Prep News  
8th November, 2013

Class placements for 2014
Some parents may be wondering about the procedures for class placement for 2014. All parents are reminded that the allocation of students to classes is the professional and operational responsibility of School staff. A great deal of time and thought is invested in the process to ensure that there is a harmonious balance of students in class groupings.

At the end of each year all class groups are dissolved and new groups are formed for the beginning of the new academic year.

So how are the new classes formed?

- The current grade teachers set about identifying the specific needs of each boy in their grade and assisting in the formation of balanced classes. Needs taken into consideration include, but are not limited to:
  - A balance of ability levels – we have no streaming of classes in the Prep School. However, if there are certain students who are ‘like-minded’ and who may work well and spark off each other, we may put them together.
  - Learning styles - we take into consideration the match between individual boy’s learning styles and the teaching style of individual teachers.
  - Physical needs.
  - Friendship groups (remembering that some friendships are productive and others can interfere with learning).
  - Group dynamics – to ensure an even spread of personality types, behavioural styles etc.

- The teachers pass on this information to the Prep Executive staff. The final class groupings will be determined by the Prep Executive.

- On occasions, there are changes that occur over the Christmas holiday period. It is not uncommon for there to be a change in circumstances such as a work transfer to another city that may impact upon the enrolment of a child. Upon returning to school in January the lists are reviewed to allow for students who have left over the holidays (thus affecting the dynamics of friendship groups and so on).

- The boys are informed about their class placement upon their return to school on the first day in Term One.

We appreciate that parents are often concerned about the placement of their own child into classes and may have in mind a teacher of their ‘choice’. The boys too may have a particular teacher in mind as they move onto the next grade. At times, this can lead to disappointment on the part of the parent or the child when they are not placed into this class. Additionally, at times teachers may move from one grade to another. It is important to help the boys understand how to deal with initial disappointment and how to focus on the positives. As parents, we need to help foster and model resilience to help equip our sons for life.

Please understand that it is not possible to accept particular requests or to make changes in placement once they have been announced. It is our experience that any sense of disappointment soon fades as the school term starts and the boys become swept up in the excitement of beginning a new year and seeing their friends again.

There is no doubt that this is a time consuming and demanding process. The staff at King’s do their best to treat each child as an individual and endeavour to place them in class groupings that will promote a happy and successful learning environment. We ask for your trust in the professionalism and dedication of the staff to carry out this duty sincerely and carefully.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: A friend is someone who knows you but likes you just the same.  Author unknown
Orientation at the Prep

The Prep School staff is eager to make the transition to our school as smooth and supportive as possible as new students join us. Providing our new students with an opportunity to experience time at the Prep prior to joining the school is a key element of that transition process.

New students to Years 1-6 for 2014 joined the Prep boys and staff for the day last Friday. After an initial welcome and presentation time together, the boys joined with their 2014 cohort for a taste of daily life at the Prep. To support the process, the boys were paired with a buddy who assisted them on the day and helped them to integrate into the classroom and playground experiences. These boys will continue to be a key link person for our new boys over the coming months and early next year.

To demonstrate their commitment to the new students, the buddies prepared letters for the boys, welcoming them. It is hoped that the buddies will make contact with our new students over the summer break to further develop a relationship with the new students and bring encouragement and support for this transition process.

This week, our new Kindergarten boys and their parents joined us at the school for their orientation and first sampling of the daily structure of Prep School life. The Kindy boys will have two further opportunities in subsequent weeks to begin to feel comfortable with their new school.

To assist transition within the school for those boys moving from Year 2 to Year 3, the current Year 2 boys spent some time this week with the current Year 3 teachers, looking at a number of new routines and activities that they will be involved with next year. Parents were invited to an information afternoon that addressed a number of programmes, pastoral and organisational matters for 2014, as their sons move from life as an infants’ boy into the primary years of schooling.

Peter Allison
Head of the Preparatory School
Year Six Enterprise Project
Our Year Six boys have been working hard over the last few months to complete their Enterprise projects. All boys and parents will be able to view the projects. **On Thursday, 14th November, from 3:20 to 4:30 pm, the projects will be available for viewing, with afternoon tea, for the Year Six parents and boys only.** Boys in other year groups will be taken with their class to view the projects on Friday, 15th November. Parents from other year groups are invited to view the projects during the day on Friday or on Friday afternoon. The projects will be packed up at 4:30 pm Friday afternoon.

