



TIGS

The Illawarra Grammar School

NEWSLETTER

Headmaster's Message
Worldview in the Classroom
Senior School
Head of Junior School

Issue 4 Term III, 2011

Year 10 Camp

Academic • Christian • Caring

Worldview in the Classroom

How is your child progressing in Latin and Ancient Greek? Perhaps they are struggling in the subjects of Logic and Rhetoric? Maybe they have developed an unhealthy obsession for Astronomy and Arithmetic at the expense of Geometry and Music?

The history of 'Grammar' schools is far more complex than I could hope to explore on this page. However, students attending a Grammar school in the 18th Century would have received a 'classical' education that included all these subjects and they could well have mastered all the published European knowledge available by the time they left school.

What a contrast to the 21st Century where the amount of published knowledge is growing rapidly - some say exponentially. This explosion of knowledge has had a profound effect on how knowledge is organised and the way we learn. Information is organised into academic disciplines that provide the framework to analyse, interpret and develop further knowledge in that specific area - and there are specialist areas within the academic disciplines that allow for even greater specialisation.

The knowledge that comes from specialisation enriches and enhances our quality of life and wellbeing. Science delivers better health and longer life expectancy; Economics provides for a more efficient use of resources leading to a higher standard of living; Technology allows us to travel faster and more safely than ever before ('Around the World in 80 Days' would now be regarded as an air traveller's nightmare).

However, the specialisation of knowledge has come at a cost. Specialisation in subject areas means that learning becomes disconnected from other disciplines. Students can acquire extensive knowledge in a subject but have no idea of how it is connected and related to the wider context. How else do we get scientists justifying that it is right to clone human beings in the name of research, or CEOs restructuring once profitable companies to restore balance sheets and profitability?

The writer of Proverbs, King Solomon, recognised that knowledge must have meaning by being understood as part of a bigger picture when he wrote:

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." (Proverbs 1:7)

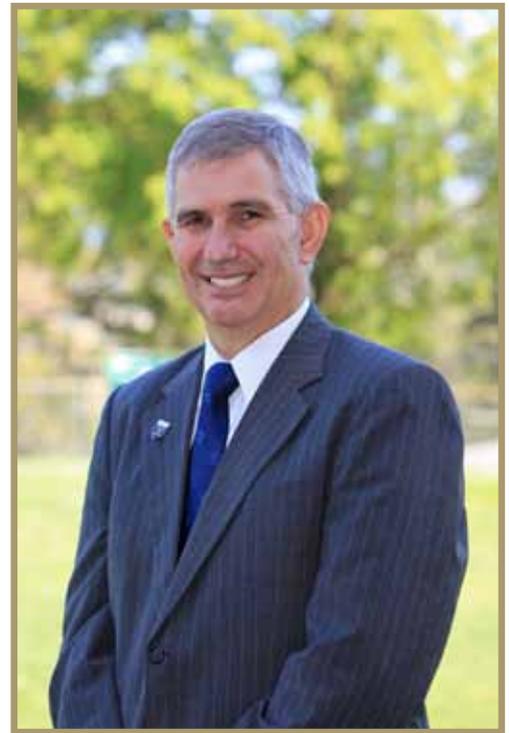
His advice, given nearly three thousand years ago, is as true today as it was then. Knowledge is given meaning when it is understood as part of the bigger picture (metanarrative). At TIGS we believe an understanding of the bigger picture comes from an understanding of God and what was intended for the world and the people He created.

Our commitment to learning at TIGS within the bigger picture is captured in our Statement of Mission and Values which includes:

"The core business of the School is student learning within a framework provided by Christian faith. The School Community supports students in developing their abilities, empowering them to become fulfilled individuals who can successfully participate and provide leadership in society for the good of others and to the glory of God." (1.1)

"Individual academic disciplines provide a knowledge base and framework for understanding the world. The School is also committed to students achieving an enriched understanding that comes through interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary learning, building on the academic disciplines." (1.4)

Students learn through their study in the academic disciplines and gain a deeper understanding by making connections with the learning in other disciplines. Sense is made of learning through the lens of God's created order which is taught in Chapel, Christian Studies and when considering a Christian worldview in the classroom.



