



GEELONG LUTHERAN COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Edition 2011 Term 4 Week 10 14th December 2011

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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Last Thursday night it was a privilege and pleasure to be part of the graduation of our Year 6 students into the Middle School. Graduation is never a case of “...out with the old and in with the new..” but rather celebrating what we have achieved in passing one milestone, and then building on these achievements as we move into the future. Thank you to our Primary School teachers for laying the foundations of our students’ learning.

I would like to congratulate our students on two things. First, the presentation by the choirs and the involvement of our Prep and Prep/1 students at Alan David Lodge was very much appreciated. Secondly, thank you to our students for being so welcoming to next year’s new students on Tuesday’s orientation day. Well done!

Tonight at our closing service we will give thanks for the year (hasn’t it passed so quickly) and honour our students for their achievements and contributions to our school. Details for the closing service are reprinted in this week’s newsletter. There will be an offering at the service tonight, with your offerings going entirely to Australian Lutheran World Services.

Please note that Thursday is the last day of school for 2011 and that we will finish at 3:05pm.

As this year comes to a conclusion, I would like to thank our staff for the fine job they do – often going that extra mile for our students, and also thank you to our many parents who assist in quiet and often unassuming ways. On a personal note, my thanks go to members of our school community who welcomed and supported me in my first year. Your actions and prayers were much appreciated.

Looking ahead to next year, school recommences on Thursday 2 February with an Opening Devotion in our Hall at 9:00am. In the interim period, I pray that our families have a blessed Christmas rejoicing in the birth of the Christ child.

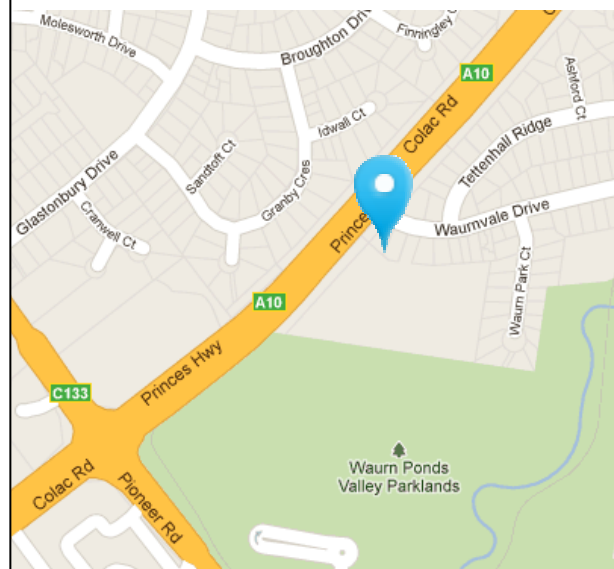
Barry Krueger, Head of School
Geelong Lutheran College

Closing Service and Awards Night TONIGHT 7pm

The Closing Service and Awards night is to be held tonight at the Waurm Ponds Community Church, 48 Waurmvale Drive Belmont at 7:00 pm. The entrance is just before Leisure Link. Enter into Waurmvale Drive and turn right into the driveway of the church. There is plenty of car parking on site. The Closing Service is a significant event in the school calendar and as such, it is compulsory for students to attend. The Closing Service is an opportunity for us as a school community, to come together and spend some time in thanking God for this school in this community, celebrate the successes of 2011, acknowledge those who have contributed and those who have excelled. Please be reminded:

- students are to be dressed in their full summer uniform which includes the blazer.
- students will need to meet their class teacher outside the main doors to the auditorium at 6:45pm so that they can be seated in their class groups
- students receiving awards will need to be present from 6:30pm for rehearsal and seating.

We look forward to sharing this evening with you.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec	Wednesday 14 th	GLC Closing Service 7pm Waurn Ponds Community Church
	Thursday 15 th	Last day Term 4 finish 3.05pm
Feb 2012	Wednesday 1 st	Bookselling Day 10.00am- 1.00pm in Hall
	Thursday 2 nd	First day Term 1 2012!
	Thursday 2 nd	9am Chapel Service GLC Hall



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

Matthew 1&2 and Luke 1&2

To prepare for Christmas, I encourage you to re-read the gospel accounts of Jesus' birth. For everyone in these stories, Jesus' arrival throws their lives into turmoil. Some respond with praise, others in anger. No one is untouched.

