



CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE  
SEQUERE DOMINUM

13 November 2015

## YEAR 7 QUEST RETREAT 2016

### Parents of Year Seven Students

Your son/daughter will have the opportunity to take part in the Quest Retreat on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2016 as part of the Orientation Week for the new students. This Retreat is being organised by the College and facilitated by Year 10, 11 and 12 students who have been prepared specifically to take a leadership role in this experience. During this important time away from normal involvements of school life, Year Seven students will have an opportunity to reflect on experiences of faith and God in their lives. The Year 12 Cadre Leaders will assist Year 10 and Year 11 Quest Ministers; who have prepared them to facilitate the small group activities in conducting the Retreat. The Retreat Programme accompanies this letter in a separate Parent Booklet. It includes details about your involvement and assistance with the retreat.

### Affirmation Letter

As part of the Retreat, parents are invited to participate by praying for their son/daughter during this special time. *In addition, you are invited to write an Affirming Letter to your son/daughter.*

You may wish to each write a letter. Some suggestions to assist in writing this letter may include:

- *Recalling the enjoyable occasions with your son/daughter.*
- *Qualities you admire about your son/daughter.*
- *Your hopes and dreams for your son/daughter.*
- *Expressing your appreciation for what they have done for you and the family.*
- *What you have always wanted to say to your son/daughter but the opportunity never presented itself.*

It is important to note that letters of a critical nature of the shortcomings of your son/daughter are not supportive of growth and enrichment and are not reflective of the purpose of this activity. Your son/daughter is **NOT** aware of this letter so please **DO NOT** discuss it with them. The Affirmation Letter is intended as a surprise during the Friday afternoon of the retreat.

These letters will be read by your son/daughter when he/she will have an opportunity to reflect seriously and pray about what you have written. We recommend that where possible both parents contribute to the letters. The letters need not be long, yet provide an opportunity to affirm your son/daughter. We hope that all students will receive a letter. **When completed, it needs to be placed in its own envelope and then into a separate envelope with your son/daughter's name and the title: Quest Retreat and returned to their Homeroom teacher during the first week of the school year.** This is to avoid any chance of it being opened unintentionally.

Thank you in anticipation of your interest and support. It is important that all parents participate in this deeply significant Retreat experience as the students begin their College life. If you require further details about the Retreat, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College at any time. You can be assured of our prayers for you and your family especially during the Year Seven Quest Retreat.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "S. Keane".

Mr Simon Keane  
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The effectiveness of this exercise depends upon the support of every family so that each student receives a letter affirming their gifts and abilities.