At last week’s assembly I took the opportunity to speak with our high school students about the need to accept and welcome others, ‘warts and all’.

We are blessed to enjoy a school where bullying is not a major issue, but I would not be honest if I did not admit that at times students fail to treat each other as they should.

Genesis 1:26 (NIV) reads;

“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness.

The plural references to the creator, “us” and “our”, testify to a triune God who exists in perfect union or oneness with himself. Further, this oneness provides the pattern for all shared relationships as highlighted in John 17:22-23, when Jesus speaking to His Father states;

“The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.”

This oneness represents God’s ‘good’ creational intent and represents His very best for human relations, when the unconditional love of God by His Spirit flows through Christ into our shared relationships. This is human life as it was meant to be. A life of relationships lived in constant response to God, in perfect communion with Him and others.

I reminded students that all humans are created in the image of God, so when we judge or hurt someone because they are different; it may be the way they look, the way they dress, the things that interest them, the way they act; we are actually judging or hurting Jesus.

May the relationships we share at all levels across the school community continue to reflect Christ’s unconditional love and acceptance for all.

**ENRICHED STAGE 3 (YR5/6) PROGRAM**

One of the great advantages of being a K-12 school is that students in the Primary school have opportunity to tap into the skills and resources of the Senior School. For students in Stage 3 of learning (Yrs 5&6) the school is deliberate in providing an enriched learning experience, incorporating high school staff and facilities, preparing them for the rigours of secondary schooling.

![Students work in the technics room.](image)

Featured in the accompanying photograph are students from Yr 5/6 hard at work in the technics room. Working with timber each is producing a bird feeder that no doubt will feature in many a family’s backyard in the near future. Students learnt the art of sawing timber; the importance of a steady stance, pistol hand-grip and smooth strokes as well as supporting each other to work safely. We would like to thank Mrs Orro for her assistance in the lesson.

It is so encouraging to witness the joy and enthusiasm of our younger students when they have the opportunity to be involved in the enriched activities of our Stage 3 program.

**WORKING BEE**

Our next working bee will be held on Saturday 14th May from 8am – 12 noon. It will provide a great chance for an end of autumn clean-up of leaves fallen from trees, as well as a variety of other tasks around the school. Any parents with experience laying decking would be appreciated, as new joists have been installed on the stepped area adjacent to the art room, and all that is required is the decking to complete the job.
Hours completed contribute to the required 8 hours for Parent Involvement Program (PIP). The major focus of this time is not just to get a few jobs completed around the school, but to strengthen the partnership with parents in their children’s education. Further the working bees also provide great opportunity to get to know other parents of the school.

Peter Jamieson
Principal

SCHOOL NOTICES

FREE MATHS TEXTBOOKS

There are a number of old FREE Maths textbooks from Years 7-10 for students that wish to use as a supplementary text at home when revising. Wycliffe has purchased new textbooks to support the new curriculum. The old textbooks support the old NSW curriculum, however, they are still very similar in most topic areas and will still be very useful. First in, first served. Please see Mr Manuel before the end of Week 3 to obtain a free textbook.

MAKE A STAND

Following the school assembly on Tuesday 17 May, students at Wycliffe Christian School will be given the opportunity to support Destiny Rescue in their “MAKE A STAND” campaign against child trafficking.

This will take place at school on Friday 20th May 2016. All funds raised through this stand will help support the rescue, care and prevention of young children trapped in modern day slavery. This will also be a K-12 Mufti Day, in which all students will be encouraged to wear something yellow (Destiny Rescue House colour). The gold coin donation will be going to Make a Stand as well.

“Make A Stand” is an easy, yet rewarding fundraising campaign that gives our schools the opportunity to physically stand up against child slavery and actively make a difference in the lives of the vulnerable and enslaved worldwide!

It’s really simple! Students in years 5-12 are to visit: http://goo.gl/Y9xYpr to register and then stand up for the desired amount of time and get others to sponsor them while they ”MAKE A STAND” against child trafficking.

“Make A Stand” is an opportunity to stand up and say NO to children being sold into slavery! Who will stand with us?

Find out more about Destiny Rescue here: https://www.destinyrescue.org

SPORT

YEAR 5/6 GIRLS SOCCER GALA DAY

On Monday 2 May, 2016, the Year 5/6 Girls Soccer team represented the school at the Gala Day at Jamison Park in Penrith. The girls, most with limited experience in soccer, had trained hard for the day and were looking forward to applying their newly learnt skills.

Their first game was against Rouse Hill. This team were well-focused and applied a lot of pressure, however the Wycliffe girls were up to the challenge. Amelia Bemrose starred for the team with some massive clearances from the back line. Nicola Welsman showed great promise with a massive dash down the wing with the ball. Sarah Mitchell and Olivia Greenaway applied pressure all over the field, giving the team from Rouse Hill little room to make headway. A tripping incident involving Lydia Hubbard led to Mhikaela Mitchell shooting truly in a penalty shot on goal. The girls finished strongly, going down 2-1.

The second game was against a much harder opposition in Oxford Falls. This team had far too many answers for the team, spending most of the game in Wycliffe’s defensive half. While the back line of Allie Jackson, Bella Croft, Molly McLelland and Nicola Welsman pushed forward, putting Oxford Falls off-side on several occasions, the team went down 7-0. Lydia Hubbard worked hard in goal while Eva Gee never gave up all game.

The final game pitted the team against Wyong. This was a far more even affair, with the ball going down both ends of the field on several occasions. Ella Blacker and Molly Carter were always dangerous on the forward line. Abbey Hardimon passed the ball forwards frequently, while Eloise Sargent played extremely decisively in the back line. Grace Blackwood made some great saves in goal in the first half, however in the second half, superior play from Wycliffe ensured that she didn't see much of it. While they finished strongly again, the girls couldn't convert their hard efforts to the scoreboard, losing 1-0.

Overall, the team had a very enjoyable day in glorious conditions and learnt a lot of new skills even though the
results didn't all go our way. They can be proud of their efforts and will be able to take a lot of what they learnt with them into their future experiences.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

UBUNTU: THE AFRICAN CHILDREN’S CHOIR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE TOUR

The African Children’s Choir (ACC) is coming back to the Blue Mountains and Penrith in May — this time with Ubuntu, a troupe of gifted high school graduates, presented by the charity Kwaya Australia.

The ACC educates some of the poorest children in Africa to university level, helping them break the cycle of poverty and become leaders in their communities. See africanchildrenschoir.com.

THE DETAILS

**Drum and dance workshop:** Lawson Public School hall, Adelaide Street, Lawson. Wednesday, May 18, 7.30pm. Adults $18, children under 16/concession $12, families (two adults and two children) $48.

**Katoomba concert:** Katoomba High School hall, Martin Street, Katoomba. Thursday, May 19, 7.30pm. Adults $20, children under 16 $10, concession $15, families $50.

**Springwood district concert:** Springwood High School hall, Grose Road, Faulconbridge. Friday, May 20, 7.30pm. Adults $20, children under 16 $10, concession $15, families $50.

**Penrith district concert:** Nepean Creative and Performing Arts hall, 115 Great Western Highway, Emu Plains. Saturday, May 21, 7.30pm. Adults $20, children under 16 $10, concession $15, families $50.

*Book at kwaya.org. Inquiries: Brendan O’Reilly, ph 0437 347 657*