The Importance of Christian Teachers

Who is influencing your child? A child's early years lay a spiritual foundation for life. In our modern society, many things will influence your child. The Barna Group study found parents were still the major influencers of children. This position was however now being shared with media and laws.

School came in at the second level. The 1,200 hours spent each year in school over roughly 12 years are seen as very influential.

Christians may be surprised that church was further down the list. The 100 hours or so a year in church can be very significant, yet other influences are seen as greater. Your child's teachers will have a significant influence.

Jesus said: "A student is not above his teacher, but every one who is fully trained will be like his teacher' Luke 6:41

Teachers are significant role models. Your child will imitate, or become like, their teachers. As parents it is important we help ensure our children have suitable role models. The Apostle Paul himself encourages us to "Imitate me as I imitate Christ" 1 Corinthians 11:1

In selecting a school, parents are choosing who they will partner with for the education of their child. Education is more than gaining knowledge about the world around us. It is learning how to respond to and live out that knowledge. Different teachers do have very different understandings of what is important in life. The Apostle Paul highlights the foundational differences between Christians and non-Christians when he asks the question: "What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?" 2 Corinthians 6:15

Paul urges Christians to not "be yoked" together with unbelievers. He urges us to still be in the world yet to avoid situations where we are obliged to follow, or adopt the values of unbelievers. Non-Christian teachers can be dedicated and passionate yet they cannot lead our children into biblical truth about our world and their place in it. Jesus also points out the obvious: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Won't they both fall into a pit?" Luke 6:38

In Christian schools, parents, teachers and church members can work together to positively influence children. Other parents in the Christian school community will generally share a similar view of the world. They will become additional role models to your children. This sense of community and common values can make the role of parenting much easier.

The Bible says "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" Proverbs 22:6

Choosing a school which employs practising Christians as teachers, gives parents a greater say in who will be a role model for their children. Christian teachers are not perfect. Nor do they have all the answers. Yet they are part of a wider Christian community working together with, and on behalf of, parents.

Further information is available at www.whychristianschools.com.au
Welcome to five new families and two returning families
Eliesha Burgess-Dixon and Billy Burgess : Asha Burgess in Year 1; Emma - Kindy
Sandra and Kuda Mushati : Krystal - Kindy; Kimberley - Year 5; Tari - Year 8
Melissa and Lucas Ramshaw : Jacob - Year 8
Fransa and Ronald Du Toit : Daniel - Year 6
Daniela and Mark Lillie : Jacob - Year 6
.... and welcome back to :
Gail Thornton : Pedro Bero - Year 4; Gabrielle - Pre-Primary
Angela and Kelton Guy : Shelana - Year 4; Austin - Year 7
It is our sincere prayer that you will all settle happily and find friends quickly in our school community.

Welcome to our new Chaplain

It is our great pleasure to introduce our new Chaplain, Akita Olsen.

“I just want to say hello and to give you some background information on myself so you may get to know me better.

My family moved to the Bunbury area twelve years ago and fell in love with this special place. We have two children; a son Jesse aged 20yrs and a daughter Rachel, aged 17yrs. My husband Graeme is very supportive and we attend Bunbury Vineyard Church.

For the past five years I have worked at Australind Senior High School as a Chaplain. I certainly enjoyed my time there and the vast experience which that environment provided. Before that, I was working as a part-time Youth Pastor at our local church.

My main passion is to encourage young people and children. I truly love working with them and seeing them develop into confident and capable young adults.

During my first week at Grace, I have been able to visit nearly all the classrooms to say hello to the students so they can put a face to the name.

I have felt very welcomed by staff and students, and I look forward to getting to know the school community in the near future.”

Mrs Akita Olsen — Chaplain

Parents Prayer Group - A group of dedicated parents meets every Monday morning at 9am in our school Board Room, to pray for our school community.

• All parents, guardians and friends of the Grace community are welcome to support our school through this prayer group. A “Prayer request” box is available in the front reception area. Anyone is able to make a prayer request and these can be made anonymously if desired.

Please feel free to come along at 8.55am on any Monday of the school term, if you would like to participate.

