Working together

As a Christian school there are practical applications to what we believe and what we expect from our parents and guardians as they partner with us in the education journey of their children.

We believe that parents have the primary right and responsibility for the nurture and teaching of their children. Therefore GCCC works to support and extend the education carried out by parents, and will report to them regularly.

We believe that children benefit if parents and teachers work together. Therefore parents and staff need to encourage and support each other.

GCCC’s core values are G.R.E.A.T. and stand for Godliness, Respect, Excellence, Attitude and Teachability. These values are taught in school and we encourage our parents to reinforce and practice these behaviours at home with their children.

Problems have arisen recently when parent behaviour hasn’t been according to the mutually respected partnership between the College and parents. There have been too many instances this year of disturbing parent behaviour that goes directly against our school values and what we teach the students.

I would like to take this opportunity to strongly urge you all to think about your behaviour and how it is an example to your children. Think about the messages you are sending them.

Children are great imitators and pick up behaviour in us that we may not even be aware we are exhibiting.

As a Christian school we believe that everyone is a valued human being who deserves to be treated with respect. It is difficult to stay calm when you are stressed, angry or worried about your child but please don’t allow your feelings to result in abusive behaviour to others. It simply will not be tolerated.

Our front office Admin team will always greet you with a smile on their face and do their best to help however, they are sometimes the brunt of abusive behaviour and this has to stop. Please treat them with the same respect they show you each time they greet you in person or on the phone.

We sometimes forget how intelligent our children are and all the hidden messages they pick up on. If you are telling them not to swear or practice inappropriate language but then have unsuitable stickers on your car or wear suggestive logos on your clothes, what are the children really learning? The ‘do as I say not what I do’ method has never been successful and you will be in for a lot of heartache as your children grow older and listen to what you do rather than what you say.

On the upside I have witnessed many wonderful acts of behaviour by our parents which are shining examples to...
their children and other families. Families help each other out when the going is tough, parents volunteer at the school and assist those in need, people are warm and friendly even when they are worried or distressed. People do little things like saying please and thank you.

I know of at least one parent who went to great expense to change an inappropriate sticker on his car once he became aware of the message it was sending. He and others like him are to be commended.

None of us are perfect but all of us are examples to our children and need to do our best.

There was a famous movie where the motto was to ‘be excellent to each other’. At GCCC, excellence is one of our important core values. I encourage you all to be excellent to each other.

Christien Festa

One of the ways our parents and staff have been showing great partnership is how they have all been praying for Christien Festa. As you know from my last article, Christien was involved in a life-threatening motocross accident which resulted in him being in a coma in hospital.

Since then I’m happy to report that Christien is (very slowly) recovering. This is a great miracle given his early circumstances so thank you to everyone who prayed. Please keep praying as Christien has a long way to go for a full recovery. He is out of the coma and showing some responses in body language. However, Christien has developed a nasty lung infection which causes him to cough and brings great pain to his head which has sustained so much injury. Christien’s mum has asked specifically for us to pray for Christien’s lungs to heal.

If you have ever had a child in hospital, you may be aware of the many hidden costs. Things like travel, parking, making arrangements for other children, and eating on the run, soon add up to huge amounts. We are setting up a donation box at Main Admin and Secondary Admin for staff, students and parents to make donations to if they so wish. You would be surprised how soon a few gold coin donations add up to being a real help – especially when a lot of people give. We would be very grateful if you could send in small donations to help this family.

Swimming Carnival

This is the first time we held the Primary and Secondary Swimming Carnivals on two different days but it went so well that I think it will continue as the plan for the future.

Spacing the carnivals over two days meant there was more time for novelty races, fashions on the field and for everyone to have a more relaxed and fun time. After the Primary Carnival, it looked like Sinai was in the lead but by the end of the Secondary Carnival, Ararat had swum to a firm win.

Congratulations to all the students who participated by swimming and cheering. I think the cheering this year was better, louder and with more gusto than previous years. Thanks also to all the staff and parents who helped make both these occasions such successes.

