FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Senior School swimming carnival was held on Wednesday, and the launch of the new school Houses was well received by students.

While a detailed report from our Sport Coordinator, Mr Stewart, follows later in the newsletter I am pleased to announce the point score of the day:

1. Yellow (Destiny Rescue)  563 pts
2. Blue (Samaritans Purse)  447 pts
3. Green (Voice of the Martyrs)  349 pts

While it may seem a little strange to link Houses to charities, the focus is not to create a sense of competition between varying charities. Rather our Student Leadership Team desired, through the House system, to direct student focus to specific Christian charities supported by the School, educating students as to broader needs in our global community, and to provide a fundraising focus in empowering our students in taking positive action in support of the less fortunate.

Following is a very brief overview of each of the charities represented;

**Destiny Rescue:** Destiny Rescue is an international Christian based non-profit organisation dedicated to rescuing children from human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

**Samaritan's Purse:** Samaritan's Purse is a non-profit, Christian organisation providing emergency relief and development assistance to suffering people around the world.

**Voice of the Martyrs:** Serving the persecuted church with practical and spiritual assistance and leading Christians in the free world into fellowship with persecuted believers.

STAFF NEWS

Mr Little’s departure at the end of the week leaves some executive responsibilities that need to be covered as the school takes the opportunity to review the roles of Senior Management. The interim cover is as follows:

**Stage 6 Co-ordinator (Acting):** Mrs Natalie Maddock. Mrs Maddock will oversee, Pastoral Care for Years 11&12 as well as HSC processes and requirements.

**Head of PD/H/PE (Acting):** Mrs Ruth Van Leerdam. Mrs Van Leerdam will oversee staff and programs of the Personal Development/Health and Physical Education department.

We look forward to their increased and ongoing role at the school.

RICKARD ROAD

A number of parents raised concern regarding a resident of Rickard Road having confronted them claiming they were driving in excess of the speed limit.

I am pleased to report that I had a very cordial meeting with the neighbour concerned. He expressed his concern regarding excessive speed along Rickard Road with specific concern for his young children. I discussed the concerns of parents of the school and he has agreed to direct any future issues personally to myself.

As we are all concerned for child safety around roads I did not hesitate to suggest I include this reminder to
parents and students, that the speed limit is 50km/h.

As the matter had also been referred to the police I would not be surprised if we find some speed patrols in morning and afternoon peak periods over the upcoming weeks.

If parents have any further concerns please make contact with me as well.

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week we feature Mirrin Inglis (Yr 11). Mirrin really took to heart the launch of the new house system and the charity supported by her house (Destiny Rescue [yellow]). She proved an excellent motivator in the house meetings in the lead up to the carnival, and also on the day.

The 'war cry' of her House echoed through the air throughout the entire carnival which no doubt spurred on Destiny Rescue competitors, contributing to their success.

Peter Jamieson
Principal

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent/Teacher interviews will be held after school and in the early evening on Thursday 18th February and Monday 22nd February. These interviews are for parents and/or caregivers of students from Kindergarten to Year 10. These interviews are a good opportunity to talk to teachers about aspects of your child’s education. Notification Letters containing information about booking for Interviews have been emailed to all parents with students K-10. If you have not received an email or have difficulties making a booking please contact Tracey Brady at tbrady@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au

On line booking are open from the 12th February through to the 21st February respectively. Also, a reminder that interviews for Years 11 and 12 occur in Term 2.

YEAR 9 AND 10 ELECTIVES

Students are now required to stay in their current electives as the Semester is well underway. Students would have missed significant work if changes are now made.

ASSESSMENT CALENDARS

Assessment Handbooks for Years 10-12 have already gone out to the students, with meetings conducted with Years 10 and 11 last week to familiarise the students with the requirements of the senior assessment program.

Students in Years 7-9 will receive Assessment Calendars this week. These documents have been created to alleviate some of the anxiety experienced by students due to not knowing 'what is next', as well as to ensure that tasks are balanced across the school year. It is important to note the tasks listed on these calendars form one aspect of how the teachers constantly monitor student skills, knowledge and understanding. A wide variety of experiences, comprising but not limited to homework, small class quizzes and classroom observations also build the rich picture of your child’s learning journey. These diverse experiences allow for regular feedback and monitoring of progress, and therefore inform later Parent-Teacher Interviews and the formal reports.

MATHEMATICS STUDY CENTRE - CHANGE IN STARTING DATE

The Mathematics Study Centre will begin in Week 5 (24th February), not Week 4 as previously advertised. From then on, every Wednesday afternoon in the Library from 3:00 - 3:45pm.

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, sometimes 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. There is no requirement to book ahead.

Due to Senior School Camps, the Study Centre will not be open in the last week of Term.

Michaela Inglis
Acting Deputy Principal

CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Welcome back to a new year of Music at Wycliffe. If your child is interested in doing music lessons during school hours, please email me for details. We provide lessons in:

• Piano
• Guitar (including bass and ukulele)
• Flute
• Drums
• Violin
• Singing
• Brass

Students who would prefer to learn in a group environment may consider joining the Beginner Band. The aim of this group is to prepare students to participate
in the school Concert Band or Jazz Band. Interested students should see Mr Cooney for details.

The school also has a stock of band and orchestral instruments available for those learning at school, or who are or plan to be, members of one of the school ensembles.

Extra-curricular Music opportunities your child might enjoy include Senior Choir (Years 7-12), KidSing Choir (Years 3-6), Guitar Ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz Band and String Ensemble. Daily notices will alert your child as to when these ensembles will be running.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any enquiries about any aspects of the Music programme at Wycliffe. Email: nmaddock@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au

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**SPORT**

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

We were blessed with a beautiful day and with the launching of the new House system it was a fun day with healthy competition. With the new house colours on show and students cheering their team as the coloured caps went down the pool, there was a good atmosphere.

Once again it was wonderful to see our Year 12 students have fun with their “Under the Sea” theme and the traditional floatation race.

There was an upset in the Blue Ribbon Belly Flop competition by Year 7 student Amelia Dobson. Amelia showed no fear as she put her body on the line to land some awesome flops against some good competition from the older boys.

It was wonderful to hear the laughs from the noodle races from Year 7 to Year 12 and as always the 25m dog paddle was hotly contested.

A brilliant swim in the 13 years Girls 50m Freestyle (34.59 sec) by Ella Greenaway, broke the 1998 record of one of our past champions Kristy Walker. Congratulations Ella on this fine achievement.

Students who where placed 1st and 2nd overall for their races will be representing the school at the Nepean Zone swimming carnival on Wednesday 24th February at Emerton Leisure Centre.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Upcoming school events are available from:

www2.wycliffe.nsw.edu.au/calendars

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**SCHOOL TALK**

• 13 Years: Ella Greenaway and Zachary Sampson
• 14 Years: Sally O’Brien and Phillip Morgans
• 15 Years: Grace Teagle and Tie Max Handley / Benjamin Ruigendyk
• 16 Years: Erin Johnson and William Gili
• 17 Years: Siobhan Toft and Thomas Lockley

A big thank you to parents and staff for their important contributions to the day. The Yellow House, Destiny Rescue, had the honour of winning the carnival, however everybody was a winner as they had fun using their God given talents and celebrating in Community. We must never take for granted what God has provided for us.

Andrew Stewart
K-12 Sports Coordinator