



Christ Church
Grammar School

Headmaster's Report

February 2014

**Old Boys' Association
Parents' Association**






From the Headmaster's desk

The period from December through January is an interesting one for the School. On the one hand, things are quiet with no boys in the halls or in the heads of academic staff who enjoy a generous Christmas holiday period. On the other, so much happens in a proactive and planning sense - especially in the Executive group and in the non-teaching support staff.

The School looks forward to 2014 buoyed by fine academic results that conclude an exceptional year. In my introduction to Chronicle, I make mention of our success in a variety of areas that reflects a balanced programme achieving at the highest level. It is certainly pleasing to see such outstanding opportunities being embraced by the boys and witnessing so much fulfilment.

During January I took a 9-day School-orientated trip that encompassed a visit to New Zealand to spend time with the rowing group on my way to San Diego, where I attended the Trustees meeting of the International Boys' Schools Coalition (IBSC).

The focus for the School for 2014 will be led by two significant forces. Firstly, our Strategic Plan will guide our action. Two elements that will have particular attention in 2014 are items 3 and 4, outlined below:

-  1. Motivating boys to achieve at their best.
-  2. Enhancing our quality staff in pursuit of the School's Mission.
-  3. **Guiding boys to the further development of an international perspective.**
-  4. **Understanding, enabling and celebrating diversity in the Christ Church context.**
-  5. Planning for a secure, flexible financial future.

Secondly, is the School's Registration. The Registration visit will take place on Thursday 5 June. This registration will take a significant amount of additional effort on the part of the School Executive to address the associated elements of a process that will ultimately be very affirming for Council and the School community.

The following summary captures a number of planning elements that are in the minds of Executive:

Within the Preparatory School programme, particular focus will be on:

- Writing - Introduction of VCOP/Big Write writing programme PP - Year 6
- Focus of vocabulary in programming
- Vertical tutor groups trial
- Refocussed Champion Quest for Year 6
- Broadened range of co-curricular offerings
- Introduction of Mandarin from PP- Year 6
- Investigating international opportunities for various groups

Within the Senior School academic programme, particular focus will be on:

- Global perspectives
- Improved tracking of student progress through data
- Success of Crossing the Fence (MLC/CCGS shared classes)
- Monitoring of implementation and consolidation of CCGS Pedagogy
- Differentiation of student learning through pedagogy focus, Academic Committee professional development and significantly modified programmes for support and extension sets

with several new initiatives:

- Live Marks available to parents
- Extended work practices on reports to improve quality of feedback
- Dedicated assessment periods for Years 11/12
- Preparing for AC course in Years 11 and 12, as well as New WACE 2015
- Registration - compliance

Within the Senior School Pastoral programme, particular focus will be on:

- Improving communication between tutors and families
- Developing the leadership programme for House and School Prefects
- Refining the PeerSupport Programme with **Ms Megan Pentony**
- Examining the effectiveness of the 'Supporting Positive Relationships' policy
- Introducing the 'Protective Behaviours' component of the PSD curriculum in Years 7 to 10.

Within the Senior School Planning and Co-curricular programme, particular focus will be on:

- Koorungal - Year 9 Programme - Master Plan for Koorungal site
- Sport - Year 9 PE Games Programme/Year 7-8 Monday Skill Sessions
- Drama and Music consolidation (Midnite and Music tours)
- Implementation of the e-diary (ipads Years 7 - 12)

Students

The major focus since the conclusion of last year with regard to students (other than academic results which are contained in the report from the Director of Studies) has been on school-orientated activities and tours over the Christmas/New Year period. In 2013/14 these have included:

- Sony Camp (in association with Methodist Ladies' College), led by **Mr Geoff Guggenheimer, Ms Joanna Simpson and Ms Lisa Broxton**;
- Service in Action, Cambodia (in association with St Mary's Anglican Girls' School), led by **Canon Rev Richard Pengelley**;
- German Language Tour, led by **Mr Henning Holzheuer and Mr Allan Hallett**;
- Rowing Tour to Christchurch, New Zealand, led by **Mr Steve Saunders and Mr Simon Cox**;
- Cadet Promotion courses, led by **Captain Conrad Scott** and Co-ordinator of Army Cadets, **Mr Duane Nurse**.
 - **Dewaminna Gammanpila** (Year 12), Dux of the CUO Course
 - **Ben Nagappa** (Year 12), 3rd of the CUO Course
 - **Lachlan Webster** (Year 12), top three, Warrant Officer Course

In addition, a large array of open sports' teams has commenced practice sessions in preparation for the upcoming Summer PSA competition.

