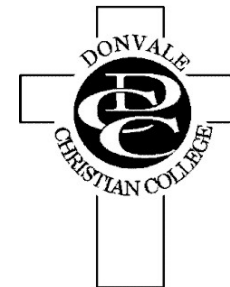


DONVALE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Principal 's Report
2008



And finally... (yes, it really is!)

One of Jesus' last prayers was that Christians should strive for a sense of unity and community. Sometimes we don't think of our school as having that function in particular. But that is, in fact, one of a Christian school's most vital functions. Where students and staff spend much of their day together - living, working, playing, learning, discovering, debating, comforting, understanding, and all the rest - we are building that sense of having a place to which we all belong. We discover along the way, of course, that the more we personally contribute to the building of that sense, the stronger and more sustaining it becomes for us.

But the time to leave comes for all of us. My thanks to everyone who has been a part of DCC in 2008 – and, indeed, to all who have shared their lives with me in this place over the last 26 years. It has been a great privilege to belong to this community and to have had a small part in its development. May I express a particular thanks to the members of the Senior Management Team – Harry Burggraaf, Ross Grace, Pamela Lavery, Chris Kay, Dianne Thomson and Narelle Sketcher – to my PA, Liz Dawson, and to our Financial Controller, Ross Henson. These are an outstandingly talented group of people who are totally dedicated to the mission and vision of Donvale Christian College. I owe them a great debt of gratitude. They have made my task easy!

I very warmly commend Ross Grace to you. I know he will be an outstanding leader for this wonderful community.

And to you all...

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
(Numbers 6:24-26)

Yvonne Bradley
December 2008

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2008

"These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit – but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock.

But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on a sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards."
(Matthew 7: 24-27)

Jesus didn't seem to have much use for fancy words and high sounding prose. He didn't go in for obscure poetic utterances, ambiguous metaphors or intricate theological discourse. It sometimes comes as a shock, in fact, to realise just how basic and factual Jesus really was. Build your house on rock, he says, because it will fare better than a house built on sand, particularly when the weather gets rough.

In other words, if you want to cope well with the crises of life, get some basic sense. Base your life, says Jesus, on the obvious...

Jesus made it quite plain what the obvious was. Just build your life, he says – every plan you have, every decision you take, everything that happens to you – on this one simple acceptance: the reality of a living, loving God. Jesus understood that life wasn't merely the sum of the things that happened to you. It was the perspective you had on those things, the interpretation you placed on the experiences that came your way.

That is why the founders of Donvale Christian College were so intent on having a Christian school. They did not claim any great theological expertise, or immense spiritual insight. They weren't highly educated, they didn't have many material possessions, they weren't among the powerful of society and they had their share of personal tragedies.

They were ordinary people, just like you and me. But ordinary people who had discovered one vital truth – that life is best lived and understood and

appreciated and purposeful, when it is seen from the perspective of the 'rock', the reality of a living and loving God. And they wanted that essential truth to be passed from generation to generation – in the home, in the church and in the school.

Thirty three years on from their time, in a school that has become so much bigger than they ever imagined, they would want nothing beyond the assurance that the truth that was so important to them continues to be the motivating force for the life and work of the community here at Donvale Christian College.

A Christian school doesn't just provide various courses of study through which students are conducted and then assessed. DCC is not here primarily so that students will be well equipped to attain their VCE at the end of Year 12, as much as we are pleased about the standard of student academic performance throughout the College. The school has the far more important and wide-reaching task of assisting parents in the guiding, leading and mentoring of their children's characters.

This it does in a number of ways. At the 'big picture' level it is attained through the oversight and direction setting of the Board of Directors and those responsible for the management of the College; at the 'grass roots' level some measure of it is attained through the positive peer groups that students develop as they move through the school; principally, however, that sense of guidance is provided through the work, commitment and relationship-building of the College staff.

Teaching involves very much more than the demonstration of effective pedagogical skills. The nature of teachers' work is that it is a series of problems or challenges. Sometimes the classroom is like the kitchen of a large and busy hotel; sometimes it is like being in a real life melodrama; sometimes you feel you are walking a tightrope without a safety net...

Teaching is not so much a skill, then, as a strongly moral and intuitive craft, with teachers constantly being called upon to make ethical judgements in a demanding, multi-dimensional context. Along with that is their duty to be role models and guides to their students in all that they do and say and are. It is a gross understatement to say that this is no mean task and that to sustain it effectively is no mean feat! In my view, staff members at DCC carry out that on-going task with great skill, with great feeling and with great commitment.

- The Sanza Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence – achieving the highest average mark during practicum placements.
- The Dean's Award for being in the top 1% of students for 2007. Melody also won this award in 2004, 2005 and 2007!

Chris Kay spent the Christmas Holidays exploring his favourite subject – Mathematics! Chris won a prestigious scholarship to attend the Australian Government Summer School for Teachers of Mathematics at the University of New England in Armidale (NSW).

There was another delightful musical treat at the annual Friends of DCC Music evening in August. Our superbly talented music staff gave their usual outstanding presentations in what has become part of the DCC tradition. And, as she has done for so many years, Carla Whiteley organised everything with her usual style and charm. With Carla's retirement at the end of 2008, we are grateful that May Gavin has been willing to take the lead in organising this outstanding event in the years to come.

The Facilities

The erection of the Year 9 building has not been an easy process, with delays and budget issues making management of the project a difficult exercise. Nevertheless, it has been wonderful to see the building emerging from the side of the hill and we are confident that it will be a magnificent acquisition to the College when it is completed. I would like to acknowledge, in particular, the on-going work of our Project Manager, Andy McMahon, and our Financial Controller, Ross Henson. Our grateful thanks, too, to Board member Silvio Mazzei, whose expertise, timely advice and work in the latter part of the project have been invaluable. We continue to be hopeful that the Year 9 Campus will be operational early in 2009.

In conjunction with the building, a new Oval has been constructed and we expect that students will be able to enjoy this new space from February 2009. May I express again our gratitude to Friends of Donvale (FOD) whose fund-raising efforts have financed the development of this new Oval. FOD has also been helpful in financially supporting the on-going instalment of interactive whiteboards into the Primary classrooms.

as a charming and highly organised Social Secretary. Carla's presentation of the annual Donvale Friends of Music night has also been very much appreciated. We thank her for all she has done for this community and wish her every happiness as she moves on to the challenges and opportunities of 'retirement.'

