ENNCLUSURES: 2015 NAPLAN PARENT LETTER

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- Thanks for the Holiday break and a positive start to the term.
- Anzac Day events – comfort for those who will be grieving loss and compassion for those for whom the day is less significant.
- For families in our community who have been effected either directly or indirectly by the recent extreme weather.
- For new students who commenced this term and their families, that they will quickly feel part of our community.

FOR REFLECTION

“The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word.” Hebrews 1:3

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Oswald Chambers is one of the most renowned Christian writers, best known for his devotional book “My Utmost for His Highest”. I was aware that he wrote quite some time ago, and assumed that when he put pen to paper he was ‘long in the tooth’, with a long track record of theological reflection and application to real life.

A couple of years ago I purchased and downloaded an electronic copy of ‘My Utmost for His Highest’, and was stunned by what I read in the preface of Oswald Chambers life. I have chosen to share a little of his story as it has great relevance in the lead up to ANZAC day.
Oswald Chambers was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1874. His family moved to London when he was fifteen, where he made his public confession of faith in Christ and became a member of Rye Lane Baptist Church. He returned to Scotland in 1896, studied theology also tutored Philosophy.

He accepted a military appointment to Egypt during World War 1, serving with the Australian and New Zealand Military Corp (the original ANZACs) who were guarding the Suez Canal.

Oswald Chambers died during active service in Egypt in 1917, from of all things appendicitis, at age 43. He was not famous in his lifetime and at the time of his death only three books bearing his name had been published, with a small readership of Christians in Britain and the United States.

His wife Biddy gathered the notes from devotional talks Oswald had presented to the troops throughout his three years’ service on the military front, and published ‘My Utmost for His Highest’ in book form in England in 1927, and the United States in 1935. The hope and life Oswald’s ministry brought to service men and women during the First World War, through this devotional book has continued to challenge and inspire Christians over the past eighty years.

I encourage families to consider purchasing a copy of “My Utmost for His Highest”, available as an iBook through iTunes for $10.99, or in hardcopy for around the same price through Koorong Books.

Following is the devotional reading from this work, for April 24th, the date of distribution of this edition of School Talk. His writings are not light and somewhat superficial as some daily devotional booklets may appear, but have real substance that encourages deep thought and life transforming reflection.

**The warning against desiring spiritual success**

“Do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you…….” (Luke 10:20)

“Worldliness is not the trap that most endangers Christian workers; nor is it sin. The trap we fall into is extravagantly desiring spiritual success; that is, success measured by, and patterned after, the form set by this religious age in which we now live. Never seek after anything other than the approval of God,….

In Luke 10:20 Jesus told His disciples not to rejoice in successful service, and yet this seems to be the one thing in which most of us rejoice. We have a commercialised view – we count how many souls have been saved, we thank God and then we think everything will be all right. Yet our work only begins where God’s grace has laid the foundation. Our work is not to save souls, but to disciple them. Salvation and sanctification are the work of God’s sovereign grace, and our work as his disciples is to disciple others’ lives until they are totally yielded to God. One life totally devoted to God is of more value to Him than one hundred lives which have been awakened by His Spirit…….”

(From My Utmost for his Highest: Enhanced Edition by Oswald Chambers; April 24th Reading)
ANZAC DAY MARCH

I again take the opportunity to encourage all families of Wycliffe to join with our local community at the Annual Springwood ANZAC march that this year commemorates 100 years since the landing of the original forces at Gallipoli. We are aiming to have 100 students representing the school on the day.

Students are to meet at the Fire Station, in Springwood, this Saturday April 25th at 10am ready for the annual march along Macquarie Road to the memorial in Buckland Park where wreaths will be laid. All students are to wear full winter school uniform. I look forward to your family joining us for this significant occasion.

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week we acknowledge John Black, grandfather of Alexandra (Yr 2) and Abbey (Yr 5) and Joshua (Yr 7) Hardimon. John is a regular and faithful servant of students of our Junior School, turning up each Tuesday to assist with reading groups.

