

GENEVA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

FOR 2010

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

2010

Review

This is the fifth annual report we have produced as a requirement of the Federal Government. They stipulate that all schools publish information to the school community and the general community on how each particular school is performing. These statistics will continue to help in making informed decisions about our strengths and pinpoint the areas in which improvement is necessary. This report represents the year **2010**, and as you read through it, I trust that you will be encouraged and blessed. A copy is also available on our website.

School Overview

We are a co-educational school, registered from K-12, with over a 45 year history in the Latrobe community. We are located on the outskirts of the town, ideally situated on 112 acres of farm and bush land. We offer individualised Christian education, either on campus, through distant education or a mix of both. These two options have the same objective, which is to equip students with the ability to fulfil their God given direction in life. Our curriculum is based on a Christian ethos that reflects Biblical principles, truths and values. We seek to work with those families who share our commitment to these Christian standards.



During 2010 we continued our relationship with Polytechnic in the area of Horticulture and this has enabled students to develop their skills in soil & plant analysis, weed identification and the safe use of gardening equipment.

We also offered Cooking & Sewing, with students developing skills in food handling and preparation, and also producing items of needlework. Small groups of students enjoyed learning the intricate side of Robotics, while those students who participated in Art room produced some exceptional pieces of artwork. The Year 10 - 12 students', once again spent a week at Poatina with Fusion, completing a Youth Foundations course during July and were involved in work experience sessions during the year. The Year 10's participated in a Driver Awareness Programme run by the Rotary Club of Australia. Most of the



Year 10, 11 and 12's participated in a suicide prevention workshop, a visit from the Armed Forces, first aide, a centrelink information session and electoral training. All the 7 – 12's were involved in camps to Interlaken or Hobart and day trips for end of term privileges and sports days with other schools.

The majority of our students participated in the annual Student Convention, which involves entries in all areas of the curriculum. Across the school our students enjoyed many varied activities including the swimming carnival, School Fair, a dress up & open day for literacy week, cross country, casual clothes days to raise funds for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Box outreach, the Premier's Reading Challenge, MS Readathon, visits to local nursing homes, AGFEST, Christmas Carols at Churches, plus end of term excursions. A new

concept for our school and one that we welcome is school-based traineeships. These extend from the Year 9 – 12's and enable the students to continue their school work, but also allow them to go out to work. An employer takes a student on in a particular field and trains them in either Certificate I, II or III. So at the end of the traineeship, they come out with a qualification, which not only goes towards their final certificate, but also gives them scope for future employment opportunities. We had five school-based trainees in 2010.



SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION:

1. Staff Attendance

During 2010 the percentage of days absent for our regular teaching staff was 0.55%. This once again reflects the high level of commitment shown by our staff.

2. Teaching Staff Retention

Diana Martin left us as a full-time teacher at the end of 2010, but remained on as a relief teacher for 2011. Diana is also working with any students who require extra assistance. We also welcomed Mrs Leanne Murphy as a full time teacher into the Primary area.

3. Teacher Qualifications

All our teachers are registered by the Teachers Registration Board of Tasmanian and are trained to implement the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum. Our teaching staff during 2010 included 5 full time and 4 part time.

Collectively they had the following qualifications:

Bachelor of Science

Bachelor of Education & Bachelor of Education with Honours

Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Fine Arts

Certificate IV Teacher Aide

Bachelor of Adult Education

Bachelor of Librarianship

Graduate Diploma of Education

Certificate IV Child Care & Education



4. Expenditure & Teacher Participation in Professional Learning

Our school is committed to having qualified staff and we actively encourage them to improve their qualifications and keep updating them as time allows. Professional Development sessions, which our staff attended included meetings, seminars and courses of study conducted by Independent Schools of Tasmanian (IST), Tasmanian Association of Christian Educators (TACE) Christian Schools Australia (CSA), TAFE, UTAS and the Department of Education. The range of courses covered during 2010 were First Aid & Anaphylaxis Training, Fire Safety Training, an Educators Forum, Literacy Workshops, Special Needs sessions, Suicide Prevention, Industrial Relations, Information Technology & Occupational Health & Safety Training. The average expenditure by the school for PD was \$541 per teacher.

