Prep News
12th April, 2013

The King’s Prep School plays host to 5,000 visitors

The cars arrived in droves and once entering The King’s School gates, were quickly herded into ordered parking queues. The egg and bacon, and sausage sandwiches were sizzling on the hot plates, the coffee machines humming and the canteen tills were buzzing with the trade. Such was the activity on Saturday 6th April as King’s Prep played host to the annual IPSHA Cross Country Championships.

The IPSHA carnival involves representation from over 30 independent schools across the Sydney and outer Sydney region. With the involvement of 1,700 competitors and around 5,000 visitors in all, it was a major organisational undertaking for the school. The huge success of the day was largely due to the superb commitment and support of the fathers of the Prep School and the outstanding organisation of the Prep School Fathers’ Association. Co-ordinating the parking, admission collection, set-up of marquees, managing the BBQ and canteen facilities, the fathers of the Prep School enabled the morning programme to run like a well-oiled machine and demonstrated what can be achieved within a school community when volunteer support and commitment is harnessed.

As Head of the Prep, I was extremely proud of the demonstration of the strong spirit of community that is such a hallmark of the Prep School. On numerous occasions on the morning, visiting parents, teachers and Heads of other independent schools passed on their praise and congratulations for hosting such a large scale event so successfully.

You’d be hard pressed to find another school in Sydney that could accommodate a 3 kilometre cross country track and provide parking on site for all competitors, supporters and officials. We are indeed very fortunate to have the capacity to be able to take a leading role within the independent schools across Sydney with this venture.

The majority of the logistics for the day were co-ordinated and managed by our tremendous Director of Sport, Mr Phill Rogers. The event takes weeks of planning and Phill has committed many extra hours in evenings and on weekends to ensure that all elements were considered to ensure success.

My thanks go to Phill Rogers, our fathers who co-ordinated and assisted in various roles, the staff who assisted in various official capacities and the King’s School grounds staff for enabling this major athletic event to be such a success and an impressive presentation of the King’s Prep School community to our visitors.

The morning saw some outstanding athletic performances. All boys representing the Prep School performed admirably, pushing themselves to their best performance. Some boys were successful in reaching the top 15 places in their age category of over 200 participants and will move on to represent the school at the Combined Independent Schools Championship for all independent schools in NSW on 13th June. Our congratulations go to Jayden Gill, Orlando Denton, Oliver Lennox, Douglas Bygrave and Charlie Farrington who were successful in reaching selection for the IPSHA team.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “He humbled himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross!”

Philippians 2:8
National Representation for Tyrone Albertyn
A few weeks ago, I reported in the Prep newsletter the success of Tyrone Albertyn at the IPSHA swimming championships at Homebush Aquatic Centre that allowed him to move to the next level and participate at the NSW Swimming Championships. Last week, this competition was held with Tyrone competing in the 50 metre backstroke and 200 metre Individual Medley. Making the final in both events, Tyrone came 4th in the backstroke and third in the medley. His performance in the medley will now see him move through to the National Schools’ Championship in Adelaide in September. Blaxland Housemaster, Jonathan Hunt, is organising a raffle in line with the PSSA organisation in raising some funds to help support Tyrone’s attendance at the national championships. Our congratulations go to Tyrone for this outstanding achievement.

Prep Musicians Delight Audiences
There have been a number of musical performance events that have occurred over the past two weeks. The Year Two String Orchestra performed recently to parents, grandparents and other supporters in Horrocks Hall demonstrating some excellent individual and group development within a short period of playing in a large scale orchestra. On Tuesday 2nd April, the Year One String Ensemble performed at an Information Night for prospective Kindergarten to Year Two families. Playing in their first public performance, the boys showed wonderful confidence, composure and unity for children of such a young age and limited experience with the instrument. Our congratulations go to the boys involved, Mr Addison, the Director of Strings, and Mr Jonathan Todhunter, the Director of Music at the Prep.

The Prep School Concert Band was given the opportunity to perform at the Royal Easter Show last week. Performing on a large outdoor stage, the boys did extremely well despite the difficult conditions and hence, limited audience. The boys were wonderfully prepared for their performance by Ms Deborah English and Mr Dan Williams.

