



# SUMMERLAND CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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Thursday 17 March 2016

## From The Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to watch the roll out of the Positive Behaviour for Learning Program (Summerland Actions) across the College, and the impact it is having on behaviour and learning.

At a student enrolment meeting last week, I asked a student who was applying to enrol in the College why he wanted to change schools. He answered my question with the response, "I want to be in a school where students behave and the teachers can teach without constant interruptions." His clear answer reminded me of the importance of explicitly teaching school expectations to establish and maintain a learning environment where teachers are free to teach and students are free to learn.

In preparing a presentation to our staff on maximising individual academic performance, I was encouraged by some outstanding College results in the 2015 National testing program. One result that interested me was the score in Year 7 Reading. In this area, Summerland Christian College was the highest scoring school in Australia when compared to like schools. This was of particular interest to me as an educator as parents often look to move their students at Year 7 to larger schools with a wide range of curriculum offerings. Current research and the results of Summerland support the notion of maintaining educational continuity in the middle years of schooling and the benefits of a smaller school culture where students are known and nurtured individually.

David Roach  
*Principal*

## Coming Events

- ★ **Mon 21 Mar** - CSSA Secondary State Swimming
- ★ **Mon 21-Thurs 24 Mar** - Yr 7-10 Term Exams
- ★ **Thurs 24 Mar** - SCC Easter Service
- ★ **Fri 25 Mar + Mon 28 Mar** - Good Friday + Easter Monday
- ★ **Tues 29 Mar** - Pri Parent/Teacher Interviews Rnd 1
- ★ **Thurs 31 Mar** - Book Parade
- ★ **Thur 31 Mar + Fri 1 Apr** - CSSA State Touch Football
- ★ **Mon 4 Apr** - Secondary Cross Country (TBC)
- ★ **Tues 5 Apr** - Primary Cross Country
- ★ **Wed 6 Apr** - Pri Parent/Teacher Interviews Rnd 2
- ★ **Fri 8 Apr** - Last day of Term 1 - Anzac Chapel
- ★ **Tues 26 Apr** - First day of Term 2
- ★ **Wed 27 Apr-Fri 29 Apr** - Yr 3-5 Camp
- ★ **Tues 3 May** - Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews Rnd 1
- ★ **Wed 11 May** - Secondary Parent Teacher Interviews Rnd 2
- ★ **NEW DATE: Mon 9-Fri 13 May** - Yr 10 Work Experience
- ★ **Tues 10-Thurs 12 May** - NAPLAN; Yrs 3, 5, 7, 9
- ★ **Fri 24 Jun** - Last day of Term 2
- ★ **Mon 18 Jul** - First day of Term 3
- ★ **Fri 23 Sept** - Last day of Term 3
- ★ **Mon 10 Oct** - First day of Term 4
- ★ **Thurs 15 Dec** - Last day of Term 4

# Head of Primary's Report

Tony Ellem



## looking ahead

Last week, a group from our Leadership Team visited 3 schools in Queensland who are achieving **great results** with their students. This was a fantastic trip, as we were challenged to think deeply about our teaching practice and also to start thinking differently about our learning spaces.

This trip has not only had a big impact on **the way** the new high school building will be designed but also on **how** learning spaces will be set up throughout the school. Our first trial run will be in the learning space between the Yr 5 and 6 rooms, as we are now in the process of fitting this room out with the latest educational furniture to make this an amazing collaborative learning space.



## BOOK PARADE



Our Book Parade is coming up on **Thursday the 31<sup>st</sup> of March**. Hopefully, your child has started to think about the book character they would like to come as.

We will hold a parade of these characters in the Grace Centre at 9:30am. Parents are welcome to come along and see some incredible costumes. There will also be a **book fair** in the Library during that week.

Parent/Teacher Interviews are fast approaching! Please **book** in a meeting time by contacting the Office. These meetings are **Parent/Teacher Interviews** important for us to partner with you to help your child reach their full academic potential.



