

# Report to Synod, July 2015

The highlights of the last year for Christ Church were continued academic excellence demonstrated by a high performing Year 12, the progression of the School's strategic directions and the establishment of the Centre for Boys' Health and Wellbeing.

#### **Enrolments**

Total enrolments stand at 1658. There are 501 boys in the LW Parry Preparatory School and 1157 students in the Senior School. The number of boarders is 111. Demand for places continues to be very strong for each year intake.

#### **Outstanding academic results**

The 2014 Year 12 academic results continued the School's record of excellence, which sees our graduates consistently placed within the top students across Australia.

Of the 129 boys who sat the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR):

- 14 (11.00 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 99 or more, putting them in the top one per cent of students across the country.
- 23 (18.00 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 98 or higher, placing them in the top two per cent.
- 42 (32 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 95 or more, placing them in the top five per cent.
- 69 (53 per cent) obtained an ATAR of more than 90, placing them in the top 10 per cent
- The average ATAR for the year group was 87.82
- 18 were awarded Certificates of Distinction
- 12 were awarded Certificates of Commendation

Of the seven boys who were predominantly assessed at a school level all completed a Vocational Education and Training (VET) course.

## **Personal and Spiritual Development**

The Personal and Spiritual Development program continues to enrich the education of the students. In the last year there has been a particular focus on positive education, including positive self, positive mindset and positive relationships.

In April, the Centre for Boys' Health and Wellbeing was established with the aim of influencing and inspiring a new generation of CCGS boys to make informed choices regarding holistic good health and well-being. The work undertaken by the Centre supports the Personal and Spiritual Development currently taught to boys from Pre-Primary to Year 10.

### Staff development

The School continues to invest in staff development, especially for academic staff. In this report period a significant focus has been on pedagogy and differentiation.

#### **Co-curricular successes**

In the co-curricular arena, Christ Church has enjoyed sporting success with PSA trophy wins in Soccer and Tennis. Christ Church boys continue to excel in the diverse range of activities and competitions such as music ensembles and choirs, debating, drama performances through the Midnite Youth Theatre Company productions, chess, Duke of Edinburgh, cadets, mock trails and robotics. Academic staff members also continue to provide extraordinary holiday tour opportunities for students to develop their artistic and sporting knowledge and skills.

### **Community outreach**

The Centre for Ethics engages boys in the community's conversation about ethics and spirituality and the way in which the two connect. The Centre's guests, speakers, workshops and newsletters bring the wider community into the School and help the boys, parents and friends find meaning in what they do and the way they live.

The School's Indigenous Program this year celebrates its ten year anniversary and the launch of the Reconciliation Action Plan. The School currently has 15 Indigenous students based in our boarding house with 14 supported by scholarships. A dedicated Indigenous Co-ordinator assists the boys bridge the cultural gap and champions their culture in the School community.

Mark Tait is the new Director of Service in Action and this year the focus of the program has shifted from labour in communities to education. Earlier this year 12 boys visited the remote community of Looma and worked as teachers' assistants and organised and facilitated after school activities for the students.

### **Appreciation**

The Council acknowledges the outstanding contribution of Headmaster, Garth Wynne and his exceptional leadership of the School for the past 15 years. Garth leaves the School in December this year.

We are fortunate to have a diverse and motivated team who individually and collectively contribute in so many ways. The Council extends its sincere thanks to staff, students, school families and alumni for their contribution to another exciting and successful year.

**John Poynton** 

Chairman of Council