



A snapshot of the Toronto Clontarf Academy activities, camps and events for Term 2.

The Toronto Times Term 2



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CLONTARF PILLARS

Every camp, activity and event that Clontarf designs has a focus around our six Clontarf Pillars - Education, Employment, Well-being, Sport, Leadership and Partners.

EDUCATION

Every term, the Clontarf students swap training jerseys and sports gear for polos and cooking utensils for the THS Staff Brekky. Students arrive before 7am to start cooking before an onslaught of hungry staff lured in by the smell of bacon and egg rolls storm the academy. The students not only provide great food and friendly customer service but also run academy tours, explaining the development of the Foundation, the basis of the program and all the engaging activities the Toronto Academy has on this term. This is an effective way to build positive relationships between teachers and students and to empower students to feel more confident and connected in the school environment.



EMPLOYMENT

The senior Clontarf students from around the Newcastle/Hunter region attended our biggest employment event on the calendar - the Employment Forum. This was the Toronto students' first taste of this annual event after a forced two year hiatus due to COVID-19. Our Clontarf partners were set up at tables as groups of students rotated around the room in a "speed-dating" like fashion. The students gained invaluable insight into each company and the relevant industry along with pathway programs and Clontarf specific career opportunities. The Employment Forum supports students to successfully transition from school into full-time employment or further education.



WELL-BEING

Well-being is integral to the Clontarf program as it is perhaps one of the most crucial factors influencing quality of life. Clontarf helps to support each student to develop and balance the complex combination of physical, mental, emotional and social health as they progress through adolescence. One particular approach to well-being support is through a game of table tennis. Every Clontarf academy in Australia has a table for students to use as an outlet when frustrated, upset or restless. It subconsciously teaches students to regulate their behaviour, become more present and allow the individual to evaluate effectively and make positive decisions.





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SPORT

Sport and physical activity is an influential part of the Clontarf program. Every week, rain, hail or shine the students participate in morning trainings, after school activities and other various sporting events. Playing sport and being active promotes positive routines, regulates behaviour and supports a vast range of physical, mental and emotional health benefits. It also helps to develop and strengthen valuable interpersonal skills including teamwork, leadership, communication, resilience and problem-solving which are all highly efficacious in any workforce environment or relationship.



LEADERSHIP

The senior Clontarf students from around the region took part in several leadership activities while on camp. The students made a pledge with their peers to commit to complete their final years of high school, to make the most of their opportunities and to give their best through attendance, engagement and conduct. The signed pledge will be displayed in every academy in the region. To further practice our leadership skills, the students participated in the RAW Challenge. A grueling 4km, boggy mud stricken obstacle course that demands resilience, teamwork, leadership and a lot of encouragement, especially on this cold and rainy morning.



PARTNERS

On the Wednesday of the recent industrial action, a handful of students came to school to join forces with one of our Clontarf partners, Woolworths for a Mother's Day activity. Students and staff from Toronto Woolies store spent the afternoon making and packaging choc-coconut bliss balls to give to their beloved mothers and caregivers on the coming Sunday. Our Clontarf partners provide endless support through funding, employment opportunities, career development and exposure to a range of industries. To date, the Toronto Woolworths store has supported five Clontarf students gain part-time employment.

