

2008 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Toowoomba Christian College
10852 New England Highway, Highfields 4352
An Independent school offering Co-education from Prep to Year 12
www.tccollege.com.au

During 2008, we have seen a significant growth in our student numbers, and conclude the year with record enrolments – 408 students.

The new structure, which was introduced last year, for the administration of the Primary School with the appointment of two Directors is working well and the benefits have been obvious to all involved. They, along with the three Directors of High School, work with me to ensure the smooth running of each aspect involved in the daily running of a school.

STUDENT NUMBERS

The 2008 school year began with 395 students enrolled in the school. By the school census date in August we had 403 students.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

A number of parents gave freely of their time to help in the primary classrooms and Library again this year. The school is extremely grateful for the assistance given by these parents.

Special mention must be made of Mrs Sigrid Maxwell, who after 12 years of voluntary service sold her last item in the Clothing Pool. Thank you Mrs Maxwell for your many years of giving to our school!

SCHOOL STAFF

At the beginning of the year we welcomed Miss Kate Pearson, Mrs Rebecca Chaffey and Mr and Mrs Tim and Michelle Gray to our Primary staff. In the High School we welcomed Mr Michael Gauldie, Mr Julian Smith, Mrs Michelle Tickle and Mrs Tamara Mitchell. Mrs Sue Patterson was also appointed the High School Girl's Chaplain and Miss Elizabeth Shaw joined our administration team.

During the year, Miss Kate Pearson and Mr Michael Gauldie resigned. Mrs Judith van Amstel took Miss Pearson's place for the rest of the year and Mr Graham Solomon was appointed the new Graphic and Woodwork teacher.

In Term 3 Mrs Shelley Traves resigned after 12.5 years of faithful service to the school.

During the year we welcomed three new part time administration team members – Mrs Gayle Hine, Mrs Kelli Weller and Mrs Pat Wheeler.

At the end of this school year we farewell Miss Melinda Cranney.

We wish all of the staff who have departed this year God's blessings as they move on to the next stage of their journey with Him and welcome our new staff members into all that God has for them within Toowoomba Christian College.

OVERSEAS & DOMESTIC MISSIONS TRIPS

This year, during the September holidays, Miss Melinda Cranney, Mr Nathan Gilmour and Mr Chris Windus (from Toowoomba City Church) took 10 students to Fiji. They had a thoroughly rewarding time visiting villages and speaking at church services.

More missions trips are planned for next year, including an Asian Experience encompassing four Asian countries of differing religious beliefs, cultures and systems.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES

This year the school once again entered students from Years 3 -12 in the National Competitions in English, Science and Maths.

I am very pleased with the results in the following competitions. We again made entering into these competitions optional for students from our advanced classes. This does make it more difficult to compare our results with previous years.

Primary Maths:	11	Credits	6	Distinction	1	High Distinction
Primary English:	20	Credits	5	Distinctions		
Secondary Maths:	22	Credits	4	Distinctions		
Secondary English:	31	Credits	12	Distinctions	1	High Distinction
Secondary Science:	25	Credits	12	Distinctions	1	High Distinction

YEAR 3, 5, 7 & 9 NATIONAL TESTING RESULTS

The school received its results in the 2008 Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 Tests. This test was the first national test completed in Australia and compared students who were of the same age, but which were studying different curriculums. These results indicate that students at Toowoomba Christian College are consistently achieving above the state and national averages in most aspects of Literacy and Numeracy.

READING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)	Percentage at or above the national minimum standard
Year 3	406	370.8	400.4	92.31
Year 5	495	465.7	484.3	89.29
Year 7	569	528.1	536.6	100
Year 9	577	568.0	578.0	95.12

WRITING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)	Percentage at or above the national minimum standard
Year 3	427	392.0	414.2	100
Year 5	502	469.0	486.4	96.43
Year 7	549	522.7	533.7	96.77
Year 9	553	555.0	569.3	87.5

SPELLING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)	Percentage at or above the national minimum standard
Year 3	400	366.2	399.3	100
Year 5	448	461.5	483.6	89.29
Year 7	554	527.1	538.6	96.77
Year 9	569	567.5	577.0	95

GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)	Percentage at or above the national minimum standard
Year 3	396	369.8	402.9	100
Year 5	515	476.1	496.0	92.86
Year 7	584	517.8	529.0	100
Year 9	583	563.0	569.2	92.5

NUMERACY

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	Average Score (National)	Percentage at or above the national minimum standard
Year 3	408	367.5	396.7	100
Year 5	467	457.7	475.7	92.86
Year 7	581	538.8	544.9	100
Year 9	582	570.5	582.2	100

APPARENT RETENTION RATES

The Queensland Government requires the school to publish our Apparent Retention Rates. These rates have been calculated using the nationally agreed methodology which is defined as the number of full-time students in Year 12 in any given year, expressed as a percentage of the number of students who started in Year 10 two years previously.

The calculations are based on enrolment data collected from the school by the Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Training (DEST) as part of the annual National School Statistics Collection.

