



*Shrek Jr* and *The Wizard of Oz* were our Year 5/6 and College musicals respectively this year. Both were truly entertaining and showcased the singing, dancing and acting skills of the students involved. Cuteness and playfulness are always present in the Year 5/6 musical and, with the inclusion of Junior School students playing the Munchkins in *The Wizard of Oz*, there was an additional level of these factors present that contributed to the overall entertainment value of the performances.

The major events for the year were another great highlight. Presentation Night changed venues this year and the Melbourne Town Hall played host to the Year 9 to Year 12 students and their families. The seating capacity of this grand Melbourne icon meant an adjustment to the focus and format of the evening. It was a great celebration of the achievements of our Year 9 and Senior School students with some tremendous performances

from our choirs and ensembles. St Paul's Cathedral, as always, was the venue for our Founder's Day Services and the Junior School Carol Service. It is always very special to take our students to the Cathedral to give thanks for the foundation of our College, and the Junior School Carol Service at the end of the year gets us into the Christmas spirit.

With the change to Presentation Night, we introduced the Middle School Celebration at the end of the year to celebrate the major achievements of the two Middle Schools. It was a tremendous sight to see the Taylors Lakes

Gymnasium transformed into a performance venue complete with stage and seating for 2200 people. Video highlights of the year were shown, performances by the combined Middle School bands, choirs and the String Ensemble were enjoyed, awards were presented and our four Middle School Captains hosted the entire event. It was a great event and a lovely alternative to Presentation Night for our Middle School students and their families.

The College Fair is always a great community event. Attendance was excellent and the carnival atmosphere and overall community feeling on the day was fantastic. The College Fair is one of the major fundraising events for the Parents & Friends Association and, over the years, these fundraising efforts have benefitted both Campuses. The construction of a new full size natural turf soccer pitch at Taylors Lakes Campus was made possible by the generosity and fundraising efforts of the P&F this year. We look forward to using our the pitch in 2017, which will provide not only a general play area for the students, but a facility for the Physical Education faculty and our Interschool Sports teams.

2016 has been another successful and rewarding year for our students. Our theme for the year was 'We rise by lifting others' and my challenge at the start of the year was to find a way to lift, support, help or encourage at least one person every day. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of the Overnewton community for taking on this challenge and contributing to another great school year.

**Gabe Alessandrini**  
Head of Taylors Lakes Campus

