Mottos

Primary
Jason’s friends, the Argonauts
Honesty say what’s in their thoughts.

Years 7-9
We must never fail to try from fear that we might try,
and fail.

Year 10-12
“The best managers know how to manage themselves.”
Peter Drucker

From the Headmaster

Congratulations to our seven public speakers on their outstanding results last Friday evening in the CSDA first round: Antony Pincevic, Simon Hoffmann Joseph Hoffmann, Jett Hill, Nathan Bartolo, Michael Gonzaga, and Jeremy Blades. Five of the seven Wollemi speakers have progressed to the Zone Final this Friday evening. Wonderful.

I attended a Headmaster’s Conference over the weekend and there was much discussion and mention of schools that have value-free education producing value free adults. It made me happy, as a parent, to know that at the PARED schools we have a substantial amount of runs on the board when it comes to values and education.

What great weather for the Years 3 and 4 Father and Son Camp. The performances on Saturday night featured guest appearances by no less than St Patrick and several Good Samaritans, you had to be there! It was a camp with a fantastic spirit amongst the dads, not to mention the čevapi and lamb kebabs at 1.00am. In a fortights time we are off on the Years 5 & 6 camp to Yarramundi.

I met today with the Class Leaders for 2015. We had a lovely morning tea, and then talked about leadership and initiatives that we could promote here at Wollemi. They are great young men that are keen to see a culture of service develop in the school.

We have had a steady stream of applicants through the school in recent weeks. These applications have all come through personal recommendations. We are very grateful to those parents who have been so effective in promoting our schools. Our next Open Day, March 11, is a great opportunity to bring a friend to see Wollemi in action, and to give another family the opportunity to share in this wonderful education model from which we all benefit.

I have had more communication from Kurrambee that some of us are still parking in the No-Stopping Zone outside their school and even one or two of us in their actual car park! Can we please rectify this to avoid them having to call the council. Also, please keep up the effort in not double-parking in our car park as well.

The Rosary in the Chapel in the morning as been well attended. Please keep these families in mind at this time: Sourav and Sonal Suresh’s Grandfather is gravely ill, and Miguelle Canete’s grandfather passed away last week.
FROM THE CHAPLAINS

One of the really helpful and enjoyable ways chaplains at Wollemi have had to get to know students and their families better is by taking part in father and son camps. Last weekend we had the first such camp of the year, with students in years 3 and 4 and their dads. What was very encouraging was seeing how many dads had managed to come, each with one, or sometimes two, of their children. It was also good to see how much good humour and lively conversation went on among the older set, needless to say the younger set were having a ball and a noisy one at that!

Never enough can be said about the importance of fathers in the lives of their children. We all know how essential mothers are, and how high the demands are on them in the early stages of their children’s growth. But fathers can have the temptation of thinking that they are just the default breadwinners, and at best the frosting on the cake, when it comes to their children’s upbringing. It’s true that men can feel challenged, and even inadequate, when it comes to the care of little ones, and in certain cultures this is seen as a no-go zone. But even at the early stages of life, fathers need to be present as the foundations are being laid for the big contribution they must make as children grow older. Fathers who are present and involved with their children tend to have a strong and settling effect upon their sons and daughters as they enter the period of late childhood and adolescence.

Many studies done by experts in childhood development, or on what factors may be at work leading to crises in adolescence or early adulthood, lend support to the above reflection. But in the end, it is largely a matter of common sense. Besides, Christian faith and teaching on the significance of marriage as a natural institution, raised by Christ to the level of a sacrament, has always urged couples to take their responsibilities to each other and to their children seriously. It has led to many married persons developing great wisdom and virtue – even sanctity – as they struggle to care for each other and the family entrusted to them. That is why St Josemaria was able to say that marriage is a path to holiness.

One of the key arguments against so-called same sex marriage is that there are deep reasons why we are male and female; one of them being the two-fold complementary influence of both mothers and fathers, and even grandmothers and grandfathers, upon their natural offspring and how it contributes to the flourishing of their humanity.

PRIMARY MATTERS

This week, the swimming season ends in the crescendo that is external competitions. Wollemi College participates in IPSHA and the HZSA to give our students an opportunity to compete against other schools. Our boys are often singled out for their sporting spirit and their exemplary representation of our school.

Last Friday, I attended IPSHA’s general meeting where a talk on effective leadership was given by Justin Papps who is the Global Head of Communications for QBE. He is also involved in various groups in the study of effective leadership across many spheres. He has worked with some great characters such as John Eales, the former Wallabies Captain.

He asserted that effective leaders have 6 main qualities in common. Effective leaders are: Principled, Purposeful, Responsible, Open, Humble and Composed. Six qualities I would contend that we, as parents, need as well.

I would like to expound on the sixth, which is composure.

Composure, Justin said, is about how we react in a crisis. Do we blame, fly off the handle or whinge? Or do we pause, assess and take responsibility for the next step? As parents we often face difficult situations and dilemmas, many of which can be diffused by composure, some humour and calm conversation.

This is a timely topic as Mr Aldous meets with our class leaders this week at the Headmaster’s Morning Tea. It would be a good goal to talk to our young men about these leadership qualities that they will need to help society improve.

We finish the week with this month’s FIRST FRIDAY when we have ALL DAY ADORATION of the Blessed EUCHARIST. You are all welcome to drop in and spend some time in the chapel with our LORD.
NAPLAN TESTS

This year’s NAPLAN tests will be held on Tuesday-Thursday May 12-14, as per the letter from the Board of Studies that we have emailed to you. If your son will be absent in this time, he can catch up on Friday 15. If this is the case, please let the school know as soon as possible. As always, the Secondary boys will complete one past paper to ensure they are familiar with the format of the tests. The Primary boys will likely do a little more. Teachers may well use the opportunity to also branch out from the past tests to teach some worthwhile lessons. We will not, however, waste weeks of valuable learning time completing multiple past tests.

