

Boarding Parent Network Meeting Term 2 Report Monday, 17 July, 2017 Term 3 Meeting

Credo/Mission Statement:

As leader of the boarding community at Stuartholme, my most important mission is to make every girl feel at home here, loved as she is, comfortable and secure. When you feel like this, you can do anything. You are ready to be challenged and extended to become the very best person you can be. I believe in the capability of every young woman in my care. I believe that each of them can make the most profound difference to the communities they come from, to their families and to the wider world. In order to reach their potential, it is my role to ensure that the boarding community is a place where each girl knows this is the dream and believes she can get there. I see my role as inspiring each girl to do their personal best – to aim for excellence academically and/or vocationally, to aim for high level inter-personal skills and to be compassionate and inclusive.

i) Reporting on Key Boarding Strategic Priorities 2017

1. Strengthen academic care program

Tutoring in house Mon to Thursdays

- Opened up to Years 7-9 where space exists or when parents request extra support
- Claire Lawler/Debbie Gaggin will be Humanities 4 sessions a week and Julie Tan will be Maths/Science 4 sessions a week when Evan Woodward leaves in August to work OS
- Years 7-9 Invited a Teacher Term 2; huge success!
- Ex-boarder Alum coming in this term to speak to Year 12s about university life and colleges; also Duchesne and Women's invitations
- Began more structured input into study skills of Years 7&8s – in Monday's Term 3, we will be using the white board in the Dorms to update each girl's assessments due and monitor her progress. The girls are excited to have this "community planner".

2. Formalise Boarding Wellbeing Program (Strengths based, positive psychology approach to wellbeing and boarding; 2017 Strength for each year level (7-kindness, 8- gratitude, 9-fairness, 10-teamwork, 11-perseverance, 12-hope)

- 7&8s: Brownie and Hot Chocolate PJ meeting – discussions on strengths and what we are doing well and could improve on; a new quality we had discovered about each other; assessed our Term 1 goals on kindness and gratitude
- 9 &10s: Kindness Boat Notes Project - each of the Year 9-10 boarders were asked to reflect on a positive quality about each of their peers, these notes were compiled into booklets each student could keep as a positive reminder of their strengths, acts of kindness and positive qualities. The Year 9-10 leaders modelled this project for the girls by coming to the first meeting explaining the project with pre-folded gratitude notes to each of their peers
- 11 &12s: Planning meeting at Grill'ed with Boarding leaders to reflect on what was going well and what they wanted to work on further; mentoring activities

supported ie Year 9 Mentor taking younger students to Shoppingtown, working with Claire Lawler to run Anzac Cup Day activities; focus in 11 and 12 was on individual monitoring and liaison with day school teachers as necessary

- International students: Tea, biscuits and informal feedback session. The girls were asked to fill in a feedback form, identifying support areas in boarding they appreciated, areas they felt they needed help with and activity suggestions for next term.
- Surprise end of exam block 'Girls Night In': Staff prepared a pop-up tent in The Nest, fairy lighting, beanbags & cushioning, nail station, photo-booth, herbal tea station, DIY heat-packs, Netflix. Such a hit & perfect timing for end of exams.
- Engaging and age appropriate Recreation program including opportunities for more social justice volunteering ie Big Night Out and pet therapy! A crafternoon will be starting this term run by our artist/supervisor, Ursula Cooper just back from Berlin!
- 7 Years 7&8s entered the Brookfield Show, cookery section.

3. Preparing for National Boarding Standards – bought a program called SCUTA to begin process

4. Enhance parent engagement and feedback

- Term 2 Goondiwindi Expo in May and ICPA State in June (Kristen, Ellen and Natasha Skelly- new Registrar)
- Facebook 215 members
- Inaugural Boarder Family Function Calendared 12/8 5 pm

5. Build Capacity of Boarding Leadership Teamo

- High quality PD (Term 3 Margaret Ferguson from Calypso Coaching on Communication Skills)
- Team meetings, rotating heads of shifts, leading wellbeing sessions

6. Plans for Refurbishment of Boarding House

- ongoing

ii) Current boarding Issues/Challenges/News

1. Parents

- Aligning holidays with Boys' Schools – very good in 2018. End of year exit date one week earlier than others; otherwise aligned.
- Reach Update

2. Boarders

- Moved Year 7s to Amiens; very successful, older rowers on Cottesmore

- Temporary boarders increasing – at max for the rest of the year; we try to accommodate exchange students where we can
 - Rolling dinners finished, all eat at the same time each night 6-6.30 pm
 - No food in rooms unless non-perishable and can fit into a small plastic container
 - No medications to be kept in rooms unless authorized by the Nurse Manager in conjunction with the parents (exceptional circumstances)
 - Increased amount of morning tea at students' request!
- I will be on LSL from 18 August until close of Term 3 and Sarah Daff, Leader of Mission will be acting in my position

Andree Rice

Landline Numbers – in Boarding Community Handbook 2017

Reception 3510 6438 (clicks over to upstairs post 8.30 pm)

Amiens Floor 3510 6462

Amiens Office 3510 6429

Grenoble Floor 3510 6458

Grenoble Office 3510 6452 (currently out of action)

Cottesmore Floor 3510 6486

Overnight Supervisor New Mobile: **0419 702 711**

Study times 5-6 pm; 7.15-8.30 pm minimum

Dinner 6-6.30 pm then laundry

