



WEEKLY NEWS SHEET

Friday 3rd April, 2009

Issue No. 10

Individual Excellence

“Not that I have already obtained all this...but I press on...toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”
(Phil. 3:12-14)

One of the biggest battles we often face, concerns the way we either use or interpret words. I have, on a number of occasions, used the words ‘individual excellence’ and a few colleagues and parents have either asked me to ‘Please explain’ or ‘How does this align with the Christian ethos of Maranatha?’ The words ‘individual excellence’ have been often misinterpreted as ‘academic excellence,’ but that is a topic for another article.

I hope this anecdote will further illustrate my point: “A Harvard professor had given an assignment, marked it and returned it the next day. At the bottom of one he wrote: “Is this the best you can do?” The student thought, “No,” and redid the paper. It was resubmitted repeatedly, but received the same comment. Finally the student agreed, “Yes, this is the best I can do.” The professor replied, “Fine, now I’ll read it.” (Kissinger – The White House Years)

It is clearly evident that all excellence involves discipline and tenacity of purpose. Encouraging ‘individual excellence’ is Godly, as our Father demands excellence of us. Jesus Christ, himself, is the embodiment of excellence. But can we become excellent like Him in a secular society diametrically opposed to the things of God? Yes we can!

Society, on the one hand, beckons us to succeed, but God beckons us to be a people of excellence. But what is the difference? Brian Harbour in his book *Rising Above the Crowd* says: “Success means being the best. Excellence means being your best. Success, for many, means being better than everyone else. Excellence means being better tomorrow than you were yesterday. Success means exceeding the achievements of other people. Excellence means matching your practice with your potential.”

In Philippians 3 we can learn the following: We should not settle in mediocrity (v.12) Mediocrity is a state of our thinking that we have already achieved the highest level, but the truth is, we still have a way to go. Just like Paul, we too should not consider to have attained all the things, but continuously pursue the prize that

is ahead. Individual excellence is not settling on second rate ability or value, but continuously pursuing excellence or the highest level that we can attain. No matter how many times we fail, we must persist in achieving our best. There is nothing wrong in always aiming for the highest, as long as it is accompanied with contentment.

Just as Paul presses on for a purpose, we too have to ask ourselves if we know the purpose of why we are striving for the highest. Paul strives on towards the goal to win the prize, which God called him heavenward in Christ Jesus. Is it not our purpose to reach the goal to win the prize? The prize he is after is in Christ Jesus - “My utmost for His glory!”

Have a safe restful and blessed Easter!

Vernon Clark Principal Prayer / Praise Points

- Congratulations to Robert and Jan Mortimer on the arrival of their first TWO grandchildren, both born within 12 hours of each other! Their daughter Jane and husband Dwain welcomed the arrival of little Jasmine Rebecca, on Friday 27th April, and, just down the corridor of the hospital, their other daughter Rebecca and her husband Brad arrived and gave birth to little Madeleine Jane the following morning. Praise God for such a lovely surprise when the Grandparents came to visit the new arrivals!
- Congratulations to Endeavour Hills Receptionist, Jacqueline and her husband Sean on the arrival of their little girl Amelie Ella Grace Baker.



- Please pray for all our staff and families over the Easter Break.

E/Hills Events...

- ─ **Monday 20 April**
NICE Conference – Student Free Day
- ─ **Tuesday 21 April**
NICE Conference – Student Free Day
- ─ **Wed 22 April**
Teacher Preparation Day
– Student Free Day
- ─ **Thursday 23 April**
 - Term 2 begins
 - National Basketball Trials Day 2
- ─ **Friday 24 April**
School Photos
Students to have envelopes at school with the teacher prior to the date.
Students must be in winter uniform.
Please check letter sent home

Doveton Events...

