

Newsletter



Term 2 Week 8

21 June 2018

Exams.

While educationalists may debate their value, examinations continue to play a large part in the assessment of learning in schools. This includes for the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE).

Those of us who are ancient enough to remember the “good old days”, when your Year 12 grade was based solely on the end of the year examination, either love them (as it was less effort than doing a whole lot of assignments) or hate them (due to the stress).

So from today, and through until early next week, the High School students are sitting examinations in English, Mathematics, Geography and Science. In order to make these the best learning experience that we can, we are using a set of examination rules adapted from the TCE.

Telling you what we are doing does not answer the “Why?” question, however. What is the reason for doing the exams in the first place?

It was Benjamin Franklin who stated that “By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.” What does that mean in the context of examinations? One of our school values is perseverance. This involves continual effort rather than giving up as soon as it gets difficult. Examinations, coming at the end of a block of learning, are an opportunity to demonstrate the perseverance that is required to navigate the pitfalls of life.

Examinations are a measurement of learning, but they are unable to give more than a snapshot. So the real learning from examinations is what the student can take away from this, and apply to their studies for the remainder of the year.

So when the results come back, regardless of what they are, treat them as a learning experience for the future. Ask what habits can be developed to improve on these results at the end of the year?

In a couple of weeks we will have an opportunity to sit down and discuss the results of the first semester of learning.

Let me encourage you to come in and converse with the teachers. As much as anything else, the message that this sends is that you are vitally interested in their learning.

Upon making the appointment, remember that learning is a partnership, so take the time to discuss ways in which you can provide support for their learning away from class.

Interview times also provide an opportunity to continue a dialogue between you and your child about learning, and feel free to use emails to keep in contact with the teacher if you need to.

It is hard to realise that we have finished almost half of the year. I read this morning that today is the day of the winter solstice, so summer is on the way. 2018 seems to be flying by.

Thank you for being part of the Hilliard Christian School community. It will be great to catch up with you in a couple of weeks as we finish off the first half of the year.

Yours sincerely

Steve Littlewood

Exodus 20:12 "Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

The two middle commandments of the ten found in Exodus 20 are Remember the Sabbath day directly followed by honouring your parents. The former is to honour space and time, and the latter, the people that raised you. The fifth commandment comes with a promise that will bless your space and time on earth. "that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." But why?

On Monday 18th June, Ms Knight lead the Years 9 and 10 students on an excursion to the Glenview Community Services. The purpose of the excursion was to have the students engage with the elderly folk. Perhaps you may ask the same question one of the students had asked me, "why would they want to see us?" Well, I can think of two reasons, and I will only speak on two because I need to keep this spiel quick and to the point.

The first point is one that elderly folk taught me when I began to visit them when I was young like these students. I learned that they often feel lonely. These people who grew up from childhood like all of us, became teens and fell in love (like some of us), married had children, lived a rich life and now find themselves without their lifelong spouse, their children busy going through the same motions and feeling as if they are an inconvenience. When young people come to see them and ask them about their lives, these elderly folk are refreshed with feeling like they still have something to contribute to the world. And truth be told, they certainly do.

From my experience, every single time I engage the generations before me. I appreciate how spoilt I am and how much easier life is for me. When I'm most ready to whinge at the difficulties of life, I am bombarded with the collective stories of generation before me who experienced things much harder than I did. For example, I've never ploughed with horses before, and I've never had to wake up and milk the cows and move them to another paddock before walking to school. These stories put life into perspective. And thus it will do the same thing for your children, our students at Hilliard Christian School.

It was amusing to watch the students all nervous and tense for the first ten minutes. As they realised the somewhat feeble and fragile looking people had a wealth of experience and were in fact as strong as oak trees. They warmed up to the conversations and began to listen and engage. By the end of the excursion, both the elderly folk and the students were incredibly blessed. I hope they do it again.

Pr David

Week of Worship

Next week Hilliard Christian School will be celebrating our annual Week of Worship (WOW). This will involve a chapel program for the students each day of the week. The High School chapel will take place from 8:50am until 9:50am, and the Primary School program will take place from 11:00am until 11:50am.

The speaker for the week is Pr Daniel Matteo, who is the Youth Director for Tasmania of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We are looking forward to the messages that he has prepared for the students for next week.

School Photo Day

By now all envelopes for the school photos that are being taken next Monday should have been returned. If yours hasn't been sent back, can you please make it a priority to come back from home tomorrow.



Please make sure that your child is in full winter uniform on Monday for the school photos.

Report Night



Teachers are busy preparing the reports for the students covering their achievement against the standards in the Australian Curriculum for the first half of the year.

The reports will be sent home on Tuesday, 3 July. Teachers will be available from 3:30pm to 7:00pm on Thursday, 5 July to have a conversation with parents about the learning that your child has demonstrated during the year to date.

In order to make an appointment, please ring Christine or Kylie during school office hours. The number of the office is 6272 1711.

Service Visit to Bisdee House

A big thank you to the Year 9 & 10 students who shared some joy on a visit to Bisdee House last Monday (and to Miss Knight for organising it).



