From the Principal

Bob Glen wrote in his book, “Crucifying Morality: The Gospel of the Beatitudes”, about the biggest danger for children from Christian homes. He states: “In a post-Christian culture like ours where many regard moderate religiosity as a good thing, the danger for the church (and the Christian school) is to reduce the Christian faith to a lifestyle - a sub culture complete with its own music and literature and fashions and jargon … Christian parents sometimes worry about their kids being influenced by worldly evils in our oversexed, violent, materialistic culture. They (we) worry that their kids will be negatively influenced … Although these things are certainly not benign and do have the capacity to negatively influence children, they are not half as dangerous as reducing Christianity to moralistic religion … Church children raised by deeply committed Christian parents are not likely to end up practising Wicca as they are to serve faithfully but numbly in a local church. For if church children remain unaffected by, and inoculated to, the Gospel – wholesale consumers of just enough gospel lingo and institutional Christianity to look the part – they will completely miss the heart of Christianity.”

I don’t know about you, but Glen’s contention strikes terrifyingly close to my heart as I am keen to see our children behave in ways that are seen as acceptable, especially in our churches and school. I am not saying that good behavior is a bad thing to talk about, but if it is what we major on, then we are missing the mark.

As parents and teachers, we can imply to the children in our care, “Look at me, behave like me”, because we act as though we have it all together, or at least mostly together. Perhaps a better approach would be to say: “Look at me. This is what the Christian life is about. It’s not about me and my achievements; it’s about Jesus Christ and all he has done for me. It’s about the fact that I, like you, needed a saviour – someone to purify me from my idols, to take the reins of my life, and to cause me to see God. And Christianity is about the fact that I am still like you in a very big way – I still need a Saviour”.

In this time when we contemplate the enormity of the sacrifice made on the cross that we commemorate at Easter, let us remember that we are in need of the Saviour every day, every hour, every second of the day.

For those who were able to make the Easter Assembly, it was a great joy to see the students explore the meaning of Easter with the school. From the performers and readers to the little giggles from some of our younger students when they heard that Judas kissed Jesus, it was a fabulous time where we could celebrate together.

Enjoy your time with your families this Easter, and take time to remind yourselves and your children of the immensity of what happened on the cross.

Bill Rusin

From the Prayer Group

Jesus told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”


For Prayer and Praise

- Praise God Jesus has risen. Pray the message of forgiveness through Christ is preached this Easter and many will ask to receive His forgiveness.
- Pray for Year 11 and 12 exams
- Pray for the Year 7 – 10 camps and for Year 10 in Yarrabah
- Pray for those who are ill or struggling to have the rest they need, and for safety during the school holidays

Please join with us in prayer — Tomorrow at 9.30am in Chatswood
RSVP Yen Stewart on 0416 420 995
Email the Prayer Group at: prayergroup@covenant.nsw.edu.au

Mother’s Day Family Breakfast

Friday 9 May 2014
Book online
www.trybooking.com/CSEQ

Vision Our desire is to be part of God’s plan to unite all things in heaven and on earth under the lordship of Jesus Christ, by…

Mission …assisting parents in the nurture of their children by providing a Christ-centred, biblically grounded, culturally engaging and academically rigorous education which equips children to live for God’s glory.

Inside this issue:

- Andrew’s Angle
- Athletics Training — Term 2
- Careers News
- What’s New on the Blogsite?
- Entertainment Books for Yarrabah
- Community Events & Notices
Andrew’s Angle

Working Bee - Great Team Effort!
Thank you, thank you to all those wonderful parents who came along to the working bee last Saturday. You all worked really hard with great energy and commitment to moving the various staff faculties into their new location in the newly completed first floor of E Block. Thank you also for moving soil and bark around the new garden beds and unpacking all the new furniture that has been purchased for the new secondary classrooms. We hope you all take the time to have a look around the new floor in Term 2.


School Fee Statements
School fee statements have been mailed and emailed out to parents over the past few days. Term 2 school fees are now due and payable by 28 April. The school prefers payment via BPAY. Please note that overdue family accounts will incur a $75 reminder fee for every reminder sent. If you have not received your school fee statement in the mail or via email, please contact the finance office.

