

# Class of 2013

the graduating students from our local schools

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## Amie's career path

WHAT began as a tentative step inside the primary school gates 12 years ago has come to an end for this year's Higher School Certificate graduates.

Friendships forged during these formative years often stay strong into the future as new paths are followed and careers are mapped.

No matter what the years ahead bring, the memories of time spent learning about the past, experiencing the present and dreaming of where their studies will lead them will always hold a special place in their hearts.

Amie Ward graduated from Westport High School in 2005 with a clear career path in mind.

"I had pretty much wanted to be a nurse my whole life," the 26-year-old said.

Chemistry was not her best subject but the Charles Sturt University double degree in nursing and midwifery required it, so she had to work extra hard at it in school.

It was a big step for her to move to the Wagga Wagga campus to pursue the degree but it wasn't available by distance education at the time.

"When I got there [campus] they had actually cancelled the course and only offered the Bachelor of Nursing.

"I could have done it from home, but

I had made the move and was there, so I decided to stay."

It had been a big step for her to travel away from her close-knit family.

"Being 10 hours away from home and not knowing anyone definitely makes you grow up," Amie says.

"It was a great experience meeting new people."

During the three year course she came home every holidays, but made some lifelong friends through the course.

After graduation she applied to 10 hospitals in the region for a position, hoping to work back in her home community.

"I was doing practical placement at Port Macquarie Private Hospital when a job came up.

"I couldn't get into Port Base until July, but could start at the private in February, so there was no question which position to choose."

So Amie began her nursing career at home and is enjoying it enormously.

Her advice to the class of 2013 is to "never give up on your dream".

"No matter what your ATTAR is, it isn't the be all and end all.

"There are other ways to pursue your dream. If you have something you are really passionate about, go for it."



**Terry Muldoon**

Principal St Columba Anglican School  
"The 2013 graduating class is one that will further enrich their own lives and the life of the communities they join."



**Terry Goodwin**

Principal Westport High School  
"Excel, persevere and be determined!"

from our school leaders



**Tim McCosker**

Campus Principal MacKillop Senior College  
"Congratulations to a wonderful group of students and we wish you all the best for your future."

**Jim Dempsey**

St Joseph's Regional College  
I wish them all the best and hope all their hard work of the last six years will prepare them for future success.



**Geoff Brisby**

Principal Heritage Christian School  
"Congratulations to our 2013 Year 12 students on an outstanding effort. This cohort has set a fine example and we know they will make a great impact wherever their journey takes them."



**Darryl Mason**

Acting Principal Port Macquarie High School  
"I wish year 12 every success in their future and congratulate them for their contribution to PMHS."

## ST AGNES' PARISH SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Port Macquarie  
[www.sapss.nsw.edu.au](http://www.sapss.nsw.edu.au)

**St Joseph's Regional College**

**Newman Senior Technical College**

**MacKillop Senior College**



St Joseph's Regional College  
College Drive  
Phone: 5525 4100



Newman Senior Technical College  
Boundary Street  
Phone: 6580 3800



MacKillop Senior College  
Lochinvar Place  
Phone: 6583 4611

Congratulations to the 2013 Year 12 graduates.  
Wishing you success and every blessing in the future.