

Glasshouse Country Christian College

a ministry of Glasshouse Country Baptist Church



'Growing in faith and knowledge'

newsletter

Term 4, 22 November 2013

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From the Principal

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

Fri 22	Last day for Year 11
Fri 22	P-6 Disco
Fri 29	Day for Daniel (Primary free dress)
Fri 29	Last day Year 10
Fri 29	Year 10 Dinner Dance

DECEMBER

Mon 2	Orientation Day
Mon 2	6.30pm Prep - Yr 2 Carols by Candlelight
Tue 3	Prep half day (half day)
Tue 3	Year 3-6 Presentation Night
Thur 5	Last day Term 4
Fri 6	Pupil Free Day

Remembrance Day

With all the other events this week it would be easy to overlook an important occasion in the Australian and GCCC calendar. On the 11 November, I and the Primary and Middle School captains attended the Remembrance Day Service at the local RSL.

Unfortunately this year the timing clashed with Senior School exams so the College Captains could not be with us but Isabelle Westaway, Tyler Dickens, Sarah Mens and Casey Woods did the College proud with how they conducted themselves on the day.

Back at the College, the bell sounded for a minute's silence and I'm told that you could not hear a pin drop (which doesn't happen too often in a school of 850 students).

Classes had been learning about the significance of the day in different ways. Some created poppies to decorate the classroom, some made posters and others performed a light-hearted re-enactment on the oval.

Although it is a very sad day, it is good to remember the ultimate sacrifice

so many made on our behalf. [There is a photo on the GCCC website.](#)

Year 12 Formal and Graduation

Our biggest graduation class ever meant that some changes had to be made and one of them was moving the red carpet arrival to a new venue where the formal dinner would take place. Forest Sanctuary provided a lovely backdrop for our students who transformed themselves from kids in school uniforms to stunning young men in smart suits and lovely young women in gorgeous dresses. [There is a photo gallery on the GCCC website.](#)

The students lived up to their new mature look by behaving themselves beautifully all night and having great fun at the same time. After some encouragement, it wasn't long before most of the students (and many of the staff) were on the dance floor 'busting some moves'.

Graduation the next day was a day of more mixed emotions. The finality of the last hours at GCCC had sunk in for many of the students and there were tears all round – students, staff, and families.

This year the graduation service was held in the Senior Undercover Area. It was a highlight having the whole school together for the service and the young Prep and Primary students were especially well behaved as they sat through the proceedings.

The clap out also went a slightly different route this year but the one thing that didn't change was the emotions on the day. There was excitement about the future, sadness at leaving, relief that the last exam (for now) was over and a real sense that it was the end of something special and the beginning of something new.

On behalf of everyone at the College I would like to wish the 48 Year 12 students of 2013 all the very best. I look forward to learning of their accomplishments in the future.

Staff Leaving

We are sad to say farewell to the following staff at the end of 2013 and wish them the very best in their new positions in 2014.

Odette Perkins has been our College Registrar for three years and is moving to Sydney for her husband's work at the end of the

year. She has done an amazing job in attracting new families to the College and helping them feel like they belong here in a short amount of time. The ladies in Admin (Odette included) have been working their way through twice as many tissue boxes as normal since learning of her departure.

Brett Costin is leaving to join Australian Christian Academy Caboolture. Brett has served the College mostly in the Upper Primary as a classroom teacher and more recently as the E-learning Coach in the Primary. This year Brett also headed up the High 5 program designed to build resilience in Primary aged children.

Neil Capps is leaving to become the Principal of Casino Christian College in northern NSW. Neil has served in many capacities at the College, in particular in the roles of Head of Maths and more recently as the Academic Operations Coordinator.

Jo Winlaw is leaving to become Head of English and Humanities at Chisolm Catholic College. Jo has served as Head of English and Humanities and has been a Senior Year Level Coordinator. She has been instrumental in introducing and shaping many of our secondary school traditions such as the Year 10 Dinner Dance, the Formal and Graduation Service and in the naming of our College Houses. She has directed all of the College musicals as well.

Anita Newell has served the College in many capacities in the Middle School and Senior School. She was also a board member for many years and was an integral part of the College's inception. She has been an instigator of the Legacy Cup and headed up other Middle School centric initiatives. She has also notably been the assistant director of the College musicals and was a valuable contributor to the design of the library.