- ─ Doveton Campus will be open from 14th April 9am to 4pm
- ─ **Monday 20th April**
NICE Conference – Student Free Day
- ─ **Tuesday 21st April**
NICE Conference – Student Free Day
- ─ **Wednesday 22nd April**
Teacher Preparation Day
– Student Free Day
- ─ **Thursday 23rd April**
Students Return
- ─ **Friday 24th April**
Grade 5&6 School Photos
Students to have envelopes at school with the teacher prior to the date.
Students must be in winter uniform.
Please check letter sent home

Officer Events...

- ─ **Tuesday 7th April**
In the school holidays Rock Eisteddfod set painting
- ─ **Wednesday 8th April**
 - In the school holidays Rock Eisteddfod rehearsal 10:30am – 3pm for all performers
 - Rock Eisteddfod set painting
- ─ **Tuesday 14th April - 17th April**
Officer reception will be closed the second week of the school holidays
- ─ **Thursday 23rd April**
First day back of Term 2
- ─ **Monday 27th April**
Officer VCE information evening
7pm – 8pm
- ─ **Tuesday 28th April**
School photos

Maranatha is a Christian learning community in partnership with home and church where students are inspired to discover and develop their God-given gifts, abilities and character for a life of service to the Lord in contemporary society

DOVETON NEWS

Prep Performance

On Wednesday the 2 Prep Grades truly entertained a large crowd of parents, grandparents and others. They performed with songs, instruments and actions what they have learned this term. They certainly defined the word CUTE!



On Thursday the 26th March the Grade 1 classes participated in the "Life Be In It" program at school. We warmed up running races and doing star jumps. After that we played with the huge inflated ball. We had to co-operate to pass the ball around the circle. We did this with the ball on the ground the first time and then with the ball up above our heads the second time.

After that we lay down in a straight line and played railway tracks, with the ball passing over us, while we lay on the ground pretending that the ball was the train and we were the tracks. There was great excitement when we had to jump up and rejoin the end of the line once the train had gone over us. We even had to make the tracks go around the corner to return the train to its starting place.

Once we had finished playing with the ball we played games with the parachute. We had to listen carefully to follow the instructions. The parachute was very big and colourful.

The man was very funny. If we were chewing on our hat strings he asked us if our parents had given us any lunch.

Open Door Access

Please feel free to come in to chat to Joe Belousoff every Tuesday from 9.00am – 10.00am, share your insights, unload burdens, present novel ideas or just come in to say hello. No appointments required.

Prayer Time

Every Monday morning after the Prep – Grade 4 assembly parents, grandparents, friends are welcome to join the prayer time in the Interview room.

Other Doveton Events

Dates for Term 2:

- **27th April** – School Photos – Doveton campus Prep - 4 and also sibling photos.
- **30th April** Evening appointments for Parent /Teacher Interviews
- **1st May** Parent / Teacher Interviews – Student Free Day
- **4th May** Swimming Lessons start for Prep, Grade 1,2 &4
- **6th May** District Cross Country – for selected students Grade 3 -6
- **16th May** OPEN DAY

Term 2 – Winter Uniform

Parents please use the holidays to check your child's uniform. All students are expected to wear the winter uniform in Term2 & 3. School photos will be taken in the 1st and 2nd week back and all students are expected to be in winter uniform. Please take the opportunity in the holidays to check whether your child's clothing is still clearly labelled and that you have your own uniform items and not clothing belonging to someone else. "That's Mine" clothing label brochures available from the office. (P&F do receive a commission on these)

Emergency Contact Numbers

It is of utmost importance that parents check that emergency contact details are up to date with the school.

Headlice

Take the time to check your children's hair during the holidays for headlice. If you find headlice please treat and check daily. To eradicate this annoying issue we must have all parents co-operating and treating their children appropriately. Headlice has been found to be in most classes.

OFFICER NEWS

Happy Easter

What a terrific start to 2009 we have had with primary and secondary swimming programs in the first few weeks of term, swimming carnivals, SIS programs, SIS concert, information nights and planning for the Indonesian tour, Gr 5 & 6 camp, excursions, golf program, Rock Eisteddfod preparations... the list goes on. Thank you to all, students, parents and staff who have so willingly supported and participated in the many activities of Officer Campus this term. Over the term break we have an opportunity to reflect on the amazing gift and sacrifice of God's son for us that we might be able to be in privileged timeless relationship with Him.

