Mrs Debra Walls  |  Principal

Making a Difference

In a little book called *I Heard the Owl Call My Name* by Margaret Craven which I read during the holidays, Craven tells the wonderful story of a young Anglican priest who does not know that he is dying of cancer. Neither did the wise Bishop who assigns him to the isolated and difficult parish of Kingcome, a Native American village in British Colombia.

As directed by the Bishop, Mark Brian came to the village as vicar, thinking that his leadership was his role, his position. Three years later in that same village he died surrounded by a community of friends, coming to know that his leadership was in his relationships and that he was led as often as he was followed. It was in his relationships with the village people that Mark was able to lead them, to make a difference in their lives.

However, it was these same relationships that enabled the village people to make a difference in Mark Brian’s life and ministry. He taught them about the love of God. They taught him about the quality of life and the meaning of death.

This story is about how leadership is truly about relationship, and relationships that make a difference - a shared experience focusing on developing relationships that support and encourage each other provides wisdom and discernment about what servant leadership needs to look like.

We are all leaders called to different spheres of life whether as parents or teachers or students. Knowing who I am in Christ, showing reverence to God’s Word and being teachable – make for leaders who recognise the value of relationships as we lead. We will grow to value God’s providence, God’s sovereignty, and an understanding of who God is and what He has done on my behalf.

However, the heart is only changed through relationship with God and that means relationship with His Word. There is nothing more important than the transformation of the heart and this only comes through relationship with the incarnate Word who is Jesus Christ Lord and Saviour of the Universe. We need more than anything else to be centred in our souls.

Consolidation, communication and clarification is a way of centering our thinking; the shape of all we do and say needs to be centred on the living God if it is to be truly effective.

“In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.” Ephesians 3:12

Blessings,

Debra Walls
Welcome to Term 1, Week 3

This week our Junior School Bible focus is *In the Beginning* with a special focus on God. (Genesis 1 - 2:4)

Our Bible verse is, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. All of it was very good!” Genesis 1:1 (CEV) Each week our student leaders lead us in singing our Bible verse together. It would be terrific if your child could sing it to you.

Student Expectations – Respect, Learn and Excel

Please take the time to discuss our student expectations with your child. Please ask them what they understand Respect, Learn and Excel means for our College community and for them individually.

Head of School Awardees plus Cupcakes, Chat and Celebrate

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

Alyssa Cahill, 1MM; Joshua Faulkner, 1PB; Alexander Kumar, 1SM; Noah Frankland, 2B; Ruby Donnelly, 2D; Chase Prestidge, 2W; Abigail Hearn, 3P; Killian Byrne, 3W; Charlie McKee, 3/4D; Samuel Carantinos, 4H; Kara Ferguson, 4S; Joshua George, 5B; Lucas Keough, 5M; Oliver Carblis, 5/6L; Charlie Foreman-Prentis, 6M and Millie Tarditi, 6P. Every Thursday, awardees are invited to a special morning tea in the Staff Common Room.

Primary Sports Carnival (Years 3 - 6) – Thank you

To our students, parents and teachers, we extend a huge thank you for your efforts. On what was possibly the hottest day of the year (or decade), you gave your very best, making the day a great success. We love the community spirit as we celebrate our winners, and celebrate those who give it a go, encouraging them to the end. Well done. Carnival points and Age Champions will be announced at Chapel and in the newsletter at a later date.

A special thanks to Narelle Duggan and her team of official referees for setting up the automatic timing system, bringing a new level of professionalism to our event.

A huge thank you to Mr Nathan Lambert for running another successful carnival, giving students the opportunity to shine in their God-given talents. Well done Nathan, also for setting up the sprinkler system for the marshalling area and for scheduling opportunities throughout the day for students to keep wet and cool. It was appreciated by all on our 45 degree day.

A special congratulations to our students who won the Parent/Student/Teacher race for 2017.

The teachers were beaten by 5cm in a spectacular finish. Teachers are now officially in training for the 2018 come back challenge.

To the many parents and teachers who helped in and out of the water, we appreciate you so much.

