



"Study to shew thyself approved unto God," 2Tim 2:15

9 July 2021

Dear Parents

The words of the hymn "*Great is Thy Faithfulness*", written by Thomas Chisolm, are an accurate reflection of my **gratitude** to God for:

- blessing us with a 'normal' term in pandemic times,
- His sustaining provision for Tyndale Park Christian School over 40 years and
- the lifegiving transformation that has happened over the years, every time students have accepted the salvation that is graciously ours in Jesus Christ.

*Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.*

*Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!*

It is helpful to understand a little of the history of this hymn. Thomas Obadiah Chisolm (1866-1960) had a difficult early adult life. His health was so fragile that there were periods of time when he was confined to bed, unable to work. Between bouts of illness he would have to push himself to put in extra hours at various jobs in order to make ends meet. After coming to Christ at age 27, Thomas found great comfort in the Scriptures and in the fact that God was faithful to be his strength in time of illness and weakness, and to provide his needs – inspiring him to write this poem. Lamentations 3:22-23 was one of his favourite scriptures: "*It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: Great is thy faithfulness.*"¹ Here at Tyndale Park Christian School we have also experienced God's faithfulness in the good and in the challenging times. It is because He is always the same that He is worthy of our worship.

The teachers are grateful for an uninterrupted term that has enabled us to make good academic progress with our students. The staff had three major academic goals this term, i.e. improving Year 1-10 students' descriptive writing through approaches such as poetry, starting a review of the school's

¹ Source: <https://www.independentbaptist.com/great-is-thy-faithfulness1/>

mathematics curriculum, and implementing strategies for our schoolwide waste minimisation programme.

Our students have also been able to participate in **a number of extracurricular activities** such as the Chesspower regional chess competitions (Year 1-10; Joseph Lee was the overall winner of the Year 1-6 regional tournament held at our school), an introduction to safety taught by St John in Schools (Year 1-13), the Auckland Christian Schools (ACS) Soccer Tournament (Year 5-10), the Careers Expo 2021 (Year 11-13), the CAM Kiwi Competitions (Year 5-10), the ACS Netball Tournament (Year 5-10) and a visit from a Word of Life outreach team (Year 7-13).

Special thanks to parents, senior students and alumni who have volunteered their time to provide help and supervision at these events and Odessa Buses, who is doing a great job transporting our students to and from events that are off-site. We are also grateful for the extra time and effort Mrs Fisher and her team have put into hosting after-school netball practices prior to the ACS Netball tournament.

We celebrated **the school's 40th birthday** on Saturday 29 May with a *Family Fun Day*, 10 am to 2:30 pm, and a 40th Anniversary Dinner in the evening. Despite some dire weather forecasts, the Lord graciously answered our prayers for a basically rain free day at the school property despite surrounding neighbourhoods experiencing massive downpours. The cold day meant that a lot of great fellowship was had around the different food stalls and students enjoyed the adventure activities, crafts and face painting.

A highlight during the *Anniversary Dinner* was hearing Mr Bob Guy speak about the vision he had for a Christian school, not only prompting him to donate the land the school was built on but be very involved in the construction of the initial buildings as well – those classrooms are still in use. It was a tremendous encouragement to hear that the Lord has kept Tyndale Park Christian School true to its founder's vision the past 40 years.

We need to **thank the many volunteers and sponsors** who have made our 40th anniversary celebration possible! Your labours of love have always been a characteristic of the work at Tyndale Park Christian School.

Jesus said, "*Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven*" (Matthew 5:14-16). Tyndale Park Christian School is proud to be part of the local community and hope to continue to be a blessing to our neighbourhood as well as the wider East and South Auckland community.

Barend Blom – Principal

Notices

1. If you want to **enrol a sibling in Year 1 for 2022**, please contact us as soon as possible. There are only 2 places available in the class at this stage. We try to give preference to families who already have an older sibling, but we cannot guarantee a space if we are not aware of your intent to enrol with us.
2. If you know of friends or family who are considering enrolling their child(ren) in Tyndale Park Christian School in 2022, please encourage them to contact us as soon possible. There are **limited**

spaces available for students across the school in 2022 and we do not want interested families to miss out on enrolment.

