Medicine awarded earlier this week told of how he was advised to give up science - it could have changed our world. Dr Seuss was told he couldn’t draw, Walt Disney that he wasn’t creative. The measure of success is not a universal gauge. But care, compassion and love for others is and a quality education gives so much more than just facts.

It has been a fabulous term with the College just seeing both value and success in so much that we do. We have had a great Primary Musical, The Spirit of Australia, that showcased the talents and gifts of so many staff and student. Our Academic results in NAPLAN, Semester Reports and our Year 12s undertaking the QCS continue to show our competitive and comparable results across the region. We continue to compete in sports competitions across the city, including earning our best result in TSSS athletics in many years.

On our website you can find the latest Next Step survey for our graduates of 2014 (in our About tab). What the report tells us is that (for the alumni who responded to the survey) the vast majority are engaged in higher education, primarily studying a Bachelor degree. Many other graduates have entered the workforce, including a good number who have deferred their further study for a year or so.

These are all great measures of success for our students, our graduates and our community as it shows we are equipping people to move into their desired areas of service and work within their wider community. Our prayer is that they also are able to take our values and the Gospel with them on that journey.

As further evidenced by the data in our Community Survey and the many goings-on around our College campus everything is pointing towards the grace and blessing that God has for us. As we move into the final term for 2015, we are starting to prepare for change and strategize for the future as we continue to live and operate in the vision that the Lord has given us for our tribe, we are all COCT.

Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value.

–Albert Einstein

The success of a person can often be measured by the wrong outcomes. People become reduced to results, their salaries, their car or their looks. But in many ways our parameters of what we consider to be successful is wrong. Even the media try to suggest that the measure of a school is based purely on OP and NAPLAN results or limited student outcomes. At the end of the day, a holistic, or what we call, a Christian education is so much more than that. It’s the values and the qualities that cannot be measured that count towards the success of both individuals and institutions.

Imagine if people could never change and they were stuck being like they were as young teens – irresponsible, uncertain and self-centred – well that was me as a teen…. Or worse still if we were subjected to the judgments of others and were never given the opportunity to change, to grow and succeed. One of the Nobel prize winners for
Kids, a cow, paint and glue. Curious? Over the term, Christian Outreach College Toowoomba brought the farm to the classroom with the Picasso Cows program.

The program celebrates one of Australia’s biggest agricultural industries, the dairy industry, and also teaches kids that milk doesn’t just come from the supermarket.

Our Year 3 students got to design and paint a life-sized fibreglass cow while they investigated the theme “From Farm to Plate.” They documented their findings from start to finish in a learning journal. It was interactive fun with an important educational message.

We often hear from nutrition experts that Australian children aren’t having enough calcium every day and that dairy foods such as milk, cheese and yogurt are one of the biggest sources. Despite this, most primary school kids aren’t having enough. This program will tie in with our classroom nutrition education, teaching children about the importance of the five food groups, including dairy foods, for good health and wellbeing.

And that’s not all! With our final design, our school is also participating in nation-wide Dairy Australia’s Picasso Cows program, creating some healthy competition! We can’t wait to see the results! The winning school will be awarded $250.

Mrs Christine Doyle
Primary Teacher
Every day is an exciting time at Play Early Learning Centre!

However, this term was particularly exciting for the children as they got to visit at night time!

As part of our Father’s Day celebrations, Play ELC held a Superheroes & Sidekicks night where the children invited one of their very own real-life superheroes to come play for an hour and then enjoy a pizza dinner together. The Superhero, being a significant male in the life of the child: dad, grandad, uncle, brother, neighbour, etc.

In the Early Years, it is often names like Superman, Spiderman or Octonauts that are heard when talking about superheroes. At Play ELC, our aim is to encourage and challenge the children to think about who the real superheroes are in life, those who are the significant people in their lives. This will be different for each family – mum, dad, siblings, or grandparents – but for all of us, the biggest superhero is Jesus.