Road Works

You will no doubt have noticed that Main Roads South West Office has commenced work on the Australind Bypass/Vittoria Road intersection, with the aim of improving safety and capacity in the area.

The upgrade will eventually see traffic lights installed on the south bound lanes of the Australind Bypass to allow easier crossing by vehicles leaving Glen Iris, while north bound traffic (to Perth) will remain uninterrupted.

Construction on the road will initially involve the installation of a third lane on the south bound carriageway, and a north bound acceleration lane. The acceleration lane will be provided so that right turning vehicles leaving Vittoria Road can merge safely with traffic on the Australind Bypass.

These works form part of Stage 1 of the project, with expected completion due by Christmas 2012.

It is important to note that delays will be experienced during Stage 1 works. If at all possible, Main Roads asks that road users seek alternative routes.

There will be road closures between 9am and 3pm - This will ensure avoiding the school drop-off and pick-up times. Main Roads are also aware of bus operations in the area, and are liaising with the bus company regarding the works.

The final stage will involve installing traffic signals at the intersection, which will be completed by March 2012.

If parents have any queries in this regard, please contact Carolyn Walker Public Relations  e: icwalker@vianet.net.au

Parking issues and traffic flows

Parents are again reminded to be mindful of the intended traffic flows around the school, and in particular the direction you are parking your vehicle in the designated car parks.

It has been brought to our attention, that some parents are parking contrary to the designated parking bays, and others are using a short-cut route between the Primary and Secondary parking areas, by contravening one-way signage.

Your children are precious to us, which is why we have worked hard to overcome the traffic flow and parking issues experienced in the past as building work was being carried out on site.

The gravel parking area is marked, indicating the direction your vehicle should face.

Parents of children in Kindergarten to Year 2 are permitted to use this area, however parents of students in Years 3 - 12 are asked to continue to use the Middle/Senior School car park and “kiss and drop zone”.

One area of concern is the road corner next to the water tanks. Please do not park in this area now as it causes blind spots for our children and unnecessary traffic congestion.

After-school pick up

Primary school K - Year 2 students are required to remain behind the fenced area until collected by their parents, guardian or after school care programme.

Students from Years 3 - 12 are required to be picked up via the “kiss and drop” zone in front of the glassed auditorium café. Primary students should walk along designated walk ways behind the auditorium to reach the “kiss and drop” zone.

 Stranger Danger - Parents are reminded to speak to their children about safe practises when walking to and from school or around town. If at all possible, students should not walk or arrive home alone.

Parents Prayer Group Phone : 0412 123 45
Waves: Weekdays from 9am, school leaders and any student are welcome to call free of charge.
Absentees

Parents are reminded that they need to advise the school when their child is absent. This can be done in advance by calling the school, via SMS, or sending an email to absentees@grace.wa.edu.au

If your child is absent and the school has not been notified, you will generally receive an SMS message in the morning of the absence.

**Please reply to this SMS, giving a reason for the absence.** This will assist the school in managing your child’s legal attendance requirements.

Please note that due to the SMS system the school has been using, you may have received messages from businesses other than the school which would show as being sent from the school if you had saved an absentee SMS in your contacts. This issue is due to how the SMS provider sends messages. We are endeavouring to rectify this situation. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Mr Kerry Forsyth — Records Management Officer

---

Senior School News

**English - Young Australian Christian Literature Awards**

Earlier this year we announced that four students entered the 2012 Young Australian Christian Literature Awards (Alex Chi; Kate Monaghan; Cameron Fleming and Daniel Lee). We are pleased to announce that Alex Chi (Year 8) and Cameron Fleming (Year 9) were two of only six finalists in this nation-wide competition.

It is worth pointing out that special permission had to be requested for Alex to enter, as she was technically below age (13-18). This makes both students’ achievements all the more praiseworthy because they were competing against older teenagers.

**Excellent work, keep it up!**

Mr Robert McCafferty - Teacher

**Athletics Carnivals**

**Secondary** - On 23rd August, our secondary students set out for the Athletics Arena at the Southwest Sports Centre. This is the third year that we have completed our Athletics Carnival at the centre and a little bit of rain didn’t dampen the enthusiasm or the efforts of the day.

