



## Message from the Principal

### *Another busy term draws to a close at Discovery Christian College.*



I am encouraged as I reflect on the progress that our students have made both academically and socially during their first 8 months at the school.

One of the recurring stories I have seen and heard over these first 3 terms is how challenged some of the students have felt at various stages. Sometimes, the natural response when a student finds the work commitment too difficult is to feel inadequate and be tempted to give up.

Our philosophy as a school is to build resilience in our students and enable them to find the strength to press on during these times. When students persevere like this, the most inspiring achievements can be witnessed. We see students making breakthroughs in areas where previously they didn't believe they could do it.

If we as a school make things too easy for students so that they achieve what they believe to be success with minimal effort, then we are not preparing them for the challenges of the real world beyond school.

Our job as a school is to help students build character, perseverance, employability and life skills and to do this, we need to have high expectations of every student. Our expectations are not the same for each student;

moreover they are unique expectations that we set for each individual.

What we are now seeing with some students, is a new sense of belief emerging that has all the hall marks of strong character and resilience that they need to be successful in the world of work after school is over.

Our desire is that we will not sell our students short but instead stretch them and provide challenging experiences for them that are far from easy.

We also instil in our students the sense that their skills and abilities are not fixed. That they can overcome these challenges and discover new opportunities that they never realised were possible.

We do not apologise for pushing our students and having such high expectations. As every parent knows, if we just put everything on a plate for our children, they will not grow into mature young men and women. The added positive outcome to all this is that we have tremendously committed teachers who are willing to journey alongside our students to help them through these challenging experiences.

## CONTENTS

- Message from the Principal
- Term Dates for 2016
- Presentation Night
- Year 1 - 11 in 2016
- School Fees
- Year 3/4
- Book Week
- Year 5/6
- Genius Hour
- Design Technology
- Year 9 Sailing and Sea Kayaking Expedition
- Relay for life

We will not allow a student to achieve anything less than their best and will persevere for the duration of their time at school.

One day, in the near future, we will see the fruit of this hard work and celebrate with our year 12 graduates each year as they head off into a new world of challenges, fully equipped with a strong sense of purpose and self confidence.

Blessings,

Damian Higgins

## Term Dates 2016

Term 1	Wednesday 27th January to Thursday 24th March
Term 2	Monday 11th April to Friday 26th June
Term 3	Wednesday 13th July to Friday 16th September
Term 4	Tuesday 4th October to Thursday 8th December

# Presentation Night

DCC's presentation night will be on Thursday 10th December at the Agnes Water Community Center. All students are required to attend. More information to follow next term.

## Year 1 – 11 in 2016.

DCC is pleased to confirm that Grades 1 – 11 will be offered next year. If you have family or friends who would like more information please contact the office to request a prospectus or to book a Principal's tour.

## School Fees

***Please ensure your fee payments are up to date.***

If your fee payments are not up to date please contact the Office Manager, Helen Radford, to discuss your payment plan.

Also a reminder that a term's notice in writing is required when a student is leaving the school, or a terms fees will be charged. Therefore if a student is leaving at the end of this year please ensure you give notice by the end of this term.

# Book Week

***DCC enjoyed its first successful book week in September, which was aimed at providing increased exposure to the joys of books and reading.***

In order to foster a love for books, a range of novels were available for purchase in the school's library, while the library itself was open for extended periods each day so that DCC's students could take full advantage of everything on offer.

This year we followed the "Under the Sea" theme, in accordance with the

Scholastic Book company. Staff and students alike took full advantage of the Book Week Parade on the Friday the 28th of August, with everyone dressing up as a book character. A big thank you must go out to Mrs Melissa Philpot and the P and F committee for all their behind the scenes work to make the week a roaring success.



*The staff had just as much fun as the students!*



*The students eagerly awaiting the opportunity to parade their costumes!*

## Year 3/4

***In Science this term the Grade 3/4s have been learning about plants.***

As well as learning about the parts of plants and their functions, the class grew a variety of bean seeds and observed them over a three week period. With continual monitoring, watering, tending and measuring many children were very pleased to see their beans sprout roots, stems and leaves; some even grew up out of their cup!



*Year 3/4.*

# Year 5/6

## 5/6C have let their creative juices flow freely recently.

They have been doing creative writing, making collages on multicultural Australia, doing self-portraits and of course, doing wonderful acting! The class did a fantastic performance in a play called "The Quest for the Stone". They worked very hard to remember their lines and improve their acting skills,

and the results were there to be seen by all audience members. Well done to 5/6 students for their efforts, you did an amazing job! Also, a big thank you to Mrs Clifton for her efforts in putting the play together. Well done everybody! It was a wonderful show enjoyed by students, parents and teachers.



