

26 October 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian

Exciting Developments for Swan Christian College K-12

It is with pleasure that we are able to inform you of some exciting developments at Swan Christian College, K-12 Campus. Firstly, as communicated earlier in the year, the Australian Federal Government has made some money available for building projects and we have been able to secure additional funds to complete major works at the College. We are very pleased to announce that we are about to embark on some capital works which will enhance the College and we look forward to its completion. As part of this process, we have contracted two architect firms to manage the projects. Machin Architecture and Interiors and Ian Anderson Architect Pty Ltd. Ian is working on the smaller of the projects while Machin Architecture and Interiors is completing the design on the Library/Arts Centre. The projects include:

1. Enclosing the Years 1 and 2 and Years 3 and 4 Blocks

A builder, Bill Pitt & Co, has been appointed to begin work to enclose the roof over these two blocks in the junior school. This will include a fully covered area, enclosed doors and resurfacing of the floor with a rubberised product being more amenable to student usage. It is anticipated that these areas will provide a more usable space by opening up the classroom area and extending the teaching space beyond the current classroom door (a sketch outlining this will be uploaded to our website shortly).

2. Disabled Drop-off Zone

The roof area between the S Block and the Design and Technology Block in the senior school will be joined to allow parents to drop off children with physical disabilities without being subject to weather conditions. Primary and secondary parents can reverse into this area, unload wheelchairs and drive out, leaving students to move to class while remaining undercover.

3. Library/Arts Centre

Machin Architecture and Interiors are continuing to work on finalising the design of the Library/Arts Centre; there are also a series of consultants engaged in this process. This building will include: two music rooms, a media, a dance and a drama room, a large library, tuition rooms, staff facilities and an auditorium for performances capable of seating approximately 500 people.

We have received verbal confirmation from Swan City Council that this building has development approval and we anticipate the building project beginning early December 2009, with the tender process starting soon. Each of these projects will add to the exciting provision of the College and we look forward to its completion. We recognise that there will be some inconvenience with the building projects; however, we will keep you informed of developments as they arise. It is anticipated projects one and two will be completed by the end of 2009 and the Library/Arts Centre will be completed towards the end of 2010.

We look forward to the completion of these projects and what they will add to the College.

As part of the amalgamation, many parents have been asking questions about the proposed uniform changes. During the last two terms we have received feedback via the weblink and our consultation meetings. We have used this information to work on the future direction of uniform for the College.

Some of the clear focal points that were highlighted were:

- K-12 consistency – working toward one uniform
- improving the style and design of some items
- ensuring an adequate transition to the new uniform.

There has been a Uniform Committee working with Midland Christian School and Swan Christian College Councils, the Uniform Shop and manufacturers to ensure an excellent uniform for the K-12 campus. We have asked the manufacturer to make one change – the girls' summer dress. As a result of insufficient supplies, the Councils and College have decided to bring forward the introduction of the new summer dress rather than re-order the older fabric and have parents purchase items which will be outdated. We are confident that there will be enthusiasm for the new design and improved fabric. These will be displayed in both offices early next term. The current style of dresses will be able to be worn in line with the change-over periods which will be advised early next term. More detail will follow in coming newsletters.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Lewis
Principal