Improving Our Schools

The post-modern malaise of ‘dreaming-without-doing’ is creeping into politics and into schools. The Prime Minister might want our schools to improve, but she must make it happen rather than lapse into the, ‘We’re gunna, you’ve gotta, they havta’ rhetoric of promises and passing the buck. The $6.5 billion a year of help for schools will be welcome, but on its own, will not bring about the educational reform wanted. Three other things need to happen:

1. **Parental Improvement.** As politically incorrect as it might be, the truth is that under-performing children in schools have a higher chance of coming from homes that have suffered relationship stress such as divorce, absence or abuse; material stress such as squalid living conditions, or cultural stress caused by family conditions that hinder effective assimilation into schools.

   A Government cannot tackle all these things and neither can Gonski, but a parenting program that encourages parents to read to their children, talk to their children and give to their children a model for life-long learning, would go a long way to improving school performance. Parents can help their children eat, exercise and rest properly. They can encourage their children to read. They can encourage the growth of pro-social skills. More than anything, parents can love their children and give them the gift of time. By so doing, stress in the home will decrease and learning in the school will increase.

2. **Teacher Improvement.** Teachers in countries that top the international school league tables enjoy high-esteem, accept high demands and enjoy high salaries. Attempts to professionalise teaching in Australia through greater accountability have been opposed and efforts to pay teachers more have been blunted. Principals must be allowed to hire and fire. Teachers must be appraised regularly. Staff must be professionally developed. The privacy of the classroom needs to be removed in favour of a transparency that allows colleagues to visit, appraisal to happen and excellence to flourish.

   The Prime Minister may want teachers to be selected from the top 30% of scholars but it will not happen unless she is prepared to put teachers in the top 30% of earners. A teaching degree should be restricted to a post-graduate activity. A clear demonstration of ability at under-graduate level must be necessary before teacher training at post-graduate level.

3. **Student Improvement.** Our students are being hobbled by an addiction to the western mantra of ‘mean, median and mode’. We are obsessed by what the average child is doing. Piagetian norms of child development are drilled into fledgling teachers. This astonishing blind-spot has led to generations of students becoming content with mediocrity. We are consumed by what is normal and rarely ask what is possible. Such thinking fosters the ‘tall poppy syndrome’ and the short change given to any who excel. Look where the Gonski money is going. It’s going to help those who are below average. This is good. It is also bad. We should also be funding those who are above average. We should be encouraging all students to realise their potential.
Mediocrity in schools is exacerbated by child-centred learning philosophies that require every educational endeavour to be fun. Life is not always fun. No great or worth endeavour is ever achieved without a modicum of pain. Our children must not be molly-coddled to the extent they collapse if the whole repertoire of superlatives is not used to describe their ordinary performance. Quite simply, we need to expect more from our children.

Motivational gurus are infesting schools. They tell students, ‘If you can dream it, you can do it’. Our students then dream of drifting around Darling Harbour on boats complete with on-board theatre and bar. When it doesn’t happen, they join the burgeoning legion on anti-depressants.

Another motivational guru has visited our schools. It is the Prime Minister. She has a dream – Australia will be one of the top five countries, in terms of schooling, by 2025. It is not enough to want it. You must go and get it.

Dr Tim Hawkes

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Thank you to our wonderful friends in the King’s community.

Your thoughts, prayers, cards and flowers have provided our family with great comfort following the murder of our son, Thomas.

We miss Thomas beyond words, but your kindness and compassion have helped us hugely.

With warm appreciation,

Ralph, Kathy, Madeleine and Stuart Kelly

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SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES

Please note that all submissions must be forwarded to Susan MacDonald by 4.00pm on the Tuesday preceding the publication date. (For reference – please see the following publication schedule.)

Suitable items with minimal formatting and of no more than half an A4 page should be emailed to srm@kings.edu.au. Please note that this includes Membership forms, Dinner invitations and the like.

Submission of articles for the King’s Herald

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Susan MacDonald
srm@kings.edu.au 0412 522 028

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A Message to Parents and Students

The Easy Way to Get a Tax File Number

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) offers students aged 13 years or over the opportunity to apply for a tax file number (TFN). To assist King’s students to obtain a TFN, they can choose to complete an application through the School. Students need a TFN for employment, applying for Centrelink benefits, opening a bank account or deferring university fees. This is a voluntary program and is being offered as a service to make it easier for students to obtain a TFN.

An application form can be obtained from Mrs Judy Medcalf, the Deputy Headmaster’s PA, in the Staff Centre.

If you have any further questions or need any more information please contact the School or telephone the Tax Office on 13 28 61.
DEPUTY HEADMASTER

Visual Arts and Industrial Arts Senior Exhibitions
On Friday evening, 31 August, the Visual Arts and Industrial Arts Departments held their Annual Senior Exhibitions showcasing the excellent HSC works of our boys. Both gatherings were extremely well attended and afforded opportunity for us to gain an insight into the skill and creativity of the boys and staff who have all demonstrated great determination and endeavour in achieving the high standards of practical work.

