It’s all about partnering together for Learning, Faith and Life. Partnering is priority!

The apostle Paul in his letter to Philemon writes:

“I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ.”   Philemon 1:6

**LEARNING PARTNERSHIP**

Our COCT culture encourages our parents to take a genuine interest in the work of the College. We acknowledge that parents are the first teachers of their children, and recognise parents as our partners in their children’s learning success. We recognise that the beliefs, expectations and experience of our students’ parents are a powerful determinant and contributor in their achievement, and are thankful that our parents partner with us so enthusiastically. Being part of the Christian Outreach Campus gives families a unique opportunity to be part of our tribe from Play ELC, to Primary then Secondary, all on one campus.

During Semester 1, Primary clearly saw this partnership with an unprecedented 98% participation for all Three Way – Student, Teacher, and Parent Interviews. Parents had an opportunity to collaboratively plan student-learning goals with their child and their child’s teacher.

Semester 1 also saw the introduction of Primary Clubs thanks to the parent volunteers and teachers who shared their skills, passions and hobbies with our students. Opportunities are always presenting themselves – would you like to partner with us further?

**FAITH PARTNERSHIPS**

It’s been our privilege to witness six baptisms happening at our Christian Outreach Campus Church. Of the six young people, three were college students: Hayley Parigi (Yr 7), Callum Lemin (Yr 2) and Sarah Gray (Yr 7). Sarah’s testimony was that at her Year 5 camp she gave her life to the Lord. The same message of joy, love, peace and hope is reflected at home, school and church. We partner together: same values, same passion and the same desire to see our children grow with a dynamic, relevant, personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**LIFE PARTNERSHIPS**

Schools do not exist in isolation. We are part of the wider community in which we partner to prepare our students for life. Partnership widens to include outside real life experiences. Some highlights from Semester one in Secondary have included:

- Hosting the Queensland Chief Scientist: Dr. Geoff Garrett, for a presentation, question and answer time.

- Workshops with Professor Lindsey Brown in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) program with University of Southern Queensland

- Partnering with Careers Australia to introduce a Diploma of Business as an option for Year 10 – 12 students as part of their studies here at COCT.

So it really is all about partnership! Thank you to those who partner with us so faithfully.

#wearecoct #betttgether
This Term we had our grand introduction of our brand-new COCT website.

It was a labour of love driven by a desire to showcase our College and to provide the community with relevant, easily accessible and up to date information. There are a few spots that are still under development and we appreciate your patience as we finish these.

I trust that you have enjoyed having a good browse as you navigate through the pages. There is a Blogs + News section under the community tab that will be frequently updated with news and views of College life. Here you will find a wonderful insight into the daily goings on of COCT. We also have an events calendar on the home page to keep you updated.

I would particularly like to draw your attention to the log-in tab. Here you will find direct links to the parent portal OurCOCT and myCOCT for students. These portals will be the gateway for access to a variety of information and communication about your partnership with the College. The use of these portals will grow as we continue to integrate our new school management system.

Should you not be able to find what you are looking for, or you have constructive feedback for our web team, please don’t hesitate to head over to the Contact Us tab!

We hope you enjoy our new website as much as we do!

Mr Michael Bray
College Principal
A TERM FULL OF PLAY
AN UPDATE FROM PLAY EARLY LEARNING CENTRE
Our school was well represented in the Toowoomba Eisteddfod this year. Many students entered individual categories and all of our school choirs competed. The Junior Choir received a Highly Commended prize in their section and the Celebration Singers (Year 4 - 6 students) were awarded the Mayor’s Encouragement Award for their efforts.

The highlight for the students was when Mayor Paul Antonio visited them at school for a special photo; they thoroughly enjoyed chatting with the Mayor during his brief visit.

As a College family we celebrated our Saviour’s death and resurrection with the annual College Easter Service. The service involving students from across the College through worship, performance and readings was a beautiful time of sharing in both the pain of the death of Christ but also celebrating the life and freedom that comes through the ultimate redemption plan.

