

Newsletter

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“Really it’s what we all pray for, sing songs about in church and always talk about - how good it would be to tell the world. We have doors that have been opened to reach and influence pretty much most of the next generation of Coffs Harbour. The question is, are His people willing?”

“We know the Shepherd... Let’s not shrink back... point people to Jesus.”

Staff movements bring new opportunities and challenges



Our thanks go to Joy King, now retired after two years as Christian Studies teacher at

Coffs Harbour High School. We thank God that the school has welcomed Darren Gray and changed their scripture timetable to accommodate him. Joy also taught at Orara.

Darren Gray Begins at Coffs Harbour High

As we launch into another year, I’m excited. Of course I can’t start the year without saying that it has been an absolute pleasure working with Joy. Her enthusiasm and genuine desire to see young people begin a relationship with Christ has been an inspiration to me. You will be sadly missed by all, Joy, but I join in your excitement at God’s leading.

After my first full year in the job, I felt as a team we had a very successful year.

I’m really looking forward to continuing to work with Erica and now Dave as well. Dave has an amazing heart for young people and a passion for God that is contagious. Welcome on board, Dave.

But the departure of Joy presents new opportunities and challenges for me - an



introduction to another school, new students to meet, new surrounds to traverse and new staff to work in with. Exciting? Yes, but also a little confronting.

While thinking about this God showed me a picture of a lost sheep. We know Christ is the Shepherd Who looks after the whole flock, but there will always be lost

Darren Challenges Us All

sheep. As Christians, whatever our setting, be it work, home, church or out and about, we will meet lost sheep.

But we know the Shepherd. We know where there is protection, prosperity and peace.

Let's not shrink back from those opportunities that God gives us to point people to Jesus. Your interaction with

someone could encourage them into the fold for the first time or help them return to the flock.

I am excited about what God has planned for CCSM in 2014 and you should be too!

Pray for Darren, now working three days at Woolgoolga, one day at Orara & Toormina and one half-day at Coffs Harbour, as well as keeping our curriculum up to date.

Dave Bosshard Relishes Opportunities at Orara High



The open door to share the good news with pretty much most of the high school population is, I believe, a sign of God's sovereign will that everyone should have a chance to hear and understand how much He loves them.

I have really loved the last term with Erica, being able to sow seeds of life into the high school students of Orara, and I'm praying to be released for more.

Really it's what we all pray for, sing songs about in church and always talk about - how good it would be to tell the world.

We have doors that have been opened to reach and influence pretty much most of the next generation of Coffs Harbour. The question is, are His people willing?

We have seen much fruit from being able to bring a light into these kids' blind worlds where the temporary has become more important than the everlasting. Kids' lives have been changed and I believe this is one of the most amazing fields we have been blessed to share in.



Good news from Bonville Primary School

Debbie White



Not many scripture teachers teach the same kids for four years straight – but at a little school like Bonville Public, with mostly composite classes, I've had that pleasure. 2013 was my fourth year teaching the 3/4 and 5/6 classes, so for

the first time I farewelled Year 6 students whom I had taught since Year 3.

One girl in particular has made this journey feel worthwhile. Initially she was quite negative, scowling and saying, "I don't believe it anyway!" But she gradually warmed up, becoming very engaged during lessons and enthusiastic when we sang.

In late 2013 she answered "Yes" to the question "Do you believe God still does amazing things today?" in her book, and when I offered the Year 6 students a Bible of their own, she dashed to me and told me eagerly that she'd like one. It warms my heart to see such clear evidence of God working through school scripture!

A New Teacher on the Job at Sawtell Primary School

Hannah Taylor



I began teaching at Sawtell Primary School in 2013 and absolutely love it.

At first I was nervous and thought it would be challenging, but on the contrary, it is based on a very easy -to-implement program that has many resources

available for use: images, slideshows, stories, activities and music.

I consider teaching kindergarten children from all walks of life about our gracious Lord to be an honour, and I feel very privileged.

The children are excited and responsive to scripture and simply love the lessons provided as they are very interactive. Also the classroom teachers and fellow scripture teachers are very supportive and friendly and there to lend a hand whenever needed.

If you feel moved to do it, don't be afraid - the kids will love you, it's easy and you will be well supported. Most importantly, you are spreading God's word to children who otherwise may not hear it.

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COFFS COAST
SCHOOLS MINISTRY INC

CCSM website
coming soon!
www.ccsm.org.au

**LEN TRUMP'S IMPROMPTU POEM
AT 2013 ANNUAL DINNER**

Tell me: Does God love the boys
and girls?
Through all of the badness and all
of their joys.
Of course, you say, He loves them
all,
Whether they're big or whether
they're small.

Well tell me: Do all of the children know that?
Or is it a secret, kept under our hat?
God does the Loving, but we have to tell -
Tell about God and Jesus as well.
Perhaps we are past it and long in the tooth,
But we must make sure they know the Truth.
We can pray that the Lord calls people to teach
We can guide and encourage - no kid out of reach.
They all have to hear, every child in our schools.
They are God's precious loved ones, He calls them His
Jewels.



Treasurer's Report for Year to 31 December 2013

Guy Butler, Treasurer

	2013 Actual Jan—Dec	2013 Plan Jan—Dec	2012 Actual Jan—Dec
Income	85,539	107,000	89,619
Expenses	104,417	107,000	92,055
Net Assets	20,078	38,684	38,684

I'll begin with a big THANK YOU to our financial supporters.

Income for the whole year was \$21,000 below plan. In the first half of the year, it was \$19,000 below plan, whilst in the second half it was only \$2,000 below plan. That was a real turn around!

Expenses for the year were \$2,500 less than expected, giving us a shortfall for the year of \$19,000. We were able to cover this shortfall from our accumulated reserves. So, we were able to deliver the scripture education we

planned to. That is a real blessing!
Looking ahead to 2014, things get a bit uncertain. We need to see income from giving carry on at the levels we saw in the second half of last year in order to deliver the scripture teaching we want in the high schools.

If giving is at a similar level to the total for 2013, then we should consider reducing the level of teaching we commit to. Knowing what to do is a real challenge.

So, PLEASE can you pray. Firstly, for wisdom for the board as we review our position throughout the year. And secondly, for our financial supporters to be generous. It would be wonderful to feel we are going forward rather than treading water.

Thank you again for your support.