

The Arndell Advocate

Monday 28 February 2011
The Newsletter of Arndell Anglican College

From The Headmaster

Mr Gareth Leechman



Over the last few years Arndell Anglican College has spent a lot of time improving the level of communication between home and school. In the 'digital age' that we now live in information can be shared almost instantaneously and some schools

have now gone as far as offering school based texting and twittering accounts. There are some schools which have their own Facebook pages so that important information can be shared as it happens. For someone like me, who is still a bit of an Information Technology troglodyte, I see this constant need to share information as a little bemusing, but it is the age we now enjoy so we should seek to embrace it.

At Arndell we have spent time developing our IT infrastructure so that we can communicate with you in a variety of ways. Our weekly newsletter is now e-mailed directly to your e-mail address, important letters or memoranda are also e-mailed home and posted on our college website, parents can access their child's welfare comments and academic record via the parental portal. Also when I feel the urge, which is not necessarily that often, I can even post a blog on the college website. You as parents are now bombarded with information so it is up to us to make sure that information is relevant, useful and of high quality.

Over the Christmas break we did a major upgrade to our network and this created some problems in our data storage and mail out accounts. Over the past month our IT Department has worked hard at rectifying these problems and I am pleased to say we now seem to be on top of these issues and you should now be able to access the parental portal (all parents who did not have an account have been sent via mail their account details). You should be receiving the weekly newsletter, you will now have access to the welfare summaries and you should also be accessing any letters or memoranda that are posted on the college website. If you are still having difficulties with any of these areas please contact the college IT Helpdesk via the following e-mail address helpdesk@arndell.nsw.edu.au or 4545-2424.

I would also encourage you to attend as many of the relevant information nights which the college offers. In recent weeks we have had the Meet the Tutors evening, the K-6 Information Evenings, Year 11 Laptop roll out and a THRASS evening in the Junior School. In the coming weeks we will be hosting the P&F AGM and this will also be combined with the launch of our past Chairman of Council, Mr John Lambert's second novel. The P&F AGM will be held on Tuesday 15^{th} March at $7.30 \, \text{pm}$ in the Junior School Library. I look forward to seeing you there.

It certainly has been a positive start to the year and we have now commenced enrolling students for 2012.

From the Head of Senior School: Mr James Webb

Car Parking Concerns – from a frustrated Deputy Parents of Senior Students:

I have moved the Year 12 students back to their original parking near the dam. Having done this it has eased the flow of traffic in the afternoon and, to a degree, in the morning. However there are parents who



are clearly not helping. A parent who stops outside the senior library, on the crossing and lets their children out is contravening all road rules and added to this is causing great anxiety for other road users. The Road alongside the senior library is not a parking zone and I am coming to the strong belief that is will be sectioned off and entry will be for parking only. Please use basic common sense as the area from the dam to the back of the school is a shared zone.

Commitment to Sport:

I mentioned this at assembly as I feel that commitment seems to have become a somewhat 'old fashioned' word. If your child puts their name down for a team and the team is entered into the zone competition it is expected that they will compete for the duration of the competition. It is not acceptable for a student to pull out unless they have a very good and substantiated reason. If games are forfeited the organizers of the zone can and have banned schools from entering that competition the next year. Commitment is essential and expected at Arndell.

Welfare: Non Compliance

A simple process:

- Student behaved poorly in class class teacher attempts resolution, lunch detention discussion with Head of Department.
- Student continues to behave poorly Head of House and Homeroom Tutor and parents notified, afterschool detention Resolution Sought
- Student continues poor behaviour student removed from class, parent conference resolution sought
- Student continues poor behaviour suspension, meeting with parents resolution sought
- If after all of these interventions we cannot resolve the situation questions are asked about the placement of the student.

We, through our Homeroom Tutor, Head of House, Subject Teacher and Head of Department are continually working with students. However it is simply unfair on the rest of the student population who contribute and get on with their work to be disturbed or distracted. So if you receive a phone call please support what we are attempting to achieve and that is a culture of co-operation and good work.

Merits and Commendations:

I had the pleasure of commending the students in assembly this week. We have had some 200 commendations and merits issued this week. Congratulations to all who are going the extra mile to achieve great things.