Our College crest centred around the emblem of the cross, and bearing the words “All things through Christ” represents that the foundation of our College family rests on the hope and salvation found in Jesus. It is by God’s grace that we can continue to live out the vision of the Kingdom. Our Easter service provides opportunity for us to reflect on how our story as College family, as individual families and people intersects with Gospel narratives of grace, hope and faith.

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It has been a frenetic Term in the sporting life of the College. We have had athletes representing the College, Region and State in Football, Netball, Volleyball, Endurance Riding, AFL, Cross Country and Hockey. Our Junior Football Team was successful in winning the inaugural Mid-Week Football Competition edging out Downlands College 2-1 in an enthralling match. A special mention must go to these students who were undefeated throughout the entire term – well done boys! Our Senior Boys narrowly missed out on the Grand Final conceding a late goal against St Mary’s in the Semi-Final.

Tahlia Franke returned from her National Endurance Riding Championships with a silver medal. Congratulations Tahlia. This achievement is due reward for the hours of dedication and commitment she puts in to her riding.

Apat Arok and Kimberley Waite represented the State at the National Christian Schools Games on the Gold Coast, finishing in second place to a very strong New South Wales side. The girls should be congratulated on this achievement, it is a true testament to their dedication and commitment.

Our Volleyball Girls again competed in the Tuesday Night Schools League and, after what has been a difficult season, finished in fifth place. The girls have shown significant improvement over the course of the term and they will look to improve on their efforts when the new season commences in Term three.

Matt, Tom and Daniel Burge have all successfully represented the Darling Downs Region in Hockey. This is a significant achievement and the boys are to be commended for their efforts and commitment to their hockey.

Emmanuel Fallah was selected in the Darling Downs AFL Squad, picking up the award for the best player in the region. Emmanuel was also bestowed the honour of representing the QLD Multicultural side. Well done Emmanuel on this achievement!

Our Girls Football Teams have also commenced pre-season training with an eye to next terms Mid-Week Cup and Red Lions Cup Competitions. It has been pleasing to see the growth in Girls Football this year, with the teams looking very strong.

Mr Josh Counsel
Secondary Teacher, HPE
GRANDPARENTS DAY

We had a wonderful day celebrating the Grandparents God has blessed us with this term. Here are some things our Grandparents said about the day:

“Thank you so much for the photograph of our granddaughter, the lovely morning tea and the time permitted in the classroom.”

“The morning tea was simply wonderful and we both enjoyed every aspect of the celebration. Actually it was the most enjoyable morning tea we have ever been invited to. Also the young students who catered for the event worked exceedingly hard to perfection.”

“We arrived to a splendidly arranged table, attended to by courteous and well-presented students not to mention the delicious morning tea! The presentations were a delight and we noticed the students appeared to be enjoying every minutes of their performances and it was evident to the audience. Our journey to the Year 2 classroom was amazing. It was a very interesting and bright learning environment.”

Thank you to all the Grandparents who attended!

Mrs Laura Lindsay
Personal Assistant to Heads of School
A multitude of teenagers walk in awe along the shore, with their backs facing the silent hills, watching the sun filter through the calm waters, and taking in the silent echoes of the lives lost 100 years ago on that same ground. All of the stories they’ve been listening to for years, finally come to life right there, at Anzac Cove.

15-year-old student Brittany Geoghegan was one of three winners in Toowoomba of the Premier’s Anzac Prize, and travelled with a team of 80 to Gallipoli and the Western Front to commemorate Anzac Day’s 100th anniversary.

After travelling by plane across continents, Miss Geoghegan and the Anzac Premiers Prize Team arrived in Istanbul, to attend the Anzac Dawn Service in Gallipoli and the midmorning service at the Lone Pine Cemetery along with a crowd of thousands.

