

# Grace Notices

Friday, 25 November | Term 4, Issue 4



Psalm 100 : 4 NLT " Enter His gates with thanksgiving; go into His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him and praise His name."

## Coming up

Term 4 ends Thursday, 15 December

### WEEK 8

#### Monday, 28 November

- \* Parent Prayer Group 9am

#### Tuesday, 29 November

- \* Little Library 9am
- \* PP Girls Uniform Fittings

#### Friday, 2 December

- \* Piano Recitals 2pm (Library)
- \* Year 10 Indoor Beach Volleyball
- \* Dreambuilders Church "Christmas at Ours" 6pm

### WEEK 9

#### Monday, 5 December

- \* Parent Prayer Group 9am

#### Tuesday, 6 December

- \* KI Uniform Fittings
- \* KI/PP Presentation Evening 5pm

#### Thursday, 8 December

- \* School Tour 10am
- \* Drums Concert 12.45pm (Upstairs Music Room)
- \* Year 10 ECU Excursion
- \* Junior School Presentation Evening 6pm (Year 1—Year 2)

### WEEK 10

#### Monday, 12 December

- \* Parent Prayer Group 9am
- \* Year 1 Orientation Day
- \* Design Technology Mini-Market 12.45pm
- \* Middle School Presentation Evening 6.30pm (Year 3 - Year 6)

#### Tuesday, 13 December

- \* Secondary Presentation Evening 6.30pm (Year 7—Year 11)

#### Thursday, 15 December

- \* Fun day—Last day 2016 ☺

## Contact Information

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Skoolbag—Grace Christian School

## From the Principal's Desk

### True to ourselves—Why the modern mantra is so misleading

Article by Madeleine Turner (Australian Presbyterian Summer 2016/2017 Edition)

"Being true to yourself" has become the defining piece of advice for living well in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is also one of the most overused phrases in popular culture. If it's not Disney declaring the "follow your heart and be true to yourself" mantra, then you can guarantee talk show hosts, musicians, celebrities and self-help gurus will.

And are people buying into it. We are a society obsessed with authenticity. We have become preoccupied with discovering and expressing our "authentic" selves.

It's not hard to see why being true to oneself has such wide appeal. In our increasingly pluralistic society, where there are few agreed standards of behaviour, "being true to yourself" essentially allows people to live as they please. That is the logical end-point of embracing this kind of moral relativism. It encourages people to act upon what they feel or believe to be true, not necessarily what is objectively true or right. Essentially, "I'll decide what's right for me, and you decide what's right for you."

"Being true to yourself" may at first glance seem noble and courageous. The world applauds those who defy societal norms and "march to the beat of their own drum". But it is a philosophy that ultimately prioritises self over the welfare of others. And this is problematic in a world populated by selfish sinners.

All too often people justify inconsiderate and harmful behaviour to themselves or others simply by claiming they are being true to themselves. The adulterous spouse, the abusive boss, the spiteful gossip, and the dishonest friend can all claim"; "But I'm being true to myself!" When authenticity becomes the moral ideal, other virtues like faithfulness, kindness, and humility are deemed less worthy than "being genuine".

Furthermore, to be true to yourself, you must know who you are. But we cannot know who we are because self-deception lies at the very core of our being. "The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9)

Our minds cannot illuminate us to who we are any more than our feelings can. No amount of psychoanalysis or transcendental meditation will help us understand ourselves, for when we reject our Creator our thinking becomes muddled (Romans 1:21). Self-knowledge can only come from God, when the Holy Spirit unveils to us the true state of our hearts and what the law of God requires (1 Corinthians 2:15-16).

So when the world is telling us to be "true to ourselves", how should we respond? For Christians, we should remember that our ultimate authority is God's Word and not our feelings. And our ultimate example is Jesus Christ. We are *not* called to be true to ourselves. Why? Because we are sinful by nature (Romans 7:14); our natural mind is hostile to God (Romans 8:7-8); we consider the things of God foolishness (1 Corinthians 2:14); and our lives are hopeless without Him (Ephesians 2:1,12).

