



Chairo  
Christian School

# PAKENHAM NEWS

Thursday 7 December 2017



*Our wonderful bands, choirs and ensembles have been touring the local community.*

## Dates to Remember

### December

Friday 8	Years 7–9 Cricket Big Bash Excursion Middle School Expo, 5.00 pm Middle School Presentation Night, Finlay Hall, 7.00 pm
Monday 11	Pre-Kinder Party Day
Tuesday 12	Middle School Activity Day Green Group Kinder Party Day Green Group Kinder Concert, 2.15 pm Year 4 Graduation, Junior School Quadrangle, 5.00 pm Junior School Celebration Night, Finlay Hall, 6.30 pm
Wednesday 13	Last Day of School (3.15 pm finish) Red Group Kinder Party Day Red Group Kinder Concert, 1.15 pm
Friday 15	Last Day for Staff
Friday 22	Administration Office Closes, 4.30 pm

### January

Thursday 11	Administration Office Opens for 2018
Tuesday 23	New Staff Orientation Day
Wednesday 24	Staff Professional Development Day
Thursday 25	Staff First Aid Training Day
Friday 26	Australia Day Public Holiday
Monday 29	Staff Preparation Day
Tuesday 30	ELC, Prep & Year 12 Students Commence
Wednesday 31	Year 12 Challenge Day Excursion Years 1–11 Students Commence



**Follow Chairo on Facebook**  
[facebook.com/chairo.pakenham](https://facebook.com/chairo.pakenham)

# Whole School News

## Chairo's Vision

Throughout this term, I have been writing about Chairo's mission (to provide excellence in Christ-centred education, in partnership with families, within a caring Christian community) and values (Christ-like character, biblical foundations, partnership, relationship, achievement, uniqueness and stewardship).

I am pleased to have the opportunity, in this final newsletter for 2017, to look forward and talk about Chairo's vision.

As you would expect, our foundational statements (i.e. our mission, values and vision) strongly shape who we are and what we do at Chairo. You will shortly receive (or may have already received) a copy of our Strategic Plan 2018–2022 booklet, which has recently been launched by the Board.

In this booklet, you will see more about how our foundational statements underpin our clear strategy that seeks to guide how we move forward as a growing school. I commend this document to you as members of the school community, and those with a strong interest and stake in Chairo.

Our vision is to see Christ's redemptive impact in the world through the capability, character and commitment of our students. Let me briefly reflect on some vital aspects of this statement.

**Firstly**, you will see that our vision focuses on students. Our existence, efforts and energies are focused on students. They are our core business.

**Secondly**, our vision is to see particular qualities displayed in and through our students. Sometimes it is easy to highlight one quality over another (e.g. academic achievement over personal traits, personal faith over personality). We want to see the whole child flourish. We want to see their capability (what they know and can do), their character (who they are and show themselves to be) and their commitment (what pursuits they devote themselves to) all shine.

**Thirdly**, we want these combined qualities to be used to make a positive difference in our world. We all know highly skilled and personally persuasive people who use amazing gifts and abilities in a self-serving and immoral manner. This is not what we would want to see in a Chairo graduate.

**Finally**, our vision identifies that ultimately, we want our students knowing and living in the truth that God is at work, through Jesus Christ, to make all things new. Anything we or our students do is only as a co-worker of the ultimate Creator.

Let me take this opportunity to thank and honour all families who are concluding their partnership with Chairo in 2017. Thank you for your commitment to the

cause of Christian education. Thank you for trusting us to partner with you in the most important task of raising and training in your children.

If you are a family that is continuing to journey with Chairo in 2018, thank you. We look forward to our ongoing partnership next year.

I trust that everyone can have a safe and restful Christmas season, and that we each capture afresh God's ultimate redemptive act in sending His Son, Jesus Christ, to live amongst us.

**Simon Matthews, Executive Principal**

## Head of Library Announcement

I am sure that we all greatly appreciate our wonderful Chairo libraries, with their many useful resources. The fact that we are able to enjoy our libraries and the learning environment that they create is testimony to how God has blessed us, and to the hard work done by library staff members under Janita Morison's leadership.