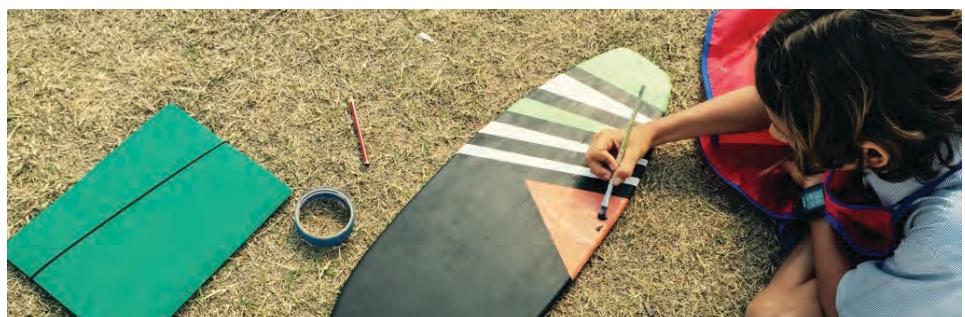
*Cast of The Quest for the Stone,*



*It was a packed house for the opening performance of The Quest for the Stone and The Wonderful Wide World Of People .*

# Genius Hour

Students have been working hard on their genius hour projects, showing their creative and entrepreneurial skills. Some even creating simple businesses and going as far as developing business plans and registering their business names with the appropriate government departments!



*Alki Kallas putting the finishing touches on his balance training board.*

# Design Technology

## *Design Technology students are literally blasting off this term with the construction of CO2 powered dragsters.*

The 9/10 class has spent all term researching, designing and constructing their dragsters to work within a very strict set of parameters set out by the governing body of the national CO2 Dragster competition. CO2 Dragsters race along a 20m track reaching speeds in excess of 70km/h!

The students will be racing their cars in the last week of term to see who has designed and constructed the fastest dragster. Stay tuned for more coverage of the races in the Coastal Rag.



*Brianna McConnell, Mackenzie Wood and Kennedee Millar with their painted dragsters nearly ready to race. Mackenzie is holding a 'blank' from which all students shaped their dragsters.*

# Year 9 Sailing and Sea Kayaking Expedition

*In Week 7 of Term 3, the Year 9 students at Discovery Christian College ventured down to their launching spot at Victoria Point for a week of sailing and sea kayaking in the beautiful Moreton Bay area.*

Students camped on Coochiemudlo Island, Peel Island, and North Stradbroke Island at Straddie Camping Ground and Bradbury's Beach.

Queensland Christian Camping Centre, who is the facilitator of DCC's sequential camp program in the high school, led the journey. For the first half of the week we welcomed the crew from 'Blue Peter: The Sailing School' who showed us the ropes, or should I say 'sheets', of sailing in boats created from a 200 year old design.

The art of sailing was quickly mastered as each student got a turn at all the different roles required while sailing. The sailing leg of the journey presented a fantastic opportunity to acquire a new skill, learn a new (sea) language, understand the importance of using your initiative, and learn to work as a team in a tight-knit situation. From racing, to adventuring, to learning how to harness the wind and jib and jive,

the students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The second leg of the journey saw the students change to a slower paced sea kayak as they began the more physically demanding half of the week. Paddling along in a group meant more time for talking and singing and sharing in experiences as a whole, with the opportunity to spot numerous marine life.

A significant part of the experience takes place on land as students learn to organise themselves as a group and take on the responsibilities of setting up camp, preparing and cooking all their meals, and also take time out to enjoy nature with a night walk along the beach or a quick dip in the ocean.

The students had a wonderful time and learnt a great deal about living and working with each other and enjoying life on the water.

*Miss Priscilla van Brummelen*



*To infinity and beyond.*



*Students and instructors about to set sail from Peel Island.*

## Relay for life

*Students volunteered themselves!*

On Saturday the 15th of August, a team of the year 9/10 students volunteered themselves to participate in the annual Bundaberg Relay for Life event, where groups unite as a community to raise funds and awareness for cancer.

There was a large walking route where team members took it in turns to walk around starting from the early afternoon and continuing the "relay" throughout the night.

Brianna McConnell took up the responsibility of team captain, doing an excellent job of organising and planning most of the logistics and running of the DCC team at the event. Her hard work and efforts have set the bar high for next year's team.



*The Relay For Life Team.*