

# Term 4 2011

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**Term 4 Begins: We have Different Term Dates to State Schools** Term 4 began for us on Monday 10 October. This is different from state schools that have shifted term dates to accommodate the Rugby World Cup. Not only is that a silly reason for messing with children's schooling, it means some senior college students in state schools are beginning their Cambridge exams in their holidays.

**Individual Portrait Payments/Packs Due** Individual portraits were sent home at the end of last term. Parents are asked to ensure that photos are returned and/or payment made by Friday 14 October. Class photos will be issued later this term.

**Staff Professional Development** Teachers were working at school in the first week of the term break, attending one of the two Professional Development courses scheduled for them each year. Apart from the usual administrative and planning tasks, this course involved three key strands: 1. *The Cost of Discipleship in Matthew's Gospel* (studies based on set reading); 2. *Developing a Culture of Grace in the Christian School* (using Ted Tripp videos - completing a series begun in January); Reviewing our Standards (completing a two-year review of the Carey College Standards Statements). Please pray that our teachers will continue to grow in grace and skill as they work with our students.

**Cambridge Exams Begin** Senior College Students sit their Cambridge International Examinations this term. The first exam is on 18 October and the last on 24 November. All candidates have been emailed their timetables. Students are expected to attend scheduled classes throughout October unless they have previously arranged exam leave; from 1 November students sitting CIE examinations are not required to attend school for classes but will have access to their teachers for advice and revision. 67 different examinations will be sat, including practical examinations in the sciences, art and Spanish. Pray that students will be blessed with health and safety over these two months, and that they will be able to acquit themselves faithfully in their exams. Results come out in late January.

**Labour Day Holiday** School will be closed on Monday 24 October for the Labour Day public holiday.

**School Assembly** Our first school assembly this term is on 3 November. Assemblies feature musical items from students, presentation of awards for a variety of achievements, and a talk focused on shaping student awareness of and commitment to the faith and ethos of the school. The theme for this assembly will be our Reformation Heritage (as *Reformation Day* is celebrated at the end of October). Parents are welcome to attend.

**Cambridge Testing** As part of our programme of monitoring progress and standards, two Cambridge tests will be administered at appropriate levels this term. *Cambridge Checkpoint* and *Cambridge Primary Progression Tests* provide the school and parents with information about individual students' progress and achievement as well as confirming the school's overall standards.

**Carey College Exams for Years 7 -13 begin 28 November** Students in Years 7 - 13 sit their school examinations this week. Year 7 & 8 students have 1 hour papers in their main curriculum subjects, while Year 9 & 10 students sit 2 hour papers. Most Senior College students sit Cambridge exams in their main curriculum subjects, but they sit our school exams in this week for any courses in which that they are not sitting Cambridge exams. All students have been issued with their exam timetables at the start of Term 4. Again we ask you to pray that student's will be enabled to demonstrate what they have learnt and that their results will faithfully reflect their level of commitment this year.

**StudyLink Workshop 29 November** Year 13 students will be taking part in a StudyLink Workshop at Carey College on 29 November. This is one of a series of workshops we hold through the year to provide careers information and to prepare students for tertiary study - in this workshop they will be finding out how to use the Sussed Reality Check, an online guide to help them understand and manage their finances while at university.

**December School Assembly** Our last monthly assembly for the year will be held on Thursday 1 December.

**Secondary Classes End 9 December** Secondary classes end for the year at mid-day on Friday 9 December. .

**Final Assembly 15 December** This highlight of our school year includes awards in recognition of student achievement in both Christian life and academic excellence. We review aspects of the school's courses and involve everyone in activities that help parents and children gain a better understanding of our school ministry. This year will also see us say "Thank you and farewell" to Mrs Fisher who having taught a generation of Carey College students, has now moved to Christchurch. Keep the evening free and bring your friends!

**School Reports Issued** End-of-year school reports are issued to parents of year 9 - 13 (Secondary) students at the Final Assembly, and to Year 1 - 8 (Primary) students at school on 16 December.

**Term Ends 16 December** School closes for the year at mid-day. Please pray that all families will not only be refreshed over the summer, but will enjoy and grow in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ over the Christmas period. Please also pray for teachers who are scheduled of a week of Professional Development and planning before the new school year begins on Tuesday 31 January 2012.