

Grace Notices

Friday, 17 March 2017 | Term 1, Issue 4



Colossians 3 : 1 - 2 ESV "If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth."

Coming up

WEEK 8

Monday, 20 March

- * Parent Prayer Group 8.45am

Tuesday, 21 March

- * Little Library 9am
- * Year 8 Geography Excursion (Back Beach)
- * Year 11 Geography Excursion (Wellington Discovery Forest)
- * KI/PP Dad's Night 5.30pm

Wednesday, 22 March

- * OLNA Numeracy Assessment

Thursday, 23 March

- * GRIP Leadership Conference (Prefects)
- * Kindy Tour 9.30am
- * Primary Interschool Swimming Carnival (SWSC)

Friday, 24 March

- * Middle School Assembly 2.20pm

Saturday, 25 March

- * School Yard Blitz (Busy Bee) 8.30am

WEEK 9

Monday, 27 March

- * Parent Prayer Group 8.45am

Tuesday, 28 March

- * Little Library 9am
- * Autumn Concert 7pm

Thursday, 30 March

- * Parent Teacher Interviews
- * MILO T20 Cricket Competition—Year 5 & 6 (Forrest Park)

WEEK 10

Monday, 3 April

- * Parent Prayer Group 9am

Tuesday, 4 April

- * Little Library 9am
- * Parent Teacher Interviews

Thursday, 6 April

- * School Tour 10am

Friday, 7 April

- * Easter Service : Primary 1.30pm | Secondary 2.20pm
- * Last Day Term 1

Contact Information

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Skoolbag- Grace Christian School

From the Principal's Desk

"Oh, the things we do to give gifts to those we love. But we don't mind, do we? We would do it all again. Fact is, we do it all again. Every Christmas, every birthday, every so often we find ourselves in foreign territory. Grown-ups are in toy stores. Dads are in teen stores. Wives are in the hunting department, and husbands are in the purse department.

Not only do we enter unusual places, we do unusual things. We assemble bicycles at midnight. We hide the new tyres with mag wheels under the stairs. One fellow I heard about rented a movie theatre so he and his wife could see their wedding pictures on their anniversary.

And we'd do it all again. Having pressed the grapes of service, we drink life's sweetest wine – the wine of giving. We are at our best when we are giving. In fact, we are most like God when we are giving.

Have you ever wondered why God gives so much? We could exist on far less. He could have left the world flat and grey; we wouldn't have known the difference. But He didn't.

He splashed orange in the sunrise and cast the sky in blue. And if you love to see geese as they gather, chances are you'll see that too.

Did he have to make the squirrel's tail furry? Was he obliged to make the birds sing? And the funny way that chickens scurry or the majesty of thunder when it rings?

Why give a flower fragrance? Why give food its taste? Could it be He loves to see that look upon your face?

If we give gifts to show our love, how much more would He? If we, speckled with foibles and greed, love to give gifts, how much more does God, pure and perfect God, enjoy giving gifts to us? Jesus asked, 'If you hardhearted, sinful men know how to give good gifts to your children, won't your Father in heaven even more certainly give good gifts to those who ask Him for them?' (Matthew 7 : 11)

God's gifts shed light on God's heart, God's good and generous heart. Jesus' brother James tells us: 'Every desirable and beneficial gift comes out of heaven. The gifts are rivers of light cascading down from the Father of light.' (James 1 : 17) Every gift reveals God's love...but no gift reveals His love more than the gifts of the cross. They came, not wrapped in paper, but in passion. Not placed around a tree, but a cross. And not covered with ribbons, but sprinkled with blood.

The gifts of the cross.

Much has been said about the gift of the cross itself, but what of the other gifts? What of the nails, the crown of thorns? The garments taken by the soldiers. The garments given for the burial. Have you taken time to open these gifts?

He didn't have to give them, you know. The only act, the only required act for our salvation was the shedding of blood, yet He did much more. So much more. Search the scene of the cross, and what do you find? A wine soaked sponge. A sign. Two crosses beside Christ.

Divine gifts intended to stir that moment, that split second when your face will brighten, your eyes will widen, and God will hear you whisper, "You did this for me?"

The diadem of pain which sliced your gentle face, three spikes piercing flesh and wood to hold you in your place.

The need for blood I understand. Your sacrifice I embrace. But the bitter sponge, the cutting spear, the spit upon your face? Did it have to be a cross?

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2 Corinthians 12 : 9 ESV " But He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

From the Principal's Desk cont.

Did not a kinder death exist than six hours hanging between life and death, all spurred by a betrayer's kiss?

"Oh Father" you pose, heart-stilled at what could be. "I'm sorry to ask, but I long to know, did you do this for me?"

Dare we pray such a prayer? Dare we think such thoughts? Could it be that the hill of the cross is rich with God's gifts? Let's examine them, shall we? Let's unwrap these gifts of grace as if – or perhaps, indeed – for the first time. And as you touch them, as you feel the timber of the cross and trace the braid of the crown and finger the point of the spike – pause and listen. Perchance you will hear Him whisper: "I did it just for you." *From "He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado*

As Easter rapidly approaches a timely reminder of the price Christ paid for us, A sacrifice we should never underestimate, for by it our salvation is won, and by it our lives can be transformed.

