

## Principal's Foreword

In 2006:

- A major thrust for the year was our focus on literacy, and in particular development of a range of strategies to align curriculum, assessment, pedagogy and reporting. To give this priority impetus we participated in State and National Research projects and entered the QCAR trial as a partner school.
- Through the introduction of "Project Achieve" in year 8 we began to implement a planned program to help students have greater control of their own learning.
- In 2006 we refined and improved our processes for Fine-Tracking of students success through school, with resulting profiles available to student, parents and teachers.
- In order to prepare students for success in the new QCE, we introduced new processes to ensure that students met minimum standards and levels of work completion. Students can no longer automatically progress to the next year level, and we have introduce winter and summer school for students who have fallen behind in their assignment program.
- We began to introduce improved structures for student leadership, moving toward the development of leadership roles in every year level.
- We made a further commitment to the Responsible Thinking Process. The proper use of this is essential to ensure that we have disruption-free classrooms, and to help students take responsible control of their own behaviours.
- We introduced electronic attendance and reporting systems as we continued to tackle the issue of school attendance with a proportion of our students. Parents ow receive text messages if their child is not in school.
- We placed a computer on every teacher's desk to ensure that our staff are able to access on-line resources and immerse themselves in the planning required to nurture effective student use of new technologies.

## Looking Forwards

We completed a review of our last three years at the end of 2006, and made a commitment to a series of strategic changes that will further enhance the performance of our school:

- We are creating a new academic excellence strategy that will provide exceptional opportunities for students through the PACE program and the individual acceleration program.
- We will radically expand the school's vocational options, with rapid expansion of the number of Vocational Certificates offered and a commitment to structure these in ways which will maximise completion rates.
- Using the funding obtained from successful grant applications in late 2006, we will:
  - Create a new film and media centre
  - Build a fabrication and automotive facility
  - Create a new food processing unit for the farm
  - Install water storage to improve cultivation and irrigation in the school.
  - Lead a "boys education" lighthouse program in partnership with local state schools
  - From state government funding, obtained after strong representation, we will build a 2 million dollar Enterprise centre, bringing together opportunities for students in the Hospitality Industry and Business Enterprise.
- We will roll out a thorough professional development program for teachers so that all teachers will develop mastery on the practices we have developed through research projects in 2006.
- Our 'seamless curriculum' project will lead to even more thoughtful pathways to optimise student performance by the Senior School.
- We will expand our efforts to create the school as a community hub, through leasing of our facilities to groups for after hours use, and the development of partnerships with community and commercial organisations.