Prep News
18th July, 2014

Welcome back to all our families after the holiday break. I do hope that the children are feeling refreshed and families were able to benefit from some extended time together.

Each year we are fortunate to have the enthusiasm and resources of some GAP assistants to work alongside the students and staff at the Prep. This term, we welcome two new GAP students, Ben Donaldson from Malvern College and Patrick Halliday from George Watson College in Edinburgh, who will be working at the Prep until June 2015. Both gentlemen come with an impressive list of achievements in academics, sports and leadership within their schools.

We also welcome back from long service leave Mr Charlie Lavender, Class Teacher of 3L. This term Mrs Linda Gray, our longest serving Prep School teacher, will be on long service leave, using some of this period to assist with some missionary work in China. Her Christian Studies, literacy and numeracy classes will be taken this term by Mrs Lorraine Le Claire.

Sign Up! Sign Up!
This is to remind parents to sign up for some duties to assist with the running of the Prep School Art Show and Spring Festival to be held on the weekend of 22-24 August. We need to rely on ALL our Prep parents to be able to stage this huge fund raising and friend raising event.

At the end of last term a link was sent to parents to be able to view the various duties that need covering and allow parents to login their details and commit to some shifts.

If you haven’t already signed up to assist, please do so as soon as possible so that we can organise our man and woman power for this important event.

The online sign up can be found at the following link: http://volunteers.kingsartshow.com.au/

Art Show Gala Opening Friday 22 August 7:00pm-10:30pm
In the next few days, parents will be invited to book one of the hottest tickets in town – the Art Show Gala Opening on Friday 22 August. The Art Show is a very special event this year as we celebrate our 35th anniversary of the Show and the 20th anniversary of the prestigious Art Prize. We are fortunate to have some high profile special guests within the Art world in attendance on the evening. Our Art Prize Judge this year is art scholar and former director of the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Edmund Capon AM OBE. Previous Art Prize winner and highly acclaimed artist, Martine Emdur will also be in attendance on the evening and we will be auctioning off one of Martine’s paintings to raise funds for the Children’s Hospital Westmead.

During the holidays I was fortunate enough to be involved in a catering tasting afternoon for the opening night with the School’s new catering company, Alliance. I can report with confidence that attendees will be delighted with the food on offer at this year’s event – my waistline tells the story!

The evening presents a wonderful opportunity to be the first to purchase some artwork on display in Horrocks Hall and Art Prize finalist pieces in Gowan Brae.

Early bird ticket prices are available at just $65 a head until 2nd August.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “No dreamer is ever too small; no dream is ever too big.” Author Unknown
Company Sponsorship opportunities with the Art Show
The Art Show catalogue provides families at The King’s School with a wonderful opportunity to publicise their business and also support costs to stage the Show. Different sized advertisements can be taken out in the very stylish publication which explains details about the Show, the Art Prize, articles on feature artists and a host of other interesting information.

If you would like your business featured in this year’s publication, please contact Paul Netto on email: paulnetto@bigpond.com

Outstanding Achievements in Music
Over the holiday period some of our Prep School students participated in the Sydney Eisteddfod Piano Competition. Three boys were successful in achieving some outstanding results.

Lawrence Wei gained 1st place in the 18th Century Piano (10/U), 1st in the 19th Century Piano (10/U), and 1st place in the 20th or 21st Century Piano (10/U).

Joshua Han also gained 1st place in the 18th and 19th Century Piano sections for 12 years and under students. 1st place was also obtained in the Piano Polyphony 12/U section. Most remarkably, Joshua also won first prize in the Kawai Australia Piano Award for any age. Given that there were more than 50 entrants from all ages in this section, this is an extraordinary achievement.

In the viola, cello or double base section, Year 4 student John Wu, received a Highly Commended Award for 12/U students. Quite remarkably, he also achieved the same award for the Open age group for 25/U.

