



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Columba Families,

Term 4 has certainly begun in earnest with students returning with motivation from the break. We have some very positive news regarding Year 12 students who have been granted guaranteed entry into University courses, such as Health Sciences, Biomedical Science and Business. Many more have secured apprenticeships through their school based apprenticeships, as well as through work experience organised through the College. Full time employment for students who have chosen to engage in a GAP year are also evident, as well as traineeships across areas such as childcare, tourism, business, retail, dental assistant and veterinary assistants. This is a wonderful outcome at this early stage of Term 4. In amongst this, we have Year 12 students engaged in finalising assessments and preparing for their external examinations, to be held at the College in two weeks.

The schedule for Year 12 for the end of the year has been published for parents and I urge you to commit these details to memory and talk to your children about them to motivate, inspire and calm them as they approach the end of school.

We look forward to the Year 5 Camp next week at Gumburu - Townsville Catholic Education's Environmental Education Camp centre at Paluma, and the Year 6 Camp to the Atherton Tablelands and Cairns the following week. Experiential learning outside the classroom is a vital part of our curriculum, and is a proud component of our learning program at Columba.

The Interhouse swimming carnival for St Mary's is this Friday, with students excitedly preparing war cries and their best efforts to demonstrate Columba pride and spirit. I am delighted to welcome parents to this event!

Students in Year 10 have commenced their Work Experience program and I am overwhelmed by the support from local businesses and industry for their commitment to our young people. Thank you. Please support and engage in local businesses, as they support Columba with loyalty and dedication.

I must engage you in the importance of students attending every day, to ensure the best environment for success - both in classroom progress and in social and emotional balance and settling routines. I will continue to advocate in the strongest terms, for families to keep students in education right up until the end of term and to return them on time for the start of term. Holidays are just that, and are defined by the government gazetted education calendar, and so it should be rare that families request for students to leave early or return late. The rest of the time is for empowering students and educating them to reach their potential. Every day is valued and important at the College and I continue to ask your support and diligence with this for your children.

Our Awards Night will take on a different format this year, with two occasions being held. There will be a St Mary's Awards afternoon on Tuesday 17 November at 1.30pm at St Mary's. The Mt Carmel Years 7-12 Awards Night will also be held on 17 November, at 6.30pm in the Iona Centre. This will enable parents and families to attend with a COVID safe plan. A flyer detailing this will be sent to families in coming days, with further details.

The Year 12 Final Assembly will be held at Mt Carmel Campus on Thursday 19 November in the morning and the Year 12 Final Liturgy and Graduation, with families and guests, will be held on the same day during the evening. Further details will be sent directly to Year 12 families. We are happy to accommodate all family members for this special occasion, with our COVID Safe plan.

# COURAGE | COMMITMENT | COMPASSION

**St Mary's Campus**  
P 07 4754 6333  
A 59-69 Mary Street  
Charters Towers QLD 4820

**Mt Carmel Campus**  
P 07 4787 1744  
A 6-8 Hackett Terrace  
Charters Towers QLD 4820

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[www.columba.catholic.edu.au](http://www.columba.catholic.edu.au)   

# MEET OUR STAFF



**Name:** Debbie Hogan  
**Hometown:** Charters Towers  
**Position:** Administration Support, filling in for Christine Bell whilst Jo-Anne Thompson is on long service leave.  
**Favourite Foods:** Seafood, Chicken, Fairy Floss, Chips  
**Hobbies:** House renovations, volunteer work for Isaac Performing Arts, Fishing

We sent to eternal life, our cherished Year 10 residential student Mackenzie Guild last Thursday. We are secure in the knowledge that God has a plan for her, and that all of the living she engaged in on earth was fulsome and was a message to all of us to get involved in life and grab it with both hands. Mackenzie and her love of life, and love of her friends, family, art, sport, dance, fishing, martial arts, running, camping and adventure will live on in our hearts and College pride and spirit. Vale Mackenzie Guild. Blessings for the fortnight ahead.

