SHCS Volunteers
It was lovely to have so many of the School’s volunteers enjoying morning tea at School this week. It such a pleasure to hear from the students as they thanked our many parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts who give of their time and expertise to help students in their learning. The culture of partnership and support is alive and well at SHCS and I look forward to this event being a regular item in our calendar in the years ahead.

2016...Staffing
The planning for 2016 is almost complete and I am delighted to share some of the highlights of our future plans. Our staffing continues to remain very stable and we thank God for a capable, committed team of educators. Mrs Catherine Leigh will commence as the new Head of Junior School and brings considerable experience and expertise to this significant role. I know Mrs Leigh has been greatly enjoyed as a Teacher in the past 5 months and her academic prowess will be a great asset to the Junior School and Executive teams.

Buildings
The refurbishment of the School’s facilities continues at pace with A-block being converted into senior seminar rooms along with a new, centrally located canteen. The Coffee and Chat Room is receiving a face lift and the last of our older Junior School buildings will be completely refurbished in the first half of next year.

HS Subjects and Electives
After receiving a range of comments from parents, we are pleased to make some strategic changes to our elective offering, including the addition of Language as a Yr 9/10 elective and the introduction of a new strand program.

Expert and Interest Strand Groups
This new, extracurricular program will run every Friday afternoon (Period 6 – 2:20 to 3:10pm) of the School term and will cater for students in Years 3-10 (with a possible expansion to Kindergarten, Yr 1 and Yr 2 later in the year).

These groups will be selected by students on a term-by-term basis and will primarily stem from the following disciplines; creative and performing arts, technology and applied studies, and physical education. The primary purpose of this program is to give students an opportunity to explore their creative desires and to grow in their gifts and talents. In charging students with the task of selecting
their electives, this program will enable students to invest in their own unique interests and make decisions which will contribute to their holistic development. Furthermore, this program is designed to foster relationships between staff and students as they bond over common interests, encouraging a whole-school sense of community. The groups will be led by staff and volunteers from our parent and grandparent community. For teachers, this program will enable them to get back to the ‘essence of teaching’ – that is, sharing what they love and are passionate about with others. Given that the program will cater for students from Years 3-10 at School, it will give the staff an opportunity to establish relationships with students beyond the classroom, and extend their engagement with students from both Junior and High School. The list of possible groups is endless, however, it could include groups such as: computer coding, wool craft, pottery, archery, film making, skipping club, choir, debating, photography, jewellery making.

I commend the new program to your thinking and would welcome ideas and feedback. This feedback can be sent to the program coordinator Miss Vivienne Russell at the School addresses.

In Christian Education
Andrew Middleton
Principal

Canteen News

Canteen days are Wednesdays and Fridays with lunch orders to be submitted prior to the 9am bell on these days as follows – at the canteen for High School students and with their class teacher for Junior School students. Online Canteen is an effective way to order lunches – see info@ouronlinecanteen.com.au for more information. Volunteers are always welcome and this is a great way to meet new people and also fulfil Parent Service hours. Please leave your name at the School Office if you would like to be involved (all training will be given on the job).

**Term 4 Volunteers**

**Wednesday 25th November**
- Terrene Cask
- Priska Budiarto

**Friday 27th November**
- Fatima Mkolo

**Wednesday 2nd December**
- Di Whiting

We will start with some yummy refreshments and then the Presentation will begin at 5.30pm. We have been practicing very hard so we hope you can come along and hear about the real meaning of Christmas.

**Uniform Shop News**

Orders can be placed at uniformshop@shcs.nsw.edu.au

Please note NEW Term Hours

**Mondays** 8:30am to 10:00am

**Thursdays & Fridays** 2pm to 4pm

**Prep – Year 1 Nativity**

Don’t forget - parents, grandparents, aunties and uncles, please come and join the Prep – Year 1 students on the 2nd December at 5pm for our Nativity Celebration.

**Jump Rope For Heart**

Thank you to all the students, parents and teachers who were involved in making Jump Rope for Heart a huge success this year. Junior School raised $1,885 which will help support children with heart disease. We had lots of fun...
skipping on our Jump Off day and our afternoon skipping group gave a wonderful performance. We are looking forward to skipping again next year!

**Orientation Day for Prep and Kindergarten**

They arrived at School, some smiling, some a little apprehensive, some excited and glad the day was here at last. And that was just the parents! Around 40 new little Preps-to-be and Kinda Kindys attended their new classrooms this week for a fun taste and see morning of activities. Mrs Ross and Mrs Boyan (and a few extra helpers) nurtured them through some of the expectations of their new role in school while Mrs Broadbent and Mr Middleton put the new parents through their ropes. All passed with flying colours and have been invited back to join us for an adventure of learning and discovery, sharing the journey together in 2016.

**Scholastic Bookclub**

Our next issue of Bookclub is due in on the 24th November. Please remember you can order online too! Correct money must be sent in as change cannot be given. Happy reading!