Rather, we are called to "put off our old selves" and to "put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:22-24). If we are in Christ then we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). We are to put to death our sinful nature and former way of life.

And we do so because in Christ our old nature has already been defeated, destroyed and replaced. God is calling us to live in step with what we already are and have – a spiritual self (Colossians 3). Perhaps then the question we *should* be asking ourselves is: Are we living 'true' to our new identity in Christ?

Blessings,

**Hugo de Ridder**  
Principal

# Grace Notices



Matthew 6 : 34 NLT "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today."

## Notices

### Community Health Audit—Have your say

A friendly reminder to return your completed health audit forms to Endeavour Community Relations and Development as soon as possible. We also have a collection box for in reception for you to drop off the completed forms. If you require another copy of the questionnaire, please contact Mrs Sharyn Harris in the admin office on 9726 4200.

### Tuition Fees

A reminder that all 2017 direct debit forms need to be completed and submitted as soon as possible. Any enquiries about your tuition account can be made with the Bursar, Mrs Fiona de Ridder on 9726 4200.

### Presentation Evenings—Dress Standards

Presentation Evenings are an integral part of our school calendar. These evenings are an occasion where the academic gifts and talents, service and dedication of our students are recognized and celebrated. Student attendance is compulsory at these evenings, which will be held on:

#### Kindergarten/Pre-Primary

When: Tuesday, 6 December at 5pm

Where: Undercover Area

Dress: School t-shirt, denim shorts and joggers/sandals

#### Junior School (Year 1 and Year 2)

When: Thursday, 8 December at 6pm

Where: Auditorium

Dress: Formal summer uniform

*Girls* - short sleeved white shirt, pinafore, school socks and black lace up shoes | *Boys* - short sleeved white shirt, tie, shorts, school socks and black lace up shoes

#### Middle School (Year 3 - Year 6)

When: Monday, 12 December

Where: Auditorium

Dress: Formal summer uniform

*Girls* - short sleeved white shirt, pinafore, school socks and black lace up shoes | *Boys* - short sleeved white shirt (tucked in), tie, shorts, school socks and black lace up shoes

#### Senior School (Year 7 - Year 11)

When: Tuesday, 13 December

Where: Auditorium

Dress: Formal summer uniform

*Girls* - Short sleeved white school blouse, skirt, school socks and black lace up shoes | *Boys* - short sleeved white shirt (tucked in), tie, navy trousers with belt, school socks and black lace up shoes

We value parent support in ensuring students are appropriately prepared and attend the evening. As such, students may wear their sports uniform on the day of their presentation evening to enable their formal uniform to be cleaned and ironed for the evening.

### Library Monitors 2017

If you are a student in Year 6—Year 11 (2017) and you like to be organised, are responsible, enjoy helping others and learning new skills, then being a Library Monitor might be just the job for you. To find out more about this student leadership position in our school see Mrs Megan Reynolds in the Library. An application form and position description are available from the Library and Student Services.

### Spring Concert

A Spring Concert will be held on Monday, 5 December in the Library from 7pm. Secondary Music students will be performing on the night, which will include the Year 7 – 11 bands, soloists and ensembles. No entry charge. All welcome.

### Design Technology Mini Market

#### Year 11 Design Technology students

**When:** Monday ( Week 10 ) 12.45 pm -1.15 pm and from 2.30pm to 3.15pm.

**Where:** Area between the Library and the Admin building

**Items for sale:** Christmas decorations, Christmas gifts, Christmas stockings, handmade Christmas cards and "preloved" jewellery etc.

Affordable prices – Money raised will go toward the Year 11 class missions project.

### In-Term Swimming 2017

In-term swimming lessons for next year are scheduled for Term 3, the timing of which we unfortunately have no control over.

With the timing of these lessons (winter) and the additional Year 6 class next year, in-term swimming will now only be available to students in the Middle School, from Year 3 - Year 6. We are mindful of the importance of learning the skills to swim and strongly recommend students in Kindergarten to Year 2 be enrolled in VacSwim classes.

