2014 ANNUAL REPORT

to the School Community

Thomas Carr College
Tarneit

REGISTERED SCHOOL NUMBER: 1962
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Contact Details

| ADDRESS       | 35 Thomas Carr Drive  
|               | Tarneit VIC 3029     |
| PRINCIPAL     | Dr Andrew Watson     |
| PARISH PRIEST | Fr Jude Pirotta      |
| SCHOOL BOARD CHAIR | Mrs Connie Skinner |
| TELEPHONE    | (03) 8734 2444       |
| EMAIL        | principal@thomascarr.vic.edu.au |
| WEBSITE      | www.thomascarr.vic.edu.au |

Minimum Standards Attestation

I, Andrew Watson, attest that Thomas Carr College is compliant with:

- All of the requirements for the minimum standards and other requirements for the registration of schools as specified in the Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic) and the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2007 (Vic), except where the school has been granted an exemption from any of these requirements by the VRQA

- Australian Government accountability requirements related to the 2014 school year under the Schools Assistance Act 2008 (Cth) and the Schools Assistance Regulations 2009 (Cth)

May 8 2015
Our College Vision

Thomas Carr College is a dynamic Catholic learning community, guided by the Gospel. Excellence and opportunities to develop are pursued. Through our hope and service to others we shine our light into the world.

Our College Mission

We are committed to:

- Nurturing faith and fostering positive, life giving relationships with others
- Providing an engaging and innovative learning environment
- Developing the capacity for independent thought and informed decision making
- Recognising the goodness of all members of the Thomas Carr College community and treating all with respect
- Equipping all students with knowledge, skills and attributes to take their place optimistically in a globalised world

Our College Motto

“They Will Shine”
College Overview

Thomas Carr College, a co-educational Catholic secondary school, was established in the Western suburbs of Melbourne in 1996 and commenced its first year of operation with 72 Year 7 students in 1997. Since this time enrolments have grown to over 1200 students with the current enrolment sitting at 1140. Students who attend Thomas Carr College live in the areas of Tarneit, Hoppers Crossing, Truganina, Werribee, Laverton and Point Cook.

Thomas Carr College is aiming to create a supportive, inclusive and faith driven college community that is comprised of students, staff, parents and the wider community working together to improve student outcomes.

The College aims to foster continuity of faith development with the local parishes of Tarneit, Truganina, and Hoppers Crossing. The priests and parish associates maintain a constant connection with the College for staff, parent and student faith development.

At Thomas Carr College, we want our classrooms to be positive, enthusiastic, productive and innovative learning environments. We aim for our students to become life-long and self-disciplined learners who are empowered and active in a globalised world.

Nearly all students take part in ACS (Association of Co-educational Schools) competitions, which include weekly interschool sport, and athletics, swimming, cross country, debating, public speaking and chess. There are many other non-ACS co-curricular offerings in the areas of sport and The Arts. A Duke of Edinburgh Program, established in 2007, is growing.

At Thomas Carr College we aim to be active and explicit in promoting Student Wellbeing. Thomas Carr College sees it as part of our core business to provide opportunities for student participation, communication and engagement which can increase students’ self-esteem and build school connectedness. Essentially we aim to create a school environment where our young people feel safe, valued, engaged and purposeful.
Principal’s Report

College Theme for 2014
Our College theme for 2014 was: ‘Entrust yourselves to God and dare to dream’

This theme was from Catholic Education Week for 2014 which was paraphrased from Pope Francis’ message to World Youth Day pilgrims in Rio de Janeiro 2013. In his actual words he proposed a great challenge: ‘Dear young people do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things’.

Dreams are not only God inspired but also God given. God places the seeds in our hearts and as we become closer to Christ and more attuned to His heart, these seeds flourish into dreams. May we not be afraid to dream nor afraid to pursue our dream when God opens the door, even if this requires of us taking a huge leap of faith. When we allow God to guide our every step, we step into moments and places of grace.

Therefore, our challenge for 2014 was: ‘Together at Thomas Carr we will dare to dream to reach our full potential with God at the centre of our plan’.

Commencement Mass and Academic Assembly
In February the College community gathered to celebrate the commencement of the new school year and the academic achievements of our top performing students. We were very fortunate to have Bishop Vincent Long, our Regional Bishop as the main celebrant along with Fr Jude, Fr Pius, and Fr Frank, our Canonical Administrators con-celebrating.

Following the Mass the College then recognized the outstanding academic achievement of 6 students from the Class of 2013. A presentation was made to Vuong Phan as Dux of the College for 2013 having achieved an ATAR of 99.65. The presentation was accepted by Mariana Nguyen due to Vuong being in Vietnam with family. The following students were recognized for achieving an ATAR of greater than 90 and they also received a certificate and gift recognizing their achievement:

- Nicholas Mastos 97.30
- Aaron Diker 92.85
- Quynh Diep 91.50
- Harsh Bhambra 90.10
- Isaac Lobo 90.00

The commencement assembly also provided the College with the opportunity to present the Art Acquisition Awards to:

- The People’s Choice Award: Katarina Carapina
- The Middle School Art Acquisition Award: Sally Ryan
- The Senior School Art Acquisition Award: Ashleigh Barnes
- The Art & Technology Art Acquisition Award: Daniel Negrulj
- Deputy Principal Art Acquisition Award: Leinahtan Sisson
- Principal’s Art Acquisition Award: Courtney Cheasley

Our new College Captains were also acknowledged during the assembly:

- Middle School Captains: Erin Sidwell and Jacob Sigismondi
- College Vice Captains: Helena Carapina and Adrian Debrincat
- College Captains: Abby McDonald and Nicholas Parella
Capital Development
*The Bruce Runnalls Middle Years Centre*
During the Lenten Term, many members of the College community gathered for the Solemn Blessing of the Bruce Runnalls Middle Years Centre by Archbishop Denis Hart followed by the Official Opening by Mr Stephen Elder, Executive Director of Catholic Education and Mrs Anne Runnalls.

