

# newsletter

Glasshouse Country Christian College

*"Growing in Faith and Knowledge"*

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## SCHOOL CALENDAR

### TERM 1

#### January 2011

Mon 24 First day back  
Thur 27 Preps first day

#### February 2011

Wed 2 Swimming trials  
Fri 4 Swimming Carnival 9 years to open  
Mon 7 Middle School Leaders' Induction Service  
Wed 9 6.30pm Secondary Parent Information  
Thur 10 Senior Induction of School Leaders  
Wed 16 8.30am Primary District Swimming Carnival  
Fri 18 8.00am Central District Swimming Carnival

#### Uniform Shop

New and Second Hand

Mon 8.00 - 9.00am

Wed 8.00 - 9.00am

Fri 8.00 - 9.00am  
2.30 - 3.30pm

## From the Principal



Dear Parents,  
Welcome to the first week of school for 2011, I hope you had a great holiday despite the frustrating weather and devastating floods. The school fared well during the rain and I am happy to report we

had no flood damage. We did however suffer the secondary effects of the floods with delays to the delivery and set up of the demountable classrooms, furniture deliveries and of course the book orders. For those who were affected by the book order delay I would like to thank you for your patience. All orders should have arrived by now.

#### **Congratulations Year 12 2010**

Our Year 12 students received their OP results during the holidays and I am pleased to say that they have achieved very good results. My special congratulations go to Dylan Stevenson, last year's dux and winner of a special Australian Defence Force grant on being the first student in GCCC to achieve an OP 1. Three other students received OP 3 and one OP 5. Out of a cohort of 14 students 30% of students achieved an OP 5 or better which is well above the Qld average. I will treat this data more thoroughly in subsequent editions of the newsletter.

#### **Uniform update**

Our uniform deliveries have also been delayed because of the Brisbane floods. We have formal shirts back in stock but are still waiting on sports shirts. This delay will probably be lengthy as the machine that makes the shirts suffered extensive damage.



*Mark clears the drains during the big wet.*

#### **Changes to uniform**

This year the following changes to uniform have been made;

- Primary School boys are now to wear white socks with their day uniform and not the green socks.
- Middle School boys and girls are to wear white sports socks with their sports uniform and not the special GCCC issue.
- Senior school girls are to wear the Senior School tie with dress uniform.
- All Middle and Senior school students are to wear their sport uniform only on days they have PE and sport.
- Students must wear their formal hat with their dress uniform. Bucket hats can only be worn with sports uniform.
- Unlike previous years there is no formal day for Middle and Senior students this year however all boys must wear a tie during Term 2 and 3 with their dress uniform.

#### **Swimming Carnival**

The GCCC Year 4-Open Swimming Carnival is being held next Friday February 4 at Beerwah pool. Parents are very welcome to come and cheer and any volunteer help on the day I know would be greatly appreciated. Remember that all students are required to wear their house shirts on the day. Our wonderful P and F will be supplying a BBQ.

#### **Year 10, 11 and 12 laptops**

This year all Year 10, 11 and 12 students will be provided a MacBook laptop computer for their use during school hours. Students will collect the computers at the beginning of the day and will carry it with them from class to class. The computer will then be returned at the end of the day. The computers should be available during the middle of this term. There will be more information at the Secondary Parent Information Night on Wed Feb 9. The computers in the Middle and Senior school will all be Apple computers very soon. Apple computers have some significant advantages over Windows. Apple computers are simple to use and are similar in most respects to the more familiar Windows but students will be trained on how to use these new machines.

## Farewell Mrs Rennie

Many of you will know Mrs Patricia Rennie very well. As College Registrar she was the person who answered your questions, showed you around and made you feel welcome at GCCC. What has made her such a blessing to us though is the friendliness and heartfelt concern she has towards each family. She has always brought a helping of levity to the office and all who visit there too.



Patricia has decided to retire at the end of the term and although we are happy for her she will be sadly missed. I know there will be many who have been touched by Patricia's compassion and infectious humour and would like to join with me in thanking her and wishing her all the best on this new chapter of her life.

## Job Vacancies

There are two vacancies we are seeking applications for in the College at this time; Registrar and Teacher Aide to work in the Behaviour Support of the Secondary School. You can find out more about both of these positions on the College website.

## Neighbourly Relations

As a College we have always worked to maintain a good relationship with our neighbours and in turn our neighbours have looked after us by keeping a watchful eye on the property after hours. We have had a request from one of our neighbours, the gentleman who lives directly across from the Prep, that parents do not park on his footpath during pick up and drop off times. If you could help here it would be greatly appreciated.

