I am pleased to announce to our school community the appointment of Mr Neil Marshall to the position of Head of Technical and Applied Studies (TAS) in the Senior School, commencing Term 2.

Mr Marshall comes to us with extensive experience in educational leadership. For the past 18 years he has held the dual role of Head of TAS/Stage 4 Pastoral Care Co-ordinator at Penrith Anglican College. His faculty’s HSC results have consistently been among the best at that school.

He also has extensive experience as an HSC Design and Technology marker. Further, he has expressed a commitment to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program that the government is suggesting will become mandatory in schools in the near future.

Mr Marshall has strong pastoral gifting. Several students from his present school have moved to Wycliffe over recent times, and they were very excited to hear Mr Marshall was coming to join us.

Mr Marshall’s three sons attended Wycliffe and he is excited about serving our community. He is most impressed with the facilities of the TAS department and already is developing a vision for the faculty. I look forward with great anticipation to the contribution Mr Marshall will make to our school community over future years.

CAFÉ UNDER THE STARS

Our school community enjoyed another very successful Café under the Stars event. With around 100 in attendance, it proved a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the partnerships shared between parents, staff and students of the school.

A big thank you goes to Mrs Marshall for all of her practical organisation of the evening. Also to Mrs Maddock and her team of musicians for providing the entertainment and finally to our Café 133 staff who worked tirelessly to ensure all guests were well fed and ‘watered’.

EASTER SERVICE

The school once again will be holding a special Easter Service, 1:15pm on Thurs March 24th.

All parents, family members and friends are invited to join us on this very significant occasion where we will reflect upon Christ’s great sacrifice, and the promise of life his resurrection holds for us all.

2017 ENROLMENTS

I realise it seems crazy to be talking about 2017 enrolments but the reality is that positions are now being interviewed for in independent schools across the state. I have already begun interviewing students for 2017, especially at the two major entry points of Kindergarten and Year 7.

If you have a child not already enrolled at Wycliffe, and
you would like them to join us next year, could you please contact our Registrar, Mrs Rebecca Moses: registrar@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au

Similarly if you have friends or relatives who may be interested please forward them Mrs Moses’ contact details.

**OVAL PROGRESS**

The oval upgrade is well and truly underway and I thank parents for their cooperation with the changed parking/traffic arrangements that will be in place for the duration of the project.

The hard-court has been stripped of its synthetic surface, ready for replacement with asphalt. Reluctantly a number of large trees between the oval and hard-courts have been removed.

The decision to remove the trees was made due to ongoing risk to students. Parents may recall the tragic death of eight year old Bridgett Wright of Pitt Town School in 2014, who during lunchtime was struck by a falling branch. While the likelihood may be slim, nonetheless it was deemed a significant risk to students who will be playing in the area.

**CAFÉ 133**

Our Café has become the hub of community interaction at the school. Not only our senior students, but also staff and parents enjoy its benefits, especially before and after school.

This service comes at significant cost, and unfortunately to date the Café has been experiencing significant financial losses annually. In managing tuition fee levels this pattern cannot continue.

Recently the school engaged a local successful café and restaurant businesswoman who has made significant recommendations for improving the efficiency and profitability of the café. After consultation it has been decided to **close the Cafe for the final two weeks of term** to allow some physical alterations to be completed. The ‘rebooted’ cafe will then be open for business again at the beginning of next term.

During this time **lunches can still be ordered** and over the counter purchases made at Recess and 1st half of Lunch from the canteen side.

It is envisaged the new approach will address concerns and the canteen will remain such a positive community, gathering place well into the future.

**COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK**

Keira Lee is featured this week. Keira is a very positive member of the Year 7 cohort. She is a cooperative, hard working student who is willing to serve others.

Most recently she has signed up as an inaugural member of the School’s ‘Just Act’ group, part of Justice & International Mission campaigns for social justice including issues related to refugees, human trafficking, forced labour, climate change and Indigenous rights.

