



The Arndell Advocate

Friday 27th August, 2010

The Newsletter of Arndell Anglican College

From The Headmaster

Mr Gareth Leechman



Twenty one years ago the genesis of what we know today as Arndell Anglican College emerged from the lounge room of the Laffin household and the desire to create a quality low fee Christian school in the Hawkesbury was born. It was the combination of their vision, single minded determination and most importantly their faith from this group of people that saw a fledgling school of some 40 students grow, struggle and grow again to become what we enjoy today- a fully developed Prep to Year 12 College of over 800 students with facilities the envy of many in our community.

Each Headmaster before me has placed their personal hallmark on the college and added to what we know as the fabric of Arndell. Mr Craig Laffin, the college's foundation Headmaster, not only had to establish the variety of practices and procedures a school must follow, he also had to look at relocating the school as it grew, employ staff to meet the various needs of a school in its infancy, wait patiently as possible enrolments waited to see how the school would develop and grow. However, through all the many trials and tribulations of the early years, Arndell did grow and the vision continued.

In 1995 Peter Walker joined the school as Arndell's second Headmaster. During his time Peter saw the school grow to over 800 students but with this growth came significant financial pressures. Growing at a rapid rate is encouraging but it can create several problems that the governors of the school needed to address such as facilities and the employment of new staff. However once again God provided and through successful talks with the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation Arndell morphed into what we know today as Arndell Anglican College. With its financial position now secure Arndell was ready to move forward once again this time under the leadership of its third Headmaster Dr John Goddard.

John arrived in 2003 with the clear agenda of raising the academic and cultural standards of the college. In his six years at the college it is safe to say that John honoured his commitment to Arndell in these matters. For the first time Arndell students regularly placed themselves in the top 5% of the state in the HSC, musicals became bigger and more grandiose, choir tours went overseas and new buildings such as the Senior School Library and Performing Arts Centre were completed. The original vision of the foundation parents and governors had now become a reality – a quality low fee Christian school in the Hawkesbury was on offer to the people and community of this area.

Why did I choose to write my reflective piece on our history? For so many of us we only know the Arndell of today, a college of abundant resources, of quality results and of strong community. As the college gets older and older the pioneering spirit of those early years gets lost and the original vision starts to fade, it is vitally important that we never forget where we came from and that we stay true to the foundation principles this college was built on.

This community is a great community and in the past few weeks I have experienced this first-hand. *Hats* the Junior School musical, our Special Olympics performance, Grandparents Day, the Foundation Day Dinner, our students' performances at the recent HICES and Hills Zone Carnivals and just recently at 'A Night on Broadway'. At each of these events our students' talents shone and the inclusive way they supported each other is a credit to the growing maturity of our student body. Arndell has not stopped growing and this fact must be getting out into the

Hawkesbury community as enrolment enquiries for 2011 remain exceptionally strong. May God continue to Bless Arndell!

Thinking THRASS:

Mrs Sarah Jones Jnr. School

During the school holidays just passed (which seems so long ago!) the whole junior school staff was in-serviced on THRASS. It was a great 2 days and gave us lots of ideas for the classroom.

During the last week of holidays, Mrs O'Hare and I attended the 3-day Advanced THRASS course. This was run by Denyse Ritchie (co-founder of THRASS) and they were three information-packed days! It was very helpful to be meeting with teachers from all over Australia and to hear how they had integrated THRASS into their classrooms. There was also a teacher from a WA prison there and she had some great stories about how the prisoners were using THRASS.

A question we are often asked about the chart is "How do the kids know which spelling choice is the right one?" Well, they don't. It is up to us as teachers (and parents) to be telling them the right spelling choice. The THRASS chart is a tool for us to use to show them the correct choice.

One thing that was stressed during the course is that there is no such thing as a 'silent letter' (yes, this is a completely different way of thinking!). In school we were taught words like 'beach' and 'bread' and would be quite happy to say that these words do not have a 'silent letter', yet as soon as we come across the word 'know', we would say that the 'k' is silent. What we need to understand is that different letter combinations make different speech sounds (phonemes).

It is important to remember that letters do not make a sound (phoneme) until they are put into a word. For example, the letter 'a' appears six times on the THRASS chart, because, on its own, it can make at least six different sounds – ant, baby, banana, zebra, swan, ball.

We learnt the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and were tested on it and the chart at the end of the course. And of course we passed with flying colours!

Watch this spot for more information on THRASS!