There are photo galleries of these two events in the Sports section on the GCCC Website.

P and F Family Fun Day

This picnic is especially designed to welcome new families to GCCC and provide the opportunity for them to P and F Family Fun Day meet other parents and families. Although the weather was very hot this year, everyone still had lots of fun making new friends and reacquainting themselves with old ones.

Once again the fabulous Wendy Stott had set up lots of fun games and showed more than one child how to hit a ball.

The P and F bravely faced the hot barbecues to sizzle those sausages and the biggest hit of the day was probably the icy cold drinks. Next year the P and F are planning to incorporate some water games just in case the hot weather decides to repeat itself.

A photo gallery of the event can be found on the GCCC Website.

Ecumenical Service

On Tuesday 18 February, 21 of our student leaders, two chaplains and myself travelled to Matthew Flinders Anglican College for the annual Ecumenical Service. There were about 400 people attending the service from all the independent schools on the Sunshine Coast. It was a good service and I was very proud of how our student leaders represented the College.
Bus Zone

Please remember that the bus zone is for buses. I know that some people use this zone to quickly drop off their children before or after the buses have used the zone but buses have the right of way at all times.

Some parents have parked their cars in the bus zone and gone to look for their children and this is not acceptable. It may look clear with no buses in sight when you pull up but within minutes there can be four or five buses and they all rely on being able to use the bus zone to pull in and out safely. When a car is parked in the bus zone, buses can’t pull into it and this blocks all the traffic on the ring road and then into Roberts Road.

When you park your car in the bus zone you are potentially holding up hundreds of students and parents and this soon escalates into terrible traffic problems as well as increasing the danger to our students.

The Kiss and Go zone is particularly for those parents who want to quickly pick up or drop off their child. Please use this instead of the bus zone.

Mike Curtis, Principal

From the Registrar

If you have siblings interested in enrolling at GCCC please note the following:

It is the parents’ responsibility that each new potential student (sibling) must complete and submit to the College, a separate Application for Enrolment form. This is the first step in the enrolment process and families are cautioned that whilst siblings are given priority enrolment consideration they are not guaranteed a place within the College. Please note that waiting lists are being experienced across many year levels and early submission of Application Forms is encouraged for consideration in future years.

Enrolment Procedure:

1. A completed Application for Enrolment Form (one per student) is to be returned to the school office together with a $50 Application Fee per family. This fee is not refundable. Please note that each application/fee does not guarantee a place at the College.
2. Application forms are to be supported with the following documentation:
   • NAPLAN results (where applicable)
   • Last two years’ school reports
   • Copy of birth certificate
3. Failure to provide supporting documentation delays the application for enrolment process unnecessarily.
4. As waiting lists are being experienced across many year levels, early submission of Application Forms is encouraged for current year level entry.
5. An enrolment interview may then be scheduled with the appropriate Head of School. You will be advised of the outcome of the interview by mail.
6. Should a placement with the College be offered, this will be deemed to be accepted once a signed acceptance and bond payment of $200 per family is received by the College.

In all cases, early submission of Enrolment Application forms is recommended

If you are in doubt that you have followed this procedure please contact Sonya Bowden to clarify.

Meet the Maintenance Team

Have you ever wondered who was behind the green grass, the flourishing flowers and perfect paint jobs around GCCC?

Wonder no longer. Meet the magnificent men who work long hard hours to make the College sparkle:

Mark Becker

Mark is the original groundsman and has been with the school for seven years in two spells. He has been involved with the College since it’s genesis. Mark is an amazingly versatile person that can fix just about anything. With a background in boiler making, he has made many of the steel items around the school. Mark is also responsible (among many other things) for our line marking and much of our mowing etc.

