



10TH AUGUST 2023

# THRIVE

CASINO CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## Calendar

### Week 4 (B)

Fri 11th Aug: Secondary  
Assembly, 11-11.50am

### Week 5 (A)

Book Week

Wed 16th Aug: Book Week  
Dress Up Day

### Week 6 (B)

Tues 22nd Aug: Primary  
Assembly, 2pm

Thurs 24th Aug: Secondary  
State Athletics

### Week 7 (A)

Wed 30th Aug: P&F  
Meeting, 6-7pm

Thurs 31st Aug: Creative  
and Performing Arts  
(CAPA) Night, 6.30-8pm

Fri 1st Sept: Primary State  
Athletics

### Week 8 (B)

Tues 5th Sept: Primary  
Assembly, 2pm

Wed 6th Sept: Primary  
Spring Social, 5-7pm

Fri 8th Sept: Netball/  
League Gala Day

Secondary Assembly,  
11-11.50am

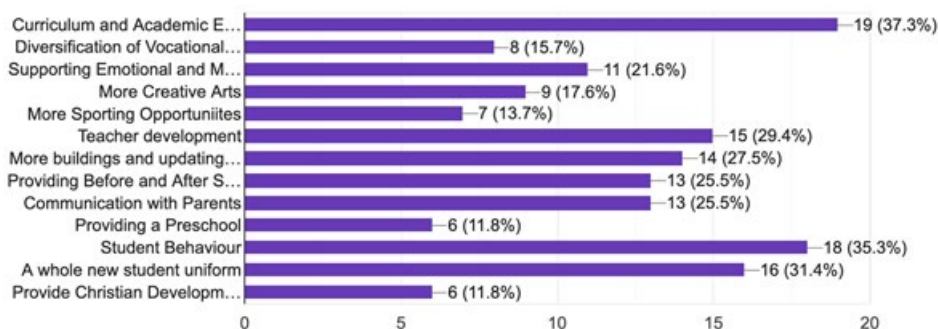
## The Survey Results Are In...

Late last term we asked all our parents to share with us their thoughts via an anonymous survey and over the last four weeks we have been reviewing, evaluating and discussing this information at not only an Executive and Staffing level but also at a Board Level. We also wanted to take the time to seek outside input and feedback on the information to really understand what our parents are positive about, but also what areas need improvement and what parents see as key priorities for the future. Today we wanted to share some of that information with you.

Firstly, the experts have advised us that our response rate was very good, especially when we consider that only about 1 in 5 Australians respond to surveys. We looked at the areas that parents were very satisfied with, and what they were not so satisfied with. Again, the experts have verified what we already knew, that most of our parents are generally satisfied or very happy with a lot of the things we do here.

Firstly, I want to say a very sincere thank you to all the respondents. Just over 50 parents took the time to share their valuable thoughts, and we want you to know, whoever you are that your feedback is so important. We know that schools work best when in partnership with parents and your feedback is so important for creating a school that prepares your precious children for the future. I've included here a table outlining the areas that parents who responded would like the school to focus on. This information has been invaluable as we plan for the next 5 years in our Strategic Planning.

Pick three things that you feel the school could develop further over the next 5 years.  
51 responses



We know that as teachers, learning is a lifelong pursuit and we are always developing and growing, even as adults. There is always room for improvement, and that's what we tell our students daily. When we dug down into the data, two key areas stood out as areas for growth and development for us. If I could summarise it into the two biggest points it would be:

1. A desire for the teachers and staff to encourage our students to have higher expectations for themselves in terms of the work produced and their academic goals.

As we have been reflecting on this as a team, can I assure you that we definitely desire this too! We sometimes notice a sense of apathy for the future in our students, and we want to help them see that the opportunities for them are wide, varied and exciting. In terms of their classroom learning, Mrs Coulter, the Director of Teaching and Learning, and I are both very strong advocates for best practice learning theory which incorporates some key ethos that are all very clearly and definitively backed by the science of how the brain learns and how memories are stored. I've included some information about the way the brain learns and the "Curve of Forgetting" below. I've also included a simple overview of the teaching pedagogy or framework of Direct Instruction or Explicit Teaching. This is recognised at a world-wide level as the best learning theory. At a very simplified level we expect all our teachers to:

- Expect and create an environment for a high level of engagement from ALL students
- Explicitly teaching the skills and content, and then reducing the scaffolds or help until they are independent.
- Use spaced repetition and memory retrieval to increase memory function and improve retention of information.
- Adequately adjust and offer intervention to students who need extra assistance in the classroom.

