Dear Year 7 and 8 Parents,

Welcome to an exciting term. The start of the year is often busy for students and families, so we hope it is has been a smooth transition for you all.

Key Dates
Please take note of the following dates:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 13 February</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 10am; Coffee &amp; Tea available in the staffroom from 9am. All welcome!</td>
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<td>Tuesday 24 February</td>
<td>Years 7-10 Tribal Swimming Sports</td>
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<td>Wednesday 4 - Friday 6 March</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 Clifford Park Camp</td>
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<td>Monday 16 March</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 March 3.45-6pm</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 16 March 3.45-6pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 19 March 3.45-9pm</td>
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<td>Friday 27 March</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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Cultural Studies Units:
Cycle A: Ancient Rome and China
Our focus in Core Studies this term is Ancient History. We will be looking at Ancient Rome and China and thinking about what ideas and influences shaped their world. We compare this with what shapes us in our modern world.

Cycle B Cultural Studies Unit: Our Awesome Earth
Our focus in Cycle B Cultural Studies for Term 1 is Geography. We will be investigating key geographical terms, concepts and tools to help explore and understand our interaction with the world. We also hope to instill in students a sense of awe and wonder of God’s handiwork, and consider our responsibility as stewards of His creation.

Art smock
Our Year 7 & 8 Art teachers (Alison Copeland & Olivia Dyer) request that ALL students bring an Art smock to school within the first four weeks of school. A smock can be an old shirt, t-shirt or even an apron. Smocks will protect clothing from small splatters of paint, however we also urge students to wear older clothing to school on their Art days as sometimes paint or dirty water can soak through smocks!

Camp Week
Each student in Year 7 & 8 will be attending the three day Clifford Park Camp and will have received information relating to camp, including a medical information form. Please be aware that if the medical form is not returned to school your child will not be able to attend camp.
Diary Use
Diaries are extremely important in Middle School and are a valuable means of organisation and communication. As this is new for some students, they will be guided through this process by their teachers. **We are requiring both Year 7 & 8s to get their diaries signed every night for the first month.** This is so students develop the habit of taking their diary home and showing. We really appreciate your support in this.

Homework
We have had great class discussions with students about how to best manage their homework. Please let us know if your student is struggling in this area so we can help them plan their time well.
If students have no homework on a particular night, please encourage them to read their English novel, revise notes from class or start early on assignments that are coming up.
If your child is unable to complete the set work in reasonable time, please simply write a brief note of explanation in your child’s diary. We understand that sometimes circumstances are unavoidable.

Community Service Representative (CSR)
For a number of years, Year 7 & 8 students have been rostered on to spend some time assisting in the main office. It’s valuable and important for students to understand what it takes to run a school, and to be part of providing assistance to the school community. Tasks undertaken by the CSR include such things as distribution of notices to classes, assisting with mail outs and other administrative tasks. Each Year 7 student will help out once this year, while Year 8 students will have 2-3 times per year from 1.50pm (after lunch) to the end of the day.

We are looking forward to a great term! Please contact your class teacher if you have any issues or concerns.

Yours in Christ,

*Nicky Joiner, Alison Copeland & Sharon Rodrigo-Wilson*
Cycle A Teachers

*Bradley Turner, Duc Tran & Natalie Peeler*
Cycle B Teachers