

HEROEM

TRINITY GRAMMAR BOARDING

From Strength to Strength (Semester 2, 2012)

The boarders have enjoyed a very successful second half of the year. We have had the opportunity to welcome four new boarders, Reilly Jones (Bright), Sam Muir (Shepparton), Simon Philippov (Russia) and Allen Zhu (China). The Boarding House is now almost full and the boys have enjoyed the increased energy and socialisation that is embraced in the place. The boys have experienced some great times and activities including the Boarding House weekend (particularly the Boarding House Family and Friends Dinner), a day's skiing at Mt Buller in near perfect conditions, the Year 12 farewell at Bounce (trampoline centre), Ace Karting (go-karting) and dining in Victoria Street (restaurant).

It has also been a time for contemplation for the Year 12s completing their schooling and moving onto their next stage of life. Sam, Jay and Dane will all be missed in the Boarding House and we wish them all the best in the future. I hope you enjoy the boys' reflections on the Boarding House and we wish you all a great Christmas and break over the summer.



Boarding House Family Dinner: Hank Xu

The Boarding House Family Dinner was held the weekend of the House Athletics. It was a great opportunity for some of the boys' families to make the trip to Melbourne to fully enjoy the Boarding House weekend. With no Exeat Weekend in Term Three it gives the boys the important opportunity to touch base with family, guardians and friends.



The evening was vibrant and was ably hosted by Tom Zaleski and Matt O'Kane. They ran a tight ship and the evening went off without a hitch. Some of the highlights included a beautiful violin solo by Kevin Lee and a wonderful reflection by Michael Zhou recalling his acceptance into Australian society. However, the highlight of the evening came from two very moving accounts by Sam Chen as an international senior student and Jay Kennedy-Harris's speech reflecting on his four very influential years in the Boarding House. These speeches caught the mood of the

Boarding House and have been included in this edition of the 'Heroem'. I hope you get the opportunity to read them. The other wonderful part of the evening was the feeling of community as over a 100 guests were willing on the best from the boys who thoroughly enjoyed their support both on the evening and throughout the year.







Honglin (Sam) Chen's Farewell Speech- Boarding House Dinner

Thank you all for coming to the Boarding House Dinner tonight. I am honored to make a speech here. My name's Sam Chen and this is the second year that I've been at Trinity. Although I haven't been at the school for very long, it has changed my life. Honestly, if I were still in China, I would never have had a chance to experience life in Australia, and my life would have turned out very differently.

There are a lot of people to whom I am grateful for this opportunity. Firstly, I must thank my parents, as without their support, I wouldn't be the person who I am now. I still remember how they used to hit my hand with a feather duster every time for being impatient and perfunctory when I was practising my Chinese handwriting when I was still in the early years of primary school. You guys may think that's merciless and inappropriate, but there's a Chinese proverb that says "spare the rod and spoil the child." The way I see it, that's the way that they are showing their love to me. Think about it, why would they want us to be successful if they don't care? When I walked through the departure gate at Guangzhou airport, my mum almost cried, and I could see the pride and sadness in my father's eyes. At that moment, I realised that I could never repay my debt to them. All I can do is to be grateful, to cherish and to fight for them and make them proud.

Next, I want to thank my friends, who are sitting at the table over there. To my friends from the church, Jade, Andrew and Shiu Wang, and also my second guardian Aaron, who couldn't be here

