Earlier this year, students from Years 5-12 participated in the Australian Gallup Student Poll. It is the third year the School has asked our students questions regarding their academic engagement, well-being, hope and faith. Most of our sister schools in Christian Education National NSW also participate which allows us to compare ourselves against schools of a similar type. As reported in the media last week, a further 10,000 students from across Australia also participated in the same survey.

The results in 2016 once again demonstrate that students are engaged in their learning, with a significant improvement noted over the past two years. This is most encouraging and a wonderful credit to the parent/student/teacher partnership we enjoy. Once again, our student body has spoken positively about their faith, with more than 80% of students commenting that their personal faith is ‘an important part of their everyday life’. Please continue to pray and seek guidance in answering the faith-based questions of each stage of life. When measuring the hope students feel about their life and future, our School is similar to other Christian schools. However, the data indicates that a significant proportion of students currently do not experience hope, and feel ‘stuck’ (in the language of the survey). How do we respond to this seeming incongruity between faith and hope? While not easy to answer simply, I believe we should continue to talk with our young people about God’s world and lift their eyes to life beyond their immediate circumstances. This is never easy and a task we should undertake together. The Bible talks extensively about hope, but Biblical hope is not in man’s ability but in the Lord’s ability.

Paul writes of peace and joy in Romans 5, rejoicing in the hope of the glory of God, “not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts...” That hope is found in God’s love. Teaching students to rest in a sovereign God while taking positive and active steps to change their circumstances, is the balance that we try to achieve when teaching from a Christian world view.

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 https://ouronlinecanteen.com.au/ for more information.

New price list enclosed.

Term 3 Volunteers

Wednesday 17th August
Priska Budiarto
Friday 19th August
Linda Chalker

Wednesday 24th August
Jody White
Friday 26th August
Chris Smith

Uniform Shop News

Orders can be placed at uniformshop@shcs.nsw.edu.au. Don’t forget you have one year to transition into new uniforms to allow you to spread your costs.

Shop Hours

Wednesdays 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Thursdays 8.30am-10.30am and 2.00pm to 4.00pm

General Company Meeting

A General Meeting of the Southern Highlands Christian School Limited is to be held on Thursday 25th August 2016, in the Café.

The formal meeting will commence promptly at 7.30pm.

Parents are more than welcome to attend and we look forward to your fellowship and discussing the progress of the School.

Keith Withers
Company Secretary

Zone Athletics Carnival

Monday 1st August saw fifty Junior School students star in their own early version of the Olympic Games when they competed at the South Coast Zone Athletics meet in Wollongong. A warm(er than Bowral) day had students competing against six other schools from the region across track and field events. All students performed very well on the day, with many faster and further results achieved.

A total of twenty-one ribbons were presented to SHCS students for results in the top 3 places across a variety of events. Special congratulations go to the following eight students who have placed in the top two positions in their events and will now represent the South Coast Zone at the CSSA State Championships in Blacktown on Friday August 19:

- Allanah Austin 8yrs girls 200m
- Jonathon Brooks-Lloyd 9yrs boys 100m
- Nick Cook 12+ boys High Jump
- Lucas Egan 9yrs boys 200m
- Cate Gambrill 12+ girls High Jump & 200m
- Chloe Page 11yrs girls discuss
- Luke Skelly Open boys Turbo Javelin
- Neala Yang 11yrs girls 400m

Congratulations to all students on their level of participation on the day.
Post Census Scam Warning

If you receive a call from someone claiming to represent the ABS and are concerned about providing personal information over the phone, you should ask for the caller’s name, end the call and then verify the caller by phoning the ABS’ official contact number 1300 135 070. You can also report suspect scams to the ABS during business hours on 1300 135 070. Alternatively you can report scams to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission via SCAMwatch report a scam page or by calling 1300 795 995. You should also spread the word to your family, friends and the local community to protect them.

Year 9 serving our Local Community.

