



# The Arndell Advocate

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2011  
The Newsletter of Arndell Anglican College

## *From The Headmaster*

*Mr Gareth Leechman*



### **Higher School Certificate and School Certificate success!**

During our four professional development days in the last week of January the Senior School teachers engaged in a series of presentations from Mrs Bronwyn Hegarty of *Academic Profiles*. *Academic Profiles* is a highly regarded educational firm interested in improving the quality of assessment, learning and teaching that occurs in schools via the analysis of student performance in external examinations such as the HSC and School Certificate. Over the last decade this firm has each year analysed our performance in the HSC and the School Certificate examinations and then provided us with a series of thought provoking recommendations as to how we can improve the quality of our educational practice and thus in turn improve the outcomes for all of our students. I am pleased to say that this process of analysis and implementation has continued to shape our educational offerings and thus continued to improve our results.

In the HSC it is worth noting the following achievements:

1. Dux for 2010 was Greg Du Cros with an ATAR of 95.9 and Prox Accesit was Lawrence Pearce with an ATAR of 95.7
2. 50% of our HSC cohort achieved an ATAR of over 70 compared to 48% in 2009
3. Our median ATAR increased in 2010 to 69.80 compared to 68.50 in 2009
4. In 2010 the best result with respect to performance was recorded by the Mathematics Subject Area while the best result with respect to achievement was recorded by the Science Subject Area.
5. English, HSIE, Mathematics, PDHPE, Performing Arts, Science, TAS and VET Subject Areas achieved results at or above their expected performance benchmarks.
6. The value added figure improved to 57% compared to 53% in 2009

In the School Certificate it is worth noting the following achievements:

1. The 2010 overall School Certificate Percentile Ranking was 54.15, up by 5.78 percentage points from 48.38 in 2009.
2. This was the highest overall percentile ranking in the past 8 years.
3. The highest percentile ranking in the 2010 School Certificate Tests was 61.62 achieved in the Geography Test
4. The most improved School Certificate Test percentile ranking was in Mathematics (up by 9.38 percentage points).
5. The School Certificate percentile rankings improved in English, Geography, Mathematics and Science but declined slightly in History.
- 6.

On behalf of the college community I congratulate all of the Year 10 and 12 students on their success many of them achieving results above the goals they had set themselves. These results place our students amongst the highest performers in the Hawkesbury and this is something of which we are very proud.

***From the Head of Senior School:  
Mr James Webb***

Echoed around the College over the past few weeks has been the phrase 'what a really positive start'. The students have come into 2011 with a real 'zing' in their step, ready to learn and to commit to the College. This is what makes being a teacher so worthwhile.

We welcome to the senior school, Mrs. Karen Merrick – Music, Mr. Brad Murphy – Physics and Science, Mr. Ian Finn – HSIE, Careers and D of E, Mrs. Jennifer Barter – Business Studies and Commerce, Mr. Tom Lavelle – Head of English and Dr. Sam Jackson – Head of History and Biblical Studies.

We also welcome our new students in year seven and across the senior school.



**A reminder to Year 7 parents and parents of new students** – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2011, 7.30pm in the Auditorium is your opportunity to 'Meet the Homeroom Tutor'.

I will post on the website shortly information regarding our 'Welfare System' and also information with respect to uniform expectations.

There are so many exciting activities happening during the course of the year I really do urge you to attend as many as you can. Rehearsals are underway for the Senior School Musical – Leader of the Pack – if you love 60's music I guarantee to have you dancing in the aisles.

**Start of the Day:**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday all students attend Homeroom from 8.30am and on Tuesday and Thursday we have Assembly and Chapel respectively. It is absolutely essential that students arrive on time to start the day. Please assist us in this matter.

**Car Parking:**

A number of changes have been made to the parking. Senior (Year 12 Only) students will park in the bottom car park; which was originally built for them. However I am aware that there is significant traffic behind the Performing Arts building. Please be aware of other road users in this area.

**Sport:**

If your child puts their name down for a team please ensure that they maintain their commitment. Whilst there may be other pressures outside the College I am sure that coaches of teams would support students representing their school and perhaps arriving to training a little late.

***Head of Junior School:  
Rev. Keith Peterson***

It has certainly been a very busy, very full and very fulfilling period since the beginning of my time as Head of Junior School at Arndell! There has been so much to learn, so much to begin to do, so many new opportunities and new relationships to begin - and it has certainly been especially interesting to have ventured down from the near-flooded sub-tropics in Grafton to a record heat-wave in the Hawkesbury!



