FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

I often dwell on a wonderful memory from the High Country. Imagine, if you will, snowflakes falling ever so gently. One after the other, ever so light and insignificant, and then a huge limb from a nearby Eucalypt crashes to ground. Just one small snowflake tips the balance. No single snowflake is insignificant. No one person is insignificant.

I’m sure we have all heard the well-worn phrase, “The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.” Our strength does not lie within us as individuals but rather with us as a collective working together. Hence, building strong relationships within our school community is vitally important. Yesterday, our Year 10 students continued working with the Year 7 students in the Peer Support Program, and next week our Year 7 students attend their 3-day Orientation Camp. Further, I commend to our parents the “Welcome Picnic” this Friday night from 6:00pm. This evening presents a wonderful opportunity to meet with other parents in a relaxed atmosphere. Please consider ways that you can become involved in our College community.

This week marks the start of the Lenten season. Lent is a time of reflection on our brokenness which culminates in the Easter event when God provided a solution for us through the gift of His Son’s life. I commend to you the booklet of Lenten reflections that was distributed earlier this week. Again, each one of us is significant to God and it is His desire that we are part of His family.

By now our students should all be back into a school routine. Establishing or resuming routines at home will help everyone in the family. Here are some helpful suggestions from a parenting brochure:

• Consider how many activities your children (or you) can realistically manage – homework, music lessons, clubs, sports, etc. are all important but too many can place stresses on children and families.
• Ensure school-age children get ample sleep.
• Use the night before to help students prepare for the next day – find items such as hair ties and the correct uniform and pack the school bag the night before.
• Set up a homework area which is quiet and able to be supervised. Make sure that it is well-equipped.
• Think carefully about computer use, where the computer is sited and how you will monitor it’s use, and most of all,
• Set regular times and routines for meals, TV, sport, homework and bedtime.

Barry Krueger
Head of School
DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
This week marks the start of the church season of Lent, the countdown towards the celebration of Jesus’ death on the cross and his resurrection at Easter. As a tradition reflecting Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness without food, many Christians also fast or abstain from an activity during Lent. Throughout scripture, fasting refers to abstaining from food for spiritual purposes.

This week, I took part in and overheard many conversations based around the question, “What are you giving up for Lent?” There is an attraction in fasting, but also a danger. The danger is that we rely on our own strength and revel in any fasting “success” with the words “I did it!” The focus here is on ourselves, not on Jesus and the cross, as was intended. Jesus first words about fasting in the text are questions of motive (verse 6). Why are you doing it? To show people what a good person you are, or to draw closer to God? Similarly, Jesus questions people’s motives for giving to the needy (verse 2), and praying in public (verse 5). It seems a lot of the good spiritual stuff happens behind closed doors, between individuals and God, without others ever finding out about it.

This is not to say fasting isn’t helpful. In Richard Foster’s book, Celebration of Discipline, he describes the practice of fasting in the Christian life: Fasting must forever centre on God... David writes “I humbled my soul with fasting (Psalm 69:10). Anger, bitterness, jealousy, strife, fear – if they are within us, they will surface during fasting. At first we will rationalise that our anger is due to our hunger; then we will realise that we are angry because of the spirit of anger within us. We can rejoice in this knowledge because we know that healing is available through the power of Christ.” We sometimes hide behind the comfort and security of this world, but when these are stripped away, we can recognise our true status as beggars before the cross of Christ. In this state, Christ can do his best work in us as we rely on his strength in our weakness.

Foster outlines the diary of a person who fasted; over a period of two weeks, the entries moved from superficial self-centredness to amazing spiritual insight. Spiritual maturity and depth are among the rewards that Jesus promises (verse 18). As Lent begins, spend time in prayer and reading God’s word. Ask him for some guidance about the things you should be giving up in your life – the things that are distractions and sin and the things that are drawing you away from God - and he will reveal them to you. Repent of these things and hand them over to him, and call on him for strength when you are tempted. Jonny Hedd, Pastoral Care

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
Happy birthday to the following students who will be celebrating a birthday in the coming week:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>19th February</td>
<td>10 ANGLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finley</td>
<td>21st February</td>
<td>5-6B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max</td>
<td>22nd February</td>
<td>PB</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryce</td>
<td>23rd February</td>
<td>5-6C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evette</td>
<td>23rd February</td>
<td>8A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah</td>
<td>23rd February</td>
<td>10 BREAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiara</td>
<td>24th February</td>
<td>10 FAIR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GETTING TO KNOW OUR GLC STAFF - Kate Hill
Hi there! My name is Kate Hill.

