## Year 12 School Captains' Speech – Semester 1 Awards Assembly

RUBY: Good morning staff and students who have joined us today,

**RUBY:** Standing here today, halfway through Year 12, it feels a bit surreal. We've faced SACs, early mornings, long nights, and the never-ending balance of school, work, sport, friendships, and family. But through it all, we've kept going, and that's something worth being proud of.

**JENSON:** This ceremony isn't just about awards. It's about pausing to recognize how far we've come, not just academically, but in all the quiet everyday ways we grow such as showing up when things are tough, supporting our friends, and continuing to move forward even when motivation dips.

**JENSON:** To everyone receiving an award today, congratulations. Your hard work deserves to be celebrated, and to everyone else, your effort matters just as much. Not all achievements come with certificates; sometimes, the biggest wins are personal, like not giving up even when it gets overwhelming, or improving a mark.

**JOSH:** We've sat countless assessments, handed in assignments that were stressful, and dealt with the stress that comes with knowing that everything we do this year matters. On top of this, we're managing jobs, sporting and social commitments, and our own expectations all at the same time, and during all of this, we still show up to school every day. That takes resilience.

**JOSH:** We still have a long way to go: more SACs, end-of-year exams, and more pressure to perform. But as we head into the second half of the year, we now know what works for us and what doesn't. We've built a bit of resilience, even if it doesn't feel like it.

**TALIA:** To our teachers, thank you for pushing us, believing in us, and occasionally letting us hand in things a bit late. Thank you for your pep talks, patience, and helping us throughout the year. There is still a long way to go, but today is a chance to take a breath, reflect, and celebrate. We are doing better than we think.

TALIA: Thank you, and best of luck to everyone for the rest of the year.