Parent Volunteers – We are so blessed here at the College

As I visited Kindergarten on Monday morning, I was so blessed to see eight of our Kindergarten mums reading with the students. We also have mums and dads who volunteer in many other areas of the College: Canteen, Year 1 – Year 6 classrooms, carnivals and also in the very important role of Grade Parents. We want to especially thank you for giving your time and talent to support our students. You add so much to our community. We are incredibly thankful for your partnership with us.
Uniforms

Thank you to parents for supporting this important College policy.

“The standard you walk past, is the standard you expect”. We saw a huge increase this week in families embracing our Uniform Policy and we thank you very much for this support.

Just a reminder: Earrings are standard plain gold or silver round studs or sleepers. If ears have recently been pierced, students are permitted to wear the piercing studs with small stones or different shapes until their ears have healed, normally six weeks. They are then required to change to the plain round gold or silver studs.

Please make a note to not have your child’s ears pierced just before school photos on 14 March to ensure correct uniform. If you are not sure about College uniform expectations, please do talk to your child’s class teacher, our ladies in the College Office or Alex in the Uniform Shop.

Anti-Bullying Day – Thursday 16 March

Advanced notice: We will be turning the College orange once again. We believe that everyone; students, teachers and parents, should thrive here at the College feeling supported and safe. If you feel threatened, minimised or unsafe, we encourage all our community to:

1. Say "stop" with firm kind words
2. Walk away
3. Tell an adult – Teachers, parents, Head of School (when we know, we can act)
4. Do not be a bystander – Take action to support your friend by telling a teacher

Emergency Contacts and Transport Information

If you have not updated your child’s information, please do so immediately via email to ensure we can contact you in the case of an emergency. 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.

Important Dates for Term 1 - 2, 2017

- Tuesday, 14 March
  Junior School Photo Day
- Thursday, 16 March
  National Anti-Bullying Day (moved due to Infants Carnival)
- Friday, 17 March
  K-2 Swimming Carnival
- Friday, 24 March
  Japanese Day
- Friday, 31 March
  Cross Country for Years 2 - 6
- Tuesday, 28 March
  Kindergarten 2018 Information Evening 7:30pm
- Wednesday 26 April
  JS Anzac Day Assembly
- Thursday 27 April - Friday 28 April
  Year 5 Bathurst Camp
- Tuesday 30 May - Friday 2 June
  Year 6 Canberra Camp

A reminder about Junior School activities highlighted last week ...

*Computer Coding Club with Mr Turner
  Monday – Years 4 - 6 in Mrs Munro’s room, 1:05pm – 1:45pm
Tuesday – Years 1 - 3 in Miss Wengi’s room, 1:05pm – 1:45pm

*Junior School Choir (Years 1 - 6) Thursday Morning 8:00am in the CAPA rooms - Mrs Munro/Mrs McCarthy

*Chess Club Wednesday Lunch Time: 1:05pm – 1:45pm (Years 2 - 6) - Mrs Peterson

Blessings, Kerry Paterson
Secondary School News

Mr Peter McLellan  
| Head of Secondary School |

The internet has become such a big part of our children’s lives and although there is a lot of positives there are a lot of dangers as well. I thought I would include the following article to help you start a conversation with your child about their use of the internet.

Spend much time surfing the web? If you do, you need to be wary of things that lurk on the dark side of the Internet. Not only are there viruses, hackers and spammers - online predators and a bunch of evil-doers are out there just waiting to pounce on teens in the digital world.

You have probably heard of someone’s computer being hacked, his or her identity being stolen online, or even having some embarrassing pictures posted online.

“Nah, it can’t happen to me,” you think. Well, if you use the following Internet safety tips, you have a good chance of being right.

1. Keep Your Online Identity Secret

Don’t tell anyone your real name and address or what neighbourhood you live in. Here’s the general rule: Don’t give out any information that a predator could possibly use to find you. The Federal Trade Commission says that even “small clues” like what school you attend or the name of your athletic team is enough for a predator to figure out your identity. You wouldn’t tell some 40-year-old man or woman you met at the mall your name and where you live, would you? So why would you tell CoolGuy985 or HotChick16 from the chat room?

