

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
COLLEGE of AGRICULTURE  
*Cunderdin*

# Newsletter

November 2016



*Congratulations to the Class of 2016*



# Principal—Mr David De Meo



## Welcome

My first six weeks at Cunderdin have been terrific and my learning curve is slightly below vertical. The staff, students and community members have been very friendly and supportive during this time which has made my transition from a large city senior high school to the premier agricultural college in WA far easier than I was anticipating.

Thank you to everyone for such a warm welcome.

## Year 12 Valedictory

The Year 12 Valedictory was held on Friday 11 November and we had around 450 attendees at this important event. Thank you to all of the parents, family members and friends of our Year 12 students as well as other community members who supported our Year 12 students on this day. Congratulations to all the award winners on the day, who are listed elsewhere in the newsletter.

## 2017 Head Students

Congratulations to our Head Students for 2017 in



**Grace Davey and Saxon Rice-Fazey.**

They will be ably assisted by the other student councillors in **Jordan Booth, Tiarah Cotter, Shona Fluck, Ben Hanlon, Damian Jenzen, Jack Oorschot and Kaleb Siegert**.

I am sure you will all do a fantastic job.

Well done!

**2017 Head Students  
Saxon Rice-Fazey &  
Grace Davey**

## WA Education Awards 2016

On Monday 28 November a large number of staff from the College will be attending these awards in support of **Mr Darryl McCart** who is a finalist in the WA School Services Staff Member of the Year category. I am sure you will all wish **Darryl** the very best for this award. In my short time at the College I have come to recognise his invaluable contributions to the students and the College.



## Term 4

Term 4 is well and truly underway with the College buzzing with different daily activities from laying concrete for a wash bay area in Design & Technology, to class tests and examinations, to harvest and other farming activities such as AI and ET with **Mr Laird** between shearing competitions. Some students have been requested to attend the College from the 28 November to 2 December for work experience as well as completing any outstanding work that will assist in the successful completion of certificates and courses next year.



**Mr Laird  
overseeing the  
AI program**

## Thank you

As the end of the year rapidly approaches I would like to thank the staff at the College for the enthusiasm and commitment over this year to ensure the students succeed in their activities at the College, to the parents thank you for your ongoing support and to the Year 11 students thank you for your co-operation and commitment to your education over the past year.

To all our community members may you have a safe and joyous festive season.

I look forward to working with you in the New Year.



**Mr Darryl McCart - Finalist in the WA  
Education Awards 2016**

# Residential Manager—Mr Darryl McCart



Congratulations to the Year 12 Class of 2016. All students looked tremendous in their class uniform and valedictory gown. Congratulations also to students who received awards in recognition of the hard work they put in over their two years at the College.



**Vanessa Davis & Digby Harris  
Residential award winners**



## Student Council

The 2017 Student Council was elected by staff and students. Congratulations to **Jordan Booth, Damian Jenzen, Grace Davey, Jack Oorschot, Kaleb Siegert, Shona Fluck, Ben Hanlon, Saxon Rice-Fazey and Tiarah Cotter** who I am sure will be very interesting to work with. The first official task for the Student Council will be to attend Induction week with the Year 11's, a great opportunity to get know each other.

During the Year 12 Valedictory ceremony, our 2017 Head Students were announced, congratulations to **Grace Davey and Saxon Rice-Fazey**.

**The Student Councillors are required to be at the College 12.00pm Monday afternoon on 30 January 2017.**

## RETURN DATES 2017

Year 11's enrolment day is Monday 30 January between **1.00 pm – 2.00 pm**, students will settle into allocated rooms during this time.

Afternoon tea will also be available in the dinning room for parents and students.

Parents who have indicated they will stay overnight will be allocated rooms when they arrive.

**Year 12's return Wednesday 1 February between 4.00pm – 5.00pm - an evening meal will be provided so it is essential that students return during these times.**

Can parents please adhere to these times as it helps the return program run smoothly.