Flood and Cyclone Victims:

We launched our appeal this week to assist sister schools in Queensland who have lost significant resources. Thanks to Jessica McCoy-Lancaster in Year 9 who approached me with the idea (the same person who approached me after the bush fires in Victoria). Our fund raising is simple – loose change tossed into a bucket in each homeroom over the next few weeks. The Homeroom who raises the most will have cooked for them, by a professional chef, a splendid lunch. So Dad's who don't carry loose change toss a few coins your children's way. Don't worry if they are checking out the furniture for the coins dropped out of pockets and it is an ideal opportunity to get your children to tidy their bedrooms as they look for lost coins. **Please help where you can.**

Head of Junior School: Rev. Keith Peterson

It was wonderful to be able to attend all the class presentations during our Junior School Information Evening – a privilege open only to the 'free roaming' Head of Junior School with all staff necessarily focussed on one spot!



It was wonderful for two reasons; firstly it attested to the foresight and professionalism of each member of the Junior School teaching staff and secondly because it provided such a real and natural example of school/parent partnership in action.

Educational research is unequivocal in affirming the importance of home / school partnerships.

When families are involved in their children's education in positive ways, children can achieve higher grades and test scores, have better attendance at school, complete homework to better purpose and demonstrate more positive attitudes and behaviour. (Henderson & Berler)

And surely all of this has to be true! – educational researchers might state it, but it's really our own commonsense experience as teachers and parents that affirms it; home/school partnership matters – it matters very much.

It is my hope that over the next year, you will take every opportunity to spend time with us and become an active participant in your child's education. Partnership is a term we take very seriously at Arndell Junior School!

Education is so vitally important and is supremely valued by all of us at the Junior School who are involved with its delivery, because it is both our heart and professional conviction that a child's primary education *is crucial* in establishing present and future foundations towards a positive attitude for all aspects of his/her life – spiritual; academic; and physical.

This is why our staff shares a tremendous enthusiasm and a keenness to provide learning experiences for all of our students that are actively differentiated, challenging and exciting. We want each of our students to feel cared for, happy and motivated to do the best they can in every aspect of school life.

It is also why our premier aim in 2011 is to encourage each one of our students to strive for excellence and high standards.

As Head of Junior School, one of my aims is to open doors; to guide and work collegially with an excellent, highly professional, staff in order that together we might offer a wide range of experiences and opportunities to each of our children; in the sure hope that they will themselves find and own those aspects at which they can really succeed and gain self esteem and confidence..

For one seed of success can brilliantly grow into a confidence and self belief which can then extend to may other aspects of each child's life and personal development.

In this, I certainly look forward to working in partnership with all of our parents and families and, with all the Junior School Staff, hope that you will feel genuinely invited and encouraged to spend time with us and to continue, in present and developing ways, to be that key, active participant in your child's education.

Thank you for your vital partnership in education and mission.

Every blessing!

Arndell Anglican College Directory

Headmaster: Mr Gareth Leechman **Head of Senior School:** Mr James Webb **Head of Junior School:** Rev Keith Peterson **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

equestrian@arndell.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Anna MacDonald: 0410 443 122 equestrian@arndell.nsw.edu.au

Uniform Shop: Mrs Liz Moore: 4572 3254

Tuesday/Thursday

8.20-10.30am/2.30-4.pm

Canteen: Monday-Friday

(Recess/Lunch)

Arndell Community Pastor Greg Peisley

Church: 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

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

Junior School Book Fair

This is a special invitation to our 'Reading makes you a Star" Scholastic Book Fair coming to our school on Monday 14th March. Browse through a great selection of newly published children's books such as 'Alpha Monsters', 'Purplicious', and 'There was an old bloke who swallowed a Chook'. You may purchase books for home and/or for donation to your child's class library. The Book Fair runs from Monday 14th March to Wednesday 16th March in the Junior School Library before school and after school. I look forward to seeing you then!

Mrs Elva Miller - JS Librarian

Scholarships for 2012

Arndell is offering Academic, All Rounder and Music Scholarships for 2012 entry into Years 7, 9 and 11

Scholarship information is available from the College Administration office

Applications close: Friday 8 April 2011 Saturday 14 May 2011 Exam Date:

Reminder - Enrolments for 2012

The Headmaster is conducting interviews for Year 7 2012, if you have a sibling for entry into Year 7 for 2012 and you have not been contacted for an interview, please contact the PA to the Headmaster.

