



**Snowy Mountains Christian School**

Cnr. Baroona Avenue & Boona Street PO Box 5333, Cooma North NSW 2630

T 6452 4333 F 6452 4300 E principal@smcs.nsw.edu.au | office@smcs.nsw.edu.au

*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 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2009. Week 6, Term 3**

### **From the Principal**

Greetings!

For the past three weeks I have had the great pleasure of teaching the Year 7-8 Mathematics lessons at school. Now, for some of you this would be less fun than the proverbial trip to the dentist but for me this experience has provided a great way to get to know the students and, believe it or not, I really love teaching. I love it so much that I even enjoy teaching maths to mostly-wonderful-but-sometimes-moody-and-frustrating adolescents.



Why?

Well firstly I'd like to describe why it *isn't*. It is *not* because Year 7-8 students see the big picture and consistently work hard to build the educational foundations for their future. Some do, naturally, but for others school is little more than a game where their goal is to avoid work at all costs and the adults' job is to drag them kicking and screaming towards learning. (I'm not naming anyone here, but they know who they are!)

Another reason why it *isn't* is that Year 7-8 Mathematics is the best designed course of all time with the most enthralling content known to humanity. For some students it is challenging, interesting and relevant, but for others it can seem quite disconnected from everyday life. It's no great surprise that they sometimes ask the same whiny-voiced question as their forebears: "When are we ever gonna use *this*?"

The main reason I love teaching is that as human beings we are created to learn. Learning is a lifelong process that, rightly directed, helps to connect us with God and his universe, and opens up opportunities for living productive, creative lives. Sometimes learning can be frustratingly difficult but it should never be viewed as a meaningless drudgery. One reason, therefore, that it is such a privilege to be a teacher is that we help students *learn how to learn*.

But because kids are kids they do not always see things this way. As adults, it is up to us to keep the big picture in mind, and to ensure that we provide them an education that is genuinely worthwhile. I believe that an essential component of this is for parents and teachers to work together to instil a deep love of learning into every child. We have more to do, of course, but it is inspiring to see so much of this happening at SMCS. It shouldn't worry us, then, if our Year 7-8 students occasionally complain they have too much homework or say school is soooooo boring. This is just a sign that we need to keep working together.

*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**

We had two of our great athletes represent SMCS at the CSSA State Athletics Carnival last week with some great results.

**Tim Burgess** was 8<sup>th</sup> in the boys 16yr 100m

**Kirralee England** was 10<sup>th</sup> in the girls 16yr Long Jump.

Great effort! Tim & Kirralee will now be joined by **Renee Wortley**; they will all compete at the CIS State Carnival in a few weeks. We wish them all the best!

**Liz Fairbairn – Sport Coordinator.**

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

# NOTICES

## Primary Transition Day

On Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> September, the school will be running a 'Taste and See Day' for Year 6 to High School. As part of this process we will be moving all grades **UP to the next year level** for the afternoon session. In the past we have found this to be a useful experience for our students to spend some time with their new peer group, as well as their new teacher. If you have questions regarding this please see me. Thanks.

**Steve Carter**

Primary Coordinator.

## HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September School Certificate 2009, Year 7 in 2010; Years 9-10 in 2010.

**Session 1: 7.00-7.30pm.** *In the Sanctuary* for those who are *currently in Year 10.*  
*In the Library* for those who will be in *Year 7 in 2010.*

**Session 2: 7.30-8.00pm** *In the Sanctuary* for those who will be in *Year 7 in 2010.*  
*In the Library* for those who will be in *Years 9-10 in 2010.*

**Session 3: 8.15-8.45pm** *In the Sanctuary* for those who will be in *Years 9-10 in 2010.*

A more detailed note has been sent home with children preparing for Yrs 7, 9 & 10 in 2010 and is available from the Office if you haven't seen your copy. I look forward to exploring these exciting opportunities together.

**Mike Nightingale – Principal.**

## Six A Side Soccer

Registration forms have been handed out to interested students for the summer Six A Side soccer. When these are returned to me, I will compile the teams and let you know who's in what. I will then hold a brief meeting for those interested on how the competition will run. Keep an eye out in the newsletter. Please endeavour to return forms asap – if your child did not get one, there are spares at the school office.

**Steve Carter**

## '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.

Your children are welcome to join the Church in Worship between 10.00-10.15am. You are welcome to join us at that time also.

**Pastor Gary.**

## Help Us Spend Some Money!

The school recently received a National School Pride Grant from the Federal Government to improve the look of our school.

One of the projects involves painting, particularly the main Administration Area, as well as the Infants Toilets and the corridor from the Sanctuary to the Playgroup area.

Everyone is invited to a very special  
“*Let's spend Kevin's money Working Bee*”  
on Saturdays 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> September, starting at 8:00 am until about 3:00 pm.



We are hoping to complete as much of this painting as possible before new carpet is laid during the next school holidays (Another opportunity to spend more money).

# NOTICES

## Hockey Anyone???

It's on again – the annual Parent vs Kids Hockey game.  
The parents are looking for anyone interested in playing.  
Date: 25<sup>th</sup> 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!

## Cooma Red Devils Under 15 Rugby Union team into the Grand Final.

Team members from Snowy Mountains Christian School are **James Cole, Isaac Worley, Jordan Shaw, Zac Nisbet, Tom Lee & Sebastian Dominish.**

The team has improved as the season progressed, thanks to the commitment and efforts of coach Ged Mackay, and now have the opportunity to represent Cooma in the Grand Final against Trinity from Goulburn. The grand final will be played in Canberra on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September.  
Well done and good luck for Saturday!

## SMCS Fundraiser – *Green Clean Eco Pack*

The fundraising committee is introducing a new fundraiser that will benefit both your household and the school!

It is an environmentally friendly, all purpose, money saving and easy to use product, and is a concentrate.

**For only \$20 you can make 25 trigger bottles, bringing the cost to only 80c per bottle! Out of every \$20 you spend the School receives \$5.00!**

The fundraiser will kick off on **18<sup>th</sup> September**, so be sure to send your order form in by **10<sup>th</sup> September** to receive your Green Clean Eco Pack!

For further information visit the website at [www.greenfundraising.com.au](http://www.greenfundraising.com.au) or see the office staff for sample/display.

## SMCS off to the Nationals!!!

Congratulations to all our SMCS skiers who competed in the State Snowsports Championships at Blue Cow last week. In Division 5, **Deuchar Allen, Georgie Allen** and **India Taylor** came 8<sup>th</sup> out of a field of 15 teams, a significant improvement on their Regional result. The Division 4 Skier X team of **Angus Allen, Hugo Allen** and **Robin Allen** narrowly missed selection for the Nationals with a 6<sup>th</sup> place in their Division (14 teams competing) whilst **Hugo Allen**, competing in the Division 4 Alpine event, gained 8<sup>th</sup> place, a fabulous result and one that sees him off to Falls Creek to represent SMCS at the Australian National Snowsports Championships!!

All our competitors were great sports and competed in pretty extreme weather conditions, they should be very proud of their achievements.

We wish **Hugo Allen** all the best for the Nationals on September 12<sup>th</sup>. Well done!!

**Fiona Taylor - Interschools Ski Coordinator**