



2015

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT



Principal's Report

It is Annual Report time again, which we compile each year as a Commonwealth Government requirement. This information continues to assist the Board in making informed decisions about improvement in weaker areas and building on the school's strengths. This particular report represents last year, 2015. Be encouraged as you read it and thankful.

Contextual Information about our school, including the characteristics of the student body

Geneva Christian College was founded in 1968 and celebrates 50 years at the end of next year in the Latrobe community.

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. Our students come from the local community and further afield, including Golden Valley, Deloraine, Sheffield, Claude Road, Ulverstone, Port Sorell, Sassafras, Shearwater, Squeaking Point, Hawley, Devonport and East Devonport.

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 materials provide:

- equitable and inclusive learning
- opportunities to maximize learning
- opportunities to gain knowledge, understanding and skills
- discipline-based and interdisciplinary learning
- opportunities to promote learning within local cultural contexts
- individual pathways to support successful learning
- individual educational programs with the opportunity to close the gap between advantaged and disadvantaged children

During 2015, we offered as part of our extra curricula experiences, many exciting and rewarding subjects. The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Programme has continued, now including Grade 1 – Grade 8, with our newly refurbished SAKG kitchen and dining area & Hospitality was offered to year 10+, with our in-house Chef. Our health and PE students were involved in zumba, aerobics and boot camp and general sporting activities, including swimming carnival, cross country and the school's athletics carnival. In art and music our students had the opportunity to share and show their creative talents within the school and at local Eisteddfods and Student Convention.

Our Year 10, 11 and 12 students, were involved in work experience sessions during our final term. The Year 10's participated in a Driver Awareness Programme run by the Rotary Club of Australia and most of the Year 10, 11 and 12's participated in a visit from the Armed Forces and UTAS for career pathways. Some senior students participated and helped in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea for Cancer Day and thoroughly enjoyed a trip to the test Cricket in Hobart.

A small group of Grade 11 and 12 students participated in the Red Cross Blood Donation appeal. The Grade 6 class were involved in a one day Leadership Programme run by Devonport Chaplaincy and we had students from across the school representing us at ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day.

The majority of our students participated in the annual Student Convention, which involves entries in all areas of learning. Across the school our students enjoyed many varied activities including a dress up & open day for literacy week, crazy hair day and casual clothes days to raise funds for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Box outreach. We had visits to the school from Bravehearts, Vision Screening, Harding University and many and varied performers.

During 2015 many of our staff continued their 'learning' by enrolling in courses at TAFE and UTAS. We had 3 staff finish their Certificate III in Educational Support, 3 complete their Certificate III in Bus Operations and 4 continuing their Bachelor of Education degrees. Professional Development for staff was covered in the following areas: WH&S, Disability Support Training, Social Network Recovery, Literacy & Numeracy, Move Well Eat Well, Behaviour Management, Dyslexia, Mental Health, Chemical Handling and Food Handling.

Outdoor Education Centre: Interlaken

All the high school students were involved in camps to Interlaken and day trips for end of term privileges. The main purpose for Interlaken is to get children back to basics and involves small and large groups of students regularly participating in fishing, canoeing, camping, cooking, wood chopping, hiking and bush crafts.



Building Projects:



At the commencement of 2015 we opened our Grade 7 and Arts Centre, along with the grounds and landscaping including our feature garden waterfall. We also completed the refurbishment of our SAKG kitchen & dining area, after our \$15,000 win in the Nova short film awards.

New Bus



We have been enjoying our 3 new Kinglong buses so much, that we needed another one to transport our increase in enrollments. In March 2015 we purchased a slightly bigger Kinglong (56 seats) to place on the Deloraine run.

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 2015, included 7 full-time, comprising 4 females and 3 males. Also 9 part-time teachers, comprising 5 females and 4 males. Collectively they had the following qualifications:

Ass. Dip of Arts/Cert of Drawing	Cert. III Bus Operations
Bach of Ag Science	Cert. III Children's Services
Bach of Education	Cert. V Solo Acting
Bach of Education with Honours	Cert. VIII Speech & Drama
Bach of Engineering	Certificate Print Making
Bach of Human Movement	Dip of Education
Bach of Librarianship	Dip of Fine Arts
Bach of Science	Diploma of Teaching
Bach of Science	Excellence in Art
Basic Japanese 1 & 2	Graduate Certificate in Education
Cert III Commercial Cookery	Graduate Diploma of Divinity
Cert IV Business Management	Master of Defense Studies
Cert IV Workplace Training & Assessment	Tasmanian Teacher's Certificate

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION	TEACHING STAFF FULL TIME	TEACHING STAFF PART TIME	TEACHING STAFF FTE	NOTIFIED INDIGENOUS STAFF
	7	9	11.6	0

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION	NON-TEACHING STAFF FULL TIME	NON-TEACHING STAFF PART TIME	NON-TEACHING STAFF FTE
	4	20	13.4



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 Assistant Principal/Office Staff will undertake all reasonable measures to contact parents promptly if an unexplained absence occurs. If truancy is suspected, the Assistant 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 2015 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
80.19%	90.84%	91.83%	90.02%	90.18%	92.28%	91.99%
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8	GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
92.84%	92.07%	91.48%	86.48%	89.62%	93.61%	89.55%



Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path



Senior Secondary Outcomes

Geneva offers a Year 12 Vocational Certificate, Year 12 General Certificate, Year 12 Intermediate Certificate and a Year 12 Advanced Certificate, each requiring different academic standards and credits. The Year 12 Vocational Certificate caters for the less academic students and provides a more practical educational pathway or work placement. The General & Intermediate are suitable for entry to TAFE and further education. The Year 12 Advanced Certificate is for those students wishing to continue on to University. This certificate is recognized by UTAS as an entry requirement. Many of our students who have completed a Year 12 Advanced Certificate have been successful at Universities nationally.

