Welcome to our first newsletter for 2016. It has been a privilege meeting many of our new families, staff and students as they join our SAS community. Each year we have a particular theme. In 2016 our focus for the year is “Words Matter”.

You may wonder why a focus on words? Writing is always important in a school environment and it is at the very core of our being. Our focus is to improve our students’ writings, to provide them with the skills, the ability to create and the knowledge of how to write for the correct audience.

One must be drenched in words, literally soaked in them, to have the right ones form themselves into the proper pattern at the right moment.

Secondly our focus on Words Matter is to raise the awareness on how our students speak to each other. What we say to each other matters. At SAS our focus is on building one another up and being positive in our speech.

One of my Christmas presents this year was two tickets to see the musical “Matilda”. It was a wonderful, entertaining musical. I was particularly entranced by one of the actors; Miss Trunchbull, a strict and mean spirited Principal, who constantly called her charges “Maggots!”

Now Miss Trunchbull had her come-uppance and was banished from the school in the end but her character reminded me of the importance of speaking in a positive way that will build student esteem and confidence.

The Bible speaks much about our words and how we treat others. One of the fruits of the Spirit is kindness. It is important that our students speak to each other in a manner that shows respect and kindness and we will continue to focus on this throughout 2016.

Kind words do not cost much. They never blister the tongue or lips. They make other people good-natured. They also produce their own image on men’s souls, and a beautiful image it is.

Blaise Pascal

Lorrae Sampson
Welcome to the New Year!

What a privilege it is to be part of this school community. It has been great to meet our new kindergarten students and to reconnect with our school community. The trade school students enjoyed their first official day at SAS last Wednesday and it was great to see and meet new faces as well as reconnect with others. I have spent the first part of my year establishing some goals. My 2016 goals for our school community are to Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind and love others as much as you love yourself, Matt 22:37-39. I intend to do this by Serving, Teaching, Knowing and Praying for our school community. I have chosen these goals because I believe a community that truly loves this way can change the world! What goals have you set for yourself this year? I encourage you to consider how you can love our school community and make it the best it can be.

Chapel services will be run at 2:30pm Wednesday once a fortnight starting Week 2. You are more than welcome to join us during this time as we sing, pray and learn about our great God. As we head towards Easter we will consider what it means that Jesus spilt his blood for us. I encourage you to consider this for yourself and what it means for your life. Ask your children what they are learning in Chapel and Christian Studies, be engaged in our community and as always if you have any requests for prayer please let me know.

The blood of his Son Jesus washes all our sins away.

1 John 1:7

Shane Orchard

Welcome!

I would like to welcome students and school families back to an exciting start to the 2016 school year. We have many new families joining SAS this year and I would especially like to welcome each of them into our warm, innovative and nurturing school community.

There is always a lot happening in Term 1, as students settle into new routines and begin interacting with new classmates and teaching staff. The school will communicate upcoming events through a range of tools this year including: student diaries, letters home, the Edumate school calendar which can be accessed through the parent portal, email Facebook and at times SMS.

The Meet the Teacher evening was well attended on Wednesday night and provided a great opportunity for interactions between students, staff and parents. It was wonderful watching so many of our students ‘burn off some energy’ on the school lawns and to see such positive interactions between students in different year groups.

Wednesday was also Day 1 for the Trades Skills Centre students on our campus, as more than 30 students embarked on their VET courses in Electrotechnology, Horticulture, Construction and Hospitality. Many more Year 11 and 12 students also engaged in the three Trades Skills Centre courses running in Nowra, including for the first time Early Childhood Education and Care, taught by our very own Director of Gumnut Mrs Maria Hogan.

The Sporting Schools program is up and running at the school again this year, with Mr Shane Orchard coordinating the supervision of activities on two afternoons this term. Local Golf PGA player Luke Grinham will be coaching the students on Tuesday afternoons and Doug Parker, who is a familiar face for the students, will be developing the student’s cricket skills each Thursday afternoon.

I am excited to be working with such a talented and committed team of teaching and support staff at SAS this year and look forward to building upon the great work things achieved at SAS last year.

If I can be of assistance at any point throughout the year, please catch me before or after school or make an appointment through the office.

