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Friday, July 14th, 2006



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

On July 5th this year, Darren Pereira presented the Shape Your Destiny seminar to our students in Years 10, 11 and 12. For three and a half hours, Darren held the attention and interest of 140 students, (which is no mean feat), as he guided them through a range of career focussed goal setting activities.

Darren related extremely well to this cohort of students and sustained a high level of energy and interest throughout the seminar, by using a variety of presentation methods. The language, humour and music that he utilised was understood and appreciated by the students. In particular, the DJ's use of music for creating the right mood and context was highly effective. For example quieter, contemplative music was used for thinking and writing, while up-tempo/dance tracks were used for celebrating an achievement and re-energising. Humour was also used effectively to drive home serious points. The students clearly enjoyed the seminar, while focusing on the serious business of setting goals and planning for the future.

Feedback from students and from the staff who supervised the seminar was very positive. There were no real "discipline" problems, as the students were focussed and engaged throughout the event. In follow up activities in MIPS classes, staff commented on an improved, more positive outlook from students.

For our school, the Shape Your Destiny seminar was a most worthwhile investment and I highly recommend it to any school that is seeking something different to motivate their senior students to focus on career and life goals.

authory D. Teha ___

Careers, MIPS and Vocational Education Co-ordinator