Regards



Candi Dempster  
**PRINCIPAL**

# SM CAMPUS AWARDS

TERM 4—WEEK 1

Respect for Self—I come prepared and engaged in all of my lessons

Prep	Elsie Bennetto
Year 1	Georgia Stout
Year 2	Isabel Webber
Year 3	Chelsea Archer
Year 4	Liam Bartschat
Year 5	Harlee Ivanov
Year 6A	Caleb Fagan
Year 6B	Kyron Lillyst

## Student Travel Rebates

### Semester 2

**Bus Fare Assistance**

- Does your child attend a **school outside the Brisbane City Council** boundary?
- Does your family spend more than **\$30/week\*** on fares to and from school (\*\$25/week if you hold a concession card)?
- Does your child travel on a **publicly available service** not owned or associated with the school?

**Students With Disability**

- Does your child have a **verified disability** that requires **transport assistance** to and from school?
- Has your school's learning support teacher assessed your child's **travel capability rating** as 'semi-independent' or more dependent?

Visit our website to see if you qualify for our financial assistance to help with the cost of transport and apply at [SchoolTransport.com.au](http://SchoolTransport.com.au) during **October**.  
 Late applications cannot be accepted after **31<sup>st</sup> October**.

### TERM 4

School Commences	Tuesday 6 October
School Finishes (Year 12)	Friday 20 November
School Finishes (Years 7 to 11)	Friday 27 November
School Finishes (Prep to Year 6)	Friday 4 December

### YEAR 12 EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

The introduction of external assessments for General subjects is one of the biggest changes to Senior schooling in the new QCE system. 37 318 students will complete external assessments during the External Assessment period.

Students studying General Subjects will complete External Assessments between the 26<sup>th</sup> October and 17<sup>th</sup> November. Please refer to the QCAA External Assessment Timetable which is located on the QCAA website. ([https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr\\_ext\\_assess\\_timetable\\_2020.pdf](https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/downloads/senior/snr_ext_assess_timetable_2020.pdf))

As per the External Assessment Timetable two external assessment sessions will be conducted each day. It is crucial that students are present and punctual to each external assessment. Students must arrive on campus 30 minutes before the exam session is scheduled to start. Students completing an assessment in the morning will line up outside K Block by 8.30am and those completing an assessment in the afternoon by 12.00pm. If students are completing two exams on one day, they are to remain on campus between exams and consume their lunch. Students will be able to study in the Library if they do not have an exam and are remaining on campus. **Students are required to sign in and out at the office when they arrive and leave.** Day students completing external assessments are able to study at home when they do not have an exam, except when they have 2 exams on one day. Boarders will study in the Library. Once students have completed their last external assessment, it is expected that students will participate in the alternative program organised.

### EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON MYQCE WEBSITE

The QCAA has developed a number of resources to assist students in preparing for External Assessments. Recently, the QCAA published an External Assessment Guide that consolidates important information already available including tips for completing external assessment, equipment and calculator lists, timetables and the specifications for each external assessment.

A selection of external assessment videos are also available to help students prepare for external assessments. The videos provide insights about the assessments and include tips and advice from the QCAA's learning area managers.

These resources are available on the myQCE website: <https://myqce.qcaa.qld.edu.au/external-assessment.html>

### YEAR 12 CONFIRMATION OF STUDENT RESULTS

Confirmation decisions for the second internal assessment instrument completed by students this year will begin to appear in students myQCE accounts next week.

### YEAR 12 COMMON INTERNAL ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENTS

Students in Essential English and Essential Mathematics will complete their Common Internal Assessment Instruments between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October. It is crucial that students are present and punctual to common internal assessment sessions. Students who have school based apprenticeships or traineeships will not be able to attend work on these days as they must complete these assessment items at the designated time.