Ngairé Birchall leaves us after 7 years of creative teaching and leadership in the Secondary Arts Faculty (not counting her many years at DCC as a student!). We express our heartfelt thanks to her for the outstanding contribution she has made to DCC in the teaching of Art, the organisation of various Creative Arts programs and the establishment of a DCC Art Show. We shall miss her warmth and humour as she goes with our love and best wishes to the Northern Territory for a new adventure.

Tim Bailey is moving with his family to teach in an Outdoor Education Program at the Catholic Regional College in Bendigo and we record our gratitude to him for his four years of committed and effective service to this community. He leaves with our prayers and good wishes for the future.

It was a great pleasure to celebrate with David Bonfa and with David Conn (a former student as well as a member of the current staff) who both announced their engagements - David Conn to Libby Lavery, a former College Captain at DCC and David Bonfa to Christina Merlino. We also celebrated the respective marriages of Stephanie Allott (a former student as well as a staff member) to Paul Wenger and David Mitton to Kylie Hoffman (both former College Captains at DCC!) We honoured the birth of five babies: Courtenay and Simone Baker (a former College Captain as well as a staff member!), Cristy and Gavin Gaskill and Rob and Jodi Staff (a former student as well as a staff member) all had sons while Darren and Donna Pasco and Raymond Khong and May Gavin each had daughters. At the time of writing this report Brendan and Zoe Hayes were awaiting the imminent arrival of their first child.

Melody Lewis joined us as a new member of staff this year and we were thrilled to hear of the outstanding academic awards she received as she graduated from Melbourne University. Melody received the:

- Frederick John Gladman prize for achieving the highest marks in the final year of Bachelor of Education degree.
- Australian Literacy Educator's Association Award for being the highest graduating student in Literacy Studies.
- The Pre-service Teacher's Award for Excellence in Science Education.

Undergirding every activity and every comment that takes place at DCC is one fundamental and profound understanding of life:

God is in the world that he has made. Therefore every thought and comment and activity is an act of praise and worship to the Creator - in the Preps' 'show and tell', in the English lesson, on the sports field, in that Science experiment; making a cake in Home Economics, exploring the Internet with a laptop, wielding the paint brush in Art, sawing the wood in Technology; laughing in the playground, completing the equation in Mathematics, learning those spelling lists, blowing that trumpet, preparing that assignment... This is where the praise and worship of God take place. All of life is sacred. Everything in life is sacred.

We also strongly affirm in a Christian school that the world is not a place to avoid or to be protected from; it is not a place from which we should seek separation; nor are we called merely to stand, like a Greek chorus, on the sidelines of society, sounding the lament or beating the drum of criticism. Anyone can criticise. That's easy. That's why so many people do it so well! But it takes courage, faith, vision and persistence to join the world and actively seek to make a difference for good.

In summary, then... as a community of faith, we begin with the premise that there is a loving Creator within whose overall purposes we best find our own individual purpose. A major aim of the College, therefore, is to encourage students to explore God's creation and the history of God's dealings with human beings. From those explorations can come a sense of hope for the future of God's world and a broad charter and course for their own part in that future.

So the most important things for this community are not itemized in reports such as this. They are the multitude of moments, some defining, some barely noticeable, which add to the development of understanding and character in a student.

Nevertheless, there are instances in our communal life where talents well used deserve to be honoured and this report seeks to do that in some small measure. The weekly Networks records the many successes that individual students, small groups and various teams have achieved. As usual in this report, I mention only a sample of that impressive record.

The Staff

With a continuing growth in student numbers, we welcomed a number of new appointments to the staff in 2008. At Secondary we were joined by Stephen Chatelier, Michael Thomson, James Cutler, Gavin Gaskill, Rebecca Mower, Alison Outhred and two former students of the school, Catherine Duncan and Cameron Brookes. At Primary, we welcomed Melody Lewis, Jessica Sparke, Zoe Hayes and Katrina Ford. Jo Evans took up the Counsellor's position, Jueaneene Kilmartin joined the administrative support team at Secondary and Priscilla Fragar joined the office staff. Singing teacher, Natalie Ruiz, viola teacher, Carolyn Jackson and violin teacher, Nikki Beiharz, joined our group of specialist music teachers.

During the year we said goodbye and expressed our gratitude to Simone Baker and Zoe Hayes who were both looking forward to the birth of a child. At the end of the year we will also farewell James Marsland, Ben Wilson and Natalie Peeler who are concluding their contracts with the College. Our warm thanks and good wishes go with them. We acknowledge the good work of Cheryl Poustie, too, who leaves us after a number of years providing excellent administrative support to the Careers Department. All these people have been great colleagues and we wish them every blessing in their on-going adventures.

We want to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of Ruth Sandy, who leaves us at the end of 2008 after 11 years of significant service to the Secondary school and the wider DCC community. Ruth has been appointed Chaplain of Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School from the beginning of 2009. Ruth has contributed in a range of areas including Music, Home Economics, Food and Technology and General Studies. She has also taken a leading role in the direction of our Secondary Musicals, in the Creative Arts Program and in the annual Thanksgiving Service, bringing a bright and joyful personality to every occasion. Ruth has made a unique contribution to the lives of many students at DCC and our love and blessings go with her as she takes on this exciting new challenge.

Carla Whiteley is retiring after 23 years at DCC as part of the Music Department. Carla has made a wonderful contribution to the lives and musical education of her flute and recorder students over these many years of service. In addition, she has taught music to the Preps, regularly taken a textiles class at Secondary and been heavily involved in supporting the Secondary musicals with costuming. Her warm, cheerful and compassionate manner will be very much missed by everyone, including the teaching staff for whom she has acted

Parent Class-Representatives, Students with Disabilities Support Network, Canteen, VTAs, Uniform Shop, Working Bees, Book Club, Book Fair, Second Hand Books, Fundraisers, Donvale Dunkers, and so on. We are indebted to these hard-working and capable people who give so generously of their time.

We also want to acknowledge that 2008 has been a very difficult year for some in our DCC community. We remember the sorrow of families who lost loved ones this year - in particular we express our sympathy to the Khoo family on the loss of wife and mother Audrey. That the pain of loss has fallen so hard and so unexpectedly on the few in our community will, and should, always temper and balance the joys and dreams and successes of the many.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The Students

Justice and compassion are essential values of the Christian faith. Not surprisingly, therefore, opportunities for service to others are fundamental to what we do at DCC. As a consequence, students and staff are regularly involved in activities which benefit those in need in the wider community. Raising of funds for the indigenous school we support on Elcho Island in the Northern Territory, Gawa Christian School, continued and we were delighted to host a group of students and staff from Gawa for a few days in October, including Principal Lara Hvala and her husband Mark.

