



And on the 7th day
he rested, and he
knew his creation
was good.

HARVEST REVIEW

Creation
Adelaide Underwood, Year 8

SPRING 2023

7

Senior School
Leadership -
To Serve with Love

11

Class of 2012 - Ten
Year Reunion

15

Class of 2013 - Jamie
Pultz

19

Exploring the
principles of design
through Creation



Executive Principal note

'All that is gold does not glitter': Valuing hard things

Geoff van der Vliet | EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

*All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost;
The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.*

*From the ashes a fire shall be woken,
A light from the shadows shall spring;
Renewed shall be blade that was broken,
The crownless again shall be king.*

—J. R. R. Tolkien, "The Riddle of Strider", *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*

I join with a growing chorus of mental health professionals who are challenging the modern expectation that perpetual happiness is a right that should not be hindered by having to work through hard things. You will see a similar sentiment echoed in some of the stories in these pages.

In that earworm song by Smash Mouth, 'Allstar' (made famous in the movie, 'Shrek'), the hook line is, "All that glitters is gold". Admirably, the song was written to encourage fans who experience bullying, but it rejects the aphorism that not everything that looks good or valuable turns out to be so.

Wisdom, through the ages, asserts that resilience is built by taking the hard road and working through, not avoiding, the inevitable challenges of life.

In the 12th century, French theologian and poet Allain De Lille wrote, Do not hold everything gold that shines like gold. In the 16th century, Shakespeare repeated the wisdom in 'The Merchant of Venice'; All that glisters is not gold — Often have you heard that told. And another 400 years later, JRR Tolkien included it in 'The Riddle of Strider' (as above), with the subsequent lines emphasising resilience formed from overcoming challenges.

At NCC, we are interested in the long-term benefit of a great education, not just the glitter of graduation achievements. We understand that much of the lasting fruit of the labour of our community (staff and parents) is evidenced many years after graduation when a young person grows into a loving and others-centred spouse, parent, employee/er, neighbour and community contributor who responds to a calling outside of themselves.

Whether the challenges come from finding academic lessons difficult, working within a team against strong opposition, facing personal challenges on camp or putting aside personal comforts on a service trip to help others, the counter-cultural self-sacrificial way of Jesus continues to be our inspiration and aspiration for the myriad programs of NCC. 🙏

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer."

Paul's letter to the Romans
(Chapter 12v12)

NCC Education

2022 Graduates Awards

The 2022 Academic Awards at Nambour Christian College celebrated the exceptional achievements of its students and staff. The College provided diverse opportunities for students to excel in various academic and vocational fields.

In the Class of 2022, 96 Year 12 students earned their Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Among these students, nine stood out for achieving 30 or more QCE credit points, including Brayden Higgs, Joshua Mansley, Tahlia Perren, Jonah Leong, Paige Leslie, Natoria Patten, Amali Payne, Keeley O'Hara, and Amanda Ye. These students were awarded the Queensland Certificate of Education Pathways Merit Award for 2022.

In addition, the College recognised nine ATAR-eligible students



2022 Graduates received their certificates at the 2023 College assembly.

who scored 90 or above on their ATAR, namely Jonah Greenham, Aiden Mitchell, Imogen O'Brien, Eliza Smith, Ryan Smythe, Chloe Taing, Tahlia Castro, Claudia Moss-Parry, and Olivia Wright.

The College took immense pride honouring its top four students, Liana Brewer, who received the College Dux award for 2022, with an ATAR score of 99, Erin King and Emma Newell (ATAR score: 98.45), and Jonah Leong (ATAR score: 97.85). These students are a testament to the College's commitment to academic excellence and holistic education.

The College congratulated all the awardees and wished them success and wisdom as they embark on their future endeavours. 🌟

Brayden Higgs

Having commenced his studies at Nambour Christian College in Year 7, Brayden Higgs successfully completed Year 12 in 2022. Throughout his senior year, he engaged in a diverse range of subjects, including Business, Hospitality, Design, Mathematics, and English. Additionally, Brayden obtained certification in various hospitality-related courses, including a Certificate I and Certificate II in Hospitality and a Certificate II in Kitchen Operations.

Looking forward, Brayden aspires to set and achieve his goals over the next five to ten years and establish a successful career. He offers words of encouragement to the Year 10 students of 2023, urging them to strive for excellence and pursue their passions with dedication and perseverance.



Jonah Leong

Jonah Leong completed Year 12 in 2022, having attended Nambour Christian College for three years. During his senior year, Jonah studied a range of subjects, including Math Specialist, Math Methods, Chemistry, Physics, and English General, culminating in an impressive ATAR of 97.85, earning him the third-place ranking among our top achievers. Additionally,

Jonah obtained a Certificate III in Assistance in Nursing.

Jonah's aspirations include accelerating and completing his studies in Bachelor of Biomedical Studies at USC, followed by pursuing a medical degree. He envisions himself becoming a doctor and specialising in a surgical field within the next ten years.

Jonah has words of encouragement for current Senior School students, advising them to work hard and consistently, avoid cramming and prevent burnout, emphasizing that anything can be achieved with dedication and perseverance. As Jonah said, "You can achieve anything if you work hard – study consistently, do not cram, and don't burn yourself out."

