

Mrs Catherine Thompson, former member of the Teaching Staff and Principal 2010 – 2016:
(written in 2021)

I was privileged to be the Principal of Trinity College from 2010 to 2016. Having been a teacher on staff in a variety of roles and tenures on and off since 1993, I was immensely excited to become the leader of this school community – a place that was already entrenched in my spirit and close to my heart.

Throughout my association with the Trinity community, I have been witness to the true nature of ‘family spirit’ – a well-used Marist value which sees staff, students and their families embrace each other and work through life’s challenges just as a biological family would. Being exposed to the Marist values and being part of this extended family, I have continued to embrace life beyond Trinity College through my ongoing membership of the Marist Association.

My most memorable moments at Trinity are about the people I encountered – the professional and hard-working staff who genuinely cared for the students in their care. There were also the students who came back as teacher associates, then appointed teachers and never wanted to leave. I often wondered why there was such longevity and connectedness to the place, despite the changing face of the community over the years. I guess I can only suggest that the Trinity family can be likened to a warm embrace – always there no matter the years or distance in between.

I always enjoyed the community events with the students – the annual Beach-a-thon; sports carnivals; Masses and Liturgies and the Trinity Day concert where I even got to leave my mark dressed up as Cleopatra with the rest of the Leadership Team and performed to the song, ‘Walk like an Egyptian’. I remember exceptional leadership and talent from students and their pride in being part of the Trinity family.

No matter whether you were a staff member, student or parent, you have left an indelible mark on me as a leader, a teacher and as a person who will forever feel warmth from your family’s embrace.

Catherine Thompson