## Vehicle Forms

Year 12's are reminded that you must have a signed

vehicle permission form on file **BEFORE** you return to the College with your vehicle. These forms are available from the front office, website or myself upon request. A new form must be completed at the start of each year. Please be aware that any breaches of the policy will result in you taking your car home and leaving it there for the equivalent of one term.

## Reach Boardingware

2016 Year 11 parent and student details for Reach Boarding will remain the same next year. Login and passwords will not change so parents and students will be able to continue on as they have this year. A reminder that cut off times for leave applications will remain the same as this year which is **8.00pm Wednesday night**.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE FESTIVE SEASON TO ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS - LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL IN 2017.**

## Halloween Special Dinner photos



# Design & Technology—Mr Stephen Prangnell



Valedictory was an excellent day. It's pleasing to see the Year 12's come back for the day and receive acknowledgement for their efforts over the last two years. It has also been great to hear on the grapevine about several Year 12's landing apprenticeships.

This has been a year full of activity for the Design and Technology staff. Apart from the usual work and training package development, staff have been involved in range of activities including Trade Tours, the Surf Camp, After-hours workshop, Country Week and the Woodshow to name a few.

With this in mind I would like to thank **Ben Elliott**, **Troy Boromini**, **Alan Jones**, **Bob McManus**, **Alan Sutton** and **Keith Thompson** for their efforts this year. They are dedicated people and who ensure the outcomes for students are maximised.

This year has seen some changes to our staffing with **Bob McManus**, **Alan Jones** and **Alan Sutton** all retiring this year.

Thanks to **Bob McManus** for another encore this year.

Thank you **Alan Jones** for your efforts over the years, you have left your mark with your many construction projects around the College. I will also never pronounce some words the same again.

Thank you **Alan Sutton** for your contribution to the automotive workshop. The students have enjoyed working with you and I will miss the V8 note comparisons.

I wish you all a healthy, enjoyable retirement.



**D & T prize winners—Dylan Parkhouse, Jordan Kelly, Quintin Cook & Morgan Ashworth**

The Year 11's have had a successful year in Design and Technology. Most students have completed the necessary requirements and much of the Training Package work will carry into next year. There have been some excellent projects completed and many will carry over for completion next year. Project accounts will also be ongoing and you may receive accounts for completed projects or balances to date.



**Travis Schilling with Mr Boromini**



**Megan Stevens**



**Alyssa Catilo & John Waters**

# Class—Mrs Jane Beatty



All the best to the Year 12 students who recently graduated from the College. There has been some fantastic achievements over the past two years at the College and we all wish you the very best for your future endeavours. Please drop in, say hello and let us know what you are up to in the future.

Year 12 ATAR students have recently completed their WACE examinations and now have the long wait until the results are released. Well done for sticking with the ATAR course and completing your exams.

Thank you to our ATAR teachers: **Mr Paul Jasper**, **Ms Kristy Hackford**, **Miss Leanne Sjollema** and **Miss Tanya de Bijn** for your dedication to the ATAR course and doing that bit extra to ensure the students success. This included a two day camp at SIDE in Leederville in which the students had intensive study sessions with their subject area teachers and also enjoyed some relaxing activities including an underground tunnel tour of the Fremantle Prison and shopping around Fremantle followed by dinner at Cicerellos.

All Year 11 students will soon be receiving their Semester 2 report. Please keep in mind the following when reading your child's report. Grades are allocated in accordance with the grade descriptors provided to us by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority. All tasks completed throughout the year contribute to the overall mark for the course and are in line with the grade descriptors.

| Grade | Interpretation           |
|-------|--------------------------|
| A     | Excellent achievement    |
| B     | High achievement         |
| C     | Satisfactory achievement |
| D     | Limited achievement      |
| E     | Very low achievement     |

The allocation of a '**C**' grade indicates that your child is performing at the **expected** level for the course and this is a **satisfactory** result.

