



2015 COLLEGE CAPTAIN

“No man’s journey has been the same as anyone else’s. We have gone through it all together, shoulder by shoulder, but in vastly different ways.”

Who would’ve thought it would come to an end so quickly? In 2010, we turned up to the first day of school as individuals. You could even say we were “one man wolf packs”. But today, we stand here as one, held together by the memories we’ve forged along the way. School camps, sports carnivals, the intense soccer matches at lunchtime, classroom shenanigans; all of this comes to an end, and thus begins a new chapter of our lives. Now, we must pass the torch to the next generation, and hope that we have left in our wake something that will outlast us at this College.

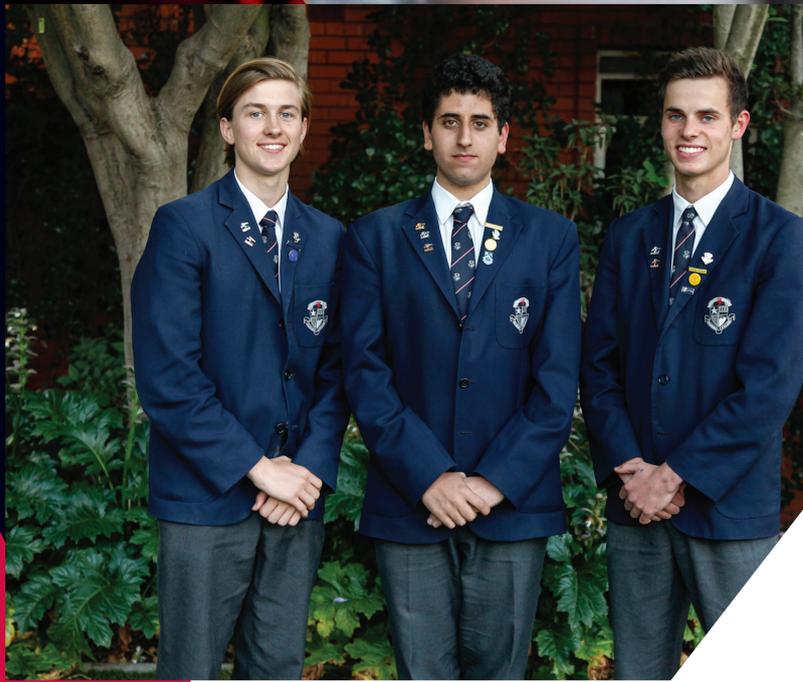
To Danyon, Josh, and the leadership team; I cannot thank you enough. We’ve been through so many leadership camps, board meetings, speeches, proposals, school functions and other events, and I consider myself lucky to have worked alongside such an elite group of motivated and proactive leaders. You’ve all given this school so much and made it better a better place, and working with you has been a pleasure and an honour.

To next year’s College Leaders, first and foremost, congratulations. You have a tough road ahead, yet one that will be no doubt extremely rewarding, fulfilling and full of great times to come. I remember sitting in your seats a year

ago, and, to be completely honest, at first I was afraid. I was petrified. It’s definitely a daunting task, but the experience is filled with opportunities to grow. Good luck with the year to come, and I’m sure you’ll leave your mark on the College, just as we hope we have left ours.

We have not undertaken this journey alone, and so we must extend our thanks to a number of people. Firstly, our families have been a constant source of support. In particular, I’d like to thank my own family. Mum, Dad, you have made me the man I am today. Despite all the arguments over how many practice exams I’ve done or how on earth I’ve managed to sign myself up to another camp, you’ve always been there for me, through sacrifice, assurance, love and belief. To all the parents, the wide-eyed Year 7 students in oversized blazers you once saw walk through these gates are now leaving as young men, ready to take on the world, and for all that you have given us we are forever grateful.

On top of all this, we have been so lucky to have some of the best teachers in the state to guide us through our schooling journey. Salesian is truly blessed with educators who are not only extremely capable in their subjects, but also go above and beyond their duties to ensure that we get the



most out of our learning and our Salesian life. They are teachers who go beyond simply teaching, and raise the bar for excellence.

Our time here at the College is about to end, but there is still one enormous barrier to overcome. However, seeing the year level throughout the years, there's no doubt

in my mind that we will absolutely rise to the occasion. Of course, there are the standouts, from Nimesh and Simon, who never hesitate to give their time and incredible talents to help anyone in need, to Andrew Kelly, who has had to endure my endless questions during our free periods. We've learnt so many invaluable lessons from our time here, such as how to accidentally dislocate someone's knee at the Year 10 Social, or the fact that our upcoming exams can only be described as "brutal".

When I sat down to write this speech, it was a lot harder than I had anticipated. How do you sum up such a huge part of our lives in so little time? As clichéd as it sounds, all I can say is that everyone has had his own unique experience throughout high school. No man's journey has been the same as anyone else's. We have

gone through it all together, shoulder by shoulder, but in vastly different ways. For some, it's been sport, and the countless unforgettable moments that have come from it. For others, it's been music and drama, and the thrill and precision of the performing arts. For Mikey, Hamish and Gab, it's been becoming the best sound and light crew this school has ever had. So really, as a message to the younger year levels, high school is what you make of it. And so to the Salesian College Chadstone Class of 2015, I wish you every success in the future, and hope you will cherish the memories and friendships we have made here as much as I have. I would like to leave you with the words of Michael Dell: "As you start your journey, the first thing you should do is throw away that map and begin to draw your own". Thank you.

Patrick Atallah
2015 College Captain