Welcome Back to 2016 ...

As you may have read on our electronic sign we have some new staff commencing at the College this year:

Mrs Kerry Paterson - Head of Junior School
Mr Daniel Witanowski - Teaching Staff HSIE
Mrs Jill McKay - Part-time Teaching Staff English
Mrs Laura Newell - Part-time Teaching Staff Junior School

We also have some staff returning after sometime away:

Mrs Sophie McCarthy - Teaching Staff Music
Mr Tony Hook - Teaching Staff HSIE

The College is delighted to welcome all these Godly and dedicated staff who are new to our College or returning. The College is blessed and will be enriched by your appointments as we work in partnership with parents and extended families to make Christ known and honoured as Lord and Saviour of the Universe at Green Point Christian College.

2015 saw Excellence in Christ centred Education reflected through outstanding Higher School Certificate achievements. These results are a credit to the dedication of the whole community as many of the students in that cohort have been part of the College since Kindergarten. We wish them all God’s blessings as they seek to follow Jesus wherever He leads them.

Stand Firm – 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15

But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters loved by the Lord, because God chose you as first fruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the teaching we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

FROM THE BOARD

We are pleased to announce that there have been three new appointments to the College Board of Governance:

Mr Kevin Sproats
Mr Richard Love
Mr Samuel Tsang

Over the next few weeks their profiles will be uploaded to the College website.

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Prayer

Pray for our new students as they settle into school life at GPCC.
Pray for new friendships and positive relationships.

Praise

Praise God for the work completed by our IT and Green Team over the holidays.
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good - His loves endures forever.

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”
Numbers 6:24-26

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Locked Bag 1 Kincumber NSW 2251
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Absentee Line: (02) 4367 9950
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Email: office@gpcc.nsw.edu.au
Office Hours: 8:30am - 4:00pm
Welcome back to 2016.

The Junior School has had a fantastic start to the year and I am confident that this will continue. God is so good and faithful and our College team is terrific!

An extra special welcome to all our new students. We look forward to getting to know you all.

An African proverb says, “It takes a village to raise a child”, and we are your village. Please feel welcome, supported, valued, cherished and part of our large Green Point Christian College family.

Each week I will begin our Junior School news with the Junior School Bible verse and focus, so as a whole community, we can learn and grow together. For the next five weeks we will exploring Living as God’s Kids with this week’s special focus as Welcome to GodSpace.

Our verse is Psalm 139 v 14, “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.” (NIV) Why not make this a whole family focus together over the dinner table at night.

Today we want to extend a very special welcome to our new Kindergarten children and families. Everyone was extremely brave (even our mums, dads and grandparents) as the children excitedly waved goodbye to begin their learning journey here at Green Point Christian College. Happily, “tears and tissues”, coffee and tea became an opportunity for parents to meet and greet one another, rather than to cry too many tears.

I want to add a huge thank you to our beautiful Year 6 buddies for their care and support to our Kindergarten students. To watch them this morning with their buddies, spoke volumes of who we are at Green Point Christian College as a caring Christian community. Well done Year 6!

Year 2 children who are competitive swimmers, are welcome to join this carnival.

Our Kinder to Year 2 Swimming Carnival is later this Term on 11 March with a focus on fun rather than competitiveness. We love to see parents attending, cheering on the students.

Uniforms - Thank you to all our families who have sent children to school in the correct uniforms including the black leather lace up shoes and predominantly white joggers for sport.

For the older grades, please continue to ensure that sport shorts are of an appropriate length to reflect the dress code here at Green Point Christian College. If parents need to buy longer shorts, please see Alex Ritchie in the Uniform Shop as soon as possible.

The jewellery expectations are also outlined in the Handbook and we do appreciate our students following these.

If you are not sure about expectations for any of these areas, please do talk to your child’s class teacher.

Communication between the College and home is vital in our partnership. To ensure we can contact you in the case of an emergence, please do update your data immediately if anything has changed via email: office@gpcc.nsw.edu.au.

We feel blessed and privileged that your family has chosen to partner with us here at Green Point Christian College.

Be assured that we do pray for our families, students and team, and ask God to bless you. Please feel welcome to make an appointment to speak with myself if there are issues or celebrations that arise during the year. We are in partnership together, for the benefit of our precious students.

