



2017

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT



ANNUAL REPORT - 2017

As a Commonwealth Government requirement, we compile an Annual Report each year for the school. This particular report represents last year, 2017. We hope you will be encouraged as you read this.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Geneva Christian College was founded in 1968 and celebrates its 50th year this year. It has a well-established and fully accredited co-educational program for Kinder to Year 12. The school is located on the outskirts of Latrobe, ideally situated on 50 hectares of farm and bush land. At the end of 2017 our enrolment stood at 209: 116 Primary and 93 Secondary, (current enrolments are 228 as at March 2018). Our students come from near and far: Sheffield, Ulverstone, Deloraine, Harford, Port Sorell, Westbury and more, and therefore, the impact God has through us is exciting.



As we look back over these last 12 months we acknowledge the faithfulness and goodness of God and His hand on the work at Geneva. His blessings are many and daily.

Throughout 2017 we have seen changes right across the school. Our year commenced with a visit from the Schools Registration Board for our registration review. This proved to be a tough but necessary process that saw a slightly new direction for the teaching and learning in the school. Our staff spent

many long hours, night and day, working through curriculum and planning documents. We now deliver lessons: individually, in small groups and as a larger class. Students still have opportunity to work at their own level, through the My Place time, and also extend themselves when working along side other students.

As a Christian school, personal character, self-discipline and responsibility are considered equally as important outcomes as academic learning. The aim is for students to live by Biblical standards and make worthwhile contributions to society and the wider community. These standards, traditional family values, manners and moral principles are integrated into the school's educational plan.

Geneva Christian College aims for

- a distinctively Christian environment
- a high level in academics
- a dedicated, qualified, and committed staff
- family-affordable fees

A key reason for the existence of Christian education is to establish an environment that will develop a sound Biblical worldview. The School has developed a program to minister to the complete student. This is accomplished through the following areas of emphasis.

The first and strongest emphasis is the spiritual growth of the child and family. The clear teaching of the Bible is the best foundation for learning. The Bible is not only taught, but is the core of the school's ethos. We endeavour to introduce each child to Jesus and to direct children and families to thoroughly know and live the Bible. We seek to work with those families who share our commitment to these Christian standards.

The second emphasis is on academics. We provide a sound academic climate and promote academic excellence in accordance with the Australian Curriculum, using resources, programmes and syllabuses to best prepare students of all abilities to fulfil their path in life.

The remaining areas of emphasis are positive social, physical and mental development. The school participates in local and national programs, encouraging our students to practise and use their talents, abilities and skills through sport, communication & leadership forums and health and well-being programmes.

The Australian Curriculum has been implemented fully throughout the school and across subject areas. Our overall teaching methods provide:

- equitable and inclusive learning
- IEPs and ILPs to support and maximize successful student learning
- opportunities to gain knowledge, understanding and skills
- discipline-based and interdisciplinary learning
- opportunities to promote learning within local cultural contexts



During 2017, we continued to offer as part of our extra curricula experiences, many exciting and rewarding experiences, including, Hospitality, Health & PE, Dance & Drama, the School Musical, Fab Lab and the Kitchen/Garden Programme. Students participated in carnivals, athletic days, eisteddfods and convention.



Once again we participated in the Grade 10 Driver Awareness Programme, Armed Forces Recruiting, UTAS forums, and career expos. Our Grade 6 students were involved in the one-day leadership programme through Devonport

Chaplaincy and as a school we took part in ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and many fundraisers for local, national and international charities. As a school we have had visits from many and varied organisations, including Brave Hearts, Samaritans Purse, Life Education, the ADF, UTAS, Compassion, Planetarium and The Gideons.

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, CAMPS & EXCURSIONS

All our students have opportunity to go on day excursions, including, Airtime 360, the Maze, bowling, Zone 3, water slide and peddle buggies. Overnight camps are held for the high school students and camps to Interlaken (our outdoor education centre) and other sites.



