

Glasshouse Country Christian College

a ministry of Glasshouse Country Baptist Church



'Growing in faith and knowledge'

newsletter

Term 4, 6 December 2013

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From the Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR

January

Mon 20- Fri 24	Pupil Free week
Mon 27	Australia Day public holiday
Tue 28	First day for all Prep, Primary, Years 7, 11,12
Wed 29	First day for Years 8, 9 and 10
Thur30-Fri 31	College Leaders Camp

February

Thur 6	Primary Swimming Carnival
Fri 7	Secondary Swimming Carnival
Sat 15	10.45am to 1.45pm P and F Family Fun Day
Tue 25	School photos Prep to Year 6
Thur 27	School photos Year 7 to 12

Winner of logo competition

Congratulations to Keaton Maksimous who won the logo competition for all three sporting houses. The competition was strongly contested but Keaton designed a terrific clean logo that will translate well to screen printing for the new sports shirts next year. Keaton wins three lots of \$100 for his designs. All other entries received a small consolation prize and have their designs featured on the website along with Keaton's winning logos. Click [here](#) to see them.

ICAS Presentation

On Saturday 30 November Isabelle Westaway was presented with her official ICAS award for coming top in the state for Year 9 Writing. The event was held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre and had all the aplomb of a university graduation. It was another proud moment for GCCC and I'm sure the Westaway family are delighted in this huge achievement of Isabelle's.

[Photos are on the GCCC website.](#)

Prep to Year 2 Carols by Candlelight

This is the first year GCCC has held a P-2 Carols by Candlelight night and it was a great success. In the past we have been constrained by the space available in the church so this year we had plenty of room for extended families join in the celebrations. The atmosphere was festive and the weather was perfect.

The P and F organised stalls, food and drinks so many families made a dinner picnic of the night. The P and F also gave a battery operated candle to each student which meant we could enjoy the traditional twinkling of candles in complete safety.

The program began with Little Voices singing Unto us a Child is Born followed by each class' presentation items. Interspersed between items, the end of year awards were presented. All of the classes performed wonderfully and kept us entertained all night. There were beautiful traditional songs such as Joy to the World and On that Very First Christmas as well as new twists on old songs like the Australian Jingle Bells and the hip hop version of Little Drummer Boy.

The teachers, teaching assistants, and maintenance team did a superb job putting together such a great night. The night would not have been as enjoyable without the help of many volunteers such as the P and F who organised all the stalls and candles and James McLaren who did all the lighting and sound on the night.

[There is a photo gallery on the GCCC website.](#)

Year 3 to 6 Presentation Night

Our upper Primary concert had the theme of a time for every purpose and was taken from Ecclesiastes 3:1. The students creatively interpreted and applied this verse throughout their performances and the result was fantastic.

There was dancing, acting, singing, guitars, drums, cartwheels and more onesies than a teenage sleepover. There were fun items, serious performances, sci fi re-enactments, hip hop turned country and western dances, giant nativity shadows, glow in the dark images and enough lip synching to outshine Milli Vanilli (for our older readers).

After each performance the ICAS certificates were handed out as were the Encouragement and Spirit awards. There is only one Encouragement and Spirit award presented in each class so the students who received them really worked hard to gain such an honour. Each of the teachers said how difficult the choice was when there were so many students who worked hard and showed GREAT spirit throughout the year so congratulations to all those students who gave their best in 2013.

[There is a photo gallery on the GCCC website.](#)

Year 6 Graduation

The Year 6 Graduation on Wednesday was an auspicious occasion. The service included special citations, a graduation certificate and GCCC pen and the presentation of the two academic awards. Congratulations to Casey Woods and Kate Jackson.

Outgoing captains, Sarah Mens and Casey Woods did an admirable job hosting the event and the announcement of the primary Captains for 2014 as Patrick McKenzie and Madeleine Roulston was a highlight of the service.

This year the service was made even more special by the Year 6 students leaving through a guard of honour made by the Year 5 students to greet the current Year 7 students at the end.