Junior School Student Leader Induction Ceremony

Last Friday the Junior School celebrated the induction of its student leaders in Year 6. In front of the entire Junior School students, teachers and their own parents, this special group of Year 6 students promised to uphold our school rules and serve the school this year with God as their helper. It certainly was an important and wonderful occasion and the leaders received their badges with great enthusiasm.

This year the student leaders discussed and helped create an outline of their roles and expectations in the school. Prior to the ceremony, the students took the final agreement home to their parents to discuss and sign. The agreements were then signed by Mr Peterson, as Head of School, and myself, as the Stage 3 Coordinator. They stand as a testament to the willingness that these students have to serve their school and so, were officially handed to each student at the ceremony by Mr Leechman.

This year we plan to challenge the students in their role as never before. They will be meeting once a fortnight to rethink, discuss, and suggest any changes to different aspects of our Junior School and will therefore have opportunity to become very proactive leaders. There will also be particular training opportunities offered to them.

I look forward to overseeing these meetings and opportunities and so witnessing what this fine group of students can produce as together, we sincerely hope to create and model a contagious community of service for the Junior School.

Mrs E. Turville - Stage 3 Coordinator.



School Captains: Jake Bigeni and Chloe Patterson. Prefects: Emily Ayres, Loren Carter, Robert Gripper, Lilly-Ann Keating and Amelia Pinter. Student Sports Captain: Brooke Croft. House Captains: Johnson- Corey Aldacour and Laura Smith, Tebutt – Blake Monds and Madeline Sainty, Macquarie – Andrew Sinclair and Sophie Young, Greenway – Samuel Beazley and Maddison Bull

News from the P&F.Mrs Donna Pellew - President

The Parents and friends Association welcomes all the new and existing parents back to school. We are looking forward to a new and exciting year ahead with some changes to the way we do some things with the P&F but keeping all our favourite events

We all know school life can be busy and hectic not just for the students but us parents too. With this in mind the P&F have booked all our meeting and fundraising events early this year. All the dates can found in the student diary, on the school website and on the P&F notice board.

I encourage all parents to attend as many if not all meeting and events as possible. Meetings are a wonderful opportunity to get to know the teachers and staff and to discover what the year holds for the students and the school. Fundraising events such as Family Fun Day, Golf Day and Trivia Night are terrific way to meet other parents and to have a great time.

Our first meeting of the year is the P&F AGM to be held on Tuesday 15th March at 7.30pm in the Junior School Library. Mark in your diary, keep this date free and we look forward to seeing you there.



From the Head of Sports: Mrs Rosemary Cornick

Arndell Sports Desk

College Swimming Carnival:

My sincere thanks to all the staff & parents, who worked tirelessly all day to help with the smooth running of the day.

House Results:

Secondary: Tebbutt 628, Johnson 127, Greenway 564, Macquarie 501. **Primary:** Greenway 480, Johnson 417, Tebbutt 403, Macquarie 349

New records:

Stephanie Humphrey 10yrs 50m Freestyle 39.62

Grace McErlane 11yrs 50m Freestyle 35.93, 50m Butterfly 46.21

Chloe Patterson 11yrs 50m Backstroke 44.18 Loren Carter 12yrs 50m Backstroke 42.87

Johnson Junior Girls4x50m Freestyle Relay 3.18.31

Tebbutt Senior Girls 4x50m Freestyle Relay 2.50.12

Age Champions:

Primary: 8yrs Rachel Leechman; 9yrs Finlay Elven, Jordan Carter; 10yrs Malcolm McPherson, Stephanie Humphrey;

11 Yrs Aaron MacDonald, Grace McErlane; 12yrs Blake Monds, Loren Carter.

Secondary: 12yrs Rhys Parish, Georgia Thorpe; 13yrs Lachlan Humphrey, Elizabeth Hankel; 14yrs Zachary Elven Ebony

Fiola-Perry; 15yrs Benjamin Monds, Katie MacDonald; 16yrs Jake Elven, Tia Sutton; 17+ yrs Dieter

Hoffman, Kimberlee Currell.

