It is great to be back at kindergarten and school with friends after the holidays!

Dates to Remember

April
Monday 23   Anzac Service Assembly
Tuesday 24   House Cross Country Carnival
Wednesday 25 Anzac Day (Student Free)
Friday 27    CSEN Swimming Championships
             ICAS Test Student Applications
             Closing Date

Not all campus events and activities are listed above. For more comprehensive information regarding upcoming dates, please refer to the Calendar on Linc.

Follow Chairo on Facebook
facebook.com/chairo.pakenham
Whole School News

Forgetting to Remember

Place these words on your hearts. Get them deep inside you. Tie them on your hands and foreheads as a reminder. Teach them to your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning until you fall into bed at night. Inscribe them on the doorposts and gates of your cities so that you’ll live a long time, and your children with you, on the soil that God promised to give your ancestors for as long as there is a sky over the Earth. Deuteronomy 11:18–21, The Message

I love this passage from the early part of God’s story, the Bible. God is reminding His people (again!) that they do not have good memories. He is helping them remember their forgetfulness!

I am like those early God-followers. It seems that every time I sign up to some website or app, when visit it a week later I remember that I have forgotten the password! But forgetting passwords is not my big problem. My big problem is forgetting God!

Like the Israelites, I am inclined (consistently!) to forget who God is and what He is like. I forget that He loves me immeasurably, and calls me to know Him, and has done everything needed through Jesus to make that longing a reality!

That’s why the words from Deuteronomy are so comforting. God is saying, ‘I know you will forget, so do something to help yourselves, and your children, to remember’. This is God’s ‘keys in the fridge with the shopping’ solution.

As a Christian community at Chairo, we are also prone to forgetting. That is why we need intentional and regular reminders of who God is, and who we are because of who God is. A modern author, Henry A Giroux, puts it this way: ‘Learning to remember means … transforming individual memories and struggles into collective narratives’.

Our own experiences confirm what God is saying in the Bible: stories help us remember! I forget facts and figures, but stories captivate me and help me hold onto key memories and concepts. Stories are powerful for remembering what has been and shaping what is to come.

At the start of the year, nearly 300 staff members from across Chairo gathered to be reminded of our story as a Christian school community, and how our living story is made up of many thousands of individual and family stories.

We also explored how Chairo’s story fits into an even bigger story: God’s story and plan for all creation. We were reminded that our personal stories, and Chairo’s community story, can only ever make sense when seen in light of that bigger story of who God is and what He is choosing to do in and through His creation.

We are going to have the opportunity to be reminded of Chairo’s story throughout this term. This is not so we can have a dry history lesson, but so we can remember rightly who we are in light of who God is and what He has chosen to do in and through us over the previous forty years.

I hope you will enjoy hearing of the humble yet profound beginnings of our wonderful school. I also hope these stories will give you a greater sense of how great God is, and how greatly He has chosen to bless us individually and collectively as a community.

I look forward to being reminded again, to ensure that we don’t forget to remember.

Simon Matthews, Executive Principal

From the Finance Office

School Fees

Statement of Accounts for school fees were emailed last week to all parents and guardians who currently have a balance on their account showing transactions over the Term 1 period. If you did not receive your statement, please contact the finance office.

For families on a termly direct debit arrangement, please note that this will be processed on the following dates:
• Credit card: 26 April
• Bank account: 27 April

Camps, Sports and Excursion Funds (CSEF)
The CSEF is Victorian government funding for eligible concession card holders. The amount funded is $125 for primary age students or $225 for secondary age students. If you have recently received a Victorian concession card and have not yet applied for the CSEF, please contact the finance office for details. Please note that students who are aged 16 and over and have their own concession card may be eligible to apply.

Kinder Subsidy Form

If you hold a Victorian concession card and have not yet applied for the four-year-old Kinder subsidy, please contact the finance office for further details.

Conveyancing

If you have changed address and have not yet notified the school, please contact reception at the relevant campus and provide new details, including the date that you moved.

Finance office contact details are:
Phone: 5625 0117
Email: schoolfees@chairo.vic.edu.au
New Staff Q&A: Sarah Karapen
What is your role at Chairo?
My role at Chairo is teaching French at the Leongatha Campus.

What do you love about working at Chairo?
So far, I’m loving being able to work in a small, independent school. We teach the Australian Curriculum, but from a biblical worldview and make active choices about how we go about it.

What were you doing before coming to Chairo?
Before Chairo, I was teaching at primary schools in the Northern Territory and Queensland.

What is something that not a lot of people know about you?
That my husband is from Vanuatu and at home we speak both English and Bislama.

What are you passionate about?
I’m passionate about language learning, cross-cultural understanding, reconciliation and how those things fit within God’s restoration plan.

Where is your favourite place to visit (and who with)?
A café is always a favourite place to visit with a friend. Further away, I always love going ‘home’ to our village on Tanna, Vanuatu. It’s cool to have a sense of ‘home’ in very different places.

What’s the best meal you’ve ever had?
I can’t pick a best but recently I had a very good Lebanese meal at Tiba’s. I love international cuisine.