I would like to make mention of the Class staff **Ms Leanne Sjollema**, **Miss Tanya de Bijn**, **Mr Daniel Gibbins**, **Mr Paul Jasper** and **Ms Kristy Hackford** who have worked tirelessly during the year to provide the students with the best possible learning opportunities during the year, building on individual achievements and successes. Thank you also to **Mrs Leanne Childs** for her work with the students throughout the year.

**Mr Daniel Gibbins** came to the College in Term 3 and I would like to thank him for taking on the Year 12 Mathematics and Year 11 Plant Production Systems. We wish **Daniel** all the best for his return to his permanent position at WA College of Agriculture - Denmark.

**Ms Kristy Hackford** is also leaving us after three years at the College to take on an English position in Perth. **Kristy** has been an integral part of the Class Area team and has taken on many roles during her time here including OLNA Administrator and Literacy Intervention. An indication of her dedication and perseverance to and with the students can be highlighted by the success of students in the English program and the achievements and progress of students involved in literacy intervention. Thank you for your dedication and best wishes at your new school, you will be missed by Cunderdin.

I will be taking leave for the first term of 2017 to be with my family in Perth. During this time **Mr Paul Jasper** will be stepping into the role of Head of Curriculum and I wish him all the best in this role.

All the very best to the students and their families for a safe and happy summer holiday period.



## Manager Corporate Services—Mrs Laura McCart



The boarding fees for 2017 have been set at \$8,369.00 by the Government. If parents are applying for Assistance for Isolated Children you can request that the payment come direct to the College so that you do not have to be concerned with payments. The reference number that you quote is 555014090S.

We have credited all the parents from Year 12 who had overpaid their fees and charges. The funds should now be in your account. Year 11 students who have credit on their account will be rolled over to 2017 unless parents wish to have a refund.

Year 11 parents who still owe money please be aware that the policy to board at the College are as follows:

**No student will be permitted to commence Year 12 as a residential student unless prior repayment arrangements have been made with the Business Manager to clear outstanding fees from 2016.**

If you have any queries regarding 2016 or 2017 fees and charges, please do not hesitate to contact me.

The information packages for 2017 will be posted on the 28 November. The Contribution and Charges list is an indication of the maximum that it could cost to send your child to the College. A statement will be sent out in Term One.

Please ensure to order the books you require for your child before 9 December online as per instructions on book list.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone of my team **Christine, Rebecca, Karen, Jane** in front office, **Julie** in farm, **Anita** in Library, **Steve** in IT and **Leanne** in Class. The College would be lost without you.

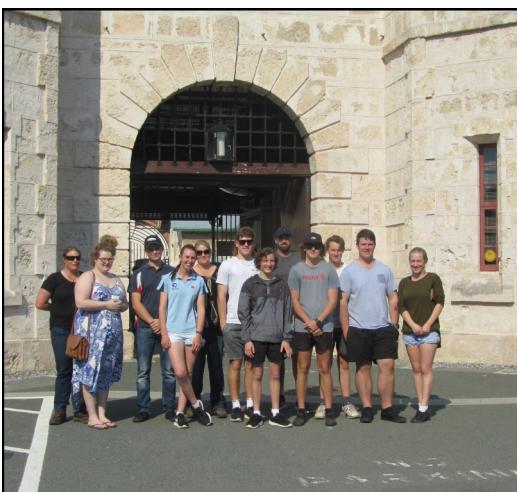
Last but not least I hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and a safe New Year. Look forward to seeing you all in 2017.



## ATAR Camp—Ms Kristy Hackford

The beginning of Term Four started with a two day camp to SIDE in Leederville for nine Year 12 students and four ATAR teachers. The camp was arranged as a study opportunity for students who wanted to take part and would be broken up with some extra curricula activities as a reward for all the extra work the ATAR students put into their studies. We left Cunderdin on Monday 10 October with **Hayden Wiltshire, Inaya Stone, Zac Baker, Owen Wigg, Dylan Parkhouse, Brodie Metcalfe, Vanessa Davis, James Steel and Olivia Bamess**, who we picked up in Mundaring.