BUILDING & GROUNDS PROJECTS



Due to the increase in enrolments, we have found it necessary to build and expand our facilities. During the year the school workshop was upgraded, the front entrance signage was completed and we commenced negotiations with the State Government, to purchase a neighbouring strip of land on the eastern border of Geneva. We hope to turn this into a natural 'bush' playground for the primary students. The

Fab Lab classroom was

relocated downstairs beside the school workshop, with new flooring and storage installed. Continued construction is occurring on a large workshop/shed at our outdoor education centre, at Interlaken. We commenced works on the Grade 5/6 refurbishment and the new middle school complex, these are anticipated to be completed during 2018, along with the widening of the front entrance.

TEACHER STANDARDS / QUALIFICATIONS

All our teachers are registered by the Teachers Registration Board of Tasmania and are trained to implement the Australian Curriculum and all resources and programs associated with it. Our teaching staff, during 2017, included 8 full-time, comprising 5 females and 3 males. Also 13 part-time teachers, comprising 9 females and 4 males. Collectively they had the following qualifications:

Ass. Dip of Arts/Cert of Drawing	Cert. III Bus Operations
Bachelor of Contemporary Arts and Bach Arts	Cert III Hospitality (Patisserie)
Bach of Education	Cert III & IV Hospitality (Commercial Cookery)
Bach of Education with First Class Honours	Cert IV Business Management
Masters in Education (Literacy & Communication)	Cert IV Workplace Training & Assessment
Bachelor of Engineering	Certificate in Education
Bachelor of Human Movement	Certificate Print Making
Bachelor of Librarianship	Diploma of Fine Arts
Bachelor of Science	Diploma of Teaching
Advanced Diploma of Mechanical Engineering	Diploma of Horticulture (Arboriculture)
Advanced Diploma of Civil Engineering	Master of Education
Basic Japanese 1&2	Tasmanian Teacher's Certificate
Graduate Certificate in Education	Graduate Diploma (Computers in Ed)
Graduate Diploma of Divinity	Master of Defense Studies

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION	TEACHING STAFF FULL TIME	TEACHING STAFF PART TIME	TEACHING STAFF FTE	NOTIFIED INDIGENOUS STAFF
	9	14	15.5	0

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION	NON-TEACHING STAFF FULL TIME	NON-TEACHING STAFF PART TIME	NON-TEACHING STAFF FTE
	4	30	17

We have a great team of people at Geneva, a real fellowship. They come together each day like a well oiled machine, getting the job done, covering all aspects of the work here: grounds and maintenance, bus driving, teaching, assisting, administration, gardening, learning support, compliance and infrastructure. We thank God for each and everyone and want to acknowledge their contribution and expertise.

During 2017 many of our staff continued their 'learning' by enrolling in courses at TAFE and UTAS. We had 5 staff finish their Certificate III in Educational Support while 3 others continued their Bachelor of Education degrees. Professional Development for staff was covered in the following areas: WH&S, First Aid, Bronze Medallion, Disability Support Training, Social Network Recovery, Literacy & Numeracy, Behaviour Management, Child Safety Awareness, SAKG, Suicide Prevention and Food Handling.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following staff for their efforts and dedication over the years. Chris Stafferton has been pivotal in the Chaplaincy area of our school and the SAKG programme, Mark King (Grade 9 and Outdoor Education), Natalie King (Assistant), Emma Pilgrim (Science), Jenni Cute (SAKG), Chelsea Mansson (SAKG), Mikala Wigg (Music), Deanie deBoer (Assistant), Simon Youd (Science) and Priscila Page (Hospitality).



We have welcomed Teresa Bentley (Drama & Art), Brock Browning (Horticulture), Jack Dance (Grade 5/6 Aide), Miriam Deverell (Grade 9 Aide), Taylah Durose (Prep Aide), Peter Hatch (Driver), Laura Dodwell (Grade 5/6 Aide) and Bethany Dodwell (Aide). Overall Geneva employed 57 full time and part time employees in 2017!

STUDENT ATTENDANCE



Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximize their potential. Schools, in partnership with parents and carers, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. Parents and carers are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, explaining the absences of their children each day and if away from school longer than 3 days, a medical certificate is required. School staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. They maintain accurate records of student attendance, follow up unexplained absences through written and verbal communication, implement programs and practices to address attendance issues when they arise, and provide clear information to students and parents regarding attendance requirements and the

consequences of unsatisfactory attendance. The Principal/Office Staff will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents promptly if an unexplained absence occurs. If truancy is suspected, the Principal will contact the parents/carers to ascertain the reason for the absence.

