FROM THE PRINCIPAL

JESUS IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Last Thursday’s School Easter service proved a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the significance of Christ to our community.

Through song, drama, and exposition students were reminded of Christ’s sacrificial death on the cross that paid in full the debt for our sins. Mr Jones clearly articulated to students the total magnitude of Jesus’ proclamation, uttered in his last breaths:

“It is finished” (John 19:30).

Jesus’ ultimate purpose in life, to die for the past / present / future sins of all humanity, was completely accomplished through the sacrifice of God’s unblemished lamb (His son Jesus).

The Easter service concluded with the release of three hundred helium filled balloons representing Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. Jesus physically rose to life, demonstrating His defeat of death.

The balloons, carrying the message that “Jesus is risen”, were distributed to students of the Junior School reminding them that new life in Jesus begins in the present. The ‘finish’ did not represent the end, but was only the beginning, the beginning of new life and Christ’s redemption of the whole of creation, particularly the restoration of human relations to God’s original intent.

One parent commented to me that she was moved near to tears, as she witnessed the joy and enthusiasm of our youngest students as they received this symbolic gift of hope.

“‘But he (Jesus) was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; on him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and by his stripes we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5)

A MORNING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

I enjoyed the privilege of attending a morning tea with our Prime Minister, The Hon Malcolm Turnbull, and sitting member Louise Markus at Panthers, Glenbrook on Wednesday of last week.

The Prime Minister shared his vision for our nation in the informal lead up to the next Federal election. It was positive to hear his focus on promotion of local business, emphasis on increased employment opportunity in the region, the need to be at the forefront of innovation, and the growth of infrastructure to support the growing population. This emphasis could be seen to reflect the underlying western focus on self-gratification through endless consumption.

What of the huge social challenges facing our nation, indeed our world. Consider the following:

• The 62 richest people on earth own as much as half of the world’s population put together.
• More than 2.5 million (13.9%) Australians live below the poverty line.
• Australia currently spends 0.32% of its gross national income (32 cents in every $100) on foreign aid. The recently announced Federal Budget will cut aid to 0.22% leaving Australia lagging behind the developed world eg. The United Kingdom has lifted aid to 0.70%.
• In response to the Syrian refugee crisis, Australia has resettled just 26 people (Canada 20,490 resettled). (Feb 2016)
• Closer to home, 1,852 people remain in immigration detention in Australia. Further, 543 asylum seekers are in detention in Nauru, with 926 on Manus Island. (Nov 2015)

A Christian worldview challenges us to fight against the self-gratification and consumerism of Western culture, and respond to the plight of the vast majority of the world’s population who do not enjoy the privileged lifestyle we have come to expect. After all when Jesus walked this earth it was the poor, the sick, the outcast that He spent the majority of His time with.

So with another Federal election looming, can I encourage our community to look beyond the personal material benefits that any one party may deliver, and consider a Christian response to our wider societal responsibilities.

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” (James 1:27)

A ‘FISHY’ SITUATION FOR KINDERGARTEN

Last week our Kindergarten students enjoyed the benefits of being part of a K-12 school with a visit to the high school science laboratories.

Biology teacher Dr Silvia Persis invited Mrs Short’s Kindergarten to her class’ dissection of a fish.

Our young students were intrigued at what’s found inside a fish and enjoyed the opportunity for a first hand experience with Science.

Our primary students certainly are fortunate to enjoy enriched learning experiences drawing on our senior school facilities and expertise.

BON VOYAGE YR 11 GLOBAL TREKKERS

In the early hours of last Friday morning, Ms Ingliss, Dr Persis and Mr Karlik along with eleven students from Year 11, left our shores bound for Hong Kong.

Over the next three weeks they will enjoy a wonderful cultural experience through:

• Crossroads Foundation: Social justice mission
• Our sister schools; China Holiness College and Living Spirit College.
• A brief venture across the border into China.

I look forward to joining the team late next week for the second half of the tour. Please keep them in your prayers for a safe and enjoyable experience where they will be inspired by the diversity of God’s creation.

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week we feature Ivory Osborne of 1/2T. Ivory is a hard working student who always gives her best effort.

Further she is always willing to lend a helping hand, and is a fabulous friend who cares for her peers. This is a practical outworking of the love she has for Jesus.