### YEAR 11 ASSESSMENT PERIOD

Year 11 students will complete exams between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October. Students may be required to complete 2 exams a day. When students are not completing exams they will attend classes indicated on their timetable.

### YEAR 11 COMMENCEMENT OF UNIT 3

Year 11 students will complete Unit 2 on the 30<sup>th</sup> October. Unit 3 will commence on Monday 2 November. It is essential that students remain focussed and dedicated to their studies until the end of the year as students will be commencing new learning and work. It is imperative that Year 11 students remain at school until the last day of Term 4.

### YEAR 11 SUBJECT CHANGES

Subject changes in Year 11 are not recommended. Examples of when subject changes may be considered include lack of success, the uptake of a TAFE or VET course or a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship. As Unit 3 begins on Monday 2 November subject changes must be finalised by Friday 13 November (Week 6, Term 4). Students who would like to Investigate the possibility of changing subjects must contact Mrs Peck.

### YEAR 8-11 CONFIRMATION OF 2021 SUBJECT SELECTIONS

Students who will be in Years 9, 10 or 11 in 2021 will receive confirmation of their subjects during this Term.

## YEAR 7-12 ACCESS ARRANGMENTS AND REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS (AARA), INCLUDING ILLNESS AND MISADVENTURE

AARA applications must be submitted before the assessment due date unless under exceptional circumstances. Students may request an AARA for medical conditions, impairments, disabilities or unforeseen circumstances, such as deterioration of an existing condition, experiencing a natural disaster or accident. All applications must be accompanied by relevant documentation from medical practitioners and other relevant professionals.

Students are not eligible for AARA in the following circumstances:

- Teacher absence or other teacher related difficulties
- Situations that the students could have avoided (eg. misreading an exam timetable)
- Situations of the student's or parents own choosing (eg. family holidays).

AARA Application Forms are available from Student Reception as are copies of the Confidential Medical Report. There are specific AARA forms for Years 7-10 and 10-12.

## YEARS 7-10 PAT TESTING

Students in Years 7-10 will complete the Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT) developed by ACER in October (Term 4 weeks 2 and 3) to provide a means of assessing and monitoring student growth over time.

Students will complete 3 assessments:

**PAT-M** is a Mathematics assessment mapped against the Australian Curriculum that assesses mathematical achievement across the six strands of number, algebra, geometry, measurement, statistics and probability through a multiple-choice format;

**PAT-R** assesses students' reading comprehension skills, vocabulary knowledge and spelling. These skills reflect comprehension skills described in the Australian National Curriculum for English;

**PAT – Grammar and Punctuation** assesses a range of language convention skills including the usage and purposes of grammar and punctuation at the word and sentence level. The skills reflect those outlined in the Australian National Curriculum for English.

Teachers will spend time analysing students' performance on these assessments to help inform future teaching and learning.

## YEARS 7-12 ASSESSMENT SUPPORT

Students who are at risk of not completing assessment items or who have not completed drafts or final assessment items will be required to attend Assessment Support on Thursday afternoon between 3.05pm and 4.05pm in M4. Assessment Support will be supervised by the Deputy Principal Administration or a Curriculum Leader.

## YEAR 7-12 HOMEWORK CLUB

Students who require assistance with their homework or completion of assessment tasks are invited to attend Homework Club in the Library on Thursday afternoons between 3.05pm and 4.05pm. Teachers volunteer their time to assist students at Homework Club.

If you require any further information related to curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Maria Peck

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - ADMINISTRATION**

## OPTI-MINDS CREATIVE SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

This year, I had the pleasure of working with a group of students from the Year Six cohort in the Opti-MINDS Creative Sustainability Challenge. Lara Cavanagh, Caleb Fagan, Ethan Ford, Imogen Geaney, Ella MacPherson and Grace Scholes worked tirelessly to create a solution to a challenge in the language and literature field and produced amazing results.