Paige Leslie

Paige Leslie spent her final three years of schooling at Nambour Christian College, where she studied General Mathematics, Modern History, Art, Drama, and English. She also earned certification in a variety of healthcare-related courses, including a Certificate II in Community Service, a Certificate II in Health Support Services, and Certificate III in Health Services Assistance.

Paige has set her sights on completing her university studies in design and business while working as an assistant nurse. Over the next five years, she hopes to establish herself as an accomplished interior designer.

In words of advice for current Year 10 students, Paige suggests taking time to complete tasks and seek support if feeling overwhelmed, emphasising that it's okay to ask for help. As Paige says, "Take your time and know that it's okay to be overwhelmed by school; just make sure you are seeking support so you can complete everything the best you can."



Amali Payne

After commencing her studies at Nambour Christian College in Year 10 of 2020, Amali Payne successfully completed Year 12 in 2022. Throughout her senior year, she undertook a range of subjects, including Biology, General Mathematics, Hospitality, and General English. Additionally, Amali obtained certification in several hospitality-related courses, including a Certificate I, II, and III in Hospitality, as well as a Certificate III in Early Childhood Learning.

Currently, Amali is pursuing a career in midwifery. Her message to fellow students is simple yet powerful: "Just put in the work, attend your classes, and believe you will succeed."

Jonah Greenham

Jonah Greenham has been a part of NCC since Pre-Prep. During his final year of high school, he studied a range of subjects, including Math Methods, Math Specialist, Biology, Physics, Physical Education and English, achieving an impressive ATAR of 91.95. Currently, Jonah is pursuing a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) degree at University of the Sunshine Coast. One of his primary goals is to complete his degree, and another is to represent Australia at the 2024 World Long Distance Triathlon in Townsville. Recently, Jonah won the Huskisson Triathlon, qualifying him to compete in the 2024 World Long Distance Triathlon Championships next year.

Jonah envisions himself working diligently as an engineer on the Sunshine Coast while simultaneously balancing his training and racing in triathlons. When asked for advice for current students, Jonah emphasized the importance of finding balance in life, getting enough sleep, exercising, trusting one's instincts, and believing in oneself.





Aiden Mitchell

Aiden Mitchell enrolled at NCC during his final year of primary school and completed his final year of high school in 2022. He pursued a diverse range of subjects in Year 12, including Math Specialist, Math Methods, Literature, Chemistry, Physics, and Japanese. Aiden achieved an impressive ATAR of 97.25, which enabled him to gain admission to Griffith University, where he is currently pursuing a double degree in Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) and Bachelor of Aviation.

Aiden's career aspirations revolve around either becoming an aerospace engineer or a commercial airline pilot. In the next 5 to 10 years, he plans to start or continue his work in the aerospace industry while also supporting a family.

Aiden offers the following advice to current senior school

students: "Pay attention in class and take your studies seriously. It may seem like a cliché, but it truly does make all the difference."

Imogen O'Brien

Imogen O'Brien began her NCC journey in Semester 2, in Year 4 and successfully finished Year 12 in 2022. Throughout her senior year, Imogen studied Biology, Chemistry, Maths Methods, Specialist Maths, and English, and achieved an ATAR of 95.85. Imogen has been accepted into James Cook University in Townsville to pursue a Bachelor of Engineering and a Bachelor of Science. Her goal is to complete her degree with honours in Chemical Engineering.

In the next five years, Imogen will be graduating and hopes to secure a job in her field as a chemical engineer. In the long term, she aspires to continue her career in this field over the next 10 years. To current senior students, Imogen encourages the importance of maintaining a healthy balance between studying and personal life.



Chloe Taing

Chloe Taing was a student at NCC for nine years, from 2014 to 2022, and completed her Year 12 studies with an ATAR of 93.75. Her subjects included Music, Music Extension, Math Methods, Chemistry, Biology, and Literature. Chloe is currently pursuing an accelerated Bachelor of Biomedical Science degree at University of the Sunshine Coast. She is also passionate about music and hopes to explore opportunities in music production while obtaining her degree.

In the next 10 years, Chloe aspires to travel the world, pursue a career she loves, and live a stable and content lifestyle.

Her advice to current students is to always strive to achieve their best but also to be open-minded and embrace opportunities that come their way.



Emma Newell

Emma Newell attended NCC for her final two years of school and studied a range of subjects, including Maths Methods, Chemistry, Biology, Literature, Modern History, and Philosophy and Reason. She achieved an impressive ATAR score of 98.45 and tied as Runner-up Dux with Erin King. Emma is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Bachelor of Humanities (Western Civilisations) at the University of Queensland with the hope of working in international relations, possibly as a diplomat with the United Nations or Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Emma acknowledges that time will determine where her focus will go in the next few years as she continues to study. She hopes to graduate in the next five years and start an entry-level job to kickstart her career aspirations. In 10 years, she aims to achieve her career goals while working overseas.

Emma's advice to current Senior School students is to find the right balance between school, work, and social life. She emphasises that while Senior School requires hard work, it is worth it in the end. Emma reminds students that their ATAR does not define them and there are many pathways to achieving their dream careers. She also highlights the importance of creating memories and forming bonds with teachers and peers that will last beyond Senior School. Emma's encouraging words to students are, "School is super important, but your ATAR only matters for a year. The other memories you make and the bonds you will form with your teachers and peers will last for much longer."



