Dear Parents,

As we head into Week 2, I am pleased that all but two of our students have returned from holidays. Our new students are well on the way to settling into the school routine. I congratulate all parents for starting their students in correct school uniform. This does make us look smart especially with the correct black shoes. Over the holidays several buildings were renovated ready for the first day of school. Construction of our new playgroup room in the Good Samaritan Hall was a major project which will begin use this Friday (see attached flyer).

Our Year 4B room has been extended to allow for an additional reading corner and the removal of the pod from Year 5GS and 6B classrooms has allowed for additional classroom space. New toilets and vinyl in both Prep classes was completed ready for use last week. Classrooms in the senior block will this term receive their new air conditioners. Painting throughout the school has freshened up the worn areas.

New classroom furnishings will be noticed as you enter rooms over the next few weeks. Stand-up desks have been added to Year 2 - 6 classrooms and Hokki stools in Year 1 - 6 5 will be utilized by students during group work and to cater for differing learning styles. Both are aimed to assist with student engagement and concentration.

Over the break the IT Team has been hard at work installing a new computer server, preparing 50 new lap tops; retiring some older computers and setting up an additional bank of iPads. These will be utilized by students during group work and to cater for differing learning styles. Both are aimed to assist with student engagement and concentration.

The following is an extract from Michael Grose’s publication Parenting Ideas which may assist families at the start of the school year.

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 7 ideas to 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.

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 who 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 school and help them establish a work routine that matches.

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

5. **Insist kids exercise** - The old saying about ‘a healthy body and a healthy mind’ is so true. Exercise releases the chemicals needed for learning and wellbeing. Health professionals recommend a minimum of 60 minutes of exercise per day for kids of all ages. Encourage your child 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 sensitive to others; 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. Such skills as packing school bags and organising after school schedules can be great lessons that impact how they perform at school.

Make the most of the opportunity by focusing on two or three areas and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place.

Regards

Liam

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**Points of Interest**

Religious Life of the School & School Photos—pp 2 & 3

**Diary Dates**

TERM 1

MON 1ST JAN

FRI 31ST MAR

TUE 31 JAN

PARENT TEACHER MEETING

5.00PM - 5T & 5GS

WED 01 FEB

PARENT TEACHER MEETING

3.15PM - 2A & 2AL

5.00PM - 6B & 6H

CHOIR PRACTICE

8.40AM - 9.20AM

SCHOOL BANKING

8.00AM IN THE BREEZeway

THU 2 FEB

PARENT TEACHER MEETING

5.00PM - 4B & 4PD

FRI 3 FEB

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS 9.00AM

HCC & CONCESSION FORMS DUE

TUE 7 FEB

P & F AGM MEETING

7.30PM

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**Principal’s Column**

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**Website**

www.gcps.qld.edu.au
@cns.catholic.edu.au
Welcome to Week 2...
The Australia Day Prayer Assembly brought to us by the Student Council was an excellent lead-in to the year’s work ahead for them. Thank you Mrs Lorraine Naqicatabua for the Welcome to Country and also for giving generously of your time.

Beginning School Mass...Friday 3 February
Please join with us at 9:00am in Mother of Good Counsel Church as we celebrate our beginning of the school year mass by welcoming our Preps and all the newcomers to the school staff and students. The Student Leadership will be receiving their badges during this celebration too.

Prayer for the day...
St John Bosco—Today we celebrate the life of John Bosco. He inspired women and men to continue his work of educating poor students. Let us pray for their work around the world.

O God, source of all wisdom, fill us with your love and kindness so we may give ourselves to your service. Amen.

Q is for Question:...Why?
When you ask questions and read books, it increases your knowledge, as well as your confidence.

Who Am I? Competition Week 2...
Answer the question correctly and add your name and class. Drop off to Mrs C’s Office before Friday 3pm to be in the Draw for a frozie: I was a wealthy tax collector. I climbed a tree so I could see Jesus. I gave half my possessions to the poor.

