

Good morning everyone,

It is a great honour to be speaking to you today as college dux of 2020 and be given the opportunity to share my experience of year 12.

Throughout my early years of high school, CRC always provided the opportunity for students to extend themselves in a wide range of areas. Taking part in these activities helped me to build a strong foundation of academic skills which gave me confidence going into year 12. I had never received a year level dux throughout high school, and at the beginning of the year I was determined to prove to myself that I could achieve that.

The key to my success in year 12 was putting 100 percent effort into everything I was doing, whether that be completing a practice exam, writing a cheat sheet, or simply listening to my teacher. The biggest piece of advice I can give to students who want to do well in VCE is to communicate with your teachers. They know everything there is to know about their subject and they want all their students to be successful. I would like to thank all my teachers throughout my time at CRC, especially my year 12 teachers who had to adapt to online teaching and were still able to educate us as effectively as in the classroom.

During the strange duration of online learning, I recognized the importance of having a study routine which included regular breaks to have time to yourself. Although learning from home had its difficulties, I learned a lot during that time and was able to apply this study routine for the remainder of the year and achieve my goals.

This year I will be commencing a Bachelor of Science degree at the university of Melbourne. I am excited to see what they have to offer and look forward to continuing my education.

I'd like to congratulate the entire year 12 cohort on getting through a very wild year, and also congratulate the students who received awards today. Your effort and hard work toward your studies has paid off. I wish you the best of luck in your future endeavours.

I'd like to thank my mum and dad for all their support throughout my school journey, for putting dinner on the table every night, for putting my priorities before their own, and most importantly for continuously pushing me to do my best even as I was burning out towards the end of the year.

To the years 12's of 2021, put in the hard work this year and you will be rewarded. You only go to school once so don't waste the opportunity to set yourself up for life.

Thankyou

*Speech by 2020 Catholic Regional College Melton Dux, Jarryd Martin – Academic Awards Ceremony, Thursday 11 February 2021.*