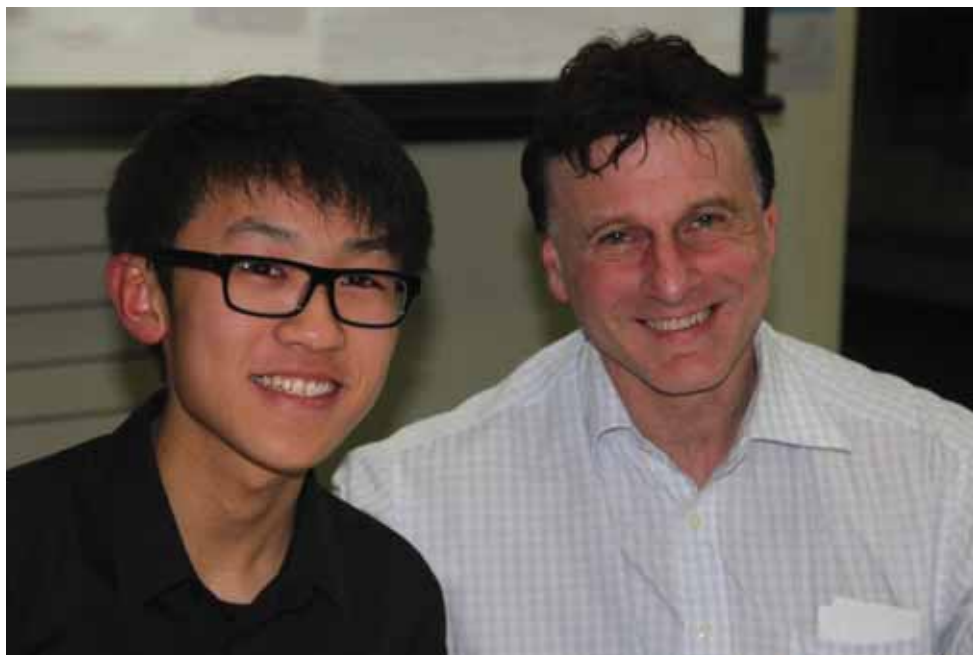


tonight, you guys not only taught me about Jesus and the Bible, but also made me feel your passion

as a friend of mine, helping me out with my daily issues since I've been in Australia. To Steven Han, who is my best mate at school, I really appreciate what you've done for me during these last two years. You were always willing to help me with my work in Physics (as well as wrestling), and I got to know a lot more Aussie friends here because of you.

At the Boarding House, we always have fun, it's just like a big family. Lindy, our chef, thank you for your lovely meals. Every time before dinner, I would say the prayer "Dear Lord, thank you for giving us food and thank you to Lindy for making them so tasty, Amen." Sylvanna, I'm so glad that I have met you because you have always listened to the international boarders' feelings about life in Australia. Also, because you have had similar experiences to us, you were able to take care of us like a mother, thank you. My mates at the Boarding House, Tom, you are such a tennis addict; you play tennis almost five days a week and go to the gym for the same amount of time. I hope you won't waste your talent and I hope you are the one who beats Federer and becomes the next world tennis champion. Kelvin is also another addict who spends most of his time playing his violin at the Music School. As his roommate, every weekday morning, around six o'clock, I wake up to his alarm ringing. Well, it's kind of annoying you know, but gradually I understood that's what a musician needs to do for them to be famous and successful. Things have gone well this year, and as my time at the Boarding House is almost over, I'm starting to feel reluctant to leave you guys. But I will look forward and move on, for there is lots of interesting and important stuff waiting for us to do. Let's cherish all the good times that we had together, and when we meet again someday, these will be the good memories that we will look back and smile upon.

Lastly, I would thank the Headmaster, Mr Tudor. You always come to talk to the international students about their life at school, you understand our difficulties, and give us the courage and hope we need. I really appreciate that a lot. Also I am grateful to the teachers who dedicate themselves to their careers and their students, leading them onto the right path for success. Your spirit and dedication is something that we students should all learn from; to invest ourselves and benefit the society that we live in. In the final two and a half months at school, I will do my best to achieve my goals and finish my schooling at Trinity with no regrets. I wish you all the best of luck in the future. Thank you!





Jay Kennedy-Harris' Farewell Speech – Boarding House Dinner

After growing up in a house of girls the idea of living with just boys was pretty enticing, 15 brothers, what I had always wanted but apparently mum wasn't ready to adopt so I did the next best thing, I went to boarding school.