During the Holidays
Please remember that school starts again for students on Tuesday 29 April. The staff return Monday 28 April for planning and professional development. The office will not be open during the holiday break, however, the Business Manager, Mr Lowry, and the Registrar, Mrs Boase, will be in some days. Alternatively, if the office is temporarily unattended, you can leave a message on the school answering service which will be responded to as soon as possible.

Mr Andrew Lowry, Business Manager

Winter School Uniform
Reminder that students will be required to wear their winter school uniform when they return to school for Term 2, on Tuesday 29 April. The Uniform Shop will be open on Monday 28 April from 2.00-3.00pm.

Athletics Training - Term 2
Athletics training (sprints, jumps and middle/long distance) will be held in Term 2 for all interested students from Years 2-12. Wednesdays 7, 14, 21, 28 May, 3.45-5.00pm at the Narrabeen Athletics Track. Cost: $10 per week.

If interested, please collect a note from the school office or Miss Hammond.

Careers News
UNSW Year 10 Subject Selection Evenings
Monday 12 May and Tuesday 3 June, UNSW Campus, Kensington. A chance for Year 10 students and their parents to get the information they need on HSC subject selection. [https://www.whatson.unsw.edu.au/egateway/students.splash](https://www.whatson.unsw.edu.au/egateway/students.splash)

Notre Dame Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 24 June, 6.00pm, 140 Broadway, Broadway. The evening is designed to help parents and students to find out about University life, talk to current students, meet academic staff and find out about pathways into university. Contact: 02 8204 4404 or sydney@nd.edu.au. More at [www.nd.edu.au/events/sydney](http://www.nd.edu.au/events/sydney).

The University of Sydney Project Management, Engineering and IT Year 11 and 12 Parent Information Night

Australian College of Nursing - Nursing & Health Expos 2014
The 2014 expo series will showcase a wide range of organisations from the nursing and health industry to help pursue or progress towards a career in nursing. Saturday, 10 May 2014 Sydney Town Hall, 9.00am – 1.00pm

Covic Careers
Don’t forget to access Covic Careers for updated information about careers events. [www.coviccareers.com](http://www.coviccareers.com).

Café Covie - Open every day 8.30 -11.30am

School Canteen - Open Monday and Friday. Order online [www.munchmonitor.com](http://www.munchmonitor.com)

CCS Uniform Shop - Open Monday 2.00-2.45pm and Wednesday 8.00-9.00am (ph: 9450 2696)
Biggest Morning Tea and Mother’s Day Stall

**Wednesday 7 May.** This year we are holding our Biggest Morning Tea early so we can celebrate all mothers with our Mother’s Day stalls. Please put the date in your diary now.

Run in a similar way to the Christmas Markets, there will be stalls in the Colosseum plus Café Covie will be open in K Block. Junior School children will have the chance to visit the stalls with their class during the morning and Secondary School students will be able to choose a gift for their mum during recess or (for Years 11 and 12) free periods.

There will be items on sale from $5 so there will be something for every Mum, Grandma, Aunt and Godmother. More information will be in this newsletter as we confirm stall holders. If you would like to be a stall holder please contact Jaycie Wood at velocitysurf@gmail.com. All proceeds will be donated to the Cancer Council. *We look forward to seeing you there.*


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**What’s New on the Blog Site?**

Infants Learn About Bushfire Fighting

Infants have been learning about people who serve in the community. A visit from the Rural Fire Service was a great opportunity to climb through the truck, learn about their equipment, and ask questions ...

The Rural Fire Service Cadet Program starts from age 13 so these students still have some time to prepare. Secondary school students at Covenant do have the opportunity to do the cadet program as a school sport elective. See the whole article and photos at [http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/infants-enjoy-learning-about-bushfire-firefighting](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/infants-enjoy-learning-about-bushfire-firefighting).

Year 9-10 Urban Challenge Camp Serve Junior School Lunch

Year 9 and 10 students on the Urban Challenge Camp spent the day at Covenant. In groups students had to work with a budget to purchase and prepare lunch for Junior School Year 5 and Year 6 classes. There was quite a variety of food provided and some to share with younger years.