His day usually starts with a coffee in the School Café, and after a chat and a laugh he heads off to help in the classroom. We thank John for the contribution he makes not only to his grandchildren’s lives, but to the many other students he assists in the Junior School.

WORKING BEE

Our next working bee will be held next Saturday May 2nd from 8am-12pm. Our last working bee proved a wonderful community event, and knocked over a lot of jobs around the school, from the spreading of ‘mulch mountain’, to covering books in the library, to pamphlet delivery and more.

There will be a great variety of tasks with fine coffee available at morning tea. The working bee will provide an ideal opportunity to complete PIP hours. I look forward to your family’s involvement on the day.

Peter Jamieson
Principal
**FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL AND HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL**

**PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS**

Despite a cold and blustery start to the week, our Preschoolers have been kept busy and have had lots of fun, learning about Numbers. As you can see from this photo from the numeracy centre, they are learning 1:1 correspondence - are matching numerals to quantity. This was integrated with literacy and music as they read the big book ‘10 in the bed’, sang the son together and had lots of fun acting out, rolling out of the ‘bed’. I seriously envy our Preschool Educators and the fun they share with little ones on such an exciting learning journey.

**NAPLAN**

NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12th to the 14 May, with 15th May being a day for students to catch up on any test they missed.

Students in Year 3 & 5 have been familiarising themselves with NAPLAN style tests so that they can best represent their knowledge, and not be distracted by the mechanics of completing these test papers.

Attached to this edition of School Talk is an important letter for parents regarding Naplan information. Please be aware, should you decide to withdraw your child from this testing as is your right as a parent, parents of Primary students should contact me and parents of secondary students should contact Peter Jamieson. There is a form to be completed and held with school records, which will be sent to you following the discussion. Please call prior to next Friday (1st May).

**PARENTS IN CLASSROOMS**

Every day a number of parents come along and help in K-6 classrooms – and what a blessing they are!

If you are able to set some time aside to share in your child’s classroom learning, please contact your child’s teacher. Not only will your child be thrilled to have you there (even if they don’t admit it), but you will be able to get some on the ground understanding of what goes on in your child’s day.
UNIFORM

It has been great to see so many students dressed in the new Winter Uniform. They look lovely. Thank you to those parents who support us in ensuring students are wearing correct uniform.

Last term a certain period of grace was extended to students who were not wearing correct attire. From next week however, students not wearing correct uniform, will be given a Uniform detention. Please note this applies to socks and scarves that are not the correct colour.

*Coral Edwards*
*Deputy Principal / Head of Junior School*

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**SCHOOL NOTICES**

**SCHOOL PHOTO DAY 2015**

School Photo Day this year will be on Thursday 21st May. The date has been a bit later this year to ensure that all students have the correct uniform.

More information about purchasing photos (i.e., the Photo Envelope) and uniform specifics for the day will be provided closer to the date.

Ms Michaela Inglis - Director of Administration

**WORKING BEE**

A reminder that the Working Bee is Saturday 2nd May and we have a specific job of taking some rubbish to the tip using our trailer. We need a team of people to load/unload the rubbish, and someone with a large car/4WD with a towbar to tow our trailer. It’s likely to be 2-3 trips.

Mr James Chik – Business Manager

**ANZAC ASSEMBLY**

An assembly to commemorate ANZAC Day will be held in the school hall commencing at 10.30am, Tuesday 28th April. Families are most welcome to attend.
ANZAC READING FOR OLDER STUDENTS

Last week, I featured four books suitable for introducing the Gallipoli story and the other First World War experiences of the first Anzacs to younger readers. Here are three books that are suitable for secondary school readers.

The first is *A Rose for the Anzac Boys* by Jackie French. This delightful and moving book tells the story of three teenage girls from different parts of the Empire who find themselves increasingly drawn into the war in France. The narrative is supplemented by letters between one of the girls, Midge from New Zealand, and her relatives and soldiers serving on the Western Front. Jackie French brings to the reader the important role that women and girls played in the first incidence of total war, while also revealing the immense devastation that the war and its aftermath wreaked on all.