“The bus ride that would get us to the site on April 24th, which should have taken a couple of hours, took us 12 hours because there were many coaches trying to access the remote area of Gallipoli.

“I only got to sleep 45 minutes that night on site, but being a part of the Dawn Service, with the sunrise over the water, surrounded by so many people, and on such a special year, was amazing—I couldn’t believe I was there,” Miss Geoghegan said.

The group of 70 students from all over Queensland travelled for two weeks through the European continent visiting World War I battlefields and other memorable sites in the Western Front.

The team was also able to participate in commemorative ceremonies, paying tribute to family members and soldiers presenting eulogies, songs, poppies, crosses, national flags, and rocks brought from their hometowns.

“I was so blessed to be able to commemorate three of my ancestors who had fought defending Australia.

“I visited the headstone of my Great-Great Uncle Harry Aberdeen on the Western Front in France. It was an emotional experience to be able to walk in the footsteps of my ancestors and commemorate their lives.

“It was very special—to be there, and to able to represent my family,” Miss Geoghegan said.

The team had the opportunity to grow and learn together as they engage in the culture as tourists around Turkey, France and Belgium, such as a boat-tour in Brussels and climbing the Arc de Triomphe in Paris at night.

“I had a lot of fun with the other students. Because we were a big group, it took us a bit to open up to each other, but by the end, we were one big family.

“I think I could name every one of us. We will keep in touch,” she said.
Zac Willis
YEAR 4 STUDENT

I jumped out of bed and got dressed for our Year 4 camp and before I knew it, I was at school and waving goodbye to my family.

When we arrived at Australia Zoo, we were very excited. We had a group photo taken next to a big model of a crocodile. Then we went to the Ocean Room for an Endangered Animal Talk, and we met a koala with only one paw. We learnt that koalas are endangered animals. Next we saw the Wildlife Warriors Show at the Crocuseum. At the show we saw Major Mitchell Cockatoos, macaws, eagles, owls, parrots and crocodiles. One bird took $5 out of a girl's hand. Some people were scared that the bird would hurt her and others thought the girl would not get her money back. If you want to know what happened you will have to ask a Year 4 student. We also saw other animals like zebras, giraffes, southern white rhinoceros, the tiger show, a red panda, and many more.

Then we went back onto the bus and set off for Sea Life Underwater World where we had a night tour. We went behind the scenes and saw two turtles and fed the fish, sharks and stingrays that were in the tunnel. We had to hold fish that were smelly and felt slimy. Their eye balls fell out onto my hand before I fed them to the sharks. I was relieved when we got changed, washed our hands and brushed our teeth.

Then we went to the tunnel and made our beds. We had to have a fire drill in our PJs before we went to sleep. Luckily it didn’t take too long. Finally after the drill, we went to bed. It was 11:30am when I got to sleep! I woke up at 12:30am and looked up and saw a Great White shark staring at me followed by the biggest stingray I had ever seen. It gave me a fright!

Elijsha Davey
YEAR 9 STUDENT

Out of all the camps I have been to, I’ve enjoyed Year 9 Camp (To Pindari) the most. It has brought many challenges but fun memories.

The campsite was based and made to portray an army feeling. This was by having donkeys (water suppliers), drop toilets, swags to sleep in and tenting out in the bush. Even this was a challenge for the girls in my group, although it was heaps of fun!

On the first day of camp we all went down to classroom and we set out some goals that we would like to achieve while being on camp. Some of these were to cooperate with each other, overcome fears, try new things, but mainly have fun. We all achieved all of these goals. Learning to cooperate with friends was a big part part of this camp. All the activities that we did had to be done in a group, as we had to cooperate with each other to get the job done. I think that all of the Year 9s were challenged at some stage where it was overcoming fears by climbing Buttress or learning when to be quiet and listen to the leader. One of the main lessons I took away was that you can have fun while being safe; it’s important to be safe.
LEARNING.

FAITH.

LIFE.

#WEARECOCT