



CARNARVON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

EPHESIANS 5:8B 'WALK AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT'

NEWSLETTER

3RD FEBRUARY 2016

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Luke 4:18 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

*In his novels *The Trial* and *The Castle*, Franz Kafka (1883–1924) portrays life as a dehumanizing existence that turns people into a sea of empty faces without identity or worth. Kafka said, "The conveyor belt of life carries you on, no one knows where. One is more of an object, a thing, than a living creature."*

Early in His ministry, Jesus went to a synagogue in Nazareth, stood up in front of the crowd, and read from Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18-19).

The Lord's mercy extends to all people.

Then Christ sat down and declared, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing" (v. 21). Centuries earlier, the prophet Isaiah had proclaimed these words (Isa. 61:1-2). Now Jesus announced that He was the fulfillment of that promise.

*Notice who Jesus came to rescue—the poor, brokenhearted, captive, blind, and oppressed. He came for people dehumanized by sin and suffering, by brokenness and sorrow. He came for us! From *OurDaily Bread*. 31/01/2016*

Welcome

I would like to welcome our school family back for the commencement of term 1 2016. A special welcome for the families who have joined us for the first time. May the Lord bless you and your children abundantly whilst they are at Carnarvon Christian School (CCS).

Safe and Supportive School

CCS is a safe and supportive school where the risk from harm is minimised, diversity is valued and all members of the school community feel respected and included and can be confident that they will receive support in the face of any threats to their safety or wellbeing.

We follow the National Safe Schools framework which is underpinned by guiding principles that represent fundamental beliefs about safe, supportive and respectful school communities. These guiding principles emphasise the importance of student safety and wellbeing as a pre-requisite for effective learning in all school settings:

- *affirm the rights of all members of the school community to feel safe and be safe at school*
- *acknowledge that being safe and supported at school is essential for student wellbeing and effective learning*
- *accept responsibility for developing and sustaining safe and supportive learning and teaching communities that also fulfil the school's child protection responsibilities*
- *encourage the active participation of all school community members in developing and maintaining a safe school community where diversity is valued*
- *actively support young people to develop understanding and skills to keep themselves and*

others safe commit to developing a safe school community through a whole-school and evidence-based approach.

Excerpt from the National Safe Schools Framework.

Holiday Happenings

Judy and I spent some time in Japan during our holidays and what struck us immediately was the politeness of the people and the cleanliness of this beautiful country. We also took the time to visit the Peace Park in Hiroshima, where the first atomic bomb exploded in the skies in August 6th 1945. After a second atomic bomb was dropped 3 days later on the unlucky town of Nagasaki, the Japanese leadership surrendered and WW2 ended. An estimated 60 000 000 people, over half of which were civilians, had lost their lives. The visit to the Peace Park was a very sobering experience and you cannot come away from it without being incredibly touched.

Debate still rages today about whether or not the dropping of the bomb was justifiable, considering the loss of life or whether more lives would have been lost if a land invasion had taken place. Today's world is very different but one thing which hasn't changed is that there are still wars and fighting raging in many countries and man's heart still hasn't changed. Jesus said that there will be wars and rumours of wars and not to be alarmed.

Matthew 24:6

In a world which is uncertain we can take comfort that we have a God of justice and love in control. Let us praise our mighty God and remember why Jesus came to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free.

Luke 4:18

New Staff Member

I would like to welcome to the staff Mrs Julie Hanson, who will be teaching year 2 this year. Julie has relocated to Carnarvon with one of her two sons, Jack, and we are delighted to have her come on board. Please introduce yourself to Julie and make her feel welcome.

Stay in Touch

2016 will be an exciting year. The teachers have many new learning experiences planned for the children which will ignite their passion and natural curiosity towards God's wonderful world. As parents/caregivers and primary educators of your children, I would ask you to keep a close and open relationship with your child's teacher. Take the time to have the occasional chat with the teacher about what your child is doing and what is happening in his/her classroom. Please remember not to approach Assistant Teachers with questions about your child's progress as only the teacher has the full picture and can give you a true answer. Teachers are professionals and are responsible for so many different areas of your child's development. After many years as a Principal, I am aware that teachers always give 100 % towards their job. Should you have a concern, take it directly to the teacher so it can be sorted out quickly and not fester. Again I would have to say that the majority of concerns are merely misunderstandings and not difficult to solve.

Medical Records and Health Plans

CCS is an "Asthma and Anaphylaxis Aware" school. All teachers are trained to respond to an emergency should a child suffer an acute Asthma attack or anaphylaxis. Teachers have permission from the Crown to administer Ventolin or give adrenalin should they suspect a child's life be endangered. Should an event of this nature occur, your child will be treated and you will notified immediately. In the case of anaphylaxis, the child will be sent to the Carnarvon Regional Hospital and should medication not relieve an asthma attack, they will also be sent to the hospital.

It is therefore very important that should your child be at medical risk that you visit your doctor so a health plan can be created. This should then be given to the school and it will be kept next to the First Aid cabinet. If there is a change in your child's condition, the Health plan should be updated and the school notified as to the changes.

CCS has a policy of notifying parents of children who have suspected eye-injuries in order for them to be taken to the regional hospital and checked out.

Homework

Homework is an essential element of the CCS curriculum. In the junior primary, reading books, spelling and sight word lists are sent home daily in the child's reading folder. Please ensure that your child completes the work and you sign off on it. In the middle and upper primary the above applies and teachers will also be sending home tasks for the children to complete. Children who have been given assignments will be given adequate time to complete them. Please encourage your child to begin working on assignments early and help them develop a schedule which will help them avoid the last night of tears, and the blame game, which often precipitates from uncompleted work.