Lachlan Shaw at National Cricket Carnival
In the final week of Term 2 one of our Year 6 students, Lachlan Shaw, represented our School and NSW, in a national cricket carnival held in Darwin. A specialist wicket keeper, Lachlan started the tournament well with 4 stumpings, a catch and a run out in just 20 overs of the first game. He built on this wonderful start to the carnival, demonstrating particular expertise in bowling as the week continued. Lachlan ended up the Australian carnival with the best bowling average and the 10th Champion Player for the carnival as a whole, which is an outstanding achievement.

Anyone who knows Lachlan, will know that he is a quiet achiever, humble in his approach despite his advanced skills, and a wonderful ambassador for The King’s School.

Snow Sports Success
Congratulations is extended to all the boys who represented the Prep School at the Northern NSW Interschools Snow Sports Championships. Mrs Grinham and Mr Ollis have reported on how the boys represented the School as outstanding ambassadors in the manner in which they competed and in their sportsmanship and conduct. The sky blue certainly ruled the mountain as the School was named champion school for the northern division. Specific details on the boys' achievements can be found further in this newsletter. On behalf of the Prep community, I pass on our deep gratitude to Jo Grinham and Jonathon Ollis for all their efforts in organising the boys and families that attended and for giving up some of their holiday period for this purpose.

Peter Allison
Head of the Preparatory School

Vocal Improvement & Effective Communication Skills
The Vocal Improvement & Effective Communication Skills program on offer at King’s is designed to enhance the speech, language, vocal and presentation skills of participating students.

Research has shown that it is important that students engage in this form of training to improve their verbal communication skills to further develop academic and social processes.

Lessons for Semester 2 commence Friday 25th July in the theatrette at the following times:

Kindy: Friday afterschool 2.50-3.20pm
Year 1: Friday lunchtime 1-1.40pm
Year 2: Friday lunchtime 1-1.40pm
Year 3: Friday after school 3.20-4pm
Year 4: Friday after school 3.20-4pm
Year 5: Friday lunchtime 1-1.40pm
Year 6: Friday lunchtime 1-1.40pm

If you would like to enrol please contact: Angela Tesoriero on 0402 439 250 or Email: info@fixaustralia.com.au
Welcome Back
It was wonderful to welcome back the boys to Term Three. The boys look much refreshed and ready for the term ahead.

Visit by Danny Kennedy – Solar Energy Expert
This week we were very fortunate to have clean-technology entrepreneur, environmental activist and the author of the book Rooftop Revolution: How Solar Power Can Save Our Economy—and Our Planet—from Dirty Energy (2012), Mr Danny Kennedy. He founded Sungevity, a rapidly growing residential solar power company and is considered a world expert on Solar energy.

He spoke to all of the boys briefly during Assembly and then spoke to the Year 3-6 boys in more detail about Solar energy. It was most obvious the boys were very interested in what Danny discussed. They were very involved in Danny’s presentation and asked many excellent questions.

Athletics
On Wednesday, we ran our Mini Athletics Carnival with the boys competing in 400 m and 1500 m races, and in the High Jump and Shot Put Finals. Our main carnival will be held this Monday.

- Years 3-6 8:45 am to 3:00 pm
- K-2 11:00 am to 2:45 pm

Parents are most welcome to come and support the boys. I would like to thank Mr Rogers and the staff for the excellent organisation and running of these carnivals.

Driving and Parking on the Gowan Brae Lawn
I have written to all Prep parents this week about not driving or parking on the Gowan Brae lawn as it is damaging the lawn. I encourage all parents to ensure they do not park in this area, but instead use the numerous parking spaces available in Cedars Drive.

Turning Circle
The morning Turning Circle continues to be congested with numerous parents not following the protocol of driving along the circle as far as they can before stopping. Many parents, in particular K-2 parents, are stopping at the K-2 end of the circle. This blocks the road and does not allow the most proficient use of the Turning Circle. Parents should drive to the end of the admin building near Mr Allison’s office. Staff on duty have been asked to speak to parents not using the Turning Circle correctly.

Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Monday, 21 July 2014</th>
<th>Prep Athletics Carnival</th>
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<td>• Years 3-6 8:45 am to 3:00 pm</td>
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<td>• K-2 11:00 am to 2:45 pm</td>
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<td>Fathers’ Association Meeting - Staff Centre (7:30 pm)</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 22 July 2014</td>
<td>K-6 House Meeting</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 23 July 2014</td>
<td>Guide Dog Association visit to Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Thursday, 24 July 2014</td>
<td>1st XI Football match against St Joseph's Merewether (1:40 pm)</td>
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<td>TKS Football Club Season Launch (1st XI) - Thomas Memorial Pavillion (6:00 - 7:30 pm)</td>
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<td>Friday, 25 July 2014</td>
<td>IPSHA Debate against Danebank at Danebank</td>
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<td>Saturday, 26 July 2014</td>
<td>Fathers’ Association Morning Tea (10:25 am) for Year One (Trivia Night Prize)</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Tuesday, 29 July 2014</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 29 July 2014</td>
<td>ICAS English Competition</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 30 July 2014</td>
<td>Year 1 Bush Incursion</td>
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<td>K-6 Assembly</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 30 July 2014</td>
<td>Year 2 Excursion to the Zoo</td>
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<td>Maths Olympiad</td>
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<td>Western Sydney Wanderers Gala Day - 1stXI and 11A teams</td>
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<td>Friday, 1 August 2014</td>
<td>Big Rescue Part 1 - TARA</td>
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<td>Saturday, 2 August 2014</td>
<td>Winter Sport Rd 9</td>
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Making Thinking Visible

Last term, eight teachers undertook a course offered by the Harvard Graduate School of Education in the USA. The 13-week course was entitled Making Thinking Visible: Building Understanding through Critical and Creative Thinking.

Visible Thinking is a research-based framework, adaptable to any subject area, which is being used effectively in a number of schools. During this course we worked together to learn how to activate students’ thinking to build understanding in the subject areas whilst also helping them to think more critically and creatively.

We viewed teachers in other schools implementing Visible Thinking in their classrooms and engaged in conversations with other teachers around the world. Using what we learned, online resources, artefacts and art pieces we worked in classes to create a culture of thinking and understanding that is visible to both teachers and students.

The core questions we investigated during this course were:

- How can we build students’ understanding, increase engagement in the subject areas through thinking, and improve students’ thinking?
- How can we foster positive thinking and learning attitudes as well as abilities?
- How can we use the arts and artefacts as foci of thoughtful learning for understanding across the subject areas?
- How can we document student thinking so that both teachers and students are better able to understand and develop it?
- How can we foster a culture of thinking and regard for thoughtful learning in the classroom?
- How can we build teacher collegiality and collaboration around a culture of thinking and thoughtful learning?

We learnt that “Visible Thinking:

- Focuses on the individual student as well as the collective thinking and collaboration of the entire class.
- Allows for natural differentiation by following students’ interests throughout units of study.
- Concentrates on teaching for understanding, rather than for the sake of memorising and repeating, so that knowledge can be applied to scenarios outside of the classroom.
- Requires active participation by all students and invites our learners’ curiosities to help drive instruction.
- Provides teachers with a tangible view of students’ thinking. Misconceptions, prior knowledge, reasoning ability, and degrees of understanding are more likely to be uncovered.”


http://www.bloomfield.org/parents-students/curriculum/visible-thinking/index.aspx
THE PYP EXHIBITION

Dear Parents,

We would like you all to save the date for our PYP Exhibition this year. On this occasion, Year 5 and Year 6 boys will be performing as part of the opening on the evening of Wednesday, 6th August (Term Three - Week Four) at 6:00 pm. The Exhibition itself will end at 7:30 pm. This is an ideal opportunity for Year 5 parents to see what is in store for their boys in Year 6.

The PYP Exhibition is a major learning event and involves Year 6 boys identifying, investigating and proposing a solution to a problem, which is local or global. It involves a synthesis of all the knowledge, skills, attitudes and conceptual understanding gained during his journey with the PYP. The PYP Exhibition is an exciting but challenging learning experience for our Year 6 boys.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Rachel Johnston
Director of Learning/PYP Coordinator
rcj@kings.edu.au

If you would like further information on student learning at The King's School Preparatory School, please feel free to contact me.

