Principal's Message

Wanting the best for our children

I have met enough parents over time to draw the conclusion that, while this is a shared desire, there remains uncertainty and, at times, confusion about what is best. Most of us, based on our own perceptions from our childhood, approach the task from very different perspectives.

A common source of difference occurs over how to best discipline. I have met a few parents who believe, regardless of what’s done, it will all work out in the end. Many more realise that this approach while less stressful, is simplistic and not realistic.

Our college believes that children are a gift from God and so we are accountable to Him for the way we love them. A clear demonstration of our love for them is evidenced by the way we spend time with them and the way we train them. Our God’s purpose for discipline is that it is training for right living.

We also believe that the education of a child is the primary responsibility of parents, with schools assisting in ways that families are unable to. We consider that education in schools must involve a partnership with the home. Hence in our enrolment contract we have a clear expectation of parents / carers to keep being involved. May I also encourage you in your endeavours to help learning by asking questions of your child and by modelling learning behaviours.

Since the earliest times effective education has been a shared parent / community (including extended family) experience. My wife and I have learned that remaining connected to communities that really care for you and your child makes a huge difference to everyone’s welfare and success. Christian communities like your local church and our College provide support that other places do not. Caring communities share in the successes and struggles. They make a long term difference to success.

Your community of staff pray for you and your children. We seek God’s wisdom and learn from others He has placed around us, for the purposes of helping you to prepare your child for the next stage of life. This is one key distinctive of Christian colleges.

Research repeatedly shows a quality school strives for academic excellence, provides quality sporting and cultural opportunities and builds a sense of community. We remain committed to becoming an even better school than we are now. We are pleased you have chosen to trust us and work with us. We are encouraged when you invite others to join us. We are excited about the opportunities ahead.

Our commitment to you - qualities that I believe set us apart from other school systems - is as follows:

- We will continue to be a College where our love for God and hence our love for you and your children is the motivation for all we do.
- We will continue to develop partnerships with you and provide you opportunities to be involved.
- We will continue to celebrate successes and seek to correct weaknesses.
- We will continue to focus on training young people and prepare them for the next stage of life.
- We will be guided by God’s directions. In response to the question what is the greatest commandment, Jesus said, as recorded by Mark:
  “The most important one says: ‘You have only one Lord and God. You must love him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.’ The second most important commandment says: ‘Love others as much as you love yourself.’ No other commandment is more important than these.”

May I encourage you to keep working together with us to help your children experience the joy of living out these words.

Mr. Norton Sands
Principal

Some Prayer Points

- Please pray for the children in the Hostels in Orissa that we support – for their health and education. Give thanks for their carers.
- Pray that we would together, parents and educators, raise young people of strong Christian character.

Diary Dates:

1 Mar - Yr 3-6 Swimming Lessons
2 Mar - Open Day
2 Mar - FIA Tuckshop Day
8 Mar - Yr 3-6 Swimming Lessons
14 Mar - Reading Fair (K-6)
15 Mar - Yr 3-6 Swimming Lessons
16 Mar - Yr 5 & 6 Excursion
18 Mar - Photo Day
22 Mar - Yr 3-6 Swimming Lessons
23 Mar - Cross Country Carnival
24 Mar - Last day of Term 1
25/3-10/4 - School Holidays
11 Apr - Term 2 Commences

Keep your eye out for more...
Open Day

Wednesday 2nd March, 8:30-10:30am. All welcome to attend. Taking enrolments for Kindy, Prep and Year 7 for 2017 and 2018.

Complimentary Coffee

Complimentary Coffee will be available on Wednesday 2nd March from 8am to 9am courtesy of the Bank of Queensland Redbank Plains.

Come early for the Open Day and enjoy a coffee. Bring your friends for the Open Day, meet staff and tour the College. Applications for enrolment accepted on the day.

The friendly staff at the Bank of Queensland will be serving coffee free of charge.

Advertising

We’re always looking for advertising avenues to promote our College. Would your place of work be open to putting our Business cards out on display? Or if you live on a main road, would you be willing to put a core flute sign (like the real estate signs) up against your front fence? Or you might attend play group or craft group that would put a poster up on display for us.

If so, please contact Christine in the College Administration 3814 8600.

Working Bee

Saturday 19th March

The first Working Bee for 2016 will be on Saturday morning the 19th March, 7:30-10am. All help is appreciated and morning tea is provided.

Please bring appropriate outdoor clothing, garden forks, shovels and wheelbarrows, hats and sunscreen.

Please RSVP to the College Administration if you are able to attend.

Uniform Shop—2016

Regular hours for the Uniform Shop during term time are:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8am to 9am

House Shirts are available for purchase at the Uniform shop. $30 each. Purchase now and be ready for the sports carnivals coming up this year.

