10 December 2015

Dear Parents

I would like to thank and congratulate all Year 10 students for their commitment towards their studies in completing the 2015 school year.

It has been an amazing journey for these young men who have taken on all the challenges of College life, from sporting achievements, camp and work experience.

The completion of Year 10 marks the end of one journey and the beginning of a new and exciting path ahead. It is a time of mixed emotions where students reflect upon their schooling and anticipate their choices for their future studies. Four years at St Gregory’s and Marist education has concluded but it is hoped that the lessons learnt and the bonds of friendship made will continue to impact significantly throughout their lives. As I reflect on the year I get a very clear sense of just how well the boys have managed the Year 10 experience: an experience that can be challenging and extremely demanding.

My role as Year 10 Coordinator was made so much easier through the assistance of this dedicated, enthusiastic band of young men. The Year 10 group as a whole showed initiative and maturity when exercising their Marist qualities. They worked hard in many areas of College life and showed a remarkable ability to accommodate the many demands and expectations that came their way.

Earlier this year the boys where involved in a Community Service Program and Pastoral Care lessons, there were many highlights with focus on setting the tone for the years ahead. It was a fantastic way for bonds to strengthen and for the boys to share with their teachers in a way not possible in the busyness of a normal school day. The group was suitably impressed when numerous guess speakers spoke openly to the group. This time of openness allowed boys to reflect on how their personal experiences have shaped them to be the young men they are today.

When I reflect on my year with this group, I am reminded of just how proud I am of them. There have been so many achievements and personal success stories. They are certainly a group that gets involved and are willing to lend a hand.

To summarise, the boys have represented the College in many MCS sporting teams this year with great success. We also had students involved in Public Speaking, Debating, the College Musical, College Band, and not to mention the Show Cattle Teams. All this, in addition to continuing to focus on their studies, maintaining a balance with their social lives and spending quality time with their families.

The role of Year Coordinator is made considerably easier when there is support. I was very fortunate to have not only the support of the students, but also of the staff who have played a part in getting the students to this stage in their academic journey and for that I thank them. I am certain the students are grateful for all their efforts. In particular I must thank Mr Serone and the Year 10 Homeroom Team: Mr OFlynn, Mr Dinnen, Mr Bonfield, Mr Cook, Mr Millet, Miss Pickard, Mrs Giles, Miss Ferenc, Mr Dixon and Mr Serone for their commitment to the Year 10 group this year.
I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the parents for their unconditional support throughout the year. I also wish all the students who are not returning to St Gregory’s next year all the best for their future endeavours. I hope that the fond experiences they have shared together will stay close to their hearts forever.

Yours sincerely,

Baldino Vetrano

*Year 10 Coordinator*