



Mr. Peter Scott College Principal

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### **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

## From the Principal

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" The Life of Reason

George Santayana

This quote comes from one of the finest pieces of prose by any philosopher, George Santayana, American philosopher, novelist, poet and literary and cultural critic. He emphasized naturalism, multiculturalism and spirituality and is credited with framing much of America's views on democracy. He is also credited with saying, "the wisest mind still has something to learn."

I am often asked by students and parents alike, what should one do to be successful at school?

The answer, I believe, is both simple and complex, "one should read, never stop reading!". Never underestimate the value of reading and the power of the written word. English writer Edward Belwer-Lytton once said, "the pen is mightier than the sword" (1839). Certainly this was true for the great playwright and poet William Shakespeare, a man who lived his life by the written word and is still studied today in almost every classroom in the western world.

To read is a simple enough thing, but to engage in reading is more complex. In fact, it is engagement in learning, that is the issue I want to take up in my report today. As a teacher of English and History for over three decades I have always had a passion for reading. It is through an understanding of literature and history that I understand the world and its people, I make sense of the events that unfold each day and the impact that they have on me and the world that I live in. However, to fully understand, one has to have a retained knowledge and understanding that can only come from an engagement in reading, an acquired knowledge that builds contextual understanding and deeper knowledge over a period of time, and a realisation that there is always something more to be learned.

Herein lies a twofold problem which lays with the modern scholars that sit in front of us each day. Firstly, because knowledge is so easily available, through access to the worldwide web, there is no imperative to commit anything to memory. Secondly, because remembering anything is no longer necessary, as there is always Facebook, twitter, email, snapchat etc. available to remind us, there is an expectation amongst students that it is someone else's responsibility to remember for them. This culture, that information is always available, "I'll just google it!", creates enormous problems for the young learner, especially as they progress further into the senior phases of learning. Because they feel that knowledge is so easily available they make little effort to retain it, or worse, they have not learnt how to memorise information. Because they have little retained information, they lack the basic knowledge understandings which they need to unlock more complex knowledge and understanding there is a constant need to be continually revising fundamentals in order to move forward.

So how can students address the question, "how do I succeed at school?". Engage in reading every day. By engagement I mean critical reading practice, where the reader is actively employed in making meaning of the text, practice comprehension, share your reading with others, make it a habit to learn something new every day and pay attention to history, remember the words of George Santayana.

College Newsletter Wednesday, 26 April 2017

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Mr. Senan Keating Deputy Principal

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

CROSS COUNTRY
THURSDAY 27TH APRIL

LABOUR DAY
MONDAY 1ST MAY

TUESDAY 9TH -THURSDAY 11TH MAY NAPLAN TESTS

FRIDAY 19TH - SATURDAY 20TH MAY SCHOOL MUSICAL "SMITHY"

### **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

### From the Deputy Principal

Welcome back for Term 2. I hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Easter Season with family and friends, and I trust that our students are refreshed and recharged ready for the new term.

#### **Assessment Calendars**

Term 2 Assessment Calendars have now been published - These are available via the College Website and the student portals. Students and parents have also been emailed a copy of the Calendars. With such a busy Term, it is important that students are managing their time effectively in order to ensure that all assessment is handed in, fully completed, by the due date.

Exam Block Timetables for Year 11 & 12 students will be released in the next few weeks. Please note Exam Block has now moved and will begin on Friday 10th June, 2017 and continue until Friday 17th June.

Subject Changes - Year 11 & 12 Students

Any Year 11 or 12 students who are wishing to change subjects must do so before the end of this week (Friday 28th April). Changes after this time will not be approved and students will need to remain in their current choices for the Term. Students will be able to make changes at the beginning of Semester Two if they wish.

#### 2017 NAPLAN

The 2017 NAPLAN tests for Years 7 & 9 students will be held from Tuesday 9th May until Thursday 11th May. Students will participate in the Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy. As with all assessment, it is important that students are well rested, have a good night's sleep and are starting their days with breakfast to allow them to work to the best of their ability.

If you do not want your child to sit the 2017 NAPLAN tests please contact me either via email or through the College Office so that we can arrange the necessary paperwork prior to the 8th May. If you would like to discuss this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Year 10 into 11

This Term the College will begin working with Year 10 students as they prepare to make decisions around their Transition into the Senior Phase of Learning. Throughout Pastoral Care, the students will be introduced to the possible options available to them in Year 11 & 12.