Mark’s interests include shooting and road trips.
PRIMARY SPELLING PROGRAMME

A few years ago, after considerable research, we made the decision to change from our current spelling programme (Spelling Mastery) to Words Their Way. Last year we organized to have one of the authors of this programme to come from Melbourne this week and spend time in small groups with teachers during the day and meet with the whole staff after school continuing these workshops during the primary staff meeting time. In the words of one of our teachers “These workshops have revolutionized the way I will teach spelling from now on”. The presenter, Chris Killey, showed numerous strategies which will enable students to successfully encode words – not only their current spelling lists – but transfer these strategies to other words which follow the same spelling pattern.

These spelling strategies actually stand alone and can be used by teachers and parents to support children regardless of what spelling programme a school may be using. It is a focus on the teaching of Spelling rather than the teaching of Lists of Words.

We have decided to take the phonetic alphabet (the sounds for each individual letter) as the foundational strategy and one other strategy each week as a whole school approach to spelling throughout the primary classes. This will give a common language for staff and students right through the school and over the next three years we believe that we will see incredible progress in spelling as students learn how to transfer these weekly strategies to encode new words in every aspect of writing throughout all curriculum areas.

We recognize that parents can be an incredible support in student learning, so we will be sharing the weekly strategies with you in the newsletter so if you wish, you can watch the video clips and talk to your children about them. For example whatever strategy you watch, look for that strategy in the words of their home readers over the next few weeks. This will start soon when students are able to say the alphabet (different vowel and consonants sounds) confidently.

We believe that over the next 9 – 10 months, students will realize that instead of simply “sounding” the words out phonetically there are reasons and rules for good spelling choices. Over time they are more likely to become independent spellers – not just learners of spelling lists. Some “very good” spellers simply have an excellent memory but have difficulty spelling new or unknown words in their writing. Many children actually use homophones (words which have the same meaning) to avoid spelling a more expressive word which they have not learned previously in a spelling list, because they don’t have strategies to encode the new word.

If you would like to come on this journey with us, please watch out for the instructional video clips in the newsletter each fortnight.

The Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 students will learn these strategies as they are introduced in their current programme.

Cheryl Bryers, HEAD OF PRIMARY

Fun with Phonics in Prep

Prep White are having a delicious and healthy start to their year as we think about the sounds we are learning in Letterland. We have made some ‘silly sandwiches’ (for Sammy Snake) and ‘ants on tree trunks’ and teddy toast (for Annie Apple and Talking Tess).

Could it be pancakes and popcorn for Peter Puppy next?

For more photos, see the GCCC Website
Kitchen Garden News

We were HOT HOT HOT in the garden this fortnight and by far the best job to have was the watering! Some of the classes worked so hard and were so hot that Mrs Ward gave them all a good soaking with the hose to cool them off.

Year 2 Masterchefs made spring rolls using shallots from the garden, carrots, wombok and vermicelli noodles which were then wrapped in wrappers and fried until golden and crunchy...YUM!

Preppies had their first real Kitchen Garden lesson and made some Roaring Rockets out of fruit. We then had a countdown before ‘blasting’ off.

We continued to plant out the adopt-a-garden beds and the pineapple patch is coming up a treat after much effort to remove the weeds and old pineapple plants. We are nearly ready to begin planting some fresh pineapple tops so if you have a spare pineapple top or two we would really love them for our patch.

We have started planting out the veggie beds. Tomato, eggplant, corn, lettuce, silverbeet and beetroot seedlings are just the beginning.

A big thank you to all our Kitchen Garden volunteers. It’s lovely to see so many new faces in the garden. Don’t forget to have a look at the Kitchen Garden website www.gccckitchengarden.com.au and for more photos from this article, please click here.

Until next fortnight, Happy gardening and stay cool!

Mandy Ward

Middle School News

How can people build self-esteem? “The answer is never to get them to feel better about themselves. The ‘self-esteem’ trip is a dead end. “The answer is to have people feel connected to love,” according to psychologists Henry Cloud and John Townsend. When people already feel connected and accepted, they do not have to try to make themselves feel good.