Tim Knowles
Fresh new faces and learning at SAS

The fresh new school year brings some exciting changes to our staff at Shoalhaven Anglican School. Mrs Alison Wade will take on a new role as Coordinator of Junior School. Alison is a very experienced teacher and leader, and has been a part of the SAS community for more than 15 years. Alison has a particular passion for music education and this new role allows her to further develop the students’ in this area.

Ms Sophie Youens already part of the community will join the team in a more permanent role teaching Year 2. Sophie is new to the Milton area having married an alumnus of SAS. She is looking forward to inspiring inquisitive and innovative thinking in her classroom.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths), part of the INNOVATE program will be taught by Mr Antony Bunyan. Antony, as well as being a qualified teacher, has 23 years’ experience as a professional animator and film maker in art, media and animation. We look forward to the fusion of creative and technical skills that Antony will inspire.

Becky Emans a qualified secondary Science teacher, who continues to teach the Certificate III in Primary Industries for the Trades Skills Centre, will teach Science to K-6 each Thursday. Becky has a passion for teaching Science to primary students. Becky has a broad range of experience, one of which is as a zookeeper at Mogo Zoo, where she designed and delivered the education programs that schools participate in.

The team at Shoalhaven Anglican School are looking forward to another year of learning alongside each other and their students. They will continue in the Schools Leading Learning program, which will allow them to collaborate to deliver programs that address the links between quality teaching and quality learning.

It’s going be a great year at SAS!

Maria to train Early Childhood Educators

Shoalhaven Anglican School, through their Trades Skills Centre, are introducing an additional VET subject – Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care. This will be taught by GumNut Director – Maria Hogan. Maria is passionate about early childhood in particular preparing children for life from the very youngest age.

With 35 years teaching experience, including running her own Centre and rating and assessing other Early Childhood Centres, Maria is well qualified and experienced to train the next generation of Early Childhood Educators.

Hello everyone and welcome back to our wonderful school for 2016. It is my privilege to be writing this as the new Coordinator of Junior School.

I would like to welcome our new students Uma, Ava, Denzel, Andie, Joshiie, Noah, Gabbie, Daniel, Ben N., Ben W., Tom and Reuben.

It has been lovely to see the students settling into their new classrooms quickly and being keen to start work.

This week we had a visit from an extraordinary man, Lorin Nicholson. Lorin and two of his siblings are visually impaired. Lorin spoke of the difficulties he has faced in his life and of his amazing achievements – learning to play guitar, riding his bike as a 16 year old from his home in the country to the beach, riding his bike along with his brother, from Perth to Sydney. Lorin’s message was that we should never give up.

Next Wednesday is the Swimming Carnival for years 2-6. Please come along to cheer the children on.

Happy Birthday to the following students who celebrate their birthday in February:

Mia, Tom, Annabelle, Charlotte H, Jayden, Noah and Joshua C

Thought for the day:

“He who answers before listening – that is his folly and his shame”
Proverbs 18:13

Alison Wade
Music swings into action at SAS

Shoalhaven Anglican School students have returned to a vibrant and exciting new learning space called ‘The JAM studio’. This is two spacious classrooms converted into a well-resourced with an array of musical instruments to inspire even the most experienced musicians.

As Year 2 sampled the instruments while inspecting the new facility this week they expressed their excitement “I am especially looking forward to music and soccer”.

“Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them — a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement. The future of our nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music.” — Gerald Ford, former President, United States of America is a favourite quote of Mrs Alison Wade – Coordinator of Junior School and music teacher. Alison is delighted that this space is now available and looks forward to introducing her students to other worlds.

Posters and transport at GumNut

As the children at GumNut settle back into the new year, reacquaint with old friends and form new friendships, they engage in the many and varied experiences at the centre. One of the main projects they are involved in is the creation of a poster for the annual Milton Show. In keeping with this year’s theme, “Transport old and new,” the children are investigating the different types of transport that have evolved over time and have been used to transport people, animals and goods in the local Milton Ulladulla region.

The children collaborate to develop the poster, combining multi-media images, collage, drawing and painting. This activity provides them with an opportunity to develop their understanding of a changing world, experiment with many forms of art as well as having the opportunity to experience a sense of belonging to their local community.

We invite you to visit our poster at the show!