

Principal's Christmas Message 2020

Stuart Chisholm

22/12/2020



Dear Parents and Friends,

Christmas is a very special time for most people, as it is a time that the family gather and often holiday together. For me and many others it is that and much more. It is the time we were given the gift of Jesus. God on Earth. The Saviour of the world.

At Sunday's Carol Event, I was listening to Fiona Jones singing 'O Holy Night', it is a favourite, but I'd never really absorbed the lyrics. Here they are for you:

Oh, holy night
The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear saviour's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error,
pining 'Til He appeared and the soul felt it's worth

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn'
Fall on your knees, oh, hear the Angels' voices
Oh, night divine, oh, night when Christ was born
Oh, night divine, oh, night, oh night divine

This year's challenges certainly make this carol more relevant than ever. *Christmas* comes to us this year as 'a thrill of Hope for our very weary world.' And I believe we are all looking for a 'new and glorious morn'. Luke 2:14 announces the birth of Jesus with 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth

peace to those on whom his favour rests' I pray His favour on all of our families. That 2021 dawns as a 'new and glorious morn' for all.

Personally, I feel blessed to be on your path again this year. It has been a challenging year, but I fundamentally believe that it is in these times we are shaped. And we are in very good shape. Too good actually, we can't grow any more in 2021. We just don't have the space. And whilst this means it will be hard for some families to join our school, it will be a great year to catch our breath and consolidate our culture. Our culture is what counts, and we must continue to invest in the community that has been created. A downside of the growth is that we will have some classes in temporary classrooms for the first few weeks of next year, whilst we wait for the construction of the Lily-pad to be finished.

Last week's Christmas Celebration was also very special. I hope you loved it too. Thank you to Mrs Carla Dooley, Ms Rebecca McCarthy and Mr Adam Snell for organising the night and for all of our students.

Looking forward

2020 Farewells

Ms Heidi Ramer- We would like to thank Heidi for her service this year. She truly shines when with your kids. She loves science but it's with her Home Group that she values the opportunity to know your kids and speak into their lives. Heidi will be joining the science team at Emmanuel Christian College in 2021. We hope that you value your time with us and that you stay in touch.

Ms Esther Spurgeon- Esther is an amazing assistant in early years. Esther is moving south to be closer to family. Her daughter is in PP and will be sadly missed too. We wish you all the best and ask that you'll be active on our social media. Please share your milestones.

Mrs Caitlin Da Costa Mendez- Caitlin has been on extended maternity leave. Our foundation families will have been touched by her heart. She is a great servant, but she has decided to give the next season to her family. We wish her the very best and know that when her kids are school aged she will be keen to serve again. Thank you Caitlin. We love you.

2021 Welcomes

Mr Paul Cull - Science

Paul is an accomplished science teacher. Previously Head of Science at John Septimus Roe, St Marks Anglican, Hillarys, and within the Department of Education. Paul is an experienced leader in his field. Paul specialises in Chemistry but loves STEM spending a great deal of time building and racing

Go Carts with his son. He loves camping and is looking forward to joining our outdoor ed program.

Miss Sarah Hughes - Grade 5

Sarah joined us this year as a relief teacher. She had an immediate impact on our students and community. She is a scholarship holder and has already been recognised internationally for her skills. We really look forward to what this talented woman will bring to our school. Sarah will work alongside Mr Luke Eversden in Grade 5 next year. We are certain that this strong pairing will deliver great outcomes for our community.

Mrs Jill Stockill Business/IT

Jill is a passionate and experienced teacher in this space. Jill is qualified to deliver Cert 3 and 4 Business courses for senior students. She has a passion for our student pathways. Jill joins us from Ellenbrook Secondary College.

Mrs Donna Broomhall - EA Pre Primary

Donna joins us from Quinn's Baptist. We've been keen for her to join us since we began and have finally secured her to guide our kids. Donna has a beautiful heart and has served EY families for many years. She will be a tremendous blessing to our families.

Mrs Karen Grundy - Chaplain and Community Outreach

Karen is a qualified social worker that will not only complement or pastoral team in the high school but will serve in school outreach and service learning. Karen is looking forward to engaging with the community on these levels and more. She will also be a mum of three children at the school. She will not only be a great support to our families but will need you to help her family join the community. Get around her, mums!

Mr Jeff Grundy - Head of Secondary-

Jeff and his family have arrived safely in WA. Jeff is an accomplished leader. He joins us from the Scots College in NSW, where he was Director of Glengarry. Jeff teaches Physics and Math. But will be far more involved with developing the character of our kids and shaping their futures.

Mrs Mariya Paul - EA- Primary

Mariya has done a tremendous job in our Grade 1 class in Term 3 and 4 and has consequently been offered a permanent role. Congratulations.

Mrs Mariska Dunmore - EA- Primary

Many will know Mariska Dunmore from our Playgroup Outreach. Her hard work and beautiful nature with these families has been tangible. Mariska too, will now join us in a full time role in the Early Years Team.

Mrs Michelle Lucas

EA – Primary

Michelle joins our team in 2021 after volunteering and working as admin relief.

Mrs Michelle Scheepers - EA- Library

Many of you will know Michelle as a supportive parent. Always on the camera at our community events. Mrs Scheepers will predominantly establish the library as a place of Joy.

Mrs Fiona Jones - Admin

In 2021 Mrs Jones will join the admin team.

Mrs Sarah Spangenberg – Literacy Intervention

Sarah joined our team in term 3 she holds a Master's Degree in Literacy. She is a specialist in this field and will be focusing on intervention programmes in the middle school and she will join a team to analyse data for the whole school.

Mr John Igglesden - Marketing

John has been working for SCEA for a few years now. In 2021, John will share his time with us at Northshore. He is responsible for putting together our publications and advertisements. As we grow our need to have a dedicated person in this space has grown. In 2021, John will integrate all of our media platforms and keep you all better informed.

Whether staff or students be coming or going, please join with me to pray for their futures. God has a plan for all to prosper. Let us pray that the seasons of prosperity are apparent to us, that we can see value added at all times... not just the good ones.

I would like to again thank our amazing staff for their love, care and guidance of all our children. I would also like to especially call out Mrs Richelle Schokman (Head of Primary) who gives night and day tirelessly to make sure that your experience at Northshore is a personal one. I would also like to say a big thanks to Mr Derek Speldewinde - the Middle School Coordinator, who really stepped up this year to care for our middle school families. They, along with our other staff really go beyond our expectations.

Mrs Buckley and the Admin team have already sent out the important dates for families. The first of which is the uniform try-on's 18th January 2021. Download the Northshore App to keep other important dates at your fingertips. The office will be closed over the Christmas period, but if you have any urgent matters the northshore@scea.wa.edu.au email will be monitored daily as will be the FB messenger.

May you have a fabulous Christmas and a great new year.

Blessings

Stuart Chisholm
Principal