[There is a photo gallery on the GCCC website.](#)

Adjustment to Senior Uniform policy

Next year we are making blazers optional for Years 10, 11 and 12 and these will become compulsory in 2015. We have some second hand blazers available at a reduced cost of \$90 each. The 2014 Year 12 students will be given the first option on these. The new blazers are currently being researched for the best supplier but won't be available for sale in time for Anzac Day.

We believe this change will help our senior students look smarter and enhance their standing as role models and leaders at GCCC.

New buildings and map

As many of you know, there have been quite a few new buildings going up and next year we will begin with another one. The new block will be called E block to fit in with the original master plan. The old E block will be renamed Z block because it will soon be phased out as we gradually replace all the demountables with permanent buildings.

A new map showing the new buildings and names is on our website if you would like to familiarise yourselves with it, please click [here](#).

Office closed for two weeks over Christmas

Please note that the College will be closed from Saturday 21 December 2013 to Sunday 5 January 2014 inclusive. The office will reopen on Monday 6 January 2014. During this time the phones will be put on holiday switch so important messages can be left.

This is where I would normally wish you all a happy and holy Christmas but this year I would like to do it a little differently. Someone very clever has mixed puppets with the tune to Bohemian Rhapsody to create a very special Christmas message that I think your whole family will enjoy. Please click [here](#) to enjoy the true story of Christmas in a way you may have never experienced before.

Mike Curtis, Principal

Payment of 2014 School Fees

Your 2014 Fee Statement will be issued mid-January by post AND email. If necessary, please update your current postal and email address with the College now.

Your 2014 statement will include a Direct Debit Request (DDR) outlining your payment options which are weekly, fortnightly, monthly or quarterly, with instalment amounts for each already calculated for you.

Simply choose which frequency suits your budget and complete the form with contact and bank details and return to us by Thursday 30th January.

Please make sure that you note the commencement date for each option and that all fee accounts must be settled by 30 November 2014. Any DDR received after the due date may cause the first instalment to be missed, therefore the 2nd instalment will deduct two payments as the final settlement date cannot be extended.

Any family who has not returned a DDR by the due date or made alternative arrangements with our Business Manager will be contacted immediately.

John Dohler, Business Manager

Found Property

- various earrings
- purple reading glasses
- brown glasses
- child's red sunglasses
- black torch in case
- Eiffel Tower necklace
- Girl Guide badge
- black joggers
- swimming bag
- two watches
- polished rock pendant

If you think these items are yours please contact Admin on 5439 0033.

Tuckshop News

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone that has contributed towards the tuckshop. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers.

Thank you to everyone that has used Flexischools online service. To register go to www.flexischools.com.au and click register now. If you have any problems Flexischools provide a great Help desk on 1300361769 or contact them via the website. Online orders need to be done by 9.00am on tuckshop days which are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The tuckshop is closed on Wednesdays.

Years 7-12 can purchase food over the counter except pre-ordered food from the menu. Prep to Year 6 are not allowed to purchase food from the counter and the order must be done with a bag or online.

Tuckshop will be open on Tuesday 28 January 2014. Our direct tuckshop line for any enquiries is 54365654.

Hope you all have a safe and happy holiday

Cathy Boyer(Tuckshop Convenor) and Lauren Bottrill

UNIFORMS FOR 2014

Fittings:	Phone School reception to book a fitting
Volunteers:	Volunteers are needed to assist (phone school office to register) 11 November to 2 December/20 January to 23 January/28 January to 7 February.
Orientation Day	(2 December): Bookings essential for fittings. Closed for stocktake 3 to 6 December
January Sales:	January 20 to 23, 9am to 3pm (Monday to Thursday). Closed Friday. Book fittings through school office. Second-hand uniforms: Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 January 9am to 3pm.
Price Rise:	Uniform's price increase coming in December.
Second Hand Uniforms	These are NEEDED and can be dropped to the school office all this term and over the holidays

Primary News

Once again, this has been an incredibly busy and successful year.

This could not have been achieved without the leadership of Cheryl Bryers, our Head of Primary who is presently in Europe enjoying some long leave and our amazing Primary staff and chaplains.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you all. It has been such a privilege to work alongside a staff of your calibre. You are a wonderful team and you are all very much appreciated and valued.

