More tragic news

Unfortunately I must once again begin my address this fortnight in the shadow of a tragedy. In the early hours of Wednesday morning James Talbot, brother of Jayde in Year 10, was tragically killed in a car accident. James was 19 years old. Two other companions in the car were critically injured.

Our heart goes out to Jayde and the Talbot family and I am sure you will join with me in offering our condolences.

College photos

The College photos will be held on Monday and Friday of next week. On Monday the Primary classes and Year 7 will have their photo taken and on Friday it is the rest of the Secondary school’s turn. Please ensure that your child is correctly attired for these days. If they need a haircut please attend to that. Remember to bring your money on the day. There will be a make up day on March 12 for those students who were absent. Even if you are not purchasing a photo it is important for a photo to be taken for the ID card purpose.

Those students who are not correctly attired or whose haircut is deemed to be inappropriate will not have their photo taken.

Funfest

Funfest, our biannual carnival is on again this year on August 4. This might sound a long way off but it will be upon us before we know it. Preparations are already well underway and there are many ways you can assist the team. If you would like to help please inform the office either by phone or e-mail and we will put you in touch with the organising committee.

Chocolate money

Remember that chocolate money or unsold chocolates are due back on Thursday, 8 March. It is very important that this date is adhered to. Thanks to all who have been diligently doing their bit either selling or purchasing (eating) chocolates. The money from the chocolate drive has allowed us in the past to purchase sports equipment, the Upper Primary/Middle School playground and the new tuckshop.

To make the money return day more memorable we are having a College-wide non uniform day on 8 March.
From the Principal continued

**LOST PROPERTY**

There is an ever growing pile of lunch boxes, drink bottles and various items of clothing that is about to benefit a charity. If you or your child is missing any items, please send them to Student Reception to collect them.

*Please clearly label all items.*

**Medical Alert**

Due to the current weather, there has been an outbreak of schools sores amongst Primary children.

Please check your children and take them to the doctor if you suspect your child may have these.

Please do not bring children to school if the condition is present as it is extremely contagious.

Thank you for your help with this.

**P and F Picnic Day**

Last Saturday there were a few intrepid souls who braved the ominous clouds as we came together to enjoy our annual picnic. Even though it was mostly restricted to the undercover area due to the inclement weather there was still a lot of fun to be had. I particularly enjoyed meeting some of our new families and playing soccer with Mr Fraser and the younger students. Mrs Stott did another exceptional job in running other activities.

The P and F team of Kerri and Shane Knapp, Bonnie Harding, Ramona Woods and Ken and Susanne Steyn, with great assistance from their children ensured a superb day and as usual we owe them a debt of gratitude. Thanks to everyone who came and we hope you enjoyed a great day meeting other parents and families of the College.

Mike Curtis

**New GCCC Teacher for 4M**

My name is Kylie Parker. I moved over to the Sunshine Coast from Wellington, New Zealand January last year and haven’t looked back! Since the big move God has provided many blessings and opened many doors for me including being fortunate enough to have landed this role as 4M’s teacher for the rest of the year.

I love the beach and surf lifestyle and I am down there every chance that I can get. I enjoy swimming, mountain climbing, cycling, reading and having coffee with my friends. I have become involved in Calvary Church since moving to the Coast and they have just become my “Australia” family.

I am really looking forward to being a part of this wonderful school community and the exciting things that are ahead.

**New GCBC Youth Worker**

Mick Spann is the new youth worker at Glasshouse Country Baptist Church and will be working in the College two to three days a week as well as running the Friday night youth group, Collision, at the church.

After spending the last two years living in Germany with his wife of one and a half years, Mick is happy to be back in sunny Queensland (although he really misses German sausages).

Mick comes to us with a Bachelor of Ministry and many years experience in youth work as well as other industries. He is looking forward to getting to know the students, playing games with them and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Mick is big on sport and in his words, “If it’s outdoors, I’m there!” His favourite hobbies are hiking, kayaking and camping.

When non-uniform is allowed, such as free dress days at school or camps, students are expected to wear casual but modest, sun safe items of clothing. Sleeveless shirts, tank tops, short shorts or blouses that expose the midriff, tops with logos and writing that are contrary to the College values, are not acceptable. The usual rules for jewellery apply on these occasions but may be relaxed on camps. Shoes must be enclosed and allow normal activities to continue including classes such as PE without hindrance.

