



Weekly Newsletter

Happy New Year!!

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a good holiday break and feel ready for a new exciting school year. I'm looking forward to getting to know you over the coming months as the new Principal of BCCS.

My name is Steve McAllister and my wife's name is Di. Our two children were educated at Chairo Christian School and we now have three grandchildren attending the same school. My wife has been a primary teacher in Christian schools however is currently a School Chaplain. I have been in Christian Schools since 1998 heading up the Pakenham Campus of Chairo.

I am passionate about Christian Education and consider it a real privilege to be joining the community here at Bairnsdale. I look forward to working with you to educate and grow your children over the next year.

SCHOOL OFFICE

The Office is now open for the 2017 School year. We have two new office staff joining the team. Mrs Alana Hubbard and Miss Kristen Brehaut. Please make them feel welcome in their new roles. Emma will only be with us for another month. Her last day is 17 February. Uniforms can be organised and purchased with the ladies in the Office.

2017 SCHOOL YEAR

School Students return for School on Thursday February 2. 4 year old Kinder will commence on Wednesday February 1 and 3 year old Kinder Friday February 3. Teachers will be back on Monday January 30 with three days of preparation and planning. During these days the mornings have been set aside for individual testing/interviewing of students. We are allowing approx. 40 minutes for each interview. Individual interviewing/testing is a valuable source of information for teachers as they determine the level each child has attained in their learning. By conducting these interviews in this way before school starts we aim to take the pressure off trying to test each child during the school term. Please call the Office to arrange a time to bring your child(ren) in next week. The sessions will be starting from 9.30am each morning on January 30-31 and February 1.

Below are the School term dates for 2017:

Term 1	Thursday February 2	Friday March 31
Term 2	Tuesday April 18	Friday June 30
Term 3	Monday July 24	Friday September 22
Term 4	Monday October 9	Wednesday December 13

Coming Up

Mon 30th Jan - Wed 1st Feb
Individual student testing

Thursday 2nd February
First Day Term 1

Friday 17th February
Dedication & Fellowship
Evening, 6.00pm

Monday 27th February
School Photos

Saturday 18th March
Family Fun Day

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.

A School Calendar will be sent home soon after the students return. For now here are a few important events to take place in Term 1 already:

Dedication & Fellowship evening:

Each year we like to start the year off with a special evening of fellowship and a time to pray and ask for God's blessing on the year ahead of us. This year it will take place on **Friday February 17** starting at **6:00 pm** with a fellowship picnic/dinner. For this event please bring your own food and drinks. Coffee and tea will be available in the staffroom. The School BBQ will also be set up for those who wish to use it.

During the evening we will also introduce our new Grade 6 leaders to the School community and we will pray for them in their new roles.

I would strongly encourage everyone to come along for this event as we acknowledge our complete dependence on God and take the opportunity to welcome our new families to the school and help make our community stronger.

Meals On Wheels:

We will be participating in this valuable program twice this year. The first opportunity is in March, in the week beginning March 6. Our Grade 5/6 class will be participating this time and so we are looking for parents of our Grade 5/6 students to assist with an hour or so of their time to help students deliver meals.

Family Fun Day:

This is a huge event in the life of the school and a significant one on many levels, not just as a fundraiser. This year it will be held on **Saturday March 18**. Please mark the date down on your calendars/diaries. We will need everyone to assist in some way. A form will be sent home very soon for you to indicate where you can help. Thank you for your help and understanding.

School Photos:

These will be taken on **Monday 27th February**. Please note the date.

Classes and Staffing for 2017:

Prep:	Mrs Hamer – 2 days & Mrs Favero - 3 days
1/2:	Mrs Brehaut – 4 days & Mrs Twining – 1 day
3/4:	Mrs Eveleigh
5/6:	Mr Bazley – 4 days & Mr Micallef - 1 day
Kindergarten:	Mrs Veale
Indonesian:	Mr Bazley
Sport/PE:	Mr Micallef

PARENT HANDBOOK

An updated Parent Handbook will be sent home to all new families and will be available from the Office. It contains useful information from a whole school perspective.



Prayer Points

- Praise God for a blessed and relaxing break during Christmas/New Year period.
- Thank God for our school community.
- Pray for all of our students as they prepare to return to school for 2017.
- Pray for the Kindergarten as it begins its new sessions.
- Pray for our new students and their families as they join our school community.
- Pray for our new staff, Mr Steve McAllister, Mrs Alana Hubbard, and Miss Kristen Brehaut as they settle in to their roles and our school community.
- Pray for Miss Emma Fuhrmeister as she finishes her role at BCCS and prepares for her wedding.
- Pray for all of our staff as they spend time preparing for the new school year.
- Pray for our 2016 Grade 6 students as they begin secondary schooling.

We can make our
plans, but the LORD
determines our steps.
Proverbs 16:9