Erin King

Erin King, began her journey at NCC in Year 5 in 2015, and completed her schooling in 2022. She shared the title of Runner-up Dux with Emma Newell. Erin's subjects in Year 12 included Chemistry, Maths Methods, Modern History, Literature, and English. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Education (Secondary) degree at Christian Heritage College, hoping to become the kind of teacher who makes a difference in students' lives, just as her teachers did for her.

According to Erin, "High school doesn't last forever, but the impact you have on your peers does. Create the kind of environment you feel safe in and get outside your comfort zone by connecting with others outside of your friendship circle."



Deputy Head of Senior School note

Senior School Leadership: To serve with love

Loida Grinan-Paterson | DEPUTY HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

We are up against it when it comes to teaching our senior students to operate from a servant-hearted approach to leadership rather than from an ambitious me-centred, self-elevating, aspirational at-all-costs philosophy to leadership that is so prevalent in contemporary society, business, culture, and politics. In Senior School, our focus on leadership is simple. We strive to look for opportunities to reflect the character of Jesus.

Our College Captaincy Team and wider Senior School Leaders Team grow in an understanding that we are all a part of the Jesus Story. They are encouraged to be intentional in carrying out all that they do in leadership from that story, to love others as Jesus did and as Jesus does. They are motivated to think less of themselves and more highly of others.

GRIP, Peer Power, and the Compass Conference help to challenge our seniors to look beyond their perceived limitations as young people. So often teens are stifled on their leadership journey and feel helpless and hopeless. It takes a great deal of encouragement to build up their hopeful individual and collective mindset. A mindset that propels them to look for ways to make a real difference to the lives of others.

The weekly work of our Senior School Student Leaders Team operates from an ethos that is in alignment with all we do in Senior Focus under the guidance of our Year Level Coordinators, our Six Ways of Wellbeing, Chapel, and our Senior Camping Program where we focus on leadership in three stages:

Year 10 Camp – Leadership: What can I learn? Exploring leadership qualities and virtues.

Year 11 Camp – Leadership: What can I offer? Exploring my potential to serve as a leader.

Year 12 Camp – Leadership: It's more than just me! Exploring servant leadership.

We want our Senior School student leaders to think big, be creative in how they put their faith into action, become

socially aware of the needs of others, be bold to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves, and grow in their courage to bring about change. An NCC Senior School Student Leader needs to care about others, care about injustice, care about overcoming adversity, and care about wise stewardship of the world around them. We dare our students to care.

As 2020 and 2021 unfolded, the Year Level Coordinators embarked on a robust review of our leadership programs. We identified that change was needed, that having exclusive leadership opportunities open only to Year 12s was stifling, inclusivity across the senior cohorts became a priority. The appointment of 10s and 11s as leaders and representatives of their cohorts allowed us to transform our leadership team into an inclusive training ground for future leaders. This new approach has given a greater student voice to our 10s and 11s, lessened the pressure on Year 12s to make everything happen, and helped the 12s to see the potential for the 10/11s to be a part of committees and fundraisers.

In serving others with love, some of the causes our leaders have supported over the years have included: Neighbours Aid, Jeans for Genes Day, Orange Sky, U Turn, Bullying No Way, Day for Daniel, White Ribbon, R U OK?, Cancer Council, Red Frogs, 40 Hour Famine, Destiny Rescue, Mercy International, Lily House, The Shack, Colour Run initiatives, Compassion, college trips to Fiji, Malawi, India, St. George and Normanton, and flood/cyclone/fire appeals. As we look to the future, next year, we will engage with Global Leadership Summit Next Generation program to build upon all our Year Level Coordinators are doing through our Focus program, Six Ways of Wellbeing and our SS Camping Program.

Philippians 2:3-4 challenges us to, *"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Leaders who serve with love find that others will follow."*

Class of 2009

Lauren & Gerard Collins

A journey of love, faith, and service

Lauren and Gerard Collins are an alumni couple who have made impressive strides in their careers while maintaining a deep commitment to their faith and a passion for serving others. Their story is one of love, hard work, and dedication to improving the world.

Lauren and Gerard's journey began in 2008 when they started dating in Year 11 at NCC. After completing their high school education, they took a gap year in 2010, during which Lauren travelled and Gerard changed his plans to join Lauren in her pursuit of a medical career.

They completed their Biomedical Science degrees at University of the Sunshine Coast in 2013, with Gerard receiving the highest mark achievable, a GPA of 7.0, and the University Medal. Lauren was also recognised for her academic achievements, receiving a Faculty Medal. After taking another gap year in 2014 to celebrate their wedding, they completed their medical degrees with honours at Griffith University in 2018. Gerard was awarded the Emergency Services Award, and once again, he received the highest possible GPA of 7.0.

In 2020, they completed their practical/intern training as doctors at the SC University Hospital and Nambour Hospital, and in 2021, they commenced General Practice training. The couple passed their final exams for the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, in December 2022.

