As we draw near to the end of another busy and productive year, we reflect on the numerous achievements within the College community.

After significant collaboration, 2015 saw the introduction of the new vertically streamed House System in the Senior School. Of the large numbers of students, the creation of an additional two Houses, Hutchinson and Heavey (named after Augustinian bishops) was required. Students will remain in the same House and Tutor Group for the three years their senior schooling, developing strong connections and relationships with their fellow tutees, their tutor and their House Formation Leader. This new system has been well received by both students and staff and we anticipate greater House involvement and activity in years to come.

The College’s Strategic Plan 2010-2015 ensured that the teaching environment for our boys has been responsive to the needs of the 21st century. An integral component of this strategic plan is the master plan which provides for a planned development up to 2025 as adopted in the Towards a Brighter Future 2025 Project. Throughout 2015, the College has undergone a collaborative, consultative and data-informed review process. Its purpose was to review current performance, plan for improvement and our accountability for current outcomes. This will provide the structure for the development of our new mission statement and strategic plan to be launched to our community at the commencement of 2016.

The master plan incorporates the maintenance and development of flexible and adaptable teaching spaces and innovative technologies to facilitate the provision of quality teaching and learning. Building developments will provide greater access and improved plant for the boys. Our current students are enjoying and benefiting from facilities provided over previous decades and particularly those made possible through the assistance of the Capital Appeal funds from 1999 to 2005.

To facilitate the next step in the College’s development and implementation of the master plan, the 2015/2015 Capital Appeal was launched. This appeal raised funds to assist in the construction of Stage 2 of the master plan. Many parents across the College have pledged and contributed to help provide for our current and future students. This support is highly valued and integral to the successful and ongoing development of the facilities at our College.

As we draw near the end of another busy and productive year, we reflect on the numerous achievements within the College community.

Celebrating 100 years of ANZAC, in honour of our fallen soldiers, has been a major focal point for the College throughout the year. Presenting each student with an ANZAC commemorative ‘slouch hat’ pin at the start of the year, and a commemorative coin at our ANZAC Ceremony as well as participation in Camp Galleipoli in Centennial Park are a few of the ways we have celebrated this significant historical and community event. The College installed its new Centenary Cross sourced from the battlefields of Western France, as part of its liturgical ceremony.

The Feast of our Patron Saint was celebrated in August with a special Mass held in the Brimson Centre. Following this, the boys participated in the College Walkathon, walking from the College in Brookvale to Tania Park, Balgowlah. This is a time for the boys to reflect on love and forgiveness through community, as we seek to live in Unity. The contribution of funds this year has been a fantastic community effort, raising over $53,000 for our Social Justice Programme.

Once again, the College attained many sporting achievements throughout the year. Our rowing team achieved outstanding results at the Australian National Championships, with one gold medal, one silver medal and a sixth place in an A-final. We received remarkable results at the Australian Age Swimming Championships, with six gold, four silver and one bronze medal. The 15’1 Football (Soccer) team were grand finalists in the NSW State Cup Competition, while numerous teams competed in grand finals in the local competition. Our 1st XV Rugby team has retained the Waratah Shield for the seventh time, displaying an outstanding effort from all the students and staff involved.

At the beginning of Term 4 we celebrated World Teachers’ Day which is recognised annually in October worldwide. Its aim is to foster support for teachers and to ensure that the needs of future generations will continue to be met by teachers. World Teachers’ Day acknowledges the efforts and dedication of teachers in an increasingly complex, multicultural and technological society.

St Augustine’s is indeed fortunate to have such dedicated and committed teaching staff. We thank them for the vital contribution that they make to the education and development of our boys. I would like to especially thank Paula Murphy (mother of Mungo in Year 7) for making this extraordinary and delicious, chocolate mud cake for the staff.

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GREAT TIMES FOR DADS AND THEIR SONS

In August, we joined together as a community to celebrate the gift of fathers at our annual Father and Son Dinner held at the Miramare Gardens. Thank you to all the fathers who attended the event. The venue was a ‘full house’ with over 300 fathers and sons sharing a meal and enjoying the sensational ‘African Drummers’ entertainment.

LEARNING ENRICHMENT

DA VINCI DECATHLON

Learning Enrichment students from Year 5 and Years 7 - 10 participated in the Da Vinci Decathlon held at Knox Grammar School. This annual event is an academic competition designed to challenge and stimulate the minds of school students. Students compete in teams of eight across 10 disciplines including engineering, mathematics, code breaking, art and poetry, science and English. There were over 100 schools participating this year and St Augustine’s College students achieved outstanding results. Year 8 students achieved a 3rd place in general knowledge, Year 10 students achieved a 2nd place in science and Year 5 students achieved 2nd place in code breaking.

