



THE VINE

15 May 2018 Term 2 Week 3

From the Principal

After enjoying a safe and relaxing vacation break all students returned to school enthusiastic for another term of learning. The children have quickly returned to routine with an expectation to have high standards of their own learning as part of their everyday experience at ICS.

Some interesting topics that will be covered in class this term include Kindergarten moving and shaking things in Science; Year 1/2 getting up close and personal with creepy-crawlies; and Year 3 exploring non-living things in their environment. Further, students in Years 1-3 will begin practicing for their performances in the Chinese Schools Spectacular that will be held late in term 3.

Below are some photos of students enjoying their Mandarin lessons in the past week:

Below clockwise: Edwina (K) making the most of the iPad Technology, Anthony and Josie (K) loving learning their Mandarin characters, Alythea, Ha Yun (Year 1) and Clayton (Year 2) enjoying a game of Mandarin 'Hot Potato'



Key Dates

Year 3 NAPLAN Testing

Tuesday May 15th to

Thursday May 17th

Term Dates 2018

Term 2

End Date Friday July 6

Term 3

Start Date Tuesday July 24

End Date Friday Sept 28

Term 4

Start Date Monday Oct 15

End Date Friday Dec 7

A Mothers' Day Thought

Jesus thought his Mum was the best Mum in the world!

A seven-year old daughter once made her mother the most wonderful Mothers' Day Card. In it she wrote, "To the best Mum in the World. Here is a lovely box of chocolates I bought for you this Mothers' Day. They are very good chocolates. I know, because I already ate three of them. Sorry. XXXXX."

Mothers are important to the lives of their children. We know God thinks this to be the case because he chose an earthly mother to nurture his own Son, Jesus. Luke 1:31-33, we learn that God had a very special message for a young woman named Mary.

"Don't be afraid, Mary. You have found favour with God.

*You will become pregnant, give birth to a son,
and name him Jesus.*

He will be a great man

and will be called the Son of the Most-High.

The Lord God will give him

the throne of his ancestor David.

Your son will be king of Jacob's people forever,

and his kingdom will never end."



I have no doubt that Mary was very special in Jesus' mind. Not because of anything she had done, not because she was famous, not because she was particularly different to any other woman in the neighbourhood; he loved her simply because she was his mum and to him the best mum in the whole world.

This love stemmed from the bond that grows between a mother and her child. Mary carried God's only Son in her womb for nine months. He was fed from her breast, until he was weaned. When Jesus fell and grazed his knee, Mary wiped the tears and comforted him. She was no doubt a mountain of encouragement as Jesus grew from childhood through the adolescent years into adulthood. She may not have been the perfect mother, but the love she had for her son overrode any shortcomings along the way.

Her love for her son Jesus, and his love for her, continued throughout his ministry years. Mary was often at her son's side. She was there when Jesus performed his first miracle turning water into wine. She heard him preach on many occasions, such as in the synagogue at Nazareth when Jesus claimed his fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy (Luke 4:18-30). I wonder what she thought when she saw him heal the leper, the blind, the demon possessed or raise the dead. She was certainly at the foot of the cross when they drove the nails through her son's hands and feet. When facing death Jesus' love for his mother was expressed in his urging of his disciple, John, to look after Mary like she was his own mother. She remained, and was most likely the person Jesus made eye contact with as he breathed his last breath. But their relationship did not end there, as she was also among the first to find the empty tomb, and learn that her son was alive forevermore.

Motherhood is a gift from our wise and loving God. He knew exactly what his daughters needed while on their earthly journey, to learn how to love unconditionally, the way Jesus loves us.

May Sunday be a very special and blessed day for all the wonderful mums of our school community.

Peter Jamieson
Principal (Acting)

A photograph showing a female teacher in a pink and white striped tank top sitting on a blue chair, rolling out a piece of dough on a wooden table. A group of approximately 12 young children, mostly girls in white shirts and dark vests, are gathered around the table, watching the process. One boy in a white shirt and tie is standing and gesturing. The background shows a typical classroom setting with bookshelves and storage bins.



Noticeboard

NAPLAN Tests

From Tuesday May 15th - Thursday May 17th Year 3 students will sit the school's first NAPLAN tests. The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) assesses literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child as they progress through school and life.

Across the nation, all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how their child is performing at the time of the tests. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing, but about assessing learning progress. It is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress.

Students have been preparing in class, not to pre-teach exam material, but to familiarise them with what to expect. This will make them less anxious and do their best on the day. *Please ensure that if your child is in Year 3, they are present on the days of the tests.*

Community member of the fortnight

This issue's Community Member of the Fortnight is Anthony from Kindergarten. Anthony has an obvious love of life and fronts up to school each day full of energy and enthusiasm. Particularly worthy of note is his enquiring mind, demonstrated through the many probing questions he asks through the day. His inquisitive nature is a gift from God and it would not be surprising if one day he ended up as a scientist.

Anthony's wonderful smile brightens the day of our whole school community.

Semester One Academic Reports

At a recent meeting of teachers, it was decided that Semester One Academic Reports would be distributed to parents in the first week of Term 3, with parent/teacher interviews the following week. This is a slight change from previous years when reports went home the beginning of the last week of Term 2.

Academic Reports are designed to reflect student progress across the whole semester. Delivery late in Term 2 inevitably requires teachers to be working on the reports from mid-term onwards. This results in reports reflecting around 15 weeks of work rather than the full 20 weeks of the semester. The Term 3 delivery date will provide a better reflection of your child's academic process across the half year.

Certificate Holders

Congratulations to the following recipients of the merit certificate:
Joshua (K), Elijah (Year 3), Sarah (K), CJ (Year 1), Susannah (Year 3)

Newsletter Distribution

As mentioned in our previous edition newsletters will no longer be distributed in hardcopy. A link will be emailed to all parents which will take them to the online newsletter. A few 'hardcopies' will be available in reception for those who would prefer an offline version.

NAPLAN
NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM
Literacy and Numeracy

