Prep - Primary - Secondary.....
decisions, decisions, decisions!

“And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him...” Luke 2:40

Children's decision making ability can be strongly influenced by the expectations and values they learn from parents and those that care for them. Assisting children to develop their skills for logical and godly decision making and or problem-solving helps them to become better decision makers. The ability to think before acting helps children to control impulsive and often selfish/self-centred behaviour. Children who have good decision making parent models in front them, are more likely to develop into mature, thoughtful and caring adults. Remember, this applies to children of all ages, from Prep, through Primary and through to the end of Secondary school. It start early but continues all the way through to the end of Schooling. Speak with your child's teacher if you think they have problems in making and accepting decisions. Discuss ways you can work together, home and school to foster these important skills. Remember also that the way you make decisions in front of your children sends a very powerful message about how they should go about making their decisions.

Greg Maina (Primary Coordinator)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kids do this....</th>
<th>Kids need to learn to...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>focus on one aspect of a situation</td>
<td>see things from different angles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>focus on their own position</td>
<td>see other people’s points of view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>look for immediate benefits</td>
<td>think ahead and plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>want things now</td>
<td>focus on longer range goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>act without thinking first</td>
<td>consider the consequences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>make simple distinctions between good/bad, right/wrong</td>
<td>apply more complex values to their thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>make decisions based on a whim</td>
<td>use reasoned strategies for making decisions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year as you teach your children and respond to things that happen at school and in their class, remember to teach these things to them. It also helps us as parents in the way we deal with the stresses, challenges, joys and encouragements of living in the Illawarra Christian School - Tongarra Community.

Acknowledgment.....There’s lots more helpful material on the Kidsmatter website from which I sourced this material. Take the time to spend a few minutes browsing and you might be surprised.
LOTE lessons come to our primary years

We’re delighted to be able to incorporate language into the junior school curriculum this year. It’s exciting be able to offer opportunities for students learn language earlier, as this helps maximise their ability to lay down new language pathways. It’s also wonderful that the students, in both Spanish and in Indonesian will be learning from native level language speakers.

Language learning will be primarily at a functional level, with students having the opportunity to learn to speak with authentic accents, and gain fluency within topic areas. An important part of the Spanish and Indonesian courses is that students develop appreciation for the culture as well as the language. Students will be also considering their understanding of their own culture, as they learn about other cultures. It is great to be able to teach students that the gospel is relevant across cultures, as they learn how Christ is the Saviour for all people, and for them to consider how cultural differences impact upon the message of the gospel.

We would be delighted to talk to parents about any interest they have in Spanish or Indonesian, and how this benefits their children. We hope that all the students enjoy this new facet of our school life!

Miss Richardson, Year 4

Please Pray ...

♦ Pray for our Kindergarten students as they continue to settle in, get to know their Year 12 buddies and establish routines. Give thanks for the ICS Read, Eat & Play sessions on Wednesdays for Kindergarten students and their parents, and the great learning opportunity this program presents.
♦ Pray for the appointment of our new Executive Principal Mr Tony Horsley as he prepares to settle in to this roll.
♦ Give thanks for our Board as they have tirelessly given their time during the appointments of the new Deputy, Principal and Executive Principal.
♦ Continue to pray for those who are not well within our school community. There have been quite a number on the sick list. Pray for those who are coping with serious illness and trauma.
♦ Give thanks for those people who have volunteered to help within in the school in many different ways such as Class Coordinators, School Banking Coordinators and helping out at our Pie & Ice Cream days.
♦ Pray for our staff as they continue to work on the Registration and Accreditation documentation that is due to the Board of Studies at the end of March.

“I like people having a go and trying to learn another language”
Emily

“I like getting to learn a different language and learn different games that are part of that culture”
Montana

“Learning a different language is fun and its great to have teachers that can speak different languages”
Keshyah

“I like learning colours and numbers in another language”
Ellie
Kiama Coastal Walk

On 26.2.15, Year 10 walked along the coastline from Minnamurra to Kiama to conduct fieldwork for their Research Action Plan assignment in Geography. The focus was to investigate the positive and negative impacts humans have had on the coastline of Kiama, to assist with the Term 1 assignment on coastal management.