For general information about the Primary Years Programme (PYP), please go to http://www.ibo.org/pyp/

The Interschools Snowsport Regional Competition

During the holidays, a wonderful team of boys represented The King’s Preparatory School at the 2014 Northern Regional Division Championships. Magnificently captained by Ben and Luke Irving, the record-sized team won the prestigious title of “Primary Boys Skiing Champion School.” The team consisted of the following young Kingsmen;


After great concerns about the ‘greeness’ of the ski slopes, our prayers were answered and the Heavens opened. The snow finally arrived by the bucket load! Before we knew it, the boys were experiencing the magic of skiing in fresh powder, which is very unusual on the Australian slopes. The competition could now begin….phew!

A training program ran for the week and all boys worked hard to prepare for the races. For many this year, it was their first time skiing and they are especially to be congratulated on their determination, bravery and commitment to do their best. Even our youngest Kindergarten skiers carved up the mountain!

All our boys were winners, but there were a few that won a shiny medal because of their results.

Alpine Div 4: Orlando Denton1st as an individual. Teamed with Gus van Aanholt, Cooper Smith and Oscar Pattinson awarded 1st place. Edward Selig also came 18th as an individual.


Skier X Div 4: Luke Irving came 2nd as an individual and Ben Irving came 10th. Teamed with Callum Taylor the boys came 2nd as a team.

Skier X Div 5: Orlando came 1st as an individual and teamed with Gus van Aanholt and Cooper Smith to come 3rd as a team.

Moguls Div 4: Orlando Denton 4th as an individual and Edward Selig 5th. Orlando, Edward and Gus receiving 1st place as a team.

Moguls Div 5: Luke Irving 5th and Ben Irving 10th as individuals. Teamed with Noah Bradford the boys came 3rd as a team.

Snowboard GS and X Div 5: Ben Pavlakis received 6th and 8th place for his outstanding efforts.
There were many highlights and a few disappointments during the competition, but there was always the support and encouragement from every team member and their family. We were not just the awesome team to beat, but we were the most wonderful family who looked after each other and kept each other safe on the mountain.

A huge thank you to Mr Ollis for his kindness, patience and friendship during the week. We loved having your crazy sense of humour and fancy skiing skills.

An enormous thank you to Miranda Guiness and especially Kim Selig for helping to organise all of the training for both Tara and King’s. Their eye for detail and hours of help working out training groups made the sessions run smoothly and successfully. To Carolyn Allen, a big thank you for organising the incredible snow dinner where 185 family members joined to celebrate together.

Many boys have received an invitation to the State competition and we will look forward to sharing the results with you after week 7.

Mrs Jo Grinham
MIC Prep Snowsports
I give permission for my child ____________________________ in year ___
to attend The Big Rescue on Friday 1 August at TARA and
☐ Sunday 3 August at TKS CLL auditorium (tick box if attending Part 2).

Signed:______________________________
Church@Kings

Winter Appeal
Food collection

Thursday 31 July & Friday 1 August

Drop off a bag of non-perishable food when you drop off your boy at the turning circle.

We will be collecting food items such as:

- Toothpaste, toothbrushes
- Soap, shampoo
- Toilet paper, nappies
- Tuna/ ham in a can
- Meals in a can
- Jam, vegemite
- Cereals, biscuits
- Long life milk
- Pasta, rice, sauces

Anything that can be stored on a shelf and given out by Anglicare to reach out to those in need.

A church for the King’s community
Email: chaplain@kings.edu.au Office: 9683 8414
Website: church.kings.edu.au
Commencing
Tuesday 29 July

One life.
What’s it all about?

Christianity Explored

Ever wanted to know more about the Christian faith? Maybe you go to church but would like to have a more in depth look at the person of Jesus Christ? Do you have questions about God, life, and what’s it all about?

Christianity Explored gives you time and space to think through who Jesus is and why it matters. We’re running a Christianity Explored course over 7 weeks, commencing on Tuesday 29 July, 7.30pm-9pm in Oatlands.

For further details please contact Rev Stuart Tye on sct@kings.edu.au or 0405 468 239.