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Due to the current weather, there has been an outbreak of schools sores amongst Primary children.

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*Please clearly label all items.*
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING FOR RESPONSIBLE THINKING PROCESS

MONDAY 5 MARCH 5.30PM – H3 THEATRETTE

You are no doubt aware by now that this year we have included the Responsible Thinking Process as part of our behaviour management policy in the Primary College.

We are holding an information evening at 5.30pm on Monday 5 March where we will be explaining the actual responsible thinking process (RTP) and how the responsible thinking classroom (RTC) operates on a day to day basis.

Historically about 20% of students in a class will visit the RTC for some reason. This is not a negative thing. It’s actually an opportunity to reflect on what happened and to plan how to avoid similar situations in the future.

Mrs Jennifer Moore (our RTC staff member) our Coordinators (Mrs Lowther and Mrs Rosenberg) and myself will be presenting on this evening.

Ed Cole, who developed the Responsible Thinking Process has written many books to assist parents, not just schools, in guiding children to take control of their own behaviour by using this process. This includes behaviour, homework tasks and general motivation to achieve their academic goals.

Cheryl Bryers

Primary Induction Service

Thank you to all the families who attended our Primary Induction Service. It was a lovely morning with the highlight being the pinning on of the leadership badges by parents and guardians. Morning tea was enjoyed by all and a big thank you to Wilma Offord for all her hard work in the kitchen.

We have a lovely group of young leaders and I am sure that they will do their College proud throughout 2012.
School Culture and Uniforms

It has been my experience over many years of teaching in a number of schools that there is a direct relationship between students wearing the school uniform correctly and school culture. How students wear their uniform is an indication of the pride they have in their school and how serious families are about supporting this aspect of school culture.

It has been said that in the forces (Navy, Army and Airforce) emphasis on correct uniform is part of the foundation for good discipline. I believe the same stands for schools.

Recently I was at the Beerwah Shopping Centre just after 3.00pm and the town was awash with students from many schools, all with their parents on their way home from their respective primary and secondary schools. I was amazed to see how many GCCC students were there as I very seldom get to the shops before evening. I was reminded that this is often the first impression the community gets about our College.

How students of any school wear their uniform says a great deal about the culture of that school. My experience is that just as the Forces consider that uniform and discipline are related, so is the wearing of the correct uniform and discipline in a school.

Parents choose to enrol their children at our College for a number of reasons. Almost without exception they are looking for a school which will support their values and their desire to provide a school environment where discipline is fair but consistent.

I am personally thrilled with the way so many families totally support our uniform standards and this is reflected in how the students look every day at school. Very few children come to school in incorrect shirt/blouse or shorts/skorts. However I have noticed some issues with canvas shoes instead of leather/vinyl, hair length (boys), hair not tied back (girls), hair accessories and ribbons, jewellery, nail polish and incorrect socks. It is unusual for these issues to need to addressed so early in the year, so I have asked teachers to do uniform checks regularly and to speak to children if there are any infringements. If these are not corrected quickly a letter will be sent home to parents. In the past parent cooperation when a letter has been sent home has been excellent and students actually feel more secure that they in line with the school uniform policy.

It is important to our families and also to us that our students are proud of their school. Knowing that they are in line with our uniform regulations is an important part of developing a good school culture where students feel proud that they attend Glasshouse Country Christian College and you, as parents, will be reassured that you have made a good decision in choosing GCCC for your children’s education.

Cheryl Bryers

Cadbury Fundraiser

I hope you are all selling your chocolates like hot cakes. Please remember that collection day is Thursday 8 March so please return all monies and unsold chocolates on this day.

This day will also be a non uniform day to help you all remember.

The full cost of a box of chocolates is $48. Please make cheques payable to Glasshouse Country Christian College P and F. P and F must be included on the cheque or it cannot be banked.

All students who return full payment on or before this date will go into a draw for one of four $50 Coles Myer group gift vouchers and a number of free movie tickets.

If anyone wants to sell a second box they can be collected from the office.