Our **Easter Service** will be held next Thursday. Families are welcome to come along as we remember and celebrate the amazing work Jesus accomplished on the cross.

Whenever I think of Easter, I remember this passage from the *Message* which paraphrases John 3:17:

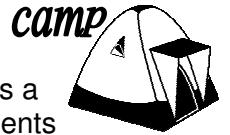
*"God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again."*

Like millions of others I am **daily thankful** for this. God Bless.

# Secondary Coordinator's Report

Michael Capilli

I had the pleasure last week of accompanying our Yr 7 and 8 students on their **camp**. This was a fantastic time away, and our students gained so much from it. The focus was on Team Building and Personal Challenge, and I'm **proud** of the ways that our students responded and grew. Congratulations to all involved, and thank you to our staff who went away with them - Mr Amber, Mrs Atherton, Mr Weeks and our helper Mikaela Pieniacki.



A number of events are coming up **quickly** on the College calendar:



## NSW Christian Schools Touch Football Championships: April 1st, Coffs Harbour

About 12 of our students will represent the North Coast Zone. Mr McDonald, Mrs Langford and some of our past students will travel as coaches of the Zone teams. We wish all our students the best. North Coast has a proud record at the Championships, including winning the Open Boys **twice** in the last 3 years!



## Secondary Cross Country: Mon 4 April

Again, we are using this as a fundraiser for the missions trips some of our students take, and also for our sponsored children. We encourage our students to **get involved** in both raising money and participating on the day. Thank you to Mr McDonald and his Business Studies class who are running the event this year.

## SUMMARIES

One of the skills that students learn at SCC is the preparation of **summaries**. Our method of summarising work is unique, and is the key to continuing our fine record of academic success.

An integral element is that students LEARN TWICE each part of their summary – that is, they go over and learn it once and then, within 24-48 hours, go back and **learn it again**. Research shows that this type of learning increases recall of facts by up to 80%.



## FAREWELL, SIR

Many of you will have heard that **Mr McDonald** has been successful in gaining a position as a Learning Support Teacher at the International Community School in Bangkok, Thailand. He starts this job in Term 3, and we wish him well!




Thank you again for your support and prayers.

## PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS THE PRIMARY INTERVIEWS

K-6 Parent/Teacher Interviews for Semester 1 will be held on **Tuesday 29 March** and **Wednesday 6 April**. They will commence at the end of the school day (3:30pm) and progress through to tea time (6:30pm approx.)

To arrange a time to see your child's teacher, **please ring the Office**.

NOTE:

-  First in, first served.
-  Please do not send notes or emails to the Office requesting particular times - **we need to speak to you in person!**
-  Secondary Interviews: Early next term.

## VACCINATION PROGRAMS



The Year 7 students have had their first round of immunisations as part of the **Adolescent Vaccination Program**. It's not too late for your child to join the program - there are more days to come. Just fill in and return the card ASAP.

## ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Attendance is being monitored more and more **carefully** by the Government. Please take the time to read the following pages regarding attendance requirements.

## BULLYING & HARASSMENT

Attached is a pamphlet on bullying and harassment for your information.

-  Bullying is deliberate, repetitive acts which set out to cause pain and/or unhappiness. Examples include hitting, pushing, name calling, threats, exclusion and spreading rumours.
-  Harassment is similar but may involve less direct actions or words which cause worry or distress.

On occasions, incidents of bullying or harassment occur which we are not aware of. Likewise, incidents reported to different staff members may result in SCC not being aware of the **extent** of a problem. If you have any bullying or harassment concerns, please assist us by reporting the matter to the Head of Primary/Secondary Coordinator. This will allow us to investigate and deal with the issue.

## CANTEEN NEWS

We've had a nice response to our call for more volunteers. However, as you will see on the back page, **more helpers are needed**. Please call us if you think you may be able to volunteer some time — 66 242711. Thanks.

## SCC EASTER SERVICE

On Thursday 24 March, we will hold our **Easter Service**, featuring students from both our Primary and Secondary. (See attached.)

