ENCLOSURES:

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

THE END OF AN ERA FOR YEAR 12

It is hard to believe, but another Year 12 cohort find themselves at the end of their schooling.

Many of these students have been with us since Kindergarten. Others have joined along the way. While I have only had the pleasure of knowing them over the past 12 months or so, many teachers and other members of our community have seen these students move from childhood, into adolescence and on into young adulthood.

As a school, over the upcoming week we celebrate their many achievements. The festivities begin with a farewell assembly on the morning of Wednesday 16th (8:30am in the Hall) followed by their presentation and graduation evening that night (7pm in the Hall). I would like to invite our whole school community to attend either or both events, as we acknowledge such a significant milestone in the lives of our most senior students.

We give God praise for the gifts, talents and interests he has given these students, and for their achievements throughout their years of schooling. Congratulations and Christ's richest blessings to;

Andrew Armstrong, Joshua Badry, Micah Bawden, Mikaela Brinkworth, Kate Brouwer, Madison Brown, Stephen Clark, Emily Colbourn, Caitlin Downward, Rebecca Duxbury, Oscar Glass, Emmanuel Gonzalez, Jacob Hafner-Keelan, Georgia Hall, Amelia Inglis, James Jackson, Lachlan Jones, Jonathan King, Elise Kingsland, Simon Kruik, Johanna Lee, Lachlan Mahoney, Rachel May, Lydia Menzies, Emily Mills, Rebekah Moor, Miriam Nassif, Alex Newport, Jack Norton, Isabella Pauling, Taylor Phillott, Melanie Post, Jesse Powell, Simon Rickeard, Cassie Spilling, Rebecca Storm, Jade Swadling, Jacob Tupper, Fenn Turner, Elaine Van Rensburg, James Wallace, Mitchell Wassink, Jonno Watson, Rebecca Wheatcroft, Benjamin White, James Whitehouse, Jaime Whiteman, Josiah Wilson, Hannah Wood.

May Christ prepare your paths and may your lives bring glory to Him.

“But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, you descendants of Abraham my friend,

I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said, ‘You are my servant’; I have chosen you and have not rejected you.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” (Isaiah 41:8-10)

GOOD NEWS REGARDING 2016 FEES

Over the past few weeks our Business Manager, Mr James Chik, and I have been working on the 2016 budget. The past 12 months has proved a time of financial reform for the School and I am pleased to report that we now find ourselves in a far stronger position, something appreciated by our school association as well as the National Australia Bank.
I would like to thank families for their commitment to the school during this time of transition. This is especially true in relation to the timely payment of fees, which is greatly improved on previous years. I would also acknowledge the dedication of staff in improving the overall functioning of the school as a business. Improvements have been seen regarding:

- Greater rigor in the management of the business of the School.
- Improvement in the staffing ratios to better reflect benchmarks in similar schools.
- Meeting of budget goals by senior executive staff and faculty coordinators.
- Collection of outstanding debt.

As a result the school finds itself in a much stronger financial position than was the case 12 months ago. While we still have several years of consolidation ahead, the tight fiscal measures applied over the past year have turned the Wycliffe 'ship', and we now find ourselves sailing in less turbulent and more peaceful 'waters'.

In supporting our parents during these challenging financial times, the improvements have given the Board confidence to minimise fee increases for the upcoming year. The fee increase for 2016 will be less than 1.8%, which is below CPI. This is one of the lowest fee increases in the school’s history and supports our goal of improving affordability for families. For Years 7, 8 and 11 (2016) there will be no fee increase to help offset the cost for parents in purchasing a Chromebook device for school use by their child.

Over the upcoming week parents will receive further communication from the school that will include the approved fee schedule for 2016. This will enable parents to plan for the upcoming year with confidence.

We give thanks and praise to God for His blessings over the past 12 months. We acknowledge this is His school, established to support parents in their God given responsibility, the education of their/His children. We are committed to continue building into the future, in managing the school's budget so that many more children will enjoy Christ's blessings through all that is Wycliffe.

**Resumption of Membership of Christian Education National (CEN)**

At its September meeting the Board of The John Wycliffe Education Association Ltd (our school Board) voted unanimously to resume membership of Christian Education National (CEN). In doing so the Board acknowledged the shared heritage with CEN (formerly Parent Controlled Christian Schooling) dating back near four decades to the opening of the school.