King's Mountain Bike Classic
The inaugural King’s Mountain Bike Classic was held on Sunday 3rd November. The event was well attended and included a number of Prep boys who competed in the Junior event which was for boys up to Year 10. Congratulations to Hamish McMorran (Year 4) who finished 8th and Max Wright (Year 4) who finished 11th.

Showcase Assembly
Last Tuesday we held a Showcase Assembly, where the boys who were successful in the Public Speaking and Poetry Recitation Competitions presented their pieces to the rest of the School and a large number of parents. I was thrilled with the level of confidence and skill from all our boys from Kindergarten to Year Six. I would like to congratulate the following boys:

### Public Speaking Competition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Runners-up</th>
<th>Highly Commended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Murphy Xi.</td>
<td>Kasen Heiskanen, Jeshan Somanader and Oliver Wu</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Pranav Maheswaran and Bryn Potter (Joint Winners)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Thomas Engsall and Sam Turner (Joint Winners)</td>
<td>Gus van Aanholt, Lachlan Horne, Adam Ngugen and Henry Powell</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Jayden Gill</td>
<td>Anujan Cenan</td>
<td>Charan Dissanayake and Daniel Zou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Nicholas Horne</td>
<td>Cyrus Anderson and Jake Turner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Corey Millichamp</td>
<td>Callum Taylor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Raveen Priyamanna</td>
<td>Bill Goh</td>
<td>Thomas Elton</td>
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### Poetry Recitation Competition

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Runners-up</th>
<th>Highly Commended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Kasen Heiskanen</td>
<td>James Harrison and Murphy Xi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Bryn Potter</td>
<td>Pranav Maheswaran</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Sam Turner</td>
<td>Thomas Engsall</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Jayden Gill</td>
<td>Charan Dissanayake</td>
<td>Anujan Cenan and Harris Yang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Anish Chauhan</td>
<td>Nicholas Horne</td>
<td>Ahmed Sabra, Callum Taylor, Pranay Tripathi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Kris Ward</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Elton, Bill Goh, Paul Lapinski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Joshua Coppolelli</td>
<td>Brendan Cheong</td>
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ICAS Mathematics Competition
Today, certificates for the ICAS Mathematics competition were distributed to the boys. Once again the boys in the Prep have done particularly well. 211 boys sat the competition with 6 boys being awarded High Distinctions (top 1%), 16 boys being awarded Distinctions (next 10%) and 68 boys being awarded Credits (next 25%). Congratulations to all boys, but especially to the following boys:
**Presentation Day**
This year’s Presentation Day for Years 3-6 will be held on Friday 6th December in Futter Hall. **This event is a compulsory event for all boys in Years 3-6.** The day will be a wonderful way of celebrating the successes of our boys in the Prep and commences at 2:00 pm. There will not be any supervision of the boys on that day and times to arrive at Futter Hall will be sent out closer to the event.