![The Bruce Runnalls Middle Years Centre](image1)

*The Good Samaritan Campus*
On a beautiful winter’s afternoon on Sunday August 3 and the community of Coragulac gathered with Thomas Carr College to celebrate the Solemn Blessing and Officially Opening of the Good Samaritan Campus by Bishop Paul Bird, Bishop of Ballarat.

![The Good Samaritan Campus](image2)

*Trade Training Centre*
In November the Trade training Centre was completed and handed over to the College in time for our building and construction students to complete their years work. The new facility incorporates a large workshop area to accommodate carpentry, furniture making and bricklaying courses. The facility also has a learning lab, staff office areas and associated bathroom facilities along with ample storage. Many visitors to the College have commented that it is one of the most impressive Trade Training Centre for building and construction they have seen. The architecturally designed building will be official blessed and opened by Bishop Vincent Long in February 2015.

The Trade Training Centre will provide for many additional pathways for our senior students with the delivery by The Gordon of the Certificate II and III Building and construction Certificate on site from the beginning of 2015.
College Chapel
After 18 years, Thomas Carr College now has a dedicated sacred space which takes pride of place at the front of the College as a real and tangible sign of the importance of our Catholic identity and ethos and the importance our faith in the education of our children.

The design of the Chapel provides for beautiful art glass windows depicting the life of Archbishop Thomas Carr along with the significant placement of the tabernacle and the magnificent bronze Christ figure on the cross which form part of a large etched glass window reflecting aspects of life at Thomas Carr College. The Stations of the Cross are etched scripture quotes in bluestone placed within the curve wall of the Chapel beautifully highlighted by a timber backing and lighting. The simplicity of the Chapel provides the perfect space to highlight the beautiful liturgical furniture made from granite and time. The pieces include the altar, tabernacle, presider chairs and ambo.

The Chapel was blessed and officially opened on Tuesday December 9 by Archbishop Denis Hart in a very moving liturgy.
Redevelopment of the Front of the College

As part of our continuing capital development of our College after having received the necessary planning permits from Wyndham City Council work late in 2014 works commenced on the redevelopment of the frontage of the College along Thomas Carr Drive. The works comprised of the following:

- creation of ten additional car parking spaces in front of the Gymnasium
- the development of a dedicated bus only inlet and associated bus pick up and drop off zone to the north of the College’s main gate, exiting via the car park adjacent to the new Trade Training Centre
- the establishment of car parking spaces for the Trade Training Centre
- creation of 15 minute parking spaces close to College reception for those who only require short term parking while tending to matters at either the reception or business office
- the establishment of 1 minute drop off and pick up zone in the existing bus zone
- replacement of the College fence along Thomas Carr Drive
- provision of electronic gates along Thomas Carr Drive
- remodeling of the College’s main entrance

Over the past three years the College has undertaken over $12 million of capital development.

VCE in China Program

During the course of the second week of the holidays the dedicated VCE in China team headed to Suzhou to facilitate the third VCE in China Conference. The conference ran for five days and all the participants enjoyed the opportunity to share their experiences, develop plans and learn more about what the VCE has to offer. Importantly, there were discussions of the values underpinning the VCE, the focus on student-centred learning and the development of critical reasoning. The key note presenter for this conference was Dr Jonathon Sargent a member of the College Board and lecturer from Australian Catholic University.

I thank Dr Tom O’Connor for his organisation of the conference and the VCE in China Mentors for being prepared to be part of the Conference during their holidays. The VCE in China Program continues to strengthen at Thomas Carr College and its partner schools.

As our first partner school, Wenzhou has the most developed program. The preliminary Gateway Program first began in September 2009. Those students progressed through Years 11 and 12 and sat the first VCE exams in 2011. Subsequent cohorts followed, and this is the third year they have had students sitting the VCE exams. To date, all students completing the program have received an offer for a tertiary institution in Victoria.

The second VCE in China school Lianyungang Foreign Language School celebrated the graduation of its second cohort of students and like Wenzhou, they continue to achieve great success in this program. The VCE in China program consists of a dedicated group of Australian and Chinese teachers who work together for the benefit of the Chinese students.

Biography of Archbishop Thomas Carr & College History

Thomas Carr College will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its foundation in 2016. This important anniversary will be marked by a number of celebrations including the publication of a history of the College covering these first twenty years. While the College is relatively young, it is important to remember those who had the vision to conceive of a new secondary college in the Hoppers Crossing, Tarneit area along with those who have contributed to the development of the fine traditions of the College over its first twenty years.

The history of the College will also include a brief biography of our patron, Archbishop Thomas Carr whose life and work, especially as Archbishop of Melbourne is not well known but which has had a profound impact on the development of the Catholic Church in Melbourne. This part of the history of the College will become an important source of inspiration for the College community as it reflects on his life, his faith and his achievements.
I have commissioned our College Chaplain and former Director of Catholic Education in the Ballarat Diocese, Mr Larry Burn to write the history. He has already drafted a large amount of the text for this project and I can assure you it will be a significant piece of work providing us with a wonderful resource and account of the life of Thomas Carr and the establishment of our great College.

**College Board**
The Annual General Meeting of the Thomas Carr College Board was held in April this year. At this meeting the annual reports from the Principal, Board Chair and Finance Committee were presented. The meeting also formally appointed the members of the Board for 2014.

