Dear Members of the St Gregory’s College Family,

In next Sunday’s Gospel, Luke talks about lighting a lamp and how no-one would then cover up the light or put it in a cupboard. The light is to be seen and shared and not hidden from others.

The young men of Year 12 will be leaving us today as they graduate from the College and move out into the wider community to share their gifts and talents with many others. It is important in light of Luke’s words that the young men realise that they are all special, that God gave them certain gifts and talents, and they should be shared with others so that they can light the world as they move forward.

Recently we elected the new College Leaders for 2015 and there were a large number of young men who put their names forward for Leadership. Unfortunately in one sense, we can only have so many badged leaders. On the other hand, we are very fortunate to have so many students who see themselves as leaders and are prepared to put their names forward in order to serve others. Once again, this is where Luke’s words come into play for those who see themselves as leaders. It is only a matter of looking to improve something or offer a service to others that will allow the community to see our young men as leaders. To demonstrate leadership one does not need a badge or a title.

By sharing your talents and gifts with others, you may find that the return you get is something that will be very satisfying for you.

Year 12

The Graduation Day for the Class of 2014 has drawn to a close and hopefully with many fond memories. It has been a challenging day for all concerned for without a Hall it has been the year of initiative. To see the Marquee on the number one oval was a sight to start with and to see all the graduands processing in and out was something worth remembering as this is a first and last. Thank you to all members of the College community for the way in which you participated in the ceremonies in order to make it a memorable day for all concerned. Thank you to the staff and in particular Mrs Clarke who has done a lot of the work for today especially in relation to the marquee.

Leadership

At the recent St Gregory’s Mass, we announced our leaders for 2015 being: Ivan Brcic – College Captain, Daniel White – College Vice Captain and Luke Grosvenor – Marist Solidarity. There are two other Year 11 students I would like to comment on, Lachlan Doherty and Alex Bullow who demonstrated their leadership recently in the Max Potential Program. A program facilitated by the Campbelltown Catholic Club to give an opportunity for students to show off their gifts and talents as leaders – no badge required.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the 7’s Rugby Union Team on winning the State Championship recently at Narrabeen. A great victory when one considers that they played other schools who have Rugby Union as their main code.

Congratulations to the U/17 AFL team as they played their Final yesterday against St Dominic’s. The scores in the lead up games have been massively in the College’s favour, a very talented group of athletes. In the Final St Gregory’s defeated St Dominic’s 49-2.

End of Term

Today draws to the end another term which has been full of activity. It has been a good term once again with the students fully occupied. It is important for all students to take the time over the next few weeks and reflect on what they want to achieve in Term 4. I am sure that they will return with their own goals and will be well rested in order to attack and achieve them by the end of year. Thank you to all members of the community for your contribution to the various activities of the College throughout the term. Enjoy the break and return safely.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Damien Millar
Headmaster
Mission

The young men of Greg’s are fortunate in being given many opportunities for leadership both at school and in the wider community. Three of these events took place last week.

On Thursday 11 September, four of our Year 10 students represented St Gregory’s at the Catholic Diocesan Launch at Magdalene College.

On Friday, Mrs Quirk was able to accompany four students to Prayer and Conversation with the Bishop, along with students from 15 other schools across the Wollongong diocese.

On the same morning, I was privileged to accompany three of our new College leaders to Breakfast with the Premier.

I congratulate these young men on the way they proudly represent us in the wider community and encourage all our students to continue to explore avenues of leadership.

Cathie Clarke,
Director of Mission/RE Coordinator

The full report of these events can be viewed at Mission.

Year 7 News

Boys and Blokes 6 September 2014

The evening started off with a casual dinner in the boarders’ dining room, which allowed people to meet and also create the table group for the night. Once dinner was over it was into the Donovan Centre where the ground rules were laid down and the battle of knowledge, wits and building capabilities were put to the test. The first round of naming celebrities was fairly well received but as the night went on more and more tables were feeling the pinch when the movie quotes began to separate the boys from the blokes. A testing and wide ranging selection of music snippets saw a great deal of angst against the spectacular compere and the iPhones that were so close but not to be used. With 5 rounds of questions and 3 rounds of special group activities throughout the night it was amazing to have a tie between tables 5 and 13. This invoked the infamous tiebreaker video which this year was an M & Ms commercial. After 3 very testing questions the winning table 13 was crowned the champions of the night.

It was a very enjoyable night with the boys and their fathers and I would like to thank everyone for attending and also Mrs Jeffcoate for all her organisation in the Donovan Centre, being ably assisted by Ms Stepies and the superb backup of Mr Abra, Mrs Simmons, Mrs Price, Mrs Arentz and Miss Linnenlucke.

Stephen Hartnett, Year 7 Coordinator

Photos from the evening can be viewed in Galleries.

