

Snowy Mountains Christian School

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Biblical Focus 2009: "Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth" 1 John 3:18

NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th August, 2009. Week 5, Term 3

From the Principal

Greetings!

How do you measure a good education?

I'm not sure how many of you pay close attention when educational issues appear in the news, but one story that has had a reasonably high profile lately involves the publication of so-called school "league tables".



On one side, certain groups insist that parents have a right to know what schools are performing well. On the other, there are those who believe that education is so complex that comparisons are inherently unfair, and being associated with a lower ranked school does great damage to students without solving any of the problems that produced the ranking in the first place. It's interesting to see what the Federal Education Minister, has to say on this subject:

JULIA GILLARD: I'm not interested in league tables... Parents want to know what's happening in their local school and I think as a country we also want to be able to see where schools are doing tremendously well and celebrate and share that best practice but we also want to see which schools are falling behind and need an extra helping hand... I think the best way of delivering (information about school performance) is to have it available with the characteristics of the student population so you're comparing like schools, schools that serve similar student populations. (Quoted 25/08/09; Source: Minister's Media Centre <http://www.deewr.gov.au>)

This seems to say that we should not fear the worst sorts of comparisons from the federal government – although we would be wise, perhaps, to remain wary of shallow, unfair reports in the media, and not only about Christian Schools.

All this raises an important question, however. How do we measure the performance of *our* school? Do we focus on basic literacy and numeracy results? the School Certificate? sporting and cultural achievements? polite, well-spoken students? These are just some ways to assess school performance, and SMCS certainly strives for excellence in them. Provided the comparisons are fairly made, I do not believe our school needs to fear the publication of performance data. I do believe, however, there is a higher priority we must never neglect. That is, we are a *Christian School* and our mandate is to honour Jesus Christ in everything we do. It is that priority that underpins our concern for students' welfare, our approach to the curriculum and the standards we work to uphold. And it is ultimately to Jesus Christ that we must account for this school's performance.

We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present every person mature in Christ. (Colossians 1:28)

Yours for the Kingdom,

Mike

Mike Nightingale

Sport Report

Last Wednesday (Aug 19th) **Elana Bateman, Mikaylah Bateman, Angus Allen & Nick Wassink** traveled to Sydney to compete in the CSSA State Athletics Carnival. They performed very well with some good results.

Angus -	2 nd Junior Boy 800m	Mikaylah -	5 th 11yr Girl Long Jump
	4 th Open Boy 1500m		10 th 11yr Girl 100m
Elana -	10 th 8yr Girl 100m	Nick -	9 th Junior Boy Shotput

Angus has now qualified to compete at the CIS State Carnival in September. We wish him well. Congratulations to 4 fine athletes.

Secondary CSSA State results will be given next week.

Liz Fairbairn – Sport Coordinator.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email please send an email to: newsletter@smcs.nsw.edu.au

NOTICES

After School Reminder:

Infants and Primary parents, please be aware the bell rings at 3.00pm, and the bus duty teacher will leave the Link with bus students at 3.10pm. This means children will not be supervised in the Link after 3.10pm. Please call the office on 6452 4333 if you will be late arriving. Thank you.

Hockey Anyone???

It's on again - the annual Parent vs Kids Hockey game.

The parents are looking for anyone interested in playing.

Date: 25th September

Time: 1.30pm - 3.00pm

Please leave your name and contact number at the office if you'd like to sign up.

Thanks,

Sandra Wassink.

P.S. We may even train this year!



Boys' Club
will be joining in with
the Primary Children's
Movie Night on
Friday, 4th September.

'Kids' Blast'

If your child is not involved in another Sunday School, why not bring them to 'Kids' Blast', an exciting kids program every Sunday during school term from 10.15 – 11.30am.

Children are encouraged to join in Worship with their parents between 10.00-10.15am.

Pastor Gary.

The families of Primary children (PK-6) are invited to a

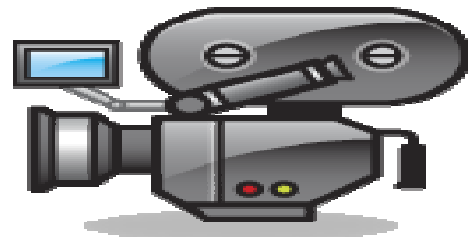
Movie Night

Friday 4th September 2009

It will be some-what like an
old fashioned drive-in movie!

Families should bring their own picnic dinner, drinks, utensils, picnic rugs etc.

Starts 5pm @ SMCS – Movie starts @ 6.00pm in the Sanctuary
Fresh popcorn available for a small cost on the night.



NOTICES

Cooma Athletics Inc. Registration Dates.

Thursday 3rd & 10th September 2009.

Snowy Oval Clubhouse

4.00pm – 5.30pm

(Please bring copy of birth certificate or proof of age)

Enquiries Norma 043 787 3706

Season commences 17th September, 2009 at 4.00pm

Cooma Community Garden:

The "Lawns to Lunches" program incorporates a series of workshops open to everyone, including families, plus a special School Holiday Workshop for kids (age 5+) to be held in conjunction with Cooma Library on Wednesday, 14th October. Bookings to Sue at the Cooma Library Phone 6450 1730



Get Your Kids Active in 2009

Play Squash & Golf for a lifetime of fun and fitness. Winter/ Spring Programs for 2009:

Junior Golf Clinics – Saturdays 1-3pm

Starting September 5th for 9-15 year olds. \$8.00 per student.



Junior Squash – Wednesdays 4.30 – 6.30pm

Starting 19th August for 8 – 15 year olds. \$6.00 per student.

All enquiries to: Mick & Loretta O'Connor
Phone 6452 1213 or 0413 751 964

Cooma North Preschool Assoc.Inc. **FETE** – 3 Brown St., Cooma North
Saturday 19th September 2009 Featuring our star attraction for the day...

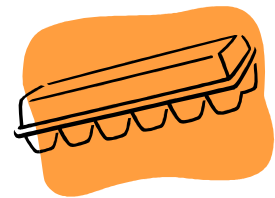
The Great ZAMBONI - Comedy Magician

Two shows 11.00am & 1.00pm

BBQ & Refreshments Petting Paddock Pony Rides Teddy Bear Hospital
The Great Zamboni Tombola Plant Stall Cake Stall Krispy Kremes etc.

Thank you

very much for all the egg cartons sent in.
We now have sufficient for the time being.



Ruth Salzke – Art Teacher