Learning Support Funding Applications – K-12:

Mrs Mary Zahn (Jnr. School) Mrs Donna Allen (Snr. School)

The Government provides Commonwealth Targeted Funding to assist students with various needs in our school with the following: Literacy/Numeracy, Integration, Capital Works and Equipment for students with disabilities and ESL – New Arrivals.

In order to access this funding Arndell will be sending specific, detailed information on some students to the Association of Independent Schools of NSW (AISNSW). No last names are included and everything possible is done to ensure that your privacy and that of your child is protected. In order to comply with Privacy Legislation, this notice is issued to all parents, in case your child is included in this process.

If you do not give your permission to forward information on your child to AISNSW, you must advise the College that your permission is withheld by filling out and returning the slip below, by September 8th.

You may call either Mary Zahn (Jnr. School) or Donna Allen (Snr. School) if you have any queries.

Return to (please circle): Mary Zahn (Jnr. School) OR Donna Allen (Snr. School)

I _____ (parent/guardian name) do **not** give permission for information on my child _____ (Yr) _____ to be forwarded to AIS for the purposes of accessing additional funding in any of the above categories.

Signed: _____ (parent) _____ (date)

Arndell Anglican College

Directory:

Headmaster:	Mr Gareth Leechman
A/Head of Junior School:	Mr James Webb
A/Deputy Headmaster:	Mr Austin Robinson
Director of Studies:	Mrs Lynn Gillen
After School Care:	0407 474 161 (3.30- 5.30pm).
Equestrian:	Mrs Laura Thorpe 0416 212 260 prestigeinteriors@exemail.com.au Mrs Anna MacDonald p.amac@bigpond.com
P & F President:	Mrs Neile Thompson 0414 845 488 pandf@arndell.nsw.edu.au
Uniform Shop:	Mrs Liz Moore 4572 3254 Tuesday/Thursday 8.30-10.30am/2.30-4.pm
Canteens:	Monday-Friday (Recess/Lunch)
Arndell Community Church:	Pastor Greg Peisley 4572 3633/0402 278 483 Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday

Thrass Information Evening
for
K-6 Parents
Wednesday 1st September
Nibbles and drinks
from
6.30pm
ready for
7-8pm meeting
in the
Junior Learning Centre

Term Dates for 2010

Term 3

Monday 19th July to Friday 24th September

Term 4

Tuesday 12th October to Wednesday 8th December

Monday 6th December – Infants Presentation
Afternoon

Tuesday 7th December – Primary School
Presentation Evening

Wednesday 8th December – Senior School
Presentation Evening

Musical Munchkins ***Playgroup***

Tuesday 9.30-11.30am
\$2.00 per child \$5.00 per family
Arndell Anglican College (Old Prep Room)
Contact: Naomi Ireland
4580 9602/0419 213 254

Contact Numbers in case of ***Emergencies***

Parents,

To assist us in case of emergencies at the College (e.g. when students miss their bus or medical emergencies) or changes of addresses/phone numbers, we are asking parents to **notify in writing** to the Admin office these changes so that the College records are kept up to date.

SUMMER UNIFORM
Uniform change over occurs after Fathers Day.
Students are expected to wear summer uniform
on Monday 6th September.



Arndell Sports Desk:

from Mrs R Cornick

HICES Primary Athletics Carnival:

Congratulations to all athletes who competed, what a terrific day Arndell had finishing 3rd overall in Division 2 (Small Schools). Official results will not be available until after the Advocate had gone to print so detailed results will appear in the next edition. A HUGE thank you to Mrs Leechman assistant Team manager, Mrs Turville and Mr McNab, for a busy day at Girls & Boys Turbo Javelin and all the parents who came along to support their children and Arndell. Most of all the athletes who ran, threw and jumped their very best, you were all terrific and a credit to the College.



HZSA Secondary Athletics Carnival:

Results for this event were not available until after the Advocate had gone to print so will appear in the next edition. A HUGE thank you to Miss Southwell and Mr Webb for taking on the roles of Team manager, and to Miss Kerb and Jim Shepherd for a busy day at the recording desk and the parents who came along to support their children and Arndell. An extra special thank you goes to the students in yr 12 & yr 9, who came along as student helpers supporting their College and myself.

HZSA Intermediate Netball Final: Congratulations to the Intermediate Netball team for a tremendous match against Galston High. Your determination and sportsmanship is a credit to you all. Thank you to Mr Webb for his commitment and encouragement as Team Manager, to the parents for their support and Danica Barbagello for umpiring their games each week.

Trimester Three Secondary HZSA Sport

Sports entered are **Boys Touch Football** – Senior & Junior on Wednesdays starting 1st Sept & Junior & Senior **Boys Outdoor Cricket**- Tuesdays starting Term 4.

