

Pacific Brook Christian School

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Pacific Brook Christian School

Newsletter Friday 7th December 2018

Upcoming Events:

Monday 10th December

10:00am Presentation Day and Performance of "The Giant Slayer."

Tuesday 11th December

12pm to 2pm Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 12th December

End of Year Excursion

Thursday 13th December

Last Day of the School Year

Wednesday 30th January

First Day Term One 2019

Today in Devotions we learnt about Christmas. Christmas is a time of holidays, candy and presents, but it is more than that. In fact, the very first Christmas saw the greatest present ever! God gave his Son to the people of Earth. He gave us his Son as a rescue plan, so that all people could know God.

The students also made cards. We will be visiting Calvary Retirement Home next week and the students will give the cards they have made to the residents there.

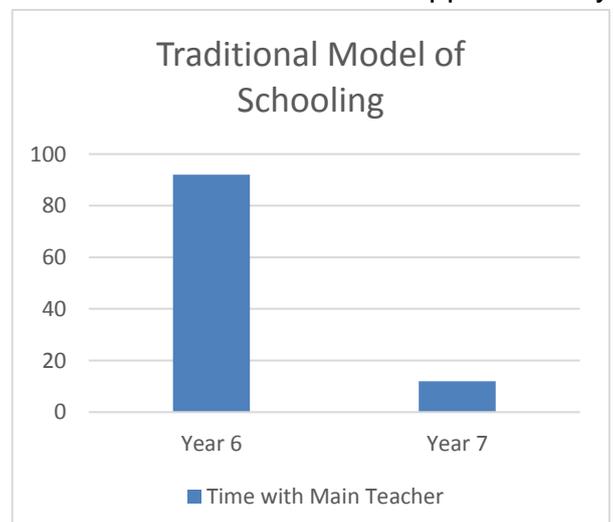
Middle School Information Session

On Thursday night Dr Boyce, the Executive Principal of the Pacific Group of Schools, visited the school to talk about Middle School.

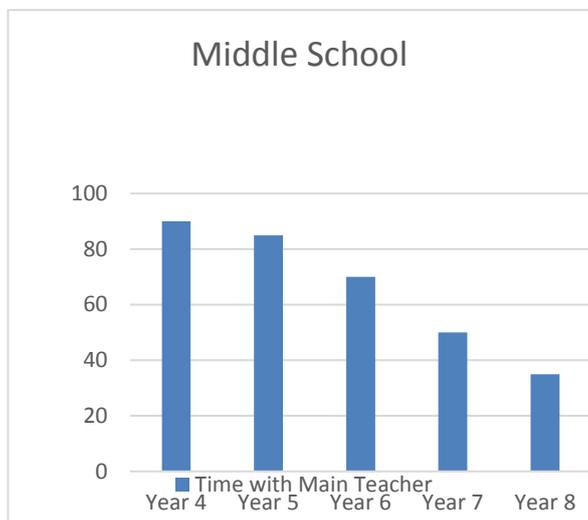
In 2020 Pacific Brook Christian School will begin Middle School, with the first Year 7 class starting in this year, and Year 8 will start the following year.

A lot of research has shown that children aged 10 to 14 years learn significantly differently to younger children, and also differently to students who are older. The middle school system has been researched, developed, changed and assessed over a long period of time. Research from various places, including Victoria, Queensland, New Zealand and Canada has been used in the development of the middle school concept and practice.

In the traditional model of schooling there is a big change from Year 6 to Year 7. Most Year 6 children have one teacher for approximately 90% of the time, and then in Year 7 they have a multitude of teachers. This means that students go from having one important authority and pastoral figure in their lives at school, to having a large number of teachers, but with no one teacher taking on that important pastoral role for the students.



Middle School aims to meet the needs of the children and students in this age range, to better provide for the social and academic needs, and still being connected to the other sections of the school community. Once Middle School begins Year 5 students will spend 85% of their time with one



main teacher, and the remainder of the time with specialist teachers, such as for science. Over Year 6, 7 and 8 the amount of time students have with their main teacher will gradually decrease over the course of 4 years, rather than the sudden decrease that students experience now as they move from Year 6 to Year 7.

The focus is on keeping the relationship with the student throughout the often tumultuous 10-14 year old period.

Dr Boyce answered a variety of questions. We are in the process of looking into a new site for the school. The school is looking for a large parcel of land that will be able to have an agricultural program in the future.

We also discussed serving – we will be looking at the Middle School as well as the Junior School to be serving. A child who serves is one who is caring and considerate.

There are middle schools in the Pacific Group of schools and we can draw from their experiences.