United, the Superheroes and Sidekicks had quality time participating in a variety of creative activities. Entering the Pre-Kindy room proved very adventurous as the Superheroes and Sidekicks negotiated their way through the laser beams just to be able to enter the room full of fun. Strength galore was displayed in the Opals Room at the Hulk Wall challenge. All classes thoroughly enjoyed eating pizza together and then finishing the meal off with a ‘frog in the pond’.

What an amazing night this was!

Mrs Vicki Davey
Play Early Learning Centre Director
SCIENCE & MATH

Our top maths students from Year 7 and 8 were selected to compete against other private & state schools in the region, in a fast paced, difficult maths Quiz. Congratulations to Year 7’s Una Van Heerden, Shahil Narsey, Noah Sharju and Year 8’s Nina Boardman, Breanna Humber and Zachary Hibbins for representing us well.

In Year 8 Science we have again made some crazy Rube Goldberg inventions to learn about Physics. An outstanding example is shown by Thomas Mortensen-Shivola’s Paper Aeroplane Throwing Thingy (PATT).

Professor Lindsay Brown (USQ) and his post graduate students have collaborated with us to help mentor the Year 11/12 Chemistry students during their research on the chemistry of biological molecules. They also helped Year 8 science to think deeper when planning scientific investigations by giving them some insight into their research on exotic fruits and the molecules in them that can help fight obesity, and also assisted the students with understanding the data, which was of great help.

Mr John Werth
Mathematics and Science Coordinator

HEAD START FOR STUDENTS

Some of our students participated in the Head Start program, in which they studied a unit of a university course at The University of Southern Queensland. Christian Outreach College had the largest cohort of graduates with 8 students.

Two students undertook a unit over the summer, one student had just completed Year 10, some students completed two units, and two students achieved High Distinctions.

Examples of the variety of units studied include: Australian Legal System, Lifespan and Development Learning, Biology, Responsible Nursing Practice and Elements of Graphic Design.

Well done to our students!

Mrs Jane Palmer
Careers Counsellor/Vocational Education & Training Coordinator
It is always a privilege to reflect on the ability and success of our students, particularly within the sporting domain. It has been an exceptional term for sport, with many of our students and teams tasting success. We successfully completed what could be the longest athletics carnival in history, with Finney coming out on top for the fourth consecutive year—well done Finney. The high calibre of the performances across the carnival enabled us to take a very strong team to the Toowoomba District Athletics Carnival where we finished 5th overall in the percentage cup. This is a significant achievement for the College and a big congratulations must go to all of the students who competed.

We sent six athletes to the Darling Downs Athletics Trials with Deng Arok winning his 800m and 1500m and placing 4th in Triple Jump. Dylan Otto also successfully qualified for the Darling Downs Team in Triple Jump and Long Jump, while Emmanuel Fallah was also selected after an exceptional run in the 100m finishing 2nd. Congratulations to these three boys, and all the best for your events at State Titles later in the year.

The term was also a big one for our Footballers who competed in the Red Lion Cup. The Senior Girls team showed exceptional character and determination in defeating some quality football teams only to be beaten by St Josephs in the Semi-Final. Our Senior Boys showed glimpses of their best football throughout the day, however they could not consistently string them together and bowed out of the competition in the group stage.

The success of our Football program, particularly our Girls teams, has seen a rapid growth in Football throughout the College with close to 40 girls playing this term, many for the first time. Both our Senior and Junior Girls finished 3rd in the Mid-Week Cup, everyone involved with both teams should be extremely proud of their achievements and with many of the same squad returning next season, it bodes well for further development.

As a College we continue to ‘punch above our weight’ and this is evident in our outstanding results and performances. These results are a true testament to the character and commitment of our students and to them goes the congratulations, well done!

Mr Josh Counsel
Secondary Teacher, HPE
Students speculated over which were the best books in the competition and the Library featured displays of selected shortlisted titles. This year’s theme of Books Light Up Our World was immensely popular. Lights were dimmed and the darkened Library was lit with fairy lights, lamps and illuminated globes for the week. During Primary lessons, the students were each issued with a torch to ‘light up their books’ – what fun! Calls for “Can we keep the Library like this?” were heard from both Primary and Secondary students.

