FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I mentioned in last week's edition of School Talk that parents are most welcome to join staff during our upcoming Staff Conference week, Tuesday 19th - Thursday 21st July.

During the week particular focus will be given to the core ideology upon which the School was founded, and associated implications as we plan for the future of our school. Questions that will be explored include; Who is John Wycliffe? What role do parents have in their children's education? What is Christian Worldview Education? How can 66 books written by many authors equal one story?

Sessions relevant to parents:
- **Tuesday** 8:30am - 12:00pm
- **Wednesday** 8:30am - 11:00am
- **Thursday** 8:30am – 3:00pm

Each day will begin with devotions and worship. The Café will be open for refreshments. Our School’s first Principal, Mr Bob Johnston, will be with us on the Thursday presenting a course entitled, ‘God’s Story’. I invite all parents to join us for any or all of the sessions.

If you are able to attend could you please email Mrs Marshall at amarshall@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au. If you could express your intention to intend by the end of this week that would help with planning.

> “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” Psalm 109:105

COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE WEEK

This week’s community member is Hamish Wright. Hamish is a gifted musician who plays several instruments including the violin.

This year he has also been learning to play the ukulele in Mr Jones’ Music and Theatre class and is a valued member of the “Ukalalas” – a uke band who meet with Mr Jones every Wednesday morning before school, comprising students from Years 2 to 6.

Hamish has been able to use his violin skills to adapt quickly to playing the ukulele, even to the point of playing solos in the group.

“Like many of the students in the Ukalala group, Hamish has worked hard learning new fingering and chords”, said Mr Jones. “It’s wonderful to see the students overcome the challenges of learning new skills and see them having so much fun playing together”.

Hamish is also a valued member of the Junior Assembly band who lead singing for the Junior School on a Wednesday afternoon.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

This week we feature two of the most prominent faces in the school's history:
MR BOB JOHNSTON

Mr Johnston was appointed the first Principal of the then John Wycliffe Christian School in 1978.

Bob served God and our school community for 27 years from 1978-2005. During his time the school grew to over 700 students, as well as developed a fine reputation as an exemplar of Christian Education.

Bob is still very active in retirement presenting for the National Institute for Christian Education (NICE). He is also very involved promoting the cause of Destiny Rescue, a prominent charity.

‘POP’ BRADBURY

Pop was a local to Rickard Road and took great interest in the school when excavation commenced on site in 1978. At this stage Pop was in his late 70s.

Over his many years of service his daily routine would see him at school around 7am and stay until mid morning. He would return at 4pm and ‘guard’ the premises until 7pm. On the weekends Pop, with his faithful dog Sheba, would set up home in the common room where he would carefully watch for visitors or suspicious intruders while listening to his favourite radio programs.

Pop passed away to be with the Lord in 1993. Our hard-courts, presently being refurbished, were dedicated in memory of his service.

Peter Jamieson
Principal

LIBRARY NEWS

TEN BOOKS OR MORE

Last week, I wrote about the importance of children reading books that are not directly related to their school studies, that is, books other than school novels or texts. This advice, from Australian literacy consultant Diana Snowball, is supported by a European study which reported that boys who grew up with more than ten books in their home collection, grew up to achieve more success socially and economically. Of course, the number is not limited to ten but this appears to be the critical mass of books that create a measurable difference in a child’s life. This number will also increase as the child grows and new interests and age-appropriate titles are added to the family or individual child’s library.

It’s true that it may not be the books themselves that created this association. A home with books is likely to be a home that values education. It’s also true that the type of success the study reported may not be the measure that Christian parents and teachers desire for our children and students. But the study does indicate a positive affect in the type of outcomes related to learning and life skills beyond socio-economic status. One of these is emotional intelligence and abilities such as empathy, which studies have shown are increased when children read fiction. This is just another reason to support our children developing a love of reading books.

Isobel with ten of her favourite books.

Mr Cooney

SPORT

PAUL KELLY CUP

On 2nd June our Year 5/6 Paul Kelly (AFL) Team participated at the Regional finals on the Giants home ground at Blacktown Olympic Park

After a bit of a kick and a handpass the boys got together for the team talk, based around 1 Corinthians 12 verses 21-26, focusing on working together.