However, their success is not limited to their academic achievements. During their studies at Griffith University, Lauren and Gerard became deeply involved in a new church, Liberti Church, based at Southport. They were part of a further Liberti Church plant at Coomera and were life group leaders in the newly established church. After moving back to the Sunshine Coast, they were involved in another church plant, Life Centre Church (LCC) Caloundra, backed by Life Centre Church, Northlakes.

The couple has been involved in outreach programs to university campuses through Liberti. Lauren and Gerard's faith has always been an integral part of their lives, and their involvement in these churches and outreach programs reflects their deep commitment to serving others.

Their commitment to service extends beyond the church walls as well. During their medical degree at Griffith University, they spent time working in a hospital in South Africa, gaining invaluable experience in treating infectious diseases in the slum areas of Cape Town. After completing their degree, they joined a Neighbours Aid medical team to India, where they assisted with the nursing college sponsored by Neighbours Aid and provided health services and training to slum communities in Vijayawada.

Lauren and Gerard have built a home on the Sunshine Coast and will be working as general practice specialists in Buddina and Buderim in 2023. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours, both in their careers and in their service to others. 🙌



Head of Middle School note

Middle School Fiji service trip

Chris Spencer | HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL

In June, a group of 31 Year 8 students and five staff set off on the inaugural Fiji Service Trip to St Christopher's Home in Nakasi, Fiji. Their mission spanned ten nights, dedicated to making a significant impact on the lives of the precious children and serving the home in various capacities, including building, cleaning, gardening, and caring for the children. Through diligent fundraising efforts prior to the trip, they managed to secure essential funds that contributed to providing the necessary resources and support to ensure these children not only survive but also thrive.

Arriving at the children's home, we were greeted with warm smiles, instantly feeling a connection with the children and staff. From the start, the group embarked on diverse tasks showcasing their commitment to making a difference. They enthusiastically cared for young children, organised the library, and sorted medical supplies in the dispensary. Students cleaned various areas of the home, including the outside walls and spaces, washed floors, and took care of laundry. Additionally, they took on the tasks of digging, pouring concrete, fixing clotheslines, gardening, and picking up rubbish and filling large skip bins to improve the living environment for the children. The students helped in the kitchen daily, preparing meals for the entire group and eagerly undertaking trips to town for supplies.

While their work was undoubtedly impactful, the true essence of the trip lay in the connections they forged at St Christopher's Home. The students cherished the

genuine friendships that blossomed between them. One student, Adelaide, eloquently expressed the depth of this experience, saying, *"We came here to help the people and do jobs, and we did that. But at the end of the day, we needed them more than they needed us. If we didn't come here, we wouldn't have changed."*

The journey also included enriching interactions with Bainivalu Primary School, where the students taught fun and engaging lessons on Australia, our animals, land and culture. This exchange not only offered valuable educational experiences to the local children but also provided NCC students with a deeper understanding of Fijian culture and the challenges faced by the local youth.

In addition to their service work and educational interactions, the students embraced some cultural experiences, exploring the vibrant markets, eating traditional Fijian cuisine and nightly worship and sharing of songs and dances with the children of the home.

As the experience drew to a close, the group found themselves profoundly impacted by the Fijian people's love, joy, and resilience. They recognised that happiness extended beyond material possessions and that true fulfilment lay in connecting with others, serving our God and making a meaningful difference in their lives. The trip to Fiji was a beautiful testament to the profound impact of connection, service and cultural exchange. 🌿



Class of 2012

2022 Ten Year Reunion

On 5 November 2022, the cohort of 2012 returned to their old stomping grounds for an afternoon tea reunion. Despite many of us not having seen each other since our Graduation Ceremony in November 2012, Ally Condie's quote could not have been more true:

"Growing apart doesn't change the fact that for a long time, we grew side by side; our roots will always be tangled. I'm glad for that."

Spending 30 hours (or more!) a week together in high school forms connections that aren't often replicated in the real world, and it took the reunion to make us realise that the fact that growing up and growing separately have limited our communication and interactions with our grade but we still shared a special season of comradery and friendship during high school that we're so grateful for! Hearing the accomplishments of others made me so, so proud! Our grade has many people who are now wonderful parents bringing up gorgeous kids, as well as sporting achievements (I'm looking at you Jake Daniels, Dylan Petit and Ryan Paroz), a published author (Shelley Brown), people who are dedicated to Australia's Defence Force (Maddie Dillon, Hannah Walton and Steph Hourigan...we appreciate you!) medical professionals (Holly King – always an inspiration!) and many that have taken the brave step to start their own business in a trade. I'm so grateful to God that as far as I know, we haven't lost a

single member of our cohort and instead, it seems that so many are flourishing*.

We had our very own Ryan Paroz as a private tour guide for the reunion, and touring through the grounds made all of us reflect on how blessed we were to attend such a beautiful school with amazing facilities. Also...how lucky we were to have such an amazing French chef on site! I don't know how he does it, but honestly his chicken baguettes are to die for! Nambour Christian College is a wonderful school, and sometimes it takes being out of it and exposed to different workplaces, universities and workforces to realise how very good we had it and what a gift a praying, caring staff are to the young teenage soul. Can't wait to tell my own kids how cool our school was someday!