**Canonical Administrators of the College**
Fr Jude Pirotta Parish Priest of St James the Apostle Hoppers Crossing North and President of the Canonical Administrators
Fr Pius Kodakathanath Parish Priest of St Peter Apostle Hoppers Crossing
Fr Frank Buhagair Parish Priest of St Andrew's Werribee

**Board Members for 2014/2015**
Mrs Connie Skinner Chairperson and St Peter’s Parish Representative
Dr Andrew Watson Principal
Mr Mark Gleeson St James' Parish Representative
Mr Peter Collery Honorary Financial Accountant
Mrs Tanya Tesario Parent Representative
Mrs Antoinette Fava Parent Representative
Mr Stephen Butler Parent Representative
Dr Jonathon Sargeant Co-opted Board Member
Mr Josh Ryan Co-opted Board Member
Mrs Geralyn McCarthy Staff Representative
Vacant St Andrew's Representative
Mrs Kerrie Deller Board Secretary
Ms Sharon O'Neill Business Manager (in attendance)

I thank all Board members for their support and wise counsel over the course of 2014. Their support and commitment to the College over the years has ensure that Thomas Carr College has continue to develop and grow to provide Catholic Education to families in the outer western region of Melbourne.

**Thanks**
Finally to conclude I would like to thank staff, students and parents of Thomas Carr College for your continued support and encouragement throughout the year. It is very much appreciated. In particular, I would like to thank most sincerely, the College’s three Canonical Administrators, Fathers Jude, Frank and Pius, the College Board Chaired by Mrs Connie Skinner and the Catholic Education Office for their ongoing support, advice and encouragement during the course of 2014.

I thank in particular the members of the College Executive Ms Brigitte McDonald, Deputy Principal; Ms Sharon O’Neill, Business Manager; Ms Anne Berardinelli, Director of Catholic Identity; Mr Michael Goss, Director of Learning & Teaching; Mr Cris Scarlata, Director of Operations; Mrs Geralyn McCarthy, Director of Student Services; Mrs Margaret Knurek, Head of Senior School and Mr Stephan le Roux, Head of Middle School. They shoulder great responsibilities and I value their support.

I am certainly looking forward to a very exciting 2015 at Thomas Carr College as we near the conclusion of our first twenty years of operation.
College Board Report

The College Board meets monthly to carry out its role and responsibilities. “A board has the responsibility of ensuring that that the college is faithful to its character as a Catholic school. It develops policies to enable the college to function, it supervises the college’s financial arrangements and it offers significant support to the principal and other key leaders of the college.”

(Catholic Education Office Melbourne: Guidelines for Boards of Regional and Diocesan Colleges)

At most Board meetings, a report is given from a member of the College Executive. It informs us of their achievements, challenges and vision for their particular area of responsibility. As a parent, I am reassured that the educational, spiritual and emotional needs of our children are being met. I thank them on your behalf for their dedication and commitment.

The College Business Manager, Ms O’Neill presents a Finance Report at each meeting detailing cash flow, balance sheets, budgets and fee collections. The Board believes the College is in a sound financial position at the moment. It is very comfortable with the capital expenditure approved as part of a master plan to provide great facilities for our students.

On Tuesday March 25 the College Board held its Annual General Meeting. Dr Watson presented his Principal’s report for the year. This detailed 13 page document highlighted the wonderful achievements ascertained by the students in academia, sport and the arts. It also celebrates some of the exciting projects that came to fruition.

We also farewelled 2 of the Board’s long serving members - Mr Alan Bunting and Ms. Tina Alphonso. Alan was a member of the Board for the last 7 years. For 2 of these years he held the position of Chairperson.

We also thanked Ms Tina Alphonso who completed 6 years of service on the College Board. Ms. Alphonso was also a parent representative. Her support and love of the College is both appreciated and valued. Ms Alphonso is not leaving the College community; she can still be found hard at work in Student Reception at the College.

The AGM continued with the election and appointment of the following:
Chairperson for 2014/2015: Mrs Connie Skinner
Deputy Chairperson for 2014/2015: Mr Peter Collery
Confirmation appointment of Board Secretary for 2014/2015: Mrs Kerrie Deller
Appointment of Parent Representatives: Mrs Antoinette Fava and Mr Stephen Butler

The Mission and Vision of Thomas Carr College has blossomed and grown throughout 2014. The tireless efforts of Dr Watson and the College Executive have resulted in the initiation, planning and realisation of 3 new facilities for our children’s faith development and education.

It was with pride and joy that the College community celebrated the realisation of the great vision of Mr Bruce Runnalls (College Principal 2000-2010) with the Blessing and Opening of the Bruce Runnalls Middle Years Centre. This wonderful state of the art facility allows our students to learn in an open, inspiring and supportive environment.
Yet another wonderful achievement was the solemn blessing and opening of The Good Samaritan Campus. This facility is the jewel in the iD9 Program for our Year 9 students. The dedicated staff are to be congratulated for the wonderful effort that it obviously takes to coordinate such an educational endeavour. Their care and support of the students is commendable and as parents we are truly grateful for their dedication and service.

In 2013 the College was successful in securing a capital development grant to build a Trade Training Centre. This wonderful facility will soon be ready to provide students at Thomas Carr College, and those of the Wyndham Cluster, with the opportunity to undertake a Building and Construction course. Students will be able to obtain a certificate in Carpentry, Furniture Making or Bricklaying.

The Board fully supports Dr Watson’s vision to provide state of the art facilities for our students in which to develop their knowledge. It was with great excitement that we supported his mission and vision to establish a College Chapel. After 2 long years of research and meetings, we will have the pleasure of worshipping in our very own college chapel. The official blessing and opening took place on Wednesday December 9. The College community will have a special place in which to gather and connect with each other and our God.

Other events that have highlighted the amazing talents and achievements of our students include: the very entertaining production “High School Spoof-ical”, the showcase of musical talent at the annual concert, the annual Art and Technology exhibition and fashion parade titled ‘Vision’ and the annual Awards Night ‘A Night to Shine.’ I encourage you to attend all College events and liturgies. They are a wonderful opportunity to gather, support and celebrate our children’s wonderful achievements.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank all Board members for their generous gift of time and expertise in support of the College and all its endeavors. Their interest in the welfare and education of the students and the College is valued and most appreciated.

Mrs Connie Skinner
Board Chair
Education in Faith

Goals
To nurture strong Catholic identity within a diverse community.