2015 was the 70th year the Children’s Book Council of Australia have run this special literary event.

Children’s Book Week was celebrated from 21-28 August.

To start the week’s activities the Primary school enjoyed the performance by Perform! Educational Musicals, Shine a Light. This was set around four shortlisted titles teachers had previously read to classes. Year 10 Drama classes joined in to get a first-hand demonstration on Children’s Theatre.

Years 4-6 classes were also treated to a visit from the author/illustrator Leigh Hobbs. Here they learnt their own drawings of the book characters Old Tom and Mr Chicken were just as unique as they themselves were.

Books light up our world in so many ways, so read for enlightenment and enjoyment.

Mrs Judith Schultz
Senior Library Technician
2015 is shaping up to be another massive year for the Brosnan Cup. It will, again, come down to the wire. There is only, at present, 70 points separating all four houses. It really is anyone's game.

It is a very loud and proud tradition that dates back to its inception in 1990. In its opening years, the Booth Boxing Kangaroos won it back to back. However, in the four team hitout, Booth has not won the competition since 2006 and are well due for a title. Many of the faithful do not remember it and are hungry for a win. This may be their year…

Whilst the Liddell Lions are looking to go back to back, with results in from the Term 3 Athletics carnivals in both Primary and Secondary, it appears the Finney Bulldogs may have just taken the lead.

Whilst posting a lower than usual score in carnivals earlier in the year and lightly behind, the Wesley Crocs are not out of the race either and historically have a knack for piling on large amounts of points towards year's end.

It really is anyone's game.

At present, we only have one primary swimming carnival left and several smaller fundraising and outreach initiatives that bring in house points. As usual, teachers are still able to give small amounts of house-points out to students and this forms a large percentage of our overall points for the Brosnan Cup.

I look forward to seeing the victors claim a well-deserved trophy this year at Awards night.

Mr Tim McMahon
Head of Student Life

During Term 2 and 3, students across all Year Levels competed in the Language Perfect World Competition and the results were fantastic!! The very high level of achievement reflects the competence and enthusiasm of our students.

COCT ranked 25th for Japanese in Queensland, 31st in Australia and in the top 300 out of nearly 1000 schools globally. Many students were outstanding in gaining a high status level in the program, especially Joseph Kajewski, Amber Buster, Anthony Lemin, Samuel Kajewski, Nikolai Lukashenok and Nisha Crust.

All students competed with confidence and acumen. Our college Community should be very proud of each student who participated in this world-wide competition.

Miss Fiona Creighton
International Programs Coordinator

COCT ranked 25th for Japanese in Queensland, 31st in Australia and in the top 300 out of nearly 1000 schools globally. Many students were outstanding in gaining a high status level in the program, especially Joseph Kajewski, Amber Buster, Anthony Lemin, Samuel Kajewski, Nikolai Lukashenok and Nisha Crust.
YEAR 6 STUDENTS (COLLECTIVE)

On Monday when we arrived in Sydney we went to the Circular Quay and had some morning tea underneath the Sydney Opera House. We got to see the Sydney Harbour Bridge, and go on a ferry ride. On Tuesday we went to the Parliament House and we learned lots, we also went to the War Memorial and put poppies on the wall.

On Wednesday we went to the National Capital Exhibition. There they had a cool model of the whole of Canberra! We also went to the AIS the Australian Institute of Sport, and we got to see the Gymnasium and the swimming pool. Earlier that day we also went to Old Parliament House. We had to wear white gloves to prevent putting fingerprints on the furniture. We also visited the Royal Australian Mint were all of the coins are made. There we got to mint our own Anzac Day coin for three dollars. They are going to destroy the machine that makes those coins at the end of the year and will eventually become a lot of money.