"so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it."

At the tournament we would have been one of the smallest schools. With only 2 boys in the team who have ever played weekend AFL, this home grown Wycliffe team did the school proud.

Game 1: After being competitive to half time they were overrun in the 2nd half.

Game 2: They played very well in the 2nd half and could have won if they had kicked straight, only losing by 4 after being down 18-0. Final score 18-14.

Game 3: The boys came from behind and beat a very good team that in fact beat the side we should have beaten in game 2.

It was wonderful to see how the boys got better and better against quality opposition. The thrill of winning that final game was memorable, with students and parents very excited.
Every boy contributed throughout the day with fair time to all. The boys were excited as they put into practice some of the sequences that we had worked on at training and they were a united unit.

It was a real pleasure working with these children and well done to the parents for the wonderful support they gave.

The Team:

Connor Edwards (c), Oliver Carr, Brayden Gray, Josiah Grierson, Duncan Hare, Samuel Kennedy, Dominic Warren, Cameron Winfield, Harry Bernays, Callum Blackwood, Thomas Brischetto, Riley Carlson, Michael Dillen, Benjamin Jenner, Charlie Wilkinson, Andrew Stewart (coach).

2016 SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Secondary Athletics Carnival will now be held on Wednesday, 27th July 2016 at Tom Hunter Park, Hunter Way, Faulconbridge. The carnival will begin promptly at 9.00 am and conclude in prayer at 2.00 pm.

Dress for the carnival is school sports uniform or House Colours.

Each entrant will score House points and those students who excel will have the chance to represent our school at the Zone athletics carnival on Friday, 12th August 2016. For year 10 students the results obtained will go towards their Yr 10 Record of School Achievement (ROSA) and for Year 11/12 SLR the results go towards their Assessment marks.

The School Café will be operating at the carnival and a sausage sizzle will be available.

PARENT HELPERS TO ASSIST AT THE CARNIVAL

To enable smooth running of the carnival, parent helpers would be most appreciated. There are many tasks that need to be done which parents could help with. We require people to help with the track events, field events and the Café/BBQ. Parents who help for at least 4 hours will be able to claim this as PIP. If you are available and willing to help could you please email Mr Stewart stewy@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au and state what times you are available and which job you would prefer. If you are able to help please let me know by Wed 29th June.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS

• The school will be booking buses to pick up and return students back to school. All students travelling by bus are expected to be up at the bus bay by 8.15 am.
• Students making their own way to the Oval are expected to be there for an 8.45 am roll call. If you live locally or can take your child to and from the venue I would encourage this, so that we do not have the problem of too many students for the 3 buses booked.

WET WEATHER NOTIFICATION

It is expected that Wet Weather notification will be available at 7.00 a.m. on the morning of the Carnival on the Skoolbag app and school Facebook page. Please note that every effort will be made to communicate via this medium however the school cannot be accountable for any significant regional weather event which interrupts internet services for our local providers.

SAFETY ISSUES

• Students will be practicing for the carnival in PE lessons which started week 5 of term.
• I would encourage that all students also prepare for the carnival doing their own personal training.
• Parents please ensure that your child is well hydrated before the carnival and has eaten breakfast before coming to the carnival.
• Please ensure that your child has a hat and sunscreen.
• I would encourage each child to have their own personal drink bottle which they take with them to the various events.
• Students are encouraged to warm-up before each event.
• Students who are asthmatics are to take their asthma puffer to each event.
• A trained first aid attendant will be available at the carnival.

Andrew Stewart
K-12 Sports Coordinator

SCHOOL NOTICES

YEAR 7 2016 ACADEMIC AND PASTORAL INFORMATION EVENING

Parents are reminded that the Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 29th June from 7.00pm. It is an opportunity to hear more about processes, policies, assessments, procedures and routines in the Senior School. A light supper will be provided.