I would really like to begin this first reflection though by expressing my thanks, and this time for the much more significant 'heart warmth' with which I have been so kindly received by all of the Arndell community; staff, children and parents. It is wonderful to walk through the playground to a chorus of, 'good mornings' from students and parents and to gather that preliminary sense of welcome - and so of belonging - to a very special place

I would also like to pay tribute to my predecessor as Head of Junior School, Mr Rick Harrison. I have been Foundation Head of a Junior School myself and I certainly recognise the extent of the task and of how much might sometimes perhaps seem to go

unnoticed in terms of laying that depth of structures and of organisational detail from which the present might be secured and future growth might occur. Thank you Rick.

For what an excellent future it is that we do have to look forward to at Arndell Junior School – and what an excellent start to the New Year all of our students have made! Prep was settled so well (thank you Mrs Garrett and Mrs Davies!) and well done Kindergarten for a brilliant start to the year (well done and thank you to Mrs Finn and Miss May!). We had thirty new students begin at Arndell Junior School this year (surely a record?!?), and all have done an exceptional job of settling successfully into our community. Well done to all of you!

And my particular thank you to *all members* of the Junior School Staff, for their professionalism and commitment to each of our children over these first weeks as they have worked very hard indeed to provide the very best start for all of their classes.

The Bible shouts out, 'Without a vision, the people perish!'

And as a unified staff team at Arndell Junior School we certainly are committed together to a realisation of that vision – to work together, with our children and families to enable the maximum level of personal, educational and spiritual growth and well being for each of our students.

Our prayer is that under this vision our school might just flourish – under that golden banner of God's promise and to His Glory!

So, thank you again for the warmth and openness of your welcome! I am very much looking forward to getting to know our special community better in the days and weeks ahead.

Every Blessing!

***Music Lessons:***  
***Mr Chris Wilson***

Are you interested? | Lessons are available at the College for:  
Piano, Flute, Brass, Clarinet/Saxophone, Guitar, Drums and Singing.

**Group Lessons available for:**

Speech, Drama, Singing and Piano

**Fees per semester: (two terms) Individual lessons \$550 Group lessons \$260**

If you are interested please return the slip to Mr Wilson c/- College Admin and a Peripatetic teacher will make contact with you.

**Attention: Mr Wilson**

**Re Peripatetic Lessons**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Year

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_

## Arndell Anglican College Directory

<b>Headmaster:</b>	Mr Gareth Leechman
<b>Head of Senior School:</b>	Mr James Webb
<b>Head of Junior School:</b>	Rev Keith Peterson
<b>Director of Studies:</b>	Mrs Lynn Gillen
<b>After School Care:</b>	0407 474 161 (3.30- 5.30pm)
<b>P &amp; F President:</b>	Mrs Donna Pellew 0417 774 545
<b>Equestrian:</b>	Mrs Laura Thorpe 0416 212 260 <a href="mailto:prestigeinteriors@exemail.com.au">prestigeinteriors@exemail.com.au</a> Mrs Anna MacDonald p.amac@bigpond.com
<b>Uniform Shop:</b>	Mrs Liz Moore 4572 3254 Tuesday/Thursday 8.20-10.30am/2.30-4.pm
<b>Canteen:</b>	Monday-Friday (Recess/Lunch)
<b>Arndell Community Church:</b>	Pastor Greg Peisley 4572 3633/0402 278 483 Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday

### Important 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.

- Years 7-11 Camps (Wed. 21 to Fri. 23 Sept.)

#### Term 4

Tuesday 11 Oct to Thursday 8 Dec.

- Yr 10 Work Experience (Monday 21 Nov. To Fri. 2 Dec.)
- Tuesday 6 Dec – Infants Presentation Afternoon
- Wednesday 7 Dec – Primary Presentation Evening
- Thursday 8 Dec Senior School Presentation Evening

### **Arndell Community Church Contact: Greg Peisley 4572 3262**

#### **Bible Study:**

Want to know what your children are learning?  
Are you looking for answers to questions about God & Jesus?

Fridays 9.30am

Arndell Staff Common Room

#### **Musical Munchkins Playgroup:**

\$2.00 per child \$5.00 per family  
at Arndell Anglican College

### ***K-Year 6 Parents: from* Rev Keith Peterson - Head of Junior School**

Please kindly note that the following information will have appeared on the current fees for all Junior School parents:

#### ***58280 Basketball Sessions 2010 \$13.64: GST 1.36***

This remittance was for a series of really successful basketball lessons that occurred in Term 4 during students' sports lessons. It is our intent at Arndell Anglican College Junior School to look to provide our children with a wide range of choice and opportunity in sport and this series of specialist lessons was set as part of that integrated program.

I do apologise for any concerns which this late clarification may have caused.