**Key Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 6</th>
<th>Monday, 11 November 2013</th>
<th>Remembrance Day Service (10:50 am)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prep Fathers' Association Committee Meeting (7:30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, 13 November 2013</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2014 Big School Experience #1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thursday, 14 November 2013</td>
<td>Year 1 Harvest Day (11:15-12:50 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, 15 November 2013</td>
<td>Year 6 Enterprise Display – Year 6 Parents and boys only (3:20 to 4:30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, 15 November 2013</td>
<td>Year 6 Enterprise Display Afternoon for parents and boys from K-5. (3:20 to 4:30 pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Saturday, 16 November 2013</td>
<td>Prep School Tour (9:30 am)</td>
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<td>Summer Sport Round 12</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 7</th>
<th>Monday, 18 November 2013</th>
<th>K-2 Swim and Survive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday, 19 November 2013</td>
<td>Band Night (6:00 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, 20 November 2013</td>
<td>Kindergarten 2014 Big School Experience #2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, 22 November 2013</td>
<td>Year 2 Dads and Lads (Commencing at 4:30 pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>House Picnics – Boys and Staff only (12:50 pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eddie Quanza – African Drumming (8:35 and 9:35 am)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saturday, 23 November 2013</td>
<td>No Sport</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>OLIVER</td>
<td>BINSTED</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>JAMES</td>
<td>MEAD</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>ANUJAN</td>
<td>CENAN</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>CHRISTIAN</td>
<td>STAIKOS</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>ORLANDO</td>
<td>DENTON</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>HUGH</td>
<td>ASHLEY</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>CHRIS</td>
<td>BAE</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>BILL</td>
<td>GOH</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>ANISH</td>
<td>CHAUHAN</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>PAUL</td>
<td>LAPINSKI</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>MCCONNELL</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>ERIC</td>
<td>LI</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>FELIX</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y3</td>
<td>LAWRENCE</td>
<td>WEI</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>JAKE</td>
<td>TURNER</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>RICHARD</td>
<td>BAO</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>RYAN</td>
<td>TURNER</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y4</td>
<td>KEVIN</td>
<td>WILLATHGAMUWA</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>JONATHAN</td>
<td>CHEN</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>BRENDAN</td>
<td>CHEONG</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y5</td>
<td>BENJAMIN</td>
<td>HARVEY</td>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>Y6</td>
<td>ROWAN</td>
<td>WILLATHGAMUWA</td>
<td>High Distinction</td>
</tr>
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Transition Planning
The School Council and Executive have approved the adventure into Early Learning, with the commencement of a Transition class for 4 – 5 year old boys in 2015.

As leaders in education since 1831, we are excited about offering the full learning journey from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 12. As experts in research and intuitive based academic and pastoral care, the program will reflect global best practice, offering the International Baccalaureate PYP framework, embellished by the renowned Reggio Emilia philosophy.

The Transition boys will be very much part of The King’s School; sharing in our state-of-the-art learning spaces, benefiting from our strong focus on values and character education, and being taught by caring, quality staff with a passion for the early years.

Places will be limited; enrolments will be accepted from February 2014. For inquiries about this opportunity for your son or grandson to be one of the littlest Kingsmen in 2015 and beyond, commencing the journey of his life at The King’s School, please contact- Mrs Belinda Baxter, Director of Students bsb@kings.edu.au

Buddies
The smooth transition to ‘Big School’ is assisted by our Kindergarten and Year Six Buddy system. We find that this is a tremendous opportunity for the development of the older boys’ sense of responsibility and purpose in a leadership role. Ongoing aspects of training, group dynamics, resilience and problem solving, are highlighted to the boys as they develop their relationship with their little buddy. We see the natural leaders rise in this very practical role, which serves as a model to the boys who are at a more emergent stage in their leadership potential.

Peer mentors are learning to lead and give back to the School community in terms of service. The qualities of Christian servant leadership are high in our goal setting, along with the School values and development of the PYP attitudes. Amongst these promoted attitudes we see growth in tolerance, respect, independence, enthusiasm, empathy, cooperation, confidence and commitment. We desire that our boys will have the opportunity to develop these essential life flourishing elements.
DIRECTOR OF LEARNING

YEAR THREE EXCURSION TO CLIFTON GARDENS

Transdisciplinary Theme: SHARING THE PLANET

Central Idea: Aquatic environments have limited resources and humans have an impact on it.

On the excursion to Clifton Gardens we saw a sea urchin that Dave, the Marine Biologist, had collected from Sydney Harbour to show us. Dave told us that a sea urchin doesn’t have a skeleton. When we held it, it moved around in our hands, it tickled.  
(Veer Benepal 3L)

*In this photo we are looking at the sea urchin and talking about what it eats.*

A sea urchin is a creature that lives in the ocean and it eats seaweed. A sea urchin has a water skeleton. Its skeleton absorbs water to move and it poops up. Sea urchins eat by going up the seaweed and bending it. Then it eats the stem part with the white dot on it. We were also looking at sea slugs and sea snails. (Oliver Binsted 3L)

This is the first activity we did and it was also fun but not as fun as the rafting. The man who did this activity with us was named David. It was cool getting to touch all of the animals. (Orlando Fayad 3L)

This is my group with the marine biologist. We were looking at things that I have never even seen before. It was really cool. (Joey Maroon-Yacoub 3R)

