FROM THE PRINCIPAL

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

Last Thursday’s teacher/parent interviews proved a very positive community experience. At the outset of the new year it is vital for the school to provide the opportunity for parents to share with teachers specific needs and interests of their child/ren so that learning programs can be tailored to empower individual learning.

Foundational to Wycliffe is the partnership with parents/home. This priority stems from Article 2.1.vi of the school’s constitution. Regarding the Objects of the Association, 2.1.vi states that in providing a Christian education the school:

“promotes a partnership with parents in integrating the educational program with daily living;”

This statement affirms the awesome responsibility in raising children that God places on parents. Further, it reinforces the vital need for schools to partner with home, in supporting parents to fulfill this responsibility.

I look forward to an equally fruitful teacher/parent evening on Monday 22nd February.

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 22:6

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

One area of focus this year is strengthening communication with home. The most effective and efficient means of communication is electronic. Parents with “smart phones” are encouraged to download the ‘Skoolbag’ App. This App allows the school to easily push alerts of important information and reminders of upcoming events to parents’ phones. Further, email will be used as well to ensure parents receive timely and accurate information related to their child’s learning (eg. assignment details, permission notes).

The instructions for downloading the Skoolbag App. Can be found attached to this newsletter.

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week we feature our 2/3 teacher extraordinaire, Mrs Jenny Sheerman. Mrs Sheerman has contributed much to the lives of students over her many years of service to the school. Her classroom teaching is always engaging and students flourish under her care.

This year she has stepped up to assume a leadership role in the Junior School, taking on the responsibility of oversight of Early Stage One and Stage One of learning (K-2). Students, parents and staff have commented to me on Mrs Sheerman’s commitment and expertise in partnering with families and staff of the school.

Peter Jamieson
Principal

LIBRARY NEWS

CLASSIC BOOKS FOR MODERN READERS

Claire Fallon is the Books and Culture Writer, for the online newspaper, The Huffington Post. In an article from August 2015, she set out her Classic Book Recommendations For Every Person In Your Life. In the article, Fallon suggested an association of contemporary
themes and personality types with some classic books. These encompass a range of ages and interests, which you can find here: http://goo.gl/rsDxqi

The article raised for me the question of what makes a book an enduring classic – able to engage, enthrall or entertain readers from a different time and place. One obvious answer is the characters. Whether archetypal heroes, heroines or villains or individuals not that far removed from the reader in age, ability or experience, the story characters that endure are those who teach us something about ourselves and help us to understand others in small but significant ways.

Sometimes these characters and their experiences represent what we dream of being or doing (aspirational) and sometimes they demonstrate what we ourselves might just be capable of, given the circumstances or opportunity (inspirational). Whether they are fictional characters or real people, the things that we admire and the things of which we are critical, help us identify and examine aspects of our own character.

A second reason is what Fallon refers to as the “substance” buried within, even the most exciting adventure or down-to-earth characters. This substance is an expression of what is sometimes referred to as, “the human condition” – beings created in the image of God and continuing to benefit from the blessings of His good creation, despite the effects of their sin and rebellion. This is the common state of all people everywhere.

Stories with substance grieve for the despair and brokenness of the world and celebrate the possibility of hope and salvation, however, transient its nature in the narrative context, reflecting the need of each of us for salvation and reconciliation with our Creator. It is not surprising that the integrity of the themes and experiences that recognise this resonate with a wider global audience. Such stories deserve both the attribute of “classic” and the attention of contemporary readers.

Why not share your favourite classic book with your children and take the time to share with them the life lessons you gained from reading?

Mr Cooney

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SCHOOL NOTICES

SENIOR CHOIR & KIDSING

Senior Choir has resumed and we are preparing for Cafe Under The Stars, Anzac Day, Easter, and Eisteddfods. Senior school students are all welcome. We meet in A10 on Mondays at lunchtime.

KidSing has also resumed with Mrs. Mills and Mrs. Wassink. We meet in A10 on Thursdays. Students can bring their lunch with them.

I’m looking forward to another wonderful year of singing!

Jenni Mills

CAFE UNDER THE STARS

Parents are invited to enjoy coffee, dessert, and live music performed by Wycliffe staff and students as we welcome families new to the school at our 2nd Café under the Stars night!

Please RSVP via the School website: http://goo.gl/fISVv5

CSSANSW APP

Could I encourage all parents to download the CSSANSW App so that you are fully informed of what is happening with the CSSA Sports. If a CSSA event is washed out or there is a change of venue you will be notified via this App. If you see a CSSA or CIS sport that you would like your child to trial at, please do not hesitate to email me (astewart@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au) and we can discuss his or her suitability. I am very keen to see our students prepare and trial for these events.

SPECIALIST SPORT TRAINING CLASSES

Wednesday morning specialist Speed classes with Mr. Stewart and, at times, Mr. Casey will resume this week at 7am, meeting on the small oval. These sessions are for athletes who want to improve their sports performance by increasing their speed. On Monday 22nd February Mr. & Mrs. Morgans will be resuming their specialist Interval Training programs which not only help students improve speed but also give a cardio effect. For students serious about wanting to be high level performers where speed is a requirement, I would encourage you to attend these programs. Parents are most welcome to attend so they can see what the programme involves enabling them to support their child doing the additional training session required at home. If you would like to talk further about these programs, please feel free to ring me on 0405502955.

Please note that due to the Secondary Zone Swimming Carnival on 24th February, the Speed class will not be running on that morning.
CSSA BOYS SOCCER TRIALS

If you have a son in Years 5-6 and would like him considered for the CSSA Primary Soccer Trials on 4th March 2016 would you please email me his details including: name of the club he plays for, his past years of experience, his full name and date of birth. Could you please also include the best telephone number to contact you. stewy@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au

Andrew Stewart
K-12 Sports Coordinator / PDHPE Faculty

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming school events are available from:
www2.wycliffe.nsw.edu.au/calendars
How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

For iPhone and iPad users:
1. Click the "App Store" icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. You will see your school appear, click "Get" then "install".
4. The app is FREE to download.
5. When installed click "Open"
6. Select "OK" to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

For Android users:
You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.
1. Click the "Play Store" button on your Android Device
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the "Install" button.
5. Click "Accept" for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click "Open" when installed.
7. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup".
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: Some brands of Android phones need the setting in "Notification Manager" changed to "Allow" instead of "Notify" in order for the push notifications to work. The phone must also be running at least version 4 system software to run the app.

For Windows 81 Phone and Windows 81 or 10 device users:
1. Go to the Windows Store on your 81 Windows Phone or Windows 8.1/10 Device
2. Search for "Skoolbag" in the keyword app search
3. Install the Skoolbag app
4. Find your school either by using the keyword search or location service.
5. Click the "Pin" icon to pin the school tile to your Windows Phone home screen.
6. Click the "More" button on the bottom right of the App, then "Setup"
7. Toggle the Push Categories that are applicable to you by tapping the on/off switch.

Please Note: The Skoolbag Windows App is for 81 version Windows Phones, or Windows 81 and 10 devices.

Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au Don’t forget to like us on Facebook! 😊
Café UNDER THE STARS

9th Mar
From 7PM

COFFEE
DESSERT
LIVE MUSIC

WYCLIFFE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
133 RICKARD ROAD
WARRIMOO