RESPONSE TO WORLD EVENTS

We watched with horror recently as the first vision of Japan’s cataclysmic tsunami came on to our TVs. I read that if Stephen Spielberg had written a script of a massive earthquake followed by a huge tsunami and finally with nuclear explosions and radiation fallout, it would have been labeled as far-fetched. and yet this is exactly what happened!

Coming so close on the heels of the devastating floods in Queensland, NSW and Victoria followed by a Category 5 cyclone in Queensland and then the shattering earthquake in Christchurch, many people were naturally becoming quite unsettled. Strengthened by the ripple effect of political upheavals across the Arab world including military intervention in Libya, along with the continued nuclear threat from the damaged Japanese reactors, people have been asking; “Are these signs of the end times?” Others have been asking; “If God is in control of the world, why does He allow things like this to happen?”

Does this fulfill the prediction of Jesus that there will be wars and rumours of wars? And what about the apparent sudden upsurge in “natural” disasters?

When God created the Earth and subsequently placed a curse upon it because of the sin of mankind (Genesis 3:17), effectively introducing the second law of thermodynamics into the universe, He knew that the system He created would gradually “wind down” and become less stable. What we call “natural” disasters today are symptoms of this.

So we see two possible but perhaps separate causes for the turmoil that seems to be breaking out on planet Earth. But are they linked as being signs of the last days?

Let’s read again what the Lord had to say about this in Matthew 24:6-8:-

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers’ places. All these are the beginning of sorrows.”

In other words, we ought not be frightened or afraid of the things that are coming on the Earth but rather, recognise them as the certain fulfilment of the Word of God and redouble our efforts to ensure that when He does return, He will indeed find faith on the Earth. Faith in our hearts, first and foremost but then faith in the hearts of the students.

Adapted from an article by Bob Gregory Making Director & CEO Southern Cross Educational Enterprises

EPILEPSY DAY Sat 26th March

What is Epilepsy? Epilepsy is a disruption of the normal electrochemical activity of the brain that results in seizures. Under certain circumstances anyone can have a seizure. It is only when there is a tendency to have recurrent seizures (more than one) that epilepsy is diagnosed. We encourage all to wear something purple on Saturday in recognition of Epilepsy Day.
PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Wed 6th April
Updated appointment times are on a separate sheet in this Newsletter.

KING JAMES BIBLES
Can we please ask parents to have a good look at home and if you have spare King James Bibles, could we ask if you could donate them to Olivet please for students to use. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK for the COX CRITCHLEY CULPH and DAVIS Families.

DATES TO NOTE
Term 2
First day of term Monday 2 May

AGM Reachout Enterprises Ltd
Tuesday 3 May at 7.30pm

Parents of Year 10 students in 2012
Meeting Monday 9 May 7pm

WINTER UNIFORM
Parents please take this time to check your children’s winter uniforms. If we need to top up the uniform supplies now is the time to do it. Please advise Mary-Anne in the office of any needs you require asap.
Please check the condition as well as the fit of the uniforms. Please check the length is correct on the girls’ skirts which, at a minimum, should be below the knee.
Staff and Executive also let parents know that ballet-type shoes for girls will not be part of the uniform from now on. If girls have these type of shoes currently, they may wear them out but must purchase normal black shoes there after. No ballet shoes will be permitted from the start of Term 3 onwards.

PRIMARY HONOUR ROLL
The Primary Honour Roll activities for Term 1 will be held on Thurs April 7th.
It will include a trip to the Capital Theatre in Bendigo to participate in a performance by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra. This has always been a very enjoyable musical experience. This will be followed by a variety of activities in Castlemaine linked to the Castlemaine State Festival. We are looking forward to an action packed day.

SECONDARY HONOUR ROLL
A reminder to all secondary students that to qualify for the end of term Life Adventure Park activities for Honour Roll, students must complete all work requirements by the due date. Notices have been distributed to students regarding their progress.

REMINDER
Hot Cross Bun orders must be returned to the school no later than 1st April (Friday next week). Thank you to those who have already returned order forms. $6.50 per half dozen – made by Bakers Delight in fruit, mocha, or choc chip.

PRESENTATION AFTERNOON
Friday 8th April is our last day of term. For our new families, we will be awarding certificates and awards to all classes in the afternoon, commencing at 1.15pm. The students will be dismissed at approx. 2.30pm. Parents and family members and friends of the College are always welcome to come and support the students on this special occasion.

YEAR 9 HEALTH PHYS.ED CLASS
A reminder for all Year 9 students to bring their sports uniform for the next two Monday classes (28th of March and 4th of April). This is due to students running their fitness programs to help the class achieve their fitness goals for this term.
Thanks
Adrian Steel

STUDENT CONVENTIONS by Kathy Fisher
Convention Co-ordinator SCEE
What an amazing start to the year, with disasters happening in so many places! What a good time to remember the awesome power and mercy of our God, who has ‘plans and purposes’ for our lives.
It is also a great time to remember the importance of preparing our students to be ready “in season and out of season”, so that they are ready for any and all circumstances.

(Olivet is a great training ground for our students, preparing them to stand in these tough times).

Victorian Student Convention is held for all secondary students in Week 2 Term 4 at Rawson (near Moe) and competition is held in Art/Craft, Music Vocal/Instrumental, Athletics, Academics and Public Speaking.