Some good steps towards building self-esteem are: Having supportive positive relationships, setting realistic goals and plans, planning for success – seems strange but there are always things we know we CAN do – and celebrating these accomplishment. In the Bible it states: “There, in the presence of the Lord your God, you and your families shall eat and shall rejoice in everything you have put your hand to, because the Lord your God has blessed you.” (Deuteronomy 12:7)

The Launchpad program was an opportunity to set some of these things in motion. For more Launch Pad photos, see the GCCC Website.

Other news

Wearing Hats: Students are required to wear hats anytime they are outdoors during morning tea and lunch. Hats are not to be worn indoors. Students who do not have a hat will be required to stay indoors in room G5 and will be issued a demerit for not having the correct uniform. Students who have a valid reason and a note from a parent/guardian for not having their hat will also be required to stay indoors but will not be issued a demerit.

Assessment Calendars are now available on the Connect school website. There are links on this website that will give students the opportunity to save this info to their calendars.

A Fair Trade assembly guest speaker this week will highlight for our students their rights and responsibilities as consumers.

Next week the Assembly guest speaker will address Internet safety, protecting your privacy and Cyberbullying. If you are interested in further information on this as parents please check out our Connect site (http://connect.gccc.qld.edu.au/) where we have more information under: Students and Families; Handbooks and support; Bullying support. You could also take a look at the new Google Safety Centre and discover simple tools and tips to help keep you and your family safe and secure online http://www.google.com/safetycenter/

We are also hoping to get a confidential bullying form up on this site so that students can report issues directly to Mrs Vreeling for follow up.

iPad Issues

At the moment, while we encourage students to NOT have games on their iPads or at least remove them while at school, we have tolerated games. If however, a student is found to be playing games at school – they will have restrictions placed on their iPad, which will not allow them to download apps from the Appstore.
When an iPad is damaged, students will need to report this. If it involves other students and/or circumstances beyond their control, no matter how small the damage, it should be reported so that it can be followed up with those involved. If it is the student’s fault but the iPad is still useable, students can continue to use it until it becomes too damaged to use and then report it. Once the iPad has been handed in for repairs, if the damage is the student’s responsibility, the bill must be paid promptly.

Middle School Leaders’ Induction

This special event was held on Wednesday 12 February and there are lots of photos on the GCCC website. Thanks to all the parents who took time out of their busy schedule to attend.

Coming up this term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 February</td>
<td>Morning Tea for new parents 9.00 -10.00am at the church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>School Photos. (Students must wear formal for the photos.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Year 7 Canberra Camp forms due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March to 3 April</td>
<td>Year 7 Canberra Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 April to 4 April</td>
<td>Year 8 Camp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DATE CLAIMER

Fame Musical

6pm Friday 6 June and 2pm and 6pm Saturday 7 June

Senior School News

Cyber Bullying

Next week on our assembly, Ms Toula Gordillo, a Clinical Psychologist will address students and staff about the importance of staying safe with technology as well as ways in which this can be achieved. I have also spoken with our local police who will come to the school in the near future and address the legal implications of technology misuse.

There is a free parent and student information session on Saturday, 1 March from 2-4 pm at Glenview Gardens Country Resort (Next to Saddlery near Ettamogah Pub). See the brochure on the GCCC Website.

One of the biggest issues facing our students today and one of the emerging issues in suicide prevention is cyber bullying. Cyber bullying is a relatively new phenomenon, but is on the increase and is just as damaging than other forms of bullying. It can leave victims feeling trapped and isolated, with nowhere to hide.

What is cyberbullying?

According to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), ‘Cyber bullying involves the use of information and communication technologies, such as email, mobile phone and pager text messages, instant messaging (IM) and defamatory personal websites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behaviour by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others’.

The following statistics from a Queensland study by QUT of 120 year 8 students:

• 14% said they had been a victim of cyberbullying
• 11% said they had cyber bullied others
• 25% said they knew someone who had been cyber bullied
• 50% said it was on the increase
• text messaging and email are the most common methods used

Pre-teens and teens are the most active users of cyber communication and are therefore most at risk of cyberbullying.

