Join us for a free P&F Family Movie Night

The P&F is organising a Family Movie Night on Friday 21 October for the Shire Christian School community and would love for members from all the parts of our community to bring their family and share in the evening.

Bring a picnic rug, beanbags or cushions and set up camp in the Hall to watch the Dreamworks favourite movie “Home”.

While the screening from 7pm is free to attend, you are invited to come at 6pm and enjoy dinner at $5 per person. The meal consists of a Lebanese wrap with your choice of a chicken or lamb kebab and all the trimmings, a cold drink and a piece of cake.

Other movie treats, including fresh popcorn, will be for sale.

From 6pm there will also be a special free craft activity in which everyone is invited to participate. Spaces are limited, so please book early to ensure you have a spot. Please go to trybooking.com

You can book tickets just for the movie (no charge – but a ticket is required) or book a dinner deal which includes your entry to the movie.

There is no booking surcharge on TryBooking for this event.

Please note this is not a supervised event and children must be with a responsible adult throughout the evening. The event will go ahead regardless of the weather. Tickets are non-refundable.
Not only for children! Our Kinder teachers enjoyed preparing their lessons in this lovely new space as well!

Before

During

After: Our new playground!
I am encouraged by our teachers’ caring for their students

In my first newsletter article for Term 4, I would like to express my appreciation for the contribution of our staff and also to inform you of some staffing changes for 2017.

Godly teachers
A quality Christian education is made possible by godly Christian teachers, who are committed to explaining a Christian perspective in the lessons they teach and seeking to love their students as Christ loves us.

During last term, I was particularly encouraged by several teachers who not only invested a substantial amount of time in caring for some needy students, but did so gently and thoughtfully.

In the second half of last term, Miss Tracy Foster and Mr Chris Kearns took some well-earned long service leave. I trust that they were refreshed and enjoyed their break. I would like to thank Miss Tamara McLaughlin and Miss Esther Deshwal for ably taking these teachers classes in their absence.

Our Chaplain, Rev Bruce Christian, recently advised me that he would like to retire at the end of the year. Given that Bruce has been committed to our school in a range of ways since its inception, many paragraphs could be written thanking Bruce for his outstanding contribution. As much as we would all love for Bruce to stay with us, I wish him, and his wife Pat, all the very best in the years to come.

Mrs Sue Robinson has decided not to continue in her role as the Prep - 2 coordinator next year. I have greatly appreciated the leadership contributions Sue has made in this role, but also acknowledge that sometimes people prefer to step back from leadership responsibilities. I am very pleased that she will continue as a full-time teacher, because she is a fine classroom practitioner. Sue’s replacement will be one of our existing Junior School teachers.

Mrs Helen Bull has been a skilled and dedicated part-time teacher in our Secondary TAS department for several years. Helen has accepted a full-time teaching role at Thomas Hassall Anglican School, starting at the beginning of next year. I wish her all the very best in that new role. Mrs Cheryl Riddle is happy to teach full-time next year to cover the classes that Helen would have taught.

Miss Kara McLaughlin will be taking 12 months’ leave in 2017 to do Christian charity work in Africa. I think it is wonderful that Christians take time to care for the neediest people in God’s world.

Please be praying for Kara as she prepares to leave and for the work that she will perform next year.

Miss Amy Roberts will continue with us next year to replace Kara. Amy is a dedicated teacher and I’m pleased that she will be with us for another 12 months. Amy will be teaching English classes and Mrs Kath Breen will return from maternity leave to teach Drama.

Mr Peter Richardson will be spending 2017 in the United Kingdom with his family, although he intends to return to us in 2018. Please be praying for Peter, Megan and their two young children as they undertake this exciting opportunity. I have advertised for Peter’s position and hope to make an appointment by early November.

HSC Exam
I write this newsletter article just prior to the commencement of the HSC exams. Please be praying for our Year 12 students who have worked diligently and to the best of their ability over the last 12 months.

