MAKING SURPRISING CONNECTIONS

What is the special connection between these people: Anh Do (award winning author and comedian), Steve Parish (nature photographer), Bernard Salt (social commentator), Kevin Rudd MHR (politician), and the Melbourne Football Club (elite sportspeople)? Of the many possible answers, one that may not spring to mind immediately is that they are all ambassadors. Officially, they are representatives and champions of efforts to promote the values and activities associated with 2012 as the National Year of Reading (NYOR). In the months ahead, they will become part of a group of some 45 high profile Australians all united by the goal of making Australia a nation of readers.

Perhaps just as surprising as this special connection is the idea of highlighting a major focus of 2012 in the middle of November. Some of us may be more comfortable with facing the key themes of the new year sometime in January. However, the increasing profile of this initiative in educational and community circles says much about the value of planning ahead and offers us food for thought. As the year draws to a close in the weeks ahead it is natural that we reflect on our performance, our learning and our achievements in the light of the challenges we have faced. We may have been surprised by the recent discovery of new talents or simply reawakened existing interests. These reflections may be aspirations to become better at something or to improve in a particular area in 2012. Perhaps we imagine ourselves being more or less inclined in some aspect of our lifestyle and approach next year, or reflect on these quantifying terms when we consider how we spend our time. At some point in January we expect to emerge from the holiday season refreshed and with a renewed sense of purpose. Regardless of when we firm up our ideas about making the most of the new year, it is essential for us to pay attention to formulating action plans that will enable us to achieve our goals. Those involved in coordinating the NYOR have been planning and building momentum towards it for many months. Their plan is already being enacted.

The NYOR 2012 is a collaborative project joining libraries (public and school), government, community groups, media and commercial partners, and the public. Strategic planning and focused work by those driving the campaign has enabled a relatively small team to recruit over one hundred organisations as project partners. These include writers, schools, publishers, booksellers, employers, child care providers and health professionals. Their combined efforts will bring together and showcase many related projects and organisations across Australia which already promote reading and literacy.

According to the organisers, the NYOR 2012 “is about children learning to read and keen readers finding new sources of inspiration. It’s about supporting reading initiatives while respecting the oral tradition of storytelling. It’s about helping people discover and rediscover the magic of books…most of all, it’s about Australians becoming a nation of readers.” The encouragement of a reading culture in every home is an objective that we continue to support strongly at Overnewton. We look forward to the opportunities that the NYOR 2012 will bring to strengthen our connections with the wonderful world of books.

HAVE YOUR SAY

The organisers have set out to identify a set of eight books, which together represent Australians and our land. Their aim is to create a collection which will describe for each of our eight states or territories the Australian experience – remote, regional, suburban and metropolitan. Readers of all ages are invited to help decide the eight books that are our NYOR 2012 collection. Voting opened on 1st November and closes on the 6 January 2012. To vote online visit the ABC website or drop in to your local public library or book shop and fill in a voting slip. The eight winning books will be announced at the launch of the NYOR on 14 February, 2012, at the National Library of Australia, in Canberra, together with details of a competition for keen readers to win the collection of all eight books.

For more information about the National Year of Reading 2012, go to: http://www.love2read.org.au/index.cfm or look for the link on the homepage of our Library site (Intranet).
**COLLEGE DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th November</td>
<td>New Parents Morning Tea-Keilor Campus 9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th November</td>
<td>Class of 2010 - 1 Year reunion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 22nd November</td>
<td>Instrumental Concert 5.30to7.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd November</td>
<td>Year 12 exams finish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd November</td>
<td>New Parents Morning Tea-Keilor Campus 9.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th November</td>
<td>Year 12 Valedictory Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 24th November</td>
<td>New Parents Morning Tea-Taylors Lakes Campus 10.00am</td>
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**ANNUAL MAIL OUT**

Families will soon receive in the mail a range of documents to fill in and return to the College regarding important family and student information. The College has maintained a tight timeline to ensure that the forms can be processed in a timely way in time for the beginning of the 2012 school year. As you will appreciate, the processing of forms from 1,500 families is a huge undertaking and takes several weeks. In addition, the College is using a new administration package so some documents may be different in appearance and request information is a slightly different way.

The College regularly confirms personal information and permissions with parents/guardians to ensure that we can respond effectively in cases of emergency, have accurate information in order to contact you and have accurate permissions regarding students and personal data. In order to complete this more efficiently, we have placed all permission replies on a single page and included a reply paid envelope for your convenience.

In the mail out, you will find some important documents, including:

- Family Update Form
- Medical Update Form
- ACS Sport in 2012 letter
- Consent Form 2012
- Parents and Friends Service Directory Forms (optional)
- Overnewton College Uniform Shop Information Sheet

Please read the enclosed explanatory documents and then review, amend and sign the asterisked forms, then please complete the page of permission forms before returning all forms to the College by mail.

Please note that forms should be returned with signatures, even if you do not amend any details.

**HOT WEATHER**

A reminder that it is not necessary for students to wear blazers to school if the forecast temperature is 30 degrees Celsius or more. On warm days of less than 30 degrees, students should wear their blazer but do not need to wear jumpers. At no stage should the jumper be the outer garment when leaving or entering the College. It is recommended that students keep a drink bottle with them to maintain hydration; this should only contain water and should be washed out daily, as a number of infectious diseases, including meningococcal, can be transmitted through water.