Intended Outcomes
- A curriculum that is engaging and meaningful, which enhances knowledge and understanding of the lived Church today
- The genuine application of Religious Education learning in everyday life by students and staff
- The active involvement of parents and the wider community in the faith life of the College

Achievements

Catholic Identity
Once again the Catholic Identity Team provided us with many opportunities to celebrate the significant events in the life of the College through the celebration of the Eucharist. They also ensured that the liturgical life of the College continued to flourish.

The College marked the beginning of Lent with the distribution of ashes during homeroom. During this time we were asked to reflect upon the fact that every year, Lent provides us with an opportunity for reflection on the pattern of life and our faith. It is a time for prayer and works of generosity. Lent is a time to recommit ourselves to God and what is of God.

During Catholic Education Week the College Choir, under the director of Mrs Margaret Knurek, Head of the Senior School who was appointed as the Musical Director, led the singing at the Catholic Education Week Mass. With the Cathedral full to capacity with every Catholic school (secondary and primary) being represented by students, teachers, principals and members of the Catholic Education Office our students shone as they led the congregation in song during the celebration of the Eucharist. Particular mention must be made of John and Paul Tomelty who sung the responsorial psalm beautifully. They were indeed wonderful ambassadors.

During the course of Catholic Education Week the school had many and varied events as well to celebrate this important week in the life of our College. Catholic Education Week was not only an opportunity to highlight all the wonderful things we do at Thomas Carr College but a time to reflect on ways to share in the growth and well-being of one another.

During the course of the year our College Leaders Abby McDonald, Nick Parella, Helena Carapina and Adrian Debrincat attended the annual conversation with the Archbishop of Melbourne Denis Hart at the Catholic Leadership Centre. Our students again represented the College very well and enabled them to engage in dialogue with the Archbishop. This opportunity also provided our students with the chance to meet with secondary students from the other Catholic Secondary College’s across the archdiocese.

Our tradition of celebrating Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day with Mass and Breakfast on the Friday prior continued this year. In May, Fr Jude celebrated our Mother’s Day Mass. The Mass was a beautiful way for us to celebrate the gift of motherhood. Then in September Fr Jude again celebrated the second Father’s Day Mass and Breakfast. It was wonderful to see both students and staff present with their Fathers. It was in deed a very special liturgy.

On Friday August 15, the College gathered as a faith community to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, one of the most important feasts of the Church’s year. Our liturgy last Friday also the officially recognised the naming of Term 3 as the Assumption Term.
Our principal celebrant for the Assumption Mass was Fr Silvio Bezzina, a member of the Missionary Society of St Paul visiting Australia from Malta. Fr Silvio is the Principal of St Paul’s Missionary College, a Catholic Primary and Secondary Boys College operated by the Paulist missionaries in Rabat, Malta.

In July, Fr Jude, Mrs McCarthy and I had the good fortune of being able to visit Malta on our return from the Holy Lands. While in Malta we visited significant sites and places in the life of Joseph Di Pirro the founder of the Paulist Missionaries and we also visited St Paul’s Missionary College. When visiting the College, Fr Silvio showed us around his school and provided us with wonderful hospitality. I was then delighted to find out Fr Silvio was going to be visiting Australia in August and as such invited him to visit Thomas Carr College.

As part of our Catholic Identity the Social Justice team has been working very hard this year. Again the Winter Sleep Out was one of those events organised by the committee along with the annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal conducted through our homerooms. The Winter Sleep Out provided a wonderful opportunity for over fifty of our students to sleep in less comfortable conditions than normal and to hear from a number of guest speakers who highlighted the problem of homelessness.
Learning & Teaching

Goals
To ensure that all students maximise their learning potential

Intended Outcomes
- Students demonstrate good learning behaviours
- Staff working collaboratively in the creation and implementation of effective and quality pedagogy

Achievements
Recognition of our High Achieving Students
Again this year the College will recognise the academic achievement of our students for Semester 1 & 2. Those students who have achieved the following results will be invited to attend a special luncheon at school where they will be presented with a Certificate of Achievement in recognition of achieving examination results above 90% in a number of subjects.

The following criteria for receiving this recognition for each year level are as follows:
- Students in Year 7 who achieved 90% or better in two examination
- Students in Year 8 who achieved 90% or better in three examinations
- Students in Year 9 – 11 who achieved 90% or better in four examinations.

2014 ICAS Mathematics Competition
This year 31 students from Years 7-12 participated in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Mathematics competition. The ICAS suite is developed by Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) that has been delivering ICAS to Australian students for over 30 years. EAA is a leading international educational assessment organisation specialising in large-scale measurement and assessment programs in Australia and 20 countries globally, with almost one million entries received each year.

“The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools are independent evaluations of students’ skills and knowledge in core learning areas and provide insight into students’ understanding. The skills and understanding tests are important indicators of success in school and beyond”, said Nick Connolly, Senior Manager Test Development at EAA, UNSW Global. “I would like to recognise the participation of students from Thomas Carr College with certificates and congratulate them on their efforts and achievements.”

Our students achieved outstanding results this year with five distinction, six credit, three merit and 17 participation Certificates being awarded.

A Night to Shine
In October each year the College community gathers at Williamstown Town Hall to recognise and celebrate the achievement of over 200 students during the course of 2014. It is a wonderful evening which provides the opportunity to recognise high achieving students, those students who have been of great service to the College, pay tribute to our student leaders and showcase the talents of our Performing Arts students.
Art & Technology Exhibition - Vision
On Thursday October 23 the official opening of the Thomas Carr College 2014 Art and Technology Exhibition – Vision was held. We were delighted have Mr Andrew Elbury MLA and Cr Glen Goodfellow attend the opening night. The exhibition displayed the art work of students from Years 7 to 12, along with the work of students from the Technology faculty which included both textiles and woodwork pieces. The Textile Fashion Parade was again a highlight of the evening with over sixty students displaying various garments they had made during the course of the year. Our music students provided entertainment which set the mood for the evening.