After graduating from Deakin University, I spent four years teaching at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Primary School, Croydon. In this time I married my husband, William. In 2013, we returned to Geelong where I spent a little over a year at Christian College Junior School teaching Year 2 as well as working in the area of Learning Enhancement and Curriculum Development. This year I am teaching 1-2C on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I am excited to be returning to the classroom after a break last year looking after my 9 month old son, Angus.

My family is very important to me. I come from a large, Lutheran family with many teachers amongst my relatives. We have a very close extended family and enjoy regular family gatherings. My family attend St Paul’s Lutheran Church, Grovedale where I also serve on the Committee of Management for our Kindergarten.

In my spare time I enjoy Pilates, cooking, travelling and eating out with friends. William and I have almost finished an extensive renovation on our home and look forward to having the time to travel and explore our beautiful country with Angus in tow. I am very thankful for the opportunity to take up part-time work at GLC and look forward to getting to know many children and their families throughout 2015.
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### February
- Thurs 19th - Fri 20th: Year 12 Melbourne University Experience
- Tuesday 24th: GISSA Cricket and Tennis
- Wed 25th - Fri 27th: City Cite Parent Information Night (Year 9 Parents) 7pm
- Thursday 26th: Year 7 Camp

### March
- Monday 2nd: German Excursion (Year 8)
- Mon 2nd - Wed 4th: Year 5 / 6 Camp
- Wed 4th - Fri 6th: Outdoor Education Camp (Year 12)
- Friday 6th: Primary School Cross Country
- Monday 9th: Labour Day Public Holiday
- Wednesday 11th: GISSA Swimming Carnival (various students)
- GRIP Leadership Day (Middle and Senior students)
- Thursday 12th: GRIP Leadership Day (Primary students)
- Mon 16th - Thurs 26th: Primary School Swimming Lessons
- Friday 27th: Term 1 ends (Early finish - 2.05pm)

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**NAPLAN Testing – Years 3, 5, 7 & 9**

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests for Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will be held from Tuesday 12th to Thursday 14th May 2015. The results of these tests provide diagnostic information for parents and teachers about a child’s performance in literacy and numeracy. This information can be used to support teaching and learning programs, and ultimately, improve students’ academic achievement.

All students are expected to participate in the NAPLAN tests. During the test week, catch-up tests will be available for students who were absent on test days up to and including Friday 15th May. Support can be arranged for students with disabilities if the student regularly accesses similar support for classroom assessment tasks. Large print, Braille and black-and-white versions of the tests are available for students that require them.

Exemptions from NAPLAN testing may be granted to students with significant intellectual disabilities and to students who have been learning English for less than one year.

If your child is eligible for support due to a disability or an exemption, you should discuss this with either Mrs Hollett (Primary School Coordinator) or Mrs Quirk (Middle School Coordinator) prior to the end of this term. Neither support nor exemptions can be granted without parental knowledge and consent.

Students may be withdrawn from the NAPLAN tests by their parent or carer if a philosophical or religious objection to this testing exists. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the Head of School. If, after this consultation you decide to withdraw your child, you must sign a Student Withdrawal Form. These forms are available from the College.

Later in the year, you will receive your child’s personal report. The report will describe your child’s particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to the national minimum standards. For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at [www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au) or the NAPLAN website at [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au).

**Withdrawal, exemption and disability adjustments must be finalised by the end of this term – Friday 27 March**

Barry Krueger
website at [www.naplan.edu.au](http://www.naplan.edu.au)

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**College Prayer Group**

The GLC Prayer Group is a group of parents who gather regularly to bring the College and College community before God in prayer. All parents are welcome.

In Term 1 the group will meet in the Pastoral Care Office opposite the Student Services Counter at 2.20pm on the following Mondays: **February 23 and March 16**. If you would like more information, or would like to be involved but the time does not suit, please contact the Pastoral Care Coordinator Jonny Hedd at [Jonathan.Hedt@glc.vic.edu.au](mailto:Jonathan.Hedt@glc.vic.edu.au)
Immunisations
To clear up any possible confusion, by law a child must have an immunisation status certificate to enroll in a Primary school. This is a statement that shows the immunisations a child has received. Schools keep copies of immunisation certificates so that in the case of a disease outbreak, unimmunised children can be quickly identified and excluded from school until the risk of infection has passed. There is no requirement that children must be immunised.

