

ST ANDREWS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Senior Class of 2017

Year 12 Testimonials

INGRID SONG - Year 12 has been a challenging year as both a student and as an individual. There is no denying it's been hard, with mounting pressure and juggling commitments. But I have to say that I've also learnt a lot about myself and my relationship with God. In that way I think I've grown more than I expected to. I've also loved becoming so much closer with a lot of my classmates as we survive Year 12 together. VCE Camp was definitely one of my highlights, where we all had an opportunity to bond and have fun as a cohort before our final year together.

HANNAH BLIGH - Over the years I've been at St Andrews, I've learnt a lot about Maths and English and Science. But these aren't what this school is all about - it's more than just good grades. St Andrews taught me about friendship and forgiveness, about kindness and compassion, and most of all about faith. I will always treasure my time at St Andrews, and am incredibly thankful to all the teachers and other students with whom I had the privilege to attend.

EMMA MOODY - I've been at St Andrews for 13 years, which is pretty crazy, and I have learnt so much - from volcanic eruptions and the gold rush to how to (sort of) play hockey. I'm so thankful I have been able to grow up in this community, and I have always felt supported by my teachers. I've built up a stack load of memories throughout my years at the school - like when Olivia Rowland fainted in the middle of a tour in a museum during our Canberra camp, and the time one of the doors in the girls' bathroom slammed so hard on my finger that my nail fell off. I will never forget the long bus rides to South Australia for music competitions, or the time we bought Mr Batty 10kg of onions. I know that I'll miss so many things next year: seeing all the great people in other year levels every day, going to prayer group led by Mrs deMeester, eating cereal in the common area at recess and the flowers near the flag pole which smell nice. I am thankful for English classes which challenged me to think hard, for the many devotions I've heard in assemblies or homeroom which have encouraged me, and especially for all the teachers who have prayed for me or with me, or talked to me about Jesus.

LAUREN ZHANG - No doubt, Year 12 has been an incredibly stressful year. But it is during these demanding and difficult times that I am truly able to appreciate the wonderful teachers and friends I have at St Andrews. Not only supporting me through the hard times but also joining me in celebrating my successes. 2017 has been a cohort - we're a family!

YANG CHAO - What a wonderful way to end the last year of our schooling career. We have gone through times of stress, times of laughter, times of sadness and times of joy. Now we have made it! It says in Deuteronomy 15:11 "There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be open handed towards your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land." We built each other up in their hour of need and because of this we survived an excellent year.

OLIVIA ROWLAND - Looking back to starting at St Andrews 13 years ago in prep back at Burwood, what a journey it has been. Filled with many exciting and joyful memories, my time here at St Andrews has been characterised by the teachers that have supported me and encouraged me over the years not only in my studies but also in my faith. My teachers have journeyed with me during the good times and stressful times, continually encouraging us to rely on God. Highlights of the past 13 years include: Year 6 camp at Kangarooobie (yes it still is the best camp); participating in interschool sports; attending ski camps at Mt Buller and Mt Hotham; partaking in several school musicals but by far my highlight of highlights is all the amazing friendships I have been able to form over the years. Having a small cohort meant I was able to get to know each person in our year level, creating strong and lasting friendships with many in my own year and many in those above and below. Every year when I see the Year 12s leave it is like seeing a part of the family of St Andrews move out, and now that I have reached that stage I am very sad to leave what has been my home for the past 13 years. As I journey into the future I will take with me the resilience and values instilled in me by the students and teachers of St Andrews, to always do your best for God's glory!

NICK AREFTA - I have been blessed to attend this closely connected school and made unforgettable memories with everyone. The teachers show a great deal of support when it comes to my studies and my relationship with God. It's been wonderful to watch St Andrews Christian College grow since 2012 with the fabulous new senior building that has brought in more valuable resources for students to use.