Day one started as soon as we got to Leederville, with lunch, followed by two of the four one-hour study sessions with small groups of students. The focused study sessions allowed teachers to return mock exams and give the students who did attend the camp individual feedback on their performance in the exams. After the study session we headed to Innaloo for dinner and a movie, the movie of choice was The Magnificent Seven and no one from English analysed the symbolism.



Day two meant two more one-hour study sessions with different groups, so they could receive the same focus that the other groups had on day one. Really the highlight to the camp was the afternoon of day two when we spent the afternoon in Fremantle. We were lucky the sun came to assist as the afternoon was off to a great start with fish and chips at Cicerellos. We had time to walk through the city of Fremantle and meet the bus at the prison. Students had agreed to do hard time under the prison, with an intensive three hour tour of the tunnels under the prison. The tour looked at the history of the prison and a 20 metre drop into the tunnels of prison to see how water was supplied to Fremantle and the prison in the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

Day three was the pack up and return to Cunderdin for the rest of the week to continue with studying in preparation for the WACE exams that started on the 31 October.

I would like to acknowledge the exceptional behaviour of all students on the camp and thank them for making the camp a joy for the teachers. Also thank you to the other teachers; **Mr Paul Jasper, Ms Leanne Sjollema and Miss Tanya de Bijl** for attending the camp and helping prepare the students for exams.

# Farm—Mr Kim Gray



November sees the harvest in full swing with mixed results. Some paddocks of barley yielded well and made malting grade, whilst others not so well with significant frost damage resulting in feed grade only. The canola also suffered more frost damage than first thought and has averaged 1.1 tonne per hectare. **Mr Childs** and **Mr Dumbrell** have been coaching students in the operations of the harvester and new chaser bin with only minor spills of grain as they learn to manoeuvre and unload the chaser bin. The barley should be finished this week and we will then move onto oats, peas, lupins, wheat and triticale.



**Mr Childs, Luke Stevens & Callen Buller**

The College is very grateful to **Mr Reg Maddock**, a member of the Farm Advisory Board, who has kindly donated some feeding stalls to the piggery and we are currently drawing up plans to assemble them. Students have been fabricating and installing division fences for the dry sow shed and this has involved a large amount of cutting and welding. **Miss Davey** is gradually introducing batch farrowing into the piggery to improve management efficiencies.

The cattle in the feed lot have now been sold off and students have been able to analyse results of different growth rates of the various breeds of

animals. **Mr Burns** and **Mr Frantom** have been showing students the reproductive tract of cows in the butcher shop as well as demonstrating the procedure of artificial insemination of cows.

**Mr Laird** and **Mrs Illes** have been prepping the stud ewes ready for embryo transfer and artificial insemination. Classroom students have been walking down to the shearing shed to witness technicians from **All Stock** carry out these procedures. This has been really interesting for students and a tremendous opportunity to be involved in the procedures.

Students have been badgering **Mr Laird** to shear more sheep, but alas every sheep on the property has been shorn and the last of the wool has been sent off for sale.



**Connor Anderson (above) & Harrison Edwards (left) in the shearing shed**



It is very good to see 18 students taking the opportunity to gain some valuable work experience on the farm from 28 November to 4 December. This will enable them to gain competencies towards Certificate II in Agriculture over the five days straight spent on farm.

We welcome **Mrs Leanne Grant-Williams** to the Assistant Farm Manager position after six years at the WA College of Agriculture - Denmark where she was the technical officer for sheep and equine sections. It has been a very busy time for **Mrs Grant-Williams** as she settles into the new role at Cunderdin and we wish her well.

