From the Curriculum Coordinator (Years 7-12)

Week 4 already for students! Week 5 for staff! Things at school are humming along. New students settling in, new teachers settling in. So much to do! This year we have a number of things that will keep us busy.

We have a new Australian Curriculum for NSW that is being implemented in English (Years K-6 and 7-10), and Mathematics, Science and History (Years 7-10). In addition to that, this year we are also due for registration and inspection with the NSW Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES). Of course, these things are very important, but there is something that we feel is much more important. That task is to teach all of our subjects from a distinctively Christian Perspective.

If our mission is “to assist parents in the nurture of their children, by providing a Christ-centred, biblically grounded, culturally engaging and academically rigorous education to equip the children to live for God’s glory”, then we want to look at how the glory of God is revealed in our Art, Science, Music, English classrooms, on the sports field, on the handball court, in the preschool, in the way we celebrate at assemblies, in the library, and so on (hey, even in the Mathematics classroom!).

That is our desire as a staff for our students – to help them think about how we live in the world, God’s world, and how to help them find their place in it. As always, it will be a major focus for us and for other schools like us. Planning is well underway for our CEN state conference in July, where teachers from around 20 schools will look at the issue of ‘Clashing Stories and the Christian Classroom’. So, what does that mean? Well, if we are to help our students to shape the world around them, we need to first help them to understand who they are in God’s eyes, not the world (Creation), to understand and articulate what is wrong with the world (Fall), and to understand that Jesus came to reconcile all things to God (Redemption). What a wonderful rescue story!

Mr Dave Gray and I have the privilege of taking the second year teachers through a book every Tuesday and Thursday for devotions, entitled Teaching Redemptively: Bringing Grace and Truth to your Classroom. This week we are wrestling with the educational direction we ought to be taking as we strive for faithfulness. The author Donovan Graham challenged us with this Albert Wolters gem:

“... if we see that human history and the unfolding of culture and society are integral to creation and its development, that they are not outside of God’s plan for the cosmos, despite the sinful aberrations, but rather were built in from the beginning, were part of the blueprint that we never understood before, then we will be much more open to the positive possibilities for service to God in such areas as politics and the film arts, computer technology and business administration, developmental economics and skydiving.”

Ah, the possibilities. Christian education is a team sport. It is wonderful to partner with you.

Pete Muddle

From the Prayer Group

Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise His holy name. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Proverbs 103: 1, 11-12 (NIV)

For Prayer and Praise

• Praise God and be awed by His amazing love and grace to us.
• Give thanks and pray for teachers and students in Years 1 and 2.
• Pray for Year 5 and 6 camps.
• Pray for 2013 HSC students to know Christ and to stand firm in Him.
• Pray for the needs of the Community Freezer to be met.

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

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Working Bee Thank You
Thank you to the more than 30 people who attended the working bee on the weekend. The weather was average so your time and energy on several areas of the school was greatly appreciated. Your efforts made a difference to the benefit of the whole school community.

New Charter Bus Service - Collaroy & Seaforth
We now have more than 20 students utilising the charter bus services to the Collaroy and Seaforth areas. You are required to book by the term one way or return via trybooking service. However, if you are interested in commencing part way through the term, please contact me via email: alowry@covenant.nsw.edu.au.

Please Pay Fees
First Term Fees are now overdue. It greatly helps the school financially if fees are paid on time. In the near future a $75 reminder letter will be sent to those families who have not made payment or alternatively contacted me regarding their fee payment schedule.

Andrew Lowry, Business Manager

Important Bus Information—Chatswood to School
Please note that, due to a change in Forest Coach Line’s service scheduling, as from next Monday 24 February, School Bus Route 127—Chatswood to Covenant will depart Chatswood at 7.50am instead of 7.57am.

