

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **HSC**

We are thrilled to announce several early HSC achievements;

- Ashleigh Arkell's Drama project has been selected for On Stage – a display of the top submissions in the state and a huge achievement.
- Dieter Sheppard and James Sutcliffe are receiving major awards at the University of Wollongong's Engineering and Information Sciences' Award night next Friday.

### **Year 12 Formal**

Last night the Year 12 formal was held at Ettalong Memorial Club. It was a fantastic night and a wonderful way to farewell a very special group of students. Thanks to David Ardley for his organisation.

### **Flexible Learning Spaces**

In line with our School plan directions in 2016 we are encouraging staff to rethink their approaches to teaching practice to promote student engagement and excitement in the learning process. A factor in this will be rethinking our learning spaces, and to this end we will be embarking on an investment in open, collaborative learning spaces.

Metals is no longer an area of the curriculum that students are selecting, leaving us with a wasted resource in our metal workshop. Therefore we are going to redesign this space as an open, interactive workspace that encourages project based, inquiry based and collaborative learning practices, and will include a café to be run by students.

We will also begin redesigning the upper and lower sections of the library with new and flexible furniture that will change traditional approaches.

The third element will be an application process for faculties to apply for funding to reshape a learning space. There will be two grants of \$10,000 to achieve towards this project.

This is an exciting new approach that will encourage teachers and students to engage with learning in new, flexible and student centred ways, and really set a platform for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning going into the future.

### **Thank you**

I would like to extend my thanks to the P&C for a productive year and for the ongoing support the school receives from our parent community.

Andrew Backhouse  
Principal