3. **Science Projects:** Science Projects for students in Years 7 to 10 should be well on the way. All experiments must be completed by Monday 26 July. Students will be guided through assembling a high-quality display in Week 1 and 2 of Term 3. Our School Science Fair is scheduled for *Saturday morning, 7 August*, at 10.00 am in the school hall. We want to make it a true community event and celebration of the children's learning. All students will be asked to attend from 10.00 am to 11.30 am. Room 8, Room 7, Room 10 and Room 11 (Year 1-6) will also have displays at the science fair and students will take turns to explain their class's project (primary students participate in class projects organised by the classroom teacher). We encourage Year 7-10 students to make the most of the remaining time, particularly over the holidays, to complete their individual projects. Please encourage and help your child to finish the project. The projects are meant to be worked on mostly from home, with parental support. We look forward to celebrating our students' science and technology investigations!
4. Parents have received the invoice for the **Term 3 Tuition Fees** with your child(ren)'s Term 2 Report Card (or via email if you are new to the school). Tuition fees are to be paid in advance (recommended), if possible, or in instalments current with tuition being provided. We offer a loyalty discount of 1% per year for every year a family has partnered with us. Please make payment by transferring fees directly to the school's bank account. If you are paying in instalments, please ensure that tuition payments are kept current. **It is strongly recommended that an automatic payment is set up for tuition fees using the following information:** Account Number: 12 3083 0175239 00; Particulars: Student Name; Code: Term and Year; Reference: Tuition Fees. We accept EFTPOS payments at the school office if online payment is not possible.
5. **Special Character Donation:** This is \$65 per term for Year 1 to 8 students and \$80 per term for Year 9 to 13 students. The specified amounts are eligible for a 33% tax refund. Donations will be acknowledged on receipt with the donation receipt sent home with your child. Your support of the Special Character Donation enables us to keep tuition fee increases at a minimum.
6. **Student drop-off and pick-up:** (1) All students are encouraged to be at school by 8.50 am in the morning. It is tremendously disruptive for the late student, other students and their teacher when a student is not on time. It may also create poor habits with regards to **punctuality** in our students, setting them up for failure in adult life. (2) Parents are asked to continue to **pick students up in 'waves'**, i.e. students in Years 1-6 are to be picked up from 3:00 pm to 3:10 pm unless they have an older sibling. Years 7-13 students (with their younger siblings) need to be picked up from 3:10 pm. **Students are not allowed to be at school unsupervised after 3.15 pm** unless they are actively supervised *by* their parents *and/or* meeting with a teacher. Teachers are available for meetings with parents until 3.30 pm. Please do not leave students after school unsupervised for a "play date" with friends - this creates a Health and Safety risk for the school. Please **keep your speed to 10 km/h** on our driveway for our community's safety. Pedestrians are strongly encouraged to use the pedestrian crossings and pathways for their safety.
7. **Dress code:** Please review the school dress code with your child(ren) and ensure that they dress accordingly. Underlying the dress code is a commitment to dress that is neat and orderly, suitable for school, and modest to celebrate the worth of being made in God's image. **Common dress code violations are** (1) boys' hair not cut to an appropriate length, (2) girls' dresses or skirts not hanging on the knee or lower, (3) students wearing jewellery like necklaces and arm bands, and girls wearing any earring other than a stud (we want to emphasise that students are not to wear any jewellery at all), and (4) students wearing clothing with logos and motifs that do not support a Biblical worldview (please check with the office if you are not sure).

8. **Mobile phones at school:** Year 1-8 students are not allowed to bring mobile phones to school. Year 9-13 students are allowed to bring mobile phones to school, but they are not to be used on the school premises at any time. They must be handed in to the classroom teacher as soon as the school day officially starts at 8:55 am. These strict guidelines are for students' health and safety.
9. Tyndale Park Christian School would like to offer you the opportunity to subscribe to the school version of **Reading Eggs and Mathletics** for your child – please note that the subscription to these services is optional and not included in tuition fees. Please pay \$27 for Reading Eggs and/or \$35 for Mathletics into the school bank account (12-3083-0175239-00) and email accounts@tyndalepark.school.nz to say that you have paid for the subscription.
10. The feasibility study for a **bus service from Takanini and/or Papatoetoe** has shown that there is not enough buy-in from parents to make this viable yet. Thank you for your participation.
11. We would love to offer our students **more non-academic learning opportunities** during or after school such as sports (e.g. soccer, netball or a form of rugby) and clubs (e.g. chess, robotics or knitting), but we **need parent volunteers** to help us run these activities. If you are able to volunteer some of your time to help us run a sport or a club, please contact Mr Blom at principal@tyndalepark.school.nz.
12. **Have your contact details changed?** If you have had a change of address or phone number, please advise the office so the details we hold are up to date.
13. **Lost Items:** Please check out the lost items box. The secretary can show you where it is.
14. Due to COVID-19, we have stopped using the drink fountains at school since their shared use can easily spread germs. It will be helpful to **replace the drink fountains with bottle fillers** because not only are they more hygienic, but studies have shown that there is about 60% less wastage of water compared to water fountains. It is a substantial investment though, so we are looking for members of our community who are willing to sponsor or cosponsor the installation. Please contact Mr Blom, principal@tyndalepark.school.nz, if you want to be a sponsor.
15. **Main Calendar Events for 2021**
 - School Science Fair:** Saturday, 7 August, 10:00 am
 - Open Day:** Monday, 23 August, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
 - Fathers' Day Breakfast:** Saturday, 4 September, 8:00 am
 - ACS Cross Country Tournament:** Wednesday, 22 Sept. Rain check 24 Sept.
 - ACS Cricket Tournament:** Tuesday 16 Nov. Rain check Thursday 18 Nov
 - End of Year Exams for Years 8 to 13:** 29 November to 2 December
 - Thanksgiving Assembly:** Friday, 10 December, 7.00 pm
 - High School (Year 9-13) Prizegiving:** Wednesday, 15 December, 7.00 pm
 - Sports Day:** Monday, 13 December
 - Primary Wheels Day:** Years 1 to 6 on Wednesday, 15 December
 - School Year Ends:** Friday, 17 December, 1.00 pm
16. **Term Dates for 2021:**
 - Term 3:** Monday, 26 July, to Friday, 1 October, 2pm finish. (Mid-term holiday: 27-30 August)
 - Term 4:** Monday, 18 October, to Friday, 17 December, 1pm finish. (Labour Day: Monday 28 October). We ask you to please make a note of these dates when planning holidays **so that pupils are not absent from school during term time**. These dates are also posted on our website should you need to refer to them again.