Cross Country Champions (to be)

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent Hilliard Christian School in the upcoming School Cross Country Championships at Symmons Plains over the next two Tuesdays:

Years 3 & 4:

Esther Mbabazi
Bella Flack
Romulus Rabe
Bereket Hussein

Years 5 & 6

Grace Matteo
Eh Eh Htoo
Victor Aleri
Timothy Cox

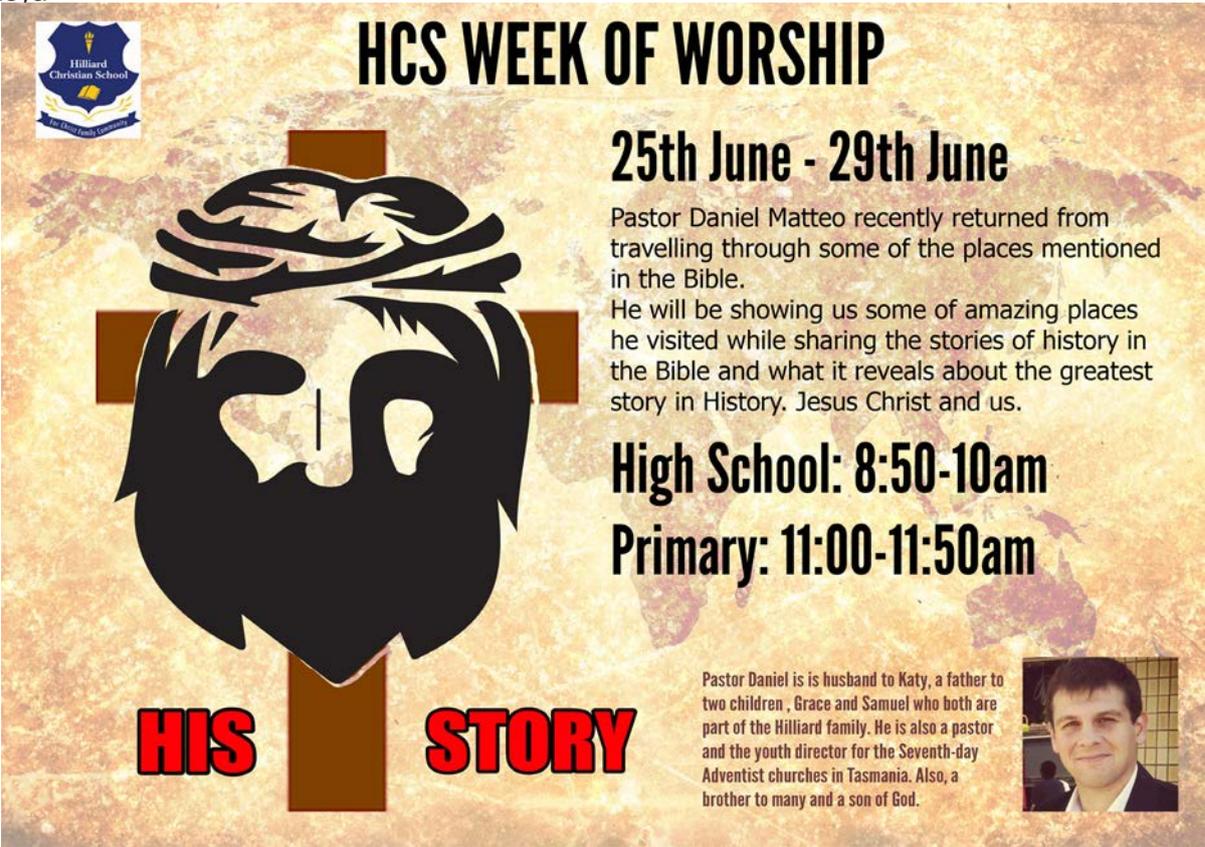
Years 7 - 10

Samson Juju
Jeremiah Neva

School Canteen

Due to a change in circumstances, for the remainder of this term the Canteen will **only be providing hot chips**. These must be ordered in the morning, and will continue to be priced at \$3.50 a bowl.

Further information about the changes for the Canteen in Term 3 will be available later in the term.



HCS WEEK OF WORSHIP

25th June - 29th June

Pastor Daniel Matteo recently returned from travelling through some of the places mentioned in the Bible. He will be showing us some of amazing places he visited while sharing the stories of history in the Bible and what it reveals about the greatest story in History. Jesus Christ and us.

High School: 8:50-10am
Primary: 11:00-11:50am

HIS STORY

Pastor Daniel is is husband to Katy, a father to two children , Grace and Samuel who both are part of the Hilliard family. He is also a pastor and the youth director for the Seventh-day Adventist churches in Tasmania. Also, a brother to many and a son of God.



Keep in touch with what is happening at Hilliard Christian School by checking out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HilliardChristianSchool/>

Happenings

25 June	Photo Day
3 July	Reports sent Home
5 July	Parent Teacher Interviews
6 July	End of Term
23 July	PD for Teachers in Campbell Town
24 July	Term 3 Starts
4 August	Margate Church Service (please note change of date for this)
20 August	Book Week Commences

Remember to return your forms with your email address so that we can email the Newsletter directly to your inbox.



You've got to get up every morning with determination...if your going to go to be with satisfaction

— George Corimer