Past Students & Alumni Association Newsletter

New Principal for GCC

Yes, GCC has a new Principal! Resigning after 11 years at Genesis Christian College, Mrs Lynne Doneley completed her Principalship in Dec 2006 to become the new Executive Director of Christian Schools Australia (Qld).

The new Principal, Mr Brian Barker took over the reigns in June 2007. Previously the Principal of Suncoast Christian College, and Deputy Principal of Westside Christian College, Mr Barker is looking forward to guiding GCC into its 2nd decade of success.

Brian has had a lot of new faces to get to know and has immersed himself in the culture and community of GCC quickly.

Brian’s sense of humour and enjoyment of a good laugh, Coca-cola, and sports, combined with his fair but affirmative discipline, is making him a Principal of outstanding quality to his GCC students.

Brian has already made a “clean” sweep of the school in regards to a rubbish-free environment around campus.

Although Brian has spent the early part of his new role getting to know the staff, students, policies, procedures and history of the College, he has a keen sense of where the College is heading. Past students will be interested to know Brian has his eye on “reforming” the school’s uniforms to become more practical, culturally acceptable and just more comfortable! Brian will continue to develop GCC’s exceptional community. For the opportunity to meet the new Principal, Brian will be available on the evening of the 30th Nov, 2007.

New Look GCC and Web Site Launch

With the “Under New Management” shingle hanging on the door, GCC is about to embark on a fresher more contemporary look to launch us into our 20th Year of operation.

The redevelopment of the Branding of GCC will include a more functional and informative web site. Currently being developed by our ICT manager Mr Peter Pryce-Davies, Peter has had many years of experience in school web site development.

The new site hopes to offer more availability to Past Students and Alumni in the form of message boards, news and links to other Past Students through their MySpace, Facebook or Blog sites. So checkout www.genesis.qld.edu around the end of the year!
New Library Opened for Business

GCC’s new Library was officially opened on the 25th May 2007 by the Hon Peter Dutton MP Federal Member for Dickson and Linda Lavarch MP State Member for Kurwongbah. Students and staff have been enjoying the new facilities immensely in particular those library staff who have been associated with the Library of Genesis for over ten years like Mrs Alanna Weeks, and who have physically moved the library from church to demountable to classroom to classroom on more than several occasions. The Library consists of Junior & Senior reading sections, 2 fully equipped computer labs, High school study facilities, Junior outside reading corner and multifunction library assembly area.

The library’s richly appointed black leather lounges and bright modern colours make it a pleasure to study in or a welcome retreat for lunch time reading.

“GCC 2007 students enjoy the newly opened Library facilities”

New Stage of Development for GCC—Administration & Child Care Centre

For many past students of GCC, visiting the College’s Admin office meant finding the Administration staff and College Reception in the church, Utility rooms or demountables over the years. For those Administration staff who have been around a decade or so the thought of a new Administration building seems something of a pipe dream during the construction years at Genesis.

Stage 13, commencing 2008, will see one of the biggest building projects undertaken at GCC.

The new Administration building will be a double story facility reflecting the modern architecture of the new Library, will house Administration staff, the Principal, Heads of Schools, Sick bay, Staff conference and function rooms, purpose-built Tuckshop and Student lunch areas and separate Receptions for Parents and Students. Construction should be completed by the end of 2008 with the Admin staff moving in to the new facilities in late 2008.

If one building wasn’t enough, GCC will also be building and developing a new Child Care centre on site to be completed and ready for operation in July, 2008. The centre will cater for babies from six weeks to Kindergarten and staffed by committed Christian child care facilitators.

The refurbished house used as the current facilities for Outside school hours & Vacation care will be removed and the land redeveloped for the Child Care facilities.

Bookings for the centre will be anticipated to be available from early 2008.

Any past student interested in applying for positions at the centre should request a Staff Application form from the College and forward completed form and resume to: The Childcare Director Genesis Christian College PO Box 5206, Brendale Qld 4500.

GCC Student Top OP School in Brisbane for 2006

Genesis has been enjoying the success that comes from having the Top OP Scoring students for 2006. The adjacent pages show the Queensland Studies Authority report table for GCC graduates of 2006. Valedictorian James Weeks gave an excellent and moving speech at the Valedictory service which was published in the Northern Times the following week.
In a moving speech on Friday 17th November, Valedictorian James Weeks farewelled the Graduating Class of 2006. They were dismissed for the last time by form teacher Mr Jeremy Cash. James, a student at Genesis since Preschool made a heart-warming summary of his school life at Genesis Christian College and what his school has meant to him personally and for all the other Graduates of the Class of 2006. The Graduating class participated a Candle lighting ceremony with the Principal Mrs Lynne Doneley who presented them with the symbol of the College motto “Your Word is My Light” and a personal Bible for each graduate. The whole school turned out lining the pathways of the College in a Guard of Honour to say goodbye to the Year 12's.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Parents, Teachers and Students,

Before I start I would like to thank Assistant Principal Mr Kirby and Mr Doneley and my class for giving me the honour of being the 2006 Valedictorian. It means so much to me that this duty has been charged to me. I thank you.

