

Friday 25 March 2022

Dear Families and Friends of Geelong Grammar School,

On behalf of the Geelong Grammar School Council, I am delighted to announce the expansion of our Corio Campus with a new, purpose-built Primary School. This is a significant strategic project for the School, a transformational "Timbertop moment", and an exciting new chapter for our Bostock House community.

Our new Primary School will realise the School's vision of a learning experience that embodies the Strategic Pillars of Adventure Education, Positive Education and Creative Education, with a particular emphasis on nature and inquiry-based learning that leverages our Timbertop experience and enlivens Adventure Education for all students at Corio. Located to the northern aspect of our 230-hectare campus, this will be a unique and innovative project that connects to the natural ecosystem of fields, ponds, native grasslands, creek, coastal ridge and lagoon, as well as the exceptional playing fields and facilities that Corio has to offer, such as the Handbury Centre for Wellbeing, Music School, Chapel of All Saints, and the School of Performing Arts and Creative Education (the SPACE).

This is an incredibly exciting development for the School, but I acknowledge that some members of our community will be saddened at the closure of the Noble Street site, which has been home to Bostock House since 1997. As has happened before, the School's ambitions have outgrown the site upon which it sits. The sale of Noble Street, other assets/properties, and a loan from the Geelong Grammar Foundation will fund Stage 1 of this project. Subject to planning approvals, archaeological findings, and a tender process, we anticipate construction will commence this year, with the new Primary School expected to welcome students from the start of 2024.

While the site will be sold, the Bostock name will endure, with plans to preserve it in a meaningful way at Corio and to continue the nurturing community culture that is at the heart of Bostock House. We will also continue to communicate and consult with our families directly impacted by this change.

I have previously written about how COVID-19 has forced change upon us. The School's response has been to focus on change by choice. Our <u>Strategic Framework</u> champions substantive change for the good. Its very essence is the future sustainability of our School. As we continue to navigate our way beyond the pandemic, the one sure-fire inevitability is change. The School Council and School Executive will persist with positive, proactive and progressive decision-making. This decision to expand the Corio Campus strengthens our spirit, honours our heritage, and lives our promise of Exceptional Education. I invite you to learn more by visiting our <u>Adventure awaits...</u> website, and I look forward to keeping you updated as the works progress.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this news in further detail, please contact our Director of Community Engagement, Brendan McAloon, on +61 3 5273 9307 or via ComRel@ggs.vic.edu.au.

Best wishes,

Paddy Handbury (M'72)

Chair of Council