Year 7, 2015

How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.
Psalm 133:1

Welcome to Middle School

Welcome to all our old and new Middle School students and families to 2015. The start of a new year is a fresh page. It’s always good to make plans about how you would like this year to turn out. (If you fail to plan you plan to fail). At the same time, having said that, life has its up and downs, we all have them. At GCCC relationship and communication is important. So, come and see us, talk to us, email us and we will journey with you.

Communication

Please make your first call/email to your child’s teacher, PC (Pastoral Care) teacher or Year Level Coordinator
The Year 7 Pastoral Care Team

The Year 7 Coordinator and Pastoral Care teacher for 7G
Mr Matthew Ware

I have been involved in education for almost 20 years. I love working with children and seeing the expression on their faces when they at last understand a concept they have been working hard to grasp. It is a pleasure to be Year Level Coordinator and I look forward to working with you all.

The Pastoral Care teacher for 7M
Mr Gary Asplin

I am in my sixth year of teaching after spending 37 years in industry learning what I teach now as an Industrial Technology teacher. My favourite part of the job is starting the day by greeting 26 smiling young faces and praying with them. I am blessed to have the opportunity to teach these precious young people in Christian Studies as well as our Pastoral Care class.

The Pastoral Care teacher for 7W
Mrs Cathy Horrigan

I have been here at GCCC for 5 years and feel very blessed and privileged to work in such a wonderful, positive learning environment. I love teaching Science in particular and love to see kids get 'hands-on' with practical science activities and explore new and interesting discoveries. I am excited about the year ahead and look forward to seeing all the great achievements of our Year 7 students.
The Year Ahead

This is an exciting year in a child’s journey as they begin ‘high school’ … fast approaching the era of ‘teenager hood’. This year it will be important to become organised and grow in independence to the point where they can manage a variety of classes, homework tasks and take responsibility for their learning. You will also notice that relationships and friendships will develop and strengthen. The mind begins tackling the ability to reason, discuss, and think about a variety of perspectives on issues and topics… and what I love most of all - the ability to laugh along with you and your jokes!

Canberra Camp
One of the big things on the radar this year is the Canberra camp from Tuesday 21 to Saturday 25 April 2015. It is an expectation that all Year 7 students will attend this camp. We will be flying again this year. More specific information on the camp is in the Canberra Camp Information Pack.

‘Reminders’ is an application on their computers that your child should be using to make note of all their homework. They have been taught how to use this in their Pastoral Care Class

Connect is an online portal where you should find your child’s subject material, homework and assessments. Web address: connect@gccc.qld.edu.au
You can access assessment Calendars as a guest, but for subject related info – you will need your child’s login and password

iLearn
This is a secure online site where you can access your child’s timetable, all records, reports and NAPLAN and check behaviour reports etc. Web address: ilearn.gcc.qld.edu.au

Homework/Assessments
It is expected that Year 7’s complete around 70 minutes of homework each night. This should include the work they do on assignments.

If at any stage your child is struggling with meeting deadlines or completing work please email the Pastoral Care teacher or Year Level Coordinator.
Surviving Year 7

Research has shown that a child who **READS** regularly vastly improves their literacy levels. It is recommended that Year 7’s read **20 minutes per night**.

**Homework/Study:** 70 minutes per weeknight. This should include work they do on assignments.

**Completing Work:** It is recommended that the students use their Calendars to set out a study timetable that considers any extra curricular commitments. The PC teachers are more than happy to assist students with designing a suitable study timetable they only need to be asked!

**PE uniform days 2015:**
- **7M** – Monday and Friday
- **7G & 7W** – Wednesday and Friday

**Communication:** Nothing is too big or small. If it is affecting your child we care. If there are prayer, counselling or “can you have a quick chat to …” needs, please let us know 😊

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**Student Whiteboard Use**