Blessings
Kerry Paterson
Welcome back to a new year at Green Point Christian College. The school begins to pulsate with life as students return. It is great to see returning students and new students alike as they take those eager steps to a new year. We have a wonderful group of Year 7 students this year. They were filled with nervous anticipation on their first day but that will soon change as they get to know the running of the Secondary School. They will be loved and cared for and soon realise that they are part of a wonderful learning community at this College.

What we bring to school often determines whether we are successful in our educational progress. I want to encourage our students to come with a determination to achieve their best in all that they do. This must include a determination to focus in class, work consistently and strive to achieve high quality work.

Uniform

Please note that Year 11 and Year 12 students must have a black school tie for boys and the blouse with black piping for girls. Skirts must meet the knees and jewellery must meet the uniform expectations.

Correct black school shoes do not include black “Vans” or “Converse” of any kind.

Year Advisors

The Secondary School Year Advisors for 2016 are as follows:

- Year 7 – Mrs Rachael Wilesmith
- Year 8 – Mr Paul Chambers
- Year 9 – Mrs Kerrie Rochford
- Year 10 – Mrs Rebecca Gavin
- Year 11 – Mr Jay Brown
- Year 12 – Mr Keith Mills

They are fantastic teachers who have the wellbeing of your child at heart. Please feel free to call and discuss any issue you may have that may affect the wellbeing and progress of your child.

Scientific Calculators

Students will need a scientific calculator for Year 8 and upwards. The recommended model is the CASIO fx082AU PLUS II. Most major retailers stock these in their “Back to School” specials, however if it makes it easier, the College sells this exact model for $22 which students can purchase from the College Office at the beginning of the year. Students can also purchase the correct grid books from the College for $2 when they see their Maths teacher.
Year 12 HSC Students

Please pray for these students during this year. This is a full on year for these students and they need God’s strength and wisdom.

Practical advice for the whole family: If your child is studying for the HSC, you are probably feeling the stress too. Many parents want to help but do not want to interfere.

As well as pre-exam tension, there are other common factors that can make life seem even more challenging for the whole family.

Year 12 is often the year when students:

- lose interest in school
- have no plans for after the HSC
- develop an intense relationship with a boyfriend or girlfriend
- get their driver’s licence
- experiment with legal or illegal drugs
- have a part-time job
- are a member of a sporting team
- develop an eating disorder
- suffer from depression.

If any of these concerns sound familiar, do not despair. You are not alone - and this will not last forever.

How you can help:

Richard Cracknell, Counsellor and District Guidance Officer at Inverell High School advises that “the most obvious forms of support parents can offer are the practical, physical things,” and recommends parents:

- Provide a good place to study, that is quiet, comfortable, with good ventilation, good lighting, adequate desk or table space and free from distractions such as TV, noise, a telephone, interesting conversations, little brothers and sisters.
- Provide healthy, balanced meals.
- Encourage sleep and regular exercise.
- Encourage them to avoid late night parties and alcohol consumption.

Less obvious, but just important, is giving your child the support they need in the lead-up to exams, which can be hard when emotions run high.

Tips to remember ...

- Be supportive and encouraging.
- Highlight strengths and successes. Encourage your child not to dwell on failures, but to see them as “mistakes”, which can actually be something they can learn and benefit from.
- Appreciate your child maybe feeling very stressed, even if it is not obvious to you. Many kids fear letting their family down so beware of setting unrealistic expectations. Some worry they can not do as well as a sibling, or friend. Many Year 12 kids are feeling overwhelmed about what lies ahead: leaving home, leaving lifelong friends, the prospect of having to live in a new city.
- Understand people under pressure become supersensitive and explosive from time to time. Family members are usually the first targets. Try not to overreact.
- Be realistic in your expectations as to where the HSC leads. Not all HSC students will go on to university – but they can still have a wealth of excellent and satisfying career options. If they do not get the HSC marks they needed and still really want to go on to tertiary education later, there are many other pathways. Interestingly, the success rate of mature age students is much higher than for those who go straight from school.
- Encourage your child to seek help from teachers or the school counsellor if they are having any difficulty with subjects, study organisation, stress or anxiety about examinations.
- Encourage a healthy balance between work and leisure. Some times kids need a total break from everything for a weekend or so, to recharge their batteries.
- Take an interest in what your child is doing, if they’ll allow you to (some won’t). This can include the subjects or topics being studied, how their study timetables and programs have been organised and their leisure pursuits. (Note: “Taking an interest in” does not mean interfering.)
- Remember the occasional hug and “I love you” don’t go astray, even when they are 18 years old.
- Encourage and allow your child to be as independent as you can possibly stand. The more independent your child is in meeting the demands of Year 12, the better prepared they will be to succeed at a tertiary level or in the workforce.
2016: WANT TO PLAY?
Green Point Christian College Netball Club