Senior School Sport:

HZSA Inter School Sport begins this week Inters Girls & Open Boys Futsal, Junior & Senior Boys Outdoor Cricket continuing from 2010 are teams entered into the competition this term. Draws are on the Sports notice board and available for collection from the gym. The Junior Boys played their Semi Final this week against William Clarke College. Though the boys played exceptionally well they were defeated by William Clarke. Congratulations boys on an outstanding competition.

HZSA Swimming Championships: Friday March 4th Sydney Aquatic Centre, Homebush. The Team list is on Sports Notice board. Selection letters have been given out. College swimming costumes and **NEW swimming cap** are available from the uniform shop. Copies of the Senior Swimming Carnival results will be given to the Heads of House and posted on the College website under Extra Curricular.

CIS Golf Championships - Monday 21st February at Windsor Golf Club Matthew Robinson (yr 11) competed and gained selection into the CIS Golf Team.

HZSA Representative Boys Basketball Championships: Report from Dr Jackson

The Open Boys' Basketball team participated in the HZSA Competition Day at the Fred Caterson Stadium Wednesday February 23 and went within one win of becoming the HZSA representative for the AICES championships. This was a great achievement for the boys, especially given the fact that they are a young team. Playing seven games over the course of the day was quite a challenge and the whole squad was exhausted by the end. The day started well with the team leading William Clarke (who progressed as the HZSA representative team) at half-time. This was the boys' first game together as a team and the opposition got away from them in the second half as Arndell ironed out some kinks while learning to play

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together. Good wins over Hills Grammar, Pacific Hills, Rouse Hill Anglican and Hills Adventist, a loss to eventual winners



Gilroy and a hard fought draw in a see-sawing contest with Northholm rounded out the day. Congratulations to Arndell's Captain, Sam Jury, who has made the HZSA representative team on the back of some great shooting, and to Nathan Bardetta and Jake Dauncey who are in the train-on squad after very solid performances. These three players combined for the bulk of the team's points and rebounds on the day but great defence and rebounding from Ben Pritchatt, speed and defensive hussle from Tom Zahn and key contributions from some of our younger players: Jayden Zalac, Jed Cruickshank and Matthew Dibb (the three of whom played the bulk of the game in our biggest win of the day), all led to a successful outing. A big thank you to Mr Stefan Kamarczyk for all his work preparing the team over the last few terms and to the parents who came to support and help out with the running of the day.

Important dates for Senior School Representative Sport nominations:

NSW All Schools Triathlon Individuals 8th March Teams 9th March: Early Bird entries closed on 21st Feb. All entries close 28th of February. Entry forms can be downloaded from the CIS website completed and handed into Mrs Cornick for nomination.

Rugby 7s Championships: Thursday 31st March at Hills grammar. Interested students are to see Mrs Cornick.

HZSA Girls & Boys Touch football Trials Tuesday 8th March 4pm at Hills Grammar. Please see Mrs Cornick if you wish to nominate.

HZSA Girls Football Trials Monday 28th March at Rouse Hill Anglican College

HZSA Boys Football Trials Wednesday 30th March at Rouse Hill Anglican College

Junior School Sport:

Yr 5 HZSA Gala Day: Wednesday March 2nd. Information is with class teachers.

HICES Swimming Championships: Tuesday March 8th.Sydney Aquatic Centre, Homebush. The Team list is on Sports Notice board. Selection letters have been given out. College swimming costumes and **NEW swimming cap** are available from the uniform shop. Copies of the Primary Swimming Carnival results will be given to Mrs Jones & Mrs Bickford and posted on the College website under Extra Curricular.

HZSA Primary Rugby 7s Competition March 17th at Hills Grammar. Mrs Jones & Ben Tuynman (Yr12) will be trialling a team to enter this competition.

Important dates for Junior School Representative Sport nominations:

CIS Primary Basketball nominations due 25th **February**. Students from yr 6 who play in a Rep or Div 1 team competition please see Mrs Cornick.

NSWCIS Primary Cricket Nominations due Monday 7th **March.** Students from yr 6 who play in a Rep or Div 1 team competition please see Mrs Cornick.

HICES Primary Girls & Boys Football (soccer) March 17th. Any Yr 5/6 Students from yr 6 who plays in a Rep or Div 1 team competition please see Mrs Cornick by Monday 22nd February. Students will be selected from these trials to compete at NSWCIS Football Trials on 28th March for Girls and 7th April for Boys.