**JUNIOR SCHOOL-KEILOR CAMPUS**

Last week our Year 4 students headed to CERES as part of their Indonesian studies. They participated in a range of activities including riding a Becak. This was linked to their study of transport last term. They also had a chance to play the Angklung which is a traditional Indonesian musical instrument made of two bamboo tubes attached to a bamboo frame. It was a wonderful learning opportunity and a great chance to develop their Indonesian language skills.

Monday’s assembly was enhanced by the presentation of the Premier’s Reading Challenge certificates. 170 students completed the challenge this year which is a remarkable achievement. Year 1C also entertained us with a performance of the song ‘two vowels go walking’. Year 3 students made a presentation about their Challenge Day and showed us a variety of designs and diagrams of their space suits. The assembly concluded with a montage of photos from the Year 2 camp.

On Tuesday evening all of our 2012 Prep parents came along to the Information Evening. It was pleasing to see the level of support with the assembly hall being very full. The parents had the opportunity to meet their child’s teacher for next year and listen to a variety of important information regarding starting school.

The final piece of the Prep transition puzzle took place on Thursday when the students spent two hours with their new teacher and their 2012 classmates. We are confident that the extensive transition program has set these students up very well for a smooth start in February next year. We look forward to seeing them all again then.

Anne McNaughton

**YEAR 2 EXCURSION TO THE CITY**

A celebration is a time when we remember or honor a special event. The Year 2s have used online encyclopedias to help us research some familiar and unfamiliar celebrations from around the world.

This week the Year 2s went to the city to see how the City of Melbourne is preparing for Christmas. Visiting the Myer Christmas Windows has been a Melbourne tradition for 56 years. We were mesmerised by St. Nick and his helpers in this year’s festive theme, “Santa Claus is coming to town”. Chloe Nguyen was pleased to have found her name on Santa’s “NICE” list!

The last window made us think about what Christmas is really all about – the birth of Jesus Christ. We took a class photo in front of a beautiful Nativity scene.

Anica Gajzer
Year 2 teacher
The following students received a Student of the Week Certificate this week.

Prep C  Jackob Duvnjak for using good mathematical strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems
1R  Lochlann Sacco for persisting with his handwriting. Lochlann’s work has been very neat
1R  Adam Haweil for getting along with others in ‘our’ classroom. Adam is always very helpful and caring
1TK  Robert Stewart for working well during Maths to solve a difficult number problem, and then explaining it clearly
1TK  Ryan Beazley for participating in class discussions more often and for being confident enough to ‘have a go’ even if he was not sure the answer was correct
1W  Ares Sikavitsas for the increased confidence he is showing towards all writing tasks
2F  Emily Joncevski for demonstrating resilience by challenging herself whilst on camp and for being a cheerful and kind class member
2F  Emily Sinic for approaching her learning with increased confidence and for always giving her best effort
2F  Lucy Martin for showing resilience behaviours whilst on camp and for being a kind and caring friend to all
3C  Joel DiNatale for demonstrating ‘Getting Along’ skills and confidence at camp
3C  Meilahn Nguyen for displaying confidence when completing challenging activities at camp
3C  Joanna Vasil for displaying confidence during all camp activities
3C  Georgia Merryweather for displaying resilience while at camp
3G  Vin Tran for showing persistence and remaining focussed when completing challenging Maths problems
3P  Joshua Mirabello for the way he compared three versions of the story “Little Red Riding Hood”
3P  Jonathan Ciccone for the way he compared three versions of the story “Little Red Riding Hood”
4CA  Tayla Ng for showing enthusiasm and effort during Celebration rehearsals
4CA  Monique Cukavac for showing confidence when talking in front of the class; asking questions and making comments
4CR  Courtney Farrugia for spelling two long words correctly and for persevering during the year to perfect her handwriting and spelling
4K  Nelson Tran for always being ready to lend a helping hand to his friends and teachers. Nelson’s help and efforts have been greatly appreciated
4K  Bianca Jefic for listening to instructions the first time given and being prepared to start work on time. Keep up the great organisational skills
4N  Bianca Rajic for consistently producing work that is of a high standard. Bianca is persistent when working so that she can give her very best efforts

JUNIOR SCHOOL-KEILOR CAMPUS

Students of the Week

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Images have been removed to meet privacy needs

JUNIOR SCHOOL-TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS

Transition was a major focus in the Junior School last week with both the new Preps and Year 4s taking part in their specific programs. The 2012 Prep cohort joined us for their second transition session with the focus being Numeracy. Children were involved in mathematical activities and songs, while their parents were provided with information relating to the mathematical curriculum taught at Overnewton. The Year 4 students were very exciting to take part in a typical Year 5 lesson in Middle School classrooms with their Year 5 buddies. There was a buzz in the air as they took part in mathematical games, worksheets and computer work. This gave the students the opportunity to get a feel for how a typical Year 4 classroom runs and to help ease any anxieties that the students may have in the lead up to becoming members of the Middle School. The children also took part in the Middle School Assembly last week. It is certainly an exciting time of year for all.

The Year 3 children were also preparing for their move to Year 4 last week as they presented their speeches to their peers for the Junior School leadership program. There were speeches made for the roles of Junior School Captains, House Captains, Choir Captain and Chapel Captains. Short lists have been made this week and interviews have taken place. This is not an easy process as we try to select the Captains for 2012 out of a talented group of children.

Images have been removed to meet privacy needs

Year 4 students headed off to camp this week at Lake Dewar to enjoy an adventurous time in the outdoors. We look forward to hearing their reports in the next edition of Whispers.
YEAR 2 CAMP REFLECTIONS

Last Thursday the Year 2s went to Mount Evelyn. First we ate our food. After we ate we went in groups. My group was Koalas. First we went to the giant swing and it was fun because we went high in the air. It was like I was flying. Next was a low rope. It was fun because it was so easy. We ate our dinner and put on our pyjama’s and watched a movie. It was really good. The next activity on the next day was the flying fox. It was really high but awesome. Last was picture hunt and it was easy to do. Next I helped some parents pack then we went and I took some videos and pictures.