5. Student Attendance

Students are required by law to attend school on every day of the school year (39 weeks). If a student is sick, the school should be contacted on the morning of the illness. Students can be exempted from attendance where a genuine reason is provided and accepted by the school. In 2009, our students were present on average for 91.7% of the required days.

6. Proportions of Year 3, 5, 7, 9 Students meeting National Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar & Punctuation & Numeracy National Standards

The Federal Government has established a national testing system for reading, writing, spelling, grammar punctuation and numeracy in Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The results below indicate those grades where students were below the National Minimum Standard in 2010.

| | Grade 3 | Grade 5 | Grade 7 | Grade 9 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Reading | 1 below | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below |
| Writing | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below | 1 below |
| Spelling | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below |
| Grammar & Punctuation | 1 below | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below |
| Numeracy | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below | 0 below |

7. Changes in the Benchmark Results from the Previous Year

Percentages of students achieving national benchmarks and changes in results are not applicable for smaller schools.



8. Value Added

In our Learning Centres, students below the benchmark in numeracy and literacy are diagnosed (like all students) and placed on their current academic level. Upon successful completion at that level and with time and effort, improvement appears in their competency in both numeracy and literacy. We supplement their curriculum to assist and expand those students who are of a lower academic level than their peers. We also engaged a private consultant to work with and give extra assistance to selected students with extra needs. In the upper primary area we trialed the computerized Mathletics programme, and were very please with the results.

9. Average Standardised Assessment Results for Year 9 & 10 Students

Our school curriculum has been approved by the School Registration Board, but is different from most other school's curriculum. Therefore, through our programme we can ascertain a student's progress and achievement, through their individual PACE assessment.

10. Senior Secondary Outcomes

Geneva offers a Year 12 Vocational Certificate, Year 12 General Certificate and a Year 12 Academic Certificate, each requiring different academic standards and credits. The Year 12 Vocational Certificate caters for the less academic students and provides a more practical educational pathway or work placement. The Year 12 Academic Certificate is for those students wishing to continue on to University. This certificate is recognised by UTAS as an entry requirement. Many of our students who have completed a Year 12 Academic Certificate have been successful at Universities nationally.

11. Proportion of Year 9 Students Retained to Year 12 or Equivalent

At Year 10 level, students are encouraged to continue on to complete a Year 12 Certificate. However, some choose to enter the workforce and are offered either apprenticeships or traineeships and leave to take up positions in the workforce. Approximately 80% of our students remain at school past Year 10 level.

12. Post School Destinations

In 2010 Geneva Christian College had seven Graduates, five from Year 12 and two from Year 10. The following are their destinations:

1 student commenced an apprenticeship in Media Design

1 student commenced an apprenticeship in Building & Carpentry

1 student moved to another school

1 student entered the workforce

1 student commenced a traineeship as a Veterinary Nurse

1 student commenced a nursing degree at UTAS

1 student commenced an engineering diploma at TAFE



13. Satisfaction

We are dependent for our existence on student, parent and teacher satisfaction with the school. In 2009 our School Board developed and promoted the school, through the initiation of a Strategic Plan. This plan continued throughout 2010 and as you will be aware there are many and varied changes inside and outside the school. We have had many positive comments from you as parents & families and also the wider community.



The Geneva Parents & Friends are a great group of ladies, and sometimes men! They faithfully fundraise for many and varied projects around the school. The P&F held our second School Fair for over twenty years, which although a big effort, proved most worthwhile, both financially and socially. They also held,

pie drives, lamington drives and cake stalls. The P&F meet monthly and we encourage you to attend those meetings when you can.

Your involvement, as parents in school events, like Parent Teacher interviews, school activities, P&F meetings/fundraisers and working bees is a strong indication of your effort and support and we thank you!

Thank you parents for allowing us to be part of this most high calling, to train your children and help direct them on their future pathway. God has blessed us with a loving and caring staff. We acknowledge their continued efforts and encourage you as families to pray for your child's teacher on a regular basis.



