On Being a Christian College in the World Today …

There is significant pressure on schools today from many and varied places. We know though, that maintaining our distinctiveness as a community of faith with a specific ethos on caring and nurturing every student entrusted into our care takes time and energy, but it is time and energy that reflects our Vision.

Our children are so precious, and part of caring and supporting them is to help them recognise the giftedness God has given them and to give them opportunities to use that giftedness as an expression of what they believe. When our students lead like Jesus, they influence the world and they offer a glimpse of Him to the people they support and encourage.

Of course, this type of thinking and acting often goes against our social media controlled existence that encourages ideas about self and “me, myself and I”. Green Point Christian College is dedicated to ensuring that the idea of serving others is valued and expressed in many ways, from the language we speak, to the rituals we enact, and to the practices and the protocols we encourage.

The College continues to foster unity in the Spirit of God the Father as we seek to serve and bless those who are at times in need of our support. A life of service is one where students have truly understood that we are more blessed when they do for others, and their lives are truly richer. Service develops compassion and compassion develops service and all this entails emanates from an understanding that we are made in God’s image and we are responsible to love our neighbour as we love ourselves.

Students, who reach out and support other students at the College through our mentoring program, constantly encourage me. The program offers support of our Kindergarten classes by older students in Junior School and Year 7 by senior students in Secondary School. It is purposeful and reminds us again that this type of response comes from a heart filled with love.

These students are not motivated by self-interest but by a desire to be an encouragement to other students who may be feeling vulnerable. By its very nature the College is supportive of students and their many and varied needs, and to always developing a knowledge and understanding of God, and what He has done in Christ.

Prayer

Pray for the safety, enjoyment and good health of our Year 7 students and staff at camp this week.

Pray for new friendships and positive relationships.

Praise

Praise God for a great Primary Swimming Carnival.

Praise God for our Bible Study Leaders.

“To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy.” - Jude 1:24 (NIV)
Junior School News

Mrs Kerry Paterson | Head of Junior School

Welcome to Term 1, Week 3. This week, our Junior School Bible focus in Living as God’s Kids Is Kids Are Important (Psalm 139, Luke 18:15-17) The BIG idea is: Jesus taught how much God values and loves children.

Mrs Bourke has done a wonderful job teaching us to sing our Bible verse together each week. Psalm 139:14, “I praise You because of the wonderful way You created me. Everything You do is marvellous?” (CEV) Maybe ask your child/children to sing it to you.

Head of School Awardees plus Cupcakes, Chat and Celebrate!

We congratulate the following students for achieving the Head of School awards for this week:

Bronte Baldock, 1MM; Talia Mathot, 1PB; Lucy Whitwell, 1SM; Joshua Procter, 2B; Olivia Harvey, 2D; Reuben Hatcher, 2W; Daniel Kastelan, 3P; Laine Casey, 3W; Dusty Piper, 3/4D; Halle Davies-Bettridge, 4H; Keira Francis, 4S; Jamin Hope, 5B; Lacey Ezzy, 5L; Scotia Emmett, 5/6L; Charlotte Gibbens, 6M and Ruby Townsend, 6P.

Primary Sports Carnival (Years 3-6) – The results are in and Age Champion Winners plus Winning House will be announced next Wednesday in Chapel.

We had hoped to update our scores all day at the carnival but due to a technology glitch, this was not to be. Stay tuned, the big announcement will be made at Chapel next Wednesday.

Well done to the many outstanding swimmers we have in our Junior School. It was encouraging to see so many students entering events, including the novelty event. I know the results again this year have come down to a few points between 1st and 2nd place in the House competition, so every event that was entered gave points to the House and is vitally valuable. Your participation counts.

A special thank you to all our Life Saving parents who assisted children in the 25m races. Your willingness to help was certainly a highlight and ensured the safety of our precious students. Thank you.

The hottest contested race of the day was the parent/teacher/student race. We had a record five parent teams, one teacher team and two Year 6 student teams. It was a close finish with Teachers 1st, Students 2nd and Parents 3rd. I have a feeling the results would have been different had the teachers not been wearing flippers, goggles and the ladies wearing tutu’s. Well done Mr Pembroke, Miss Wengi, Mrs Livette and Mrs Turner, Year 6 students and our parents. It made for a great end to our carnival. The challenge is on for next year, so parents keep training, because our teachers will be!