Stephen Kinsella
Headmaster

Dostoyevsky's Onion

This week's article comes from The Most Reverend Harry Goodhew who is also a TIGS Grandparent.

Fyodor Dostoyevsky lived and wrote in his native Russia during the 19th Century. He is considered by some to be one of the great psychologists in world literature.

Here is the story from his novel "The Brothers Karamazov" translated by David McDuff.

"Once upon a time there was a wicked-wicked woman who died. And she left behind her not one single good deed. The devils seized her and threw her into the fiery lake. But her guardian angel stood, and thought: 'What good deed of hers might I remember in order to tell God'. He remembered, and told God: 'She pulled up an onion in the kitchen garden,' he said, 'and gave it to a beggar woman.' And God replied to him: 'Very well, take that very same onion and offer it to her in the lake, let her reach for it and hold on to it, and if you can pull her out of the lake, then let her go to heaven, but if the onion breaks then let the woman remain where she is now.' The angel ran over to the woman and offered her the onion: 'Here you are, woman,' he said, 'reach for it, and hold on'. And then carefully he began to pull her, and soon she was nearly right out; but then the other sinners in the lake, when they saw that she was being pulled out, all began to catch hold of her, so that they should be pulled out together with her. But the woman was a wicked-wicked woman, and she began to kick them with her feet: 'I'm the one who's being pulled out, not you. The onion's mine, not yours'. And no sooner had she said that than the onion broke. And the woman fell back into the lake and burns there to this very day. As for the angel, he began to weep and left the spot."

This tale is certainly not a good guide on how to avoid "the fiery lake". God has made another and far better provision for that. It is however, like Jesus' story of the dividing of the sheep from the goats at the last judgement, a reminder that a professed faith that does not result in actions of love and service may be a questionable commodity.

The Most Reverend Harry Goodhew

Senior School

Deputy Head and Head of Senior School Mrs Monica Watt is currently on long service leave and will return Week 1 Term IV.

'Year 10 Snow Camp'

As part of the TIGS Outdoor Education Program, Year 10 spent Week 4 of term participating in Snow Camp in and around the Kosciusko National Park. This was a challenging camp involving both cross-country skiing and an overnight, on snow hike/camp. The alpine environment was one that required planning and preparation on the part of all students and involvement in activities was aided by students being supportive and encouraging of one another.

Over three nights, groups each spent one night camping on the snow near Horse Camp Hut, with one teacher and two guides. Groups were met with spectacular scenery and acquired an appreciation for how harsh an alpine environment can be, and that appropriate equipment can make this activity safer. Group members had the opportunity to make a kitchen and outdoor cooking area out of ice bricks and become familiar with low impact practices for fragile environments.

Each group through teamwork, established supportive approaches allowing all members to participate and extract valuable experiences and personal development out of the endeavours available.

The changeable mountain environment resulted in each group having to camp in different conditions of rain, clear weather and snow wearing snow shoes, waterproof equipment and carrying substantial packs.

While not on the snow, students stayed at the ALI accommodation centre in lodges with ample time for relaxation and recreational activities.

This activity has been the culmination of the three years previous camping programs and as such, all students were well prepared and were involved with a sense of enthusiasm and an open mind.

I would like to thank all of the Year 10 participants on their willingness to try new things, often outside their comfort zone. On behalf of Year 10 and the School, I would also like to thank the staff involved, Mr Bevan, Mrs Esposito, Mrs McCall, Mrs Newell, Mr Parsons and Mrs Sharpe for attending and supervising as well as Mrs Hinch and Mrs Sharpe for the organisation of the programme.

**Mr Glen Stutchbury
Year 10 2011 Dean**

Junior School



Judi Nealy
Head of Junior School

Book Week

This week we had an opportunity to have a little peek into the children's learning around Book Week. The Library Staff have been working hard with our children and their teachers to connect the theme of Book Week "One World Many Stories" with the current Unit of Inquiry. The focus has been on the **process** not the product. This is a shift because in many schools Book Week celebrations are about competitions, dress ups and performance assemblies. Our parents are communicating loud and clear that while they enjoy watching their children perform, they also want to have insight into their learning, to be connected to the classroom in an authentic way.

The other exciting aspect of our Book Week celebrations this year is the digitalising of student work so that it can be shared with a real audience and revisited over time. All visitors on Friday were given a bookmark with the appropriate links to view student work on the TIGS Junior Web World. Please keep revisiting these links as the year progresses.

