

**A message from the PCW 2012 School Captain,
Filomena Perri, to our new students.**



It's an honour to welcome you into our Presentation College Windsor Community.

Year 7, 2007 was my first year at PCW. It was the time I accepted the change that was awaiting me as I made the leap into new surroundings, a new family, a place of endless opportunities and, most importantly a place of growth. Presentation College Windsor is an environment where everybody belongs, where every young girl has the chance to transform herself into a young woman who will never underestimate who she is, a young woman who will aim high, work hard and reach for success. PCW is a home that will always leave you with a smile. A smile of satisfaction for everything you have become, learned and achieved.

Satisfaction is one of the many words that would perfectly define my time at Presentation College Windsor, a feeling I realised on my very first day as a PCW student. When walking through the school gates in a new uniform, with new expectations and aspirations, it never came to my mind the change I was accepting and the challenges that I would face. I don't think at that moment I ever thought of the future, who I was going to be or what I might discover. But, as far as my memory goes, I do remember that at the end of my very first school day I was more than satisfied. I remember going home to Mum and the very first thing I did was thank her for sending me to PCW. I was never sure exactly what made me thank and hug my Mum that night for the decision she made. However, over time it's clear that what makes this school special, what makes this school stand out is not just our rich history, it's the girls and the teachers who walk in these school grounds. They radiate the true Presentation spirit that defines this school as more than a place of education but a place of nurturing that is waiting patiently to satisfy every young spirit, every student who walks through the school gates.

Your first year at PCW is the perfect time to get involved in the school community and to try every opportunity that comes your way. Year 7 is the year to experiment, to do things out of your comfort zone, to make new friends and to mix with girls of all ages. My message is to be active in PCW school life, participate in Music Festival, the School Musical, SCSA sport, camps, Presentation Day and the many sport carnivals. Hold your hand wide open to everything that this school offers, both academically and with the extra-curricular activities, such as: Debating, the Writers' Collective, SRC, Social Justice, the Chess Club, Ardoch and Peer Support. When you reach Year 12, you will realise that time flies and it's the memories you have - such as 'winning that trophy', 'standing on that stage', 'singing that song' or 'performing that speech' that will remind you of your past and give you that feeling of satisfaction and of having tried your best. These memories can only be built by experience and taking the leap rather than watching from the side lines.

Your first year will be a year to remember. There will be challenges to face, as well as triumphs. However, what is most important is that you always try your very best. Never give up, work hard, be committed to your studies, hand in your homework and set the standard so that you can show the entire school how dedicated and committed you are to PCW, a place of learning.

You will all experience many highs and lows but never underestimate who you are. Never underestimate your potential or what you want to achieve in the future. You are in control of what the future may entail and part of this transition is learning to make the choices that are right for you. Change will bring

decisions that need to be made. Never feel like you are on this journey alone. From this day on you are a part of our school community and you must always remember that there are teachers and other students here to help. The beauty of this school is that there is always someone to support you and lead you in the right direction, so have trust in the people around you. Never doubt the PCW community. It's now time to kiss change on the cheek and thank her for setting in motion the new memories and experiences that you will all have as young PCW women.

2012 is your year. Make the most of it, work hard and be active in the school community. Take the stand and make the right choices that cater for your future. You have a long way to go in your school life but I encourage you to take advantage of everything that PCW offers so that you're left with complete satisfaction and no regrets. On behalf of every student at Presentation College Windsor I wish you all the best in your transition to PCW and I certainly know we are all looking forward to working with you and making new friendships. It's a pleasure to welcome you and your parents again into the Presentation College Windsor community.

Filomena Perri
PCW 2012 School Captain