Dear Parents,

Thank you for your continued support as children have returned to face to face teaching. While many students have returned happily, for some it has been an unsettling time and we are working hard to put measures in place to help students resume their learning with faithfulness. We also are looking at ways to reassure children, and remind our community, of the many things we have to be thankful to Jesus for.

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.

Hebrews 12:28

As we come into the cold and flu season can I remind parents that if your child is not well to please keep them home. We appreciate your support in this measure as we strive to keep our community safe.

With no new COVID-19 cases, after 32 642 tests in the Hunter New England Area, we can start to enjoy the easing of restrictions. We continue to pray for families and look forward to a return to life getting back to a new type of normal.

David Jones
Principal
Carinya Distinctives: 1. Jesus Christ is the Difference

Carinya is committed, as a school, to the Creator God, who is revealed and described in the Bible in the person of Jesus Christ. By His death and resurrection, Jesus revealed His authority over life and death and, ultimately, over all of human history.

Jesus said: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth” (Matthew 28:18) and the Apostle Paul writes that: “[Jesus] is the image of the invisible God ... all things were created by Him and for Him ... He is before all things and in Him all things hold together” (Colossians 1:15-17). Just as Jesus holds “all things” together, He has a plan for “all things”, including how we live our lives, how we love and care for each other, and how we think about our future.

1. Life Has Meaning and Direction: An Eternal Perspective!

At Carinya, children are taught that life has meaning, purpose and direction, because there is a Creator who made each one of us in His own image and who knows what He is doing in the life of every person.

Each person matters because they have been made on purpose by God for a purpose: to know Jesus and to serve Him. They never need to despair of life, or lose hope and direction, because they do matter in eternity to their Creator! This gives purpose to what they do at school and how they think about their learning. Like every other aspect of life, education has meaning and direction because Jesus is real and we can know Him and follow Him in our learning and our life.

2. The Big Questions:

Carinya, in all that it does, seeks to help children consider the “big” questions of life like:

- Where did I come from?
- How am I to live?
- What matters most in life?
- Is this life all there is?

We can confidently tell our children that there is much more to life, than just money, fame and success.

The Bible tells us that: “God has set eternity in our hearts” (Ecclesiastes 3:11), and that means we will seek the answers to these big questions. Augustine, the great Christian thinker of the 5th Century said: “You have made us for yourself and we cannot find rest until we find our rest in You”.

That restless desire for meaning and purpose is as true for our children as it is for us. We all long for meaning, purpose and perspective in life because God has made us to seek Him, to know Him and to obey Him.

3. Jesus Makes a Difference in the Classroom

Knowing that Jesus has been given “all authority in heaven and earth” gives meaning, purpose and direction to all that is taught at Carinya, in every lesson and in every subject. It makes a difference to how we approach learning in the classroom and to what we say to children about their learning.

It makes a difference to:
- why they learn: to know what God has made
- what they learn: what God has made
- how they learn: thankfully and faithfully

4. Jesus is the Answer

At Carinya, students are taught that the answer to all the big “life” questions, raised at every level in their learning, is found in knowing and serving Jesus Christ. We do not point children, first of all, to “religion”, to “church” or to a set of “values”, important as these are. We point children first to a wonderful God, our Creator, who made us to seek Him, to know Him and to serve Him, in our lives and in our learning. In whatever they do in their lives, Jesus Christ makes the difference.

Peter Weary
Deputy Principal

Next time: A Christ Centred Education
Parent Teacher Online (PTO)  
Year 11

Parent/Teacher Interviews for Year 11 will be held on Tuesday 2 June.

Bookings close on Sunday (31 May) at 9:00pm.

A letter has been posted home with instructions on how to book. If assistance is required, or you do not have internet access, please ring the school office. Due to COVID-19 this round of interviews will be conducted over the phone, on the number you provide when booking. Parents are reminded that they will not attend school for their interviews.

Homework Club will recommence in Week 6 on Tuesday and Thursdays. Afternoon tea won’t be provided this term, but students are very welcome to bring some food if they would like to eat before heading to Homework Club. Other registration details remain the same. See the website for more information.

Athletics Carnivals
Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the Primary and Secondary Athletics Carnivals that were to be held next week have been cancelled.

Raywood Drive

May I remind you that all parents transporting children in the morning and/or afternoon must use Raywood Drive (the school road off Calala Lane), even if you have other business at school. The only exception to this is if there is inclement weather (rain), in which case either entrance may be used. Parking spaces are always available in the Boronia Drive carpark for drivers with mobility parking concessions.

There has been an increase in the numbers of parents who are picking up children and with increased traffic we want to ensure that students and families remain safe. The school is looking at ways to improve the flow of traffic and safety of students, particularly around the “Kiss and Drop” area. Parents will be informed of these changes over the next week as we work together for the safety of our children.

Peter Weary
Deputy Principal