New Blog Posts to Visit

- [Frohe Ostern Happy Easter from Year 7-1](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/frohe-ostern-happy-easter-from-year-7-1)
- [Healthy Snacks on the Menu for Year 7 DT Students](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/healthy-snacks-on-the-menu-for-year-7-dt-students)
- [Follow Year 9 and 10 Urban Challenge Camp on Facebook](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/follow-year-9-and-10-urban-challenge-camp-on-facebook)
- [After Exam Treats for Year 12](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/after-exam-treats-for-year-12)
- [Its Friday Staff Devotions](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/its-friday-staff-devotions)
- [Parents Involvement Program Helps Connect Community](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/parents-involvement-program-helps-connect-community)
- [Dr Bill Salier Returns to Covenant for Mens Joshua Challenge](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/dr-bill-salier-returns-to-covenant-for-mens-joshua-challenge)
- [Alumni Mitch Everingham Shares Jesus is My Hope Video](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/alumni-mitch-everingham-shares-jesus-is-my-hope-video)
- [Long Day Care Centre Starts Construction Next Door to Covenant](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/long-day-care-centre-starts-construction-next-door-to-covenant)
- [Basketball Court Cover to be Extended](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/basketball-court-cover-to-be-extended)
Entertainment Books for Yarrabah
Entertainment Books are available for pre-order to raise funds for Wonulp Bi-Buya College as part of the Covenant Yarrabah trips. This year there is the option of buying digital memberships for use on a smartphone as well as the traditional books. Also, the Sydney and Sydney North books are combined into one super book! 20% of all books sold go towards our fundraising.
Editions are available for all over Australia and New Zealand, which can be collected from school at the beginning of Term 2 or be posted to you or someone you’re sending it to as a gift.
More information at www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2061y93 or via email to chelsesmithies@yahoo.com.

Community Notice
(The school cannot necessarily make careful assessments of the quality or integrity of all of the services or events advertised in the newsletter. The Board welcomes feedback from members of the school community about the organisations which receive promotion. Comments should be in writing, addressed to the Board, and will be treated confidentially.)
- Accommodation Needed
  A Church planting family has need of accommodation from June 2014. If you know of any reasonably priced housing for a family with three children on Nthn Beaches, call Daniel on 0412 089 220.
- Easter Programs at Bunnings
  Easter Family Night – Thu 10/4, 6-8pm, Living Egg Program - Mon 14/4 – Mon 21/4, and lots of holiday activities. See belroseactivitiesorganiser@bunnings.com.au.
- Manly Warringah Basketball Camp
  3 day camp - Tue to Thu 22-24/4. Cost: $70. Enquiries 9913 3622. Enrolments close 3pm Thu 17/4.
- Lil’ Meshach Musik Club
  Singing, Performance, Acting. Mon-Wed 14-16/4, 9am-12md or 1-4pm. 5-11 yrs. $65/session, $120/day. Contact studio@meshachmusik.com.
- Mr Soccer April Holiday Camp
  4-12 yrs, boys/girls. Held at Wakehurst Public School, Glen St, Belrose, 15-17/4 or 22-24/4. Details at www.mrsoccer.com.au or call 1300 mrsoccer.
- Mother’s Day Classic Fun Walk/Run

Secondary ICAS Competitions
Reminder to please book any competitions you’d like your children to participate in by Friday 2 May, at http://www.trybooking.com/CNWK.

Student Absence Notes
Please ensure notes for any absence days this term are sent to the school office as soon as possible.

From the School Nurses
As winter approaches, we would like to remind everyone that children who have a temperature, diarrhea, vomiting or symptoms of cold or flu are best kept at home to fully recover.

Letters to Parents
Some may not have been distributed yet.

Date of Letter Class Topic
31/3 12 English Advanced Incursion
2/4 7 Term 2 Sport
8 8 Pastoral Care Day
8-9 4 Geography Field Study
7/4 10 E&E Excursion
If you did not receive a letter relevant to your child, please ask your child to collect a copy from their teacher or go to http://tinyurl.com/CCSNNotes.

This Week’s Quiz
Bitten
Shy
Shy

Answer to the last Quiz
OVERCAST SKIES