### VacSwim—December/January holidays

It is important for every child to learn to swim and develop essential water safety skills. Enrolments are now open for VacSwim's school holiday lessons, which are conducted by qualified instructors who teach children the skills to be confident swimmers. For further information and online enrolment visit: [www.education.wa.edu.au/swimming](http://www.education.wa.edu.au/swimming)

### 2017 Booklists

2017 Booklists have been sent home with your child. Order online at OfficeMax Schools:

[www.officemaxschools.com.au/WA/Bunbury/Grace-Christian-School](http://www.officemaxschools.com.au/WA/Bunbury/Grace-Christian-School)

# Calendar of Events

Please check the calendar regularly for updates.



1 Timothy 2 : 5-6 NLT " For, There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. He gave His life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time."

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 8 28 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom) * Year 8 Geography Excursion (Bunbury CBD)	29 * Little Library 9am * PP Girls Uniform Fitting * Year 11 Incursion (Dr Yes)	30	1 Dec	2 * Piano Recitals 1pm (Mrs Newhouse and Mrs Faed's students) * Year 10 Indoor Beach Volleyball Excursion * Dreambuilders Church "Christmas at Ours" 6pm
Week 9 5 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom) * Spring Concert 7pm - School Library	6 * 2017 KI Uniform Fittings * KI/PP End of Year Celebration Evening 5pm	7 * Year 10 ECU Excursion	8 * School Tour 10am * Drums Concert 12.45pm (Upstairs Music Room) * Junior School (Year 1 & 2) Presentation Evening 6pm	9
Week 10 12 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom) * PP Orientation Day * Design Technology Mini Market 12.45pm * Middle School (Year 3 - 6) Presentation Evening 6.30pm	13 * Secondary (Year 7 - 11) Presentation Evening 6.30pm	14	15 * End of Year 'Fun Day' * Last day 2016 ☺	16

## HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

### Mastermind Australia—January Preparation Program

OLNA, Study Skills, Essay Writing, Subject Revision and Preparation for all students entering Year 7—Year 12 in 2017.

**When:** 18-25 January 2017

**Where:** Christ Church Grammar, Hale School, Leeming SHS

**Enquiries:** Dr Robert Hallam 9486 1377 or see their website: [www.mastermindaustralia.com.au](http://www.mastermindaustralia.com.au)

### Academic Task Force—January Head Start Programs

**ATAR Head Start Program**—Increase your confidence and start your Year 11 and 12 studies with a boost. Six hour subject courses in ATAR subjects, Essay Writing and Study Skill courses during the Summer Holidays.

**Year 7-10 Head Start Program** - Programs available in Naplan Preparation, Intermediate English, Advanced Maths, Foundation Maths and English, Learning Skills and Essay Writing, Interactive Science, Computer Coding and our new Have Fun with Drama.

**When:** 17—28 January 2017

**Where:** Rossmoyne SHS and Churchlands SHS

**Enquiries:** Enrol now online at [www.academictaskforce.com.au](http://www.academictaskforce.com.au) or call 9314 9500 or email [learn@academictaskforce.com.au](mailto:learn@academictaskforce.com.au).

#### PRESENTATION EVENINGS 2016

<b>KI/PP:</b>	Tuesday, 6 Dec @ 5pm
<b>Year 1 &amp; 2:</b>	Thursday, 8 Dec @ 6pm
<b>Year 3 - 6:</b>	Monday, 12 Dec @ 6.30pm
<b>Year 7- 11:</b>	Tuesday, 13 Dec @ 6.30pm

#### UNIFORM SHOP OPEN TIMES

<b>Monday and Friday</b>	8.15am - 9.00am
<b>Wednesday and Thursday</b>	3.00pm - 3.45pm

#### 2017 TERM DATES

<b>Term 1</b>	1 February to 7 April
<b>Term 2</b>	26 April to 23 June
<b>Term 3</b>	18 Jul to 22 Sep (Student Free day: 21 August)
<b>Term 4</b>	10 Oct to 14 Dec