Term 4 was a hive of activity in Gallagher House as we fundraised, celebrated and farewelled 2016. Our highlights included:

**My Team Colours Day**

Our re-scheduled My Team Colours day held in Week 1, was the perfect opportunity to get Term 4 off to a great start by celebrating our various team’s pride and spirit. Gallagher House gathered in the gym to participate in a round robin activity challenge; including doge ball, frisbee toss, hookey and pool noodle javelin. The organised chaos saw fierce competition and enjoyment had by all, with important funds being raised for local cancer charities.

**Farewell to Yr 12’s**

As a house we gathered on Friday of Week 2 to formally farewell our Yr 12 Gallagher students and acknowledge the contributions they have made to our house and school life. Our 2016 House Captains Ashleigh and Sam spoke about their highlights as Gallagher captains and the deep connections they had made to Gallagher House over their time at St Mark’s. They spoke with much pride and spirit, embodying true Gallagher Knights. Each Yr 12 student was then individually acknowledged and presented with a gift on behalf of Gallagher House, before the much anticipated annual slide show presentation of their time in Gallagher house. It was a lovely celebration of our Yr 12’s and a fitting final gathering for the whole of Gallagher House for 2016. We wish all our Yr 12’s well for the future, we know their futures will be very bright.

**2017 House Captains**

Our Yr 11 Gallagher students took on the important task of nominating students to the position of 2017 Gallagher House Captains. After the process of nomination and discernment, it is my pleasure to announce Joanna Lloyd and Lawson Munzberg as the Gallagher House Captains for 2017. They will be excellent leaders and ambassador for Gallagher House, we wish them well in their new roles.

**Mission Month fundraising**

Our Yr 11 students took on the challenge of fundraising as part of their Religious Education unit on social justice and social action. The school was abuzz with activities and stalls ranging from raffles, cake stalls, sausage sizzles, soft drinks, lolly jars, milkshakes, pizzas and a casual day, all raising much needed funds for Catholic Mission. We thank the Yr 11’s for their dedicated effort to these endeavours, their commitment and enthusiasm is to be congratulated, with thanks also to all who supported their endeavours.

**Happy Campers**

A highlight for our Yr 9 and Yr 10 students was their camps held in Weeks 4 and 6 this term. The Year 9’s were challenged by adventure and activity at Woodhouse through rock-climbing, the flying fox, laser tag and bike riding. While the Yr 10’s got immersed in all things aquatics, participating in surfing, sailing, kayaking along with bowling and bounce sessions in Adelaide. Both camps were a big success with students reporting on their fun and adventures upon their return.

Wishing all Gallagher students and families a very merry and blessed Christmas and wonderful holiday break. Look forward to seeing you all in 2017.
Gallagher Character and Leadership Awards

At the Bosco Presentation Night one Gallagher student from each year level was recognised for their contribution to Gallagher House, being presented with a Gallagher Character and Leadership Award. We congratulate the following students for their contributions and as being recipients of the awards for 2016:

Yr 8: Angus Combe, Yr 9: Crenie Kumar, Yr 10: Ellie Combe, Yr 11: Joanna Lloyd, Yr 12: Samuel Eades

Yr 8 and Yr 9 student reflections:

Our Yr 8 & 9 students reflected on their highlights for the year and what they were looking forward to next year as part of Gallagher House.

Their highlights of being part of Gallagher this year included:

Caregroup Cup, Winning Sports Day, an encouraging environment with positive vibes, very happy people, winning the caregroup cup, having fun with mates

As part of Gallagher House in 2017 they are most looking forward to:

The new people that we can welcome into our happy Gallagher family, representing the House, Caregroup Cup, new memories of caregroup, Sports day (hopefully winning again).

These are all positive signs of a successful 2016, with a bright 2017 to come.

End of year Celebrations

Week 9 saw us come together as a community to celebrate the year together, participating in activity day, pool day and our final liturgy and assembly on Wednesday. We wish each and every Gallagher student and family a safe and restful holiday break and a very Merry Christmas. With best wishes for a happy and successful 2017.

Ms Naomi Creek

Gallagher House Leader

Congratulations to the 2017 Gallagher House Captains Joanna and Lawson

Our 2016 Gallagher House Captains Sam and Ashleigh at the Yr 12 Thanksgiving Mass

Our 2016 Gallagher Character and Leadership award recipients

Forewelling our Yr 12 Gallagher Students at their thanksgiving Mass held at the Cathedral
G5 Yr 12 students wait patiently for their final ever caregroup.

G2 students also take part in a traditional game of hookey on My Team Colours.

Will is in full concentration mode playing hookey on activities day.

Frisbee toss was a hit at the My Team Colours activities.

Yr 8 & 9 G1 students reflect on the year that was 2016.

G5 Yr 12 students wait patiently for their final ever caregroup.