A Wet Start to 2020!
Welcome to the first school week of the new decade and a decade to make a difference! This year our College focus will be on Feedback: Creating and Maintaining Positive Relationships. A strong sense of community and meaningful relationships are important aspects to our college ethos and to our faith as Christians. In these first few weeks and in the year to come I sincerely look forward to meeting you all.

As with every year there are a few things that we need to update you all with:

- **Coronavirus.** If you have travelled overseas and experience some of the symptoms described in the Queensland Health Fact Sheet, you should call the people on this contact list and remain home for 14 days. I would really appreciate if you also contacted the school and let us know how the results of any testing went.

- **Uniforms.** On the whole most people are wearing their uniform but there are a few aspects to this that need to be followed. All students should be wearing the correct hat. Sports shorts should not be worn with the formal uniform nor should our new bucket hat. Bucket hats can be worn on Fridays with the sports uniform or when we have special sports days. On days when students have HPE they may also wear the bucket hat (if wearing their sports uniform). We would also ask parents to monitor the length of skirts which should be knee length. Children can grow very quickly in a year or even in a semester. It is important that parents monitor this aspect of the uniform.

- **Shaving and long hair.** Students in the secondary school should not have facial hair. Please ensure that they regularly shave if needed. Long hair should be tied back if touching the collar and fringes should not be touching the eyebrow.

- **Carpark.** Thank you for being especially careful in the carpark. Our student population is slowly growing and we have reached over 630 (including kindy). This means that parents and P plate drivers need to be very careful at the beginning and end of the day. Only park in the designated parking spots and please do not park in the loading or ‘kiss and drop-off’ zones to wait for your child.

Last week we closed the office so that all our teachers could attend training by Dr Rod Thompson called ‘Bible in the Belly of the College”. Teachers learnt about a method of studying the Bible called **TG21.** It is essentially a way to study the text, take in the full breadth of the gospel and to then consider the life of Christ in our times and places by asking inquiry questions. We are looking forward to exploring this further in our own private study but to also apply this same method with our students. Knowing God’s Word and seeing the links between the Old and New Testaments is essential to see the full narrative of the life of Jesus and the fulfilment of the New Covenant.

Knowing scripture and the depth of the life of Jesus is a central part to who we are as a College. In 2 Timothy 3:16 – 17 we read: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. Our staff work with your children to develop their own personal understanding and depth of knowledge of the Bible in order that they have a personal relationship with Jesus. We pray that all our students will know God through the study of His Word too.

Our **deep hope** is that this year and this new decade will be a decade to make a change - a positive change of eternal and intergenerational significance.

Blessings

Andrew Jones
Welcome back to all of our continuing families and also to all of our new families for 2020. Our start to the year has been a lot smoother than last year thankfully, even with the rain that we have had in recent days. As in previous years, we have a number of new families in our College community, so please join me in making them feel welcome as we enter into our familiar routines of school.

Mr Phil Stark is our new Primary Defence Transition Aide and one of our College Chaplains. Our other Chaplain is Mrs Cath Millar and they both do a wonderful job of helping all of our students. You will regularly see them out and about before and after school, as well as during recess times, interacting with students and assisting them in all manner of ways. Please say hello to them and help them get to know you.

We have a number of new Primary staff this year with some existing staff on leave for 2020 for various reasons including study leave. Mrs Vane Luse is working in Kindy Group 2 now with Mrs Margaret Holloway in K2 Prep to replace Miss Jane Ballin. Miss Nyomi Eldridge is assisting in both Prep and Year 1 this year over and above our usual Teacher Aide staffing. Miss Katelyn Clegg is joining us in Year 1 to replace Mrs Harris moving to Year 2. Mrs Antonette Kruger is team teaching in Year 3 with Mrs Krys Davey, to replace Mrs Smith while she is on leave this year. Mrs Carol Brereton is teaching in Year 4 to replace Mrs Hartin and Mrs Nieminen in their move to Year 2. Miss Megan Kennedy is teaching in Year 6 replacing Miss Dunbar while she is on leave.