On Wednesday the 14th June, the College will hold its annual Senior Phase of Learning Information Night where students and parents will have opportunities to talk to Curriculum Leaders and teachers about possible subject choices as well as exploring the wide range of Vocational Education & Training pathways available.



## **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

## **Assistant Principal - Pastoral**

Welcome back to what has been a very busy first two weeks of school! I hope that you all enjoyed your Easter break, and are back refreshed and ready for the term ahead.

#### GSCC Easter Fete Wrap Up

Thank you to all who came to support the Easter Fete at the end of last term. It was a fantastic event and we had some wonderful feedback from many members of the Mount Isa community. A huge thank you must go to our hard working Parents and Friends Committee! Without their support, this event would not be such a huge success. We are also very proud of the students who were involved in the planning and execution of the event - congratulations on another successful Fete!

#### **General Reminders**

#### Homeroom

At 8:30am each morning, students gather together in their homeroom group. In this time, rolls are marked, notices read, uniform checked and changes to daily routines outlined. Homeroom is a very important time in our day, and students must arrive at school before 8:30am to ensure they do not miss Homeroom. Communication can be made with Homeroom teachers via email, phone or a note in the College Diary.

#### **Responsible Thinking Process**

The processes relating to the responsible thinking process have now been fully integrated into College life. It is important to note the following:

- Teachers will contact parents regarding classroom RTP referrals.
- Multiple RTP referrals will result in meetings with parents/guardians and Pastoral Leaders.
- If a student breaches the hands-off rule, they will be referred home automatically.
- Pastoral Leaders monitor referrals very carefully, and will contact parents/guardians with any concerns.



Mrs Amy Webb Assistant Principal (Pastoral)

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### **Assistant Principal - Pastoral - Continued**

#### Motivational Media - TAKE THE SHOT

On Tuesday May 2, students from Year 7 - 12 will have the opportunity to attend Motivational Media here at the College. This year, the program is aimed at encouraging and inspiring high school students to invest in those goals they have and those people closest to them.

- · Everyone has intrinsic worth and nobody and no situation can take that away from you;
- · Never let anyone tell you, you can't do something;
- Failure is just a stepping stone to success;
- Struggle is life's way of making you stronger so don't fear challenges...

These are just some of the amazing key messages explored in TAKE THE SHOT. If you have any concerns regarding this, please contact your child's Pastoral Leader.

#### **School Photos**

Homeroom and Year Level photos will be taken on Thursday June 8.





Mrs. Jacqueline Warren Assistant Principal (RE)

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### From the Assistant Principal (Religious Education)

#### **ECSIP**

The Enhancing Catholic Identity Project

Students- Who wants a free pizza lunch?

Parent- Want to win a term free from school fees?

We ask that at least one parent/guardian from each family complete the survey. When you complete the survey you will need to print off the receipt, put your name and your child's name on it and bring it to the front office. Each student whose parent/guardian completes the survey will be given half a pizza for lunch on 'Monday Pizza Day'. They will then go into the draw to receive one term free from school fees for that child! Details on how to log into the survey are below.

- 1. Go to: www.schoolidentity.net
- 2. Type in website access password: Ghj654
- 3. Click on 'TO THE SURVEYS' box
- 4. Click on 'NEW USER'
- 5. Select the group you belong to from the list 'Good Shepherd Catholic College' and press NEXT
- 6. At this stage, you should see an individual User Code or Password appear. This MUST BE RECORDED so that the survey can be accessed again if for some reason it is not completed in full during the first sitting. Then click NEXT.
- 7. Complete the survey. There are 4 parts. It will take around 30 minutes.
- 8. When completed, please ensure that you print off the receipt of completion, write your name and your child's name on the form and hand into the front office.





Mr Mark Toohey Year 11 Pastoral Leader

### **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

### Year 11 Pastoral

Welcome back to Term 2!

I hope everyone has had a nice and relaxing Easter break and ready to get stuck into the new school term!

#### Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE)

Students have now received their first term of Year 11 assessment results which has enabled the College to complete a QCE check for each child over the holiday break (I will complete these checks each term). In Pastoral Care this week I met with all students and explained the QCE checking process. Students should now be able to monitor their own progress and set goals to ensure they are always on track to receive their QCE.

The College uses a traffic light system to track the progress of students on their journey to obtaining a QCE. Students placed in the 'green zone' are classed as 'on track to receive their QCE'. Students in the 'amber zone' are identified as 'at risk of not obtaining their QCE'. Most students who are in the amber zone are completing one or more VET Certificates - QCE points from these Certificates cannot be guaranteed until the completion of the course. Students who are categorised into the 'red zone' are classified as 'not on track to receive their QCE. Students who are in the red zone have generally failed one or more subjects or have failed a Maths or English subject which means the student has not met the literacy and numeracy prerequisite the QCE requires. Students must also maintain a sound level of achievement (C level of achievement) in three core subjects for the duration of the four semester of Senior Schooling (two semesters completed in Year 11 & two semesters in Year 12).

