



# TURRAMURRA CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

*Giving every Turramurra High student the best possible opportunity to encounter Christ at school*

## Chairman's Message



### Dear Friends and Supporters of TCEA.

With much anticipation, it was good to see Term 3 start with our SRE teachers, Fiona and Heather getting back into the classroom. Praise God! Given all the upheaval of the last few months, one may be forgiven for overlooking the

exciting development in the life of TCEA of the inclusion of Heather as our second SRE teacher. Heather joined us at the beginning of last term and has been working closely with Fiona to develop resources in readiness for their return to the classroom. Fiona and Heather have also been getting the 2020 promotional video organised to be produced as well. Therefore, if you are hoping to have them "visit" your church to meet and encourage them in their work then the video should be the right item for this.

During Term 2, Heather also had the perfect opportunity to have her accreditations completed. These have been finalised and she is now awaiting issue from Youthworks. Heather is happy to report that her meeting and introduction to David Arblaster went very well.

Both Fiona and Heather met with Principal David Arblaster and Andrew Green at THS on 23rd June. For the most part, lessons have commenced as were scheduled before school shut-down and I will allow Fiona and Heather to expand on this area in their report. For our part, we in the

Committee are always very appreciative of the support we continue to get from Principal David Arblaster and his staff at THS. ***They are a true blessing.***

Unfortunately, restrictions are still in place for volunteers on site which will impact on lunchtime activities (Youth Ministers are still not permitted on site). These activities fall outside the remit of SRE and therefore TCEA. All non-SRE activities are deemed to be Voluntary Student Activities (VSE) and fall under a different departmental policy. VSE activities are essentially run by the school with the expressed permission of the Principal. Therefore, God willing, we can still have lunchtime activities run by teaching staff of the school with David's permission. Lunchtime activities are really important to the work of our SRE teachers; they provide them with continued contact with children that are not on the current cycle of timetabled SRE lessons but more importantly provide continued contact with students from year groups that don't receive SRE lessons, namely Year 11 and Year 12 students.

We have truly been blessed this year given all the upheaval of the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruption it has caused. God is truly great and has blessed us immensely. My prayer is that now as we make a return to the classroom, we will do so with His continued blessing and provision of care over all that we do. Below are some prayer/praise points that you might find helpful.

God bless,  
Peter.

***Finances. We continue to praise God for our generous supporters. Without this support, SRE at Turramurra High School would not be possible. We ask for your continued support in prayer and financially so that the students at Turramurra High School will continue to benefit from hearing God's Word through Fiona and Heather-Rose.***

**Please will you support TCEA by sending a donation on-line, using the details from the donation form in this newsletter. Thank you.**



## Message from Fiona and Heather-Rose



On Tuesday 23 June, Heather-Rose and Fiona met with David Arblaster (Principal) and Andrew Green (Deputy Principal) to formally introduce ourselves as SRE Teachers and to discuss our return to school face-to-face. This was an encouraging meeting preparing for our return to the school.

We commenced teaching in the first week of Term 3 meeting many students for the first time. We have been enjoying getting to know our students and starting to open the Bible with them to help them get to know God. We are exploring the “Intro to the Bible” unit with Year 7, the “Genesis” unit with Year 8 and 9 and the “Meaningful Life” unit with Year 10.

Fiona has enjoyed finding out from the Year 7 students what they know about God and sharing with them some of the beautiful descriptions of God from the Bible – the God who “cannot be bribed to change His mind” and who meets the needs of widows, orphans and foreigners. She is keen to try out a new game idea called “drawful” with her Year 8 students. And she has also enjoyed encouraging her Year 10 students to live as Christ’s ambassadors amongst their friends, many of whom live afraid that if they say or do the “wrong” thing they might be “cancelled” by their peers.

Heather has enjoyed the fun and fruitful class environments with her students so far. They have spent time playing games, getting to know each other and gaining understanding of what they believe about God. She introduced the ideas of our origin and the meaning of life to her students. There have been two occasions where teachers have told her that they were praying for her lessons as she was leaving with the students. This has been such an encouragement as she settles into her new role. She has had fun building rapport with the students and is keen to continue sharing Jesus with them for the remainder of the Semester.

We enjoyed our first lunchtime meeting with some Christian students from Year 9 who were willing to step up into leadership roles to ensure these meetings can continue. We are also working hard to stay connected with local youth group leaders (who are currently unable to be onsite at the school) and have been so thankful for the correspondence and encouragement which we have received from each of these teams so far.

Opposition to SRE in schools continues to be made and you may have seen the recent Daily Telegraph article discussing a call for further limitation of SRE which has been made on behalf of the NSW Primary Principals’ Association. Please pray for Christian Principals as they participate in discussions about SRE and for courage to speak in support of SRE and its positive impact with students and in schools.

We are ever grateful for your prayerful and financial support of our ministry at Turramurra High. Our recent prayer meeting (by Zoom) was so encouraging, especially the support from parents of students who attend the school. We appreciate each of you reading this newsletter.

### ***Please pray with us it might be God’s will that:***

- We produce lessons which proclaim life changing truths.
- Our classes are full of warmth, security and joy.
- We equip students to proclaim in their whole lives the great message that Jesus restores our broken relationship with God.
- Students continue coming to our classes and they won’t opt out.
- The lunchtime group will continue.
- We can link students to local youth groups.
- The SRE consent form can be included in an eye-catching way with the enrolment packages for incoming Year 7 students.
- The students and staff will be protected from COVID.

## Prayer and Praise Points

- Praise God for the strong financial result given circumstances. Pray for renewed awareness that donations are down and strength of overall position stems from Government assistance and reduced wages expense.
- Praise God for a return to lessons!
- Pray for the continued good health and safety of all members of the THS community; especially the staff and children.
- Pray that lunchtime activities will go ahead. For this to happen Principal's permission is required (highly likely) with school (DET) staff organising and running. Pray that David will give his permission and that one or more staff members will volunteer to run them.
- Praise God for the care and diligence that Fiona and Heather have adopted these last few months. They have been preparing lessons and classroom. Pray that the promotional video and Heather's accreditations will come along smoothly.
- Pray for enthusiasm amongst the students to get involved in SRE classes and Insight.
- Pray for awareness that donations are down on where we were last year and that we require continued support.
- Pray especially that COVID-19 and any renewed restrictions will not happen again.

## PRAYER MEETING

We will be holding a prayer meeting at the end of term 3  
through the medium of Zoom  
so that members and supporters can pray together for SRE at Turramurra High School  
***watch out for an invitation that will be emailed to you closer to the time***



## TCEA Membership and Donation Form

*donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible*

<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to become a member of TCEA	<input type="checkbox"/> I will make direct payment/s electronically.
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to pray regularly. Please send prayer updates to my email address	Account Name : TCEA
<input type="checkbox"/> I have enclosed a donation of \$.....	BSB: 032 089 Account Number: 156 912
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to pledge monthly	CONTACT DETAILS (so we can send you a tax receipt and keep in touch)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 or \$.....	Name.....
<input type="checkbox"/> I will donate by credit card	Church.....
CARD DETAILS MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/>	Email.....
Name on Card.....	Phone No.....
Card No. ....../...../...../.....	Postal Address .....
Expiry Date...../.....	.....
Signature .....	Mail to: PO Box 91 Turramurra 2074

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