NAPLAN
In May our Year 7 and 9 students took part in the annual National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by class teachers. Expert, independent markers mark the tests. The content of each test is informed by the National Statements of Learning in English and Mathematics, which underpins state and territory learning frameworks. Test questions cover aspects of Literacy (Reading, writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling) and Numeracy. Questions are multiple choice or require students to write a narrative or story.

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### YEARS 9–12 STUDENT RETENTION RATE

| Years 9–12 Student Retention Rate | 91.54% |

### MEDIAN NAPLAN RESULTS FOR YEAR 9

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### SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

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<td>VCAL Completion Rate</td>
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*Students participating in a practical Science class*
Student Wellbeing

Goals
To enhance the wellbeing of all students

Intended Outcomes
- Consistent application of wellbeing principles and practices
- Students will be fully engaged in their formal and informal learning

Achievements
College Sporting Carnivals
This year the College continued the tradition of holding sporting carnivals in which our houses battle it out for overall first place in the House Competition.

The Swimming Carnival saw all students and staff have a most enjoyable day at the Carnival. It was wonderful to gather for this annual event since we were unable to do so last year. Our students were co-operative during the day and many very eager to participate in the carnival’s swimming events and novelty activities. Congratulations to Westport House on winning the House Swimming Shield.

Congratulations to the following student champions:
Year 7 Boys: Dean Currao  Year 7 Girls: Tayla Venner
Year 8 Boys: Thomas Darlington  Year 8 Girls: Shanais Rauner-Smith
Year 9 Boys: James Brasher  Year 9 Girls: Montana Whittingham
Year 10 Boys: Campbell Barlow  Year 10 Girls: Bethany Correia
Year 11 Boys: James Tzelepis  Year 11 Girls: Emily Cassar
Year 12 Boys: Brandon Fredrickson & Liam Neville  Year 12 Girls: Claire Hodgart

In May the entire College gathered at Newport for our annual athletics carnival. The weather held out for this occasion and our students enjoyed the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of track and field events. Congratulations to Galway House on winning the House Shield.

Congratulations to the following student champions:
Year 7 Girls: Jade Murrell  Year 7 Boys: Aidan Vrins
Year 8 Girls: Chloe James  Year 8 Boys: Many Aguek
Year 9 Girls: Betty Ayano  Year 9 Boys: Cameron Sutherland
Year 10 Girls: Bethany Correia  Year 10 Boys: Connor Macaulay
Year 11 Girls: Madeline Johnson & Jessica Tesoriero  Year 11 Boys: Michael Mirindi
Year 12 Girls: Hayley Burke  Year 12 Boys: Liam Neville

The last carnival to be held for the House Competition was the Cross Country. With all students taking to the local streets and terrain. Galway House were the winners.

Congratulations to the following student champions:
Year 7 Boys: Alexander Correia  Year 7 Girls: Jade Murrell
Year 8 Boys: Blake Barber  Year 8 Girls: Natalie Barry
Year 9 Boys: Brendan Neville  Year 9 Girls: Alexie Barlow
Year 10 Boys: Mapet Khalil  Year 10 Girls: Alannah Burgess
Year 11 Boys: Conner Ramsay  Year 11 Girls: Carla De Pasquale
Year 12 Boys: Liam Neville  Year 12 Girls: Claire Hodgart
The overall points and results for the 2014 House Competition were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>House</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Galway</td>
<td>8643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Westport</td>
<td>8382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Moylough</td>
<td>7381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td>Maynooth</td>
<td>6519</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations Galway

**Association of Co-educational Schools (ACS) Competition**

Once again the College participated in the sporting carnivals of the ASC competition and the fixture matches during the course of the year in the Year 7 and 8, Year 9 and Senior competitions. The College enjoyed success in some of the carnivals and fixture matches with a number of Grand final victories. A more detailed report is contained in the Sports Report.

In March the ASC Swimming Carnival was held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. Well done to all students who were part of the swimming team on the way in which you competed and represented the school.

Our Athletics team ventured to the Albert Park Athletics facilities in May. The athletes and their committed teachers and coaches were blessed with beautiful weather. Congratulations to our students and staff for their participation and organisation of the ACS Athletics Carnival.

Finally in August our Cross Country Team participated in the ACS Cross Country championships. For a pleasant change the weather was most favourable for this event.

This year a number of students also participated in the ACS Public Speaking Competition

All students who participated in the various ACS competitions during the course of the year should be very proud of the way in which they represented the College.

September saw the annual presentation of the ACS All Star Teams at the Loyola College. The students selected in this team represent the ACS in the annual competition against the Ballarat Associated Schools (BAS). Once again Thomas Carr College was well represented in the ACS All Stars.

Congratulations to the following teams who won their competition:

- Year 7 Boys Volleyball A
- Year 9 Girls Netball A
- Senior Girls Football

**Student Life**

**College Musical**

September saw the premiere of *High School Spoofical* and what a wonderful show! The cast and crew did a fabulous job of bringing this musical comedy to life on stage at the Altona Theatre. The acting, staging, costumes and choreography were all superb along with the comedic talents of our students. Under the Direction of Mr Michael Dalley, Musical Direction of Mr Mat Morse and with the assistance of Ms Jen Mahony the students were able to portray the humor of this musical magnificently. Congratulations to our cast and crew on providing such wonderful entertainment.

**College Choir**

Under the direction of Mr Mat Morse the College Choir was instrumental in all our College liturgies and major events. Their talents and achievements were constantly recognised and praised. There is no doubt that the College Choir have contributed greatly to the culture life of Thomas Carr.
Year 7
In the Lenten Term the Year 7s completed a three day camp just outside Woodend providing them with an opportunity to enjoy each other’s company, be introduced to the world of outdoor education and re-establish learning goals for their first year in secondary schooling. The camp provides the opportunity to reflect on their start at Thomas Carr College and acknowledge what has worked well and what needs to be improved. A number of our Year 7 students also participated in the Parish Primary Schools Day with our feeder Catholic Primary schools as part of the transition from primary school to secondary school.