Yours in Catholic Education—Maria Caltabiano—Mrs C. Assistant Principal Religious Education & Administration

TERM 1 DATES 2017
Tue 31.01 Parent Tr Meeting
5:00pm 5GS & 5T Theatrette
Wed 01.02 Parent Tr Meetings
3:15pm 2AL & 2WH Theatrette
5:00pm 6B & 6H Theatrette
Thu 02.02 Parent Tr Meeting
5:00pm 4B & 4PD Theatrette
Fri 03.02 School Mass MoGC 9:00am
Tue 07.02 P & F AGM 7:30pm Theatrette
Wed 08.02 Parent Tr Meeting Theatrette
3:30pm Prep C & Prep FD
Fri 10.02 Mini Vinnies Badging Ceremony
8:40am
Fri 17.02 5T Good Samaritan Charism Prayer Assembly 8:40am
Fri 24.02 4PD Project Compassion Prayer Assembly
Sat 25.02 Mini Vinnies at Mass 6:30pm
Wed 01.03 Ash Wednesday Liturgies
9:00am Prep—2
10:00am Yr 3—6
Fri 03.03 3WH Prayer Assembly
Arts Council—Too Cool for Bullies
Tue 07.03 Caritas Just Leadership Day
Fri 10.03 Colour Captains Prayer Assembly
Fri 17.03 6H St Patrick’s Prayer Assembly
Sun & Mon 29/20.03 RL Peninsula Trials
Fri 24.03 3Y Palm Sunday Assembly Netball Peninsula Trials
Tue 28.03 6B Last Supper Assembly
Wed 29.03 CROSS COUNTRY
Thu 30.03 5GS Stations of the Cross
Fri 31.03 Brief Friday Assembly
Fri 31.03 Term 1 ends

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
Easter Mon 17 April

TERM TWO
Tue 18 April - Fri 23 June (10 weeks)
Tue 25 April ANZAC Day
Mon 01 May Qld Labour Day Holiday

TERM THREE
Mon 10 July - Fri 15 Sept (10 weeks)

TERM FOUR
Mon 2 Oct Queen’s Birthday
Tue 3 Oct - Fri 1 Dec (9 weeks)
PLEASE SIGN IN AT FRONT OFFICE

WED 01 FEB       HELP NEEDED
FRI 03 FEB       MICHELLE BORG
MON 06 FEB       HELP NEEDED

If you can help out at any time even for an hour during the busy time please let the tuckshop know.

Regular times for sale of uniforms are MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY 8.00—8.30am and 11.00am—12.30pm

TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEER—2017

Please circle your preferred day:

First: MONDAY  WEDNESDAY  FRIDAY (of the month)
Second: MONDAY  WEDNESDAY  FRIDAY
Third: MONDAY  WEDNESDAY  FRIDAY
Fourth: MONDAY  WEDNESDAY  FRIDAY
Fifth: MONDAY  WEDNESDAY  FRIDAY

NAME:_____________________________________ PHONE:__________________________

CATHOLIC SCHOOL FEE DISCOUNTS - TERM 1 2017

Last week a letter regarding school fee discounts was sent home via the students. Please be aware if you are intending to apply for either a Pensioner and HCC Fee discount or a Special Consideration Concession for 2017 school fees you must return the relevant documentation no later than Friday 3rd February. If no arrangements have been made prior to Term 1 fees being issued next week, it will be assumed that you do not require a concession and are able to make full payment for school fees. For further information please refer to the letter available on our website or call into the Office.

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

THUR 23 FEB 2017

School Photography day is coming up very soon. Group and portrait photographs can be purchased by following the link or by using the envelope. http://www.advancedimage.com.au/keycode/keycodefinder.aspx?keycode=TGB9TD7P1

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

• School photos purchased online DO NOT require envelopes returned to school
• Don’t forget to order your sibling photos now
• Late fees/additional charges will be applied for purchases after photo day
• Photos will be returned to school for distribution six weeks after photos are taken
• Past years’ photographs including sports, co-curricular and representative groups available at school’s advancedlife & your advancedyou photo sites (follow the link above)

Sibling photographs must be ordered either online or by order envelope prior to the day of photography. A photograph will not be taken without an order. Sibling photographs only apply to children enrolled at the school.

We offer a 100% money back guarantee on our products to ensure peace of mind. If you have any questions, comments or feedback relating to your advancedlife experience please contact us at: enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

ONLINE ORDER CODE: TGB 9TD 7P1

WANTED FOR 16

If anyone has a solid heavy teapot that THEY ARE WILLING TO DONATE TO Year 1 IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

TERM FEES

Term 1 fees will be issued shortly. Please check your email for fee statements. Should you not receive your Invoice by email please advise immediately.

TERM FEES

If anyone has a solid heavy teapot that THEY ARE WILLING TO DONATE TO Year 1 IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

Catholic School of Cairns

HELP WANTED