2. Your Username and Password Belong to You ... And Only You

Don’t give your username or password to anyone. It’s just that simple. What if a friend logs on and pretends to be you, and then says something really awful and gets you in trouble? Sure, it might seem funny to the “former” friend, but it’s serious and it happens everyday. With your username and password, someone can post language that gets you expelled from school, in trouble with your parents, or even in trouble with the law. Keep your name and password private.

3. The Internet has a Great Memory ... So Keep Its Memory of You Clean

Just because the Internet is so massive does not mean that embarrassing or risqué pictures, rude or mean comments or illegal activities will disappear forever. Watch what you post about yourself or others, or allow your friends to post about you, because you may have to live with it for a long, long time.

4. Be Good Online ... Just Like You Are Offline

Writing “hate” emails, hacking into other people’s computers, illegally downloading music or movies and making online threats are just as illegal on the Internet as they are in the real world. You cannot hide behind a screen name and get away with it. Watch what you write because someone else is watching what you write!

5. Be Extremely Careful about Meeting Someone in Person

The FBI gives an all-out blanket warning: “Never meet anyone in person that you meet online.” That said, many teens do make good friends online. You just have to be super-cautious and make sure other people you know and trust also know this “new” online person.

If you do decide to meet the new person, bring your parents with you. All of you meet together in a public area like a mall where there are tons of people around. Ask that the person’s parents to come, too. If the situation feels creepy, it probably is creepy! Just like in the real world, trust your gut instincts and walk away.

6. Your Parents Are Ultimately Responsible for Minors Online

Even if your parents don’t know much about the Internet, tell them what types of websites you go to. They will probably be interested and impressed with your internet skills.

They may also help you avoid potential problems if a website or new “friend” looks sketchy.

Some Extra Words of Caution

Almost Everything on the Internet Is Traceable

Every search, website visit, online posting and email is registered or recorded somewhere on the Internet. Once you send something out on the Internet, it’s almost impossible to take it back. You have to be careful, not impulsive when you write email or go to chat rooms.

People Live in "Fantasyland" Online

Even though someone writes, “Hi, I’m a really cool 15-year-old guy from New York City,” in reality that guy may be a 60-year-old man or even your next-door neighbour. Use scrutiny and caution.

Your Information Can Be Sold to Others

Every website has this thing called a “privacy policy.” It will tell you how that website uses all the personal information about you, like your name. In some cases, though, when you’re not looking, some websites ignore their privacy policy and sell your email address to other companies. When you open your email one day, you might have 150 spam emails in your inbox as a result. If a website is asking for too much information about you, take control and leave the site. (Again, would you give this information to some older stranger at the mall? Probably not.)

What about Nude Photos and Sex Sites?

You’ve probably come across some explicit sexual material on the Internet. That’s because pornography is big business on the web. If you come across a pornography site or get pornographic email, take control: Leave the site or delete the email.

Remember, pornography is not real life. It’s made up - the men and women are acting. In real life, real people don’t act that way with each other.
A letter concerning information to be printed on academic reports issued by the College for students in Years 7 - 10 was emailed to parents/guardians earlier this week. Click here to read the letter.

Year 10

A letter with information pertaining to Year 10 was emailed to parents/guardians earlier this week. Click here to read the letter.

Uniform

Please continue to be diligent in the encouragement of your child’s adherence to the College's Uniform Policy. Every student must not only have the correct uniform, but wear it correctly. Please make sure correct socks are worn and that ties are done up to the correct level. Shirts for boys are to be tucked in and all students need to have their school hat.

Drivers

If your child drives to school they must fill in the appropriate form which is located in their diary. 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.

Parent/Teacher Night – 28 February for Year 7 and Year 12

Parent/Teacher Interviews for Year 7 and Year 12 is on Tuesday 28 February. Bookings for interviews will open on Tuesday 21 February at 9:00am through the Parent Portal. Instructions on how to access the Parent Portal was emailed to parents today. Please remember to check your "spam" or "junk" mail if not received in your inbox.

Green Point Christian College/Compassion Insight Mission Trip

We are hoping to take a group of students from Years 11 and 12 on a Compassion Insight Mission Trip to Indonesia at the end of the year (28 November 2017 - 10 December 2017, dates and duration to be confirmed).

