Genesis Christian College celebrating 20 years: 1991-2011
From the Principal

Once again 2011 has seen significant growth at Genesis Christian College which has resulted in another year of thorough infra-structure planning and management.

Due to continued enrolment interest a decision was made in late 2010 to add another Year 3 class to our other years of entry classes, namely Prep and Year 6. Thanks to some creative timetabling we were able to accommodate two Primary classes and the Learning Enrichment Department in the Secondary College precinct. Pressure was somewhat relieved with the completion of the first stage of the Upper Primary precinct. Six classrooms, three up and three down, office space and amenities including much needed change room space was a welcome addition to the Primary school.

Besides this construction, Stage 15, the agricultural farm has been moved and refurbished, three ball courts constructed and site preparation begun for the College pools to commence construction in early 2012. Clearly, this year has seen many physical changes occur which have kept most staff very busy.

Preparation began very early for our major celebration, namely our Spring Festival. What a fitting way to celebrate 20 years of quality, Christian education. Mrs Kathleen Miller and the Parents and Friends Association have done an outstanding job of galvanising our parents behind the Genesis pools program.

Alumni Businesses

Let’s support our Alumni business owners. If you need any of the services below, please consider using your fellow Alumni members.

Do you own your own business? Would you like to advertise in future Alumni newsletters? If so, email a copy of your business card or advertisement to: paststudents@genesis.qld.edu.au
Genesis Milestones

Engagements:
- Kylie King (2008) & Benjamin Isaraela
- Bianca Grimsey (2004) & Jamie McNeish
- Miriam Scouler (2008) & Geoff Bearham
- Emma Dandridge (2007) & Alex Vrbnjak
- Lauren Van’t Veldt (2007) & Matthew Oakley
- Jesse Hunter (2009) & Cheri Minnie
- Bethany-Joy Murphy (2006) & Logan Reid

Marriages:
- Steve Van der Ros (2004) & Kathryn Clem
- Israel Vogel (2003) & Rebekah Ang
- Miriam Scouler (2008) & Geoff Bearham
- Emily Patterson (2006) & Pat Birch

Births:
- Rashelle (Kelly) (2006) & Zayn Bischoff welcomed their first son on 30/01/10, Levi Zayn Bischoff and their second son, Kayd Michael Bischoff on 04/05/11
- Chris (2005) & Catherine Lang welcomed second daughter Alice Phoebe Lang on 02/07/10
- Kylie King (2008) & Ben Isaraela welcomed first child, daughter Nataljah-Lea Tracey Isaraela on 17/12/10

Graduations:
- Kylie King (2008) – Certificate III in Aged Care (Nursing Assistant)
- Francesca Bullock (2007) – Bachelor of Arts
- Zoe Clarke (2007) – Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education
- Jaclyn Webb (2007) – Bachelor of Education
- Ashley Hopkinson (2007) – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Hons)
- Samantha Johnson (2008) – Bachelor of Social Science (Counselling)

Shirley Hill: 8 July 1946 - 24 February 2010

The College community bade a sad farewell to a much loved past staff member, Mrs Shirley Hill. Shirley had been a devoted member of our school community from when the school was first established. Working initially as a volunteer, then 1993 as a Teacher Aide at our Preschool, Shirley later moved into Learning Enrichment where she worked until 2008 when her battle with illness required more of her time.

We will remember Shirley for her kindness, generosity and faithfulness. We know by her testimony in Christ that the Lord was truly her portion in a life well lived.
Valedictory Speech — Ben Fien

...I know this day has, at times, seemed like it would never come, but here it is and right at this very moment we are suddenly faced with the realisation that, this is one of the last moments we’ll experience together as a grade. It is an honour to be representing the young men and women sitting in front of me today. I count each one of you as a friend and appreciate the blessing and positive influence you have had on my life.

...It has been a privilege for all of us to be a part of the College community.

...The success of our final year can be credited to all the staff members who have sown into our lives. Their leadership and the examples that they have set have been defining factors in making us who we are today. To the staff: each one of us has grown to know and appreciate each one of you.

As we finally come to the end of our schooling life, our memories are revisited and achievements are remembered; today is a celebration of all that we have learnt and accomplished at school. As we prepare to leave the comfort of our school routine, I would like to share with you my hope for each one of your lives.

A great man once said, “There are always two choices. Two paths to take. One is easy. And its only reward is that it’s easy”. I want to challenge you not to give up on your hopes and dreams. Each one of you has an amazing calling upon your lives and the narrow path is far more rewarding than the wide one.

It is one of my dreams to come back and see us all together again at a school reunion. I’m confident that all of you will achieve far and beyond what you think you are capable of. Fulfil the potential that God has placed upon you and I pray that you will stay safe as you embark into the unknown. I love you all and God bless.
Class of 2011

Valedictory Speech — Daphne Diloj

...As a group we have been friends, seniors, the Year 12 cohort of 2011, a family and, as Mr. Martin once suggested, even "a tribe". I consider each one of you as a personal friend and will never forget how much of a blessing you have been to this school and to me.

...Look at us now. We are on the threshold of tertiary study, career choices and independence... Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "We are all inventors, each sailing out on a voyage of discovery, guided each by a private chart, of which there is no duplicate. The world is all gates, all opportunities".