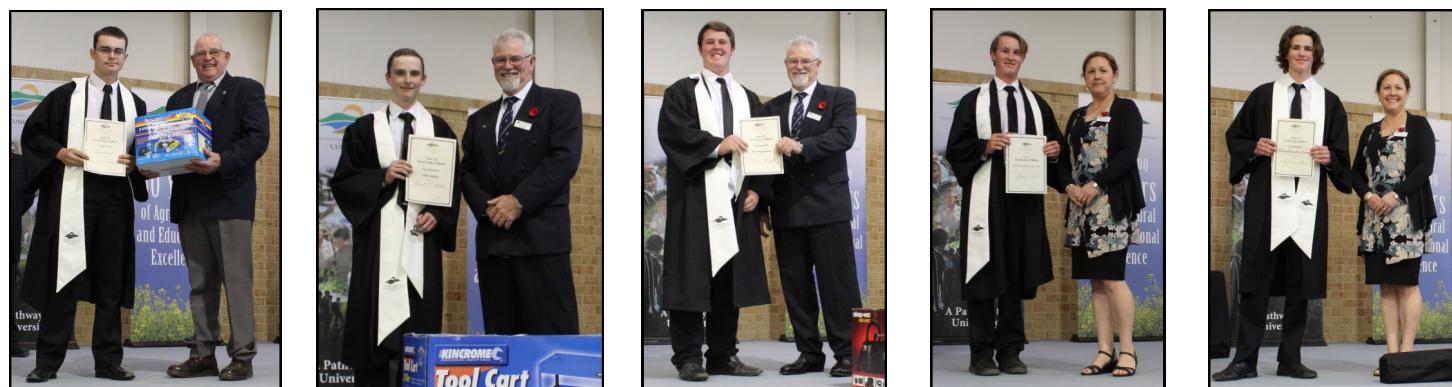
Finally we bid farewell to the Year 12 students and wish them all the very best in their future endeavours and hope to hear from them with news of their progress.

# Valedictory 2016

| <b>Award</b>                         | <b>Donor</b>                              | <b>Student Name</b>      |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Butcher shop                         | Cunderdin Transport                       | Taylor Sprigg Dos Santos |
| Beef Production                      | Kader Boot Company                        | Rohan Obst               |
| Sheep & Wool Production              | Farmways Cunderdin                        | Shannon Mc Lean          |
| Pig Production                       | WA College of Ag - Cunderdin              | Brittany Mayberry        |
| Grain Production                     | HCT Rural Agencies                        | Dylan Parkhouse          |
| Farm Workshop                        | Hutton & Northey – Cunderdin              | Owen Wigg                |
| Farm Safety                          | WA College of Ag - Cunderdin              | Brock O’Malley           |
| Animal Production Systems GEN        | Milne Agri group                          | Jaydan Smith             |
| Animal Production Systems ATAR       | Reg Maddock                               | Brodie Metcalfe          |
| English (GEN)                        | Cunderdin Co-operative                    | Cheyenne Bland           |
| English (ATAR)                       | Rotary Club of Cunderdin                  | Brodie Metcalfe          |
| Mathematics (GEN)                    | WA College of Ag - Cunderdin              | Shannon McLean           |
| Mathematics (ATAR)                   | Ag Implements                             | Dylan Parkhouse          |
| Physical Education Studies           | Hon. Brian Ellis MLC                      | Kyle Van Beek            |
| Plant Production Systems (GEN)       | Bendigo Bank                              | Shannon McLean           |
| Plant Production Systems (ATAR)      | Baxter’s Rural Centre                     | Brodie Metcalfe          |
| Sportsperson of the Year             | Slater & Gartrell - Midland               | James Steel              |
| Automotive Workshop                  | Country Ford – Cunderdin                  | Jordan Kelly             |
| Engineering                          | WA College of Ag - Cunderdin              | Dylan Parkhouse          |
| Furnishing                           | Lions Club - Cunderdin                    | Morgan Ashworth          |
| General Construction                 | Mr Rupert Weller                          | Quinton Cook             |
| Best all rounder                     | Caltex                                    | Dylan Parkhouse          |
| Most Consistent – D&T                | Darren West MLC                           | Jordan Kelly             |
| Most Consistent – Farm               | Brown and Aldridge MLC                    | Inaya Stone              |
| Residential - Male                   | Old Collegians                            | Digby Harris             |
| Residential – Female                 | Bendigo Bank                              | Vanessa Davis            |
| Australian Defence Forces Leadership | Australian Defence Forces                 | Dylan Parkhouse          |
| Most Improved Student                | Ms Mia Davies – MLA                       | Marshall Gillett         |
| Westscheme                           | Australian Super                          | Mac Kempton              |
| VET Dux                              | WACOA – Cunderdin                         | Dylan Parkhouse          |
| Runner up to Dux                     | WACOA – Cunderdin & Farm Advisory Council | Inaya Stone              |
| Dux                                  | Pastoralist and Graziers Assn             | Brodie Metcalfe          |