Visual Arts
The School was most privileged to have Mr Tim Olsen (‘79), and prominent Sydney Art Gallery Director, as our special guest. Tim and I studied Art in the same class at School, at a time when the Arts held a far less prestigious place in the School curriculum. He spoke of the significant changes he has witnessed in Art Education since he studied at the School. Tim also expressed his ambition to create an Art Gallery at King’s to house the important and growing collection of art held by the School.

The rich and diverse work of twenty students was evidence of the ability of students to express very different personal viewpoints through a wide range of media and styles.

In drawing, the work of Sam Ainsworth, using charcoal and pastel, and Dylan Gage’s ink wash illustrations declared deep insights and emotions about their lives. Joshua Shahinian used graphite and charcoal to convey the narrative of the soldier. The sensitive and insightful perception of Marc Mourad’s drawings and illustrations were motivated by his personal family experience.

In painting, David Burdis’ powerful portraits glared down subjecting the viewer to the scrutiny of the artist while in Eric Jin’s series the theme of religious persecution in China was explored through dynamic brush strokes and vibrant colour. Victor Cavisinni’s cheerful exploration of colour and movement balanced Eddie Jin’s textured surfaces of primal forces. This theme of texture and movement was replicated in the paintings of Tomson Lam. Mitchell Lawrence used paint to explore the power of love in the face of destruction and change. Jack Stephens chose the impact of contemporary leaders as his theme, while Putt Taechakijviboon tackled the negative impact of commercialism on our children. Jerry Fang’s soft and sensitive acrylic paintings reflected his cultural tradition, while Justin Tan portrayed the blurring division separating man-made and natural worlds.

Photography, in all of its guises, was used by Richard Wong in his personal interpretation of light while James Davies adopted a more documentary style in his series called ‘The Drifters’. Self-portraiture with a difference was seen in the pixelated sculptures of Digby Allen - feathers, pencils, paintbrushes, crayons and acrylic were used to represent different views of himself. Tom Arnott explored dreams and imagination in his sculptural interpretation of dragons. Leslie Parwada reinterpreted his cultural heritage to derive abstract sculptural forms. The close relationship of father and son found in a common love of cars was the theme of Filipe Piteira’s ‘Pai e PapuCo’ sculptural portraits.

In all this amazing exhibition of the highest standard was enthusiastically enjoyed by those fortunate enough to see it.

Industrial Arts
Three categories of HSC work were on display: Wood, Metal and Design and Technology; all demonstrating great care, exceptional workmanship and attention to detail. I think once again we can expect a majority of Band 6 HSC results from the fine work exhibited.

From the Wood section, Jack Gaff’s sideboard, constructed in Silky Oak, was beautifully finished and demonstrated an extremely fine level of craftsmanship. Josh Moore’s speedboat, built in Mahogany, also deserves special mention. The level of craftsmanship, hard work and aesthetic design has resulted in a beautiful 14ft wood boat that will no doubt become a valued family treasure.
In Metal, the beautifully finished dual axle tipping tractor constructed by Max Wylie was exceptional, as was the innovative portable sheep pen with race cleverly designed and built by Nick White.

In Design and Technology, Zac Holt's coffee table that converts into a pool table was innovative and the interacting stools of Sam Ainsworth demonstrated intelligent and thoughtful design. Special mention must be made of Sam Harris' computer operated cotton planter that administers water at the moment of planting. This was a most difficult and challenging concept that is evidence of outstanding innovative system design and one which holds much promise in assisting agricultural production in the future.

The superb quality of work in the Visual and Industrial Arts has been enhanced by some wonderful leadership and skill of our Academic Staff. I wish to acknowledge and thank Mr and Mrs Trick (Visual Arts), Mr Davey (Wood), Mr Hoppitt (Metal) and Mr Tarasenko (Design and Technology). We as a School are most fortunate to have staff of such first class calibre.

Year 12 Graduation
Parents and relatives of Year 12 students are invited to attend the Graduation Ceremony which will be held in Futter Hall on Friday 21 September. The Guest of Honour this year is Mr Stirling Mortlock AM, Stirling is an Old Boy, graduating in 1994, was a Boarder in Broughton House and is a former Wallaby Captain. The Ceremony will commence at 11.00am and members of the audience are asked to be seated by 10.50am. The Ceremony will conclude at approximately 12.40pm and a light luncheon in the Trophy Room will follow. This function generally finishes at approximately 2.00pm. Year 12 parents have recently received letters relevant to the Year 12 End of Term functions.

Dr Andrew Parry

DIRECTOR OF BOARDING

Broughton Forrest Update
The Broughton Forrest project is making good progress and we are still on track for the boys to move in at the commencement of 2013. The roof structure is taking shape and the extensions to the north and eastern wings are clearly evident. If there are delays (eg due to weather), there are contingency plans to ensure that all boys in BRF will be accommodated in their current temporary Houses for as long as is necessary.

Activities for Boarders
The following voluntary activities have been scheduled for the remainder of this Term:
Friday 7 September
Code Red – 4.00pm-6.30pm for Years 7-9
Sunday 16 September
Paint Ball – 6.00am-1.00pm for Years 10-12
In addition, all Year 12 boarders will be attending a compulsory excursion to Balmoral Beach on Wednesday 19 September.

Boarder Parents’ Roundup
Many thanks to Victoria Sharp for doing much of the organization of this event last Saturday, 1 September, which was held during the Home fixture against Joeys. It was a highly successful and enjoyable gathering that attracted strong interest from many boarder parents and their families. A number of the Boarder Parents’ Committee gave strong support by bringing food and drink for the masses.