People who experience cyberbullying often:

• experience feelings of hopelessness, fear and isolation
• become withdrawn and depressed
• feel unable to escape the situation as cyberbullying intrudes into a person’s home and personal spaces via internet/mobile phone etc.
• consider suicide as a way of escaping the pain and in some cases attempt or complete suicide.

A recent survey conducted by i-SAFE America concluded that 58 percent of children who have experienced cyber bullying never told an adult or their parent.
While it can be very difficult to tell if someone is being cyberbullied, below are some warning signs to look out for:

- Spending long hours on the computer or mobile phone and getting anxious if they are without it for long periods of time;
- Closing his or her browser or mail windows immediately when you enter the room;
- Being less attentive or interested in school work (including falling grades and/or reluctance to attend school);
- Noticeable change in behaviour (such as eating habits, willingness to go out, interaction with friends/family);
- Change in health status (e.g. frequently complaining about headaches, stomach-aches or nausea);
- Appearing fearful or evasive when discussing their social activities or friends;
- Becoming emotionally distant and withdrawing from support networks (e.g. teachers, parents etc).

If you think someone is being cyberbullied the most important thing to do is TELL SOMEONE who can do something about it.

Our school has setup a Bullying Support page on our Connect Website. This page provides information to assist students and parents as well as providing a method of reporting bullying of any form directly to the Head of Middle and Senior Schools. There are also links to a number of online support services.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in relation to this matter.

David Heyworth, Head of Senior School

Senior School Leaders’ Induction

The Senior School Leaders’ Induction was held on Tuesday 11 February and there are lots of photos of the special event on the GCCC website.

Hospitality Cafe

Year 11 Hospitality Students will be running a CAFE on a Fridays, starting 21st February for this term. It will be at 10.30 -10.50 outside the Hospitality kitchen. Milkshakes will be $2.50 and slices $1.50.

This gives the students an opportunity to gain knowledge in the functioning of a CAFE, involving communication skills, money management and producing quality food/beverage items. The cafe is open to Middle and Senior School students as well as staff however, due to time constraints, we cannot offer the cafe to parents at this stage. It would be great, if possible, to support these students.

Library Volunteers Needed – Do you love to cover books?

We would love to increase the number of volunteers covering books in the library to keep up with the growing number of items we are cataloguing. The most convenient time to assist is in the morning after drop-off. Full training will be provided. We use the most amazing contact that makes covering books a breeze! Please contact Vanessa McKellar at library@gccc.qld.edu.au if you are able to assist.

Vanessa McKellar, Head of Library Services

Chappy Chatter

Pause and Ponder – What are you carrying?

So often there are things in life that way you down; too many bills, personal heart aches, marriage break downs but in Matthew 11:28 Jesus says “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.” What a great hope, a great encouragement. If you are struggling this week, if the burden of life is too much, Jesus is just waiting to hear about it. Jesus is ready to take away your burdens and give you much needed rest.

If you have been feeling like life wasn’t meant to be this way, that it’s too hard – you are right. This heartache that you are going through, this horrible divorce, this wondering if you will be able to feed your family is the sign pointing to the fact that this life isn’t all that it should be. These troubles point to the life that is to come where there won’t be any heartache or pain. There won’t be any sadness or fear. If you are struggling this week, give it to Jesus. It won’t make your problems disappear straight away but it will give you the confidence that you don't need to worry about it anymore because Jesus is.

Chappy Danielle Bassett
Chappy Pancake Breakfast

Tuesday morning dawned with much anticipation, Pancake Breakfast was finally here. The overly hot morning didn’t deter the hungry hoard of primary school students lining up for the delicious pancakes.

Parents went out of their way to make pancakes, and thanks to their faithful support not one student went hungry. Pancakes, maple syrup and ice cream; a recipe for success.

What a morning! No one knew who had more fun, Chappy Dani or the students. Regardless, a great morning was had by all. Thank you parents!

For more photos, see the GCCC Website.