Who would you most like to swap places with for a day?
I would probably like to swap places with a barista or a parliamentarian.

If you were a crayon, what colour would you be and why?
If I was a crayon I’d be purple, because it’s such a cool colour.

Who inspires you?
Good leaders inspire me, whether they be preachers who live and teach biblically or leaders who help groups of people work well together.

Annual General Meeting
The Chairo AGM this year will be held in the library at the Drouin Campus on Thursday 24 May, commencing at 7.30 pm. All parents/guardians and staff members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Among other things, at the meeting we will be celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Pakenham Campus and forty years of Christian education in Leongatha!

Full Membership
Christians who have been Chairo parents (Prep to Year 12) for at least one year are encouraged to consider applying to become full members of the Association that operates Chairo.

For more information about full membership, see the Governance at Chairo booklet at chairo.vic.edu.au/pdf/Enrolment/Governance at Chairo Booklet.pdf.
From the Senior Chaplain

For the first half of this term, every Chairo student will be looking at LOVE in their classroom devotions.

The place to start, of course, is by looking at God’s love for us. We love because he first loved us (1 John 4:19). Understanding the depth and riches of God’s love for us gives us the strength and ability to love others.

Many students will be looking at Hosea 11:1–11, which is a magnificent account of God’s tender, compassionate, self-sacrificial love for those who had rejected him.

The wonderful thing about God in Hosea 11 is that He loves His people both before and after they had callously and sinfully rejected Him. It’s a wonderful account that I encourage you to read, reflect on and discuss with your children.

Having reflected on God’s gracious love for sinners in and through Jesus Christ, students will then explore what our response should be, focussing on Mark 12:28–31.

God’s people are commanded to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. And we are required to love your neighbour as yourself.

We will then focus on what that looks like in the everyday lives of students. What does it look like to love God and love our neighbour at home, and in the classroom, and in the playground, and even with people who don’t treat us well?

Finally, students will be looking at a few of the ‘love languages’, based on Gary Chapman’s book A Teen’s Guide to the 5 Love Languages. We pray that this will give students practical help regarding how to show love to others.

God loves us with tenderness and compassion—and with self-sacrificial action. Of course, the ultimate example of God’s love is Jesus’ death on the cross for us (Romans 5:8, Galatians 2:20).

May our relationships with one another be a reflection of God’s self-sacrificial love for His people.

Medon Loupis

Sibling Enrolments

If you have younger children that you would like to enrol to commence at Chairo in 2019, 2020 or 2021 — whether for Kindergarten, Prep or other year levels—please contact Tina Lewis on 5625 4600 (Drouin East and Drouin), Elise Groenewaldt on 5942 5632 (Pakenham), Wendy Nyhuis on 5662 4355 (Leongatha) or Tonya Russell on 5173 0500 (Traralgon), or send an email to enrolments@chairo.vic.edu.au.

Student Appearance Policy

The Executive Leadership Team and the Board are continually reviewing and updating our policies. Some minor changes were made recently to the Student Appearance Policy, including to mention the Traralgon Campus in several places.

The most significant change that parents of boys should note is an addition to item 3.3.3 (added words shown in italics) so that it now reads:

3.3.3 Boys’ hair is to be neat, well-groomed, appropriately styled and no longer than collar length at the back, eyebrow length at the front and mid-ear length at the sides in its natural state. Boys’ hair may not be tied back.

All boys are expected to be clean shaven.

The updated policy is available in the Enrolment section on the website and in the Policies & Reports section on Linc.

Term 2 Uniform

Winter uniform applies in Term 2, although there is a three-week period at the start of term when students may wear either summer or winter uniform depending on weather conditions.

Student Images Consent

A general expectation of enrolment at Chairo is that images of students may be used for the purpose of teaching and learning, bringing programs/events to the attention of the school community and/or wider community, promoting the school, etc.

We have summarised the purposes for which student images may be used into four broad categories:

• Category 1: Printed for predominantly internal purposes
• Category 2: Electronic for internal purposes only
• Category 3: Printed for external and/or internal purposes
• Category 4: Electronic for external and/or internal purposes

Some parents/guardians have indicated that they do not consent to images of their child/ren being used for particular categories, or for a specific purpose within a category. All such families should have received an email in recent days confirming details of restrictions that apply.

If you have not received an email from Gabrielle Martin in recent days, but you believe that restrictions should apply in relation to your child/ren, please email details to gmartin@chairo.vic.edu.au.
Campus News

Junior School News

What kind of parent are you? Do you worry about or know that you will miss your children when school starts? Are you flustered in the holidays by the additional demands of having the children around 24/7?

Either reaction is normal. For me, even as a teacher, it was a joy to have my children around me when we were blessed with holidays. But getting back to a routine was always good.

Our Junior School teachers also feel emotions about new terms. They might wish for longer breaks or feel the pressure of planning new units. Yet with a sense of calling, they work towards honouring God in their preparations and teaching.

However, helping your child manage their time, friendships, learning and interests is a place where families and schools can partner together. The routines established at home and at school are important for the development of sound life skills in children.

