5 September 2016

Dear Parents and Friends of Year 12,

With the Trial Higher School Certificate Examinations now completed, the purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention some important matters I have raised with all of Year Twelve in a meeting recently. The aim of the meeting and of this letter is to ensure that Year Twelve finish their formal schooling in a way that does justice to their time at St Gregory’s College and to you as their parents.

The Class of 2016 has distinguished themselves throughout the year as a thoroughly cooperative, willing and friendly group. They have continued the great traditions of the previous senior classes in the contribution they have made to the life of the College beyond the classroom. In order to ensure the farewell which, they deserve, it is my responsibility to make clear my own expectations for their passage through the remaining weeks of this term. In this way, we can be sure that their final days at St Gregory’s College are both productive and enjoyable.

Most importantly, your son has just three weeks remaining of his formal education and so it is essential that he settle down to a serious study routine following the completion of the Trial HSC examinations. I have made the College expectations quite clear to all boys that in these remaining weeks, they are expected to be focused, settled and well behaved in class and at school. We will not accept any student disrupting the learning environment in class and have clearly explained the consequences should this occur.

I also spoke at length to Year Twelve about the consequences for any foolish behavior between now and the conclusion of the HSC examinations. Under no circumstances will the College tolerate any anti-social or disruptive behaviour from students at school or while travelling to or from school. This includes any anti-social behavior that tarnishes the good reputation that St Gregory’s College enjoys in the wider community.

Any student who ignores these directions by either disrupting lessons or misbehaving in an inappropriate manner may be excluded from the College and place their participation in the Graduation ceremonies in jeopardy. More serious matters will place the enrolment of students at risk of being terminated prior to the HSC examinations and forfeit the right to receive a formal College reference.

I seek parent support in ensuring that your son is present for all set lesson times. These weeks are an important time to consolidate preparation for the HSC.

During the remaining weeks of Term Three and including the HSC examinations period, the expectation of all Year Twelve students is that they be groomed as per College guidelines, including expectations about hair, and to be dressed in full College uniform. Students will be excluded from the College and from the HSC examinations if this is not the case. It would be in your son’s best interest to take note of this so as to alleviate unpleasant situations prior to exams. I would ask you also to ensure that your son is present at the College at least thirty minutes prior to the commencement of each HSC exam. Please note that the sports uniform is not to be worn at any time during the HSC exams.
While I certainly do not expect any unsatisfactory behavior from our senior class, it is only fair to the students and to you as parents to know the course of action that will be followed should any student step outside the parameters I have clearly outlined. I hope these expectations will ensure that the final weeks of formal schooling for your son are productive, enjoyable and celebrated appropriately. It will be most pleasing to me if there is no need to act on any of these parameters in the remaining weeks of Year Twelve.

The Class of 2016 has been a friendly and co-operative group of young men and I am confident therefore that they will continue to work conscientiously and finish their schooling at St Gregory’s College in a mature and positive fashion.

I include below some important dates as a reminder of approaching events. I know Mr Jamieson has already forwarded details to you regarding these events.

**Friday 23 September Graduation Day for Year 12**

- **7.30am** Breakfast for Year 12 students only, at the College. Students to be dressed in full College uniform.
- **9.00am** Graduation Mass. Parents and family are welcome and encouraged to be present.
- **11.00am** Morning Tea. All parents and family are welcome to attend.
- **11.45am** Graduation ceremony. All parents and family are welcome to attend.
- **6.30pm – 11.30pm** Graduation Dinner at the Campbelltown Catholic Club.

I encourage parents to be present for all Graduation events. It is a special time for your son and I believe a special occasion for parents, boys and staff to celebrate together.

I also take this opportunity to remind parents that post-Graduation functions are not condoned by the College. All members of the College staff have been directed not to attend any such event.

The College has a strict no alcohol policy for all school functions. Should your son consume any alcohol prior to the Graduation Dinner on the evening of 23 September both he and his partner will be excluded from the evening, and your son will be suspended from the College. Should any student of St Gregory’s College leave the function room during the course of the evening to enter the Club, they will not be readmitted to the Graduation Dinner.

I ask that you discuss this letter with your son so as to reinforce once again his responsibilities over the remaining few months. My thanks for all you are doing to support your son through this challenging time and for your support of the College. I wish you and your son a positive conclusion to his secondary education at St Gregory’s College and I look forward to celebrating his formal Graduation with you later in the term.

Best wishes,

Damien Millar
Headmaster