

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

New Staff

I would like to welcome Blake Wawryzk who has been appointed to Henry Kendall in the English faculty following the merit selection process. Blake is a fabulous addition to our staff and we look forward to the contribution he will make in the coming years.

Additionally, in term two we will welcome Alison Irvine to the Mathematics faculty. Alison completed her internship with Henry Kendall in 2015 and proved herself to be an excellent practitioner, and will also be a wonderful addition to our teaching staff

We are excited to have two dynamic new teacher join our fabulous school and outstanding team committed to the education of our students.

Celebrating Gonski

In our latest newsletter I have included a short article on one of the projects being funded from the injection of additional funds through Gonski. Overall in 2016 we are funding 20 separate projects that would not have been possible without these funds, and periodically through the year I will be informing our community of these projects, the essential nature of these funds, and encourage support for the full delivery of Gonski by the Federal Government.

School Self-Assessment and School Excellence

Within the new School Excellence Reform is the new school planning, assessment and reporting process. Our school plan was developed late 2014 and implemented in 2015. Aligned with the implementation process, schools need to track their implementation on a regular basis, collect evidence that the work undertaken is making an impact, and self-assess against the recently released School Excellence Framework(SEF). Then, once every five years, schools are externally validated that their self-assessments are accurate.

Our self-assessment in 2015 was an extensive, thorough and meticulous process. The work and evidence collected by each of our seven school teams were mapped against the fourteen domains of the SEF, focussing on evidence that we are making an impact, the next steps to be taken (in 2016), and where we align against each domain. The result of this process has been confirmation that every aspect of our School Plan is on track and that a tangible difference is evident. This is now reported in the new Annual Report, which I will have completed by the end of term and will present at our first meeting in term 2.

Year 7 Information Night

Two weeks ago we held our Year 7 information night for parents and students. This was well attended and started with a meet and greet bbq before moving to the library for an overview of year 7 and our transition support processes. It was a great community night that attracted a lot of positive feedback..

School Publicity

Strategic communication remains a key aspect of our School Plan directions, with a focus on ensuring our public profile is strong, positive and connects with our community. To this end we are producing a number of publicity short films about aspects of our school which will be on our website, Facebook page, and can be utilised in various occasions with both students and the public. The first of these is underway currently and focusses on school culture, which I hope to shown to you next meeting.

Andrew Backhouse
Principal