As such, Executive Staff are now scheduled into classrooms every week to watch, review, develop and teach our teachers how to teach better. This process of development takes time, but we know it works and the data both at a scholarly level, and in our own school proves it.

2. A desire for the school to have very high behaviour standards and to uphold these with clear communication between the school and home. We know this is an area for improvement and it's one of the key reasons I so strongly prioritised commencing a Positive Behaviour Intervention Support Plan this year. (You may now know it as "The Vision Project.")

This key project is a priority area for our school, and the AIS is supporting a team of key people to create a bespoke program that suits our values of compassion, integrity, responsibility and respect, all while honouring Christ, building community and growing in grace and knowledge.

Last week we had the opportunity to address cultural/societal issues in relation to the 'bystander effect'. We took time to educate and encourage students to have the courage stand to up and protect their peers. This is an example of both the need to, and our commitment to prioritise educating, growing and teaching our young people the importance of Micah 8: 8, "To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God." Behaviours need to be taught and we want to assure you we know that this is always an area that needs to be prioritised.

Across all areas, we know that communication is key and we continue developing our tools to do this regularly and in varied ways. You may have noticed this year more regular feedback for your child's classes coming out a couple of times a term. Have you enjoyed these posts on School Stream and our Facebook Thread? Please let us know what you think. Currently our key communication methods are;

1. Our School Stream App – Have you downloaded this and/or updated this lately? Please see the Office if you need any assistance in this space.
2. Our School Facebook Page – Casino Christian School
3. Our Thrive Newsletter – Emailed home Fortnightly
4. Emails home – Do we have the most up to date email address for you?
5. Parent Teacher Nights – Did you attend this week?

Do you have any suggestions for how we can do this better? Please email me on [fhull@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fhull@ccs.nsw.edu.au) or any member of Executive if you would like to share a good idea!

Lastly, but according to the data, definitely not least, is a desire to change the uniform! Let me assure you this is a desire of our school team too. The first step in this process is to redesign our logo and a brief was given to a graphic designer late last term. We are excited to see what comes next! After that, we will turn our attention to making a uniform that is practical, economical, easy to wear and one that students feel proud to wear. This will take time and we will seek input as we go along from students, parents and staff. We know this is important and assure you, we are working in this space! However, this will not happen in the next 12- 18 months and we will ensure we give you ample time to change over, so please be assured any money you spend now is not a waste!

We will also reveal some changes to the existing uniform policy next term around shoes and socks, which will be a welcome change for parents, and for teachers having to uphold the policy. We will update you in this space towards the end of this term.

Special thanks again to all the people who took the time to share their valuable input into our school. Also, a big shout out to all the parents who take the time to email us, call us and chat with us about their concerns. We appreciate all feedback both positive and constructive and please do reach out to a member of Executive if you ever have any concerns. Included here are the list of people and their roles so you can contact them directly if you ever need.

We know it takes a village as the old adage goes, and we are honoured to be part of yours!

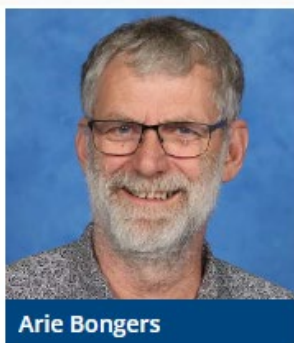
*Faith Hull*  
Principal

## Executive Staff



**Faith Hull**

Principal



**Arie Bongers**

Business Manager

[abongers@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:abongers@ccs.nsw.edu.au)



**Walter Juozapaitis**

Head of Secondary

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**Matt Lake**

Head of Secondary

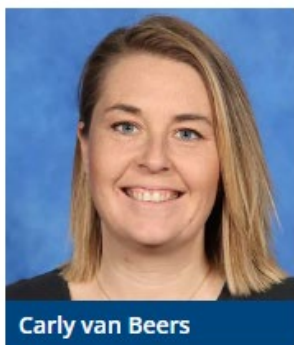
[mcallaghan-lake@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mcallaghan-lake@ccs.nsw.edu.au)



**Penny Woolley**

Head of Primary

[pwoolley@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:pwoolley@ccs.nsw.edu.au)



**Carly van Beers**

Learning Support  
Coordinator

[cvanbeers@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cvanbeers@ccs.nsw.edu.au)



**Carolyn Coulter**

Director of Teaching and  
Learning

[ccoulter@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:ccoulter@ccs.nsw.edu.au)



**David McPherson**

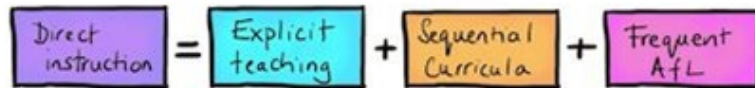
Sports Coordinator

[dmcpherson@ccs.nsw.edu.au](mailto:dmcpherson@ccs.nsw.edu.au)

# What is... DIRECT INSTRUCTION?

@Impact Wales

Explicit instruction designed to produce mastery in pupils as quickly as possible.