This year, Opti-MINDS was an online challenge that had a theme of 'Resilience.' The team had to choose a famous character from a literary text and the plot from a different text; with these selections, they had to make their chosen character adapt to the world of the second story. Our team selected Harry Potter and created a play to show how Harry would show resilience and adapt to Little Red Riding Hood's world. The play was creative, funny and allowed the students to showcase their individual talents and skills.

Although the students did not place in this year's challenge, they received wonderful feedback from the judges. They received an 'outstanding' score across five categories including the creativity of their presentation; skill and quality of dramatic presentation; skill and creativity; creativity in the use of props and materials; effective teamwork and obvious display of team commitment. I was exceptionally impressed with these results and the students were very impressed with how they went in the challenge this year.

Talking to the students, they've told me that this year was the most fun they had participating in Opti-MINDS and that they really got to demonstrate their own skills in a way they hadn't before. It was a real privilege to work with these students and we are all so grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in the event this year, especially after COVID-19 impacted so many Year Six events.

Jessica Allison

**YEAR 6 TEACHER**



## PRIMARY BOYS' INTER-SCHOOL TOUCH

The Columba Primary boys competed in the Charters Towers Touch Gala Day at the end of Term 3. Due to Covid-19, the boys had only 2 games the week before to prepare for annual carnival, but were super keen for the day. Below is a list of the results for the day.

- Columba lost 2-1 to Richmond Hill State School
- Columba lost 4-2 to All Souls
- Columba lost 3-2 to Central State School
- Columba defeated BTC 7-1
- Columba 1-1 draw Millchester State School

The boys played well, but unfortunately went down narrowly in a number of games with tries conceded in the first 3 matches in the final minutes. As the day progressed, the boys played more and more as a team and improved their performance and results.

The team consisted of Andrew Scharf, Kyron Lillyst, Jackson Walsh, Clayton Dayes, Kobey Jenkins, Jadaine Simelane, Cooper Jeffries, Edward Archer, Cooper Hoare and Kaleb Venning. Unfortunately, Chase Harrington was absent on the day.

[Well done to Kaleb Venning who was awarded Columba's Best and Fairest Player for the carnival.](#)

[Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who came along to cheer on the team.](#)

## PRIMARY GIRLS' TOUCH—PREMIERS!!!

At the end of Term 3, our Primary Girls completed in the Charters Towers Touch Gala Day. This day allowed our girls to compete against all other Charters Towers primary schools in 20-minute games of touch football.

In hot conditions, the girls started off the day well and continued on their winning way throughout the day and into the Grand Final. Below is the results for the day:

Columba defeated Richmond Hill State School 4-1

Columba defeated All Souls 7-nil

Columba defeated Central State School 2-1

Columba defeated BTC 2-1

Columba defeated Millchester State School 5-1

Grand Final—Columba defeated Richmond Hill State School 4-nil

In the Grand Final, the Columba side were always in control as they defeated Richmond Hill State School 4-nil to cap off a terrific day of touch football. There were certainly some very tired and exhausted girls by the end of the day as they played 6 games of touch for the day with only 2 substitute players.

The team consisted of Lara Cavanagh, Jessica Wosomo, Sally Sproat, Ella MacPherson, Grace Flood, Dale Beatty, Grace Scholes and Imogen Geaney. The girls are to be congratulated for their efforts and always being willing to listen and take on advice on how to improve their skills and performance. For a majority of the team, this was their first year playing touch football.

Well done to Dale Beatty who was awarded Columba's Best and Fairest Player for the carnival.

I'd like to thank all the parents and grandparents who came along to cheer on the team.

Well done girls! You were certainly a pleasure to coach.

Gerard Webber

### COACH



## PREP

Prep students have returned refreshed and eager to learn as they embark on their final term of Prep. After listening to many holiday stories it was evident that the children enjoyed a well-earned break filled with many adventures.