Year 8
Our Year 8 students this year enjoyed the Shine Program. This program is designed to provide our Year 8 students with a number of different physical challenges during the course of the year such as surfing and mountain bike riding and also provides a great opportunity for them in to be involved in physical activities in an outdoor environment.

Year 9
All our Year 9 students participated in the College’s newly developed and innovative curriculum titled iD9. Year 9 marks the beginning of transition between the Middle and Senior School years. An important stage of development for our students.

As part of the iD9 program students participate in both a City Experience and a Country Experience:

City Experience:
2014 saw a change to how the City Experience program was conducted. The emphasis was on respect, resilience and reliance of self. Students were issued with a passport, which they had to have stamped whilst visiting key locations. The program recognised students’ increasing independence and a feature of the program was for students to develop their own transport plans in order to complete set activities.

Country Experience:
In 2014, Year 9 students participated in a Country Experience as part of the iD9 program. Students lived on-site, for 2 weeks in 2014, at the College’s Good Samaritan Campus, located at Coragulac, 11 kilometres from Colac and approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes from Thomas Carr College. This was linked with the ‘My Country’ curriculum outline.

Living away from home for this time gave each student an opportunity for growth on which they could reflect. This sense of independence was tempered with a better understanding of what it is to be a responsible adult living in a country community and taking steps to find their own place in the world. The Country Experience aimed to provide all students with an exciting and challenging program in an environment that is safe, caring, structured and engaging.

Year 10
Each year our Year 10 students enter the work force for an entire week through the participation in the Work Experience Program. This provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to experience challenges of day to day work, such as travelling to and from places of employment, hours of work and how they vary from school and experience something of what they may do once they have completed secondary school. This is a most worthwhile program and from all reports to date the Year 10 boys and girls have enjoyed the program.

I also enjoyed attending the Annual Year 10 Dinner Dance. It was a wonderful evening which allowed our Year 10 students to enjoy each other’s company in an appropriate setting and manner for their particular age group. The Year 10 students are to be commended on their outstanding behaviour. This evening is evidence that our young people can enjoy themselves without having to resort to the consumption of alcohol.
Year 11
Our Year 11 students undertook their reflection days during the course of this year. The focus in Year 11 remains on making a good start to either the VCE or VCAL and establishing good study habits. Our Year 11 students also participated in various community service programs and visits to Oznam House. The focus of Year 11 has for many years been one of service to others.

Year 12
The Year 12 program focuses on preparing our students for life beyond secondary school. During the course of the year much work is done with students in preparing for selection of tertiary institutions for next year, investigating options for study, work and in some cases a gap year. Our Year 12 students commenced the year with several reflection days which provided an opportunity to prepare for the rigours of Year 12 and the demands of life in this very important year.

The Year 12 students then concluded their time at the College with a Graduation Mass held at St Mary's Star of the Sea Church in West Melbourne followed by the Presentation of the Graduands and Graduation Dinner at the Flemington Racecourse. At each occasion our Year 12 students are acknowledge for their contribution to the College, we thank them for being part of our community and wish them all the very best for the future.

Student Representative Council
During the course of this year the College has introduced a Student Representative Council under the direction of Ms McDonald, Deputy Principal. Ms McDonald worked with a number of our student leaders on this new initiative to develop and increase the number of student leadership opportunities within the College through a Student Representative Council. I am delighted with this program and in particular thank Ms McDonald for her development of the new leadership program and the organisation of the Student Representative Council Workshop held during the year.

Student Principal for a Day
Again this year the College participated in Student Principal for a Day a national event co-ordinated by the Principals Australia Institute. Student Principal for a Day provided a student representative with an opportunity to experience some of the elements of school leadership which make up the regular work of a Principal. Through this national event, Principals had the opportunity to listen to the voice of their student Principal and those participating around the country. Kerry Wang was the successfully nominated student.

Again this year as part of our ongoing commitment to the Malaya Borneo Veterans the College Choir and Student Representative Council participated in the annual Malaya and Borneo Veterans Day Commemoration Service held in front of the eternal flame at the Shrine of Remembrance on Friday August 30. Our college Captains, Vice Captains and Middle School Leaders were the Banner Bearers and our College Choir performed the National Anthem. At the service the former Premier, Mr Jeff Kennett was present and commented to me after the service on the wonderful way in which the students represented the College at this significant occasion for the Malaya Borneo Veterans.

MacThom Cup
The annual MacKillop College versus Thomas Carr College fixture was again held this year. As always this is a great opportunity for the two Catholic Schools in the Wyndham region to compete in various sports and develop a healthy competitive spirit between the two schools.
**College Leaders**

Abbey McDonald and Nicholas Parrella have led the student body through example and service. They have been wonderful role models for our younger students and at all times both Abbey and Nicholas have been willing to give their time for the benefit of the College. They have represented the College on numerous occasions and have been wonderful ambassadors for Thomas Carr. I am indeed grateful to them for their enthusiasm and for the way in which they have fulfilled their duties of College Captains.

I have pleasure in announcing the following students have been appointed as College Captains and Vice Captains for 2015. Congratulations to our newly appointed College Leaders.