Originally designed by Siegfried Engelmann in 1964, his method often used teacher scripts & grouped pupils by their ability to complete a task, moving them on as soon as they had mastered it.

## Effect Sizes - Hattie

Direct Instruction = 0.59  
Inquiry Learning = 0.31  
Problem-based Learning = 0.15

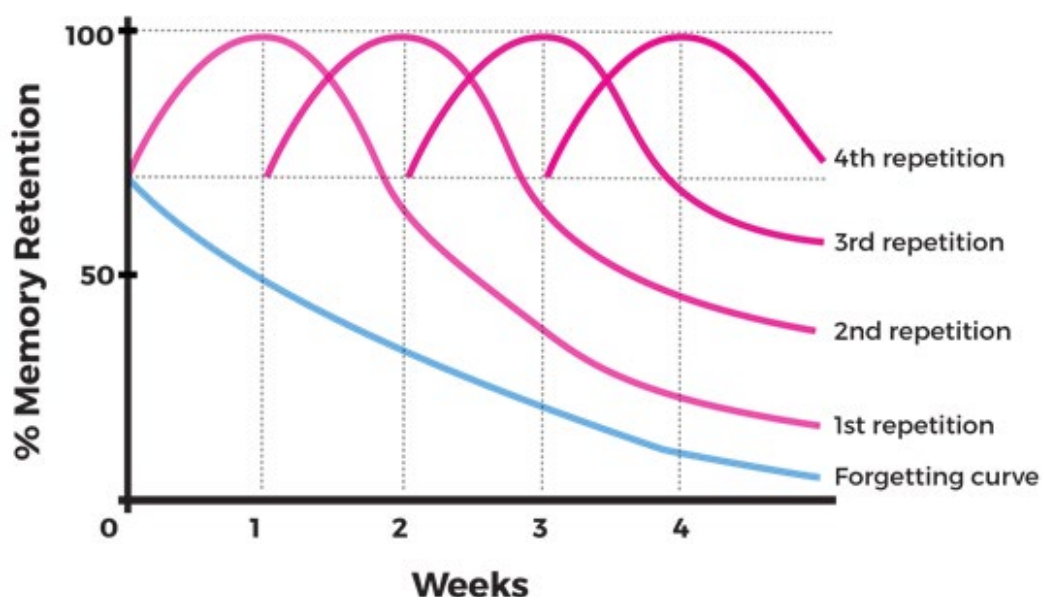
## How do you do it? Kirschner's 5 Steps

- 1 Set the stage for learning. Provide pupils with the knowledge they need to enable their learning.
- 2 Clearly explain what is expected of pupils & what you want them to do.
- 3 Model the learning. Show them how it is done. Explain what you did, and why you did it.
- 4 Provide guided practice time.
- 5 Formatively assess throughout & regulate the learning.

For bespoke support to use the most effective research to raise standards contact enquiries@impact.wales

