



"Blackboard" GCS Newsletter

Term 4 Week 3

What's happening in term 4?

November

- 1 - Kindy Orientation Day
- 2 - Swimming Block Commences
- 3 - Prep - Year 6 Orientation Day
- 14 - Swimming Block Finishes
- 16 - Swimming Carnival
- 22 - Year 6 Graduation Dinner
- 30 - Awards Night
- 30 - Last Day Term 4

Term 4

The last couple of weeks have been a terrific but busy start to the last term of this year.

In a world with too much negativity, there have been many times in the last few weeks when there have been great comments of praise and encouragement for our school.

Mrs Lynne Doneley (State Executive Officer for CEN Queensland) visited our school recently for our school accreditation review. Lynne has visited the school a number of times over the years. During Lynne's last visit, she commented on the tremendous growth and improvements that have taken place in our school over that last few years.

Mrs Michelle Dempsey (CEO of CEN) visited last week and presented "Nurturing Faith in our Kids" at the Parent Association General Meeting. Michelle also commented positively about the school's outstanding facilities, as well as the strong culture of Christian Education. In particular, Michelle was impressed by our staff bible study, (which links to the class bible reading program each week) and the excellent standard of the Treasurer's Report at the Parent Association meeting.

This is the time of year when many parents visit our school to see if they will enrol their children in our school. I enjoy these tours and interviews as I have the opportunity to share the Christian culture of our school, with prospective parents. During many of these visits, parents comment positively on 2 main things; the wonderful facilities of our school, and the positive of tone of students in their classrooms.

Enrolment numbers are looking positive for 2018, but please continue to spread the good word about our school with families interested in a Christian Education for their children.



Phone 07 4634 0113



www.gcs.qld.edu.au



admin@gcs.qld.edu.au

Earn & Learn Stickers

GCS earned 6000 points, which will be used to order additional books for our take home reading library.

Prep Class News

In Science this term we are learning about how things grow and what we need to stay alive. As part of this unit we are conducting an experiment with some bean seeds so we can see firsthand whether plants need water; sun; space and certain soil types to grow.



Driveway Efficiency

There are days when the driveway pick-up runs like a dream, but yet on other days, it grinds to a halt. Usually the hold ups are caused by the following big No-Nos:

- Parents leaving cars parked in driveway, or leaving their driver's seat
- Cars not advancing forward, which holds up everyone behind them

These examples cause great frustration for parents who are waiting behind in the queue.

Ready for School

As children arrive at school, the best thing parents can do, is to have our children ready and in the right frame of mind for positive learning. Over the years as a teacher, I have observed many, many times a student entering class "not ready" for positive learning. This can be a result of a rushed morning, something threw the normal routine out (like a car problem), or just arriving late.

I know that every parent in our school wants the best for their children in their learning. Please be encouraged that the effort you make to have your children at school, **on time** and **ready for positive learning**, is appreciated.

WHERE DID 'NO' GO?

It's such a little word. One of the first words a child learns. Why? Because it is used constantly by parents to protect, to direct, to create safe boundaries and to train the child in the tenants of their culture. It is not always accepted happily but should be applied consistently and lovingly in the effort to prepare the child for a healthy life; to become an individual who can self moderate and contribute positively to others and the society around them.

The boundaries created by NO do not have to be repressive. In fact, everyone feels safer with them. NO drinking and driving, NO overtaking, NO smoking, NO trespassing, NO domestic violence, NO nuclear arms. Boundaries are important. Would you rather cross a bridge with or without railings? Would you rather learn to swim in a pool or dropped in the ocean far from land?

We seem to be living in a world that is very hypocritical. On one hand we have a ever-increasing list of things that we are not to do spruiked for the safety of ourselves and others but on the other hand we are told that the rights of the individual are paramount – that NO cannot be applied to prevent anyone from doing anything that feels right to them.

We see the results of the absence of the training of NO regularly in our shopping centre aisles, classrooms, roads, ever burgeoning courts and hospitals.

If we all lived on our own little islands, everyone's right to do what they think is right would not harm anyone – we could do as we please - unless we then had children to share it. To live in society, we cannot all demand to have the right to do as we please. To leave a safe and secure society for the next generation, we need to have a set of boundaries not just for our society and the world but also for the mental and physical health of the individual.

NO is not a dirty word.

Sue O'Keefe