



A REFLECTION ON 2016



2016 has meant a lot to me. It has been a year of learning about respect and leadership. I have watched how my teachers lead us and treat us with respect and I have watched the year sixes and we have learnt so much about how to treat others, how to lead by example and how to learn through effort and positivity.

I have learnt so much about myself this year. I have grown in confidence by trying things I have never done before. In Art lessons I have learnt the need to be persistent and keep practising to get results. I have been proud of my shading and my perspective drawing that improved with every attempt. My spelling has also improved through constant effort and regular practice. I used to not like things that were hard, now I know that doing hard things is where we learn. I can do push-ups now - and that used to be hard. I feel like I can have a go at anything.

I've always felt safe at St Alipius. As I've grown older I have learnt more about my responsibility to keep myself, and others, safe. It is all about the decisions we make. I think I've learnt to make better decisions in this area.

Responsibility for the environment has been great learning this year. I'm thankful to have learnt more about the possibilities for a future where we can care for the Earth by the choices we make.

The Aboriginal mentoring programme AIME was a highlight for me in semester 2. It gave me new insights into not being scared about doing new things. I learnt that the things that embarrass me can stop me having fun and being involved. The mentors did silly dances and things to model that we can all have a go. Now I don't care if I look silly - I'll just have a go.

Our world is a constantly changing place. I know that we all need to become more careful with the words we use, more ready to reach out to others, more prepared to care for the environment and more determined to work hard for what we get in life. Knowing I can be part of making the world a better place has made 2016 a great year.

To me Christmas is a time to spend with family and to appreciate what I have. It is a special time to pray to Jesus and ask him to help me be better at showing love to others. It is also a special time to think about people who don't have as much as I do and to do something about it. My family always takes a tag from the 'Giving Tree' and we go together to buy something special for that person. It makes me feel better at Christmas to know that I can make a difference.

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