

The College theme for 2017 is *'A community of learners embracing the future'* When our students think about the future what do they think about?

There are so many things that could be listed when answering this question because there are so many things we don't know about the future. That's what makes the future so exciting! It is also what makes us a little apprehensive about the future too because we don't know what to expect. There is a quote that says, *"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."*

As they do each year, our students have embraced their learning with enthusiasm and their achievements are to be commended. Both curricular and co-curricular opportunities have been readily and eagerly tackled and the learning experiences have been challenging and hopefully on the whole, rewarding.

Our students' level of commitment to their learning is not only measured by the enthusiasm with which they embrace each opportunity and experience but also clearly demonstrated by their eagerness to attend school, with an overall attendance rate of 92% for all of our students from Prep to Year 9.

Our three schools, Junior School, Middle School and Canowindra, continue to provide learning experiences and opportunities that encourage our students to think, question, explore, ponder and be creative in an environment where everyone's learning is important and everyone is encouraged to develop and grow academically, spiritually and socially. These supportive learning communities provide our students with enriching learning experiences that build from one activity to the next, one year to the next, enabling them to become lifelong learners and confident and thoughtful global citizens.

Our youngest students have had a tremendous year in the Junior School this year. Setting the foundations upon which all of their future learning is built, the Junior School continues to provide learning experiences and opportunities that are engaging and rewarding.

Middle School continues to build on the learning foundations set in Junior School. Our Year 5 to Year 8 students continue to enjoy the engaging learning environment, with the many curricular and co-curricular activities that the Middle School provides.

The Middle School students continue to enjoy success in co-curricular activities as well. Interschool sports performances continue to be strong as our teams across all year levels keep improving and striving for success. Over the summer and winter seasons, Middle School teams have participated in 30 grand finals and won 15 of them. The students' involvement in debating and public speaking continues to go from strength to strength with quite a number of wins during the year as well. The student environment committee continues to raise awareness of environmental issues and looks for ways more students can be involved in improving their environment at school and share this passion for the environment beyond the College with their continued involvement in the *'Kids Teaching Kids'* conferences with like minded students from other schools.

Canowindra continues to provide each year's new and unique group of students an engaging learning program. Year 9 continues to cater for the needs of this age group academically, socially and emotionally. The learning choices and depth of study offerings complement beautifully the rigours of the academic program. Focus Weeks continue to provide the students with unique and authentic week long intensive learning experiences that take them out of the traditional classroom setting and provide engagement and interest and also relevance and connectivity between theory and practice.