It's been about four years, 1135 sleeps, 6,230 games of pool, 15,000 showers and about two hours of homework and it's all coming to sad end. The Boarding House has been my home away from home for a very long time and has left me with a pretty large family tree to say the least. Looking back it all began in 2009 when I started my first day at Trinity as a short, immature, naïve young boy but through years of new experiences and life lessons I can proudly say I have been able to grow a grand total of 6 cm. But in all seriousness, the moment I became a resident of the green and gold, I felt I was in for an exhilarating four years. I started as a lone Year Nine student in the Boarding House.





Over my time at Trinity I've had a lot done for me so I need to thank a few people. Life at school is definitely a completely different world to the Boarding House and I've had just as much of a blast at both. I'll start from my first day and work my way up to today. So the first day is where I met Luke and I guess we hit it off pretty quickly, after I tried to explain to him that Dandenong wasn't in the Northern Territory. And Mack, Sam and Harry you've all been great mates of mine throughout my time wearing the green and gold and I thank you for that. They're probably my most appreciated friends because together their families have welcomed me into their homes and spent enough petrol on me driving me to put me through another year of school. So on a personal note thanks to all of you for that and on behalf of all the boarders to anyone who has opened their home, driven us around or just helped in some way we sincerely thank you. Then of course there's been Trinity football, which has given me memories to last a lifetime. The trip in 2009 to the Northern Territory, not to my house Luke, was a great experience and if it weren't for Mr. Brown I wouldn't have had the opportunity. Just a few weeks ago I was part of a premiership team under one of the greatest coaches I will ever have the privilege of playing under, so thanks to you Mausa. To Lewie, I'm sure I'd be saying the same thing about you but the whole

tackling part of rugby just isn't my cup of tea.

The second world was my life amongst the boarders, which has been an absolute roller-coaster ride. Living away from home is by no means something everyone can do but at Trinity, there is just something that makes the whole experience one that's truly worth it. I started as at the age of 13 as a year 9 and within the first term I had my birthday. On my 14th birthday I got what I had always wished for. I wanted some more brothers, and brothers are what I got. We had an incomparable group of Year 12s that year who were probably my biggest idols at that point and they were like my brothers. We moved through a year of fun, laughter and just great times, but as they say, all good things come to an end. I had hit the point where the Boarding House had become a catalyst for sadness in just a matter of days. I wasn't sad because I got in trouble, not because no one was using deodorant, not even because I was home sick it was because at the end of every year I was forced to say goodbye to some extraordinary boys, those who I'll remember for a very, very long time with the fondest of memories. I guess they're the sorts of people who inspire you to become something, do something, to be remembered for something. As much as I do hate to leave the boys with that feeling, I hope you do feel that because to be honest you guys are going to leave me with that feeling too but never forget we have something that no one else will. So thanks to the boys past and present for all the



memories over my time.

It has been an extraordinary journey with some extraordinary people but it wouldn't have been what it was if it weren't for a few special people. Firstly to the staff of the Boarding House, Al, Chris, and the Lewises, you've each provided your own special element of guidance, if not parenting, to help shape into the person I am today. So I thank you greatly for that and I hope you know I appreciate every grounding, each kitchen duty and every talking to, if not I'd just be a little Year 9 in a bigger kid's body. All in all you've each tried to take up the role of an amazing lady, who decided to send me here. Mum, I guess it's fair to say that even though you sent me to boarding school I'm still your favourite. Being the science student I am it's also true that I couldn't be here without you and to be honest I tried to use science to measure my love for you, but it turns out they haven't come up with a name for that measurement. So to the Boarding House staff I'll miss you all, and on behalf of my family, thank you. And to mum, well I hope you haven't missed me too much because I plan on boarding for uni.

I'll just share a quick story to finish. It was just last weekend when I was at home in the boarding house, just watching a movie on my computer and there was a particular scene that came up where basically a guy who had practically travelled the world met a girl, who was well, pretty good looking... but anyway she had this jealousy because she had always wanted to leave home to see the world, but then the guy said something that really hit home with me, which was that "You can go where ever you want, see whatever you want to, but a place is only as good the people you know in it." and looking around this room there's possibly nowhere else I'd rather be.