## New Format for the Newsletter

As we publicised last year, the Newsletter will be emailed to all families and will be available for download from the College website. This presents a significant cost saving due to the reduction in time spent copying and compiling the newsletter so this is our preferred method of delivery. For this reason we are trying to make the newsletter as "download friendly" as we can. There will be a limited number of hard copy newsletters available from the office only.

## New Staff



Fay Needham has an extensive background in administration and will be assisting our administration team, processing receipts,

serving at reception and helping wherever she is needed.

Fay loves watching old movies, swimming at the beach and one day (when her bike is fixed) plans to resume bike riding. Fay is enjoying the Christian environment of GCCC and looking forward getting to know everyone much better.

## UNIFORMS

### 2ND HAND UNIFORMS URGENTLY NEEDED

If you have any uniforms no longer required please get them to the school office reception asap – we have a lot of families needing uniforms urgently.

### 2nd HAND UNIFORM INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for supporting GCCC P&F by utilizing our 2nd hand uniform shop. We are only able to sell those uniforms which have retained good colour, are stain and tear free and are in very good condition. We are also no longer able to sell uniforms which have been phased out.

### THANK YOU TO OUR AWESOME VOLUNTEERS

We would like to say a very big thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who worked so hard in the Uniform Shop and 2nd Hand Uniform Shop during last week's back to school uniform sales. We could not have done it without you. We really appreciated your help.

Thank you so very much.

*From Kylie and Leigh and all the families you served.*

## New Staff continued.



After working for GCCC as a relief teacher in 2010, Mr Cloney is now working in the Secondary school, teaching English, SOSE, and Life.

Married with five children, he has also been involved in community development project work in Africa.

Mr Cloney is passionate about our youth achieving their goals and not settling for mediocrity in their lives. He is looking forward to the year and getting to know the students better.



JP Hampshire has been teaching for 12 years, married for 12 years and has two young children, Josiah and Elias.

He loves woodwork and is currently converting a silky oak pulpit to a bookcase, making a toy chest for his children and making a bed out of recycled wood.

JP is teaching Grade 4 at GCCC and his passion is for the students to learn about Jesus Christ.

# Primary News

## Welcome to 2011

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all families for 2011 and a special welcome to our new students and their families.

## New Classrooms

You may have noticed that four new classrooms have been added to the College and that the Year 4 classrooms (B1 and B2) have now become offices and learning support rooms for Primary and Secondary students. Staff have worked tirelessly ensuring these classrooms were ready in time for classes. However, there are still some minor things which will be completed over the next couple of weeks and we are still waiting for some student furniture, additional bookcases and metal cabinets which should arrive in a few weeks.

## Textbooks delayed by floods

Teachers are aware that Sequel has been affected by the Brisbane floods and that delivery of the book packs has been delayed. We understand that some students will not have their books this week and teachers will photocopy the pages necessary for lessons until the book packs are delivered. This is a minor inconvenience when we think of the incredible hardship people who have been affected by the recent floods are still experiencing.

## New appointments

With the growth in the Primary College, we have appointed a Prep - Year 2 Coordinator (Mrs Sarah Leary) and a Year 4 - 6 Coordinator (Mrs Jo Lowther). These Coordinators will be responsible for their sub-schools including pastoral care, behaviour management, assemblies and events, etc. I am excited about the establishment of these positions and the benefits to the students which will result from these appointments. If you have any concerns about your child/ren, please see the class teacher first (by appointment) and discuss this. Usually these things are dealt with easily at a class teacher level, but if there is no resolution, you may phone for an appointment with Mrs Leary or Mrs Lowther and discuss it further. Of course, as Head of Primary, I will be available to meet with you if for some reason a genuine problem continues.

In addition to sub-school coordinators, we have appointed Mrs Andrea McDonald as Primary Curriculum Coordinator one day a week (Friday) and Vanessa McKellar (our Teacher Librarian) will take specific aspects of the curriculum in this class each week.

## New staff

I want to also welcome three new staff to our Primary College – Mrs Lin Smith (Year 2), Mr Jon-Paul Hampshire (Year 4) and Mr Glenn Eggleston (Year 6). All have come with wonderful recommendations and I am confident that students in their classes will have a great year.



## Smart Strings Programme

Another initiative for 2011 has been the introduction of the Smart Strings programme for all Year 3 students. Mr & Mrs Ross Walker are very experienced Violin teachers and will provide the violins for the students for the lesson. The cost for each term is \$40.