By Connor Agius 2M

On Tuesday the bus took us to camp at Mount Evelyn. First I went on flying fox then I went on the low rope’s. The next day I did the photo hunt and then I went on the giant swing. It was lot of fun then I went back to Overnewton College in the bus. I slept in the bus and Mr Moore woke me up. Next I went home and slept in my new house and I was very sleepy. I slept all the next day.

By Denise Stylianou

Last Thursday and Friday we were at camp. The Koalas was my group. We first did the giant swing. It was awesome because it is fast and it’s tall. I went to the top. Our next activity was the low ropes course. We split into groups of three and we had two supporters and one balancer on the equipment. Then a bell went and we went back and we ate dinner. Then we put our pyjamas on to watch a movie. The movie was called Muppet Treasure Island then we went to bed. Mrs Lockyer got all the girls to read a story and when she finished the story we went to our room to sleep. When we woke up we had breakfast. I had pancakes and toast and then did our activities. I did the flying fox and photo hunt they were all awesome. I loved camp.

By Ryan Nguyen

On Thursday the Year 4 students were invited to the Middle School Assembly where they had the opportunity to witness all the wonderful items Middle school presented. At the end of the Assembly Mr Mahon introduced us to William Joyce, a Year 5 student who informed us about all the wonderful things Middle School has to offer. The Middle School Captains and the School Representative Council members were also on hand to assist Mr Mahon in answering lots of questions.

The Year 4 students are looking forward to having lunch with the Year 5s next week and attending a Year 5/6 sports morning the following week.

The Year 4 students are very excited about the next chapter of their educational journey at Overnewton Anglican Community College, entering Middle School.

The final Challenge Day for the year was certainly that – a CHALLENGE! In fact, some students described it as a ‘Brain Marathon’.

A group of 26 ‘like minded’ Year 3 and 4 students participated in 17 problem solving activities with each activity worth certain points depending on the level of difficulty. The idea was to correctly complete as many activities within the given time frame and accumulate points. The highest possible score one could reach was 200.

An example of the activities was; Sylvester measured his pulse and found that his heart beat at a rate of 80 beats a minute at rest. At this rate, how many days approximately will it take his heart to beat 1,000,000 times?

It was amazing and truly inspirational to watch and to listen to 8, 9 and 10 year old children trying to solve some very complex and ambiguous problems. The final results were:

1st Place - 187 points - Patrick Myles and Joshua Lee
2nd Place - 113 points - Grace Milverton and Jessica Pollard
3rd Place - 109 points – Emma Pollard and Samantha Barrow
4th Place - 108 points – Charley Maggs and Mathew Nawrocki

REFLECTION – CHALLENGE DAY by Emma Pollard

On Monday the 7th of November a group of students from Years 3 and 4 participated in Challenge Day. We were asked to solve 17 puzzles that required good Maths and English skills. The puzzles were difficult and tested most of us to our limits. Everyone enjoyed Challenge Day a lot. I think Challenge Day is great and Mrs Myles does a fantastic job organising it.

CHIBOBO DONATIONS - SERVICE

Did you know that you can donate money to the Chibobo orphanage at our canteen? There is a special Chibobo tin that you can put any dollars or cents in that you want to donate. If you have a lunch order and you get change back, you can maybe put it in the Chibobo tin. It will go to the orphanage and help to pay for their school.
Three children from Grade 2L got to put Ms Lockyer’s spare change in the Chibobo tin. They were Declan, Jonathan and Kayla. It felt like a good thing to do.

*By Jonathon Nicolo and Declan Quinn*

**YEAR 4 LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE) EXCURSION**

On Friday the Year 4 students visited the Indonesian Village at CERES, as part of the Year 4 LOTE program.

They participated in typical games played in Indonesia. Students took a ride on the Pedi cab, they played Chon cluck and most students joined in on the Indonesian version of volley ball, just to name a few. Isabella and Amy from 4NW loved riding on the Pedi cab, they said it was “heaps of fun”.

Every student learned the art of Batik. The students drew a picture, outlined it using hot wax and then painted it. Max and George from 4A enjoyed this activity as it was “fun to do”.

Puppeteering is a highly regarded form of entertainment for the Indonesian people. The students were shown a puppet show and were then asked to perform their own puppet show.

FACT: Puppets are made using the dried skin from buffalos.

FACT: The Puppeteer must fast for 8 hours before each performance.

The Year 4 students had a great day at CERES experiencing all the cultural aspects they have learned about throughout the year.

**YEAR 8 RENAISSANCE INCURSION**

The incursion was enjoyable and informative. We really liked learning about the musical instruments because they were unique. It was interesting to see how they were used; the Hurdy Gurdy was a strange instrument. I liked learning about the outfits that the people from this time wore because I could see it, not just imagine it. It was good that you could see the difference that 100 years made with society and culture. We also liked learning about the inventions and literature.

We learnt how women and men could not socialise with each other during the Renaissance. So to get to know one another people attended dances. The dances were very different from the dances of today. They danced to the music of the flute and the Hurdy Gurdy.

The information about warfare was very interesting. Pikes, bang sticks, armour, muskets and sword fighting were all part of the demonstration.