The nature of these various activities will be reported through the newsletter and to the particular constituent groups that have drawn benefit.

Website news

As usual, the website has featured news stories about the student and community achievements. Since the last report, the following stories have been published:

- *Nativity play and carols capture Christmas*
- *Fitting farewells at final assemblies*
- *New sports day promotes participation*
- *Insights into pinnacle of outdoor education journey*
- *Midnite recognised at State theatre awards*
- *Record of excellence continues*
- *Sony Camp a life changing experience*

Orientation 2014

Orientation for new boarders and their families commenced on Friday 31 January. This induction comprises a three-day programme that involves social introductions, briefings and interviews with key staff including their Housemothers, Year Group Co-ordinator and Director of the Residential Community. The first night is a 'sleepover' for the new boys and their families to build confidence about their new 'home away from home'. A special indigenous programme commenced on Thursday to give more time for these boys and their families to familiarise themselves with their new settings. All new boys to the Senior School (including the new boarders) and parents are invited to attend an orientation session on Saturday 1 February. The intention is to make boys feel welcome and at ease from day one.

Staff

Outlined below is a summary of staffing at the beginning of the School year.

SENIOR SCHOOL	
Starting	Department
Rob Vickery	English
Brendon Noble	Assistant Director of Sport
Mark Seman	Digital Art Teacher
Nicky Garside	Acting Head of Drama
Nicola Griffin-Appadoo	Head of Languages
Una Alagic	Humanities
Martin Kolka	IT
Kylie Sydney	Languages Senior School
Daniel La Galia	Mathematics
Anthony Peck	Mathematics
Robert Sisson	Mathematics
Emma Leadon	Drama Teacher
Mark Slade	Science Teacher

Returning from leave	Department
Renee Whitcher	Learning Development
Mel Hastie	English Teacher
Jay Waugh	Drama Department

PREPARATORY SCHOOL	
Starting	
Abigail Callow	Art Teacher
Lisette Rooney	Co-ordinator Relief (P/T)
Jasmine Jeffs	Music Teacher
Li Liu	Languages Teacher (F/T)
Emma Black Smith	PMC Teacher (P/T)
Rachel Roberts (nee Sykes)	Prep Teacher
Paula Ellis (nee McBain)	Prep Teacher
Heath Pozzi	Prep Teacher
Toby Bartle	Education Assistant - PMC
Josephine Anderson	Education Assistant - PMC
Timothy Webb	Education Assistant - PMC

Returning from leave	Department
Holly Miller	Co-ordinator PP - Year 2
Barbara Bosich	Assistant Director of Pedagogy
Perri Margaria	Education Assistant - Prep PMC

KOORINGAL	
Mark Cucciniello	Outdoor Educator
Catherine Swan	Outdoor Assistant
Carla Gates	Outdoor Assistant

Support	Department
Andrew Clark	Drama Production Manager
Maxime Gien	Residential Assistant

Change of Role	Department
Chris Miles	Indigenous Co-ordinator
Jamie Foster	Head of House - Noake/Languages Co-ordinator
Pip Nock	Languages Co-ordinator
Elisabeth Rosinel	Languages Co-ordinator
Jane London	Year 3/4 Co-ordinator
T'Ann Steel	Year 5/6 Co-ordinator
Rob Vickery	Assistant HoH Romsey
Richard Parker	Acting Assistant HoH Moyes
Tom Jerram	Assistant HoD - Physical Education
Stephanie Harford	Acting Co-ordinator of Music (Prep)

New staff orientation

Orientation for new staff was held on Friday 24 and Tuesday 28 January, followed by three days of all staff preparations on Wednesday 29, Thursday 30 and Friday 31 January.

The major aim of the orientation is to induct new staff to life at Christ Church and to give them a sense of the culture and expectations. A comprehensive kit of information was prepared and has been well-received by the new staff members.

Feedback on the effectiveness of the programme will be sought in two weeks' time when they have settled into the School.

My thanks to everyone involved with the organisation of the programme, especially our Director of Staffing and Strategic Projects, Mr **Murray Robertson**.

Community

Support Groups

The holiday period at this time is naturally quieter with parent support groups. This year each auxiliary representative is tasked to organise start of year welcome activities in each year group within the first half of the term.

