



The Stingray Review

News from the Toronto
Clontarf Academy

Term 4 2023



Clontarf Mission Statement

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 more meaningfully in society

Our Targets & Goals

The following boys achieved 95%
and above in Term 4

Noah Atkins - Year 7
Austen Cleaver - Year 7
Logan Flevill - Year 7
Tylah King - Year 7
Kobi Lonsdale - Year 7
Lyndon Norris - Year 7
Adonai Tapim - Year 7
Jace Towerton - Year 7
Birrani Towerton - Year 7
Jax Vesey - Year 7
Ashton Gillett-Trovato - Year 8
Terren Vesey - Year 8
Seth Gibbons - Year 9
Chace Koren-Brennan - Year 9
Jai Lonsdale - Year 9
Dakota Gibbons - Year 10
Curtis Mills - Year 10
Brayden Behan - Year 11
Thomas Smith - Year 11

We had an average attendance of 85% for Term 3.
57 boys were above 80%

Year 7 - 88%
Year 8 - 79%
Year 9 - 83%
Year 10 - 75%
Year 11 - 89%

Stingrays Make Waves At Beach Oztag Carnival

Toronto Stingrays were in their natural habitat at the picturesque Dixon Park Beach when they hosted the first-ever Newcastle Regional Beach Oztag Carnival. Eight teams from across the region competed on a beautiful sunny day in the sand.

It was a fantastic opportunity for Clontarf members from across Newcastle to come together and play against each other in a new competition. Many of the boys had never played beach Oztag before, but they took to it like a fish to water. Plenty of tries were scored, with every player getting over the stripe on the day. The defence was also of a high standard, as the boys never let an easy try in and battled for each tag.

Most impressive on the day was the boys' support for each other. They showed real Clontarf spirit by supporting each other when they scored and were quick to pick up any boy who made a mistake.

The Stingrays Clontarf Spirit award went to Andrew Green on the day for his non-stop efforts on the field and continued support of his teammates off the field.

The Beach Oztag Carnival will now be an annual event for the region, and we cannot wait to participate again next year



Tough Knight in The Office

On a dark gloomy morning in beautiful Toronto, Kalyn Ponga, Dylan Lucas, and Matt Crocker made a surprise visit to our boys in the academy. To the delight of the Academy students, the Knights trio enthusiastically joined in a tough but spirited game of dodgeball. Laughter echoed through the hall as all players showcased their skills, and as the balls flew back and forth, so did the light hearted banter.

Game one was neck and neck as both teams went toe to toe in a high-quality game. It went down to the wire as only a single player from each side, Kalyn and Peter Tighe, remained. Peter was dodging balls left, right, and center but couldn't tame the current Dally M medalist.

Game 2 was over in a heartbeat as Matt Crocker and Dylan Lucas's team stood up and grabbed the bull by the horns, quickly ending the game with back-to-back knockouts. The final game, being the decider, was an absolute nail-biter as both teams went back and forth in front of a packed hall of Toronto High School onlookers. Both teams played the intense game with heart and, most of all, the trademark "Clonny Spirit" as Ponga's team finished off the last opposition player unceremoniously moments before the bell to clench a 2-1 victory.

The eventful morning continued with post-match selfies, autographs, and banter as more and more school students and even staff filtered into the hall for a sneak peek. The Clontarf students thanked the Knights players for their time and presented them with a Clontarf cap each as a sign of gratitude. The students then enjoyed endless delicious ham and cheese croissants back in the room as the Knights ducked out the back door to avoid being mobbed by the rest of the school. The buzz continued throughout the day and will be a memory the students and the school won't forget.



Toronto Academy Celebrates 2023

Academy members, families, corporate partners and supporters gathered at Toronto High School to celebrate the year that was. The boys were dressed to impress on the night, and impress they did. Families and supporters alike gave the boys well deserved praise for how they represented the Academy

The event was hosted by year 9 student Jack Ryan, who is a natural behind the mic. First up on stage was Bailey Sutherland (yr 10) who performed a stoic Acknowledgement of Country, well supported by Adonai Tapim (yr 7) playing the Didge. Ashton Gillett-Trovato (yr 8) and Hunter Cook (yr 7) hosted this years awards presentations and did themselves proud, showing no signs of nerves in front of an audience of over 150 guests. The first award for the night went to Zane Halloran (yr 10) for Top Trainer of the year, Zane attended majority of this years morning trainings and was always a positive influence on other academy members.

Tommy Smith (yr 11) received the Principals award for 2023, as voted by the Toronto High School Senior Executive team. Tommy has always brought a positive attitude to school, and shown great commitment to following Toronto High School and Clontarf Principals. The next award was for the Clontarf Spirit Award for 2023, Jack Ryan (yr 9) received this award for always bringing a positive attitude to the Academy and our activities.

Mason Rew was next to receive an award, a well deserved recipient for someone who has improved in leaps and bounds this year, Mason has worked hard to improve his attendance, attitude and commitment to school, so much so he has been rewarded with a School Based Traineeship at Reece Plumbing for his senior years at THS.

Attendance is key for our Academy members, and each year the attendance award is hotly contested, this year Noah Atkins (yr 7) received the award after his perfect attendance at school in 2023, an incredible effort in his first year at high school. Special mention must also go to the 22 boys who achieved above 90% attendance this year.

Employment is also a vital branch of what we do in the program, Jayd Vagi (yr 12) received the 2023 employment award for his efforts throughout the year, gaining experience in multiple organisations, leading to full time employment as an apprentice builder. Academy member of the year went to an academy member who showed throughout the year how much of a leader he was to other boys in the academy, showing what it takes to set yourself up for meaningful employment after completing school. Ellis Abrahams is this years Academy member of the year and we cannot wait to see what his bright future holds for him.

A big congratulations to our 6 graduating students in 2023, Ellis Abrahams, Latrelle Briggs, Jake Callen, Ben Faint, Toby Hogan and Jayd Vagi. You have done yourself and your families proud with what you have achieved throughout your time at Toronto, and have all grown into outstanding young men.

A big thank you to all of the families, partners, and supporters who attended the awards night. The boys and the Academy appreciate all the support we receive and it does not go unnoticed the efforts that you all put into our amazing young men.



Deadly Stories



Year 12 Major Trip

Toronto's Year 12 men celebrated graduating High School with their major trip, the boys had a great time experiencing some beautiful spots around Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef. The highlight was a cultural tour on the traditional fishing grounds of the Kuku Yalanji people.



UGL Visit

Year 10 and 11 Academy members were invited to visit UGL on their camp this term. The boys were given the opportunity to see the intricate operations of each department from train manufacturing to learning what a control centre of a train looks like.



Day Care Dance Group

Toronto High Schools dance group were invited by Carey Bay Daycare to perform for their students. The boys once again did the school and themselves proud and put on a fantastic performance for their excited crowd.

Top Photos from Term 4





Thank You

A big thanks to all our families,
school staff and partners who
have made this semester possible
for our boys.

Please get in touch
if you need us

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