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Principals Report

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Satisfaction Surveys have not been included in this report but will be available and online before June 30. These reports will include:

9.1 Parent Satisfaction Survey
9.2 Staff Satisfaction Survey
As we reflect on the year just passed, we are truly thankful for God’s provision of Olivet Christian College for the families who choose to enrol their students here. The staff are a committed team, dedicated to serving the needs of all students in a Christian atmosphere, which provides a safe and secure environment for the students.

Our vision and mission as a Christian College is to prepare students to lead the way for their generation. The world is crying out for strong and effective leadership. We want all of our students to reach their full potential in Christ, to serve Him in whatever area He calls them. We share this role with parents and guardians in their God-given responsibility to train their children in God’s ways.

This term we have been studying the character traits of:
- Joyfulness Psalm 34: 1 – 8; “The joy of the Lord is our strength”

Wisdom is God’s character in action and we want our students to grow in wisdom as they grow spiritually as well as academically, physically, socially and emotionally.

But what about the past 12 months? How have we fared as a Christian College?

Numbers:
Our numbers in Feb 2012 began at 82 and we began 2013 with 86 students. We have budgeted for an increase of 5 students per year. Since the beginning of 2007 (when we had 50 students enrolled) the College enrolment has risen by 36 students (72% over 6 years or an average of 6 students per year).
We were blessed to be granted Year 10 registration despite our numbers being lower than required.
We are thankful to the VRQA for their trust in us as a College to deliver what we say we will do.
Evidence reinforces this trust is well placed in the way students leave Olivet and complete their senior secondary years with success.
Our secondary numbers are sitting on 27 from Yr7 – 10. We do expect our secondary numbers to grow over the next few years, as the strong Primary numbers move into their secondary years, but not to the point of guaranteeing that we can provide Years 11 and 12 any time soon.

Curriculum:
Staff have prepared and trialed work for the Australian curriculum throughout last year. This year has seen the introduction of Mathematics, English, History and Science as Phase 1 of the new Australian Curriculum. At Olivet we are dedicated to providing the best Christian Education to our students based on the Australian curriculum from a Biblical perspective in line with the Christian ethos of the College.

We certainly want to maintain our individual learning focus as a means of students gaining mastery of the curriculum, but we also value the need for group activity to foster teamwork, co-operation and leadership among the students.

Student Needs:
We have seen a marked increase in the number of families with student learning needs seeking to enroll at Olivet. The safety and security that Christian Education offers in a smaller school environment is very attractive. Staff place a very high priority on meeting those needs, with extra assistance provided as we are able, particularly at the primary levels. Nevertheless, at times we are not able to meet all the needs as currently the Government has not passed legislation for non-Government schools to be afforded the same level of funding as for government schools. For this reason we are not always able to satisfy prospective parent requests for enrolment.
It is such a blessing to see the character of students develop strongly as they grow and mature. Many students who have arrived at Olivet over recent years have shown remarkable improvement in emotional strength as well academic levels since their commencement here. This is testimony to the commitment which staff has to meet the needs of the student body at Olivet.

**Staff:**

Last year saw another wonderful year of unity among the staff and we are truly blessed to have assembled for us here such a dedicated team of teachers who have a heart for ministry and serving. We praise God for them and for the wise and positive role models they are to the students.

As their leader and principal, I feel privileged to be called to this position and continue to see the Lord’s hand on this place. I am prepared to continue in this role with the approval of the Board, albeit with a part-time teaching role from 2014 onwards.

**Camps and Excursions:**

Last year saw a variety of school excursions and overnight trips. The Delta 3/4 class enjoyed an overnight excursion to Echuca, while the Secondaries travelled Round the Bay in February, walked the Goldfields Track from Daylesford to Campbells Creek over 3 days, enjoyed their Interschool Performing Arts week at Rawson, and participated in the South Pacific Student Convention at Fiji in December. The camping program for all students is always a valuable part of the curriculum and this continues with the Gamma 5/6 trip to Canberra and the Year 9/10 Melbourne Experience. Many other daily excursions are held throughout the year to complement the class learning with on-site field trips.

**The future?**

We have just begun a College Review with the VRQA for 2013 and this is always an opportunity for the College to fine-tune our structures and procedures.

The Board took the decision to appoint a secondary LOTE teacher of Indonesian from the commencement of 2013 with Auslan continuing to be the Primary LOTE.

Classroom space continues to be at a premium and the Board is currently looking to add some extra classroom space to ease the current pressure.

Bus travel from Kangaroo Flat poses the College with a problem as it began 2013 with a full load of 33 students on board. Strathfieldsaye and Maryborough continue to have spaces for students, and we need to continue to make it a priority to advertise in Castlemaine, Bendigo and Maryborough and surrounding districts for new families and students, but we also want to see local Christian families taking more advantage of the benefits of being part of their local Olivet Christian College community and all it offers.

My prayer for the staff and students at Olivet is to continue to be learners, and to rejoice that God is ever-present to raise us up to His potential and His calling on our lives.

3 John 4 is always an encouragement to me; “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children (paraphrase students) walk in Truth”.

Phil Chapman
1. **Staff Attendance**
   Average attendance rate for teaching staff: 99.6%
   Average number of days absent for teaching staff: 2

2. **Staff Retention**
   Proportion of teaching staff retained in a program from the previous year: 100%

3. **Teacher Qualifications**
   Masters/Degrees/Diplomas (or equivalent) 100%

4. **Professional Learning**
   Number of teachers participating in Professional learning activities: 100%
   All teaching staff participate in professional learning throughout the year. The College provides teachers with access to rich and varied internal and external professional learning opportunities to broaden teacher understanding of innovation in learning, current educational research and thinking and effective learning practices. All teachers of the College have current registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.
   Average expenditure per teacher on professional learning: $583

5. **Student Characteristics**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>33</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total School</strong></td>
<td><strong>44</strong></td>
<td><strong>42</strong></td>
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6. **Student Attendance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12.5</td>
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</table>

Average all Primary Students 11
Average all Secondary Students 18.5
7. 2012 and 2011 NAPLAN Results as seen on the ACARA website. Results do not reflect the number of new students transferred for other schools each year which can have a dramatic impact on results due to the small cohort at each level.

8. Student Retention

Olivet is registered to Year 10 therefore the government Retention Record is not applicable to the College. We continue to be impressed with the excellent transition of students who transfer to new schools.
7. Finance

Total income and expenditure incorporates Capital Income and Capital Expenditure 2012.

These figures do not include the purchase of the Fuso Rosa bus for the sum of $75,000 in August.