The second is *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo. In 1914, Joey, a young farm horse, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges towards the enemy, witnessing the horror of the frontline. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey’s courage touches the soldiers around him. Joey is captured by the Germans and so the author is able to tell the plight of soldiers on both sides of the conflict and to celebrate the role of horses in what became the first mechanised war. Both French and Morpurgo have written with a teenage audience in mind but the quality of the writing means that both books will be appreciated by an adult audience as well. I certainly enjoyed them.

For students who are interested in exploring a more factual account of the war experience, *Gallipoli diaries: the Anzacs’ own story day by day* by Jonathan King contains the full story of what happened at Gallipoli is told in the words of the soldiers fighting in the trenches. Starting with the landing right up until the last day of the campaign, this is a daily account in the world of the Gallipoli soldier taken from letters and diaries of the men who fought.

Jonathan King, is a well-known historian and, though he would prefer that Australians focused more on the role of the Anzacs at the Western Front, he has gathered together an unequalled series of extracts from letters and diaries written by hundreds of soldiers who fought in the trenches at Gallipoli. Through quoting from the men’s own words, we share in the soldier’s experience.
The descriptions of life in those miserable trenches runs the full gauntlet of the soldiers’ experiences, from the utterly mundane, such as describing the weather, to the most poignant, like a young soldier devastated by accidentally shooting his mate.

Mr Cooney

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**SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS**

**CAPA NEWS**

**MOUNTAINS YOUTH BAND WINS NATIONAL BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS**

On Saturday 4th April, eleven Australian concert bands came to the Seymour Centre in Sydney to perform in the Junior C division of the National Band Championships. Mountains Youth Band was one of the bands to perform. Once on stage, the band performed four pieces; the test piece (Eiger), a hymn (Sweet hour of prayer), their own choice (Abracadabra) and a march (The Trombone King). The adjudicator marked each band individually for their pieces. These scores were either out of fifty or two hundred. When the results were calculated, Mountains Youth Band came into the placings of second for the test piece, first for the hymn, first for their own choice and first for the march; overall that meant that Mountains Youth Band (MYB) was placed first by four points! Gary Clarke, the conductor of MYB, and Marion Chapman, MYB administrator, were very proud of the band for their excellent performance given that there were a lot of younger students who have only recently joined the band. Three of our own students, Lachlan Mahoney, Grace Cowles and Jessica Murray, were three of the players in this band; on trumpet, clarinet, flute and piccolo respectively. Well done to these three students and the entire band!

Jessica Murray Year 9

**MATHEMATICS STUDY CENTRE**

*Every Wednesday afternoon in the library from 3:00 - 3:45, Years 7-12.*

The Mathematics Study Centre offers free support to those students who need help with mathematical problems, small or large. Whether homework is proving challenging or if help is needed reviewing topics before examinations and tests, sometime a helping hand can make all the difference. While the centre does not offer structured tutoring, maths teachers will be on hand to assist with any maths problems and this can often make a real difference.

This service is available for students from Years 7 to 12 and students are welcome to come on a drop-in or regular basis.

Ms Michaela Inglis - Head of Mathematics
SPORT NEWS

PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL – NEW DATE DUE TO RAIN

REVISED DATE Thursday, 30th April (During periods 1 to 4).
VENUE Warrimoo Oval
TIME 8.30am to 12.20pm

ORDER OF EVENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Carnival</th>
<th>Secondary Carnival</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.30am Roll Call in D Quad for yrs 3-6 and Cross Country Assembly</td>
<td>10.24 am Growth Group Cross Country Assembly B Quad</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.50am 12/13 Years Boys and Girls 3 km</td>
<td>10.55 am 17 and 18 Years Boys and Girls 4 km **</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.05am 11 Years Boys and Girls 3 km</td>
<td>11.05 am 16 Years Boys and Girls 4 km**</td>
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<td>9.20am 10 Years Boys and Girls 2 km</td>
<td>11.15 am 15 Years Boys and Girls 4 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.35am 8/9 Years Boys and Girls 2 km</td>
<td>11.30 am 14 years Boys and Girls 4 km</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00am End of Primary Carnival.</td>
<td>11.45 am 12 and 13 Boys and Girls 3 km</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12.20 pm End of Secondary Carnival</td>
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*Please note starting times are only an approximation.