Boarder Parents’ Committee
A number of current members of the Committee will be stepping down at the end of 2012 and we are seeking nominations from other interested parents to replace them. Positions vacant include Convenor, Deputy Convenor and Secretary. In addition, a number of House representative positions will be available. Interested boarder parents should contact me or Will Arnott to nominate for positions. Will, who is stepping down as Convenor, took on this role in 2010 when the Committee was formed. His quiet, good-humoured leadership has been greatly appreciated by the School and by the other members of the Committee. We thank him for his commitment, hard work and wisdom. His contribution to the effective workings of the Boarder Parents’ Committee has been significant and we wish him well as his son, Tommy, graduates as part of the King’s class of 2012.

Malcolm Powys
If only I had more time

Why are we all so busy? Maybe there are just so many good things to do! Perhaps there may be more to it.

Tim Chester in his book The Busy Christian’s Guide to Busyness suggests six unhealthy causes that may drive our busyness:

- I am busy because …
  - I need to prove myself. I find my identity through what I do and achieve.
  - because of other people’s expectations. I don’t want to disappoint people.
  - other things get out of control and I’m driven by the idea that people need me.
  - it helps me escape from the chaos of life and relationships.
  - I need the money.
  - I want to make the most of life and to make an impact.

Perhaps your busyness is being driven by one of these unhealthy causes. Trusting in God will not end your busyness but it will give you a solid foundation for how you spend your time.

It is amazing how time is very much like money. Once you spend it you can never get it back. It is amazing how we always seem to have enough money to buy the things we really want. It is the same with our time. We always have enough time to do the things that we really want. It is all a matter of choice. Just as we cannot buy everything that is available, so we cannot also do everything that is on offer.

The challenge is for us to make sure our time expenditure matches our beliefs and values. To put it bluntly are we spending time on the relationships that are important to us? Do we sacrifice time for God, our family and friends? Relationships are expensive. Relationships take time. The old adage of “it’s quality not quantity” is often a cop out in relationships. Your family and good friends need both your quality time and a huge amount of quantity time.

Next time you find yourself saying … I just haven’t got enough time. Ask yourself – time for what? We always have time for the things that are important enough to us. Is God and your family important enough to you so that you spend not only quality time but a huge amount of quantity time with them?

Rev Stephen Edwards  chaplain@kings.edu.au
What's the big rush? Slow down and Reap the Benefits

What do these scenarios have in common: a professional tennis player returning a serve, a woman evaluating a first date across the table, a naval officer assessing a threat to his ship and a comedian about to reveal a punch line?

Even as technology exerts new pressures to speed up our lives, it turns out that the choices we make – unconsciously and consciously, in time frames varying from milliseconds to years - benefit profoundly from delay. Taking control of time and slowing down our responses yields better results in almost every arena of life…even when time seems to be of the essence.

Now this is not to give acceptance to all of us, including students, who procrastinate! But as Frank Partnoy, a US financial expert, notes in his sharp manifesto, Wait: The Art and Science of Delay, people often make false judgments based on first impressions.

Taking aim at writer Malcolm Gladwell's Blink, Partnoy argues these mistakes are often caused by haste. While we are capable, as Gladwell argues, of making broad judgments from brief snapshots, we often stuff it.

When we get it right, this is usually because of expertise, developed over many years. As with what Aristotle called 'phronesis', or prudence, this kind of knowledge cannot be reduced to rules and regulations, to be applied quickly and without consideration.

Expertise involves a "feel for the game". But if the game changes, even experts become novices - unless they can take stock.

One of Partnoy's persuasive arguments is that timing is vital for mastery. What distinguishes the elite from amateurs is not only technique but also understanding when to use it. Tennis players Jimmy Connors and Chris Evert were masters of returning serve, not because their perception was quicker or clearer than average, but because they took the milliseconds required to examine the ball's approach. Their fast returns, honed by years of practice, gave them precious extra fractions of a second. "They got fast first," Partnoy says, "in order to go slow later."

This logic applies to many time scales, such as the years required to invent Post-it notes. What's common, Partnoy says, is a refusal to be rushed into decision or deed.

Haste is most dangerous during stress. Partnoy details the consequences: from bungled comedy (a premature punchline) to bad romance (a feverish first date) and military disaster (firing blind at civilians). Experts can overcome panic with training: they learn to put aside hyperventilating clumsiness or paralysis and enter a "flow" state.

This happens, as psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi notes, with surgeons, rock climbers, artists and chess players. But, Partnoy argues, even masters need reminders: slow down and size up the situation. In a trial of eight hospitals, for example, simple checklists in surgery reportedly cut deaths by almost half.

However, many professional mistakes are due to the worship of efficiency - what might be called 'institutionalised panic'. Rapid deadlines, constant intrusions and obsession with the clock can scuttle good work. Forget visions of corporate geniuses guzzling double-shot espressos as they invent cold fusion: the "real time" office is often myopic, distracted and depressed, whereas innovation is often slow.

Despite his cheeky subtitle, Partnoy's remedy is not procrastination but the mindful management of time. The best workplaces, he argues, give employees hours to themselves and authority to use them innovatively.