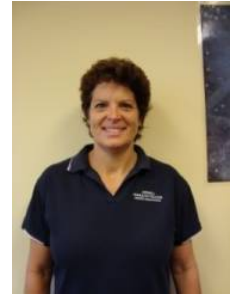
## *From the Head of Sports:*

*Mrs Rosemary Cornick*

### **Arndell Sports Desk**

Welcome back! There is not too much time before the 2011 Sports calendar gets into full swing!

**2011 College Swimming Carnivals.** The Junior (yr 3- 6) Carnival is on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February and the Senior carnival is on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February both at Richmond Swimming pool. Parents are reminded that these are compulsory events and all students are expected to attend, participate and support their House. The College Representative team is selected from these carnivals and students selected to swim for the College at HICES or HZSA (and beyond) will be expected to wear the College swimming costume and College swim cap. These can be purchased from the Uniform shop.



### **Representative Sport 2011:**

**In the Senior school** students have the opportunity to sign up for HZSA Inter School Sport in week 2 in the GYM. There is a variety of sports available for them. Girls & Boys: Futsal, Indoor Cricket, Volleyball and Senior Tennis. The Junior & Senior Boys Outdoor Cricket continues from 2010; HZSA Representative Boys Basketball championships. I would encourage parents to support and recommend team sports as a great way of meeting new friends and developing our College and community spirit. Letters of commitment will go out to students late in week 2. All teams need to have their commitment forms back to Mrs Cornick by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February, due to the short timeframe this has been extended by a week. Term 1 competition starts week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> February.

**In the Junior School** the first HICES Primary Sports Association event is the Primary Tennis Trials on 28<sup>th</sup> February nominations due by 21<sup>st</sup> February. For Primary students nominating for NSWCIS students need to be of a high representative standard playing top level in club or regional teams. If students wish to trial for a HICES / NSWCIS Team or Individual sport please see Mrs Cornick for further details.

The HICES Swimming Carnival on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, the College team will be selected from our College carnival.

This is closely followed by the HICES Netball Trials on Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup>. Arndell will be entering a team and Mrs Chan will be organising trials in the next few weeks.

The Primary HZSA will still be supported for Yrs 3-6 Gala days and the Yr5 & 6 Inter School Competitions in Term 2 & 3 respectively.

Parents are asked to check the Primary Sports Notice board situated between Stage 3 & Stage 2 for all dates and Sport information.

**NSWAF** - is offering an Afterschool Skills Session for 6 weeks for students 5-12yrs old this term at a cost of \$35. If your child is interested please call Mrs Cornick. No days or dates will be finalised until numbers are confirmed.

**Carnival dates and Representative trial dates** for 2011 have been posted on both Sports Notice boards outside Stage 3 (Primary) and outside the Gym (Secondary) and are on the College calendar, which can be accessed through the Parent Portal. Students who excel at a particular sport have the opportunity to represent Arndell through HICES/HZSA/AICES/CIS and are able to nominate for CIS sports that are not offered by HICES/HZSA/AICES. Nomination dates are also available from the website, however all nominations need to come through Mrs Cornick.

**The College Sports webpage** is currently being revised and all sport dates for 2011 will be up on the Sport webpage in Extra Curricular Activities by the end of week 2. Additional information can be accessed through the HZSA website:

[www.hillszone.com.au](http://www.hillszone.com.au) AICES via [www.aices.com.au](http://www.aices.com.au) and NSWCIS: [www.aisnsw.edu.au](http://www.aisnsw.edu.au)

Parents are recommended to keep up to date with what is going on through these avenues.

I look forward to seeing students develop to their full potential in the sporting arena in 2011.

# Junior Library Centre



Our Junior Library Centre is alive and buzzing during lunch times – especially when it is hot outside! Listed below are the days on which your child's class comes to the library for a lesson and for borrowing. Each student needs to bring their library bag on that day so that they can borrow books. What a great way to encourage your child's learning!

Monday- 3 Red, 3 Blue  
Tuesday – K Blue, 1 Red, 1 Blue, 2 Blue  
Wednesday – K Red, 2 Red, 5 Blue, 5 Red  
Thursday – 4 Red, 4 Blue, 6 Red, 6 Blue

Parents of Prep children – you are welcome to come into the library on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday or Thursday morning or afternoon to borrow books to take home to read to your child!

**Mrs Elva Miller - Junior School Teacher/Librarian**

## *First Family Funday Meeting for 2011*

**9am Tuesday 15th Feb - Board Room in Admin Building.**

**We are holding our first Family Funday meeting next Tuesday and we would love some new team members to join our small friendly group.**

**If you are unable to make this meeting any offers of help, donations or suggestions would be more than welcome.**

**Contact - Joanne Selff - 0421 648771  
- Rachael Aldacour - 0412691210**

**Please contact us on email - <mailto:funday@ardell.nsw.edu.au>**

## **Uniform Shop News:** *Mrs. Elizabeth Moore*

- **IT IS TIME TO TRY ON YOUR BLAZER** as Blazer fitting day is less than 3 weeks away (Thursday 3rd March). See details below.