We went to a marine biologist to study marine animals. His name was Dave. Dave taught us that if you split a sea star in half and it has that line on it, it would reproduce more sea stars! This is not good as the crown of thorns is damaging our coral! (Jasper Denley 3R)

This is when Ashleigh took us for a walk. When we were at the drain she talked to us about a pollution trap. When rubbish goes down it gets trapped and sometimes it goes over and goes all the way to the sea. 18% of the time the rubbish that falls on the ground goes into the ocean. (William Engelman 3L)

We went with a lady who showed us the rubbish might be getting into the ocean. There was a gross pollutant trap that helps catch big bits of rubbish, like coke bottles and plastic glad wrap. There was nothing in it at the time because on that day the Council for Mosman came and emptied it. We didn’t know because they were like ninjas that came and secretly did it. (Lachlan Gay 3R)

*In this photo Ashley taught us that when it rains, rubbish comes with the rain, which is washed into a net that catches rubbish. But Ashley said that when chemicals come they wouldn’t be trapped in the rubbish net because they are too small. Chemicals get washed into our waters. This is bad for our oceans. (Harris Yang 3R)*
Ashley talked to us about the storm water system and the waterways. She said that the rubbish that doesn't get caught in the gross pollutant trap would get washed in to the sea. This is bad for our marine life. (Matthew Wu)

In this picture, our pollution trap instructor, Ashley, is showing us how a Gross Pollution Trap works. It was a very simple trap because any kind of aluminum, plastic and metal can get caught after it rains. However, chemicals may get through as well as tiny scraps. Then the water carries the scraps and chemicals through a slide going down and ends at a small cliff. Finally, the water goes down a pipe through an underground pipe that leads to the sea, while the rubbish and scraps get caught by natural traps like sticks and trees. (Lawrence Wei)

Ashley showed us a stormwater drain with a net attached to it called the gross pollution trap. It catches all the big rubbish pieces but not small bits of rubbish or chemicals in the environment. The good thing was not all of the rubbish got washed into the water because the big pieces got trapped in the gross pollution trap. (Liam Thierry)

In the third and final part of this excursion we had a look at the storm water drain with a lady named Ashley. She told us about all of the things that get washed into the waters and destroy our marine life. She also told us how to save the marine life by using a trap called the gross pollution trap. After this part of the excursion I think I learned a lot about why we should pick up rubbish and the consequence if we don't. (Joseph Papasinos)

If you are having a picnic it is important not to litter the world by letting rubbish flow away into the water because if you do you will kill life. For example, if you let a plastic bag go into the water a turtle will think it's a jellyfish and choke to death. (Oscar Paticsoni)

Dave the marine biologist told us about some sea creatures he found washed up on the rocks. He found a dead sea urchin and a live one, a sea hare, a sea snail, another sea snail and two bigger sea snails, two moon jellyfish and some other small jellyfish (Not poisonous so we touched them!), some rubbish, a plastic toy shovel, a rubbish bag and a plastic cup, and he found some seaweed infested with algae. (James Kirkpatrick 3R)

In this picture we are going rafting on our excursion at Chowder Bay. When we went rafting there were 8 people on each boat, plus 1 teacher or someone who works at Chowder Bay. So first we had to get our life jacket and our paddle then we set off to sea rowing our raft ahead. Then we stopped at the nets and looked into the ocean with a hollow tube that was covered on 1 side with glass and the other side had handles so we could see life under the sea. The water didn’t come in the tube because the glass stopped it and since it was in water we could see through the glass. (Oscar Deng 3R)

We also went rafting with Lizzy. When we were in the boats we got to look through tubes into the water. We studied the marine life under the water it was the best activity of the day. (Lachlan Hargraves 3R)

We went to sea and saw lots of different sea creatures. There were two rafts. We were all wet. We wore PFDs. We saw the sea creatures by looking into a white thing with glass in it. (Eric Li 3L)

This is a photo of my group, looking for marine life. This trip was inspiring to see. I saw a fish get eaten by a creature that lived in rocks!! I also saw a stingray! Now you should go to Chowder Bay to see marine life! (Orlando Denton 3R)

BY YEAR THREE, 2013
Focus on Year One PYP Unit of Inquiry

“How the world works.”