It would be appreciated if those who have chosen to return their boxes unsold could still support the P and F in this major fundraiser by making a $20 donation.

Thanks, Judy Davis

TUCKSHOP

Tuckshop is up and running on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please refer to the GCCC website, www.gccc.qld.edu.au under College Life, Tuckshop for more information and a menu.
Senior Leadership Retreat

The Year 12 student leaders had a wonderful vision-planning day on Wednesday 22 February. Facilitated by Elevate Youth, Buderim, students were inspired to become the best leaders they can be and amongst a lot of fun, discovered how to turn their ideas into a reality. They concluded that there were three main focus areas:
• Strength (students)
• Growth (faith in God)
• Service (in school and wider communities)

We are looking forward to seeing what this passionate group of young people can achieve.

Senior Leader Induction Service

This special induction service was held on Thursday 23 February in the Glasshouse Country Baptist Church. Our student leaders received their badges and made a pledge about leading by example. Sarah Davis (College Captain) and Ashley Byrne (College Vice Captain) shared a report on the outcomes of the leaders vision-planning day and how they hope to implement some exciting changes for 2012. Year 12 students also received their Senior Badges at this time.

I would like to thank the parents and friends who were able to attend this service and support our 2012 leaders. I pray that the students enjoy their time in these roles and will wear their badges with pride. I am confident that the student leaders for 2012 will be wonderful ambassadors for the College.

UMAT test

Any Year 12 student interested in applying to study medicine, dentistry or a health science degree at an undergraduate level in 2013 should sit the UMAT test. The UMAT test is held on 25 July 2012 and students must register their interest and intent now with Mrs Fraser.

College Photos

• Monday 5 March: Year 7 students
• Friday 9 March: Years 8-12 students and sibling photos

Please ensure that students are in full formal uniform for the photos. If students usually wear their sports uniform on the photo day, please bring the sports uniform to change into once the photo has been taken. Orders and money need to be brought in on the day of the photographs.

Non-Uniform Day - Thursday 8 March

This is a non-uniform day to coincide with the end of the P and F chocolate drive. Chocolate monies are all due in by this date. Please ensure that you abide by our College Policy regarding free dress when choosing your clothing for the day. Remember you MUST have closed-in shoes for safety reasons and students are not to wear singlet style tops. No inappropriate logos or symbols that promote anything contrary to the College ethos will be accepted. Students who fail to come appropriately dressed will be made to wear a spare uniform or, in extreme circumstances, be sent home.
Responsible Thinking Process
The RTP process is explained in the Secondary Parent Handbook Extract that was distributed to each family in the first week of school. A copy is also placed on the College website. It is important for parents/caregivers to understand this process and why we as a school have adopted this approach. It is also important for parents/caregivers to understand that if a student chooses to continue to disrupt in the RTC (responsible thinking classroom), and is not willing to formulate a plan, then the student will be internally suspended and parents called in for an intervention meeting.

Late to School
We have a few students who are arriving late to school each day. Those who have legitimate transport issues should have informed the College administration by now so that processes can be put in place to ensure your student receives important notices etc. Students who do not have a legitimate reason for being late and continue with tardiness, will face consequences.

As this is more of a senior issue, all senior students were given a letter this week explaining the importance of arriving on time and ready to start at 8.30am. Please ensure that you read this letter and encourage your student to arrive on time.

Uniforms
In recent days, students have been exposed to uniform checks. There seem to be three main issues that need addressing:

- Incorrect shoes
- Incorrect socks
- Incorrect jewellery (particularly earrings)
- Makeup and nail polish (girls)

Parents/caregivers, please partner with us to ensure that our uniform policy is adhered to. Consequences will apply for students who choose not to comply.

Volunteers needed for Debutant Ball Committee
The Glasshouse Country Debutant Ball Committee would like to ask for volunteers for anyone interested in helping out, on the committee or even just the night itself.

The event is held annually in September and is run only by volunteers. It is a great community event that gives young people the chance to learn a few formal dances then dress up and attend the ball.

It has been a great success over the years and has raised a great deal of money for the Beerwah high chaplaincy. However we are in great need of helpers to continue the ball’s success.

