



weekly newsletter



*Taste and see that the LORD is good;
blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.*
Psalm 34:8

It is a useful exercise to stop and reflect on all the things we have been praying for and to see how they have turned out. I am always amazed at how many prayers are answered and how they are answered. Often the answer is way beyond what we expected. Sometimes the answer is the opposite to what we asked for but, it turns out, better for us in the long run. There are many examples in our school community of answers to prayer where God has provided for us even more than we expected. The provision of a Principal for 2017 is a great example, the establishment and success of the Kindergarten is another.

This week we received the great news from the Stephens family that God has answered our prayers and that Natalie has been given a completely clean bill of health. This means no further treatments...all is done. Indeed, an outcome such as this is quite uncommon making the result even more special. This is such a relief and a cause for celebration for the family.

It is also a great example of how God, in His own way, hears our prayers, listens to our cries for help and in His time answers.

The verse above was shared with me by Gary and Natalie and it is a truly appropriate one. God calls us all to step out and discover Him and His goodness, to experience it physically and spiritually. We need to take note of it and then to take comfort from it, to trust Him completely for the outcome regardless of what that may be. He knows what we need.

As the end of the year draws near take some time to reflect on God's goodness and thank Him for all he has done.

Term dates for 2017

The term dates for the beginning of the 2017 School year are as follows:

School Office reopens: Monday January 23rd
Term 1 starts (Staff): Monday January 30th
Term 1 starts (Students): Thursday February 2nd
Term 1 ends: Friday March 31st

Dates for the rest of the year for 2017 will be confirmed with the new principal and sent out early in the new year with a more detailed calendar.

Coming Up

TOMORROW
Friday 2nd December
Grade 3/4 Sausage Sizzle
Sausages \$1 | Icy poles 50c
Raising money for the Leprosy Mission

THIS WEEKEND

Saturday 3rd December
Bairnsdale Christmas Parade

Monday 5th December
Grade 6 Dinner

Tuesday 6th December
Orientation Day

Thursday 8th December
Family Night and Grade 6 Graduation

Friday 9th December
School finishes (students)

Contact Us

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Vision Statement

Our School is a vibrant community partnering with parents to educate, nurture and equip their children to the Highest standard so they shine wherever they are, discovering their unique gifts and serving God significantly and passionately in a complex world.



As we did at the beginning of this year we plan to spend the afternoons of the 30th January - 1st February conducting individual testing of students. More information will follow as to how you can book your children in for testing/interviewing.

Bairnsdale Community Christmas Parade

BCCS and Foundations have an entry in this year's parade. If your child/ren would like to participate, it's not too late. Please see Emma in the Office.

If you are watching the parade on the day, make sure you watch out for our students and give them a wave!



BCCS & FOUNDATIONS ELC
END OF YEAR
FAMILY
NIGHT
Thursday 8th December
Riviera Christian Centre
7.00pm SHARP

This is our special evening of celebration and thanksgiving for another year of blessing and growth.

The evening will be held in the Church auditorium next door.
Following the formalities we have a time of supper and fellowship in the Church foyer area.

As in previous years classes will prepare items and we will also have the graduation of our Grade 6 students.

To help with supper could we ask if each family could bring a plate to share. We are also looking for a couple of volunteers to help with supper.
Please contact the school office if you can help.

Prayer Initiative

- Pray for Mr Graeme Johnston after suffering a sudden asthma attack this week.
- Pray for the **Stack/Borg** family this week.

Prayer Points

- Praise God for blessing and providing for us this year.
- Thank God for the many answers to prayer we have had this year.
- Thank God for the provision of a principal for 2017 and pray for Mr Steve McAllister as he prepares to take up the position for 2017.
- Pray for Jason Lyell and Izaak Buttermann both coping with major health issues.
- Pray for Mr Graeme Johnston and others in our school community still recovering from illness or surgery at the moment.
- Pray for the Spanbroek family.

For God so loved the world, that he gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
John 3:16

BOONSTRA GARAGE SALE

Friday 2nd December (TOMORROW) 3.30pm - 4.30pm



Orientation Day

This be happening next week, **Tuesday 6th December**. On this day students will move to their new classes for the morning and return to their current classes for the afternoon.

Last day - Fun Day!

On the last day for school for the students, **Friday 9th December**, we will be having a special day at school. We have organised a Jumping Castle, Zorb Balls and Bungy Run to be set up at school from 10.00am to 1.00pm.

Students will take turns to have a try at each of the activities.

As it is the last day of term it will be free dress day, however, students should wear appropriate clothing for the above activities. All students coming to school out of uniform are asked to bring a gold coin donation to be contributed towards the sponsorship of Wayaputt, a boy we are continuing to sponsor in Thailand.

School will finish at the normal finishing time of 3.10pm.

Richard Boonstra

To all our family in the BCCS community we would like to say thank you for your concern, help and prayers over the last months as Natalie has undergone treatment for breast cancer. During these weeks we have experienced God's love and care in so many ways and you have been a special part of that love and care. We are thankful that God has given Nat such a great result. We hope you have a special time celebrating Jesus at Christmas and enjoying a school break with your families.

Gary and Natalie, Kaitlyn, Jarrod, Rebecca and Cody.

End of Year BBQ

Our school tradition has always been to finish the year with a relaxed fellowship barbecue here at the school on the day that the students finish, **Friday December 9th**.

If you are planning to attend, meat and bread will be provided, please bring a salad or dessert to share. A note is attached to this newsletter for you to indicate whether your family will be coming so that we can get an idea of numbers for catering.

We do understand this is a busy time of the year and so you may not be able to attend.



Bairnsdale makers market

Saturday 3rd December

8.00am - 2.00pm, Boucher Hall
Cnr Wallace & McKean Sts
Farmers Market next door

Quarterly Indoor Craft Market
Showcasing Makers, Designers,
Creators and Artisans from our great
region. Enquiries: 0490 341 053



Carols by the River

Sunday 4th December

Howitt Park, Bairnsdale
Festival • Carols • Fireworks
from 4.00pm

*BCCS & Foundations will be
having a display at the festival.
Come and visit us!*

Messy Church

Sunday 4th December

From 4pm to 6pm
@ St John's Anglican Church Hall
Service St, Bairnsdale
Light meal provided. No cost, but
donations welcome. **Children must
be accompanied by an adult.**
Contact: Sue 5152 3333

SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMPS Camp Coolamatong

For children in Years 4 - 12
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water tubing, canoeing/kayaking,
swimming, archery and climbing/
abseiling. Make new friends and enjoy
small group Bible activities.*
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