When Mary, a deep-thinking teenager looking forward to marrying to Joseph, is told by an angel that she will become pregnant, she is filled with doubt, asking: "What does this mean? How will it happen?" before accepting God's will – to become pregnant outside wedlock in a tight Jewish community.

When she informs her fiancée, Joseph, he is understandably shattered and, while not believing Mary about the angel, makes plans to break off the engagement quietly so Mary won't be publically disgraced and perhaps even stoned to death under Jewish adultery laws. Then an angel appears to him and tells him to marry Mary. He obeys despite knowing his firstborn son is not his own.

An angel's appearance terrorises a group of shepherds. Then they hear the good news, hurry to see baby Jesus, and respond by "praising God and thanking him for everything that they had seen and heard". When the wise men see Jesus, they shower him in expensive gifts and, after being warned of Herod's evil intent, go "home a different way", not only in route but also, by implication, in their spiritual journeys.

When a man named Simeon holds Jesus in the temple, he thanks God but speaks of Jesus' divisive nature: "Many in Israel will fall and many will rise because of this child. He will be a sign from God that many people will not accept".

King Herod was one of those people. He sees Jesus' birth as a threat to his power and position. Unwilling accept Jesus, he tries to kill him by ordering the execution of all the baby boys in Bethlehem.

Jesus isn't a fat, cuddly Santa Claus whom everyone can love or ignore. Even today, the ripples of Jesus' birth continue to divide opinion and create controversy. You just can't stand on the sidelines with Jesus. Confusion, doubt, turmoil, obedience, fear, praise, thanksgiving, gift-giving, a new direction, anger – how does Jesus change your life this Christmas?

-Jonny Hedt

LAP PROGRAM 2012

Pastoral Care Coordinator Jonny Hedt seeking expressions of interest for volunteers at St John's and GLC to help in a Learning Assistance Program (LAP) in 2012. LAP is a student-centered program providing individual support for students through the positive participation of volunteers. Volunteers, in partnership with teaching staff, work with students on a one-to-one basis for one period each week for a year. LAP fosters empathy, patience, confidence building and one-to-one dialogues and provides a heart-warming experience for both adults and children. Some of the special experiences our volunteers have participated in this year include balloon twisting, model making, and paper-airplane making. Volunteers will need a Working with Children check (free for volunteers) and to have undergone or willing to take Valuing Safe Communities training at the school (about an hour). Please email your interest to hedtj@stjohns.edu.au. Note that parents and grandparents of students would not work with their own children or grandchildren.

Changes to GLC Chapel Services in 2012

Pastor Tom Pietsch will open the school year with a chapel service with all GLC students at 9am on Thursday, February 2 2012. Parents are welcome. In the following weeks, GLC chapel will be split into a primary school chapel service on Tuesday mornings and a secondary school chapel service on Thursday mornings. Parents are welcome to come to either of these services.

Reminders

TOMORROW

Thursday 15th

December is our last day of school for the year.

We will be finishing at the usual time of 3.05pm.

Principal Update

A *Principal Update* for Term 4 will be emailed to those receiving their newsletters emailed.

A hard copy will also be distributed to all school families today.

Happy reading.

School Start Bonus forms

For those who are (Centrelink) eligible to receive the School Start Bonus, please return your forms to the office immediately for processing. Thank you.

Art Folio returns

This week Ms Fearnside gave art folios to the student to take home. Parents please return all folios (empty) for the New Year.

Lost Property

Unclaimed items- uniforms/other clothing/toys/sunglasses etc can be found in the GLC Office. At the end of the year anything unclaimed uniform items will be forwarded to the second-hand uniform shop.

Gardasil vaccinations for year 7 girls and Boostrix for year 10 students- (a note from Barwon Health)

Attention Parents of Female Year 7 & 8 Students.

All female year 7 students are offered a free course of "Gardasil" vaccine, funded by the Federal Government. Gardasil vaccine prevents infection of the 2 strains of Human Papilloma Virus responsible for up to 80% of cervical cancers in Australia and 2 strains of Human Papilloma Virus responsible for genital warts. The vaccine is highly effective if given at an early age.