If you can help please ring Cynthia Ruhle on Mobile 0417 998757.
Middle School Induction Service

Our ‘lightbearing’, ‘salty’ middle school leaders (read Matthew 5:13 -16 for more direction on this) had their Induction Service last Tuesday.

While all our year 9s are leaders of Middle School, this particular bunch of students have put their hands up to set a straight line in our school, to set the standard and to represent our Middle School.

They have been commissioned to be our leaders by: asking questions, encouraging, seeking the best in others, showing appreciation, picking up after mistakes, honouring those who have gone before them and building a legacy to leave behind.

The rest of middle School were challenged to consider - Will they follow? Will they help continue the movement of G.R.E.A.T. values in our school? Already I have impressed with their initiative and involvement and am seeing a great Middle School year unfolding at GCCC.

Jacqualina Vreeling

Pause and Ponder

In 1931, the city of Hayward California, built its first permanent city hall building. Costing $100,000 at the time, the fancy structure was considered a state-of-the-art marvel. There was only one problem - it was built on the Hayward Fault and is gradually splitting in two. In 1989, an earthquake forced its closure and it is now off limits to all.

Building on an unstable foundation is not wise. This is also true of our spiritual lives. Jesus taught His disciples this truth with an illustration; “Everyone who hears these sayings of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell.” Matthew 7:26-27.

The shifting morals of our world can be confusing. We may be tempted to let culture or the opinions of society be the foundation for the decisions we make. But obeying the unwavering truth of God’s Word brings stability unavailable anywhere else. “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

Adapted from Our Daily Bread by Dennis Fisher
GCCC Kitchen Rules for Chinese Banquet

Last Friday Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students converted a classroom into Chinatown for a spectacular Chinese Banquet for Secondary staff. The room was decorated with draped fabric, Chinese lanterns and beautifully carved watermelon fruit baskets. Chinese music played in the background, the staff was invited and service was on!

The enticing aroma of Asian flavours wafted past classrooms and soon drew a queue of hungry teachers. Starters were only $2 and included a choice of spring rolls, coconut prawns, pork dumplings or Tonyum soup. Mains were all served with rice and prawn crackers and featured sweet and sour pork, crispy fish with chilli sauce, oriental fried noodle salad and vegetable stir fry, for only $4 each. Dessert was classically Asian with dishes like sticky rice, coconut tart and mango coconut pudding for $2 a serve. Everyone received a complementary mocktail upon arrival and little fortune cookies were handed out after the meal.

GCCC Hospitality students successfully planned the menu, designed the invitations, managed the money side of the instant restaurant and decorated in the theme.

It could have been a scene from My Kitchen Rules except all of the patrons’ comments were complimentary and every dish was beautifully executed.

Cooking Classes - Calling for Expressions of Interest

If you are interested in attending after school parents and friends cooking classes, please email colleen.devitt@gccc.qld.edu.au or call the College to express your interest. The classes will run for two hours, and include but not limited to the following skills: children’s birthday cakes, cheap and easy dinners, baking, and international cuisine evenings.

These classes are limited to 10 people per class. A nominal fee to cover product costs will be charged and all cooked items can be taken home.

Colleen Devitt
Year 10 Work Experience

Thanks to much hard work from parents and very generous employers, work experience for our Year 10s is falling into place for the week of 26 – 30 March. Students whose placement has been confirmed have been given important information to take home this week. In particular, the Work Experience Agreement needs to be carefully filled out, signed and returned to Mrs Ferris next week. Students are also requested to go and visit their workplace supervisor and find out about what clothes to wear, hours of work, meal arrangements and anything else of concern. Students will all be given a log book to fill out while on work experience and this will form part of their assessment for their Certificate I in Work Education. Please contact Mrs Ferris if you have any questions or concerns, or if your paperwork has not arrived with your child.

Defence Force Visit

On Tuesday we had two officers from the Australian Defence Force talk to the all the senior students about the myriad of career opportunities in the Army, Navy and Airforce. Students were fascinated with the range of jobs and the unbelievable working conditions and pay. The Officers, Corporal Angela Threlfall and Corporal Tony Mansfield, stayed after the presentation to speak to individual students who all found the session very informative. Don’t forget, for those students applying for Defence Technical Scholarships, the closing date is next Friday 9 March.