Year One have had the most wonderful time in their garden together. The central idea for this Unit of Inquiry is, “All plants need certain conditions to grow.” The boys are particularly looking at the key concepts of ‘change, function and causation’.

The boys have thoroughly enjoyed getting their hands (and their knees!) dirty. After reading the conditions that each vegetable needed, they planned the garden space out and began to dig. This year, they added an underground compost bin, which they have enjoyed filling with their crunch and sip recycling. There are plants that are climbers and crawlers and the boys particularly enjoyed making the pyramid structure out of bamboo for the beans to begin their climb.

The boys have loved the various experiments and we have been particularly lucky to have Mr Ollis involved so much in the unit. His crazy science ideas have ignited such rich learning for the boys! We have mushrooms growing in the cupboard, seeds hiding in dark places and in the sunlight, and celery and flowers growing out of food dye. The boys made terrariums and are waiting to see how they will grow in the environment of a plastic bottle.

This year, the boys have also set up an experiment to watch what happens to different items as they decompose. At the moment, they are predicting that the apple will decompose before the rubber glove….we will have to wait and see.
They have shown huge amounts of action and are, no doubt, driving Mum and Dad crazy with research and collecting items to bring into school.

The famous chickens have also returned to Year One and the boys have been investigating what conditions chickens need to grow. They have loved the way that the chicks have “tweeted” them as they work in their classroom.

We are, of course, preparing for the very popular Harvest Day later in the term and hoping desperately for magical vegies to create delicious soup to feed our families. We are even sharing our Harvest Day journey with those at Church @ King’s on Sunday 17th November.

Life is good in Year One...such a special place to learn and discover.

Jo Grinham and Sarah Moujalli

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Wow! Talk about hands-on learning. Year One boys are not just using their hands but their whole body! At The King’s School Prep we are fortunate to offer The Primary Years Programme (PYP) which encourages hands-on learning where students work together to solve problems while connecting with the world around them. It is wonderful to see Year One busy at work in their garden and taking such good care of their plants and animals. We are blessed to have the expertise of Mr Ollis to help the boys with their scientific inquiries. As Alan Colburn (2000) states “Inquiry as a teaching technique is the creation of a classroom where students are engaged in open-ended, student-centered, hands-on activities.”

Rachel Johnston
Director of Learning
rcj@kings.edu.au
The King’s Camerata and Friends in Concert

Saturday 30th November
2:30pm

Horrocks Hall – Preparatory School

Please come and join the Community Choir of the School as they perform a varied programme of easy listening choral music to include jazz standards, songs from musicals and Christmas favourites.

The Choir will be joined by instrumentalists

Library News

Dear families,

With the end of the year approaching rapidly we are having to ensure that all library books are returned to the ILC before the conclusion of the year.

Here are some key dates for you to put in your diaries.

Friday 15 November
Last day borrowing all boys

Friday 22 November
All books to be returned to the ILC

Monday 25- Friday 29 November
Letter home to families of any outstanding books with replacement costs included.
ILC closed for 2013 on November 29.

In the lead up to these key dates you will continue to receive weekly notices for any books that are currently overdue.

In line with Senior School Policy, it is the new policy of Preparatory School to add the replacement cost of any books that remain outstanding at the conclusion of 2013 to the family’s account.

Shelley McMorran
Teacher-Librarian

TKS Scholarships 2015

Scholarship Testing Date - Sunday
February 16th 2014

Applications close – 7th February 2014

Registrations now open

Apply on line www.kings.edu.au/scholarships

Further information or enquiries
Debbie de Belle (9683 8588 or ddebelle@kings.edu.au)

Prep Newsletter - 10 - Issue No 18 – 8th November, 2013
Sunday 10 November
Guest speaker: Gary Hill from Crusaders

Sunday 17 November
Harvest Day Celebration

A Service to Remember
Sunday, 10th November,
8am at the SCHOOL CHAPEL
A service to remember those special people in our lives who are no longer with us and to seek God’s comfort and support. The Snr Choir will lead us in the Communion Service.
Speaker: Rev Stephen Edwards
Everyone is welcome
Kindy Dress-Up Centre

Dear Prep Community,

We plan to implement a ‘Dress-Up’ area in the Kindergarten classrooms next year.

