



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It's been my privilege across the years in schools leadership to watch in awe the achievements of champions, whether in academics, on the stage and on the sporting field.

To watch young people take up an activity with passion and then practice and train until they have mastered the skill is always inspiring. Teachers often witness young people succeed in learning across a number of years and as all adults know – success comes through a mixture of joys and defeats; through triumphs and failure; through the support of others.

What a joy to see champions emerge at Thomas Hassall – in this edition we present a number of them whether Year 12 Illuminate presenters or the performers in all of our bands and singers and dancers. It is a joy to bring a special mention to our Year 10 football star, Michael Ruhs who last week at the last moment was called on to join the State Schools team for the National Championships in Melbourne. Part of the winning state team for NSW, Michael was also named Player of the Tournament which as you might imagine is a significant achievement in the Open Age Tournament. Michael has a big future and we congratulate him for such an effort.

We've opened the Rawdon Middleton VC Sports Complex and you will witness something of the mood of this special day in the following stories. You will also be able to watch a slide show of the day. Our young people will be able to test themselves out in the best facilities. Thanks to the College Council and staff for striving to achieve the best in every area of the College plan and programs.

NAPLAN results are nearly established and early predictions are indicating improvement for College students across every area. There is much discussion about the usefulness of NAPLAN and we take a balanced view of its importance. The snapshot of Student performances in

important areas is useful, but must be seen in the context of the entire year and class participation and appreciation. Please talk with your child's teacher regarding the NAPLAN results when they are received.

Thanks for your continued support of the College and we are especially looking forward to our annual Grandparents' Day in the Junior School this Friday morning.

'Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created.' James 1:16-18

Mr Ross Whelan
Principal