*Peter Jamieson*
*Principal*

**SPORT**

**SECONDARY ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL REPORT**

Our Secondary School Swimming Team travelled to Emerton Leisure centre on 24th February to represent our school at the Nepean Zone swimming carnival. All students gave their best and were a pleasure to manage as they showed some excellent team spirit.

Whilst we didn't have any age champions from the day, 4 students were runner-up in their respective age division:

- Brady Hughes 12 Years Boys
- Ella Greenaway 13 Years Girls
- Grace Teagle 15 Years Girls
- William Gilli 15 Years

The following students will be representing the school at the Secondary CSSA Championships on 21st March and we wish them the very best:

- William Gili, Ella Greenaway, Brady Hughes, Emma Morgans, Emilee Schatzman, Isaac Selwood, Grace Teagle and Ethan Wallace.

*Andrew Stewart*

**PHYSICAL PREPARATION AND PERSONAL MANAGEMENT FOR THE 2016 WYCLIFFE CROSS COUNTRY**

Cross Country running when accompanied with adequate preparation, is a challenging sport with many benefits to the individual, including cardiovascular fitness, management of weight as well as improvement in sports performance for other sports as a result of increased stamina.

Competing in any sporting event can cause some students anxiety or physical discomfort. Our aim is to minimise this and to ensure students participate safely. The races generally go for 7 to 20 minutes depending on...
physical fitness and running ability levels. Staff are aware of the physical reactions students may experience and the appropriate procedures to follow in the case of these occurring. Not all children experience these reactions. The following strategies are important for parents to follow, and will in most cases prevent a reaction and ensure all students are physically prepared for the event.

1. Ensure your child/ren are adequately hydrated the day before and on the morning of the cross country. Use urine colour as an indication of hydration. Should be light or transparent in colour.

2. Ensure your child/ren have had a substantial dinner the night before and breakfast on the morning of the cross country. Potatoes, rice, pasta, fruit, vegetables, bread, and cereals are best.

3. Encourage your child/ren to engage in personal training leading up to the event.

4. Ensure your child/ren have appropriate and comfortable footwear including socks.

5. Ensure your child/ren with Asthma take their puffer to school. Teachers will remind them to use it before the race.

6. Ensure your child/ren arrives in time to school to be involved in a warm-up before the cross country including stretches and some running specific warm up drills to prepare their bodies for the race (supervised by teachers).

7. Encourage your child/ren to pace them selves and to complete the race at a speed that they feel comfortable with.

Teachers will ensure students ‘warm – down’ and rehydrate, as well as have something light to eat. Please ensure your child/ren bring a suitable snack.

To assist parents and students the school will ensure:

- Cross Country training in PE lessons.
- Students will be reminded about fluid intake.
- Alert teachers to the students who are asthmatic and remind them to use their puffer prior to the race and carry it with them.
- There is a specific warm-up time before the event.
- At the conclusion of the event students will receive a drink and will stay in a designated area where they will be monitored for a period of time.
- First Aid will be provided at the venue.
- There will also be course officials spread around the track to monitor students and there welfare.
- Weather and track conditions will be taken into consideration before holding the event.

For more information on the running of the day please refer to the attached document, Parent helpers are also needed, please contact me ASAP if you are available to help on Thursday 24th March.

Andrew Stewart
K-12 Sports Coordinator

PLAY VOLLEYBALL AT WYCLIFFE

WYCLIFFE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball Fun Facts: Did you know that ......
1. Volleyball is played by approximately 1000 million athletes in the world.
2. Volleyball is the second most popular sport in the world.
3. The Australian men’s volleyball team world ranking is 13th.
4. Volleyball is the epitome of all team sports.
5. Volleyball has been played seriously at Wycliffe since 2008.
7. Wycliffe volleyball teams have been selected into NSW rep teams.
8. Wycliffe volleyball is open to all boys and girls (years 7 upwards)
9. Training is held every Friday morning (7am) – all welcome!
10. Training is held Monday afternoon (6:30-8:30pm) – invitation only.

