

High achievers breakfast 2026 - Principal's remarks

Congratulations to all of our High Achievers for Semester One 2026!

And ... congratulations to your parents, carers and families ... that great support team that does so much to help you

We are celebrating you this morning because your academic achievements have placed you in the top 5% of your year level.

And we are acknowledging that while it's the moments of achievement - the results, the performance, the final assessment - that everyone sees, these are built on so many, **many** more moments of showing up, working hard, trying again and again, risking failure, overcoming mistakes and striving to do your very best.

Perhaps even more than your final achievements, this morning we are celebrating the effort they got you there.

Our COLLEGE has a mantra, a saying that captures who we are and what learning here is all about. It's one you'll know very well.

And on a morning like this looking out on the sea of faces like yours it perfectly describes the school we are and the exemplary students you are:

You belong to community where to learn is to grow

We believe in our CORE values of curiosity, optimism, respect, and excellence, and that these values can change the world

And that you will become your best selves on the journey & the designers of our future.

I'm an old English teacher and sometimes I like using big words.

As our high achievers I think you'll know these ones:

You are the personification of our CORE values

You are the embodiment of our CORE values

As our high achievers you've lived these values through semester one:

- you've approached every learning team curious to learn more
- you've tackled any challenges confronted you with optimism that you can overcome
- your consistent, persistent hard work and endeavour has demonstrated your respect for yourself, and doing your best,
- and excellence... well we're celebrating you as high achievers, as the top 5% in academic achievement in our school ... so that speaks for itself.

We are very proud of you.

Your families are very proud of you.

I hope you're very proud of yourselves...

With recognition as a high achiever can come pressure for perfection.

I know this because I work with high achieving teachers and I know the pressure they put on themselves. I want to share with you advice I share with them.

You are not only your achievements ... you are far more valuable, loved and interesting than just those. The person you are becoming is more important than the achievements you will make, or the level of excellence you reach.

It is the whole of who you are and knowing that the best life is a life lived with passion ... so be sure to always pursue with all your energy and enthusiasm those things which give you joy.

On Tuesday morning, we acknowledged our Year 7,8 & 9 High Achievers and that was an exciting and joyful morning, celebrating our younger students who have done so well. And I shared with them the same thoughts I've shared with you.

But this next bit is just for you ... our pride in you is for your achievements, for the people you are and for the way that you lead our school.

Year 12 our final day is coming up fast ... 35 days from today. You've been great role models for our community of learners. We'll have opportunities to thank and farewell you ... but not yet. For now, very well done ... and keep going!

Year 11 ... your time is coming. Soon you'll take the mantle as a leaders of our school. I'm excited to see what you'll bring. Your learning leadership is already there for us to see and follow ...

And Year 10s do you see it? Maybe not yet, but soon you'll realise how our younger students look up to you, that more and more you lead the way, that you will carry forward the learning culture of our school.

We are a young school ... but we have a growing tradition and each of you in your own time and in your own way, contribute to the richness of our culture. Learning is the heart of it and becoming your best self is the point of it. Congratulations and very, very well done.

Congratulations our Beaumaris Secondary College High Achievers!