CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY TASMANIA
HOBART GRADUATION CEREMONY
ADDRESS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE CAROLINE WELLS
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GLENORCHY, WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2026

Good afternoon, everyone. I am delighted to be here with you today as we celebrate our Children's University graduates.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Pakana Kanaplila dancers for your Welcome to Country and take this opportunity to acknowledge the deep history and culture of this Island. For countless generations, you have cared for this island, its landscapes, its waterways and its communities, and I'm so grateful to be able to live here. I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal Communities and to Aboriginal people with us today. Your continuing contribution to the cultural, social and spiritual life of our State is deeply valued.

Firstly, may I say how wonderful it is to see so many dedicated young learners graduating today. As you walk across the stage in your cap and gown shortly, you will be marking an exciting milestone in your learning journey.

In the years ahead, there will be many more memorable moments, whether it is sitting your first exam, celebrating your last day of school or achieving a goal you have worked hard towards. One day, you may also wear a cap and gown again at your University of Tasmania graduation.

However, no matter where your journey takes you, what I want to encourage you today is to never stop learning. Believe me, there is always something new to learn every single day!

As you have discovered through the Children's University program, learning doesn't just happen in a classroom from Monday to Friday — it happens every day, everywhere.

You might spot an unusual bird in your backyard and want to learn more about the natural world around you. You may visit an art gallery, see a painting that sparks your imagination and be inspired to create something of your own.

Most importantly, keep being curious. Ask questions, explore new ideas, dream big and follow your interests.

Curiosity and a love of learning will help you build a bright future for yourselves while also making a positive difference in our community. Tasmania's future will be in good hands with such thoughtful, capable and inquisitive young people leading the way.

I know there are many proud families and friends here in the audience today. Thank you for all you do to support these young minds and help them to thrive.

I also commend the Children's University team, along with the educators and learning destination partners, for fostering curiosity and ambition in our next generation.

Congratulations once again to all today's graduates. I wish you well as you keep exploring, discovering and learning in the years ahead.

Thank you.