# Valedictory 2016

|             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| Scholarship | Elders Farmways                                       | Vanessa Davis                                  |
| Scholarship | WA Shearing Contractors / Prime Super / Neville Munns | Jaydan Smith                                   |
| Scholarship | CSU Agribusiness Scholarship                          | Inaya Stone                                    |
| Scholarship | WA Farmsafe Award                                     | Danny Halligan                                 |
| Scholarship | WA Farmsafe Award Auschem                             | Dylan Parkhouse                                |
| Scholarship | Old Collegians  | Jack Oorschot                                  |
| Scholarship | College Farm  | Kaden Reynolds                                 |
| Scholarship | Royal Agricultural Society                            | Shona Fluck                                    |
| Scholarship | Wool Education Trust                                  | Grace Davey<br>Samuel Chitty<br>Danny Halligan |
| Scholarship | WA FARMERS  | Chloe King                                     |



# University & Careers Information



## Agriculture College Graduate Curtin Agribusiness Student Bursary

Status: **Open**

Applications open: 21/10/2016

Applications close: 15/12/2016

The Agriculture College Graduate Curtin Agribusiness Student Bursary has been developed by Curtin University to reward and assist high achieving students choosing to study Agribusiness at Curtin.

### Eligibility criteria

- Attended an Agricultural College within the last 3 years
- Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, Australian permanent humanitarian or New Zealand citizen
- Selected Curtin University as a first preference through TISC to undertake the Bachelor of Agribusiness in 2017 by the scholarship closing date
- Eligible for a Commonwealth supported place

### Value

The Agriculture College Graduate Curtin Agribusiness Student Bursary will provide the following support for 2017 (based on a full-time study load of 75 credits per semester)

A total value of up to \$3,000 paid over three installments of \$1,000

For further information and to download the Application form, visit the scholarship page here

<https://scholarships.curtin.edu.au/scholarships/scholarship.cfm?id=2791.0>

# University & Careers Information

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Central Regional TAFE           | <b><a href="http://www.centralregionaltafe.wa.edu.au">www.centralregionaltafe.wa.edu.au</a></b>                                       |
| Curtin University               | <b><a href="http://www.curtin.edu.au">www.curtin.edu.au</a></b>   |
| Edith Cowan University          | <b><a href="http://www.ecu.edu.au">www.ecu.edu.au</a></b>   |
| Murdoch University              | <b><a href="http://www.murdoch.edu.au">www.murdoch.edu.au</a></b>   |
| Muresk Institute                | <b><a href="http://www.dtwd.wa.gov.au/trainingproviders/mureskinstitute">www.dtwd.wa.gov.au/trainingproviders/mureskinstitute</a></b> |
| Notre Dame University           | <b><a href="http://www.nd.edu.au">www.nd.edu.au</a></b>   |
| University of Western Australia | <b><a href="http://www.uwa.edu.au">www.uwa.edu.au</a></b>   |