Love,
Johanna Vine (now Schmidt)

* If you're reading this right now, and feel like your life is the opposite of flourishing, can I just encourage you to reach out: you are not alone. The realities of life within and after high school can mean walking through trials, tragedies, and unforeseen challenges. Please know that we have all journeyed through lows since school, and reach out to either me or any of your old high school friends (after all, we are NCC'ers for life!). 🌱





Class of 2012

Johanna Schmidt (Vine)

Unlike some of her peers, Johanna joined NCC for senior school in 2010; her brother Jonathan Vine attended NCC and held the position of school captain in 2014. Johanna embraced her roots at Nambour Christian College and transformed them into a fulfilling life of education, family, and community service.

After her time at NCC, she pursued a Bachelor's degree in Special Education and Music, laying the foundation for her future career. Presently, she lives in Redlands and works in Secondary Education.

When asked about the driving force behind her career choice, Johanna mentions Mrs Allen-Ankins and the dedicated teachers at NCC. Their genuine care for students and the inspiration they provided played a significant role in shaping her career aspirations.

Reflecting on her time at NCC, she has nothing but fond memories. Teachers who educated and prayed for their students and went above and beyond their job descriptions left a lasting impression. These experiences instilled in her the desire to emulate their patience and grace in her own life and career. NCC also played a role in preparing her for motherhood, with the teachers serving as examples of these virtues.

Unique memories often define high school life, and Johanna recalls her involvement in musicals and band rehearsals as some of the most cherished moments. She apologises to Mr Smith for her complaints about after-school rehearsals, acknowledging that they all loved it deep down.

Looking ahead, her dreams and goals include expanding her family. She jokingly mentions wanting "twenty more" babies if her husband agrees, showing her love for family life.

In the present, she is happily married to Josh, a high school teacher at Redlands College. They have two beautiful daughters, Hallelu and Harmony, and are active members of Cleveland Baptist Church. She also runs a playgroup for mothers who, like her, don't have family nearby.

Psalm 86:5-7 is a favourite scripture, highlighting the message of forgiveness, love, and calling upon the Lord in times of distress – "You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you. Hear my prayer, Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. When I am in distress, I call to you because you answer me." 🙏



Class of 2012

Dylan Petit

Dylan Petit, is not your ordinary success story. Graduating from NCC in 2012 after a long and memorable journey that began in 2004, Dylan's path was filled with unexpected twists and turns that led him to a career he couldn't have predicted.

"I graduated in 2012, and I was at NCC since 2004" Dylan exclaims, reflecting on his formative years. He wasn't alone in his NCC journey; his brother Jordan also attended NCC and graduated in 2009.

Dylan's journey took a swift turn when he decided to pursue a career in fitness. "I did my Certificate 3 and 4 in Fitness, which only took me six months," he recalls. His passion for fitness led him to a path he couldn't resist, one that shaped his future in unexpected ways.

Today, Dylan calls the Sunshine Coast his home, a place that resonates with his active lifestyle. But it's not just the coastal vibes that define him; Dylan is a retail manager for a sports supplement store and a nightclub DJ known to spin tunes across the country. When asked what drove him toward this unique career choice, Dylan says, "I got into my fitness as soon as I left school, and then from there, I fell in love with the industry and haven't been able to stay away since." Sometimes, a passion can lead you down an uncharted path, and Dylan embraced it wholeheartedly.

Reflecting on his time at NCC, Dylan believes that NCC instilled valuable life values in him. He acknowledges the impact of some tough-love teachers and how their influence played a part in shaping him. "My career choice was totally unexpected," he chuckles, "and I don't think anything I did would have prepared me for that! Very random, haha."

Dylan cherishes his NCC memories, especially those from his epic Year 12. From captaining sports carnivals to the unforgettable Year 12 camp, NCC holds a special place in his heart. He recalls Ms De Villiers, who believed in his fitness potential and saw him as a future success story in the fitness industry. "She always said to me in rec class that I was going to be super fit and succeed in the fitness industry, and I do believe I have done both!" Dylan fondly reminisces.

Looking ahead, Dylan has ambitious plans for the future. "I would love to open my own supplement store in the near future," he shares, alongside dreams of launching his own entertainment venue. Beyond his career, Dylan's life includes a loving partner and a mischievous 3.5-year-old French Bulldog.

Dylan's dedication to the fitness industry led him to explore bodybuilding, where he excelled. The experience taught him valuable lessons in discipline that transcended his fitness pursuits and became integral to all aspects of his life. "Fear has killed more dreams than failure ever has." 🐾

Class of 2012

Hannah Walton (Hagglund)

Hannah Walton, graduated in 2012 after a school journey that spanned from 1999 to 2001 and then from 2010 to 2012. Her family's ties to NCC are strong, with her younger sister Jessica Townsend currently in Year 11, set to graduate in the Class of 2024.

Hannah's academic journey didn't stop at NCC. She has completed a Bachelor of International Studies at the University of New England, with a double major in Societies and Global Politics and Peace. Hannah now resides in Canberra, ACT, where she serves as an Electronic Warfare Director in the Royal Australian Navy. Her path to this career was influenced by her family's encouragement to seek financial stability while striving for greatness. This role has taken her around the world for work, an opportunity she relishes.

Reflecting on her time at NCC, Hannah admits that it didn't directly prepare her for a career in the military. She notes that there's no way to fully prepare for the unique experiences and challenges that come with serving in the Defence Force.

