Buddies Day last week: Will and Isaac; Olivia and Erin

COMMITMENT
Yesterday during Chapel time classes began looking at the character trait of being committed. Classes studied various characters of the Bible including Nehemiah, Stephen, Daniel, all of whom were totally committed to the things of God and His purposes for their lives.

Psalm 37 speaks of us to “Trust in the Lord, and to do good, so you shall dwell in the land, and enjoy security. Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way unto the Lord; trust in Him and He will act.” verses 3 - 5.

THE TRUE VALUE OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
School is an accepted, in fact, expected, part of our modern society. Access is seen as a right, not a privilege. Before we look at this in detail, we need to ask an important question - “What is the purpose of education?”

For many parents the often unstated goal of a school education is to prepare their child for a career. This is certainly true to some extent, but the Bible has a radically different purpose for life than is taught in most schools.

Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

In light of this the purpose of education could be to help children understand their God-given gifts and abilities so as to serve Him and others in society. The Westminster Confession used by many churches summarises our purpose as…..”The chief aim of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.”

An education which denies God, or seeks to diminish His importance misses this ‘chief aim’. Instead it often focuses on the personal success of the individual. The definition of success is often vague. For some success is defined by what we have attained to or acquired. One of God’s definitions of success is found in Matthew 25:23. Here Jesus says “Well done good and faithful servant” when speaking of a man who wisely used the talents God had given him.

What is it we really want for our children as a result of their years of education? Is it to be happy, have friends, a job, and to travel? The most common desire for Christian parents is that their children will make good choices in life. To choose satisfying work, good friends, to share, to treat others like they wish to be treated. Ultimately it is to choose to follow Jesus and to serve God and others with their gifts and abilities. A child’s education is more than imparting knowledge. It is to impart wisdom to make wise choices in life.

I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life Deuteronomy 30:19.

A Christian school is by no means perfect, but is seeking to impart a Godly wisdom for life. The Bible says the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom Proverbs 9:10. The foundation upon which an education is based is therefore profoundly important. (Taken from an article from Why-ChristianSchools.com.au)
PRIMARY SWIMMING PROGRAM
A reminder that Primary swimming is scheduled for the next two weeks at Chewton outdoor Pool on Tuesday and Thursday, Week 5 and 6. Primary students are asked to wear their sports uniform to school on these days please.

SECONDARY SWIMMING PROGRAM
Swimming will continue tomorrow at Harcourt Pool. Students are asked to please bring with them bathers/shorts, T-shirts, towel and plastic bag for wet items. Could students also bring along old clothes (track suit pants and a loose fitting jumper/windcheater) to swim in as part of their rescue mission please.

HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS
The HOUSE Swimming Sports will be held at Harcourt Pool Friday next week (27 Feb) from 12.30 - 3pm.
Students will arrive to school at normal times in their summer uniforms. Students will work 3 shorter periods till 11am.
Lunch will then be taken and then at 11.45am all students will head off to Harcourt Pool in buses and cars.
All family members are invited to attend and to join in the carnival atmosphere of the Swimming Sports, which will get under way at 12.30pm.
Dismissal at the end of the day will be from the Harcourt Pool at approx 3.15pm. Parents collecting students from Kangaroo Flat and Strathfieldsaye are advised that the bus may be a little earlier than usual, perhaps up to 15 mins earlier.

Students are asked to bring with them their bathers, shorts, T-shirt, towel, hat from home, water bottle, sunscreen, thongs, as well as a plastic bag for wet bathers and towel.

Thank you to all the staff for your planning for the day, which promises to be a good day!

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK for the GIBSON HODGES JOHNSTON and LACEY families. Please pray also for the Coventry family, whose grandfather (Leanne’s Dad) died from pancreatic cancer on Tuesday.

SUPERCOACH 2015
Supercoach is an AFL Fantasy game run by the Herald Sun, which no doubt some of you would already be aware. Maybe you have even played it in seasons past. However, this year, you will have the opportunity to join the Olivet SFL (Supercoach Football League), and go head to head with your fellow classmates, teachers and even the Strath Bus Driver.
So if you are interested, here is what to do. Send an email to cjthornton7@gmail.com with 'Supercoach' as the subject along with your details including full name, age, class and which AFL team you support.
Looking forward to a great year ahead.
Thanks, Chris Thornton

LAST WEEK OF TERM 1 ARRANGEMENTS
Monday 23 March will be the Honour Roll Day set aside for class trips for students who have completed their work requirements for the term.

Tuesday 24 March there will be no classes for students as the day will be set aside for staff-parent interviews for all students. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be normal school days.

REMINDER OF TERM DATES FOR 2015
Term 1: Last day of term is Fri 27 March
Term 2: Mon 20 April - Fri 26 June
Term 3: Mon 13 July - Fri 18 Sept
Term 4: Mon 5 Oct - Thurs 10 Dec

WEEKLY PUZZLE
In which Victorian town was the department store Myer founded in 1900?
Last week’s answer: What is the name of the vegetable which includes all 5 vowels?
CAULIFLOWER

ACTIVE APRIL
The Premier of Victoria is promoting the month of April as Active April. All it takes is 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. More details will be given a little closer to the end of term.