Ryan Fowler has received an offer he can't refuse; to teach PE and be assistant head of the tennis program at Scotch College in Sydney. This will allow Ryan and his wife to be closer to their respective families as they begin the journey of parenthood in the very near future with the birth of their first child.

Colleen Devitt has been our Head of Hospitality and Year 9 Coordinator. She has built the Hospitality from a fledgling department to the buzzing and lively student centre it is today. She has also catered for an amazing amount of College functions, most of these in her own time. Staff members have often been the beneficiaries of delicious food produced under her guidance. Colleen is taking the role of Head of Hospitality at Pacific Lutheran College.

Joan Ferris has served the College as our Future Pathways Coordinator. She has either created or hunted down apprenticeship and training opportunities for many of our senior students. She has lifted the profile of the careers department in a very dramatic way. Joan is leaving to take up a position at her local church doing clerical work and pastoral care.

Suzanne Power is leaving at the end of the year. Suzanne has significantly progressed the curricular and pedagogical practices in her role as Head of Teaching and Learning Quality and Head of Curriculum and Pedagogy. Suzanne was instrumental in preparing the College for its first Accreditation review in which the College passed with flying colours. She has also been instrumental in the progress of the Learning Support area of the College.

I would like to most sincerely thank all of these people for their dedicated efforts during their time with us and pray that God richly blesses their future endeavours.

Mike Curtis, Principal

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

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).

Prep to Year 2 Carols by Candlelight

Monday 2 December is the first GCCC P-2 Carols by Candlelight! The children have been busy learning their carols and we are all very excited for what promises to be a night of fun and community.

To make the evening all the more festive, the P and F has kindly organised a variety of food stalls at affordable prices:

- Sausage Sizzle
- Cold drinks
- Coffee
- Corn on the Cob
- Popcorn
- Slushies

Food will be on sale from 5:00pm, so come along early to set up camp on the oval and enjoy dinner out with your family. Once the official program starts at 6:30pm, food will no longer be available however coffee, slushies etc. can be purchased later during an intermission.

Each GCCC P-2 student will be given a battery operated candle as a gift from the P&F, and more will be on sale on the night.

Please bring seating for your family, either chairs or a picnic blanket.

Each class teacher will send home information about costume requirements, and further details about the night will follow closer to the date. If you are able to assist the P and F with the barbecue on the night, please send your availability to pandf@gccc.qld.edu.au.

Our P-2 Carols by Candlelight promises to be a wonderful night celebrating Christmas and enjoying special family time. We hope to see everyone there!

Lauren Kuhn

Kitchen Garden News

Busy green thumbs have been working hard during lessons getting the garden ready for the end of the year. Some beds have been completely emptied and refilled with compost, lucerne mulch and some smelly blood and bone so they have time to settle before the start of next year's classes.

A bumper crop of beetroot was harvested with some of the delicious bulbs as big as the children's heads! Lots of cherry tomatoes and yellow zucchini were also harvested and used by the cooks in their creations.

Preps and Years 2M and 2G made bruffins which were enjoyed by everyone. Many people have asked for the recipe so here it is:

- 12 slices of wholemeal bread, crusts removed and flattened.
- 12 eggs
- 2 Roma tomatoes sliced.
- 1 cup of chopped bacon (or you could use ham or smoked salmon.)
- Preheat oven to 190oC and grease a 12-hole muffin tray.
- Place one slice of bread into each muffin hole, press down to make a hollow.
- Divide bacon and tomatoes into bases.
- Crack one egg into each hole. Top with grated cheese if desired.
- Bake for 10-12 minutes until eggs are cooked to your liking.

Enjoy for breakfast or great cold in the lunch box.

Year 1 classes had a general garden tidy up and made some beetroot dip with crudities using the enormous beetroot they harvested.

There are only two weeks of school to go so that means party time in Kitchen Garden. Parents (and special friends/grandparents) are more than welcome to join us for this. Please let me know if you will be attending. For the Year 2 classes, this will be their last regular Kitchen Garden lesson and the first group of children to 'graduate' from the program.

Best wishes,

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Mandy Ward, Kitchen Garden Coordinator

Choir Performance at Embracia

The dedicated Primary choir girls have enjoyed the privilege of being blessed to be a blessing. We have sung a selection of Christmas songs to the folk at Glasshouse Country Care on Tuesday 12 November, and at Embracia on Tuesday 19 November. We sang with joyful smiles which added to the harmonies to make it a special time for us all.

