Doing the right thing
Recently I had the pleasure of attending two national conferences: the APPA/NZPF conference, which embraced some 1,500 primary school principals from Australia and New Zealand; and the IPSHA Biennial Conference. Both were professionally stimulating and collegial. The IPSHA conference closed with a very provocative presentation by Simon Illingworth. He was a police officer in Victoria at the height of its police corruption and shady dealings, and was caught up in that scene. Immense pressure was placed on him to become corrupt himself – which he resisted, but in many ways to his detriment. For example, he was beaten up, received numerous death threats, and was forced to move house numerous times to protect himself and his family.

He created headlines when, having become frustrated with the slowness of police reform, he appeared on ABC TV’s ‘Australian Story’ detailing the abysmal state of affairs. This action did much to lance a very ugly boil.

Illingworth’s story is absorbing, confronting and very, very unsettling – because all the time you find yourself asking the question, ‘Would I have had the courage to be honest in his situation?’.

He makes the point that life is full of grey ... and that ethics largely are grey. He himself was very poorly parented by his father, but he credits the strong values of his mum, her parents and his school with shaping his personal values system. Also he is most adamant that people innately know what is right. He maintains that it is purely a cop-out to blame bad choices on an unfortunate childhood.

A strong personal values system is vital, isn’t it? Here at King’s we invest a huge amount of time, energy and creativity in this area, through our Christian Studies programme, our Chapel services, our House meetings and the values-rich Primary Years Programme. But still it boils down to each individual making right choices.

What values will your son adopt? How faithful will they be in living them out? What example do you set for them when you are confronted by ethical dilemmas?

Simon Illingworth says that when people are faced with corruption, ‘Some get on the bus, some run beside it ... but very few have the guts to stand in front of it’. He challenged us with the question, ‘Do YOU have a price to turn corrupt? How much is it?’.

Illingworth believes that one person can make a difference ... but that really everyone must own a culture. That is why he became frustrated with being virtually a sole crusader within the police force and so went public with his allegations of ongoing, deep-seated wrongdoing. The community at large needed to own the problem.

Illingworth said how important it is to be part of a community which reinforces good values. He commended IPSHA on its support and encouragement of independent primary school leaders. He said how important schools are in shaping values.

We should indeed celebrate the values rich nature of King’s, so deeply rooted in Christian wisdom and ethics. But let’s never pretend that this is enough. We must encourage each other - including the boys - to adopt these values, to live by them and to stand in front of the bus if need be.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.” E.E. Cummings
Congratulations!
Clearly we do too good a job of developing our teaching staff! I am proud to announce that Mr Richard Curtis has been appointed to the staff of Tara as a member of the Junior School leadership team, under the direction of Ruth Adams, the Head of Junior School. Bravo, Richard! We wish you every success and happiness as you take up this role in 2013.

Retirements
We wish the following staff members every blessing as they leave us at the end of the year after many years of faithful and effective service:

Mrs Di Letham … our wonderful Teacher Librarian, who has been with us for 31 years!

Mrs Jan Abbas … our wonderful Visual Art specialist and Harrison Housemaster, who has been with us for 16 years!

Mrs Margaret Rappo … our wonderfully efficient Library Clerical Assistant, who has been with us for 11 years!

Prep Ball
A thousand thanks to Aaron and Marion Malouf for their mighty efforts and personal sacrifice in organising our magnificent ball. It’s a huge job – but we greatly appreciate it. It promises to be a marvellous occasion.

Billycart Derby
It is excitement upon excitement here at King’s! Sunday 21st October sees the return of the Prep Billycart Derby. Boys should submit their entry forms as a matter of urgency! A great day of old-fashioned fun is guaranteed.

Old Buffers
The annual encounter between the Prep 1st XI and the Old Buffers (a team consisting of middle-aged and elderly TKS Old Boys) will take place next Friday afternoon (19th Oct), commencing at 1pm. This rich tradition is also very entertaining! Feel free to come and watch. The match usually concludes at about 4pm, after which the best boy cricketer of the day is honoured with a new cricket bat.

Keith Dalleywater
Head of the Preparatory School

Karate Champion
What amazing talent we have here in the Prep School!

Oliver Morris, 3R, recently participated in the Karate NSW State Championships and won first place (a gold medal) in Kumite. This makes Oliver the 2012 NSW State Champion for his age division. He has qualified to represent NSW in the National Championships which will be held in Melbourne during November this year.

Oliver will also participate in the Karate World Championships next year, where he will represent Australia!

Well done, Oliver! We are very proud of you!

Mrs Annie Reuben
How lovely it was on Tuesday morning to be greeted by fresh faced, happy, little boys eager to resume games and learning with their schoolmates. This term will be a great time of consolidation, formative assessment, reflection on goals, and enjoyment of achievements. We have some fun experiences planned, including the Kindy excursion to Long Reef, Year One Harvest Day and Year Two Dads’ and Lads’ Camp.

Term 4 Units of Inquiry
Kindergarten Central Idea:
A fragile environment needs to be shared with care.

Year One Central Idea:
All plants need certain conditions to grow.

Year Two Central Idea:
There are different ways to keep safe while enjoying an active lifestyle.

If any members of the community have special interest or expertise in these areas and would like to speak with the classes, please contact the class teachers or me.