Whatever our plans may be, whether going to University to study a dream course, to travel overseas, and work in whatever profession we choose, I believe the Lord has an amazing journey to take each and every one of us through. My prayer is that each one of us will uncover our true potential. My advice is to give 110 percent in all you do and remember Nelson Mandela’s words when you seem to be faltering, "It always seems impossible until it is done".

This is our final class together. We need to celebrate this occasion joyously and with thankful hearts. There is still much excitement ahead. Then later on this our final day as students of Genesis, as we gather at our formal and walk down the red carpet, it will be a symbol of the moment that we transition from school into adulthood...Farewell, I love you and may God bless you always.
Gold Alumni & Achievements

2010 Gold Alumni: Andrew Schenck, Christopher Miller, Matthew Everett, Samuel Patterson, Kazuma Shimizu, Johnathon Fulcher, Rachael Miller, Carl Verdouw, Courtney van Vuuren, Lauren Briigmann

2011 Gold Alumni: Samuel Carton, Douglas Walker, Matthew Herweynen, Stefan Newport, Fern Doyle, Joshua Denison, Jade Van Abkoude, Keshia De Guzman, Joshua Fay

QUT Vice Chancellor's Scholarship Recipient Belle Cubillan

Graduating from Genesis Christian College in 2009, Belle Cubillan received a Vice Chancellor's Award, which was presented to her in an awards ceremony at QUT on 8 March 2010. The Vice Chancellor's Scholarship Program is QUT's premier offering for high achievers. Two hundred Scholarships will be awarded annually to OP 1 to 2 students. In addition to financial support, the program allows scholars to make the most of their QUT experience by excelling in studies, and through extra development opportunities, to build leadership skills and professional networks.

Belle is currently undertaking a Bachelor of Nursing at QUT. The Vice Chancellor's award has given Belle support with her university fees, which she described as a “blessing” because of all the money being spent on textbooks. Once finished her nursing degree, Belle hopes to proceed with a Bachelor of Medicine/Surgery.

QUT Vice Chancellor’s Elite Athlete Scholarship Recipient Fern Doyle

Fern Doyle, 2011 Dux, is the recipient of one of QUT’s elite athlete scholarships. Awarded to only 10 undergraduate students annually, these scholarships are highly contested. Fern was assessed on academic merit, leadership qualities, community service, extra-curricular activities and her referee’s reports. The scholarship will not only provide Fern with monetary assistance but provide her with an accelerated program of study, early access to research opportunities, the ability to represent QUT through the Student Ambassador Program and represent the State in national sporting competitions or Australia in international sporting competitions. Fern will also be granted membership of the QUT College of Excellence. We congratulate Fern on this outstanding achievement and wish her well in her future studies.
Chairman’s Review — Rob Schoenmaker, NBCSA Chairman

We are thankful to God that He continues to bless us richly and that 2011 was another successful year for Genesis Christian College. In particular we are thankful for having reached a significant milestone, being our 20th year as a Christian College! God has blessed us richly over this time and we look forward to His promises again in the next 20 years.

Despite the difficult economic climate, Genesis has continued to grow and also expand its future school capacity to cope with ongoing strong demand across most year levels. Our student enrolment continued to grow during 2011 with our numbers being around 1,200 all year. This is a great blessing but also a great responsibility.

Farewell Class of 2011: With our Year 12 students graduated during 2011, I have had the pleasure of attending a number of their functions and am extremely proud of this Year 12 cohort... We congratulate all the graduating students and pray God’s richest blessing upon them.

Property News: Towards the end of 2011 we completed our new two storey Primary School extension which includes six new classrooms, a toilet block, change facilities and Primary office areas. During the year we also laid a large concrete slab as the base for our new ball court facility. During 2012 we plan to construct roofing over these courts plus build our new swimming pools in a wonderful new facility next to the ball courts. We have also completed plans for the extension to our new Primary facility with work due to commence in January 2012. On behalf of the Board, I trust that everyone associated with Genesis had a memorable 2011 and we look forward to a blessed 2012.

Genesis Spring Festival

The Genesis Spring Festival 20 year celebrations will be a day we remember forever! Our parents, supporting businesses and community representatives rallied to our side.

...The Main Stage showcased entertainment all day, including performances from every primary class. Fabulous food selections filled our campus. The international cuisine was exceptional and the well-known favourites sold out. Children were stunned by the Ekka-like rides.

...Some highlights included: the specially designated Little Genesis area, the Bootcamp challenge, the ice in the Dunk-A-Teacher tank, the Year 7 coordinated Spooky House, the walk down memory lane at our Heritage display, the children’s Art Gallery and the Heavenly Cupcakes.

...The success of the Festival is indebted to many months of work, together with the mammoth efforts of setting up and pulling down, coordinating and serving all day!

...Our Festival was blessed with God’s grace and a community spirit that was palpable so as to carry us well and truly to October 2013 – the next Genesis Spring Festival!

Tanya Baxter, Spring Festival Convenor
Find old friends and new on the Genesis Alumni Facebook Group.

This group has been set up specifically for Genesis Christian College Alumni. We are continually trying to improve and sustain contact with our Alumni and have found many of you would like us to bridge the generation gap and use the internet.

It will allow us to be able to give you up to date information and inform you about upcoming events. This will also give you the opportunity to maintain contact with Genesis Christian College, informing us of important milestones or changes of address. This group will allow you to stay in contact with your peers long after you have left school.

Find us at: