FROM THE HEADMASTER

The School has been provided another opportunity for the boys to serve in our local community. Musicians from our senior classes have been invited to play in an intimate concert each fortnight at a group home in St Ives for older citizens, many of whom suffer from dementia. Last Tuesday, Mr Smith and I accompanied five boys who performed the first concert to the delight of the residents and their carers.

I am conscious that our boys are very privileged and have been afforded a wonderful gift to learn and play music together from an early age and this experience gives them a chance to share their music with others. Music can offer a pathway, for many sufferers of dementia, to unlock some memories and this experience will benefit everyone involved.

Thank you to all the boys who have been so keen to be involved in this venture and I would also like to thank the many Year 6 boys and masters who give up their lunchtime to spend with the children at Sir Eric Woodward School.

In a few weeks’ time, boys in Years 4, 5 & 6 will enjoy participating in outdoor activities with their friends and masters at camp. Years 4 & 6 will be travelling to Point Willastoncroft on the shores of Lake Macquarie and Year 5 will be catching a boat from Brooklyn and heading off to the picturesque campsites of Broken Bay.

If you asked most boys to name their highlights of any school year, camp would most certainly be mentioned. These experiences away from home and the classroom play an important role in each boy’s social, emotional and physical development. The shared adventures help forge new relationships and cement existing ones. During the camp, the boys will find themselves out of their comfort zone and will be encouraged to overcome some challenges together. Building confidence and developing perseverance and resilience is always a key focus at camp.

By living and working as a community even for a few short days, they are given opportunities to serve each other and develop important listening skills. What the boys will find memorable at camp will be the times when they were able to overcome their fear or push through adversity. I always enjoy watching the boys’ sense of satisfaction when they surprise themselves with what they can achieve.

Years 2 and 3 will enjoy their camps later this year and the boys in Years 5 and 6 also have their study tours to look forward to.

Mr I Stephens

FROM THE SENIOR MASTER

Parking for Special Events.

The parking arrangements used for last Saturday evening’s PA Cocktail party were successful and will be the model used for any similar, future events. Thank you to parents for their cooperation and flexibility in car-pooling and using the variety of available spots available.

P-2 Driveway Morning Drop-Off

Please note that the P-2 Driveway is able to be used for the morning drop-off for boys from all classes P-2. It is expected that all Preschool and Kindergarten boys will use this drop-off area each morning, and that Year 1 and 2 boys may use it. We encourage Year 1 and 2 boys to be dropped off at the Mawson Street gate in order to spread the traffic flow.

P-3 Grandparents’ Morning

We are having a Grandparents’ Morning on Monday 10 March from 10:00-11:00am, and all Grandparents of boys from P-3 are invited to attend. The morning will consist of a session from 10:00am where grandparents can be with their grandson in their classroom, followed by a time to have morning tea with their grandson exploring the playground. We hope as many grandparents/special visitors as possible are able to come along. A note accompanies this Newsletter, please complete it and return it to school by Friday 7 March if your son’s grandparent/s would like to come.

K-2 Assembly

Please note that from next Friday, the K-2 Assembly will begin at 10:10am.

Mr D Fraser

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Teachers, Parents and Technology

I recently read an interesting article that posed a timely question, “What does digital literacy mean for teachers and student learning?” Modern technology has grown exponentially in recent times and teachers and parents are questioning the role of technology in the lives of children. Modern technology has created a forum for students to ask and answer questions with prompt discovery through search engines such as Google. Alternatively, our Guided Inquiry approach at St Ives seeks to foster depth and breadth of understanding about ‘thick’ questions not simple answers to ‘thin’ questions. This year we have begun a new ICT program on digital citizenship, which you would have read about in our previous Newsletter.

The new Australian Curriculum has a focus on information and communication capabilities. However, what does this mean
for learning? Dr Dimitri Christakis, director of the Centre for Child Health, Behaviour and Development at Seattle's Children's Hospital is concerned that heavy use of technology "makes reality by comparison uninteresting". At Grammar, we use technology to build on traditional forms of literacy that inspire children's imagination and to enhance the learning material being taught. Our staff enjoy using their Interactive Whiteboards as a platform to accompany quality teaching and learning experiences for the diverse learning styles of our boys. We view short videos to enhance our boys' understanding and Year 6 have currently been teaching how to take notes when viewing.

However, many parents are unsure how technology should be used at home and ask me how much screen time is enough? The 2008 Norton Online Living Project identified that children are very active online, going online for school projects (94%), entertainment (62%), games (96%) and shopping (49%). In 2009, online usage increased, resulting in six in 10 adults worldwide say children spend "too much" time online and 45% of kids agree. The article finished with these wise words; "Students, parents and teachers need to strike a balance of using screen time productively but no: to a point where they neglect their social skills or do not engage with their own imaginations. It's food for thought for us all."

Mrs C Merrick

Please note: the title of Mrs Merrick's item in the previous Newsletter was missing: "What Kinds of Thinking Do We Value?"

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL CARE

BOUNCE BACK!

Our K-2 boys are introduced to the acronym of BOUNCE and our 3-6 boys are introduced to the acronym BACK! The acronyms are formed by the key principles underpinning the coping statements. The acronyms help us to learn the following statements:

- Bad times don't last. Things always get better. Stay optimistic.
- Other people can help if you talk to them. Get a reality check.
- Unhelpful thinking makes you feel more upset. Think again.
- Nobody is perfect - not you and not others.
- Concentrate on the positives (no matter how small) and use laughter.
- Everybody experiences sadness, hurt, failure, rejection and setbacks sometimes, not just you. They are a normal part of life. Try not to personalise them.

- Blame fairly. How much of what happened was due to you, others and to bad luck or circumstances?
- Accept what can't be changed (but try to change what you can first). Catastrophising exaggerates your worries. Don't believe the worst possible picture.
- Keep things in perspective. It's only part of your life.

Social Skill of the Week:
Week 6 - Being a Good Winner
Week 7 - Being a Good Loser

If children live with peace, they learn to feel calm. Ms L Dorn

FROM THE SPORTSMASTER

U12 Rugby 'Guard of Honour'

On Sunday 23 February all U12 rugby players from SGS St Ives formed the Guard of Honour for the NSW Waratahs as they entered the field for their season opener against the Western Force.

The team met at Alliance stadium at 1:30pm and joined in a skills session run by some of the NSW Waratahs coaches. Tackling, agility and passing skills were challenged in a great pre-season warm-up. Shortly after we moved into the stadium and sat together behind the posts just metres from the Waratahs players who were warming up.

As the crowd hushed awaiting the arrival of the players onto the ground the boys entered the field in front of over 15,000 fans and formed the Guard of Honour. Each boy held their Waratahs flag high and cheered the players on.

Their support must have helped as the Waratahs won 43-21 and Israel Folau scored a hat-trick of tries. Those who waited after the game went on to the ground and gathered signatures and photos with the players.

Thank you to the boys for setting a fine example for our School.

PE lessons

In PE lessons all boys in Years 3-6 are learning skills to 'Swim and Survive' through specific Royal Lifesaving Australia Water Wise award conditions. For these lessons students will need to bring in clothing for simulated survival lessons. Please ensure your son brings the following for their PE swimming lesson next week:

- Year 4 - old T-shirt and shorts
- Year 5 - old long sleeved shirt and long pants
- Year 6 - old long sleeved shirt, long pants and long sleeved jumper

Saturday Sport

Please inform the Sportsmaster prior to any absence from Saturday sport. It is important that all teams send the correct amount of players to each fixture.

New Venue

4XI will play against Knox Grammar School - Yeldham field is located on Billyard Ave, Wairoonga

Cross country training

In the preparation for the Cross country carnival, training will be held each Wednesday and Friday from 7:30-8:20am. Boys in Years 2-6 are welcome to attend. Please meet on Cowper Field. Due to camps, there will be no training during Week 9.

Tennis coaching

There are still places available before and after school for Tennis coaching. Please contact Armond if you are interested on 0418 242 626.
Sports Uniform
Please ensure your son is correctly dressed on Wednesday and Friday
sport days at the start and end of the day. Basketball singlets and
Cricket whites are for game days or to be changed into for training
only. If you are unsure of uniform guidelines please consult the Notes
for Parents booklet or the front of your son's diary.

Mr P Derrin

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Ensembles
Boys should by now have checked the lists on the Music Office
window. If you have not been placed in an ensemble, please see Mr
Smith.

Instruments at School
During the school day ALL 3-6 instruments are to be left in
the appropriate storage room and not in classrooms. Stringed
instruments are to be placed in the racks in the Ensemble Room.
Brass and woodwind instruments go into the music storeroom
the Music Room.

AMEB
If your son has music lessons through the School and you would like
him to sit for an AMEB examination in Term 3, please start discussing
this now with his tutor via the music record book.

College Street Concerts
Parents of boys here at St Ives are most welcome to attend any of the
concerts at College Street throughout the year.

Tuesday 11 March 7:00pm Law Society Fundraising Concert (The
New Hall)
Thursday 13 March 6:30pm Music Staff Concert (Big School)
Thursday 20 March 6:30pm MA Music Scholars' Concert (Wellesley King
Room)
Sunday 23 March 4:00pm Bach Birthday Organ Concert (Big School)
Thursday 27 March 6:30pm Classical Guitar Concert (Big School)

The Fiddle Group
Boys in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who are interested in learning to play
traditional fiddle music are encouraged to attend Mr Palethorpe's
Fiddle Group. Rehearsals will be at lunch on Thursdays in the
Ensemble Room (12.50-1.20pm). Viola players and cellists are also
welcome.

Mr M Smith

FROM THE DRAMA MASTER

Year 3 boys are preparing for their Lunchtime Readers Theatre
performance for the Infants boys later in the term. They will
perform the play: Saint George and the Dragon. The boys have
been given their scripts and are asked to practise their lines at
home and parental guidance would be much appreciated. The boys
do not need to learn their lines, just be confident in reading them.
As they only have one copy, would you mind reminding your sons
to have their scripts with them for their Drama lesson (Tuesday for
3C and 3W, Thursday for 3M)?

