It has been a busy and positive start to the year and I congratulate our senior students on their efforts to date.

Well done to our Year 10s, as they have smoothly transitioned into the Senior School. They are exhibiting the responsibility and maturity expected of them at this stage of their schooling. They are being encouraged to set their goals high and are working on these goals during the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) subject.

Our Year 11s continue to work hard on their studies, preparing the road to success. Well done to them on their start in the Buddies Program, where they work with the Year 7s in a ‘Buddy’ capacity. This prepares them for the Peer Support program next term. The connections that are made between the Year 11s and the Year 7s can be very powerful and mutually beneficial to their personal development.

Our Year 12s have completed their first assessments and have a better understanding of the effort, time, organisation and support networks required to achieve to their potential. Support from parents, guardians and families are so important this year and I encourage all in our community to sustain that positive support for our 12s.

The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy is starting to demonstrate positive benefits to our teaching and learning. I do encourage students to make use of their own devices at school. Using your own computer is like riding your own bike rather than someone else’s - you know how it works, how it handles the corners, which gear to use and how fast it can go! If students do bring in their devices, I encourage them to ensure they are safely protected in a satchel or case, particularly when carrying around. (Remember, the policy does not list a Smartphone as a device to be used for educational purposes at our College.)

Our College has been shaken by the sudden death of Geofry Data. He was one of our 2014 College student leaders and was admired, loved and respected by all. We are following a pastoral support process for our students and staff who have been affected. Our College is offering support to the family. All of our prayers and love are with Geofry and his family and friends at this time.

If you need to contact me, please do so by email, rhett.bowden@nt.catholic.edu.au, or by phone, 08898451277.

Regards

Mr Rhett Bowden