Chappy Danielle Bassett

Sports News

Great Mixture of Racing and Fun at Primary Swimming Carnival

Keen and excited Primary students flooded into the Beerwah Pool Complex to begin a day filled with competition and fun. Tents were enthusiastically decorated by newly named house captains who excelled in their creativity with streamers, balloons, signs and shark mascots abounding. War cries were impressive with the whole of Beerwah surely hearing them!

Students had been previously distributed into divisions so that everyone competed against children of similar ability. A division raced over 50m whilst other divisions raced over 25m with the exception of the nine year olds who raced over 25m in all strokes. Novelty races were also held to add some fun and extra swimming action for students. The dolphin and turtle riding events were a favourite event for everyone with many students just clinging on to the inflatable toy, whilst racing other teams.

The enthusiasm of students and almost 95 per cent participation rate was impressive and often students showed great courage and determination to finish the length. The cheering from fellow house team members really encouraged swimmers to do their very best to gain more valuable house points.

Three students performed exceptionally well throughout the day winning every event they raced in. 10-year-old Caitlin Moore, 11-year-old Amity Roser and Aiden McKellar won every event in their age groups and gained the maximum points to take out Age Champion titles. Caitlin and Amity also rewrote the records breaking four records each. Amy Trevan also swam well and was only beaten once and gained the 9 Year Girls Age Champion title. In many age groups Age Champion titles were fiercely contested with some very close results. 10 records were broken throughout the day and support and help from parents and families was fantastic.

There were 37 students who met qualifying standards and have been selected to swim at the Glasshouse District Swimming Trials on Friday 21 February. We are excited to enter such a talented team and look forward to some great results.

9 – 11 Years Age Champions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Years</td>
<td>Amy Trevan</td>
<td>Xander Bryant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Years</td>
<td>Caitlin Moore</td>
<td>Samson Coumi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years</td>
<td>Amity Roser</td>
<td>Aiden McKellar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more photos, see the GCCC Website.

Secondary Swimming Carnival

For the first time this year the swimming carnival was separated into Primary and Secondary events. This meant more time for novelty races and even a hotly contested fashion of the pool award won by Ella Mickelson dressed in very colourful attire.

With the absence of Primary students the Beerwah Pool was still bustling with excited Secondary students. With all students dressed in team colours and cheering throughout the day, the rivalry was at an all time high. House war cries resounded regularly throughout the day and it was Zion who this year showed the most enthusiasm to win the spirit award.

Competition was extremely close across most age groups with some champions being decided by just a few points. Students swam in divisions according to their efforts on trial day and it was a fantastic spectacle to see the regular close finishes. Sinai gained an early lead on the points tally however it was once again Ararat who emerged as well deserved house champions.

The standard of swimming continues to improve as this year 37 new records were set in some outstanding swims.
Congratulations to all students who managed to qualify to swim at the district carnival. In particular our age champions and record breakers.

Thank you to all parents, teachers and house captains who helped make the day a success.

This year’s boys and girls swimming age champions and record breakers are as follows…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Champions</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sophie Trevan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Stephanie Ferris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Shannon Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nichola Bates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Andrea Little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Jesse Snelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opens</td>
<td>Jayme-Lee Groer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adrian White</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Record Breakers</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sophie Trevan</td>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley, 50m Back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Dunford</td>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beau Howard</td>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley, 50m Back, 100m Freestyle, 50m Breast, 50m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel O’Farrell</td>
<td>13yrs</td>
<td>50m Free, 50m Butterfly, 50m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Fisher</td>
<td>13yrs</td>
<td>50m Back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Fissendon</td>
<td>14yrs</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley, 50m Butterfly, 50m Back, 100m Freestyle, 50m Breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connor Chapman</td>
<td>15yrs</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley, 50m Butterfly, 50m Back, 100m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Proud</td>
<td>15yrs</td>
<td>50m Breast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Little</td>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>50m Back50m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jake Hoeksema</td>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thom Thow</td>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>50m Back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian White</td>
<td>Opens</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley, 100m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbey Bates</td>
<td>Opens</td>
<td>4 x 50 Medley, 100m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayme-Lee Groer</td>
<td>Opens</td>
<td>50m Back, 50m Freestyle</td>
</tr>
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</table>

For more photos, see the [GCCC Website](#).