Parents and friends are **invited** to help us celebrate the wonderful love of our saviour Jesus Christ. The ceremony will be held in the Grace Centre, starting at 9:30am.

## BOOK FAIR AND PARADE

This year's Book Parade will be held on **Thurs 31st March**. Students from Trindy to Yr 6 are invited to dress up on that day as their favourite book character.

**NOTE:** Please no witches, wizards or ghoulish characters. From the oldest to the youngest, we would like everyone to enjoy the costumes.

## LISMORE ANZAC DAY MARCH

The Lismore **Anzac Day March** will be held on Monday 25 April.

Please plan to have your child march with the SCC contingent as we honour those who fought in the many conflicts over the years. The details will be included next newsletter.

## ART GALLERY EXCURSION

By Jemima Drews, Yr 12

The HSC Art students (along with the Yr 9/10 Art class) recently had the privilege of visiting the **Tweed Art Gallery** to help us get a better grasp of the art world before we begin our major works next term.

It was fantastic! We were not only exposed to the skill and diverse designs of the portraits submitted for the **Archibald Prize**, but we also saw many gorgeous works by Margaret Olley, a famous Australian artist who painted still-life.

Olley's work was awe-inspiring for her compositions and beautiful colour choices. Also impressive was her determined work ethic as a professional female artist when it was hard to be a professional female anything. I'm sure this trip has helped us all **plan** for our future art studies. Thanks, Mrs See!

# Who's On Canteen?

**Tues 22 Mar** - A. Hay,  
L. Tyson, K. McCheyne + 1 more  
helper.

**Thurs 24 Mar** - L. Morrissey,  
M. Parker, W. Ingle + Y. Frey.

**Tues 29 Mar** - J. Fedley,  
M. Jurjens, M. Parker + J. Watson.

**Thurs 31 Mar** - P. McGrady,  
D. Van Dugteren, J. Shaw + 1  
more helper please.

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**More helpers are welcome!**  
**Please call 66 242711.**

# LOST & Found!

**FOUND:**

**LOST:**

## UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Mondays 2:45-3:30pm.

*Strictly by appointment only.*

Wednesdays 8:45 to 9:30am.

*No appointment necessary.*

# F OR Y OUR I NFO

**FAMILY DAYCARE AVAILABILITY**—Play based care in a loving home environment. One Wednesday spot available! Luci's Family Daycare, Goonellabah.

☎ Luci: 0431394073.

**MOVIE FUNDRAISER**—O'Hara Watts of Yr 12 is fundraising for a mission trip to a Kenyan orphanage. "Zootopia" will be showing at Birch Carrol and Coyle Cinema, Lismore, 3:15pm (for 4pm) on Sat 19 Mar. Visit: [oharamission.wix.com/kenya2016](http://oharamission.wix.com/kenya2016) for more info.

**FREE PARENTING PROG** — Bringing Up Teens. Build skills to strengthen relationships + gain support. 4 sessions: 10am-12:30pm. Tues May 3, 10, 17, 24 Bkings essential. ☎ Family Support Network: 66 212489. 143 Laurel Ave, Lis.

**FREE SWIM CLUB NIGHT** — Free club night at GSAC, Oliver Ave, 5:30-7pm. 25-400m races. Make new friends. BBQ avail. Check website for dates: [www.summerlandswim.club](http://www.summerlandswim.club). ☎ Chris: 0400 308 906.

**LISMORE GIRL GUIDES** — Looking for women 18 yrs+ interested in leadership. Training, mentoring, resources given. Help girls grow into self-respecting, confident adults. ☎ Jacki: 0427 728 269.

**A'VILLE HOCKEY CLUB** — Minkeys, jnrs, womens and men. All ages, skill levels. Family fun a/noon: Sun 13/3, 3pm @ GAP Rd Hockey Fields, A'ville. ☎ Glenn: 0402 674 525/Maria: 0476 267 949.

**CENTRECHURCH BOOKSHOP** — Christian resources. Mon-Fri: 10am-5pm, Sat: 9am-12noon. 43 Molesworth St, Lismore. ☎ 66 22 1415.