Performance opportunities continued with a delightful Prep Music Night held in Horrocks hall on Tuesday evening this week. The programme included excellent variation in the composition of performers, from soloists, to quartets, ensembles, orchestras and bands. It also demonstrated great diversity in musical pieces performed from Brahms and Handel to Deep Purple’s ‘Smoke on the Water’, a personal favourite that momentarily recaptured my youth!

I congratulate all the boys and their music teachers for the hard work that has been invested in preparing for these events and for the high standard of the performances. I’d particularly like to herald the praises of our Director of Music, Mr Jonathan Todhunter, our Head of Strings, Mr Trevor Addison, our Head of Bands, Mr Dan Williams, and Ms Deborah English for their leadership within the music programme at the Preparatory School.

Staff Changes for Term Two
We have two staff changes for Term Two. Both Mrs Catherine Pearman and Mrs Tina Ruddock will be enjoying some long service leave in Term Two. Replacing Mrs Pearman on 5P will be Mrs Deborah Hunt. Class 6R will be under the tutelage of Mrs Karen Mackey. Both replacement teachers are well known to the King’s Prep community, having taught in relief capacities here for many years.

We wish Mrs Pearman and Mrs Ruddock an enjoyable and refreshing break during their leave.

The Year Co-ordinator for Year Five will be Mrs Sonia Weston and for Year Six will be Mr Tim Harris for Term Two.

Term Two Commencement Date for students
– Tuesday 30th April

The boys are expected to return to school after the April holiday on Tuesday 30th April. This is the same date of return for Senior School students.

The commencement date for students at the start of Term Three will be Tuesday, 16th July.

Peter Allison
Head of the Preparatory School

VISUAL ARTS NEWS
It has been a wonderful, busy and exciting first term in Visual Arts at the Stables. The boys have been really creative and produced beautiful artworks. Kindergarten have made 3dimensional threaded sculptures and are working on paper mache bowls which they really enjoyed making. Year 1 are so expressive and produced many beautiful paintings. Year 2 have worked with design elements and made fantastic semi abstract movement compositions. Year 3 have painted extraordinary X-ray animals. Year 4 looked at Australian flora and fauna and created beautiful paintings and still life arrangements. Year 5 have painted exceptional compositions based on Empathy and year 6 have drawn and painted detailed rainforest compositions.

I am thrilled with all the talent and creativity that the boys have demonstrated during term one.

Have a great break and I look forward to continuing our creative journey together.

Mrs Wilkins

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Congratulations

There have been a number of successes for Prep boys in recent weeks which are listed elsewhere in the newsletter. I wish to congratulate all these boys and groups for their skill, commitment and attitude.

At the conclusion of the Cross Country Carnival, I received a phone call from a parent who had witnessed a wonderful expression of care and compassion for another boy at the conclusion of one of the races. Benjamin Smith (5W) went up to the boy who came last in his race and ensured the boy was alright and made him feel great about completing the race. Part of what he said was, “we all experience difficulties, but together we will get through it.” What a wonderful attitude and way to live our lives. To understand that we all experience difficulties from time to time and that if we reach out there are always others willing to help. Well done Ben!

Lost Property

Lost property has been steadily growing over the last few weeks and is now at the stage that the bin is overflowing. Most of the items are named and are returned to the boys. These boys’ names are recorded and the third time an item is returned they receive a Lunchtime Detention. Many of the items however, are unnamed which is alarming when I understand how expensive it is to replace these items. I encourage all parents to ensure that all items brought to school are named. I also encourage parents to ensure the boys are checking the lost property bin (located at the back of the Horrocks Hall) if they are missing an item.

Sandshoes

There has been an increasing trend for boys to have sandshoes that are not predominately white which are not part of the King’s School uniform. I have spoken to many of the boys wearing these shoes and given them an opportunity to ensure they only use predominately white sandshoes at school. From the start of Term Two I will be issuing Lunchtime Detentions to boys who are wearing shoes that are not predominately white.

House Merit Points

At the end of Term One, the House Merit Points are extremely close with only four points separating first to fourth. The latest standings are: Blaxland in 1st place with 28 points, Harrison in 2nd place with 26 points, Stiles one point behind with 25 points and in 3rd position and only one point separating Thomas in 4th position with 24 points.