House Athletics and Sutton House Win the Title

What a year for Sutton House! The usual Achilles heel became their strength and we started the year with an outstanding House Performing Arts performance with the Lion King. Whilst many thought it was the best, despite not winning still scored well (coming in 2nd place). This was supported by a better than expected swimming result and then consistently outstanding mid-week competitions put Sutton in a strong position. It was important, however, that Sutton performed well in the Athletics. Led by the inspiration efforts of the Sutton house vice-Captain Jay Kennedy Harris including 1st place in the 4 X 400m relay and a courageous win in the 200 metres set the tone for the House. Recently we were informed Sutton House and a very supportive Boarding House had won the competition.





Skiing- Hank Xu

With a brilliant start, I woke up at half past four and I promise this is the earliest time I have got up this year. Everybody had a quick breakfast then we got in the bus to Mount Buller where we were going skiing.

After the sunrise, we welcomed the dawn and we got to Mount Buller at 7am. What a beautiful day, I told myself secretly. The azure blue sky without any clouds, the sunshine was illuminating the snowy mountain. We got our stuff, and took the cable car to the top.

I wondered how hard is the skiing would be when I was on the bus; however, I got the answer there. I stood on the snow, and I went down without domination. I cannot stop! But my body still went down, the last thing I can do is slip down deliberately. I picked up my poles and stood up, but when I stood up, I went back like the last time, and I slipped again. Right now, I can see there are many people on this mountain, because of the Ski Season a lot of people go skiing. After two rounds we had a quick lunch and we were all ready for the lessons in the afternoon.

During the lesson, the mentor taught us how to stop and turn around in 15 minutes. Then I skied by myself. I stood in the top and looked down. I rushed to the ground with high speed. I wanted to stop but when I did as the mentor taught us, it was too late, I knocked over a little kid. I did the only thing I can do and fall. It was so painful if you rush with a large velocity and stop suddenly. I rolled on the ground, when I stopped. The little kid was standing beside me in a surprise, staring at me; he was so astonished. According this event, I knew how to keep calm. After a few runs, I knew how to ski, and it



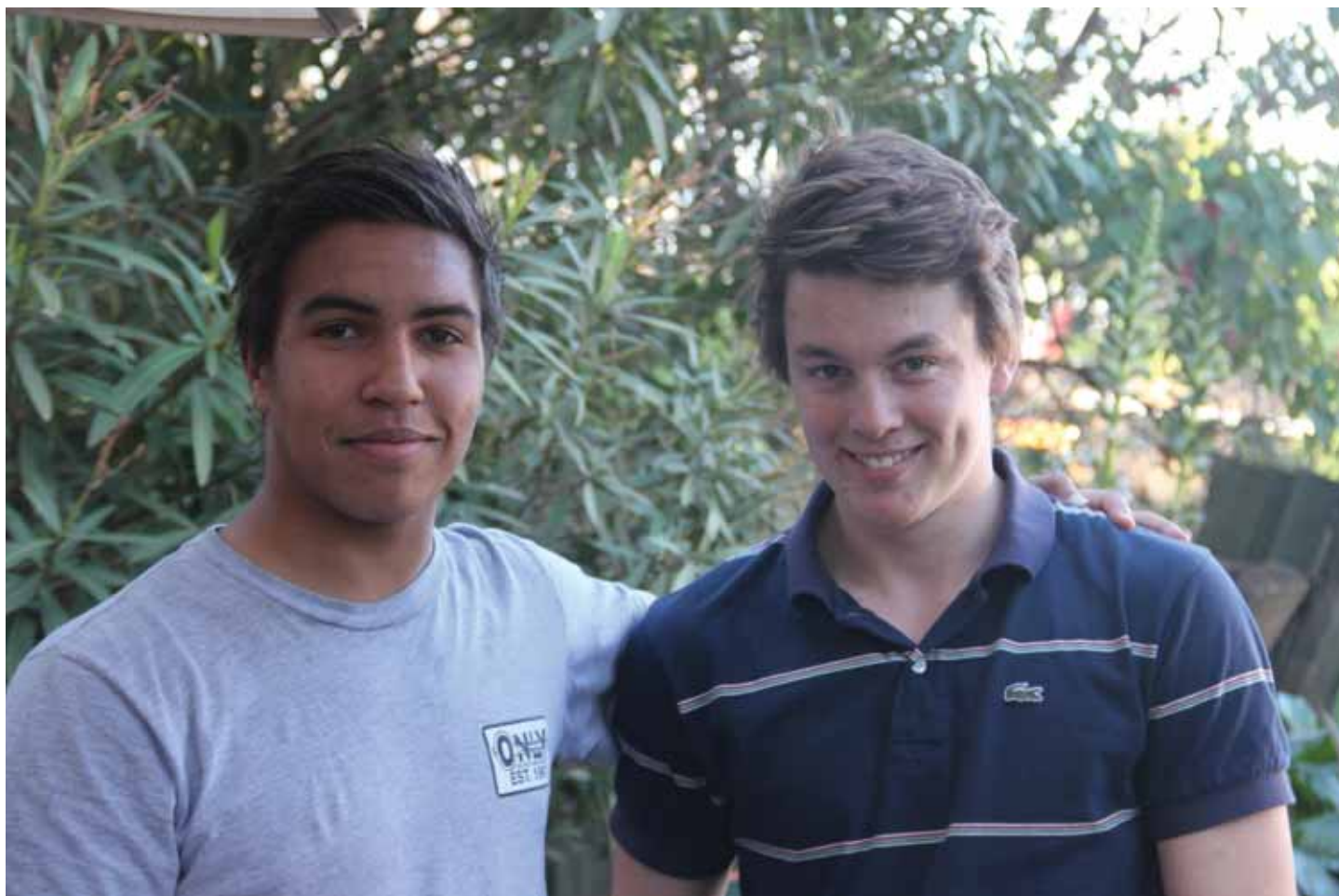
is so great.

