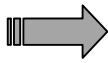


**SEMESTER 1 Term 1
NEWSLETTER No. 1**

8 February, 2007



**PARENT INFORMATION
EVENING TIMES AND
VENUES ON BACK PAGE**

**FROM THE
PRINCIPAL'S DESK**

Dear Parents

I am sure that you will all join me in giving thanks to God for the fantastic start that TCC has experienced this year. A sense of vitality, mission and purpose has filled the College and so many good things are happening!

STAFF RETREAT



Last week the staff (now 67 in total!) attended a Retreat during which we had the opportunity to lay the spiritual foundations for the year. We took our theme from the Mission Impossible movies and

twisted it slightly to substantiate **John 29 verse 26**: *Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."* An important theme that we adopted at the retreat was a **commitment to unity** – unity of cause, unity of vision, unity of effort. As a staff, we are committed to working in unity to achieve all that God has planned for this, His College, in 2007.

During the course of the year it is my prayer that this sense of unity will transfer into the student body and into the parent body too. Imagine the possibilities, the new heights that we could achieve if the entire TCC community were fully united in vision and commitment! Something for us all to think and pray about...

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENTS

This year we have welcomed 130 new students to the College and we also have 17 new staff members who have joined the ministry that is TCC. We have 3 new primary classrooms and a new primary toilet block. We have a new double-size Drama room and of course we have our new state-of-the-art Science and Home Economics facility on the other side of the oval. During the holidays the College leased a further 60 new

computers bringing the total number of machines on the network to approximately 150! The student body looks great in our new uniform and a number of initiatives have been put in place to enhance the sense of community and the learning environment at TCC.

HOLD-UPS

Despite the fact that planning for our campus upgrades began as early as April last year, we have, once again, been forced to begin the year with a number of projects not quite complete. My thanks and appreciation to all staff who have compromised and made contingency plans to facilitate a smooth start to the year despite the delays we have encountered.

APPRECIATION

I would also like to publicly acknowledge the efforts of **Karen Illich**, our Business Manager, in keeping the various projects moving as smoothly as they have, over the past months. Karen gave up much of the Christmas vacation to be at the College to manage all the complexities of the building programme. **Barry Jubb**, long-time friend of the College and husband of Helen Jubb in the Primary School, has also worked tirelessly, often over weekends and late into the night to keep developments on track. And by his side has been **Dave Yardley**, another special friend of the College and husband of Sue Yardley in the Primary School. Dave has a long record of helping the College out in time of need and achieving the impossible, against all odds. Together, these three along with Peter Wise, parent at the College and contractor in charge of the building of the Science / Home Economics facility, have added immeasurably to the infrastructure of the College. If you see them around the campus, please take the time to pat them on the back and acknowledge their efforts.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

For quite some time now, the College has been operating without a P & F and, I believe, we are the poorer for this. It would be awesome if, among the parent body, we were able to find a nucleus of like-minded people who felt called to minister for the College in this way. May I ask that you prayerfully consider this and, if you feel called, please contact me on 9455 1607 for a chat? Who knows what great things God has planned for us this year?

RESPECT

TCC will continue to build on the RESPECT theme that was introduced last year. We encourage our students (and staff and parents...) to respect *themselves, each other* and their *environment*. We had a positive response from most students

last year and we pray that this year will be even more successful.

In addition to this we will be emphasizing the "Choice – Consequence" relationship in our students lives. We are focusing on providing our students with clear parameters within which they can grow and develop so that they can make their choices based upon a strong Christian foundation of what is acceptable and what is not. I know that this will reflect, to a large extent, the expectations and environment common to most Christian homes and so, as College and home mutually support each other in this, our children can grow in the security of these shared values and expectations.

There is a lot of important information contained in this newsletter and, at the risk of suffering from information overload; I would ask that you read through everything thoroughly. Of course, if you have any queries about anything at all, feel free to contact our offices for assistance.



Be richly blessed this year!

