



The Arndell Advocate

Friday 5 November 2010
The Newsletter of Arndell Anglican College

From The Headmaster

Mr Gareth Leechman



My covering article this week has been written by our Junior School Learning Support Co-ordinator: Mrs Mary Zahn. Mrs Zahn is providing the College Community with an update on how our implementation of THRASS has impacted on student outcomes.

During 2010 the Junior School Literacy focus was on improving spelling results across the Junior School. At the beginning of the school year students were tested on the normed South Australian Spelling Test. This was done to provide a comparative tool as a Pre-THRASS test.

All classroom teachers as well as the Learning Support Staff participated in a 2 day training course in THRASS (Teaching Handwriting Reading and Spelling Skills) during June. This was followed by regular curriculum meetings to share information gleaned from visits and to plan future directions.

During Terms 3 and 4 all classrooms started using the THRASS approach in their classrooms. Experienced THRASS staff provided demonstration lessons to further extend this teaching tool in the classroom. Staff continued to gather at curriculum meetings and to share ideas for resources they had made, and to encourage one another.

During the year parent nights were held at the school with a THRASS trainer and our teachers to explain the approach and the language students would be using.

Students were again tested on the S.A Spelling test later in the year and significant gains were noted with students at all levels. Some children had improved by as much as 3 years. The teachers were unanimous in their support of the program and will continue to enthusiastically implement these strategies in their classrooms in the year ahead. We look forward to seeing continued improved results and excellence in all areas of Literacy.

NAPLAN RESULTS

The NAPLAN results for Year 3 and Year 5 have been released and Arndell has done very well. In Year 3 the majority of our children were above the state average in Writing and Reading and well above the state average in all aspects of Numeracy. Large improvements were made in Grammar and Punctuation.

In Year 5 the children were above the state average in Numeracy and Writing and well above state average in Grammar and Punctuation.

The percentage of children in the top bands has improved in Numeracy and areas of Literacy.

These results are very encouraging and demonstrate that our teaching and learning programmes have been effective in raising the standards of Literacy and Numeracy at Arndell including the implementation of THRASS here.

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)
P & F President:	Mrs Donna Pellew 0417 774 545
Equestrian:	Mrs Laura Thorpe 0416 212 260 prestigeinteriors@exemail.com.au Mrs Anna MacDonald p.amac@bigpond.com
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

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

Help us collect Sports gear, for our School!

We have registered for the Coles Sports for Schools program where Coles is giving all primary and secondary schools in Australia the chance to get brand new sporting equipment – and we need your help! Every \$10 spent at Coles Supermarkets, Coles Online, Bi-Lo or Pick'n Pay will earn a Coles Sports for Schools voucher worth 1 point.

We're asking our local school community to collect these vouchers from family, friends and neighbours to drop into the collection box we have at school.

The more vouchers we collect, the more sports gear we can get! Just remember to ask for the vouchers when you pay during your normal weekly shop.

A box has been placed at **Student Services** where you can drop off the vouchers.

Last day for Sports Vouchers is Tuesday 9th November 2010.

Term Dates for 2010

Term 4

Tuesday 12 October to Wednesday 8 December

Monday 6 December – Infants Presentation Afternoon

Tuesday 7 December – Primary School Presentation Even.

Wednesday 8 December – Senior School Presentation Even.

Term Dates for 2011

Term 1

Monday 31 Jan. – Prep, K, Yrs 7, 11 & Yr 12 Prefects only.

Tuesday 1 Feb – All remaining students

Friday 8 Apr – term 2 Finishes

Term 2

Wednesday 27 Apr to Friday 24 June

Term 3

Tuesday 19 Jul to Fri 23 Sept.

Term 4

Tuesday 11 Oct to Thursday 8 Dec.

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Term 4

Tuesday 11 Oct to Thursday 8 Dec.