The Association and OBA cocktail function is scheduled for Saturday 29 March and the organising team is well advanced with preparations.

Chronicle

The 2014 Chronicle has been published and distributed on schedule. The community should have received their copy in the post by Friday 31 January. The early feedback from staff has been very positive.

Holiday Use of School Facilities - 2013/14 Summer Holiday Community Events December 2013

Date	Time	Event
Sat 7 - Tues 10 Dec	All day	Sacred Heart (NZ) Cricket team
Fri 13 - Sun 15 Dec	All day	SONY Camp
Mon 9 - Wed 11 Dec	9am - 12 noon	Mickey Arthur Cricket clinic
Tues 17 - Thur 19 Dec	9am - 5pm	Bubble Dome computer courses
Wed 18 - Fri 20 Dec	9am - 1pm	Australian Sports Camps

January 2014

Fri 3 - Sun 19 Jan TBC	All day	Synchronised Swimming
Sun 19 - Fri 24 Jan	8am - 6pm	ATARget
Tues 14 - Thur 16 Jan Tues 21 - Thur 24 Jan	9am - 5pm	Bubble Dome computer courses
Tues 28 - Thur 30 Jan	9am - 12noon	Mickey Arthur Cricket clinic
Fri 24 - Mon 27 Jan	All day	CCGS Rowing Camp
Sat 25 - Fri 31 Jan	8am - 10am	CCGS Rowers

ALUMNI

RECENT events

- 9 December 2013 Former Staff Lunch (Sandover)
- 12 December 2013 1961 Reunion Lunch (Clancys City Beach)
- 18 December 2013 Unforgettables Christmas Gathering (Sandover)
- 20 December 2013 15 Year Reunion - Class of 1998 (40)
- 20 December 2013 20 Year Reunion - Class of 1993 (71)
- 21 December 2013 10 Year Reunion - Class of 1998 (69)
- 17 January 2014 Unflappables Summer BBQ (Walters Lawn)
- 2 February 2014 OBA President's BBQ

COMING events

- 8 February 2014 Basketball OBA Vs School (CCGS)
- 28 February 2014 1971 First XVIII Drinks (CYC)
- 12 March 2014 Unforgettables BBQ (Mt Claremont)

OBA Gift to the School

Captains of Sport and PSA Champions Honour Boards to be installed in February.

OBA Birthday Card 2014

New card with Christ Church and entry sign featured.

Multiple Generations Survey

This was included in the recent Chronicle mailing. The purpose is to create family links (family trees) within the School database so that a School multiple generation dinner can be held in the lead up to the OBA Centenary in 2017. This activity will highlight the strength of our community built up over 100 years.

Defensive Driving Course Rebate

This programme continues with two leavers from 2013 completing courses in January.

Scholarships

The OBA Scholarship Trust will advertise one scholarship to be awarded to a boy commencing in 2015. This is the Arch Campbell Memorial Scholarship for any Australian boy and worth 100% of fees for six years 2015-2020.

The OBA Scholarship Fund will advertise one scholarship to be awarded to a son or grandson of an Old Boy commencing in 2015. This is the Ruth and Vernon Eagleton Old Boys' Association Scholarship and is worth 50% of fees for six years 2015-2020.

Beverley and Districts Combined PSA OBA Annual Dinner

This event, to be hosted by Christ Church, will be held in Beverley on Friday 4 April. Mickey Arthur has agreed to be the guest speaker.

Membership

The subscription applicable for life membership in 2014 has been reviewed to \$480 (from \$460 the previous year).

Parents' Association

Under the leadership of **Mrs Susan Montanari**, the Parents' Association has set a plan for the 2014 calendar and is well advanced in the organisation of a range of its regular, as well as new, activities.

Parents' Auxiliary

New President of the Auxiliary, **Mrs Samantha Goebel**, has taken on her role with great efficiency and the parental engagement at this level continues to be focussed and effective.

Governance and Planning

Physical developments for the Claremont Campus of the School over the Christmas period have included:

- Rectification and completion of the Refectory precinct;
- Refurbishment of the Senior School Peter Moyes Centre;
- Replacement of S Block ceilings (final classroom);

A number of other small-scale projects have been completed that have added to the ambience of the general campus, which is looking its best since my time as Headmaster.

Brockway Playing Fields

Most recent communication with Nedlands City Council and our neighbours is included in Council folders and will be discussed.