NCC holds cherished memories for Hannah. She fondly recalls a drama class outing to see the musical *Wicked*, describing it as a super fun day filled with excitement. She also expresses gratitude to Mrs. Allen-Ankins for her kindness and thoughtfulness, as well as Mr. Lanham, her home room teacher, who left a lasting impression with his fun and humor.

Looking to the future, Hannah's plans include continuing her studies and seeking a long-term career outside the defense force. For now, she's content working alongside her military family.

Hannah is happily married to her wonderful husband, and they welcomed their first child, Hunter, in 2018. In 2022, they moved to Canberra for a more family-friendly posting, where they welcomed their second baby boy, Roman, in 2023. Hannah has also taken up golf in the past two years, enjoying the challenges and fun it offers. Despite living inland, her coastal roots remain strong, and she and her family relish trips to the beach, even if it means a two-hour drive.

Hannah's journey has been defined by her military achievements, serving on multiple warships and participating in deployments over the past decade. She has played a pivotal role in training and supporting the next generation of naval sailors and has collaborated with the Airforce to enhance targeting capabilities in the Navy. Throughout her journey, the support of her husband and family has been a constant source of strength and motivation. ➡





At NCC, we provide our alumni students the opportunity to host 1, 5, 10, 15, 20+ reunions with funds and venue options.

Class of 2003

A Night to Remember

On the evening of 2 September 2023, members of the NCC Class of 2003 gathered at the Bluff Function Room in the Alex Surf Club. It had been 20 long years since we had graduated from Nambour Christian College, and the anticipation was palpable. It was a night of reminiscing, rekindling old friendships, and creating new memories.

There were all the usual questions - kids? Partner? Job? As well as all the remember when? NCC provided copies of the yearbooks, class photos and other school memorabilia; some alumni brought photos from their personal collections to share. The Year 12 video provided many laughs, there was even some footage from the Year 7 camp and it was fun to share these images and memories with partners who also attended the evening.

It's amazing that after so long, everyone still seems so familiar, and somehow the time doesn't seem to show on the faces of people you knew as a teenager, everyone seemed to still look 17 in my eyes.

It was a great night and we all enjoyed catching up. We've got plenty of time to plan the next one, until 2033.

Tarah Toohey (nee Moseley)



Class of 2003

Jamie Pultz



I went to NCC from Year 4, through to Year 12, in 2003. Since then, it seems like yesterday and a lifetime ago all at the same time. After graduation, I worked as a bricklayer's labourer, a carpenter apprentice and then back to a bricklayer's labourer (long story). When I was 19, I had the great opportunity of going to Canada to live in Banff for 12 months. I had a great time with my older brother Joel, who had been living there for a few years and making some lifelong memories. I came home to the Sunny Coast and completed my bricklaying apprenticeship. I was so glad to actually complete something and have a certificate! I was lucky to work with and for a fellow NCC student Zach Elford, whilst bricklaying. When I was 21, I met my future wife Renee. My friend, boss and fellow NCC student Zach, was dating Renee's sister - the rest is history.

In 2010, Renee and I went to Whistler, Canada, to spend 18 glorious months there. We snowboarded, worked, and had the best time. When I was there, I saw a police car parked at a restaurant I was at, advertising jobs with the Police Department. That got me thinking about a career with the police. I don't know why or how, but it just made me think for some reason. I have Canadian citizenship; however, we decided to return home to Australia where I would put my application in with the QLD Police. I was accepted and joined the police academy in 2013.

After graduation from the academy, I went to Gympie for my first year of policing. From there I was lucky enough to work at Maroochydore and then Noosa Heads. I loved parts of the job, and in some ways, I was well suited to it. During this time, I had two sons, Austin and Zander (who are now 9 and 7). I had a bit of anxiety at this time, and after three and a half years I felt burnout. I learned so much and have gained skills and friendships to last a lifetime.

I joined my family business The Soap Bar, we make soap and other body products here on the Sunshine Coast and distribute them across Australia. In 2020, my third son, Reyne was born.

I started podcasting as a hobby soon after I left the police. My first podcast was in 2019 and was called Beenham Valley Road, a true crime podcast into the death of 27-year-old, mother of four, Kirra McLoughlin from Wolvi (near Gympie). Her boyfriend was charged just recently with her murder.

I enjoy being active and hanging with my kids, family and hanging with friends. I look back on my time at NCC as some of the best years (although I didn't always see that at the time). We just had our 20-year anniversary, which was amazing and blew my mind!

All in all, life is good! Here's to the next 20 years! 🍷

Jamie Pultz

Class of 2012

Kristi-Leigh Havenga (Paterson)

Kristi-Leigh Havenga spent a total of eight years at Nambour Christian College. She graduated in 2012 after completing both preschool to Year 4 then returning for Years 10 to 12.

Kristi-Leigh's educational journey didn't stop at NCC; she pursued four years of higher education at the University of the Sunshine Coast. She embarked on a dual degree, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education. Her passion for learning and teaching began to take shape during these years.

Today, Kristi-Leigh calls Cleveland her home, where she has found her calling in secondary education. Reflecting on her career choice, she shared, "Amongst other things, the amazing relational teachers at NCC definitely inspired me." The power of impactful educators cannot be underestimated, and for Kristi-Leigh, they played a significant role in her path.

