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Tuesday, Oct 6, 2020

Nothing can separate us from God's love

What a joy it was this morning to see the young people flowing back into the school grounds and to catch up on stories with some of them. This extended time of separation from one another is not the way things are meant to be for a school like us and in many ways, we have missed out on hearing from one another and keeping up with what's going on in one another's lives to the same degree.

So, as I asked the school community when we gathered on the basketball court for a brief assembly at the start of today, have you heard anything from God during these days of relative isolation or has there been a break in those communications too? I have found God to be stirring quite a few things in my life over recent months as I became more aware that He is not limited by COVID or anything else, that nothing can separate us from His presence or His love.

If anything could put a barrier between us and God it would be our actions, our words, our thoughts or our heart. A significant reminder from God through these days has been to guard my heart and not allow pride to rise up or for bragging or boasting to have any space. In the letter by James, and towards the end of chapter 4, he says: Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil. If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.

We didn't know that this year would bring with it the disruptions we have all experienced in various ways but I know that our God has sustained us, has provided for us, has protected us and is leading us into a glorious future with Him

if we humble ourselves and walk in His ways. Embracing all that God does for us with gratitude in our hearts and on our lips is the best thing we can do for Him.

I'm really looking forward to Term 4 at RCCC, assured that God is with us.

Yours faithfully, Peter Nelson.

Term 4 Dates to Note

Please review the calendar as it's published in these Newsletters and updated from time to time. Here are some highlights:

Tue Oct 13th **Beacon Pathways Pledge** is a commitment our Year 9/10's make regarding their future schooling and employment but will be held separately in each local Secondary school this year rather than as a combined event.

Tue Oct 20th **Book Character Day** – see elsewhere in this Newsletter for details of this annual dress-up event.

Thu Oct 22nd An online session with St John Ambulance Australia developing **first aid skills** for our Swan Class.

Fri Oct 23rd Public Holiday

Wed Oct 28th An **RCCC Sports** morning hopefully at Victoria Park – more details for this excursion soon.

Mon/Tue Nov 2nd-3rd**Mid-term Break** – no students at school.

Thu Nov 12th **Life Education and Healthy Harold** visit our Primary students again but this year in our classrooms!

Sun Dec 6th An outdoor afternoon of **Thanksgiving to God for RCCC's 40 years of service** – please note this date and more details soon.

Wed Dec 9th Last day of school for students this year and our annual Celebration & Awards Event, but the format and timing are yet to be determined.

A number of this term's events may need to have a new format this year due to the changing guidelines related to COVID-19 and maintaining a suitable approach regarding the health of one another. We'll endeavour to update you on a case by case basis as soon as arrangements are firmed up.

A Further RCCC Oval Update



Then final load to take away the old dripper lines from the oval. We are now expecting Troy to be commencing trenching this week and making ready for installing the new pop-up sprinklers.

Board News

The Board met in the week leading up to the term break, reviewing and confirming a number of development matters plus outlining some parameters related to our 2021 budget. The budget will be presented for initial review at the Board's October 21st meeting, with the aim of having it approved at its November meeting. If you have any questions or comments related to the RCCC Board, please contact Peter Nelson or the Board Chair (Peter Costello) via the school office.

Scripture for the commencement of Term 4

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. This is from Isaiah 9:6-7 and will be our focus for understanding and memorising through to October 30th.

Thanks for your donations

As Term 3 came to a close, we were very grateful to receive donations of packed shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child and of non-perishable food for the local Salvos Relief Centre – that you very much!

Prayer Points:

- Gratitude to God for all that this term break has been for us.
- For the health of our community; physically, spiritually and emotionally.
- For peace as together we now walk back into classroom -based learning, watching out for one another as we do.
- As we consider the different areas of the school, please particularly pray this week for our Mitchell Class (Preps, Grade 1 & 2 students) along with their Homeroom teacher Mrs Sarah Kelly and the others at home and at school who care for them.
- For the various matters related to establishing a new Primary class for 2021, including staffing and a new building.
- Following in the steps of our RCCC pioneers, praying for and pursuing what God now wants us to be and to do as a school community as we move toward and beyond our 40 year milestone.

While prayer can be at anytime and anywhere, parents and friends are also welcome to unite in prayer at home or at school each Monday during the school term, 8.45am to 9.00am. If at school, this will be in the Library for now.

Playgroup Update

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions as they affect our school site, Playgroup will remain in recess for Term 4. If restrictions ease later in the Term, there may be an opportunity for a special end of year gathering. In the interim, please be looking out for one another and don't hesitate to contact Mrs Di Smith via the school office if you have any requests or comments.

School Uniform in Term 4

As we return to school this term, please maintain a focus on your children wearing their full uniform. This can be either the full winter or the full summer uniform until Friday October 16th. After then it becomes only the full summer uniform but regardless of which uniform is being worn in Term 4, a school hat is needed to be worn during recess, lunch and other outdoor school activities. If you have any uniform needs, please contact Mrs Joan Cardwell at the school office.



National Book Week River City Christian College Curious Creatures and Creative Minds

Tuesday 20th October 2020

Please come dressed as a curious creature (one of God's amazing creations) or as a creative mind (a famous person, inventor etc). Please don't go to any real expense, be creative and use what you have.

Where possible it would be great if you have a book to support your creature/character.

Prizes for three different sections - Lower Primary, Upper Primary and Secondary:

Creative Design Award

Most Unique Creature - With Interesting Facts to describe its uniqueness.

Best costume that is as close to the real character as possible—bring an image to support your character if possible

One Staff Award—voted by the students for the Best Creative Design.

There will be a display of our creative dressing early in the day but due to Covid restrictions, unfortunately we are unable to invite parents to attend this year.

DISMANTLED

A SCIENTIFIC DECONSTRUCTION OF THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

FREE one-time weekend premiere October 9–11

This is an incredible opportunity for your family to watch the world premiere of the documentary *Dismantled* featuring CMI's Dr Robert Carter & Dr John Sanford!

International Premiere

From 3pm October 9th to 12th the documentary will be available for us to watch online at https://creation.com/dismantled-movie courtesy of Creation Ministries International

School Calendar of Events

| Oct 2020 | 5 Staff planning Week 1 | 6 1st day for students Term 4 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-------------|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------|----|---|
| | 12 Week 2 | 13 Beacon Pathways Pledge (Ovens) | 14 Yr 7 immunisations | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | 19 Book Week Week 3 | 20 Book Character Day | 21 Book Week | 22 Book Week St Johns 1st Aid - Swan | 23 Grand Final holiday | 24 | 25 |
| | 26 Week 4 | 27 Prep Intro #1 | 28 ? RCCC Sports | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| | 2 No staff or students (report writing) | 3 Cup Day Public Holiday | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Nov 2020 | 9 Week 6 | 10 Prep Intro #2 | 11 Remembrance Day | 12 Life Ed visit - Primary | 13 Beacon Leaders Lunch? | 14 | 15 |
| | 16 Week 7 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 ? I CAN online Expo | 21 | 22 |
| | 23 Week 8 | 24 Prep Intro #3 | 25 | 26 Beacon AGM | 27 BUPA | 28 | 29 |
| | 30 Week 9 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 RCCC Thanksgiving – 40 years of service 2pm |
| Dec 2020 | 7 Week 10 | 8 2021 Orientation | 9 Last day students, Final Assembly Yr 10, Casual clothes Normal dismissal Celebration & Awards Event | 10 Last day teaching staff | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | 14 | 15 Last day RCCC office | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |

River City Christian College







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