Registration now open!
Early bird discount before 6/2/16
Simply register online via: http://admin-netball.resultsvault.com/
Returning players: details have been emailed
New players: email our Registrar

GPCCNC Registration Days:
3:30-4:30 Wed 3/2 + 10-11:30 Sat 6/2
☆ MPC @ GPCC ☆ meet the committee ☆
☆ uniforms: new/second-hand ☆ payments ☆

More information & Rego help:
email Kylie at registrargpcc@gmail.com
or www.gpcc.nsw.edu.au/school-life/gpcc-netball-club

new skills
lots of fun!
Prayer

“Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV

A small group of staff and parents meet each week to place College staff and families into God’s loving care. Please join us to pray on Tuesdays @ 2:00pm until 3.15pm. (Meet in the College Office). For prayer requests, please contact Ann McLellan on 0400 349 429 or fill out the blue form at the College Office reception.

School Photos

Advance notice is given for school photo days. Please put these dates in your diary:

- **Wednesday 9 March 2016** - Secondary School
- **Thursday 10 March 2016** - Junior School

Music Tutor Program

Unlock that God given gift in Music! The Tutoring Program is open again this year for interested students from the whole College (K - 12). Tuition is open for Piano, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Violin, Singing, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Cello, Trombone, Trumpet and Drums. Any students (new and old) who wish to join the Music Tutoring program, please pick up a Registration letter for 2016, from Mr Muir in the Music Department.

After School Drama Club Returns

After School Drama Club will return on Mondays commencing from **1 February 2016**.

- 3:30pm - 4:30pm - Kindergarten - Year 5
- 4:30pm - 5:30pm - Year 6 - Year 9

For more information contact Wiesie Bester on 0449 544 474.

College Family Directory

Each year the College makes available to parents a College Family Directory to facilitate communication within the College community. The directory contains name, address and contact number of College families. If you do not want your details published in the directory, please contact Mrs Blanche Moody on 4363-1266 or email bmoody@gpcc.nsw.edu.au.

GPCC Netball Club

Keen to learn new skills and play a team sport with friends? We have teams from Kindergarten through to Year 12 and parents. Registrations for the GPCC Netball Club are now open for the 2016 season. For more information visit [http://www gpcc nsw edu au/school-life/gpcc-netball-club/](http://www.gpcc.nsw.edu.au/school-life/gpcc-netball-club/) or email secretarygpcc@gmail.com. See flyer on page 5. New players welcome.

Family Information Forms

It is important for families of new students to please complete and return the Family Information Form to the College Office as soon as possible to enable College records to be updated.
Canteen

Welcome back everyone. Our College Canteen operates Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 2:00pm and is located in the Library building adjacent to the Uniform Shop.

Students leave lunch orders at the Canteen before classes commence.

Please write the student’s name, class, lunch order and $ amount on the bottom half of a paper bag. Bags are available at the Canteen for 10c.

Please check prices carefully before ordering and enclose correct money where possible. When change is required, small amounts will be placed securely in the bag with the order. If change is required for recess, please indicate this on the bag. Significant amounts will need to be collected from the Canteen by the student.

Drinks which are part of lunch orders for students K-6 are sent to class. Frozen foods are distributed or purchased from the Canteen. If prepaid as part of a lunch order, the order bag is presented as proof of payment.

Guidance is given in food selection where necessary. Limits apply. The Canteen is committed to providing a variety of healthy meals at reasonable prices.

If you would like to be involved in the provision of this service, we would love to have you in whatever way you choose.

Our contact number is 4367 9957 or email canteen@gpcc.nsw.edu.au. We are looking forward to serving you in 2015.

