas at the DAV and ACS level, and notably one student achieving national success in the Legacy Public Speaking Competition. It is so pleasing to see the work done in the classroom, where class presentations are taking place, transferred to these broader areas of public speaking.

The Performing Arts continue to offer our students opportunities and experiences to complement their learning. Many students are members of the various ensembles and choirs across the two Campuses. We have enjoyed high quality performances this year in venues such as Deakin Edge in Federation Square, the Melbourne Town Hall, the Keilor Hotel, Overnewton Castle, Watergardens Shopping Centre, St Paul’s Cathedral and on both Campuses. Such opportunities have enabled these talented students to showcase their musical skills and entertain their audiences.