Student News

A Young Man with an Idea and a Passion

Recently Alex Bullow, a young man of Year 11, undertook a program facilitated by the Campbelltown Catholic Club to develop and demonstrate leadership. The program is called Max Potential. Each student is given a mentor who will work with them to develop and guide them on an idea that they would like to implement.

Alex decided that he would collect over 1,000 football strips, boots and equipment and present them to the PCYC in Bourke during the long weekend. Alex along with his father drove to Bourke delivered everything to the PCYC and returned to Sydney in the same weekend.

Congratulations to Alex on this amazing effort as I would imagine it would have taken hours to encourage people to come on board with the idea let alone go and collect all the material. Alex also demonstrates how proud he is of the College by wearing his College uniform when the goods were presented.

Once again Alex clearly demonstrates that you don’t need a badge to be a leader, it is just a matter of getting out there and allowing your gifts and talents to shine through for the benefit of others.

Read Alex’s story – the Road to Bourke.
Student Profiles

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who participated in the Max Potential Programme during 2014:

Lachlan Doherty  
Alex Bullow  
Tom Condon  
Alastair de Franck

Teaching and Learning

Dubbo National All Breeds Junior Heifer Show

On Thursday 4 September the Show team headed off to Dubbo for the National All Breeds Junior Heifer show. This year we entered seven animals and eight students. Once again the trip proved a huge success. The boys who were selected and attended the show included; David Thompson (Team Leader), Cameron Faddy (Assistant Team Leader), Hayden Peake, Edward Mulholland, Harrison Fowler, John Gooden, Alex Pace and Joshua Fenech.

This particular show is designed as an educational resource for young aspiring students wishing to further their industry knowledge and eventually establish a career in the field of Agriculture. Students are given the opportunity and are required to attend a rotation of seminars presented by industry experts. They are also required to prepare and present our animals for judging in the show ring.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Farm Manager, Rick Nieuwenhuis for his dedication and commitment to the show program and for travelling to Dubbo with us and mentoring the boys through such a valuable experience. A very big thank you to the boys who attended, all of whom were outstanding ambassadors for the College and will ensure the future success of the show program.

Michael McGuiggan, Agriculture Teacher

For results of this Show, go to Dubbo Heifer Show. Photos can be viewed in Galleries

Year 8 Italian Excursion 2014

Boungiorno ragazzi! On Monday 8 September, the students of Year 8 participated in a very enjoyable and enriching Italian cultural day. In the morning at school, we were given a really interesting and informative presentation about the culture and famous places of Italy with Mr Vetrano and Mrs Santos, as well as a recount of some of their own experiences of Italian culture.

Then, after a short bus ride, our cultural experience focused on La Piazza at Bankstown Sports Club, where the realistic décor made it feel as if we had stepped into an actual piazza in Italy! We also got a taste for some great Italian food, leaving nothing but a few crumbs as we enjoyed pizza, pasta, soft drink, gelato and Nutella with our peers.

We would like to thank all the staff involved, especially Mr Vetrano, Mrs Santos, Ms Jackson and Ms Keir for organising the day. From this thoroughly enriching excursion, we have gained many insights into what real Italian culture is made of, and we really enjoyed the great food and social aspects of the day.

By Lachlan and Matthew Saunders (Year 8)

Photos of this excursion can be viewed in Galleries

TEXTBOOK RETURNS

Year 11: As Year 11s have now completed their Preliminary course, any textbooks not already returned should be returned in the first week of next Term.

Year 12: Textbooks should be returned as soon as possible. A box will be outside of Mrs Dein’s office and books can be left there on the day of each HSC exam.
ST GREGORY’S COLLEGE CAMPBELLTOWN

Successfully reclaim NSW Rugby 7’s State Champ Title

In perfect spring conditions on September 11 at Narrabeen the St Gregory’s boys put on a dominant performance and outclassed the competition in all 3 of their pool games against Parramatta Marist 40-5, Merewether High School 17-5 and Ingleburn High School 45-0.

The Semi Final saw the well prepared St Gregory’s team up against Hill Sports High in what was a very competitive and close game but the boys stayed composed and secured a come from behind victory in entertaining fashion closing the game 19-14.

After a long day in warm conditions the boys regrouped for the final against St Stanislaus College Bathurst. The game was physical from the outset as both teams played with remarkable intensity despite fatigue. St Gregory’s showed great skill and flair to post three quick tries in the first half. Another quick try after half time gave a comfortable lead. With Stanislaus coming home strongly St Gregory’s held on and were deserving winners of the State Title with an end of game score of 24-17.

Coach, Mr Brennan, was very happy with the boy’s ability to be able to make changes to our play when it was required. The ability to create turnovers through strong defence and breakdown skills stood the side well above the other competitors.

St Gregory’s player James Perlowski was named player of the tournament and scored himself a trip to the Hong Kong 7’s in 2015.

Matthew Brennan, Deputy Headmaster