Uniforms: Thank you to all our families who have sent children to school in the correct uniforms including white joggers for sport. We have seen an improvement in correct sports shoes this week. Thank you so much. Teachers will continue to address this in classes, asking parents to replace these with predominantly white sports shoes or muted colours as per our uniform requirements. Please see Alex in the Uniform Shop if you need assistance finding retail outlets selling white joggers.

A reminder that nail polish is not permitted and we will be asking children to remove it if worn at school.

Grade Parent meeting tomorrow Friday 12 February, 9.00am – 10.00am in the Staff Common Room

We are so looking forward to meeting with our Grade Parent Representatives. Please join Debra Walls, Julie Stowe and myself as we launch 2016 with a morning tea together. We still need Grade Parent Representatives for Year 1 and Year 3, ideally two for each grade. If you are interested, please talk to your class teacher and join us on Friday for morning tea.

Computer Coding Club with Mr Turner on Thursdays at Lunchtime

Computer Coding has started for the year with Mr Turner. We are now opening the Coding Club to students from Year 1-6. Eat lunch first and then take your laptops to Mrs Munro’s room each Thursday lunchtime. Thank you so much Mr Turner.

Junior School Choir (Years 1-6) Wednesday Morning 8.00am in the CAPA rooms

It is not too late to join. We invite all budding singers to join Mrs Munro each Wednesday morning. What a great way to start the day.

Chess Club Monday Lunchtime: 1.15pm – 2.00pm (Years 2-6)

We love to encourage students to play Chess. Why? Studies confirm playing chess ...

1. Improves concentration and memory.
2. Enhances reading and math skills. With its focus on problem solving, requiring decoding, thinking, comprehension, and analysis.
3. Fosters logic, critical thinking, and creativity. Chess favours the “if–then” thinker.
4. Encourages and rewards hard work. Lose your focus, lose a piece.
5. And the fifth and best reason of all to play chess? It’s just plain fun!

Term 1 Chess classes are run by the Sydney Academy of Chess and can be booked online at sydneyacademyofchess.com.au at the cost of $64. Classes started last Monday but students are still very welcome to join. Mrs Peterson from 3P is our contact person here at school if you need further information.

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

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
Mr Peter McLellan  
Head of Secondary School

One of our goals is to develop our students in their leadership gifts within the College. It is a blessing when our students take on a role that guides others in different aspects of school life. Our prefects are fine examples of the leaders we produce. Often it is by our example that we lead others to strive towards their best. Leadership is one of our core values in that we want to develop young people that will lead our communities in the future in a Godly and upright manner.

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Student Car Park

Parents please do not park in the student car park located next to the service station to drop off or pick up your children. It is putting yourself and your children as well as the P plate drivers at risk. Parents should only use the sanctioned drop off and pick up areas.

Kincumber Rotary Club Citizenship Awards

The College would like to thank Kincumber Rotary Club for their kind support of our Secondary Thanksgiving and Academic Assembly last Wednesday. Their donation has enabled the College to recognise the care, support, service and thoughtfulness of students in Secondary School with a Citizenship Award.

Parent/Teacher Interviews – Year 7 and Year 12

Interviews for Year 7 and Year 12 students are on Tuesday 23 February, from 4:00pm until 7.30pm in the MPC. As Year 12 is such a vital year for the students, bookings for these interviews will be open one day earlier than the Year 7 bookings, to ensure that Year 12 parents have an opportunity to see their children’s teachers. The bookings for Year 12 will therefore be open on Tuesday 16 February, from 9:00am and Year 7 bookings will be open on Wednesday 17 February, from 9:00am. Year 7 parents, please note that there is another opportunity to speak with teachers on Tuesday 29 March, so please do not worry if you find there are not times available in this round. Bookings are made through the internet, and you will need to access the PTO site to acquire a PIN number so you can make your bookings. Go to: http://www.gpcc.nsw.edu.au/news/upcoming-events/.

This is done by opening our new web page, and from the home page, click on the drop down menu called “News”, then click on “Upcoming Events”. You will see the PTO icon on that page. Click on the PTO icon, and select the first line on the right hand side, which says “Obtain PIN/password”. You will need to enter your email address (that you have previously supplied to the College).