This year all of the children have been involved in many wonderful cultural and community focused events. They were involved in Clean Up Australia Day, a Spelling Bee and a Talent Quest (which was amazing). They also pulled together to raise funds for the Asthma Foundation and the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. Our children collected pet food for the RSPCA, non-perishable food for the Salvation Army food bank and toiletries for the Nambour Homeless Youth Project. Many of our children attended the Anzac Day March and it was wonderful to see them lay floral wreaths at the service.

This year it has been exciting to see so many children involved in music programmes and the choices included the Little Voices Choir, the Primary School Choir, Primary Band, Ukulele Club, the Smart Strings programme, the Year 5 Instrumental programme, a Primary String Ensemble and a Drum Ensemble. Students in Years 4-6 also had the opportunity to join the Primary Dance Troupe.

Academically, the students have worked hard with pleasing results. Learning at GCCC has a strong focus on numeracy and literacy and a highlight of this year was the Book Launch in Year 2 where the students produced a wonderful storybook, learning about each stage of the process.

Another highlight was the excellent writing produced by students in Years 5 and 6 for the Pilot Pen Creative Writing Scholarship. A number of students entered short stories and Bailey O'Brien was placed second in Queensland – an outstanding achievement!

Each year, to celebrate the Voices on the Coast Literature Festival a book called Small But Loud Voices is compiled to showcase young writers' work from across the Sunshine Coast. This year we were delighted to have five students from Year 1 to Year 5 have their work published in this anthology of poetry, narrative and illustrative works.

Our students have also been involved in many wonderful sporting events during the year. The Run Around Australia, in preparation for the cross country, was fiercely competitive and was a really fun way for students to improve their fitness levels. We have also had athletics and swimming carnivals. We encourage all children to participate and to enjoy being active.

Other highlights of the year have been the Prep welcome barbeque, the Year 6 Leadership programme, Kitchen Garden, Shine on the Arts night, our school discos, Mothers' night, Fathers' night and Grandparents Day.

As the school year comes to a close I would like to thank all our parents for their loyal and continued support. Your involvement in the school enriches this community and we are privileged to partner with you in growing your children in Godliness and preparing them for life.

As we enter the Christmas season let us celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and glorify His name, acknowledging the true purpose of Christmas. We serve an awesome God and we are blessed that each and every day we have the privilege to speak His name and encounter Him as we learn, play and grow.

Have a safe and restful holiday and a blessed Christmas season.

Gail Mitchell, Assisant Head of Primary

Kitchen Garden

What an amazing year we have had in Kitchen Garden and it would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our volunteers throughout the year. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and blessings to all the parents, friends and grandparents who have helped out during the year; you are all awesome!

Classes in the last two weeks were treated to a Kitchen Garden party. We played games and dined on delicious homemade pizza and an ice block to cool off. Year 3 classes also joined us for their very last KG lesson. They made pizzas from scratch and had one last dig in the garden.

If you are able and willing to do any maintenance work in the garden over the holidays please let me know.

I look forward to seeing everyone next year and to meeting our brand new Preppies but first it's time for a well-earned rest!

Wishing you all happy and safe holidays,

Mandy Ward, Kitchen Garden Convenor

Middle School News

Are you interested in providing board for a Student Teacher in 2014?

Do you have a spare room and enjoy the company of interesting people from other places in the world? Are you happy to help someone have an interesting and fulfilling experience?

There are two Opportunities

1. Student Teacher Exchange from Minnesota, America

- a. When 1 – 4 April and then 22 April – 2 May
- b. Expectations Their own room; access to wifi; provide meals; transport to around three events (there may be assistance with this if required)
- c. Financial Compensation – yes, QUT provides around \$200/week

2. French Student Teacher Exchange

- a. When Term 2, 2014 for one – two terms
- b. Expectations Provide own room and meals

c. Financial Compensation None provided – for love.

Note: would perhaps be ideal to have several families share/take turns.

What do I need to know for the start of next year for my child in Middle School?