Monday is the Professional Learning Day for the staff at TIGS. All of our staff will be working through a workshop with Susan McLean, an expert on Cyber Safety. Our duty of care when working with your children is something that must be considered in all aspects of our work, this includes safety when using technology. You will have noticed that the Acceptable Use Agreement in the diary sends a clear message to our children about the shared **responsibility** for safety, held between our students, their families and the School. This is an area that we need to continue to develop expertise in, both parents and school staff. As adults, we cannot say, "I am not into technology" and leave it to the children to find their way. We do not do this for drug safety, sex education, traffic safety or any other area where we need to work together as a community to keep our children safe and to equip them to take responsibility for their own safety as they grow up.

I look forward to sharing our learning from this day with the parent body. I know many of you are very interested in how best to equip the children to be digital citizens. The best advice that I have been given with regard to technology at home is two fold, firstly that technology, including mobile phones, should be used and stored in a shared space (computers and mobiles in bedrooms are extremely problematic). Secondly, that we should always read the Terms of Agreement with our children before downloading or joining online groups. If we did this for Facebook we would see that children under 13 are prohibited from having an account. This is for good reason. We do not give our vulnerable children the keys to our cars because it would be easier to get them to soccer training. We need to apply the same sensible thinking to technology.

The possibilities for our students when utilising technology are exciting, they are the first generation to have seamless technology in all aspects of their lives. We need to apply all of the good common sense that we have as adults to teach them to utilise and engage at the appropriate time and in the appropriate way. I am very excited when I see what the students produce using 21st Century tools and I look forward to learning alongside of them as we integrate technology more and more into our school day. We have had many parents indicate an interest in increasing their knowledge in this area. "Plugged in Parenting" is an initiative that we will pursue in the near future under Ms Windsor's leadership. We invite all parents to register their interest for upcoming workshops by phoning or emailing Kerrie Tregonning in the Junior School admin on 4220 0250 or ktregonning@tigs.nsw.edu.au



Our attitudes to think and talk about this week are:

- **Commitment** - being committed to their own learning, persevering and showing self discipline and responsibility.
- **Integrity** - being honest and demonstrating a sense of fairness.

Upcoming Events in the Junior School

- Monday 29 August – Professional Development Day (Pupil Free Day)
- Tuesday 30 August – Father's Day Stall
- Friday 2 September – Father's Day Breakfast and Father's Day stall
- Friday 9 September – K-4 Disco



WEEKLY AWARDS

| | |
|----|--|
| KM | Jessica Bradley |
| 1W | Daniel Grieve |
| 1D | Michael Marzano, George Moustoukis |
| 2D | Paige Jenkins, Soraya McCann, Emma Black |
| 2A | Jessica Hall, Alexis Belsito |
| 2P | Victoria Summerill |
| 3Y | Sophia Santos, Finn Stapley |
| 4M | Gianluca Fierravanti, Riley Hanlon |
| 5N | Caitlin Koloski, Mackenzie Smith |
| 5S | Miles Denison-Pender, Ashley Dribbus |
| 6C | Joshua Buchanan, Hannah Reveley |
| 6W | James Oriel |

Junior School Fathers Day

The Works 2011



'The Works' 2011 Exhibition 26 – 27 August 2011

Please join us to celebrate art and design and continue the tradition at The Illawarra Grammar School with 'The Works' 2011.

The exhibition will feature Artworks, Film, Design, Furniture, Photography, Ceramics and Textiles from HSC 2011 and from past and present students, teachers, parents and friends of The Illawarra Grammar School.

Official Opening

Friday 26 August, 2011 7.30pm - 9.00pm in the IGC

Announcement of the \$2,000 Acquisitive Prize donated by Westpac. Launch of The Works People's Choice Award.

Saturday 27 August, 2011

The Works Cafe 10.00am - 4.00pm in the IGC

School Contact Details

Have you changed contact details recently?

Current details of all students including names, addresses, emergency contact information, medical conditions and parent contact details including mobile phone numbers and email addresses need to be kept on file and accurate at all times. Please ensure that any change of any details during the year are noted on a [Notification of Change in Contact Details](#) form and returned to the School office for recording.