Greg Blackman
Deputy Head of the Preparatory School

Key Dates

Term Two

Week 1

- Tuesday 30th April
  - Boys commence Term Two
  - After School Winter Sports Training commences – Rugby and Football

- Thursday 2nd May
  - Winter Sports Trials/Training – Rugby and Football (1:40 – 3:10 pm)

- Saturday 4th May
  - Winter Sport Rd 1

FATHERS’ ASSOCIATION

Dads About Dads Night
May 21st - 6.30pm
The Cedars, Prep School

HEY DADS, we would like you to join us on the evening of May 21st for a FREE and fun evening of dad's getting together to talk about being a dad. Peter Allison will kindly open his home "The Cedars" (in the School grounds) and the Fathers’ Association will provide refreshments and dinner.

This night is a chance for you to meet other dads from diverse backgrounds and share your experiences about raising a son. Several dads have kindly volunteered to join a panel, led by the Prep School Chaplain Stuart Tye, to hold an open discussion about the challenges and joys of being a dad.

We sincerely hope you can join in with your own experiences and stories.

Plumer Road Chickens have kindly donated their catering services and will provide you with a delicious finger food dinner, PLUS... the famous Hunter Valley vineyard, Brokenwood Wines, will be conducting a wine tasting and contributing part of any sales back to the Fathers’ Association.

All in all, it will be a most enjoyable event as I am sure our collective experiences will provide both enlightening and entertaining conversation.

To ensure we cater correctly for the attendees, PLEASE rsvp to me - neil@oxfordprinting.com.au

Many thanks,
Neil Armstrong
Honorary Vice President of the Fathers’ Association
Kindergarten Maths and Literacy Games

This term has seen Kindergarten practising their Maths and Literacy skills through fun, hands-on games every Thursday afternoon. Lots of wonderful Kindy parents have dedicated their time in joining us and facilitating small groups.

This has given our youngest Kingsmen the opportunity of learning how to work as a team and to consolidate some of their skills in early Maths and Literacy concepts, while having lots of fun at the same time!

We appreciate the time that parents have dedicated each Thursday afternoon. The boys gain so much from these sessions and without the help of parents, this would not happen!

Katelyn Davidson
Focus on Year Three PYP Unit of Inquiry
‘Where We Are in Place and Time’

Year 3 enjoy a history lesson...

Our Prep Kingsmen are given many wonderful opportunities to stimulate their learning: excursions, camps, incursions, performances, music, sport and drama etc. Our PYP units of inquiry allow the boys to explore, discover, think, reflect, inquire and act. Lessons are thought-provoking and rich in knowledge. Much teacher planning takes place before our lessons are implemented.

As a provocations to our new unit of inquiry “Where we are in place and time”, we invited Mr Ruddock, one of our amazing senior school history teachers, to teach the boys about the First Fleet, early life in Sydney and Parramatta, convicts and early explorers. As we soon discovered, life was hard back then. Boys as young as 8 years could be arrested and sent to Australia as a convict - the same age as most of our Year 3 students!

How much did Year 3 already know about early European settlement in Australia? Mr Ruddock gave us a quiz and we were all quite surprised by the answers. Did you know, for example, that there were no murderers sent out to Australia on the First Fleet? They were mostly simple petty thieves, struggling to survive a harsh time in England’s late 1700’s.
Mr Ruddock handed each boy an envelope. Concealed inside was information about real convicts - their names, their crime, their punishment and their new occupation as part of the penal colony! The boys had a wonderful time placing themselves in the lives of past criminals, some of whom had done nothing more than steal a loaf of bread to feed their starving families. Punishment was severe.

The boys came away from our history lesson with lots of questions and interesting comments. Thank you Mr Ruddock for stimulating our senses and allowing our inquiry to begin its journey!

Mrs A Reuben

Thank you to Year 3 for their contribution to our “Focus on PYP” pages this week. This was a great ‘provocation’ which allowed the boys to start thinking about their new unit. This type of ‘frontloading’ provides the boys a glimpse into the unit which they are about to inquire into and hopefully enables them to start thinking of inquiries that they would like to explore. We have such a wealth of knowledge, expertise and experience here at The King’s School so it is great to see the boys in action with teachers from the Senior School.

Rachel Johnston
Director of Learning
rcj@kings.edu.au
**SPORT**

**IPSHA Cross Country**

Last Saturday The King's School Preparatory School hosted the annual IPSHA Cross Country Carnival. It is such a wonderful day to show case the School and have the amazing help of the Fathers’ Association. Without them the carnival could not be such a success. The tireless effort the dads give is appreciated by all. The day saw close to 1700 competitors race over a 2000m or 3000m course. The day drew in about 5000 people into the School to support those competing. Thank you again to all those that helped and supported the team. We received results from most of our competitors and the results were as follows.