*Students 8J*

**THE FOLLOWING IS A REMEMBRANCE DAY REFLECTION**

Remembrance Day reflection as said at the Assembly by Middle School Captains at the Taylors Lakes Campus, Victoria Marquardt and Jonah Krznaric

Remembrance Day is held on the eleventh of November in memory of the truce that ended the First World War. Australians observe one minute silence at 11 am every year on this date to remember all the brave Australian soldiers that were killed or suffered during any armed conflict. World War One ended formally at the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month in 1918.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Global University of New South Wales (UNSW) Educational Assessment Australia 2011 – English

Natalie Fewster Year 6 Credit
Kenneth Huynh Year 6 Distinction
Kate Loncar Year 6 Distinction
Stevie West Year 8 Credit
Monique Lautier Year 8 Distinction
Jasmine Velkovski Year 8 Distinction
Deepali Verma Year 8 Distinction
Joshua Dix Year 8 High Distinction
Joshua Krznaric Year 8 High Distinction

**HOME – SCHOOL COMMUNICATION**

If you would like to discuss any issues, please don’t hesitate to contact the relevant staff via the student diary, email, or by phone, as we look forward to continuing to successfully work in partnership with all Middle School families.
YEAR 7 & 8 PUBLIC SPEAKING

On the 7th of November 2011, Stevie West and I, along with Ms van der Burgt and Ms Clifford travelled to a Public Speaking competition to St. James College in East Bentleigh. We had to prepare persuasive natured speeches about topics that we chose from a small selection of topics. My topic was “The world in 50 years”, and Stevie’s topic was “Multicultural Australia”. There were fourteen people in the competition and when everyone had read their speeches everyone was given an impromptu topic, and then they had five minutes to prepare a three minute speech. After this session, the adjudicators gave everyone a score. We then left St. James College and shortly after we received an email saying Stevie and I made it into round two along with five other people. We were very excited and proud of our achievements. Round Two, Tuesday 15th November meant the same journey but this time we got a free choice of the topic. We practised our speeches in the taxi on the way to the venue and arrived to be ushered into the room to deliver our prepared speech. Once again we had an impromptu topic which this time for me was, “The perfect lady or gentleman” and Stevie’s was “Money is not important”. Regardless of the results for this round, the experience was awesome, nerve racking but also heaps of fun!!!

Jayden Paydayachie Year 8V

MIDDLE SCHOOL-COMING EVENTS

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<tr>
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<td>KC Assembly Period 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17th November</td>
<td>Both Campuses Year 7 Exclusion LOT/E/English Study Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th November</td>
<td>Indonesian Competition at Taylors Lakes Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 23rd November</td>
<td>TLC Year 5 Exclusion LOTE/English Study Skills</td>
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<td>Thursday 24th November</td>
<td>TLC Assembly Period 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28th November</td>
<td>KC Year 6 Band Concert – 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Tues 29th to 2nd December</td>
<td>KC Year 6 Camp Valley Homestead Ovens</td>
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<td>Wednesday 30th November</td>
<td>KC Year 8 Celebration - 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 1st December</td>
<td>KC Sport Assembly Period 1</td>
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<td>Thursday 1st December</td>
<td>TLC Year 6 Band Concert – Multi Purpose Hall 7.30pm</td>
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<td>student Sausage Sizzle</td>
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<td>Multi Purpose Hall 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 8th December</td>
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<td>Friday 9th December</td>
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<td>Last Day Term 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TLC Final Awards Assembly</td>
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PLEASE LABEL YOUR STUDENT’S UNIFORM

Please ensure all of your childrens’ uniform items are clearly labelled with their name and class.

This will assist in the prompt return of misplaced items to the correct students.

ACS SPORT

Year 7

The boys’ softball had a very convincing win this round with a 26 run difference. The player of the match went to Daniel Venables who, as the coach has described, was the best fielder he has seen in a long time. He is confident and very supportive of all of his team mates and when he comes up to bat he can be relied upon to bring home any runners that are on the bases.

The boys from the table tennis team also had a very convincing win by 14 sets. This was set up with the Overnewton team winning all of the singles games. It was followed up by only dropping one match in the doubles for the afternoon. It was a great all round team effort by the boys.

Winners: Boys’ basketball A (35 pts – 29); girls’ softball (21 runs – 4); boys’ softball (30 runs – 4); girls’ soccer (5 goals – 0); boys’ table tennis (15 sets – 1); girls’ tennis (10 sets – 2)

Year 8

Highlights from this round of games are firstly from the basketball where both of the teams won their matches. Leading scorers were Zak Wunhym17 pts, Jeremy Bortolo 15 pts, Adam Mandic 14 pts, Carlo Rosales 7 pts and Josh Richter 6 pts. From the girls’ soccer both Laura De Waart and Dimitra De Losa played really well. The table tennis boys started off the afternoon dropping the first couple of sets but came home strongly to win. Benjamin Spittler and Matthew Bell both played well in the team’s draw in the hockey match. Despite being short on players, the girls from the softball team rallied with support from a couple of players that came from the volleyball team and nearly won their game.

The cricket team are still on track for a finals berth with a good win over their possible opponents this week by 30 runs. Clayton Bonello was strong with the ball capturing 3 wickets and then backed up with 42 off the bat. Sahil Sapra contributed with 2 wickets and Billy Neville had an entertaining 26 runs with the bat.