Mrs Rae Playford, Canteen Manager

Green Point Baptist Church

Green Point Youth is a group of young people from across the Central Coast who meet together each week with other high-schoolers for a night of fun and adventure. It’s a place where we play big games, meet new friends, enjoy some supper and discuss issues of life and faith.

Everyone in years 7-12 is invited to come along. We meet from 7-9pm each Friday during school term at Green Point Baptist Church in the Jacaranda Room, though we sometimes go off-site for adventures (with permission notes required.)

We’d love to see you there on Friday night. If you have any questions about GP Youth, please don’t hesitate to call GPBC’s Youth Pastor Will Richards on 0424 278 948 or email at will@gpbc.net.au.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/greenpointyouth/

For more info contact Will Richards on 0424 278 948 or at will@gpbc.net.au

Upcoming dates

Term 1, 2016

- Thursday, 28 January
  First day for Kinder, Years 8-10
- Monday, 1 February
  After School Drama Club
- Tuesday, 2 February
  JS After School Art Club
- JS Meet the Teacher Evening
- Wednesday, 3 February
  JS Choir 8:00am
  Secondary School Thanksgiving and Academic Assembly 12:00pm
  GPCC Netball Club Registration
  3:30pm - 4:30pm
- Friday, 5 February
  JS Swimming Carnival

Green Point Baptist Church

Sunday Service
9:30am
Visit: www.gpbc.net.au
Canteen Volunteers
Week 2 Term 1
Monday, 01.02.2016
- 
Tuesday, 02.02.2016
- 
Wednesday, 03.02.2016
- 
Thursday, 04.02.2016
Lynne Campey 
Friday, 05.02.2016
Terry Ellis

Coast Shelter Restaurant
346 Mann Street, Gosford
If you would like to be on the roster, please email office@gpbc.net.au or 0419 986 740.

30 January 2016
OIC and Food Pickup: Brian Shaw
Kitchen Manager: Karen Shaw
Helpers: Bonnie Gardiner, Debby and Vanessa Andersson, Jess Noble, Suzie Morris

6 February 2016
Volunteer 1 Coast Shelter
Volunteer 2 Coast Shelter

13 February 2016
OIC and Food Pickup: Penny Williams
Helpers: Alex Smith, Amy Connolly, Di Smith, Julie (with Harrison and/or Sally) Stowe, Tosca Brand, Vicki Wickert and Tony Cunningham

Uniforms For Sale: Size 14 boys blazer $60 and size 13R long pants (no belt) $15. Both as new. Phone 0414 605 496

House for Rent: Four bedroom house for rent in Green Point with waterviews, 2 bathrooms, large covered deck, swimming pool, no pets. Owners living downstairs in separate granny flat. $650 per week plus bills. Phone 0425 275 705.

Position Vacant: Women on Boards currently have a Cert III Business Administration Traineeship opportunity available for a recent Year 12 school leaver. For a job description and information on how to apply please email angela@womenonboards.org.au.

Rock Dance Studios: Ballet (RAD), Jazz, Modern/Contemporary, Hip Hop, Tap, Acro Dance. Enquiries to 0410 681 174 or dance@rockstudios.com.au

School Uniform Alterations: Marie Waters Repairs and Alterations (Kincumber). Phone 0408 443 169.

If you would like to place an advertisement in the Green Point Trader please email details to Marie Hay at newsletter@gpcc.nsw.edu.au

Term Dates 2016

Term 1, 2016
- Wednesday 27 January 2016 (Years 1-7, 11 and 12);
- Thursday 28 January 2016 (Kinder, Years 8-10) to Friday 8 April 2016

Term 2, 2016
- Tuesday 26 April 2016 to Friday 1 July 2016

Term 3, 2016
- Monday 25 July 2016 to Friday 23 September 2016

Term 4, 2016
- Monday 10 October 2016 to Thursday 8 December 2016

Uniform Shop
Operating Times
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday during the School Term: 8:30am - 11:00am
(Closed Wednesdays)
Afternoons by appointment only.

Alternate ways to make purchases:
1. Write items on a lunch order bag, enclose cash or cheque and lodge through the Canteen.
2. Lodge order and payment through Reception.
3. Phone order to Uniform Shop and pay by credit card.
4. Email uniform@gpcc.nsw.edu.au

Always include your child’s name and Year Group for delivery.
Credit card slips and a receipt are always issued.