



2023 Annual Report to School Community

Towards the end of Term 4, our College community gathered in the Bishop Justin Bianchini Gymnasium for our annual Presentation Evening. This event is a very special occasion in the life of the College, filled with pride, joy, and celebration as we recognised the outstanding achievements and hard work of our students. It is a privilege to recognise those individuals who have displayed exceptional dedication and commitment to their studies and the co-curricular life of the College during 2023.

The awards we presented that night are not just tokens of recognition; they are symbols of encouragement, appreciation, and inspiration. They represent the countless hours spent studying, the late nights and early mornings, the sacrifices made and the living out of our College motto 'For Others'.

Success is not always about being the best at everything, but rather about striving to be the best version of ourselves. It is about learning from our failures, growing from our challenges, and embracing our strengths. The award recipients at our Presentation Evening are shining examples of this philosophy, and they serve as beacons of inspiration for all of us.

To the students who received awards, I offer my heartfelt congratulations. Your journey is far from over, but you've proven that you have the tools to navigate the road ahead with great confidence.

To our parents and caregivers, thank you for your support, trust, and for being the guiding light in your children's lives. You play an integral role supporting the College as we partner with you in your children's education.

To our teachers and support staff, your dedication to the education and well-being of our students is immeasurable. Your guidance, patience, and mentorship have made a profound impact on their lives. To everyone, I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude. As the old saying goes, it takes a village to raise a child.

Many of you would be aware that this year marks the 30th anniversary of Nagle Catholic College. The College was established following the amalgamation of St Patrick's College and Stella Maris College at the end of 1993. Whilst the College was a new school seeking to forge its own identity, it continued to be guided by the charisms of the Presentation Sisters and the Christian Brothers - charisms that are still valued and upheld to this day. To mark this special occasion, a photograph was taken of the entire school community. I'm sure many of our students will recall this occurring on the day of Saint Patrick's Day Games out on the oval with a drone flying overhead.

April this year, the anniversary of Nano Nagle's death, Mr Damian Ramos, the College's Deputy Principal – Faith and Life, was on leave in Ireland. Whilst there, he was invited to attend a memorial



service and morning tea at Nano Nagle Place in Cork, Ireland. This place was the hub of Nano's mission in educating children impacted by the Penal Laws enforced in Ireland between 1695 and 1829. Nano Nagle was a strong woman of faith, with determination, selfless sacrifice, good humour, and a clear mission.

Whilst at Nano Nagle Place, Mr Ramos presented a large, framed copy of the photo taken at Saint Patrick's Day Games to mark the College's 30th anniversary. The people there were amazed by the colour of our blue sky, the brightness of the uniforms, and the many smiling faces. They were most pleased to know that the influence of Nano Nagle and the Presentation Sisters lives on today within our community.

I would like to pay tribute to a committed staff member who has been a key member of the College's Executive Team for an extended period. This individual has been the embodiment of our College motto, 'For Others,' and their tireless efforts have left a lasting impression on our school.

After nineteen years of dedicated service, Ms Marie Masotto, the College's Business Manager, officially retired during the year. Her journey at the College has modelled true servant leadership and has been characterised by excellence, commitment, and an unwavering spirit of service.

Throughout her tenure, Ms Masotto has been a driving force behind the scenes, ensuring that the operational aspects of our College run smoothly, efficiently, and with the utmost integrity. Her contributions have gone far beyond the confines of her job description, and she has consistently demonstrated a deep care for our students, staff, and the wider College community.

As she embarks on this new chapter in her life, Ms Masotto can look back with pride on her distinguished career, knowing that her contributions have helped make Nagle Catholic College the place it is today. Her work, her leadership, and her compassion have set an example for all of us to follow. Thank you, and congratulations to Ms Masotto on her retirement and for her significant contributions to our College community.

In addition to Ms Masotto, I would also now like to take the opportunity to recognise our 'Morrissey Medal' recipient for 2023. The 'Morrissey Medal,' is a prestigious award named in honour of Bishop Michael who served twenty years on the College Board. This award is reserved for those staff who have also committed two decades of their lives in the service of our school.

The 'Morrissey Medal' is a symbol of gratitude, dedication, passion, and the exceptional contributions that these staff members have made to our College. It represents the very essence of our College motto, 'For Others,' and acknowledges the enduring impact the recipients have had on our school community.

The work of this year's recipient extends far beyond the boundaries of their job descriptions. Their dedication to our students' well-being, their support for colleagues, and their tireless efforts have made a significant difference in the lives of so many individuals who make up our community. The



recipient of this year's award embodies what it means to be 'For Others,' and we are profoundly grateful for their contribution.

In recognition of their exceptional service, the recipient was presented with the 'Morrissey Medal' and a special gift from the College at our Presentation Evening. These tokens are just a small reflection of the immense gratitude we hold for their commitment to our College community.

On behalf of the staff, parents, and students, both current and past, of Nagle Catholic College, I would like to sincerely thank Ben Ebsary for his commitment and dedication to the College over the past two decades. Ben has held several different leadership roles at the College, including Head of House, Head of Learning Area and now as Director of Students. I look forward to Ben's continuing contribution to the College. Well done, thank you and congratulations, Ben!

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to our School Advisory Council, led by Chairperson, Mr Simon Keemink. These remarkable individuals have dedicated their precious time and shared their talents to foster the growth and development of our school throughout this year. As a College, we hold in the highest regard the unwavering dedication of the School Advisory Council, and we are immensely thankful for their service, guidance, and, above all, their support. To all members of our School Advisory Council, I extend my sincerest thanks and gratitude.

Before concluding, I would like to take a moment to express my appreciation to the staff members who will be leaving the College at the end of this year. Your hard work has been instrumental in shaping the lives of our students, and we are deeply appreciative of your contributions. I would like to make a special mention of Mr Damian Ramos who left the College a little earlier this term. Damian was the Deputy Principal – Faith and Life and made a significant contribution to the life of our College during his time with us, for which I am especially grateful. We hope all those staff leaving us will look back on their time at the College with fond memories. I wish you and your families all the very best in your future endeavours.

To all our families, as we approach the Christmas season, I extend my warmest wishes for a safe and joyous holiday. We are profoundly grateful for your continuous support and for entrusting the College with the education of your children. It is a privilege and an honour we hold dear. May you have a wonderful summer break filled with happiness and relaxation.

God bless.

Mr Michael Williams
Principal