Our Junior School teachers invest in these areas of your child’s life each day. They are diligent in trying to understand your child, and they endeavour to see them flourish in their learning journey.

This term, why not make an extra effort to be involved in some way here at school? There will be opportunities each day where you can bless your child and their teacher with a positive encouragement or an offer to help in the classroom, or just by listening to your child read at night.

As teachers, we welcome your investment into your child’s learning. Letting a child know that you are interested about what they do each day builds communication and confidence.

The Junior School at Chairo Pakenham has a busy schedule lined up for Term 2:

- Monday 23 April – Anzac Assembly
- Thursday 3 May – Grandparents and VIP Day (invitations are available)
- Wednesday 9 May – Mothers Day stall (no IOUs accepted—details to come)
- 15–17 May – NAPLAN for Year 3 students
- 21–23 May – Year 3 camp at Forest Edge
- Friday 25 May – Junior School Music Celebration at the Cardinia Cultural Centre
- 13–14 June – Years 3-4 excursions to Mill Valley Ranch

Amidst all these activities, the Junior School will continue rehearsing for our school musical each week.

As Term 2 is a longer term, please be mindful of your child’s tiredness and wellbeing. We prefer sick child to be at home and tired children rested, especially with the colder weather approaching.

I look forward to ongoing opportunities to meet with you this term in order to encourage you about your children, and to get to know you and pray with you.

Lydia Tweedie, Head of Junior School

NAPLAN

This year’s NAPLAN (National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy) for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be held on Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 May.

NAPLAN tests assess student knowledge and skills in writing, reading and language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The results of the tests provide information for students, parents, teachers and principals that can be used to improve student achievement.

A letter for parents/guardians of students in the relevant year levels with more information about NAPLAN will be distributed via students this Friday, so please watch out for that to come home.

Have Your Children Outgrown Their Lego?

Junior School teachers are running lunch time clubs this term. One of the clubs will be a Lego Club and we are looking for Lego supplies to help the program run successfully. If you have some Lego lying around your house that your children have outgrown or no longer use, we would be happy to put it to very good use. If you can help, please contact Kim Eckard at keckard@chairo.vic.edu.au.

Important Information From School Nurse

Exclusion from school after vomiting or diarrhoea is at least 24 hours. Please do not send your child to school if they have had either in this time period. This decreases the risk of the spread to other students and also gives your child time to recover. If you are unsure whether to send your child, please call the School Nurse for advice.

Additional Uniform Shop Hours

With the changeover to winter uniform occurring in Term 2 (with a three-week changeover period), the uniform shop at the Pakenham Campus will be open as follows:

- Monday 23 April 8.30–11.30 am
- Tuesday 24 April 1.00–4.00 pm
- Thursday 26 April 8.30–11.30 am
- Monday 30 April 8.30–11.30 am
- Tuesday 1 May 1.00–4.00 pm
- Wednesday 2 May 1.00–5.00 pm
- Thursday 3 May 8.30–11.30 am
Sports for Schools
Sports for Schools vouchers can still be placed in the boxes at Front Reception and in the Admin Centre Building for the first few weeks of term.

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**Invitation**

**Junior School Grandparents and VIP Day 2018**

We are excited to invite you to spend the morning at Chairo Pakenham with our Prep to Year 4 students.

Thursday 3 May
10.00 am to 12.45 pm
Finlay Hall (gym)

Speaker: Clive Stebbins
Morning tea provided
Look forward to seeing you!
(Visitors to sign in upon arrival)

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Chairo provides advertisements within the parameters of our Advertising Policy as a community service. The inclusion of any advertisement is not necessarily an endorsement by the School.

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**Chairo Café**

Wednesdays, 9.00–10.30 am
Food Tech Theory Room
Chairo Community’s place to get connected

Chairo Café is a free cuppa time, run by Chairo parents and staff
Toy corner for little people

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**Quality Time for Dads and Their Kids**

NEW CAMP OPTIONS AT CAMP COOLAMATONG!

An opportunity for dads to spend some quality one-on-one time with their son or daughter. Invest in your relationship while exploring the outdoors and engaging in a range of fun activities. We’ll include time to explore fathering from a Christian perspective. Children between 9 and 15 years old are welcome to join.

**Fathers and Sons Camp**
20-22 April 2018
Father and son: $290 total

**Fathers and Daughters Camp**
18-20 May 2018
Father and daughter: $290 total

Registration: www.suvic.org.au/dad-camps or email: camps@suvic.org.au
High Tea Function

A lavish afternoon tea will be served whilst being entertained with music played by the Chairo Symphonic Winds Band, Big Band, Concert Band, Presto String Orchestra, Allegro String Orchestra, Cantabile Choir, Middle School Choir and Senior Vocal Ensemble.

Saturday 12 May
2.00–4.00 pm
Library

Single admission $15 per person
Group of 5 people or more $10 per person

Tickets are available at http://www.trybooking.com/vjhj
For catering purposes, please book by Wednesday 9 May.
Any late bookings can be made at Reception.