FROM THE ACADEMIC DEAN

Congratulations to the HSC Class of 2018 upon receiving outstanding results! Once again, we are extremely proud of all our boys. The passion and determination demonstrated by those students receiving their Higher School Certificate is a credit to them. Today, they reap the reward for the diligence and commitment they have demonstrated, not just in Year 12, but throughout their years at Trinity.

Just over half of our 2018 Year 12 students chose the HSC credential, while the remainder elected to study the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. As the IB results will not be released until early January, they are not reflected in the statistics offered here, or in other public forums. In addition, some 35 students from younger year groups sat for examinations, in one or two subjects, as part of an acceleration programme. Once both the HSC and IB results are in, the School’s statistician will provide us with a comprehensive picture of the entire class of 2018. The analysis that follows is a first impression of the HSC results only.

All Round Achievement

To qualify as an All-round Achiever, a student must achieve the top band in a minimum of ten units. Congratulations to the following students. This is a thoroughly deserved acknowledgement for them.

> Jeremy Adams (Fo)
> Vasi MacMillan (Ho)

Top Achievers in Course

This lists the students who achieved one of the top places, and a result in the highest band possible in one or more HSC courses. Congratulations to the following students:

Jeremy Adams (Fo)
Ancient History - 4th

Faybian Chow (Du)
Mathematics Extension 1 - equal 10th

Ethan Hansford (He)
Construction - 3rd

Distinguished Achievement

In addition to these outstanding all-round results, there were 102 Band 6 or E4 results from the Class of 2018, resulting in 61 boys appearing on the Distinguished Achievers list. This is a wonderful reflection of the breadth of high achievement from our boys.

Looking at the broader picture of strong performances, we find the results continue to be robust. For two-unit subjects, 48 percent of results were in the top two performance bands with 87 Band 6 results. Trinity presented a total of 63 candidatures for Extension courses; 94 percent of these results fell in the top two Extension bands, with 15 top band results.
Trinity students continue to perform well both in areas of personal passion and personal challenge. Growth from Year 10 results is outstanding, building upon the foundational approaches to learning developed in all aspects of the Trinity curriculum from P-12. This willingness to embrace challenge and apply the habits of learning developed over many years is particularly evident in the robust outcomes achieved by students in English and Mathematics.

In all Mathematics courses, 62 percent of students received results in the top two performance bands with some 41 students achieving top band results. An impressive number of students committed to the highly demanding Extension 1 and Extension 2 courses and all were rewarded with this course falling amongst their personal best, with 94% of these candidates achieving in the top two bands.

Ninety-five percent of our boys undertook the more demanding Advanced English, as we know that doing so can greatly assist their ATAR, and 54 percent of these students achieved in the top two bands. In contrast, across the state, fewer than 45 percent of candidates took this course. At the Extension English level, Trinity presented 20 candidates across Extension 1 and Extension 2, with 95 percent of students achieving in the top two Extension bands. Again, these students were rewarded with English results amongst their personal best.

These results reflect very positively on the efforts of the boys and their teachers.

**HSC Showcases and Exhibitions**

In 2018 three nominations were received for various showcases and exhibitions. We are delighted that all three students’ works have now been selected for these highly prestigious showcases. The range of these selections again reflects upon the scope of passion and talent nurtured in the Trinity learning environment.

HSC Design and Technology, Textiles and Design – Shape 2018
Ethan Hansford (He)

HSC Visual Art – ARTEXPRESS 2018
Eddie Azzi (Du)

HSC Music – Encore 2018
Monty Guo (Ke)

The HSC Class of 2018 has continued the School’s fine tradition of excel-ling in the HSC. The results are a well-deserved measure of the students’ hard work and focus, the quality of the staff who guided them, and the families who have supported and encouraged them. They are well on their way to becoming outstanding men who are critical, responsible, lifelong learners, who know their talents and passions, and use them positively in the world into which they have stepped.

