

# Year 12 students prepare for life after school

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*Meriden's Year 12 students recently attended a Financial Literacy seminar. Jasmine Kalantar and Emma Higgins share their experience with the School community in the following report.*

Last month, Year 12 students attended a seminar presented by Ms Rachel Cole from Empower Wealth, who outlined fundamental financial tips to help set us up for adulthood. Throughout the talk, we learned about the key to managing and saving money to achieve financial stability and success in the future.

The seminar focused on developing healthy saving habits. Ms Cole discussed six key topics: spending, budgeting, saving, tax, superannuation and investing. She explained that implementing small habits early can help to accumulate wealth in the future. She used the example that by forgoing a five-dollar cup of coffee every day, you could potentially save around \$20,000 over ten years. Ms Cole explained the concept of delayed gratification, which is the idea that by delaying an impulse, you can reap considerably better rewards in the future.

Throughout her interactive and engaging talk, Ms Cole discussed the importance of time when reaping the benefits of compound interest and dividends. She provided helpful resources and tools such as the My Gov platform, ATO and superannuation calculators to support her points.

Overall, the supportive atmosphere encouraged questions, and it was a great way for Year 12 students to kickstart their financial journeys. We left the seminar feeling motivated to start taking control of our finances to prepare for our futures.



Jasmine Kalantar, Emma Higgins, Nicole Feng, Taylor Koic, Zara Chami and Claudia Fernandes with Ms Rachel Cole