Dear Members of the St Gregory’s Family,

We have commenced another term of activity as the College moves towards year end and Christmas. There is much to do and a lot has happened since my last letter to you.

We launched our St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal last Monday with the new College Leaders taking ownership. As we all know, Christmas is a time when families come together and celebrate the gift of Christmas and we remember those who have less than us through no fault of their own. It is with this knowledge, that I commend the Appeal to you and know that the community as whole will respond generously.

**Staff**

Mr Ghezzi is on leave this term as is Mrs Quirk. We welcome to the College, Ms Gracie who will be standing in for Mr Ghezzi this term. We also welcome back Mr Smith who has been on leave this year due to family illness.

**Graduation Day**

The Graduation Day at the end of last term was very successfully managed once again by all staff, parents and students. It is always a memorable day and one that will live on in the lives of all those who were involved but especially the families of the Year 12 graduating students. Many thanks to all staff as it is a team effort to bring the day together successfully.

**Sport’s Dinner**

The Sport’s Dinner was held last Friday evening and very successfully completed once again. Mr Garth Tander was the special guest and was a very impressive and talented guest. The Hall was beautifully set out with around seven hundred people involved in the evening. Once again, the boys were amazing in their various renditions of the different songs that they led or sang. The boys who introduced the evening did an outstanding job as well. Many thanks to those parents who supported the evening, to those mothers and fathers who worked in the lead up to the evening in getting the tables set up amongst other things and to the Maintenance staff for their work and assistance in bringing the evening to fruition. Thanks also Mrs Jeffcoate and Mrs Stepien who coordinate the evening. A wonderful night!

**HSC Exams**

The Year 12 students commenced their HSC Exams last week which can be a trying time for the boys and their families. I am sure that we would all be keeping the boys and their families in our thoughts and prayers at this time. Congratulations to Frank Lopresti who has been nominated for Encore for his musical performance in the HSC.

**Years 7 – 10 Exams**

I would ask families to be mindful of the fact that the students in Years 7 – 10 will be facing exams later in the term and it is important that all students are in attendance at this time. The students have time to prepare for exams and should not be leaving it until the last minute to make a difference.

**Year 11**

The **Year 11 Academic Assembly** is set down for the Friday 28 October at 9.00am in the College Hall. Parents will be notified shortly if their son is to receive a prize. The Year 11 students will be going on **Retreat** in Week 4 of this term and then returning to the College to commence their Year 12 studies.

Quae Seminaveris Metes.

Damien Millar
Headmaster
Mission

During the last week I have had the privilege of perusing the Service cards which document the many initiatives our boys have been involved in through the Community Service Project. Some of the activities included are vacuuming the car, mowing an elderly neighbour’s lawn, moving a grandparent’s wood pile, marching on ANZAC Day, coaching a young soccer team, reading with a young girl at Claymore Homework Club, playing touch football at Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre, donating blood to the Red Cross and collecting for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. The list could go on and I congratulate those boys who have made such a contribution to their families, school community and local community. Many boys have contributed well beyond our expectations and they will be acknowledged at an assembly in the near future.

One of our Year 10 boys wrote in his journal, “My work helped me to more deeply appreciate the opportunities I have been granted in life and the importance of helping others whenever possible.”

Our annual Christmas appeal is another chance for all of us to become involved in serving our community. Earlier this week, each family in Years 7, 8 and 9 would have received a letter describing a family from our local area which will need support to celebrate Christmas. Each class has been asked to collect gifts, foods and Christmas decorations to contribute towards this family. These gifts will be given to the local chapter of St Vincent de Paul or the Community Centre at Claymore for distribution to these families.

We are also hoping to support the House of Welcome, a volunteer group looking after the initial urgent needs of some of our newest refugees. Our Year 11s are asked to contribute socks, jocks, razors and any other personal hygiene products which would make the lives of these refugees, particularly the young men, more comfortable.

In the lead up to Christmas, let us remember Jesus who said, “Whatever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters, you do for me.”

Cathie Clarke, Director of Mission

Year 12 News

We are now one week into the 2016 HSC exams. I’m sure all the students in Year 12 would tell you that the last 12 months have flown by and they now face the prospect of completing the final part of their schooling over the next few weeks.

The last Friday of Term 3 saw the Year 12 Graduation take place. The day started with the traditional Year 12 breakfast before the College was given a chance to farewell the Class of 2016 at Graduation Mass, which is always the highlight of the day. As always the singing, the readings and the participation all provided an atmosphere that was both sacred and joyful and especially memorable to all who were present.

The special day continued with the Graduation Ceremony and then the Year 12 Formal that night at The Cube at Campbelltown Catholic Club.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Class of 2016 for all their efforts this year and wish them every success in their future endeavours. A list of Major Awards can be found at Year 12.