The decision came as result of ongoing conversations over recent times between the Board and representatives of CEN. The benefit of membership of a wider association of schools was recognised, as was the close alignment in the core business of CEN and Wycliffe; *Authentic, Bible-based, Christ-centred education empowering children in becoming all that God has created them to be.*

The Board looks forward not only to the support and encouragement Wycliffe will receive from likeminded member schools, but also to the contribution we can make in serving others in the CEN family.

May we continue to bring honour and glory to Christ through the life of our school.

**Parent Survey**

It is around 12 months since we last sought feedback from parents through an attitudinal survey. These surveys prove invaluable in strengthening the partnership with home. Further they provide valuable insight as we strategically plan for the future.

On Tuesday 15th September families will receive an email from the school inviting participation in this year’s survey. The email will provide parents with easy to follow directions for accessing the online survey. We have allowed for one response per family.

I look forward to perusing responses over the upcoming vacation period. If you have any issues in accessing the survey please contact Mrs Marshall on amarshall@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au.
COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week we feature Micah Bawden of Year 12. Micah’s faith in Christ is evident in all that he does. The quality of his relationships built on respect and care, his commitment to his studies, as well as his willingness to serve are an example for all students of the community.

As one of our exiting Year 12 students, we look forward to hearing how Christ will use Micah through his future endeavours.

Peter Jamieson
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL AND HEAD OF JUNIOR

This week has been an exciting week across the school with a number of significant community events that saw many parents, grandparents and family friends visit the school to share in the fun.

P-2 SPORTS MORNING

We were blessed with beautiful weather and an enthusiastic spectator crowd. All of the children from Preschool to Year 2 joined in a number of races and games. It was a fantastic morning! Parents also had a chance to compete in the parent’s race with the ‘A-Team’ – Bianca and Michael Alderton taking out both of these races! The year 6 ‘buddies’ had fun too – running with their Kindy friends and helping with the activities. Thanks to all the teachers who organised the activities and to the parents & families who came along to create a great atmosphere.
**Jump Rope for Heart**

After a term of learning the skills and practising their ‘moves’ the Kindy to Year 6 students treated an audience of parents and families to a skipping display. Each class choreographed a demonstration that was fun and entertaining. Their skills were most impressive – a great way to stay fit and develop coordination. Jump Rope for Heart is an initiative of the Heart Foundation to raise funds for heart research. If you haven’t yet sponsored your child and would like to, it’s not too late to go to their website and do so: [www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumprope](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumprope), click on the green ‘Kids Join Now’ button, and register your child today!

**Emergency Services Visit**

Our thanks go to Shane Sanger who organised, not only a visit from an emergency vehicle but also from the POLAIR helicopter. What a privilege!

The helicopter landed on the oval, guided in by an orange smoke flare set off by Shane. Students had the opportunity to look inside the chopper and quiz the pilot and crew. It was very exciting and inspired lots of conversation, story writing and art work. The take-off was as spectacular as the landing and was also admired by a number of secondary students who left their classes to watch. We are very thankful for the generosity of the team who gave their time to visit and talk to our students.
As holidays approach I trust you all enjoy a break and that life is a little less hectic! Please pray for the Year 12 students as they prepare for their HSC and their families as they support them.

See you in Term 4 – in Summer Uniform!

God bless,
Coral Edwards

**SCHOOL NOTICES**

**WANTED:**

Plastic bags and plastic gloves (of any type).

If you have old shopping bags or can provide plastic gloves, we need them en-masse for next Friday! These will be gladly accepted at Main Reception.

**LOST PROPERTY**

We have a box of unlabelled plastic containers; drink bottles, etc. plus a box of non-School uniform clothing and accessories which have been removed from the Lost Property bin. If your child is missing any of these items please feel free to come to Reception and have a look. Any unclaimed items will be passed onto charity at the end of Week 1, Term 4. Thank you

**LIBRARY**

There has been much written about how to encourage boys to read. Studies recognise the differences between boys and girls when it comes to engagement with reading. These include differences in interest, text types and subject matter. Such differences are also relevant to the broader learning preferences of boys. Boys are more likely to become engaged in their learning when they feel like it has some application to their lives.

Testing shows that boys have a better understanding than girls of informational texts. This suggests that suitable reading material for boys are things such as magazine and newspaper articles, and non-fiction books about topics boys are interested in doing (like hobbies or sports) and instructional manuals. However, surveys of boys show they also like graphic novels and comic books, and stories that reflect their image of themselves – what they aspire to be and to do – as well as books that make them laugh and that appeal to their sense of mischief. The preference for fiction that focuses on action more than on emotions, and works that provide the opportunity for escapism (such as science-fiction and fantasy).

