

Board Bits

- During the September holidays our Solar panels were installed on the toilet block.
- An offer has been made by Lifeworks Uniting church to work together on the kindergarten project. (They own the block next door to the school) This will be presented at the next association meeting.
- The tenders are out for the new library.
- The board is currently looking at the school budget and enrolments for next year.
- The next Association meeting is November 24th. All are welcome to attend.

Lost Property

A pendant has been found in the school grounds. Please contact the office for details.

CALENDER CHECK

November 5th (Thursday) School Class Photos
November 7th (Saturday) Working Bee
November 30th (Monday 9.30 - 10.30 am) School Awards rehearsal
November 30th (Monday 11.00 am – 3.00 pm Dalby Christian School Service visit
December 1st (Tuesday) Swimming Pool Fun time and activities.
December 2nd Games and School Lunch Banquet. Dismiss at 1.30 pm
December 2nd Awards night at the Baptist Community Church 6.30 pm
December 3 and 4 PD for staff; Christian Education National CEN in-service
January 27th Term 1 begins
April 1st Term 1 concludes

GLENVALE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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"Blackboard" GCS Newsletter

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SCRIPTURE FOCUS

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Mat 6:33

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Whenever we hear the word **'first'**, significance, importance and priority is implicated. In today's pluralistic so called tolerant societies, **'first'** is often relative and subjective meaning it is almost impossible to know absolutely what in fact is all important. When Jesus said **'seek first'** He attached significance to what He was talking about and it was His kingdom and His righteousness and we were to seek it or strive for it. It was something we would have to look for requiring effort and a certain attitude, and it didn't just drop into our laps. In the context of the verse Jesus talks about the ordinary things of life, like eating and clothing and Jesus clearly said they were not important compared to seeking and knowing God. Physical material needs don't deserve the time and worry that a lot of people give to them. Indeed, if we focus on God and His Kingdom, then God will provide for us just as He does with the creatures of His creation for example the birds that do not have storehouses. This requires faith in God on our part and it is precisely this that the Father wants us to show as it pleases and honours Him. I often marvel at the freedom and happy singing of birds as they go about their daily acquisitions of food and shelter which are being met by an all powerful wise God. If God looks after the birds, how much more will He look after His precious children? There is another **'first'** that Jesus talks about and it concerns the greatest commandment of **loving the Lord** with all our hearts, mind and hand. This is the gold supreme cover all commandment, that summarises God's expectations and standard, His will, His law that directs life and living. Now here is a seeming para-

dox. How can imperfect sinful man truly seek and love God in the way that Jesus describes it? The truth is we cannot. It is only God's love reaching out and seeking us first that we can genuinely respond by faith and repentance submitting to the Saviour and King of life. When we turn to Jesus by faith and a repentant heart God promises us His Spirit and eternal life, and all that we need to live an abundant loving, caring, sharing, giving and serving life.

Both '**seeking first**' and '**loving God**' with all our hearts, are primary, both have an end in view - the Kingdom of God and loving God, both seem impossible to do or experience, yet God through His love and grace makes it possible. Through the sacrificial death and life of Jesus it is possible when we turn to Jesus and put our faith in Him to be indwelt and empowered with the Holy Spirit, to be victorious with Jesus reigning and ruling our lives. What a gift!

May we earnestly seek and respond to the Lord, and give Him the attention, devotion praise and love He deserves. Don't be distracted and absorbed by the insignificant, temporary things of life, look at life from God's perspective, from His word, from His Kingdom. Then all good things will be added to us, we can be assured of God's blessings and a secure and beautiful future, no matter what we go through. Thank you dear Lord.

PRAYER GROUP

We are engaged in spiritual warfare which overflows into all aspects of life and need to in the name of Jesus confront the enemy -we cannot do without praying and prayer warriors. If you can, please join the prayer group in the admin building every Thursday at 2.30 pm. If you cannot come, please commit some time praying for the school and its people during the week, anywhere.



PRAYER POINTS

Thank the Lord for His abundant mercy, grace and love for each of our students – and parents, teachers and board members and all those involved with the school in some way. Pray for strength and unity that the school will follow God and grow to give Him glory in all aspects of education striving to excel. Pray for families to grow stronger, for the new proposed kindergarten, for the building of the new library, for student numbers to grow, and for our dedicated staff.

The Theme for Term 4 is 'Seek first the Kingdom of God...'

We encourage everyone - children, parents, teachers and board members to focus on thinking and above all, responding to the Lords call to seek Him and make Him first in all we do

School Activities

A working bee is planned for **Saturday, 7th November**, 1.00—4.00 pm, finishing with a sumptuous afternoon tea. There are a number of unfinished jobs and other work to do. A sign-up sheet is on the Room 1 window. Please come along and support the school and the hardworking teachers who are requesting help to better serve your children. Thank you. We would love to see you there.

Photos

Photos will be taken on Thursday 5th November. Please ensure all children are in correct uniform.

An Invitation to an Important School Meeting.

On the 4th of December all parents and association members are invited to a visioning workshop held at our school. The workshop will be held by Will Gardener (CEN State Representative) and Tim Caughey (Consultant in Community Relations and Developments) Our goal is to develop a school vision and strategic plan that will take us through the next 5 years. This plan will touch all areas of school from class teaching curriculum, resources, policies to building and grounds. It will be guided by our mission statement.

Our school is a community that consists of parents, teachers, students, volunteers, finance personnel, association members and board members. So to achieve this goal we need the input of all these people. Your opinion does matter and your input is valued. Please join your school community on this Friday night as school direction is evaluated and redirected as necessary.