

OLIVET CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



ENCOURAGING...EQUIPPING... EMPOWERING

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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 Student Satisfaction Survey
- 9.3 Staff Satisfaction Survey

Principal's Report

I begin this report by acknowledging God's provision for Olivet and His goodness towards us as we continue to serve Him in Christian Education. The Christian Education we offer the students is based consistently on God's Word the Bible as Truth. We desire for each of our students to develop a strong and personal relationship with their Creator, that will encourage them, sustain them and bring purpose and fulfilment to every aspect of their lives.

We rejoice in the 20%-plus increase in students since the end of the 2009 school year. There appears to be significant increased recognition within the local (and wider) community that Olivet provides students with Christian Education within a loving and caring environment, as well as maintaining a high standard of schooling that is not always found in other schools. National Testing results from NAPLAN 2009 reflects this excellence in education, while feedback from families with new students starting this year has indicated that satisfaction and success has brought a renewed confidence, purpose and happiness to the students' learning experiences. I encourage all families to speak out in the community the benefits of their children's schooling here at Olivet.

Olivet is blessed with staff members who are stable, competent and passionate about teaching children.

We thank God for the new staff members who have joined Olivet this year, Geoff Treloar as ELC Teacher, Adrian Steel in Secondary and Outdoor Ed., Kim Evers as ELC Class Assistant for 4 full-days, Hugh Austin Technology, Jessica Brennan LOTE Auslan. We appreciate the work of Jan Chapman in the area of LOTE for many years and at the same time are saddened by her recent bout of ill-health which caused her retirement from this position.

Thank you Annette (Kuhle) for your willingness to assist in ELC for Wednesdays and to cover for Kim Evers in her absence later this term. We are about to appoint a 0.5 Staff Aide (mornings) who will assist students with gaps in their numeracy and literacy learning. The position will mostly be working with upper primary students. It is our aim to address students' learning needs when they are six months below their current year level which tends to be much higher than the NAPLAN Benchmarks.

We have much to plan and prepare for the new Australian curriculum just around the corner and I want to thank Cheryl Donaldson as Curriculum Co-ordinator for the leadership and passion she brings to the staff in this area. I want to reaffirm the value of using the God-centered ACE materials as the core aspect of our individual learning, developing character and building self-discipline and daily responsibility in goal-setting. Our curriculum is based upon blending both individual and group learning to provide opportunities for all students to learn effectively and to take their purposeful place in society.

It has been pleasing to see the three school bus runs all working smoothly. Almost two-thirds of our students arrive on these buses which begin from Kangaroo Flat, Strathfieldsaye and Maryborough, and I want to make special mention of, and to give thanks for our drivers, Brad Gawthrop, Kim Evers/Tim Lacey and Peter Chaffey for their care of the students and for their commitment to their safety.

Ask Mary-Anne Revell about her work for the past 12 months or so and new buildings and renovations will be very high on the list. The new Early Learning Centre will be ready shortly and we appreciate the opportunity the Rudd Government has given us to improve our facilities. A special thank you to Mary-Anne for her time, expertise and energy in co-ordinating the building works we have seen over the past 18 months. We are already anticipating the building of a new primary classroom in the near future to accommodate the growth in numbers. Current numbers are primary 43 and secondary 28. Gamma class (3-6 class) is the largest with 22 students. (Other classes are ELC 21, Beta 20, Alpha 8)

The past twelve months in terms of paperwork and print media has been like no other in my 15 years as Principal. Compliance matters in curriculum, annual reporting, accountability for funds, health and safety issues all occupy a large slab of time and energy. Emails continue to increase in volume, often demanding immediate response. It is a fast world we live in. Once again I appreciate the work of Mary-Anne as Business Manager in taking the pressure off me in these areas. We will miss her in Term 3 as she takes well-deserved long service leave. Kylie Steel has been appointed (for mornings) to relieve in the Office during Mary-Anne's leave next term.

I would like to single out Kathy Evans and Annette and Trevor Kuhle whose work often goes unnoticed, with the thorough cleaning of the toilets and classrooms on a regular basis. Thank you for your diligence and support of the College in this way. Kathleen Ellison has taken over the responsibility of the toilet cleaning. Thank you to Amanda and Heath Bourdon for their regular cleaning of classes, and also to Heath Bourdon for taking on regular lawn-mowing, a gap left with Gordon Donaldson gaining full-time employment in Maryborough.

Thank you to Ken Evers for your leadership and strength as Chairman of Reachout. You are a wonderful "driver" with vision, passion and clarity of direction and I appreciate having your wisdom and Godly leadership at the helm of Olivet. We sincerely pray God's blessing, protection and safety for the "Millions Against Malaria" world trip for you and Tim Pryse leaving this Saturday from Bendigo following a ceremony at 11.30am.

And so we look to the future.

The Colin Punton Memorial Award was presented for the first time at the 2009 Presentation Night. In the ensuing years this will provide opportunities to recognise students with passion, school spirit and a willingness to serve; as an example to students in future years.

We need to continue to advertise the benefits of the College within the local area as well as in Maryborough and Bendigo, despite the cost involved. As the name Reachout suggests, we need to be ready to respond to opportunities God presents to reach into the lives of families for His sake and for the sake of their children's Christian Education, to make a difference in the students' lives eternally.