But when I went the fourth time to the top, I stood there again and experienced plus thirty times drop down; I thought I would do it perfect this time. With one hundred percent confidence, I started skiing; I promise I did really well at the beginning, but unfortunately the most dangerous accident in my first skiing time was happened. I went down and I turned right so I put all of the pressure of my body to my left leg. I held my body by my left arm and the arm joint supported all the force, it is relatively painful to get this damage, and I thought damn it, my arm must be broken. Luckily it was not, I stood up and went out of mountain with Sam.

I fell down more than thirty times and my arm, but anyway, it was fun, and I absolutely enjoyed this journey.



Jay Kennedy-Harris Graduates: Matt O'Kane



My first day at Trinity was nerve racking and I had absolutely no idea what to do or where to start, as I unpacked my new room and my new life. Then, all of a sudden, into my room walks a kid by the name of Jay Kennedy-Harris with a football in his hand. I love footy so immediately I took a liking to him without him even having to say anything. As time went on he showed and taught me more about how everything worked whether it was in the Boarding House or at school. Jay has been a massive role model in my life at Trinity. Whether it was tying my tie for me on the first day or going for a kick of the footy, although he will almost certainly play AFL next year and probably didn't enjoy kicking with me as much as I liked kicking with him, he still did it. Jay has always been there to provide support or fun every day. I don't think there has been a moment in my life at Trinity that I have not enjoyed spending with him. As the year has gone on I have spent more and more time with Jay and often have to check whether I am in his room or mine because there have been times where I have spent more time in his room rather than in mine. Unfortunately for me Jay is in Year 12 and will leave at the end of this year. I am still yet to work out what I am going to do without him being around and it will be always like there is something missing. As I mentioned before I have loved spending time with Jay and my life here at Trinity would have been a whole lot worse without him, I believe that it is not only a huge loss for me when he leaves this year but also for the school and especially the Boarding House where he does most of his great work mentoring the younger boarders. I hate to think what it will be like without him being here next year and would just like to take this opportunity to thank him for always being here for me and not once complaining, I wish him all the best in the future whether it is for football or just in general because I have found Jay to be a great person. As most of the APS and AGSV footballers would know Jay is very hard to catch, but ladies you're in luck he is single and

good luck catching him but if you ever do manage to get hold of him try and keep him because Jay is a great bloke and I wish him all the best in the future.