We now look towards early January for the release of our IB results, and being able to celebrate the full picture of achievements across our 2018 Year 12 cohort.

Deborah Williams | Academic Dean
Eddie Azzi from Beverley Park, found working on his major work for Visual Arts a great way to clear his mind for a period.

Focusing so diligently on the work has paid dividends with Eddie’s artwork being chosen for the prestigious ARTEXPRESS group of exhibitions.

It was being chosen to have his work chosen for ARTEXPRESS that Eddie sees as one of his greatest achievements, along with receiving an academic citation at school and achieving a Black Belt for Taekwondo.

The major work created by Eddie and titled “The science in organic?” aims to depict the topical debate of natural food versus genetically modified foods through a two-piece, still-life oil painting. “My intention was to cause the audience to ponder the relationships between the real and inorganic and the resulting long-term consequences. Health issues are symbolised through surgical scissors and pills, but ultimately juxtaposed by organic foods such as eggs and fish,” commented Eddie.

Asked what his inspiration for the work was, Eddie is quick to name his brother. “My artwork was greatly inspired by my brother’s gradual but significant change in diet. I was surprised to see his junk food habits being replaced by a passion to research the ingredients he once consumed. My response to this was to ‘paint’ his passion.”

The artwork didn’t come without its challenges. Eddie cites painting the glass full of egg yolks as a difficult element of the work. “To replicate the transparency of the egg white and the ways in which the light interacted with the subject required a significant amount of time and patience. Delicate brushstrokes and glazes were required to bring the object to life,” said Eddie.

“I feel honoured that my hard work, and that of my peers undertaking the HSC in 2018, was recognised by the ARTEXPRESS judges. It has taken a lot of effort over the year, to work on my major work, and I hope that this effort speaks for itself through my artwork,” concluded Eddie.

With his artwork drawing international attention, Eddie has been invited to attend an admissions interview for the University of Arts in London.

Almost half of Trinity Grammar School’s 2018 Year 12 cohort completed the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma instead of the HSC. Their results will be released on 3 January 2018.
Although Faybian Chow of Blakehurst found the distraction of technology difficult to resist at times, he was able to apply himself to study and managed a place on the Top Achievers in Course, coming equal tenth in Mathematics Extension 1.

A Trinity Grammar School student since Year 7, Faybian completed English Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1 and 2, Chemistry, Biology and Physics. He also completed the Accelerated Mathematics course in Year 11.

Mathematics and Chemistry were Faybian's favourite subjects: “Maths is very similar to puzzles that require you to think logically about different techniques and ways that you can solve problems, kind of like a Rubik’s Cube. Chemistry is also very interesting and attract my curiosity.”

Co-curricular activities such as Cadets and a part-time job coaching Badminton meant Faybian had to juggle these activities with academics and study. Asked if he had a strategy to manage this, Faybian said, “I didn’t specifically plan out a long-term strategy, so it was more of a spontaneous plan. As the work popped up, I would set goals and come up with day-to-day plans to whittle down the workload, making sure I prioritised closer deadlines whilst keeping an eye on the time I spent and what was remaining.”

Asked where he found support during stressful times, Faybian says music and friends played a huge role in supporting him throughout the HSC. “Music encouraged me to study when I was alone and it helped me focus on the work in front of me, yet studying with friends every other day and having thorough conversations was also beneficial to my understanding of the content.”

Faybian Chow is celebrating his success with a trip to Hong Kong and Japan. He aims to study Engineering next year.

Almost half of Trinity Grammar School’s 2018 Year 12 cohort completed the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma instead of the HSC. Their results will be released on 3 January 2018.
Having moved from Canberra when he was 14, Jeremy Adams of Burwood joined Trinity Grammar School partway through Year 8. He is most proud of his change in attitude that put him on the Premier’s HSC All-round Achiever list, and the Top Achievers in Course list, placing fourth in Ancient History.

