



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This is a week of significant celebration at the College.

Year 12 students complete their Trial HSC (do you recall that time of pressure). Their completion of the school years is not far away, and teachers are pleased that nearly every student is working to their very best effort. Keep going – the end is near.

The Governor of NSW, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) and Mrs Hurley, will join us tomorrow to officially open the new sports facilities – the Rawdon Middleton VC Sports Complex and we will be joined by many visitors on the day. What a joy it will be to welcome so many visitors this week. Members of the wider Hassall family will be here, since Rawdon Middleton was related to Thomas Hassall through the family line. One or two of Rawdon's relatives will also be in attendance. His story is one of quiet, courageous heroism and we are honoured to name this lovely complex after his memory. It will be a great occasion.

On Saturday our College community celebrates the annual South West Festival from 10am to 3pm – a day open to the broader community with lots of colour and entertainment. I trust that you and the family will join us for some time during the day.

We have visitors from Japan in the College this week. Exchange students from the second of our Japanese sister schools – Fukuroi High School in Hammamatsu on the main island of Honshu will be here from Tuesday until next Monday. They will stay with families; join students in classes; learn some additional English and visit some of the well-known cultural centres around Sydney. Thank you to the College families who have undertaken to provide accommodation to our visitors.

It's also the week of electing our next group of student leaders to provide the best example of

student leadership across the next 12 months. We are looking forward to the final group being named and then to hold a special commissioning assembly in a fortnight's time.

Please take time across the festival or in the near future to take a tour of the new buildings and oval. We have provided the words 'be strong and courageous' so that students might be challenged and encouraged to bring their best efforts in sport and learning, as they engage with the new sporting facility. These key words come from the book of Joshua in the Old Testament of the bible, and I'm sure will be an encouragement to us all. Thanks for your continued support of our College programs:

*'Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go'. **Joshua 1:9***

Mr Ross Whelan
Principal
