



NAGLE
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Presentation Ceremony
Principal's Address 2018

Good evening and welcome,

Our focus this year on the College value of 'Compassion' has helped our community to become even more aware of others in our lives. This compassion is enshrined in our motto 'For Others.'

For 2019, the College value 'Love of Work' will be the focus.

The work of our Founders, Nano Nagle and Edmund Rice, centred on serving the poor. Their dedication and enthusiasm for the task inspired others to live their lives in a similar manner.

A night such as this provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge the significant efforts of some of our staff members.

The 'Morrissey Medal' is awarded to staff who have completed 20 years of service at Nagle Catholic College. This award recognises their dedication, their passion and their outstanding contribution to the College community over a significant period of time. Each recipient is presented with a medallion and a gift from the College. I ask that they come forward as they are announced.

Our first recipient of the 'Morrissey Medal' tonight is Mrs Robyn Gummery.

Congratulations Robyn!

Our second recipient of the 'Morrissey Medal' is Mr Scott Dethlefsen.

Congratulations Scott!

Bishop Michael recently informed me that our College Chaplain, Father Tai Trinh, will become the Parish Priest of Karratha from 2019.

Father Tai has a talent for connecting with young people. For the past five years, he has travelled to East Timor with the Year 11 Endeavour team and each time, the students come back raving about him. He makes Mass and Religion applicable and accessible for all of our students, and he inspires in them a sense of pride in being Christian leaders.



He is kind and generous, honest and compassionate. We have been blessed to have Father Tai at Nagle and will miss him dearly.

Father Tai will be farewelled by students and staff later this week. I ask that you join me tonight in acknowledging Father Tai's contribution to the College.

I am happy to advise that Seminarian, Dominic Hoang, will be Father Tai's replacement. We warmly welcome him to the College.

Our current Board Chair, Mrs Debbie Carson, completes her time on the College Board after serving a full term of six years. Debbie has been the Board Chair for four of those years and has committed herself wholeheartedly and assisted the College to navigate a number of challenging situations.

In her leadership, Debbie has encouraged the Board to become more pro-active and forward thinking. I have personally appreciated her knowledge, her insight and her advice. The College Board recently gathered to farewell Debbie and present her with a gift. I ask that you join me tonight in acknowledging Debbie's efforts.

Throughout 2018, Our Teaching & Learning team continued to remain abreast of the best educational practices available and to provide our students with the learning tools and learning environment that will ensure their development as independent and critical thinking learners.

With the assistance of the Parents' & Friends' Committee, the College established a new collaborative learning area in the Edmund Rice Library. This facility has been enthusiastically embraced by both students and teachers as they engage in new formats of learning.

Our students have excelled at state, national and international levels.

Our students demonstrated their high level of entrepreneurship in winning the State award for the \$20 Boss Competition. Another group of students in the same class, were awarded second place out of 450 schools at a National level.



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Nagle students competed in the Humanities & Social Sciences World Series Competition and placed first in the State out of 120 schools, first in the Nation out of 845 schools, and second globally out of 1,231 schools.

In an effort to increase the provision of individual support for students, this year, the introduction of a Director of Students for each Year Group was initiated. This occurred whilst maintaining the vibrant structure of our House system and has resulted in providing our students with a higher level of support to assist and guide their academic and personal development.

In the area of Faith & Life, our students continued to be actively engaged at a practical level in caring for those less fortunate. This year, they have managed to raise in excess of \$22,000 and made a significant contribution to improving the lives of others.

Tonight, we conclude our year of celebration to mark the 25th Anniversary of Nagle Catholic College. Every time we have an event, I am reminded of why we celebrate. The character of our students, staff and wider community comes to the surface. It is a character that is friendly and caring, rich in compassion and understanding, and ready to be of service to others.

Whilst it is natural and right to celebrate our academic achievements, our sporting achievements and our community endeavours, what we celebrate most, is the formation of the whole person that has a deep and rich understanding of, not only what it means to be 'For Others', but has a core desire to live a life that reflects that belief.

A significant point in time provides an opportunity to ask questions and look forward.

What might the next 25 years look like?

How do we build upon our foundation to reach new heights?

In what ways do we need to change to remain current and relevant to the community?

What local and global influences should we be aware of?

In our context as a Catholic school, the College is inviting students, staff and families to contribute their ideas on the following topics:



- Our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) guides the actions of the College in creating a respectful awareness of Aboriginal culture. What strategies will enable us to move from 'Reconciliation' to 'Respect'?
- With regards to sustainability, how can we further grow in knowledge and practice to meet the needs of the present without compromising future generations?
- The learner should always be at the centre of the educational experience. How can we enhance our active learning environment to provide a personalised and engaging learning experience for every student?
- Wellbeing and resilience are essential for academic and social development. In what ways can we further assist our students to become resilient individuals who are able to form supportive communities?
- Our uniform assists in promoting a shared sense of school identity and helps our students feel like they belong at Nagle. Self-perception is a significant matter for adolescents. How can our uniform be improved to encourage school pride, reflect inclusivity, provide choice and fit with the local climate?

In closing my address tonight, I extend my thanks to all of our staff at Nagle. They work so hard and give so generously of themselves and so often go above and beyond what is asked of them. I want them to know that they are greatly appreciated. I also extend my thanks to the Board and the P&F Committee for their support, advice and contribution, all of which I find to be so valuable.

I take this opportunity to wish you a restful and rejuvenating holiday and a peace filled Christmas.