But Partnoy does not have many "big picture" answers. This is partly because the problems are wicked: physiological, psychological, social, all intertwined. It is also because his final existential question - are we just animals, or "something more"? - is largely unanswered, and unanswerable within the framework he provides. But the chief message of Wait is wise, timely and well argued: simply wait.


Review by Damon Young.

Clive Logan
ARCHIVE SNIPPET

What does one call a gathering of Archivists? I am not sure, but an historic event took place a week ago when for the first time ever in the southern hemisphere, 1,000 Archivists from 95 countries converged on the Brisbane Convention Centre for the International Conference of Archivists. The Conference, run jointly by the International Council on Archives and the Australian Society of Archivists, provided likeminded professionals, the opportunity to discuss the major issues confronting the profession and to learn from each other.

The management, preservation and access of digital record keeping was a major focus of the week. Leaders in digital recordkeeping from Australia and overseas spoke about standards and the processes necessary to preserve and access digital records. Contrary to popular thinking, these records need more maintenance than the traditional paper records to ensure that they are available for access in the future. We were challenged to consider records as business assets and listened with interest to the architect who is building energy sustainable Archive buildings throughout the provinces of France.

Speakers from larger National Archives, such as those in Norway, spoke about principles which could be adopted in a smaller Archive. In 2011 following the Terrorist attack in Norway, the government very quickly put in place procedures and processes to create a Memory Archive to help in the healing and rebuilding of the nation. These could easily be adapted in a smaller environment if the need arose.

For me there were two major highlights. The first was the realisation that no matter where you are in the world, if you are involved in Archives the issues surrounding the core business of managing, preservation and access are the same, it is only the size of the collection that changes. In November 2011 UNESCO published the Declaration on Archives and this reinforces my second highlight, which was being able to hear speakers and chat to people, all passionate about their job, from Holland, Boston and Mozambique and know that we are all speaking the same language.

Jenny Pearce

GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

New Zealand Eco-Adventure Tour
23 September - 3 October 2012

New Zealand Eco-Adventure - 2012
With the end of Term 3 fast approaching and many assessment tasks on students’ minds, the Geography Department is becoming increasingly excited about our 2012 Eco-Adventure Tour to New Zealand; running over the September/October holiday break.

With the end of Term 3 fast approaching and many assessment tasks on students’ minds, the Geography Department is becoming increasingly excited about our 2012 Eco-Adventure Tour to New Zealand; running over the September/October holiday break.

We have a pre-departure Parent and Guardian evening scheduled for 12 September at 5.30pm in room S10. All parents are most welcome (not essential), but all of the boys must attend.

It will be a chance to ask any last questions of Mr Stewart and myself and will also provide an opportunity to formally distribute our tour clothing (jacket and shirt), kit bags, discuss gear lists and outline tour rules so all boys understand our expectations and their responsibilities whilst away from home.

We are all looking forward to experiencing the amazing landscapes and cultural traditions New Zealand will offer us over the 11 days.

Highlights include
- Volcanism at Rotorua (A trip to middle Earth)
- Maori Welcoming Ceremony (Haka and Hangi)
- Kayaking and Camping Milford Sound (top 10 best in the world)
- Franz Josef Glacier (Hike and Helicopter ride)
- Jet boat ride (Shotover River)

Drew Collins
**CENTRE FOR LEARNING & LEADERSHIP**

KOALA Awards 2012 Years 7 to 9

The Kids Own Australian Literature Awards shortlist is out for 2012 and voting is open until the end of Term 3. The listed books for Years 7 to 9 are an excellent mix including thriller, conspiracy, fantasy, humour and coming of age stories.

We are running a reading group for boys who would like to read one, a few or all of the ten books on the shortlist – all Australian books which have been nominated by students in Years 7 to 9 across NSW as their favourite reads of the last year. Once you let us know you want to join, we will add you to our iLearn group and you will see the group on your own iLearn page. You won’t see the group until we have added you.

You can begin by looking at the shortlisted books on our blog, [storyLines](#) or by finding the KOALA list with resource lists on Destiny Quest. Year 7 and 8 will be introduced to the list in their storyLines class over the next two weeks. Let Mrs Hurst, Dr Langford or Mrs Thomson know if you want to be added to the KOALA Book Group on iLearn, or email Mrs Thomson (mat@kings.edu.au)

Photography Competition on Display in the CLL

130 photographs were entered in this competition to honour the Australian Year of the Farmer.

The judges, Mr Trick, Head of Visual Arts, and Mrs Trick, teacher of Visual Arts were guided by these criteria:

1. In the year of the Farmer some interrelationship of the land with the farmer was sought (not just images of the land).
2. The aesthetics of the photograph and an understanding of framing and composition assisted selection.
3. A narrative or insight into the land supported a visual impact.

