

KEMPSEY HIGH



GARRUKA

KEMPSEY CLONTARF ACADEMY

TERM 2 2023 NEWSLETTER



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ABOUT THE ACADEMY

The Kempsey Clontarf Academy was founded in 2016 and operates out of Kempsey High School. It caters for students in Years 7 to 12 and currently has 90 boys engaged in the program.

ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Clontarf Foundation exists to improve the education, discipline, life skills, self-esteem and employment prospects of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and by doing so equips them to participate meaningfully in society.

SCHOOL DETAILS

Kempsey High School
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STAFF CONTACTS

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Message from Joel

Hello parents, carers, school staff & supporting partners of our amazing academy here at Kempsey. What a term it has been offering loads of fun and exciting camps, plenty of learning opportunities and challenges leading to self growth within the academy.

A highlight for our term was our well-being focused camp for Year 9 & 10 at South West Rocks with multiple boys on their first camp since Year 7. It was a great opportunity for our boys to connect with some local elders and academy staff, creating fantastic memories for all.

Our Academy morning activities have been fantastic this term with a great bunch of boys weathering the cold to join us for fun games, a hot breakfast and a laugh. Our afternoon sessions are starting to catch some traction with great numbers and variety to the sessions.

The Kempsey Clontarf Academy would like to thank all the school staff and executive team for allowing us the freedom and support to do what we do each and every day with our young men & a special thank you to you amazing parents, careers and families for your continued support without you all we cannot operate.

Year 11/12 Employment Forum - Coffs Harbour

Senior camp for Term 2 saw the boys travel to Coffs Harbour for the Clontarf Employment Forum. This event is for the boys to get a taste of some of the work that is on offer either by our Partners, Supporter or Local opportunities. All the boys worked very hard in the lead up to this camp to have their resumes & other employment documents prepared so they were able to present something on the day if they were to find something they were interested in. It was an awesome event which left the boys high on confidence and a clearer direction of a career pathway they'd like to pursue.

After a big day of official business it was time to let the boys relax with some shopping and a movie at the cinemas. Day 2 saw the highly anticipated Kempsey Academy Laser Tag Competition where bragging rights were up for offer. After 3 "missions" Byron Quinlan was hardly challenged and walked away as champion!! He was also very humble with his success.



Year 9/10 Camp - South West Rocks

The boys started their morning with the Kempsey High School Athletics Carnival.

After a few records nearly being broken and with everyone in attendance, we set off to our camp destination at South West Rocks, listening to country music along the way. Once we arrived at the naval cadets, the boys went in to pick out their bunks and set up their rooms (thankfully, there weren't any arguments). Everyone settled into their rooms nicely, so we ventured from the naval base up and around to the headland along the edge of the beautiful South West Rocks River (back Creek). Dinner was served once we got back -Spaghetti Bolognese was on the menu for the first night.

The boys were up bright and early on day 2 (some electing to go for a morning run with myself before the day was meant to begin) for a short walk to the river for a cold plunge to start their day. With the boys refreshed and bellies full, we travelled around to the lighthouse lookout for a walk and a look to see if we could spot some whales. We headed back to the base after lunch, and the boys elected to go fishing. And fish they did! We didn't stop fishing until around 9pm, and a few were hunting crabs along the banks. Some boys got some good bites, and a few caught some good-sized fish that they took home for their families. After the fishing was done and dusted, we caught the last few minutes of NRL (National Rugby League) on TV as we got back to the naval base.

The next morning, we let the boys sleep in a little, and then we had bacon and egg rolls with sausages. The boys filled up, and then we headed back into Kempsey to have a worksite visit with DGI (David Griffin International). The boys got to see a lot of the construction and mining machines that are used in big projects around the world and asked a lot of questions about a lot of things. After our visit came to an end, we all headed home for much-needed rests ... until next time.



Year 7/8 Camp - South Grafton Rugby League Carnival Rocks

On the 15th-16th June, the Year 7-8 Kempsey Garruka's travelled to a 9v9 Rugby League Carnival hosted by South Grafton Clontarf Academy.

We played three round games, winning all of them and progressing to the finals. Luckily, we were able to go through to the final and win! The boys played all of their games in true Clontarf spirit. Congratulations, lads!

During the carnival, the boys were able to attend some health sessions provided by Bulgarr Ngaru and Solid Mob. These sessions were a great way for the boys to get valuable information about leading a healthy lifestyle.

On an early rise Friday morning, the boys headed off to Minnie Waters beach for a Super training session. We rotated through three different stations which incorporated fireman carries, passing skills, and even a t-shirt race. This was a great way to finish an awesome few days away.

A big thank you to all Clontarf Academies, support staff, and South Grafton Clontarf Academy for hosting this regional carnival



Year 11 Celebration Dinner

This year the Kempsey Academy hosted a dinner for our Year 11's & their families to congratulate them on their achievements so far and to explain all the ways The Clontarf Foundation can support them while at school but also post Graduation. We were so pleased to see the great support network our boys have with Parents, carers, school staff & an alumni all in attendance.

A special mention to Grant Schubert (Employment officer), Jed Peisley (Deputy Principal) & Lara Wasilewski (Year Advisor) for all making a speech on the night and encouraging our boys.



2023 Year 11

Caleb Smith - Edwards, Andrew Nicholas, Malcolm Batterson, Branden Sydenham, Nicholas Wynter, Jachar Luckett, Shannon Davis, Connor Brauer, Byron Quinlan & Brandon McBain

Mothers Day at Woolworth's

On the 12th of May, six Year 7 academy members were invited down to Woolworth's Kempsey to participate in a tour of their store and a hands on experience in the Bakery. The boys got to see the process of how some of the cakes and desserts are prepared and decorated. They were then allowed to get hands on decorating cupcakes to take home for their mothers as an early Mothers day gift. After the tour we had a little bit of spare time and one of the boys came up with the great idea of delivering the cupcakes home (this also guaranteed the cakes made it home).

As staff we were so proud to see the excitement of the boys and the surprise on their mothers faces when they delivered their cupcakes.

A big thank you to all the staff at Kempsey Woolworth's for your time and effort!



Kempsey High School NAIDOC Dance Group

The Kempsey Academy dance group performed at the Kempsey High School NAIDOC Day & the Kempsey NAIDOC Ball with both performances leaving the crowd in awe. Our Academy was lucky to have the guidance from Members of the Figtree Descendants Aboriginal Corporation, Lionel Blair & Benelong Carrol, and Kempsey High School Cultural Advisor Rhys Waite.

