COMMUNITY: A GIFT FROM GOD

The wonderful community we share at Wycliffe is a real blessing from God. Recently I have been doing some reading on viewing community from a biblical worldview, and thought I would share some of the insights I have gained.

Firstly God created us as relational beings, to share community with each other. As such our school needs to enjoy a rich community if it's going to reach its full potential in serving our students and their families. A secular worldview asserts community to be a mere reflection of the collective sum of its members. A biblical view, however, testifies that the structure of community originates from God's creational order.

In focusing on our shared relationships it is important to nurture the communal life that already exists within the school. This requires flexibility and openness in organisational structures, allowing spontaneous interactions that are part of healthy community life.

Our school café serves this purpose well, as a place where community is nurtured, flowing from the natural shared relationships that already exist within the school. From these shared relationships naturally flow other communal initiatives that further nurture community. For example I was chatting with some mums the other day, who are considering meeting onsite at school for their ‘fitness boot-camp’, and also make use of the resources of the school gym.

Community is much more than just enjoying doing things together. Each member of the community has a contribution to make to the life of the school. Our philosophy of schooling is built on the biblical foundation that under God the primary responsibility for your children's education lies with you as parents.

Therefore our school has a greater calling to partner with parents in children's education. We acknowledge the vital role our parents play in our school community, and always appreciate parents’ contribution to our shared life.

Father, just as you are in me (Jesus) and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one - I in them and you in me - so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:20-23)

WORKING BEE

On Saturday 14th May, once again a productive working bee was completed. Parents and staff enjoyed getting to know each other a little better while completing some much needed tasks around the school. These included:

• Re-decking the seating area adjacent to the art room.
• Removal of deteriorated roof sheeting outside of A10.
• Felling of several trees in the Council approved oval development area.
• Removal of bulky old Televisions and videos from classrooms.
• Clean up of art rooms, in particular the ceramics room.
• Oiling of treated pine step seating adjacent to canteen.
Our working bees occur on the third Saturday of each term, with the next scheduled for Saturday 13th August.

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week we feature Rory Jenner from 4/5B. Rory is a friendly and reliable student in Year 4. He approaches his work with great diligence and is reaping excellent results.

Rory played a fine role in the 4/5B assembly item, in which he had a large number of lines to learn, that he did quickly and efficiently. His performance in the play was very convincing.

Rory is to be commended for how he has approached his learning this semester.

BLAST FROM THE PAST!

Direct from the archives is this photo dating back to 1996. I have it on good authority that this was Wycliffe's first successful CSSA competitive sporting team. This Open Girls’ Netball team, coached by a much younger Mr Stewart (featured), included two team members who are presently part of our school community (one is a parent and the other a teacher). Once again there will be a prize for the first person to identify the two. Please email responses to: amarshall@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRIZE-WINNERS FROM LAST WEEK’S QUIZ:

- **Most complete naming of all staff from 1987**: Sarah Powell (mother of Savannah Yr1, Stratford Yr3, Addison Yr5)
- **Identifying the remaining four staff from 1987**: Tamara Nichols (mother of Jesse Yr7, Amelia Yr5, Asher Yr1)

Note: If the chocolates did not make it home, check with your children!

Further, I am interested in collecting a list of all our current parents who were ex-students of Wycliffe. If you or your spouse fits that category could you please email (same address as above) your name (including maiden name for the women), years you attended the school, and 2 photos (one current and one from your school days). These will feature in a future issue of School Talk. I encourage you not to be shy!

Peter Jamieson
Principal

LIBRARY NEWS

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

Once again, this year, students from Wycliffe Christian School will be participating in the National Simultaneous Storytime on Wednesday 25 May at 11am. Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country. Now in its sixteenth successful year this is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy using an Australian children's book that explores age appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Grades F to 6 and the pre-school Early Learning Years Framework.

This year the children will be sharing I Got This Hat written by Jol and Kate Temple and illustrated by Jon Foye. The book allows children to explore the world through the playful medium of hats. Take the time to visit the library's display of hats.

Mr Cooney

SCHOOL NEWS

WASTE TO ART

Congratulations to Phillip Morgans and Kirilee Moses who won the high school 2-D and 3-D categories respectively in this years “Waste to Art” Exhibition and Competition held by the Blue Mountains City Council. They were among a number of Yr 8 students who entered with Avalon Findley, Jessica Howes, Sebastian Mackie, Nathan Dillen and Joshua Hardimon also entering some fine work. This exhibition is on until May 28th at Braemar Gallery at 104 Macquarie Street Springwood.

Ian Wright - Visual Arts
BLUE MOUNTAINS MUSIC SOCIETY ARE BRINGING WEST SIDE STORY TO SPRINGWOOD IN JUNE. FEATURED CAST MEMBERS FROM WYCLIFFE INCLUDE (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) MICAH BAWDEN (HSC 2015) IN THE LEAD ROLE OF TONY, CASSIE SPILLING (HSC 2015) AS A SHARK GIRL, MRS NATALIE MADDOCK (HEAD OF CAPA) AS GLAD HANDS, MITCHELL WASSINK (HSC 2015) AND SAMUEL POWELL (YEAR 11) AS SHARK BOYS.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW! FOLLOW THE LINK:

SPORT

15’S BOYS TUESDAY REP SOCCER

Well done to our 15’s boys soccer team who played some classy football to win their first game of the season with a stylish 5-1 win over Penrith Christian.

For the past 2 weeks this young side, which contains six year 7 boys, has narrowly lost. However, this week the boys passed well and scored some very entertaining goals as a result of good teamwork.

We have been doing soccer in PE lessons and the boys have trained as a team, and it has been exciting to watch the growth of this side. All players contributed to the win as the boys selflessly passed the ball around.

Well done to James Teagle who scored a hat trick (3 goals) as he finished off some good team plays including a very clever strike to score the second goal.

Mr Stewart - Coach