32 school records were broken - most notably, Harmony Staszewski-hose (Year 9) broke 5 records, and Leanne Brolsma (Year 12), who broke 8 records.

**Primary** - On Friday, 24th August, our primary students took their turn to compete in their athletics carnival held on the school’s oval. Again, many fine efforts were put in and competition was fierce for many of the events.

The teachers were assisted by a number of high school students, who helped run events and keep score. Grateful thanks to those students for their servant-hearts.

Overall, the days were excellent displays of sportsmanship and fun. A full set of results can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

Quentin Oaklands : Head of Physical Education

---

Middle School News

**The Athletics Carnival — by Ann Twodros (Year 4 / 5)**

On 24th August, Grace Christian School held the athletics carnival. All of the students from Year 4—7 competed.

The running races were my favourite events. I liked the javelin because of its lovely pattern and I did a good job.

Triple jump was tricky and confusing, but I tried my best and that’s all that counts.

Shot-put was fun and the balls were heavy.

The team races were awesome and my favourite was baton relay because it had a long track and I also liked it when we passed the baton. I got 2 ribbons; both were third and both were for running.

I was proud of myself and so was my family.

It was a really enjoyable and tiring day and I am really thankful to Mr Faed and the other teachers and students who helped to make that day a success.

---

Canteen News

**DON’T HAVE THE TIME TO VOLUNTEER IN THE CANTENEAN?**

You can still help us by ensuring that you are correctly registered to use Our Online Canteen system......this saves us time. By using the Online service you are helping us to provide a cheaper and more efficient service.

**Saving you time** - You or even your child, can place an order 24/7, two weeks in advance.......no last minute morning rush!! Orders close at 9am on the morning of the order.

Many students enjoy the privilege of being allowed to order themselves.

**Not just about Credit cards** - Payment can be done with direct banking, PayPal as well as major Credit Cards.

**Help is on hand** - If you are having trouble with ordering on-line, please contact On-Line Canteen’s info line direct on 08 9467 9672; info@ouronlincanteen.com.au or fax 08 9200 5693

**Correct information saves us time**

Please ensure that all the information supplied with your order is correct, especially the name of your child’s teacher and their year group. If your child is in a split class, please identify the class clearly i.e. write 4/5 instead of just 4.

Just visit www.ourlinecanteen.com.au and follow the prompts.

**Price increases**

Please note that unfortunately we have had to increase some of our prices this term. A new menu reflecting the up-to-date prices can be downloaded from the school’s website at www.grace.wa.edu.au or you can pick up a new copy at the canteen or front office reception.

Prices are automatically changed on OurOnlineCanteen.

**NO $50 NOTES** - $50 notes will no longer be accepted at the canteen. Where possible, please supply your child with the exact amount for their lunch order.
**For families leaving Grace in at the end of 2012**

If you intend un-enrolling your son or daughter at the end of this year, it is vitally important the school is notified before the end of Term 3.

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.

**Old / Un-used mobile phone collection:** Now in its final weeks, we have managed to collect 102 units. You still have a couple of weeks left to bring in your old / un-used phones to assist raise funds for much needed teen-cancer research, so please speak to your family, friends and associates and help us reach our target of 400.

**Osteoporosis tee-shirt sales:** unfortunately, we did not sell as many of these shirts as we’d hope to. If anyone still wishes to purchase a “skeleton” tee-shirt or apron, please see Mrs McDonald before Tuesday next week (11th September).

**School diaries for 2013 - Parents,** our school diary contains a collection of very important information relating to your child’s school life. Topics such as:- Term dates; What to do when your child is absent, late or misses work; Who to contact with a query or concern; Uniform regulations; Assessment policies; School rules; as well as sample timetables; lockdown and evacuation information and ‘Key practices relating to enrolment at Grace’ - can all be found in the diary.

If you wish to order a diary for your own personal use, please contact Mrs Lea McDonald before Friday, 14th September. Diaries will cost $25.00 each and can be viewed at the front reception desk.

---

**Divorce Recovery** - Careforce Lifekeys have just released their new program on ‘Divorce Recovery’ and we have been blessed to be able to get a copy of it already.

The course will be offered by Grace Christian Church and will run on Monday evenings during Term 4.