Every student in the school (K-12) will require a Blazer to wear with their winter uniform. Whilst winter changeover does not occur until Monday 9th May, now is the time to decide if your current blazer will still fit, or if you require a new one (or a 2nd hand blazer). In past years we have had many students without a blazer that fitted them simply because they had grown out of last year's blazer and didn't realize until after the fitting day. If you have outgrown your old blazer, and if it is in good condition (new logo, in good repair and DRY CLEANED), it may be brought to the uniform shop to sell in the 2nd hand clothing pool. Many families are looking for good quality 2nd hand blazers, so get them in ASAP

- **Blazer fittings will be held on Thursday 3rd March 2011.**

Students must be at school on this day to be fitted. (Infants will be fitted first shortly after 9am, followed by primary, then high school classes at recess.) Blazers are a compulsory part of the Arndell Anglican College Uniform and they are individually fitted for each student.

**Jnr. Girls (Yrs.K-6) \$170.00 Jnr. Boys (Yrs K-6) \$220.00**  
**High School Girls Yrs 7-10) \$175.00 High School Boys (Yrs. 7-10) \$225.00**  
**Snr. Girls (Yrs. 11-12) \$205.00 Snr. Boys (Yrs. 11-12) \$255.00**

- **Note:** Boys Blazers have extra details. e.g. pockets and lapels. Prices include fittings, alterations and GST. Delivery W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2011.
- **An \$80.00 deposit** is required to confirm and register your child for a fitting. This must be paid to the Uniform shop before Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 or your child cannot be fitted. A late fee will apply to anybody requiring a fitting after 3rd March.
- **Years 11/12** students requiring a senior stripe to be applied to their blazer, the senior stripe will automatically be applied at the above price. If you currently have a blazer that fits please bring your dry-cleaned blazer to the Uniform shop before Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March and a senior strip will be applied at a cost of \$30.00 to be paid in advance.
- **Second Hand Blazers:** anyone wishing to sell their blazer (if in good condition, with the current logo and dry-cleaned) can bring them into the uniform shop now.

### **Arndell's Equestrian Team**

Just a reminder for those riders attending;

Equestrian N.S.W  
The 2011 State Interschool Championships  
Thursday 3rd March- Sunday 6th March

To be held at Sydney International Equestrian Centre  
Saxony Rd Horsley Park  
For more info [www.nsw.equestrian.org.au](http://www.nsw.equestrian.org.au)

**Closing Date: 11th February 2011**

#### **Important Information:**

The schools contact e-mail address for this event is [equestrian@arndell.nsw.edu.au](mailto:equestrian@arndell.nsw.edu.au)  
and your Team manager is

**Mrs. Anna MacDonald** (0410 443 122)

I will not be attending this year due prior commitments but wish you all the best of luck.

Please feel free to contact myself or Anna if you have any queries.

**Laura Thorpe - Equestrian Co-ordinator**

### ***Maths Homework Support Club***

The Maths Dept will be running Homework Support outside of regular class times this year. The aim of the session is that students generally work on their own, and ask questions when and if they need help. They may focus on their regular homework, prepare for an upcoming test, or manage regular revision. Teachers will also provide access to additional resources if required.

The regular times available are:

**Wednesday 3.15-4.30pm – B4**

**Thursday 3.15 – 4.30pm – B2**

Of course, if none of these times are suitable, a student can speak to their class teacher, who is always willing to help.

### ***New Bus Service for Arndell***

A group of parents are in the process of lobbying the State Transport department and Parliamentarians, with the support of the school, to introduce a new bus route for all those attending and intending to attend Arndell Anglican College from the Dural, Round Corner, Kenthurst and Annangrove areas.

In light of the growing numbers of children attending Arndell from these areas we feel that it is time to have a dedicated bus service to support these areas. At present there is no service available to transport our children to and from school.

As the government requires definite numbers of children that will be utilising this service we request those families in need of or interested in such a service contact the numbers or address listed below with the following information:-

Family name and address

Number of children

Ages of children

We are proposing a route from Round Corner along Kenthurst Road, down Pitt Town Road along Boundary Road to school. With 'pick ups' along the way as required. With access for Annangrove families at Kenthurst Road and Blue Gum Road. At this stage this route is by no means definite it is only to ascertain numbers to achieve our desired outcome of a bus service to Arndell for all our children.

We urge everyone to support this proposal as this will enhance access to the school. We need all responses received by the 24th February for this group of parents, on your behalf, to take this to the next level.

Donna Hodges 96548660 / 0418484407 [bustoarndell@gmail.com](mailto:bustoarndell@gmail.com)