Let's keep reminding each other to consider again what our life responses can be in light of this extraordinary gift. We are looking forward to continuing to partner together as we learn, love and serve together as a school community. Happy Easter!

Term 2 Events

Wed 29 April

Prep – year 10 House Cross Country

Friday 1 May - Fri 8 May

Whole school Parent/Teacher interviews

Wed 6 May - Fri 8 May

Year 7 camp

Wed 6 May

Prep/1 Farm Excursion Wednesday

Thur 7 May

SIS sports for Year 7 & 8 students

Fri 8 May

SIS drama workshop

SIS sports for Year 9 & 10 students

Environmental Group

Officer's environmental group has plans to save water through water collection at the drink fountains next term. Anyone who is able to donate 1kg honey containers (or similar) with a handle, please bring them to the Prep D room (room 2) or to the office. Thank you.

Lost

Sports jumper, sports top and woollen jumper all size 10 and named Ryan Walker. If found at school, or if it has accidentally been taken home could you please call Fiona on 5944 3047.

Head lice

Head lice occur commonly in school age children, and are quite contagious. We greatly appreciate the assistance of some of our mums who have made themselves available to check Officer students for head lice in the first few weeks of term 2. Before your child returns to school for term 2 please check to ensure that there are no unwanted visitors hiding in their hair. If any lice or eggs are found, please treat your child and remove all the eggs. It is also advised that you treat your child again 6 days after the initial treatment. If your child is found to have head lice, we will contact you to come and collect your child from the school.

Signing in at the office

Parents, if your child arrives at the classroom any time after 8:50 am (after the music has stopped) it is important that they return to reception to sign in and receive a late pass. Other than collecting or dropping off your children, any parents or visitors coming into the school are also required to sign in at reception. Thank you.

Easter Egg wrappers

Please save your easter egg wrappers for the Officer art room - thanks. Happy Collecting!

Mrs Hanscamp
Officer Primary Art teacher



ENDEAVOUR HILLS NEWS

Career News

Please see full details of these notices and others in the 4th issue of the Careers News which can be accessed on the Maranatha website under school news:

UMAT apply by 5 June test date 29 July
VCE AND CAREERS EXPO - 24-26 April
ENGINEERING Expo. 29 April
GAP YEAR IN THE DEFENCE FORCE
applications open 1 May.

Free dress day

On Friday 27 March, the senators ran the first free dress for the year. Besides students attending school in free dress there was also live music, a sausage sizzle and a fairy floss machine! The day was a great success! Students were able to enjoy one another's company in a friendly atmosphere. The money raised from the free dress donations will be going towards sponsoring a child.

Ben McNeil (Yr 11 Senator)



Congratulations!

Year 7 student Sarah Kapranov has had art work accepted in a Melbourne exhibition of young peoples art to be shown during the school holidays (April 4 to April 19) at the Amelie Camille Gallery, 250 Johnston St in Abottsford (Cnr Johnston & Hoddle St).

VCAL program

This year Maranatha Christian School has started running a VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) program for students in year 11. This program suits students not desiring to progress to University, and is a more practically-based course than the VCE.

This term the students have been working on designing and building a herb garden for the Endeavour Hills campus. Each student submitted a design and costing analysis for the Food Technology department along with the advantages of their design. One design was chosen, then all the students worked together to construct the garden and install a watering system.

The photos show our students working on the herb garden. We originally had five students in our VCAL class, but Lucas Crowden left us to commence an apprenticeship. We wish him all the best in this endeavour. The five of them (with Mr Rogers) are in the first photograph. Our four other students are Lavinia, Kong, Nick and Nyakor. The other photo shows the finished garden with the watering system installed.

The plants have started to grow, which is very exciting. The herbs will be used by the Food Technology department in their cooking classes to enhance the dishes produced.

Other projects are being considered by the VCAL group, including their latest project, providing seating for the Endeavour Hills basketball courts. For this, the group will be exploring fundraising options to fund the project.