- Year 7s start on Tuesday 28 January
- Year 8s and 9s start on Wednesday 29 January
- There is a compulsory iPad rollout info meeting for all students NEW to receiving an iPad on Thursday 23 January, 6.30pm
- All other relevant information is on the booklist and attached letter that was sent home a few weeks ago.
- If you are keen to know which class your child is in next year, you can enquire at the front office during our opening hours. (Please email the Head of Middle School if you have any concerns.)
- You may also send an email to the relevant Year Level Coordinator for 2014. They are:
 - Year 7 Matthew.ware@gccc.qld.edu.au
 - Year 8 Kerrienne.draper@gccc.qld.edu.au
 - Year 9 Russell.modlin@gccc.qld.edu.au

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our Middle School parents and wider community members for your involvement and support of all our teachers and staff. You are the important ingredient that boosts your child's success! I would like to encourage you this holidays: to inspire your child to read; limit your child's screen exposure; and, help your child to organise some great 'other' activities. I pray that you have a safe, great and merry Christmas.

Jacqualina Vreeling, Head of Middle School

“We take our hats off to you... Teacher's Aides!”

Last week, 9G donned some crazy, some funky... some truly MAD hats at their Mad-Hatter Tea Party in honour of GCCC's Secondary Teacher Aides and Learning Support Staff.

Tea pots and loopy cups circled the rooms in hot, little hands as Mrs Vreeling's scones were gobbled down, balloons fell from fans and Alice in Wonderland popped her head out for a rendition of 'Happy Unbirthday to you....!'

Despite the MADNESS, 9G wants to send a very special thank you, on behalf of the entire Middle and Senior School to all the Learning Support staff... those we see in the classroom and those behind the scenes who make all the support possible.

Just remember... though sometimes our classrooms might feel like a 'Mad-Hatter Tea-Party', it's the support of every staff member that keeps us learning, growing and developing!

Pallas Johnson says, "I take my hat off to you...!" Thanks Learning Support staff!

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Amanda Gook

Senior School News

Planning ahead

Proverbs 16:9. *“The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.”*

2013 is almost over and already we are busy planning for 2014. The staffing is sorted out, the timetable is written and the calendar is slowly filling with all the various dates for camps, excursions, functions and the like.

People love to plan ahead. It's virtually built into our genetics to try and control our destiny. We like to plan our holidays, plan our work, have a strategic business plan, a five year personal plan and a retirement plan. These days you can even buy a funeral plan!

Sometimes I think we spend too much time planning and not enough time preparing for the future. As educators, it's our job to help prepare young people for the future. Planning makes little difference because so often life will take us along a totally different path than we expected. The older I get, the more I realise how little control I have over where life takes me but if I'm prepared for the future whatever eventuates will be fine.

Jesus told an interesting parable about a rich farmer who tried to plan his future. He managed to store up a huge fortune so he could sit back and take life easy. What he hadn't prepared for though was his eternal destiny. That night he died and all his money he had saved was meaningless. Check out the story in Luke 12:16-21.

The beauty of having faith in God and a relationship with Him is that our futures are safe in his hands and we can rest in the knowledge that He will direct our paths. We just need to be prepared for the journey he is going to take us on.

I love the following quote:

“Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present.” – Bil Keane

In the Christmas story, wise men from the east saw the sign that an amazing act of God was about to happen; the Son of God was about to come to earth as saviour. They followed the pathway that God laid out for them and it led them directly to Christ. There was no way they could have predicted where the journey would lead but they knew the destination.

This Christmas, look for the signs that God will show you. They will lead you to the same destination - our risen saviour, Jesus Christ. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your family and I look forward to welcoming our classes back in 2014.

David Heyworth, Head of Senior School

Future Pathways

Certificate III in Media

Maleny High School is offering short courses delivered by TAFE including Photoshop, In-Design, Web Design and app development. Anyone (ie. Year 10s, young adults not at school, old adults) can apply to do one or more of these. If you do all the short courses you get a Certificate III Media. There are costs for each short course however our Year 11s and 12s can do the whole Certificate III program fee free while they are at school. If you know anyone who might be interested please let them know. The classes will be held at Maleny High School on Tuesday nights between February and June.

A flyer is below. Please note the flyer says that the first block is 15 weeks but it should read 5 weeks.