“Between Year 8 and the first half of Year 11, I didn’t achieve all round good marks and the common theme at parent teacher interviews was that I lacked focus and was underachieving. I worked hard to change my attitude, when half way through Year 11, I realised I was wasting important opportunities and my marks were not where I wanted them to be. I was proud of the way that in a short space of time, I was able to work really hard to turn around not only my marks, but also my attitude to life at Trinity. I tried hard to embrace the opportunities offered, and participate in a variety of activities I had previously not considered,” commented Jeremy.

The key to managing the workload was simple according to Jeremy: “I think that it was just avoiding procrastination and taking advantage of opportunities to study. Being proactive creates a lot of time! I just worked consistently and did what I said I would, worked my hardest and then found reassurance in the fact that I’d done my best instead of stressing about what I might get.”

Jeremy completed Accelerated Business Studies in Year 11, Ancient History, Modern History, Extension History, Mathematics, Advanced English, and PDHPE. His favourite subjects were Mathematics and Ancient History. “My Ancient History teacher inspired me to learn for the love of learning. We went far beyond the expectations and requirements of the HSC, because the focus wasn’t on the marks but on the love of the subject. The classical style of learning through reading, debate and discussion helped everyone to develop their critical analysis in a way that no other subject paralleled. The subject matter was incredibly engaging and interesting,” said Jeremy enthusiastically.

One of the things Jeremy enjoyed most about life at Trinity was the work-life balance. “I really enjoyed the Christian group Berea. It always helped remind me that there was more to life than just study, and it helped to keep a good perspective. Football was also great because I always got to see my friends and enjoy physical activity.”

Asked how he managed the challenges of Year 12, Jeremy was quick to respond: “I found sport a good escape, but most importantly my faith. I made sure I never missed youth group or church for study, because it was a principle that reminded me of my priorities and gave me perspective.”

Jeremy hopes to study Law at the University of Sydney, and in the meantime, is keeping busy coaching and tutoring.

Almost half of Trinity Grammar School’s 2018 Year 12 cohort completed the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma instead of the HSC. Their results will be released on 3 January 2018.
Vasi MacMillan from Ashfield started at Trinity in Year 7 and has relished the opportunities made available to him through the School.

Making the Premier’s HSC All-Round Achiever list, Vasi said he found time to unwind from his busy schedule through his co-curricular activities of Football, Cricket and the Archaeological Society.

History is cited as Vasi’s preferred subject: “Mainly because of the different debates and interpretations of the past which adds to its fascinating and complex nature. Also, Economics – in many ways it is applicable and relevant to what’s going on around us in the political sphere.”

Vasi completed English Advanced, Mathematics, Economics, Business Studies, Modern History and History Extension.

The thing that Vasi is most proud of during his time at Trinity is “committing myself to performing well in the HSC and matching the extremely high physical and psychological demands,” he said.

How did Vasi find the workload? “It was pretty tough, I made it easier for myself by completing accelerated Business Studies and working hard around the half-year period so I was on track to complete the course before trials,” he said.

Asked where he found support during the stressful times, Vasi said: “My parents were very willing to support me and even helped me with some of the work if needed. This was made easier having a Dad who teaches a subject you do (Economics) at University, and my mother who is studying History at University.”

Finding ways to tackle the challenges of the HSC helped Vasi to cope with the workload. “Definitely the toughest challenge was the chunks of exams. I found in the lead up to exams (generally during a holiday break) waking up quite early around 7am and working as soon as I woke up was a good way to knock off large chunks of work while feeling fresh, minimised the burden during these periods. Also, making a list with hours and tasks helped me manage my time during this period,” said Vasi.

Vasi hopes to undertake a Commerce degree at Sydney University while continuing to play cricket and coach football at Trinity.

Almost half of Trinity Grammar School’s 2018 Year 12 cohort completed the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma instead of the HSC. Their results will be released on 3 January 2018.