

NCS Update

From our Principal:



Welcome to a new year at NCS!

It is wonderful to have familiar faces back with us and to welcome new families to our community, I pray everyone will quickly develop a sense of belonging and a feeling of being embraced here.

There is so much that I have been thankful for as I have wandered the campus this week: The general buzz of excitement on the first day of term, watching new students find old friends as they headed into school, hearing again the heart and passion of our amazing and dedicated teachers, both old and new. My particular thanks go to Mr. Jon Targett for organising our Senior School Parents' Info evening last week and to all the staff and parents who gave up their Friday evening to attend. I am in awe and wonder, and deeply humbled by what God is doing in our midst and the people He has brought to NCS. I marvel at the truth that not one of us is here by accident but rather is an integral part of God's unfolding plan.

As I have prayed and sat with God about this coming season, my sense has been that NCS is called to be a Lighthouse of Excellence, to stand in the truth as Joseph did in Egypt and Daniel did in Babylon. In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul speaks of the 'most excellent way' being that of love and I sense we are called to grow in this as a community. As is so often the way with the call of Jesus, this is simple but hard and something we can grow in together. A very practical outworking of this is to keep short accounts with one another. When we feel misunderstood or think someone has done something wrong, can we commit to going to that person first and going in humility, seeking to listen, understand and be reconciled?

It is my absolute pleasure to be able to introduce you to our new staff members. In future newsletters, I'll be inviting these wonderful people to share a bit more about who they are and why they do what they do. For now, here are the headlines:

Rachel Hamilton, High School English and History Teacher

Libbie Spohn, High School Maths Teacher

Laura Eastley, Art Teacher

Rebecca Thiele, Music Teacher

Karyn Barns, Teaching Assistant, Years 7-8

Lucy Bosker, Teaching Assistant, Years 3-6

Ruth Hannaford, Teaching Assistant, Years 1-2

Laura Pickersgill, Teaching Assistant, Years 1-2.

I look forward to journeying with you all this year and getting to know you better as we continue together on God's adventure.

In His Service

Di Hooley



NEWSTEAD
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

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Psalm 127:4a –

"Like arrows in the hands of a warrior.."

Notes to Parents:

A friendly reminder that children can be dropped to School after 8.30am and collected before 3.30pm

Please let the Office know if your child/ren will be off school due to illness or another reason.

You can do this by using our App - School Stream; emailing or calling the school before **9:30am**. **Thankyou**

Prayer:

INVITATION for all parents and teachers

When: 2.30pm every Monday

Where: Music Room

Who for: Our School Community

"The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results" James 5:16

ASSEMBLIES WILL BE WEEKLY

Thursday morning's from 9am and held in the Senior Hub.

One week a class will present the Assembly and the following Thursday is presented by our Principal, Di Hooley. A roster for classes presenting will be coming out soon.

PARENTS PLEASE FEEL WELCOME TO ATTEND

Ladies Morning Walk

Every Tuesday morning at 9am the ladies are meeting for a walk along the river.

Please join us if you are free. Contact Claire Scaife on 0459 392 532 for more details.



Chaplain Chat.....

At the end of 2017 my husband and I spent a couple of weeks with our daughter in Queensland. I really didn't want to go at that time of year as I don't like the heat and especially don't like the humidity! I had lots of comments about me being 'game' to go to Queensland at that time of year and that didn't help either. But December 16th came around and I got on the plane. One to me! The next day, the 17th, we set off on a trip north. Our daughter wanted to show us why they love caravanning and all the beautiful places you can get to when you have a van. I have never liked camping – any kind of camping – and the idea of sleeping in caravan bunks did not sit well. But... off we went. From Brisbane to Cairns we went, stopping at caravan parks along the way and we had a wonderful time.

I could have missed one of the most relaxing and enjoyable holidays I have had because of fear.

I was afraid I wouldn't cope with the heat and humidity – I did.

I was afraid I'd be miserable because we were in a caravan and staying in caravan parks – it was great!

I was afraid of heights but at the prompting of my daughter I climbed the stairs of a five-metre-high water slide (almost had a panic attack as I carefully trod each step keeping my head down and hoping I would have the courage to slide down if I ever got to the top). I did slide down – and I went back up and did it again! The fear of heights that had dogged me most of my life no longer has the hold on me it once did.

I had always intensely disliked the feeling of sand on my feet. It did to me what someone scraping their nails on a blackboard might do to others so I avoided sand. Ugh!! But I walked on a few beaches while we were away and by the time I walked on the last one before coming home, it no longer bothered me.

It's impossible to live the abundant life that Jesus calls us to when we live in fear yet there are lots of things in our lives we back away from because we are afraid. Fear can generate a toxic way of thinking that keeps us stuck. We avoid people, places, tasks... we can't grow or learn because we are stuck in a fear-filled life.

We can overcome fear even when it shows itself as anxiety. God has given us a brain we can rewire to live in love rather than fear. That's what we do here at NCS. We help our children to face their fears, to live in the love of God and to be brave and confident. We help them build strong and healthy brains so that the habits they form are based in love and not fear. Thank you, parents for helping us do that.

2 Timothy 1:7 Amplified Bible (AMP)

⁷ For God did not give us a spirit of timidity *or* cowardice *or* fear, but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of sound judgment *and* personal discipline [abilities that result in a calm, well-balanced mind and self-control].

Karen Mace

What is Happening

Wednesday 14 February 2018

Swim Squad at Aquatic Centre from 7am-8am

Gr 9/10 Swimming at Aquatic Centre from 1.30pm to 3pm

Thursday 15 February 2018

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

Gr 7/8 Swimming at Aquatic Centre from 1.30pm to 3pm

Friday 16 February 2018

Gr 9/10 ODE surfing at West Head from 9am to 3pm

Monday 19 February 2018

Tuesday 20 February 2018

Wednesday 21 February 2018

Swim Squad at Aquatic Centre from 7am-8am

Gr 9/10 Swimming at Aquatic Centre from 1.30pm to 3pm

Thursday 22 February 2018

Assembly 9am to 9.30am

Primary SRC to Grip Leadership Conference at Tailrace Centre 9am to 3pm

Gr 7/8 Swimming at Aquatic Centre from 1.30pm to 3pm

Friday 23 February 2018

Senior SRC to Grip Leadership Conference at Tailrace Centre 9am to 3pm

Gr 9/10 Swimming at the Basin Pool (Gorge) from 12pm to 3pm

SCHOOL FAIR 16 March from 5pm

The count down is on!

One month until the school fair!

The fair is going to be bigger and better. This year's fair will have something for everyone. Here are some examples: Food, drinks, COFFEE, Devonshire tea, mini market, jumping castle, laser tag, snakes, macaw parrots, a tricks pony, mini Jeeps, buskers and so much more.

Mark it on your calendar, tell your friends and if you would like to be involved please contact Mel Duffy on 0423157991. Text is fine.

We have lots of volunteer roles available. We are also seeking sponsorship or donations for prizes on the evening. Any help will be greatly appreciated!

[Blessings from the P&F team](#)