Sun Protection
All boys who stay at KIP or have after school tennis coaching or after school care, will need to have a K cap. Boys in Kindy and Year One will need a K Cap for before school play unless they are under the verandas. K Caps are available from The Braeside Shop and should be named and kept in the front section of the school bag. These are also useful for afternoon dismissal at the turning circle on hot days. The broad brimmed hat is for play at recess and lunch and must not be taken home until the term break. A roll on sunscreen is a good addition to the lunchbox, thereby enabling the boys to apply this quickly before playing time at lunch. Please encourage your son/s to be independent with the application of sunscreen.

DIRECTOR OF INFANTS

YES HAT = YES PLAY

Child Safety
On Monday, the staff had a professional development day as a refresher on the topic of Identifying and Responding to Risk of Harm and Risk of Significant Harm. The scenarios presented were quite confronting but nonetheless situations of reality for some families. As parents and carers, it is our responsibility to teach children about their rights to be safe and protected and their opportunities to assert this. It takes a village to raise a child and as such the community shares a responsibility for the welfare of children and young people. You might be interested in the following useful websites:


I bring to your attention the issue of risk of psychological harm with regards to unsuitable movies and electronic games, and the hours spent playing computer games. As parents, it is your responsibility to make informed decisions on content and decide on screen time limits. The following link to the Australian Raising Children Network provides recommendations, reviews and easy-to-understand classifications for the latest children’s movies. The reviews give advice on content and suitability to your child’s level of maturity and understanding.

- [http://raisingchildren.net.au/movie_reviews/movies_landing_page.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/movie_reviews/movies_landing_page.html)

Belinda Baxter
bsb@kings.edu.au
The Year 6 Tara Dance 2012

On the 14th September, Tara girls from Years 5 and 6 joined our year 6 boys for the King’s/Tara dance. We had all practised very hard for the big event, and we were very excited. There were also a few nerves, as we weren’t used to dancing with girls. We did dances like the Barn dance and the Jive.

The boys all did a great job and really enjoyed dancing with the girls. I think the girls were very impressed with our dance skills. The night finished with the Nutbush City Limits dance where lots of the parents joined in.

A very enjoyable night was had by everyone. Thank you to all the year 6 teachers and especially Mrs Forster for teaching us the dances.

Luke Go 6R

At the Year 6 Tara Dance 2012 all the boys from Year 6 King’s and the girls from Tara in Year 5 and 6 got together on the 14th of September to have the annual dance. All of the boys really enjoyed this event and I think all the Tara girls did too. I believe that this is a very important part of being at King’s - learning to socialise with new people. This is a very important part of becoming a man and will help us in the future.

William McCarthy 6R

On the 14th of September, Year 6 from King’s and Tara, burned up the dance floor.

A big thank you to Mrs Foster for teaching us various dance moves like the rock barn dance and the Cha Cha. Another big thank you to the Tara parents who decorated the hall and the Fathers’ Association who provided us with supper. It was a great night, enjoyed by all!

By the way, Mr Curtis does a mean ‘Jive’ and Mrs Ruddock is the ‘Nutbush’ queen and Mr Giovanelli is the coolest DJ!

Tom (John Travolta) Macqueen 6R
**Year One Expo**

Many visitors came looking for a new career option on Tuesday at the Year One Expo. Boys were questioned about the central idea, concepts and about aspects of their chosen jobs. The classroom buzzed with doctors, vets, a racing car driver, a miner, some gardeners, scientists, some rugby league players, an ice cream man and even a palaeontologist with REAL dinosaur poo. The boys did an amazing job at showcasing their latest powerpoint presentations and research. How exciting it will be to see these inquirers develop over the next few years.

Jo Grinham and Tim Harris

**SPORT**

**TERM 4 SPORT**

Dear players and parents the draw for this term has now been distributed to each of the boys. If you are needing another copy they are available at reception and will go up on the intranet shortly. The boys will also bring home a sports fixture handout to reinforce game times and possible changes each week. Please ask your sons for the copy each week.

Absent from Saturday game:
If for some reason your son is unable to play, you will need to notify Mr Rogers by 7am at the latest so coaches can be made aware of the changes to their teams. Please call or text Mr Rogers on 0417 290 433.

**WET WEATHER DETAILS:**
In the event of inclement weather no decision will be made until Saturday morning at approx. 7.00am
Team members are to ring the Wet Weather Number 9683 8484 after 7.00am for a recorded message or [http://intranet.kings.edu.au/prep/wetweather/wet.htm](http://intranet.kings.edu.au/prep/wetweather/wet.htm)

**OLD BUFFERS CRICKET**

The Prep 1st XI will be playing in the annual “Old Buffers Cricket Match” on Friday, 19 October, 2012. This match will be played on Price 1 and should commence at around 12.30pm. This has been a fixture for many years and is always a tight contest between the ‘Old Buffers’ who are past King’s boys that play the Prep 1st XI in an annual fixture. The Prep 1st XI have the opportunity to sit and have lunch with the Old Buffers and talk stories about their time at the School. At the end of the match the Old Buffers decided upon the best Prep 1st XI player based on his performance and present him with a bat. We welcome any parents to attend this terrific traditional fixture.

Phill Rogers
Sportsmaster – Prep School