Swimming lessons this year are only for Years 1 - 4 and they will be in Term Four as usual. Students in Years 5 and 6 will have their swimming lessons next year.

Our Student Representative Council Training Night (Primary and Secondary) will be held on Tuesday 11th February. We will have 12 students from our Year 6 cohort attending – 4 council members and 8 Sporting House Captains. Miss Kennedy and Mr Frew (Year 6), and Mr Boyce (Primary HPE) assist our SRC students and House Captains to serve our College community. Information regarding this event will go home this week for those students and an email as well. The Induction Assembly for all SRC students and House Captains will be held on Friday the 14th of February in Pioneer Hall. Information will be sent home about this as well.

The ACC Chess Club is underway again already and is for both Primary and Secondary students. Chess Club meets in G12 (Secondary building downstairs) at First Break on Tuesdays Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.55am to 11.30am. Students should eat their lunch first and then go straight to G12. The Chess Club also meets on a Tuesday afternoon for chess lessons from 3:00pm until 4:00pm for those students who would like to participate in that. There will be a charge of $15.00 per term or $20.00 per family if more than one child. Interschool Chess will have Round One at Ignatius Park College on Wednesday 4th March (Week 6).

The Year 6 Canberra Camp will take place in Term Three from Sunday 9th August – Saturday 15th August. We will have our parent information evening on Tuesday 25th February in the Outside Hours Care building at 7pm. A letter regarding the information evening will be emailed to parents and a hard copy sent home with students regarding this evening. The Year 5 Camp at Virginia Park Station will be held from Wednesday 9th September to Friday 11th September and details went home today with students.

Parent Teacher Communication afternoons - PTC
These days will be in Week 6 (Wed 4th Mar) and Week 7 (Wed 11th and 12th Mar) of Term One. They will consist of 15 minute time slots for each interview and information will go home beforehand to show how to book an interview time online. It will be an opportunity for you to speak with your child’s teacher for an update on your child’s progress socially, emotionally and academically. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s progress prior to this date, you should make a time with your child’s teacher for one afternoon during the week.

College Photo Days
All staff and students will have their school photos taken in Week 6 over the Tuesday and Wednesday (3rd and 4th Mar). A timetable and other information will be sent out to families soon.

Rod Lane
Welcome to the 2020 school year. We’ve started the year with about 25 more students in Secondary than we had last year so there’s plenty of new faces around. I’m pleased to report that despite some disruption from the much welcomed rain, students are settling well back into the routines of classrooms and learning. You may have noticed that since my end-of-year letter in 2019, we are also starting the year with some new staff in Secondary. Mrs Miriam Lili has joined us as Year 7 teacher and Head of Arts. Mrs Lili is a very experienced teacher, especially in Christian Education, and is a current lecturer with the National Institute of Christian Education. She is joined by her husband Mr Sekove Lili who will be teaching junior Humanities and English. We also welcome four of their children into our student body. Mrs Elrentia Marais joins Mr Welsby in teaching some IT classes, allowing Mr Welsby to have some extra time for curriculum leadership as Head of Innovation and Design. Mrs Kim Waller joins our learning support team. Mrs Waller is an experienced Occupational Therapist, especially in the area of reading, and we are very blessed to have her working with our students. I trust that our great community will make all of them feel very at home and welcome.

Secondary Meet n Greet - Save the Date
Get out your pen and mark on your calendar Wednesday 26 February 5.00pm-7.00pm as the Secondary Meet n Greet being held on the upstairs G-block terrace. More information will come out closer to the time but make sure you take the opportunity come along and meet, over a few nibbles and soft drinks, in a more informal atmosphere with our Secondary Staff.

Uniform
Information about our uniform and dress code (with picture) can be found in the information sent home with reports and in the Secondary Student Diary (pages 2-3). However, I thought I would take this opportunity to clarify a couple of items:

- Bucket hats. The new bucket hat is to be worn ONLY with Sports/PE & House Uniforms. It is not allowed to be worn with the formal uniform. The College (formal) hat may be worn with both the formal and sports/house uniform, making the bucket hat an optional purchase.