If a student has been categorised into the red zone (not on track to receive a QCE) it is compulsory for that student and their Parent/Guardian to attend a 'Review Meeting' with myself and the Deputy Principal (Curriculum), Senan Keating. An online interview booking form will be emailed to parents in the near future.

#### Year 11 Retreat

The Year 11 Retreat is approaching quickly, which is very exciting for all of the students attending. The dates of the 2017 Year Retreat are Saturday 8th of July - Friday 14th of July.

#### Year 11 Retreat Parent Information Evening

On Tuesday the 2nd of May, Good Shepherd Catholic College will be hosting an information evening in the LCC to discuss the specific details relating to Year 11 Retreat. All parents and students who are attending are encouraged to attend this information evening which will begin at 5:30pm and conclude by 6:30pm. Parents will receive a 'Parent Information Handbook' which contains key information as well as a detailed itinerary of our trip.

#### Year 11 Retreat Total Cost & Payments

The total cost for the Retreat is \$2200 (\$800 deposit + \$1400 remaining) which is required to be paid in full by Thursday the 8th of June (Week 8, Term 2). In order to meet this you may wish to pay in instalments (\$400 a fortnight starting Week 2 of Term 2 = \$400 + 400 + 400 + 200 = \$1400 by Week 8).

If the full payment isn't made by the due date, unfortunately your child will not be able to attend the retreat, and the \$800 deposit is not refundable (flights have already been booked). If you think you may not be able to meet this deadline, please contact me at the College on 4743 2509 as soon as possible or via email (mtoohey@goodshepherd.catholic.edu.au).





Mr John Harrop Curriculum Leader -English

### **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

### **Short Story Competition**

Each year, GSCC provides opportunities for budding authors to write short stories, feature articles, poems and narratives. We have just concluded the Short Story competition. The topic was "Choose your destiny" for Senior students, and Honour and Courage for Junior students. There were many entries from every grade, and the best in each grade received a prize and certificate from the college. This year, the very best short story was written by Juliet Tuppurainen, in Year 11. It is presented here for your appreciation.

### Ticking By:

By Juliet Tuppurainen - 797 words Year 11

07:00: I open my eyes as the clock turns seven. Today is my thirteenth birthday. The most important day of my life.

07:07: It takes nine steps to get to the kitchen, I start with my left and by the end I am at my chair by the table. My breakfast is waiting for me, a green apple, a glass of milk, a small bowl of porridge. I have 7 minutes and 46 seconds to eat.

07:15: My shower commences at 7:15, the water turns on at exactly 37.6 degrees, the duration of my shower 4 minutes. The soap smells of lavender.

07:19: I can tie my hair in 32 seconds, each day the same ponytail. My hair is cut every week on a Friday, 4:23pm until 4:31pm, they use the green scissors. I take my clothes from the drawer.

07:23: By now I am dressed, today I am wearing a skirt and a shirt with flowers on the front. It is the outfit for the day and I am to wear it. My shoes sit by my bag, packed and placed by the door, its contents unknown to me. I brush my teeth, 2 minutes and 18 seconds. I am very lonely.

07:30: My wrist begins to glow. My right arm displaying my schedule - my ORDR chip. It controls me and my actions. They are always watching, they are always there and I have no control over myself or the life I lead. It is telling me to get on the train. It arrives precisely on time, 7:31 and I get on. I sit down in my chosen chair. The third row, the left side, the window seat. No one sits next to me. The trip goes for 56 minutes, stopping by the different pods and picking up 32 different kids just like me. It is quiet and I enjoy it. It allows me to think. The one thing they cannot control.

07:43: I recall when I was younger the life I had. No mother, no father, no brothers and sisters. In this life we are created in test tubes, made from those newly deceased. My teacher taught us in a history lesson that the human race overpopulated, that the planet was messy and dirty and there was no order anymore.

And they didn't like it.

They began implanting the ORDR chips, the chips take over our bodies and control them, like puppets. We aren't real people any more.