Winners: Boys’ basketball A (50 pts – 27); boys’ basketball B (29 pts – 13); boys’ softball (11 runs – 2); boys’ cricket (108 runs – 78); boys’ table tennis (10 sets – 6); girls’ tennis (9 sets – 2); girls’ volleyball A (4 sets – 0); girls’ volleyball B (3 sets – 1); boys’ hockey (1 goal – 1 draw)

Year 9

Isabella Karolewicz was a stand out as a midfielder in the soccer game this round. Annabelle Toro scored a very nice ‘hat-trick’ of goals in the first half of the game that set Overnewton up for a good win. It was a crucial game as if the team had lost this match they would have lost first place and therefore a home ground advantage in the finals.

From the boys’ basketball games, the leading scorers were Joshua Kimpton (15 pts), Anthony Moon (9 pts), Jay White (8 pts), Mitch Harvey (7 pts) and 4 pts from Tim Higginson and Justin Kanzamar. It was a must win game for the B team, as it now keeps them in touch of a possible finals berth with only one game to play.
Even though the boys lost 3 matches to 13 this week, the scores were not indicative of how close some of the games were throughout the afternoon. The only singles win went to Jeetandra Navani who also won both his doubles combining well with Alexander Vo.

Great play by Kristen Merchan and Hayley Zammit, throwing between 3rd base and home base to tag a runner out was the highlight from the girls’ softball game. Nikola Sonerlo also scored a home run in this match. From the boys match Rocco Cantalano displayed some great pitching. He struck out several of the opposition batters. Mason Morello displayed leadership in the field and his catching was very strong. Joshua Wardley was excellent in the field with an outstanding catch and a great throwing arm.

The cricket team had a disappointing loss today but they did play two short and gave up 20 runs from extras. Playing short meant that the opposition had a great opportunity to find areas on the oval that were far enough away from our players to place the ball. We could only bat out the innings to gain the best possible score. Despite all this the boys kept their spirits high and gave their heart and soul to the match. They knew it was a crucial game because a definite place in the finals was on offer but now they have to wait on other results and have a good win themselves next match to get the vital second place on the ladder. If they manage to achieve this, the coach has commented that the first place team (their opposition this week) is beatable and they will give it a good shot. Fingers crossed to see if they make it or not.

Winners: Girls’ soccer (4 goals – 0); boys’ basketball (28 pts – 9),

Nikki Little and Janene Lokaj
Heads of Sport

For information regarding departure and return times of the ACS teams during the week, call the College’s Sports Information Line on 9331 5980.

YEAR 4 - 6 SPORT
STATE PRIMARY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
On Monday 7th November seven Years 4 - 6 students competed in the State Primary Athletics Carnival at the newly furbished Lakeside Athletics Facility. These students are those that finished in either first or second position in their respective events from the Western Metropolitan Athletics Carnival earlier in the term. The students were highly successful on the day, with all of them advancing to the finals after their heats. The most successful students was Shannon Bain (Yr 6) who qualified in the two events of shot put and discus. It was a long day for Shannon as he had to compete against 18 other students who had to have three throws each in each of the discipline. Then being successful in reaching the final eight had to have another three throws with all of the competitors to finally gaining a third place in both. He had a close call in the shot put where he was sitting in third position at the end of the finals but had to wait for a returning competitor to have his final throws to see if he held onto his position.

The Pierias brothers Ben (Yr 4) and Dylan (Yr 5) competed in the 800m and 200m respectively. Ben was third in his heat and his time enabled him to be sixth best at the distance for his in the State. Dylan finished third in his heat and had a nervous wait to see if he had made it into the finals. He did and finished fifth in the final.

Rebekah Skopilianos was in the 100m and after an impressive win at the regionals she was very confident in making the finals. She did with the fourth fastest time; but after just completing the relay run, Rebekah finished a gallant eighth in the finals and wasn’t very far off the leaders.

As mentioned Rebekah along with Rebecca Wrouth, Georgia Sneddon and Cindy Tran made up the 12/13 years 4 x 100m relay team. They combined well and had smooth baton changes to enable them to easily qualify for the finals. In the finals Georgia led the team off at the gun in lane seven and sprinted to the lead very early. A flawless baton change between Georgia and Cindy enabled the team to keep in the hunt on the back straight. Rebecca Wrouth then followed up with a fantastic bend run in the third 100m but by now; however, the other inside teams were catching up on the bend. Rebekah flew home to bring the team into sixth position.

JUNIOR SPORTS PROGRAM

BASKETBALL RESULTS
UNDER 10 GIRLS (Overnewton 1)
With the scores level at half time it was a great game to watch – the girls did their best in a very physical game.
Final scores: Overnewton 1, 4 – St Christophers 1, 10

UNDER 10 GIRLS (Overnewton 2)
Although there were some impressive shots at goal our girls were defeated. Keep trying girls.
Final scores: Overnewton 2, 0 – Aberfeldie Jets 1, 64

UNDER 10 BOYS (Overnewton 1)
What a challenge. Great effort boys and awesome first game Theo.
Final scores: Overnewton 1, 6 – Keilor Village, 22

UNDER 10 BOYS (Overnewton 2)
It was so exciting to see the boys take control of this game. They were too strong and had a convincing win. Well done to the players and coach.
Final scores: Overnewton 2, 14 – Overnewton 1, 4

UNDER 12 GIRLS (Overnewton)
The girls were put up into the A/B competition this week due to the wonderful success they have had so far. It proved to be our toughest game yet and was very tight till the finish. The girls just managed to hold onto the lead when the siren went.
Final scores: Overnewton, 12 – Salvo Saints 1, 10

UNDER 12 (1) BOYS (Overnewton 1)
The boys moved up a grade this week and came up against the Aberfeldie Jets 7. They got off to a great start and the final score didn’t reflect the tight contest.
Final scores: Overnewton 1, 21 – Aberfeldie Jets 7, 2