We made it. Where to from here? 2006 hands down is the finest, most memorable year of my entire life.

It has been the year of new highs for myself and my classmates. Despite a killer assignment for exams the year has been one of the most enjoyable and exciting years we have been through.

It seems like it was just yesterday my mum was copping me off for my lateness to school. As I clutched her leg for dear life I had no idea what was ahead of me or the journey that awaited me.

The next twelve years would be the ones that would determine who I would be when I grew up and left school. Back then it seemed like an eternity away but now it seems like a single year rushed by.

I am truly blessed this school with the amazing teachers who call Genesis home. I thank God for each and every one of my teachers. I am not sure you know the full extent of how important the role of teachers are in students lives.

I say this with full honesty, the lessons I have learned here will always be a part of me and shaped the person you see before you. With that, congratulations, you've done a fantastic job.

Although we give our teachers grief sometimes, some more than others, we really do love you guys and have the utmost respect for you.

I don't believe in chance. I believe that God put you all here for a reason. Likewise for the students. It is not just by chance that you guys chose to come here, but for a purpose. While some people know very well why they are here, others may take years to grasp this concept.

For some if they leave school they will look back and know the precious years they spent at this school. For others, we haven't yet discovered for ourselves and that's another great reason why I love this school so much. Because of the amazing people and atmosphere, it makes it so much easier for us to discover and identify our gifts and talents.

So for you younger grades, I urge you, if you are unsure of what our strengths are, make sure you take the time to look hard and pray while you are still at school. Believe me it makes it a lot easier.

I could spend all day talking about how great the place is, but to grade seveners already know it. It is so true that the best memories you have are of when you are young. And for me, I vividly remember all these are of when I was at school.

What a journey it has been. Due to the fact that I've been here for my entire life gives me the privilege to have watched you all grow and mature into amazing young men and women.

Thank you all so much for the amazing times you have given me.

To Mr Kirby, Mrs Doneley, Teachers and Parents, but most of all for my classmates,

Thank you for your time, thank you for the lessons, thank you for the friendships and the good times... but above all, thank you for the memories.

Genesis Christian College Year 12 School Performance Report 2006
Children of Past Students given Priority of Order

The 2007 Enrolment Policy for student priority of enrolment now provides a ranking of high priority of children of Past & Alumni students of Genesis Christian College.

As demand for positions at the College increases, the new policy will allow the next generations of GCC students experience the Christian environment, facilities and academic programs enjoyed by their parents.

All policies in regards to suitability of enrolment apply and new parents are encouraged to make an application for enrolment as soon as possible after the birth of each child to give best opportunity for enrolment.

For Prep Year entry the table below indicates the Year of enrolment suitability.

For a copy of the current GCC Prospectus and Enrolment forms please contact the Enrolments Registrar Lynn Swanson on 3882 900 or email registrar@genesis.

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<th>Children born Jan 1—Jun 30 in the Year</th>
<th>Prep Year of Enrolment</th>
<th>Children born July 1—Dec 31 in the Year</th>
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GCC Staff Farewells

GCC farewells Mr Mike Curtis, Assistant Principal and Head of Secondary School. Mike commenced at GCC the year of graduation for the Class of 2003 giving the College its first Assistant Principal. Mike leaves GCC to become the new Principal of Glasshouse Country Christian College.

Alumni Milestones in 2007
Births, Deaths, Marriages and Graduations

Birth Congratulations to:
Nil notified

Marriage Congratulations to:
Nil notified

Engagement Congratulations to:
Anthony Muhling (class of 04) & Jessica Patterson (class of 04)

2007 University Graduations Congratulations to:
Ellen Holt (class of 03) - Bachelor of Education Early Childhood QUT
Jessica Patterson (class of 04) - Bachelor of Nursing ACU
Katelyn Ryan (class of 04) - Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology) QUT
Adam Schoenmaker (class of 04) - Bachelor of Business (Accountancy) - QUT

To notify the College of your Milestone please email: registrar@genesis.qld.edu.au