Graham Bruce
Learning Enrichment Co-ordinator

SCIENCE WEEK

In August, we celebrated Science Week at St Augustine’s College and some wonderful activities took place. Students were involved in bubble production, non-newtonian fluid fun, liquid nitrogen ice cream creations, making cars to carry eggs safely down a ramp, making marble mazes, creating a Rubik’s cube machine, what’s in the box quiz, Science World Championships, and a plant painting pendulum producing ‘Science Art’.

We thank the Science Faculty staff who engaged the College community in a week of exploding, racing, thinking, dropping and designing.

Graham Bruce
Learning Enrichment Co-ordinator

2015 has seen the rise of the St Augustine’s Indigenous Programme. Over the last two years, we have been extremely privileged to have a growing number of Indigenous students attending the College. This students come from near and far with a large number of students commuting each day from Redfern and others moving to the beautiful Northern Beaches from a variety of country towns. These boys enrich our community with their culture and friendship and we appreciate their contribution.

It has been a great honour to watch Year 12 student, Trayden Mundine, graduate this year as he has been a valuable asset to both our community and his own. We congratulate Trayden on his journey and look forward to sharing his success in the future. Other highlights this year have encompassed our inclusion in the Indigenous Souths Cares initiative which has seen NRL star, Peter Waaser, hold fortnightly workshops with the boys exploring culture, community, family, language and goal setting. These boys have also presented the community with the beauty and ancient traditions of Aboriginal culture with dancing performances. Our three Year 10 students will be participating in the 2016 SEA Programme in Cambodia at the end of the year, which will also be an enriching experience for all involved. We look forward to 2016 and all it brings.

Tate Williams
Indigenous Student Advisor

HSC PERFORMANCE NOMINATIONS

CHARLIE SUNDBORN

Year 12 student and Captain of Music, Charlie Sundborn, has achieved a rare and impressive artistic feat – two nominations for HSC performances! Like many HSC subjects, Drama requires students to submit a project for assessment. Charlie chose to write and perform his own dramatic work, inspired by the works of Woody Allen and Jerry Seinfeld. His piece, titled Easy Living, was a mature yet light-hearted look at the meaning of life for the lonely metropolitan male. The work was a true triumph in craft, from both an acting and writing perspective. Charlie’s performance has subsequently been selected by the BOSTES examiners as a work suitable for exhibition in ‘Onstage’, the 2015 HSC Drama Showcase for exemplary HSC dramatic work.

Congratulations also to Charlie on his ‘Encore’ nomination, awarded to the most outstanding performers in HSC Music.

Owen Vale
Faculty Co-ordinator – Drama

MAKING MUSIC

Music Festival Week saw a record number of student participants and entrants into the competition. There were numerous outstanding performances throughout the week making the selection of award winners very difficult for the adjudicators. Of particular note was the increase in competition in the piano, guitar and brass sections. The week once again provided a rewarding experience that allowed the boys to explore force, motion and units of measurement as well as teamwork skills.

Supreme Incursions supplied the activity, aligned to the Australian Curriculum, which allowed the boys to explore force, motion and units of measurement as well as teamwork skills.

Faith Ling
Faculty Co-ordinator – Music

INDIGENOUS PROGRAMME

In August, a group of Year 9 and 10 elective Visual Arts and PDM students attended our first Art Camp at beautiful Bundanon, located in pristine bushland overlooking the Shoalhaven River, near Nowra. The boys engaged in three days of art making workshops including drawing, photography, etching, night photography, environmental sculpture and group painting.

It was a wonderful experience for all and we look forward to running the camp again in 2017.

Robyn Larbalestier
Faculty Co-ordinator – Visual Arts

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BILLY CART GAMES

Primary School students at St Augustine’s College recently spent a day pulling billy carts. The day was split into three workshops, from building carts in colour-coded groups, to the highlight of the day – racing the carts.

As Year 5 student Jacob Lynch said, “The billy cart was in pieces and we had to put it together with screws, washers and bolts so that it didn’t fall apart.” With the Senior School away at the Athletics Carnival, the groups used the quadrangle as a circuit, marking out a course with cones. Supreme Incursions supplied the activity, aligned to the Australian Curriculum, which allowed the boys to explore forces, motion and units of measurement as well as teamwork skills.