Traineeships at GCCC

It must be the hot steamy weather, but traineeships at GCCC have certainly blossomed over the summer! We have 20 traineeships presently with a further two sign ups next week and another five students recently accepted for traineeships in the very near future. Two weeks ago Mrs Fraser met with our trainees to ensure all were on track to successfully undertaking their work and training. Here is the group minus a few who were away. Watch out for their smiling faces in a workplace near you!

And speaking of trainees meet two new students who have recently entered the workforce while at school. They are Sam Kinsley who has a mechanical apprenticeship at Aussie Automotive in Caboolture. Sam first started at Aussie Automotive as a work experience student last year. Sam will be learning to be a mechanic under the guidance of boss Scott Holman and trainer Andrew Lamb. In the photo Sam is with Scott and Mandy from MEGT Apprenticeship Centre.

Also commencing a traineeship this month is Amanda Brahim who is undertaking a Certificate in Retail at the Beerwah IGA. Thanks so much to the IGA which is a huge supporter of the young people in this area. Here Mandy is meeting her new boss, owner Matthew Hartley. Good luck Mandy!

Congratulations

Over the last 12 months staff and students at the College will have seen Mitch Fraser working alongside Mrs Stott and Mrs Scott in the Physical Education and Sport Program at the College. Mitch has been employed by the College as a school-based trainee undertaking work and training in Sport and Recreation. Mitch has now completed his Certificate III in Sport and Recreation, adding it to his recently completed Certificate III in Fitness. He has had a very busy and productive 12 months and has now embarked on a Certificate IV in Fitness. Congratulations Mitch on your many achievements. I am sure the staff in the Phys Ed Department are going to miss your great work a lot!

Queensland Training Awards

VET students and school-based trainees and apprentices are encouraged to consider nominating themselves for a Queensland Training Award. These are prestigious awards, very sought after for inclusion in resumes. All who nominate are given a certificate documenting their nomination. For further information on these awards, including application forms and other supporting information, please go to the following website http://www.qta.qld.gov.au/

USC Headstart Information Evening

Wednesday 14 March

Can’t wait to start uni? Year 11 and 12 students can study USC courses while still completing high school.

Find out more by speaking with staff and current Headstart students at the Headstart Information Evening at USC on Wednesday 14 March. At 5:15pm, students and parents can take a tour of the campus with a current USC student and get an insight into university life. At 6pm, attend the information session to learn more about Headstart and hear Headstart students share their study experience.

To register your attendance, visit www.usc.edu.au/info or phone 5456 5000. Applications for Semester 2 study (starting in July) close on Friday 11 May.

Cheryl Costin, Vet Co-ordinator
cheryl.costin@gccc.qld.edu.au

Joan Ferris, Future Pathways Co-ordinator
joan.ferris@gccc.qld.edu.au

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Recently there were celebrations around Australia to welcome the start of the National Year of Reading.

At the National Library of Australia, Canberra, Prime Minister Julia Gillard told guests, “I want Australia to be many things: a prosperous nation, an innovative nation, but I certainly want us to be a reading nation... I want every Australian to know the joy and pleasure that comes from books and reading.” Go to http://youtu.be/7-lupV0UkIg to watch the launch.

The central focus of the National Year of Reading campaign can be summarised in three broad goals that include the following:

• For all Australians to understand the benefits of reading as a life skill and a catalyst for well-being;
• To promote a reading culture in every home; and
• To establish an aspirational goal for families, of parents and caregivers sharing books with their children every day.

At GCCC we encourage a love of reading from a young age. Students are immersed in reading from Prep through to Year 12 with access to a wide range of print and digital reading materials.

Students regularly visit the library for lessons, to borrow and participate in lunchtime activities that promote a love of literature and life-long learning. Students have the opportunity to access online books and learning materials through programs including Bug Club and Lexile for Primary students and a range of databases including Britannica Online and Library Webs from Prep - Year 12.

A Middle School Book Buzz is held every Wednesday lunch in the library and a Primary Book Club is being launched this week for students in Year 3-6; an idea initiated by two passionate young readers from Year 4, Amelia King and Lacey Hall.