3 John 4: "No greater joy can I have than this, to hear that my children follow the Truth".

Phil Chapman

Chairman's Report

Yet another year has passed, and yet again we can look back and marvel at the amazing way God has continued His blessing and protection over Olivet Christian College. I am always awed that the great God of the universe is very personally interested in this school, its students, its staff and each parent who sends their students here.

We have had the joy of seeing a number of new students join Olivet Christian College, and we are honoured that parents would choose our school as the institution where they want their children educated. With this honour also is a solemn realisation of the tremendous responsibility before us as we seek to not only educate each child in the usual subjects, such as mathematics, history, literature, etc., but to also guide each child in the paths that Christ has set before each of us in His Word.

As Chairman of Reachout Enterprises, I have had the very unique privilege of viewing the "other side" of the school . . . the wheels and cogs that keep Olivet Christian College ticking along behind the scenes. The decisions made by Reachout Enterprises are discussed prayerfully and often after much deep and detailed discussion. I cannot begin to express how honoured I feel to be a part of this team.

The past twelve months have been filled with challenges and even some surprises from 'left field', but God has been faithful. In our discussions and dialogue with the VRQA regarding the teaching of creation at Olivet Christian College, we have been reminded in a poignant way as to why we send our children to a Christian school in the first place. These discussions, I feel, have strengthened the school and it's Executive in ensuring that the education of your children . . . of our children . . . reaches the high level of achievement required by the State of Victoria while also maintaining the Biblical perspective of our earth and mankind.

I would like to make a special mention of Mary-Anne Revell, the business administrator of the college. In a few months, Mary-Anne will be taking her long service leave, and this break has been well and truly earned. I would like to personally thank her for the huge effort she has put in on behalf of the college – I do not believe any words could express how much Mary-Anne means to Olivet Christian College. Thank you, Mary-Anne, for your many year of fantastic work.

As I have stated in my previous reports, we are blessed beyond measure with the leadership of Phil Chapman. His heart for the Lord and his heart for the school are simply unparalleled, and I am so thankful that God has allowed us to have the tremendous privilege of having Phil serve here at Olivet Christian College as Principal.

In conclusion, I would like to express my deepest and sincerest appreciation for those who make this school possible: the parents, the students, the teachers, the staff, the members of Reachout Enterprises and my fellow members on the Executive. To all of you, I owe a debt of gratitude, and I thank my Lord "upon every remembrance of you."

Until next year, I pray the Lord will bless each of you as you support Olivet Christian College in our efforts in not just education but in the encouragement of Christian growth in each student who attends here.

In Christ,

Ken Evers

School Performance Information 2009

1. Staff Attendance

Average attendance rate for teaching staff: 99%

Average number of days absent for teaching staff: 2.5

2. Staff Retention

Proportion of teaching staff retained in a program from the previous year: 69%

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 ongoing learning throughout the year. The College provides teachers with access to rich and varied internal and external professional learning opportunities that broaden teacher understanding of innovation in learning, current educational research and thinking and effective learning practices. All teachers of the College are registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.

Average expenditure per teacher on professional learning: \$1251

5. Student Attendances

Average number of days absent:

Primary: 13.3

Secondary: 8.6

6. 2009 and 2008 NAPLAN Results

Year Level	Min Std Band	Reading		Writing		Spelling		Grammar & Punctuation		Numeracy	
		2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008
3	2	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
5	4	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
7	5	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
9	6	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

7. Student Retention

Olivet is currently registered to Year 9 therefore no retention data to Year 12 can be reported.

Students who have transferred to other schools have had an excellent transition and are coping exceptionally well in their new schools.

8. Finance

Total income and expenditure incorporates Capital Income and Capital Expenditure 2009

Total Income \$690,705



- School Fees 10%
- Govt Recurrent Income 68.8%
- Govt Capital Income 14.5%
- Other Recurrent Income 4.4%
- Building Fund Donations 1.4%
- Other Capital Income 0.9%

BUILDING PROGRAMS

It is wonderful to have the 120,000 litre underground tank installed. We have sufficient roofs to keep it at capacity with minimal rainfall.



Plans for the grass have been held up by the Solar on the Roof program as we want all the trucks to have finished before we lay the turf. The Solar roof has been delayed as there is a global shortage of inverters until end of June, early July. The laying of turf and irrigation works will be funded by the College.

Refurbishment of Assembly Area and Offices. The reduction of our power costs has been an added bonus with the slab floor and the fireproof



ceiling in the church building. The Pride grant, together with Needy Schools funding was used to refurbish the whole of this area making it more serviceable and efficient.

The new paving at the front of the school looks fantastic, cleans up the appearance of the College, and gave families an opportunity to place a memorial brick in the area. Hopefully we will be able to do something similar with an extension around the corner in a year or two to allow more families to take up this opportunity. I know there are some who regret not participating in the existing path. This project was funded by the College.

Under the Building Education Revolution funding we received \$250,000 (< 50 Primary students) Despite media interest in many schools and wasted funds in this scheme, we can only say we are very blessed this is not the case here at Olivet. We are delighted with what we have been able to achieve with this Government assistance. Two old portables have been removed and we anticipate opening the new classroom at the end of term. Undercover walkways have also been constructed with these funds. The walkway across to the toilets also gives students an added bonus of more play area on wet days. Stage 2 will extend the walkway to the new building and art room.