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Lin Smith

My Class - By Nikita Hazzard

I am in 1M and my teacher is Mrs West,
I think Mrs West is simply the best,
We always have lots of fun at school,
During our sports lesson we even go to the pool,

I have learnt how to read, count and draw,
Next year I will be in Year Two where I will learn even more,

Little Voices is the choir where I sing,
We have lots of fun and I also get to wear a little bling,

I have made lots of friends, I can't name them all,
When we all get together we simply have a ball,
Thank you very much and have a great day,
May you all have a wonderful Christmas and don't forget to pray.

Middle School News

Christmas holidays are within our sights...

Here are just a few reminders regarding end of year activities.

Lockers, books, locks, iPads

All Year 9s need to hand in their iPads on Friday of Week 8 (29 November).

For all Year 7 and 8, we will be updating student iPads over a 24 hour period in Week 8 and if all goes well, students will be able to take their iPads home for the holidays.

Textbooks need to be returned in Week 8 to the library. Families will be expected to pay for any books not returned.

Lockers will also be cleaned out and locks returned in this week. Students will be placing their lock in a zip lock bag with their name on it so that they can hopefully have the same lock and combination number back next year. Students will then continue to use their lockers to store their bags for the last few days of school. iPads and other valuables should remain with a student or can be locked in classrooms if there is an extended period of time where they are not required.

Teachers will be marking final assessments and writing **reports** over the next few weeks. These will be emailed and sent out in the first week of the holidays.

Fundraiser for the Philippines

During Week 8 on Thursday 28 November there is a gold coin donation for casual dress day. Students can also bring in new or very good quality second hand clothing that will be sent to the Philippines by a local contact. Families are reminded to refer to the uniform policy regarding acceptable casual dress wear for free dress days.

Booklists, Year 8 and 9 electives

All families will have received their book list letter for next year. If any Year 8 or 9 student has queries about their elective choices, they should see Mrs Vreeling to address this.

Also, students been asked to clean out their lockers and take home unused exercise books in good condition so they can be reused next year. With the move into iPad usage, it is quite possible that there are spare unused books in lockers. Please refer to the GCCC website for more information on book lists.

Jacqualina Vreeling, Head of Middle School

“Lest we forget” Reenactment

On the 11th day of the 11th month of this year our Year 9 students met on the battlefield of the GCCC oval to re-enact the Gallipoli landing of our ANZAC troops in 1915.

Armed with water pistols and water bombs the Year 9 “Turkish soldiers” defended the high ground, behind leafy barricades and cardboard defences. In an offensive back and forth, the opposing “ANZAC troops” equally armed attacked and retreated their way up the hill, around the barricades, at times taking territory for the Entente and at others retreating under heavy Alliance counter-attack.

Covered in superficial “wounds” (red food dye) and wet to the core, our young troops, having discussed the motives and outcomes of the battle sat back and enjoyed some delicious ANZAC biscuits and their choice of hot or iced tea – a slightly tastier post-battle treat than the troops themselves would have experienced.

Most importantly, in remembrance of those who have fought for Australia and for the families who have lost those they love in battle, along with all of GCCC, Year 9 stopped, reflected and remembered!

A special thank you to Mr. Warren (battle strategist), the maintenance staff (battle ground constructors) and the army mess - Miss Devitt, Mrs Hill and Mrs Ballment.

[Photo on GCCC website](#)

Amanda Gook, Year 9 English Humanities Teacher

Explosive fun for Year 9

Year 9 have been learning about volcanoes in their Earth Science unit this term. Some students chose to make a model volcano for their assessment, making them erupt during their presentation to the class. Click on the link below to see some photos of the Year 9G girls in action:

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Jenny Ritson

Senior School News

Congratulations Graduates of 2013

Welcome to the College Leaders of 2014

Last week we farewelled the graduates of 2013. In their final assembly they handed over a gift to the College that is displayed in the Legacy Garden. Whilst the water fountain is a beautiful physical legacy, the true legacy they have left behind was summed up in the Student Leaders Charter that they passed on at our Awards Night.

