



WESTERN CAPE COLLEGE CLONTARF ACADEMY

EST. 2021



FROM LITTLE THINGS
BIG THINGS
GROW

clontarf
foundation

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

2026 TERM 1 EDITION



Wedgetails Term 1 Wrap-Up



Big start to 2026 for the Western Cape Clontarf Academy!

Term 1 brought great energy right across the board, with strong turnouts at morning training and plenty happening through our after-school activities. The boys showed real commitment, getting involved, staying active, and building strong connections with each other and staff.

Camps were a major highlight this term, giving the boys the opportunity to step outside their comfort zones, strengthen their brotherhood, and create some unforgettable memories. These experiences continue to play a big role in building resilience, teamwork, and confidence within the group.

From early morning sessions to busy afternoons, it's been great to see consistency, effort, and positive attitudes across all year levels. The boys have set a strong tone for the year, showing pride in the program and a willingness to get involved.

A solid term of growth, good vibes, and plenty of wins.

Year 5 & 6 Big Day Weipa



Week 10, was a great way to wrap up the term with our Clontarf Year 5 & 6 Big Day Out at the Western Cape Academy, in Weipa!

We kicked things off with a big breakfast before heading out for a big morning of fishing, followed by squash to keep things moving. After lunch, the boys enjoyed some classic team building Clontarf activities before cooling off at the pool to finish the day.

It was awesome to see the grade 5 boys taking part in their first big day of activities with the program. This was a positive start for them and a great opportunity to get involved and build connections with the staff and the other boys.



Year 7 & 8 Well-being Camp - Weipa



In Week 6, 14 of our Year 7/8 Clontarf boys took part in a two-night well-being camp based in Weipa.

Throughout the three days, the boys enjoyed plenty of engaging activities such as fishing, squash, and a slip and slide version of kick baseball! This was a great opportunity for the boys to share these fun moments together, especially as a number of them are new to the program and are still getting to know each other.

Our camp also included life skill exercises such as a community clean-up in Napranum, swimming, cooking, and washing our academy vehicles inside and out.

Overall, it was a great few days for the boys to get out, spend time together creating memories, and learn a few useful skills along the way.



Year 9 & 10 Employment Camp – Weipa



In Week 2, our Year 9/10 Clontarf boys took part in a camp based in Weipa.

Throughout the two night camp, students participated in a range of activities focused on leadership, teamwork, and future pathways. These included employment trivia sessions, a Woolworths worksite visit, and practical life-skills activities such as cooking pasta and rice dishes. All while having some fun fishing, going for a swim at the pool and playing squash.

Overall, the camp was a positive and engaging experience that highlighted resilience, community involvement, and employment awareness while supporting students to develop valuable life skills.



Year 11 Employment Camp



Last week, Western Cape College's Year 11 students took part in an exciting and rewarding Term 1 Employment Camp, travelling out to RAAF Base Scherger in Cape York. The camp provided a valuable opportunity for the young men to step outside their everyday school environment and engage in activities designed to build independence, teamwork, and future employment pathways.

Coordinated by Clontarf staff, the three-day camp was carefully planned to offer a balance of physical activity, life skills, and career development. Throughout the camp, students participated in a range of sporting activities, including basketball and footy, while also taking part in early morning gym sessions on the base, experiencing firsthand the discipline and routine of a structured environment.

A key focus of the camp was preparing the boys for life beyond school. This included hands-on cooking lessons to build independence, as well as employment-focused sessions such as "work-ready" workshops and graduate planning activities. The group also had the opportunity to visit Coates Hire, where they gained insight into real-world job opportunities and workplace expectations.

Beyond the structured sessions, the camp fostered strong connections and positive engagement. Swimming, team games, and evening activities created a relaxed and supportive atmosphere, allowing the boys to strengthen their bonds with one another and with staff.

The camp ran from Wednesday through to Friday, finishing on a high note with a well-earned pizza lunch by Lake Patricia, a moment to reflect on the experience and celebrate the efforts of all involved.

Overall, the Employment Camp was a great success, providing students with both practical skills and lasting memories. With strong foundations now in place, there is a real sense of excitement about what lies ahead for the Year 11 cohort as they continue their journey through 2026 and beyond.