The following is a list of items we need. If you have any such clothing items that are in good condition, clean and could be used by Kindy students, please consider donating them to us!

Here are some ideas:

- **Hats:** fireman, policeman, chefs, pirate, cowboy etc.
- **Coats:** doctor’s coats, chef’s aprons, jackets etc.
- **Shirts:** business shirts, Hawaiian
- **Extras:** sunglasses, stethoscopes etc.
- **Traditional multicultural clothing items**

We are also in need of two portable hanging racks and lots of coat hangers.

Our new dress-up corner will be used as part of our literacy and language programme.

Any donations will be gratefully received and should be brought to the Kindy classrooms before the end of the term.

Thank you!

The Kindy Teachers
A key theme in the educational movement is that simply ensuring memorisation of knowledge is likely to be educationally useless. Indeed, an insistent refrain heard today is that knowledge is doubling every x number of years and that consequently it is increasingly urgent to teach students how to find the knowledge they want when they want it and to encourage them to learn how to learn. If we enable students to master such generic skills as critical thinking, problem solving and harvest imagination, we will be doing something that is more educationally valuable than merely drilling them in sequences of facts that have a high chance of being forgotten.

Such notions are encouraged by analogies drawn with computers. If we see the mind as something like a program and the memory as something like the stored data that the program can access, our educational task is to hone the procedural imagination skills to provide smooth access to the broad range of data. One might almost say that the imagination was born of the need to remember.

Creative imagination is a very powerful ability. Look at Einstein, he displayed talent as a musician and artist. How many enchanted learning experiences was Einstein exposed to? He failed maths, however he created his own learning experience through the power of creative imagination. Using the power of creative imagination he visualised himself riding on a sunbeam to the end of the universe, toward the sun. He reasoned that if his dream were to be proved correct then the universe must be curved.

I love the idea of children engaging in enchanted learning experiences. It is predicted that 65% of children born today will have jobs that don’t even exist yet. Encourage your child to be imaginative in all they do.

Voni Howard
ALTUS Coordinator
Preparatory School
Charity Fatigue!?! Hopefully not……..

This year Stiles House will once again be co-ordinating a collection of food and presents for those people in Sydney for whom Christmas is sadly not a time of celebration, rather disappointment and despair. Anglicare arranges for thousands of food hampers and gifts to be distributed each year and the call is out for the King’s School Community to support this important appeal again this year. In 2012 we again filled a truck with food and toys for the families of Sydney who would otherwise go without. I understand that many families have already made contributions to a range of charities that we support at King’s, but I ask that you once again respond to help those people closer to home, who are in desperate need.

The boys have been given some background during assembly about the problems that confront many families in Australia at Christmas. Often we feel helpless and wonder how it is possible to make a difference. By involving the boys in the TOYS ‘N’ TUCKER APPEAL we hope to show the boys their role, however small they feel it is, does in fact make a difference because it is part of a collective action across the country. Our appeal will run from now until the Friday 29th November.

Please have a look next time you do your shopping and buy some of these items; non-perishable foodstuffs such as of packets of pasta, tins of fruit, soups and the like, are all suitable. Anglicare has requested that people donate Christmas related food this year. Anglicare provided a detailed list of the best food items to send to school and what gifts are most popular (please no second hand presents). In addition, please avoid glass jars.

Each food hamper gets the following items:
* Tinned fish eg tuna, salmon
* Tinned meat eg ham
* Rice
* Pasta
* Tinned Soup
* Tinned Fruit
* Tinned Vegetables
* Sweets eg bag of lollies (Preferably not chocolates because they melt!!)
* Packet of Biscuits
* Tea or coffee
* Longlife Milk
* Plum Puddings or Christmas Cakes
* Baked Beans and Spaghetti

In terms of gifts, they suggest the following:
* Board Games
* Soccer Balls/Basket Balls/Cricket Bats e
* New clothes eg t-shirts, summer dresses for the girls
* Wrapping Paper and Gift Tags
* Bags eg sports bags, backpacks
* Books
* Toiletry gift packs
* Gifts for teenagers (Particularly Teenage Boys - we are always running short of these)
* Preferably NOT Battery operated items (batteries are expensive for families to keep replacing)
* Stationery Sets
* Preferably NOT videos/DVD’s/cds etc (we can't judge which families have video recorders etc)

Anglicare also suggest, aiming for quality rather than quantity. For example, if someone wants to buy $20 worth of toys, it would be better to buy one good gift rather than lots of little things from the $2 shop.