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### **Short Story Competition - Continued**

07:52: I open my bag. I take out a book. My eyes appear to be reading while my body subconsciously turns the pages, yet I am thinking, not about the book, but my past. I remember the machines, I remember being raised and not having control. As I got older I began to understand that this wasn't what life was about. My whole world is predetermined, from beginning to end, and I have no input, no say, no decision in my life. When we are thirteen we are taken for the test, those who pass live out their ORDR, their futures and those who do not are removed from this world. I don't know which is scarier, living a life controlled by machines or being 'removed' not knowing what may happen. In this moment I feel my life is a clock ticking by, counting down my days. Today is my test, my future is nearing.

08:26: I arrive at my destination. Or so my ORDR says. The place where I am to be tested. I am greeted by a man in a grey suit, I take 17 steps and shake his right hand. He does not speak and I am ushered into a room with the other thirteen year olds. We too do not speak.

10:22: Four go before me, two boys, then a girl and another boy, and then me. In that time I tap the side of my chair and scuff my shoes on the ground. A nervous character my ORDR is making me become. Now it is my turn. They wire me up to beeping machines, ask me questions, needles, injections, physical examinations and a mental test. They remove the card from my ORDR and investigate how well I have performed.

And then they ask me a question.

They tell me I have passed yet there is a choice to be made. A choice I can make, my first and final decision. I may choose to stay under ORDR or be removed from the system. I cannot imagine living this life forever, their practices to create the perfect world have destroyed the true meaning of living. I know what to do, "Remove me."

10:43: NO. 37957363824 FILE TERMINATED





Ms Nicole Dalla Vecchia HPE Curriculum Leader

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## **Health & Sport**

On Friday 22nd April, we welcomed Doug Black to the College to speak to some of our students. Doug has recently been in the news for completing the walk, run and cycle from Gold Coast to Mount Isa, for the Triple J's One Night Stand held in town on Saturday night. Doug's goal was to raise money on his journey for those that have been affected by cyclone Debbie. He spoke to the students about this physically and mentally challenging journey.



He also gave some tips to our cross country athletes about how to prepare themselves for endurance events/activities and how to conserve their energy throughout a race. Mount Isa District Sport Association will be holding the Interschool Cross Country Carnival on the 27th April. We have had a number of students nominate for the carnival and wish them all the best of luck. The Carnival will start at 8.15am on Thursday and will finish at approx. 12.30pm.

#### **Athletics Carnival**

This term, the GSCC Interhouse Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 2nd June at Sunset Oval. In the lead up to the carnival, some of our junior HPE classes will be participating in Athletics during prac this term. We will also be offering morning sessions run by the HPE teachers for students to develop their skill/technique further in field events (i.e., Discus, Shot put, Javelin and Long Jump).

There are a number of official's roles that are required on the day of the Athletics carnival. This year, we are asking for any parents/volunteers who might be able to assist us on the day in the running of events. We understand that there are many knowledgeable parents out there and would greatly appreciate your expertise at our carnival. If you are available, please email me ndallavecchia@goodshepherd.catholic.edu.au.

#### Athlete Report

Last term, we acknowledged students chosen to represent various North West sporting teams. Over the next couple of weeks, some of these students will be travelling to compete at the State Championships. The 14 - 15 Years Rugby League and 13 - 19 Years Netball State Championships are to be held from 4th - 7th May. The Rugby League boys will be travelling to Cairns, whilst the girls will be heading to Mt Gravatt for Netball. State Championships are an excellent opportunity for our students to be talent identified into development programs or representative teams. Therefore, I'd like to wish these students all the best of luck, and safe travels to them and their families.



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# North Queensland Festival of One Act Plays - 2017



An annual Festival, celebrating 25 years this year, is a chance for both local actors and writers' talents to be given the spotlight, and features entrants from Cairns down to Rockhampton and as far West as Mount Isa. The Festival runs from Friday 5 May to Sunday 7 May 2017.



Mrs Anna Telford Drama Teacher

This will be our fourth consecutive year attending the Festival. We've previously earned multiple second placings in the Junior Division, as well as Best Junior Male Actor twice and the Stan Newman Memorial Bursary.

Last year, the Best Male Actor was won by a past Good Shepherd Catholic College Student who had previously performed and directed entries from the College.

Three groups from Mount Isa will perform in the Festival of One Act Plays this year: 9am Sharp are a combination of Year 11 and 12 students from Good Shepherd in 2016, who created their play as an assessment piece for a unit on Contemporary Eclectic Theatre; GSCC Players 2 will perform From the Mouth of Babes by Eva Anderson, directed by Year 8 student Grace Heuir; and GSCC Players 1 will perform Internet Murder, which was both written and directed by Year 9 student Laura Szabadics.



