FROM THE PRINCIPAL

At devotions on Friday Mr Karlik shared a frightening statistic; the richest 65 people in the world hold cumulatively the wealth of half the world’s population (3.5 billion people).

Consumerism drives our Western culture, and exerts a powerful influence over educational priorities. Mike Goheen (2004), in Celebrating the vision of Christian Education asserts that the end goal of education has been reduced to producing students who have knowledge and skills that have economic value, enabling them to function in a consumer world.

C. S. Lewis (1950), in The Screwtape Letters, highlights the all-consuming nature of such a focus on material prosperity;

“Prosperity knits a man to the world. He feels that he is finding his place in it, while really it is finding its place in him”

Secular worldviews throughout the ages have always appeared alluring. The tension this creates prompted the Apostle Paul, to encourage believers in Rome;

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)

The ways of this world are so often at odds with God’s good plans for our shared relationships. As a Christian School we have a responsibility to encourage students to look beyond self, and embrace God’s eternal perspective and vision for life. This vision is found in Jesus, who although he held the power and wealth of the world at his fingertips, he chose a better way, that of the suffering servant who gave his life so others may live. We have the wonderful privilege to partner with the risen Jesus, in redeeming the fallen creation, transforming all to his original good creational intent.

WELCOME MR MANUEL

I would like to issue a warm welcome to our newly appointed Head of Mathematics, Mr Andy Manuel. Mr Manuel comes with extensive experience, most recently as Head of Mathematics at a Central school just out of Wagga.

Mr Manuel comes with the highest recommendation of his principal and also the pastor of his church where he and his wife have been actively involved. He and his wife (an ex Wycliffe student) grew up in the Mountains, and now, returned, are looking forward to serving students of our school.

After giving Mr Manuel a couple of weeks to settle in with his classes, a time will be organised for parents to have the opportunity to personally meet with him.

OVAl REFURBISHMENT COMMENCES

Our school community will be delighted to learn that the oval and hard court refurbishment commenced today, Monday 29th February.

The development will see the oval resurfaced and returfed to produce a more durable surface that will be better able to cope, especially in drier spells, with the demands of sport and lunchtime whole school use. Drainage and irrigation will be installed as well. The hard courts north of the oval that have been out of usage for some years will be resurfaced.

To ensure the safety of students the whole oval area will have construction fencing installed around the perimeter. The barriers will extend up the access road to just below the hall car park. As there will be movement of trucks and construction vehicles no parking at all will be permitted along the access road.
The construction period is 20 weeks, and the school plans to make use of Warrimoo Oval for Sport, PE and lunchtime play.

We thank God that after such a long and drawn out process, the oval project will be completed mid year.

As parking at the school will be reduced during the project, we ask parents to use the car park at Warrimoo Oval and walk down to pick up their child/ren during the peak time at the end of the school day.

WORKING BEE

Around 30 parents enjoyed a great sense of community at our first working bee for 2016. Jobs completed include spreading of mulch, removal of old signage and a ‘spring’ clean of A Block classrooms.

A big thank you to all families who contributed on the day. The next scheduled working bee will take place early in Term 2 with hours completed contributing towards the PIP rebate.

VISIT FROM MARK GLANVILLE (EX WYCLIFFIAN)

This afternoon Mark Glanville will be visiting the school to lead a professional development session for staff.

Mark commenced his education with Wycliffe very early in the schools history. Mark graduated from Wycliffe in 1991, and as an ordained Presbyterian minister has served in Tregear before moving to his wife Erin's homeland of Canada where he pastors a missional church community.

He is currently completing his doctorate through Trinity College, Bristol, considering Old Testament ethics particularly in relation to the book of Deuteronomy.

It is such a blessing to see how God has grown and used Mark. I invite parents and other members of our school community to join with staff for Mark’s presentation from 3:00-5:00pm.

BUS TRAVEL AND OPAL CARDS

Recently the school received a request from the bus company to remind parents of the necessity for their child/ren to have their Opal Card with them every day. To this point in time drivers have been understanding and no child has been refused travel, as the company are entitled to do.

If you could please ensure your child has their Opal Card and it is readily accessible to them during the day. Holders are available that protect the card and attach it to the exterior of the school bag.

The opal card is not an initiative of the School or the bus company, but a new governmental requirement.

