



Volume 34 Number 20

From our Principal's Desk,

The final week of the school year has rolled around and we prepare to say farewell to students, families and staff. There is always an element of sadness that comes with saying goodbye, but I prefer to think of the how blessed we have been to have known each of these people, young and old, and pray that they have been blessed in return by this community and have heard the message of Salvation.

Along with farewells we plan to welcome a number of new staff for 2018. I have attached the Teaching and Support staff list as a part of this newsletter for your information. There are no changes to the Leadership and Administration Team for 2018.

I want to highlight today briefly how we will be moving towards the educational change that is required to effectively prepare our students for the increasingly global and automated world they will have to work in. Through Project Based Learning we will be teaching/learning content knowledge but also the essential capabilities - collaboration, problem solving, creative thinking, communication and technological skills that will be so important in the workplace of the future. Project Based Learning is a Teaching Method in which students gain **knowledge/ content** and **skills** by working for an **extended period of time to investigate** and **respond** to an **authentic, engaging and complex question, problem or challenge**. It usually involves working with two or more subject areas and in pairs or small groups. Projects end with an exhibition which is the opportunity to communicate the learning over the unit to a public audience.

Three highlights to be looking forward to...

1. **Year 6 Agile Learning Space and Project Based Learning:** In 2018 Year 6 will operate in the double room space (the connecting wall between what is now Year Five and Six will be opened) with two teachers. Mrs Tania Drower will focus on teaching English and Miss Samantha Spiroff, Mathematics. Students will break into two groups for these subjects only. *This is an initial transition to a secondary approach.* Mrs Drower and Miss Spiroff will share the planning and teaching of the rest of the subject areas and these will be presented in a Project Based Learning approach.

The classroom space will be what is known as an agile learning space. There will not be traditional desks and chairs. Rather there will be couches, standing tables, group tables, a homely and flexible teaching space that suits collaborative hands on Project Based Learning.

The Year Six class will be a model for the rest of the College in terms of both the agile learning space and the use of Project Based Inquiry units and will be required to have an exhibition in Semester One as a model for the whole school as well as at the end of Term Three, when the whole school will be involved.

2. **Entrepreneur Projects 7-9:** Students in Year 7 – 9 will work in mixed year level groups on Entrepreneur Projects. These Project Based Inquiry tasks have a business element, teaching and learning business skills and concepts in a real life task that responds to the inquiry question. We anticipate that the students will complete a project each semester and will exhibit the first one to the community mid Term Two.

3. **Project Based Learning Tasks P-5:** All year levels from Preparatory to Year 5 will complete at least one project based group task as a part of their studies and be involved in the Whole of College exhibition evening in Term Three.

1 December 2017

Upcoming Events

03 December

- Carols by Candlelight

04 December

- College Captains: Primary Election Speeches 1:15 pm
- College Captains Middle School Interviews 8:45am
- Year 10 V's Teachers Volleyball 10:30 am

05 December

- Showcase Assembly
P -10 1:15 pm

06 December

- Awards Night Year 5 - 10
7:00 pm - Bands, Choirs, Cheer and Dance Performing
- Reports and Portfolios sent home

07 December

- Recreational Swim P - 10
- Closing Chapel P - 10
2:00 pm
- PFC providing morning tea and lunch

08 December

- Pupil Free Day

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Prayer Families

Week 9

- Wright
- Wyatte
- Abell
- Aldridge

Week 10

- Ambat
- Appel
- Bailey

Birthday Blessings

The College Community would like to wish the following students a happy and blessed birthday.

December

- 2 Samual Johnston
- 2 Thomas Wass
- 3 Mitchell Lower
- 7 Indie Bryen
- 8 Lara Cochrane
- 8 Hudson Quinn
- 9 Ella Wells
- 11 Ella McIntyre
- 12 Kamryn Johnston
- 12 Claudia Pakalu
- 12 Travis Warmington
- 15 Taylah Glass
- 18 Zac Wells
- 19 Tyler Stevens
- 19 Claire Witten
- 20 Kane Petersen
- 21 Genevieve Peyper
- 22 Samuel Day
- 23 Paige Wieden
- 24 Damien Crosswell
- 24 Elise Wippell
- 26 Isabel Boonzaaier
- 28 Arthur Mesa Santos
- 29 Jesse Johnson
- 30 Taleah Briskey

Reminders

Monday 4th December

- Year Ten vs Staff - Volleyball Game - 10:30 - 10:50 am
- College Captain Middle School Interviews - 8:45 am
- College Captain Primary Speeches - 1:15pm
- Some books and stationery will be sent home today

Tuesday 5th December

- Showcase Assembly P-10 - 1:15pm
- SRC Christmas Appeal - Wear a Christmas accessory and donate to the Anglicare Christmas Appeal

Wednesday 6th December

- Awards' Night Year 5-10 - 7:00 pm
- Cleaning Day for all classrooms. If you can help in any way, please see the classroom teachers.
- Reports and Portfolios sent home today

Thursday 7th December

- Recreational Swim P-10 9:15 - 10:15 Years P-4
11:15 - 12:15 Years 5-10
- PFC providing morning tea and lunch for students and staff - Morning tea: Fruit and/or festive patty cake. Lunch: Pizza and popper followed by water ice block
- Closing Chapel P-10 - 2:00 pm

Friday 8th December

- Pupil Free Day

The 2018 College Fee Schedule went home with students on Orientation Day. Families are reminded that by signing the Enrolment Form and the Parent Agreement, each family has agreed to pay their College Fees by the due date; or by a date determined as a result of an interview with the Principal. The receipt of College Fees on time is crucial for the College to ensure there is an adequate cash flow to meet its own financial commitments.

If a family wishes to pay a full year's fees in advance in 2018 to receive the 5% discount on the tuition component, please notify Petrea Jensen in the office no later than Monday, 19 February 2018 for a quote before invoicing. *Once the quote has been accepted and a new invoice issued, the full payment must be made.* Payment of full year fees will be due on Wednesday, 28 February 2018.

Teaching and Learning News.....

I remember when I was younger and six weeks seemed like an inordinate amount of time, and for our very young students, it is. To that end, it can seem that, nearly overnight, our students forget so much of what they have learnt over the holiday period. To help this, you can incorporate games and activities into your daily routines over the Christmas break, that will keep your students revising their studies. Utilise the later bedtimes to read to your children. Listening to quality stories is an excellent way for students to understand how written English is supposed to sound. You could ditch the iPads and listen to audio stories when travelling to also achieve this. I recommend more traditional stories to encourage this. Audiobooks, available through iTunes have a range of stories written by Colin Thiele, E. B White, C.S Lewis and Roald Dahl that I can highly recommend.

To consolidate their numeracy, count steps to the beach, ice cream shop or how many spoons of coconut you put into the rumballs you make. Count forwards, backwards and skip count. If you have children in grades 3 and up, play the times table game when you are driving on trips. Multiply the first and last numerals of the number plates of the cars you pass together: eg If the number plate is 345KLM, you multiply 3 and 5 together. To make this harder, you could multiply all three numbers together, 3x4x5. In all grades, you could add the numbers together to consolidate your child's knowledge of addition facts.

Above all though, enjoy this time. Revel in surrounding yourself with family and friends and may God bless you and keep you safe so that you return safely to us in 2018. *Sandra Wass*