November 2015

2015 almost done
The school year is drawing to a close. It has been a year like most years in a senior college - busy and with a focus on exams and achievement. As a college we have worked hard on improving student attendance – something that we must continue to focus on. Despite our 90% minimum attendance requirement; many of our students struggle to get to school every day. There are many reasons for this. 2016 will see a greater focus on how we can support students to get to school each day.

Staffing has been stable throughout 2015 with only Dr Prager and Lisa Williams leaving us during the year. At this stage we will be losing one more existing staff member for the 2016 school year. Whilst this is disappointing; it is a very low staff turnover rate compared to most schools. Josie Mineo and Nahide Dolu will be returning from Family Leave in 2016 though so familiar faces will be back.

Our student numbers will grow in 2016 from our current 380 to around 420. 2017 will see our student numbers jump considerably with students from Tarneit P-9 College arriving. In addition – new estates along Leakes Rd will bring many new students to Tarneit and the college.

Exams
Year 12 exams have finished! Feedback from examiners, students and teachers has been good and we are now waiting expectantly for our results. One of our goals for 2015 was to ensure our students actually finished all their exams and ‘exit polling’ carried out by staff seems to indicate that this year’s cohort have been successful in finishing their exams. Year 11 and Year 10 students have also gone through their exam experience. These exams are modelled exactly on Year 12 exams with the same rules in place – we do this to ensure our students enter Year 12 knowing exactly how they must perform in an exam scenario. Exams were held in our new ‘Exam Centre’, a great addition to our college.

New Staff 2016
We will be welcoming several new staff to Tarneit Senior in 2016. Using our ‘Gonski $’ to support our students; will see our new Well-Being team start work day one 2016. A Psychologist, a Youth Worker and two Multicultural Workers will be here to support our students and families.

Building
The never ending ‘building’ process at our college continues unabated. We are now waiting on the delivery of our ‘Well-Being Centre’ which will house our new Well-Being team. This centre will be designed to offer our students a supportive and welcoming environment when times get tough.

Year 12 Jackets
Most Year 12 students have ordered a Year 12 jacket. The order is being sent in this week and we are assured of delivery in the early days of Term 1 2016. This will be our third year of Year 12 jackets and the design is similar to our original jacket. Once again VCAL students have led the ordering process under the guidance of Kate Andrews, our VCAL Leader.
**Yr10 Outdoor Ed Camp**

![Yr10 Outdoor Ed Camp](image1.jpg)

**Learning Walks with Tarneit P-9 College**

Learning walks have been conducted over the last few weeks with the p-9 college. With our staff visiting them and their staff coming here to observe classroom practices. The main focus was to identify effective classroom teaching practices and strategies to improve student’s outcomes. We will also continue to work closely with the p-9 staff to bridge the gap between the two schools, design effective backwards design curriculum planning and therefore allow for a smooth transition in 2017 when their students enrol here at TSC.

**Year 11 into Year 12 Orientation**

Getting the right start into Year 12 is vital and we have seen our current Year 11 students working very hard over the last two weeks. Attendance has been fantastic and the two week step up program, instead of the one week program of previous years, has proven to be effective with all students utilising the two weeks in their year 12 class with their peers and teacher. The English department have used this time to complete the time consuming first outcome which was the oral presentations. This will now enable more time in the course outline next year.

**Year 12 Formal**

A great end to the year for our 2015 Year 12 students. All students and staff looked amazing and had a great night.
The End is near!
College closes for the 2015 school year on Friday 18 December. Our Administration will reopen in late January and Year 12 students commence on Friday 29 January with Year 10 and 11 students commencing on Monday 1 February. This rotating start is to enable the college to fully induct Year 12 students into the most important year of their schooling.

Thank you.
Finally; thank you to all our families, students and staff for your contribution to our school during 2015. We look forward to our continued work with you to ensure your child achieves their goals in 2016 and beyond.

Michael Fawcett & Rosa Marchionda
Principal team