From the Head of Junior School

You have just received a gift: it's a brand spanking new computer. It's so powerful you can find the recipe for anything from a meringue soufflé to an atomic bomb. You can converse in real time with anyone from an astronaut to a zoologist. You can visit anywhere from the summit of Mt Everest to the resting place of the Titanic. It's more powerful than a locomotive but as small as a chopping board.

What's it called, you ask? It's an iPad of course.

Naturally you're excited – really excited … but you are fearful, too. For this instrument which matches the strength of superman is as dangerous as kryptonite. You are apprehensive about what lies out there, and even more afraid of what lies within. iPad usage in the school is the place where excitement and fear are met together, where opportunity and temptation kiss.

Recently, at the Year 5/6 iPad information evening, we had the genuine pleasure of listening to Mrs Holman address parents regarding their usage. Really, she had the good bit, the task of unfolding the wonderful opportunities that iPads afford, how we use them and why.

We also had the occasion to hear from Covenant's Director of ICT, Mr Youl. He had the trickier part of informing parents what the school is doing to deal with the dangers and temptations that may arise with this technology. Inevitably, their tasks overlapped and both teachers had many practical insights to offer concerning ways we can both protect and prepare our kids for the delights and dangers ahead.

The final speaker was King David, the author of Psalm 1. He tells of a man … a righteous man – listen:

How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

Really, it seems that, whatever we put in place - fire walls, spam detection devices, internet filtering shields, history detection plans, 24 hour ASIO surveillance - nothing beats delighting ourselves in the law of the Lord; redirecting our attention to God’s word – his presence; sharing of his daily mercies with our children; patiently pointing them towards love of the Father … planting our saplings down by the creek, our trees by streams, for …

the wicked are like chaff which the wind drives away…

but God protects everyone who follows him.

Wayne Morton

From the School Nurses

A reminder to parents and students of the procedure when a student is unwell at school and would like to go home from school early. The student is to report to sick bay and the school nurse will call the parents after assessing the student. Students are not to phone or text parents directly. Thank you for your support.

From the Prayer Group

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8 (NIV)

For Prayer and Praise

• Praise God that salvation is a gift from Him, not a result of our works. Pray that all in our community ask for His gift.
• Give thanks and pray for teachers and students in Years 7 and 8
• Pray for the Year 3/4 sleepover
• Pray for Pi Day
• Pray for Year 11 Drivers Education Day
• Pray for Joshua Challenge

Please join with us in prayer — Thursdays 9.00-9.30am in K6. Email the Prayer Group at: prayergroup@covenant.nsw.edu.au

Year 3/4 Sleepover

This Friday and Saturday
14 and 15 March 2014

Inside this issue:

Andrea’s Angle 2
Career News 2
Donations Appreciated 3
From the School Counsellors 3
What's New on the Blogsite? 3
Parent Help Needed 4
Community Events 4
**Andrew’s Angle**

**Additional Working Bee - Saturday 5 April, 8am to 12pm**

We have an additional working bee on Saturday 5 April, commencing at 8am. With the completion of the new E Block first floor, we have 26 staff moving to new locations and we need your help (if you are free). We seek as many hands as possible to move office furniture and boxes of resources into the new staffroom space. Your help is most appreciated. This working bee will replace the Term 2 working bee.

**Men’s Event - Joshua Challenge Wednesday 19 March, 7:30pm**

We would like to invite you to the first Joshua Challenge event of 2014, on Wednesday 19 March at Covenant Christian School, from 7.30 – 9.15pm in the Performing Arts Space. The Joshua Challenge is an opportunity for men to join together to encourage one another to live for God through the many hats a man wears (i.e. husband, father, worker, brother in Christ, child of God…).

Dr Bill Salier will be speaking on the topic of *What in the World?* He will be speaking on the theme of living as a Christian in the world, and how we as men can live in a way that pleases God, amidst the many temptations of this world. Bill is an excellent communicator. He is the Deputy Principal at Moore Theological College, but in the past was a Year 6 teacher at Covenant Christian School, and editor of Nurture magazine. More importantly, he is a husband, a dad and friend of Covenant. Come and hear his story and his thoughts on living as a Christian. Café Covie will be in operation and some food will be provided. Feel free to bring along your church men’s groups.