Preps Start Borrowing

The Preps started borrowing last week. Their smiles lit up the library as they eagerly chose a book and lined up to borrow. We hope they enjoyed reading their book with a loved one at home. It is these small celebrations and willing parents who help nurture a love and passion for reading.

Why not consider how you can help foster a love of reading with your child this week? It may be helping them with a home reader, discussing a class novel, finding information for an assessment item online or visiting the local library. See the following links for more ideas and reading inspiration from the Sunshine Coast Libraries http://www.library.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/sitePage.cfm?code=reading

Stay tuned for World Read Aloud Day 2012 next Wednesday March 7 in the library. Who will our mystery read aloud guest be at Primary lunch? What surprises has Mrs. McKellar planned for the Book Buzz at second break? Come to the library and all will be revealed!

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” Dr. Seuss

See you in the library,

VANESSA MCKELLAR
Teacher Librarian

Library Opening Hours
Prep – Year 9 Students: 8:15am – 3:15pm
Year 10-12 Students: 8:15am – 4.00pm

Homework Club:
Every Thursday for Years 7-12 from 3.15pm to 4.15pm

Join the new Bushland Management Group
Volunteers needed to assist Council in management of the new Coralan Reserve along Coochin Creek, south of Woodgrove Estate. If you are interested, contact local resident, Roger Callen on 0423 979 152 or email ra.Callen@bigpond.com. Further details can be obtained from Council by calling Rhonda Martin on 0439 702 160. This is an opportunity to meet neighbours, enjoy the reserve and do your bit for the community. No experience necessary - just a love of our beautiful bushland and a desire to keep it healthy.
**GCCC Young District Swimmers Shine in the Pool**

A new star arose at the Glasshouse District Swimming Carnival at the Beerwah Pool last week. Nine year old Amity Roser earned the title of Age Champion when she won all but one of her 25m races at the carnival. Beau Howard was awarded 10 year boys runner up age champion by winning the 50m breaststroke and placing 3rd in the backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events.

Competition was of a high standard and there were many close finishes with the top three placegetters qualifying for the Sunshine Coast Regional Carnival.

GCCC students swam really well scoring many top five placings and they represented our College with pride. The team finished third overall with the Large Schools Trophy being won by St Michael's College. A huge thanks goes to parents who supported their children during the day and helped out with timekeeping.

**Congratulations to these students who qualified for Sunshine Coast Regional Carnival:**

- Beau Howard: 10 year boys 1st breaststroke, 3rd freestyle, backstroke and butterfly
- Tomas Lunt: 10 year boys 2nd freestyle, 3rd breaststroke
- Stephanie Ferris: 11 year girls 2nd breaststroke
- Harrison Still: 11 year boys 3rd freestyle
- Elise Ellwood: 12 year girls 2nd butterfly
- Shannon Howard: 12 year girls 2nd freestyle

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**Mooloolaba Triathlon Festival Events**

Are you keen to try a Tri?

The 2012 Mooloolaba Triathlon Festival (23, 24 March) is offering 50% discount on entry fee for school kids on the coast.

There is a Twilight Run, Kids’ Triathlon and Ocean Swim all conducted in the Mooloolaba Precinct.

Entry forms and more information can be found at GCCC office or on line at: www.usmevents.com.au. Enter your postcode to receive the discount.

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**Want to Play Club Softball?**

The Suncoast-Hinterland Softball Association invites interested players to sign on for the 2012 winter season. If you have enjoyed softball at GCCC why not join a club?

Males and females, 5 years to masters play in mixed teams from U10, U12’s U15 and men’s and women’s A & B grades. The season starts April 2, games are played on Saturdays.

For more information phone Hinterland Bandits (Glenveiw) 5494 5945 or www.suncoast.softball.org.au
Considering it was GCCC’s first showing at the Independent School Sports District swimming event at the Noosa Aquatic Centre, we were very well represented. Throughout all races over the course of the day the GCCC swimmers consistently finished in the top 50% of events.

The carnival kicked off with the 100m and 50m freestyle events. These races were tight battles with our swimmers mostly matching it with swimmers from our neighbouring private schools. Brodie Oosen didn’t disappoint and neither did Chloe Colvin. Their efforts both resulting in 13th placing’s overall. A good effort when you consider up to 30 swimmers from each age group compete within each stroke.