## Curve of Forgetting

For newly learned information



# Meet Mrs Gooding

1. Where did you grow up and where do you live now,?

*I grew up in Casino and now live pretty much in Casino, at Naughtons Gap.*

2. What area/s do you teach in?

*Teachers aid, working in Kindy.*

3. Favourite food?

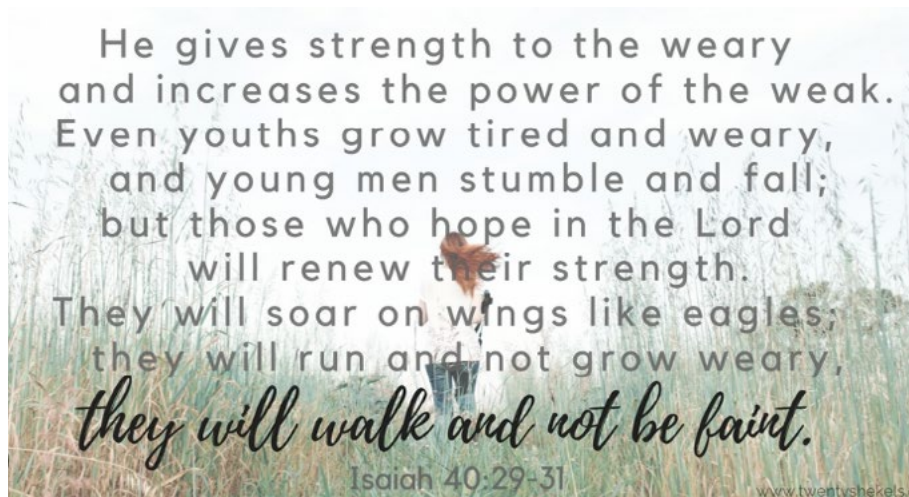
*Anything cooked by my Grandma.*

*1 - because she is a awesome cook, and*

*2 - because I didn't have to cook it*

4. Favourite bible verse?

*Isaiah 40:29-31 (below)*



## Uniform Shop



**THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE CLOSED**

from the 7 - 15 August.

It will re-open on the 16th of August.

Thanks, Gerda Bongers

# Book Week



**BOOK WEEK 14 -17TH AUGUST**

**This year's theme: 'Hats off to Reading'!**

On **Wednesday 16th August**, Primary will have a Book Week Dress Up Day.

**Please bring a gold coin donation for our school's Sponsor Child.**

**Dress up ideas** - A funny hat or your favourite book character.



## Primary Social





# CAPA

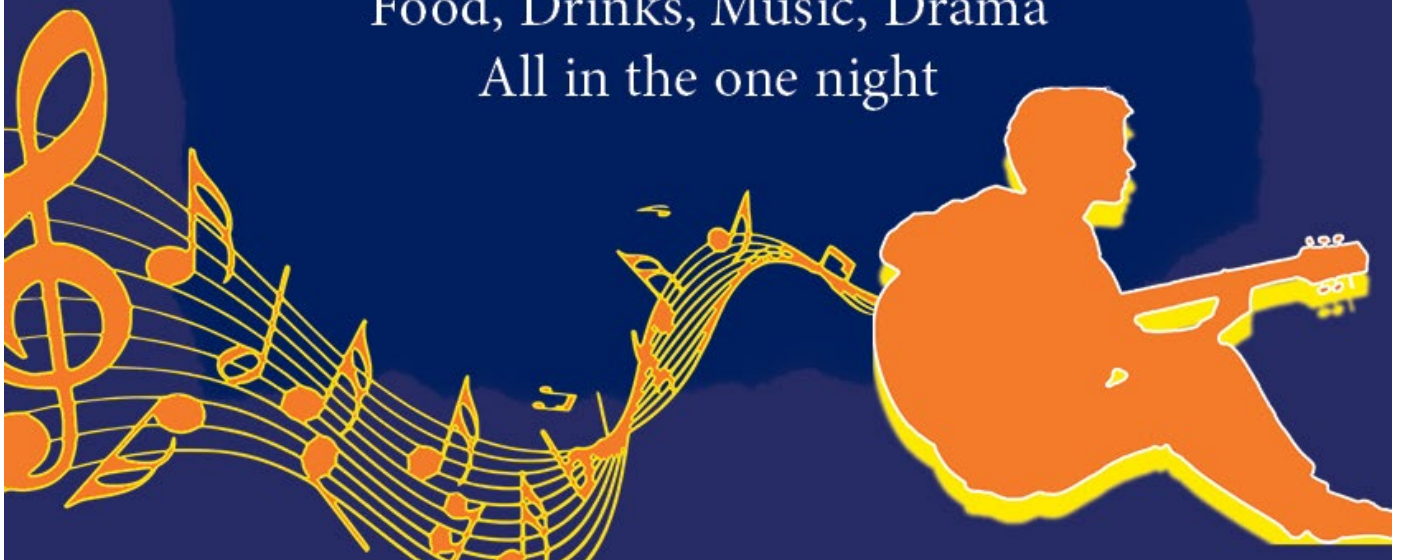
## Concert

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THURSDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST | 6:30pm

Casino Christian School

Food, Drinks, Music, Drama  
All in the one night



## Book Fair

~Hats off to Reading~

Thank you to everyone who visited our Book Fair this week. Scholastic and Koorong donate a percentage of all sales so we can purchase more books for our school library.







# Dignity Drive

Help women and girls who are doing it tough have dignified access to period products. Make a difference by donating period products at our school this month.

See more info here: <https://www.sharethedignity.org.au/dignity-drives>

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

dignitydrive | share: dignity

## Donate period products here to end period poverty



Thank you for helping us to Share the Dignity

Help those in need by donating pads, tampons menstrual cups, period undies or incontinence aids throughout August.