In Week 4, our Year 12 Clontarf boys travelled to Cairns for our annual Year 12 Leadership Camp, marking an important milestone in their final year of the program. The four-day camp brought together Year 12 students from across the Far North Queensland region, providing a unique opportunity to strengthen connections, build new relationships, and unite as one Clontarf brotherhood. With students coming from different academies, the camp created a strong sense of belonging while reinforcing the shared expectations and standards of being a Year 12 leader. The camp program was designed to challenge the boys both physically and mentally, while developing their leadership, communication, and teamwork skills. Throughout the week, the boys took part in a variety of activities including canoeing, mountain biking, hiking, and structured team-building sessions. These activities encouraged the boys to step outside their comfort zones, support one another, and demonstrate resilience in unfamiliar environments. Beyond the physical challenges, the camp also provided time for reflection and planning. The boys engaged in discussions around their goals for the year, expectations as senior leaders within their academies, and the importance of leading by example for younger students. This allowed them to reset their focus and take ownership of their final year, both in the classroom and within the Clontarf program. A key highlight of the camp was the opportunity to connect with fellow Clontarf students from Cairns and surrounding regions. Building these relationships strengthens the wider Clontarf network and reinforces the idea that no matter where they come from, they are all part of something bigger. The camaraderie and support shown throughout the camp was a testament to the strong culture being built across the region. The boys embraced every aspect of the camp, breaking personal boundaries, building confidence, and creating lasting memories along the way. It was particularly pleasing to see the way they supported each other through challenges and celebrated each other's achievements. Overall, the Year 12 Leadership Camp was a highly valuable experience and a fantastic way to start the year on a positive and focused note. The foundations have now been set for a strong 2026, and we look forward to seeing our Year 12 boys continue to lead from the front, set high standards, and make the most of every opportunity in their final year.



Morning Training and After School Activities



Term 1 has kicked off with great energy at Western Cape Academy! Our morning training sessions at WISH Gym have been full of dedication, fitness, and team spirit, setting the tone for the day. The boys have been pushing themselves with strength and conditioning, building not just skills but resilience and focus.

After school, our activities at Napranum PCYC have been thriving, giving the boys the chance to connect with the community, participate in indoor games, and develop teamwork outside the classroom. It's been fantastic to see them engage positively, make new friends, and represent the academy with pride.

A big highlight this term has been the Year 10–12 boys starting Rugby League training. Their commitment on and off the field has been inspiring, and it's great to see skills developing alongside confidence and leadership.

Term 1 has set a strong foundation for the year ahead – here's to keeping the momentum going in Term 2!



Year 12 Dinner



Year 12 Students Celebrate Milestone at Annual Dinner in Week 3, our Year 12 Clontarf boys came together for their annual Year 12 Dinner, held at the Heritage Resort in Weipa. This event is a key highlight on the Clontarf calendar and provides a valuable opportunity for the boys to connect with Clontarf staff, school teachers, and their families in a relaxed and supportive environment. As a staple event each year, the dinner celebrates the journey the boys have taken throughout the program while also setting the tone for their final year. The evening created a vibrant and positive atmosphere, with students engaging with staff and families outside of the usual school setting. It was great to see the boys step up, present themselves well, and enjoy the occasion alongside those who continue to support them on their journey. Dinner was served buffet-style, allowing everyone to come together and share a meal while strengthening relationships and building a sense of community. The informal setting encouraged meaningful conversations and reinforced the strong connections between the academy, school, and families. A key part of the evening was an address from Director Joel Marama, who spoke to the boys about the expectations for the year ahead. His message focused on the importance of commitment, leadership, and making the most of the opportunities presented throughout their final year, including key events and milestones leading into graduation. Overall, the evening was a fantastic success and an important reminder of the support network surrounding our Year 12 boys. It was a great way to celebrate how far they have come, while also building excitement and focus for what lies ahead in 2026.



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Term 1 Snapshots





What's On Term 2

- Year 5 & 6 Sleepover Big Day out - **Weipa**
- Year 7 & 8 Education Camp - **Mapoon**
- Year 9 Western Cape Shield - **Weipa**
- Year 10 & 11 Leadership Camp - **Pennefather**
- Year 12 Employment Camp - **Cairns**
- Year 12 State Of Origin Trials - **Cairns**

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