Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen, honoured guests, staff and students of Moreton Bay Boys' College...

It was Joseph Addison who said “What sculpture is to a block of marble education is to the human soul.” How true this statement is. School is not only a place for learning, it’s a place where relationships are forged, mates are made, and countless good times are had. It is where we not only learn information that our teachers impart during lesson time, but we also learn how important we are to those around us and of what we are truly capable. It is where we push against boundaries and we are pushed to achieve our potential. School is where we learn more than just subject matter – it is where we are encouraged to be curious, to inquire and to be creative. School is where we grow into ourselves. This is definitely the way it is at Moreton Bay Boys' College. It’s been another huge year for everyone at the College with many changes having been made and there couldn’t be a better time to recap all the amazing things that have happened this year than right now.

The biggest change of the year has definitely been the boys. To see how much my fellow seniors have changed over the years has been quite remarkable. It seems like only yesterday that we were Middle School students having singing lessons in the bottom of an unfinished c-block or down in the nature refuge working on our plots with Doctor Sawyer. And look at us now, the seniors of 2011. This year we have worked together with staff to arrange inter-house tournaments and also inter school tournaments through to the Battle of the Bays, we have conquered the QCS, we have had a picnic on the lawn on our last “official” day of academic lessons and we are now about to embark on the next phase of our lives. MBBC has given us an amazing place to experience school and now that it is my turn to leave MBBC, I truly envy the boys who will spend 13 years here.

MBBC has provided us all with wonderful experiences over the years. This year the seniors have been taught modern manners during our pastoral care program and safe driving techniques through the RYDA driver safety program and we have all been provided with the adventure of challenging year level camps or the opportunity to participate in the Duke Of Edinburgh program. All of these experiences leave us with great memories; like the power of the first impression, or the liberation of conquering the infamous heart break hill at Woodford or simply the solitude of the deadly silent night walk at Emu Gully. One of the greatest things about being College captain at Moreton Bay Boys' College is being able to grow and develop with my peers through all of these experiences, to see all of these things come together and to watch the young boys of MBBC turn into young men.

It’s not only the boys who have changed over the years but I would like to think that the teachers have changed also. Some of them have certainty been given a few more grey hairs. The greatest thing about being an MBBC senior is the ability to forge friendships with the teachers. Some of the fondest memories that I have from my time are MBBC have been spent with the teachers – the dreaded Shakespeare
monologues with Ms. Williams, hearing Sam Bell scream as he dipped into the ice bath for Dr. Sawyer in Biology, watching Mr. Watson pour his heart and soul into explaining a complicated math problem and then looking around the room to find that he had lost us at hello or hearing about the hairdressing lesson the boys gave Mrs. Cadzow-Andreas in English Communications. Each of our lessons has been an enjoyable experience at MBBC because arguably MBBC has the greatest teachers in the world. They are always there for you when you need it, even if you just need just a general chat. I would like to think that we as students have made as much of an impact on the teacher’s lives as they have had on ours.

The sense of community that MBBC holds is also astonishing. They say that ‘It takes a community to raise a child’ and MBBC is definitely a great place for the community to help raise a child. In every respect the parents are involved in the college life. From helping at full school events such as the annual fun run, and giving us all a chance to share great times together – preppy and senior alike, or whether it’s the local cops coming to talk to the preps or the P & F buying new sports equipment. Both the parent community and the P & F have made a significant impact on the College.

My time at MBBC has easily been the best years of my life so far. I know the friendships that I have made over the year will last a lifetime. It is obvious that school is not only a place for learning but it’s a place for growing and I truly cherish the time I have had at the college.

I look forward to being an old boy of MBBC and thank you all for the opportunities that I have been given at this great school.