UNDER 14 (1) BOYS (Overnewton Fire)
We had a rematch this week, playing the same team we played last week. The boys tried really hard but were unable to match the experience of their opponents.
Final Scores: Overnewton 12, - Keilor Village 5, 50

UNDER 14 (2) BOYS (Overnewton)
The boys played against older and bigger boys this week. They worked hard at trying to score but didn’t quite get there. They were defending well however the other team were able to ‘steel’ the ball and shoot goals quickly.
Final Scores: Overnewton 2, 8, - Taylors Lakes 38

UNDER 14 (1) GIRLS (Overnewton I)
The girls played a great game again this week. All girls stepped up their game to fight for the ball against Taylors Lakes. Well done on a superb effort.
Final Scores: Overnewton1, 20, - Taylors Lakes 14
Helping shrinking violets to bloom
Self-consciousness is normal in girlworld, but you can help your daughter grow out of it

Article contributed by Dannielle Miller

Intense self-consciousness is a part of life in girlworld. Even an extroverted girl can have moments when she feels as if a spotlight is shining just on her and the whole world is staring at (what she perceives as) her flaws.

In my diary when I was 14, I lamented the fact that a plastic surgeon had told me I couldn’t fix the scars I have on my neck and down one arm as the result of third-degree burns I received as a little girl. I wasn’t self-conscious about those scars ... until I hit puberty. Then I wore long sleeves no matter how hot it was. I believed those scars meant I would never be loved.

Melodramatic? Sure, but that fear was painfully real at the time.

When a girl says she’s going to “die” because she has to give a five-minute talk in class, it sounds like a total overreaction – but that may be how she truly feels. Some self-conscious girls blush. Some clam up to the point of seeming rude. Others underachieve so that they don’t outshine their friends. They might apologise, or even get angry, when they receive a compliment. Binge drinking and other risky behaviour can also be misguided ways of handling social stress. This is all puzzling to adults – unless we remind ourselves what it was like to be a teenager, simultaneously wanting to stand out and fit in.

With all that we have learned and experienced as adults, there is much we can do to help shrink violets bloom.

1. Know the power of your words. A friend of mine heard a teenage girl at a party wishing that she would stop growing as she didn’t want to be “too tall.” No adults spoke up to give her some perspective. In fact, one woman said, “Oh yes, you want to be able to wear high heels.” The subtext: if you grow too tall, you’ll tower over any potential date and will be doomed to a sad, lonely, high-heels-less spinsterhood. To that girl, I say: whether you’re short or tall or somewhere in between, you are beautiful and you will be loved. To grown-ups, I say: we all have to be careful with our words.

2. Help her tackle shyness in small steps. You can eat something as big as an elephant if you take small enough bites. If your daughter finds social situations challenging, suggest she works on one thing, such as talking to new people. Next time she’s in a social situation, she could try saying hello to just one person she hasn’t met before. The more often she does it, the easier it will become.

3. Create opportunities to socialise. Provide your shrinking violet a non-stressful environment in which to get to know other girls and develop social skills. You might organise one-on-one opportunities for her to hang out with another girl at your place. Girl Guides and community groups are other great ways to gently introduce girls to social situations.

4. Help her be prepared. For girls who become anxious about public occasions, being fully prepared can be a real confidence booster, especially when giving a talk in class. For social events, some self-conscious girls find it helpful to visualise how they’d like the event to go and the kind of things they’d like to say and do.

5. Be a role model. Strong, confident role models can inspire girls to come out of their shell. Parents are the most important role models of all, so as well as encouraging her to find role models outside the home, it’s important for you to look inwards, too. How do you respond when someone gives you a compliment? Do you sometimes struggle to find your voice to express your beliefs and feelings?

6. Encourage her to find her inner Amazon. I recommend that girls spend some quiet time visualising their inner Amazon, who is strong and powerful. Girls can then summon up their inner Amazon whenever their confidence gets wobbly. At the end of my book, The Butterfly Effect, I give a visualisation exercise that girls in our workshops find really empowering.

7. Celebrate difference. Our aim should be to support girls and help them develop the confidence to be themselves, not to force everyone to be outgoing. Some people are naturally quieter than others. If a girl is especially shy and quiet in class or is really struggling in the playground, then of course we need to help her develop the skills to contribute in class and in social groups – while always respecting individual differences.

Dannielle Miller – ParentingIdeas recognised expert
Dannielle Miller is a leader in the area of raising girls. She is the author of The Butterfly Effect and CEO of Enlighten Education. Dannielle is currently working on her second book, aimed at adolescent girls. She is a popular speaker at youth and education conferences and forums. Find out more at www.danniellermillie.com

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JOIN MICHAEL’S COMMUNITY OF PARENTS ON FACEBOOK.

Go to www.facebook.com/michaelgroseparenting
and click on the Like button.

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
As part of the “Conditions of Entry” to Overnewton Anglican Community College, signed by all families upon confirmation of enrolment “One full term’s written notice is required to withdraw a student from the College. If one full term’s notice is not given to the College, one full term’s fees will be charged.”

If you have a child who will not be returning to Overnewton in 2012 please ensure that you notify the Registrar, Mrs Diane King in writing. Email: diane.king@overnewton.vic.edu.au
Technology and Children

"We have anecdotal evidence from talking to parents. Every single parent I have spoken to so far is concerned. I have yet to find a parent who says, 'I am really pleased that my kid is spending so much time in front of the computer.' We need to take control of our own lives and society. If we don’t, who else will?"