If you wish to apply go to Sunshine Coast TAFE website, put Cert III Media into the course search or link

http://www.sunshinecoasttafe.edu.au/courses/certificate_iii_media-570.html and then register your interest.

Congratulations Emma Offord

Emma Offord has just finished her Certificate III in Media studies through Work Skills and this also heralded the completion of her two-year school based traineeship at GCCC. Emma has been working in Admin with Sandy Johnson and helps by uploading newsletter articles to the website, creating PowerPoint displays, taking photos, admin duties, completing the Yearbook and lots more. Emma plans to study a Creative Industries course at university in 2014 and will fit her GCCC work around her schedule. Emma has also been chosen as Work Skills traineeship of the quarter and appeared on the front page of their newsletter. Well done Emma.

Music News

Music in Term 4

It's been a very busy Term in the Music Department resulting in many student performances across a variety of events.

Our Primary Band, String Ensemble, Little Voices, Ukulele Club and Secondary Vocal Group all performed at their own Assemblies to appreciative fellow students and family members.

In front of a crowd of over 800 fellow students and family, both the Secondary Band and Vocal Group performed at the Senior Awards Night in November at the Caloundra Events Centre. It was a memorable experience for all.

A whirlwind 24 hours in Week 7 saw three different concerts staged in the College Theatre. Tuesday afternoon saw the culmination of a year's tutoring of all of our Year 5 students on woodwind, brass, strings and percussion instruments. The Year 5 Band played a selection of tunes for their adoring fans (invited family and Year 4), followed by the 'support act' our talented Primary Band. An afternoon tea was then provided for family to mingle and talk all things music.

That night we celebrated the many musical talents of our privately tutored students. They performed on piano, guitar, voice, flute, trumpet, saxophone and drums and the audience were all thoroughly entertained throughout with a varied program of music including classical, jazz and modern styles.

Our beautiful new Yamaha piano also made its debut performance at this concert, and again reminded us of how extremely grateful we are to the P and F Association for this wonderful gift.

Wednesday saw our budding young violinists in Year 3 present their Smart Strings Concert to a packed theatre of family and Year 2 students. A cathedral atmosphere was brought to the Theatre for a very classy performance from both the Year 3s and our Primary String Ensemble. To set the mood, pre-concert mocktails and hors d'oeuvres were served in the foyer by our Hospitality students and were very well received.

Some of our students sat external exams this term and achieved excellent results -

Piano

Bree Jamelmanenko - Prelim theory 1st Class Honours, Grade 1 Prac 1st Class Honours
Kaylee Utting - Grade 3 Theory Honours, Grade 5 Prac 1st Class Honours
Ebony King - Grade 1 Theory Honours, Grade 2 Prac Honours
Thommy Rauter - Preliminary 1st Class Honours
MacKinley Brisbane - Preliminary Theory 1st Class Honours, Grade 1 1st Class Honours

Clarinet

Vicki Thomas - Grade 2 Prac Pass

And finally our Year 9 and 10 Music students enjoyed a night out at the Theatre to extend their current studies. They attended the acclaimed musical 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' in Brisbane. Many had not been to a live show before and all were very entertained.

We look forward to seeing and hearing what all of our talented Music students can produce for us in 2014.

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Music options in 2014

Is your child interested in having private music tuition in 2014 with our expert tutors in Woodwind, Guitar, Piano, Voice, Brass, Percussion, Strings?

If yes, then be quick, as places will fill fast (NB 2013 students must re-enrol) To secure your place, please complete the [Enrolment Form on-line here](#) and return it to music@gccc.qld.edu.au before the end of the school year (5/12/13).

Library News

Book Returns

Please note the library will be closed over the holidays. As noted previously, students will not receive their report cards until all loaned items are returned and lost or damaged items are paid for. Once any issues are resolved, reports can be collected at the main Admin. Returns and payments can be made at main Admin until Friday 20 December 2013 and from Monday 6 January 2014. If a paid item is subsequently found and returned in a useable condition, a full reimbursement will be made. If you receive a letter about outstanding items, please bring it with you should you wish to make a payment. Thank you in advance for your help with this.

