

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES Prizegiving 2008

We continue to have a focused, stable and committed Board. Unfortunately Philip Farrer resigned through the year and I take this opportunity to thank Philip for his contribution to the College over the past three years and wish him and his family best wishes on their relocation to France. We were fortunate to attract a very strong field of potential Board members. We appointed Fenella Hemm to the Board in October. Fenella brings a strong background in health and working with adolescence which we are finding very beneficial.

We have been lucky to have Simon Mardon as the Staff Trustee and Gracey Campbell as the Student Trustee for 2008. We look forward to working with our new student trustee, JJ Hong.

In the first term the school held its 125th Jubilee celebrations which the Board were fortunate to be part of. As an old girl I felt particularly happy to be involved. It was wonderful to see many "old girls" from different generations so happy to reunite with old friends. The Sport and Fitness Centre was completed in time for this special occasion and the Board named it the Alison McAlpine Health and Fitness Centre, in recognition of the huge contribution Alison McAlpine made to the College over eighteen years as principal. We finished the term with a tremendous farewell function for Mrs McAlpine.

In the second term we welcomed our new Principal, Christine Barlow. Ms Barlow has been taking time in her first months to meet staff and students, learning how the College, Preparatory School and Boarding operated before beginning to make some well conceived improvements. We are very pleased to have Ms Barlow and we have had much positive feedback.

Lucy Feltham was appointed as our Preparatory School Head Teacher starting at the same time as Ms Barlow and has settled in well to this important role.

The Board has developed a vision, mission statement and a strategic plan. Our Board discussions focus in the main on our key strategic directions – Academic Excellence, Student Engagement, Marketing/Communication, Developing Leadership Capability and Sustainability. Ms Barlow and the Senior Leadership Team are working with these strategic goals to develop the Annual Plan. In 2009, all staff will be involved in the planning and implementation to enhance the excellent education already in place at the College.

I sincerely thank our Principal, senior leaders, teachers and support staff. The quality of our staff is very important to us and is the hallmark of our College and we are very grateful to you for inspiring our students. I am sure our prize winners will join me in acknowledging the huge influence you have had on their success.

We also thank our wonderful students who constantly wow us, give us faith in the future and make our efforts worthwhile.

*Judy Fanselow
Board of Trustees Chairperson*