It would also be greatly appreciated if you could discuss costumes
with your sons, as the boys have been asked to wear something for
their character. Thank you.

Year 6 boys have been very busy rehearsing for next term's
performance. They will be presenting the play: The Tale of the
Dragon and the Magical Monarch of Mo. In the next few weeks the
boys will be further developing their characters and learning more
about stagecraft as we rehearse the play. The boys are asked to
practise and learn their lines at home, and parental guidance would
be appreciated. Already some notable performances are emerging!
Thank you.

Mrs G Chapman

FROM THE CHESS MASTER

Chess coaching has now begun for both Years 1 and 2 and Years 3-6.
This week we are finalising groups to ensure your son is in a group
that is convenient for parents whilst also being suitable for their
playing ability. Please continue to email the School if you require a
change of morning or you have a question in regard to your son's
chess coaching. Supervisors are currently working on creating an
enjoyable environment by reminding boys that chess coaching is
similar to being in a library. Boys need to use quiet voices so others
can think carefully about their moves. Your support in reminding
boys of this before their lesson would be appreciated.

Mrs S Ward

FROM THE LIBRARY

It has been wonderful seeing so many parents come to the Library
before School and after School to share a book with their sons.

Understanding difficult situations or how to develop a social skill
is often easier when explained through a book. A picture book is a
wonderful conversation starter and can often fill in the gaps to your
son's understanding, so as to better address situations which might
occur. Books can promote understanding, provide context, and
facilitate conversation. Currently on display there are Picture and
Fiction books with themes of sharing and co-operation.

The Library will be closed for the next 3 Mondays, from 8:00am -
8:30am - Monday 3 March, Monday 10 March and Monday 17 March
due to the debating trials for Year 6 boys.

Mrs S Hardwick

DEBATING

On Monday the Year 6 IPSHA Debating trials will commence at
7:30am in the Library and continue over the next three weeks.
Thank you.

Mrs S Hardwick, Mrs C Merrick & Mrs J Matheson
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS  3 MARCH - 15 MARCH

#### MONDAY 3 MARCH
- 7:30am - 8:00am: Library closed due to Year 6 Debating Trials
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Swimming Team (Years 2-6)
- 10:00am: Assembly (3-6) Premiers’ Reading Challenge Launch

#### TUESDAY 4 MARCH
- 1:00pm - 2:30pm: PA Special Food Day
- 1:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunchtime Concert (3-6)

#### WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH
- 7:30am - 8:20am: 'Bat and Ball' Cricket Coaching (2-6)
- 8:30am - 3:00pm: IPSHA Swimming Carnival
- 1:40pm - 2:15pm: Friendship Groups (K-2)

#### THURSDAY 6 MARCH

#### FRIDAY 7 MARCH
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Cross Country Training (2-6)
- 7:45am - 8:20am: Basketball Coaching (Years 2-6)
- 9:00am: Year 3 Excursion to the Art Gallery
- 10:00am: Assembly (K-2) (2E SWEET)

#### SATURDAY 8 MARCH
- Summer Sport Round 5

#### MONDAY 10 MARCH
- 7:30am - 8:00am: Library Closed due to Year 6 Debating Trials
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Final Week of After School Sport Practices
- 10:00am - 11:00am: Swimming Team (Years 2-6)
- 10:00am: Grandparents' Morning Assembly (3-6) (6A)

#### TUESDAY 11 MARCH
- 10:00am: Assembly (3-4) (4S)
- 1:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunchtime Concert (3-6)

#### WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH
- 7:30am - 8:20am: 'Bat and Ball' Cricket Coaching concludes (2-6)

#### THURSDAY 13 MARCH
- 1:00pm - 1:30pm: Visit to Sir Eric Woodward School

#### FRIDAY 14 MARCH
- 7:30am - 8:20am: Cross Country Training (2-6)
- 7:45am - 8:20am: Basketball Coaching (Years 2-6) concludes
- 3:00pm: Assembly (K-2) (2F SWEET)
- 3:30pm: Newsletter 3-6 Twilight Concert (1)

### SATURDAY 15 MARCH
- Summer Sport Round 6

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### FROM THE OFFICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reception (8:15am-4:15pm)</td>
<td>8302 5200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Absences (please ring by 9am)</td>
<td>8302 5200</td>
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<td>Facsimile:</td>
<td>9449 9875</td>
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<td>After School Care Bookings</td>
<td>8302 5200</td>
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<tr>
<td>After School Care Direct (Mrs Bayliss) 3pm</td>
<td>8302 5226</td>
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<tr>
<td>Counsellor (Mrs Hough)</td>
<td>8302 5223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Headmaster’s Secretary (Mrs Heaton)</td>
<td>8302 5217</td>
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<td>Enrolments (Mrs Schwartz)</td>
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<td>Music Secretary (Mrs Templeton)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sportsmaster (Mr Derrin)</td>
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<td>Sport Wet Weather Line</td>
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<td>Tuckshop (Mrs Shields)</td>
<td>8302 5225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform Shop (Mrs Stephens)</td>
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