Sam Chen Graduation- my big brother: Kelvin Lee



Sam Chen is a Year 12 student who is about to leave the school, but not just the school, also the Boarding House. To say goodbye to him, is hard. But it is even harder for me because we have shared the same room for over six months.

He always calls me “little brother” and that’s how he treated me, as his little brother. He was really good at cooking, so he always cooks me some good food. He was pretty good at maths, so he taught me maths. He believes in Jesus and so do I, so he brings me to church. When I don’t have enough money to pay for my homestay fees, he lent money to me. When I woke up at 6:30am everyday and packed things up, I actually woke him up too. But he never says a bad word about that. Also, I sleep pretty early at night and he allows me to turn the lights off and leave only the lamplight with him. He really did treat me as his little brother, took care of me and accept my life pattern.

I can’t really say thank you to him personally or in front of him, but that’s what I want to say in my heart. “Thank you Sam, and good luck with your exams. Hopefully we will meet again next year in Monash University.”

Dane Fencaros Graduation: Tom Zaleski



Another year in the Boarding House has come and gone and now the sad time of farewelling our Year 12 boarders has arrived. Dane, who I've had the pleasure of spending two years with now, has not only become a part of the Boarding House but also a friend to many of the boys.

Arriving last year as a quiet and studious boy, he leaves now as an outgoing, slightly louder, no less red headed young man. From his various catch phrases to his abnormal teeth brushing ritual, Dane has provided many laughs with his good sense of humour and very selective vocabulary. The Boarding House would certainly have a much different atmosphere without his freckled grin and willingness to trying new and exciting things. He has been a role model to younger and new boarders by providing displays of study habits and commitment to his chosen sports, as he was a member of three different firsts' teams.

Dane's character will be missed next year and I personally wish him all the best for his future and the rest of his time here at Trinity Grammar.

Year 12 Farewell: Reilly Jones

One of my favourite things I have done in this Boarding House would have to be when we went to Bounce (trampoline centre) and Ace Karts (go-karting). Although it was a very competitive day it also was a day for us to recognize how much the Year 12s affect our enjoyment levels at the Boarding House. Bounce was excellent fun with jumping into form pits, free styling in the main area, poison ball and wall climbing. Some of us picked it up easily whilst others took a bit longer. However, we all had fun and it was great all to mix in and enjoy the experience. In go-karting I must say Mr. Lewis was a terrible driver and probably should go for his licence again. This is because he caused me to crash in front of everyone and stopped the race. Jay was clearly the winner of the day, however much of the joy was spent watching the newcomers get used to steering a go-kart amongst the hectic atmosphere of a race. I'm sad that the Year 12s are leaving but I wish them all the best of luck for the future and hope they do well. I'll miss you boys and hopefully we will see them back at dinner sometime.







