Year Ten has never been an easy year and is one in which students have to make the transition between leaving their childhood years behind them and preparing for their young adult life. The process of adolescence offers many challenges both mentally and physically for the individual and for those who share in the journey. As I reflect on 2012, I am very proud of the way in which the Year Ten cohort has adjusted to the difficulties presented to them in both their personal and College life.

The three days dedicated to Camp Week at the start of the school year were a fantastic opportunity to see the students in a different light. The students participated in activities based on the themes that are important in Year Ten and also had the privilege to hear inspirational presentations from guest speakers such as Rob Pike (Equipe Industries) and the team from IdentityWA.

The Year Ten pastoral care programme is based on the ‘6 Mates’ dvd series that has been produced by the City of Melville. The series addresses a wide range of issues that adolescents often have to deal with throughout the social climate to which they belong. Once again, this program has proven to be of great benefit to all involved and I appreciate the amount of effort the staff and students have displayed throughout the year in this regard.

Students were introduced to a week of exams at the end of each semester. Considering that this was the first year that this has taken place, the cohort as a whole prepared well and achieved deserving results. I am sure that this experience will prove to be of great benefit to the students when sitting future exams in their senior years in Mazenod.

The last two weeks of the Term Two was a very important time for the entire year level. The Year Ten Subject Selection Programme gave the boys a wonderful insight to the requirements and pre-requisites for the remaining years of their secondary education and beyond. The students participated in workshops and several presentations that were conducted by the Heads of Department at Mazenod and various members of industry and tertiary institutions.

As is the case every year in Year Ten, dance classes with the young ladies from St. Brigid’s have provided great excitement. Classes were held twice a week for 5 weeks in Term Three and culminated with the Dance Social in the St. Brigid’s gymnasium. The boys represented themselves and the College with distinction and regularly displayed the behaviour typical of young gentlemen. I am sure that many of them now consider themselves to be Merengue, Salsa and American Jive experts on the dance floor.

I would like thank the students of Year Ten for a very enjoyable year. I believe that they have faced the challenges of such a difficult phase in their lives exceptionally well and that they are extremely capable of displaying the sort of behaviours attributed to fine young men. They have also been terrifically supported by all of their Year 10 subject teachers and their Form Teachers. I am enormously appreciative of the amazing dedication displayed throughout the year by Mr Mark Pallot (10A), Mr Nik Martinskis (10B), Mr John Keogh (10C) and Mr Daniel Rogerson (10D).

I wish the entire 2012 Year Ten cohort all the very best in their future endeavours!!!