As we rush towards the end of the school year it is time to reflect on what has been a very successful and busy 12 months. Like all terms before it, Term 4 has been hectic. The HSC for 2014 has been and gone and we now await the results. There has already been much to celebrate in regards to the 2014 HSC.

Leila Kirkness’ work “Pain and Rapture” has been selected for ARTEXPRESS. Dance students Amber Bunt and Kaiya Hannifey received nominations for ‘Callback’. These are fabulous achievements as only the best of the best are nominated, let alone accepted. Teachers Tamara Lawry (art) and Jessica Schulte (dance) are to be congratulated for guiding these students to this wonderful outcome. We are looking forward to further success when the results are released. We will have our annual Year 12 morning tea on Thursday December 18 at 10:45 am.

The Year 12 formal was held in early November and was a great occasion. It was a real celebration at the conclusion of 13 years of education for this fabulous group of students. More than 450 students, parents and friends packed into the Dubbo convention centre. Our school leadership group was outstanding to the end with fabulous speeches given by Lachlan van Dartel, Phoebe Hall, Melissa McDonald and Jake Whitney. Thanks must go to their year advisers, James Lukeman and Alana Keelan, with special mention to Ms Keelan who really worked hard to make sure it was a special evening for all. A huge thank you to everyone involved.

While Year 12 students have completed their studies for 2014, the 2015 Year 12 students have commenced their HSC courses. Many students have taken the opportunity to amend their patterns of study and it is now full steam ahead. Indeed the first HSC assessment period starts on December 5 and will run until December 12. Students need to make sure they know when their tasks/examinations are due as they directly count towards the HSC.

While talking about graduations, the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program graduation took place last Monday. This ceremony was particularly poignant as former IYLP student Angel Towney spoke about her experiences during the program’s inaugural year and the difference it made to her life. It was a great night made possible by the hard work of Miss Dimiti Trudgett and Ms Tracey Piggott.

Recently teachers John Miller and Madeline Foran took the F1 in Schools team to Sydney to compete in the NSW State Championships. While they did not win in Sydney, their car received an award for the best aerodynamic design. Once again, it was a fine effort to be selected to compete at State level.

The College marked the success of its students in two ceremonies recently. The Celebration of Sport and the College Presentation Evening were wonderful showcases of the range of talent at Dubbo College. Award recipients and performers reflected the diverse pool of academic, sporting, performing arts and leadership
talent at the College. Congratulations to head teacher Lyndal Powderly who did a wonderful job of organising both events.

Sadly the end of the year also means we have to say farewell to some members of staff. This year we are farewelling Waseem Lodhi and Lucy Vaughan, with both moving on to fulltime positions. Mr Lodhi is returning to Sydney and Ms Vaughan is taking up a position at Cowra High School. We wish them both all the best in their new endeavours and thank them for their commitment to Dubbo College Senior Campus.

Next week, for the very first time, we will welcome our 2015 Year 11 students to Senior Campus for a program of transition. During the week students will be attending the classes and studying the subjects they have chosen for next year. This will allow students to meet their teachers for 2015, develop an understanding of the requirements of the subject, get an overview of assessment in Stage 6 and orientate themselves to being a senior student. We are looking forward to having them here during the week.

As the festive season is just about upon us I would like to thank all the staff that work so hard to make Senior Campus run effectively and I would also like to thank the P&C for its ongoing support. I wish all parents, caregivers and especially students and staff all the best for Christmas and the New Year. Have a happy and safe holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in 2015.

Andrew Jones
PRINCIPAL