From the Principal

Welcome

“Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always” 1 Chronicles 16:11

As we begin a new term, we dedicate our work and service to our Heavenly Father, acknowledging all we are and have are blessings from Him. As a Christian School, we look to our Lord for strength guidance and we seek His face in all we do.

I pray the Lord again blesses this term and that the year may be seen out in a manner that brings Him glory.

We welcome all our students back to school and particularly our new families. It is wonderful you have joined our community.

Meg Howard - started 18 October

Greg and Sharon Howard - from Brisbane (originally NZ)

Jasmyn Taylor-Phillips – starting 21 October

Dion Taylor and Lisa Taylor-Phillips - from Dalyellup

Rogan van Rooyen - starting 24 October

Carl and Veronica van Rooyen - From Whyalla, South Australia (originally South Africa)

Ayla French – starting 24 October

Troy and Eleanor French - from Cockburn, WA

If you have visited our Reception area recently, you will have noticed a sensational display of accolades our school and students have received over the past term. Outstanding results which we can boast of God’s goodness:

- Tournament of the Minds : Highest Score in Primary Division - Bunbury Regional Final
- Certificates of Merit : Year 9 & 10 Drama students - South West Drama Festival
- Best Original Script : Year 9 & 10 Drama students - South West Drama Festival
- Rio Tinto Science competition : 5 High Distinctions, 4 Distinctions and 15 Credits
- U16 Soccer : Runners-up CCJSA League
- U14 Soccer : Runners-up CCJSA Cup

Additionally, Alysha Loffler (Year 10) - YOUTH Health Ambassador for Research Australia has been selected to meet the Queen during her visit to Australia for CHOGM.

I look forward again to an outstanding term, a very busy one filled with excursions, incursions, assemblies, assessments, examinations and Presentation Evenings.

May I stress, it is vitally important for all students to attend school each day (except in the case of a medical condition), in order for them to have the very best chance of success in their studies.

School closes for 2011 on Wednesday, 14th December, and the office will officially close on Friday, 16th December until two weeks prior to the start of Term 1, 2012.

Uniform Shop Opening Times:

Monday : 8.15am - 9.15am / Thursday : 2.45pm - 3.30pm / Friday : 8.15am - 9.15am
Presentation Evenings
At the end of this term, our school will celebrate our students achievements in service, dedication and academia at our Annual Presentation Evenings. All students are expected to attend their respective Presentation Evening.

This community event is another occasion for the development of life skills, and provides an arena for children to be recognised for effort, set goals for personal achievement as well as learning about celebrating their own, and the achievement of fellow students.

Presentation Evenings will take place as follows :-

- **Junior (K-3)**: 6.30pm Thursday, 1st December
- **Middle (4-7)**: 6.30pm Tuesday, 6th December
- **Senior (8-12)**: 6.30pm Thursday, 8th December

Creative Arts Evening
On Thursday, 3rd November from 7pm to 9pm the school will hold its inaugural Creative Arts Evening.

Parents and friends are invited to this very special event which is designed to showcase selected art works by our talented students, including music, drama, art, cooking, metal work, wood work, computing and English.

- Whilst entries will generally be selected according to merit, works by students in Kindergarten to Year 2 will be non-selective.
- Students performing music or officiating on the night, are asked to please wear Formal Summer School uniform.
- Entry is FREE. Refreshments will be sold for a small charge.
- After a brief opening, parents and friends will be invited to move between the auditorium and the library to view student art works.

We hope you will thoroughly enjoy this evening.

SunSmart
As Term 4 begins to warm up, we encourage parents to remember to assist their children with sunscreen and wearing of the school’s hat.

Children in K - Year7 are not permitted to play without a hat, and whilst senior students may go outdoors without a hat, we have an expectation that students will be SunSmart; apply sunscreen, use shaded areas and wear hats when in the sun.

Summer Uniform
Summer uniform reminder :-

- No ties needed
- Girls : Socks only — no stockings
- Primary boys : Shorts, no trousers
- Secondary boys : shorts or trousers
- All Year 1—7’s : Hats compulsory. “No hat, No play”

Please note : Unfortunately, our current hat style is no longer being manufactured and as yet, we don’t have a substitute. Current stocks will be available for new students. If you happen to have any spare hats, either in our old or current style, it would be appreciated if you could drop them into the uniform shop or give them to a student in need.

Congratulations : Alysha Loffler
As Youth Ambassador for Research Australia, Alysha has received an invitation from the Premier to the State Reception and has the opportunity to meet the Queen, Heads of State and other dignitaries.

Research Australia are organising an afternoon tea which Alysha will attend with UWA representatives, followed by an informal dinner.

Well done Alysha, you have done your school, peer group and parents proud.

Annual Kindergarten Dinner - Wednesday, 26th October
A special dinner for parents of all Kindergarten students enrolled to start their schooling experience at Grace Christian School in 2012 will be held on Wednesday, 26th October

Kindergarten is the start of a child’s 14 years at school, during which time many life-long relationships will be born, nurtured and developed.

