



ST TERESA'S COLLEGE
— ABERGOWRIE —

Gowrie NEWS



GRADUATION & SPEECH DAY 2016 — Friday 18th November

11am Award ceremony begins
1pm Mass

IMPORTANT DATES

24th –28th October
BLOCK WEEK

28th October
GOWRIE FACTOR

28th October
BLW

3rd & 4th November
Yr 12 Retreat

12th November
Banquet Night

18th November
Graduation and Speech
Day

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Gowrie Family,

Welcome to Term 4. I'd like to begin by introducing the new members of our community who have joined us for the first time:
Kate Carr—Teacher Aide
Leanne Stevens—Teacher Aide
Leanne Napier—Teacher Aide
Anthony Romario—Residential supervisor

Mission Trip to the Philippines

As you may know, myself, Tayarne Neal, Jaiden Baldwin and Kaid Townson spent the Term 3 Holidays in the Philippines as part of the 2016 Mission Trip. As part of the experience each of us had to present to a variety of audiences our reflections of the trip. I would like to share with you my thoughts.

Where does one begin in describing what I consider personally as a life changing experience. I would like to tell you about the young men known as the Missionaries of the Poor who I believe are the embodiment of all that is beautiful about our faith. I can honestly say I was aware of some of the eventual experiences we were earmarked to have such as building a house and painting, but to live a monastic life for ten days I must admit I was not totally prepared for. I cannot express my gratitude enough to Father Damian for being the energy behind creating this wonderful experience for the students and myself.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

These young Brothers taught me the pure joy of celebrating our faith with the most destitute and disadvantaged in society.

Their love for humanity and the joyous way they spread God's message was life changing. Joining them in their prayer life for me was one of the highlights of the trip.

I was blissfully ignorant of the blessing one receives when truly serving the poor. I must thank the Brothers for bringing me out of this malaise. To live amongst this community, I am in awe of the light and love they radiate not only to those who they serve but to us as guests. As much as they have a ministry for serving the poor, their warmth of welcome and acceptance of others is very special.

One experience out of many I have encountered over the last ten days was the mass at Balatas. Father Lawrence, as the community leader is a wonderful, energetic and engaging celebrant and this mass for me was the most uplifting an authentic mass I have experienced in my 51 years. My measure for such a statement was in my opinion, if Jesus was present on this earth today, this is where he would have been. In truth, I believe Jesus was more alive in that small chapel on the edge of the tip as compared to all the grand cathedrals I have visited in Europe. His presence radiated from all who were present including Fr Lawrence, Fr Damian, the Brothers, my fellow pilgrims and most evident the residents of Balatas. I felt honored to have had the opportunity to share only a few days with such an inspiring group of men yet I cannot believe how much I have grown in my faith during this time.

To also watch the young men and women from our group being challenged and to then embrace and grow through the experience was also humbling as well as inspiring for me as an individual.



I am so proud of each and every participant and excited of the energy they will impart to peers to join this ever expanding call to service.

I hope my words truly portray to all who have been part of this story, from the Brothers, Father Damian, my fellow pilgrims and to all of our supporters back at home, the profound effect these few days have had on me. My challenge along with my colleagues, is to keep the flame of service alive and hopefully inspire others to take up this or similar opportunities.

God Bless

Rob Corboy
Principal

PHILIPPINES MISSION TRIP



PHILIPPINES MISSION TRIP



Students from Palm Island St Michael's visited the College as part of their transition week.



All Blacks Rugby League Carnival Townsville



Local Netball—Staff v Students



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM

Dear Gowrie Family,

The Fourth and final “Block” for Years 10, 11 & 12 students will be upon us next week. All of the students have achieved various new skills and competencies from the four weeks of intensive training. The last day of Block will be Thursday the 27th of October. Workbooks and results will be collected and sent to our respective Registered Training Organisations (RTO’s) by the end of the month.

