Once again students and staff are back in the groove for what will be another busy term. Already we have a range of activities and successes.

Tuesday May 5 saw the Clontarf team organise an awareness-raising event for White Ribbon. ‘Walk a Mile in Her Shoes’ was held to raise awareness amongst our male students about domestic violence in our community. The event was a fabulous success and Mr Dann, Mr Eddy and Mr Quin must be congratulated for being at the forefront of the event.

Elijah Stanger-Jones has been accepted into a science research project at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). MIT was recently ranked the number one university in the world. Only two people Australia-wide were accepted and Elijah is one of them - a huge honour but also a huge accolade for Elijah. He will undertake a research project while at MIT. This is a unique opportunity for a very talented student. Congratulations Elijah.

Congratulations also need to go to Billie Palin and Nathan Bryon. I mentioned Nathan and Billie’s upcoming concert in my last Principal’s Report. The concert was an outstanding success and a real showcase for the talents of students in public education. The depth of talent from primary all the way through to senior was amazing and the full theatre was treated to some wonderful performances.

Thanks must go to all the staff and students from Dubbo South Primary, Dubbo North Primary, Dubbo Central, Dubbo College Delroy and South Campus’ and Senior Campus. A special thanks to Mrs Powderly for all the support and knowledge she provided to the students. The highlights of the show were the performances of Nathan and Billie. Billie has also made it to the intermediate round of the Featured Artists for the 2015 School Spectacular. Once again congratulations to all involved.
It has also been a good start to the term in regard to sporting endeavours. Our open boys football team continues to progress, as does our boys touch football team. However one of our more celebrated successes came on the netball court. Our netballers, led by coach Rebecca May, defeated Orange in the CHS knockout competition. This victory was particularly noteworthy as it was the first time in 22 years that our netballers have defeated Orange. It bodes well for Astley Cup later in the term.

Our school captain, Michael Jeffrey, travelled to Sydney late last term to accept the prestigious Nanga Mai Award for Public Speaking. The ceremony took place at the Australian National Maritime Museum. The award is particularly poignant as Michael has worked so hard, with the support of many, to develop himself as a public speaker. Well done, Michael.

I would like to pay tribute to our outgoing P&C President, Sonia Strachan. Sonia has been the P&C president for the past 3½ years and retired from the position at the last P&C meeting. Even though her daughter completed school in 2013 Sonia continued in the role in 2014 and into 2015. Sonia has been a fabulous P&C President. She has been a staunch supporter of the College. She has worked tirelessly for the school and students and will be greatly missed. I would personally like to thank Sonia for her support, advice and hard work. You will be sorely missed, Sonia.

There is much to look forward to in Term 2 with activities including Assessment weeks, HSC Seminars and of course, Astley Cup. Roll on Term 2.

Andrew Jones
PRINCIPAL