There will be a Parent/Student Information Evening on Monday 6 March at 7:00pm in the Staff Common Room.

Students interested should collect a letter from Mrs Collins in the office for further details.

CIS Girls Cricket Trials

Green Point Christian College would like to acknowledge the wonderful effort and performance from Sophie Shelley in Year 8, who last Friday tried out for the NSW Combined Independent Schools Open Cricket Team. Sophie is an accomplished cricketer who has represented NSW in the past few years. She tried out commendably, but unfortunately was not selected for the team. Being one of the youngest at the tryout, Sophie has many more years to trial for this team and we are confident that it will not be too long before she is selected. Congratulations Sophie and all the best with your cricket in the future.
In order to continue with our first class canteen service to your children, we urgently need more mums, dads, grandmothers and grandfathers to help out in the canteen.

You do not have to commit to a regular time slot in the week. Even if you can only help out for a few hours per term - it will be appreciated.

You can even team up with a friend, or simply call Rae, our friendly Canteen Manager, every now and then and find out if a suitable time slot is available. You can choose what you want to do - prepare food, sell at the window or help to clean up. All training (and lunch!) will be provided.

Please enter your name and contact number below and hand this flyer to a staff member or send with your student to the office.

Name: ________________________ Contact number: ________________
College News

Upcoming dates

- **Thursday, 16 February**
  - Choir 8:00am
  - Grade Parents Morning Tea in SCR 9:00am - 10:00am

- **Friday, 17 February**
  - College Band 8:00am
  - Cancer Council - Eat It to Beat It Parent Workshop - 9:00am - 10.30am:
    - Year 6 "Starting Strong" Afternoon

- **Monday, 20 February**
  - Year 2 Swimming Lessons
  - CSSA Secondary Open Girls and Boys Soccer Trials
  - Year 9 Digital Discipleship Program
  - After School Drama Club

- **Tuesday, 21 February**
  - Year 11 Biology Excursion
  - After School Art Club
  - Principal's Q&A

- **Wednesday, 22 February**
  - CIS Open Girls and Boys Tennis Trials (select students)
  - NSW All Schools Triathlon
  - Year 7 Digital Discipleship Program
  - Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion

- **Thursday, 23 February**
  - Choir 8:00am
  - Year 11 Digital Discipleship Program

- **Friday, 24 February**
  - College Band 8:00am
  - Year 12 Digital Discipleship Program
  - Year 11 Photography and Visual Arts Excursion

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**Green Point Baptist Church**

**term 1 2017**

**FEBRUARY**
- 10 SUMMER FUN
- 17 TEAM GAMES
- 24 MMM... CHOCOLATE

**MARCH**
- 03 KINGS AND QUEENS
- 10 TOILET PAPER
- 17 MUSIC MADNESS
- 24 ART ATTACK
- 31 AUSSIE AUSSIE AUSSIE

**APRIL**
- 07 EXTREME EASTER

This term at thrive

Thrive is for Years 5 & 6 @ 5:00 – 6:30
For more information contact Louise Eccleston on 0425 239 414 or at louise@gpbc.net.au

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**Green Point Baptist Church**

- **Myzone Discovery** Starts Sunday 26 February 2017 and runs until 26 March 2017 (Sunday mornings).
  - All children ages K-6 are very welcome to come along and try marbling, science experiments, making flying craft and sports and games.
  - Look out for registration forms.

- **Sunday Service** 9:30am
  - Visit: [www.gpbc.net.au](http://www.gpbc.net.au)
Term Dates 2016

Term 1, 2017

- Tuesday 31 January 2017 for Years 1 - 7, 11 and 12;
- Wednesday 1 February 2017 for Years 8 - 10;
- Thursday 2 February 2017 for Kindergarten to Friday 7 April 2017

Term 2, 2017

- Wednesday 26 April 2017 to Friday 30 June 2017

Term 3, 2017

- Monday 24 July 2017 to Friday 22 September 2017

Term 4, 2017

- Monday 9 October 2017 to Thursday 7 December 2017

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.