



29 July 2022

Hello dear parents and friends of the College,

It is so good to be back at work following my extended illness. What started as a two week break ended up taking 4 months to battle through.

May I thank all of those parents and caregivers who extended their prayers and well-wishes for my recovery. They helped give me the much needed strength to get through the challenging times.

So many of the students too, sent me their best wishes contained within some imaginative and thoughtful cards and letters.

I thank God for our capable and caring College community within which there is such love and kindness of thoughts.

I would also like to thank the amazing staff team that we are so blessed to have at the College.

Every member of staff stepped up to ensure that there was no interruption to student learning and that a variety of activities were able to continue.

Mrs Greig, Mrs Badenhorst, Ms Sanderson, Mrs Rand and Mrs Stone were particularly proactive in ensuring the effective management of the College.

This term we can particularly look forward to our Cross-Country and Athletics Carnivals. These will be events postponed from Term 2 due to the regular bad weather. We hope for fine, warm days when the carnivals are held. Mrs Stone and Mr Salafia have been doing an outstanding job in organizing activities for all of our sporting times this year.

Enrol Now

For Kindergarten and Year 7 for 2023

See Mrs Stone for details.



New Students: We have been blessed and pleased to have been able to welcome several new students to Verity this term. We look forward to being able to provide the best possible support for these fine young people.

New Staff Member: We have also been pleased to welcome **Miss Ngai Timoti** to the staff of the College. Miss Timoti comes to us from New Zealand and is initially working as an Education Assistant. She will later join the staff in a full time teaching role.

Thoughts and Prayers: I would like to ask that all members of our College community include Mrs Greig and her family in their prayers. Mrs Greig is currently in hospital in Canberra awaiting the safe arrival of her twins in the next few weeks. We think of Mrs Greig every day and wish her the best for the weeks ahead.



Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

We don't usually do fundraising for offsite causes and projects but we have too many families and friends of VCC affected by cancer to let this event go past without jumping in and participating. So, thank you so much to everyone who came and supported this event! Thank you to everyone who baked, sipped, ate and donated!



Exams

Well done to all our students in year 5 through to year 10 for sitting their exams. They did very well, especially considering that coughs and colds and time out of class were prevalent. Congratulations everybody. There were lots of very solid results!

Athletics Carnival

Sadly our Athletics Carnival was postponed due to wet weather this term, however we look forward to the rescheduled event in due course. More information will follow.

Regional Theatre -Prep to Year 2

Our Prep to Year 2 students had the amazing opportunity to attend a live show at the Regional Theatre. They enjoyed the bus ride, seeing the theatre, watching the show and getting to ask the actor's questions afterwards.



New Teaching Positions

The College will be seeking to employ some additional teachers to take up roles in 2023. This reflects the growth occurring in student numbers. If you know of any qualified Christian educators who will be moving to Griffith in the coming months, please have them make contact with Mrs Stone in the office to advise her of their interest in employment. Expressions of interest, accompanied by a recent C.V. would be a great help.



School Uniform

Please remember that Verity CC expects its students to wear their school uniform each day. (Sports uniform on PE days and Sports days is acceptable.)

We would hope to see students avoid wearing multi-coloured tops and other non-uniform items. We want to have our students show that they have pride in their personal appearance and in their school. I have asked the staff to regularly remind students of their uniform obligations.



Achieving their Best

Our role as a school is to actively encourage and enable our students to achieve their best results.

Along with this core activity, schools play a significant role in helping students to build their faith, leadership skills, creativity, resilience and their general capacity to become a valued citizen of the future. When I was away, I did read every student's mid-year report and I was concerned to see many teacher comments that related to students needing to apply themselves more diligently to the school-related tasks, which would help them to achieve results in all areas that truly reflected their potential and God-given skills and talents. In other words, many students were underachieving. (There were also some outstanding results being achieved by many.)

How do we rectify this?

Students need to:

- Maximize their on-task time while at school
- Complete Homework and Assessment tasks and submit them on time
- Take 10-15 minutes of at home revision a day to ensure understanding
- Ask for help when in difficulty
- Read, read, read –quietly and aloud to an adult.
- Learn multiplication tables and review regularly
- Be encouraged to talk about their day at school and the things they have learnt.

Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for success at school. Please actively encourage/ensure that your child/children attend school each day, unless they are unwell. Absences from school need to be explained – a proforma to assist with this is available from the front office.



Grievance Policy

From time to time parents/caregivers may need to raise concerns relating to their child's progress at school, or in relation to operational/administrative matters.

The College has a set of procedures to assist people with grievances and then have them responded to in the most appropriate way. A copy of the procedures is available on the College's website.

I would ask that these procedures are followed so that we can best ensure a rapid and fair response to concerns.

Reminder of Library Borrowing Days

Note also that year 1/2 borrowing day has moved from Monday to Thursday.

P/K – Wednesday

1 – Wednesday

1/2 - Thursday

3/4 – Thursday

5/6 – Monday

Book Week

NBCA Book Week is coming up in week 6. This year's theme is ***"Dreaming with your eyes open"***. Start thinking about costumes for book week. More information to come as time draws closer.

Library

Library is also open on Tuesday and Wednesday at lunch times this term and high schoolers are welcome to borrow then.

Once again, thank you to all of you for your support, encouragement, love and care of our students, staff and families. We praise God for you.

David Fox

Principal

Verity Christian College

