



**GOOD SAMARITAN
CATHOLIC COLLEGE**
JOURNEY WITH COMPASSION

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Important dates

Student Induction Day
Year 7—5th November 2018

*A mind committed to
compassion is like an
overflowing reservoir -
a constant source of
energy,
determination and
kindness.
14th Dalai Lama*

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20 September 2018

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear members of the Good Samaritan Catholic College community,

As the school term draws to a close, I wish all of our new College community a relaxing and enjoyable Spring break. With footy finals happening on the middle weekend, I am sure many of you will be cheering on your team (or in my case, dreaming of what might have been) and spending time catching up with family and friends. I hope that all families are able to spend some time together during this school break to simply enjoy our beautiful Sunshine Coast weather. I am spending a week of the break visiting my son in Hong Kong and am looking forward to experiencing this vibrant culture (and great food) again.

I am regularly asked by parents and colleagues about what will make our College different. My consistent answer is that our College will ensure that every young person who enters the gates will receive an excellent education in all areas, will be nurtured in their faith and have every opportunity to experience success that we can provide. However, I would hope that this is the goal of every school, not something that sets us apart. What will set us apart is the way we relate as a community – the way we treat our peers, the stranger in our midst and the wider world with respect, understanding and compassion. Our young people, our staff, our parents and all involved in the College have an obligation to live our values in every interaction and every spoken word. As I have stressed during enrolment interviews and at our parent night, we have a great example in the story of the Good Samaritan of how to do this. As our College develops and our practices become established, these expectations will be clearly articulated for all to see. It will be these actions and the way we live out our values that set us apart as a College.

I ask that as a community we keep one of our Professional Assistants, Mrs Esme Carlson, her son Zach and all her family in your thoughts and prayers at the moment. Esme's 21 year old son Zach suffered a serious spinal injury in an accident at the end of last month and is currently in the Spinal Unit at the PA Hospital in Brisbane. Zach has a long road to recovery and could be in the Unit for up to 6 months. However, he has a great positive mindset and is determined to be out of hospital as soon as possible. Esme has returned to work on a part time basis as she and her family support Zach during his recovery. We wish Zach every success for a speedy recovery and pray that he and the family are supported by all during this time.

My sincere thanks to the parents who attended our first Parent Information night on September 4 at the Maroochy River Golf Club. It was an excellent roll up and I hope parents found the presentations useful. We will hold another information session during term 4.

Make sure that you check out our updated website. Information from our parent night has been loaded onto the site as well as updates to the photos. Similarly, our Facebook page has also had a revamp using our recent photos of students wearing our uniform.

This third newsletter will provide our community with information about our new staff appointments, a building update, some information about our College ICT and much more. Please ensure that you contact our office if you have any queries. Best wishes for the month ahead.

God Bless,

Greg Myers
PRINCIPAL

Staff News

After the holidays, our office at Marcoola will become a much busier place with three new staff joining the team for the remainder of the year. Mrs Louise Mills commences work as our Assistant Principal, Mrs Debbie Holmes starts as our Learning Leader and Mrs Anna Corboy joins the team as our Teacher Librarian. All three new team members will be busy preparing for our staff and student inductions and our programs for students next year.

We have almost completed the appointments of our teaching staff for 2019. I am pleased to announce the following staff teaching team:

Prep to Year 3 Teachers: Mrs Georgia Walton, Miss Chiara Khoury, Mr Anthony Johnstone, Mrs Demi Hilton, Miss Sabrina McLaughlin

Year 7 Teachers, including Middle Leaders: Mr Brian Lenane, Mrs Katie Gilbert, Mr Matthew Rattray, Mrs Susan Mabb, Mr Bill Dray, Ms Sonia Petrack

College Counsellor – Miss Bridgit Hoyle.

While the roles above are divided into Primary and Year 7, all of our teachers will be working across P-12 in different ways. Specialist teachers will be working across all year levels and all of our young people will have excellent access to the expertise of outstanding teachers.

We are currently in the process of appointing a Support Teacher – Inclusive Education and will commence the recruitment of non-teaching staff shortly.

All appointed staff for 2019 will commence their induction program during October. The College Office will be closed from Wednesday, October 24 to Friday, October 26 to enable this induction to take place.

Technology Enhanced Learning

As we are preparing our learning journey for our students, many people have been asking ‘what type of technology will you be using in the College for the students?’ It’s an interesting question with an answer that is perhaps not as vital as you may think. Don’t get me wrong, technology is critical and its integration and use to enhance learning will be a pillar of our learning and teaching approach at the College. It’s just that the question would be better if it was reframed to be ‘how will your teachers be equipped to teach the students with technology and how will they enhance their future lives with it?’ This is the crux of the issue with technology. The device by itself does little and without appropriate teaching, the students will use devices simply for web browsing, gaming and social media interactions (depending on their age). We will have a strategic approach to technology integration.