Students are required by law to attend school on every day of the school year (39 weeks). If a student is sick, the school requires the parent/carer to contact the school before 9.00am each school day. The school also requires that the bus driver also be contacted to inform them that the child will not be traveling on the bus that day.



In 2017 the rates of attendance are shown as a percentage of the designated number of school days per year.

KINDER	PREP	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
91.73%	87.87%	94.92%	87.01%	91.65%	93.28%	89.25%
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
93.11%	93.09%	94.00%	88.43%	91.18%	85.27%	83.52%

NAPLAN Results	Geneva Christian College				Australia			
2017	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	Year 9	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	Year 9
Reading	80%	88%	100%	80%	95%	94%	94%	92%
Persuasive Writing	82%	79%	89%	76%	96%	92%	88%	82%
Spelling	82%	84%	94%	82%	93%	94%	93%	91%
Grammar & Punctuation	82%	89%	89%	88%	94%	92%	92%	89%
Numeracy	67%	88%	94%	94%	95%	95%	95%	96%
Australia values sourced	From	http://reports.acara.edu.au/Home/TimeSeries						

The Federal Government has established a national testing system for reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation and numeracy for Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9. This is designed to measure improvement in a student's benchmark performance as a result of the school's attention to their educational needs. By comparing 2015 grade three, grade five and grade seven results with those of 2017 grade five, grade seven and grade nine results we will be comparing some of the same students in their progression through the school. It is not a totally accurate comparison as it will include new students and omit students who have left the school in that time frame. The results below indicate those grades where students were a percentage below, at or above the National Minimum Standard in 2017.

In our classrooms, students below the benchmark in numeracy and literacy are diagnosed (like all students) and placed at their current academic level. Upon successful completion at that level and with time and effort, improvement appears in their competency in both numeracy and literacy. We supplement their teaching materials to assist and expand those students who are of a lower academic level than their peers. Our Learning Support team, work with and develop IEPs smart goals for selected students with extra needs. Throughout the primary school we used the computerized *Mathletics* programme with success. Also in the primary area, students participated in Reading Eggs, MULTILIT, Lexia and Letters and Sounds, with very pleasing results.

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Vocational Certificate

Basic senior school certificate which acknowledges the student has the skills necessary to function purposefully in the workplace. Basic literacy, numeracy skills have been demonstrated.



Intermediate Vocational Certificate

Higher level basic numeracy and literacy skills, TAFE Certificate I level completion. Students with this qualification may be eligible for entry into appropriate TAFE courses.

Advanced Vocational Certificate

Higher level numeracy and literacy skills, completion of some intermediate subjects, TAFE Cert II completion. Entry into TAFE further studies, possible entry into some UTAS courses.

Intermediate Academic Certificate

Completion of Geneva Intermediate level credits or a combination of a minimum of five (5) TASC level 2 or 3 subjects provides an entry pathway into UTAS University College courses. Students with this qualification may possibly be successful gaining entry into other UTAS bridging courses.

Advanced Academic Certificate

High levels of numeracy and literacy skills evidenced in the completion of 4-5 TASC level 3/4 courses or the equivalent advanced Geneva courses will provide students with this qualification. This certificate level allows students to apply for entry into UTAS undergraduate courses.



POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

In 2017, Geneva Christian College had 5 Graduates, 5 from Year 12, 0 from Year 11 and 0 from Year 10. The following are their destinations:

2 students from year 12 entered the defence force, full-time

1 Year 12 student went to an apprenticeship

1 into workforce

1 to UTAS.