Support also continued for the school (NTCU) for which we have VCE responsibilities in Port Vila, Vanuatu. Year 8 students, in particular, completed a unit of work on the country of Vanuatu and also raised funds for the Vanuatu school. Some of our teaching staff taught in Vanuatu during the year, training teachers as well as teaching students and we were very pleased to have Ni-van teachers Ronly Ala and Elizabeth Yamaimai visit us again in August. It is worth a particular mention that our Vanuatu VCE students did wonderfully well in their VCE exams in 2007 which is a great credit to them and to their school. Some of the 2007 graduating Vanuatu students are now seeking placements in tertiary institutions in Australia so they can be trained to benefit their own community in a variety of ways. DCC students have worked hard to provide additional funds for the Vanuatu school which, by comparison with Australia, has very little in the way of resources and educational inputs. We are appreciative of the practical support given by some of our parents, too, in providing resources and materials.

Fundraising for TEAR Fund occurred throughout this year, and we continued to provide support for the Gram Vikas schools in India and for the Doulos Mission Ship. There was a particular focus, too, on raising funds for a mission trip to Watoto in Uganda, undertaken by Bill Cook and other people associated with DCC. The Donvale community was supportive, also, of the Upstream 50 kilometres Challenge which concluded at DCC and which raised funds for a variety of worthy causes. Year 9 students were involved again in visits to Aged Care Homes while music groups visited hospitals and Aged Care Homes.

Mitchell Kay (Year 12) was selected by the Oaktree Foundation to travel to South Africa during the holidays to film a documentary. Mitch was in South Africa for 10 days where he lived with a Zulu family in a one-roomed house. The documentary highlights the issues facing many South Africans and it will be shown in 300 schools around Australia. Mitch was also instrumental in promoting the work of Schools 4 Schools, a program which enables young people to be the driving force in empowering the developing world through education. As part of that program, two students from South Africa, Senay and Xolile, visited DCC. Mitch was nominated as Young Citizen of the Year for the Maroondah area.

Caitria Reid (Year 9) was a delegate to the "Voices for Justice" rally in Canberra, which was a national gathering of the Micah Challenge initiative. Caitria was one of 230 delegates from around Australia.

We have been blessed with outstanding leadership in the student body this year. The College Captains, Lloyd Smyth and Vivian Theunissen, together with Vice-Captains Stephanie Gourd and Andrejs Kirps have been a great team and wonderful role models. Along with the House Captains, Sports Captains, Environment Captains and Arts Captains, these young leaders have served the school community superbly. The Primary School Captains, Nicholas Glen and Jessica Turner, were admirable leaders also and they were well supported by the Primary House, Sports, Environment and Arts Captains.

Late in the year we were delighted to hear that our College Captain, Lloyd Smyth, had been selected for the Compass leadership program next year. This joint initiative of ACL (Australian Christian Lobby) and the Compass Foundation is targeted toward students about to enter university, at university, or recently graduated, "who demonstrate high performance, a strong commitment to Christian faith and potential to be influential and strategic for Christ in their future profession."

Led by our College Captains, a large number of students, staff and parents met early one morning in May to pray for our school and for the wider community. This continues a long tradition of support at DCC for the Australia wide "See you at the Pole" day. Student prayer and discussion groups also have been meeting throughout the year. In the Primary school the students and staff continued their strong support for the Parliamentary Prayer network, regularly praying for our national, state and community leaders.

As a consequence of Ross's new role in 2009, the Board also undertook an extensive search for a new Head of Primary. Again, it was with much pleasure that the Board announced the appointment of Chad Smit, currently one of our Primary Deputies, to the position of Head of Primary from 2009.

The national organisation to which DCC belongs has undergone a name change this year. Christian Parent Controlled Schools Ltd (CPCS) has become Christian Education National (CEN). While there is a new name, a new logo and a new website, the fundamentals of the organisation remain unchanged. We are part of a group of 86 schools around Australia with over 23,000 students and approximately 2,300 teachers which continues to stand for three fundamental things:

- The primacy of the Bible in providing Christian perspectives on all of life
- Parental responsibility for the education of their children
- The importance of Christian Teacher Education in the on-going development of Christian schools

Rick Porter stood down at the end of his three year term on the National Board of Christian Education National (CEN) after a significant contribution to the organisation across Australia. Yvonne Bradley was elected for the first time to the National Board of CEN. Yvonne also continued on the Board of AACSS (Association of Australian Christian Schools), a body established to liaise with Federal and State Governments on behalf of Christian Schools in respect of educational and funding issues.

At the invitation of the Board, a number of our parents attended a CEN Parent Visioning Conference in September this year which was hosted by DCC. Harry Burggraaf and Michelle Dempsey (Victorian State Executive Officer for CEN) were the main presenters, with Jack Mechielsen (National President of CEN) bringing the keynote address. Some of our own staff members also took workshops to show what Christian Education looks like in action. The feedback from those who attended was very positive and encouraging.

Once again we gratefully acknowledge the many committed parents who are actively involved in the life of the school in a broad range of activities. FOD organised two major community events – the Community Picnic in March and the Family Barbeque in October. We particularly express our thanks to all those involved in Friends of Donvale (FOD), the Finance Committee, Prayer Groups,

The Parents

I have been particularly blessed by the on-going quality, support and stability of the Boards with whom I have worked over these last 18 years as Principal. It is no mean thing, I think, to have had that sort of stability at Board level for so long and not many Christian schools have managed it. That has been a very significant part of the success of this school - the on-going steadiness of the Board and the fact that the Board members have very reasonably represented, I think, the broad cross-section of our community. In my experience, DCC Board members have never been people with personal 'agendas'; they have always worked for the good of the broad community rather than their own interests. That isn't easy to do consistently, but successive Boards at Donvale have done exactly that. We have also benefited by the fact that there have been only three chairmen over those 18 years – Wim Meyerink for the first year or so, then Max Dawson for a considerable time, followed by the current Chair, Rick Porter, who has been able to oversee the transition to a new Principal. These are not unimportant things. I'm sure the community has no real idea of how well served it has been by successive Boards over these many years, but on behalf of the community of today and yesterday, I want to express our deep gratitude for the dedication, talent and hard work of our Board members, past and present.

In May, Steve Natsis stood down from the Board after four years of service. We thank Steve for his valued commitment to the Board and the Finance Committee over that time. Steve will continue to serve the community on the Finance Committee. Silvio Mazzei was elected to the Board in May and Roger Dench was seconded to the Board later in the year.