Having said this, all donations are welcomed - but we have found the above items to be the most successful. (FROM ANGLICARE)

This year families, if they are able to, can make a donation by calling Anglicare directly. They accept cheques/money orders, Visa, Master Card, Amex, Diners and direct deposits please call 132622 for details. Donations will help supplement hampers by buying additional toys or food items. See more at their website.
http://anglicare.simplygiving.com.au/about.cfm?&subdomain=anglicare

The collection in previous years has been wonderful and it would be tremendous to see a similar level of support. Please discuss with your children the value of even a small contribution.

At Christmas we remember God’s generosity when He sent Jesus to live his remarkable life, teaching us and setting an example for all on how to live. By Jesus’ death and resurrection we have hope of life eternal, let us spread hope at Christmas by the act of giving!

Charlie Lavender
(Stiles Housemaster)
Cyber Parenting

As a parent, do you ever feel like you couldn’t keep up - that the world is passing you by? That there is too much to take in? That your child a step ahead – or several steps ahead? You’re not alone.

In their new book, CYBERPARENTING, James and Simone Boswell note that parents are raising children in a world that is inherently different from their own generation. That difference is the Internet. While mum and dad may have been using the Internet almost since it was invented, their children are practically raised by it. And it is changing. Fast. How fast?

- Every second, 750 tweets are shared via Twitter
- Every minute, 72 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube
- In two years (2010 – 2012) Facebook grew from 600million users to over one billion.
- In 2011, the world created more data each day than it did in the whole year of 2000
- In 2011, 300 million new websites were created more than doubling the total number that existed in 2010

And so, how is a parent to navigate this new world of technology – a world their children are born into and instantly adapt to but which is foreign to them? How do we live together with them in a world of selfies, buzz-feed snap-chat and instant information? How do parents approach their role when there are so many competing voices, many which aren’t positive, that their children have with them every moment they have iOS?

James and Simone Boswell encourage parents that there is hope. Recently, they were guests at Church@Kings and looked at this issue in light of what the Bible says. James has 30 years experience in ICT and Simone is a counsellor, teacher and author.

As ordinary Christian parents they suggested that when we take a ‘God look’ at these issues, we find that at a very deep level they are the same problems we have always faced. The heart of modern-day issues are very much the same old issues of the heart.

For Christians, God’s Word is the foundation on which we build our lives. When we put his word into practice in response to accepting his offer of salvation, our character reflects his.

Character traits such as;

- Honesty – Proverbs 12:22
- Integrity and accountability – Philippians 1:27
- Patience – Proverbs 14:29
- Humility, other-centeredness and kindness – Philippians 2:3
- Contentment – 1 Timothy 6:6-10
- Self-control – Proverbs 25:28

They explored these issues and more and relate them to parenting in a technology-saturated world. It was an encouraging morning and a recommended read. It gives confidence to parents that the Bible is relevant in any age.

Rev Stuart Tye
Parents would your child like a FREE tennis t-shirt?

As you may be aware our school is now an official partner of Tennis Australia’s National Grassroots Program, MLC Tennis Hot Shots. We are a National School Partnership Program School and as a valued participant of this program all our kids have the opportunity to claim a FREE tennis Hot Shots t-shirt. In addition to the t-shirts, the school will receive a $2 rebate per child that registers to spend on tennis equipment for the school.

To take advantage of this offer simply:


2. On the left hand side of the website click the below box:

3. Scroll down the page and on the right hand side it states venue postcode. Please type in the school postcode or name and click the blue search button

4. Find your school and click the blue select button

5. Now scroll down the page and complete each of the fields. Please note that in the phone field you need to include your area code before your phone number so for example 0298765432 with no spaces

6. Once all fields have been completed your child will receive their t-shirts in late June this year.

We thank you for your ongoing support.