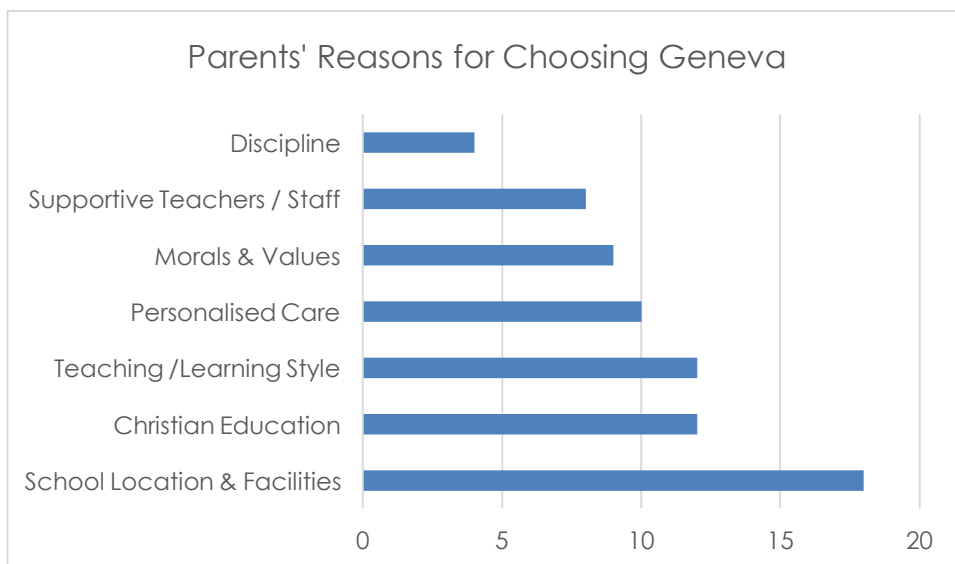
Percentage of Year 12 students who have undertaken vocational training: 20%
Percentage of Year 12 students who have undertaken trade training: 60%
Percentage of Year 12 students who have undertaken tertiary education: 20%
Percentage of Year 12 students who have attained a Year 12 Certificate or equivalent VET qualification: 100%



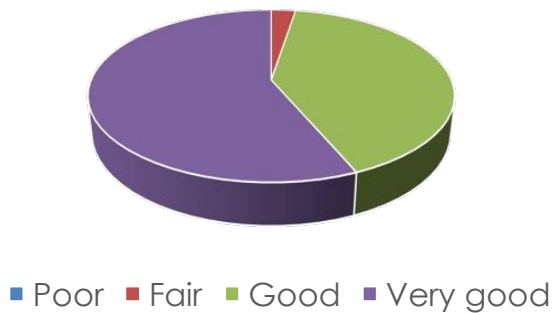
SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

We are dependent for our existence on student, parent and teacher satisfaction with the school. The 5 Year Strategic Plan that the School Board reviewed in late 2016 for the period 2015-2019 has been continuing with many and varied changes inside and outside the school. We have had positive comments from you as parents & families and also the wider community.

Parents, students and staff were surveyed to ascertain their satisfaction with the School, and to give opportunity to comment on any areas of the School. The Questionnaires received from parents, students and staff indicated good overall support of the School.



Parents: How do you rate the spiritual tone of the school?



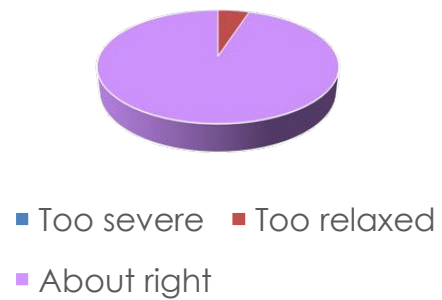
Parents: How do you rate the schools' use of the individual teaching methodology?



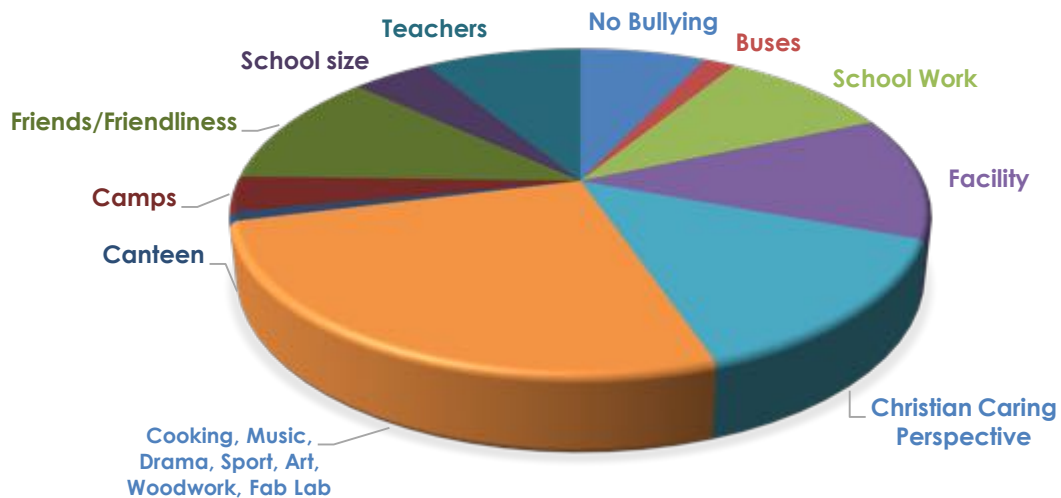
Parents: How do you rate the schools' overall educational program for your child?