Bill Innes
PRINCIPAL

FROM THE SENIOR SCHOOL COORDINATOR

SENIOR SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

This Newsletter heralds the beginning of another year in the Senior School. I hope for a year of success, achievement and personal growth for each one of us. Whether it is a first year or a last year for your child, I sincerely pray that it will be an enriching and fulfilling one for all concerned.
Welcome to you all.

From the beginning I hope that your child finds a focus, develops, or continues to develop, a continuing love of learning for its own sake whilst enjoying the experience. I think that it is important that we are always open to new ideas and a thirst for knowledge in a positive and supportive environment. I think that it is also important that we learn once again the skills of living and working within the school community environment. This means working with others whom we would not necessarily count as our friends in a situation where mutual trust, respect and co-operation need to be nurtured. The College is a temporary community which requires adjustments from each one of us as we participate in the life of the group. Our aim is to try to nurture the individual, but in the context of the larger group continually teaching the guidelines for behaviour one to the other. Our Friendly and Safe Schools, Bullying and Behaviour Management policies embrace the whole of the College. If we all accept the statements that are

written, the College will run more smoothly and with a greater sense of purpose.

From time to time as a parent you may encounter an issue or have an experience and be not sure about how to approach that issue, or in fact whom to approach. I hope that in the first instance you will approach a member of staff who can deal with the problem more immediately. There are many members of staff who have particular roles, they are the ones who should be given the first opportunity to try to solve your problem. For example, the Classroom teacher, the Form teacher, and the relevant Co-ordinator.

I encourage you to focus on your child's needs from their point of view, encourage them wherever possible and try not to be critical, but positive at all times. Don't allow issues to grow out of proportion. Remember that there are very few families who have not shared these problems related to growing up and it is rare for a school not to have the experience to help you.

In this newsletter I have reported on the results of our Year 12 students of 2006 and although there are many success stories there is always room for improvement. We have many strategies in place within our College academic structure to assist the students to aspire towards excellence. We will continue to counsel students into appropriate courses, provide education for students and parents with updated information on new courses, and mentor our Year 12 students. Staff will also be focusing on strategies that are designed to motivate students to learn, study techniques, note taking and time management skills, rigours that are essential in the Senior School.

I would like to also mention the importance of strong daily parental support, attendance, punctuality, a balanced lifestyle, monitoring the number of hours of part time work, regular homework and study habits and the importance of setting personal goals and rewards. Together these routines help towards achieving success.

The start to the year has been very encouraging and I hope that each child in the Senior School will be happy, that they will seek God's direction in all that they do, that they will persevere, that they will be lovingly encouraged to set new goals, to read, to learn formally and informally. I hope that they will have a balance in their lives which will be encouraged and that they will make use of the many opportunities that the College affords.

NEW FAMILIES AND STAFF

It is exciting to see the Senior School continue to grow, extending in numbers this year to 160. We also welcome nine new staff who already have displayed an abundance of enthusiasm and have settled in very well. As the year unfolds we hope to continue with our "Meet the Teacher" snippets in

the newsletter so that you can get to know them a little better.

PARENT INFORMATION AND MEET THE TEACHER EVENING – NEXT MONDAY FEBRUARY 12 at 8pm

This meeting is specifically for parents of our **Year 10** students. By now you will have received a letter in the mail from me giving you details of the event. This is a very important meeting full of information relating to the education of your child and will be followed by an informal time when you can “meet the teacher”. We look forward to sharing this time with you. A meeting for Year 11 & 12 parents will be held in week five.

HOMEWORK DIARY

The Homework Diary, in addition to acting as a record of homework/assessment details, is intended to encourage parents and teachers to communicate with each other. Students are responsible for ensuring that any messages from teachers are shown and acknowledged by parents, only homework, work details and staff-parent communications are entered in the Diary. Each individual is responsible for maintaining their Homework Diary in good condition free from stickers, graffiti, pictures, non-school related messages. Parents are asked to also check the child's diary and sign it on Wednesday evening prior to it being checked on Thursdays by the Form teacher.

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

This year we will continue to aim high in maintaining high standards in all aspects of College life and we encourage our students to take pride in the way they present themselves both in the College environment and in public. It was very encouraging to see the majority of our Senior students in correct uniform on day one. The two year phasing in of the “new” uniform has now passed so all students are expected to be dressed according to the College Uniform policy. We would appreciate it if you as parents could support us in our stance with hair, make-up, jewellery, nail polish, length of skirts, and overall cleanliness.

