



June 24, 2009

In September of last year I informed the Dean and Mary Hendy, President of the Board of Directors, that I would be retiring from my post at the end of the 2009 - 10 school year, i.e. at the end of June 2010. I wanted to inform them at that time, since Linda and I had spent a good deal of time considering our future plans and had come to a decision by the end of last summer.

As this year has gone by, I have had some moments when I have wondered whether I was doing the right thing, especially in view of the financial meltdown, but also in view of the continuing fulfillment and challenge of being Head of this wonderful school. However, Linda and I are very excited about the future, and I am excited about the future of the School. By the end of next year I will have been here for nine years. I will be 'graduating' with the Kindergarten class that came in with me in 2001. I feel that I will be leaving at a time when the School is in a good place. We will, by the end of next year, have, to all intents and purposes, completed the growth we embarked on in 2001-02. Our growth at both ends, at the Junior Kindergarten level and at the Middle School level, has been successful. We have carved out a niche for ourselves in the educational world of Victoria. The School is in solid financial shape as it approaches its 20th anniversary. We have a fantastic team of teachers and administrators and we have a strong and dedicated Board of Directors and a Strategic Plan taking shape.

I would probably be flattering myself when I say that some of you may be disappointed that I will be leaving at the end of next year, but I think it would be true to say that any change of leadership can create anxiety. However, I feel very confident that the Board, with the help of the experienced staff and teachers, will find an excellent new Head of School to lead Cathedral School into its third decade. I know that Mary Hendy and the Dean will keep you informed as they work through the process. I also want to assure you that throughout next year I will be working hard, with the help of the great team we have at the School, to ensure that my successor inherits a truly dynamic and successful institution. God has blessed our School, in the wonderful community that has grown up around it and in the ways we have been able to learn from and to teach the children in our care. Cathedral School will continue to carry out the work of "...the advancement of Christ's Kingdom amongst young people." as it says on the foundation stone of the Junior Kindergarten building on Niagara St.

I look forward to a great final year at Cathedral School.

Charles

Charles Peacock
Head of School