(Manly Daily 8 August 2015)

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END OF THE BEGINNING

It was great to see so many parents attend the Graduation Assembly and morning tea for our Year 12 students. The day began with breakfast at the Manly Surf Club. Afterwards, students arrived at the College where they were greeted by the whole school. Peter Long (2015 Captain), led the procession with Harrish Gardiner and Nicholas Chivers (2015 Vice Captains), House Captains, Jamie Harrison (Head Prefect) and Reville Captain, James Gonda (Crane), Henry Turner (Gollop) and Van Luthrin (Massey). Brendan Watkins (Nutritionist) and Jarod Horan (Munce). After the formalities were completed, students were presented with their graduation certificates.

The day concluded with House celebrations highlighting each boy’s activities throughout the year. In the afternoon, Graduation Mass was celebrated at St Kieran’s Church, Merly Vales. Our thanks to Fr Sienan Ward OSA (College Chaplain), Fr David Austin OSA (Prior Provincial), Fr Paul Maloney OSA (Parish Priest, St Kieran’s), Fr Peter Jones OSA (Provincial Counselor and Director of Novices) and Br Sidda Pasidamo OSA, for celebrating the Mass. The day ended with dinner and the Prize Giving Ceremony at Miramar Gardens.

Our sincere thanks to special guest, Cathy Harrison, (mother of Jamie) who gave the vote of thanks to the College on behalf of the parent community. Cathy’s speech was entertaining, informative and extremely moving based on her impressive 25 years association with St Augustine’s College, having six sons graduate.

WARATAH SHIELD PREMIERS

Congratulations to John Papahatzis (1st XV Rugby Coach) and the 1st XV Rugby team who won the grand final of the Waratah Shield in August. The game was played in great rugby spirit with St Augustine’s winning 26-16 against a very strong team from Hills Sport High School.

In the Term 3 holidays, the College 1st XI travelled to Canberra for two matches against St Edmund’s College and Marist College respectively. Canberra turned on some brilliant weather over the week and after batting first against St Edmund’s, a total of 927 was going to be tough for the hosts to chase. Estables lost a steady flow of wickets and they were eventually bowled out for just 59 runs inside 25 overs. This was a great all round display by the team and a great start to the week. Against Marist College, Saints were able to take steady wickets and reduce the hosts total to 264. The run chase highlighted by Ned Hole and his spare capped off a remarkable day’s play for the 1st XI.

In the TIC Cricket and 1st XI Coach, James Scholtens: TIC Cricket and 1st XI Coach.

CRICKETERS EXCEL IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

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Cricket ACT also hosted the annual Kookaburra Cup 8-a-side T20 tournament and once again the College entered the U16 competition eager to retain the trophy won so convincingly last year. Playing five T20 matches inside three days was a positive challenge to face. Despite suffering a 17 run loss in the Cup final, the team played positive cricket all week.

The 2016 Sri Lankan Cricket Tour is well into its preparation and this tour will provide the team with an incredible cricketing experience next April.

James Scholtens

NOSTALGIA LUNCH

The Nostalgia Lunch was held on Friday 15 September at the College. Old Boys from the Classes of 1962, 1963, 1964 and 1965 were welcomed back for lunch, a catch up and a tour of the current campus. During the celebration, many memories and stories of past days at the College were shared and a cup presentation was made to the members of the original College 1st XI cricket team. The Nostalgia Lunch is an annual event for Old Boys of the classes who have celebrated 50 years since leaving the College.

LEFT: Members of the original College 1st XI cricket team with their caps: L to R: Chris Maddocks, David Gilbert, John Appleton, Alan Wild and Peter Slack.

SAINTS COMMUNITY GOLF DAY AND LUNCH

Over 28 teams and 112 players competed in the Saints Community Golf Day at Manly Golf Club on a beautiful day in August. The Foundation is grateful to the many sponsors, prize donors, parents and friends who attended and helped make this day a spectacular success. Many thanks to our special guest MC Hayden Quinn (Class of 2004) and auctioneer Andrew Lutze (Class of 2000) for their outstanding support and help.

Sunday 22 November 2015,
4:00pm - 7:00pm at
Dee Why Surf Club
Swan Lounge.

RSVP (essential) by
18 November to SAOBA
(02) 9938 8269 or
saoba@saintaug.nsw.edu.au


KEEP IN TOUCH - Update your details at www.saintaug.nsw.edu.au

www.facebook.com/saoba | St Augustine’s Old Boys Association - SAOBA

A Catholic Congregational school for boys in Years 5 to 12, teaching the Augustinian values of Truth, Love and Community

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