



# Stanford Lake College

## 2009 Valedictory Address by Tim Kuiper

Good Morning, Stanford – staff, parents, pupils and, of course, the focus of today, Matrics.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams”.

To the Matric class of 2009: If these words are true, then the future belongs to us. You guys have graced Stanford with 5 years of success, happiness and excellence. I firmly believe that the Matrics sitting in front of me today are the strongest that Stanford has ever seen. Yes, we have 11 white blazers to boast, but there’s more than that. We’ve got that certain *je ne sais quoi* that has made us not just great – but special.

I stand here before you today as a proud Stanfordian Matric. I have spent 5 years as part of a family that has made me who I am today. A family that has moulded me into the best I can be. A family that has taught me perhaps one of the most important things in life - that happiness is not a destination but rather a way of life. It has been an absolute honour to serve as Head Boy of the Stanford family.

Matrics, the time has come for us to go out into the world. Don’t be afraid. Let’s look at life as though it is an all-you-can-eat buffet – full of opportunities. As we leave the Barnyard today we will go out barefoot, each one of us ready to leave our unique footprint upon the Earth. And as you leave, I want you to take these words from Isaiah with you:

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

I also want you to ask yourself this question: “If God is for us, who can be against us?”

Now...I’ve got one minute left as Head Boy and this is how I want to spend it. (Walk to keyboard and play song with Nicky Gilbert – Head Girl.)

GROWING TOGETHER FOR LIFE

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