

EMMANUEL COLLEGE WARRNAMBOOL

"Christmas is the most internationally recognised day of the year. For Catholics, it is a way of celebrating Jesus' birth and commemorating his life and all that he has done for us.

All Catholics know that during the festive season, there is a strong importance of giving. Yet nowadays in the 21st century, Christmas seems to have a particular focus on receiving. We are now engulfed in a digital age of consumerism, and I sometimes find myself associating the word Christmas with 'presents' and 'gifts'.

Ever since I was a child, I remember asking my parents for gifts of my annual wish list I had compiled. But, as I have grown up and matured, I've come to a deeper understanding that it is the thought that counts and to try not to be focussed on the material goods received.

I'm really looking forward to Christmas this year. I can't wait to relive the tradition of watching Carols by Candlelight on the telly, and waking up the next morning to wish everyone a 'Merry Christmas'. I'm looking forward to attending Mass and to later celebrate the festivities with my family over a good meal.

Their presence, not their presents, is what makes Christmas so special."



Sarah Zerbe - Year 10