Productive meetings were held at the beginning of this term. Plans for a number of Learning Areas in Years 7-10 have been continued with the major focus being Literacy and Numeracy being integrated across the curriculum. Thanks to the commitment from the staff from St Teresa’s who acquitted themselves admirably to the allocated time. The Collaborative sharing of Planbook to assist with classroom planning and the integration of LEC staff into rooms has also been a major focus for students learning.

Two of the key ideas that we will focus on for the remainder of 2016 are outlined below.

St Teresa’s College Abergowrie students must be taught well;

Reports of successful practice could be read as lengthy descriptions of good teaching practice; not especially exceptional, but applied with commitment and a determination to achieve success for all involved. Good relationships, trust, flexibility, individual concern and problem-solving, perseverance, thoughtful observation and careful investigation of ‘best’ teaching strategies and possibilities, knowledge of students’ backgrounds: that is what good teaching is. This is what teachers can do.

St Teresa’s College Abergowrie students must participate consistently,

As evidence has demonstrated so emphatically, the business of improving outcomes is a shared task. Regular attendance and consistent participation are key ingredients by which improved outcomes will be achieved. In some cases, additional support and encouragement from school personnel, from parents and carers and from other members of communities will be essential for this to occur.

Angus Galletly

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL—CURRICULUM



From the Classroom



FROM THE HEAD OF BOARDING

Dear Parents/Guardians/Friends,

It's been a hive of activity since the boys have returned: swimming at Broadwater National Park, visit to Townsville to see the All Blacks finals, Doran Dorm camp down at the dairy in the first weekend back and movies. And as I write this we are only just over our first week back! This term is a short term yet a term full of so many opportunities for the boys.

There are some matters that I wish to bring to your attention:

BOARDERS LEAVE WEEKEND

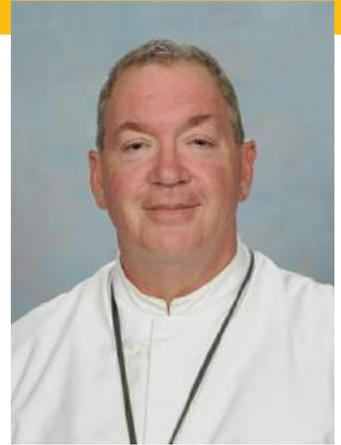
In Week 3 of the term the boys go on Boarders Leave. Boarders Leave is good for the boys, it breaks up the term and gives them a break from the routine of boarding life. At the same time, it is not compulsory for boys to go on leave. Concern is always that the boys go somewhere safe. It is important that parents know where the boys are going and always a good idea to contact the guest family so that they are aware of arrival and departure times, along with your expectations and the expectations of the college in terms of behavior, that is, that the same rules that we have at the college apply to boys on boarders leave. Boys on leave must be under the care of a responsible adult. We need to work together on this to ensure that your boys are always in the safest of situations.

NON BOARDERS LEAVE

Please remember that even though leave is granted for weekends other than Boarders Leave Weekend, it is family leave only. Leave is usually only granted for boys going in to the care of family. Leave is not usually granted for boys to stay with siblings.

CONTACTS

We sometimes find it difficult to contact families. Boys ask us for phone numbers for family and often times these numbers can be out of date. It can be quite distressing for a boy if he cannot contact his family. It is also important for us so that we can communicate with you, most especially in the area of medical issues, but also to talk with you about how your boy is progressing. When you have a new phone number, a quick call to us to let us know that you have updated your number would be most appreciated.



FROM THE HEAD OF BOARDING

MOBILE PHONES

Some of you would have received Mobile Phones in the mail. This is in accordance with our mobile phone policy. It is important that boys hand in their phones at night so that they can get good sleep and be fresh for their classes. Equally important is that boys are not distracted in classes by mobile phones.

When a boy does not hand his phone in and takes it to school, you will receive a letter, and your boy is present when the letter is written, so that he is also aware that if there is a repeat offence, the phone will be sent home. The purpose of our current mobile phone policy, which is very much in line with the vast majority of schools, is that the phones are safe, that boys get good sleep without being interrupted by technology, and that boys can concentrate in class without the disruption of technology.