A home reading programme is essential for all children and thus all children at CCS are expected to read at home every night. A teacher's job is to teach the children how to decode the letters and the skills needed to understand what they are reading. Unfortunately there are not enough hours in the school day to give children the time to practise in order to consolidate and master reading skills. It then becomes Parents' role to demonstrate a love of reading and to help your child find books which meet their interest level and then to ensure they read regularly. Teaching how to read is the teacher's domain, and these skills will go some way to developing a child's literal understanding, but a deep inferential understanding is only developed through extended reading. Children need to make connections between the books they have read and their own life's experiences. Finding a series of books that your child really enjoys is an excellent way to start a life-time love of reading.

Times Tables

Some academics find learning times-tables by rote old-fashioned and outdated, but after a life time of teaching Mathematics from primary to high school level, I am convinced that the best way to master the times-tables is to practise them daily. Knowing the times tables is essential for children to keep up with the curriculum from years 5 onwards. Children at CCS are drilled daily in the tables but often this is still not enough to develop instant recall of the times tables facts ... This is where you can help! By the end of year 4, your child should know the times tables from the 2s to the 12s. Have regular practice with your child; have competitions around the table (Dad you don't have to always win!); pin the tables to the toilet door; place a copy next to your child's bed etc. Encourage your child, reward them when they get it right but please make it a priority that they know them.

It always amazes me that children can know the lyrics to so many songs but not know their times tables.

Please ensure this is how the tables are set: $1 \times 2 = 2$, $2 \times 2 = 4$, $3 \times 2 = 6$, $4 \times 2 = 8$, $5 \times 2 = 10$

Not $2 \times 1 = 2$, $2 \times 2 = 4$, $2 \times 3 = 6$, $2 \times 4 = 8$, $2 \times 5 = 10$.

Busy Bees

There will be Busy Bees at the school on the following successive Saturday mornings: 13th and 20th February, 8am start. Please come along, if only for a couple of hours. Bring your children. I have a lot painting and gardening and other jobs which need doing.

In-term Swimming

CCS children will be doing In-term Swimming 15th – 26th February, weeks 3 and 4 of term 1.

Canteen

We are looking for a minimum of 2 volunteers to man the Canteen once a week. Unfortunately, we will not be able to run the canteen this term unless some people step forward. Amanda Leighton has kindly volunteered to organize the canteen again this year on a fortnightly basis if she can get some helpers, as the job is too big on her own.

After School Homework Classes

After School homework classes will commence in week 2 of this term. Classes will be held on every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30pm – 3:30 pm and a qualified Teacher will be in attendance. Should the numbers of children be too high then we will have to form a roster of parents to help. The cost of attending will be \$10.00 per class. Children who are disruptive will be excluded from attending further classes. Please fill in the attached application form if you would like your child to take advantage of this great offer.

Kids Club

Kids Club will be running again this year commencing from Friday 12th February. The classes are great fun and children from year 1-6 are welcome to attend. The Club meets in the Pre-primary class immediately after school and parents are asked to pick their children up at 4pm sharp.

Commencement of School Day

The school is officially open for children from 8:00 am. Before that time there are no teachers rostered on duty to care for the children. Please be considerate and ensure your children don't arrive before 8:00am. Thankyou.

Absentees

Please inform the school ASAP if you know that your child will be absent on any school day. If we have not been informed that your child is going to be absent, then you will be sent a text message. This will be followed up with a phone call if we don't receive a reply. I would ask you to be patient with office staff, as this procedure is carried out for your child's safety; so that we know that your child hasn't gone missing between leaving home and arriving at school.

All children are expected to attend school for a minimum of 90% of a school year. Reliable studies have shown that children who attend school for less than this amount of time fall far behind their peers. It is CCS policy to send a letter to parents of any children whose attendance is less than 90% to find out the cause and how the matter can be corrected.

Pick ups

Children who are in Kindergarten to year 1 should be picked up at the end of the school day from outside their classrooms. Please inform the teacher/school in advance should another adult be picking up your child. Preferably we would need to meet the person entrusted to accompanying your child to ensure their safety.

Car park etiquette

*School carparks are always busy places and the safety of the children is paramount. Therefore, please observe the 5 kph speed limit and be patient. Zooming in and out of the carpark may save a minute or two, but it's not worth the risk of harming one of our precious children! Children should alight from cars in the school carpark and use the nearest footpath to reach their classrooms. They should **NOT** walk across the school carpark..*

Please don't drop off or pick up your child from the main carpark roundabout. The roundabout at the back gate is provided for this purpose.

If you are a parent of a child from Kindergarten - year 1 please park and walk with your child to the car. If you are picking an older child up and don't wish to park then please use the driveway just to the west of the main carpark to reduce traffic congestion. This driveway enters the school about 50meters west of the chainmesh fence at front of school.

Children younger than 10 years old should always be accompanied by an adult when travelling to and from school. All children riding bikes, skateboards, scooters etc., must wear a safety helmet and will be released through the bike gate. A teacher will escort them across Robinson Street to the footpath on the other side.

School Uniforms

I regret to inform you that there were a few cases of parents abusing office staff in 2015 when they were merely following school protocol regards CCS uniform requirements.

The wearing of the correct school uniform is mandatory for all children from Pre-primary to year 6 at CCS. Unless a valid written reason is given, children who are not wearing the correct school uniform will be sent to the school office and parents will be informed by telephone to immediately rectify the situation. I would like to thank you in advance for your co-operation in regards this matter.