Peter Jamieson
Principal

CHILDREN’S LAUREATE

Following Jackie French as the new Australian Children’s Laureate is author and illustrator, Leigh Hobbs. In this role, Hobbs becomes the official domestic and international ambassador for Australian children’s writing. The creator of such characters as Old Tom, Mr Chicken and Horrible Harriet, Hobbs use of humour is described as subversive but it has a positive purpose.
By juxtaposing text that says one thing and illustrations that depict another, Hobbs uses humour to playfully challenge his young readers to think about what they are reading and never to accept things just as they seem. This has value in developing curiosity and critical thinking that will help children in their development as readers and explorers of God’s world.

Hobbs certainly combines international experience and a local viewpoint in his role. While his book, Mr Chicken Lands in London, reveals Hobbs love of that city, he cherishes the perspective that being an Australian gives to our view of the world. He also celebrates the role that imagination plays in connecting children to other places that they have not yet had the opportunity to visit.

A former teacher himself, Hobbs is a passionate believer in the continuing worth of school libraries and their librarians. He values libraries as a place where children can read for pleasure as well as places that foster literacy and provide pastoral care, just as we do at Wycliffe Christian School.

**Mr Cooney**

---

**SPORT**

### CSSA SECONDARY STATE SWIMMING

Seven Wycliffe students represented the Nepean Zone at the CSSA State Swimming Carnival on Monday 21st March - William Gili, Ella Greenaway, Brady Hughes, Emilee Schatzman, Isaac Selwood, Grace Teagle and Ethan Wallace. They gave their all and enjoyed swimming in the Olympic pool at Hombush. Such a thrill to see their names and times up on the big screen. Many students swam Pb’s. Congratulations!

*Report By Kate Greenaway*

---

### CSSA PRIMARY NETBALL TRIALS

After a huge drive to Northern Beaches a good day was had by all.

Olivia Greenaway trialed as a player and played being named in the probables and possibles. She narrowly missed the team, being named as a shadow player.

Jasmyn Hughes and Siobhan Toft trialed as umpires and umpired together all day. They were both successful in being selected to umpire at CIS (Combined Independent Schools) Gala day in May.

*Report By Melanie Hughes*

---

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Congratulations to all competitors that competed in the school Cross Country.

It was wonderful to watch so many students giving their best.

It was good to see students running in House colours and House points were given to the first 10 placings in each age division to decide which House would be the champion on the day. It was a close contest in the Primary Division with Yellow (Destiny Rescue) 152 Points, Blue (Samaritans Purse) 147 and Green (Voice of the Martyrs) 140. Yellow also won the Secondary Division 259 Points, Green 228 and Blue 202. Yellow House was the winner overall with a tight contest for second between Green and Blue.

The following students were age champions:

- **8 yrs**  
  Ivory Osborne, Robert-Joseph Slockee

- **9 yrs**  
  Faith Hurley, Isabella Wilkinson

- **10 yrs**  
  Meeka Grierson, Rowan Brischetto

- **11 yrs**  
  Olivia Greenaway, Cameron Winfield

- **12+ yrs (Pri)**  
  Lydya Hubbard, Connor Edwards

- **12 yrs (Sec)**  
  Tyrh-Belle Burke, James Clain

- **13 yrs**  
  Mia Williams, James Teagle

- **14 yrs**  
  Kyi-Ella Noack-Davies, Phillip Morgans

- **15 yrs**  
  Isabella Casey, Lachlan Batty

- **16 yrs**  
  Frehiot Ward, Samuel Casey

- **17 yrs**  
  Eleanor Walker, Zachary Powell

- **18 yrs**  
  Zoe Duncan, Bailey Cave

Thank you to those staff, parents and students who assisted with the setting up and running of the event.

Andrew Stewart  
K-12 Sports Coordinator

---

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

---

---

---

---

---
IGNITE

BASKETBALL CLINIC

11/04/16 and 12/04/16
Blaxland High Sports Centre, Coughlan Rd, Blaxland

ALL AGES 9am – 3pm
(8:45am for sign in)

Cost: $50 for two days or $30 for one
Please bring a basketball, recess, lunch and water

TO REGISTER: call the association on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays via (02) 47 398 999 or email scorchers1@bigpond.com

Registrations close Wednesday 6th April
Must pay at time of booking