Our teachers will engage technology-based practice throughout their work. They will make full use of the capacity of the devices we use to bring learning to life for our students. The classrooms have been designed with integrated technology features such as audio systems, high quality visual technologies and individual devices available for our students in their learning. Innovative STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) learning will be consistent and engaging across our year levels and we are developing coding and robotics courses for our students. Our Resource Centre will be a hub of learning including an integrated technology focus.

To answer the first question about the type of technology, students in Prep – Year 3 will have access to class sets of Apple iPads to engage technology in their learning. Our Year 7 students will have individual Apple iPads with integrated cases and keyboards. All devices are provided by the College and managed within the College. These devices have great power and capacity and the students will be provided opportunities to undertake learning and technology specific learning (including coding) across a range of platforms to learn broadly and learn within. More importantly, our teachers will be recognised and accredited ‘Apple Teachers’ and our classrooms have been strategically designed for technology integration and student collaboration – a great example of this being our Year 7 space for 2019.

All in our community are so eager to begin our learning journey and we cannot wait to share our excellent, technology rich, collaborative learning experiences with our students and our community.

Building Program

With the recent run of fine weather, we are pleased to advise our College community that work has been progressing well on the construction of the College.

A major milestone was reached in our construction process when all roofs on all buildings were completed last week. The ground floor of the College administration block is close to completion with all joinery now installed, and floor finishes being installed in the near future.

It was with great excitement that we recently witnessed all external scaffolding removed from the administration block providing us with our first visual of the building's façade.

In the coming weeks we will see all the remaining claddings and external windows installed to all buildings, brickworks completed, and our internal roads will start to come to life with all road guttering being installed.

With a continued run of fine weather our construction of the College is all on track to provide us a fantastic start to the 2019 school year.

Check out our latest construction progress Youtube video [here](#)



Enrolments

Our enrolments for 2019 continue to be very strong. We now have waiting lists established for Prep and year 3, while two of our year 7 classes are full and the third is filling fast. Years 1 and 2 have some vacancies remaining, but we expect demand for these places to continue to be very strong. Unfortunately, it is not possible for us to increase the number of classes in our first two years, nor is it possible to hold places in years 4 and 8 for 2020. As we now have waiting lists established in these classes, we will be referring to our enrolment policy and applying the enrolment criteria should places become available.

We are also receiving significant demand for enrolment in Prep and Year 7 for 2020. At this stage, it is becoming obvious that demand will exceed the number of places available in these year levels in 2020 as we will continue to have only two Prep classes and three year 7 classes. I strongly encourage any families who wish to make application for positions at the College in 2020 to complete an online application form now. While this does not guarantee a place at the College, it will ensure that you receive further information about enrolment procedures and interview dates. We expect interviews for 2020 enrolments to take place during late February and March next year, with the first offers of enrolment for 2020 sent out by Easter.

[ONLINE ENROLMENT FORM](#)



The banner features a green background on the left with the text "OPENING 2019 ENROLMENTS OPEN" in white. On the right, there is a photograph of a group of students in school uniforms gathered around a table, looking at documents. Below the banner, the website address "www.goodsamaritan.qld.edu.au" and a Facebook icon are visible.

In the Community

On Sunday, College Principal Greg Myers and his wife Helen attended the official handover of the Community Park in Parklakes 2 from the developer to the Sunshine Coast Council. The developers, Robert Flipp and Peter Shadforth are justifiably proud of their award winning development and spoke passionately about the growing community and Good Samaritan Catholic College's important place in it. Mayor Mark Jamieson spoke of the importance to the whole Sunshine Coast community of the development and gratefully accepted the park as the latest addition to the Council managed parks. We look forward to being a positive presence in this wonderful growing community.



Uniform and Booklist Update

Our uniform is now in full production at Seaborne Clothing at Marcoola. During the first half of next term, parents will be provided with a price list for all uniform and details of how to order for the beginning of 2019. Uniforms will initially be available at Seaborne Clothing and then at a dedicated Uniform Shop at the College.

Similarly, we are in the process of finalising our Booklists for 2019 for all classes. We have appointed local Sunshine Coast company, Impact Office Supplies, as our official supplier. They will provide a 'one-stop' shop for all stationary requirements for the year, as well as home delivery starting at just \$3.95 per family for early orders. Again, these details will be provided to all families in the first half of next term.



Student Induction

As part of our preparations for the commencement of the school year in 2019, we will be conducting a series of student induction sessions during term 4. The first of these is for our year 7 enrolled students and will be held on Monday, November 5 at the Maroochy River Golf Club. We are in the process of finalising the induction days for the younger students and will publish these as soon as possible. These days will be a chance for our students to meet for the first time and get a small understanding of what will happen at the College next year. More details will be sent out after the holidays.

We expect to take possession of our buildings and grounds in mid-December. This means that we are unable to host opportunities for families to access the site until the new year. During January, we will be hosting "Drop In" days for each year level before school officially starts so that students and their families can see the new facilities, meet the staff and get a feel for our new College. The dates for these opportunities will be published before the end of the year.

School Holiday Office Opening Hours

The College office at Marcoola will be closed on Friday, September 28 and Monday, October 1 during the coming school holidays. The office will be open on all other days during this time, but not all staff will be available at all times.