College Captains: Jacqueline O’Brien and Julius Torres
College Vice Captains: Emily O’Connor and Connor Graham

I was also pleased to announce the House Captains for 2015:

**Maynooth**
- Captains: Brandon Fredrickson and Ashlyn Boyce
- Vice Captains: Henoch Kebede and Shannon Hume

**Westport**
- Captains: Sara Collier and Aimee Drever
- Vice Captains: Emma O’Boyle and Elyse Haddad

**Galway**
- Captains: Liam Neville
- Vice Captains: Daniel Skillen and Rebecca Sneddon

**Moylough**
- Captains: Nathan Williams and Simerjeet Kaur
- Vice Captains: Bradley Bennett and Lucy Toulantas

The various programs outlined above could not happen without the dedicated staff of Thomas Carr College who give freely of their own time to allow these programs to operate. I think it is very important to note that not one teacher who attended the various camps, activities and retreats receive any extra remuneration for their time and effort. In all cases our teachers made considerable personal sacrifices to attend the camps and retreats and to organize and make arrangements for the other co-curricula activities and it also means significant time away from their own families.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AVERAGE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE BY YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall average attendance</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDENT SATISFACTION**

- Student Engagement Index Target for 2015: **68.2**
- Student Engagement Index Actual Score for 2014: **63.3**
Leadership & Management

Goals
Grow and sustain a staff culture that is characterised by shared vision, strong sense of teamwork and a focus on continuous improvement

Intended Outcomes
- Consistent application of policy and procedure by staff
- The coaching model is embraced as part of our everyday professional culture
- All staff have high levels of professionalism and see themselves as leaders within the College

Achievements

Staff Professional Learning
An important aspect of life at Thomas Carr College is the continuing professional learning of our staff. During the course of 2014 our staff have participated in a large number of individual professional learning opportunities as well as whole staff professional development activities. Of note during the course of this year were the following professional learning days

On Thursday July 31 all teaching staff participated in our annual Staff Faith Day. Joining us on this occasion were 170 teachers from Emmanuel College and another 10 from Mount Saint Joseph Girls’ College. The Principals Association of Victorian Catholic Secondary Schools sponsored this day which was facilitated by the internationally renowned scripture scholar Dr Amy-Jill Levine. Dr Levine who is from the United States is a Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Department of Religious Studies, and Graduate Department of Religion. She holds a B.A. from Smith College, an M.A. and Ph.D. from Duke University, and an honorary Doctor of Ministry from the University of Richmond, Dr Levine has been awarded grants from the Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies. She has held office in the Society of Biblical Literature, the Catholic Biblical Association, and the Association for Jewish Studies.

During the course of the day Dr Levine conducted three sessions:
- Session 1: ‘Understanding of Jesus in his Jewish Context’
- Session 2: ‘Woman who walked with Jesus: what do we know of the woman and what messages do their stories have for both women and men today?’ and
- Session 3: ‘The Parable of the Good Samaritan’

We were indeed very lucky to have Dr Levine conduct our professional learning in the important area of religious education and faith development.

To begin the new term on Monday October 6 the staff participated in another staff professional learning day. This day focused on a number of important issues for the teaching profession and provided the College with the opportunity of addressing these issues. Mr Tony O’Byrne from the Office of Professional Conduct and Ethical Standards at the Catholic Education Office addressed the staff on the Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct and spoke about a number of the issues that face schools within today’s society.

Our focus then turned to the Refugee Experience. Ms Maureen O’Keefe and Ms Simone Cassidy outlined strategies for working with students from refugee backgrounds. This very important information enabled our staff to reflect upon how they worked within the classroom to ensure effective learning and teaching for students.

The Staff Professional Learning Day concluded with the Core Wellbeing Team of Thomas Carr College revisiting Restorative Practices Conversations. This important session reinforced the College desire to continue to work with all our students in a restorative way.
Commencing on Monday December 8 and concluding on Thursday December 11 all staff at Thomas Carr College participated in an End of Year Professional Learning conference. The conference provided sessions for all staff in the areas of Catholic Identity, Technology, Learning and Teaching, Student Wellbeing as well as several planning sessions for 2015. The program commenced with a Mass being celebrate by Fr Jude Pirotta. It was very pleasing that many of the sessions were led by our staff that were willing to share their expertise and experience with their colleagues.

**Thomas Carr Annual Staff Dinner**

On the evening Friday August 3, the staff of Thomas Carr College gathered at the Werribee Mansion for our Annual dinner. The dinner provides the opportunity for the College to recognize staff who have contributed 10 years of dedicated service to the College and to present the Thomas Carr Staff Award. The College Staff were asked to nominate a member of staff who they believed live out the College Vision and Mission Statement of Thomas Carr College. The criteria for the successful recipient is someone who has demonstrated and displayed the following qualities during the past 12 months:

- A commitment to the Catholic Identity of the College
- Engendered School spirit
- Involvement in the co-curricular life of the College
- Engagement in the life of the College has been above and beyond normal expectations
- Demonstrated a professional approach to all aspects of College life

I was pleased to have received many nominations which made the task of the Thomas Carr Staff Award panel very difficult, but in the end we felt that there was one very deserving recipient.

I was very pleased to announce that this year’s recipient of the Thomas Carr College Staff Award is Mr Shane Werner.

Shane has been with the College since 2000. He consistently demonstrates, through his actions and interactions with staff and students, that he is indeed engaged in the life of the College. Shane goes about his work quietly and assists all members of staff. He is instrumental in the set up and preparation of College events and has also had extensive involvement in the major projects the College has undertaken. He has assisted the Principal and Business Manager greatly in very practical ways to bring about a significant change in the physical facilities and resources of the College.

Comments from the nomination form regarding Shane included: goes above and beyond his duties; has stepped up to embrace the Catholic Identity of the College, professional in dealings with all he comes into contact with; supportive and has attention to detail; engenders a positive spirit amongst staff; represents true servant leadership; willingly embraces the changes the College has been through; never without a nod of recognition or smile for everyone he passes.