The Student Leaders Charter is:

Jesus said “Let your light shine”. We, the graduating class of Glasshouse Country Christian College have sought to reveal this light and we have aspired to these standards:

- To work hard yet take time to be still.
- To live the truth while respecting differences in others.
- To follow what is right while remembering to stay close to those who stumble.
- To act justly but not condemn.
- To speak yet listen to others.
- To celebrate success without conceit.
- To take risks yet respect tradition.
- To act humbly and with integrity, serve God and follow Jesus, contributing where we can and becoming the best that we can.

We now pass on this light to you. It will be exciting to see the Year 12s of 2014 live this charter next year. [Photos of the graduation are on the GCCC website.](#)

National Young Leaders Day

On 8 November I was privileged to take the new College Captains to Brisbane to participate in the National Young Leaders Day. Guest speakers presenting included Wildlife and Conservation Advocate Bindi Irwin, Leadership Expert Avril Henry and Captain of the Australian Wheelchair Rugby Team Cameron Carr.

Each speaker brought their unique life experience to the platform as they shared insightful and encouraging sessions, instilling the message that despite circumstances, anyone can be a good leader and make a difference in the world around them.

The National Young Leaders day event which takes place annually across Australia, had more than 6,500 students participating.

David Heyworth, Head of Senior School

Student Council 2013

At the final Student Council meeting for 2013, Riley Williamson and Jacqueline Newell (College Captains) handed the torch of democracy to the future leaders of Glasshouse Country Christian College.

In his final act as Student Council Leader, Riley made this speech:

"This student council, the first council of its kind at GCCC, has spanned all grades in the Secondary school. We have endeavored to displace the notion of: a "Year 12 Council" or a "Senior School Council", or even a "Middle School Council" and have replaced this philosophy with a "School Council", one that was started by the students and will remain in place for the students.

Though our achievements have not been as publicised as we would have liked, we have blazed a trail for the years to come and all of those students at GCCC who feel the need to voice their concern or the concerns of others.

Every issue discussed at the council has received a direct line to the Principal – this is unparalleled representation. We have done a great job.

A Student Council is, at its most effective when everyone's voice is heard – especially when people disagree! This council has become a hot spot of discussion, deliberation, argument and debate, but most importantly, it has been a council full of decisions.

A great man once said, "decisions are made by those who show up!"

(To the Council members) You have all had a hand in shaping this College, the same way it has been done over the past ten years – block-by-block, hand-by-hand. I would like to thank you all, on behalf of the school for continuing to turn up, continuing to add your say and continuing to be a part of something much larger than yourself, much larger than all of us!"

During 2013, the Student Council achieved changes to the location of student lockers, promoted the introduction of the cover/ shelter over the lockers and had speakers introduced into the main under-cover area of the College. Most importantly the College gave students a voice in regards to the creation of culture at GCCC. Thank you to Mr. Curtis, the College Captains and the inaugural Student Council members. We look forward to seeing all the Council can achieve in 2014!

[Photo on GCCC website](#)

Amanda Gook, Teacher Representative

Future Pathways

Welcome to Paul Nash in 2014

Mr Paul Nash will be replacing Mrs Ferris in Future Pathways in 2014. Mr Nash comes to us with long experience in secondary education as both a teacher and a qualified Guidance Officer. Mr Nash's skills will offer a wider range of services to students and their families and we are very pleased he is joining our school family. The wonderful and much loved Mrs Simo McMinn will be continuing on as the Administration Officer in Future Pathways. Mr Nash will join Mrs McMinn in the Future Pathways Office next to the Chappies' Office. Please make him very welcome as he starts in his new position next year.

New Email Address

The new email address for any Future Pathways issues (work experience, traineeships, careers information, SET Plans, QTAC etc) will be future.pathways@gccc.qld.edu.au. Mrs Ferris is monitoring this address at the moment but it will pass on to Mr Nash and Mrs McMinn next year.

Year 9 Work Experience

Thank you to the 30 families who have already finalised their work experience placement for next year or are discussing options with us this week. We hope that the rest of the students will be able to advise us this week of their intentions. At the latest we would like forms to come back next week so we can contact workplaces before we go on Christmas holidays. If you are having any problems please talk to us now as next year will be very busy and our time to give assistance in first term will be limited. Thank you.