Janita has unfortunately informed the school that she decided that her season as Head of Library has come to an end and she has therefore resigned from the end of the year in order to devote more time to her family.

As Head of Library since joining Chairo in 2011, Janita's professionalism and commitment to ensuring that all of our library/resource centres best support student learning programs has been greatly appreciated.

I am confident that I speak on behalf of all staff members in thanking Janita for her excellent service and input during her time with us. Her contributions as a Chairo staff member will certainly be missed. As a community, I am certain that we will uphold Janita in prayer as she prepares to start a new chapter in her life.

Further announcements with regard to replacing Janita will be made in due course.

**Justin Groenewaldt, HR Manager**

## Middle School Uniform Change

Families with children who will be in Middle School in 2018 are reminded that the transition from light blue polo shirts to the collared, button-up Chairo shirts will commence next year. Students in Years 7 and 8 will be expected to wear the button-up shirts (no ties), while the same will apply from the start of 2019 for students in Years 5 and 6.

To assist with the availability of polo shirts for Years 5 and 6 students, families (including those with children in Years 7 and 8 next year) that have spare shirts are encouraged to make these available on the school's Facebook Buy, Swap & Sell page or donate them to the secondhand uniform shop at the Drouin East Campus.

# Pakenham Campus News

## Last Day of Term

The last day of Term 4 will be Wednesday 13 December. School will finish at the normal time of 3.15 pm.

## Holiday Office Hours

The Administration Office will close for the Christmas break on Friday 22 December at 4.30 pm, and will re-open for 2018 on Thursday 11 January.

## Kinder Entry Packs

All parents with children attending Kindergarten in 2018 are reminded to complete and return the various documents distributed at the recent Kinder Information Night as soon as possible, as they are now overdue. If you were unable to attend the Information Night, please collect your family's Kinder Entry Pack from Reception as soon as possible.

## 2018 Family Information Packs

Chairo families have recently received a 2018 Family Information Pack in the mail. This pack contains copies of your family's current information as recorded by the school. Parents are asked to review this information and complete the necessary paperwork enclosed. If you could return these packs via post using the envelope enclosed, or return the envelope to administration as soon as possible, it would be most appreciated.

## 2018 Lamont Booklists

Students in Years 5–8 will benefit from the free postage discount on 2018 Lamont Booklist orders if they are placed by Monday 11 December. Orders made after this date will incur postage charges.

## The Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to all the generous families and friends who have already placed donated non-perishable food items and/or gifts under our Christmas Giving Trees at Reception and the Administration Centre.

For those families still intending to support 4Cs Community Network by bringing a donated item for the Christmas Giving Tree, please note that the final day for donations is Wednesday 13 December. We thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

## Middle School Expo & Presentation Night

The Middle School Expo and Presentation Night will be held tomorrow evening, Friday 8 December.

The Expo will commence at 5.00 pm in the Middle School classrooms and the Design & Technology Centre. It will showcase projects and classwork that the students have been working on this year.

The Presentation Night will commence immediately after the Expo in Finlay Hall at 7.00 pm.

As a convenience to families, a sausage sizzle will be available at a cost of \$1.50 per sausage between 5.00–6.30 pm while stocks last. Cans of drink will also be available for \$1.00 per can.

## Farewell Mrs Power

An afternoon tea will be held in the Food Technology Theory Room on Tuesday 12 December to honour Noelene Power. As the inaugural Early Learning Centre Director, Noelene has been part of the learning journey of many children here at the Pakenham Campus. As such, we invite parents to join with staff in farewelling Noelene at this special event.

## Thank You Mr Subban

As you may be aware, our beloved Mr Subban will be stepping down from the role of Head of Junior School at the end of this school year. Ben has faithfully served the school community in this role for the past seven years. He will be transitioning back into classroom teaching next year, with the Year 4 students continuing to benefit from his vast teaching experience and leadership.

We ask the Chairo community to be praying for Ben as he makes this transition, and we ask that you warmly welcome Mrs Lydia Tweedie to the Head of Junior School role in the new year.