- Culottes/ Skirts. It is great to see a number of girls in Secondary wearing the culottes, which is now an option with formal uniform. Please note though, that girls will still need to own at least one skirt which is to be worn for all official college photos and events. Just a reminder too that skirts are supposed to be knee-length. Now I realise that this can sometimes be hard to achieve for some girls due to the design and waist-to-length ratios but I would ask that parents make every effort to getting those skirts as close to knee length as possible.

- Shoes. Black leather (and vinyl) school shoes not only look smart with formal uniform, but also play an important part in ensuring we meet workplace health and safety regulations in practical classes. Canvas and mesh shoes, even if fully black, do not meet our uniform code for those reasons.

Communication with Teachers
If you have any questions or concerns, parents are encouraged to contact your child’s teacher in the first instance. There are a number of ways to do this such a phone call or a written note in the student diary. However, probably the most effective is an email. Teacher email addresses follow a common format: first initial and surname@acc.qld.edu.au. Eg. mschneider@acc.qld.edu.au

If you are unsure of your child’s teacher for a particular subject, go to their student timetable where all of their subject teachers are listed at the top. Our teachers regularly check emails and if your query cannot be answered quickly or easily, an appointment can be made.
Mobile Phones/devices and Cybersafety
Just a reminder that students are not allowed to have their mobile phones (or other mobile devices with connectivity) between 8.15am and 3.00pm. In Secondary the expectation is that their phones are secured for the school day in their lockers. Last year we upgraded our video camera network to cover all locker areas and we issue heavy-duty locks so that students confidently secure precious devices in their lockers. Students found with their device during the school day will have it confiscated and secured in the Secondary office before it can be collected at the end of the day after a suitable consequence. More details about our policy can be found on P.8 of the Student Diary.

In an effort to be proactive in equipping our young people in the safe use of digital technologies, on **Tuesday 18th February** we’ll be providing a cybersafety program through Digital Thumbprint. The Digital Thumbprint program is delivered as an interactive 60 minute workshop tailored to the needs of specific year levels for an entire cohort. The program teaches students the advantages of a positive online presence whilst arming them with the facts they need to stay safe online, in a way they can understand, use and enjoy. By using a fun, interactive and original approach to digital education, students learn how to be discerning internet users, responsible digital citizens and how to make the most of study and employment opportunities by taking control of their online lives. Thumbprint is an initiative from Optus’ Community Team focused on empowering the next generation to achieve their full potential. As such, this program is free of charge and will not promote the products or services of Optus.

Mal Schneider

SUPPORT FOR FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE

Free **Financial Counsellor funded for people affected by the flood**
To get support, ACC community members are encouraged to call the National Debt Helpline on 1800 007 007. When this number is called in Queensland, it will be sent through to one of forty financial counsellors from UCC. These counsellors are able to support people over the phone and provide advice. If a community member needs more support, the financial counsellors are able to book appointments for them in their local area.

Danielle Moss
Financial Counsellor
Phone: 4775 9145
Email: danielle.moss@uccommmunity.org.au

**F & F Meeting**
**DATE:** Monday 3rd February
**TIME:** 6.30pm
**PLACE:** OSHC Room
No Increase in Tuition Fees for 2020 😊

As part of our commitment to make Christian education affordable we have kept our 2020 tuition fees the same as the 2019 rate.

Although the full year’s tuition fees have been added to your account in January, you are not required to pay the full amount all at once unless you want to take up the option of the 10% Upfront Payment Discount. Your payment options remain exactly the same as last year ..... those options are :

- Full Amount Upfront paid by 7th February 2020 (to receive a 10% discount on the annual tuition fee portion - excludes subject levies)
- Quarterly / Term by Term (by the end of Week 2 of each term)
- Monthly
- Fortnightly
- Weekly

Please contact Lisa in the Finance Department to set up your preferred option.

SAVE THE DATE!

Secondary Meet n Greet

5.00PM - 7.00PM
UPPER G-BLOCK TERRACE

Come and meet the Secondary Team over some nibblies and soft drinks.
Hi everyone,

Welcome back to school!

