I would like to begin by thanking you all for your understanding and patience over the past few very wet weeks. During the floods we utilised, for the first time, our phone messaging system to update parents on the creek water levels. It would seem that this is a very effective way to quickly disseminate important information and we have received much positive feedback about its use. We are also utilising the website to give more detailed information and updates on emerging events that may impact the school.

Despite all the rain, it was encouraging that even though the basketball courts, bottom oval and bottom car park were flooded, the main entry and car park were unaffected (although the water was lapping at the front gates). If the main entry does flood cars will enter through the bus bay and down into the main car park for student pick up. In the event of very extreme flooding we have emergency access directly onto Camden Valley Way which we can only use under police direction. Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with those families and friends who have lost loved ones in the recent floods.

Recently, we have had some complaints from our neighbours about some of our parents parking over driveways at pick up time. Could you please be considerate of those residents who live around us as it would be very frustrating to be parked into your own driveway.

Over the last few days the phone exchange in Prestons has not been functioning, resulting in the school’s phone lines being affected. Telstra was able to divert the school’s number to a mobile which meant that the receptionists were still able to receive external calls. Once again I would like to thank you for your patience in this situation as we worked with Telstra to resolve the situation.

It was lovely last week to have the opportunity to host a visiting principal from a small Christian school in India. We were able to do a tour of the school and enjoy a meal together. William Carey has a special name in India as he was integral in setting up a major mission there. It is such a privilege to share in Christian education no matter where we are in the world.

Mother’s Day is approaching and we will be celebrating with our mums over a series of special breakfasts throughout the week. I hope all our mums have a special day on Sunday and that they are well looked after. Enjoy that cup of tea that your children will make you!

Thank you again for your ongoing support of our school.
There are two different sides to what is often referred to as our human nature. Both are important, but the balance between them has huge implications for our wellbeing, culture and future. One side of our nature is self-interested. This is our in-built instinct to do whatever we can to survive and thrive, sometimes at the expense of others. The other side is cooperative and leads us to help others even when there is no direct benefit for ourselves.

Charles Darwin, who is normally associated with the “survival of the fittest” theory, also believed that our natural instinct was to care for others. In *The Descent of Man* he wrote that the communities most likely to flourish were “those with the most sympathetic members”, an observation backed up by a significant amount of current research indicating that we are wired to care about each other. [http://www.generationnext.com.au/2015/03/the-key-to-our-happiness-is-connection-not-competition/](http://www.generationnext.com.au/2015/03/the-key-to-our-happiness-is-connection-not-competition/)

The importance of being connected to, and caring about, other people continues to be seen a dominant theme in discussions of wellbeing. Those of us who are Christians realise that we are united in Christ. In 1 Corinthians 12:27 we are told “Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it”. We also read in Philippians 2:4 “Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” and in Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control”. I think it would be reasonable to suggest, however, that as parents, all of us, regardless of religious belief, want our children to feel safe, secure and supported and have a strong sense of belonging. We also want them to display the attributes that are included in the list included above from Galatian. We may also add qualities like being gracious, empathic, showing understanding and so on.

William Carey offers many co-curricular, extracurricular, sporting and mission opportunities as well as a structured Pastoral Care and Tutor Program in which students can explore the concepts of being connected to and serving other people. The concepts of grading, ranking, scoring and so on have always played a part in the structure of schooling. While this process of streaming and healthy competition is not exactly “survival of the fittest”, I would like to suggest that a balance needs to be pursued in every child’s life. As a school we are raising the profile of belonging and caring in schooling. To that end, as part of the Pastoral Care/Year Adviser comments, on all high school reports we will now be recording the involvement of all students in the various clubs, sporting groups, service and mission activities that students are involved in. We have also included a series of personal profiles specifically aimed at giving those who read the report more information regarding such things as punctuality, ability to wear the uniform well, use of planner, making positive contributions in tutor periods and the ability to manage respectful and effective relationships with both staff and peers. An example is shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pastoral Care</th>
<th>Days Absent: 0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year Adviser</strong>: Mrs S Rawson</td>
<td><strong>PC Teacher</strong>: Mrs S Bendish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates respect towards others</td>
<td>Is punctual to class and school activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listens to and effectively applies advice given by staff</td>
<td>Wears the school uniform well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintains positive relationships with peers</td>
<td>Demonstrates an effective use of their planner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets general school expectations</td>
<td>Contributes positively in Wellbeing Tutor periods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>has been involved in the following co-curricular, extracurricular, sporting, and/or service activities:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Leadership Council, High School Sport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In His service,

Brad Milburn.
Deputy Principal Welfare.
(On behalf of the High School Deputies)
From your
Primary School Deputy Principal

We have had a very wet start to Term Two. Thankfully, we have the contingencies and resources to cope and students who cooperate when changes need to be made. Due to the rain, the IPSSO roster has been modified, as most schools (WCCS included) were unable to finalise their teams. Keep an eye on the blog for updates.

