Term 3 Week 4 2015

NAC NEWS

Courage to excel, compassion to give
Term 3 is shaping up to be a multicultural feast of experiences. At the start of the term we celebrated NAIDOC. This week we have had a group of Japanese students staying with us and at the end of the term we will host a group of students from New Caledonia.

Having spoken to the families who hosted a Japanese student, everyone has spoken about the positive interactions that occurred. I believe these sorts of opportunities are vital in helping to create positive cross cultural relationships and to promote racial harmony.

I am sure that many of you would have an opinion about the recent events regarding Adam Goodes. I am of the opinion that the bullying Adam Goodes experienced was of the worst kind. The Adam Goodes’ story was hard to miss as it was plastered across our newspapers and screens. One of our host families explained to their Japanese student about his situation. The Japanese girl started to cry and said that back in Japan she had been discriminated against because she had Chinese heritage and was told by students at her school to go back to China.

Of all the attributes that we as human beings possess there is one thing that we cannot change, that is our race. This is where I take great heart from the message of the Christian faith which promotes the equality of individuals in Christ. “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Gal 3:28. No matter what your ethnicity Christ views individuals from all races as equal.

At NAC we have a wonderful opportunity to educate our students and teach them of their great value and worth in the eyes of God.

Can I encourage families to put their hand up to billet a French student from New Caledonia next month? The benefit of hosting a student from another culture helps our children to realise that there is a much bigger world out there and one of the aims of such ventures is to promote a greater understanding of different cultures. Please contact the Administration office if you would like further information about hosting a French student.

Mrs Lorrae Sampson
Why beauty?

In Week 3, Mrs Fiona Brown and I had the opportunity to take 14 of our Crossroads Christian Group students to the Bible Society’s ‘Masterclass’ event. Over the rest of this term I’d like to share some thoughts from one of the speakers, historian and theologian Dr John Dickson. He shared about three key questions we all ask as human beings:

Why the beauty?
Why the ugliness?
Where is God?

These are enduring questions which reflect a key approach to our Christian education at NAC: how does the Christian faith make sense of what we know and experience of life?

So, why the beauty?

It’s amazing that we can observe an elegance in the mathematical principles and order of our universe. Our rational minds tell us that this deserves some kind of explanation. The world famous scientist Albert Einstein once wrote “One may say the eternal mystery of the world is its comprehensibility” (Out of My Later Days, 1956). This is the picture of the universe God created in Genesis 1 which said repeatedly “God saw that it was good” – 7 times! We can look, see and know that it is good. This order and goodness is a stark comparison to other views of the ancient world.

The Babylonian creation myth Enuma Elish draws a different picture where the universe comes about as the wreckage of a war between the gods. This is the view of creation held by the ancient Egyptians and Mesopotamians. This is still a position of some who reject God today. One of the most vocal of today’s atheists, Dr Richard Dawkins, observes “…the universe has no rhyme or reason, nor any justice…DNA neither knows or cares and we dance to its music.”

What do you think? Does it sound reasonable that we have beauty because a designer, the one the Bible calls God, intentionally planned the universe in its original perfect order? I encourage you to consider the beauty of our world and give thanks to the one who designed it, as the writer of Psalms did 3000 years ago:

“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.” (8:1)

Exploring and responding to this God is foundational to our approach to Christian education at NAC; I trust he will fill your heart with joy, wonder and worship.

Jim Dayhew

Foundation Day

Preparations for Foundation Day are continuing at a cracking pace. Our student leaders play a big part on the day taking the lead in organising X-NACtor, sideshow alley and the box car rally. This is always a great day and a great celebration of our students talents.

Year 8 into 9 Information Afternoon

An information session for students and parents will be held on 20th August at 5.30pm in the MPC to discuss elective subject choices for students moving into Year 9. Students and parents will have an opportunity to discuss their choices and the subject selection process with key staff and enjoy some afternoon tea together.

Subject Lines for Year 11

Subject lines for Year 11 2016 have been finalised and students are now in a process of final interviews to confirm their patterns of study for next year. The following subjects will be offered in Year 11 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line 1</th>
<th>Line 2</th>
<th>Line 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adv English (Class 1)</td>
<td>Ancient History</td>
<td>Drama</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adv English (Class 2)</td>
<td>Business Studies</td>
<td>D&amp;T</td>
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<tr>
<td>Standard English</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Economics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>E&amp;ES</td>
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<th>Line 4</th>
<th>Line 5</th>
<th>Line 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
<td>Music 1</td>
<td>Mathematics General (Class 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern History</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Mathematics General (Class 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Society &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
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</tbody>
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This will be complemented by the following offering at the South Coast Trade Skills Centre:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line 7 (TSC)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Electrotechnology</td>
<td>Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Industry</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
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The following subjects will also be offered offline at NAC:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Offline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Entertainment Industry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Education &amp; Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Design &amp; Technology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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And of course we also offer the following subjects through eLearning:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#eLearning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Legal Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern History</td>
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</table>
Student leader Elections

Next week we begin the nomination process for student leaders. Being a student leader is a rewarding experience and I would encourage students to consider putting themselves forward for nomination if they have a heart for serving others in their school. Once nominations are complete, nominees will address their peers and an online vote will take place.