During the evening, the College was also delighted to acknowledge the following staff for their 10 years of dedicated service:

- Mrs Daniela Franze-Hamra
- Ms Joan Lewins
- Mrs Jacinta Mercieca
EXPENDITURE AND TEACHER PARTICIPATION IN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

DESCRIPTION OF PL UNDERTAKEN IN 2014

- Conferences addressing latest trends in Domain areas
- Information sessions regarding new VCE subjects
- Forums to gather reactions to the Australian Curriculum
- Sessions to learn techniques on prayerful meditation
- Workshops on developing team teaching techniques
- Lectures by world leading educationalists on trends in international education
- Discussion groups led by Catholic Principals on leadership
- In-school action research groups to improve learning

NUMBER OF TEACHERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN PL | 97
AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER TEACHER FOR PL | $4,021

TEACHING STAFF ATTENDANCE RATE

| Teaching Staff Attendance Rate | 88.58% |

STAFF RETENTION RATE

| Staff Retention Rate | 74.73% |

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctorate</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>19.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>39.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate Graduate</td>
<td>9.89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree Bachelor</td>
<td>79.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma Advanced</td>
<td>12.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Qualifications Listed</td>
<td>2.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STAFF COMPOSITION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal Class</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Staff (Head Count)</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTE Teaching Staff</td>
<td>113.740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Teaching Staff (Head Count)</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTE Non-Teaching Staff</td>
<td>53.813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Teaching Staff</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TEACHER SATISFACTION

- Teaching Climate Index Target for 2015: **57.8**
- Teaching Climate Index Actual Score for 2014: **53.3**
- Organisational Climate Index Target for 2015: **52.5**
- Organisational Climate Index Actual Score for 2014: **49.00**
College Community

Goals
To develop a school culture that fosters appropriate and supportive partnerships with parents and the wider school community

Intended Outcomes
- Effective channels of communication with parents and the wider community
- Greater Parent engagement in college activities
- The College’s profile is highly regarded within the community

Achievements
Parents and Friends Association
The Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends Association (P&F) was held in April where the annual report was presented and elections held for the positions on the executive. The following parents were duly elected to the executive of the Parents and Friends Association:
- President: Mrs Carmen Gleeson
- Secretary: Mrs Ange Drever
- Treasurer: Mrs Deb Griffiths

I thank the abovementioned for their willingness to lead the P & F Association, a very important organisation within the College and all the other parents who attend the meetings during the course of the year.

During the course of the year, the Parents and Friends held a very successful Trivia Night. The hard work of the Parents & Friends ensured a great event was enjoyed by all along with a significant increase in the value of prizes this year, challenging trivia questions developed, and a very entertaining night. The Parents and Friends also conducted a fees raffle along with the annual Bunnings BBQ.

In addition this year the College was accepted to be a polling station for the November State Election. The Association took advantage of this and held a very successful BBQ during the course of the day.

Under the guidance of Mrs Janice Hodgart, the Association continued to provide a wonderful service to our families with the operation of the Second Hand Uniform Shop. Not only does it provide an option for parents looking at purchasing items of uniform it also assists parents that are looking to sell various items.

The Association also contributed significantly to the acquisition of liturgical furniture for the College Chapel. I was delighted to receive a cheque for $30,000 for this purpose. This furniture has been duly recognized as a result of the P&F donation. This was a very tangible way for the Association to demonstrate support for our Catholic Identity and ethos.

ANZAC Day
Thomas Carr College was represented by our students at various ANZAC services held in the region as well as a march, on ANZAC Day, to the Shrine of Remembrance.

Malaya and Borneo Veterans Service
In May, the College celebrated the Malaya and Borneo Veterans Service at the College. It was a wonderful occasion led by our College Captains, Vice Captains and Middle School Captains. Daisy Andrews played a very moving the Last Post.
Thomas Carr Day
Also in May the College celebrated our 18th Thomas Carr Day. With Fr Jude celebrating Mass in the morning, our students and staff enjoyed various forms of entertainment, activities and rides. While the day is a welcome relief from the classroom, it also serves the purpose of allowing the school community to reflect upon the life of Thomas Carr and gain understanding of why our College was named in his honour. Thomas Carr’s life and legacy enables our students to engage with a person who dedicated his life to his God and ensured that the Gospel values, as expressed by Christ, was evidenced in his leadership of the early Catholic Church of Melbourne.

PARENT SATISFACTION

- Community Engagement Index Target for 2015: 65.5
- Community Engagement Index Actual Score for 2014: 61.0

Students participating in the Melbourne ANZAC March with the Malaya and Borneo Veterans

Students enjoying Thomas Carr Day
Financial Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORTING FRAMEWORK</th>
<th>MODIFIED CASH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recurrent income</td>
<td>Tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School fees</td>
<td>3,126,584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other fee income</td>
<td>530,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private income</td>
<td>898,416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State government recurrent grants</td>
<td>2,432,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian government recurrent grants</td>
<td>9,976,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total recurrent income</strong></td>
<td>16,965,058</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Recurrent Expenditure                        | Tuition       |
| Salaries; allowances and related expenses    | 11,911,040    |
| Non salary expenses                          | 4,529,327     |
| **Total recurrent expenditure**              | 16,440,367    |

| Capital income and expenditure               | Tuition       |
| Government capital grants                    | 2,680,348     |
| Capital fees and levies                      | 2,496,574     |
| Other capital income                         | 1,448,367     |
| **Total capital income**                    | 6,625,289     |
| **Total capital expenditure**               | 6,625,289     |

| Loans (includes refundable enrolment deposits and recurrent, capital and bridging loans) |                      |
| **Total opening balance**                   | 8,528,485     |
| **Total closing balance**                   | 8,646,777     |

Note that the information provided above does not include the following items:
System levies charged to individual schools, intra-systemic transfers and diocesan supplementary capital fund (SCF) supported borrowings for primary schools. The information provided is not comparable with other educational sectors. This VROA template is not comparable to the ACARA school-level income reporting requirements which are to be reported on the MySchool website. ACARA school level reporting requirements will require system level income from Government grants and some private income to be allocated by school. This will be a small adjustment in relation to the total level of school resources. At this stage, recurrent income from Government sources, school generated income and capital expenditure are to be reported by schools. Additionally when assessing the private income of the school include both recurrent and capital school fees.