The ICAS (also known as UNSW) Maths and English Competitions are on again this year. We enter students from years 3 to 6, if they are very keen. This is not a competition for the fainthearted and the questions are very challenging. If you wish to enter your child, please return the form found later in this newsletter. If in doubt, talk with your child’s teacher.

A reminder that sibling/family photos for surnames L-Z will be taken on the High School Photo Day, which is May 28th. Envelopes for these photos will be available from the Primary Office very soon.

As we continue to implement the new Australian Curriculum, changes occur to a variety of areas. We are purchasing new resources, rewriting programs, changing excursions and so forth. One area that is significantly impacted with each new curriculum, is reporting. While the basic format will remain the same (A-E performance indicators) subject headings and sub headings change, as does how we assess and report progress. One key change with 3-6 reports is the removal of percentages, as the way subjects are taught and assessed does not lead to providing percentage marks. With the A-E performance indicators and written comments, the reports will still provide a clear indication of student progress. I will keep you informed of other changes, in upcoming Newsletters.

NAPLAN is just around the corner. I trust the information provided for Year Three families was helpful. If you have any last minute questions or concerns, please contact me or Mrs Heard. At William Carey we try to keep NAPLAN fairly low-key, so as not to stress students (or parents). Please treat each day as a normal day, without placing undue emphasis on the tests. It would be helpful if all students were at school on time during those days and appointments, etc., were not scheduled during exams.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday 7th May    P-2 Fun Run
                    Prep Photos (Toucans and Geckos)

Monday 11th May    Prep Photos (Brumbies and Frogs)

Tuesday 12th to Thursday 14th May NAPLAN for years 3, 5, 7 and 9

Friday 15th May    NAPLAN Catch Up
                    3-6 Dance

Monday 18th May    HICES Debating

Wednesday 20th May IPSSO St Marys vs. WCCS (TBC)
                    Year 2 HSIE Day

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:6-8

In His service,
Robert Burgess
As we slowly begin to settle into Term 2, we have many exciting things happening in the life of our school community around this season. Musical preparations, year 7 to 10 half yearly exams, and Athletics Carnival, just to list a few. Also, the annual year 9 was camp last week.

We hope their time at camp was an opportunity for the students to grow and learn about themselves and their abilities, as well as the chance to strengthen their relationships with one another, and ultimately God. Their SLC reps, Tom and Julia, went to speak about their own personal growth and to encourage the year 9 students.

We were also honoured to have Chaplain Geoff Webb, archdeacon from the Australian army, join us for our high school Anzac assembly on Friday the 24th of April. We were encouraged to think about the sacrifices that were made by our Anzac soldiers in 1915. We trust that you all had a commemorative time to reflect on the 100th year anniversary of Anzacs and the ultimate sacrifice that was made on a Roman cross 2000 years ago, by our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We also remember the whole year 7 to 10 cohort, in our prayers as they nervously face their half-yearly exams that are upon them. We understand the season of pressure this brings, but we hope that the time, energy and effort they put into their studies will be beneficial as they walk into these exams.

We also would like to encourage all with this verse found in Matthew 28:18-20, where it is written, “Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” As Christians we believe this is our great commission that Jesus has called us to live out. That we would go out into all the world, shining His love to all, trusting that He is with us always, until the very end of the age.

In His Grace,
Zac Ecob and Nathalia Monteiro

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**Academic Scholarships for 2016**

WCCS offers academic scholarships for entry into Years 7 and 11 for current students). These scholarships will provide the opportunity for more students to be able to access the learning community of William Carey Christian School. Scholarships will result in a 50% or 100% reduction off the tuition fees for successful applicants.

Please see the scholarship page of our website to download the application pack.

The due date for applications for 2016 is Thursday, May 7th, 2015.
Join us as we work through the very difficult topic of suicide prevention and postvention. Teenage suicide (successful and attempted) is an issue that has significantly affected the William Carey community on several occasions and continues to be an issue of increasing concern (Australia wide) for our Generation Z children.

We have invited chief inspector Gary Raymond APM, OAM (rtd) to be our keynote speaker on the night. Gary is a retired Chief Inspector of the New South Wales Police Force in Sydney. Prior to joining the police, he was an ambulance officer with the Ambulance Service of New South Wales and he now serves as a passionate campaigner and educator in the areas of suicide awareness and prevention.

