



# THE VINE

9th November 2018 Term 4 Week

## From the Principal

### Cyber Safety Evening

On Wednesday evening the School hosted a cyber-safety evening for parents of the School. With around half our families present we enjoyed an encouraging time of community over a sausage sizzle. We thank Mr Ashley and Mrs Nahid from Oosh, and our own Mrs Flora for preparing the meal. Following this Miss Su and Miss Nguyen screened a video for the children while the parents adjourned to the Church Hall for the main presentation.

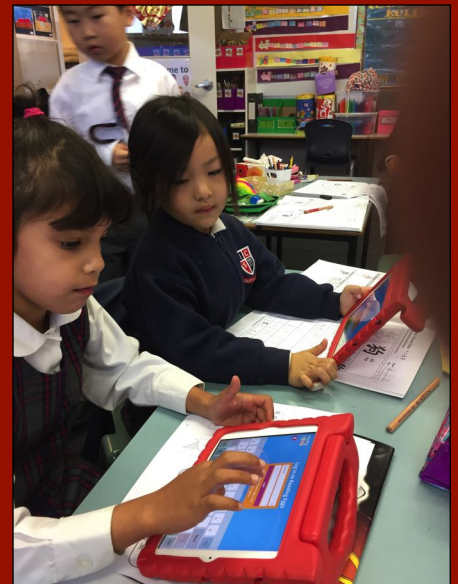
Mrs Fitzpatrick was the main presenter. Drawing on her in depth studies related to her recently completed Masters Degree in counselling, she gave a wonderful presentation of issues particularly related to the ever increasing problem of online pornography. She examined the increase in children's exposure to pornography with the advent of technology; the harm it can do to children who may be exposed to it; signs that your child may have been exposed to pornography; and how to maintain open communication and support for your children. From my 31 years-experience as a parent who did not always get it right, I shared some practical tips in minimising risk to your children. For future reference some of these tips are published below:

- Set the boundaries at a young age and maintain the line.
- Keep the computer in a public place in the home such as the living room. It is worth noting that a 'desk-top' is far less portable than a 'lap-top'.
- Establish a culture of no privacy, and you as a parent have a right to view anything your children have been doing on line.
- Keep a record of all passwords used by your children. As a parent keep the log-on password to yourself so children will need to ask you to use the device.
- Ration usage time.
- Establish 'device' free times during the week, for parents as well.
- Install filtering software that restricts sites at the modem entry point, not just device.
- Charge all phones, iPads, laptops etc in parents' bedrooms each night.
- Set the example. Your children are aware of what you access on line, and it is reflected in the random pop-up advertisements that appear onscreen.
- Discuss issues openly with children.

It is really easy for us to blame technology for the problem. The reality is that technology, like every aspect of the creation is intrinsically good, however has been corrupted by sin. When tackling the prevalent issue of pornography, it is important to remember that pornography has distorted and corrupted God's good gift of sex. Sexual union is a most intimate act that creates oneness when exercised responsibly and sensitively in the God given union of marriage. Mrs Fitzpatrick spoke about the importance of protecting and educating our children so they do not adopt society's distorted view of sexual relations. It is our prayer that students of ICS will appreciate God's greater plans for this aspect of their lives, and leave this place as agents of transformation in the world.

*"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9)*

**Peter Jamieson**  
Principal



## Key Dates

**Kindergarten Orientation**  
November 15

**Presentation Assembly**  
December 5 2pm

**ICS Picnic Day**  
December 6th

**Last Day of School**  
December 7th

# School News

## Term Dates 2019

After consultation with parents and staff the pattern of the school year will be slightly altered from next year. The ICS school year finishes particularly early (the first week of December), near a fortnight earlier than the public system. Many independent schools continue up until the middle of December and have an extended July break of three weeks. This mid-year break proves great for children to gain strength and motivation in the middle of the year, and return prepared for the next semester of learning.

As of next year, the school will follow the above pattern. The total number of school weeks will remain the same. Students will enjoy a third week of holidays in July, while staff will partake in extended staff development in that week. Students will break for the Christmas vacation on Thursday Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. This decision has the support of staff and also all parents who attended the Cyber-safety evening.

Below are the Term Dates. These will also be published on the School website.

### Term 1

Thursday	24 <sup>th</sup> January	Teachers commence
Wednesday	30 <sup>th</sup> January	Students (Yrs1-4) commence
Thursday	31 <sup>st</sup> January	Kindergarten students commence
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> April	Term end

### Term 2

Monday	29 <sup>th</sup> April	Staff Development Day
Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup> April	Students return
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup> June	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday
Friday	28 <sup>th</sup> June	Term end

### Term 3

Monday	22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Students return
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup> September	Term end

### Term 4

Monday	14 <sup>th</sup> October	Students return
Wednesday	11 <sup>th</sup> December	Presentation Assembly
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup> December	Term end

## In the Classroom

Students have enjoyed a wonderful start to their annual swimming program. There have been smiles aplenty, lots of splashing and kicking as well as some fine freestyle strokes. Thank you to the parents who have been assisting each week. The accompanying photos to the right tell the story.

## School Fees 2019

The 2019 fee schedule is now available on our school website. While the relocation of the School will come at considerable cost, the School Board is mindful of the financial pressures on families and has aimed to keep increases to a minimum. In summary, the Tuition fee (the largest of the two costs) for 2019 will be \$1,720 per term. There has been a minimal increase in the Service Charges of \$20 per term (Kindergarten) and \$25 (Years 1-4). The School remains one of the most affordable schools on the North Shore of Sydney. The fee schedule will shortly be uploaded to the School's website.