Flyers are available at the front office reception desk, through the church office or on the school’s website [www.grace.wa.edu.au](http://www.grace.wa.edu.au).

---

**LOST PROPERTY**

The box is overflowing. Parents and students are asked to please come in to the office to check.

Items left at the end of term, will be disposed of.

**Divorce Recovery** - Careforce Lifekeys have just released their new program on ‘Divorce Recovery’ and we have been blessed to be able to get a copy of it already.

The course will be offered by Grace Christian Church and will run on Monday evenings during Term 4.

Flyers are available at the front office reception desk, through the church office or on the school’s website [www.grace.wa.edu.au](http://www.grace.wa.edu.au).

**Grace Christian Church News**

**Lost Property**

The box is overflowing. Parents and students are asked to please come in to the office to check.

Items left at the end of term, will be disposed of.

**Grace Christian Church News**

**Dardanup Basketball Association**

**Junior Registration Day**

Thurs 13 Sept from 3.30pm at the Dardanup Rec grounds
ph. 0408648251 for further details

**Employment opportunities**

Grace Christian School is seeking an Early Childhood trained teacher for our Early Childhood Centre, as well as a Mathematics / Physics teacher for our Secondary department. Both positions to commence duties in Term 1, 2013.

Further information is available at [www.grace.wa.edu.au](http://www.grace.wa.edu.au)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR GROUP</th>
<th>WINNER</th>
<th>RUNNER-UP</th>
<th>SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 4 GIRLS</td>
<td>Bonnie Driscoll</td>
<td>Clare Arena Mehrtens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 4 BOYS</td>
<td>Jonathan Tye</td>
<td>Joshua Napoli</td>
<td>Natasha Douch, Sian Szolkowski, Rikki Allen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 GIRLS</td>
<td>Ashleigh Rigg</td>
<td>Nicola Carter-Raftos</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 5 BOYS</td>
<td>Reinhard du Plessis</td>
<td>Byron Hutchinson</td>
<td>Jaco Grimbeek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 6 GIRLS</td>
<td>Olivia Hughes</td>
<td>Georgia Dewar</td>
<td>Mya Talaimanu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 6 BOYS</td>
<td>Daniel du Toit</td>
<td>Brian Chi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 7 GIRLS</td>
<td>Eliza Thornton</td>
<td>Paris Schroeder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 7 BOYS</td>
<td>Brandon Gregory</td>
<td>Hjalmar Dressel</td>
<td>Kelly-Ann McDonald, Kate Monaghan, Alex Chi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 8 GIRLS</td>
<td>Ellen Mayhew</td>
<td>Jasmine Plug</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 8 BOYS</td>
<td>Sheldon Aitken</td>
<td>Caleb Ivers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 9 GIRLS</td>
<td>Harmony Stazewski-Hose</td>
<td>Abby Guise</td>
<td>Samuel Rigg, Jared Paull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 9 BOYS</td>
<td>Drew Barnes</td>
<td>Keaton Staszewski-Hose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 10 GIRLS</td>
<td>Gaylena Thornton</td>
<td>Katryna Lawtie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 10 BOYS</td>
<td>Joshua Hackney</td>
<td>Jay O’Hehir</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 11 GIRLS</td>
<td>Shania Wrankmore</td>
<td>Madison Carter-Page</td>
<td>Hayden McDonald, Samuel Guise, Nicholas Chatman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 11 BOYS</td>
<td>Corey Barnes, Eli Carter</td>
<td>Alex Bagwell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 12 GIRLS</td>
<td>Leanne Brolsma</td>
<td>Brittany Jongeling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEAR 12 BOYS</td>
<td>John Broome</td>
<td>Michael Hackney</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSE</th>
<th>PRIMARY</th>
<th>SECONDARY</th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BANKSIA</td>
<td>18446</td>
<td>5689</td>
<td>24135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JARRAH</td>
<td>16337</td>
<td>8619</td>
<td>24956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEPPERMINT</td>
<td>16931</td>
<td>5033</td>
<td>21964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WINNERS</td>
<td>BANKSIA</td>
<td>JARRAH</td>
<td>JARRAH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>