Isn’t it great to be back and it’s a brand New Year where we can start anew in any area we want to. It may be too late to start again my friend, but it’s never too late to write a different end is one of my favourite sayings!

I was recently drawn back to a very thought provoking reflection I first read quite a few years ago when I was a young Mum myself and it’s one that I’ve never forgotten as it was so powerful to me back then. I wanted to share it with you to encourage you in your role as parents.

If children live with CRITICISM – they learn to CONDEMN
If children live with HOSTILITY – they learn to FIGHT
If children live with FEAR – they learn to be APPREHENSIVE
If children live with JEALOUSY – they learn to feel GUILT
If children live with TOLERANCE – they learn to be PATIENT
If children live with ENCOURAGEMENT - they learn to be CONFIDENT
If children live with PRAISE – they learn to be APPRECIATIVE
If children live with ACCEPTANCE – they learn to LOVE
If children live with APPROVAL – they learn to LIKE THEMSELVES
If children live with RECOGNITION – they learn it is GOOD TO HAVE GOALS
If children live with HONESTY – they learn what TRUTH is
If children live with FAIRNESS – they learn JUSTICE
If children live with SECURITY – they learn to TRUST themselves and others
If children live with FRIENDLINESS – they LEARN THE WORLD IS A NICE PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE.

This really brings home to us again the huge responsibility we have as the adults in the lives of our children doesn’t it? Be aware they are continually watching what we do and listening to how we speak. They are like ‘sponges - soaking in everything’ so let’s do all we can to be excellent models for them to follow in 2020 because how we act and what we say really does matter.

Blessings in abundance.

From the Chappy Office.
Monday March 2

Music, Art, Drama, Hospitality

6:30pm Pioneer Hall

Hospitality students are creating a special dinner at the event.
Tickets to the dinner are $10 per person.
(Available for the first 42 guests only - pay at the front office).
Entry to the event only is free.
(You are welcome to BYO dinner)

Secondary Careers News
Term 1

- All Vocational Education and Training (VET) for senior students commences Wednesday, Week 2. Please check your emails for notification from your Registered Training Organisation- TAFE, YWAM or other.

- Students interested in studying in the medical, dental or clinical science professions need to be informed and registered to take the UCAT test for university entry. For more information, please visit https://www.ucat.edu.au/ucat-anz/

email: srobertson@acc.qld.edu.au OR check out our website acccareers.com
Do you need support in English and Humanities?
Do you need quiet space to complete your homework?
Do you want help with a research task?

Come along!

Where: P3 (Upstairs in Pioneer Hall)
When: Every Monday, during first break
This 7 week course hosted by Water of Life Townsville, (and modified slightly for our Australian audience) is all about God’s way of handling money.

Through video teaching by Dave Ramsey, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical practical steps showing you how to:

- manage your money,
- get rid of debt,
- spend wisely,
- save and plan for the future
- unleash the power of generous giving

Tickets start from $35 per family and further details can be found at [https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/90752865263](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/90752865263) Or contact Ben Hudson on 0405 289 366 should you have any further questions.
## Key Dates for 2020

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<td>Wednesday, March 4</td>
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## TERM DATES FOR 2020

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PRAYER POINTS

- Thanksgiving for our newly employed staff members – answers to prayer. Please pray for them as they settle in and welcome them into our community.
- Thanksgiving for our new students – and pray for them and their families, that they may feel welcome and supported.
- Thanksgiving for the rain.
- Thanksgiving for keeping our families and staff safe over the Christmas holidays and for their rest.
- Prayer for strengthening our relationships – at home, at work and at school.
- Prayer for those who may be affected by traumatic memories of the 2019 flood during the rainy season.
- For the health of our staff and students.
- Starting well in 2020.
- Strengthen our College Leaders.
- Prayer for all those affected by the fires.
- Thanksgiving for the great start in all classes.
- Prayer for the senior students entering the new ATAR system.
- Prayer for a school family struggling with custody issues.

We have 346 members signed up to our ACC Community Facebook page.

Join in on the conversations, questions and comments which are helping to build our community.

Request today to join ACC Community page.