Rick Porter continues as Chairman of the DCC Board, with Lois Craig as Deputy Chair, Andrew McPherson as Treasurer and Helen Hinz as Secretary. In addition to Silvio and Roger, our other Board members are Bill Vassiliou, Bev Lang and Andrew Conlon. Cliff Dawson continues as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

A major role for any school Board is the selection of a new Principal. Starting in April of 2007, the Board prayerfully undertook a process of selection of the person who would lead the College into its next phase of development. It was with very great pleasure that the announcement was made in February this year that our current Head of Primary, Ross Grace, would become Principal of the College from the beginning of 2009. Ross is held in very high regard by our community and he will be a wonderful Principal for DCC.

The Dux of the College for 2007 was Nadia Frigo who gained the excellent ENTER score of 98.00. We were also delighted to congratulate four students who achieved a perfect 50 in a VCE exam - Sven Bryant (German LOTE), Kenneth Chung (Further Mathematics), Nadia Frigo (Business Management) and Sarah Rinaudo, a Year 11 student in 2007 who not only gained a 50 in Outdoor Education VCE VET but a Premier's Award as well! To add to these achievements came the later advice that Julie Beattie had been awarded a Vice-Chancellor's Centenary Scholarship to study at Swinburne University of Technology.

We were delighted to congratulate current Year 12 students Laura Dawson and Lloyd Smyth who were selected for the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program offered by the University of Melbourne in 2008. In 2009, current Year 11 students Marina Alfons and Lauren Devenish will be part of the Kwong Lee Dow Young Scholars Program.

Student academic performances in the various Australasian Competitions again were very impressive. Conrad Chan (Year 9) was awarded a medal for scoring the highest mark in his year level in the State for the 2008 International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) in Computer Skills. In the UNSW Computer Competition, Jake Mazzei (Year 7) and Conrad Chan (Year 9) achieved High Distinctions, placing them in the top 1% in the State of Victoria. Katelyn Van Der End, Lauren Frisken, Tessa-May Zirnsak, Benjamin Gad, Madeline Anderson, Irena Furness, Tom Scott and Levi Szallesi (all in Year 7) gained Distinctions.

At Primary, a High Distinction in English was gained by Laura Tepe (Year 6). Distinctions were awarded to Miranda Furness (Year 3), Natalie Mazzei, Tamany Ross, Danielle Shepherd (all in Year 4), Shin Chen, David De Villiers, Jennifer Hung, Elzette Kritzinger, Daniel Templeton, Chris Whyte (all in Year 5) and Daniel Stanhope (Year 6).

A High Distinction in Primary Mathematics was achieved by Cameron Do (Year 3). Distinctions were awarded to Daniel Smith, Nathan Porter, Benjamin Czaplá (all in Year 3), Danielle Shepherd, Jonathan Khoo, Andrew Cicchelli, Hayden Smith, Caitlyn Sinclair, Aaron Purcell (all in Year 4), Daniel Templeton, Sarah-Rose Novak, Stephanie Mazzei, Emily Renwick,

Geena Norman (all in Year 5), Daniel Stanhope, Ryan Smith, Benjamin Davies and Mati Krelle (all in Year 6).

High Distinctions in Primary Science were awarded to Daniel Stanhope (Year 6), Laura Tepe (Year 6) and Jessica Nguyen (Year 4). Those who received a Distinction in Science were Sarah Oen, Daniel Smith, Ellie Tepe, Benjamin Czaplá, Cameron Do, Nathan Porter and Rhys Matthews (all in Year 3), Benjamin Ferguson, Jesse-Lee Dass, Danielle Shepherd, Kathryn Smith and Emily Wookey (all in Year 4), Jennifer Hung (Year 5), Joel Armour, Timothy Scott and Benjamin Davies (all in Year 6).

At Secondary in the Australian Mathematics Competition, Clemence Lau (Year 7), Nathan Strugnell (Year 7), Andrew Stanhope (Year 11) and Lloyd Smyth (Year 12) were awarded High Distinctions. Fifty-three students gained Distinctions. Top students in the school were Clemence Lau, Nathan Strugnell, Clarence Chow (all in Year 7), Duncan Kajewski, Navin Nair, Michelle Stanhope (all in Year 8), David Bassili, Daniel Russ, Victor Mathews (all in Year 9), Zoe Willett, Alexander Murray, Marina Saddik (all in Year 10), Andrew Stanhope, Lauren Devenish, Adelle Kutka (all in Year 11) and Lloyd Smyth, Andrejs Kirps and Sarah Hayman (all in Year 12).

Secondary students from Years 7 and 8 participated in two Science competitions this year – the Rio Tinto Big Science Competition and the Science Talent Search. In the Rio Tinto competition a High Distinction was awarded to Thomas Scott (Year 7). Distinctions went to Aaron Addison, Lauren Frisken, Mitchell Devenish (all in Year 7), Daniel Jones, Duncan Kajewski and Laura Screen (all in Year 8). In the Science Talent Search, Lauren Frisken (Year 7), Duncan Kajewski (Year 8), Diana Mina (Year 8) and Tiana Kendt (Year 8) were awarded Credits.

Outstanding results were achieved by our students in the German Poetry competition. Emily Glen (Year 8) and David Gundisch (Year 7) won Gold Medals in the regional finals. Kristopher Hinz (Year 8) and Michelle Pritchard (Year 7) won Silver Medals. In the state-wide Grand Final for the La Trobe University Shield, David Gundisch (Year 7) gained second place in his division. Two of our students, Jesse Turland (Year 10) and Catherine Wilton (Year 10), were selected for exchange programs and spent a portion of the year in Germany. We were also pleased to host the visit of seven German students

place going to Charles Elliott (Year 7). Our grateful thanks are expressed to Ngairé Birchall and Ruth Sandy who co-ordinated the Creative Arts Week program.

Chooks are a specialty for some of our families at DCC! The Beasley family won the Champion large Polish fowl at the Victorian Rare Breeds Show. Peter Jones won Champion Light Breed bantam at the same show. At the “Chicken Olympics”, held every four years in Canberra, the Beasleys won first prize in the White Crested Cuckoo Polish. The Jones family won Champion Polish in the show and various other awards. Peter Jones was also interviewed by the ABC on the subject of ‘Crested Breeds.’

Our Year 10 Food and Technology students entered the William Angliss TAFE Cup-Cake Cook-off in March! 1200 cupcakes were entered in the competition and Sarah Green’s cupcake was one of only 12 that were chosen to be photographed and published in the Herald Sun.