YEAR 12 RESULTS 2006

In our first newsletter of each year I like to report on the achievements our Year 12's of the previous year.

We had 34 full time students last year and 31 graduated with a Western Australian Certificate of Education. (91%). We had two students who achieved Certificates of Excellence (achieved 10A grades over two years) **Emma Cathles and Lydia Winslade**. Fifteen of our students sat four or more TEE subjects with **Grant Dusting and Emma Cathles** achieving a TER over 90. (96.10 and 93.95 respectively) Five students between

them achieved 11 “A's” from the subjects studied in Year 12.

A larger proportion of students completed the Vocational Pathway and studied WSA subjects. Of these students 26 “A's” were achieved.

Anecdotally, students generally received their preferred university preferences with some of them choosing to defer to study at Bible College or go into the workforce. Of those choosing to go to TAFE, all have been offered a place. Six students studying the Vocational Pathway or less than four TEE subjects applied to Universities through an alternative entry and all have been accepted to study either at Notre Dame, Curtin or Murdoch Universities.

Another two of our students **Lydia Winslade and Arlie van Houwelingen** were rewarded for their excellent results in their Year 12 Art with their work being selected to be exhibited in the Western Australia Art Gallery. Only 40 pieces were chosen out of the thousands of Year 12 pieces.

The above results highlight our successes in subject grades. It is important to bear in mind the success in broader terms as well, in terms of their development as responsible individuals with an intellect and a moral sense which will engage with our complicated world and seek to contribute to it's improvement. It is important that, as they leave the College, they reflect what our College community is all about, Godly character, values of compassion, integrity, respect and honesty. It is my hope that all have left the College having come to a saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We congratulate those who achieved personal goals and wish all of the 2006 graduates well as they prepare and plan the next important chapter in their lives. A special thanks to the supportive parents and our very competent staff whose prayers, care and expertise certainly helped many of them “over the line”.

As we embark on another exciting year together, I wish all members of the College community a very rewarding 2007.

MRS HELEN BALDING
SENIOR SCHOOL CO-ORDINATOR

FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR

Welcome back to TCC Middle School for 2007. I trust that the holiday break was a happy and restful one for all.

With an enrolment of 159, we are close to capacity in our double-streamed format. For the first time we are experiencing strong waiting lists for entry into the Yr 8 Boys and Girls classes which is both encouraging and a little frustrating in that we just can't accommodate all applicants. God has the answers though and we continue to trust Him for solutions.

As you would be aware, the changeover phase for our new uniform has finished so all students must be in the new College uniform. **Congratulations to all Yr 8 boys and parents** for a 100% perfect uniform presentation on Day One. Keep it up! The rest of the Middle School was also extremely well dressed but may I remind parents that non-College socks were a bit of an issue and the uniform shop has good stocks.

Yr 7 Immunisation.

If you are a parent of a Yr 7 student, your newsletter pack will contain an envelope from the Department of Health. Please fill in the forms and return them to the College **no later than next Wednesday, February 14**, to Student Services for collection by the School Nurse. The two visits by the immunisation team are scheduled for Thursday March 22 and Thursday August 30, both visits will be at 12:15 PM.

Many good things are in store for 2007 and we look forward to a fruitful relationship with you as parents and partners of TCC.

Peter Worth
Middle School Co-ordinator

FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL COORDINATORS

Greetings,

Welcome to another year at TCC Primary. There has been much growth in the Primary and the Lord has continued to bless us in so many ways. We would like to welcome all the new families who have joined us and we pray that you will enjoy being a part of our TCC community. We hope that the students have all settled in quickly and that you as parents are being made to feel welcome. We also welcome back all existing families and pray that you too will experience another wonderful year at TCC.

