THE WAY

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FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Purposeful Technology, Learning and the Joy of Community

Our conversations around the purposeful use of ICT in the Junior School continue. As we increasingly integrate technology into teaching and learning, it is important that we help our children understand the distinction between using ICT for leisure and using it as a tool for learning. Technology has an important place in today's world, but the question we need to keep asking is not simply how much time are children spending on screens rather how well are they using technology?

In the Junior School, we want our students to develop the knowledge, skills and discernment to use technology purposefully, creatively and responsibly. This means understanding when technology enhances learning, when it supports collaboration and problem-solving, and when other ways of learning are more valuable. Our aim is to ensure that technology serves learning, rather than becoming the focus of it.

A strong partnership between home and school is one of the most important foundations for a child's learning, wellbeing and sense of belonging. We recognise that, from time to time, families may have questions or concerns and we warmly encourage parents to bring these directly to the College. This provides an opportunity for us to listen carefully, understand the circumstances and work together towards a constructive way forward. While social media can make it easy to share frustrations or seek the opinions of others, conversations held publicly can sometimes create misunderstanding rather than resolution.

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As a Christian community, we are called to speak with kindness, extend grace and treat one another with dignity, even when we see things differently. Our staff are committed to knowing and caring for our students and families and we value the opportunity to work alongside parents when challenges arise. We may not always see things in exactly the same way, but we can always commit to listening respectfully, communicating openly and keeping the best interests of our children at the centre of our conversations. Thank you for helping us build a College community characterised by trust, mutual respect and genuine partnership.

It was disappointing that our Prep to Year 2 Tabloids had to be postponed, but we are looking forward to celebrating our youngest students' enthusiasm, participation and sporting spirit next Tuesday. Thank you to our families for your understanding and flexibility.

Our Junior Ensembles Evening was an absolute delight. It was wonderful to see our students bring together their musical talent and dedication, demonstrating the cooperation, commitment and practice that go into making music. Beyond the individual performances, there was a real sense of joy in playing together and being part of something bigger than themselves. We are grateful to our music staff for the encouragement and expertise they provide, and for the opportunities they create for our students to develop and share their gifts.

Looking ahead, our Year 5 and 6 students are eagerly anticipating JAM Camp. This special weekend retreat in the beautiful Royal National Park provides an opportunity for students to step away from the busyness of everyday school life, spend time in God's creation, strengthen friendships and, most importantly, deepen their understanding of Jesus and what it means to follow Him. We pray that it will be a time of encouragement, reflection, fellowship and spiritual growth. We look forward to hearing the stories and reflections our students bring back with them.

As always, it is a privilege to see our students growing in their learning, discovering their gifts and finding joy in the many opportunities that contribute to life in our Junior School.

Mrs Kylie Singles
Head of Junior School

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