



# THE WAY



## **One of the activities I participated in throughout school was debating .**

I loved the challenge of each debate: the deep discussion of the topic with my team, the detailed preparation of writing my speech and the anxious tension of the debate itself, trying to listen to the other team's arguments and write rebuttals at the same time. Despite the hard work, it was worth it.

The Junior School enters a team in a debating competition each year. It was difficult to decide on the students who would become the team members as so many Year 5 and 6 students came to audition. Congratulations to all those who volunteered to be part of the team.

So far this year, our team has debated against Inaburra, Georges River Grammar and St Marks Coptic Orthodox College winning three of the four debates. Topics have covered virtual reality, school pick-up zones and smart phones.

Why is debating such a great activity? Let's hear from two of the team members.

*"I have enjoyed working as part of a team and meeting new people. I have learnt how to speak in front of people. On the day of the debate I feel nervous,*

*but I forget about all these nerves when I start speaking. We practice so much and put in so much effort, I know that I can do it.” Milana*

*“It’s been really fun being part of the team and competing against other schools. Being a speaker, I have enjoyed writing rebuttals the most. It has helped me improve my arguments. We haven’t been the best in this area so it’s a goal to reach for us. I have become much more confident when speaking in front of others.” Nickolas*

The College thanks the members of the team for their hard work and Miss Knight for her dedication and devotion to the coaching of the team.



**The THAC Junior School Debating Team 2021** (left to right)

Jonah I, Alana V, Tyler S, Anvesh S, Nickolas L, Milana M, Evangelina P, Sapphire W, Elizabeth B and Miss Melissa K (Coach)

**Ms Lisa Hansford**

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