## Kitchen Garden Working Bee

Thank you to all the wonderful parents who attended the Kitchen Garden Project working bee on Tuesday. Everything looks great. A note will come home this week inviting you to be a part of this vibrant group.

## Assembly/chapel changes

This year Assembly/Chapel will be divided into Prep - Year 2 (Friday 12.25 – 1.25pm) and Years 3 - 6 (Friday 9.45 - 10.45am). The sub-school assembly will be held first and then Chapel afterwards. These will be held in the Church starting this Friday and parents are very welcome.

## Lunch breaks

For new parents, lunch break for primary is 10.45 – 11.30am and afternoon tea is 1.30 – 2.00pm. This year, Prep - Year 2 classes will be supervised as they eat their food for breaks in the classroom. This will allow staff to monitor that students are eating their lunch each day and not throwing food away. We will trial this new procedure initially in Term 1.

## Primary uniforms

The delivery of Primary hats has been held up. Some new parents have indicated that they will purchase a maroon broad brimmed hat from Best and Less (approx \$5 cost). This would be great and students would feel they were in uniform. If you have a white or bottle green hat (school colours) at home and wish to use this in the interim, that would be fine also. As an aside, it is always good to have an extra cheap maroon hat for those times when the hat has been left at grandma's, a friend's house, or in dad's car, etc.

## Extra Teacher Aides

With the increased enrolments, we have significantly improved the allocation of teacher aide time to every year level in the primary classes. This increase in teacher aide time will assist teachers to provide a greater level of support to students to improve educational outcomes.

## Year handover of student information

Teachers from 2010 have met with the teachers for 2011 to pass on any medical, educational, social and general information for each student. Having said this, if you have information you believe is essential for the class teacher to be aware of please make an appointment after 3.15pm with the teacher early in the year.

Finally, I hope you enjoyed Australia Day holiday on Wednesday and welcome to the 78 little 'preppies' on Thursday for their first day of school.

Yours sincerely

**C L Bryers**

**Head of Primary**

## Library News



A warm hello from the new GCCC teacher librarian! My name is Vanessa McKellar and I have recently moved to the area from Brisbane with my husband and two sons, Aiden (3G) and Joshua (Prep Maroon). I have been teaching for 11 years and have previously worked at Ingham State School, Hillcrest Christian College and most recently at Calvary Christian College as a teacher librarian.

My hobbies include scrapbooking, painting, musical theatre, picnics, bike riding and reading (of course!). I look forward to getting to know the parents and staff of the College and working with students across Prep – Year 12, promoting reading and the development of effective library and information literacy skills.

There are many wonderful events planned in the library this year and I invite you to keep an eye out to see what's coming up and to visit from time to time to experience our amazing and innovative learning spaces. This time of the year is a great opportunity to consider the significant contribution you as parents and caregivers can make in supporting your child's learning, particularly literacy.

Plan to play an active role in encouraging a life-long love of reading by taking time to read to or with your child this year. Allow opportunities for them to connect with titles and topics they are interested in.

Visit the local library regularly and show the value of reading in daily tasks as you read recipes, timetables, the newspaper or when you send emails and texts.

Reading opens up new worlds of learning and encourages students to be exposed to different genres and to develop comprehension skills. It builds their knowledge and vocabulary, building essential skills for learning that benefits them greatly. Most importantly reading is fun, so enjoy it with your child/children this year!

## More New Faces

You will notice that there are many more new faces this year than what we have covered in this newsletter. We will introduce you to them all through the newsletter over the next few issues.

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## LOST PROPERTY

**Found:** A ring found in uniform shop Wed/Thur am 19/20 Jan.

### From Last Year:

- Various swimming togs - boys and girls.
- Near new black smash lunch box.
- Senior jumpers.
- Joggers and netball shirt.
- English usage book.
- Bible.
- Australian Dictionary/Thesaurus

**Please contact Student Reception for collection.**

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The 2010 Yearbooks have arrived back from the printers and are being handed out in class. There is one for each family who had student/s enrolled last year (unless you specifically asked not to receive one). Keep a lookout for it in your child's bag.

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## VET News

**Vocational Education and Training (VET) is looking bigger and better in 2011.** VET Officer Mrs Joan Ferris is available to talk to parents and students about VET. She can be called on 54390033 or visited in the Library or emailed on joan.ferris@gccc.qld.edu.au

### Welcome to our GCCC RTO

Glasshouse Country Christian College is not just a super duper College but also a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). This enables the school to offer nationally recognized certificate courses to our senior students. This year we will be offering courses in Work Education, Hospitality, Business and Information Technology.