The Senior Category (Years 7 -12) was well represented in all three categories with overall winners and commendations as follows:

**At work and play in the country**

- **Winner** Tom Harris
- **Highly commended** Hugh Manning
- **Commended** Fletcher Jackson
- **Commended** Tom Harris

**Country landscapes**

- **Winner** Fletcher Jackson
- **Highly commended** Tom Harris
- **Commendation** Hugh Manning
- **Honourable Mention** Thomas Taylor

**Fun in the country**

- **Winner** Hugh Manning
- **Highly Commended** Nick Fulton-Kennedy
- **Highly Commended** Tom Harris
- **Commended** James Grant
- **Commended** George Condon

**Youth Forum**

Excitement is building as we approach our annual Youth Review Forum to be held Monday, 10 September. Discussion will be focussed on the Children’s Book Council of Australia shortlisted selection for Book of the Year in the Older Readers Category.

Our Book Club members met with their coach this week, author and regular visitor to the Book Club, William Kostakis. Panel members this year will include three of our talented students, Oliver Morassut, Matthew Joyce and Nicholas Morley, plus students from Cherrybrook Technology High School and Carlingford High School.
The panel will be moderated by Paul MacDonald from the Children’s Bookshop in Beecroft.

TKS former writer-in-residence, Scot Gardner, was deemed the National Winner for his *The dead I know*. What will the student panellists say about this novel and what will be their preferred choices?

Our TKS Boys’ Book Club and students from the visiting high schools represented on the panel, will form the audience.

**ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT**

This week, the following boys received Certificates of High Distinction and prize money as a result of their participation in the Australian Economics and Business Studies Competition at the University of New South Wales:

- Bob Madden Year 12
- Harley Milano Year 12
- Chris Chui Year 11
- Max Bailey Year 12

These boys were in the top 1% of entries (10,000 students from over 250 schools). Considering that 70% of the recipients were from Selective high schools, having four boys represent King’s (greater than any other GPS or CAS school) was simply spectacular.

Fabian Mandrini
Head of Department

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

**Gala Music Concert**
Don’t miss this once a year event which presents the best in Ensembles and solos in Futter Hall – Thursday, 13 September commencing at 7.00pm with drinks and canapés from 6.30pm.

**The Idea of North**
Looking ahead into Term 4, there will be a spectacular Concert in Futter Hall featuring *The Idea of North* on Wednesday, 10 October commencing at 7.30pm.


Ryland Joyce
Congratulations to Captain of Music / Captain of Choir for being awarded the Associate Diploma in Singing from Trinity College London (ATCL). Ryland has been a strong musician whilst at King’s, being a significant member of many ensembles, most notably the Senior Choir, Symphonic Concert Band, Senior Stage Band and Flute Choir, as well as performing roles in numerous musicals and plays.

Barry Walmsley

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**The Braeside Shop**
The Braeside Shop will close at 3.00pm on Friday 21 September and reopen on Monday 8 October 2012.
**DIRECTOR OF SPORT**

The Winter season has been one in which we have seen some wonderful performances. The Senior Cross Country Team is poised to take out the premiership on Saturday and this is on the back of some team members stepping up from younger age groups to fill in where required. Congratulations to Mrs Quitzau and the team.

It has been a pleasure to watch the Football teams perform each Saturday. The coaching staff have been able to extract some real enthusiasm from the boys at all levels and we have been very competitive in most areas. The 1st and 2nd have set the example with very determined efforts and have recorded some gritty wins along the way. Mr Nurcombe, in his first year as MIC, has provided strong leadership and a determined attitude to all that he has done and this has been evident in the resolve of many of our teams each Saturday.

The Rugby teams have provided a great deal of enjoyment and they have displayed considerable skill against most of the oppositions that we have faced. Those at the elite level have had some challenges to deal with, however, some of those challenges have given others opportunities that they have accepted and built upon. The U13s have been outstanding in terms of both attitude and results. The 13As provide entertainment each week and have earned some very good wins. As MIC of Rugby, Mr James is an ever-present figure on the training paddock and at games each Saturday. His passion and enthusiasm have helped many of our boys get across the line and improve their personal and team performance.

**Turning to Summer Sport**

It is pleasing to see that many have been in training for some time in preparation for summer sport.

It will be necessary to conduct “trials” for boys to secure places in several sports for the 2012-13 season. The boys have been spoken to about this by me in Assembly previously. We have wonderful facilities and many dedicated coaches, however, it is necessary to “cap” the numbers in some sports where facilities or supervisory requirements demand that we do so. These trials and some training will commence on Monday 10 September.

Boys who do not make a “cut” will, if they have elected to change sports, be returned to the sport from where they came. Others will be given some option of where they may otherwise like to go. We will make every effort to find a suitable placement for boys, however, this may not be possible for all.

We are fortunate to be represented by a vast majority of boys who make a great effort with their participation in sport. We always encourage and expect the boys to do their best – and most accept this challenge. Boys who continually try to (or have previously tried to) minimize their efforts will be placed in a sport or activity at the discretion of the School. This may or may not be competitive, however, it will require a full attendance with close supervision.

**Peter Phipps**

**RUGBY**

This Saturday will bring the curtain down on what has been an extended rugby season for 2012. Our last GPS fixture will be at home against Scots College, with 33 games being played on the white and Doyle ovals.

The last fortnight of rugby has seen King’s come up against the two biggest rugby playing schools in St Ignatius’ College and St Joseph’s College, where we found victories hard to come by.

Playing St Ignatius’ away is one of the hardest fixtures of the year, with all of our A teams going down, although in the GPS competition in 1st, 2nd and 3rd XV we had some fine results.

