

Grace Notices

Friday, 24 June | Term 2, Issue 5



Galatians 6 : 9 NLT "So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."

Coming up

WEEK 1

Monday, 18 July

- * Last day of the Semester break ☺
- * Year 10's Work Experience (18 July to 22 July)

Tuesday, 19 July

- * Students return for Term 3
- * Little Library 9am
- * Year 12's Elevation Education Study Skills Workshop 1pm

Thursday, 21 July

- * School Tour 10am

WEEK 2

Monday, 25 July

- * Parent Prayer Group 9am

Tuesday, 26 July

- * Little Library 9am

Wednesday, 27 July

- * Secondary Assembly 2.20pm
- * Netball Cake Sale at recess

Thursday, 28 July

- * Interschool Cross Country (BCGS) Year 3—Year 6
- * Australian Maths Competition
- * Parent Teacher Interviews

Friday, 29 July

- * Year 10 PARTY Program

Uniform Shop Open Times

Monday and Friday

8.15am—9.00am

Wednesday and Thursday

3.00pm—3.45pm

Contact Information

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Skoolbag—Grace Christian School

From the Principal's Desk

The Bible: the only basis for objective morality

A recent article lamented a troubling trend: many children in school do not think there is such a thing as a 'moral fact' - otherwise known as 'moral realism'. Traditionally in Western society, we have believed there are many moral facts—things that are objectively right or wrong. "Murder is wrong", "Helping people is good", and "Racism is wrong" are just a few truths that impress the idea that some things are objectively right or wrong.

But where do these ideas come from? Certainly not from evolution—if murder helps me survive and reproduce more than my competitors, then it is an evolutionary 'good'. Lions often kill the cubs in a pride they've taken over, which is said to be due to evolution, so that the pride's resources aren't wasted raising another lion's cubs. On the other hand altruism must also have an evolutionary basis. However, altruism is clearly inconsistent with evolution since helping other means fewer resources for 'me'. Why should I help people who might be less 'fit'? And racism is one of the most evolutionarily consistent views, Darwin believed, if evolution is true, then the people more closely related to me are in competition with other people less closely related to us.

The moral principles that have been accepted as more or less self-evident, and which form the basis of our law codes, actually come from Scripture. Western society traditionally held the Bible, e.g. the Ten Commandments, to be the standard for how we should act. Its teachings, and the concept of God as the moral law giver, became the most overarching influence of our civilization. But today, more and more people are completely ignorant of what it teaches and the important role it played on our history. And because the Bible is increasingly marginalized, so is the Bible's authority in areas such as its morality.

As the Bible loses influence in many once Christian societies, people start to experience confusion regarding what used to be considered basic moral principles. Many then decide they can make up

their own rules because there are no moral absolutes. This is exactly what the survey mentioned above found amongst young people, many of whom, no doubt, are also ignorant about the Bible, its history and impact on society. And once the foundation of Scripture is rejected it is only a matter of time until the edifice of morality built upon that foundation crumbles. If 'feelings' are the only thing that determines right and wrong (very much a youth sentiment today) then why accept what anyone else has to say about what is right and wrong? Moral anarchy is the logical end of such a view.

History is replete with holocaustic examples, and sadly, history has a habit of repeating itself. Former Oxford Professor Richard Dawkins is probably the world's best-known atheist and anti-creationist, and even he had to admit:

"I'm a passionate Darwinian when it comes to Science, when it comes to explaining the world, but I'm a passionate anti-Darwinian when it comes to morality and politics."

Dawkins has right to be concerned. The idea that we are evolved has led repeatedly to the idea that some of us are more evolved than others, and therefore the less-evolved or less fit are expendable.

If we want our children to be able to tell right from wrong, and to have an objective basis for doing so, the answer is a wholesale return to God's Word as the authority in our lives. People of all ages must be able to defend what they believe and trust the Bible in everything it teaches. As Jesus said, "If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?"

Article by: Gary Bates and Lita Costner of Creation Ministries International US

Staffing Semester 2

It is with sadness that I accepted the resignation of Mrs Nicky Fulton, Year 5 teacher who taught alongside Mrs Marlice Bosman. Thank you Mrs Fulton for your dedication and hard work over the past six months. I would also like to thank Mrs Troy Voller who has done a remarkable job in place of Mrs Robyn Lane, who returns to us from long service leave.

Grace Notices



Matthew 6 : 6 " But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

From the Principal's Desk cont.

Mrs Amanda Guise, Year 2 teacher and Mrs Maureen Biersteker, Library Assistant will be enjoying some well earned long service leave during Semester 2.

I would also like to welcome Mrs Heather Reid and Mrs Laura Noble who will be with us for Semester 2 to cover the long service positions. We are also excited to welcome to staff Mr Jurrien Swarts, who along with his wife Wendy have been appointed as Camp Grace Managers.

The staff changes for Semester 2 are as follows:

Pre-Primary—Mrs Heather Reid covering for Mrs Gemma Stevens
Year 2—Mrs Gemma Stevens and Mrs Alba Cloete covering for Mrs Guise
Year 5—Mrs Troy Voller will replace Mrs Nicky Fulton.

As this Semester draws to a close, I would like to challenge you to think on the many political issues being bandied around by the media and give serious and careful consideration to the implication for our society and children in the upcoming election.

