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To support and Encourage the Teaching of Special Religious Education (SRE) at Hornsby and Normanhurst High Schools.

I wish to make a financial contribution to the work of the Normanhurst Christian Education Association which provides Christian Studies programs at Hornsby Girls' and Normanhurst Boys' High Schools.

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For Direct Debit: BSB 062-308 A/c 2804 5640 Christian Education Assoc. Inc. – Please advise the Treasurer at glendaleport@yahoo.com to enable a receipt to be mailed to you.

Title	Surname
First Name	
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Or I request a set of envelopes which can be placed in my Church's offering.

Or Hand this form to a Management Committee member.

Or Post to: **Normanhurst Christian Education Association Inc.**
PO Box 2061, NORMANHURST, NSW 2076

(ABN 27 478 553 930)

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Enquires to the Treasurer - Mrs Glenys Porter – Phone 9489 3568

CHURCHES LINKED TO THE ASSOCIATION

Chinese and Australian Baptist Church, Thornleigh	Northern Life Baptist Church, Hornsby
Hornsby Uniting Church	Normanhurst Uniting Church
Wahroonga Anglican Church	St Peter's Anglican Church, Hornsby
St Stephen's Anglican Church, Normanhurst	Thornleigh Community Baptist Church
Thornleigh Hillcrest Uniting Church	Wahroonga Presbyterian Church
Waitara Gospel Chapel	



God Speaks



Religious Education teacher at Hornsby Girls' High School.

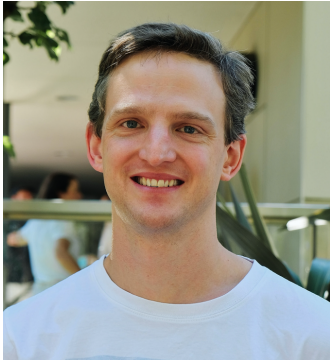
Let me introduce myself, as I did to my students – along with their responses. I attended Hornsby Girls' High School (HGHS) in 1994 (surprised looks). I was a secondary English teacher before having four kids; my eldest is currently in Year 9 at Normanhurst Boys' High School (interested looks). When I'm not at HGHS, I'm at Barker College as a Teacher Librarian and Philosophy teacher. I attend Pennant Hills Baptist and enjoy running to music (keen looks and many K-pop recommendations). **I am Christine Chin, Special**

I'm so thankful and relieved for the warm welcome by the students. They each wrote me a letter and they certainly are a diverse, interesting, and talented bunch! The majority are from Hindu/Buddhist/non-religious backgrounds with a handful of Christians, including a number who are doubting their faith. Students have been generally receptive as we've discussed the Bible, faith and tackled some big questions, like 'Why is there suffering in the world?'

A recent highlight was from a Year 8 class. I told the Bible story of Lazarus three times - once for the students to *imagine*, next for them to *remember* because the last time they were invited to help me *retell* the story. We had thoughtful questions and rich discussion as we made links with Jesus' death and resurrection. A student commented, "I learnt that Jesus died and got resurrected. I did not know he came alive after he died." It was a powerful reminder that the **Bible speaks for itself**, and we can have confidence that God's word will convict hearts and change lives.

Christine Chin, SRE Teacher, HGHS.

My 9th Year at Normanhurst Boys' High School!



People don't trust in Jesus because you show them the gospel is true, but because you truly show them the gospel. This has been made even more evident to me over the last couple of years. The proof for Jesus' resurrection is clear, and students spend time in Year 9 looking at this. Whilst this can be a helpful starting point for discussion, to challenge students who have not accepted the gospel for themselves, or to encourage those who already follow Christ, it is not enough in itself to 'make'

someone a Christian. God's Word speaks powerfully into the hearts of students as they see what it means for others to live out the gospel in their lives day to day. They see their friends who follow Jesus have a willingness to listen, and a genuine desire to engage with their questions and concerns; they see a different attitude towards academic excellence than being a means to a good life; and hopefully through this pandemic they are seeing a hope that rests on something more certain than any 'return to normal'. **As my 9th year of teaching RE at NBHS has begun, please pray that both my lessons, and the lives of Christian students would be a strong testimony to the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Tony Jones, SRE Teacher, NBHS

PRAYER POINTS

Normanhurst Boys'

- Pray that many parents of Year 7 students will opt-in their sons to the RE program and that the students will see the importance of thinking through religious questions for themselves.
- Pray Year 8 students will recognize Jesus as the Messiah and will understand the significance of Easter.
- Pray Year 9 students will see how Jesus fulfills God's promise to Adam & Eve, that one of their offspring would crush the head of the serpent.
- Pray for the evidence of Jesus' death and resurrection to be compelling to the Year 10 students, giving them confidence to continue trusting in Jesus, or to consider for themselves what this actually means for them.

Hornsby Girls'

- Thank God for the warm reception of students. Please pray that I will love them well and quickly learn their names.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will soften students' hearts so that they will be open to hearing and responding to the lessons.
- I've been overwhelmed by the students' questions, particularly around LGBTQI+. Please pray for wisdom in knowing how best to approach this topic, being sensitive towards what is underlying their questions.
- Pray for the Christian students who are experiencing doubt. Pray that they will be able to reconnect with their church family and that God will provide the reassurance that they need.

FINANCIAL NEWS – March 2022

We give thanks to the Lord for His on-going provision through His people individually, along with the supporting congregations.

As we embark on the thirty first year of this ministry we continue to embrace the vision of reaching out with the Gospel to young people especially in these days when it is increasingly difficult for them.

The budget for 2022 is \$120,000.

Thank you to all of you who have so generously supported.

The Australian Tax Office has endorsed the Normanhurst Christian Education RIGS(Religious Instruction In Government Schools in Australia) Fund as a tax deductible gift recipient. Our bank account details are identified over the page. However, receipts reflect the name Normanhurst Christian Education RIGS Fund.

Donations to support this ministry can be forwarded by cash, cheque, online direct debit, or credit card (see over page).

Glenys Porter,
NCEA Treasurer, March 2022