Several of our swimmers really came into their own once the breastroke events got underway. Chloe Colvin put in a pleasing effort to place 7th in her race and Emily Scott did well to finish 6th overall in her 50m breaststroke.

As the GCCC swimmers continued throughout the day more impressive results were evident. The 50m fly, a notoriously difficult stroke to master was made to look easy by Jasmine Warshawsky, as she smashed her fellow competitors over the length of the pool to finish 2nd in her heat and a 4th placing overall.

In almost the last event of the day, the GCCC spectators came alive and very vocal to cheer Jayme-Lee Groer home in her backstroke event. Her 9th placing overall was a terrific effort.

Other swimmers involved in the day’s events from GCCC were Emma Hagan, Nichola Bates, Holly Colvin, Connor Chapman, Andrea Little, Billy Banks, Abbey Bates, Crystal McCleary, Ben Giles, Aaron Giles and Caitlyn McBeth.

A big congratulations to all who represented our school at the District Carnival. All swimmers gave it their all and we should be well pleased with there efforts.

Matt Beattie
Athletes Qualify for State Champs

Five talented young athletes from GCCC have qualified for the Little Athletics State Championships in March.

All students are members of the Glasshouse Districts Little Athletics Club.

They all competed extremely well in all their events on a very hot weekend at the Regional Championships which were held at Caboolture on the 4th and 5th February.

We wish them all the best for the State Championships.

Students qualifying for State Champs are:

- Jaylah Daunt U/9 Girls 70m & 100m
- Laura Vobr U/9 Girls Discus & Shot Put
- Codie Rechberger U/10 Girls High Jump
- Thomas Dwan U/13 Boys 200m Hurdles
- Jayde Talbot U/15 Girls 1500m, 90m Hurdles, High Jump & Long Jump

Students Gain Selection into Local Representative Teams

Congratulations go to Tegan Gisler, Hannah Johnson and Samantha Ruhle who have been selected in Caloundra District Netball Representative teams and Tenaia Owens who was selected as a shadow player for the 12 year development squad.

Percy Morris, Glen Morris and Nathan Siggs have all gained selection into the Sunshine Coast Rebel Football Teams to compete against other South East Queensland teams.

Jared Moore has also excelled and proved he is an up and coming star in the football world. Sixteen year old Jared has been selected in the Under 19 Sunshine Coast Fire team to play in the Queensland State League competition.

We wish these young men success as they discover their potential and follow their dreams to play football at the highest level.

Emily Scott also set a new personal best score in the 3m springboard at a recent competition and has qualified for the National Diving Championships to be held in Adelaide in April. Emily will also compete in the NSW State Diving Championships this weekend followed by the Queensland Champs in March.

All of these students are very committed to training several nights a week which is required to reach this level and their parents must also be commended for their commitment and support.

Alumni Update

Glasshouse Country Christian College is very proud to be able to congratulate one of its recent students, Joshua Davis, on his acceptance as a Dean Scholar at Queensland University of Technology.

This scholarship is not easy to attain and is only awarded to a few students each year.

On Wednesday the University held a reception for parents and friends of those students who had been accepted into the program.

Mr Tony Davis and Mrs Judy Davis were thrilled to be present to see their son receive his certificate of acceptance onto the course and hear the Dean congratulate all the students on their outstanding achievement and outline the many special opportunities available to members of the scholarship with international businesses that are sponsoring the programme.

To be accepted for the scholarship Joshua was put through his paces by the University when he had to complete the equivalent of the first year of his degree course compressed into a demanding six week summer school. He passed this successfully and has since commenced ‘Year 2’ in late February!

Rob Hill

Glasshouse Country Christian College
Things are growing beautifully in the garden at the moment, and the children are doing a great job keeping up with all the work to be done to maintain it. Classes have enjoyed planting more seed potatoes, eggplant and beetroot seedlings this fortnight. From seeds, they have planted broccoli and plenty of flowers, which will soon be a rainbow of colour for their Adopt-A-Gardens.

