

Confidence to pursue their dreams



College Captains Sophie and Emily completed their year of exceptional and generous leadership with ATARs of 93 and 87

Celebrating excellence in all girls education

We are delighted to acknowledge the achievements of graduating students who have achieved excellent results and outstanding personal achievements in their final year of secondary education.

While some results may have well been anticipated as the continuation of impressive learning outcomes over the years, we all know that true success especially through the rigour of external VCE assessment takes but 1% inspiration or talent and 99% perspiration or hard work.

Persistence and a determined study focus are the keys to success, and none more so than for our 2018 College Dux, Jessica Horner. Jessica quietly but conscientiously set her goals, participated fully in class and out, with regular submissions of work and practice exams ensuring her best outcome.

All participants in VCAL successfully completed their two-year program and are prepared for and looking forward to employment and training pathways ahead.

A significant number of girls with top scores clearly balanced formal leadership roles with the challenge of SMART goals and regular study. All were grateful for the support of their family as well as teachers.

We are also proud of those girls, not named here but known within the College community

whose VCE score, while not numerically of the highest order, represents a 'personal best'. Such hard won results are equally worthy of recognition and celebration. These girls understand better than most, the importance of lifelong learning, where the greater the effort, the more likely a real sense of achievement.

May each girl, now as a Mater Christi College graduate, continue to understand the joy of learning, to 'listen with the ear of her heart' and live life to the full.

Mary Fitz-Gerald, Principal

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YEAR 12 STUDENT PROFILES

Even with an ATAR of 98.5, Jess Horner describes herself simply as a “steady, hardworking student”.

In many ways, Jess applied all of the basic principles of being an ideal student. She was widely recognised for her work ethic. “There is no point in half-doing jobs and I love learning new things.”

Jess always maintained a healthy balance between her studies, sport and work commitments and was clear with her priorities and time.

She also understood the value of completing tasks early and seeking assistance when needed. “The teachers were so supportive and always available to help or correct extra work or exams.”

Jess earned the respect and admiration of this community with her integrity and no-fuss approach to the basics – balance, organisation, motivation and hard work while acknowledging the support of her family, friends and teachers.



Jess Horner, 2018 College Dux

Her outstanding results are a testament to her commitment: Biology 46, English Language 41, History 37, Maths Methods 33, Physical Education 44 and Psychology 49.

Jess plans to study Speech Pathology in 2019.



Claire Leibler

In November, Claire's dream to join a circus became a little more real when she was offered a highly treasured place at the National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA).

Claire's commitment to her dream has been extraordinary.

“I put my heart and soul into this, especially in the last two years.”

She has managed to complete her VCE while maintaining a gruelling training program. “It is super-competitive. People from interstate and overseas audition for only 20 places at NICA so I knew that I had to train at least 4 hours a day to be competitive.”

With continued hard work and success, Claire hopes to complete a Bachelor of Circus Arts then join a troupe or work solo. She is well on her way and has already performed four shows at the Melbourne Fringe Festival.

Choosing Studio Art as a higher study in Year 10 proved to be pivotal for Hayley. “My interest in study grew. It challenged all my skills. I became more analytical in my thinking and it even improved my writing.”

Hayley is highly motivated, sets high expectations for herself and strives for constant improvement. She has loved all of her art and design subjects and “the freedom to pursue my own ideas and develop my own creative style”. She has particularly enjoyed the supportive art and design community at the College.

Hayley also valued Business Studies and appreciated the complementary nature of the different disciplines.

Hayley intends to pursue her love of design and was offered a position in Design at the University of Melbourne.



Hayley Curtis

Hayley attained an ATAR of 90.95 and has been shortlisted for the VCE Season of Excellence for Design Technology and Visual Communication.

During her last two years as a VCAL student, Amber completed Certificate II in Small Business, Certificate III in Allied Health, Certificate II in Public Safety as well as Responsible Serving of Alcohol and Barista Certificates.

She was also awarded 2018 Ferntree Gully Junior Firefighter of the Year.

Amber has thrived on practical experiences and recognises her strong preference for Applied Learning.

"The Wildlife Awareness event and the Knitted Octopuses for Premie Babies were my major projects, and both were a great success."



Amber Johnson, VCAL Dux

Amber completed more than 350 hours of placement over two years with various health providers. She will begin a nursing course at TAFE in July, working towards her goal of becoming a midwife.

"Choosing VCAL was the best decision I have made. I have loved every minute".



Katie Warner

After moving house several times, Mater Christi became Katie's sixth school. She settled quickly and felt "part of a meaningful community and the girls were more focused".

