

# **2007 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

Toowoomba Christian College  
10852 New England Highway, Highfields 4352  
Offering Co-education from Prep to Year 12

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During 2007, we have seen a significant growth in our student numbers, and commenced the year with record enrolments – 402 students.

A new structure was introduced for the administration of the Primary School with the appointment of two Directors. Already there have been some obvious benefits.

The most noticeable milestone was the introduction of Prep. Both staff and students are enjoying the new Prep facilities and resources, and it has been a positive step for our school to have students beginning their education at Toowoomba Christian College, rather than entering at Year 1 after completing Pre-School elsewhere.

## **STUDENT NUMBERS**

The 2007 school year began with 402 students enrolled in the school. By the school census date in August we had 398 students.

This year saw the school enrol our very first International Students – from USA in Year 10 and from Papua New Guinea also in Year 10. We are thrilled to have them in the school, and I am sure that they have contributed lots to the other students' awareness of cultural diversity.

## **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

2007 saw the closure of the P&F, a decision not made lightly, but due to the falling numbers of parents able to actively be involved. The school has endeavoured to continue the valuable community events instigated by the P&F, such as the Trivia Night, held on Saturday 1 September. The school is very grateful to the huge contribution the P&F has made over the years.

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.

## **SCHOOL STAFF**

At the beginning of the year we welcomed Miss Kate Zenke, Mrs Emily Chapman, Miss Melinda Cranney, Mrs Sue Heck and Mr David Hartshorn, who joined our Primary staff. In the High School we welcomed Miss Michelle Lord, and Miss Kirstie Moar.

During the year, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Laird took maternity leave. Mrs Rebecca Rosenberg has taken Mrs Laird's place for the rest of the year.

In Term 2 Mr Ian Hoddinott took Long Service Leave and at the end of Term 3 he resigned, after 23 years of faithful service to the school.

During the year we welcomed three new staff members – Mr Ross Garden, Miss Chrissy Henderson and Mr Glyn Reinbott.

At the end of the year we farewelled a number of staff - Mr David Hartshorn, Mr Matthew Sampson, Miss Michelle Lord, Mr Asher Johnson and Mrs Jane Knowd. We wish them God's blessings as they move on to the next stage of their journey with Him.

## OVERSEAS & DOMESTIC MISSIONS TRIPS

This year, during the September holidays, Mrs Pellicaan, Mr Cook, Miss Moar and Miss Henderson took 7 students to Fiji. They had a thoroughly rewarding time visiting villages and speaking at church services.

More missions trips are planned for next year.

## 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:	20	Credits	1	Distinction		
Primary English:	12	Credits	6	Distinctions		
Secondary Maths:	23	Credits	12	Distinctions		
Secondary English:	17	Credits	12	Distinctions	2	High Distinctions
Secondary Science:	21	Credits	4	Distinctions	3	High Distinctions

## YEAR 3, 5 & 7 RESULTS

The school received its results in the 2007 Year 3, 5 and 7 Tests. These results indicate that students at Toowoomba Christian College are consistently achieving above the state averages in all aspects of Literacy and Numeracy.

### READING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	% above benchmark
Year 3	578	527	100%
Year 5	621	606	85%
Year 7	680	672	93%

### WRITING

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	% above benchmark
Year 3	579	523	100%
Year 5	596	600	93%
Year 7	649	681	100%

### NUMERACY

Year	Average Score (School)	Average Score (State)	% above benchmark
Year 3	548	521	100%
Year 5	590	588	86%
Year 7	698	648	93%

## APPARENT RETENTION RATES

The Queensland Government now 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 8 five 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 8 Base		Year 12	Retention rate %
2000	40	2004	33	82.5%
2001	38	2005	45	110.5%
2002	43	2006	28	65.1%
2003	33	2007	32	97%

## VOCATIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

This year the school continued to offer our Year 11 & 12 students a Vocational Education & Training program, with students choosing to study modules from a diverse range of subjects such as Pharmacy, Child Care and Agriculture.

This year there has been 10 Senior High students undertaking School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships, as follows:

Multimedia	1	Engineering – Technician	1
Floristry	1	Children's Services	1
Youth Work	1	Agriculture	1
Business Administration	1	Dental Assistance	1
Business	1	Auto Mechanics	1

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

2007 saw 6 of our Year 12 students travel to Canberra for the fifth Christian Schools Australia Student Leadership Conference. I was delighted with impact that it had on our students, as well as the 168 other students from 41 schools who attended. I strongly believe in investing in our young people's lives, and will be taking 6 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 4)	Hockey
Sarah Freeman	(Year 8)	Soccer

## THE ARTS

This year has once again seen some marvellous performances from our students.

### Term 2

*Romeo & Juliet*

High School Drama classes



### Term 3

*A Night at the Movies*

Year 7



*Legend of Veritas*

Junior High Drama classes

## THE FUTURE

I believe 2008 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.

## SCHOOL CAPTAINS

I wish to thank Amanda Philp & David Vandersee 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 Mark Brown, David Casey, Caitlin Reinke and Mariska Fenner 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

30 November 2007

## STAFFING QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders
Doctorate	0%
Masters	7%
Bachelor Degree	77%
Diploma	16%
Certificate	0%

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007	\$25 000
The major professional development initiatives	Classroom Management Behaviour Management WPHS  Student Welfare Curriculum
The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007	100%

## STAFF ATTENDANCE

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 98.7% in 2007.

## STAFF RETENTION

Proportion of teaching staff retained from 2006 was 80%.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was 92.68%.

## NEXT STEP SURVEY

*Because our school is not part of the QSA's OP system, our students do not participate in the Next Step survey. The school does, however, maintain its own records of our students' post-school destinations.*

The table below shows the destination of our students when they left school.

Year	No. of Yr 12 students	University USQ	University other than USQ	TAFE/ other tertiary	YWAM/ Bible College	Apprenticeships/ traineeships	Employment/ other
2007	33	8	4	5	0	3	13

## 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.

### YEAR 3, 5 & 7 TESTING

Percentage of students in the current and previous year above the national benchmark:

Year	<b>Reading</b> Average Score (school)		% on or above benchmark	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
3	582	578	100	100
5	640	621	96	85
7	712	680	92	93

Year	<b>Writing</b> Average Score (school)		% on or above benchmark	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
3	552	579	100	100
5	626	596	100	93
7	751	649	100	100

Year	<b>Numeracy</b> Average Score (school)		% on or above benchmark	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
3	560	548	100	100
5	626	590	100	86
7	691	698	88	93

### YEAR 12 OUTCOMES

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort 2006	
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	91 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer	94 %

### 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.