- Tuesday 6 Dec – Infants Presentation Afternoon
- Wednesday 7 Dec – Primary Presentation Evening
- Thursday 8 Dec Senior School Presentation Evening

Year 7 Parents and Students

As the 2010 Yr 7 students approach the end of their first secondary year at Arndell, we are very keen to provide you with an opportunity to provide some feedback about your experiences of the College.

To this end, we are inviting you to participate in a Yr 7 'exit' research project. The format for the research will be a comprehensive, strictly confidential on-line survey.

You will be receiving a letter within the next week providing you with your unique URL that will enable secure access to the survey site. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

SECOND - HAND TEXTBOOKS

Mrs Connie Stephens ph: 4545 2460

Several students and parents have enquired lately about our end of year second-hand textbook sale. This sale is always held on the last Saturday of November and the first Saturday of December, from 10:00am – 12:00pm on the C-block verandahs. **This year the dates are 27/11 and 4/12.**

On these mornings, students and/or parents may bring in their old (current) textbooks to sell, and buy second-hand texts for the following year. Books, in good condition, are usually sold at around half the new price. Students will receive their 2011 textbook lists before this date and all textbook list prices are available online at the Champion book s website (champion.com.au) to price the books for sale.

Whilst I'm happy to assist with all enquiries on the day, I do not sell or buy texts for students, on the day. Any unsold texts from the two days, after Dec 4, may be left with me for possible resale in the Senior Library Centre. Each of these books requires its own attached envelope, with student name/year and home contact phone number, so that I can easily notify you if any books are sold next year.

Each year we have more purchasers than sellers, so I encourage you to ensure your child has emptied their lockers before the day, so that all possible texts are available to sell.

Mental Health First Aid

STOP PRESS: VENUE CHANGE FOR NOV 6 ONLY

ARNDELL ANGLICAN COLLEGE STAFF COMMON ROOM

A course designed to help people understand the major mental illnesses in Australia & how to respond effectively to help people in crisis. Also to help those suffering mental illness to access the appropriate help. The course covers depression, anxiety, self injury, psychosis, eating disorders & substance use.

This course is appropriate for anyone who wants to know more about mental illness & how to support those suffering from a mental illness & is 16 and over

WHEN: On 2 separate days **6th & 20th Nov**

TIME: 9am till 4pm COST: \$20 payable on day one.

WHERE: St James Church Hall, 110 Bathurst St Pitt Town

Participants **must** attend both days to obtain a certificate for the course. **RSVP**

Mandy Crawshaw email: mangeo@mac.com Church office: 4572 3262.

Contact Dave for more info. djkeegan@me.com

If you in some way connected to someone with Asperger's Syndrome you will find this seminar a very helpful insight into the world of Asperger's. For more details and registration forms please contact College Counsellor.

SEMINAR-WORKSHOP-BOOK LAUNCH

Presenting

Dr Wendy Lawson & Introducing Ms Robyn Steward
The Autism & Aspergers Support Group Inc invite you to be part of
Wendy & Robyn's Australian 'Adventour' in November 2010

Wendy is thrilled to be sharing this "Adventour" with Robyn Steward from the UK. Together they are exploring the autistic spectrum in its variety of guises. Their workshops will have a special twist: they will assist participants to explore the autistic spectrum and specific interventions via poetry and art.

SUMMARY

TOPIC AREA A - 'The Passionate Mind: How Individuals with Autism Learn'.

- ASD, school & the Teachers Tool Kit
- Exclusion or Inclusion - what do they really mean?

TOPIC AREA B - 'Relationships, the Autism Spectrum & Social Demand'

TOPIC AREA C - 'Take a Walk in Our Shoes - Sharing Our Stories'.

COMMUNICATING WITH TEENAGERS

Free 4 week course for parents:

Wednesday: 10th, 17th, 24th November and 1st December 2010 6.30 – 8.30pm

Learn to speak to teens and be heard!

Learn how to listen to their communications!

'Learn how to effectively communicate together!'

WHERE: Richmond Neighbourhood Centre'

20 West Market Street' Richmond 2753

Bookings Essential!