As a RTO we are required to follow certain procedures to comply with government regulations. At the beginning of each year all certificate students must be advised as to their rights and responsibilities within the RTO. As a result all certificate students have been through an induction program this week and will be bringing home a Student Handbook. I would appreciate if all students and their families could please familiarise themselves with the Handbook and sign the form to say that has been done and return it next week to the teacher. This is a compliance issue for our RTO. Thank you for your help with that.



### Year 10 Work Experience

As flagged last year to all Year 9 students and parents, Year 10s will be going out for a week of work experience at the end of this term 4-8 April. The time has now come to make firm arrangements for this to happen. This week all Year 10s undertaking Certificate 1 in Work Education received information to take home to parents including an Industry Placement form to be completed. I would appreciate it if these forms could be filled in and returned by next week even if you have already advised me of your choice of workplace. When all students have been placed and their arrangements confirmed, details of the placement and also insurance forms will be sent out to all families. This will happen in March. If you have any questions about work experience please contact Mrs Joan Ferris.

### VET Adventures in 2011

At GCCC we support our senior students in following individual pathways. Accordingly, we have many students undertaking courses outside of the school. This year we will have 12



students in traineeships which involve a day a week at work plus a certificate course. Congratulations to these students and all the best with their traineeships this year. We have five continuing students and four new students taking courses from the Brisbane School of Distance Education. These cover IPT, Music, Accounting and French. We have three Year 11 students who have been accepted into University Courses at the University of the Sunshine Coast this semester. We also have 10 students undertaking studies with Brisbane North Institute of TAFE. We are very pleased also that this year one of our Year 11 students will be undertaking a Certificate in Sustainable Energies at the brand new Technical Trade Training Centre at Caloundra High School. We hope to forge close bonds with this wonderful new facility and its staff over coming years to expand the opportunities for our students.

Our students in the past have achieved wonderful results working with other educational institutions and we wish all our students working and studying outside the College as part of their senior studies all the very best for 2011.

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## Pause and Ponder

Matthew 6:25 - 34...I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn't life more than food, and your body more than clothing? Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith?

So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.

## Sports News

### Coles for Sport

Thank you to everyone who supported the College with Coles for Sport vouchers, together we collected 5710 points. With that enormous effort we have Rugby League, Soccer and Touch Football kits, a soccer ball and a waffle bat on their way.

**Steve Couper, Wendy Stott and Christine Scott**



### GCCC PE team Bek Claims Bronze at Nationals!

Rebekah White began her holidays on a high note performing exceptionally well to win a bronze medal in the Under 16 girls 90m hurdles at the Australian All Schools Athletics Championships in Melbourne. Her intense training and commitment throughout the year paid off as she ran a personal best time of 12.99 sec in the 90m hurdles. Bek also gained 5th place in the 200m hurdles.

GCCC is very proud of Bek's achievements and we wish her all the best for this year of competition.

**Wendy Stott**

### Cheerleading Starts Term 1, 2011

GCCC are offering classes in 'American style' cheerleading, including lifts and tumbling with the goal of competing in Regional and State competitions.

We will run lunchtime classes at the College for Primary (grades 4, 5, 6 & 7) and Secondary students. This is a service offered by the Sports Department with minimal external expenses (eg. uniforms, competition entry fees and optional workshops etc). If you are interested or would like further information please contact me at the College.



**Christine Scott**

### GCCC Swimming Carnival for 9 years and older

The annual GCCC Inter-house Swimming Carnival is here again! Participation in the carnival is compulsory for all students aged 9 and up. Fun participation races will be run throughout the day.

Distance races will begin at 8.00am. Students will need to nominate individually for these events through the HPE department.

Date: Friday 4 February 2011

Venue: Beerwah Swimming Pool

Time: 9am – 3pm

College Inter-house Swimming Trials for 9 years and older To encourage maximum participation and to appropriately stream races we will be holding a swimming trial day (heats). Students will swim 25m in freestyle as a compulsory event (swimming aids can be used) and nominate to swim backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke to qualify for A, B, C, D races. This will enable students to race in the carnival against students of similar swimming ability.

Date: Wednesday 2 February 2011.

Venue: Beerwah Swimming Pool

Time: 11.30pm – 1.00pm for Primary (Yrs 4-6)

1.00pm – 2.45pm for Secondary (Yrs 7-10)

### College Swimming and Athletics Program

The Program is in place to enable students who are interested in swimming and athletics, to have the opportunity to further their natural abilities with specific training, coaching, mentoring and technical feedback. The Term 1, 2011 Program will run from Week 2 (1 February 2011) to Week 11 (7 April 2011). In the event of a wet day, training will not be cancelled.