Canteen Corner



HEALTHY KIDS LUNCHBOX TIPS

Why is packing a nutritious lunchbox so important for your child?

Whilst a child is at school they will consume around a third of their daily nutritional requirements through eating recess and lunch. Therefore it is important that the lunchbox is well planned and contains a variety of healthy yummy choices to ensure your child consumes enough energy and nutrients to help them concentrate, learn and play.

ORDERING LUNCH

To order lunch from the Canteen you can either order online, to do so visit www.flexischools.com.au or by handing your lunch bag (clearly marked with name, year and order) to the Lunch Muncher in the Junior School or at the Canteen window in the Senior School before the start of school.

Please remember to order lunch so that you don't miss out on your favorite items.

Deleted Line

Macquarie Valley Juices

New Product

Wild Juice 350ml \$2.30

Apple/Blackcurrant, Orange and Apple

CANTEEN ROSTER

Monday 29 August
PUPIL FREE DAY

Tuesday 30 August
Clare Barber
Meagan Milic

Wednesday 31 August
Zina Ainsworth
Wendy Gray Spence

Thursday 1 September
HELP NEEDED

Friday 2 September
HELP NEEDED

Senior School Sport

STUDENT SUCCESS

Australian Schools Volleyball Championships: Kieran Ackhurst (Year 9) last week played in the NSW Team in Western Australia, and finished 5th.

Australian Cross Country Championships in Canberra: Julien Smith (Year 7) 7th in the 13 year boys and Hamish Paine (Year 9) 15th in the 15 year boys.

Congratulations to these students on their fantastic results!

ATHLETICS

NSW All Schools Track and Field Championships

Date: 13 – 16 October 2011

Entries Close: Midday Tuesday 27 September 2011

Please be aware as there is still not an equal pathway for all age groups to the Australian All Schools Athletics Event, CIS will not be putting forward a team to the NSW All Schools Athletics Championships. Students wishing to compete at this event should submit an individual nomination form which will be available from the NSW Athletics website: www.nswathletics.org.au

CIS RUGBY LEAGUE

On Monday of Week 4, 11 under 14 Rugby League players represented the School at the CIS Rugby League 7-a-side gala day. The boys performed admirably for the School, winning their first game, losing their second, winning their third and having a draw in their fourth. These results were good enough for the team to make the plate final at the end of the day, which they just lost by one try. Congratulations to all the boys on their performance and attitude on the day. The standout performers, as selected by Mr Ferguson, were Sameer Mohammed (Year 9) and Evan Jenkins (Year 7).

The Team: Angus Pryde, Eric Bell, Mitchell Ferguson, Simon Mill, George Miller, Sameer Mohammed, Beppe Fierravanti, Mannar Jasim, Dominic Mortimer, Evan Jenkins, Dylan Lees.



Want to Play Cricket This Year?

The University of Wollongong Cricket Club is one of the leading clubs in the Illawarra Cricket Association, taking home the Club Championship in the 2009/10.

Juniors Training is held Wednesday afternoons
at the Uni Ovals/Nets
throughout the season.

New players are always welcome.



For more information and
to register contact
Junior Club President -
Peter Somerville on
petesomo@bigpond.com
or **0407 787 676**

or visit <http://uwcc.nsw.cricket.com.au>

Upcoming events

To see a full list of events, please visit the School's online calendar.

To keep up-to-date with the latest news and events that are happening in and around our School, we encourage you to subscribe to the email Newsletter.

Simply visit our website: www.figs.nsw.edu.au and sign up on the home page.

- **The Works Exhibition**
Friday 26 August 2011 7.30pm - 9.00pm in the IGC
Saturday 27 August 2011 10.00am - 4.00pm in the IGC

- **Pupil Free day/School Office closed**
Monday 29 August 2011

- **Junior School Father's Day Stall**
Tuesday 30 August 2011

- **Year 6 transition**
Wednesday 31 August 2011

- **AICES carnival**
Monday 5 September 2011

- **HSC Music 2 concert**
Tuesday 6 September 2011

- **Prep to Kinder Open Afternoon**
Wednesday 7 September 2011

Please Note

OFFICE CLOSED

The Illawarra Grammar School Office will be closed on Monday 29 August due to the Staff Development Day.