Hepatitis A – Information from Independent Schools Victoria
A link has been found between Nanna’s brand frozen berries and a few cases of Hepatitis A. The risk of exposure to Hepatitis A is low, but the company has recalled a number of frozen berry products.
Information on Hepatitis A is available on the Department of Health and Human Services’ Better Health Channel. Any person who is confirmed to have Hepatitis A will be followed up individually by the Department of Health and Human Services.
Staff and/or students should be encouraged to seek medical advice if they develop symptoms 15-50 days after consumption of the frozen berries. They should also be encouraged to check any of the recalled berry supplies at home and discard them or return them to the point of sale if appropriate.

News from the Parents & Friends Group
Meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm in the Admin Building Staff room.
Dates of future meetings: March 3rd April 7th May 5th June 2nd July 7th August 4th
September 1st October 6th November 3rd December 1st

EASTER CAMP: The Lutheran Youth of Victoria runs an Easter Camp every year for 16 to 30 year olds. The camp runs Maundy Thursday night to Easter Monday at Araluen Campsite in Anglesea and brings together youth from across Victoria and interstate. It’s a chance to explore the Easter story in new ways and have a lot of fun with other youth of the same age.
This year’s theme is “Cross Cultural: An exploration of what it truly means to claim, proclaim and live out our Christ-bought freedom in an increasingly challenging, constantly changing, and frequently hostile world.” Please visit www.eastercamp.com.au for more information and registration. If your child is interested in a youth camp but is too young for Easter Camp, the LYV runs Christian Life Week camps in the July and September school holidays for 13-18 year olds. More details to come.
Jonny Hedt, Pastoral Care

Found item:
A mobile phone handed in on 5th February which was found on the St John’s bus has not been claimed.
Please retrieve from Student Services.

GLC Canteen for PRIMARY SCHOOL ONLY
Geelong Lutheran College has contracted “Offshore Café and Catering” to supply us with an online canteen for delivery each Wednesday. All food items are within healthy eating guidelines and include a variety of food options.
A menu showing a range of choices can be found at http://offshorecafe.com.au/, please click on the Geelong Lutheran College tab to order. Ordering and payment MUST be done in advance; the cut off time is 8pm on the evening prior to lunch order day to ensure delivery at 12.40pm the next day. Please clearly indicate your child’s name and class.
ORDERING: Online ordering is the preferred method. If you are unable to do this please place the correct money in a paper lunch bag and leave bag at the school office before 9.30am on Friday. Personal re-usable lunch bags can be used (please make sure it is named)
All enquiries are to be directed to Offshore Café on 5263 3644
From the Primary School
Primary Parent Representatives
Thank you to Anita Shaw for volunteering to be a Parent Representative for the Preps and Years 3-4 classes and to Martine Oderio for offering to be a Parent Representative for the Years 1-2 classes. We still need someone to look after the Year 5-6 classes and as well as offering to assist those who have already volunteered. Please contact Jane Hollett (jane.hollett@glc.vic.edu.au) if you can assist.

Welcome Picnic
This Friday night 20\textsuperscript{th} February the P&F Group are hosting a Welcome Picnic for all of our College families from 6pm to 8pm. Please come along and be part of our College community and meet some new friends and catch up with some current friends too.

Reading Tips!
Last week I wrote about the importance of reading aloud with your child. This week I would like to encourage parents to listen to their children read out loud. The take-home readers that your child brings home need to be easy texts to encourage a feeling of success. The reading needs to be enjoyable not challenging. That way children can practice their fluency and expression as they are not having to concentrate on decoding. Teachers extend students with their reading in class and will progress students to a new take-home level when they are ready.

Many parents seem to think that once their child gets to Year 3 they no longer need to spend time with them reading. This is not the case. All students in the Primary School will benefit from reading out aloud. Listen to the way your child pauses for punctuation. Many children still need to be reminded that the punctuation in texts informs our expression and phrasing.

Jane Hollett
Primary Coordinator

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**P & F Group - Welcome Picnic**
Join us on the green at the College as we welcome in the new school year. Meet new parents and classmates and enjoy our first social event of the year!

- **Date:** Friday 20th February
- **Time:** 6pm-8pm
- **BYO:** picnic tea, chairs/blanket

**Coffee van and slushies available for purchase (no alcohol permitted)**

**How to contact the P&F Group:**
* Facebook page
* Email: glcparentsandfriends@hotmail.com
* GLC Admin Office

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**Lego Wanted**
We are aiming to begin a lunchtime Lego club in 2015. This will be open to all Primary School students at various times throughout the week.

To help in the initial set up, we are seeking donations of authentic Lego collections that are no longer required by our school families. Brick collections as well as whole kits are welcome.