Our staff numbers in the Primary have also increased and we would like to especially welcome the following teachers: Miss Maree Baty (Yr 5/6), Mr Joseph Kennedy (Yr 3), Mrs Amy Matthews (Yr 2), and Miss Naomi Cameron (P/P). We also welcome the following teacher assistants: Mrs Janine Coombe (P/P), Mrs Sara Sutton (K), and Mrs Karen Davey our special needs assistant. They are all truly an added blessing to our Primary Team.

Our first Primary Assembly was a wonderful start to the Year with Mr Neil Munyard leading the Praise and Worship and the Primary Staff putting on an entertaining skit for the students. It was great hearing the children singing praises to our Heavenly Father and acknowledging Him as our Lord and Saviour.

You may have heard by now about a change we have implemented into our **Primary Lunch routine**. The practise we have decided to trial has been tried and tested in other primary schools with very positive results. Our Lunch time procedure now starts with the students being dismissed for play at 12:30. After which a hand bell is rung and the students come back to the undercover area where they sit down to eat their lunch. The students have to stay within this area with only visits to the toilets and drink fountains allowed. At 1:15pm the siren goes and all students clean up their area and proceed to line up outside their classrooms. As you can imagine, this will take a bit of getting used to by the students, however, they are allowed to eat something when they are dismissed, keeping in mind that they are still required to sit with all the other students after the hand bell has rung. The reasons behind this practise is that schools have experienced less bullying in the playground, less negative behaviour by students during playtime and more work production after lunch in the classroom. As you can see, it leads to a more positive and secure environment for the students.

On Monday, 12 Feb. there will be a **Parent Information Night**, where we invite all parents to come along and spend some time in your children's classroom hearing about the year's expectations for your child, and generally meeting with your child's class teacher. This is a very important and informative night and we strongly urge all parents to attend. Mrs Thompson, our Primary Education Support Teacher, will also be holding an after-school Parent Information Meeting for families involved in her program at a later date to be advised.

There are some areas of information that we will bring to your attention from time to time in the College Newsletter. So we take this opportunity to inform you about the use of **Student Diaries**. Student Diaries are an important means of communicating between school and home; therefore we ask **all parents to sign your child's diary nightly**. In Years 1 and 2, we would ask that parents sign their child's diary **daily** and that in Years 3 to 6, this be done **weekly** on a Friday. Please remember that **absentee notes** are not to be written in the diary, but are to come to school on a separate piece of paper. Please also be reminded that our Primary School is a **'PEANUT FREE SCHOOL'** as we have a number of students with serious allergies.

On another note, we have noticed that some parents are not using the **white lines** in our **Car Park** to cross the road. These are a safety measure to ensure that you are seen by drivers. We are teaching our students how to cross safely and we ask you as parents to also follow the road rules.

As part of our Primary School's English Policy, incoming students are routinely screened for Literacy Skills. The screening assists the school to more accurately identify each student's needs. Mrs Lindley Thompson, our Primary Education Support Teacher, will be conducting the screenings during the first 3 weeks of this term.

We are looking forward to another year working with you and your children, another year of building relationships within the College and another year with the knowledge that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us!

Mrs Corinna Keane
PRIMARY SCHOOL COORDINATOR

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Will 2007 be a year of celebration? Will West Coast go back-to-back? Will Australia continue their amazing run of form and take out the ICC World Cup in the West Indies? Will Roger Federer become the first male since Rod Laver to take out all possible Grand Slams in one calendar year without dropping a set? With all of the above, we have no influence on the end result, but there are some aspects of life this year we can influence.

Half the world's population lives on less than \$2 per day. How much will you spend on clothes this week? According to UNICEF, 30,000 children die each day due to poverty. How much will you spend on take-away this week?

For some people, 2007 looks quite daunting, but we can make a difference! We are all extremely blessed and in some way can make this world a better place.

Mr Amit Khaira
CHAPLAIN

GENERAL INFORMATION

FROM STUDENT SERVICES

Welcome back to Thornlie Christian College for 2007. If you are new to the College community we trust you have had a smooth transition so far and look forward to meeting you all. Just a few points that need to be clarified at the beginning of each year

- Please call the school and ask to be put through to the 'Absentee Line' to leave a message informing us of your child/ren's absence on any given day. A note covering the absence should accompany the child on his/her return to school.
- If your child is late to school then please also use the above service. We have a duty of care to make sure all our students are safe and accounted for. Late students need to come to Student Services for a late slip before going to their classrooms.