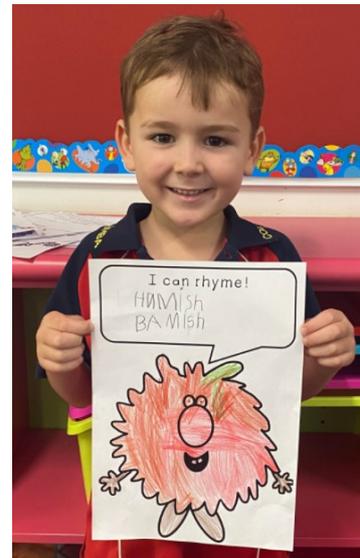
In English, students have started to explore rhyme through listening to different literature. After listening to Rhyming Dust Bunnies, students created their own rhyming dust bunny using their own name. Students will continue to explore rhyme in depth as they work towards being able to identify and use rhyme in their writing.

Throughout Mathematics, we have been busy exploring measurement as we learn about mass, length and capacity. Students worked hard to explore how heavy objects were in the classroom before being able to compare which were the heavier and lighter objects.

There wasn't a better way to end Week 1, than participating in the Emergency Services Day. It was a fantastic day that provided many opportunities to learn all about the different Emergency Services and what we should do when faced with an emergency.

We can't wait to see what this term brings, as it is already set to be an incredibly busy one, filled with many exciting opportunities.

Lara Burns  
PREP TEACHER



## YEAR 1 NEWS

Did somebody say it's Term 4? It is hard to believe that this is the last term for 2020. It must be true that 'time flies when you're having fun!'

This term, Year 1 has welcomed Mrs Bennetto who is teaching on Fridays. She is most excited about being with us, and has come with so many wonderful lessons and resources for the students to engage with. Mrs Bennetto will be teaching an integrated unit in Science and Technology where Year 1 will compare and contrast the features of day and night.

In other curriculum areas, we are busy learning new content as well as revising in preparation for Year 2. In English, we have begun exploring narratives; particularly the settings and characters within the stories we read. In Mathematics, we are investigating the concept of 'half', recognising and describing coins and 2D and 3D shapes, and building on our strategies for solving addition and subtraction problems. We are consolidating fundamental number skills on a daily basis.

In R.E, we will be investigating how Christians have honoured Mary in the past and the present. Year 1 will learn to pray the Hail Mary and use rosary beads in the coming weeks. This is particularly important as we are in the month of October - the month where the Church asks us to take time to remember Mary and just how special she is.

We are very much looking forward to our Swimming Carnival on Friday. May the best house win.....Go Polding! As you can see, the term is already busy, busy, busy. We know Year 1 will have a wonderful, action packed final term.

Sally Geaney and Sonia Bennetto  
**YEAR 1 TEACHERS**



## SES DAY

On Friday 9th October, St Mary's Campus was treated to its first 'Emergency Services Day'. Mrs Murray and the CSPA planned a wonderful day in response to a student having to make a 000 call last year. All students were treated to rotations with the Police, Ambulance, Fire & Rescue, Rural Fire Brigade and State Emergency Service. Students were taught how to make a 000 call, how to treat a snake bite, the importance of smoke alarms, what to do in a fire and how to get your house ready for storm season.

We are extremely grateful for our local community groups for giving up their time to deliver such important messages. It was a brilliant experience and one that was incredibly worthwhile. We extend a massive thank you to the CSPA, in particular Mrs Fiona Murray and Mrs Kate Scharf, for their efforts in preparation for the day as well as being on the ground to bundle our take-home packs and of course serve a delicious morning tea.



## NQ SOFTBALL

Last weekend, Year 6 student Ella Macpherson travelled to Redcliffe to compete at the Queensland Softball trials with the North Queensland Under 12s Softball team. Ella is new to the sport of softball but attended local trials and was picked in the NQ team at the regional trials held last term. She has been attending regular training sessions and has developed a real love of the game over the past couple of months. Ella had a number of great games and her NQ team ended up coming 5th out of a total of 11 teams.