**Drama and Dance Camp**

Students from Years 7-11 are invited to come along to an exciting two days of drama and dance at Camp Kedron.


**Careers News**

**Discover Nursing and Midwifery at UTS**

Prospective students, friends and parents are invited to one of the interactive workshops to discover Nursing or Midwifery:

- **Midwifery – City Campus, 5.30pm – 7.00pm** – Tuesday 8 April
- **Nursing – City Campus, 5.30pm – 7.00pm** – Thursday 12 June, Tuesday 1 July, Thursday 10 July
- **Nursing – Kuring-gai Campus, 5.30pm – 7.00pm** – Wednesday 2 July


**JMC Academy Open Day**

Saturday 3 May, 10.30am, Harris Street, Ultimo

Speak to staff and students, get an overview of courses and take a campus tour.


**MyFuture: Information for Parents**

Your child may have a career path in mind, or have no idea where to start. Explore more to learn about careers and occupations, and how to help them find the right job.


**Macquarie University Study Without Stress Information Evening**

Thursday 27 March, 5.30pm – 7.00pm, The Australian Hearing Hub, Level 1 Lecture Theatre, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University. A free event for teachers, school counselors and parents of teenagers to discuss stress management techniques in relation to preparation for the HSC.


**Covie Careers**

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

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**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)
Donations Appreciated
As part of the Year 8-10 Moree Camp (in Week 11), we are going to deliver some much needed supplies to Byamee Homeless Shelter in Moree. **But we need your help!** The shelter is in desperate need of pillows, blankets, towels, bed sheets and non-perishable food. Please go through your cupboards, browse the Op-Shops or make a special trip to the shops to help us bless the Moree community. There will be a trailer at the school in Week 10, to be filled by Friday 4 April. If you have any questions, please speak to Mrs Purcell. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful generosity.

From the School Counsellors
It is hard to believe we are more than halfway through the term. We hope all families have settled back into school and that new families particularly are feeling welcome and encouraged. We wanted to make you aware or remind you of our roles at Covenant and how to make contact with us.

For parents with children in Junior School, we encourage you to either contact their teacher or speak with us if you have any concerns. We then follow up students individually and give you feedback, or we may just offer suggestions/strategies that can be tried at home or in the classroom. Students in Secondary School tend to either be referred by a teacher or parent/s, or self-refer. If you have concerns, please feel free to contact us so we can talk things through and work out the best way forward. Sometimes the best option for a student is talking with someone outside of school, in which case we are able to provide recommendations.

We appreciate that seeing a school counsellor sometimes has a stigma attached to it. We think of our role as that of helping and assisting students during their time at school, whether it be strengthening social skills, helping with time management, liaising with other students or staff on their behalf or listening to difficulties that a student is facing.

Parents can pop in and visit, though an appointment made can ensure we can see you. Mr Richard Grey is available all day Thursdays and most of Fridays – email rgrey@covenant.nsw.edu.au. Mrs Deb Redwood is available all day Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays – email dredwood@covenant.nsw.edu.au.

We see it as a privilege to support families at Covenant and we hope you all have a great year!

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**What’s New on the Blog Site?**

**Primary Zone Swimming Carnival**
On Tuesday 4 March, 37 students from Years 2-6 competed in the Primary Zone Swimming Carnival. Our team was enthusiastic in their swimming and their cheering and had lots of fun competing and encouraging one another.

Congratulations to Tara Sahu-Khan, Taylor Bradac, Cooper Eakin and Erin Shaw for making it through to the CSSA State Carnival in individual events. Our relay teams swam very well with four out of the eight teams gaining a place. The Junior Girls and Senior Girls Medley relay teams came third, and the Junior Boys Medley relay and the Junior Girls Freestyle relay teams came second. Congratulations to Tristan Turnbull, Hans Sangtoki, Mitchell Usback, Paris Downs and Ava Chitty for making up the relay teams.