With this in mind, there were two book series for Primary and Junior Secondary readers included in the Book Week Fair that caught my eye. The first was the Kaboom series, written by Australian cricketer David Warner with J.V. McGee. The central character is Davey Warner who is passionate about cricket, His bat is named Kaboom, and his dog is Max. Max helps Davey and his schoolmates and their cricket team, the Sandhill Sluggers, practise, as he’s an expert at catching them out. The stories are well written with a cast of cheeky but lovable characters, strong story lines and themes about overcoming setbacks.

The second was the Billy Slater Presents series about a local boys’ rugby league team who get special coaching and advice from star NRL player Billy Slater. These exciting stories contain
humorous moments and personal advice on sport and life from the NRL legend.

Mr Cooney

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Daniel is one of my best buddies. I like his friendship because of all the jokes we makes and the respect that he shows his friends. He is a lot of fun to be around. I've joined “K Club” thanks to Daniel: he invited me on one occasion and I've been going ever since. We get together after school on some occasions to play computers.

Jake

My good friend at school is Jake. I like his company because he gets all my jokes and I get his. We met in Year 5 and are now we are in Year 8. Here at school we entertain each other with puns and jokes and on many occasions play computers together.

Jake has a strange sense of humour: most of his jokes have something to do with Eeyore from Winnie the Pooh.

Daniel

SENIOR CHOIR 1ST PLACE AT HAWKESBURY EISTEDDFOD

On Friday 4 September, the Senior Choir was awarded 1st place in the Secondary Schools Choir section of the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod. A huge thank you to our Choir Director, Mrs Jenni Mills, for her dedication and commitment to choral music at Wycliffe. Here are just a few of the Year 12 choir members afterwards.

Natalie Maddock
Head of Faculty CAPA

UP COMING EVENTS

For the most up-to-date calendar information, refer to the School Website Calendar at www.wycliffe.nsw.edu.au.

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<td>ICT Information Evening</td>
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<td>Hospitality Service Day</td>
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<td>CIS Secondary Athletics</td>
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<td>Year 12 Final Assembly And Graduation</td>
<td>Sep 16</td>
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Term 4 commences Oct 6

School Community Prayer Meeting Oct 12

Year 12 HSC Exams Commence Oct 12

Kindergarten Orientation Oct 15

Primary Softball Gala Day Oct 20

Yr 9 Drama Excursion Oct 21

Yr 9 VA Excursion Oct 22

Year 3-6 Summer Games Oct 23

Working Bee Oct 24

Year 1 & 2 Warragamba Dam Excursion Nov 9

New Family Orientation Day & Year 7 Orientation Day Nov 23

Celebration Concert Dec 8

Year 9 & 10 Achievement Assembly Dec 10

Year 7 & 8 Achievement Assembly Dec 11

K-6 Achievement Assembly Dec 11

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COMMUNITY NEWS

RAISING BOYS
a special evening with Steve Biddulph

Monday 26 October 2015, 7:30pm
Fusion Western Sydney Youth and Community Centre
12 Carson Lane, St Marys
Cost: $20 per person or $15 concession per person
Bookings: www.fusionwesternsydney.org.au

Information Technology Careers Evening
@ Mount Druitt College

Come and find out about career pathways in Information Technology. Learn about careers in Games Development, Digital Multimedia, Networking, Programming and Website Development.

Date: Tuesday 15th September, 2015
Time: 6.30pm start
Where: Building M – Room MGC32 (Auditorium)
- Pathway Presentation at 7.00pm
- Displays of IT areas
- Games Development
- Digital Multimedia
- Networking
- Programming
- Website Development
- Tour of the facilities
- Teachers and current students will be available to answer any inquiries
- Light refreshments available

RSVP for catering purposes by Friday 11th September 2015
Philomena.toares@falensw.edu.au  9208 6495
I am always excited when a former student contacts me and is working in the arena of a Visual Arts. One such contact arrived from Tom Taylor (alumni 1991) and it is such a fun project I hope many of you will be inspired to participate. It is called Culturescape!

Members of the Blue Mountains community of all ages are invited to submit art for inclusion in 'Culturescape' on the evening of Saturday, the 3rd of October at the Carrington Hotel in Katoomba. Selected artworks will be digitally combined together to create an animated three dimensional projection show on the front-face of the Carrington.

Please download your Artist Template of choice & 2015 entry form below. Please print the out the Artist Templates in either A4 or A3 landscape.

Culturescape will also feature a live electronic music performance that will respond to the animations, as well as night time food & beverages.

Check out the website.

http://www.culturescapebluemountains.com/

Artist Entries close September 19th!