Year Six/Seven Leadership – 2014

Leadership by our senior students is an important and integral part of the holistic education that is offered at St Andrew’s. We value our leadership program and believe it is a vital element for the development of our students as they move to further their education at Secondary School. With Year Six and Year Seven transitioning simultaneously to Secondary School in 2015, St Andrew’s will adopt a shared Leadership Program for both Year levels in 2014. We feel this approach will allow all our students to experience the benefits of a Primary School Leadership Program and help develop bonds and friendships across both year levels which will give them a wider network of connections as they move to their respective High Schools. The Year Six and Seven cohorts will be collectively referred to as senior students. Information about the specific details can be found below:

Leadership Shirts & Badges

All senior students will purchase a leadership shirt which is designed by the students themselves through a democratic process. The shirt will reflect the theme chosen by the staff at the beginning of the year through its design and a leadership motto chosen by the students.

Camp

Year Six and Seven students will attend a Senior Leaders Camp in Week 6 of Term 1 at Camp Goodenough in Northern New South Wales. The focus of the camp will be on activities aimed at creating a senior team identity and developing leadership skills.

MJR

Each senior student will receive an MJR (Making Jesus Real) Book as part of the senior program which looks specifically at the spiritual, moral and emotional development of Young Adults transitioning to Secondary School. The program reinforces the MJR way of life which is integral to the religious ethos of St Andrew’s, with a particular emphasis on the positive influences of weekly journaling and reflecting on the God Moments in our lives.
Core Time

Core Time will be timetabled each week where the senior students can come together to discuss leadership skills, the MJR program and other issues related to daily management and specific jobs which help support the school community. Eating time will also be a sharing time where these activities can occur on a needs basis.

Buddies

The Buddy Program will continue as usual with Year Seven teaming up to lead their Prep Buddies and Year Six will partner with Year One.

Parliament

The St Andrew’s School Parliament is a unique school initiative which has been running at the school since 2004 and provides an exceptional opportunity for each senior student to have hands on experience as a school leader. Every student will elect to be a member one of the 4 Parliamentary Committees which are responsible for organising activities to support the school and local community in the areas of Welfare, Social, Sport and Environment. The key roles of Speaker, Clerk of the Court and Serjeant-at Arms will be held by both Year Six and Year Seven students. Both Year levels will attend all the sittings of Parliament for the passing of Bills, Question Time and the reading of Reports. However, the key roles will be performed by either Year Six or Year Seven for alternate sittings.

Sports Captains

The St Andrew’s Sport Captains for 2014 will consist of students from Year Six and Seven. There will be separate sport captains for each discipline of swimming, cross country and athletics thereby allowing more students the opportunity to participate in a more formal leadership role. Students who wish to apply for a position of sport captain must present a nomination speech to be presented to all students of Years Six and Seven. Students will vote on who they believe will best fit the role of sports captain for each discipline. If a student has already been elected as a speaker in Parliament, they are unable to apply for a sports captain position. Allocated sports captains will be a mix of one Year Six student and one Year Seven student and will be non-gender specific.

Year 7 Dance Night

As part of the Personal Development Program, senior students will engage in learning couples dancing from an experienced Dance Teacher. The Program is design to teach the etiquette involved in dancing with a partner and allows students to experience personal contact with a member of the opposite sex in a safe, controlled and enjoyable environment. The 8 Week program will conclude with a Dance Night at the school where parents are invited to view their students newly acquired dance skills as well as dance with their respective sons and daughters.

Rite of Passage

With approximately 120 senior students moving to Secondary School in 2015, the end of year Rite of Passage for 2014 will be a truly momentous occasion. To cater for the large numbers of attendees
the liturgy will be held at St William’s Parish Church at Grovely with the celebrations continuing with a stand-up catered function at St Andrew’s School.

**DVD Memories**

Upon leaving St Andrew’s every senior student will receive a DVD of photo memories as a gift from the school.

**Fundraising**

Parents of the senior cohort will be asked to be involved in fundraising for end of year activities that help to mark the transition to secondary school. The money raised will help to defray some of the costs associated with the *Rite of Passage* and *Big Day Out* celebrations. The *Big Day Out* is a day where our seniors will go off campus (usually to a beach) to celebrate the last day they will spend as a leadership group. Costs involve hire of a bus; food and drink; senior students’ parting gift to the school.

**Personal Development Program**

A fundamental part of our senior program is our *Personal Development Program* which seeks to educate our students about the physical, social and emotional changes they are experiencing and will face in the years ahead especially relating to strategies on how to deal with peer pressure. Parents will be invited to attend an Information Evening about the program.

**Liturgies**

There are a number of noteworthy liturgies for senior students to be involved in to mark the significant events in their leadership year. The first of which will be held at the end of Term 4, 2013 with the handing over of leadership from the present Year Seven to the new leaders at the *Anchor Ceremony*. This year will be an historic event as Year Seven passes on the symbol of St Andrew’s leadership, the anchor, to the current Year Fives and Sixes. The Opening School Mass will see all our senior students commissioned as the leaders of 2014. The *Rite of Passage Liturgy* and the *Anchor Ceremony* will also occur in 2014.

**Fair**

The Fair Dance for 2014 will be a complete show-stopper performed by our combined senior classes. As is traditional, all the senior students will also be involved in running *McGovern’s Magic* (the amusement activities for younger children).

**Justice Day**

Justice Day for 2014 will continue to operate and be organised by students of Year Six. The focus of showing social justice to those less fortunate in our local community is part of the Year Six Religious Education curriculum hence the reason why Year Six will continue to promote Justice Day.
Leadership Jobs

A vital part of the leadership and MJR programs is the senior students understanding their role as servant leaders. All the jobs that help to support the school community such as managing Sports Sheds, emptying recycling and rubbish bins, organising flags for Assembly will be shared equally among the 5 senior classes (i.e. 3 Year Six classes and 2 Year Seven classes). 2014 will also see the seniors taking on the role of Masters of Ceremony at the weekly Monday Assembly.