Several Students Qualify for Club State Championships

There are many students at GCCC involved in a wide variety of club sport which is fantastic. Some have told us of their recent success and we would like to share their successes.

Caitlin Moore swims for Pelican Waters Swim Club and competed at the State Sprint Championships recently in 50m Backstroke, Butterfly and Freestyle events. Caitlin qualified for these championships by meeting qualifying standards. She finished in the top third of the field for all events swimming personal best times in the 50m backstroke and 50m Freestyle. Swimming is very competitive and requires a huge commitment to training, so Caitlin has done really well to achieve these results.

Many of our students are members of the Glasshouse District Little Athletics Club and competed at the Regional Trials last weekend for selection into the State Little Athletics Championships. Shelby Daunt has taken up race walking and showed her style winning her 10 year 1100m event by almost 100m and without a single warning from judges. Laura Vobr won the 11 year girls Discus, Shotput and Javelin throws and Jaylah Daunt also qualified in the Discus, Shotput and Triple Jump events. Jaylah jumped a PB of 8.02m in the triple jump during a very hectic day of competition.

Surf Lifesaving – Nippers is another sport students are involved in. Amity Roser won Branch title in the Beach Sprint and Swim at the recent competition at Dicky Beach. She will represent the Sunshine Coast at the Qld State Championships on the Gold Coast next month. Her brother James also won sprints and swim titles but is too young to compete at state level.
Tom Dwan showed his all-round skills and qualified for the State Titles in the Under 15 Pentathlon. Stephanie Ferris competed well in spite of having an injured shoulder and still placed 2nd to gain selection in the U13 Shotput event. 10-year-old Cassidy Ferris is one tough competitor and placed 2nd in the 400m and 3rd in Shotput and also qualified in the 200m race.

Andie Little also had a huge weekend of competition and won gold in the 90m hurdles, bronze in the 200m hurdles and silver in the pentathlon competing in seven events on Sunday. Ella Mickelson competed at Regional’s too and placed second in Long Jump and Triple Jump. All these students will travel to Cairns in March to represent the Sunshine Coast Region at the Queensland State Championships.

*Wendy Stott*

For more photos, see the [GCCC Website](#).

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**Jacqueline Shows Determination at State Champs**

Jacqueline Roach was our first student to compete in a State Championship this year when she competed at the Queensland State Schools Triathlon Championships in Hervey Bay last week.

Jacqueline qualified for this event last November when she competed at Kawana and was selected in the Sunshine Coast Team. She has been training really hard over the last year with Peter Thorpe and the Ngungun Young Triathletes and this training has certainly paid off for her.

Jacqueline finished in 23rd position which was a great result from a field of 60 experienced triathletes from all over the state. Some of her opposition are already competing in Open Women’s competitions so competition was of a very high standard.

These girls need to be fit in swimming, cycling and running as the race is a 600m ocean swim, 16 km cycle and a 4 km run to finish. Jacqueline’s Sunshine Coast team finished 5th from a field or 11 regions which was a great result. Jacqui showed fantastic fitness and determination during the race and pushed hard right to the finish line running 4 minute kilometres throughout the run.

For more photos, see the [GCCC Website](#).

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**Alumni News**

**Graduating student of 2011 – Robyn White**

Since graduating from GCCC at the end of 2011 Robyn has been studying Sport Tourism Management at Southern Cross University in Lismore.

She has always wanted to see other parts of the world and has started her ‘travels’ by doing a student exchange semester at Brock University in St Catharines, Ontario, Canada (20kms from Niagara Falls).

Luckily, Robyn is enjoying the cold weather, especially the snow and icicles. Shortly after she arrived at uni she experienced a day with a wind chill factor of -38°C thanks to a polar vortex!

