

SCHOOL

TALK

WEEK 5 TERM 2



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Last Tuesday evening was a very special time. (Please see the encouraging feedback below). Among other things, I took the opportunity at the gathering to again raise the question: Who is responsible for the education of children? Answer: Not the government. Not teachers. Parents!

The Lord holds parents responsible for the education of their children. That is why Christian parents established Wycliffe Christian School over 40 years ago. They wanted Christian teachers to help them with this responsibility in that part of education we call 'school'. And it is your teachers' privilege and responsibility to partner with you in that task.

Continue to pray for your teachers as they pray for you and your children. Pray for them as they seek to: Nurture Faith; Unwrap Truth; Encourage Discernment; Enable Thoughtful Action.

Pray for your children that they may learn with head, heart, hand - think biblically, feel deeply and live bravely with gospel-shaped integrity.

Shalom!

George Glanville
Principal

P.S. Last week we farewelled Mr James Chik, our Business Manager over the past two years. On behalf of the school community I wish to thank James for his service to the school. We wish him the Lord's blessing in his future endeavours.

Mr Alan McCartin, our part-time Accountant, who has a wealth of experience, will become our Finance Manager. We will also be seeking the services of a fulltime Property Manager. (See advertisement in this School Talk).

FEEDBACK FROM YEAR 7 - 2018 INFORMATION EVENING

I just wanted to write a quick email to say thank you so much for all the work that went into the Information Evening tonight. How fabulous to see so many families there keen to hear about their next steps at Wycliffe (or what might be ahead if they choose to join our lovely school!) I know that lots of time, effort and thought went into the information presented and it was very much appreciated. It was great to see photos of the Year 7/8 camp of the Years 7/8 students in Food Tech! It was so good to hear from the students and parents too. They spoke so well and honestly about their experience in high school. It was so nice to hear them speak so positively about their experiences and to be so reassuring towards the Year 6 students that they 'would be ok' and that 'people will help you!' I had to nod my head in agreement with Jenni Hardimon when she commented about how well teachers get to know the students, even in the first few weeks of the year - that has certainly been my experience too!

Gillian Gilchrist

PRIMARY NEWS

YEARS 5 & 6 CAMP

What a time Years 5 and 6 had at Wedderburn the Christian Campsite, enjoying three days in the beautiful bushland surroundings - learning more about themselves, each other and living in God's world.

Throughout the course of the camp, students were challenged to step outside of their comfort zone, and push themselves to undertake activities that at times, proved to be very challenging and somewhat scary!

Being hauled to the top of a fifteen-metre pole, then dropping yourself to swing over the cliff below, may not be everyone's idea of a good time. The screams could be

heard from quite a distance as students, and teachers, rose to the challenge and took the plunge. Other activities included abseiling, rock wall climbing, flying fox, BMX riding and laser tag. Ravenous appetites were abundantly satisfied by the fabulous food, generously prepared by the camp staff. Some starving students lined up for seconds, thirds then followed it all with dessert. Camp staff commented on the manner in which Wycliffe students conducted themselves and were particularly impressed by the way they encouraged and support each other throughout the entire experience. They demonstrated the words of 1 Thessalonians 5:11 as they *'encouraged one another and built one another up...'*



KINDERGARTEN MORNING TEA

Top hats, hot chocolate and fruit sticks were the order of the day as Kindergarten joined in a 'Mad Hatter's Morning Tea.' They were reminded of the special banquet Jesus has gone to prepare for all those who love Him. They looked fabulous in the top hats they had constructed earlier in the week and thoroughly enjoyed the fancy cups and food.



FROM THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

As I sit here writing, some of our students are sitting for their first NAPLAN test. The Units we taught in Term 1 included practising the skills they needed for NAPLAN. There was much discussion from our Year 9 students about the extra demands of NAPLAN and this has encouraged them to approach the test with determination to take it seriously and do their best.

Our Department has been blessed this year with the appointment of Naomi Seto, who has come with a great deal of creativity and a heart to serve her students and model Jesus to them. Meanwhile Anne

Commerford, Kerry Tupper, Poppy Gee and I continue to refine and develop programmes that follow the syllabus and, at the same time, encourage students to build on the abilities God has given them.

We have started to work on planning the new Stage 6 English syllabus commencing with Year 11 next year. As with most change, we are sad to lose some of the excellent units in the present syllabus, yet excited to look at new possibilities. It enables us to work with some fresh ideas and some new texts.

English can be a wonderfully creative and exciting experience for some students and an anxious and demanding subject for others. Our aim is to help students, at whatever their current level, to extend their skills as much as possible to become able communicators and thinkers in God's world.

The English Department looks forward to continuing to work with your children.

Vicki Williams
Head of Department

LIBRARY NEWS

CHANGE IS IN THE AIR



Visitors to the Wycliffe Library will have noticed some changes. These are part of the ongoing refurbishment of the secondary library. Some of the fixed shelving has been replaced with portable units, which will allow more flexibility in the library space. The freshening of the library has included the laying of new carpet in 2017, which was completed during the last holidays.