You will receive an email with a secure link which will take you straight into PTO, bypassing the usual login screen, and the need to remember another PIN. Follow the prompts from there and book the times to see the teachers that you want to see. If you have any problems acquiring access, or if your email address is not the current one, please phone the College Office for assistance.

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Year 7 Vaccinations - Tuesday 23 February

The information/consent packs were sent home with your Year 7 student. Could you please read, complete details and return to the College office by Friday 19 February. Forms need to be signed by parents for the injections to be given, for each of the vaccinations. A phone call on the day will not be enough for the nurses to have the right to give the injection.

Year 10 Work Experience

In Term 4, all Year 10 students will participate in a week of work experience between 14-18 November. Students are required to approach work places of their choice to arrange this themselves. They are then required to fill out a form which has been emailed to their school email address, and return this to their Devotions Teacher as soon as possible. During this week students will be required to organise their own transport and accommodation if necessary. Work experience provides students with the opportunity to explore career choices before choosing subjects for Years 11 and 12. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Rebecca Gavin, Year 10 Advisor if you have any questions about this process.

Year 11 and Year 12 Drivers

If any Year 11 or Year 12 students are driving to school, they need to complete the Student Driver Permission Form (located in the back of the Secondary School Diary) and they are not to carry other students unless they have permission from all parents of students that are passengers. This form has details of the car and permission signatures from their parents and the parents of any other student they have permission to carry as passengers. It is important that this procedure is followed by all students who drive to the College.

Academic Reports

Please find a letter on the next page (Page 4) regarding comparison data information printed on Half Yearly and Yearly Academic Reports. Read the details of this letter and if you do not want the Course Grade printed on your child’s report, please complete and return the attachment to the College Office.
10 February 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians

This letter concerns information to be printed on academic reports issued by the College for students in Years 7 to 10.

The Government requires that schools delivering Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) courses report to parents in one of several ways. To meet the Government’s requirement, the method of reporting we have chosen at Green Point Christian College is to provide an overall achievement grade (A, B, C, D or E) in each BOSTES course. This grade will be determined by teaching staff for each BOSTES course and included on the report.

Additionally, schools are to provide a means by which parents can compare their child’s results relative to the performance of other children doing the same course. At Green Point Christian College, we do this by reporting how many A grades, B grades, C grades, D grades and E grades have been awarded in each course. There will also be additional information in the reports as per the College’s general reporting process. This information includes such items as the rank positions across the class or group studying the course (only the top 70% of ranks in the peer group in Years 7 and 8 appear on reports), averages and class marks as appropriate.

With respect to the Government’s requirements, some parents may not be comfortable with the comparison data indicating the number of grades awarded in each course and so the Government has allowed that you may opt out of having this information printed.

If you do not wish to have this printed then please fill in the form below and return by the end of Term 1 to the College Office. The course grade will be printed but not the number of A, B, C, D, or E grades awarded across the course.

Yours sincerely

Mr Peter McLellan
Head of secondary School

(Please return to Mr D Russell – College Office by the end of Term 1)

Dear Mr Russell,

I DO NOT wish to have the comparative grade information included in my child’s reports.

Student Name: ___________________________________________   Year: ____________________

Parent Signature: _________________________________________   Date:_______________________
The Power of Words — This term in Chapel (Secondary School) we will be exploring the power of words and how we can shape the lives around us by what we say. Proverbs 18:21 reminds us that “the tongue has the power of life and death” and the book of James teaches us that the tongue has the ability to cause great destruction when it is untamed. We seek to be a community of people who use our words to build up and encourage one another, speaking life into situations and circumstances. What a great opportunity this will be to have a conversation as a family unit around how you can become more mindful of not only what we say, but the effect our words are having on those around us.

Vetamorphus — A group of our senior students have commenced the Vetamorphus Course. This is a Certificate III in Christian Ministry and Theology that is available within secondary schools across the country. This certificate is part of Vocational Education Training (VET) and offers secondary students academic credit towards their HSC through nationally accredited training. This course provides elements of Christian leadership and practical opportunities to grow in personal faith and servanthood. See www.vetamorphus.com for more information.