- All mobiles phones and MP3 players etc. are to be handed into Student Services at the commencement of school and then collected at the end of the school day.
- If students wear jewellery to school (other than that outlined in the Uniform Handbook) they run the risk of having it confiscated. Confiscated items can only be re-claimed by parents.. Could parents who have received letters recently please come in and pick up confiscated items.
- If you catch any Transperth buses and need a Smart Rider card (50 cent fares) then please come in and see us early next week.
- We have a 'Lost Property' box and already it is full. Parents, please label ALL clothing items to make identification easier. Uniforms that are un-named and unclaimed are handed over to the Uniform Shop for re-sale.
- Students are reminded that our office is a non-eating area and to asked to refrain from bringing in recess and lunch.
- Medication and Authorisation Forms will be sent home in the next week. Please fill them out and return to Student Services if you haven't already done so.
- If your child suffers from Asthma and requires medication then you need to fill out an Asthma Action Plan form and return it to us. If your child needs prescription medication then you need to fill out a Medical form before we can administer the medications. Parents are to supply epipens to the school if their child/ren have mild to serious allergies that may require their use in an emergency. We also require an Anaphylaxis Action Plan to accompany the epipen. All forms are available on request from Student Services.

Deb Heathcote and Pam Stringer
STUDENT SERVICES

HELP NEEDED – PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Primary School is in need of someone to copy a series of Science programs off the ABC onto DVD. If you are able to assist us in this, please contact Mrs Corinna Keane for the programmes dates and times. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

KOORONG KIDS

Koorong Kids Catalogues were sent home this week (Kindy –Year 7). All orders and monies can be handed to class teacher or front office and need to be in by the 23rd February 2007.

PLASTIC BAGS - OLD NEWSPAPERS -



MAGAZINES

Needed in the Art Room!!

If Parents or Staff have any of the above to give away, please see Sally Florisson in the Art Room or drop them off at Parent/Student Services.

Thank-you!!

Sally Florisson
Art Teacher

SOCCER UNIFORMS



All soccer uniforms used in the 2006 season need to be urgently returned.

Please return uniforms in a plastic bag with your name and team name on it to Student Services at school.

Players who do not return their uniforms will be invoiced for the cost of replacing them.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Southern Force Football Club

OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:

Once again we have information available for various out-of-school activities. Information is available at the Front Office for anyone who would like more information on:

SATURDAY HELP CLASSES: ACADEMIC TASK FORCE

Saturday classes for Years 8, 9 and 10 in English, Maths and maths Extension provide on-going help for students.

Contact Pam Bagworth 9316 3599

CITY OF GOSNELLS SPORTSMANIA

A sports programme especially designed for 5-12 year olds will be operating at the Richard Rushton Community Centre during school term on Tuesday afternoons from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Contact Danielle 9452 9910

The Queens Park Recreation Centre is offering a range of activities for high school students in Term 1.

Contact Suzanne or Joan on 9231 0755

CALLING ALL INTERCESSORS!!!!!!



A special afternoon tea has been arranged for those interested in praying for Thornlie Christian College. This will take place on,

Day/Date: Thursday 15th February
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Where: MMM Room (the rear of 33 Furley Road, Southern River)
Purpose: To have TCC covered in prayer.
RSVP 14th Feb. – School Office for catering purposes.

Any queries please contact:

Andrea Mellor on 9354 1796

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING Monday 12 February

Times for these meetings are as follows:

PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Venue: Various classrooms as sign-posted.

Kindy – Yr1 Two repeat sessions:

5:00 - 6:00pm

5:30 - 6:00pm

Yr2 – Yr6 Two repeat sessions:

6:00 – 6:30 pm

6:30 – 7:00pm

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Venue: Room B8

Yr7 – Yr9 7:00 – 7:45pm

SENIOR SCHOOL:

Venue: Room C8

Yr10 ONLY 8:00 – 9:00pm