YEAR 9 2017 INFORMATION EVENING

The Year 9 Information Evening will occur next term, on Thursday 11th August at 7.00pm. This night is envisaged to give all students and parents the opportunity
to discover, in depth, the rationale behind the Encounter Program that has specifically designed to enrich, encourage and empower Year 9 students in an experiential learning environment to become all God has made them to be. 2017 will be the 9th year of the program and has been a catalyst in helping young people transition into young adults and equipping them to be 'agents of hope and change in a fragmented world'. The night will also feature our new vision for the Stage 5 Academic Program.

The Evening will begin at 7pm in the Hall with the Academic Program, followed by the Encounter Program. On conclusion, a light supper will be provided.

CAPA/ TAS CREATIVE DISPLAY EVENING

CAPA and TAS student displays from Years 7-12, featuring the Major Works of Year 12 IT, VA, PVDI, Music and Drama students.

When: Tuesday 26 July, 7-9pm
Where: Wycliffe Multipurpose Hall

EXEMPLARY RESULTS IN AMEB PIANO EXAMINATIONS

The following students recently sat the AMEB piano exams and received Honours or High Distinction (A or A plus). We congratulate: Oliver Carr, James Clain, Benjamin Jenner, Esther Mills, Stratford Powell and Georgina Wynn-Hatton on their excellent results.

IMPORTANT NEWS ON TERM 3 INVOICES

We are starting to prepare next term’s invoices which will go out to you in the school holidays. The e-mail will go straight from our accounts system and it will look like this: You can click on the “Pay now” button and it will take you to MYOB’s online credit card payment system where you can pay the whole invoice amount immediately using your debit or credit card, so long as it is a Visa or Mastercard. It will recognise other cards but it will reject the payment.

This is for families who want to pay the entire amount only and many families will find this new facility useful. It means you won't have to do it through internet banking.

This new facility does not replace the direct debit system (where you authorise us to withdraw money from your bank or credit card account). You can only pay the whole amount with this system, whereas direct debit enables you to spread the fees out over the year. If you have a direct debit in place and would like to terminate that and start using this system, please let us know in writing (accounts@wycliffe.nsw.edu.au) and we will notify you of any outstanding balances to pay out.

INVOICES AND STATEMENTS

We often get questions from families on how much they owe, and confusion between invoices and statements. An invoice is how much the fees are each term. We invoice each term and therefore, that's how much each term costs. This is much like your car payments or mortgage payments.

Many families spread out their payments out over the course of the year and have outstanding amounts that go from one term to the next. Sometimes they may be ahead with their payments. A statement shows all the invoice amounts you have been charged and all the payments you have made, resulting in the balance, which is how much you still owe. This is like your bank statement which tells you how much money you have in your bank account.

You may have paid the invoice amount for the current year, but if you had outstanding amounts from previous years, then you still have amounts outstanding.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Billy Cart Bash
www.billycartbash.com.au

Jumping Castle
Food Stalls
Free Kids Activities

RACES FOR ALL AGES
REGISTRATIONS - $5
Register online or on the day!

SUNDAY 17TH JULY
FROM 12:30PM
BUTTENSHAW PARK
SPRINGWOOD

IGNITE
BASKETBALL CLINIC

06/07/16
and
07/07/16
ALL AGES 9am – 3pm
(8:45am for sign in)

Cost: $50 for two days or $30 for one
Please bring a basketball, recess, lunch and water

TO REGISTER: call the association on Tuesdays,
Wednesdays or Fridays via (02) 47 398 999
or email scorchers1@bigpond.com

Registrations close Wednesday 1ST July
Must pay at time of booking

You are invited to our exclusive
Autobody Career Showroom 2016,
where potential job seekers meet future employers!

This showcase will bring local school students and their parents together with leading employers, providing the barrier and Stevens apprenticeships in automotive and related sectors. Potential future workers will have the opportunity to meet professionals in the industry and explore career pathways in exciting jobs.

Students who attend the Career Showroom will:
- Get the chance to drive one of our state-of-the-art vehicles,
- See the latest in automotive technology and design,
- Talk to experienced professionals in the industry,
- Learn about exciting and rewarding careers in the automotive sector.

When: Tuesday 28 June 6:30pm – 8pm
Where: Accident Repairs Management, 32 Latanis Road, Penrith

SCORCHERS