HICES Primary Netball March 16th at Hills Grammar. Ms Chan will be holding trials for this team Friday 25th February.

NSWAFL - Paul Kelly Cup May3rd. Mr Walker is trialling and coaching a team for this competition. More information to follow. Any Senior students wishing to assist please see Mr Walker.

NSWAFL is running an Afterschool Skills Session for students aged 5-12 starting March 4th every Friday for 6 weeks on the Junior Oval at a cost of \$35. If your child is interested in joining please email enquiries@arndell.nsw.edu.au

The Sports webpage is currently being revised and all sport dates for 2011will be up on the Sport webpage in Extra Curricular Activities shortly. Sport information for HZSA, AICES & NSWCIS can be downloaded from the relevant sites:

www.hillszonesport.com.au; www.aices.com.au and www.nswais.com.au

Unfortunately HICES does not have a website at the moment and are looking for interested parties to assist.

Banking at Arndell Junior School

The Junior School takes part in an education program run by the Commonwealth Bank which is designed to encourage saving among students and to start and support their initial learning in financial literacy. Any student enrolling in the scheme becomes part of the 'Dollarmites Club' and will receive an introductory pack.

In the next week the Junior School will be sending home application forms for banking. If your child already has a bank, please feel free to send the form back to School. If you wish to support your child in setting up their own account, then please follow the instructions in the given pack.

The Banking Day for Arndell Junior School is **Thursday**.

If you have any further questions about the Commonwealth Bank Financial Literacy initiative, please kindly contact Miss Sarah Todd at School Administration.

Rev Keith Peterson - Head of Junior School

Uniform Shop News: Mrs. Elizabeth Moore

• IT IS TIME TO TRY ON YOUR BLAZER as Blazer fitting 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 2nd 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 1st 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 1st 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.

Equestrian News Anna MacDonald - Team Manager

Upcoming Events:

- Tara Anglican Equestrian Carnival for yrs. K-12. To be held on Sunday 27th March 2011 at SIEC. The program includes both Hacking and Dressage, with a beginners ring. Entries close 10th March 2011.
- Oxley College Equestrian Day for yrs 7-12 only. To be held on Sunday 1st May 2011 at Berrima, camping is available. The program includes showjumping, dressage, hacking and sporting. Entries are through www.nominate.com.au and close Friday 15th April 2011.

Good Luck to all riders attending the NSW Interschool Championships at SIEC on the 3rd-6th March 2011! As those who have previously attended would agree, this is a fabulous opportunity to experience a major event at one of the best venues in NSW. Hope to see you there over the weekend and please send in your results and photos.

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

For Your Information:

Two courses to help you understand the Bible from Moore College and brought to you by . . .

Pitt Town Anglican Community Church

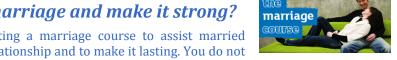
Theology Certificate

When: Thursdays 7.30pm – 9pm Where: Pitt Town Subject: John (gospel & letters) Contact: Terry Herder – 4580 8050/4572 3262 Email: therder@bigpond.com

Preliminary Theological Course

When: Thursdays 7.30 pm – 9pm
Where: St James Church Hall
11o Bathurst St. Pitt Town
Subject: New Testament
Contact: John Cowne – 4572 3262
Email: jcowne@exemail.com.au

Would you like to invest in your marriage and make it strong?



Pitt Town Anglican Community Church is hosting a marriage course to assist married couples in the area to invest in their marriage relationship and to make it lasting. You do not have to be part of a church and you do not have to be married to benefit from this 7 week co

have to be part of a church and you do not have to be married to benefit from this 7 week course. It is aimed at couples that have been married or cohabiting for 2 or more years and you do not have to be having marriage troubles to benefit.

The course includes a romantic meal each week and limited childcare is provided for those who need it. There is no group work and couples work through the material privately.

The course starts on Wednesday 2nd March at 6.30pm and finishes at 9pm. The course continues for 7 weeks and will be held in the Pitt Town Church hall at 110 Bathurst St, Pitt Town.

To register or make an enquiry call the church office on 4572 3262.