Acting Principal

I will be taking an extended break, including the last two weeks of term and the Term 1 holidays as part of some long service leave. Mrs Donna Holman will be stepping in as Acting Principal in my absence.

Blessings,

Hugo de Ridder
Principal

Notices

School Yard Blitz

Save the date.....Our first School Yard Blitz (formerly known as Busy Bee) for this year is coming up on Saturday, 25 March between 8.30am—12.30pm.

This is a great way to meet other families and to serve our school community. All families attending will receive a \$75 credit to their school tuition account.

Change to Canteen Days

Due to low demand, the canteen will no longer operate on a Monday. As of Term 2, the canteen days will operate on Thursday and Friday only.

A reminder to all parents to update their child's classroom and teacher details via the Our Online Canteen website, www.ouronlinecanteen.com.au if you have not already done so.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted on Thursday, 30 March and Tuesday, 4 April for parents of students in Year 3—Year 12. Login details and instruction for the PTO booking system have been emailed to all parents.

Bookings can be made from Monday, 20 March. Any questions, please contact Mrs Mary Kent or Mrs Jodie Field at Student Services.

Lost Property

Our lost property box is overflowing. Please check your child's uniform for missing items. All unclaimed uniform items will be recycled via the second hand rack in the uniform shop at the end of Term 1. Other items will be donated to an op-shop or disposed of.

Primary Interschool Carnival

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to represent Grace Christian School on Thursday, 23 March at the South West Sports Centre.

Year 4: Amity Barnard, Ilana Gibbon, Emily Roberston, Ava Dodds, Ethan Cook, Adam McQuade, Caleb Bartlett, Ethan Teune

Year 5: Zeriah Mare, Sienna Weaver, Amy Hunt, Jaslyn Attwood, Ellora Maslin, Aiden Hill, Hayden Bone, Lee Stone, Nico le Roux

Year 6: Zara Moroney, Olivia Humphreys, Breanne Quinn, Abbey Westra, Thomas White, Justin Marshall, Sai Fantasia, Daniel Cosh

Secondary Assistance Scheme

The State Government through the WA Department of Education provides an allowance to assist eligible families with secondary schooling costs.

To be eligible for the allowance parents/guardians must hold a Department of Human Services (Centrelink) or Veteran's Affairs card. The allowance consist of two components:

- \$115 Clothing allowance paid directly to the parent
- \$235 Educational Program allowance paid directly to the school

Application forms are available from the admin office and must be completed at the school before Friday, 7 April, should you wish to apply.

Wild Things Kids Camp 2017

Calling all students in Year 4 - Year 6! The annual Dreambuilders Church Kids Camp is coming up soon from 8 - 10 April in Busselton. To register or for more information please contact Hayley Mordaunt at hayley@dreambuilders.church

Calendar of Events

Please check the calendar regularly for updates.



Philippians 4 : 8 NLT " And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 8 20 * Parent Prayer 8.45am	21 * Little Library 9am * KI/PP Dad's Night 5.30pm * Year 8 Geography Excursion (Back Beach) * Year 11 Geography Excursion (Wellington Discovery Forest)	22 * Secondary Assembly 2.20pm * OLNA Numeracy Assessment	23 * GRIP Student Leadership Conference (Prefects) * Kindy Tour * Primary Interschool Swimming Carnival (Year 4 - 6)	24 * Middle School Assembly 2.20pm Saturday, 25th: School Yard Blitz 8.30am
Week 9 27 * Parent Prayer 8.45am	28 * Little Library 9am * Autumn Concert 7pm	29	30 * MILO T20 Cricket Competition @ Forrest Park (Year 5 & 6) * Parent Teacher Interviews 3.30pm—7pm	31
Week 10 3 Apr * Parent Prayer 8.45am	4 * Little Library 9am * Parent Teacher Interviews 3.30pm - 7.00pm	5	6 * School Tour 10am	7 * Easter Assembly 1.35pm Primary Secondary 2.20pm * Last day Term 1
Term Break : Saturday, 8 April to Wednesday, 25 April				
Week 1 Term 2 24	25 * ANZAC DAY	26 * Term 2 Commences * ANZAC Assembly 8.40am	27 * Kindy Tour 9.30am	28
Week 2 1 May * Parent Prayer 8.45am * Cross Country Week (Year 7—11)	2 * Little Library 9am * Year 4—6 Cross Country 8.35am * Year 1-3 Cross Country 11.15am	3	4	5 * Middle School Assembly 2.20pm

2017 TERM DATES

Semester 1

Term 1: ends Friday, 7 April | Term 2: Wednesday, 26 April to Friday, 23 June

Semester 2

Term 3: Tuesday, 18 July to Friday, 22 September | Term 4: Tuesday, 10 October to Thursday, 14 December

Student Free Day: Monday, 21 August

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BUILDING LIVES | TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Friday Evening | 7pm

Sixth 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