September and the students received a professionally mastered CD of their performance. Congratulations go to Year 12 students Emma Hall (French Horn), Laura Kerridge (Vocal), Kathryn Kerridge (Vocal) and Sarah Hayman (Tuba). These outstanding music students have been wonderfully supported by their individual music teachers and the VCE music teacher, Phil Reichman.

We have had some remarkably strong performances by our Drama students during the year, under the direction of James Cutler. Particularly memorable were the presentations on the Cabaret night in July involving senior students Kate Boast, Caitlyn Boutros, Rachael Conway, Stephanie Davies, Sarah Grace, Daniel Hunt, Juliette Jeffreys, Louisa Muhuthia, David Porter, Katrina Richards, Laura Thomas, Leah Thomas, Mark Yeates and Caitlin Yolland.

Late in Term 3, the selection of the Secondary 2009 musical was announced. Ragtime, a powerful story of redemption and justice set in the early 1900s, will have its first performance in Australia early in Term 2, 2009, here at DCC. Rehearsals have already commenced, under the control of the show's Director, James Cutler, and the Music Director, Lesley White. The show will feature 70 students from Years 8 – 12.

In Primary, the Creative Arts Festival culminated in magnificent displays of creative work, supported by a concert full of dramatic and musical treats. We salute the talented and hard working leadership team of Bill Cook, Stephanie Allott, Jenny Flynn and Rebecca McClay.

Creative Arts Week in Secondary, which includes House Dramas, Human Sculptures and a Talent Quest, again revealed talents that are often unrecognised in the daily classroom activities. Shakespeare's plays provided the theme for the week and the following students received special recognition: Jacinta Young (Year 11) – Best Direction; Richard Marks (Year 11) - Best Actor; Katrina Richards (Year 12) - Best Actress; Mark Yeates (Year 11) and Charles Grounds (Year 11) - Best Supporting Actors; Natalie Bishara (Year 10) - Best Supporting Actress; Laura Kerridge (Year 12) - Best Solo Song; Andrew Samuel (Year 12) and Jess Pugh (Year 12) - Best Couple Dance. The senior division of the Talent Quest was won by Daniel Ch'Ng and Aaron Fraser (both in Year 12) followed by Richard Marks (Year 11) and Joel Taylor (Year 12); Daniel Hunt (Year 11) gained third place; the junior section was won by Rebekah Doery (Year 9) followed by Emily Amour (Year 9) with third

for two weeks in October. The host students will go to Germany in March-April 2009.

Natalie Jeffreys (Year 8), Hannah Karl (Year 9), Rebecca Nguyen (Year 9), Evan Smyth (Year 9) and Rebecca Wise (Year 11) received High Distinctions in the National Geography Competition. Distinctions in Geography were awarded to Claire Churchward, Tamika Farley-Lehmer, Katelyn Horton, Jae-Kyung Kim, Laura Screen, Aaron Tai, Kristopher Hinz, Solomon Zhang (all in Year 8), Conrad Chan, Benjamin Howes, Andrew Kearns, Nathan Kutka, Timothy Murray, Jessica Stanhope (all in Year 9) and Samuel Ainslie (Year 11). The top performing students in Geography in the school were Rebecca Wise, Evan Smyth and Hannah Karl.

Alex Wales (Year 10) won the VET award for Electro-technology (Cabling), from a VET cluster class in which most of the other students were a year older than Alex.

Andrew Stanhope (Year 11), Mitchell Wragg (Year 12) and Zoe Willett (Year 10), representing Cook House, won the Senior Debating Competition. The 'Best Speaker' was Lloyd Smyth (Year 12). Caleb Turland (Year 7), Jesse Taylor (Year 9) and Katie Conlon (Year 9), representing Flinders House, won the Junior Debating Competition. The 'Best Speaker' was Caleb Turland (Year 7).

Many of our students have been involved in a range of interesting sporting activities. James Peacock (Year 11) gained selection for Australia in the Under 19 Mountain Bike World Cup. James was 1st in the Victorian Championship and 4th in the Australian Championship. Heidi Erasmus (Year 10) was selected for the State Hockey Team (Under 16) to play in the Pacific School Games in Canberra; Charles Elliot (Year 7) was selected to represent Victoria at the National Gymnastics Championship in Brisbane; Hayden Wiles (Year 9) was selected for the Victorian Under 16 Lacrosse team; Thomas Boulas (Year 9) was selected for the 2008 Junior Touring Team of Inline Hockey Australia. As a member of this team, Thomas went to the USA for an international competition in June; Patrick Dillon (Year 8), Alli Fenwick (Year 10) and Rachael Guthrie (Year 11) were chosen to represent Victoria at the National Christian Schools Basketball Championship in Queensland; Aaron Addison (Year 7) participated in the Tennis Australia 12&Under Nationals October Championships in Perth, following successful Australian ranking tournament results and selection in inter-district competitions; Bridie Delaney (Year 2) won the Under 8 Girls

Championship for the Diamond Valley Little Athletics Club and performed admirably in the State Competition. Tim Fisher (Year 4) competed in the State Gymnastics Championship during the year, finishing 8th overall as a junior.

Tim Fisher (Year 4), Josh Beasley (Year 5), Elisabeth Cowan (Year 5), Anja Van Aswegen (Year 6), Ryan Smith (Year 6), Simone Kruger (Year 6) and Alexandra Woodward (Year 6) all competed at Zone level for Cross Country after outstanding performances at District level; in the State and Zone Primary Tennis competition, Peter Likousis (Year 6) finished first in Zone and second in State doubles; Grace Addison (Year 5) competed at Zone level for swimming while Ryan Smith (Year 6), Tim Fisher (Year 4) and Simone Kruger (Year 6) competed in the Zone Athletics competition – with Ryan winning the long jump event and qualifying for the State Championships; Sarah Down (Year 6) and Simone Kruger (Year 6) performed at a high level in competing for a place in the State Primary Girls Hockey Team and Sarah secured a place in the final squad of fourteen. She will be competing at the Pacific School Games in Canberra.

One of our Primary Netball teams was runners-up in June. In the second semester season they have lost only one game and hope to play in the Grand Final in December. Teresa Bird is the coach and the players are Hudson McClay, Jasmine Wells, Courtney Bird, Alexandra Mazzei, Laura Tepe, Stephanie Mazzei, Grace Lin, Joelle Wyndam, Olivia Lowrey, Jess Purcell and Rachael Scott.

