



**BRAINways**  
EDUCATION  
excellence through education



## CONGRATULATIONS TO TEAM CLAREMONT!

This week 18 students from Claremont College (6 teams of 3), together with students from many other schools across NSW, participated in a 2-day Quest facilitated by BRAINways Education. BRAINways Education in conjunction with Australian Catholic University creates opportunities for students across Australia to engage with complex, abstract, multi-disciplinary programs, designed to challenge students to work in teams to meet the fundamental principles of gifted education and stimulate higher order thinking, analysis and reflection.

As we are a fully inclusive school, our teams were chosen by asking parents, through the newsletter, for expressions of interest. We were allocated a maximum of 18 places, so some younger students missed out this year. We hope to provide the same opportunity next year, as the overwhelming feedback from our students that it was a very worthwhile experience.

### Our Teams:

Year 1 – 3 students			Year 4 – 6 students		
TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3	TEAM 4	TEAM 5	TEAM 6
Taka Maven	Sean McEachern	Tabitha Au	Sienna Leyshon	Henry Fitzpatrick	Caitlin Chee
Sarah Ong	Nicholas Peters	Isabelle Lee	Jasmine Stanton	Henry Stanton	Elsie Yang
Maya Vojvodic	Audrey Fitzpatrick	Simona Preshaw	Hannah Nixon	Dante Fearn	Charlotte Muir

### Our students were certainly all winners and had reason to celebrate

*Audrey – “I enjoyed learning about all the nerves in our body.”*

*Jasmine – “The Quest was fun, challenging and I learnt a lot about neuro-travel devices.”*

*Henry F – “Science was fun!”*



*Simona – “The Quest was fun and educational.”*

*Nicholas – “I recommend it to others.”*

*Hannah – “It was great collaborating with others.”*

*Charlotte – In Science we created our own fractals!”*

Across the 2-day program our students applied new knowledge to the set challenges, working in teams and producing incredible results. They were all, at times, 'in the pit' throughout the two days. Our older students (from Year 4 to 6) were in awe of other children's extraordinary minds and some were perhaps a little intimidated by some complex topics and issues presented to them. Despite the challenges, all students finished the day with smiles on their faces and self-pride was oozing, for how well they worked in teams, which is what we are all about at Claremont. They all certainly used their learner dispositions of persistence and collaboration, a growth mindset and plenty of courage. **I can't stress enough that each student who participated was a true champion.**

One of our junior teams (Years 1 - 3) performed above and beyond all others, by **winning the overall Quest for all Years 1-3 students across the state** - Maya Vojvodic (Yr 2), Sarah Ong (Yr 3) and Taka Maven (Yr 3). They now have the opportunity to go on to represent Claremont in the National Final on 7 December (venue and details to be advised).



Maya – *“I enjoyed thinking outside the box and sharing my knowledge.”*

Taka – *“I am proud because my team won!”*

Sarah – *“The competition was challenging, but as a team we made it through!”*



The students and I would also like to thank the Claremont Cheer Squad, who rallied behind the students, including those from other schools, and cheered loudly, in the true Claremont spirit.

Danté – *“It really pushed us to our limits and helped us grow more.”*

Sean – *It was fun and we learnt about unilevel knowledge learning about neurons. (SOLO)*

Sienna – *“I really enjoyed myself and learnt a lot of new knowledge.”*



Henry S – *“It was very challenging and proved to be difficult. I learnt a lot and it was a great experience.”*

Elsie – *“We were stretched to think about things we don't do at school. I enjoyed the overarching theme of the Chaos Theory.”*

Tabitha – *“It was fun displaying our new found knowledge in crafts we made.”*

Congratulations Team Claremont, and thankyou to the BRAINways staff and teachers.

**Mrs Brenda Dalheim**  
**Head of Learning Support**

Why not create your own ‘quest’ at home and discover more about fractals... in nature. ☺