Post School Destinations

In 2015, Geneva Christian College had 11 Graduates, 6 from Year 12, 2 from Year 11 and 3 from Year 10. The following are their destinations:

3 students went on to further studies at TAFE

2 students entered the workforce

3 students took apprenticeships (Plumbing, Hairdressing and Bricklaying)

1 student entered the Army

2 students continued their education (one through home schooling and the other at college)

Percentage of Year 12 students who have undertaken vocational training: 50%

Percentage of Year 12 students who have undertaken trade training: 17%

Percentage of Year 12 students who have undertaken tertiary education: 33%

Percentage of Year 12 students who have attained a Year 12 Certificate or equivalent VET qualification: 100%

NAPLAN

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 2013 grade three, grade five and grade seven results with those of 2015 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 2015.

NAPLAN 2015 -- % of students at or above national minimum standards									
Domain	Geneva Christian College				Australia				
	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	Year 9	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	Year 9	
Reading	89.0%	92.0%	90.0%	93.0%	94.6%	93.3%	95.4%	92.3%	
Persuasive Writing	80.0%	75.0%	86.0%	86.0%	95.5%	92.3%	87.3%	80.5%	
Spelling	80.0%	92.0%	90.0%	86.0%	93.0%	93.5%	93.1%	90.2%	
Grammar & Punctuation	100%	67.0%	86.0%	100%	94.5%	92.9%	92.2%	88.9%	
Numeracy	78.0%	91.0%	100%	100%	94.4%	95.1%	95.9%	95.7%	
Australia values sourced from				http://reports.acara.edu.au/Home/TimeSeries					

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 give additional assistance to 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 and MULTILIT, with very pleasing results.



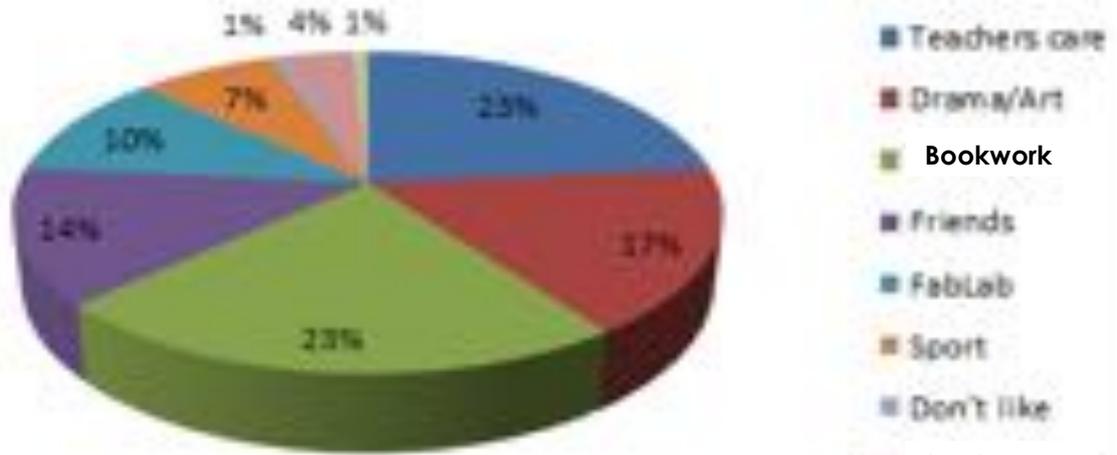
Satisfaction Survey Results summary

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 2013 for the period 2014-2018 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.

& Individual Learning Programme

What Students like best about Geneva



School Income

STATE GOVERNMENT	\$505,958
COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT	\$1,630,670
SCHOOL FEES	\$285,304



Our Parents & Friends, although few in number, have not only survived but flourished in 2015 in regards to fundraising. They oversee the weekly school canteen, which is always popular. Their Time & Talent Auction last year was a great success and loads of fun and along with pie drives, cake stalls and other smaller fundraisers, the P&F team have contributed to our school with outdoor seating and classroom resources. We thank them for their continued efforts and support, headed up by their very able president, Mrs Michele Colledge. Your involvement, as parents in school events, such as Parent-Teacher interviews, school activities, P&F meetings, fundraisers and working bees is a strong indication of your effort and support for your children and the school and we thank you!

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, from classrooms, to playgrounds, buses to administration, we thank God for each of them and acknowledge their contribution and efforts. I would personally like to thank the GFI Board. They are a dedicated group of people bringing with them knowledge and skills, working together for the betterment of Geneva and the glory of God. Their support is very much appreciated.

Thank you parents for supporting us in training, correcting, nurturing and guiding your children through their school life. We ask for continued prayer as we proceed into another school year. We need God's protection and guidance every day. More and more we are witnessing pressures to change the way God intends things to be. So please pray for all the staff as they have daily contact with our young people; whether on the bus, in the playground, in the office or the classroom. It is a huge responsibility, and one we don't take lightly!

Sincerely,

David Lincolne

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.