



18 February 2022

Dear Parents / Caregivers,

A belated welcome to the commencement of the 2022 school year. As always, we recognise how privileged we are to be able to work with your wonderful children. Our student numbers continue to grow at a steady pace having now welcomed our new Kindergarten group and Year 7 cohort to the College. New enrolments from other locations have also taken up positions in both our Infants/Primary and Secondary section of the College. At the time of writing we have about 117 students in the College which places us firmly on our growth path towards 125/130 student for the year. Waiting lists for some years have been established.

Term Dates 2022

| 2022 | Student Start Date | Student End Date |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|
| Term 1 - 2022 | Mon 31st January | Fri 1 st April |
| Term 2 - 2022 | Weds 27th April | Fri 24 th June (Note change) |
| Term 3 - 2022 | Tues 19 th July | Fri 23 rd September |
| Term 4 - 2022 | Mon 10 th October | Tues 13 th December |

Staffing Changes

Mrs Petra Badenhorst – promoted to Co-ordinator of Infants Primary Teaching and Learning

Mrs Natasha Greig – promoted to Co-ordinator of Secondary Teaching and Learning

We welcome to the staff,

Mr Mark Tiera – HSIE Teacher

Mrs Bronwyn Stone – Education Assistant (Permanent)

Mr Mitch Salafia – Education Assistant (Permanent Secondary)

I know that you will join me in making each of our new staff members feel welcomed and valued by our school community.

New Building Progress

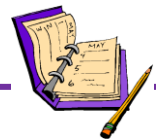
Work has now resumed on our new technology and science centre. Pastor Steve, along with a small team of helpers now have the building well above ground level on target for completion later this term/early second term. COVID restrictions have also led to hold-ups with the availability of some key materials.



Our new playground is already a huge hit with the students! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make it happen.

Parent Teacher Interviews 15th & 17th of March 2022

To be held on Tuesday & Thursday of Week 7 of the term.



Finalise School Fees

Please don't forget to finalise Term1 fees before the end of school term. Call 6964 9953 if you have any questions. Call if you need to make a plan. Thank you to those who have made payments already.

Enrolments for 2022 & 2023!!

We are open for enrolments for 2023!! We have also released a few more positions this year due to Council approval hence, we have been working through our waiting list. If however, you have children or other family who may not yet be enrolled, please express your interest as soon as possible. Come in or call the office on 6964 9953.

COVID Restrictions Easing

The easing of some COVID restrictions on schools has meant that we have been able to plan for the return of many activities. For example, planning is already under way for our athletics and cross-country carnivals to be held during Term 2. Students have begun practising the skills needed for events at the Athletics Carnival, House Captains have been selected, ribbons and equipment are being purchased. It's all systems go.

Attention High School Parents/Carers:

As a way to encourage communication between the school and home, we have implemented school diaries for ALL students in Years 7-10. This is a way for us at Verity Christian College to communicate with you about good things, bad things, homework, etc. It is also a useful way for you to communicate important things with us.

Each student has been assigned a small Pastoral Care group with 5-6 other students and a teacher. These happen on Thursday mornings. The idea behind this is so the teacher and group develop a mentor/mentee relationship with the same teacher over the course of secondary school. This encourages our students to ask deep questions about faith and life in a safe and small group. One thing that is strongly encouraged is that you, as the parent/carer, signs your child/ren's diary by Thursday morning to ensure that your child is using their diary regularly and to check for positive/negative notes from teachers.

We thank you for your hard work in helping your child/ren to achieve their best in their faith, in leading and in learning.

God bless,

Mrs Greig

Secondary Co-ordinator of Teaching and Learning

Chapel

A re-vamped Chapel program has also returned. The whole school comes together for Chapel 3 mornings per week, with there then being separate primary and secondary sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Secondary students now have the opportunity to explore Bible messages in greater detail and to free up some time for devotions to take place. Primary and infant students are also able to focus on Bible teachings and activities that are targeted specifically to their age group. It is also beautiful to hear the building being filled with the sounds of songs of praise and worship being sung with joy and enthusiasm by the children.



MEET OUR 2022 HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the students below:

Murray

Madiana Douglas

Maika Laweloa

Keller

Vanie Ncube

Sharece Wiremu

Hudson

Cole Potgeiter

Jack Villa



Challenges

Despite all of the challenges faced by our communities over the last couple of years we have been encouraging our students to hold their faith and to trust in the fact that God has a plan for each of us.

We must continue to Praise God and to thank Him for the awesomeness of His creation of the incredible world in which we live and for the many blessings bestowed upon us. I am reminded of the powerful words contained in Psalm 66:1-7.

Psalm 66

¹ Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

*² Sing the glory of his name;
make his praise glorious.*

*³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
So great is your power
that your enemies cringe before you.*

*⁴ All the earth bows down to you;
they sing praise to you,
they sing the praises of your name."*

*⁵ Come and see what God has done,
his awesome deeds for mankind!*

*⁶ He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the waters on foot—
come, let us rejoice in him.*

*⁷ He rules forever by his power,
his eyes watch the nations—
let not the rebellious rise up against him.*

God bless,

David Fox

Principal

Verity Christian College

