



Dear Parents and Students

I hope that you all had a wonderful Festive Season and have started the New Year full of optimism.

The 2008 Year 12 cohort distinguished themselves with outstanding results in the SACE examinations and we congratulate each and every one on their commitment to do their best.

Stephanie Bai was Dux of the school with a TER of 99.95 and **Eleanor Cannon** was proxime accessit with a TER of 99.90.

Eleven students, Stephanie Bai, Eleanor Cannon, Mingmei Teo, Tu Nguyen, Sophie Thoo, Michael Croft, Giddy Soeharyo, Will Nixon, Billie Charles-Britton, Phoebe Paterson de Heer and Rebecca Qin each secured a **TER above 99**. This places these students in the top 1% of all SACE candidates.

USC students were awarded a total of **40 Merits (20/20)**. There were 6 Merits in Chemistry, 6 in Maths Studies, 5 in Maths Applications and 3 in each of English Studies, Maths Specialist, Physics and Visual Arts Studies, a remarkable achievement. In addition a total of seventy six students (36% of the cohort) achieved a TER above 90. Twenty seven students scored 5 A's and 72% of the total cohort scored A and B grades in all five subjects.

These are outstanding results, well above those of 'Like Schools' and are the consequence of diligent, hard work from the students and a high degree of professional support from the teaching staff. We have come to expect no less from students who enter the senior secondary program at USC and staff strive to develop a learning environment that encourages all to reach their true potential.

Preparations for the start of the 2009 school year are well underway and building renovations are in full swing in the vicinity of the USC main building. Pedestrian traffic in the vicinity of the Tower Building will be restricted over the next few months and visitors will be directed to use the covered walkways whilst moving through the area.

Lisa Temple and Kate Cutts have put in place orientation programs relevant to each year level to ensure that the year begins in a very positive and productive manner. Please take careful note of the details provided with this newsletter regarding orientation, book sales and student photographs.

2009 promises to be an exciting and vibrant year and I look forward to welcoming students onto campus at the end of the month.

Bob Holloway
PRINCIPAL
January 2009