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MEDIA STATEMENT: Christ Church dragsters at national competition

Christ Church Grammar School delivered a speedy performance at this year's State and National CO2 Dragster Competition with two of its students finishing in the top five.

Year 9 student Regan Tubby placed 1st in Division B of the State competition before claiming Outright Champion at the Nationals held at Mandurah's Comet Bay High School. Also celebrating success was fellow student Jack Sheldrake who finished 1st in the Outlaw Division of the State competition before placing 5th nationally in the Outlaw Division.

Annually, Year 9 students are tasked with a design challenge of creating a wooden dragster powered by eight grams of CO2. Meeting very strict racing criteria, the dragsters are raced on a 20-metre track where the fastest eight dragsters have the opportunity to represent the School at a State level competition.

"These small dragsters can reach speeds of up to 75 km per hour and with race times measured in 1000ths of a second, the contest is about having the fastest dragster on the day," says Jeff Chandler, CO2 Dragster Co-ordinator and Design and Technology Teacher at Christ Church.

"From the State level competition, we then send the best of the best to the National competition."

"Through participation, our students conduct extensive research into aerodynamics, drag, weight and Expanding Gas law, while also applying Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics theory."

"Having dragsters that push the envelope of design and speed can create some exiting and very destructive racing," said Mr Chandler.

Christ Church Grammar School has enjoyed an association with the CO2 Dragster Competition for the past 20 years and has had a national level entrant almost every year and 10 state champions.

The CO2 Dragster Competition is hosted each year by the Design and Technology Teachers' Association of Australia (DATTA).

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