FOOTBALL SEASON IS OVER

Congratulations to all those boys who engaged in Herbert River Crushers (Rugby), Garbutt Magpies (AFL) and Suns (AFL). The feedback from coaches and others has always been so positive: messages, comments and emails about the outstanding behavior and team spirit of the boys involved.

GRADUATION AND TRAVEL AT THE END OF THE YEAR

Graduation and Speech Day is on the 18th November. It's a unique and special day for our Year 12 boys, and indeed for the whole college community. Year 12 boys leave after their Graduation. Other boys are permitted to leave with the year 12's and their families, providing the family is aware that the boys are travelling with them. Please be sure to make sure that you come to the Residential Office and sign out any boy who might be travelling with you back home.

I look forward to this very special term, brief it may be, but a special one, where we all look forward to the special day of the graduation of our Year 12 boys.

Wishing you all God's blessings.

Fr Pius SM

HEAD OF BOARDING



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL—RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Welcome back to another very busy term!

It was good to see some of the boys on my travels around Ayr and Townsville over the holidays. There is much going on this term, culminating in our Graduation Mass on Friday 18th November (nearly 4 weeks away!)

October is the month where we pay special respect to Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ. Home Rooms and Boarding prayer times have been encouraged to say the Hail Mary:

Hail Mary, full of grace. Our Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

Please continue to pray for family and friends in our communities that need our prayers, and for staff and students too.

We have our famous Gowrie Factor coming up on the Friday of BLW (28th). I know that there are some fantastic performances planned already. Many thanks to Ms Paula and all staff for making this happen. We will start the day with a Mass celebrating St Teresa's Day.

3 boys went on the Mission trip to work with the poor in the Philippines. They have had an amazing life changing experience, and witnessed Christ in the eyes of the children and the poor. I won't steal their thunder by saying too much, as they are preparing to give a presentation on their work to the whole school and community. You can follow some of what they did on our school Facebook page and on www.imt2016.blogspot.com.au

Key dates:

St Teresa's feast Day: October 1st

Gowrie Factor and St Teresa's Day Mass: Friday 28th October

All Saints' Day—Tuesday 1st November

All Souls' Day—Wednesday 2nd November

Year 12 Retreat at Gumburu—Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th November

Graduation Mass—Friday 18th November

Diana Brodowska

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL—RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Dear Gowrie Family,

Term 4 is always a good term. A term to consolidate the year, a term to celebrate the success of our senior students and a time to start planning and looking toward the next year. It's always hard returning from holidays, hard for both staff and students and these past 2 weeks have been spent settling back into routines, knuckling down and completing work each and every class. Some boys have found it easier than others to get back into school mode but all the teachers are there to support all students.

Structures have been set up in year 7 and 8 to create a learning environment where the boys have the opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability. Teachers find it both rewarding and exciting to see the smile a boy's face when they succeed at something they at first found difficult. That smile is contagious and more often than not it encourages others in the class to give it a go too.

So with 6 weeks until the end of term there is still work to be done. I would like to urge all the boys to really focus on their studies, make sure they get everything done, seek help when they need it and understand that before they know it they will be those year 12 boys celebrating graduation with their family.

Jo Davey

Yr 7/8 Coordinator



Dear Gowrie Family,

Year 9's wrapped up Term 3 with an Act of Kindness. We visited the nearby township of Trebonne to spend time with the residents of Canossa Home.

The students joined in with the residents as they did their weekly Tai Chi classes. After some morning tea, the students then participated in some word games alongside the residents.

The morning was finished off with some singing. The residents sang one of their favorite songs, and Jimmy played some tunes on his guitar.

The boys participated in the whole experience with great attitudes and giving hearts. The staff and residents of Canossa Home thanked us for our visit and asked that we please come and visit with them more often.

Gailene Kaurilla

College Chaplain