The Program operates before school from **7.30am to 8.15am on Tuesday and Thursday** mornings, using the Beerwah Pool and the College oval. Students are required to be at the pool or College by **7.25am** with appropriate modest swimwear/training attire.

Term 1 focus is swimming and cross country. Please see the PE staff for an information letter.



### NAB AFL Austkick program Term 1, 2011

AFL Qld will be running the AFL Austkick program at the College each Wednesday starting on 9 February continuing through to 30 March with 1 hour weekly sessions.

ALF Austkick is a fun, introductory, skills-based program designed for children in grades 1 to 7. The program places emphasis on fun, teamwork and total participation in a non-competitive sporting environment.

Dates: February 9, 16, 23, 30, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

Time: After school

Registration: February 9

Cost: \$60 includes a footy backpack

### Winter Sports Sign-on and Information afternoon

An information afternoon for sports offered within the District during the winter season.

**Where:** College grounds (beside the bus shelter)

**When:** Monday 31 January 2011, 2.45pm – 3.15pm

Local sports include Soccer, Netball, Rugby League, Swimming, Cheerleading, AFL and many more.

**Tuckshop News**

I would like to welcome any new families that have started at the College. Tuckshop operates on Tuesday and Thursday. Would you please use a separate bag for each break. Write: CHILD'S NAME, FIRST BREAK or SECOND BREAK and GRADE. Please don't use sticky tape to wrap money in, or use staples in bags. We are in need of volunteers. If you are available on a Tuesday or Thursday during our busiest time from 9.00am till 1.30pm I would be very grateful. Volunteering in your children's school environment is very rewarding. Grandparents are very welcome. It is a great way of meeting the staff, children and making new friends. Come and

have a cuppa and see how the Tuckshop operates.

The Tuckshop Menu is available on:

[www.gccc.qld.edu.au](http://www.gccc.qld.edu.au) then click on services. Anyone who doesn't have access to a computer, copies of the menu will be available at the Tuckshop.

If anyone would like to volunteer for Tuckshop, could you please ring Cathy Boyer on 0429 728 425 or email [cathy.boyer@gccc.qld.edu.au](mailto:cathy.boyer@gccc.qld.edu.au)

Tuckshop begins on 1st February.

Thanking you, **Cathy Boyer, Tuckshop Convenor**



Welcome everyone to 2011 in the GCCC Kitchen Garden! This promises to be a year of learning and fun in the garden and kitchen. Garden classes will once again be a fascinating mix of science, market gardening, farmer friendships and of course a good wheelbarrow load of fun!

The kitchen component will come to fruition with our newly appointed Kitchen Person: Mandy Ward! Mandy has exceptional talents in all things cooking, in particular fresh home grown produce! The kids, parents and teachers will be in for a nutritional treat for sure!

Hopefully everyone has received a note seeking your assistance anyway you are able. Could you please fill out the information requested on the note and send it to me via email at [jade.king@gccc.qld.edu.au](mailto:jade.king@gccc.qld.edu.au) or hand it directly to the teachers. You may also contact me on mobile 0405 125 791 if you have any questions.

**Garden Class Timetable – Term 1**

Fortnightly starting: Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February		Fortnightly starting: Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	
Prep Maroon	9:00 – 9:30	Mrs Smith – Yr2	8:45 – 9:45
Prep White	9:30 – 10:00	Mrs Leary – Yr 2	9:25 – 10:05
Prep Green	10:00 – 10:30	Mrs McDonald – Yr 3	10:05 – 10:45
Mrs Hay – Yr 1	11:30 – 12:10	Mrs Short	11:30 – 12:10
Mrs West – Yr 1	12:10 – 12:50		

Thank you

**Jade King**

The P and F would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new families of the college and welcome back our parents and friends of last year.

We will be holding our first meeting of the year on Monday February 7th, in the primary staff room, at 7pm. If you are new to the school this is a great way to meet some new people, while supporting our college.

On Friday the 4th of February the P and F will be catering for the swimming carnival, we would greatly appreciate any help on the day, we will start at 9 am and go through to 3 pm. If you are able to lend a hand, please email [Nicole.Bradley@gmail.com](mailto:Nicole.Bradley@gmail.com), or call 0439 783 802.

The annual general meeting for the P and F will be held on the 7th of March, at this meeting a new committee will be elected, the committee consists of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in any of these roles, please feel free to call the number above to have a chat about what it entails. Glasshouse Country Christian College, where everyone is welcome.