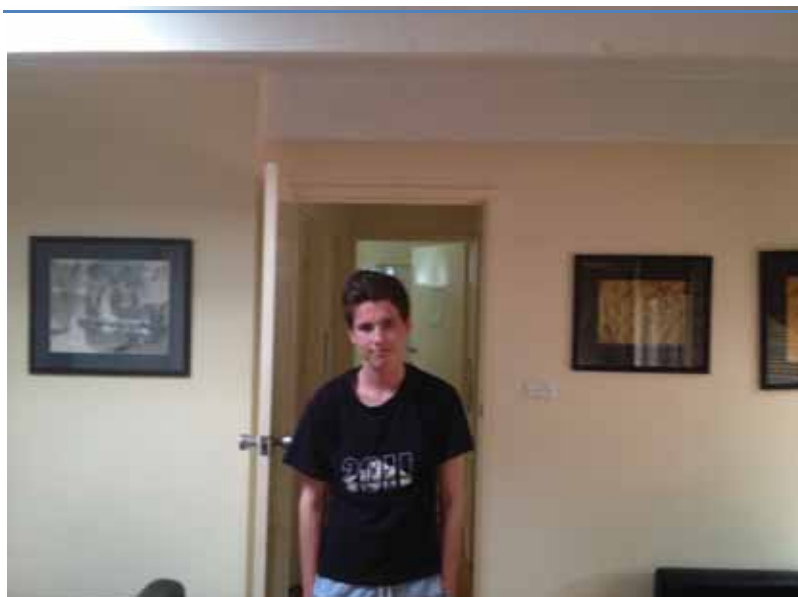


Boarding House Dominating Trinity Sport: Michael Zhou



I enjoyed the new school, especially the winter sport. My winter sport is futsal. I am the most improved player this season. I made a lot of friends from Year 12: they are all kind to me and I learn a lot from them. I become more and more Australian because I tried my best to talk with them when we played futsal together. I loved the feeling after I kicked a goal. I tried hard in training that is why I can improve so quickly. Cooperation is the most important in the sport. Our team is unselfish and good at passing that is why we won the grand final at the end. The grand final for us is pretty lucky. We lost by 1-4 at half time but we changed our plan and began to try more passes. Our attack became more and more usefully. I tried my best to run and to pass. In the last 3 mins we were 5-5 and we had a corner. Nick passed the ball to me and I tried to pass back but at that moment I found a gap in the goal. I made a good decision. I shot and the ball went straight into goal. It was a goal. All my teammates became excited. We were all mad, it was unbelievable. We cheered for it and we won at the end. It was a wonderful game and we were undefeated.

Starting in the Boarding House: Sam Muir



Moving from the country to the city was a big move for me and I didn't really know what I was in for. After being at Trinity for 6 weeks now I have learnt that I had really nothing to be worried about. I settled in really well and everyone at the school and Boarding House was welcoming. I have enjoyed every aspect of the Boarding House life, including skiing, Year 12 Farewell Day and just everyday life. I hope to enjoy the next two years here. I have really enjoyed sharing with both Henry and Matt which has made boarding much easier.

The New Boarders – Sam and Reilly (Term 3) – Henry Li



Every term there are new boarders coming to the Boarding House, and my job is to write about them, yeah, it is a cool job. This term there are two new boarders, they are Sam Muir and Reilly Jones.

Sam is my roommate; he came at the start of the term for the scholarship interview and came to school in the middle of the term. And he became one of us very fast. There are two Sams in the Boarding House now and sometimes it is hard to tell. He came

for a scholarship and he got it, isn't that amazing? He bought a Bonsai one weekend and it has grown a lot. Hopefully like our friendship will over the next two and half years. He has a quiet and positive energy about him which can be calming for all in the House

Reilly is a Year 9 kid, he also has an energy about him. This is a joy for life. Sometimes he can bounce from activity to activity which can be exhausting. He does also have a kindness that extends to all the boarders and helps to create a



warm environment around the place. Basically he is good. He brought a Playstation to the Boarding House the first weekend; the PlayStation has been very busy and working hard since it got here. Every dinner, he is the 'Captain of Dessert', after dinner; he will always offer us dessert like ice-cream.

Term 4 is coming! The teachers said it will be a busy study term, wow. Also, in Term 4 another new boarder is coming, called Simon, from Russia! How cool is that? A Russian boy comes to Australia for study. What will be like? We are all looking forward to meeting him and looking forward to Term 4.

The New Boarders – Simon and Allen (Term 4)



Simon and Allen have joined us from Russia and China respectively. They have added new perspective to the Boarding House and further enhance the rich tapestry of a community that represents the world. Simon is sharing with Reilly and I think Reilly is really enjoying having another person in his year group. Reilly, however, is still the baby of the Boarding House. Allen is sharing with Henry. He is very lucky as Henry keeps the tidiest room in the Boarding House and is wonderful to share your room with. I hope their stays are enjoyable and they make the most of this opportunity of living in Melbourne and being a member of the Trinity Grammar School Boarding House.



General Photo Gallery of the Year