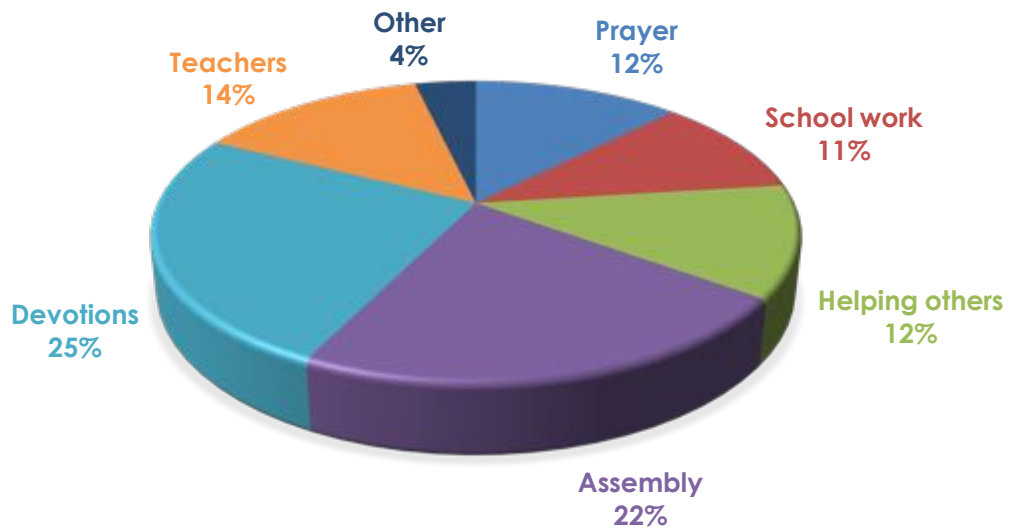
Parents: What do you think about the discipline in our school?



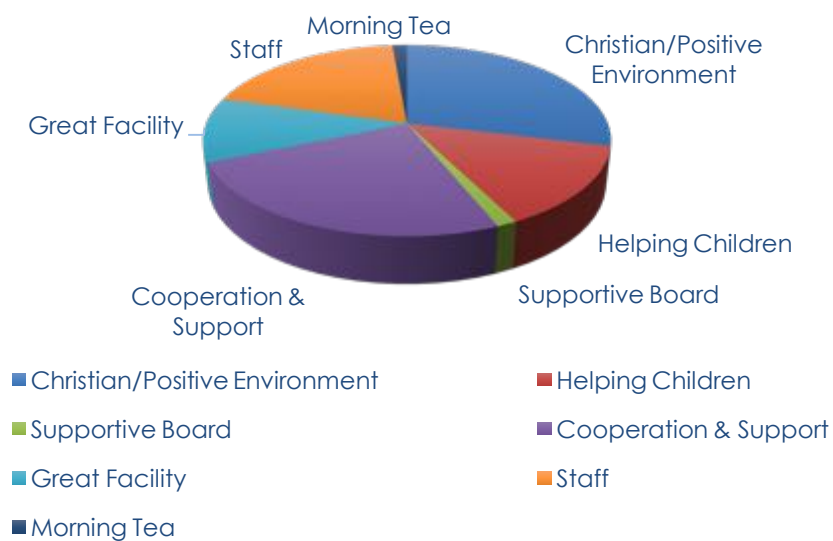
WHAT DO STUDENTS LIKE THE MOST ABOUT GENEVA?



