

GRADUATION

Skye Primary School

10th December, 2020

Well! 2020 has been a year like no other. Never before have we had to:

- stay within 5km of home
- wear facemasks
- only be allowed outside to exercise for an hour a day
- stop seeing our family members and loved ones
- stop going to the park, the movies, cafés and shopping centres.
- And stop going to work or school!

Our Graduation ceremony has also been impacted, and has had to look quite different to our traditional ceremonies at Skye. This has been disappointing for all of us, especially for parents and family members who are not able to be here in person to see you receive your medallions. That is not to say however, that this Graduation is any less special than any other year. In fact, while it may look a little different, this Graduation is probably more special because of the obstacles that we have all had to overcome.

Sometimes we can dwell on all the things that are wrong rather than seeing all the positive things which we can be grateful for. I asked all Grade 6 students to share some of the positives from the year and these were your top 5:

- That we got to return to school and see our friends again (42)*
- That we get to all graduate together with our friends (14)*
- That we got to attend camp before lockdown happened (11)*
- For great teachers who have tried to make the year better (5)*
- That we still learnt new things and improved our knowledge (8)*



Many of you also mentioned that you were grateful that family and friends did not get COVID that you got to do something different by experiencing online learning, that you got to dress up today and perform your dance and that you are growing up and are preparing for your move to Secondary College. I for one, am really proud of your positive mindsets, the kindness in your words and the maturity you have shown in your outlook.

Graduation is simply defined as the *fact of finishing a course of study at school or university*. We know however that it means much more than that. It represents a major milestone for both you and your parents and carers.

For parents, it possibly only feels like yesterday that they were nervously sending you off to big school as you started your Primary School years in Prep, and then in a blink of an eye it is over and they are once again, preparing to send you off into the big wide world of Secondary College. It is such a mix of emotions for mums and dads and carers – they will be a bit nervous if you are their first born and Secondary College is a new experience for your family, and they might be a little sad if you are their youngest child and the Primary School years are finishing for your family.



Graduation also raises mixed emotions for us as teachers. On one hand, we are immensely proud of how grown up and ready our students are for their next big adventure. We are excited for all of the opportunities that await you but we are also very sad to have to wave goodbye and hand you over to your new school communities.

For our Year 6 students though, Graduation is your special day. It marks the end of the first half of your formal education. It is a time to stop and reflect on the learner that you have become, the friendships you made, the goals you have achieved and the lessons you have learned. Graduation is a celebration of the young person that you have become.

We would like to send a special thank you to Mrs Nicole Drew for the USB of the students photos (which will be handed out next Wednesday) and to Mrs Mel Jackson for the amazing cup cakes.

To our families that are leaving us at the end of this year we send out best wishes and thank you for the support you have given Skye Primary School over the years.

I am now thrilled to announce the winners of the Skye Primary School Awards for 2020.

Jane Briffa

Principal



Skye Primary School Valedictorian

Excellent performance over all areas of the curriculum

Ethan Plane

Skye Primary School Academic Awards

Awarded for the outstanding academic performance in the following -

*Mathematics—**Lucas Wang***

*Reading - **Sienna Miller***

*Writing— **Ruby Butler***

Skye Primary School Specialist Awards

Awarded for achievements and performance in the following -

Art —*Alysha Keem* and *Chase Hinchliffe-Smith*

Japanese —*Lucy Smith* and *Cruz Grimmer*

Kitchen Garden — *Layla Enez* and *Jake Harkin*

Physical Education —*Krystal Drew* and *Blake Ogg*

Citizenship Award

Awarded to a student who is a respectful community member and who has enriched and enhanced

Skye Primary School values

Cathy Spicer

Community Leadership Award from Sonia Kilkenny, Member for Carrum

Is awarded to a student who is a stand out in our community and who has triumphed in this difficult year

Alice Loeung

RSL Award

Is awarded to a student with good leadership qualities, academic ability and a caring nature

towards other students

Elise Hawkins

Louisa Dunkley Award from Peta Murphy, Federal Member for Dunkley

Is awarded to a student who displays distinguished commitment to applying the attributes of

Louisa Dunkley - “Fairness, equality and community for the benefit of the school”

Jack Claypole

Carrum Downs Secondary College Award

Awarded to a student who has shown, respect, integrity and effort throughout their time at Skye Primary School

Benjamin Morris

McClelland Secondary College Award

Awarded to a student who embodies Skye Primary Schools values of community, ownership and growth

Deegan Ashcroft