If you have something to donate, please leave it at the College Office in a clearly marked container.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Kate Hill via email - kate.hill@glc.vic.edu.au

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**Donations Please**
Middle School Matters

Debating Competition Years 9-11
We are currently in the process of registering debating teams for the Geelong Schools Competition. Could any students in Years 9, 10 and 11 who are interested in participating but have not yet informed Mrs Harwood of their interest please do so as soon as possible.
Mrs Laura Harwood

Parent Information Evening
Year 9: City CITE Information Evening
Date: Tuesday 24th February
Time: 7-8pm
Location: GLC Multipurpose Hall (Student attendance is optional)

Year 7 CAMP
Wednesday 25th – Friday 27th February
A reminder to students to bring lunch and snacks on the first day but please note it is a ‘nut free zone’. Please pick up a copy of the ‘What to bring’ handout if you are still needing one. Students will need a pair of runners/crocs/reef shoes, that can be fully immersed in water. Activities will include an estuary activity in the Anglesea River-mouth, canoeing and stand up paddle-boarding at Coogoorah Park. Thongs will not be appropriate. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to phone me at the College.
Georgia Quirk
MS Coordinator

From the Senior School

SENIOR SCHOOL DEVOTION
Our School Captains, Lachlan and Caitlin addressed our Senior School students for devotion this week. They shared a little about themselves and their schooling journey, and the goals they have set for themselves this year. They also talked about their appreciation of the culture of GLC and how they would like to cultivate this further this year. After a short activity that highlighted the importance of working together, Lachlan and Caitlin shared how their personalities and leadership styles are very different and explained how this could be of benefit to the senior students. They encouraged the students to seek them out if there was any way they could be of assistance to them.

CAREERS INTENSIVE
On Monday, Mrs Samantha Welker joined me in presenting a Career Intensive to our Year 10s for half a day. The sessions were filled with a great deal of information and we trust students came away with some additional ideas on what career development is all about, some tools to help write an effective resume, thoughts on areas of employment, where they would like to undertake Work Experience as well as tips on approaching employers about a placement for Work Experience.

There were a number of tasks that students are now required to complete as a follow up of this day, using all of the information discussed: a Career Action Plan, Resume as well as a summary of Work Experience possibilities.

YEAR 12 MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE – OVERNIGHT
Today and tomorrow, our Year 12s are in Melbourne for a Melbourne University Experience. This overnight stay aims to provide students with experiences related to attendance at universities and living outside their local area.

Students will visit Victoria University, RMIT and the University of Melbourne, as well as one of the residential colleges in the university area. They will gain important insights on how institutions differ in their structure and culture.

A ‘Race around Melbourne’ is a highlight of the camp where students get to know Melbourne and learn to navigate their way around the city using the train, tram and buses. Throughout the two days, a high point is having a great opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of those students and teachers with whom they will share their Year 12 journey.
Sharlene Tattersall
Senior School Coordinator
Extend OSHC at Geelong Lutheran College

Our weekly recap – Cricket and tag games were very popular at OSHC last week. We played lots of tippery cricket, shadow tag and camouflage…with our new Preps showing some incredible speed! We made straw planes (although the weather conditions were probably a little bit too windy!) and baked some delicious jam-centered muffins. We painted pinecones and gumnits and danced our way to the weekend.

Our Extend Superstar is…

Harrison for running a wonderful Science experiment. Harrison prepared the vital ingredients and delegated jobs around to new scientists. Together the group discussed how to make the experiment more successful and Harrison got our final test ready. The group watched as the sandwich bags filled with so much air that it eventually exploded!

Next week’s activities:

Monday 23 February: Heart Ornaments & Bandaid Tag
Tuesday 24 February: Friendship Bracelets & Skipping Games
Wednesday 25 February: ABC Muffins & Fruit Salad
Thursday 26 February: Bird Feeders & Outdoor Twister
Friday 27 February: Charades & Floating Ball Science

Head of St John’s Lutheran School

Thank you to all our School parents who were able to attend our Information Sessions last week. Building relationships with our School parents are a high priority for us and we endeavour to provide as many opportunities throughout the year as possible.

This week we had first Valuing Safe Communities (VSC) training that is required along with a Working with Children Check for Kindergarten and School parents/carers wanting to assist in Kindergarten and School activities throughout the year. Our next session is available tomorrow from 9:00am until 10:00am. This certificate is valid for 3 years.