I would also like to thank all members of our school community for their continued support. I pray you will have a relaxing break with your loved ones, and look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday, 19 July.

Please note: The administration office will be closed during the school holidays. Mail, messages and emails will be checked periodically throughout the holiday period.

Hugo de Ridder
Principal

Notices

In-Term Swimming Lessons

Students in Year 1 to Year 6 will participate in in-term swimming, which is coming up in Week 3 next term. Lessons run for 2 weeks from Monday, 1 August to Friday, 12 August. Instruction is given by qualified swim instructors appointed by the WA Department of Education.

Parents may attend as spectators only, and are only permitted in the designated 'spectator area'. As of this year the South West Sports Centre has notified us that all spectators will be charged a "Spectator Fee" of \$1.00 per day.

Parent Teacher Interviews—Year 3 to Year 12

Parent Teacher interviews will take place early next term on Thursday, 28 July and Tuesday, 2 August. Interviews will be

held in the Resource Centre. Appointment times can be booked via the PTO on-line booking system. Bookings will open early next term. Further details will be emailed to all parents during Week 1 of next term.

Netball—Cake Sale—Wednesday, 27th July

Save the date! Our annual fundraiser is coming up during Week 2 of next term. Yummy treats will be for sale at recess.

Semester Reports

Reports will be handed out to students on Friday, 24th June. Reports will be kept at Student Services should your child be absent on the last day, and can be collected at the start of next term. No reports will be mailed home.

Tuition Fees

Tuition accounts have been emailed out this week. A friendly reminder that, should you not pay school fees via a direct debit, that Term 3 fees are due by Friday, 29 July. Any questions, please contact our Bursar, Mrs Fiona de Ridder.

Mozzie Bands

Mosquito repellent bands are available for sale from our Reception desk for \$2.00 each.

Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing in Young People

Are you a parent of a young person and want to be able to have the tools to support them during adolescence?

Headspace Bunbury are presenting a free 'Live and Learn' session that will help you recognize the changes in young people, become aware of their mental health, how to spot warning signs and where to find support and help.

Where: Bunbury Public Library

When: Thursday, 21 July 2016

Time: 5.30pm—6.30pm

Alpha Course — Is there more to life than this?

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith.

Alpha sessions are held in small groups in a relaxed environment where there is opportunity to discuss your thoughts, ask questions and hear from others about any aspects of the Christian faith. It is also a great opportunity to get to know others. Alpha kicks off next term.

When: Thursday evenings, 28th July to 8th September

Time: from 6.30pm

Where: Grace Christian School/Dreambuilders Church

Register Interest: email bunbury@dreambuilders.church

2016 TERM DATES

Term 2:	Ends Friday, 24 June
Term 3:	19 July to 23 September <i>Student Free day—Monday, 22 Aug</i>
Term 4:	11 October to 15 December

2017 TERM DATES

Term 1:	1 February to 7 April
Term 2:	26 April to 23 June
Term 3:	18 July to 22 September <i>Student Free day—Monday, 21 Aug</i>
Term 4:	10 October to 14 December

Calendar of Events

Please check the calendar regularly for updates.



1 Thessalonians 1 : 2-3 NLT " We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly. As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 18 * Semester Break * Year 10 Work Experience	19 * Term 3 Commences * Little Library 9am * Elevate Education Study Skills Workshop—Year 12 * Year 10 Work Experience	20 * Year 10 Work Experience	21 * School Tour 10am * Year 10 Work Experience	22 * Year 10 Work Experience
Week 2 25 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom)	26 * Little Library 9am	27 * Secondary Assembly 2.20pm	28 * Year 4—6 Interschool Cross Country (BCGS) * Australian Maths Comp. * Parent Teacher Interviews	29 * Year 10 P.A.R.T.Y Program
Week 3 1 Aug * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom) * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC)	2 * Little Library 9am * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC) * Parent Teacher Interviews	3 * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC)	4 * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC) * Kindy Tour 9.30am	5 * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC) * Junior Assembly 2.20pm * Year 12 Geography Excursion Perth CBD 31 Jul-2 Aug
Week 4 8 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom) * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC)	9 * Little Library 9am * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC)	10 * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC) * Young Writers Day BCGS—Year 9 & 10	11 * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC) * Young Writers Day BCGS—Year 7 & 8	12 * Year 1—6 In-Term Swimming (SWSC) * Middle Assembly 2.20pm
Week 5 15 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom)	16 * Little Library 9am * School Board Meeting	17 * Secondary Assembly 2.20pm	18 * School Tour 10am	19
Week 6 22 * Student Free Day	23 * Little Library 9am * Primary Athletics Carnival	24 * Secondary Athletics Carnival * Year 10 & Year 11 Bible Society Master Class Conference Perth	25	26 * Junior Assembly 2.20pm
Week 7 29 * Parent Prayer 9am (Boardroom)	30 * Little Library 9am	31	1 Sep * Year 10 Parent Dinner	2 * Athletics Assembly 2.20pm

Friday Evening | 7pm

Sixoh Youth from 5.30pm
Family Service starts at 7pm
Crèche and Kids Program available

More Info: Tel. 9726 4201 or email bunbury@dreambuilders.church

Sunday Morning | 10am

Family Service starts at 10am
Crèche and Kids Program available

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