We were blessed with wonderful weather on the day. Some of the erosional and depositional features we observed included:

- The Stack, near the mouth of the Minnamurra River
- The Kiama Blowhole
- Cathedral Rocks
- Rock shelf platforms
- Sand dunes
- Beaches

We also noted interesting changes that humans have made to the environment, including:

- Introduced species such as lantana
- Removal of vegetation on sand dunes
- Quarrying
- Pollution
- Coastal management strategies such as sea walls and revegetation projects
- The sewage treatment works (hard to miss the smell of that!)

We certainly live in a beautiful part of God’s world and, as a result of this fieldwork, students will be equipped to be better stewards of the Kiama coastline that God has entrusted to our care.

-Mrs Brennan Geography Teacher

Primary Zone Swimming

Thank you to the parents who attended the primary zone swimming carnival, especially to those who assisted as lane judges. Special thanks to Mr Dave Walker who was our starter all day.

The students represented our school very well in the pool and in their exemplary behaviour.

Congratulations to Alicia Rowe who was age champion of 12 years girls. Well done to the 8-10 years boys relay teams who placed first in both the freestyle and medley relay.

The following students are the be commended for placing first or second and making it to state swimming: Courtney Smith, Matthew Walker, Zachary Walker, Rachel Beddoe, Alicia Rowe, Lachlan De Jong, Benjamin Gregory, Cameron Beddoe, Benjamin Cornford and Boaz Monie.

Mrs Morton
Community Announcements

- Street Soccer run by PCYC, every Saturday Feb 28th to March 28th. Ages 11+. Register no 4229 4418.
- CAP Money Course - a free course to help you manage your money better. Starts Mon 2 March. Contact Bec Coole on 0425 265 742 or email bcoole@c3churchshellharbour.com.au
- Essential Employment & Training for people with disability, illness and injury - contact 4295 4744 or 1800 243 513 - www.eetgroup.com.au
- Young girls & Women Drop-in Clinic on Tuesdays. 2-4.30pm @ Illawarra Women’s Health Centre Warilla. Contact Denika on 4255 6800 or denikat@womenshealthcentre.com.au
- Community Transport Volunteer Information Session, Tuesday 10 March. Call 4256 0091 or email communitytransport@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au
- CRU Holiday Camps - Activity Camps, HSC Study, Day Camps. Autumn 2015. Email crucamps@crusaders.edu.au

A BIG THANKYOU

A big thankyou to Mr Evan Loats for taking over the School Banking Coordinator Roll. This is a wonderful service to our school community and is greatly appreciated. We look forward to working with you Evan.

Tongarra Campus Committee

ADMINISTRATION REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- School Banking returns next week. Please send in your student’s bankbook on Monday.
- Working Bee - Saturday 7 March for Year 11 & 12, 8am-11am. Notes will go home shortly
- Please mark in your diary - Immunisations for Year 7 and Years 11 & 12 (MMR ‘catch-up’ only) Tuesday 24 March 2015.

Latest from The Green Room with Mr Maina

Thankyou to the parents who attended our first session in the Green Room. This was a great encouragement to me, and is a fantastic way to build a community of knowledge.

Points to Remember
1. Be interested and involved in your child’s learning.
2. Keep a tab on homework to show you are interested.
3. Talk about school in a positive way.
4. Keep in touch with your child’s teacher.
5. Make sure they have a quiet study area.
6. The value of revision.
7. Getting into a healthy routine.
8. The value of sleep.

Greg Maina (Primary Coordinator)

Woolen Jumpers

Reminder from Illawarra Christian School – No red fleecy jumpers / sloppy joes are to be worn in 2015. The Sahara red woolen jumpers are currently available in all sizes in the uniform shop.

Students with wool allergies are required to place special customer orders for the school approved poly/cotton alternative with the uniform shop by 2nd March to ensure delivery for term 2.

Poly / Cotton Jumpers can be Special Ordered at the Uniform Shop with full payment by March 2, 2015.

Please note – The poly/cotton red jumpers are a of a slightly brighter shade red which has been approved by the school for students with wool allergies.

The uniform shop can be contacted during these hours by phone or email:
ictongarra@alinta.com.au

Payments can be made direct to Alinta Apparel in the form of cash, credit card, or debit credit card.

SAVE TIME – SHOP ONLINE!