## Skippers Ticket 2016—Mr Paul Jasper

Although the College is situated 160km from the ocean, we don't let that impact on the delivery of water based competencies that the students receive. The Recreational Skippers ticket was available as an option to those students that chose to study Physical Education Studies this year at the College. This coupled with the fact that they also had the ability to obtain their Open Water Diving Licence sets them up very well for the upcoming Summer Holidays. The Licence itself is linked to the Certificate in Engineering and the course is linked to the competencies MEM50008B – Carry out trip preparation and MEM50009B – Planning and safely operate a mechanically powered recreational boat.



This year seven students took up the opportunity to obtain their licence. This meant that they would have a day of theory in the classroom covering every aspect of boating and also a practical day on the water. Unfortunately due to changes within TAFE and the hoops that the instructor now needs to jump through the course has got significantly harder this year. Our instructor delivered the course to 8 farmers quite recently and 6 of them had to re-sit their test. To our student's credit and their ability to study before the theory and practical days only one student needed to re-sit the test and all students passed with 100% or only making one mistake in their practical component of the course.

Next year the students will need to sit the theory part of the course at a licencing centre on one of Department of Transport computers similar to a driving licence. The practical component of the course will be delivered in the same way. Hopefully before DoT makes any significant changes we can get another lot of students through the theory component at school. The ability for them to sit in a class together and work at their own pace has obvious benefits for the students and I also believe the pass rate will be significantly higher. Watch this space...

## Frost Assessment—Mr Paul Jasper

Unfortunately this year frost has severely impacted many of our farming communities. The ability to assess for frost as a farmer is a skill that is often not taught many places let alone at a school level. This year, like hundreds of other farms across the Wheatbelt, the College was hit heavily by frost.

Our ATAR Year 11 student group within Plant Production Systems had the chance to learn how to assess for frost and the impact that it would have on the bottom line. As part of the course students are instructed about many aspects of Plant Production Systems. Marketing and Economics along with Production Practice skills were at the forefront of this task and like many other situations within teaching the more practical you can



teach a skill the better the understanding will be.



The student group looked at the 61cm or 2 feet measuring device and learnt how to count heads and grain fill. The amount of frosted heads and tillers that didn't form along with heads on the ground was all discussed. Our assessor informed us that the way that it is done these days is very similar to the way an assessor may have looked at a paddock that had been hit by hail. The students were shown the skills of looking at the frosted affected areas of barley, wheat and canola. Hopefully it's a skill set that they rarely have to use in their farming futures however unfortunately we all know it impacts far too often.

# Coming up...

|                  |                 |  |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Wednesday—Friday | 23-25 November  | Year 11 Exam Week  |
| Friday           | 25 November     | Year 11's finish<br>College closes at 12.20pm<br>College Board 10.00am                           |
| Friday           | 16 December     | College office closes  |
| Wednesday        | 25 January 2017 | College office opens   |
| Thursday         | 26 January      | Australia Day Public Holiday   |
| Monday           | 30 January      | Year 11 Induction—students arrive 1.00pm   |
| Tuesday          | 31 January      | Year 11 Induction continues  |
| Wednesday        | 1 February      | Year 11's in Class/Farm/D&T<br>Year 12's return 4.00-5.00pm                                      |
| Thursday         | 2 February      | Year 12's commence in Farm/D&T   |
| Thursday         | 9 February      | Year 11's Adventure World  |
| Friday           | 3 March         | CLOSED WEEKEND<br>College closes 4.00pm  |
| Monday           | 6 March         | Labour Day Public Holiday<br>Students return after 4.00pm<br>Evening meal available if requested |
| Tuesday          | 7 March         | College commences 8.00am   |
| Friday           | 7 April         | End of Term One  |