Well done on a fantastic achievement Ella!



## Science Slides...

Secondary Science under the microscope.



CQUniversity Science Experience: Isaac Neilson, Year

9

During the school holidays I attended a three-day Science Experience at CQUniversity in Townsville. Over the three days I attended lectures from a variety of science university professors and professionals who work in numerous science fields. We had guest speakers from paramedics, to nurses, to psychologists and microbiologists who gave us insights into their areas of expertise. The sessions also gave us some hands-on activities, like popping fake pimples, lie detection games and simulations of emergency situations. My favourite session was the one where we got to play with some high-tech virtual reality equipment. On the final day all the students attending were split into groups and challenged with a scenario of an emergency situation that had affected the people of a coastal town. We were asked to use all the information we had learned at the Science Experience to compile a presentation of how local government might respond to the given threat and present this to the professors. Overall, I found the experience interesting and informative, especially the insight into how to tell if someone is lying and what paramedics do on the job. I would recommend the CQUniversity Science Experience to any students interested in the sciences, especially the medical industry.



**For any science questions, please email me at**  
kking1@columba.catholic.edu.au.

Kristal King  
**SCIENCE CURRICULUM LEADER**

# SENIOR MATHS STUDY

Senior Math Methods and General Maths Study  
 Every Monday 6:30 - 8:00pm in M4.  
 All students wanting to attend need to advise Ms Michaelis by email.

**SOPHIA MICHAELIS**  
 MIDDLE LEADER MATHS  
[smichaelis@columba.catholic.edu.au](mailto:smichaelis@columba.catholic.edu.au)



COLUMBA CATHOLIC COLLEGE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
 PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

*Columba's Annual Fundraiser  
 Est. 1989*

# MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON 2020

DATE: TUESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER, 2020  
 TIME: 10.00AM - 3.00PM

VENUE: THE DINING HALL, ST MARY'S CAMPUS,  
 VIA HIGH STREET

COST: \$45 PER PERSON OR \$400 FOR A TABLE OF 10  
 ~\$5 DISCOUNT PER PERSON~

### Features of the Day:

- Gourmet Luncheon -
- Famous Columba Calcutta, hosted by Matt Geaney (Auctioneer) -
- Lucky Door Prizes -
- Sweeps -
- Fashions on the Floor Prizes -
- Fashion Parade -
- Music and raffles -
- And much more...

Tickets can be purchased by visiting the St. Mary Campus Reception 4754 6333, or in store at Poppet Head, 23 Gill St.



## HAVE YOU BEEN AFFECTED BY COVID-19? PLEASE CALL US

Call 1800 VINNIES (1800 846 643) or visit [qld.vinnies.org.au](http://qld.vinnies.org.au) to get the support you need.



FOOD



GROCERY VOUCHERS OR GIFT CARDS



MATERIAL AID



BILL PAYMENT



TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE



REFERRING AND ADVOCATING TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR OTHER ORGANISATIONS.



PHARMACY ASSISTANCE

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### Santa Teresa Immersion Experience 2021 - Raffle



1. SOLD	2. SOLD	3. SOLD	4. SOLD	5. SOLD	6. SOLD	7. SOLD	8. SOLD	9. SOLD	10. SOLD
11. SOLD	12. SOLD	13. SOLD	14. SOLD	15. SOLD	16. SOLD	17. SOLD	18. SOLD	19. SOLD	20. SOLD
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91. SOLD	92. SOLD	93. SOLD	94. SOLD	95. SOLD	96. SOLD	97. SOLD	98. SOLD	99. SOLD	100. SOLD

Tickets \$20 each, 1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$250 & 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$150  
 Tickets available online at <https://www.trybooking.com/EJWFRS> or contact Helen Milton on 0410 571 950. Drawn when all tickets sold.