Our schools are not an institution and not separated into sections with primary, middle and senior schools.

If you would like further details about Middle School, please contact the school.

Presentation Day

The School Presentation day is on Monday the 10th of December. The Presentation Day will be held at Brookside Baptist Church, on Sydney St.

During the Presentation Day, students will perform The Giant Slayer Musical. Awards will also be presented acknowledging student achievements through this year.

The Presentation Day will begin at 10:00am, but all students will need to be at the church by 9:30am, so that they can get ready for their performance. Students do not need to be at school prior to the Presentation Day. Students should wear their full school uniform, and they will change back into their uniform at the end of the production.

The Presentation Day will conclude at approximately 1pm. All children can go home with their families at the end of Presentation Day. If you are unable to take your child home after Presentation Day, please let us know as soon as possible.

Morning Tea will be provided.

Library

All outstanding library books should be returned to school. Students will be able to borrow again in the new year.

Uniform Shop

Pacific Brook Christian School Uniform shop will be open from 9am-4pm on Friday, 25th and Tuesday, 29th of January for all your uniform needs. If you are not able to get into school on either of those days, please email Jess Dugan at jdugan@pacificbrook.nsw.edu.au to arrange an alternative time.

PAL News

This week was the final week of the PAL program. It has been a great first year of the program and we have been blessed by the 16 wonderful students that have joined us over the course of the semester. To celebrate the students graduating from the program, this parents joined them for a teddy bear picnic and graduation ceremony. We look forward to welcoming many of our PAL kids into Kindergarten next year.



Disco

Tonight was the night of the annual school disco. Many students and families came and had a great time of dancing, fun and pizza. It was great seeing the students perform their moves, including the floss! We also has a special graduation ceremony for our Year 6 students.

Thank you to everyone who helped organise and run this wonderful event.



Swimming Carnival

On Tuesday 11th December at about 11:30am we will catch the bus to Muswellbrook Pool, for our Swimming Carnival. The Carnival will run from 12pm to 2pm, and will be held in the outdoor pools. Students will be able to take part in a number of races and water events.

We will be travelling back to school at 2:30, and arrive at school before 2:50pm.

End of Year Excursion

On Wednesday 12th December students will have an excursion.

In the morning we will travel to Calvary Retirement Home. The students will give cards they have made to the residents, and wishing them happy holidays.

At 10:00am we will then travel to Simpson Park for recess, and then we will go to the Art Gallery. Students will look at the displays, including the photography display showing the work of the Primary students. The students will take part in an "Art Treasure Hunt" at the gallery as well.

There is no cost for this excursion.

Last Day of School

Thursday 13th of December is the last day of the school year for the students. Students will be at school on this day, and will receive their end of year reports and portfolios.

Students can wear casual clothes on this day. At the end of the day we will have water games for any students that want to join in. Students can bring water pistols, but not water balloons, as they can take a long time to pick up from the school grounds.

At 2:50pm, the summer holidays will begin!

Term Dates 2019

These are the term dates for next year:

Term One	30 th January to 12 th April
Term Two	30 th April to 5 th July
Term Three	29 th July to 27 th September
Term Four	15 th October to 5 th December

Merit Certificates

Infants

Grace	Remarkable work doing a very tricky Maths jigsaw puzzle.
Kenzie	Fabulous home reading.
Lucas	Remarkable work doing a very tricky Maths jigsaw puzzle.
Isabella	Improvement in sentence writing.
Liliaana	Fabulous singing during the musical dress rehearsal.
Olivia	Fantastic work during the musical dress rehearsal.

Primary

Declan	Fabulous singing during the musical dress rehearsal, great drawing at the National Gallery of Australia
Tekoa	A fabulous report on James and the Giant Peach
W	Being a terrific Sergeant at Arms at Parliament House
Bella	Being a wonderful Prime Minister at Parliament House
Ethan	His great knowledge of how parliament works
Orlando	Great display of skills at Flip Out
Rory	Fantastic work during the musical dress rehearsal.
Mitchell	His bravery in rock climbing in Canberra

Please do not bring egg, nut or seafood products into Pacific Brook Christian School



Anaphylaxis is a potentially life threatening condition where sufferers are susceptible to severe allergic reaction to certain foods and other things in the environment. Since the safety of the children in our care is of the utmost importance, Pacific Brook Christian School aims to be an egg, nut and seafood free school. As such, please do not send any foods to school containing these items. Please see the website for more information about alternatives to popular foods and recipes.

Thank you for your assistance in helping keep all our students healthy and safe.