TEAM OF THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>AWARD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Goannas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Six</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
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CHAPEL ROSTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7 - Week Commencing 9 March</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flowers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Seecy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue Schembri</td>
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MATHS CORNER

Last week's winner was Daniel Woolnough with an answer of 549.5.
This week’s question is: the five digit number 839A2 is divisible by 12. What digit does A represent? The first student to email me michaelseecy@wollemi.nsw.edu.au after 4:30 today with working and the right answer will win 5 points for his team.

YEAR 9 PARENTS

Please note that the Night of Flavour dinner get together will have to be postponed to next term. We just received notice that a special Saturday vigil mass has been organised for the PARED families and friends on March 14, 5pm, at Montgrove College (140 Bringelly Rd, Kingswood). This is in celebration of 2015 being declared a Year of the Family. A sausage sizzle follows. We hope you are able to attend the mass and join in the celebration.
Regards
Bing and Ginny Gonzaga

YEAR 6 PARENTS

We are hoping to get the ball rolling for our Year 6 graduation preparations and are organising a get together for all mums.
When: Friday, 13 March
Time: 2pm
Where: McDonald’s Werrington
RSVP: Karen 0421 968 413
Libby: 0403 594 330
Hope to see you all there!

YEAR 10 MUMS

Supper with Mums Catch up !!!
Venue: 29 Caddaridge Drive Caddens
Time: 7.30 pm
Date: Friday 6th March
RSVP Aimee 0409776637
Helena 0411149147
CROSS COUNTRY

The Wollemi Cross country was a success with all the boys putting in a great effort and trying their best. The day ran smoothly with the help of the year 12 boys and also some year 10s. A big thanks to them. It was quite a hot day so hydration was imperative and a handful of primary boys did a great job at keeping the water cups full for all the runners.

DATEs FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 9 March</td>
<td>Years 7 Immunisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 11 March</td>
<td>Open Day</td>
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<td>Thursday 12 March</td>
<td>Year 12 Seminar</td>
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<td>Monday 16 March</td>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 4 Australian Museum Excursion</td>
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<td>Wednesday 18 March</td>
<td>Year 12 Biology Excursion to Olympic Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20 March—Sunday 22 March</td>
<td>Years 5 &amp; 6 Father and Son Camp at Yarramundi</td>
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<td>Thursday 26 March - Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Year 12 Exams</td>
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<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Holy Thursday</td>
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<td>Thursday 2 April</td>
<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>Tuesday 21 April</td>
<td>First day of Term 2</td>
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This Newsletter is published every Tuesday. Articles may be e-mailed to paulineward@wollemi.nsw.edu.au before 10am.
3 March 2015

Wollemi Basketball Club News

THIS WEEK’S DRAW

FRIDAY 6th March
u16div1 BYE
u18div1 court 1 8:00pm vs GP Gobetrotters
u18div2warriors court 5 7:15pm vs Joey J-Hawks
u18div2wizards court 6 8:45pm vs Lycans SC

SATURDAY 7th March
u12div3 NO Games- Stadium Booking
u14div3 NO Games-Stadium Booking
u16div2 NO Games-Stadium Booking

Upcoming Event

March 5
Basketball House Comp
Finals Green vs Gold

March 20
Basketball Semifinals weekend

March 28
Basketball Breakfast

Important Announcement

UNIFORMS
Will you need uniform for the next season?
Orders are finalized by Friday 6th March.
Upfront payment of $50 payable to Rocel or Camille.
We send in the orders to have it ready before the Winter season starts.

Online payments are now available for your convenience.
*Payments for uniforms -$50
*Court Fees for the winter season $150 before April.
Here are our details:
Acct Name: Wollemi Basketball Club
BSB :032 273
Acct Number: 38 2899

Basketball House Comp Finals: Green vs Gold

This Thursday 5th March at lunchtime The Green and Gold are battling it out for a most exciting final. The Mundoora Crocs captain Matthew Seecy is hoping to cement a win against the Aruluen Eagles captained by Enoch Ekundayo. EJ Rendon bets Gold will win it by 4 points over the Crocs. Guess we’ll see!

Sausage sandwiches and drinks are up for grabs while watching the finals. Order forms are attached if you didn’t get one; just send in your order form and payment in the office by Tues 3rd March so you won’t miss out!
Wollemi Basketball Player of the Week

Player Profile: Jacob Berryman
Shirt No: 9   Age: 16
Position Played: SG/ SF
Have Been Playing Since: 2009
First Team Joined: Wollemi u12 div 2
First Game Won: too far back to remember
Favourite Team: San Antonio Spurs

Major achievements: (Personal and Team)

* 5 years Rep experience
* 6 championships 5 as a player 1 as a coach.
* Scoring 40 points on 75% shooting on a game
* Playing ball in America for 3 weeks.
* 5 years coaching experience

Most Memorable to Date and Why?

An u16s rep game where I hit a buzzer-beater 3 to win the game.

What I Love About Basketball?

The competition and constant challenge it gives me and seeing each shot swish through the net

Where Do You See Myself 10 Years From Now in Regards to BB?

Coaching reps and still playing

My Basketball Motto:

Don't put in half the effort unless you are happy with half the results.
National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2015

LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 12 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 14 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.