** 16,17 and 18 yrs boys distance at CSSA is 6km

- All students in years 3-12 are to participate.
- Students are to run in the age group in which they are turning or have turned in 2015.
- Students unable to participate are to have a signed note by their parent/guardian, students in:
  - years 3-6 give the note to their classroom teacher.
  - years 7-12 give the note to Mrs Van Leerdam on the morning of the cross country.

*Secondary students who are unable to run will help as track marshals and must see Mrs Van Leerdam at recess time at the PDHPE/Science Staffroom if they have not already been allocated a duty.

- As the Cross Country results will help with the allocation of grades in the 7-10 PDHPE Cross Country Unit, I would encourage all students to run. Please note that this grade is not just based on physical ability, attitude is also of major importance.
• The first four place getters for both the boys and the girls in each age division, will qualify to represent our school at the State Cross Country which will be held on Friday, 29 May.
• Students competing from years 7-12 are to get changed at recess time.
• Students are encouraged to have breakfast before coming to school to compete.
• Students are also encouraged to drink plenty of fluids before competing and self-administer sunscreen.
• Parents are most welcome to come along and support their children.

**ASTHMATICS** If you are a known asthmatic you are to take your puffer with you as you run.

PARENT HELPERS NEEDED

We need a qualified first aid officer (or equivalent) at the carnival, if you are available to help please phone or email me ASAP.

It would be appreciated if parents are available to help on the day as track marshals to enable a smooth running of the carnival, please phone or email me ASAP.

Ruth Van Leerdam
PDHPE Department, Cross Country Convenor
rvanleerdam@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au
Local Church News

Light of Life Ministries Presents

SOS
School of the Spirit

A Time of Prayer, Teaching & Activation in the Holy Spirit
Starting Saturday the 25th April 3pm

Venue & Times
Times: Saturdays from 3-5pm (during school terms)
Venue: Wycliffe Christian School, 133 Rickard Rd Warrimoo
For more information contact James Kenny on 0421 372384
or emailing rego.lolaus@yahoo.com.au
FETE

LBM CHURCH OF CHRIST
LAYTON AVE
BLAXLAND
JUST DOWN FROM MCDONALDS

GARAGE SALE
SUNDAY
2 May
9am—2pm

CRAFT
FACE PAINTING
JUMPING CASTLE
BOOKS

CAKES
SAUSAGE SIZZLE

PROCEEDS SUPPORT ZIMBABWE ORPHANAGE

DEVONSHIRE TEAS
| Term 2 - Wk 2B |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27 Apr | 28 Apr | 29 Apr | 30 Apr | 1 May | 2 May | 3 May |
| ANZAC Day Assembly | NSW Schools Volleyball Cup | Yr 3-12 School Cross Country | Yr 78DR Excursion | Wycliffe Working Bee |
| Term 2 - Wk 3A |
| 4 May | 5 May | 6 May | 7 May | 8 May | 9 May | 10 May |
| School Community Prayer Meeting (aftr hrs) | Yr 11DR Excursion | Hospitality Service Day | |
| Term 2 - Wk 4B |
| 11 May | 12 May | 13 May | 14 May | 15 May | 16 May | 17 May |
| Yr 3,5,7,9 NAPLAN | Yr 3,5,7,9 NAPLAN | Yr 3,5,7,9 NAPLAN | Yr 3,5,7,9 NAPLAN | Yr 3,5,7,9 NAPLAN | |
| Term 2 - Wk 5A |
| 18 May | 19 May | 20 May | 21 May | 22 May | 23 May | 24 May |
| School Photo Day | | | | | | |

**Updated: 24/04/2015**

*For the most up-to-date calendar information, refer to the School Website Calendar at [www.wycliffe.nsw.edu.au](http://www.wycliffe.nsw.edu.au). Click on the Calendar link under "What's Happening".*