If your daughter has not yet completed their course of the Gardasil, you can catch up on this vaccine at the Barwon Health Immunisation Service or your GP. This vaccine will only be funded for girls who begin the course of 3 injections during year 7 and complete it prior to the end of year 8. If you prefer to wait to have this vaccine, it will be available at a cost of approximately \$150 per dose from your GP.

All enquires can be made to Barwon Health Immunisation Service on 5226 7176. Barwon Health Immunisation Service will close on 23rd December and reopen on 4th January 2012.

Attention Parents of Year 10 Students

All Year 10 students are due to receive an immunisation booster for Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (Whooping Cough), known as Boostrix. Whooping Cough (Pertussis) is prevalent in our community and an important part of this immunisation.

Barwon Health Immunisation Service have now visited each school in City of Greater Geelong at least once and completed their immunisation program for Year 10 students.

If your Year 10 son or daughter has not yet received their immunisation for Boostrix (Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis), you can catch up on this free vaccine at the Barwon Health Immunisation Service or your GP.

If you did not receive any information regarding this vaccine or your child was absent on the day we were at your school, please contact the Barwon Health Immunisation Service on 5226 7176 or come in to get this important immunisation administered.

Barwon Health Immunisation Service will close on 23rd December 2011 and reopen on 4th January 2012.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE LIBRARY

It has been a wonderful year in the library and I have enjoyed getting to know all the wonderful children. We have had a lot of fun enjoying crafts, colouring in and borrowing amazing books. We have had 2 colouring in competitions, which the children have enjoyed and experienced a wonderful book week, which included a book character parade and book fair. I look forward to seeing you all in the Library next year and pray you will all have a blessed Christmas and a relaxing holiday.

-Mrs. Thompson



St Paul's Kinder Channel appearance ... If you recall from last week's newsletter, St Paul's Lutheran Kindergarten had its Opening Ceremony/Service on Sunday 11th December. Channel 31 and the Geelong News were present and took footage of the entire ceremony and interviewed many people. This Kindergarten Opening segment can be viewed on Channel 31 TONIGHT Wednesday 14th Dec on *Geelong News* @ 6.30pm. You will also be able to view the segments online after the program is aired.



BIRTHDAY wishes for this week and December...to the following student;

Emily -	14 th December	Jennifer -	14 th December
Mitchell -	18 th December	Jordan -	18 th December
Isabella -	19 th December	Journey -	20 th December
Stian -	20 th December	Tye -	20 th December
Ethan -	27 th December	Peter -	29 th December
Eugenie -	30 th December	Caleb -	30 th December



Last Friday students from Prep K, Prep P-1B, the Junior Choir and the Senior Choir, performed beautifully at Allan David Lodge, Grovedale. The residents enjoyed being entertained by such happy and proficient choristers. Thanks to Mrs Bell and Mr Qualischefski for organising the visit and the music.





Notes from the Head of School-St John's

Dear St John's School Community

As we say goodbye to 2011, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the St John's community for your commitment to the school. On Monday evening our **year six** students had their **graduation celebration**. It is always a time of reflection on their time at St John's. Some have been with us for up to 10 years when taking into account their Kindergarten years and some only one or two. We wish them all God's blessings as they continue their educational life after St John's.

To our teachers on leave, Mrs Stafford, Mr Tkaczuk and Mrs French, may your next twelve months be full of excitement and learning. Thank you for the effort and dedication you have given to our school. We are also excited to have appointed Mr Mark Mickan (5/6), Miss Carrie Veith (1/2), Mr David Sell (PE), Mrs Natalie Blackwell (4yo Kinder), Mrs Tracey Mayes (3yo Kinder) and Mrs Wendy Menzel (secondhand uniform shop). I'd like to acknowledge the work and commitment to our school from Josh Baker (PE and now full time GLC) and Sonya Carey (secondhand uniform shop).

A reminder that our **Closing Service** for St John's 2011 will be held **Thursday December 15** at the **Waterfront Christian Church** (35 Corio St, Geelong) beginning at **7:00pm**. We will ask students to **arrive at 6:45pm** and you will be given instructions **to meet their teachers** before entering the seated area. This is our final event in our school calendar and all students are required to attend and be wearing their correct full school uniform. NB change of venue due to unavailability of previous venue.

We will begin our new school year with a school chapel service in the hall. All are welcome to attend with a welcome coffee after that.