David Hamaty

Why is it important for children to have access to cooking facilities at their school?

International research shows children who help prepare meals eat significantly more vegetables than those who are not involved in cooking.

Thanks to a partnership with Get Kids Cooking, AIS and Nestlé Healthy Active Kids Program is giving parents and carers the opportunity to nominate their child’s school to win a Kitchen Kart valued at $25,000. The winning entry also receives $1000 cash to go towards keeping their family healthy and active!

All you have to do is visit the Healthy Active Kids website to enter. www.healthyactivekids.com.au

It’s packed full of educational games, videos, recipes and activities to help kids live a healthy, active life at school and at home.

21 July 2015

An important reminder to Parents & Carers

The Debtor Management Policy which came into effect from 1 January 2015 adopts new procedures for alerting parents when term fees are due and for issuing reminders when fees are overdue.

An important element of this new policy is that all fees must be settled within the current school term, and any outstanding fees must be covered by an ongoing Satisfactory Arrangement to reduce the balance outstanding over an agreed period of time. Also, when appropriate to the circumstances, a bursary to assist families meet their school fees can only be granted if a Satisfactory Arrangement is in place to reduce any accumulated debt.

The Debtor Management Policy is co-ordinated through the Group Office of the Sydney Anglican Schools Corporation, including the issuing of ‘do not come next term’ letters when fees remain unpaid or if a previously agreed Satisfactory Arrangement is not maintained. If you face either situation, I encourage you to contact the Shoalhaven Region Anglican Schools Business Manager, Mrs Leisa Ebdon on 4421 7711, to discuss your circumstances as soon as possible.

These policies have been adopted to ensure that all students have an adequate opportunity to access the teaching and learning environment offered by our schools, and that each school’s available resources are managed effectively for the benefit of all students and their families.

Bill Shields

Chair, Shoalhaven Region Anglican Schools Council

We have a lot activity on the horizon and need all the support we can get, please mark the dates below in your diaries and let us know if you can help out.

1. The Next P&F meeting is on the 24th of August 7pm.
2. Foundation Day helpers required to assist in canteen area from 10.15 am until approx. 2pm please contact P&F if you can help out.
3. Father’s Day stall helpers required for 2nd September from approx. 9 - 11am
4. Servers are required for Grandparents/ special friends morning tea 8th September please contact P&F if you can assist
5. Mark it in your diaries come along or sell your 2nd hand uniforms 15th Sept

Woolies Earn and Learn Program

In 2015, NAC will again be participating in the Woolies Earn and Learn coupon drive as we have done in past years. The program allows us to purchase extra sports equipment, stationary, books and other educational resources. We are not suggesting that families change their shopping preferences but any family that currently shops at this supermarket is encouraged to collect the coupons. They can be handed in at Student Services or to a teacher when convenient to do so. At the end of the program we will purchase resources for both Junior and Senior school and it’s the student’s that benefit most from this community effort.

Thanking you in advance,

Mr Hale

A message from Serena, P&F President...

We would love to love to find someone who is interested in taking on the role of School Banking Contact. The effort is minimal and there is some training required. We do need someone who is able to do the role in an ongoing capacity and is able to commit to doing it once a week. Please contact the P&F or the school office for more information.

Please make sure you bring any old or unwanted uniforms to the school to be donated for the 2nd hand uniform sale.

20 July 2015

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Why is it important for children to have access to cooking facilities at their school?
Performing Arts

Elective Music Concert

On the 13th August the Elective Music classes will be performing in the Annual Music Elective Concert. This concert is a display of what kinds of learning activities Elective students are involved in during class times.

Every elective music student from year 9.10 and 11 will perform at the concert. The concert will take place in the College Recital room and will begin at 5.30. All parents and friends are welcome to attend this concert.

Senior Band is Recruiting

All senior students learning an instrument are invited to attend the Senior Band rehearsal on Monday afternoons at 3.15. This is your chance to join an exciting ensemble that already has performance dates in their calendar. If you love to play music with others please come along and join the Senior Concert Band. All students will be welcomed. If you have any queries regarding this ensemble please contact me on 44217711.