Dance Academy
Now that our numbers have stabilised, we have had to make some adjustments to the timetable. In some cases, we have combined classes with smaller numbers, whilst other classes have been moved to earlier timeslots. If there are any changes to your child’s enrolment, you will receive notification by email. Fees will be adjusted automatically. The finalised Term 1 timetable will be available at the office and on the school website by the end of the week.
For all Dance enquiries, please contact Miss Katrina Carter at kcarte@covenant.nsw.edu.au.
For all questions regarding enrolment or fees, please contact Mrs Beck McCausland at rmccausland@covenant.nsw.edu.au.

Travel Passes for 2014
Passes for STA and Forest Coachlines travel have now been handed out. If your child has not yet received one, please ask them to come to the office.
Transdev (Shorelink) will be issuing new passes over the next couple of weeks - Transdev travellers will have free travel until their passes are issued to the school.

Careers News
University of New South Wales - Science - Parent and Student Information Session
Wednesday 26 March, 6.30 - 8.30pm, Leighton Hall, UNSW Kensington Campus.
This information night is for Year 11 and 12 students and their parents, and will introduce the Faculty of Science, give an overview of the science programs on offer and provide information about student life at UNSW.
Details at http://science.unsw.edu.au/events/infonight.

Ten Ways an Arts Degree can Change the World
The “Arts Degree” often gets critiqued as a waste of time for students to do. This is an interesting article by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney highlighting ten ways that studying arts and social sciences can change the world. See http://sydney.edu.au/arts/donors/change_world.shtml.

The School for Excellence: Mid-Year Exam Revision Lectures
Saturday 8 to Sunday 16 March, University of Sydney Camperdown Campus. Subjects covered include Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Economics, English, Mathematics & Physics.
Go to http://www.tsfx.com.au/?hsc-program=mid-year-exam-revision-lectures
Please remember to check Covie Careers for further information www.coviecareers.com.

Café Covie - Open every day 8.30 -11.30am
School Canteen - Open Monday and Friday. Order online www.munchmonitor.com
CCS Uniform Shop - Open Monday 2.00-2.45pm and Wednesday 8.00-9.00am (ph: 9450 2696)
Help Wanted
Enthusiastic mum or other female to go to the Year 8 to 10 camp to Moree. This could also be a great opportunity for an ex-student to be involved. Must have a sense of humour and be willing to share five days with staff and students at the inaugural camp to Moree. This is a chance to speak into the lives of some of our young girls. You do not have to have a child going on the camp. If you think this might interest you please contact Mrs Rachel Purcell for further information.

Year 7 (all) and Year 9 (boys only) Immunisations
Parent Information Kits have now been sent home to parents. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to school.
If your child has not received a kit, please collect one from the school office.

Senior Blazers (Years 10-12)
The ordering of the senior blazers will take place in the next two weeks (17-26 February). Each student needs to be fitted with ‘try-on’ sizes. Please note that we have separate styles for boys and girls.
The Uniform Shop is open on Mondays, 2.00-2.45pm, and Wednesdays, 8.00-9.00am. The Uniform Shop will also be open at lunchtime on Monday 24 February for students to be fitted for their blazer.
All orders need to be placed by Wednesday 26 February. You are reminded that blazers are compulsory for senior students to wear in Terms 2 and 3. Please note that a $50 surcharge will apply per blazer for orders received after Wednesday 26 February.

Secondary School Swimming Carnival
This will be on Monday 3 March 2014. We have organised for a bus this year to transport students to and from the carnival if they have no other transport. The cost will be $10 per student. Letters will be sent home shortly giving further details.

What’s New on the Blog Site?
The Covenant Creative Writing Club - An Interview with Belle Tukin
The Covenant Creative Writing Club is now in its second year. The club extends those who love to put pen to paper. This year, Year 12 student, Belle Tukin is at the helm. She teaches, encourages and inspires the school’s younger wordsmiths. Here, Belle is interviewed about the club, what it takes to lead and the unexpected benefits of giving to others.
Check out the full interview at
http://covenantextensionandenrichment.wordpress.com/2014/02/15/the-covenant-creative-writing-club/

New Blog Posts to Visit
http://www.covenant.nsw.edu.au/christian-school/high-school-information-night
Found
One pair of orthotics and one pair of black school shoes (not together!) have been found. Please collect from the office if they belong to you.