The school is very keen for every student to receive the best results they possibly can so that they have a range of choices for the next stage of their life. In your prayers, please be particularly mindful of students who struggle with examination anxiety or who don’t perform as well in an exam as they do in a take-home assignment.

It can be very discouraging for talented students who have worked hard to receive marks in exams that don’t reflect their ability or effort. Please be praying that they will cope well with the exams and that their results will reflect what they are capable of.

Uniforms
Before I close, I would like to briefly remind parents that some items in the uniform shop bearing the new logo are now being sold. A limited number of items bearing the old branding e.g. ties will continue to be sold. I am very pleased that parents are making use of the online ordering system when purchasing from the uniform shop. I trust that it is convenient and helpful.
Mrs Stewart (pictured left with the class) spoke to the students about fostering and adopting children. Mrs McAdam (pictured right) spoke about raising puppies for Guide Dogs NSW/ACT. Students have been studying the topic Families and Communities and our time spent together with our visitors was highly beneficial.

**Important Notices**

- The drop-off zone is not for parking
- Be considerate to neighbours and do not park near or on driveways
- Drive slowly on school premises. The speed limit is always 10km per hour, even when you drop your child off very early in the morning or visit later.

**Please keep our students safe.**

**Community Notices**

**Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops for Learner Driver Parents in the Sutherland Shire**

Hosted by Sutherland Shire Council on Wednesday November 16 at Sutherland Shire Council Offices in Eton Street from 7pm to 9pm.

Early bookings are essential. Phone 9710 0341 or email mstuart@ssc.nsw.gov.au to reserve your place.

Items in Community Corner of the newsletter are placed at the discretion of the School. However, the School does not endorse any such item.
I have recently been looking at the Old Testament book of Habakkuk and thinking how relevant his words are to us today.

He was living in difficult times and had an unpalatable message from the LORD to bring to his covenant people, Israel. He understood that the one true God who created the Universe, and who is the sovereign Lord of history, is just and righteous in all he does; and he could see clearly why this God should be visiting judgment on a rebellious people who were blessed with all the privileges of having access to his revealed truth in his written Word.

What confused Habakkuk was why God would choose the cruel, heartless Babylonians to be his agents of wrath in the execution of this judgment - surely they were even more deserving of such punishment!

In the midst of all this perplexity the prophet prayed a prayer that I found very helpful and challenging concerning my own prayer life. He prayed:

“LORD, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, O LORD. Renew them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.”

(Habakkuk 3:2).

This deep, heartfelt prayer could well be our very own in these disturbing days. God has blessed us as a nation in wonderful ways. At different times in our history he has heard the prayers of his people and rescued us - sometimes from others, and sometimes from ourselves and the outworkings of our own rebellious natures. We can rightly ‘stand in awe of his deeds’.

But, sadly, the further our thinking, our worldview as a nation diverges from God’s revealed truth in Scripture, the more we deserve his wrath. This is the time to be praying more earnestly than ever, “Renew [your awesome deeds of the past] in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.”

Our God has sovereignly brought about miraculous spiritual revivals in the past - can we plead with him as Habakkuk did to act in our day?

George Orwell once said: “The more a society drifts from the truth, the more it hates those that speak it.” A major part of our battle is to keep on demonstrating, in all our attitudes and actions, the love of Christ to those who oppose us strongly because of what we believe and stand for. We cannot do this without God’s help - which is why prayer is so important.

Significantly, Habakkuk’s faith in God’s goodness remained firm and strong. His famous statement: “the righteous will live by his faith” (2:4), was used by both Paul in Romans 1:17 and Galatians 3:11, and the author of Hebrews in 10:38.

Will our faith withstand whatever God in his providence inflicts upon us as we wait for that great and terrible Day when Jesus returns as Judge and Saviour?