# School News

## Site Search

I am pleased to bring our parents some positive news on the relocation front. As some parents may be aware the School has been considering the purchase of a property in the St Leonards area. Informal conversations with Agents have been taking place over recent months and the school now is giving the option very serious consideration. A valuation of the property is presently taking place and over the next month or so the School Board will be looking at making a reasonable offer.

St Leonards would prove a very good location for ICS. In meetings held with Willoughby Council, planning officers have communicated that their strategic plan has St Leonards targeted for an education and health super-precinct. The site being considered is about the same distance from rail services as our present school site, and has an oval and parking very close by. The building on the site is presently being extended and the finished product will be large enough to house a single stream K-6 school. Subsequent hurdles will include Development Approval from Willoughby Council and also approval from the Roads and Traffic Authority.

I encourage parents to pray earnestly seeking God's blessing regarding the possible purchase of this site as it is far from a foregone conclusion. First and foremost, ICS is His school and He desires His best for your children.

## Merit Awards

Merit awards have been presented to:

### Week 3

- Enoch (K) Excellent effort in reciting Chinese poems.
- Mianka (K) Always trying her best when speaking Mandarin in class  
Writing a detailed account of her holiday.
- Alicia (Yr1/2) Being a kind and caring friend.
- Joliet (Yr 1/2) Writing an excellent holiday recount.
- Elijah (Yr 3) Outstanding effort in class and a positive approach to learning.

### Week 4

- Anthony (K) Good improvement in Mandarin.
- Tegan (K) Her confident and well prepared Show & Tell.
- Jethro (Yr 1/2) Being a great and helpful friend.
- Zoe (Yr1/2) Big improvement in spelling this semester.
- Faith (Yr 3) Show consideration towards her classmates.

## End of year picnic

Students, staff and parents have enjoyed a wonderful year of schooling. It has been such a joy to witness students grow and mature through their learning at school. To celebrate all that has been achieved in 2018, staff have decided that a picnic on Thursday December 6<sup>th</sup> would prove an enjoyable way to end the year. More detail will be available over the upcoming weeks, but a brief overview follows:

- Where: Beach (to be confirmed).
- Time: 10am depart school, returning at 3:00pm
- Activities: Games including 'Flags' and 'The Great Sand-Castle Challenge', wading games in the shallow kids pool (supervised).
- Food: Students bring their own.
- Who: Students, parents and staff

All parents are encouraged to put the date in the diary and attend if at all possible.



# School News

## Parent Guide to the NSW Primary Syllabuses

The NSW Government has published a Parent Guide to the NSW Primary School Syllabuses. The document provides an overview of the following Key Learning Areas:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science and Technology
- Human Society and Its Environment
- Creative Arts
- Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

Further, the document provides some general information regarding approaches to teaching and resources.

The document will be sent home with your child over the next couple of days. If you have any questions please feel free to discuss these with your child's teacher.

## Toys 'n' tucker

It is important to develop within our students a sense of compassion and care for those less fortunate than themselves. This Christmas we will be supporting Anglicare's Toys 'n' Tucker appeal. Over the next week a Christmas tree will be erected in reception. Families of the School will be invited to place toys (new) and tucker (non-perishable) under the tree for distribution at Christmas to families in need. For further information please speak to Mrs Fitzpatrick.

## Happy birthday Andy & Gloria

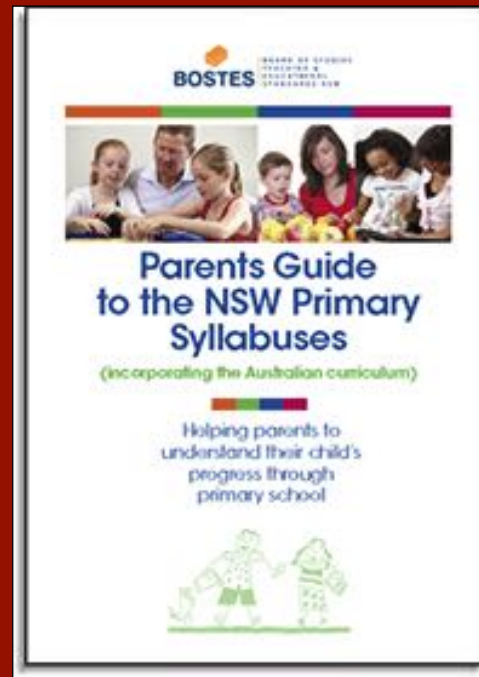
Kindergarten parents Andy (father of Enoch) and Gloria (mother of Josie) made the mistake of letting the Principal know it was their birthday. So they did not feel left out Mr Jamieson presented them both with a 'Happy Birthday' certificate, much to Enoch's and Josie's delight. The picture to the right features the proud recipients.

## Chinese Characters of the Fortnight

玩具和食物

Wánjù hé shíwù

Toys 'n' tucker



## INTERNATIONAL CHINESE OSHC CENTRE

Email address: [icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au](mailto:icoshc@primaryoshcare.com.au) Mobile: 0488 040 332

Primary OSHCare provides holiday programs designed for school children aged 4-14 years. ↴

ICOSHC combines with Chatswood OSHC Centre (CHOSHC) for Vacation Care. During these holidays, Chatswood VC will have a mix of in-house themed days, incursions and outings. You are welcome to join us for a whole day, or the entire vacation program. Please find more details about the [program on our website](#).

Vacation Care Early Bird rates close on the 17<sup>th</sup> of September – hurry, book now!  
<http://www.primaryoshcare.com.au/enrol-and-book>