We are very excited to have the opportunity to host Chris Jaensch at our school on Thursday February 26 at 9:00am in the Hall. Chris is a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Para Vista, S.A where he is regularly involved in the musical side of worship and children’s ministry. He has written many Christian songs, some of which has been included in the ‘Altogether’ series. Chris’ main focus in his writing, singing and performing has been on younger children (Preschool and Primary). Chris has produced three CD’s using Biblically-based lyrics and a wide variety of musical styles. All parents are invited to join us for this performance. There will be some CD’s available from the School Office for a few days after Chris’ visit.

We have now confirmed that Senior Constable Robbie Noggler (Youth Resource Officer Western Region) will return to our School for another Cyber – Safety Session for our students from Years 3 – 6 and Parents of all students on March 23. The 1 hour Parent Information Evening Session begins at 7:00pm. A parent representative from each School family should attend.

Looking forward to seeing our Kindergarten and School community on Friday night at the P & F School Picnic. See further details in the Newsletter. Note that due to OH&S issues the Year 3-6 playground equipment will be cordoned off.

*It is the Lord who gives wisdom; from Him comes knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6*

Comment – Who better to guide your life than the God of all creation! With God you have hope but without Him you are shooting blind.

God’s Blessings
Brian Schultz

**YOUTH GROUP:** St Paul’s Youth Group is currently undergoing a review. Lee Smith, who helped lead the youth group for many years, has stepped aside for family reasons. Mr Hett and Pastor Tom are reviewing the group, and hope to finalise this by the start of Term 2. If you have ideas or would like to help, please email Jonny Hett [Jonathan.Hett@glc.vic.edu.au](mailto:Jonathan.Hett@glc.vic.edu.au).


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**Kids Camp 2015**

**CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF CREATION!**

**Where:** Tandara Lutheran Camp, Halls Gap

**When:** Tuesday April 7th – Friday April 10th
(2nd week of school holidays, After Easter!)

**Who:** ALL children 9-13 years of age.

**Costs:** $160.00

**What are we doing??** Movies, Science experiments e.g. Fantastic Physics Challenge, Minute-to-Win-it games, discovering God In Science!!!

**Dress as your favourite food!**

*Email: tanager@tanager.tandara.com*

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**REGIONAL PARENTING SERVICE – 5272 4817**

**Parenting Your Teenager:** A four-week program which examines what is normal teenage behaviour, the four cardinal sins of parenting teens, communicating with your teen and managing those tricky situations. Starts Tuesday February 24 at 7pm-9pm at Ariston, 245-249 Pakington St, Newtown. Gold coin donation.

**Tuning into Kids** is a six-session parenting program to help children learn to understand and regulate their emotions which in turn leads to becoming more resilient. Starts February 16 from 7pm to 9pm at Ariston, 245-249 Pakington St, Newtown. $15 or $5 conc.

**ABCD Parenting Pre-Adolescents:** The ABCD program aims to promote healthy and happy relationships within families. Parents of early adolescents are invited to come along and explore the many challenges that confront parents today. A four-week program for parents of children aged 10-13 years. Starts Wednesday March 4 from 7pm to 9pm at Ariston, 245-249 Pakington St, Newtown. Gold Coin Donation

**BETHANY COMMUNITY SUPPORT – 5278 8122**

**Building Connections:** A three-hour seminar to help separated parents have healthy & strong relationships with their children. Learn more about the impact of separation and conflict on children; ways of communicating with the other parent; setting goals for future parenting & support services available to you. Runs Monday March 16 from 9.30am to 12.30pm at Family Relationship Centre, Myers St, Geelong. FREE

**GATEWAYS COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**Parenting teenagers who worry too much:** Does anxiety stop your teenager enjoying life? Come along and find out more about anxiety and strategies to help your teenager worry less. Monday, February 23, 7pm-8.30pm at Gateways Support Services, 10-12 Albert St Geelong West. FREE but bookings essential. Phone: 03 96636733 or email [enquiries@ds.org.au](mailto:enquiries@ds.org.au)

**Bullying Seminar:** Headspace Geelong & gpac.ed invite teachers and parents to a presentation designed to provide information about bullying (including cyber bullying), including prevalence and how and why bullying occurs. Participants will be supported with strategies in “how to provide help” to guide their young people and also hear about resources and further support available to help address this issue.

For parents and teacher of primary students: Tuesday March 17, 5pm-6.30pm

For parents and teacher of teenagers: Monday March 23, 5pm-6.30pm

Both seminars will run at the Gallery Space in Geelong Performing Arts Centre. Cost: $5. Bookings at GPAC Box Office : 5225 1200 or [www.gpac.org.au](http://www.gpac.org.au). For further information contact Lauren Hogan 5222 6690 or [Lauren@barwonml.com.au](mailto:Lauren@barwonml.com.au)