Mitchell Wragg, Vincent Chai, Louisa Muhuthia and Vivian Theunissen (all in Year 12) were involved in MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) at Footscray City College, as part of the Schools' Constitutional Convention Program; Rachael Guthrie (Year 11) and Vincent Chai (Year 12) represented DCC at the Manningham Youth Forum.

The DCC winning teams in the EISM Competition this year were Girls Junior Volleyball A, Boys Junior Football and Girls Junior Basketball. Runners up were Girls Junior Softball, Girls Junior Volleyball B, Girls Junior Tennis, Girls Senior Softball, Girls Senior Hockey, Girls Junior Hockey and Girls Senior Table Tennis. The DCC Athletics Squad won all the Girls Divisions of the EISM carnival and the under 15 Boys. In EISM Swimming, the under 13 Girls and the under 16 Boys gained first place. There were also three DCC medallists at the EISM Cross-Country – Nathan Strugnell (Year 7), Tom Frisken (Year 9) and

Louise Ryan (Year 11). Katelyn Van Der End (Year 7) and David Cowan (Year 10) gained first place in races at the EISM Champions Swimming Meet while Ashleigh Law (Year 9), Caitlin Ainslie (Year 8) Louise Ryan (Year 11) and Dillon Joannidis (Year 9) were placed first in their events at the EISM Champions Athletics Meet.

The Donvale Dunkers Basketball Club continues to provide great sporting opportunities for our students with over 150 students involved in twenty two teams. Six teams made the Grand Final and there were two teams who won their premierships. The club saluted coach Larry Beston who retired this year after many years of coaching one of the most successful teams. The club and the College are very grateful to the co-ordinator, Vicki Conlon, the hard working-parent committee and the parent and student coaches and managers.

The musical, dramatic, dancing and artistic talents of students were demonstrated on a number of occasions this year with many outstanding music and drama performances from groups and ensembles, not the least being the first performance of our DCC Family Big Band at the Thanksgiving Service, under the baton of Tim Fisher. For the first time, too, DCC entered the Melbourne School Band Festival. The Training Band, under David Bonfa and Tim Fisher, gained the Essential Elements Award; the Concert Band under Tim Fisher, won the Alfred Silver Award, as did the Big Band under Phil Reichman. Tim Fisher also organised our first "All About Jazz" night at a local restaurant.

The Primary Choir, directed by Lesley White, and the Training Band, under Tim Fisher, gave an outstanding performance at the Junior School Heads Association music festival in August. Our string group had a number of great performances during the year, under the direction of Tania Bunston, culminating in a combined Strings Spring Concert with players from other schools. Another Spring Concert featured the many wind and brass ensembles in the school, the Primary Choir and various solo performances on wind and brass instruments. 2008 also witnessed the inaugural music camp at Adanac Christian Youth Camp in July which was organised by our Head of Music, Lesley White.

We were particularly proud of four of our VCE Music students who were among the 20 students selected from around Melbourne to record at the new studios of Classic Melbourne 3MBS FM. The recordings were broadcast during

School Performance Information - 2008

This document, together with the Principal's annual report provides information about how the college has performed over the past year. Both are available to the school community and to the public on the college website and in hard copy from the general office.

Section A : Staff Information

Staff Attendance

Average attendance rate for staff is 98% of days

Staff retention

Retention of teaching staff from 2007 to 2008 is 95%

Expenditure and teacher participation in professional learning

Number of teacher days spent on professional development in 2008 : 1164 staff days
Expenditure on external staff professional development in 2008 \$93,083

Teacher qualifications

STAFF

Principal:	Mrs Yvonne Bradley, B.A.(Hons.), Dip.Ed.,Dip.(Hons.) BCNZ., Grad.Dip.Ed.Admin., M.Ed., MACEA.
Deputy Principal (CFO): <i>(Director of Studies)</i>	Mr Harry Burggraaf, B.A., B.D., Dip.Ed., A.W.A.I.T (Arch), M.Ed.
Financial Controller	Mr Ross Henson, M.B.A., B.Comm.
Secondary Head: (Administration)	Mr Chris Kay, B.Sc., Dip.Ed., B.Ed,
Secondary Head: (Students)	Mrs Pamela Lavery, B.A., Dip.Ed.,B.Ed
Primary Head:	Mr Ross Grace, Dip.T., Grad.Dip.Sp.Ed., M.Ed
Secondary School Teaching Staff:	
Mr	Doug Allison, B.Ec.,B.Th.,Dip Ed.
Mr	Nat Ayton, B.Sc.,B.Ed.
Ms	Josie Backhouse, BA, Dip Ed
Mrs	Tania Baillie, Dip Sec.Ed., Cert IV Workplace Training & Assessment
Mrs	Simone Baker, B. Teach.,B.App.Sci
Ms	Lisa Barry, BA (Multi Media Systems), Dip.Ed.(Secondary), Cert IV Workplace Training & Assessment

Ms Ngaire Birchall, B.A. Fine Art, Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mr David Bonfa, B.Mus, B.Teach
 Dr Alison Bradbury, B.A.(Hons),M.A.,PhD.,Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mr Phil Brewis, B.App.Sci. Dip.Ed.
 Mr Cameron Brookes B Sc, Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Janet Buskes ,B.Ed., M.Ed.
 Mr Andrew Calwell, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mr Stephen Chatelier B.A., B.Ed.(Secondary)
 Mr Peter Clough, B.Sci., Dip.Ed.
 Mr James Cutler, B.A/Ed,
 Ms Kathryn Delaney, BA, B.Ed., Grad.Cert.TESOL
 Mrs Catherine Duncan B.Ed., B.App.Sc.
 Mrs Petra Dunemann, B.Ed.
 Mr Gavin Gaskill B.App.Sc.(Hons), Grad. Dip.C.S., Grad. Dip. Ed.(Secondary)
 Mr Robert Hallworth, B.E. (Elec.), Dip.Ed.
 Mr John Harris, B.App.Sc., PG Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Heather Howlett, B.Ed
 Mr Tim Hunter, B.App Sc. B.Th., Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mr Simon Keily, B.Sc(Hons), Dip.Ed.
 Mr Tony Likousis, B.A., Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mr James Marsland, B.Sc., Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Beulah McCulloch, B.Ed.
 Mr David Mitton, B.App.Sc., Dip.Ed
 Mrs Rebecca Mower, B.Sc., B.Teach (Primary and Secondary)
 Mr Kevin Murray, Dip. Teach. Dip Youth Min.
 Mrs Vimala Nair, B.Sc.Ed. (Hons)
 Mrs Karen O’Gorman, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
 Ms Rebecca Ooi, B.A.,Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Alison Outhred, B.Multimedia, B.A., Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Jenny Park, B.Sci, Dip.Ed, Grad.Dip.Sec, Grad.Dip.Outdoor.Ed
 Dr Adele Parkinson, BSc(Hons) (Chemistry), Grad Dip Ed., PhD
 Mr Murray Patterson, T.T.C., Adv.Trade Cert. (C.J.)
 Mr David Pitman B. Comms., Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mr Phil Reichman, B.Teach
 Mr Paul Reid, B.A., Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Nahed Samuel, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Ms Melinda Sandefur, B.A., B.Teach.(Secondary)
 Ms Ruth Sandy, B.Ed., B.Th. M.A.R.
 Mrs Narelle Sketcher, M.Ed., B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mr John Southwell, B.Eng. (Geol), Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Vivienne Stapleton, B.Ed (Home Ec.)
 Ms Kathy Szallasi, B.A.(ESL), Dip.Business
 Mr Michael Thomson, B.A.(Vis.Com.), Grad.Dip.Ed.
 Mrs Elizabeth Tulloh, B.A., Dip.Ed., B.Cert (Journalism)
 Mr Philip Turland, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Miss Julie Wells, B.A. (Mus), Dip Ed.
 Mrs Lesley White, B.Ed. (music)