Carolyn Brown
Head of Music/Performing Arts

ACT-Southern NSW Interschools Snowsports Championships

Last week, Ethan Ford, Matthew Davison and Charlie Mullins represented NAC at the ACT-Southern NSW Interschools Snowsports Championships. The competition was fierce with representation for Government, Catholic and Independent schools not only from the Snowy Mountain but also schools from Canberra and the Shoalhaven.

Charlie improved his placing from last year in a very competitive field. Team Ethan and Matthew placed 3rd in Snowboard Giant Slalom and 4th in Boarder Cross, which is a superb effort as Matthew had never competed before. Individually, Ethan placed 1st in Snowboard Giant Slalom and 2nd in Boarder Cross. The boys will now compete at the State Championships at the end of August as a team and Ethan in the individual events.
1 to 1 Learning Report Card

Two and a half terms on and our 1 To 1 Learning Program is proving to be very successful. The Student Dashboard gives access to students’ email accounts, Google drives and their Edumate Portal as well as Google Classroom, the Library Catalogue and electronic textbooks all via a single sign on. We have recently added ClickView to the Dashboard meaning students now have access to our library of subject specific videos and related resources. This functionality also allows teachers to embed videos into their Google Classrooms so their students can view them on their own devices even when they are not at school. One of the great benefits of the 1 to 1 Program is the ability for students to stay connected with their teacher sand classes even when they are away from school and the new ClickView functionality further enhances this.

Make sure you have the correct device

Our 1 to 1 Learning program gives students the choice of three laptops, a Chromebook, Windows PC or a Macbook with a 10.8 inch minimum screen size and full QWERTY keyboard. These three device types and configurations provide the necessary functionality to create content and will also run Google Docs and third party apps. Students who don’t bring an appropriate device to school may be at a disadvantage. Can I ask parents to ensure students are bringing the correct device to school and be mindful of the minimum specifications when purchasing new equipment?

If you have any questions or concerns about the 1 to 1 Learning Program please feel free to contact me.

Mr Graeme Ewing
Coordinator of Learning Technologies

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) in Canberra. All four students found the interview process a challenging but valuable experience.

The Science Department and the NAC community are proud to announce that both Jarrod and Ellie were successful NYSF applicants. In January 2016 both students will spend a week in Canberra where they will “learn to make informed decisions about study and career options in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics fields, and develop a professional skill-set to help them realise their potential.” Congratulations!

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The Science and Engineering Challenge is a nationwide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program.

This year 31 Year 10 students represented the College. The event offered the students with a series of fun and competitive activities involving principles of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

A spirited environment was created with NAC competing against 8 other local schools in the Illawarra. The school teams were pitted against each other and against the clock in a range of science and engineering tasks. The NAC students were immediately engaged in the activity with a minimum of introduction and theory.

Our NAC student’s explored scientific principles for themselves rather than being guided to a predetermined answer. The Challenge was designed to inspire students to study science and engineering at a senior level.

Although NAC came fifth overall in this competition, there was significant improvement in their endurance, collaboration and lateral thinking strategies. The students embraced this learning opportunity and were outstanding representatives of the College. Well done!

Mr Davis and Dr Marecic
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Can’t throw can’t catch, Australian kids are losing that sporting edge

An article, titled ‘Can’t throw can’t catch Australian kids are losing that sporting edge’, which appeared in a recent addition of the Sydney Morning Herald, contained some sobering statistics about the fitness of our current generation.

“Australians like to think of themselves as sporting and fit – a concept reinforced by the success of the country’s elite athletes. But evidence is emerging that Australian kids are falling behind their international peers and are performing worse in skills such as kicking, throwing, catching and jumping than they were 30 years ago.

The biggest decline was observed in six-year-olds, who now perform markedly worse than those assessed in the 1980s in simple tasks such underarm throws, catching and bouncing balls.

By the time children leave primary school competency is low, with less than 50% being competent at running, jumping, catch kick and overarm throw. Two thirds of the girls and a quarter of the boys had poor scores in the over-arm throw where less than 32% of boys and 8% of girls showed competence.

Why does this matter?

It has been found that children who possess good Fundamental Movement Skills have higher levels of physical activity.

At present only one in three children, and one in ten young people, meet the current physical activity guidelines for children of 60 minutes of physical activity every day. Furthermore, fewer than one in three children and young people are meeting the guideline for “no more than two hours of screen-based entertainment” every day.