Contact Dan Catchpole (U13 coach) or Andrew Stewart for more information. Email: dcatchpole@bigpond.com

FREE THE CHILDREN RALLY IN SPRINGWOOD

Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group is organising a “Free the Children” rally in Springwood on Palm Sunday 20th March at 11.30 in the area in front of the new Springwood Hub. The rally is to protest against children in detention and support the “let them stay campaign”. Paul Power, Refugee Council of Australia CEO and Bill Crews will be speaking and local bands will be adding their voices. Everyone is encouraged to bring banners and their friends  More details on the website at www.bmrsg.org.au

Blue Mountains Refugee Support Group is a project of Mountains Support.

SMILES PROGRAM 2016

For children 8-12 years old who have a family member with a mental illness living in Lithgow, Blue Mountains, Penrith, St Marys and Hawkesbury.

This FREE, three day course, aims to assist children 8 - 12 years old, who have a parent or sibling experiencing a mental health problem. The aims of the program are to:
• Increase understanding about mental illness
• Build self-esteem
• Enhance resiliency
• Decrease feelings of isolation
• Provide opportunities to develop support networks.

Children will be cared for in a supportive, safe environment whilst being encouraged to learn and talk about mental illness in a fun age appropriate way. There will be lots of fun activities including games, craft and free play.

Morning Tea and Lunch, Provided.

When: Monday April 11th 2016 – Wednesday April 13th 2016, 9.30am—3pm (Arrive at 9.20am)

Where: St Nicholas Church (the old school building behind the church), 326 High Street, Penrith.

To register please call: Sarah Bergan (COPMI Coordinator) on 47259800 or Family & Carer Team on 8842 8289. Deadline for registration 1st April 2015.

AUTUMN KIDS’ CAMPS

Our Autumn Kids’ Camps are now open for enrolments via our website. Here, you will find what’s on offer for the autumn school holidays.

Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands. Our Kids’ Camps are suitable for children aged 7 to 16 years and range from 1 to 5 days.

Visit: sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps
WYCLIFFE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
2016 PRIMARY and SECONDARY SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS

DATE Thursday, 24 March (During periods 1 to 4).
VENUE Warrimoo Oval
TIME 8.30am to 12.23pm

ORDER OF EVENTS

Primary Carnival
8.30am Roll Call in D Quad for years 3-6 and the Cross Country Assembly
8.50am 12/13 Years Boys and Girls 3 km
9.05am 11 Years Boys and Girls 3 km
9.20am 10 Years Boys and Girls 2 km
9.35am 8/9 Years Boys and Girls 2 km
10.00am End of Primary Carnival. Students go to normal recess break.

Secondary Carnival
10.24 am Growth Group
10.39 am Cross Country Assembly B Quad
10.55 am 17 and 18 Years Boys and Girls 4 km (Distance for boys only at CSSA is 6km)
11.05 am 16 Years Boys and Girls 4 km (Distance for boys only at CSSA is 6km)
11.15 am 15 Years Boys and Girls 4 km
11.30 am 14 years Boys and Girls 4 km
11.45 am 12 and 13 Boys and Girls 3 km
12.23 pm End of Secondary Carnival

Note 1 Starting times are only an approximation.

• Students are to run in the age group in which they are turning or have turned in 2016.
• 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, 27 May.
• The first 10 placing’s in each age group will receive House points (1st will be given 10 points working down to 10th receiving 1 point.
• The winner of each age division will also receive an "Age Champion Banner" and ribbons will be given for positions 1st to 4th.
• All students in years 3-12 are to participate. Students in years 3-6 who are unable to run are to give a note to their classroom teacher. Any student in years 7-12 who is unable to participate is to have a note signed by a parent/guardian and this is to be given to Mrs Stewart during recess time on the day of the cross country. 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.
• Students unable to run will help as track marshals and must see Mr Stewart at recess time at his Staffroom if they have not already been allocated a duty.
• 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
To enable a smooth running of the carnival it would be appreciated if I could have some parents to help on the day as track marshals. If available to help please phone or email me ASAP.

Andrew Stewart
K-12 Sports Coordinator
stewy@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au
0405502955