Katie was actively involved in the College through various music ensembles, productions, competitions and trips to Borneo and Central Australia. She always enjoyed new challenges and discovered the excitement of working in teams. "It was awesome working with new people in different contexts".

Katie describes herself as an organised, hardworking and engaged learner. "There is so much to learn, so much new knowledge to discover."

Katie knows what she wants and sets clear goals, while having good back-up plans. She is determined to become a Paediatric Neonatal Surgeon, commencing in 2019 with entry to Bio Medicine at Monash University.

Katie attained an ATAR of 95.9 with scores of: Biology 43, Chemistry 37, English Language 43, Further Maths 41 and Maths Methods 36.

While Madeleine regularly enjoyed academic success, she identifies her personal growth as equally significant during her time at Mater Christi.

"I was particularly shy and reserved in primary school, but I have gradually built confidence and now feel very comfortable in myself."

Madeleine is a hard-working and self-motivated student who always sets high expectations of herself.

One of her greatest strengths is that she is reflective, learning from mistakes and understanding herself, "I manage my 'perfectionist' tendency by reminding myself that my best efforts are more than good enough".



Madeline Ostoja-Solecki

Madeleine was offered her first preference course; Criminology and Forensic Science at Deakin University.

When Nicki moved to Mater Christi in Year 10, she was seeking “more focus on studies and more opportunities and challenges”. Her leadership and passion for sport led her into many sporting teams and she was elected as Sports Captain in 2018.

She is also a very talented sportswoman outside of school, playing in the Victorian Youth League Basketball, TAC U/18 Football and with Hawthorn in the VFLW.

Nicki has thrived in the all-girls environment and thinks that “girls are more willing to be true to themselves, to ‘have a go’ in sport and focus better on our studies as well”.

With such a busy schedule of training, matches and study, Nicki recognised the importance and value of her routines.



Nicki Cormack

Nicki achieved an ATAR over 80 and was offered her first preference course of Criminology and Psychological Sciences but is keeping her options open for next year to prioritise her budding football career.



Jess Clark

Jessica looks at the world through a wide lens. She has firm goals to study law and international studies, travel the world and make a difference. She attributes these goals with the values and lessons she has learnt during her time at Mater Christi.

“Moving to Mater Christi in Year 8 was the best decision I have ever made. I learnt the value of sisterhood - that women are strong and have the ability to bring about change in the world.”

“My Year 10 Politics classes opened my eyes to political issues and gave me insight into different perspectives. The school trip to France sparked my interest in learning about the way other countries work.”

“Now, I can’t sit back and watch – I want to study Law, do something meaningful and make the world a better place.”

Jessica is ready to pursue her dreams after achieving an ATAR of 87.75. She was offered her first preference course of Law/Criminology at Deakin University.

Watching the movie Finding Nemo when she was 4 years old sparked Clancy’s passion for nature and the sea and set her on an unwavering path to becoming a Marine Biologist.

One of her best decisions was to apply for the Marine Discovery Program at the University of Tasmania in 2018. “I wasn’t sure if I’d get in, but I gave it a shot and it was amazing.”

Clancy balances her life with her other passion, music. She has taken part in the College jazz band, orchestra, and a number of productions throughout her years at Mater Christi.

“In many ways music and the sciences complement each other. Music works in a mathematical way and being a scientist requires creativity.”



Clancy Box

Clancy achieved an ATAR of 90.55 and has recently moved to Queensland to study Marine Science at James Cook University.

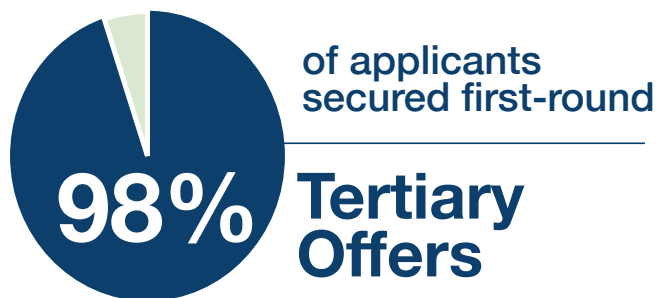
2018 Academic Results



Jessica Horner

College Dux

98.5



58%
of students

ATAR or higher **70**



32
median study score

study score of **40** or higher | **19** different subjects

Season of Excellence Shortlist



Hayley Curtis

Design Technology
Visual Communication

Indigo Lowry

Abbey Hutcheon

Jasmine Cruikshank

Drama