

Hello. My name is Carolyn Bamberg and I am the Middle School Principal at Hazel Glen College.

What a year.

As Melbourne officially overcomes the second wave of COVID 19, and the city awakens to warmth and celebration, this is the perfect time to reflect on 2020 for our young people, and our community.

As I have said previously, this has been the hardest and most exhausting year to date of my career, and the career and indeed lives of most people have never seen anything like it. It's been tough.

But I don't want to dwell on the difficulties of this year, but focus on the strength that will be garnered as a result.

Our students have developed tremendous resilience, fortitude and adaptability through this experience. They have learnt an enormous amount about the world, and about themselves. They may be looking tired, and so are many of the adults at the College, but I am so pleased to be amongst such capable young people everyday.

I would like to thank our Middle School student leaders, Cooper, Lujain, Abby and Cohen, for providing a voice for students this year, and being there for their peers when they needed it most. These leaders continue to set the tone and expectations for everyone to learn from, and I'm sure they will possess many leadership roles in their futures.

I'd like to wish our Year 8 students all the best as they head into Year 9 next year, thereby moving into the Senior School. I hope you take the knowledge and experience you have gained into the Year 9 program designed to align you with future pathways.

I'd like to thank our College community and you, the parents, for turning your life upside for your kids, for providing the care and support when we couldn't during lockdown, and helping your kids transition back to COVID normality.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the wonderful teachers and staff at Hazel Glen College for their relentless commitment to the education our young people.

In these last few weeks, we want to ensure our College is a positive place, and students hold high expectations of themselves and their learning. With

your support, we are working to ensure students feel confident to enter 2021 as learners and contributors to our college community.

On behalf of the Middle School Leadership Team, we wish you all the best for a happy and relaxed holiday season. Thank you.