Special congratulations go to Taylor Bradac – 9 year Girl Age Champion, Erin Shaw – 10 year Girl Age Champion, and Cooper Eakin – 10 year Boy Age Champion.

Covenant came third overall, an amazing result considering the size of our school.


**HSC Major Works on Display**
The work of three of our Year 12 2013 students have been displayed at the Manly Art Gallery. This exhibition recognises some of the best work from students around the northern beaches of Sydney.

Congratulations to Kimberley Janssen, Dean Grellinger and Susannah Chapman. These photos are from the gallery and last year’s Fusion display. [http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/hsc-major-works-on-display-at-manly-gallery](http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/hsc-major-works-on-display-at-manly-gallery)

**New Blog Posts to Visit**
Parent Help Needed

We’d love the help of a couple of parents to create a catalogue system of our dance and musical costumes for hiring. If you are interested, please call Janine Humphery in the school office.

Year 4 Parent Night

Parents are invited to a coffee and dessert night on Thursday 20 March, 7.30pm at Mark & Ali Streeter’s home. Please RSVP by 15 March to Leanne (0418 963 411) or Ali (0423 227 002).

Year 10 Parent Dinner

Monday 31 March - Pizza al taglio at Cavallino, Terrey Hills, at 7.30pm. $24 per person. Please RSVP by 24 March to Kari Higgins on 0418 120 966 or via hellohiggins@bigpond.com.

Middle Section Tests & Assignments

Here are tests and assignments given to the students which are due a week or more from the issue date. This will assist students and parents in planning their work load.

Subject and Title Date Due

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music (all classes)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musical Instrument Assign’t</td>
<td>Wk 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eng. Novel Writing task in class</td>
<td>13/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>English Wide Reading Task (Mrs Gardner’s class)</td>
<td>21/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography assignment</td>
<td>28/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>D&amp;T—Snack &amp; Package</td>
<td>Group 3&amp;4 / Group 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>German Cultural Task</td>
<td>Wk 9</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR 8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>German Presentation task</td>
<td>14/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bib Studies 8 Wh WotSW Quiz</td>
<td>14/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geog Rainforest Assignment</td>
<td>26-27/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>D&amp;T Folio &amp; Bag</td>
<td>Wk 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>German Language Perfect Test</td>
<td>27/3</td>
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<tr>
<td>NB: Mathematics unit tests are held regularly at the end of units. Students are notified in class at least two days prior.</td>
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Letters to Parents

Some may not have been distributed yet.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24/2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>SOR Excursion</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27/2</td>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>Band Instrument Reeds</td>
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<tr>
<td>28/2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>English Ext 1 Task Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/3</td>
<td>8-10</td>
<td>Camps</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>EEH Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/3</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Secondary State Swimming</td>
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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/CSSNotes.

Community Notices

(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 the Northern Beaches, please call Daniel on 0412 089 220.

- **Alcohol Fuelled Violence in our Community**
  Free seminar hosted by David Citer, Mgr KYDS Youth Development Svce. Keynote speaker bestselling author of Teenagers Alcohol & Drugs, Paul Dillon. Tue 25 Mar, 6.45-9pm, Hornsby RSL. Call Paul Stuart on 9477 8729 or email pstuart@nsml.com.au.

- **Whizzkids Workshops**
  The University of Technology Sydney (UTS) are running a series of enrichment workshops for students in Yrs 3-6 in the weekend of Mar 22-23. Ph 1300 677 336 or www.inspirationeducation.com.au.

- **Mona Vale Library Chess Club**

Term Dates for 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>Tue 27 Jan – Thu 2 Apr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>Tue 21 Apr – Fri 26 Jun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>Mon 20 Jul – Fri 18 Sep</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>Tue 6 Oct – Thu 3 Dec</td>
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</table>

This Week’s Quizzle

EWE WOLF DRESS

Answer to the last Quizzle

THAT IS INCREDIBLE

Keep up to date www.ourcovenant.com.au

Covenant Christian School Newsletter—12 March 2014