Small But Loud Voices Anthology

Earlier this year a number of students from GCCC attended the Voices on the Coast Literature Festival. Each year to celebrate the Festival a book called Small But Loud Voices is compiled to showcase young writers' work from across the Sunshine Coast. The anthology is a compilation of poetry, narrative and illustrative works. We chose a number of students' work to be published in it this year and the book is now available for sale. Copies of the book can be purchased for \$20 from the Immanuel Lutheran College Library or via the website at www.voicesonthecoast.com.au

GCCC Small But Loud Voices Authors:

Tiahna Davies Yr 1
Isabel Holley Yr 4
Kiana Reeves Yr 4
Patrick McKenzie Yr 5
Bayley O'Brien Yr 5
Natasha Kukulies Yr 9
Moale James Yr 9
Isabelle Westaway Yr 9
Meikylah West Yr 9
Felicity Tasker Yr 10

Special Thanks

A very special thank you to the many wonderful volunteers who have assisted with library events, Book Club and book covering this year. There are far too many to name, but we sincerely thank you for your generosity and help. Our programs could not run as smoothly without your help and once again, you have been a great blessing to the library team.

Have a safe and joy-filled Christmas.

Vanessa McKellar and the library team.

A Great Year of Sport

It has been a great year of sport for our students with some fantastic results being achieved across the College. We would like to thank students for their fantastic efforts in competition and great sportsmanship.

Congratulations also to the committed group of students who have been training each Tuesday and Thursday morning before school to improve their own personal performances in swimming, cross country and athletics. We have seen great improvements in these students and encourage more students to join us next year. "The more you practise the better you get" certainly is true.

Ryan Fowler has been an awesome member of our team this year and we will certainly miss his expertise and enthusiasm next year. We wish him all the best as he pursues his teaching career and passion for tennis, at Scott's College in Sydney as Master in Charge of Tennis.

Finally, we would like to give a huge thank you to all the parents who have helped in sport this year. We do really value your help and every little bit certainly makes our job so much easier. The support of your children is also much appreciated even when they are part of the middle and senior school. We look forward to another great year in sport next year.

Wendy Stott

A Big Splash to Finish!

What a morning of fun in the pool for the Year 1, 2 and 3 students as they celebrated the end of the year and had fun together. The purpose of the morning was to show the new skills learned during swimming lessons and have fun in some novelty races and games.

Students raced in the main pool, played games in a games pool area and enjoyed splashing in the toddler's pool, keeping cool throughout the morning. Year 1s raced over 15m and the Year 2 and 3 students swam the full 25m length of the pool using boards, strokes, noodles and novelty toys.

Thank you to all the parents who also enjoyed the splashes from the cool water and helped out on the day. Your support for your children is fantastic. The children's excitement and enthusiasm was infectious and everyone had an awesome morning.

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Wendy Stott

P and F News

Hi Everyone

Merry Christmas!

May I take this opportunity to say thank you to all those school families that have supported the P and F throughout 2013. Our aim is to build community spirit and to raise funds to purchase equipment to further enhance our school.

We are very proud of our achievements this year, and are grateful for all your help. May I take this opportunity to wish you all every blessing this Christmas season. May you take time to reflect on the birth of our Lord and Saviour and may you stay safe over the holidays. See you next year!

Blessings, Alaina Westaway

Pause and Ponder

Christians share an odd belief in parallel universes. One universe consists of glass, steel, cotton and the smell of freshly ground coffee. The other universe consists of angels and spiritual forces and somewhere-out-there places called heaven and hell. We palpably inhabit the material world; it takes faith to consider oneself a citizen of the other, invisible world.

Christmas turns the tables and hints at the struggle involved when the Lord of both worlds descends to live by the rules of the one. In Bethlehem, the two worlds came together, realigned. What Jesus went on to accomplish on planet Earth made it possible for God someday to resolve all disharmonies in both worlds. No wonder a choir of angels heralded the good news, disturbing not only a few shepherds but the entire universe. Luke 2:13-14

Adapted from Our Daily Bread, Parallel Universes by Philip Yancey.