Andrew Jamieson, Year 12 Coordinator
Congratulations to the following students who are finalists in the Oakhill Basketball competition:

- Jarrod Derrick, Year 9
- Alex Dolores, Year 9
- Elijah Rawiri, Year 9
- Brandon Donnelly, Year 10
- Jacob Sykes, Year 10
- Ashley Dunlop, Year 11
- Jack Kelly, Year 11
- Sam Price, Year 11
- Michael Derrick, Year 12

**Teaching and Learning**

**HSC Exams**

Our Year 12 students started their final exams on Thursday 13 October. The exams will run until 4 November. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

**Senior Study Monday and Tuesday Afternoons**

Year 10 and 11 students are encouraged to take the opportunity for supervised study from 3.00 - 5.00pm on Monday and Tuesday afternoons in Room 021.

**Mathematics Study**

All students are invited to join Mathematics study on Wednesday afternoons from 3.15pm until 4.30pm in Room 021. For further information, speak to the Mathematics Coordinator, Mrs Giles.

**Year 12 2017**

A reminder that the Information night for the 2017 HSC will be held next Monday 24 October at 7.30 pm in the Brother Luke Hall. Year 11 parents have been emailed the details. Reports will also be distributed on this evening which is compulsory for all students.

Assessment dates for Term 4 will be emailed to all students and parents and hard copies distributed. This information can also be found on Skyblue and on the College website. A new calendar for Terms 1-3 2017 will be published at the beginning of 2017.

**Junior Exams**

Examinations for Year 10 begin in Week 4 and will run from Thursday 3 November until Thursday 10 November. A timetable is now available. Please note that a medical certificate will be required if a student is absent from these examinations.

Examinations for Years 7 to 9 will conducted in Weeks 6 and 7 of this Term commencing on 16 November. The timetable will be published in the next few weeks. Could I ask for your support in ensuring that your son is at school to complete his exams?

Dr Prue Salter's Study Skills Tips for October—Preparing for Exams can be found on the College website at Teaching and Learning.

Catherine Keegan,
Director of Teaching and Learning
**Sports Events**

**MCS Basketball and Cricket** every Thursday (except 27/10 when there is a for Basketball)

- **21 October**
  - NSW CCC Downie Cricket

- **14-15 November**
  - NSW All Schools Cricket Semi/Grand Finals—Blacktown Stadium

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**TERM 4 – WEEK 2**

**NSW ALL SCHOOLS AND DOWNIE CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIPS**

In Week 10 of last Term the College hosted the Round of 8 2016 NSW All Schools Cricket game against Kinross College, Orange. St Gregory’s batted first scoring 7-225, Kinross were all out for 64 runs. The team now progresses to the Semi Finals to be played after the HSC exams.

The First XI Cricket team begins their defence of the NSW CCC Downie Trophy with a game against Corpus Cristi, Oaks Flat.

**MCS BASKETBALL COMPETITION**

A strong start to our MCS Basketball competition against Trinity College, Auburn resulted in four wins and one loss.

The Basketball Coaching / Managing staff this year will be Mr Limbrey – Firsts, Mr Perna – Seconds, Miss Burke – Open Year 10, Mrs Giles – Open Year 9, Mr Jefferys – Open Year 8, Mr Cook – Assistant Coach / Manager, Mrs Bevington – Scorer and Mr O'Brien – Scorer.

**MCS CRICKET COMPETITION**

Our Cricket teams had an excellent start to their competition with seven wins from seven games with two teams having Byes.

The Cricket Coaching / Managing Staff this year will be Mr Jamieson – Firsts, Mrs Keegan – Manager / Scorer Firsts, Mr Bullock – Seconds, Mr Goodsell – Thirds, Mr Anderson – Fourths, Mr Fricot - Fifths, Mr Abra – Years 9-10 A, Mrs Sligar – Years 9-10 B, Mr Bingham – Years 7-8 A, Mr McGinnity – Years 7-8 B, Mr Morrissey – Assistant Coach / Manager and Mr Albery – Assistant Coach / Manager.

**REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS**

Congratulations to Iain Carlisle (Year 11) who has been selected to the Australian U17 Cricket team.

Joseph Lantz, Sports Coordinator

The full Sports report with individual results is in the News section of the College website

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**Other News**

Dear Parents,

The Years 7 and 8 Co-Curricular evening will be held on Monday 7 November 2016. The evening will commence at 7.30pm in the Br Luke Hall and all students who have participated in a Co-Curricular event during the year are expected to attend in full summer uniform.

We ask parents and students to log into Sentral to check activities to ensure information for each student is correct.

A letter has been sent to all parents of students in Years 7 and 8. If you have not received a letter or the Co-curricular information for your son is missing/incorrect, please contact Carmela Veron on 46294125.

Regards,

Matthew Brennan
Deputy Headmaster

**Sport and Special Photos**

The photos will be available to view and purchase online only at [www.theschoolphotographer.com.au](http://www.theschoolphotographer.com.au)

St Greg’s Online Code: S451PRE37SG

Prices are:

- $16.00 each,
- 2 for $30.00,
- 3 for $42.00,
- 4 for $52.00,
- 5 for $60.00

Any additional photographs are $10.00 each. This discount is only available per family order.

The next Family Mass at St Anthony’s, Tahmoor, will be at 6pm on Saturday 22 October. All Parish families are invited to come together to give thanks for overcoming recent floods and to share with music, song, dance and refreshments.