SASC Primary & Secondary Netball Competition – 3rd September Kellyville

Arndell has entered 2x yr 3&4, and one team in yr5&6, yr7&8, yr 9 and 2 teams in yr 10-12.

Dates for Term 3:

SASC Primary & Secondary Netball Competition – 3rd September Kellyville

AICES Secondary Athletics – 6th September – Homebush (date last advocate was a typo)

CIS Secondary Athletics Carnival – 14th September – Homebush

CIS 15s Cricket Trials – 16th September – Nominations due 9th September

CIS Primary Athletics Carnival – 21st September – Homebush

AICES 15s Tennis Nominations due – 24th September – competition 15th October.

NSW All Schools Athletics – 7th – 10th October – Homebush – Individual entry 12yrs +.

A respectful request to all students and parents: Letters sent home regarding any sporting event, requests to assist at gala or carnival days and nominations to trial for Representative sport **must** be returned by the due date indicated on the letter. Failure to comply creates unnecessary extra work for organisers, besides which the Sports Associations HICES, HZSA, AICES & CIS will **not** accept late nominations. In the case of CIS if you nominate and do not trial or withdraw students will still incur the fee.

Sporting Commitments: Students who have signed a commitment form as a member of a College team do have a responsibility to their team to attend every game. Whilst there maybe circumstances when students cannot uphold this commitment, every effort must be made on their behalf to notify the Head of Sport & their coach at least 24 hours prior to their game so that alternative arrangements can be put in place.

The Sports webpage is being updated and all sport dates for 2010 are on the Sport webpage in Extra Curricular Activities. Parents are recommended to keep up to date with what is going on through these avenues. HZSA now has its own website: www.hillszone.com.au parents are encouraged to access this webpage for all HZSA information, results and draws. There is NO website for HICES.

Arndell Anglican College

Annual Golf Day

16th September 2010

WINDSOR County Golf Club

7.30am Breakfast

8.30am Shotgun Start – 4 Person Ambrose

cost \$65

(Includes Game, Breakfast & lunch)

Sponsorship

\$250

One all inclusive entry to the golf day
Sponsorship of a hole (signage supplied
by Sponsor.)
Promotion of Sponsor on Arndell
Website for remainder of 2010
Distribution of Promotion Material on
day (material supplied by sponsor)

\$375

Two all inclusive entries to the golf day + Golf Cart
Sponsorship of a hole (signage supplied
by Sponsor.)
Promotion of Sponsor on Arndell
Website for remainder of 2010
Distribution of Promotion Material on
day (material supplied by sponsor)

Arndell Anglican College

Annual Golf Day 2010

Booking Form

Team Name _____

Team Captain _____

Team Members

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Sponsorship Yes No

Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to Arndell P&F Association

For more information Call Jonathon Carter on 0425 205 688, jenn4jon@bigpond.com;
or Gordon Reid on 0407 273 751

*THANKS TO THIS
YEAR'S SPONSORS OF
THE 2010 TALENT
SPECTACULAR.*



McGraths Hill



PENRITH PLAZA



**HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR
TICKETS YET?**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd at
7:30pm.**

**YOU COULD WIN 3 NIGHTS IN
NOOSA VALUED AT \$750**

**ALL TICKETS \$10 INCLUDES
SUPPER**

CAPTAIN COOK



CRUISES

Arndell Equestrian



Laura Thorpe & Anna MacDonald

Organisation is well under way for the Annual **Arndell Equestrian Carnival, to be held on Saturday, 25th September at Clarendon Showground** – a great showcase for the College, and great day for our students competing.

The Equestrian Committee is a great team of willing workers and are now meeting every Monday at school to finalise preparations for the event. However, more help is always appreciated so if you'd like to lend a hand on the day or help the organisation beforehand just let us know at equestrian@arndell.nsw.edu.au – the more the merrier!

More Helpers are needed on the Day:

Teachers, Staff and students are all welcome to help, we are only asking for ONE hour of your time on the day between the hours of 10am-3pm. Please contact Laura if you are available to time keep or sell Guessing Competition Tickets during those hours. Thank you to those parents and Staff who have already offered their assistance to help out on the day. Much appreciated.

Upcoming Events:

- Camden High School Equestrian Carnival 4th September 2010, includes showjumping
- Tara Anglican School for Girls Dressage Day 12th September 2010
- Oxley College Equestrian Day 19th September 2010
- Arndell Equestrian Carnival 25th September 2010

Grandparents Day