Each class has proudly started work on their own Adopt-A-Garden bed; be sure to keep an eye out for your children’s gardens. Weeding and mulching has been a priority on the ‘to do’ list to keep the garden looking fabulous. Classes also potted up many strawberry runners in preparation for an abundance of sweet, tasty strawberries in the coming months. A very hot day in the garden was cooled down nicely by Mrs Ellis hosing down the Year 3’s during lessons, much to everyone’s delight!

It’s been a long wait, but we finally picked the first pineapple from our beloved pineapple patch! One of the Year 1 classes were lucky enough to be the first to sample our very own pineapple and they devoured it in no time and reported that it was lovely and sweet! Mmmmm…

Speaking of yummy, our cooks this fortnight whipped up some creamy basil filled cherry tomatoes from page 49 of our Kitchen Garden cookbook, using fresh basil from our own garden. Classes also tried tamarillos, or tree tomatoes, from our own tamarillo tree.

Our next KGP Market Day will be held in the garden gazebo on Friday, 9 March from 8.45am. This is always a lovely morning in the garden, and a great opportunity to invite friends, family and neighbours to come along, see what the children are doing in garden lessons and pick up some delicious local produce at market prices at the same time.

Summer fruit trays from some of our local farmers will be available for purchase at a very reasonable $15 each. Also available will be fresh homemade lamingtons, fragrant herb seedlings, pots of lemongrass and strawberry runners.

We will also have copies of our cookbook available for you to browse and buy. Everyone is welcome and sure to enjoy our next Market Day.

Mandy Ward
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There are still some copies of our fabulous Kitchen Garden recipe book for sale for just $20 each.

Don’t forget to check out the FABULOUS Kitchen Garden Program on this website.
Due to the rain and predicted storms, numbers were down but morale was up and a lovely day was had by all at the P and F Picnic.

A big thank you to Kerri and Shane Knapp, Ramona Woods, Bonnie Harding and all the other helpers for sizzling those sausages.

The wonderful Wendy Stott did an amazing job of providing fun and games for the children.

Most of all, thank you to all the GCCC families who came and made the day such an enjoyable time for everyone.

Thanks to all the GCCC staff who joined in the fun.

The famous tug of war couldn't go ahead but there was no stopping the soccer players.

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7 ways to make this year your child’s best year ever at school

A new school year means a fresh start for students. Regardless of your child’s performance last year, they start school with a clean slate. A break offers students the chance to begin new habits and adopt new behaviours.

Here are seven ideas to help you make the most of the fresh start and make this year your child’s best year ever at school:

1. Commit to your child going to school every day on time. One of the most important things you can do to ensure your child has a bright future is to make sure he or she goes to school every day – and gets there on time. Kids spend more time asleep than at school, so we need to maximise every day to get full value.

2. Help kids start each day well. A good night’s sleep, a healthy breakfast and some words of encouragement from you will help set a positive tone for a day of learning. This may mean that you adjust your morning routine so that kids have plenty of time get up, eat and get ready for the day.

3. Establish work & study habits. The most successful students are those that develop regular study habits that suit their lifestyle, their study style and their school’s expectations. Find out the work expectations from your child’s or young person’s school and help them establish a work routine that matches.

4. Make sure your child gets enough sleep. Many children and young people are sleep-deprived, which impacts on their well-being and their learning. A good night’s sleep consolidates learning, as well as assist future learning. Children need between 10-12 hours of sleep each day, while teens need a minimum of nine hours. Help kids get sufficient sleep by having a regular bed-time and get-up time each day. Have 45 minute wind-down time each night, and remove screens and mobile phones from bedrooms.

5. Encourage kids to exercise. Kids today get less exercise than those of past generations, which is an impediment to learning and mental health. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage kids to play sport; promote free and active play and look for ways to make moving part of their daily lives.

6. Focus on being friendly. Schools are very social places requiring kids to negotiate many different social situations each day. Encourage kids to be open and tolerant; to be friendly; to be involved in plenty of activities and to be social risk-takers.

7. Develop self-help skills. Successful students are often well-organised, self-directed and self-motivated. You can foster organisational skills and self-direction by developing simple, age-appropriate self-help skills related to their every day lives. Such skills as making lunches, packing school bags, and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact on how kids perform at school.

At the start of the school year kids are more likely to adopt changes than at any other time. Make the most of the opportunity by focusing on two or three areas to really focus on and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place.