May God bless you all this Christmas as you celebrate and remember the **birth of the Christ Child** with your friends and family. Christmas is a special time and a wonderful opportunity to take some time out and reflect on the wonderful blessings we have – our freedom, our families, our friends and our faith. What a wonderful blessing it is that Jesus came into the world as a baby so that we can be assured of salvation and eternity in his arms.

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Luke 2:10

With God's Blessings,

Brian Schultz, Head of School

Lutheran Churches in Geelong – Christmas and New Year's Services

St John's Lutheran Church: Rev Mark Blackwell 165 Yarra Street, Geelong 5221 5121

- December 24: 7.30pm Christmas Eve (Parish service)
- December 25: 9am Christmas Day (Parish service)
- December 31: 7.30pm Combined Geelong New Year's Eve Service at Grovedale

St Paul's Lutheran Church: Rev Thomas Pietsch 307 Torquay Rd, Grovedale 5241 5141

- December 18: 9.30am Lessons and Carols
- December 24: 7.30pm Christmas Eve Service with drama, carols and readings.
- December 25: 9.30am Christmas Service with Holy Communion.
- December 31: 7.30pm Combined Geelong New Year's Eve Service at Grovedale
- December 1: 9.30am Service with Holy Communion.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church: Rev Lester Priebbenow 60 Ballarat Rd, Nth Geelong 5278 2443

- December 24: 7.30pm Christmas Eve- Carols service.
- December 25: 9.30am Christmas Day with Holy Communion.
- December 31: 7.30pm Combined Geelong New Year's Eve Service at Grovedale
- January 1: 9.30am New Year's Day.

Holy Trinity Leopold: Rev Mark Blackwell Moller's Lane, Leopold 5221 5121

- December 18: 11am Christmas service.

Freshwater Creek Lutheran Church: Rev Thomas Pietsch Anglesea Rd, Freshwater Creek 5241 5141

- December 18: 7pm Christmas Service with Holy Communion

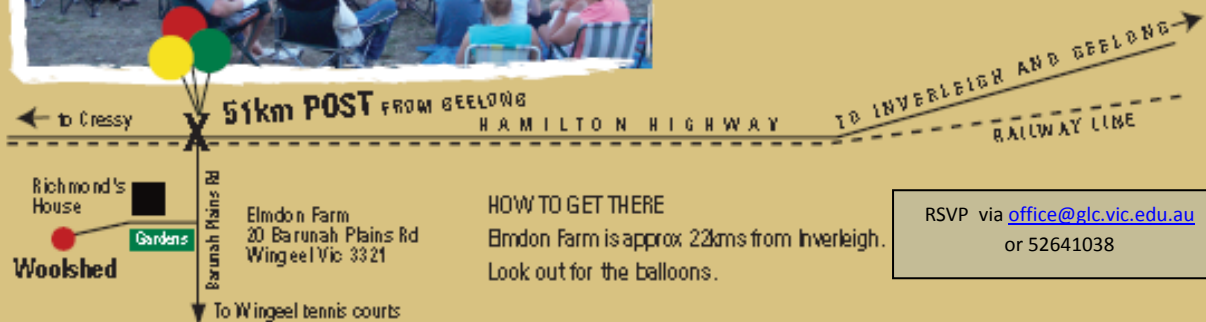
'BUSH CHRISTMAS'

Come and enjoy Christmas carols in the Woolshed, **Saturday 17th December** at Richmond's Farm, Wingeel.



BYO:

- ♦ Picnic tea in the beautiful gardens from 6.30pm.
- ♦ Band will begin approx 8.15.
- ♦ Chairs.
- ♦ Family and friends.



Rainbow Riders

Book Now and support the work of one of Geelong's smallest children's charities. Join us for a great confidence

building and fun program in a healthy outdoor farm environment.

January 3 to January 28 2012

Ph: 5264 1175

Email: rainbowriders@bigpond.com

www.rainbowriders.com.au



It's not just about the horse



Grovedale Football Club Girls Football Team

Attention all girls interested in playing football...

Grovedale Football Club is looking for girls aged 13 to 18 who are keen to play footy in 2012. A team will play on Sunday mornings in the Youth Girls Geelong Football competition. For more information or to request a registration form please contact Glen Thompson via email: lgthompson7@bigpond.com
Melinda McKenzie, Secretary -Junior Committee, Grovedale Football club