



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to 2018

In my first letter for 2018 it would be very easy to fill up ten pages of all the things that have gone on since school finished last year and all the things that are planned for 2018. But I will keep this letter to a few special points.

Year 12 Results

Pound for pound, Samaritan has again punched well above its weight. In so many categories our Year 12 results puts us in very high standing. When you allow for the very large year 12 student cohort of some metro colleges, per head, our results puts us above many of those and certainly puts us at the top in our region.

Year 12 results are also not just about University entrance. Yes the ATAR allows us to rank students and compare them to other schools, even those not attending Uni, but the ATAR is also a sign of the commitment, discipline, attendance, self drive, sacrifices, organisation, team work and application that a student has made to his/her studies. All of these apply to any aspect of a post school life whether it be further study or training or straight into work. We have employers contacting the college directly, asking for our students to apply for apprenticeships and jobs.

We are also tremendously proud of the results of the students whose goal was not to get a high ATAR but to perhaps simply 'pass' or to move from being a C student to a B student. It wasn't just the 'pointy end' who did well in 2017. Students choosing a vocational pathway also did very well and our numbers in this area continue to rise to record levels. For example, seven new additional VET pathways were introduced in 2018.

The 2017 staff only get to take a small amount of the credit however. Student success is a combination of the impact of their primary schooling, their friends, their current teachers and most importantly, their home environment. Well done to all.

Primary Sites

One of our primary sites looks as if it had a hair cut in the break with the 70 year old trees removed. As we indicated several times last year, these trees were not only becoming a safety risk with a high likelihood of branches falling but their roots were preventing us from putting in a new sewerage pipe for our new student toilets, they were preventing any repairs to the footpath and road and they were causing the large brick fence to topple over. Once the new building is built, new landscaping will go back in place of the trees. Some of the trees removed have been retained to be used in future nature play areas in the campus.

Newsletter

Our newsletter has outlined the various staffing roles and who our new staff are – all 3 of them. As per feedback from a range of our stakeholders, the newsletter will move totally online in Term 2. Paper copies will still be available upon request.

Student Support

I remind families that the college provides professional counselling for emotional and social matters to students at no charge. If there is ever a time where an event is causing you or your child distress or you feel you need to speak to someone about an issue, you can either direct your child to our Centacare counsellors at any of our three of our campuses.



Financial Support

As always, if there is ever a time when paying fees becomes a concern or burden, please speak with myself or our Business Manager. Where families can show an inability to pay, as opposed to an unwillingness to pay, we have procedures in place to help.

Finally, if you are reading this from our website and haven't received a copy via email, then it is because we probably don't have your email address on file. If this is the case, please contact our Front Office and they can easily fix that for you. Whilst we don't use email too often, there is sometimes other information that can only be distributed via email.

Kind Regards

Damien Judd

Principal

February, 2018