Baroness Susan Greenfield (2010)

Find ways to talk about technology.

.sensorTalk about positive ways to get the best out of technology… fight a positive battle not a negative one.

(sensor)Share your teenager’s fascination in cyber technology, but model the sincerity, detachment and willpower that he or she will need. Share your interest and on that basis talk.

(sensor)Talk to children about the value of time and that technology can save time. But excessive time-wasting through technology is an abuse of a gift.

(sensor)Talk deeply about the need for sincerity in life, if there is any example of deception, visits to inappropriate sites, etc.

(sensor)Talk about the differences between innocuous content, less appropriate content, and offensive material that must be shunned.

(sensor)Help a young person realize that the most important value in life is to have a loving respect for all others. Technology can never be used to undermine this.

The challenge… be closer to your kids than the competition.

(sensor)Parents can be in the dark about what their children are doing, how they are spending their time, who is with them in the chatroom, what influences are coming into their lives. If they do not know these deeply influential things in the lives of their children, parents are not in the game.

(sensor)Without parental advice, some children lack the experience to use technologies without entrenching bad habits.

(sensor)Habits of insincerity and deception.

(sensor)Habits of idle curiosity … mindless moseeclicking.

(sensor)Addictions to late night gaming, pornography, or hypercritical chatter.

(sensor)Habits of nastiness to others. There is widespread concern in society about abuse of technology by teenagers, especially cyber bullying, hate websites, anonymous harassment, etc.

(sensor)The highly addictive or obsessive take up of new technologies is by its repetitive nature very habit forming. We are not seeing the full impact of this yet.

(sensor)Are you in the conversation? Do you know who and what are in your teenager’s life? A parent cannot force his or her way into a fifteen year old’s world… it is a matter of building habitual, open, trusting communication based on affection.
CLASSROOM ASSISTANCE

Classroom Assistance positions for both Keilor and Taylors Lakes Campuses will be advertised through the Whispers on a weekly basis. Most positions require a regular weekly commitment for the whole year, although in specific cases you may be able to alternate with another parent or join a roster. You are invited to apply for any position, even if your child is at another campus or different year level. Please note that the person you will be telephoning is a parent fulfilling their Family Contribution Scheme commitment, so please do not phone before 7.15am or after 9.00pm. Younger siblings or sick children cannot accompany parents whilst on duty. A blue Classroom Assistance folder is kept at the Front Office at each campus to record your hours.

Recording Hours
A reminder to parents that it is your responsibility to record your own hours for classroom assistance and excursions in the folder at the front office labelled Classroom Assistance. Please ensure you write legibly and include details of your child, including the surname if you have a different name to your child, and your home telephone number. These hours are collated at the end of each term.

Working with Children Check (WWCC)
It is a Victorian Government requirement that all adults working with children have a current Working with Children Check. Please ensure you have your card number or Post Office Receipt number when you phone to register your name.

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KEILOR CAMPUS
If you have any concerns regarding the Classroom Assistance program at Keilor Campus please contact Jennie McCullagh, Resource Officer on 9334 0086.
Parent Co-ordinators
Wendy Weeks – Prep, & Year 1
wendyweeks@live.com.au
Nadine Azzi – Years 2–8 & 10-12
nadine@azzicorp.com
Mimma Beazley – Library & Art
mimma.beazley@internode.on.net
Prep Classroom Help
Parents are required to assist with Prep L on Wednesdays from 9.00am – 11.10am for Week 1 only
Wendy Weeks 9331 7750 wendyweeks@live.com.au

TAYLORS LAKES CAMPUS
If you have any concerns regarding the Classroom Assistance Program at Taylors Lakes Campus please contact Denise O’Keefe, Resource Officer on 9334 0245.
Parent Co-ordinators
Melissa Lo-Iudice – Years Prep-2
rocknu1@optusnet.com.au
Michelle Schembri – Year 3 - 8
michelle04@iinet.net.au
Michelle Digby – Canowindra
michelledigby@mac.com
Junior School Art Sale
Parent help is needed to assist with the Junior School Art Sale being held the following days:
Monday 21st November 7.50am – 9.15am
Tuesday 22nd November 3.30pm – 4.15pm
Wednesday 23rd November 8.15am – 9.15am
Wednesday 23rd November 3.30pm – 4.30pm
Michelle Schembri 0414 907 337 michelle04@iinet.net.au
Year 5 LOTE Excursions
Parent help is needed to assist with the Year 5 LOTE excursions to the Melbourne Zoo on Wednesday 23rd November from 9.00am – 3.20pm.
Michelle Schembri 0414 907 337 michelle04@iinet.net.au
Year 1 Excursion
Parent help is needed to assist with a Year 1 excursion to Buzy Kidz Traffic School on Friday 25th November from 8.50am – 3.20pm.
Melissa Lo-Iudice 0425 757 838 rocknu1@optusnet.com.au
JS Choir Excursion
Parent help is needed to assist with a Junior School Choir excursion to Water Gardens Shopping Centre on Wednesday 7th December from 9.00am – 11.00am. Parents will be walking with the choir to the shopping centre.
Michelle Schembri 0414 907 337 michelle04@iinet.net.au
Middle School Lunchtime Assistance
Parent help is needed to assist Rachel McInnes with lunchtime environmental activities for the students and some administrative assistance. This position will suit someone who is passionate about the environment and will be ongoing in 2012. This will involve approximately 2 hours per week and will complete your 18 hour family contribution. For more information please contact rachel.mcinnes@overnewton.vic.edu.au.

