FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We give praise to God that our recently improved school oval and hard courts are now back in full use. I am sure many of our younger students in particular, have come home quite weary in the afternoon after a recess and lunch break of running around.

The total project cost was $540,000 of which a Commonwealth grant contributed $400,000. Much of the school’s $140,000 contribution had been expended over previous years in relation to the design and planning phases, and as such impact on this year’s finances was minimal.

Upcoming events on the oval include the K-2 athletics carnival on the morning of Tuesday 18th October, and later in the term the Years 5/6 Survivor day.

I thank our whole school community, especially students, for their patience in waiting for the completion of the oval. It has been a long time coming since the initial grant was approved eight or so years ago. However, it has been worth the wait, as we now have sporting and play facilities that will serve our community well into the future.

HSC 2016

Last Thursday, 13th October, Yr 12 students commenced their final exams opening with English. Over the upcoming month students will sit the rest of their exams bringing to an end their 13 years of formal schooling. Please pray for our HSC students that Christ would enable them to bring to mind all that has been learnt throughout the year.

I encouraged students on the morning of their first exam, reminding them that they are not defined by their results in these exams. God gives differing gifts and talents to all, and his desire is for each of us to discover these and use them to bring glory to him providing us with true fulfillment. The HSC is part of life’s journey, to grow through and become equipped for the life God has planned for us.

PRESCHOOL-YEAR 2 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Just before School Talk went to ‘print’ I had the pleasure of sharing in the first official carnival to be held on our newly refurbished school oval, the Preschool-Year 2 Athletics Carnival.

Students (and some parents as well) were very excited on the day to have a chance to show off their athletic prowess, or just to have fun and give it a go. In the midst of a festive atmosphere, peers, parents, grandparents and staff alike cheered students on.

We are truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful community.
JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT

One of the great blessings of being a K-12 school is that the resources and expertise of the high school can be drawn upon to provide value added to the education of Junior School students.

Students from the Junior School have enjoyed and benefited from high school PDHPE teacher, Mr Stewart’s, involvement in their PE and Sport program. The link below provides access to video footage of Mr Stewart’s recent Kindergarten lesson, teaching our youngest students how to throw a javelin (turbo javelin).

https://youtu.be/RCbEP2GF9_g

The clip demonstrates the focus on skill development and the subsequent impressive performances. Further it shows the development of safe practices at an early age, in preparation for when they are handed a sharp javelin in subsequent years.

K-6 CINEMA UNDER THE STARS

Parent Sarah Goldsmith and a team of Junior School mum’s are keen to organize a community event for families of the Junior School (K-6). They are in the midst of planning Cinema Under the Stars, an outdoor movie event on the big screen on the school oval.

The team has asked K-6 parents to put aside the evening of Saturday November 12th. The night will commence at 6pm with sausage sizzle, games, popcorn, with the movie commencing post sunset. More details, including the title of the movie chosen, will follow over subsequent weeks.

SOY SEGUNDO

Last weekend Mr Zanardo and his Spanish Gospel band Soy Segundo entertained crowds at the Crows Nest Festival.

The band is predominantly made up of members of the Wycliffe community past and present, no doubt inspired by Mr Zanardo’s passion for Spanish. The band consists of Mr Zanardo, Caitlin Downward, Chris Dove, Caitlyn Wood, Nat Howe, Lachlan Mahoney and Samuel Johnson; as well as members of the local community Jonathan Martinovich, Nick Craig and James Curran

The team played at 2pm outside The Lighthouse Christian Church (Crows Nest) as well as on the Festival stage at 3:30pm.

Mr Zanardo commented that the performances provided, “a golden opportunity to be ‘fishers of men’ for the Lord in music.”

Mr Zanardo’s passion for languages, particularly Spanish, is a gift from God that he willingly shares with the Wycliffe community. He teaches students in the Junior and Senior School, and student performances in HSC Beginners Spanish have been outstanding, including a first in the state a few years back.

Further, in conjunction with the international mission organization SIM (Serving in Mission), he coordinates a Latin American tour that many of his ex-students join him on. His next tour to Latin America is planned for the end of 2017.

