



A YEAR of dedication, hard work and getting a bit dirty has seen Zane Deicmanis become the Portland Secondary College Re-Engagement Centre's Student of the Year.

Picture: ELLY HATELEY 161118eh17



ZANE Deicmanis (third) was supported by a group of community members to achieve success this year, including Portland Precision Engineering's Jon Dennis, Glenelg Southern Grampians LLEN's Lilja Radley, Portland Service Centre's Mark Solly, Portland Secondary College Re-engagement centre's Katie Kelly and the Port of Portland's Rodney Schack.

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## Zane's hard work pays off

ZANE Deicmanis, 17, is the Portland Secondary College Re-Engagement Centre's Student of the Year after dedicating himself to his studies and two work placements.

Zane achieved strong results in the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) program in 2016, and also demonstrated leadership skills.

He managed two work placements during the year, at Portland Precision Engineering (PPE) and the Portland Service Centre, initially sweeping floors, emptying bins and then progressing to assist tradesmen at PPE.

"He also developed skills which we have put to use on various workshop equipment projects," Precision Engineering managing director Jon Dennis said.

Mark Solly from the Portland Service Centre said he had appreciated having Zane in the business because placements allowed him to assess who would be potential candidates for apprenticeships.

Re-engagement centre campus manager Katie Kellie said Zane had taken full advantage of the opportunities provided to him.

"He used these opportunities to expand his knowledge in the work place, gain new skills and learn the trades," she said.

Ms Kellie thanked the Glenelg Southern Grampians Local Learning and Employment Network (GSGLEN) for their support for the year. Zane thanked the re-engagement centre and GSGLEN for their support, and his employers for the opportunities they gave him.

"I now know that I want a career that's hands on, due to the experience, knowledge and skills I have obtained whilst in my work placement.

"It's great to have the award from the Port of Portland that will help me in my future career," Zane added.

Lilja Radley is the Structured Workplace Coordinator from GSGLEN, and said she was most grateful that Heywood and Portland employers had offered a number of reengagement centre students work placements.

Liam Robinson also won the SW TAFE Scholarship Endeavour Award at the reengagement centre's annual graduation earlier this year.