CRU Holiday Camps — Crusaders are running a holiday camp right here at Green Point Christian College in the April school holidays. This day camp (no sleeping over) is for K-6 students and runs from 11-15 April. Crusaders are seeking the assistance of five more student leaders (Years 9-11) to help run many of the exciting activities (inflatable slides – Nerf battles – laser tag – parachute games – cooking classes – and much more!) Please see Mr McInnes if you are interested.

Autumn CRU Camps — check out www.crucamps.com.au for a wide range of camps that are available in the upcoming April school holidays. There are camps for all ages (K-12) and all areas of interest.
OPEN DAY
TUESDAY 1 MARCH 2016 at 11AM

All are welcome to attend Open Day at our College at 11am. Tours of the College facilities will be conducted after a short welcome in our Creative and Performing Arts Centre. The Tours will conclude with morning tea. Come and see our Junior School and Secondary School and experience the atmosphere and tone of the College.

LIMITED VACANCIES AVAILABLE FOR 2017
It’s never too early to start thinking about a school for your child!

Avoca Drive, Green Point 2251 | Locked Bag 1 Kincumber 2251
Phone: 4363 1266 | registrar@gpcc.nsw.edu.au | www.gpcc.nsw.edu.au

KINDERGARTEN 2017
Information Night
TUES 8 MARCH 2016 at 7.30PM

Is your child ready to commence school in 2017?
Come and talk to us about how your family would benefit from your children attending our College throughout their school life, from Kindergarten to Year 12.

Avoca Drive, Green Point 2251 | Locked Bag 1 Kincumber 2251
Enquiries: The Registrar ~ 4363 1266 or email: registrar@gpcc.nsw.edu.au
Fee Payment Details Forms

Please be reminded that all Fee Payment Details Forms should have been returned to the College. If you have not returned your form, please forward this to the College Office by 12 February. Thank you.

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, students 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.

Careers


Green Point Baptist Church

SUMMER 2016

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Green Point Baptist Church

Sunday Service
9:30am
Visit: [www.gpbc.net.au](http://www.gpbc.net.au)

Green Point Baptist Church

WEEK 3

College News

Upcoming dates

Term 1, 2016

- **Thursday, 11 February**
  - Year 7 Camp

- **Friday, 12 February**
  - College Band 8:00am
  - School Banking Starts
  - Grade Parents Meeting 9:00am SCR
  - Year 7 Camp

- **Monday, 15 February**
  - Years 10H and 10K Geography Excursion
  - After School Drama Club

- **Tuesday, 16 February**
  - JS Sports in School Program
  - JS After School Art Club
  - French Language Tour Information Night

- **Wednesday, 17 February**
  - JS Choir 8:00am
  - Year 10M Geography Excursion

- **Thursday, 18 February**
  - JS Anti Bullying Day

- **Friday, 19 February**
  - College Band 8:00am
  - Year 10E Geography Excursion
Canteen Volunteers
Week 4 Term 1

Monday, 15.02.2016
Glenda Collins

Tuesday, 16.02.2016

Wednesday, 17.02.2016
Lyn Gollan

Thursday, 18.02.2016
Jill Izzard

Friday, 19.02.2016
Amanda Baird, Karin Cirillo, Darlene Laybutt

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.

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

20 February 2016
OIC: Stephen Hay
Food Pickup: Arthur Pickersgill
 Helpers: Bonnie Gardiner, Jo Schofield, Leena Pretlove, Sonia Dawes

27 February 2016
OIC and Food Pickup: William Arnot
Kitchen Manager: Tony Herbert
 Helpers: Cherylee Corcoran, Debby and Vanessa Andersson, Rentia Morgan.

Green Point Trader


For Sale: 2 x pairs trousers new colour size 16R $25 each; 1 x blazer, worn once size 95 $120 ono; Year 11 Physics in Focus text book $35 ono; Year 11 Legal Studies text book $35 ono. Contact Mark 0428 125 375.

Maths Tutoring: Former GPCC student (extension Maths), current UTS student. Nicholas Zepernick 0422 954 998.


Uniforms For Sale: Secondary School taupe skirt size 4. Worn once $50; Secondary School sports jacket size 12C worn once $50. Phone 0401 759 482.

House for Rent: Four bedroom house for rent in Green Point with water views, 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.

The Messenger

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.