

## Pastoral Care News

12.07.2017

Dear Parents and Guardians

I hope this letter finds you well and your son is enjoying the school holiday break.

I strongly believe that communication is the key when assessing your son's wellbeing. As you would agree, it is extremely important to have open dialog at home on a diverse number of topics that might be influencing your son's positive state of mind or address any concerns that he might be experiencing at present. Students are also encouraged to speak to a staff member if any concerns might arise. A great place to start would be their homeroom teacher as a first point of call. Alternatively, the Year Co-ordinator. I urge students and parents to keep this communication open with the College at all times.

Semester 1 was filled with numerous pastoral care incentives that are unique to St Gregory's College. Each year group had the opportunity to have guest speakers present to them regarding a range of diverse issues.

When I think back and review the semester, I am amazed to see what was on offer.

Topics on resilience, tolerance, cyber safety and bullying on social media were high on the agenda with our junior students, while mental health and positive wellbeing was the focus for our seniors.

The 'RU OK' presentation on mental health awareness to Years 10, 11 and 12 was a fitting end to the term. This program was also presented to parents, I would like to thank Mr Brennan for organising the event.

Another powerful presentation was The PARTY program at Liverpool hospital trauma unit. This program is ongoing throughout the year. We have been lucky to send two groups this semester in Year's 10-12. The Program gives the students a raw view of what happens in hospitals when a trauma victim arrives. The day is spent visiting different parts of the hospital, with presentations by doctors, police and ambulance officials.

This year we had Luke Kennedy revisit the College after 2 years. Luke's presentation on 'Labels' is hard hitting and leaves an impression. He also has a best selling novel 'Stabbed Ego'. The recount of his life as a teenager is confronting and a real motivator to our boys. The positive feedback I received from parents and students was overwhelming. I would like to thank Mr Dixon for organising the event.

Last but not least, I would like to acknowledge Mrs Coupland's presentation to our senior cohort on the responsibility of social media and its ramifications. Her presentations are very animated and insightful.

As semester 2 is about to start I would like to take the opportunity to announce some of the changes that will occur this semester with our Year Co-ordinator positions.

<b>Year 7 Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Luke Wilson</b>
<b>Year 7 Assistant Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Deb Simmons</b>
<b>Year 8 Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Loren Keir</b>
<b>Year 8 Assistant Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Ian Anderson</b>
<b>Year 9 Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Peter Hogan</b>
<b>Year 9 Assistant Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Michael McGuiggan</b>
<b>Year 10 Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Greg Serone</b>
<b>Year 10 Assistant Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Lauren Ross</b>
<b>Year 11 Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mrs Jane Coupland</b>
<b>Year 11 Assistant Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Luke McGinnity</b>
<b>Year 12 Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Patrick Newell</b>
<b>Year 12 Assistant Co-ordinator</b>	<b>Mr Stephen Bullock</b>

Finally, as the boys get ready to start a new semester, I urge they revisit the College diary regarding hair and uniform regulations on page 34. I would hate to have discussions with students and parents on the first day back this term regarding haircuts and grooming.

I thank you for your support and hope to keep a strong line of communication with you this term. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or queries.

Kind regards

Baldino Vetrano

**Pastoral Care Co-ordinator**