If you can’t make it during opening hours please feel free to place a phone order through the College Administration. Payment by Credit card is required at time of order.

School Banking

School Banking is collected on Friday mornings. Join in the fun by opening an account at the Commonwealth Bank. Forms are available from Mrs Thomas or Reception.

SMC News

Have you found the new Facebook Group called ‘SMC News’. We encourage you to join the group as another way to keep in touch with what is happening around the College.

Link: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1281638631862643/

‘Staines MC’ Facebook Page

Check out our Facebook page. There’s lots of photos and information to like.

Photo Day

School Photo Day is Friday 18th March. Envelopes for purchase of photos will be handed to each student this week. ‘Sibling’ envelopes are available from Reception. See more about Photo Day on Page 5.

Volunteer Induction

We have a great bunch of parents and guardians who volunteer at our College on a regular basis. If you would like to join our Volunteer team please come along to a Volunteer Induction session. This will be facilitated by our Principal, Mr Norton Sands. The next session will be held on Thursday 3rd March from 9am—10am. Please RSVP to the College administration by Wednesday 2nd March.

(Ph 3814 8600)

‘No Apologies’ - Parent Session: 3 March 6pm

We are privileged to have Brett Ryan, a leader in delivering parent and student sessions on Health Education, running sessions in our College on the 3rd & 4th of March. On Thursday 3rd March 2016 from 6pm to 7pm Brett will be running an information night for parents of students in Years 7-12. This will be held in SLC 3.10 (new drama room). Parents of younger students are more than welcome to also attend. He will cover topics such as:

- Growing wise, resilient and successful kids
- Dealing with alcohol, drugs and sexuality
- Conflict resolution
- Discipline and boundaries

The ‘No Apologies’ Program is a character-based sexual health program and was created to help young people safely navigate the most critical decade of their lives - those years between the ages of 12 and 22.

This session will end with a chance for you to ask any questions you may have. This will be a very informative and worthwhile evening. We encourage you to attend.

Kindergarten

The second Kindy room is now open, taking further enrolments for the Monday / Tuesday / alternating Wednesday group. All other places full.
Alumni – Where are they now?

Jemima Gorrie

Graduated: 2015
OP: 8
What I will be doing in 2016: Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) at USQ

Immunisation Program

Year 7 & 8 students have been handed Immunisation Consent forms. Please return them to Reception or your Pastoral Care Teacher as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

Faith in Action News

“People who practically want to make a difference”

Tuckshop Day

If you ordered Tuckshop it will be delivered on Wednesday at first break. Thank you to all who ordered!

Chaplain’s Spot

God’s Extravagant Love

Hello everyone, I was reading my daily devotion and thought I’d share it with you; Scripture says, “All these blessings shall come on you, and overtake you, if you shall hearken to the voice of the Lord your God.” (Deut 28:2)

This is the time for us to raise our expectations of what God will provide for us. Not only trust Him to clothe and feed us but come to realise that Jesus told us in Mathew 6 that we would be clothed better than the great King Solomon. God wants to do more than just meet our basic needs; He wants to bless us abundantly.

God is a loving Father and He said in Timothy 6:17, He gives us richly all things to enjoy. He gets great pleasure in blessing His children so we can be a blessing to others.

Start to truly believe His goodness and hearken to His voice, his Word, and it won’t be long before His blessing will be overtaking you.

Have a great fortnight!

- Mrs Jackson

Behaviour and Organisational Emails

This year we have made a slight change to the way we include you as parent/carers into our Behaviour Development process. This year when a student from P-12 receives a blue, orange or red card an automatic email will be emailed to you letting you know what the student received the card for. This means you know what has occurred during the day, and, secondly gives you an opportunity to talk to the student about the incident to reinforce the appropriate behaviour or fix the organisation or uniform issue.

If you have any questions regarding the issued card, feel free to respond to the email with attention to the issuing teacher. (The name of the issuing teacher will be at the bottom of the attached letter.) The teachers will respond as they are able to. Please remember cards are not given out lightly and are only ever given for specific reasons that are not in alignment with College policies.

As a reminder of what cards can be given for
- Blue card – Incorrect uniform or lack of organisation
- Orange card – Inappropriate behaviours
- Red card – Serious inappropriate behaviours

Thank you to all the parents who have responded very positively to this new system. We pray that it will enable us to work together to improve student learning outcomes.

Kindy Chickens

Chickens from Kindy are ready to go home. See Mrs Petersen in the Kindy if you would like to take a chicken home.

(Limited to 2 chickens per family. No guarantee on roosters or hens).
Art Competitions

There are two school-wide Art Competitions running. Prizes for a range of categories. Competitions close Week 1 of Term 2.