For a glimpse of their performances on the day please visit: goo.gl/sBOhUs

BLUE MOUNTAINS MUSICAL SOCIETY

Members of our school community are once again heavily involved in the upcoming Blue Mountains Musical Society production of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. Following is a list of those involved:

Eleanor Maddock (Yr 7) and Eva Allan (Yr 3) Red Children’s Ensemble | Mrs Maddock, Stage Crew - Properties Manager | Cassie Spilling, Mitchell Wassink and Micah Bawden from Year 12 2015 are in the Featured Ensemble.

If you would like to support those involved details of performances can be located on the flyer below:

Peter Jamieson
Principal
The importance of literacy for a child's success at school is well known, as is the importance for the development of literacy skills of parents reading with their children. Here are some additional benefits of reading with a young child from the Reach Out and Read website: http://www.reachoutandread.org/

Books can be used to introduce aspects of the natural world such as animal and mechanical sounds, shapes and colours. Associating the word and image of familiar, everyday objects further reinforces language development. Pointing to images and having the child do the same from an early age increases the interactive nature of the reading experience, as does the later use of lift-the-flap books.

Picture books that employ rhyming texts, with their repeated patterns, increase a child’s awareness of how language works. Rhymes help children begin to decode the sounds that make up words.

Books can be used to help establish a bedtime routine, which can make bedtime pleasant for children. Using books with repetitive text helps set the routine for a good night for both parents and children!

Sharing classic tales or nursery rhymes with your child is a wonderful way to expand cultural literacy. Think about how often a reference to a classic children's story is made in conversation, with the expectation that everyone knows the stories.

Mr Cooney

SCHOOL NOTICES

SAMARITAN’S PURSE MUFTI-DAY FUNDRAISER (K - 12)

This Friday, 28th October, our final House Fundraiser for the year will take place. The Blue House, Samaritan’s Purse, will be using the day to raise funds for the organisation, Samaritan’s Purse. Because one of this organisation’s well-known activities is the distribution of Christmas boxes to children around the world, Friday’s Fundraiser will have a Christmas theme.

Students from Years K-12 are encouraged to wear Christmas-themed clothes/accessories or anything in the traditional Christmas colours of red, green and white. Students are reminded that the school’s customary rules regarding modesty of dress will apply.

Students are asked to bring a gold coin donation which will be collected during Growth Group time. There will also be a lunchtime cupcake stall and a Carol Busking Group (both will be located outside the main Library door), and it is hoped that these will raise additional funds.

As always, Wycliffe Christian School appreciates the enthusiasm and support which the students and their families demonstrate on these occasions and we trust that the day will be both enjoyable and worthwhile.

Anne Commerford
On behalf of the Samaritan’s Purse House Staff

SPORT

WYCLIFFE STUDENTS EXCEL AT NSW CSSA VOLLEYBALL TRIALS
17TH OCTOBER 2016
MOUNT ANNAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Congratulations go to Isaac Mills, Dominic Tupper, Isaac Vujevic and Hugh Catchpoole who have been selected into the NSW CSSA open boys volleyball squad and who will represent our states Christian schools at the National Christian Games in May 2017. The boys will join with 8 other students from christian schools from Nowra and Sydney's western suburbs to prepare for a week long competition against teams from historically strong volleyball states like Queensland, Victoria and South Australia. These boys have trained tirelessly over the years and have been keen members of the Wycliffe volleyball program. Their place within the state CSSA squad is highly deserved and a testament to their desire to use their gifts in sport at the highest level. We look forward to seeing how this team develops and wish them well with this new adventure in volleyball.

Dan Catchpoole
Coach, Wycliffe Volleyball
FUSION WESTERN SYDNEY PRESENTS
A NIGHT WITH
DR JUSTIN COULSON, PhD

7pm Thursday 10 November 2016
Come and hear leading parenting expert, Justin Coulson, share the tools and strategies you can use to make your family happier than ever, starting today!

Cost: $15 per person
Booking: www.fusionwesternsydney.org.au

7pm Thursday
10 November 2016
Macquarie Uni's Rady Centre - Community & Cultural Precinct
Corner Derynook Road & Macquarie University Drive, North Ryde
09:00 - 09:10am (Introduction)