Congratulations to Courtney Rechberger

Courtney has been undertaking a Certificate II in Hairdressing at Caboolture TAFE. She missed out on being presented at the Senior Awards ceremony for completing this qualification because her certificate was issued after the event. Well done to Courtney. She was considered an excellent student at TAFE and received an award during the year from Brisbane North TAFE for her work. Here she is receiving the award earlier this year from her Trainer. [Photo on GCCC website.](#)

\$25,000 Teaching Scholarships

Are you passionate about science, maths or industrial design? Share your skill and expertise by becoming a specialist teacher. The Queensland Government is offering teaching scholarships valued at up to \$25000. For details visit www.teach.qld.gov.au.

Want to be a Pilot?

I listened to a fascinating interview on the ABC over the weekend with an expert in labour force information in the aviation industry. Of particular interest was the staggering estimate that in the next 20 years, before 2032, world-wide there will be a need for up to half a million pilots. Much of this demand will be driven by the expansion of the industry in Asia. Australia is well positioned in many ways to provide these skills. The commentator also mentioned that this is a field in which women as well as men can excel.

Defence Technical Scholarships and Long Tan Awards

A number of our students in past years have benefitted from Defence Technical Scholarships. The Defence Force has advised that this program has now been discontinued for financial reasons. The Long Tan Awards are continuing. Our current recipients of this award, announced at the Senior Awards ceremony last week, were Troy Fullerton in Year 10 and Riley Williamson in Year 12. Troy was awarded \$250 and Riley \$550.

Aviation Australia Opens its Doors!

Come along to the Open Night on Wednesday 27 November commencing at 6.00pm. The Open Night offers students and parents the opportunity to tour our training facilities based at Brisbane Airport and find out first-hand, how to become an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer or Flight Attendant. Our training centres house the most advanced training equipment including real aircraft, fully equipped workshops, cabin simulators, evacuation slides, pool for water safety drills, and excellent student amenities. You will also have the chance to meet our team of instructors who are available to answer any of your questions. To register your interest email: aero.info@aviationaustralia.aero or contact our Sales Team on 07 3860 0900.

Sunshine Coast Technical Trade Training Centre Graduation 2013

On Wednesday 6 November the Trade Training Centre held its Graduation Ceremony for 50 students who have completed their training this year.

Chris Potgieter and Nathan Siggs from our College were among the students graduating. These young men have completed a Certificate I in Construction and a Certificate II in Infrastructure Resources.

The Centre provides excellent training but also thorough preparation for going out in the workforce after Year 12. Nathan has already started a full time apprenticeship following his final work placement in September.

Of the 50 students graduating five were nominated for HIA Student of the Year. Chris Potgieter was one of these five students. A further five students were Highly Commended and Nathan was one of these five students. It is a real credit to these young men that their teachers considered them worthy of this recognition.

Congratulations to Chris and Nathan. Good luck with your future careers and thank you for being fine ambassadors of our College.

Photos on GCCC website

Joan Ferris, Future Pathways Coordinator

Library News

Library Notice

The library will be closed from Monday November 25 to sort returns and prepare resources and Secondary texts for 2014.

Book returns and last minute assignment work or printing is allowed.

End of Year Book Returns

Please note the dates below for book returns. These dates ensure that books are returned prior to students finishing for the year, allowing library staff to sort and prepare text books required for the start of 2014.

PLEASE NOTE: Report cards will be withheld for individual students until all texts are returned and lost/damaged items are paid for. Please see Vanessa McKellar in the library or via email library@gccc.qld.edu.au if you need to discuss any items.

END OF YEAR BOOK RETURN DATES

Prep – Year 6, Year 11

WEEK 7 - Friday 22 November

Year 7 – 10

WEEK 8 – Extended to Thursday 28 November

Celebrating Reading

Thank you to those families who took part in the 2013 Premier's Reading Challenge and MS Readathon. As part of the Premier's Reading Challenge Celebration Week, students who completed the Challenge were awarded certificates this week signed by the Premier of Queensland, Campbell Newman. This year they had the added bonus of theme park vouchers attached to them. More than 730 schools registered this year and we were honoured to have a large number of students from Prep - Year 7 take part. The two classes with the highest number of participants were 1G and 4M. Each class and their teachers, Mrs Hay and Mrs Wynn, received prizes for their efforts.

Special thanks also to the families that took part in the MS Readathon. Overall an amazing \$263,956.63 was raised this year. GCCC students raised \$419.84 to contribute towards this total and it was a privilege to thank those students who supported such a worthwhile cause at Assemblies this week.