Year	Year 10	Year	Year 12	Retention rate %
2004	35	2006	28	80.0%
2005	34	2007	32	94.1%
2006	38	2008	35	92.1%

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

Certificates Offered at School

Working in partnership with the Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE (SQIT), Toowoomba Christian College was able to offer the following certificates to students:

- Certificate II in IT
- Certificate III in IT
- Certificate III in Visual Arts and Contemporary Craft

A total of 24 students participated in these courses. Working in partnership with Club Training Queensland, 45 students were able to work towards obtaining a Certificate II in Hospitality (Operations).

Certificates Studied Through the Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE

25 Students attended classes at SQIT on a weekly basis and worked towards certificates in a range of areas, including:

- Automotive
- Computer-Aided Drafting
- Beauty
- Business
- Design Fundamentals
- Interior Design
- Meetings and Events
- Retail
- Visual Art

University of Southern Queensland Headstart Subjects

This year 9 Senior High students studied university subjects while still at school in fields including Education, Engineering and Nursing! We were able to facilitate this using USQ's Headstart program which has a number of advantages for participating students, including:

- The first subject studied through the Headstart program is free.
- Students are able to get a taste for both university life and the field of study which they are thinking of pursuing.
- Students who pass a Headstart subject have guaranteed entry into USQ upon completion of Year 12, provided that they meet the subject prerequisites.

University of Southern Accelerated Biomedical Science Program

This year two of our students graduated as part of the inaugural University of Southern Accelerated Biomedical Science Program cohort, completing almost the first year of a 3-year Biomedical Science degree.

In Semester Two, a third student commenced study in the second intake of students into this program.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

2008 saw 4 of our Year 12 students travel to Canberra for the sixth Christian Schools Australia Student Leadership Conference. I was delighted with impact that it had on our students, as well as the 203 other students from 42 schools who attended. I strongly believe in investing in our young people's lives, and will be taking a group of Year 12 students again next year.

SPORTING PERFORMANCES

The school continued to participate enthusiastically in interschool sports with other schools in Toowoomba. Besides the weekly interschool sporting competitions our school was involved in the CSA(Q) carnivals - cross country, athletics and swimming, and team games for both primary and secondary.

This year the school has been privileged to have 2 students represent the Darling Downs region at State Championships. These students are:

James Lush	(Year 5)	Hockey
Sarah Freeman	(Year 9)	Soccer
Marcus Hoddinott	(Year 11)	Hockey

THE ARTS

This year has once again seen some marvellous performances from our students. Thank you to Mrs Tickle and Mrs Rosenberg for all your efforts as our High School and Primary Drama teachers.

Term 3

Revolution of the Mouth

Senior High School Drama class

Primary School Drama Festival

Including: You are Mine

Year 7 Drama class

THE FUTURE

I believe 2009 will be a year of continued growth for the school. As we continue to grow in numbers, we ask God's continued favour on His school, as we seek to always hear His voice, and strive to do His will. With the rapidly changing face of education we will continue to strive for excellence.

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

I wish to thank Amanda Turner & James Mallon for the wonderful job they have done this year as the school's leaders. They have performed their tasks admirably and I am sure many students are very grateful for the friendship and example they have given throughout the year.

PREFECTS

I also wish to thank Nicholas Kohn, Katie Marney, Erin McLellan and Damien Wooldrige for being our school prefects for this year. I am delighted with the quality of young people who lead our school and set a fine example for the rest of the student body to follow.

CONCLUSION

I would particularly like to thank all the people who have stood with the school in prayer this year. I am very conscious that the Lord is building this school and know how important it is that we continue to look to Him for His blessing and guidance.

I wish to thank the parents who have entrusted their children to Toowoomba Christian College and assure you it is our deepest desire to keep giving your son or daughter the training in their formative years so that they will be prepared to serve the Living God in the world they face.

Richard Brown

Principal

20 November 2008

STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders
Doctorate	0%
Masters	3%
Bachelor Degree	73%
Diploma	24%
Certificate	0%

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008	\$32,376.49
The major professional development initiatives	Classroom Management Behaviour Management WPHS Student Welfare Curriculum Christian Schools Australia Queensland Biennial Teacher's Conference
The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008	100%

STAFF ATTENDANCE

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97.9% in 2008.

STAFF RETENTION

Proportion of teaching staff retained from 2007 was 77%.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 92%

YEAR 12 OUTCOMES

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2008	
Total number of Senior Certificates awarded	Not Applicable
Percentage of OP – eligible students with OP 1-15	Not Applicable
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates and awarded VET qualification	Not Applicable
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates with OP eligibility or awarded a VET qualification	100 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer	92.9%

NEXT STEPS SURVEY

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post school destinations of our students will be posted to our website by 30 September 2009.

YEAR 2 DIAGNOSTIC NET RESULTS

The school does not participate in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net.

HOW COMPUTERS ARE USED TO ASSIST LEARNING

The school has over one hundred computers in the school being used by students and they are all used to assist learning.

VALUE ADDING

All of the schools activities are built around the concept of value adding. The school has not formulated a way of measuring this in a way to give true recognition to the value we add to each student.

PARENT, STUDENT AND TEACHER SATISFACTION

The school receives feedback and measures of satisfaction through various ways including letters and testimonials from parents.

The increasing enrolments over time are a good indicator of satisfaction with the school and its offering.