On Thursday we went to the snow! The snow was so much fun but first we had to get all our snow gear on and make sure everything fitted. The good thing about the snow being there is because you could just fall down and have a rest whenever you wanted. After all the huffing and puffing we got to go tobogganing!

On Friday we went to Questacon as our last thing to do before we left to go home. We went on a really cool slide that was very steep. It was like a straight drop. So we had to wear onesies like a construction worker so we would slip easier. After we had done that we went on the bus to go to the Airport to head home.

Mercedes Stiller

YEAR 8 STUDENT

The Year 8 students left for our school camp. We were at Murphy's Creek Escape for 3 days which were packed with challenging, scary, super fun activities such as: a flying fox, abseiling, ropes course, the truck pull and even dorm inspections. The flying fox was a challenging experience, getting over the fear of jumping off a high platform and relying on a rope to catch you, was hard for a lot of us, but with a little encouragement we all got through it.

Every day we had our dorm inspections; even from day 1 we arrived and had to set up our cabins straight away. With only 45 minutes to set up our stretchers, sweep and make sure everything was perfect, our group got super competitive. We wanted a 10/10. Even though our camp guide had only ever given out one ten, we were all sure we could do it. Over the three days determination got feice. Cabins had secret meetings and choreographed secret routines to get the 10/10. In the end one of the dorms had put in enough effort to receive the 10 they wanted.

The truck pull was a very hard experience, but at the same time so much fun. About 20 girls pulling a huge ute 2.4km in an hour. Sound hard? It was, all of the girls pushed and pulled hard, but when we made it a musical, time flew by. Singing and chanting gave us a a load more determination.

Over the three days we learnt about building teamwork, taking initiative and overcoming our fears.
What happens when the dream you’ve been working on for most of your life suddenly falls apart? To Alastair, it meant to get up back again and find a new dream.

Alastair Bell graduated at Christian Outreach College Toowoomba in 2007. During his high school years and into his undergraduate study, he was training and competing in swimming at a national and international level.

“My overall goal was to compete for Australia as a part of a National Open team. It was a very significant part of my life, with eight 2-hour pool sessions per week, plus other activities,” Alastair says.

All this training continued during his university studies, and in 2008 it all paid off as he was selected in the National Youth Team to represent Australia at the Commonwealth Youth Games in Pune, India, coming home with a gold medal as a member of the 4x200m Freestyle relay.

Alastair continued to train and compete at a national level through to 2010, when suddenly, his dream was put on hold.

“I came down with glandular fever. I was very sick at the time, being in bed for 6 weeks. This put me out of training for a considerable period of time. In retrospect, it really took me at least 2 years after that to fully recover.

“My world was crumbling around me, my life revolved around it, and it was just out of my control.

“I had to be pragmatic; I made the difficult decision to cease my competitive swimming career,” he confessed.

Alastair decided to get up, look forward, and continue to pursue his academic interests.

After obtaining his Bachelor of Biomedical Science at the University of Southern Queensland, he undertook an Honours year in virology research, and then gained entry to the University of Queensland Medical School.

He is now channelling the same passion and drive into his career, carving a bright future ahead, as he will be working as a medical intern at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital next year.

“After giving up competitive swimming, I had to go through a grieving process; I am where I am now because of the love and support from the people around me.”

“Now I’m looking forward to working as a doctor. I’ll be helping people while continuing to develop my skills, and I am keen to head towards a surgical training pathway,” he said.

He believes that his time at Christian Outreach College Toowoomba instilled life values in him that have underlined his journey, and are still present in his current goals.

“I have come to appreciate value of investing in people, which is well ingrained within the culture of the College. I had some great teachers who inspired and encouraged me to be the best that I could be, and to help to make society a better place along the way.”

“To me, it’s about aiming to be the best I can be. Not to be the best of the best, which can be aggressive, but furthering myself, and helping those I can along the way.”

Miss Ana Allan
Campus Media Services
LEARNING.

FAITH.

LIFE.