Mr Ben Wilson, B.A., Grad.Dip.Ed.

Secondary Library

Mrs Lorraine Kay, B.A., M.A.(Literature and Writing), Dip.Ed

Secondary Support Staff:

Mrs Beverley Bekker, B.Sc.
Mrs Dorothy Stanhope, B.Sc. (Hons)
Mrs Sophie Dawson (Music Dept., Photography)
Mrs Christine Natsis (Secondary Admin)
Mrs Cheryl Poustie (Careers Dept)
Ms Lisa Millar (Art Dept)
Mrs Jueaneene Kilmartin (VCE Supervisor)

ICT Department

Mr David Conn
Mr Adrian Johns
Mrs Lea Down

Primary Teaching Staff:

Ms Stephanie Allott, B.A., B.Teach (Primary)
Mr David Bonfa, B.Mus, B.Teach
Mr Bill Cook, Dip T.,B.Ed.
Mr Peter Evans, B.Bus.(Marketing), Grad.Dip.Ed.(Primary)
Mrs Jenny Flynn B. Ed.
Mrs Katrina Ford, B.App.Sc.(Biochemistry/Chemistry), Grad.Dip.Ed.
Mr John Green, B.A., LLB. Dip Ed., Dip.Ministries
Mrs Zoe Hayes, B.Asian Studies, Grad.Dip.Ed.(Primary)
Mrs Jeanene Heffernan, Dip. Ed
Mrs Alison Horn, Dip.Hort.Sci., Dip.T. B.Ed.
Mr Peter Jones, Dip.T., Adv. Cert. Christian Studs.
Mrs Melody Lewis, B.Ed.(Primary)
Mrs Rebecca McClay, B.A., Grad.DipTeach (Primary)
Ms Natalie Peeler, B.A., B.Ed.
Mrs Heather Prescott Dip.T., B.Ed.
Mr Scott Rees, B.Teach., B.Ed.
Mr Chad Smit, B.Computing,B.Ed
Mrs Barbara Soutter, Dip. Teach B.Ed.
Ms Jessica Sparke, B.Ed.(Primary)
Mr Lachlan Taylor B.Comm, B.Teach(Hons),B.Ed
Mrs Sarah Thorne B.Ed
Ms Bryar Turner, B.A., Dip.Ed., T.T.C.,Cert. Prof. Stud.
Mrs Carla Whiteley, B.A.(Music). , T.P.T.C.

College Counsellor

Mrs Jo Evans, B.Th., Cert. Pastoral Counselling

Special Education

Head of Department

Mrs Dianne Thomson, Dip.T(Primary), Grad.Dip.Spec.Ed.(Learning Disabilities)

Support Staff

Ms Karin Elenius, Cert. Integ., AUSLAN Lev. 3
Ms Kathy Szallasi, B.A.(ESL), Dip.Business
Mrs Ros Butcher, Cert.Teach., Grad.Dip.Ed. (Spec.Ed.)
Mrs Carol Devenish (Admin.)

Environmental Education

Mr John Harris, B.App.Sc., PG Dip.Ed.
Mr Peter Jones, Dip.T., Adv. Cert. Christian Studs.

Primary Resource Centre

Mrs Paula Jancar

After School Care Coordinator

Miss Heidi Thyer

Hospitality Co-ordinator

Mrs Lesley Fulford

Music Staff 2008

Head of Music

Mrs Lesley White, B.Ed (Mus) – Voice

Music Staff

Mr Phill Reichman, Adv. Dip. Mus, B.Teach	- Classroom Music &Woodwind
Mrs Carla Whiteley, B.A. (Music), T.P.T.C	- Woodwind
Mr Tim Fisher, B.Ed, M.Phil (Music)	- Brass and Bands Director
Mr David Bonfa, B.Mus, B.Teach	- Classroom &Woodwind

Instrumental Music Tutors

Mrs Tania Bunston, B.Ed. (Mus)	-Strings
Mrs Melissa Mackie, Dip.Mus.	- Strings
Mrs Carolyn Jackson. B.Ed.	- Strings
Ms Natalie Ruiz . B.Mus (Jazz)	- Voice
Mr Andy Denny, Dip.Mus.	- Guitar
Mr Ashley Smith	- Guitar and Bass
Mr Chris Broomhead, B.Mus (Perf), Dip Ed.	- Drum kit & Percussion
Mr Russell Oxley. B. Mus.Perf.	- Woodwind
Ms May Gavin, A. Mus. A., L. Mus. A, T Mus A	- Piano & Accompaniment.
Mr Tristan Forrest	-Piano, Keyboard &
Accompaniment.	
Mrs. Annabel Young	-Piano and Keyboard

Office Staff

Bursar:

Mr Nick Nicolaou, B.Ec Grad.Dip.Accounting

Registrar/Principal's PA:

Mrs Liz Dawson

Assistant Registrar/Reception:

Mrs Esmee Boutros

Administration Assistant/Reception:

Mrs Carol Devenish

Mrs Rose Bektash

Accounts Office

Mrs Colleen Fraser

Mrs Leeann Purcell

School Nurse/First Aid

Mrs Michelle Tucci (RN Div.1)

Mrs Denice Tassiou (RN Div 2)

Property Staff:

Property Manager

Mr Murray Patterson

Property and Purchasing Officer

Horticulture and Gardening Officer

Mr Chris Horn, Adv.Dip.Hort

Maintenance Contractor

Mr Jeremy Hodge

Major Projects Manager

Mr Andy McMahon

Canteen Staff:

Mrs Lesley Fulford (Manager)

Mrs Judy Marsland

Section B : Student Information

Student Attendance

Average attendance rate of students in 2007 was 94% of days required at school

Proportion of Year 3,5,7 and 9 meeting reading, writing, spelling and numeracy benchmarks.