[www.sharethedignity.org.au](http://www.sharethedignity.org.au) #DignityDrive

# Junior Fellowship & Youth Group



## YOUTH GROUP

Casino Presbyterian Church Hall  
(opposite Centrelink)

FOOD 3.30pm - 5.30pm  
Fridays

GAMES Yr 6 - Yr 12

OUTINGS \$2 each

BIBLE TALKS

**Need more info?  
Just ask Mr Phelps!**

Or you can go to  
**[www.casinopc.org.au](http://www.casinopc.org.au)**  
> Regular Events > Youth Group  
for information and registration forms.

## Junior Fellowship

A group where we play games, do craft, eat  
afternoon tea, and learn about Jesus!



Who: **Anyone in Kindy – Yr 6**

When: **3.30PM – 5PM every WEDNESDAY**  
(during school term)

Where: **Casino Presbyterian Church Hall**

Cost: **\$2 each**

**Got questions? Contact Kate or Dan ☺**

Kate Farrugia - 0412 930 114

Dan Phelps - 0431 450 265

## Coming to Junior Fellowship or Youth Group from CCS?



**Bus 7** will now  
STOP and let you  
off at the hall!

**You need a signed note from your parent**  
saying: *I give \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) permission  
to get off at Casino Presbyterian Church every  
Wednesday / Friday afternoon during 2022.*  
(parent name, signature, & date)

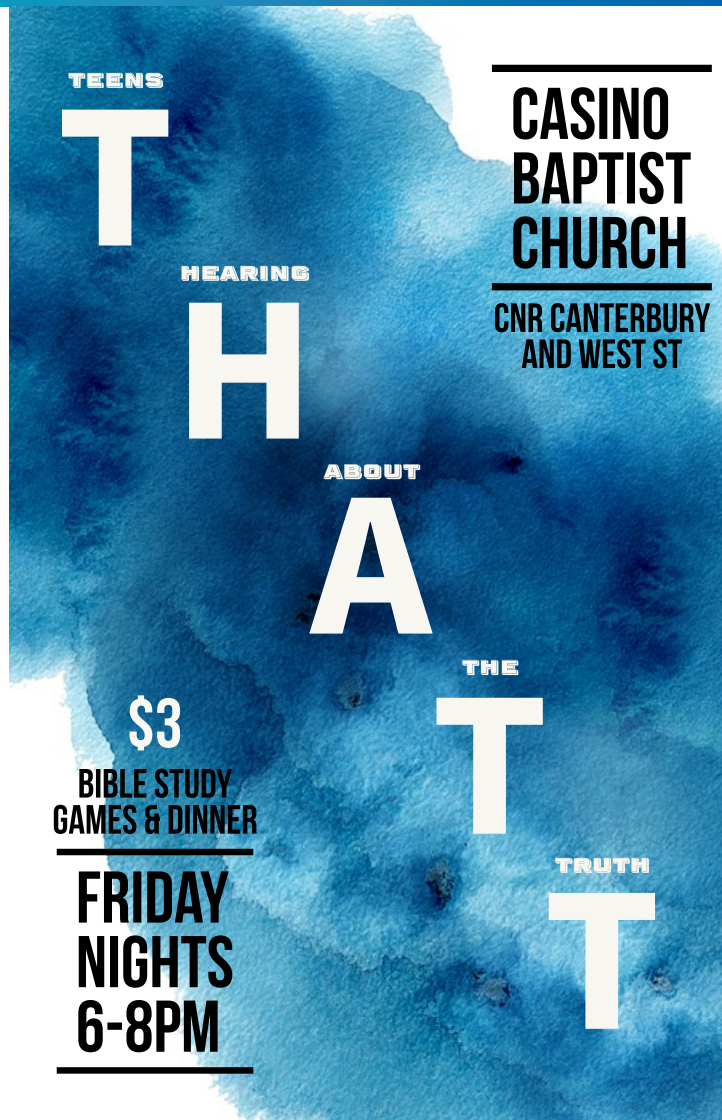
- Get on **bus 7** in the afternoon and give that note to the driver.
- Let them know you'll be getting off at Casino Presbyterian Church.

You only have to bring in the note once.  
Each Wed / Fri afterwards just let the bus 7  
driver know you'll be getting off at the Church  
and they'll stop there for you.

**No signed note =** no getting off at Church

**No bus pass?** Just bring \$2 each Wed / Fri,  
and give that to the driver when you get on in  
the afternoon (plus your signed note).

## *Baptist Church Youth Group*



## *Kyogle Presbyterian Youth Group*