Can we say with Habakkuk: “Though the fig-tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Saviour. The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights.” (3:17-19)?
“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ‘The LORD is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him.’” - Lamentations 3:22-24 (ESV)

- Praise God for his steadfast love, his never-ending mercies and his faithfulness.
- Pray that we will put our hope in the Lord.
- Pray that the school Orientation mornings this term will run smoothly and be a great beginning for new students to Prep, Kindergarten and Year 7 for 2017.
- Continue to pray for the Year 12 students as they study and sit their HSC exams.
- Pray for the School Association meeting being held in two weeks.

Year 6 electricity projects
After having a seemingly endless waiting list of parents hoping to enrol their students in our peripatetic program on guitar, we are very happy to announce that we have been able to accommodate the demand.

Thank you to the families who waited patiently up to a year to commence lessons.

We are also pleased to share that there are now some additional places available. Please contact music@shirechristian.nsw.edu.au for more information.

For many years there has been a strong history of excellence in the Music department at Shire Christian, and we continue to strive to nurture this culture in each of the many opportunities provided for students.

This includes the quality of tutors we employ for the peripatetic program.

Our tutors not only are trained musicians, often with at least a Bachelor of Music and performing experience as professional musicians, but are also active members of their local church.

Junior School Silver Awards
Caitlin Gillett
Holly Martin
Grace McAdam
Jeremiah Judd
Isabella Brooke

Bronze Awards
Caitlin Gillett
Lara Humphreys
Ruby Macpherson
Holly Martin
Grace McAdam
James Khouri
Isabella Brooke

Account statements now sent via email

Mr Peter Watters, Business Manager

Starting this term, your account statement will be sent out via email.

The cost to print, fold and send statements by Australia Post has increased considerably, so automating this process will help us to reduce costs.

Another benefit is that your statement will be delivered the same day it is prepared.

Statements will be sent to your family’s nominated account contact email address.

Please look out for this email in the coming week.

If you do not receive your statement, please check your junk mail folder before contacting the school. If you wish to change the email address we have on file for your account, please do not hesitate to contact the Office.
Free Movie Night
for our Shire Christian School community

Free gifts for all

Special craft activity

Friday 21 October

Dinner Lebanese wrap, drink, cake: $5
from 6 pm (movie: 7pm) School Hall

Limited places trybooking.com (no booking fee)
Monday
17 October
Secondary
Library
Starts 7 pm
Book we are reading in preparation is . . .
“Two Wolves”
Tristan Bancks
Operating on site in the school gym, our before and after school care centre has places available for students in Kinder to Year 6.

We operate before school from 7am to school time and from 2.35pm to 6pm after school. Breakfast and healthy afternoon snacks are provided.

Christian, caring educators, who will nurture and support your child, ensure lots of fun, with art, craft, games, quiet time for homework, sport and lots more!

**Child care rebate is available**

For further information, please contact: Julianne (coordinator) 0439921943, or just pop in one afternoon in the School Hall to see what’s happening!
AIT Information Night
Tuesday 18 October from 6pm. Learn about digital careers and study options. AIT’s Info Night is perfect for students and parents who want to explore the endless opportunities available in the growing creative industry. RSVP: http://www.ait.nsw.edu.au/information-night/#register or call 02 9211 8399

Free AIT courses
- Intro to 3D Animation: Animation: Rigging, texturing, etc. Our degrees will teach you it all but first try out a workshop. Try your hand at one of the many forms of animation! Limited to 20 students per class.
- Intro to Film Editing: In this workshop you will be given the opportunity to create your own music video. Supplied with video footage to edit and learn the basics of Adobe Premier Pro. Bring your own music or use music from the AIT library. A great introduction to the editing process of film.
- Intro to Game Design: Get hands-on! In one of industry’s most recognised and respected game engines: the Unreal Development Kit (UDK). Learn about creating a fully functioning game level and get a feel for the gaming industry.
- Intro to Concept Art: Concept Art: Is a core unit for many programs at AIT. This one-day teaser course will give you the opportunity to try your hand at concept art illustration, learning basic drawing techniques that can be applied to digital formats.
- Intro to Android App Development: Do you want to learn how the fastest growing IT sector works? Start your coding journey and create your first cross-platform phone app using HTML5, CSS3 and Javascript. Learn to create wireframes, test the User experience, design an icon and build your prototype in code. At the end of the workshop, you should be able to have your app running on an Android device.