AIMs results

This report uses the Victorian Essential Learning Standards scale.

Year 9 2007	DCC median	State Median
Reading	5.5	5.3
Writing	5.5	5.3
Spelling	5.3	4.9
Mathematics	5.2	4.8

Year 7 2007	DCC median	State Median
Reading	5.8	4.3
Writing	4.7	4.4
Spelling	4.7	4.2
Mathematics	4.6	4.2

Year 5 2007	DCC median	State Median
Reading	3.8	3.1
Writing	3.3	3.0
Spelling	3.7	2.9
Number	3.6	3.1
Mathematics	3.3	3.0

Year 3 2006	DCC median	State Median
Reading	2.8	2.4
Writing	2.4	2.5
Spelling	2.8	2.5
Number	2.5	2.5
Mathematics	2.3	2.3

Changes in Benchmarks results from previous year.

AIMs results

This report uses the Victorian Essential Learning Standards scale.

Year 7 2007	DCC median 2006	DCC Median 2007	% Change
Reading	5.5	5.8	5.5%
Writing	4.9	4.7	-4.1%
Spelling	4.7	4.7	0.0%
Mathematics	4.6	4.6	0.0%

Year 5 2007	DCC median 2006	DCC Median 2007	% Change
Reading	3.5	3.8	8.6%
Writing	3.4	3.3	-2.9%
Spelling	3.3	3.7	12.1%
Number	3.2	3.6	12.5%
Mathematics	3.1	3.3	6.5%

Year 3 2007	DCC median 2006	DCC Median 2007	% Change
Reading	2.9	2.8	-3.4%
Writing	2.8	2.4	-14.3%
Spelling	2.9	2.8	-3.4%
Number	2.9	2.5	-13.8%
Mathematics	2.6	2.3	-11.5%

Value Added Information

Please refer to the principal's annual report for information regarding the broad range of additional programs that add value to the curriculum offered at the college.

Senior School Outcomes

Year 12 results 2007

15% of the class received an ENTER score over 90.

36% of the class were over 80.

60% of the class were over 70.

Proportion of Year 9s retained to Year 12

The percentage of Year 9 students in 2005 who continued through to Year 12 at Donvale Christian College is 92%.

Post school destinations.

Tertiary Placements for the Graduating Students of 2007: Round 1

University of Melbourne (9 students)	Monash University (12 students)
Arts (New Generation) (4 students)	Science (3 students)
Commerce (New Generation) (2 students)	Science Education
Early Childhood Education	Commerce (2 students)
Environments (New Generation)	Business Information Systems
Science (New Generation)	Arts (3 students)
	Arts Education
La Trobe University (12 students)	Psychology and Management/Marketing
Archaeology	Deakin University (8 students)
Nursing/ Midwifery (2 students)	
Speech Pathology	Arts
Occupational Therapy (2 students)	Drama
Social Work – Human Services	Nursing
Physiotherapy	Teaching – Primary (2 students)
Nursing (2 students)	Arts / Science
Civil Engineering	Psychology
Psychological Science	Film and Digital Media
RMIT University (13 students)	Swinburne University (5 students)
Environmental Engineering	Information Technology / Science (with Vice Chancellor's Scholarship)
Engineering – Aerospace	Accounting
Justice	Social Science
Criminal Justice Administration	Information Technology (Networking)
Human Movement	Business
Psychology	Australian Catholic University (4 students)
Entrepreneurship	Exercise Science
Nursing (2 students)	Primary Teaching (2 students)
Interior Decoration and Design (2 students)	Nursing
Accountancy	
Engineering	Swinburne TAFE (2 students)
Victoria University (2 student)	Fire Technology (2 students)
	Box Hill TAFE (6 students)
Physical Education	Entertainment
Fitness	Sport
Homesglen TAFE (1 student)	Library and Information Services
Accounting	Event Management
William Angliss TAFE (1 student)	Children's Services
Tourism and Hospitality Management	Civil Engineering
International College of Professional Photography (1 student)	Photography Studies College (1 student)
Advertising	Photography

Elly Lucas College (1 student)	RMIT TAFE (5 students)
Beauty Therapy	Building Design and Technology
	Visual Merchandising
Melbourne Institute of Business & Technology (1 student)	Mechanical Engineering
	Printing and Graphic Arts
Media / Commerce	Accounting
Australian College of Sports Therapy (2 students)	
Sports Therapy (2 students)	

Parent, Student and Teacher satisfaction

Staff Satisfaction

Staff satisfaction has been measured using three sets of data.

- 1) The Staff Attendance Records
- 2) The Staff Retention Records
- 3) Exit Surveys with Staff who have left the employ of DCC.

Using this collection of data the College is able to determine that the Staff Satisfaction level continues to remain overall at a very high level. As the Staff who have left DCC indicated that they are only leaving because of:

- a) a change in family (birth of a child but choosing not to take maternity leave)
- b) Spouse being relocated to another region / state / overseas
- c) Not returning after taking Leave without pay to pursue other vocations.

Otherwise they would have loved to continue to work at the College.

Parent Satisfaction

The percentage of new enrolments initially recommended to the College by an existing school family is 96%.

Of the remaining 4%, 2% first contact with the College was via the College Website.

Within a short time of this contact the new family met and received an unsolicited recommendation by an existing family.

Student Satisfaction

In 2008 we conducted several student forums or focus groups to determine student views about the College. These consisted mainly of students from Years 10 to 12.

Each forum consisted of free ranging discussion around the following questions:

1. What is Donvale Christian College like? (tell me about the school; give me the inside gossip)
2. What do you think is the mission of the school. What is its core purpose? How clear is the mission; how well is it expressed; how obvious; where is it demonstrated and articulated?
3. What are the strengths of the school; what would you recommend it for; why would you send your own kids to it?
4. What are the weaknesses and vulnerabilities of the school; what should change?
5. What are your expectations of the school; what should it be doing?
6. What is your expectation of teachers; what do you want/need from them?
7. How well do teachers at this school know their craft?
8. How satisfied are you with the school?

Overall, the answers received indicated a very high level of student satisfaction.