HSC success and unprecedented growth in student numbers

There are two important and connected matters I would like to address in this first issue of VIM for 2013. The first matter relates to the achievements of our Year 12 students in 2012. The second matter is the unprecedented growth we have enjoyed in student numbers across the school.

Once again, the performance of our Year 12 students in the HSC was excellent. All Saints’ College was the top ranked school in our region and unmatched by any similar school across NSW. The consistency of the results of our Year 12 cohorts in recent years has confirmed our place as the leading non-metropolitan co-educational boarding school in NSW.

The aggregate result for All Saints’ is the product of outstanding individual results. This is not simply the results of the top academic students but also the achievements of all students in the Year group. Our students are aspirational for each other. This means the students enjoy a very positive and engaging school environment where everyone does their best and they are actively encouraged by their peers to do so. This environment is created by our outstanding teachers and maintained among the students. As we know, a culture of aspiration is not limited to academic success but it is most evident in the annual process and public reporting on student achievement in the HSC.

In particular, I would like to recognise the achievements of some individual students. We had three “All Rounders” in the 2012 HSC. These are students who achieved Band 6 (>90%) in all of their subjects. Congratulations to David Grant, Freya Roebuck and Niamh Fingleton. This is a very impressive performance. Also, congratulations to Freya Roebuck and Meredith Leal on the selection of their major work in Visual Arts to be included in ArtExpress exhibitions in either regional areas or at the Art Gallery of NSW.

Zaarkacha Marlan achieved an outstanding sixth place in NSW in Design and Technology and has had her major work in that subject included in the DesignTech exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney.

We are all very proud of the achievements of our students. It is quite right for us to celebrate the achievements of these individual students but we also acknowledge there have been many fine personal performances of other students in Year 12, 2012. It is always exciting for me to see our students achieve personal goals and to excel in their years beyond school.

The academic success of our Year 12 students and the success of all students in a wide range of co-curricular activities, have assisted in the recent growth in demand for places at our school. It is exciting to receive strong interest in Year 7 and other Year groups across the Senior School. The Senior School has experienced unprecedented growth in numbers and we are now at capacity in Year 7 and approaching capacity in all other Year groups. At the same time, the continued strong numbers approaching capacity in the Junior School are great to see.

2013 has started with great enthusiasm and excitement about our future. I look forward to the year ahead and I hope you enjoy looking through this issue of VIM.

Dr Peter Miller
(Head of College)