TWO PARENT SUPPORT TEAM CO-ORDINATORS NEEDED
The Taylors Lakes Junior School Parent Support Team (PST) is looking for two enthusiastic and creative co-ordinators for 2012.

The Parent Support Team is responsible for Overnewton’s ‘friend-raising’ activities and organises a variety of events for parents and students throughout the year.

From doughnut day, Prep morning tea, parent/child activities and parent dinners, the PST co-ordinators play a vital role in maintaining and nurturing positive parents and students relationships – the foundation of Overnewton.

If you are interested, please contact Diane Falzon 0430 596 699 or email diane.falzon@bigpond.com

READ WHISPERS ONLINE AT: www.overnewton.vic.edu.au/whispers
The Overnewton Anglican Community College Christmas tree will be erected soon, and so commences our Annual Christmas Gift Appeal.

If you would like to contribute gifts of toys, clothing, non perishable food etc, please drop your donations off at the front office of each Campus.

Anglicare Victoria is always deeply grateful for our contributions, as we share Christmas joy with families in need, and our children delight in seeing the difference a community such as ours can make. Thank you for your generosity and may your Christmas be truly blessed.

Anglicare Victoria Toy and Food Appeal Christmas Wish List

Some ideas to help you choose a gift for a child in need this Christmas

13 – 16 year old adolescents
T-shirts, sneakers, CD’s, tapes, videos, games, books, posters, keyrings, wallets, camera, personal radios, clock, back-pack, beach towels, diaries, calendars, year planners, cinema/book/CD vouchers, sporting goods, accessories from designer shops.

9 – 12 year old children
Books, games, CD’s, tapes, videos, caps, hats, sneakers, t-shirts, windcheaters, netballs, footballs, basketballs, swimming goggles, craft activities, jigsaws, marbles, carpentry set, cooking set, beach towels.

5 – 8 year old children
Lego, board games, balls, bats, paints, pencils, textas, scissors, crayons, art equipment (brushes and paints), musical instruments, videos, beach toys, toy trucks, dolls, jigsaws, socks, items from popular children’s shows, cut and paste activities, prams.

Pre-schoolers, toddlers and babies
Lego, building blocks, crayons, drawing equipment, paints, games, books, shapes, pull-along toys, play-dough, beach toys, bath toys, socks, rattles, mobiles, baby blankets, baby pillows, bibs, jigsaws, book tape sets, videos, cubby houses.

Help Us Please!!

INCLUDE HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER

When recording hours contributed toward the Family Contribution Scheme please write your home telephone number (NOT mobile number) as this will assist us to ensure your hours are allocated correctly.

CANTEEN DUTY - TAYLORS LAKES

VACANCIES EXIST FOR CANTEEN DUTY FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Friday 25th November
Friday 2nd December
Thursday 8th December
Friday 9th December

PLEASE CONTACT VANESSA FIELDEN ON 0409 125 436 or vanessafielden@yahoo.com.au if you are interested.
Taylors Lakes Campus
Junior School
Zooper Dooper Day
Wednesday
30th November
at Lunchtime
Organised by Junior School Parent Support Team
Taylors Lakes Campus

ATTENTION YEAR 9 & SENIOR SCHOOL STUDENTS & PARENTS!
The Senior School Second Hand Book Sale will be held on
Wednesday 30th November 2011, 6pm to 8pm
In the Penman Centre
You need to bring your books on the night and sell them yourself
at the prices listed on the 2nd Hand Booklist Handout. The list of books which can be sold will be sent out with the 2011 book lists or emailed to Year 12 students. Please do not bring books that are not listed or older editions.
As a buyer it is your responsibility to check that you are buying the correct book and edition. Please bring the exact money, cash only.
Assistance is required to help set up, supervise and clear up (3 hours)
Contact Faye Colaco - 9390 4313/0423 348 367

Junior Sport Program (JSP)
Basketball and Netball
Starting Term 1 2012
Attention: Boys & Girls in Years 1 to 4.
The Junior Sports Program will be running the basketball and netball program at Overnewton in 2012. Overnewton parents, Craig Richardson (basketball) and Michelle Smith (netball) are coordinating the program.

Basketball
Venue: Sports and Performing Arts Building
Keilor Campus - Sports Hall
Time: 4.00 – 5:00pm
(children are to meet parent helper at 3.40 outside Sports Hall to change and have snack)
Day: Tuesdays
Duration: Term 1, Tues 14th Feb until Tues 27th Mar
(7 weeks)
Cost: $60 (participants will receive a basketball kit)

Netball
Venue: Sports and Performing Arts Building
Keilor Campus - Sports Hall
Time: 4.00 - 5.00pm
(children are to meet parent helper at 3.40 outside Sports Hall to change and have snack)
Day: Fridays
Duration: Term 1, Fri 17th Feb until Fri 30th March
(7 weeks)
Cost: $60 (participants will receive a netball kit)

Numbers are strictly limited to the first 40 students that register.

Register by Monday 28th November, 2011.
The program requires parents to actively assist, it will only go ahead if there are parents able to help. Parents participating can contribute time to the Family Contribution Scheme. Note: Parents will need to have a current Working with Children Check.

To register your child's interest or to help out email:
Mary Paolozza - tonypa@optusnet.com.au (basketball)
Michelle Smith - msn96638@bigpond.net.au (netball)

Any parents who are qualified to coach any sports who are interested in running a sport program, please contact the Junior Sports Co-ordinator Dom Facchino, 0408 348 912.

Junior Sport Program (JSP) Committee