MS Readathon

Finally, Year 5M and 4M were awarded prizes for their outstanding achievements in the Lexile Reading Program. 5M had the most students participate in the program and the students in Year 4M achieved the highest number of Gold Awards. Brilliant reading efforts from our middle Primary classes!

Special thanks to our 2013 Library Monitors ([photos on GCCC website](#))

Thank you to the many library monitors across Year 6 –10 who have graciously served in the library during Primary and Secondary lunch breaks this year. This week students who assisted were rewarded with a special thank you and a Middle School Library Monitor Party. Jesse Woods, Rory Tait and Hannah McCredie were awarded Library Assistant badges for diligently serving for over 12 months. I look forward to some of the current Year 6 students joining our Middle School Library Monitor Team in 2014.

Holiday Reading

The Summer Reading Club is a great way to encourage students to keep reading over the school holidays. Last year 35,614 children registered and an estimated 262,397 books were read. For details about the Club go to <http://www.summerreadingclub.org.au>. The 2013 Summer Reading Club runs from Monday, 2 December 2013 to Friday, 31 January 2014. Registrations are open now.

See you in the library, **Vanessa McKellar, Head of Library Services**

Chappy Chatter

Autumn "Indie" style for Middle School

On Wednesday 6 November our Middle School students and teachers were treated to a performance by local Caboolture based band "Autumn". Autumn is made up of two 18 year olds (Jay and Tom) who have only recently graduated from Mueller College. Their talent for music and singing coupled with their love for the Lord, caused them to start a band and create great music. They play "Indie" style songs, which is very laid back and soothing. While listening you can almost feel as if you have walked into an inner city café at midnight, surrounded by fairy lights, soft couches and with the gentle smell of chai latte in the air.

It was certainly not your typical music for middle schoolers! But the response from many of our students was extremely positive. In fact I've already had to take down names of students who want to buy CDs as soon as they are produced! The band is currently working on recording their first EP (Extended Play CD) so hopefully we won't be waiting too long.

During their performance both Jay and Tom shared short testimonies of God's work in their own lives. Tom shared about his battle with depression, from which God saved him and set him free. Jay shared about God's provision while on a mission trip to Cambodia that went all wrong. Their main message was that when we try to do life in our own strength we will find out soon enough that we aren't strong enough. But if we trust in God, He will always be strong enough to carry us through any obstacle.

Their final song was all about Jay's life and how God was the one who pulled her through even the toughest of days.

We would like to thank autumn for coming up to our school to play for us during Chapel. Special thanks also goes to Colleen Devitt and our hospitality students who made a very tasty lunch for the band. You can keep up with the Band on Facebook. Just search for Autumn under Musican/Band.

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Mick Spann, Youth Pastor GCBC

Reminder – Junior Swimming Fun Day

Our Junior Swimming Gala is on this Wednesday 4 December and we would love you to come along if you are available. It will be held from 9am – 11am with children participating in novelty races and games to show off their new swimming skills.

Please send children to school in their swimming togs if possible and with a drink bottle and sunblock on. We will also have sunblock available at the pool.

Do you have our GCCC Sports Uniforms at Home?

As we do our yearly stocktake we have found that several sports uniform items are missing. These may be athletics singlets, soccer shirts and shorts, AFL or Rugby League strips.

We would love you to have a check in the back of drawers and maybe under beds to see if you have any hiding at your place. If you do could you kindly just drop them off at the college office in a box provided there or to the sports office - that would be great. There will be no questions asked just a big thank you!

Jacqueline and Ella - Triathlon Success

Jacqueline Roach and Ella Childs both had great races at the All Schools Triathlon Championships held at Lake Kawana recently. The event was a trial for the Queensland Schools Championships which will be held early next year, with a Sunshine Coast team selected from the Kawana event.

Ella Childs competed in the Kids' Aquathon for 9 and 10 year olds. The kids ran 500m, swam 100m and then ran another 500m to the finish line. Ella powered through the race finishing in 19th position out of the field of 32 finishing in just over 10 minutes.