The 1st XV had a mixed day, which saw them soundly beat the opponents 22-5, but in doing so they picked up two serious injuries to the leading players Lalakai Foketi and Corey Tulloch. Lalakai broke his jaw in the early minutes of the match, which not only meant he had finished his season for King’s, but he unfortunately missed out on touring with the Australian School boys in the September school holidays. This injury along with Corey’s injury took a little gloss of a commanding victory. Sam Carter, who had replaced Lalakai, grabbed the opportunity with both hands, scoring two tries, whilst Andrew Ferris scored a smart individual try on his own. The 1st XV forward pack slowly got on top of their opponents, with Matthew Matson playing the game of the season with the forwards dominating possession, the backline started finding space out wide and which resulted in a strong victory.

The 2nd XV went into the match as undefeated leaders and certainly prepared for this match with great intensity. In what developed into a very tight contest, they played smart rugby, to keep their opponents pinned in their half for most of the match and although winning by 15-7, they never looked in any real danger of defeat. With Tom Bucknell and
Lachlan Camp scoring the tries, Charlie Friend added the extras with his near faultless kicking. The 2nd XV played to their strengths that being they stick to their patterns of attack and defence, and always playing as a team. They were well lead around the field by two of their most consistent players of the year in Nick Tregoning and Ben Stacey. Special mention must also go to Nick Reid who topped the tackle count with some courageous low tackles.

Special mention must go to the 3rd XV, as with over 40 boys away representing the School at skiing, the 3rd XV lost 3 or 4 players from their starting XV. Yet this did not stop them producing their best game of the competition to record a 15 all draw.

Other teams to stand out on the day were the 16Ds and Es who both had comprehensive victories. In the 15s age group the 15Bs continued their strong session with another victory winning 22-0, whilst the 15Es got up in a close one 34-29. In the 13s age group the consistency of the 13Bs and Cs was shown again, with the Bs recording a very impressive 29-5 win, whilst the Cs won a thriller 19-17.

Last Saturday saw King’s host St Joseph’s at home, and it was a day dominated by our opposition. The 1st XV were always going to do it tough with two of their Australian Schoolboys Lalakai Foketi and Harry Jones not playing, as well as Corey Tulloch being unavailable.

At half time the 1st XV were right in the game, only being down by 3 points and with a huge wind at their backs. Unfortunately we lacked the intensity of our opposition and St Joseph’s stepped it up a gear, resulting in a comprehensive 29-8 defeat. In a beaten team Harry Randell was still clearly one of the best players on the paddock with Matthew Matson again playing strongly.

The 2nd XV had their biggest match of the season against the undefeated Joey’s 2nd XV who sat 1 point behind them on the table. This was always going to be a thriller and that is exactly what happened. The 2nd XV played superbly in the 1st half in a commanding position, leading 23-11 with the wind at their backs. They started the second half exactly the same as the first dominating St Joseph’s with great defence and a pattern of attack that had their opponents pinned in their own half. However with only 9 minutes remaining St Joseph’s picked up a gear and to their credit scored 3 late tries to eventually run out winners 31-23.

It was gut wrenching for our boys to lose so close to the end of the match, after dominating the game for 50 minutes, but that unfortunately is rugby and I know they will have learnt a valuable lesson in this defeat. It was hard to single out any individual players as they all played well and deserved victory. I do have to mention the leadership that their captain, David Konstantopoulos, showed after the match. He displayed all the maturity and decency that people have come to expect from David. He is to be commended for the way he encouraged his teammates when they were obviously shattered by the loss. It is not all over for the 2nd XV, as a victory against Scots this weekend and a loss or draw to St Joseph’s would still see them crowned as GPS premiers.

With many age groups struggling for success, against St Joseph’s, the exception was the 13s age group. Their’s can only be described as the best result against St Joseph’s in the last 10 years, the 13s were undefeated in 6 of the 7 games played and that loss was indeed a game we will claim as a victory.

The 13Gs lost the game 36-10, but when they had met St Joseph’s last round, they lost 90-0. This is a fantastic turnaround from boys who are playing rugby in many cases for the first time.

The jewel in the crown, however, was the 13As who in what can be described as a perfect rugby game, won 55-5. They completely blew St Joseph’s off the paddock with brilliant fast tempo rugby; with the forwards delivering quality possession and the backs utilising it superbly. It was the best performance of any King’s team I have watched this season and I am really looking forward to them playing the undefeated Scots College 13As this week.

Good luck for the final round of matches this Saturday.

Stephen James
Master in Charge

FOOTBALL

With the recent news of Travis Cooper taking up a position with a leading Dutch football team, there has been a recent buzz around the school. The 1sts and 2nds many of whom played with Travis last year have been particularly excited and this has served as a welcome shot in the arm at just the right stage of the season. Our final away fixtures of the 2012 season took us to Fortress Riverview where all teams knew they would be in for a tough battle.

“Not tough enough!” was the reply from the 14A and B teams who won 6-0 ad 9-0 respectively. The boys played some fluent and tenacious football pleasing their coaches and army of supporters as both teams rediscovered some of their famous form from last
season. **Jye Perrott** netted a hat-trick in the As and not to be outdone, **Lucas Schembrì** did the same in the Bs game and was a constant threat. The 14Ds also continued their fine season with another win. The 13s didn’t fare as well and both As and Bs went down against some tough opposition.

