

## Valediction

Ms Hutson, Deacon Iannarino, Mr Urquhart, faculty, parents, friends and fellow classmates, I welcome you. And at this, the commencement ceremony of the current year, I say goodbye. As we the class of two thousand fourteen bid our loving mother farewell, we turn our sights to new endeavors and begin to select for ourselves a new home in the world.

Our graduation from high school marks a time of many and wonderful changes in our lives. Of the many changes which might mark a young person's life, none can match the distinction held by his passage into adulthood. Our many years of schooling and extracurriculars, our stress in the face of exams and our anticipation of college decisions have all come to pass. Their consequence now pales in light of the journey ahead; together, we now make a grand leap into our futures. We climb down from this bridge between elementary school and adulthood, forever altered by the journey.

High school has been a tremendous odyssey, one as valuable for its journey as for its eventual conclusion, namely, the graduation which we now commemorate.