Through these practical projects they are learning to apply the mathematics and reading/writing skills in practical ways for the betterment of the school and wider community.

We invite you to view the herb garden at the Endeavour Hills campus, and ask that you prayerfully support this VCAL venture. Please pray for Mrs Dutlow and myself as we head up the program, as the learning curve of what is expected is very steep. Pray too for Lucas in his apprenticeship. We are very excited about the possibilities that this new course opens up for us.

Mr Rogers



Senate Assembly

The Senators hosted their first Senate Assembly for 2009 on Tuesday 27 March. It was great to see our school leaders running the event from start to finish. We were entertained with some musical items from students across year levels. In particular, a group of Year 7s performed a song they had composed for an English project. One of the highlights was hearing Andrew Dudley (Year 11 Senator) share his personal testimony of how Jesus walked with him through some very difficult challenges in his life. It was a memorable event! We are all looking forward to the next student-run assembly!

Bible Readings

Thu Apr 23 1 John 5:11-13
Fri Apr 24 1 John 5:14-15
Matt 26:36-39



Discovery Years Art, God and Sand Sculpture

Years 7s were busy in Art this week examining the work of professional American sand sculptors. Working in teams, they then, under pressure, had to design their own sand sculpture and construct it in the school's sand pit. After voting privately for the winning art work, student's own sculptures were then assessed and photographed. The warm autumn day was perfect for industrious students to come up with inventive designs. Cars, penguins, castles and stairs miraculously emerged out of a normally flat and dull sand pit with the two winning designs being a very 3D looking car and heart. Winners received canteen spending money. Students learnt to appreciate difficulties in sculpture making as well as appreciating God's beauty in accomplishing outdoor artwork.

Mrs J Hodge

Year 11 Camp report

The aim of our Year 11 camp each year are is for students to grow spiritually and in a relaxed atmosphere, to find cohesion as a Year 11 class and establish a unity from the outset of the year. I feel in every way, that this year, our aims in this regard were definitely achieved. It was gratifying to take the largest year level yet, approximately 95 students, to our retreat at Merrick's down the Peninsula and have such a great time of fellowship and fun. Amongst some of the activities, were a fishing charter out in Westernport Bay and a snorkeling course and dive out near the Portsea Pier. Another activity included a revitalizing spiritual challenge from a local youth leader, leaving our students with something to think about. The highlight of the camp for me and all of the staff was just enjoying the company and fellowship of a wonderful group of students. Our Year 11 cohort are also to be commended for their excellent behaviour and great cooperation over this period of time.

Mr Peter Anderson

ALL SCHOOL NEWS

P.I.P.S. OPPORTUNITY:

Are you looking to make an early start on demolishing a few of your 10 voluntary hours of service to the school in fulfilment of the Parent Involvement Program? Here is your opportunity. On Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st April- before the students come to school for Term 2- Maranatha will be hosting a training course at the Endeavour Hills Campus for teachers from all over Victoria. Helpers are needed from 9.30am until 1.00pm to assist with serving of morning tea and lunch. We would appreciate any time you can volunteer. Please phone Julie Massing on 9791 6930. Thank you.

Second Hand Uniforms

All outgrown uniforms would be gladly received at Doveton Office for the Secondhand Uniform Shop.

Auskick 2009

Auskick 2009 is starting in April and is open to all primary school aged children. Weekend clinics will be held at 9:30am on Saturdays at Mossiel Park and on Sundays at Endeavour Hills. For more details and to register on-line, go to www.aflauskick.com.au. **If you register online by Friday 3/4/09 you will receive free tickets to an AFL game of your nominated club.**



P&F:

Discount and Voucher Books:

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS are on their way! Yes, those wonderful vouchers which can save up to \$15,000 on purchases throughout Melbourne, interstate and even overseas during 2009-2010, will soon be available. Towards the end of April, each family at Doveton and Endeavour Hills will be receiving an Entertainment Book on a purchase or return basis. These sell for \$65 and the School receives commission - which helps to provide extra facilities for the students at all three campuses. If you do not wish to receive a purchase-or-return Entertainment Book, please phone Lynne Dickson on 9737 1012, and we will take your name off our list ... but they really are worth taking a look! Officer families can buy an Entertainment Book from the School Office.