A dedicated reading room has been created, which now houses the secondary fiction and young adult collections and provides a quiet and comfortable space for enjoying the library's books. A new teaching area has also been set up, with the aim to allow more space for students to work independently or in small groups.

In future stages of the refurbishment, new seating and desks will be introduced to add to the flexibility of the library and to assist in making it a centre of collaborative twenty-first century learning.

In addition, we have a new library cataloguing system and website. These can be accessed via the Library icon on the school portal. Students and parents can

use the new site from home to search for books and assignment resources. As the new system is gradually customised, users will be able to reserve items and check their loan history online. We hope this will help parents to ensure that all school library items are returned on time.

What hasn't changed is the determination of the library staff to make the library a welcoming and helpful place for sparking the imagination, nurturing a love of reading and developing lifelong learning skills.

Mr Cooney

SPORT NEWS



Congratulations to Liam Gardner, Year 11, who is the CSSA Open Boys Football goalkeeper. Liam is pictured after NSW won the National Christian Schools Final 4-1 last week.

Football is a blue ribbon sport for the CSSA, and Liam, who is a regular at the Wednesday morning plyometrics speed sessions, trained very hard both in and out of school, to be selected in this team. A wonderful achievement.

SCHOOL NOTICES

WYCLIFFE SPORTS SPECIALIST SPEED PROGRAM

- **Time** 7.00am
- **Venue** Meet on the Small Oval outside the school gym
- **What to wear** Sports training clothes and joggers. Football boots are also recommended as the grass can be slippery when doing agility work.
- **What to Bring** Water bottle
- **Cost** \$0

The aim of the class is to increase the running speed and jumping power of athletes which will help students of all levels to perform better in most team sports such as soccer, rugby league, netball, basketball, volleyball etc as well as an increasing running speed for athletics. I will also be working with students to increase the effectiveness of their sprinting technique.



The program has assisted athletes who are now playing National Youth League Soccer for the Wanderers, Elite level 1 Soccer clubs, NSW Volleyball as well as high levels in other sports such as Netball this is not a program just for elite athletes. However, the main objective is to help athletes of various skills levels to improve their performance by increasing their speed and power so they can not only perform at a higher level but to help increase their enjoyment playing sport. You don't have to be an elite athlete to be part of the program.

Parents are most welcome to stay and watch as each student is encouraged to do a session by themselves on a Monday so that they are doing 2 speed sessions per week with at least 48 hours between each session.

For those interested I look forward to working with you.

Andrew Stewart
K-12 Sports Coordinator

2017 VACCINATIONS

In previous years the HPV vaccine course has been given over a 12 month period to students in Year 7. However, in 2017, the second dose of the HPV vaccine will be delayed until later this year to accommodate the introduction of the Meningococcal ACWY Vaccination Program for students in Years 11 and 12. Students who missed the first round in April can catch up on Thursday 15th June. Scheduling the HPV course in this way will not reduce the effectiveness of the vaccines.

THURSDAY 15TH JUNE

Meningococcal ACWY Vaccinations for Years 11 and 12 students + catch-up HPV vaccinations for Year 7 students

FRIDAY 24TH NOVEMBER

Year 7 Immunisation Day Round 2 [Year 7 HPV 2nd dose + Chickenpox; Year 8 HPV 2016 catchup]

Should you have any queries regarding this information, please contact the Penrith Public Health Unit on 4734 2022.

JOB OPENING - PROPERTY MANAGER

Applications are invited for the position of Property Manager at Wycliffe.

The position involves:

- The management of all aspects of property matters.
- The supervision of property staff, contractors and volunteer helpers.
- Hands-on repair and maintenance work.

Applications should include:

- A resume of qualifications and experience relevant to this position.
- A description of your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and what it means to live as a Christian.
- The church you attend, your involvement and the name and contact number of your minister/pastor.
- The names and contact numbers of two (2) referees.

Applications to:

The Principal
Wycliffe Christian School P.O. Box 78
Blaxland NSW 2774
or email to principal@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au

Closing date: Friday 2 June, 2017

Further details: wycliffe.nsw.edu.au/employment

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Resilience is
key
for helping
kids to
thrive in life.



From *Floundering* to *Flourishing*



Helping our kids shift from stuck to strengths

Who is this workshop for?

All adults who have some connection to kids; parents, carers, extended family, sports coaches, teachers, mentors etc.

How can this workshop help?

It will be a great opportunity to learn about the current research on what helps kids come through adversity

It explores ways to enhance kids' resilience, helping them bounce back from challenges in fun ways.

It is particularly helpful in facing tough times.

It will help parents identify how to maximise their kids successes, and to grow through their challenges.

This Workshop will give you tools to enhance and improve kids' resilience. You will come away with some practical steps to take together as you help your child grow their optimism and resilience.

These workshops will introduce you to the resilience doughnut model developed by Lyn Worsley.

LOCATION: Lower Mountains Neighbourhood Centre, Blaxland

WHEN: Wednesday 14th June, 2017

TIME: 10:00am – 12noon

COST: FREE

REGISTER at GATEWAY: 1300 316 746

ENQUIRIES: Stephen - Ph: 4782 1771
Email: stephenh@gatewayfamilyservices.org.au