Robyn has really enjoyed meeting other exchange students from all over the world. She lives on campus, sharing a unit with 3 Canadians and (by lucky coincidence) a girl from Griffith Uni.

One of the most exciting things about her course is that she is will spend a weekend volunteering at the Ontario Winter Games at the end of February. Robyn especially loves ice hockey and goes to support Brock’s team when they play. She even managed to get to an NHL game in Buffalo, which is just over the US border.

During her mid-semester break (called reading week) she is planning to experience some winter sports herself – including dog sledding, skiing, snowboarding and tobogganing. The semester finishes in mid-April and then she will spend two months travelling around Canada before heading home. She plans to start in Calgary and then head to the West Coast and up to Alaska – she is desperate to see the Northern Lights.

This is the third year of Robyn’s degree. When she comes home she will start an internship (still to be decided where) and finish her degree by the end of the year.

Hi Everyone!

A big thank you to all who attended the family day last Saturday. It was a great day, despite the heat, and we had lots of fun. I believe Mrs Childs had a fabulous time tackling Mr Curtis! Go girl!

I want to shout out a huge thank you to Mrs Stott for all the hard work she puts in to organising and running the games on the day. She is the first one there and usually the last to leave and it is so appreciated. Thank you! A couple of families raised the possibility of involving some water games next year, so we will definitely look into this as an option!

A quick reminder that we will be holding our AGM on Tuesday 4 March at 7pm, in the school library. If you would like to come along and be a part of this committed group, you are more than welcome. All executive positions are being vacated as well and we will be looking for people to fill these places. All enquiries can be forwarded to our email address: pandf@gccc.qld.edu.au

Have an awesome fortnight!

Blessings, Alaina Westaway

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**Community News**

**BMX and Triathlon This Weekend**

Come along and try BMX this Saturday (22 February) at the BMX track at Ewen Maddock Dam, Mooloolah. Free for all and enjoy a sausage sizzle as well. Kids Triathlon this Saturday. Registration from 6am at Beerwah Pool. Event organised and run by Ngungun Triathlon Club. Tibros Netball, Beegees Soccer Club, Landsborough and Elimbah AFL and Bulldogs Rugby League clubs are still taking registrations for this coming season. Come on and play sport!

**‘Come and Try’ Winter Sports Activities and Information Sessions**

Where: Beerwah Sports Grounds, Sportsground Drive (off Simpson St)
When: Wednesday 26 February 2014 3:30pm to 5:30pm (approx.)
Who: Children aged 5 - 12 years old
Program: Arrival and registration from 3:00pm
  3:30pm: Activities start.
  Children will be split into age groups and rotated through the sports

For more information, see the [GCCC Website](#).

**Sunshine Orienteers Mountain Bike Orienteering**

When: March 16
Where: Beerburrum State Forest, Glasshouse Mountains Area

For more information, see the [GCCC Website](#).

**Early Childhood Panel: Provisions for Children 8 Years and Under Panel**

Early Childhood Panel: Provisions for Gifted Children 8 Years and Under will be held on Thursday 20 February, 7:30pm – 9:00 pm at the Indooroopilly Library.

A range of experienced teachers and researchers in the field will provide an overview of how gifted children present in educational settings, what differentiation can be provided and what parents can do to support young gifted children.

Please go to the website [www.gaqtc.org.au](http://www.gaqtc.org.au) for full details of panel members and to make a reservation or phone (07) 3352 4288.

**Beerwah Library**

The corner is a fun space for children to explore, play, learn and grow and is currently at Beerwah Library. If you have a child who is school aged visit the library after school on a Thursday or Friday. Or if your children include pre-schoolers we have sessions Monday to Wednesday in the mornings.

What’s available: Craft for all ages; Interactive Circus Circus themed play.

The corner is a great way to find out more about the library and to a relaxed space for your child to explore.

For more information visit the library website [www.library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au](http://www.library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au). You will find it under the “kids” tab.

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