Jacqueline and Ella have been training hard for the event with Peter Thorpe and the junior triathlon squad at Beerwah Pool and Skippy Park. The 15 and 16 year girls event which Jacqueline competed in included a 600m swim, 14 km cycle and 4km run so her fitness was certainly tested. Jacqueline swam the 600m in 13 minutes, cycled the 14km in 34 minutes and ran the 4km in 17.26 minutes which was an awesome effort finishing in 1.04.43. Jacqueline was the 7th Sunshine Coast competitor to finish and placed 29th out of 37 competitors from all over Queensland. Jacqueline is waiting to hear if she has been selected in the Sunshine Coast team to compete at the Qld State Champs in Hervey Bay. We are very proud of Jacqueline's efforts and how fit she has become.

The Ngungun Triathlon Club is holding a kids triathlon on 14 December 14 at the Beerwah Pool, so if you would like to have a go, come along to the pool or contact Peter Thorpe on 0423 702 677. For more info see the [flyer](#) on the website or ask at the sports office.

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Wendy Stott

Cheerleading Stunt State Champions and Trials for 2014

Sanford Murray has been coaching a team of five students who have competed at Qld State All Star Cheerleading Champs and All Star Battle Stunt Championships.

The team, GCCC Fusion is a stunt team which the students find really challenging, exciting and very rewarding. This August the team of Zoe Roche, Julie Coogan, Hannah Bampton, Olivia Wolfe and Will Cupitt, placed 2nd and 3rd respectively in Open Group and Partner Stunt events at the All Star Battle competition but it was in September that the team really excelled. The team placed 2nd from four teams in the High School Group Stunt event but in the Partner Stunt Zoe Roche and Will Cupitt outperformed all the Level 1oppositon and won the High School Partner Stunt event to become Qld State All Star Champions.

Sanford Murray will be holding trials for all students who would like to join cheerleading in 2014. Sanford's squads train each week after school at GCCC and prepare for cheerleading competitions held in Brisbane. Students need to be able to commit to weekly training and be willing to train hard.

Sandford Murray is one of the best Cheerleading coaches in Queensland so this is a great opportunity for students.

Sign on for Cheerleading, either cheer or stunt with Sanford for next year will be held at GCCC undercover area on Wednesday 27 November at 3.30 – 5.30. This will be a training session also so please come in appropriate comfortable clothing and shoes/runners. Flyers and more information can be obtained from the GCCC main office or Sports office.

AFL Action

Many Year 6 and 7 students now have a new favourite sport after enjoying the three week AFL competition at the Glasshouse Districts Interschool Sport. Although this was an official non-competitive series of games every team was still out to win as many games as possible. The skills and game play certainly improved over the weeks of competitions in all teams with students really enjoying the experience.

The Year 7 boys were the stars for GCCC ending the series undefeated, winning all their games. They showed superior positioning on the field and made the ball do the work making the game look easy. Not many of the boys had played AFL before except at school so to come away as winners was awesome. Mr Modlin of course was very excited and looks forward to coaching more AFL next year with these boys.

The Year 6 girls won all but two games as did the Year 7 girls. The Year 6 boys also played well with some great skills on display winning all but 4 of their games.

The AFL Development officers ran this carnival and were very helpful in helping students with tips on rules and tactics of the game. They did a great job promoting AFL to everyone who played and encouraged students to consider playing AFL at a local club. Next year Landsborough AFL Club are looking at providing a bus from GCCC to their grounds after school to introduce students to AFL as their club sport. Watch the newsletter for more details on this next year.

[Photos on GCCC website](#)

Wendy Stott

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

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.

P and F News

Hi Everyone,

It's all gearing up for the end of the year isn't it? I hope you are keeping up with all the events that are coming thick and fast.

I want to put out a big thanks to Nic and Leisa for all the hard work they are putting into the Junior Disco and the Prep to Year 2 Carols and Awards night. These events are going to be fantastic and I hope they are well attended by GCCC families.

The P and F held their last meeting for the year and I want to take this time to honour those members who have worked so hard all year. We have worked well as a team and love being able to serve our school this way. Our first meeting in 2014 will be on Tuesday 4 February at 7pm. Come along and see what it's all about!

At our final meeting it was decided to fund a significantly large shade cloth which will cover most of the area between the undercover area and the tuckshop. This will service almost all the students of the school and will greatly extend the area where students can safely eat lunch or play without getting burnt or wet. Look out for this hopefully when school returns. We are also looking into assisting with the funding for a kitchen sink in the Prep to Year 2 kitchen garden area. It's fantastic to be able to fund significant projects that enhance our children's time at GCCC. Thank you everyone for your support of our fundraising events which make this possible!