**IPSHA Cross Country results**

U8/9 out of 187
2    Jayden Gill
11   Orlando Denton
22   Rohan Srivastava
66   Richard Bao
67   Harris Yang
95   Harrison Fenech
119  Liam Thierry
124  Matthew Wu
132  Charan Dissanayake
160  Amir Rajani

U10 out of 184
9    Oliver Lennox
46   Morgan Bamford
68   Hamish McMorran
70   Noah Bradford
75   Oliver Morris
76   Cyrus Anderson
100  Norman Huang
116  Nicholas Bitta
119  Thomas McConnell
158  Joel Egan

U11 out of 196
8    Douglas Bygrave
23   Luke Irving
46   George Poolman
54   George Gikas
87   Gabe Preston
91   Corey Millichamp
99   Christian Staikos
143  Lachlan Clark
158  Ben Addison
177  Buddy Nohra

U12 out of 174
12   Charlie Farrington
17   Josh Hickey
27   Jordan Williams
38   James Usher
64   Alex Rothwell
74   Noah Olejniczak
110  Tahn Henley

Boys that came in the top 15 go through to the IPSHA Cross Country team. This is a terrific effort by the boys being able to have a representative in each of the age groups.

Boys to make the IPSHA Cross Country team are; Jayden Gill, Orlando Denton, Oliver Lennox, Douglas Bygrave and Charlie Farrington.

Congratulations to Charlie Farrington (Captain of Cross Country) for his efforts in supporting the boys on Saturday.

**Karate Success**

**NSW Karate Federation Trials**

Nathan (Yr 5) and Shaun Yuen (Yr 10) competed in the NSW Karate Federation Trials on Saturday 23rd March. They had great success, with both Nathan and Shaun being selected in their respective age groups in the NSW karate squad. The boys will be participating in the Australian Nationals in Hobart in August.

Well done boys!

**NSW Swimming Bronze**

After success at the CIS swimming competition, I qualified to swim at the PSSA NSW Competition. I swam in the 200m individual medley (IM) and came 3rd. The IM is 1 lap of a 50 metre pool for each stroke non-stop. I also swam the 50 backstroke and came fourth, so I am going to Adelaide in September to swim in the Nationals representing King’s and NSW against all the other states.

I need to raise $1100 for the plane ticket and gear. I have a book of raffle tickets to help me get the money, 1 raffle ticket is $2, and there is a top prize of a HP notebook.

Tyrone Albertyn
Blaxland House 5P

Huge congratulations to Tyrone for his amazing swimming success. I encourage all members of the school community to show their support to Tyrone by buying some raffle tickets. We can then enjoy seeing his efforts at Nationals in September, knowing we helped get him there.

Jonathan Hunt
Blaxland Housemaster
In the last newsletter I included some mathematical education apps, which may be of interest to you or worth exploring for facilitating learning between home and school. Here are some other well-known maths apps, which you may like to add to your pool of apps.
ALTUS
WEEKLY MINDBENDER:

Week 9 Mindbender Solution:

Week 11 Mindbender
Apples and Friends
You have a basket containing ten apples. You have ten friends, who each desire an apple. You give each of your friends one apple.

After a few minutes each of your friends has one apple each, yet there is an apple remaining in the basket.

How?

Voni Howard
ALTUS Coordinator
Preparatory School
TKS Snowsports Fundraising night

“Christmas in July”

Please join us for a night of fun and Christmas cheer with the TKS Snowsport community. Everyone welcome.....Dress festively!

**Friday 24th May**

“Horrocks Hall”@ The Prep from 6:30pm

Cost: $80 per adult, $45 for children 13 years and under.

(soft drinks provided on the night)

**Bookings can be made on** [http://www.trybooking.com.CSJO](http://www.trybooking.com.CSJO)

Silent auction items will be sold on the night!! *(Auction donations very much appreciated.)*

For more information please contact;

Jo Grinham ([jng@kings.edu.au](mailto:jng@kings.edu.au)) or James Tyree ([jtyree@kings.edu.au](mailto:jtyree@kings.edu.au))

Proceeds from the evening will go towards training for the boys this season, some new equipment and a donation will be made to The Foundation.

Amelia McGuinness