10 December 2015

Dear Parents and Friends of Year 7 2015

It almost seems only a few weeks ago that the students arrived fresh faced and with an air of insecurity. The boys did start off as little primary school graduates but throughout the year with numerous challenges both mentally and physically many have taken the course of events throughout the year and produced some amazing results. The amalgamation of many feeder schools to become one year group was a task in itself but when an outside coach mentions to you about the camaraderie that exist between a group of the Year 7’s, the whole concept of being a St Greg’s boy becomes a reality.

Looking at the final Reports the boys will be coming home with shows a distinct improvement from Semester 1 results and almost all students should be extremely proud of their achievements this final semester. Independent learning and the desire to improve their own results are key components to this being a possibility and therefore the increase in their achievements is very evident by the huge group of boys being recognised at the Awards Night.

The completely new routine of having several teachers in a day did take some getting used to, but students have flourished with the variety of teaching environments and situations presented to them. As with all new challenges, there have been some setbacks and part of the resilience of learning is being able to pick themselves up and give it an even better attempt in the future.

The Camp at Narrabeen, Mother’s Day, Boys and Blokes Night and Grandparents Day have all been supported with huge attendance numbers which has been exceptionally inspiring coupled with the use of the new hall has made for a special set of events throughout the year. The Opening Mass and Graduation Mass for Year 12 saw the Year 7 Cohort show their enthusiasm to be a part of the college’s culture by participating at higher than expected level.

With every day starting with the students arriving at their Homeroom, it is only fitting that I thank my Year Team Teachers for all the hard work and effort in preparing, helping and guiding the students every day. Therefore, Mr Tesoriero (first semester), Ms Jackson, Miss Linnenlucke, Mrs Price, Mrs Arentz, Mr Abra, Mrs Farias, Mr Limbrey, Mrs Dash and Ms Burke, I would like to thank them for all their support, work and tireless effort throughout the year. Lastly, without the enormous amount of work and support that Mrs Simmons has put in as Assistant Coordinator, I don’t think this year group would be where it is now.
I hope that each student will use all the knowledge and virtues they learnt this year to build on their performance next year.

Finally, I would like to thank the students for their help, enthusiasm and support when I needed it. I hope they enjoy a relaxing and spectacular Christmas with their family and friends and wish you all well for the New Year.

Best wishes,

Stephen Hartnett
Year 7 Coordinator