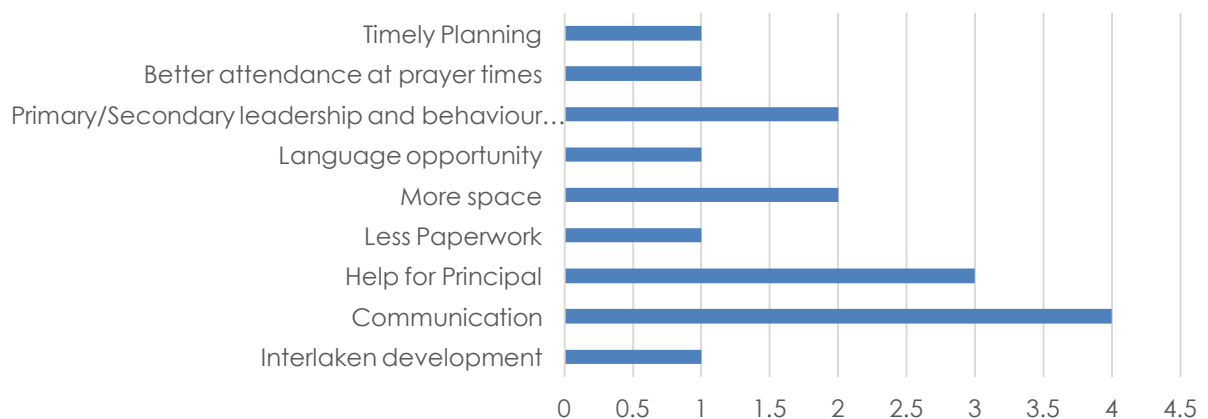
WHAT ACTIVITIES TEACH YOU ABOUT GOD?



What do staff like most about working at Geneva?



Staff: What areas can be improved to make the school better



SCHOOL INCOME

As an Independent school, we receive funding from the State and Commonwealth governments and acknowledge them and thank them for this provision, without, which we could not possibly achieve the things we do.



STATE GOVERNMENT	\$703,880
COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT	\$2,241,349
CHAPLAINCY, IST, NSLP GRANTS	\$20,000
SCHOOL FEES	\$363,658



REFLECTIONS



The school could not operate without the team of people we have. They are a mix of characters, bringing with them skills, experience and abilities, which all help make the place tick over each day. We thank God for each of them and acknowledge their contribution and efforts.

We appreciate the parents/carers of our students. Your efforts and support are shown through your involvement in

school events, meetings, fundraisers and parent/teacher interviews. We as a school, seek to work together with you in training your child/ren and thank you for allowing us the privilege of doing so.

Our Parents & Friends continued to fundraise during 2017, with the Time & Talent Auction being once again a great success. The team hold several fundraisers a year, including, a lamington drive, pie drive, the auction and a combined garage sale. They also oversee the weekly school canteen, which is very popular amongst staff and students. The funds raised, contribute to the school in many and varied ways. In 2017 they contributed towards an outdoor table tennis table, a freezer in the canteen, fireworks for the community bonfire night, and a new set of outdoor soccer goals. They also generously give money to each classroom teacher for resources at the beginning of the new school year. We thank them for their continued efforts and generous support.

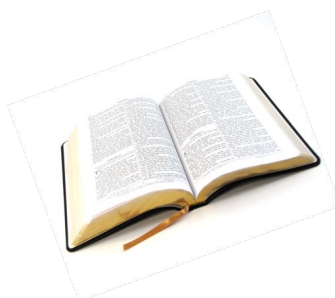
I would personally like to thank the GFI Board. They are a hard working and dedicated team bringing with them knowledge and abilities, working together for the enrichment of Geneva and the glory of God. Their support, friendship and prayer is very much appreciated.

Our Vision is 'Students on the Right Path', this means for this life and the next. As the Principal, I seek to commit every day to God, asking for wisdom, guidance and patience as we as a staff, seek to do His will for Geneva. We have pressures continually that would seem to go against what God intends for His people. So please pray for all those who have contact each day with your children. It is a responsibility of great importance and one we do not take lightly!

Sincerely,

Rosemary Lincoln

Principal





This report can be found on our website www.geneva.tas.edu.au

If you would like a hard copy of this report, please contact the school office.