Year 7 Social Event
The first Year 7 Social Event for the year will be at Water Works, Manly, on Saturday 8 March from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Cost: around $20 (to be confirmed). Parents welcome to stay and chat. Apologies, no siblings on the waterslides, though welcome to stay and chat. Parents welcome to stay and chat. Apologies, no siblings on the waterslides, though welcome to stay and chat. Please RSVP to Robyn O'Donoghue on 0406 851 602 by Friday 28 February.

Letters to Parents
Some may not have been distributed yet.

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<tr>
<th>Date of</th>
<th>Letter Class</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<td>10/2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Senior Blazers</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/CCSNotes.

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
---|---
**Year 7**
German (all) Chapter 7 test | Wk 6

**YEAR 8**
Science (all classes)
- SRP Assessment Booklet due | 28/2
- SRP Presentations | 3/3-8/3
- Passion Project (all classes)
  - Proposal | 24/2
- History (all classes)
- Vikings Source Analysis | 6/3
- Geography assignment | 28/3

NB: Mathematics unit tests are held regularly at the end of units. Students are notified in class at least two days prior.

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.)

- **Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers**
  Free workshop for parents and supervisors of learner drivers held by Roads & Maritime Services in conj. with Warringah Council. Tue 18 Feb at Pittwater Council, Mona Vale; Thu 20 Feb at the Civic Centre, Dee Why. 6.30-8.30pm. Bookings essential - call Peter Wright, Warringah Council, 9942 2447 or roadsafety@warringah.nsw.gov.au.

- **Pink Ball**
  Manly Warringah Basketball Assn's exciting new girls only program, designed to introduce 7-12yr old girls to basketball. Skill development and enjoyment, run by female coaches & rep players. Sat 22 Feb to Sat 5 Apr, 2:30–3:30pm at Northern Beaches Indoor Sports Centre. Cost: $80 includes a pink basketball or pink gym sack. Numbers limited to first 50 girls. Payment & applications must be made by Thu 20 Feb. For details, email camps@manlybasketball.com.au.

- **AFL After School Program**
  6 week Auskick program with fully trained and qualified coaches. AFL Auskick pack including footy, cap, FootyPedia, pump, cards and more. Suitable for all skill levels, boys and girls, big and small! Opportunity to become a Sydney Swans Red Rookie! Register online for this program at aflauskick.com.au and select 'Find a centre' with the postcode 2101, then select Pittwater AFL Auskick Centre - After School Run on the synthetic field at Narrabeen Sports High, 4-5pm on Wednesdays 19 Feb to 26 March. The 3rd session will be held at North Narrabeen Reserve from 4-5pm on Tue 4 Mar to coincide with a visit from the Sydney Swans after the training session.

What’s Coming Up!
- Monday 24 to Friday 28 February Year 12 Hospitality Work Placement
- Wednesday 26 to Friday 28 February Year 5 and 6 Camps
- Monday 3 March Secondary Zone Swimming
- Wednesday 5 March Year 7 (all) and Year 9 (boys only) Vaccinations
- Friday 7 March Secondary Zone Swimming
- Saturday 8 March Year 7 Social Event
- Monday 10 March Primary State Swimming
- Tuesday 11 March General Assembly (10.45am)
- Year 7 Information Evening and School Tour
- Thursday 13 March Secondary State Swimming
- Friday 14 and Saturday 15 March Year 3/4 Sleepover
- Tuesday 18 March Year 11 Drivers Education Day
- Thursday 20 to Friday 21 March Year 7-11 Drama & Dance Camp
- Wednesday 26 March Primary CIS Swimming
- **Thursday 3 April**
  - School Tour (9.15am)
  - **Thursday 3 to Friday 11 April** Year 11/12 Exams
  - **Friday 4 to Friday 11 April** Year 7 to 10 Camps
  - **Friday 11 April**
  - Last day of Term 1

This Week’s Quizzle

**NOMMAG**

Answer to the last Quizzle

OVER-POWERING STRENGTH