As a member of the Police Rescue Squad, Gary performed over 1,500 rescues including 1,000 motor vehicle collision rescues, 200 cliff rescues, and 200 suicide negotiations at heights such as cliffs, buildings, bridges, roofs and towers. He also performed industrial and domestic rescues. He conducted searches on land, air and sea while working as crew on the police helicopter. Gary has performed duty at numerous siege and barricade situations as well. Gary attended and dealt with many identified explosive devices.

Gary performed duty at the Granville Train Disaster, Thredbo Landslide Disaster, the Newcastle Earthquake, Luna Park Ghost Train Fire and Hilton Hotel Bombing. He also worked on the Manly Ferry collision case, Nurse Anita Cobby’s murder, Member of Parliament John Newman’s assassination, Cyclone Larry in North Queensland and the Boxing Day Tsunami Disaster in Sri Lanka. Gary has received a number of awards for his bravery displayed during rescue and suicide negotiation missions.

Gary is an engaging and passionate speaker, He has spoken both in Australia and overseas conferences including the Hendon Police Training College, London. Gary is now serving as Vice-President and Senior State Chaplain to the Volunteer Rescue Association (VRA) of New South Wales. This organisation has over 73 squads and 3,000 volunteers as members. The VRA provides land, sea and air patrol rescue capability. Gary conducts workshops to help people in the VRA become aware of Critical Incident Stress Management.

Where: R Block (7.00pm – 8.15pm).

The presentation and discussion is for parents and carers only. Children are not invited and should not attend.

“Youth suicide rates in Australia are higher than in many other countries, and are increasing. If this is true what can be done to help our children?”

We will consider the following issues:

- Our young people are not developing a strong emotional intelligence and as a result struggle to communicate their thoughts and emotions. This scenario can leave them feeling lost, alone or even suicidal.
- The incidence of stress, anxiety and depression continues to rise in adolescents.
- Suicide can be prevented. There is always someone to talk to!
- We can offer support and protection for our children.

All parents are welcome to attend regardless of where your child is placed at WCCS. (We are happy for this to be a P - 12 event).
Position Vacant
- School Assistant (Clinic)

WCCS is now accepting applications for the role of School Assistant to work in the clinic to support the School Nurse. This Permanent Part-time position is for five days per week, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, during WCCS terms (38 weeks per year).

All applications must be submitted on the Non-Teaching application form, which is available from www.wccs.nsw.edu.au or the WCCS front reception.

Applicants must:
• Have a personal commitment to Christ, based upon a Reformed evangelical understanding of the Bible;
• Hold a Certificate III in Health Services Assistance (or equivalent); and
• Hold a current First Aid certificate.

Applications close Friday 15th May, 2015.

School is back and so is the musical! The cast and crew of Seussical are back in the swing of things and have been rehearsing hard this week. All main cast members (chorus and leads) will be rehearsing both Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons until 5 pm throughout this term. We are very excited to be underway with Act 2, and the show is looking fantastic! We will be having two Saturday rehearsals this term:

May 23rd (Act One run through)
June 20th (Act Two run through)

Our fantastic orchestra, backstage crew and sound/lighting team will be on deck with us for these rehearsals.

Please check the blog http://blogs.willcarey.nsw.edu.au/seussical/ for updated information about the show. Tickets on sale June 1st!

#seussicalatwccs
In English, KB have been looking at how authors keep their audience interested.

Alexis is skipping around the sandpit.

Anthony is dancing around the stepping stones.

Angel is hopping around the sandpit.

Logan is slithering around the shop.

Jemima is jumping around the shop.
Year 5 Camp

“Everybody get cosy!” Tim shouted, as the engine of the bus revved up. I looked around, and the excitement on everybody’s face was amazing! (To be honest I felt like I was hallucinating.) Yawns were coming from all around the bus as it was early in the morning (6:00 am to be precise), and we were all very tired. As it was really early for some people, they fell asleep on the bus!

Our first stop was at Lithgow for recess. We had a toilet stop and a 10 minute play, then it was time to hop back on the bus.

A few hours later we stopped at Sofala, we had a look at what the town was like. It was very small but we had to be quiet since people still lived there. We also compared it to Russell Drysdale’s painting. Approximately 45 minutes later we arrived at Hill End! We ate our lunch there, then got settled into our cabins. After we got settled into our cabins, Kerry (the owner of Hill End Ranch) took us on a tour. We got into groups and had to go around the town answering questions. Kerry said the group with the most questions right would win a prize! Unfortunately, my group didn’t win, but Jacob, Marnav, Toli and Mathew’s group won. Their prize was a little bottle with gold inside - one for each member of their group.

