



MACKAY CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Christian Education on Purpose



PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS – GRADUATION 2025 – Dr Lesley Tunnah

People often speak of the journey of life. So, I have reflected upon the word 'life' and attempted to draw meaning from it.

'L' speaks of lifting your eyes and looking for opportunities around you. Don't shuffle through life with your head down – lift your eyes

'I' leads us to be inquisitive.

Be curious, investigate possibilities and invest in knowledge, skills, relationships, necessities and generosity to others

'F' is for forgiveness and directs us to GOMO – 'get over it and move on'. Each unforgiven offence becomes a weight to carry. As your backpack gets heavier, you will become more frustrated, more angry, more exhausted.

Forgive – let the weight go and choose to walk more lightly through this world.

'E' speaks of excellence.

Excellence is an attitude that desires the best for your personal growth and for your interactions with others.

But please don't confuse perfection with excellence.

Perfection is a deception. Striving for perfection leads to frustration and disappointment. Excellence is doing the best you can with what you have in the time available. Striving for excellence brings a sense of joyful satisfaction.

You have been given one life. Life was breathed into you by your heavenly Father and He set a life-path before you to explore.

Ephesians 2:10 says, 'You are God's masterpiece. He has created you anew in Christ Jesus so you can do the good things he planned for you long ago.'

Let that sink in...you are each God's masterpiece...

Recently, I had the pleasure and delight of viewing student artworks – they were all very individual pieces of creative work. Each piece had been produced with great care by the artists, each telling its own story yet also embedding the artist's personal perspectives. Like those artworks, you are each a created masterpiece of God – you live your story but His perspectives have been embedded within you.

He calls you to glorify Him by your thoughts, words and actions. He calls you:

To lift your eyes to Him,
To investigate the possibility of walking with Him
To forgive others as He forgives you and
To live every day with excellence – doing the best you can with what you have in the time available to His glory

Some of you have lived 14 years at Mackay Christian College; some have only recently arrived.

I hope that you have heard God's voice calling to you through the love, kindness and commitment of our teachers – every one of them is faithful to Jesus Christ and they serve Him by serving the College and loving you in every lesson, every activity and every camp.

My prayer is that you take the best of what has been invested in you and share it with those God puts in your path. There is no rationing of love. It should be given generously to others as often as possible in all situations.

On your behalf, I thank your families for their support and encouragement, I thank your teachers for their faithfulness and commitment to you and I thank your fellow students for their friendships with you.

I recently attended the 50th Reunion of my 1975 Senior Class. We shared our life stories and compared our life journeys. Our MCC Seniors of 2025 will celebrate their 50th Reunion in 2075, 100 years since I graduated. I try to imagine what the world will be like then.

Seniors – you have one life in which to lift your eyes, investigate possibilities, forgive yourself and others and excel to the best of your abilities and gifts.

I pray you invite Jesus on the journey of life with you – then, regardless of the situations you encounter, both good and hard, you will remain His masterpiece, created to do the good things He planned for you so long ago.

May His richest blessings be upon you.