



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Year 12 students commence their Trial HSC Examinations this coming Monday.

This is their final term of learning as they finalise assessments and major works in preparation for the HSC Examinations in October and ahead of their Graduation at the end of the term.

As Year 12 approach their trial weeks the next group of College student leaders are preparing. We will announce them in the next few weeks and will hold the Commissioning Assembly on Wednesday 4 September. Thank you to all who have applied for positions.

The South West Festival is just around the corner and final preparations are well and truly underway. It will take place on Saturday August 24. This is always a fantastic community event and this year we expect numbers to exceed 7,500. We look forward to you all coming along and being part of the day.

At the end of last term we announced the retirement of Mrs Christine Bessant. We also would like to take this opportunity to announce the retirement at the end of 2019 of Mrs Sue Hewson, our Coordinator of Prep. Mrs Hewson is a Foundation staff member, leader and long serving Prep teacher. She has been a dedicated and hardworking teacher and we have been well served by her contribution. Let me on your behalf wish her well as she retires. There will of course be an opportunity to farewell both Mrs Bessant and Mrs Hewson towards the end of the year. We wish both of them well as they pursue this next chapter in their lives.

Students from Takayamamura Junior High have arrived today and will be with us till next Tuesday. They are one of our 2 Sister Schools in Japan. It is always a valuable time for both schools as students and staff have opportunities to learn from each other about our very different

cultures. They have a busy schedule experiencing some 'Aussie' highlights over the next few days. Thanks to all the families who are billeting students. I'm sure you will find it a lovely time and something your family will remember for many years to come.

As we know we are living in an age of constant technological change and as parents and teachers it is often challenging to keep up with the fast paced and turbulent aspect of technology especially in relation to devices and their use. There are concerns about the digital habits of young people and the effect these have on their own self-image, relationships and mood – their general wellbeing. On **Thursday 15 August** the College is hosting a Wellbeing Matters Event - **Healthy Habits in a Digital World**. I commend this evening to you and encourage you to take the time to attend. We have a leading authority Dr Andrew Campbell presenting. You can find information and the links to RSVP in this edition of The Way or on our Website.

It is a very busy term for the College with many upcoming events and special occasions. Thank you for your support always and we look forward to seeing you at one or more over the next few months.

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. **Isaiah 41:10***

**Mr Ross Whelan**  
Principal

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