## Year 4 Graduation

Year 4 Graduation will be held on Tuesday 12 December on the Junior School lawn area at 5.00 pm, immediately preceding the Junior School Celebration Night.

Students will share a time of fellowship and celebration with their peers, teachers and immediate family. Families are asked to bring their own dinner.

Formal presentations will be part of this event. The Year 4 graduating class will be officially 'handed over' to Michael Cosgrove, Head of Middle School. What a wonderful milestone for our Year 4 cohort!

## Years 9–11 Fountain Gate Excursion

On Monday 11 December, all students in Years 9–11 will travel via bus to Fountain Gate Shopping Centre in order to attend a screening of the newly-released movie *Wonder* at 11.00 am. Students will also have the opportunity to complete some shopping and/or purchase lunch while at Fountain Gate. Students may wear casual clothing for this excursion.

## Middle School Activity Day

To celebrate the end of a full and enjoyable year, Middle School students will participate in special activities on Tuesday 12 December. The activities for each year level are as follows:

### Year 5 Fitnessworx Incursion

Year 5 students will remain at school and participate in Circus and Superhero themed activities facilitated by the Fitnessworx organisation.

### Year 6 Scavenger Hunt

Year 6 students will travel by bus to the Wilson Botanic Gardens in Berwick where they will enjoy a scavenger hunt.

### Year 7 Clip 'n' Climb

Year 7 students will travel by bus to Clip 'n' Climb in Berwick, where they will complete an indoor rock climbing course followed by lunch at Casey Fields Reserve in Cranbourne.

### Year 8 City Explore

Year 8 students will meet at Pakenham railway station at 8.00 am in readiness for departure on the 8.17 am train to Flinders Street Station. Students may bring some money to purchase lunch on this day. Students will return to Pakenham railway station at 4.00 pm for collection by parents. Note: students may choose to bring money on this excursion in order to purchase lunch at a local café.

Lunch will not be provided for students for any of these activities. All students must provide their own food and drink on the day. It is expected that students wear school sport uniform, including a sun hat on the day.

## School Photos

Please be advised that school photos for 2018 have been scheduled for Friday 16 February. Further details regarding the day will be provided when school commences for 2018.

## Parent Teacher Interviews 2018

The 2018 dates for Parent Teacher Interviews are as follows:

- Junior School and Middle School: Thursday 8 and Tuesday 13 February (Weeks 2 and 3 of Term 1)
- Senior School: Thursday 22 and Tuesday 27 March (Week 5 and Week 6 of Term 1)
- All school sections: Thursday 26 and Tuesday 31 July (Week 2 and Week 3 of Term 3)

## 5KWY Casey Fields Excursion

As a celebration reward for their fundraising efforts supporting Jump Rope for Heart, students from 5KWY will travel to Casey Fields, Berwick–Cranbourne Rd, Cranbourne East on Wednesday 13 December. They will participate in some fun games and activities.

Students will travel via school mini bus and staff vehicle to and from the venue, leaving at 11.00 am and returning at 1.30 pm. They are permitted to wear sports uniform to school on this day. They will need to bring their lunch and a drink bottle.

## Community News

### Lost Property

Parents are asked to check the lost property cupboard at Student Reception for any missing items of uniform. Any items remaining as of Friday 15 December will be taken to the local opportunity shop.

### Emergency Clothing Returns

At times during the year, the school supplies items of uniform to students when an accident occurs (e.g. falling over in mud). To ensure these are available again for next year, it is important that families who still have emergency uniform items return these to school by Tuesday 12 December.

### Equipment for Sale

As part of the school's refurbishment and building works, new equipment is being installed. As such, the following items have become available for sale:

- 288,000 litre stainless steel corrugated water tank. This item is available to any family willing to dismantle and remove it for the cost of a donation to the school.
- 540 mm wide LPG gas upright oven (white).  
Cost: \$500 or nearest offer.



PARENTS & STAFF  
PLEASE JOIN US TO

# Farewell

**Mrs. Noelene Power**

Tuesday 12 December

3.15 - 3.45 pm

Food Technology Theory Room

Pakenham Campus