02 4588 3502

Team/Group photos are on display at Student Services
and must be ordered by **11th November**
House photos \$14-00 all others are \$16-00.

Arndell Equestrian Carnival Report

Laura Thorpe (Equestrian Co-ordinator)



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who were involved in the Arndell Interschool Equestrian Carnival on the 25th of September 2010: competitors, parents, staff and students, who assisted in the planning and running of the carnival.

The day was successful in many ways; for fundraising, organisation, and especially for competitors who enjoyed the opportunity to display their talents.

A special thank you to those parents and staff who assisted throughout the day with the recording, sporting events, stewarding on the rings, selling guessing competition tickets and to Mr & Mrs Stephens for organising and managing the drinks and lolly stall all day.

The day ran smoothly for the competitors and was enjoyed by everyone, thanks to the support by all these people, who gave up their time to help out on the day.

A very big thank you to all of our sponsors, without whom this event would not be possible.

The competitors were thrilled with the donated prizes.

The biggest thanks must go to my Equestrian Committee members; Anna MacDonald, Chris Hollis, Vicki Clayton, Margot Shore, Simone Bishop and Rachel Smyth who gave up so much of their time, effort and resources for the benefit of the carnival over the past few months.

Despite the hard work, it was a fantastic day, and we hope next year is just as successful as this year's competition.

Thank you all very much. I look forward to Arndell's 19th Annual Carnival. Results will be posted on our website shortly.

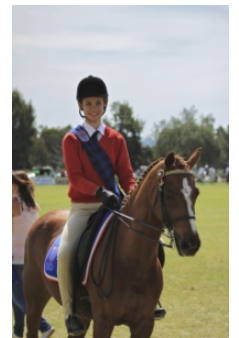


Arndell Equestrian Team Results

Anna MacDonald (Team Manager)

It has been a very busy couple of months of competition for our team riders. We had riders representing Arndell at Tara Anglican School Dressage, Camden High School Equestrian Carnival, the Australian National Interschool's Competition and of course our own Arndell Equestrian Carnival.

Tara Anglican Dressage: Genevieve and Amelia Ramsey were our only representatives at this event and both achieved outstanding results. Genevieve placed 1st in the Prelim 1A, 2nd in the Prep 2 and 2nd in the Prep 1 with scores well over 70 % and Amelia had her first outing with her new horse and despite his fear of the judges car, managed to achieve scores in the high 60's. From all reports, the girls had a great day at a very well organised competition. Hopefully they will be joined by more of our team riders next year. Well done!



Camden High School Equestrian Carnival: Despite a very wet day, Emmie-Rose Shore, Maddy Thorpe, Katie MacDonald, Georgia Thorpe and Hanna Thorpe braved the weather to represent the school at Camden. All the girls had a great day and given the conditions, the horses behaved themselves extremely well. There are too many results to mention each individual one; however, special mention must go to our smallest rider, Hanna Thorpe, who ended up winning the overall junior rider award. Well Done!

Australian National Interschool Championships: Unfortunately I was unable to personally attend this event, so a special thank you to Laura Thorpe who stepped in as Team Manager. Big congratulations to our riders who attended this major event and I'm sure that they all enjoyed the opportunity to represent NSW at such a prestigious event. The results were:

- Primary Showman- Georgia Thorpe finishing overall 8th and NSW Res. Champion Team
- Secondary Combined Training- Jaimee Robertson finishing 9th overall
- Secondary Elementary Dressage- Cassie Brett finishing 3rd overall
- Secondary Eventing Preliminary- Aneka Saunders finishing 10th overall



"A fantastic effort by all girls. It was a very high standard of competition and extremely long days of riding. Thank you also to the girl's families for their support and dedication over the 3 days, it was very tiring but very rewarding for all. I personally applaud the sportsmanship and team spirit all the girls showed towards this wonderful opportunity of representing their State. "Laura Thorpe