

Marirose Giann
Final assembly speech
2025

In my final address as School Captain, I'd like to take a moment to talk about one of life's most precious gifts - time.

Time is strange, isn't it? In Year 7, it felt endless - six years stretched ahead of us like a lifetime. By Year 9, it dragged (let's be honest, Year 9 felt about three years long). And then suddenly, somewhere between late-night cramming, and exam panic, time started sprinting. And here we are, at the finish line, wondering how six years managed to disappear so quickly.

Looking back, it's clear that time shapes us in ways we don't always notice. It's in every ordinary minute - walking through the gates or laughing with friends at recess - that extraordinary memories are made. And all those minutes, sometimes messy, sometimes brilliant, all add up to who we are today.

Of course, no one makes it through high school alone. And so I want to use this moment to thank the people who have given so much of their time to us.

To our wonderful teachers - thank you for the endless patience and care you've shown us. For the extra time you spent providing feedback, explaining things twice (or sometimes three times) and for somehow managing to stay calm while navigating the daily drama of teenage girlhood.

To Ms Connolly, our Head of Year - thank you for standing with us, through the ups and downs, reminding us of what we're capable of, and managing to stay patient, even when our year group decided "chaotic energy" was our brand. You will always hold a special place in our hearts.

To Ms Graffen and Mr Taylor, thank you for your constant support and guidance, and for always believing in what our leadership team could achieve. Your encouragement gave us the confidence to take risks, dream bigger, and bring our ideas to life.

To Ms Moloney - thank you for leading with vision and compassion, and for inspiring us to use our time with purpose and meaning. And from me a heartfelt thank you, for being such a source of encouragement and support during my time as Captain.

To my vice captains, my girls, Evie and Lefki - thank you for being not only my partners in leadership, but also amazing friends. Co-captaining with you has been a true privilege. MLC just won't be the same next year without the Papas in the house. And to the entire captaincy team - thank you for every hour you gave to turn ideas into reality, proving that

sometimes chaos plus enthusiasm really does equal success. You gave your time generously, and our school is stronger because of it.

And on a personal note, to my little sister (who is no doubt rolling her eyes right now) - it's been such a joy to share this school with you - even if you've sometimes pretended not to know me in the corridors.

Now, speaking of time, let me turn to our Year 12 gift to you all: an outdoor clock, facing the bird bath quad. Yes, it's practical – and you'll finally have no excuse for being late to class. But more than that, it's symbolic. A reminder that time is precious. You can't pause it, you can't rewind it, and once it's gone, it's gone. All you can do is decide how to use it. And our hope is that every time you glance at that clock, you'll be reminded to make the most of the minutes you have here.

To the younger students: take the time to enjoy the laughter, the friendships and to try new things. Because one day, you'll look back and realise how quickly it all passed.

And to the class of 2025 - our time here has ended, but our future is whatever we make it. The clock will keep ticking, but what matters now is how we choose to spend the hours, days, and years ahead.

And with that, this is Marirose Giann, your 2025 School Captain, the senior leadership team, and the class of 2025... officially clocking off!