Students from Year 9 have had the opportunity over the past term and a half to go to the Bowral Youth Hub on Tuesday afternoons and teach older people how to use smart phones. It was very interesting as many of them had never used a smartphone or were still very new at it. It was very rewarding as we were able to see them learning new skills and actually beginning to understand them too. All the people who were involved were lovely and were very grateful that we would come and help them. It was a great experience and we feel privileged that we were able to be a part of it and help teach them new things as well like how to take a selfie!

Madi Barr and Zara Henley

Junior School SRC members for Term 3

Back – Zachary Smith, Seth Schultz, Jessica Hayes, Sebastian Nastase,
Front – Hannah Boyan, Zoe Turner, Alexander Wynn, Jesse Liddell

Merit Card winners for Week 2

Back – Benjamin Hayward, Maeve Falls, Angus Blanch
Front – Elienne Adams, Patrick Culkin and Keegan Robertson
School Community Prayer Points

Pray for the following staff members – Mr Tim Jenkinson in his role as Stage 3 teacher, praise God for his enthusiasm with math and science and his ability to inspire each of the students who he teaches day by day. Pray also for Mrs Janine Sloan in her role as science, food tech and PDHPE teacher. Praise God for her creativity and knowledge in her areas of teaching and her ability to connect with the students in her care.

Praise God for the little touches of spring we see around us, the beautiful daffodils, hints of green on some of the trees and the bit of warmth in the air!

Local Community News

Wingecarribee Public Libraries Paws ‘n’ tales Reading with Dogs program. This specialist program aims to help children with self-esteem, confidence and reading skills through sharing stories with specially trained dogs. The program is aimed at children aged between 4-8 years of age and is held at Bowral Library. There is no charge for the program as it is run on a volunteer basis. For further details contact: Sharon Stewart President - PAWS Pet Therapy M: 0418 869 181, email sharon.paws@hotmail.com or www.pawspettherapy.com.

Mittagong Blue Light Disco Venue: Mittagong RSL Date : Saturday 27th August Times : 4pm to 6.30 pm Cost : $5.00 per child 4 – 14 years. Come dress in your favourite ONESIE outfit if you want , if you don’t that is ok, just come and have some fun dancing and singing. Parents and children under 4 free.

Bowral Playgroup – Seedlings runs each Monday & Friday from 9:30-11:30am at the East Bowral Community Centre. We are a playgroup for parents/guardians and grandparents to come, enjoy time with their children, gain support and encouragement from other adults; while doing life together and building relationships. Our mornings include free play in both our indoor and outdoor areas with a variety of toys to suit different age groups, craft, music, story time and a light morning tea for the adults. New families are always welcome. Find us on Facebook: facebook.com/BowralPlaygroup

ROBERTSON BURRAWANG CRICKET CLUB is now taking registrations for the upcoming summer competitions. We hope to field teams in all age groups from U8s Milo Cricket and U10s T20 Smash (both on Thursday nights), to the U12s, U14s and U16s competitions held on Saturday mornings. The competition runs from October - March (with a break for School Holidays) with games commencing at 8.30am, and the majority of matches are played locally. We also have senior teams who require additional players for their Saturday afternoon games. We are a great family-oriented club and our registration fees are amongst the cheapest in Highlands Cricket. To register your interest, or for more information, please contact Aaron on 0421 452 167 or aaronazz@hotmail.com.

Local Church News

Kids@Mac is an exciting after-school club for kids from K-4. This term our theme is ‘The Crazy Olympics’, and we’ll love you to join us for games, craft, songs, Bible stories, afternoon tea and great leaders! It costs $3 per week or $20 per term (family discounts available!). Tuesdays term time, 3:30-5pm at Mittagong Anglican Church. For more information, ring church office on 4871 1947.

STUFF HAPPENS - Women’s Event at Mittagong Anglican Church Come and hear Gill Truman talk about how being a Christian has helped her cope with Muscular Neurone Disease. Thursday 18th August at 7.30pm at St Stephens Anglican Church Mittagong. This is a free event.

Classifieds

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.