**DEBORAH MARKS: WEDDINGS + OCCASIONS** — Stylish and affordable decorating for all events. Chair covers, vases, table linen, centrepieces & more! "Your dream is our theme." ☎ Deborah: 0407 102 770. Website: [www.deborahmarksweddings.com](http://www.deborahmarksweddings.com)

**JOAN McKEE: CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING** — Private Christian counselling for adults, siblings of SCC students, friends and family is available outside of school hours, Lismore & Casino. \$30 per ½ hour. ☎ Joan: 0402 425 156.

*SCC reserves the right to decline a request to advertise.*

# **ATTENDANCE – GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **Why must I send my child to school?**

The law in NSW (Education Act 1990) states that all children between the ages of six and seventeen years (some exemptions apply for students 16 – 17 years of age) are required to attend school regularly.

It is the responsibility of parents or caregivers to make sure that their children attend school every day. A typical school day starts with roll call at 9.10am and finishes at 3:00pm. Supervision is provided from 8:15am

## **Must I send my child to school every day?**

YES. It is your responsibility to send your child to school every day. If your child is absent from school, you must bring in a written explanation as soon as you send the child back to school. Our rolls are legal documents and if this explanation is not received within seven [7] days of the absence, the absence is permanently recorded as being unexplained and cannot legally be changed.

There are very few 'good', or legitimate, reasons for keeping your child away from school. Your explanation must be specific (not simply "family reasons" or "personal reasons"), and will only be considered satisfactory if:

- your child is too sick to go to school
- your child has been injured
- your child has to attend a special religious ceremony
- your child has an infectious illness for example, chicken pox, mumps or measles
- there is a serious family situation which requires their involvement

It is not however, acceptable to keep your child away from school for activities such as: birthdays, pension days, shopping, minding other children, hair cuts, unauthorized holidays etc.

## **Must my child attend sport?**

YES. Sport and other exercise help the healthy physical development of children. Sport is part of normal school activity which students must attend.

If your child is unable to attend their sport for sick or injury reasons a note is to be provided explaining the relevant problem and handed to the sports coordinator at the start of the day. The sports coordinator will advise the student of the arrangements for that day.

Students are not given permission to go home.

## **Why is regular attendance at school important?**

Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps build and maintain friendships with other children. If students miss the basic skills in the early years of school, they may have problems later on. Regular attendance at school will help your child to succeed in later life.

Families should try to arrange holidays during school vacation periods. If you can only arrange your family holiday during school time, you should inform the school principal in advance and request permission for your child to be absent. You can ask the school to provide homework that can be completed while your child is absent. Given sufficient time, the teacher/s involved can usually arrange this.

**P.T.O.**

**What should I do if my child has to stay away from school?**

It is important to let the school know when your child will be away and why your child is absent. The parent or caregiver should telephone the school or provide a written note addressed to the school explaining the child's absence.

If your child has to leave school during the day, you must send them in with a signed note clearly stating the child's name, Year, Roll group number, reason for the absence, times of departure and expected return. This note must then be handed in at the office before school. The leave pass is then collected at recess and handed back in on return to school.

Lunch passes may be applied for at the office but will only be issued to students who live within ten minutes walk from school and who go straight home for lunch. At least one parent is expected to be home at lunchtime. Passes must be carried and shown on request to teachers when either leaving and/or returning to the school grounds. If a student abuses the privilege, the pass will be withdrawn. Lunch pass students who are late back to school will have their pass withdrawn.

The details of students arriving late to school are also recorded in the rolls. If your child is late to school, it is your responsibility to send in a written explanation for the lateness. The student will have to sign the late book in the office and hand in the note from home.

**My child won't go to school. What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the problem and ask for help. The principal may ask a Home School Liaison Officer to contact you to discuss the issue.

We seek your support in helping your child to gain the greatest benefit from their education and developing good attitudes and practices in terms of meeting their responsibilities.

Yours in Christ,

David Roach  
*Principal*