The dinner is an opportunity for class parents to get to know one another, possibly set up play-dates for their children over the December holidays, and generally get a feel of what can be expected as their child starts their schooling experience.

The dinner also provides an informal setting to meet and chat with the staff who will be partnering with parents in their child's education over the coming years.

The evening is fully catered for, and held in the Kindergarten classroom which will be specifically set up for the occasion.

We trust this year’s event will be as memorable as those held previously.

Seeking a “Crosswalk” attendant
We are seeking assistance of a mature, road wise crosswalk attendant. The position is voluntary with recognition that comes with serving Christ. Time : 3pm - 3.20pm daily or any number of days in the week.

Interested members of our community are asked to please contact the School’s reception to register their interest.

Farewell to our Year 12 students
Next week marks the end of an era in our current Year 12’s lives. Fourteen years of schooling concludes! What is of particular significance this year, is that for the first time in the school’s history we will have graduates who have participated in a full-time programme. (Prior to this, all Year 12 students participated in a hybrid programme involving both school and TAFE (SWIT).

The final day for our Year 12 students is Thursday, October 27th. The day begins with a whole school assembly and concludes with a Graduation Dinner for our Year 12 graduates.

Our prayer is that these young men and women will continue to blossom and become the salt and light in the communities they become part of.

As a school, we pray the Lord will bless their endeavours and their preparation for the approaching examinations.
For families leaving Grace at the end of 2011

If you intend un-enrolling your son or daughter at the end of this year, it is vitally important the school is notified immediately.

This not only fulfils the required one term’s notice as per the Enrolment Agreement; but greatly assists with planning for staffing and class requirements for the coming year.

We understand circumstances can and do change, however for those families who are aware of certain withdrawals, please notify the school immediately.

According to the Enrolment Agreement, the cost of one term’s fees is imposed on families who do not provide one term’s notice of withdrawal.

Remembrance Day - November 11th

This year marks the 93rd Anniversary of Armistice Day, which will be celebrated on Remembrance Day, 11th November. A service will be held at the War Memorial in Bunbury at 11.00am.

Members of the school community are invited. Poppies will be available for sale from our front office reception desk at .50c each.

School Chaplaincy and Welfare Services.

The Minister for School Education, Peter Garrett, has release the guidelines for the Government’s National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Programme, enabling the extension and expansion of chaplaincy and welfare services in schools.

Under changes to the programme announced last month, school communities will be able to choose a chaplain or a secular student welfare worker. The scheme has also been strengthened with the introduction of minimum qualifications, benchmark standards for service providers and improvements to the complaints management system.

Extracted from AISWA Weekly Briefing - 14th October 2011.

We thank God for the continuation of this most valuable service.

Too many furphies in school debate - Australian Financial Review

Angelo Gavrielatos, president of the Australian Education Union, has argued that government support has resulted in the over-funding of non-government schools, while government schools are starved of resources. Unfortunately, Productivity Commission figures show the opposite. On average, non-government students receive only $6,607 compared to $12,639 for government students.

Data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that government funding to state schools increased marginally from 2004/05 - 2008/09, whilst funding for non-government schools shrank by 1.6% a year in real terms. The best way to ensure that Australia has a world-class standard education system is to make sure that non-government schools are properly funded and remain independent. Doing otherwise is illogical.

Extracted from AISWA Weekly Briefing - 14th October 2011.

Hugo de Ridder : Principal

Expressions of Interest - FRENCH as a second language

The school is looking into the option of providing private FRENCH lessons after school, run in a similar way to our Private Music Tuition programme.

Parents interested in the possibility of their child taking FRENCH lessons after school are asked to please email Mrs Lea McDonald on lmcdonald@grace.wa.edu.au

If this programme goes ahead, it will commence at the start of 2012 and be run on the school premises in one of our classrooms.

Group lessons will be conducted and billed by a Private Tutor. Approximate cost = $10.00 - $15.00 per lesson; to be confirmed.

Coles and Woolworth Vouchers

Parents and students are reminded that time is running out for the return of these vouchers. If you have vouchers yet to be returned, please bring these to the office as soon as possible.

Final day is Monday, 24th October.

LOST PROPERTY

There is a large amount of lost property in the office. Could parents and students please check the lost property box as soon as possible.

Also, could parents please check their child(ren’s) jumpers and jackets to ensure they have not taken the incorrect one home.

Labelling your child’s clothing — All items of clothing should be clearly marked with iron-on or sew-on labels.

GET UP - STAND UP : Mentoring Conference

An outstanding opportunity for educators, parents, community, business and youth service providers to share inspiring stories of survival, resilience, overcoming barriers and achieving personal goals.

"Get up Stand up"

This event will sell out! Only $99 per person. Mentors, students and unwaged $40 per person. Morning tea and lunch included.

Phone : 9721-5033 or to register go to www.getupstandup.com.au

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vouchers