



clontarf
foundation



Tumut Clontarf Academy

TERM 1 NEWS

Newsletter

To say that the start of 2020 has been challenging for everyone is quite the understatement, however at the Tumut Clontarf Academy, we remain constantly committed to assisting our boys in achieving great life outcomes.

This newsletter gives us a great opportunity to highlight to everyone the fun and rewarding things that the Tumut Academy has participated in in the recent months. As well, we take this opportunity to showcase what we have planned and keeping you updated as we continue to improve their education, discipline, self-esteem, life skills and employment prospects, even in these extraordinary circumstances given the COVID-19 health crisis.

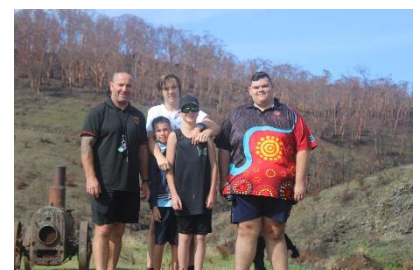
Community and Activities

The Tumut Clontarf Academy have been involved with a variety of sports and community activities so far this term engaging in relationships with the Tumut Golf Club, Roddy Engineering and the Police Liaison Officer. The continuation of construction of our own trailer at Roddy's has most definitely been a term highlight. Our activities have also included a great afternoon at the local "Pump Track" which the Snowy Valleys Council should be commended for. The boys had an absolute blast. Plus of course countless trips to the pool.

Highlights for the First Term

Leadership

Early in the Term the Year 7 boys were treated to their first camp. This was an overnight trip held in Talbingo. This proved a great introduction for our new academy members to get a taste of "Clontarf Life". This year the decision was made to take two mentors from Year 11 on the trip and Jamie Hibbens and Rhyce Russell acted as fine examples to the young fellas on what is expected of lads on camp both through volunteering help when needed and paying attention to all instructions on how the camp will function. Both boys should be very proud of the way they conducted themselves.



Education

With the current education space changing every day, we have partnered with the school staff to ensure that our Academy members are getting the opportunity to achieve “continuity of learning”. As staff have been feverishly changing how schooling works, we have been rolling out the work packs to our families that may not have adequate technology. Or in some cases simply too many siblings for limited devices. These packs have been well received by the boys and as they complete them they notify the Clontarf staff to earn the ever valuable Tumut Tokens.



Wellbeing

In Week 8 a group of Year 8, 9 and 10 boys had earned the opportunity to travel to Griffith for the inaugural “Clontarf Fishing Comp” held at Gogeldrie Weir. Over 50 boys from 5 Academies participated in the fun couple of days which was highlighted with a visit from the careers team from the defence forces and of course a couple of big fish. Our Academy got a podium finish thanks to some good fishing from Mitch French, Alex Buckley and Aidan Breed. The first day was a warm one and after a solid game of touch footy the boys got a well-earned dip (pictured).



Employment

Another great highlight of our first term was another Academy member signing up for a SBT (School Based Traineeship) As pictured here Liam Bell signed on with KFC as a school based trainee. Already working in a casual position with the company, Liam jumped at the opportunity presented to him to gain the formal qualifications available through the traineeship which will no doubt make his resume all the more presentable once he completes his schooling later this year. One of the newest Academy members, Liam is already proving to be a shining example to his younger cohorts. A big thanks to Careers Advisor Jo Stroud in helping Liam with this.



Sport

Although our games were cancelled this term, we managed to get plenty of training sessions in. One great session was an in-school clinic that the Year 7 and 8 boys got to take part in at Jarrah Oval after the late withdrawal of the Karabar Academy from Queanbeyan. The maestro Chicka Douglas put the boys through their paces with several high intensity drills and games, then softened things up with a few fun games. The sessions were then finished with a classic Clontarf BBQ. The other highlight of the term was the Clontarf Senior selection trials hosted in Wagga. Coached by former NRL hard man Nigel Plum, the senior boys were working very hard to gain a spot in the Riverina side. Iziah Ford, Isaiah Coe, Jamie Hibbens and Reggie Coe all made the side. Now it is just a matter of seeing what happens on the footy landscape for the 2020 season. A big thanks to John Thomson for travelling over for the day with the boys and taking some amazing photos.



Partners

With our Week 9 trip to Talbingo to play touch footy against the Snowy Hydro employees postponed, partner interaction with the Academy members has been a little slower than normal for Term One. Snowy Hydro and Bunnings are already assisting us in the planning of next term's program with Liam from Bunnings assisting us with material to build animal shelters for our local "WIRES" after the recent bushfires, and employees from Snowy Hydro helping us with a weekly online interaction with the students on "Snowy Trivia". Special mention there to Guy Boardman, Peter Symons and Matthew Webb for giving us some of their all-important time and knowledge on line next term. Thankfully we also have still managed to keep our local Partners up to date with many emails and phone calls. One way of getting our message to the wider community was a trip to the local community radio station where students Aidan Breed and Brock Russell got to broadcast not only Clontarf news but also news that had been happening within the school.



Looking Ahead

Looking ahead is not an easy thing to do in our current climate given the situation with COVID 19, but there will be a constant message for our boys and their families. That message is that the Clontarf Foundation is committed to assisting all of our families and the wider community navigate our way through these unprecedented times. Like the teachers that have been working hard to re-write curriculum, Clontarf Staff across the country have been working around the clock to evolve our programs to ensure that our boys stay healthy and engage with their education, family and community. We look forward to delivering these programs to our boys into next term and beyond. These include such things as:

Well Being - Leadership

- Interactive online Fitness Sessions
- "Chore Tuesday" assisting at home
- Online Public Speaking Challenges

Education - Employment

- Delivery of Offline Work Packs
- Online Assessment Support
- Mock interviews & Resume writing

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