**Photography Competition**

**Theme: Shadow Play**

Competition closes week one of Term 2
Please deliver to Mrs McClelland

**Water in a Dry Place**

Art Competition

Create your drawing, painting, sculpture or photograph before next term

Day One, term 2

2P

2P have had lots of fun learning their high frequency words this term. They have used shaving cream, word searches and other fun activities to help them remember how to spell and say their words.

**Year 12’s reading to Prep’s**

Every second Friday afternoon, the Year 12 students visit and read to the Prep students.
Photo Day—18th March

The photography company we are using this year is Queensland School Photography. Photo Day is FRIDAY 18th MARCH. Envelopes for orders will be given to students this week and are to be returned to the photographer on Photo Day.

If you would like sibling photos, envelopes can be collected from Reception. Sibling photos will be taken on photo day at the Resource Centre from 7:15am until 8:30am. Kindy children will have group photos later in the year, but are permitted to be involved in sibling photos if desired.

Students are to wear their complete formal uniform for photos. As most students normally wear their sports uniforms on a Friday, students will be permitted to change into their sports uniform after photos have been taken.

For photos: Prep—SMC sports uniform. Years 1-12, Formal Uniform. Boys in Years 10-12 must also wear their tie. (Students in Years 7-12 will only be having an ID photo taken—see envelope for more details.)

Follow these steps to order:

1. Complete student details on the order envelope—one envelope per student.
2. You may pay by cash, cheque and credit card, or online order. If you have two or more children attending you may include the payment in one envelope. Please note clearly on the outside of all envelopes that you have paid in one envelope. (Do not seal envelopes inside each other.)
3. Online Orders - visit www.qldschoolphotography.com.au to order. Reference number must be recorded on the envelope and handed to the photographers.
4. Cheques are to be made payable to Queensland School Photography Pty Ltd with your name, address and phone number written on the back.
5. Tick the box for the package required.
6. Enclose the correct payment (change not given). (Please also don’t ask the administration for change.)
7. Each student is to hand their individual envelope to the photographer on photo day.
8. Parents wanting to have their children photographed together, please collect a sibling envelope from Reception and bring the completed envelope along with your children to the Resource Centre from 7:15 -8:30am on photo day. Please note if you are ordering sibling photos online, online orders for sibling photos close at 4pm on 17th March. Alternatively, hand the envelope to the photographer on the morning.

If for any reason you are not satisfied with the photos taken of your child, Queensland School Photography will provide a full refund.

Queensland School Photography will accept late orders for individual and group photographs, a late fee to cover postage and handling will apply.

If you have any questions, or wish to place a late group order, please feel free to contact Queensland School Photography customer service department on 3216 6777.

Kind regards,

Queensland School Photography Pty Ltd
Yr 10-11 Work Experience

A reminder to Year 10 and 11 students that their work experience forms are due to Mrs Bray by 11th March.

Thank you those students who have already returned theirs.

What is a Tax File Number (TFN) and why do students need one?

A TFN is a unique number issued by the Australian Tax Office. It is used for purposes such as:

- Starting work (including part-time jobs)
- Lodging a tax return
- Applying for Commonwealth Government financial assistance such as pensions and other benefits.

Applying for the Higher Education Loan Program - HELP (e.g. HECS, VET FEE-HELP, FEE-HELP) when you start your university, TAFE or college study.

The process to obtain a TFN consists of three steps:
1. Complete an online form
2. Print a summary of your application
3. Attend an interview to present your proof of identity documents within 30 days at a participating Australia Post office.

Visit the Australian Tax Office website at https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Tax-file-number/Apply-for-a-TFN/ for more information. Year 12 students intending to apply for tertiary study in 2017 should apply for their TFN this year to avoid a panic early next year. Students in Year 10 and 11 seeking casual work should also consider applying for a TFN.

Find your ideal job in the Australian Defence Force (ADF)

If you have an interest in joining the ADF but don’t have a clue where to start, you can use the Job Finder at http://www.defencejobs.gov.au/Job-Finder-Tool/#/. The Job Finder will suggest ADF jobs you might be interested in based on your responses to a series of questions.

Moogerah Passion Play

The Moogerah Passion Play is a dramatic account of the Passion of Christ (His life, death and resurrection). Performances take place in an open-air auditorium on the shores of beautiful Lake Moogerah, in South-East Queensland, Australia.

Dates: 19, 20, 25 & 26 March 2016
Time: 5pm (Gates open at 4pm)
Cost: Free! (Donations are welcome)
Location: Lake Theatre, 48 Living Water Road, Moogerah (Beside Lake Moogerah Caravan Park)
Bring: Rug or chair to sit on

Food and drink available for sale from 4pm.

For more information, visit the website (www.moogerahpassionplay.org.au) or Facebook.