Peter Jamieson
Prinicpal

LIBRARY NEWS

TWO CLASSIC BOOKS

In the last library news, I wrote about the continuing value of classic books. One such classic is, “To Kill a Mockingbird” by Harper Lee. The recent death of Harper Lee is an opportunity to pause and reflect on what makes a truly classic piece of literature. What distinguishes such a novel from the billions of words now available on the internet and the millions of individuals sharing stories and opinions online and well as in print?

“To Kill a Mockingbird” is a novel that reveals the complexity of human nature through the eyes of a child. The theme of prejudice, based not just on colour but on difference or “otherness”, is one that continues to resonate. But “Mockingbird” is as rich in themes as it is in characters, which is why it rewards repeated readings. Still I, like many others, will long recall our first encounter with Scout, Jem, Boo, Dill and Atticus and be grateful for the way that meeting changed our lives.

The term classic doesn’t just refer to works of fiction. I have recently read an article by Phillip Colgan re-visiting “The Cross of Christ” by John Stott, considered a classic of Christian theology. Stott explains the purpose and power of Jesus’ death on the cross through the reading of both the Old and New Testaments. He sets out from a study of God’s Word, how God displays his majesty and love through a symbol of weakness and shame. Stott reveals how, through his perfect obedience, Jesus, as fully God and fully human, is able to deal with sin and death once and for all time. Finally, Stott explores what it means for Christians to daily take up their cross and follow Christ.

Mr Cooney

SPORT

PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Last Thursday, 19th February, the Primary School held their annual Swimming Carnival. This was the first Primary Carnival conducted with the new format of
the three houses. This allowed for a range of different colours and new war cries from each house. As a result, the Swimming Carnival had an excellent and positive atmosphere.

Many thanks go to our parent helpers, without whose timekeeping, place judging, marshalling, recording, refreshment-making and novelty event organising – among the many other things they did – the carnival could not have been possible. The Year 10 Physical Activity and Sports Science class also did themselves proud with the services they provided through the Lizard Lane, Belly Flop Competition, Noodle Race and the many other activities they supplied.

Congratulations to all of the competitors who are representing the School on Thursday at the Nepean Primary Zone Swimming Carnival.

Congratulations to all of our Age Champions:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Boy</th>
<th>Girl</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Harley Pawson</td>
<td>Grace Sanger</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Harry Greenaway</td>
<td>Faith Hurley</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Ronnie Morgans</td>
<td>Paris Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oliver Carr</td>
<td>Olivia Greenaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ben Jenner</td>
<td>Lydia Hubbard</td>
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Also, congratulations to the Yellow, Destiny Rescue House for winning the Swimming Carnival overall.

PRIMARY SUPER 8S CRICKET REPORT

On Tuesday 9th February, the Year 5/6 Boys Cricket Team represented the school at the CSSA Primary Super 8s Cricket Gala Day at Jamison Park in Penrith. The team played two games, one against Macquarie and one against Rouse Hill. While the team did not progress through to the finals, they did gain a lot of experience which will help them in the competitions to come later on in the year.

Back Row:

Ben Jenner was extremely unlucky with the bat. He opened the batting in the first game, but didn’t get to face a ball until the second over when the bowler was warmed up and dead on-line with the stumps. Fielded and bowled well.

Oliver Carr stood out well in the field with his yellow hat and had a few tough chances with catches.

Finn McDonald bowled one of the opposition out and made a very optimistic attempt at running on the last ball in the innings against Macquarie.

Callum Blackwood opened with Oliver in the second game. His left-handed approach had fielders running in all directions throughout the game as Callum and Oliver continuously rotated the strike.

Front Row:

Cameron Winfield batted with a unique stance. He bowled tightly, making it difficult for the opposition to hit runs easily.

Sam Kennedy batted well, but had trouble finding the gaps, limiting his scoring.

Duncan Hare scored beautifully with the bat against Rouse Hill, hooking some good bowling down through the on-side boundary.

Michael Dillen opened the batting with Ben Jenner in the first game. He batted steadily but simply couldn’t find the gaps to make the most of his opportunities.

Isaac Slockee bowled well. He was unlucky enough to top-edge a ball in the second game, allowing for an easy catch to a nearby fielder.
Café under the stars

COFFEE
DESSERT
LIVE MUSIC

9th Mar
From 7PM

Wycliffe Christian School
133 Rickard Road
Warrimoo