Looking to the future, Kristi-Leigh has plans and dreams that await fulfillment. In her current life, she is happily married with a one-year-old child and two beloved border collies. Her family life is central to her identity and brings her joy.

She shared a favorite quote from *2 Corinthians 4:17-18*, "For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal". 📖





Kylie Baker | HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Head of Junior School note

Roots of Empathy Program

Love is patient, love is kind... (1 Corinthians 13:4a)

One of the most recognised passages of scripture in the Bible reminds us of what true love is. The apostle, Paul, goes on to tell us that love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

In our quest for character in the Junior School we seek to reflect the love of Christ. We strive to move from a focus on self to an openness to God. We practise loving care for others and the world we share.

In the Junior School, we offer the internationally renowned, Roots of Empathy (ROE) program in the Year 3 curriculum. It is an evidence-based program that welcomes a community family into the classroom to demonstrate the power of love between baby and parent. The program celebrates family and the powerful, empathetic relationship between parent and baby. Students are given the great privilege of observing this relationship and applying their understanding of what they see, hear and feel to their own lives and interactions with others.

This experiential learning approach recognises the importance of learning through experiencing, interacting and sharing ideas. The program comprises 27 lessons across

the school year, featuring nine themes and nine delightful visits from our community family. In 2023, we partnered with three precious community families and each one of these families connected with an individual Year 3 class.

During our lessons, specially trained ROE teachers guide student observations in order to help them identify the baby's feelings and intentions. Students consider and expand their vocabulary of feelings and perspective take by responding to the question "How do you think baby is feeling?". Students learn to read audible and non-verbal cues when they are asked, "How do you know the baby is feeling this way?". Students grow in empathy by connecting baby's responses to their own personal feelings and experiences by considering an additional question, "How does baby's responses make you feel?".

One student described her experience of a recent family lesson when she shared that, "My heart felt empty at the beginning of the lesson but by the end it felt full of love and happiness". What a blessing it is to see our students understand the idea of true love; noticing others, trying to understand what they might be feeling and caring for them as Christ cares for us. 🌱

NCC in Art

Exploring the principles of design through creation

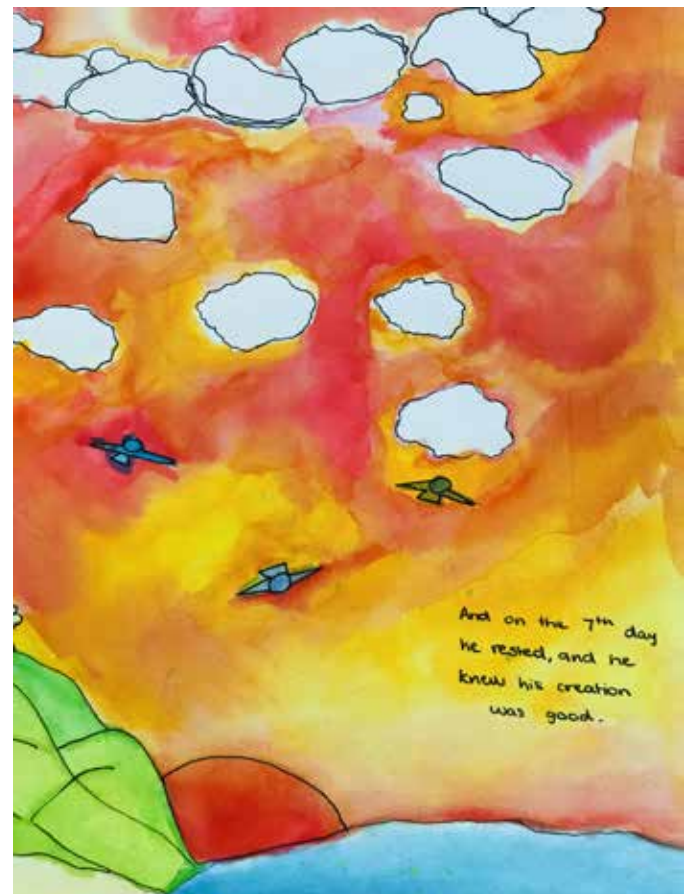
In Year 8 Visual Art, students embark on a creative journey that combines the principles of design with a profound exploration of the Biblical story of creation, as found in Genesis 1 and 2. This unique approach helps students grasp the fundamental principles of art and encourages them to connect with their spirituality and appreciate the world around them in a new light. Throughout this course, students have the opportunity to work with various art mediums, such as pencil, paint, ink, and card, to communicate their personal messages and express their gratitude to God, who created them in His image.

The foundation of Year 8 Visual Art lies in the principles of design, which serve as the building blocks for creating compelling artwork. Students delve into four key principles: repetition, balance, contrast, and emphasis. These principles guide their artistic endeavours, allowing them to craft meaningful and aesthetically pleasing compositions.