In the senior teams, the 15Cs were the only team in their age group to record a win with a 5-2 scoreline. The 16As are also showing signs of turning the corner with a solid 1-1 draw and are starting to reap rewards for their back to basics approach in training. The star senior team, the 7th XI, continued their fantastic season and fought back from 1-0 down, with 9 men, to comprehensively beat Riverview 4-1.

Only a win would do for the 2nd XI and they made some positive early inroads. They played some excellent football and moved the ball around the park with ease. **Jackson Kang** in midfield had another solid game ably assisted by the busy **Seb Croker**. **Sam Read** was a constant threat up front and was in his element in a real physical tussle with the St Ignatius’ centre backs. It was King’s who conceded first though as a through ball was tucked away past the on rushing **Ian Paver**. A second then followed and it was difficult to see a way back. Substitute **Benz Janwong** started a comeback with a fine individual goal but as much as they pressed, the goal would not come. The result was secured with seconds to spare when a penalty was awarded and duly converted with the last kick of the game to make it 3-1.

The 1st XI also knew they had to win to maintain any premiership aspirations. The quiet confidence in the dressing rooms was palpable and they played with discipline and watchfulness in the opening exchanges. The long throw-in’s from **Ryan O’Keefe** were causing mayhem in the opposition defence and it was from a poorly defended throw that King’s opened the scoring, with **Matt Planinic** tapping in at the back post. The second goal was almost identical to the first, or would have been had the Riverview defender not blocked it with his hand which earned him an early bath and King’s a penalty, coolly converted by the ice-man, **Reuben Vijayakumaran**. It wasn’t long before he converted his second penalty following a well-spotted foul on **Zac Croker**. The Riverview protestations were over enthusiastic to say the least and resulted in the goal keeper being sent off for dissent. With Riverview down to 9 men, King’s had more time on the ball. A quick free kick on the left saw **Matt Hooke** deliver a quality cross that **Ryan O’Keefe** latched on to. 4-0 King’s. Watchfulness was the theme of the half time talk and the team returned to the field to complete a famous 6-1 victory. Huge credit to the 9 men of Riverview who never gave up the chase. **Sam Read** replaced the tireless **David Burdis** and immediately created a goal for himself with characteristic perseverance. **Seb Croker** completed the rout with another well-taken goal. Whilst the boys were happy with their result, they also knew it was a job only 1/3 done and turned almost immediately to thinking about the Joey’s top of the table clash the following weekend.

The Big One
A beautiful spring day brought the crowds out for the top of the table clash against Joey’s. The Wanderers’ field looked absolutely splendid thanks to the hard work of the groundsmen. It has usually been the commonplace of other schools in the GPS to be fighting for top place in the table and seeing King’s and Joey’s do battle was a welcome change from the norm and a sign of the emerging football talent at these two schools. King’s performed admirably in many of the fixtures and proved particularly strong in the 13s and 14s age groups. The 13B’s continued their excellent run and scored the quickest goal in King’s history, a mere three seconds into their game. **Will Kent** stood up and took advantage of a relatively unknown rule allowing players to score direct from kick off. I have been most impressed by the standard of football in the 13As and Bs this year and the future of football at King’s looks to be in safe hands.

The 14As won convincingly although the 1-0 scoreline, a penalty coolly converted by **James Fisher**, suggested otherwise. Again, this was backed up by a solid win from the 14Bs and the teams in this age group are also starting to play to their potential and with greater consistency as the seasons nears its end.

A **Gescard Bayssari** penalty would have given the 16As a deserved win had it not been well saved and try as they might, the boys could not get the vital equalizer having looked the better team for the duration of the game. As with many of the teams this year, the boys definitely learn the importance of taking your chances at all levels of the game and the 16As came away from this game saying exactly that. The 16Ds succumbed to their biggest loss of the
season under the guidance of stand in coach Mr Piper. The 16Ds deserve a special mention for their indefatigable attitude to training and never say die attitude in matches; whilst they have yet to win this year, they are a great bunch of lads and never give up the chase, for which they deserve great credit.

The 2nd XI still had a chance against the join top team in the league. Looking the better team for much of the game and a defensive lapse in the first half allowed Joey’s a soft goal. The 2nd continued to press and went close on several occasions, the best chance coming from a free kick that resulted in a powerful header falling straight into a grateful keeper’s arms. Hugh Fisher put in a man of the match performance in central defence and won every loose ball he challenged for. I was particularly impressed with his courage and desire to lead the team from the back by example. Try as they may, the score finished 1-0.