Blessings, Alaina Westaway

Community News

Athlete's Foot School Rewards Program at Caloundra Store

From every pair of shoes purchased at Athlete's Foot \$5 is donated back to Glasshouse Country Christian College. This applies to the whole family across the range of school, sports, work and casual shoes.

"With a shoe expertly fitted by one of The Athlete's Foot Fit Technicians, your child will have the right support for all of the school activities and sports they take part in every day."

Very soon the Caloundra store will also carry the exact details of which shoes comply with our uniform, making the shoe buying process a little easier.

Please remember to mention Glasshouse Country Christian College when you purchase shoes from this store.

Queensland Transport changes to bus and rail timetables in 2014

On Monday 20 January 2014, more services and minor timetable changes will be introduced on the Sunshine Coast and Caboolture line. At the same time, buses in the Moreton Bay region will also be changing to provide improved reliability and better integration between buses and trains.

This is the second stage of the Queensland Rail timetable project. The first stage, delivered in 2011, saw an overhaul of the Ipswich, Rosewood, Richlands, Caboolture and Sunshine Coast lines.

Attached you will find an A5 flyer for the Sunshine Coast and Caboolture line - please feel free to disseminate the relevant line information to your students and staff via your website, school newsletter, email notifications, etc.

For a copy of the new timetables or for more information, click here: <http://translink.com.au/travel-information/service-notices/train-timetable-changes>

Alternatively, you can call TransLink on 13 12 30 anytime.

Helping Hands Vacation Care

School break is creeping up fast and it's time to start planning your holiday boredom busters. Helping Hands Glasshouse Country will be running a fun packed interactive vacation care program over the Christmas break. Themes include a Water Day with a jumping castle that has a built in water slide! , Great Outdoors Day where we will set up camp on the oval and explore the outdoors, Mini Masterchef day learning lots of different cooking techniques, a Crazy Circus Day with clown tricks, juggling, face painting and much more!

So keep an eye out for the program which will be coming out very soon.

Fourth term has been zooming and us along with it. We've had a lot of hands on activities and crafts this term to match the high energy level that seems to only occur at the end of the school year. Some of our high lights were making kites on the oval, setting up ant farms, catching bugs, baking muffins, soccer and shark bait on the playground.

Dates to Remember for December/January

Helping Hands Glasshouse Country will run from:

9 to 20 December 2013

6 to 24 January 2014

Remember you need to enrol into the program before you can book in.

Good News!

Helping hands will also be offering a fun packed party week for the Preps (**only Preps in Helping Hands care - not all GCCC Preps**) during the last week! From 12pm Tuesday 3 December and all day on 4 and 5 December. The party will continue for everyone on the Pupil Free Day Friday 6 December. Lets celebrate the end of school with lots of party games, food and FUN! Contact us for more details.

We provide breakfast and afternoon tea everyday as well as fantastic art, craft, sport and cooking experiences that your children will love. For more information come in and check out our program. Alternatively you can call 0499 043 107 or email glasshousecountry@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Pause and Ponder - Volcanic Tempers

Volcanic eruptions are often described as angry, hot, explosive and as destructive as a nuclear explosion! A bad temper can also be described in some of the same terms - angry, explosive, hot, and destructive. It's not a flattering comparison. but an bad temper can feel as intense as a volcano when it is aimed directly at another person. The moment may be quickly over, but it can leave emotional devastation and bitter feelings behind.

It's sad that the people we love the most are often the target of our hurtful words. But even when we feel we've been provoked, we have a choice. Will we respond in anger or in kindness? The Bible tells us to rid ourselves of bitterness and anger, and to 'be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.' (Ephesians 4:32).

If you are struggling with chronic anger that is hurting your relationships, surrender this vulnerable part of your emotions to Christ's strength (Philippians 4:13). Ask God to forgive you for an uncontrolled temper, to show you how to moderate your emotions and to honour others above yourself (Romans 12:10). Seek out help from others to learn how to deal with your strong emotions in appropriate ways. As we earnestly seek to love others and to please God, we can win the victory over a volcanic temper.

Adapted from Our Daily Bread by Cindy Hess Kasper