1. **Repetition:** Repetition involves using the same visual element, such as shapes, colours, or lines, multiple times within an artwork. Through this principle, students learn to create patterns and establish visual rhythm. In the context of the creation story, repetition can represent the cyclical nature of life and God's continual care for His creation.
2. **Balance:** Balance is the art of distributing visual weight within an artwork to achieve harmony and equilibrium. Students explore the concept of balance through their artwork, mirroring the balance that God brought to the world when He created it. The delicate equilibrium in nature, with its interconnected ecosystems, serves as inspiration for their compositions.
3. **Contrast:** Contrast involves juxtaposing elements with opposing qualities to create visual interest and highlight specific aspects of an artwork. In their exploration of contrast, students can reflect on the stark differences between light and darkness, chaos and order, which are central themes in the Genesis creation story.
4. **Emphasis:** Emphasis is about drawing the viewer's attention to a specific focal point or element within an artwork. By employing emphasis, students can reflect the significance of God's act of creation and the importance of our role in His divine plan.

Year 8 Visual Art takes a unique approach by drawing inspiration from the Bible, specifically the creation narrative in Genesis 1 and 2. This scriptural foundation provides students with a profound context for their artistic explorations. It encourages them to view the world with a sense of wonder and appreciate the intricate details of God's handiwork.

As students engage with the creation story, they are invited to reflect on their place in the world, their identity as creations made in the image of God, and their responsibility to care for the environment. This connection between art and spirituality fosters a deeper understanding of the artistic process and the world around us.



Artwork left to right top to bottom
Mia Shepherd, Sophie Trisic, unknown, Estelle Zoulek,
Jemma Zurvas, Adelaide Underwood

Class of 2003

Lembe Ryan (Davies)

Since my high school days, my life has been a remarkable journey of personal and professional growth, and I owe a heartfelt thanks to Nambour Christian College for playing a significant role in shaping my path. After graduating, I pursued a career in the healthcare industry by becoming a dental assistant. Little did I know that this decision would lay the foundation for an incredible trajectory. Over the course of two decades, I steadily climbed the ranks in dental management and other allied health businesses. Today, I am immensely proud to hold the position of Regional Business Leader for one of Australia's largest corporate dental companies. Perhaps not how some of my teachers from two decades ago might have envisioned me today!

In addition to my professional accomplishments, I've been blessed with a loving family. My two children, Addison and Alfred, have brought me boundless joy and meaning. 11-year-old Addison exhibits a remarkable curiosity and zest for life (and AFL), while 7-year-old Alfie keeps our household filled with laughter and energy. Balancing the demands of a thriving career with the joys of parenthood has been a rewarding challenge, and I'm grateful for the support of my family and friends. 🌟

Lembe Ryan

Class of 2003

Bobbie Briggs (Coleman)

What have I been up to in the last 20 years? Well, graduation day saw me board a plane with my sister Angie (a past NCC student) to see my other sister Sara (also a past NCC student) and her young family living in Nepal as missionaries. It was a life-changing and surreal experience with such devastating poverty and breathtaking landscapes. We had the opportunity to go on a couple of treks to some really remote areas, and I knew then that I wanted to go to university and study something that I could use to benefit others. I wasn't sure what at the time, so I started with a Bachelor of Arts with a triple major in Journalism, Spanish and World History. I followed this up with graduate studies in International Relations focusing on humanitarian aid and development.

I thought I was headed for the single life and to travel and use my skillset as some kind of foreign correspondent - but God had other plans, and in 2008, I met Darren. We were married in 2009, and I channelled my degrees into becoming a secondary teacher. I would have to say - that my career choice was definitely inspired by the many wonderful teachers I had who supported and encouraged me through such a challenging season in my life. Thank you! We now live in Caloundra, and I work at Glasshouse Christian College, where I was the Head of Humanities before going on maternity leave at the end of 2021. We have three beautiful children - two girls and a boy, our greatest treasures and greatest adventure (Aiesha 9, Sophia 6 and Dylan 21 months) and we have been so wonderfully blessed. 🌟

Bobbie Coleman



Valuing what matters most

ENROL NOW FOR 2024



At NCC, we value what matters most to you and your family. We focus on helping our students build character and integrity. We nurture wisdom, foster success and unleash the potential in every child. We value community and prioritise care and communication at all times so our students, families and staff feel a deep sense of connection, appreciation and partnership.

Apart from our central location, experienced staff and state-of-the-art facilities, our families choose us because of our approach to developing the whole person and not just our focus on academics and co-curricular pursuits. An NCC student is valued for who they are - their personal attributes, their achievements and their ambitions. To find out more visit www.ncc.qld.edu.au



Stay in Contact

NCC Alumni Facebook Page

This is a group for all previous students of Nambour Christian College, created to connect NCC Alumni with the College community. College events and annual reunions will also be advertised here.

Please invite your fellow Alumni to join this page, and stay up to date with College news. Alumni are welcome to post their achievements, news, information and school photos on this page.

Please join Nambour Christian College Alumni - <https://www.facebook.com/>

NCC Past Students Association - Reunions

Former NCC students are an integral part of our community and we welcome their continued involvement in, and support of, College life. All former students are automatically life

members of our Past Students Association. We encourage them to not only keep us up to date with their contact details, but also tell us about any items of interest that can be shared with the College community.

Past students can email us at: alumni@ncc.qld.edu.au

We offer 1, 5, 10, 15, 20 + year reunions. Do you want to organise a reunion for your year level? Let us know and we can help with contact details, venue and costs.



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what
matters
most.**