The 1st XI game started with both teams nervously probing but it was Joey’s who settled quickest and strung together some quality moves that showed why they were the top team going into the game. A short corner on the right was not picked up by the King’s defence and a dangerous cross saw the ball deflected into his own net by Ryan O’Keefe. King’s looked unsettled and sat too deep in defense, desperate not to concede another goal. Half time could not come quick enough and the score remained 1-0 at the break. A much more positive team emerged in the second half and took the fight to Joey’s. Some excellent passing and movement from Reuben Vijayakumaran and Harry Connery bamboozled the Joey’s midfield, although attempts on goal were mainly limited to long shots. 14 minutes into the second half, David Burdis, a constant thorn in the side of the Joey’s defence, thumped a low drive flying past their keeper into the back of the net. Game on! King’s continued to press and went close again shortly after when Jackson Kang’s opportunistic shot just missed an empty net. Matt Hawke couldn’t convert a near identical chance minutes afterwards. Despite their best efforts, the boys were repelled time and again by a determined Joey’s defence. King’s needed to win in order not to rely on results going for them the following weekend and as King’s pressed for the goal, a counter attack from Joey’s saw their captain jink past two defenders and fire a low shot past James Shepherd. And so it finished 2-1. They have come so far in such a short space of time and accomplished so much more than I thought possible at the beginning of the season. They were premiership contenders and came so close. With one more round to go next Saturday against Scots, I know the boys will want to finish well.

Tim Nurcombe
Master in Charge

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**CHESS**

**NSW Secondary Schools Chess Competition**

The NSW Secondary Schools Chess Competition, which runs on Friday afternoons, is now finished for 2012. This was another successful year in the Metropolitan competition with five of our teams finishing in the top half of their divisions.

**Senior Team** 2nd Place
John McMahon, Thomas Lysaght, Bowen Shen, Minghao Liang

**Intermediate A Team** 4th Place
HD Tang, Alan Zhu, Justin Yang, Jeffrey Liu

**Intermediate B Team** 3rd Place
Dale Hamilton, Michael Young, Logan Zeng, Tony Cheng

**Junior A Team** 2nd Place
Edward Bi, Shubhang Hariharan, Kieran Jayasekera, James Tugwell

**Junior B Team** 7th Place
John He, Chris Liu, Ben Sumetvarapa, William Tong

**Junior C Team** 4th Place
Amar Sabesan, Jerry Han, Annay Chuhan, Paul Seo

**Richard Yeend Chess Competition**

The Richard Yeend Competition is an internal competition which runs in Terms 2 and 3, with more than 30 students participating this year. Our winner was John McMahon with Thomas Lysaght finishing runner up. Congratulations also to Minghao Liang, Chris Liu, Jason Wan and Edward Bi for all finishing equal third.

In the six years Chess Captain John McMahon (Year 12) has competed, he has won three times (2012, 2011, 2009) and finished runner up the other three (2010, 2008, 2007). This is an outstanding achievement.

**Wednesday Morning Chess Club**

Each Wednesday morning before school, students meet to learn chess tactics and play social games. All students are welcome to come and participate in Room N1 any time from 7.45am.

Justin Walkden Brown
Coordinator
UPCOMING EVENTS

Invitation to All Parents
Discussion Forum
The Death of the Planet Earth ...
a scientific perspective

This affects every one of us!
Come and join in the lively discussion and explore
the vital questions about how and when the Earth is
going to die.

• How much time before we breach the eight
parameters that will kill the Earth?
• What are the eight factors?

You, your friends and family are cordially invited to
join us in an evening of dialogue on this issue.
World class experts will lead us in our discussion.
RSVP to Dr Mo Afzal at
ideasforlife@kings.edu.au or 9683 8455
Futter Hall, The King’s School
Tuesday 11 September 2012 – 7.00–8.30pm
Free admission

Panellists
Prof Mark Adams – University of Sydney
Prof David Tissue – University of Western Sydney
Dr Grant Edwards – Macquarie University

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION
All members of the School community are welcome
to the next Parents’ Association Meeting

Wednesday 12 September at 7.00pm in the
Governors’ Room.

Look for the agenda on the School intranet.
# CONDUCT UNBECOMING

**an unspeakable crime among officers and ladies**

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**JOHN HAIGH – A TRIBUTE AND FAREWELL GALA EVENING**

Complimentary Drinks and Canapes commencing 6.15 pm

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**Purchase Tickets Online**

Secure Seats Instantly!


Secure Payment and Confirmation

Please print confirmation sheet which will act as your ticket(s) for entry.

Patrons are requested to choose all sessions times carefully as tickets will not be exchanged or refunded at the door.

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The King’s School  
The Theatre Booking Office  
PO Box 1, Parramatta NSW 2124

Telephone Enquiries (Mon-Fri)  
9883 8450

Email  
boxoffice@kings.edu.au

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Tickets should be prebooked and payment made at time of booking. No payment for pre-booked tickets will be accepted at the door.

- A cheque for $_________ is enclosed, payable to The King’s School.
- Please debit the cost to the School fees account.
- Please debit Amex/MasterCard/Visa
  (7% surcharge will apply )
- Expiry Date: __________
- Cardholder’s Signature: __________

**Ticket Collection/Delivery Instructions**

- Please send tickets to my son’s House.
- Please mail my tickets to the Mailing Address indicated above.
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<td>8 September</td>
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<td>7.30pm Cross Country Dinner, Thomas Memorial Pavilion</td>
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<td>8.00am Cadet Corps Promotions Courses</td>
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<td>9.30am Church@Kings, CLL Auditorium</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>7.00pm Alpha Course, Thomas Memorial Pavilion</td>
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<td>12.30pm Bridge Club, Harrisford Room</td>
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<td>12.30pm Bridge Club, Harrisford Room</td>
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