RSVP: http://www.ait.nsw.edu.au/free-day-courses-sydney/ or call 02 9211 8399

AIE Open Day
Saturday 19 November. Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, 3D animation and visual effects at the AIE Open Day on Saturday 19 November. http://www.aie.edu.au/openday

AFTT After Dark
Every second Thursday, film buffs and industry members alike are welcomed at AFTT to be a part of creative minds joining together to discuss new topics and interests in the film world.

From creating digital content to screenwriting successfully to exclusive film screenings. For more information please visit: http://bit.ly/2d5nFPg or call 02 9281 2400

The University of Sydney
Sydney Scholars Awards, closing soon.

The Sydney Scholars Awards offer Year 12 students, commencing studies in 2017, the opportunity to apply for scholarships ranging from $6,000 to $10,000 in value, for up to five years of study.

Students will be assessed based on their academic achievements, extra-curricular involvement and future aspirations. Apply by Friday 30 October at sydney.edu.au/scholarships/prospective/sydney_scholars_program

WEP Australia
Student Exchange Programs to 25 Countries.
WEP Australia, a not-for-profit student exchange organisation, registered with the NSW Education Department is now accepting applications from students in Year 9, who wish to study abroad during their second semester of Year 10.

To request a free information pack, visit www.wep.org.au, call 1300 884 733 or email info@wep.org.au.
## What’s on

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<th>Secondary</th>
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<td>Tue 18 Oct</td>
<td>Year 9 Drama Excursion</td>
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<td>PSSA Primary Schools Athletics</td>
<td>Year 3 Swimming Program</td>
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<td>Kinder 2017 Orientation Day #1</td>
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<td>Thu 20 Oct</td>
<td>CSSA Primary School Biathlon</td>
<td>CSSA Secondary Triathlon - Regatta Centre Penrith</td>
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<td>PSSA Primary Schools Athletics</td>
<td>German Student to Goethe Film Competition</td>
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<td>School Board Meeting @ 6.30pm</td>
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<td>Fri 21 Oct</td>
<td>Year 9 Students to Seminar at Covenant CS</td>
<td>Year 9 Food Tech Exc to the Grounds</td>
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<td>Family Movie Night from 6pm. Free entry, $5 for Lebanese meat wrap, cool drink, cake.</td>
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<td>Mon 24 Oct</td>
<td>Year 4 and 5 Camp at Deer Park</td>
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<td>Tue 25 Oct</td>
<td>Year 4 and 5 Camp at Deer Park</td>
<td>411 Discipleship Training for CRU Leaders</td>
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<td>Wed 26 Oct</td>
<td>CSSA Primary Girls Softball Gala Day</td>
<td>Year 9 Kokoda Walkway Excursion</td>
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<td>Kinder 2017 Orientation Day #2</td>
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<td>Thu 27 Oct</td>
<td>Year 12 Food Tech Excursion 1/2 day</td>
<td>Year 10 Drama Excursion</td>
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<td>School Association Meeting @ 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Fri 28 Oct</td>
<td>FONO - For One Night Only @ 7pm</td>
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<td>Mon 31 Oct</td>
<td>CSSA Primary Tennis Gala Day</td>
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<td>Tues 1 Nov</td>
<td>Year 5 Hockey Program</td>
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<td>Wed 2 Nov</td>
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<td>Thurs 3 Nov</td>
<td>Amazing Me Seminar for Years 4, 5 &amp; 6 @ 7-9pm</td>
<td>Year 7 Vaccinations</td>
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