**Science Fair**

Congratulations to the twenty two students from Stage 3 whose science research projects were selected to represent our school at the Science Fair sponsored by the University of Wollongong. These projects included research into the antibacterial properties of various mouthwashes, the durability of various battery brands and a study of the effects of temperature on the elasticity of rubber bands. Our students had the opportunity to discuss their research with a range of experts in the field of Science, including scientists working in industry and members of the Science faculty at UOW. They were complimented on both the quality of their research and the articulate way in which they were able to share their findings with visitors to the Fair. Students had the chance to view science research projects by students from other schools who share their passion for science. We are looking forward to getting started on our projects for next year’s Science Fair!

**Company Meeting**

A General Meeting of the Southern Highlands Christian School Limited is to be held on Thursday 26th November 2015, in the Coffee & Chat Room. The formal meeting will commence promptly at 7.30pm.

**Thanksgiving Service**

On Tuesday the 8th December our whole School Thanksgiving Presentation Service is being held. This is the final, compulsory event for our student body and will be an evening of real celebration as we wrap up the year. Commencing at 5.30pm, all are invited and encouraged to attend. Further details to follow, but please mark this date in your calendars.
Around the School...Page 4 of 4

School Community Prayer Points

Pray for the following staff members – Mrs Linda King in her Accounts role. Praise God for her quiet efficiency and thoughtful spirit as well as her contagious laugh! Pray also for Mrs Lynnette Ray and her gentle, helpful manner as Science Aide. Praise God for her humility and servant heart.

Praise God for a safe, full and interesting term so far. We still have many events and activities to complete and things to give praise to God for in Term 4.

Local Church News

- **Christmas Ballads By Candlelight** is a concert full of gorgeous ballads, surrounded by twinkling candles. This Christmas sees us in three stunning venues across NSW; including **St Jude’s Church in Bowral**. You’ll hear some memory-jogging, childhood-recalling, heart-warming Christmas repertoire (with the usual pinch of *The Idea of North* humour), as well as a good dose of what *The Idea of North* does so well - heart-wrenching, tear-jerking and soul-soothing ballads. Book via https://www.stickytickets.com.au/29465/the_idea_of_north_christmas_ballads_in_the_highlands_bowral.aspx
  - **St Jude’s Anglican Church** Friday December 11. All ages welcome. Wheelchair accessible. Some on-site parking, plenty of nearby street parking.
- **Cubbyhouse Playgroup** is the perfect opportunity to get out of the house and spend some time enjoying adult conversation whilst your little one develops social confidence and prerequisite skills for school. Cubbyhouse is held at the new, purpose built facilities at St Jude’s Anglican Church on Mondays 10am-12noon during school terms. Contact carmen@bowralanglican.org.au.

Local Community News

- **Final Mittagong Blue Light Disco for 2015!** Venue: Mittagong RSL Date: Saturday 28th November Time: 4pm to 6.30 pm Cost: $5.00 per child 4 – 14 years, children under 4 and parents are free. We have Santa coming for an early visit and if you would like to come dressed in your favorite Christmas hat or costume that will be wonderful, if not just come and have a great time
- **NSW Fair Trading** is holding a seminar on Scam Awareness and Shopping Rights. Date: Friday 27th November Time: 10am – 12.30pm Where: Highlands Youth Hub, Park Road, Bowral RSVP: by 20th November to Highlands Community Centre 4862 1122 or veronica@highlandscommunity.org.au.
- **Moss Vale OOSH** is the only child care service offering Vacation Care for school age children 52 weeks of the year. We do not close down over Christmas. Open from 17th December till 27th January (NO shut down over Christmas New Year period) 8am – 6pm Monday-Friday. For bookings text or call 0417 404 063.
- **By law all children under** 7 years of age must be secured in the correct child restraint for their age and size. Unfortunately 2 out of 3 child restraints are not used correctly (Transport for NSW). Council’s FREE child restraint checking day will be held on: Date: Saturday 28 November 2015 Location: Highlands Market Place, Mittagong Time: 9am – 12.30pm. For peace of mind and safety, people can have their child restraint fitted or checked by an RMS authorised fitter, free of charge. **Bookings are essential.**

Classifieds

**For Sale** - Timber, king single bed & mattress, good condition - $50. White, laminate desk - $20. Large, timber TV cabinet approx. 114cm W x 75cm H - $60. Phone Jackie on 4862 1598.

**For Sale** - 1 rustic brown and 1 liberty print 3 seater lounges - $125 each. Bedroom chair - $25. Pine desk 5 drawer - $100. Small dressing table with mirror - $50. All items perfect condition and very clean, phone 4861 2923 for more info.

**Getaway**: Lake Conjola Holiday Cottage, newly renovated, sleeps 4-6 people. Close to Lake and Beaches, beautiful bush walking and boardwalk, great for fishing /boating. 10 minutes to Milton/Ulladulla shopping and restaurants. Phone Carol 0429 451 367 for more information and rates.

To advertise in the “In Touch Classifieds” simply place ad, together with payment in an envelope clearly marked with “In Touch Classifieds”, your name and contact details and hand in at the School Office. Cut off is Tuesday for your ad to appear that week.

$5 for 1 issue or $8 for 2 issues. For all enquiries contact Jacqui Unwin in the School Office.

"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

*Romans 5:1*