Performers (L-to-R): Shayne O'Shea-Breed, Khade Toeke-Dean, Patrick Harman, Isabel Steele and Director: Laura Szabadics

Laura, who is attending the Festival of One Act Plays for her third time this year, said the chance to have her work performed for a North Queensland audience was an exciting opportunity.



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## North Queensland Festival of One Act Plays - 2017 - Continued

Internet Murder focuses on the struggle of several teenagers who are dragged along on a holiday only to discover, to their horror, there is no internet. Laura said, "I do believe youth rely on technology too much, but I can't talk because I'm known to spend a lot of time on the internet. Though this isn't to say that there aren't benefits of this technology, it's just when you're with friends it's rude to be on your phone."



Mount Isa's Good Shepherd Catholic College will be sending a strong contingent of performers to this year's NQ Festival of One Act Plays.

Back: Patrick Harman, Khade Toeke-Dean.

Front: Shayne O'Shea-Breed, Laura Szabadics, Isabel Steele, Grace Heuir.

Not present: Simone Goodwin, Savannah Ryan.



Ms Jade Marinelli Music Teacher

### **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

"SMITHY" The Musical

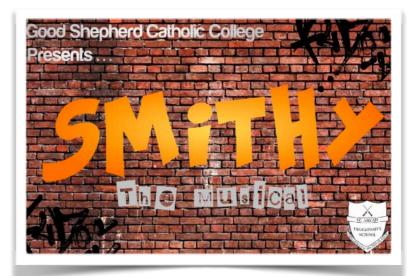
Rehearsals for Smithy the Musical are in full swing this term with opening night just four weeks away. Last week a number of students from the band and cast performed the opening song of the musical School Stinks at the St Joseph's Catholic Primary School assembly. In the coming weeks the musical cast will also provide preview performances to St Kieran's Primary School and the Laura Johnstone Home.

The musical is being brought to stage on Friday the 19th and Saturday the 20th of May in the Lumen Christi Centre at the College from 7pm. Tickets for the production are available at the Front Office. Make sure you get in early to secure your seats as it is reserved seating.















Mrs Fiona Coghlan Careers

### **Experience the Community Live the Values Achieve the Success**

### **Careers**

#### CONGRATULATIONS SHELBY

Shelby Smith has recently been awarded her Certificate III in Business whilst undertaking a School Based Traineeship at The Amcal Pharmacy.

This qualification usually takes 2 years to complete, however Shelby worked very hard to complete in 13 months. Well done!

Shelby has been nominated for the Queensland Training Awards in the category of School Based Apprentice/Trainee of the Year. Finalists will be announced next month.



Shelby Smith

#### TWO NEW SCHOOL BASED TRAINEESHIPS

Year 12 student Aliesha Golden recently commenced a Certificate II in Business Administration with Isa Therapy Services. Kate Troxell (Year 11) will start with St Kieran's this week to undertake a Certificate III in Education Support.



Aleisha Golden



Kate Troxell

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Work Experience is available for Year 10 students in MacKillop and Rice Houses at the end of this term and/or on the holidays. It is also available for Year 11/12 students.

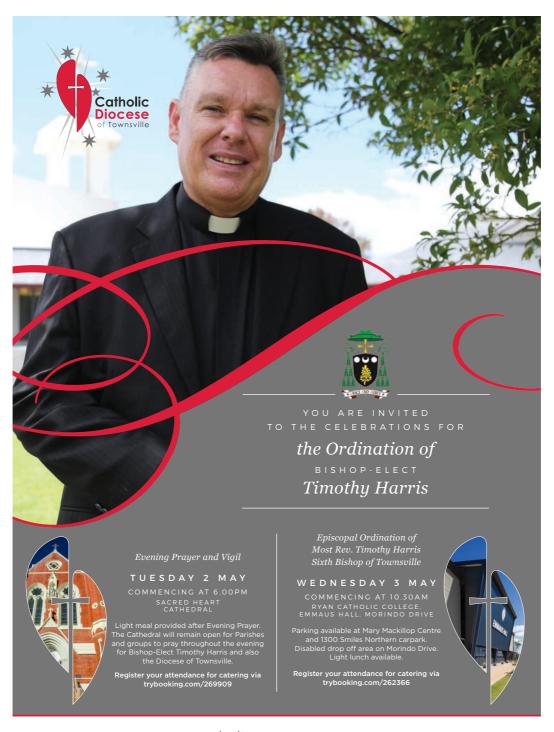
Applications close 19th May.

Contact Mrs Coghlan for application.



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