Later on that day, we went out to a big mine! It was called ‘The Born Loser’. They called it ‘The Born Loser’ because it was a mine where a lot of big quartz covered the wall, but there was no gold in it. After we had a look inside we had the choice of either going up a lot of ladders, or just walking out of the mine the way we came in. I chose the ladders.

A few hours after visiting the ‘The Born Loser’ mine, we had some dinner in the diner, called ‘The Golden Nugget’. After dinner we had some free time to play, then we had to get ready for the Bush Dance. We danced the Barn Yard Dance, Chicken Dance, Heel Toe, Macarena, Nutbush and everyone’s personal favourite, Charlie Brown. After the Bush Dance we went out star gazing! It was so much fun.

Day 2

The next morning we went down to Golden Gully, where almost everybody found a quartz crystal. After Golden Gully we went out to Hill End Cemetery. There we had some recess but unfortunately I dropped my apple under the bus! We went around looking at graves trying to answer Kerry’s questions. Whoever was the first person to answer Kerry’s question correctly, would get a bottle of gold! I didn’t win either of the two questions Kerry asked us!
This next activity was one of my favourite activities out of them all. It was gold panning! I found 6 specks of gold! I was so happy I screamed, “Eureka!”, at the top of my lungs! Then Mr Nott dressed up as a trooper and had a water pistol by his side. He asked everybody for their miner’s license but Mrs Dye forgot to give it to my class and a few people got sprayed! Luckily he didn’t come and spray me (phew!). There were also leeches in the pond/lake but nobody got a leech sucking their blood (Phew!!)

After that we went back to campsite to eat some lunch, mmm. When we finished up at lunch we went out to Hawkins Hill Look Out. It was so steep, but it was extremely beautiful.

A few hours later, we went out to the museum and watched a short movie. Then we checked out all the exhibits. There was a lot of beautiful paintings there and some very interesting tools and equipment. After the museum we went back to the campsite and made damper! When we finished the damper we got ready for the Concert! My act was gymnastics.

After the Concert we had a camp fire where we ate the damper that we had made earlier on in the day. We shared some jokes and had some fun.

**Day 3**

The next morning we woke up and had some breakfast. Breakfast was delicious but it was our last breakfast here! We were all devastated about this. After breakfast we had some free time. Next, we went to Kerry’s souvenir shop. It was large and amazing! There were so many beautiful things and I bought a few things too. I got a large cave crystal and a bottle of gold.

After Kerry’s shop we had some lunch and then we received something rather special. It was a letter from our parents, telling us about how much they love us and all the special things we’ve done with them in the past.

After the letter we played a game called the bushranger game. It was so much fun and the teams were 5N vs 5D but 5D won as per usual! Then it was time to go home.

On the way home we drove up the car racing track (Mount Panorama race track) and had a look out from Mount Panorama, which was a gorgeous view. We were all very hungry still, so a few hours later, we arrived at McDonalds! We had a small bite to eat, then we hopped back on the bus and drove home.

**BY ISABELLA THOMPSON**
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Newborn Nappy Cakes and Newborn Baby Baskets to suit everyone.

Gifts for Big Brothers or Big Sisters.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 7/5: P-2 Fun Run

Tuesday 12/5: NAPLAN exams commence

Friday 15/5: 3-6 Dance

Thursday 21/5: Year 5 excursion

Friday 22/5: Year 11 Ancient History excursion

Saturday 23/5: Musical rehearsal for all cast and crew, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

University of NSW Maths and English Competitions: Years 3 to 6 students.

If you are interested in entering your child in either of these competitions (also known as ICAS), could you please fill out and return the form below to the Primary office. The competition dates for 2015 are:

English – Tuesday 28th July
Maths – Tuesday 11th August

Could I encourage you to consider this carefully, as the competitions are extremely challenging, and similar information is gained already from the compulsory NAPLAN (Basic Skills) testing.

________________________________________________________________________

University of NSW Maths and English Competitions – Years 3 to 6 students.

RETURN TO PRIMARY OFFICE BY FRIDAY 15th May

I would like to enter my child _______________________________ of class ____ in the following competition/s (please tick)

UNSW English Competition

UNSW Maths Competition

Signed: ___________________________ Date: _______________________

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We use our Facebook page to share information about events, changes to routine and news stories with the WCCS community.