This year, we are also offering a local discount book - BUY BETTER - which has vouchers specifically for the South Eastern Suburbs of Berwick, Pakenham, Officer, Hallam, Beaconsfield, Cranbourne, Narre Warren, Pearcedale, Langwarrin, Lynbrook, Clyde, and Hampton Park. A copy of this book will be sent home to all Officer families on a purchase or return basis. These sell for \$30 - with the school receiving a commission. Doveton and Endeavour Hills families can purchase a Buy Better book from the School office. Check it out!

2009 School Photos

SchoolPix will be at our school on the following dates:

- Endeavour Hills Friday April 24 • Doveton Monday April 27 • Officer Tuesday April 28th - Discount voucher below is for families with three or more children. Parents with siblings photographed together will need to collect a pre-paid envelope from the office.

25% DISCOUNT VOUCHER

Dear Parents,

To claim your discount **circle** the correct amount in the table, place this voucher inside your eldest child's envelope and staple ALL children's envelopes together.

SchoolPix
THE WISE CHOICE
PO BOX 5222, HALLAM, 3803
P. 1300 766 055
P. (03) 9796 3380
WWW.SCHOOLPIX.COM.AU

25% DISCOUNT applies to families with 3 or more children when the **same package*** is purchased for each child.

*Not applicable to Group Only option.

PARENTS & TEENS GROWING TOGETHER

This seminar is for **PARENTS** of teens & pre-teens. It's about growing together and building your relationship with your teenager.

The Presenter is Zoe Broomhead. Zoe is married with 2 adult children and 1 teen. Zoe and her husband have spent over 10 years providing Foster & Emergency Care for teens in their local community, in addition to working in Youth & Young Adult Ministries at Syndal Baptist Church. For 12 years Zoe has worked in community based counselling centres. (For more info, email Zoe at: zoe@livinglife.net.au)



Think about what questions you would like answered at this interactive seminar for parents.



WEDNESDAY
29 April 2009

7.45pm-9.00pm

At Rowville Baptist Church

Cnr Wellington Road & Le John Street, Rowville

Would YOU like to join the FRIENDS OF FERNLEA HOUSE fundraising volunteers?

Fernlea House is a not for profit Day Hospice situated in Emerald. We need more enthusiastic volunteers with fundraising ideas and to support regular functions such as Fernlea House Open Day and our Winterfest Emerald stall. You may like to join our Grant Writing group.

Contact Frances at 5968 3895 for more information

Classifieds will be issued after the school holidays.

Surname:.....

| PURCHASES PER FAMILY | | REGAL | IDEAL | BASE |
|----------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | PACK | PACK | PACK |
| 1 | YOU PAY | \$45 | \$33 | \$30 |
| 2 | YOU PAY | \$90 | \$66 | \$60 |
| 3 | YOU PAY <small>Normal Price</small> | \$101 <small>\$135</small> | \$74 <small>\$99</small> | \$68 <small>\$90</small> |
| 4 | YOU PAY <small>Normal Price</small> | \$135 <small>\$180</small> | \$99 <small>\$132</small> | \$90 <small>\$120</small> |
| 5 | YOU PAY <small>Normal Price</small> | \$169 <small>\$225</small> | \$124 <small>\$165</small> | \$113 <small>\$150</small> |
| 6 | YOU PAY <small>Normal Price</small> | \$203 <small>\$270</small> | \$149 <small>\$198</small> | \$135 <small>\$180</small> |
| 7 | YOU PAY <small>Normal Price</small> | \$236 <small>\$315</small> | \$173 <small>\$231</small> | \$158 <small>\$210</small> |

EG: A family of 3 children purchasing Ideal Pack at \$33each is normally \$99. With our 25% discount, you pay only \$74!