Primary schools are expected to provide two hours of two hours of physical education per week. But children need much more physical activity and the article goes on to say that the best chance of improving Australian children’s Fundamental Movement Skills lies with parents and care-givers who are encouraged to provide their children with ample opportunities to experience different sports so they can practise and develop a broad range of fundamental movement skills. These opportunities should take the form of both structured sports coaching as well as unstructured play.

Life Education

This term, the Life Education van visits the College, providing programs for Kindergarten to Year 4.

This primary school program consists of curriculum based modules focusing on issues around food and nutrition, personal safety, physical activity, cyber safety, safety with medicine and legal drugs; tobacco, alcohol and caffeine.

The modules help children to develop relationship skills, positive communication (both face to face and online), problem solving and decision making skills. Students learn strategies required to avoid the harms associated with an unhealthy lifestyle.

Our younger children love to meet Healthy Harold, their lovable mascot who makes the lessons interactive and fun.

FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Awards

Congratulations to all award recipients this week

Bronze Light of the Cross

Academic Year 7
Angus Ewers

Service & Character Year 7
Ben Weir
Lily Monaghan

Annual Visit from Tokyo Rishoo High School

On Monday the 27th of July our Japanese visitors arrived from Tokyo, a tad sleepy and jet lagged. As usual the Japanese students were a little shy and reserved but eventually our NAC families used their charms to break down language and cultural barriers. The group was accompanied by their English teacher, Hirofumi Sensei, as well as their guide, Mayuko San. Hirofumi told our teachers to just remember ‘hero’ as in ‘super-hero’. The next morning the students were welcomed in front of a Senior School assembly. Sam Dover then welcomed them, most eloquently in Japanese, in front of the Senior School assembly. Whilst they were here they had English lessons; had lessons with both Year 9 and Year 11 Japanese classes; had a tour through the Nowra Police Station; went to the Shoalhaven Zoo, but most importantly, enjoyed a very special time with their host families. Monday night the students, along with their host families, enjoyed a Farewell Party and BBQ, where the students read us a Japanese story - in English; showed us how to make origami; Japanese Tea Ceremony; Japanese games; sang for us and showed us how to do Japanese calligraphy. The evening ended with a huge cake and lots of smiles. On Tuesday morning we farewelled our visitors, it was quite an emotional goodbye for some but hopefully old friends will be reunited when we our school visits Japan next April.

A huge thank you again to all of the families, who opened their homes for our visitors, and Jen Parkyn for coordinating the activities and placements.

Shelley Middleton
Japanese Teacher

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Ditto’s ‘Keep Safe Adventure Education Program’ provided by Bravehearts for K-3 teaches children the principles of personal safety. Bravehearts will be visiting the College on Monday 31 August.

The show’s main contents address: Yes and No Feelings: Warning Signs; Scared and Yucky Feelings; Private Parts and Privacy; It’s OK to say NO if you don’t feel safe; What to do if you feel unsafe or unsure.

Interrelate
Next term, Years 5 and 6 will be having lessons provided by Interrelate. Interrelate has been teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools for over 80 years.

The Year 5 program, titled ‘Minding Me’ develops students’ understanding about how relationships can change through puberty (including their right to privacy) and assists them to deal with emotional and personal safety issues in their relationships. It also provides students with a basic knowledge of male and female development at puberty with an emphasis on developing a positive attitude to change.

‘Moving into the Teen Years’ for Year 6, is a program designed to enhance self-esteem, consolidate previous sexuality and relationship education and help develop communication and decision making skills.


**STOP THINK DO**

From time to time you may hear your children or their teachers use the phrase STOP THINK DO. This social skills program that we teach in the Junior School at NAC is based on a problem solving model that teaches children to think about a problem and to seek a solution themselves. It teaches children:

- Self-control, perceptual and communication skills primarily at STOP, (‘I understand’)
- Cognitive problem solving skills at THINK (‘I can’t’)
- Behavioural skills at DO (‘I do’)
- Pro-social motivation (‘You’re doing okay’)

We find that children readily understand this concept and it helps them in the playground when they are faced with a social problem or dilemma.

**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes at the end of August and we encourage all our students to complete the challenge and to submit their reading records to their class teacher or to Mrs Markham in the Library. https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/readingLog.html

All students who successfully complete the Challenge have their names published in the Sun Herald. It is a condition of entry that students entering and successfully completing the Challenge will receive a PRC certificate and appear on the PRC Honour Roll. They will also receive a certificate from the Premier of NSW.

**Welcome**

This week we welcome new Kindergarten student, George Peck, to KR.

Susan Pearson