Dear Parents and Carers,

At the start of the year I placed this cartoon in the first newsletter. Every year is a fresh start for every child.

The year has been full of experiences which have allowed your child to grow and develop. Our newsletters are full of our students' achievements. I have been so impressed by the way our students have engaged in their learning and have been challenged to extend their abilities. Every week I see happy, calm and joyful students in our playground.

As we come to our Christmas season, I would like you to reflect on the year. What has been drawn on the canvas of your child's learning?

Lorrae Sampson

The SAS P&F pre-loved uniform shop will be open on the following dates:
21st January 2016 (9.00 to 11.00am)
29th January 2016 (8.30am - 9.30am)
FROM
THE
HEAD OF
SCHOOL

“I would like to encourage the students in our wonderful school to discover their talents, to practice hard and to do something great with the gifts that each of them have been given”

Tim Knowles.

I heard it said recently that “every overnight success is at least 10 years in the making”. A decade, now that is a long time and there are those that argue that to truly be at the top of your field, it might take two decades. For a lot of the young people I work with both in the Junior School and the Trades Skills Centre, 10 years might seem like an eternity, unfathomable, way too long. But the research continues to tell us that is what it takes.

The Junior School achievement assembly last week recognised a number of the wonderful musical talents possessed by our students. Many of these students are just at the beginning of a journey that if they commit to and practice long enough and hard enough, have the potential to result in many ‘overnight successes’. But it must be remembered that simply possessing a talent, without doing something with it, does not generally lead to greatness.

In the book of Matthew, Jesus tells a parable where a man who is going on a journey, calls in his servants and entrusts his wealth to them. To one he gave five ‘talents’, to another two ‘talents’, and to another one ‘talent’, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received five talents went at once and put them to work and gained five more. So also, the one with two talents gained two more. But the man who had received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and buried the talent in the ground.

Now a ‘talent’ was a form of currency worth about 20 years of a day labourer’s wage in the day, and after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. He was really impressed with the servants who had ‘invested’ what he gave them and had done something with the talents they had received. But for the one who received only one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and buried the talent in the ground.

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I would like to encourage the students in our wonderful school to discover their talents, to practice hard and to do something great with the gifts that each of them have been given. I look forward to hearing of more and more of the ‘overnight successes’ to have come out of Shoalhaven Anglican School in the future. They will join a long list of past students who have achieved great things not by ‘working on their game on game day’, but by practicing when no one is looking.

FROM
THE
CHAPLAIN

“Will you accept the seed of God’s Word, turn to God, be forgiven and inherit His kingdom?”

Chaplain Shane Orchard

Good Soil

“The seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God’s word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!” Mark 4:20

What is a parable? A story. A hidden message. An allegory. An earthly story with a heavenly meaning? Jesus chose to teach the people with parables. Why? The answer comes as a shock. Mark 4:12 Jesus uses parables so ‘when they hear what I say, they will not understand. Otherwise they will turn to me and be forgiven’ Mark 4:12. Though for Jesus disciples he says they are permitted to understand the parable. So some are permitted to understand and some are not. Jesus also says ‘anyone with ears should listen and understand’ Mark 4:9. In other words, if you want to know about God’s kingdom, if you want to understand then listen. Many don’t listen. That is the reality of our world. In our state of comfort we believe that we have everything we need, the kingdom is already here and we are the kings. Why would we need what God offers us? The same was true in Jesus time and the religious leaders prove that they were holding onto their own ‘kingdoms’ rather than Gods. However for those who are poor, the mourning, the humble, who crave justice, the merciful, the pure, the peacemakers and the persecuted they thirst for God’s kingdom (Matt 5:3-11). They realise their need for it. And Jesus says the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. The reality is we all need God’s kingdom but some of us are blind to our need. Those people do not have ears to listen and understand.

So are you the good soil? Jesus tells the parable about a farmer scattering seed on a path, rocky soil, thorns and good soil. In short the first three do not survive, the birds eat the seed and the plant dries up and gets choked out by weeds and thorns (Mark 4:1-20). But the good soil grows and multiplies it represents those who accept God’s word (the seed) and continue in fruitfulness. It is a picture of those who will inherit God’s Kingdom. So my question for you is do you have ears to listen and understand what Jesus is saying about the kingdom? Will you accept the seed of God’s Word, turn to God, be forgiven and inherit His kingdom?

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear” Matt 13:16

For those who are listening Jesus says to shine the light of your salvation show the world God’s goodness, for His glory.

“A lamp is placed on a stand, where it’s light will shine” Mark 4:21

Shane Orchard

God’s Word
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

SAS, a school of opportunities!

One of the issues with being in a school that is considered rural is the perceived notion that the students miss out on events that students in the city have at their fingertips. Such things as cultural experiences and excursions to notable locations, but this couldn’t be further from the truth in SAS’ case.

Despite being three hours from Sydney SAS students have as many opportunities (if not more) than students in capital cities. With the age of technology, the world that our children live in is more accessible than ever before.

The Year 5/6 students at SAS are a living testament to this, as they linked up with two schools – one in Hong Kong and the other in Western Australia, to have a session with the author and founders of The Not Perfect Hat Club, Ms Jena Ball and Mr Marty Keltz. This link up via Field Trip Zoom, an amazing digital meeting platform allowed students from Perth, Hong Kong and Milton to meet with Ms Jena in the USA and Marty in Canada. How’s that for making the world closer! This was a wonderful experience for the students and one that will hopefully be replicated over and over.

Also this week, the students in Years 3–6 took a bus trip to Sydney to experience Matilda the Musical. What an incredible experience for them, some of who have never been to see a live theatre performance such as this one. These experiences are ones that students will remember forever and geographical isolation is no reason for students missing out on learning opportunities.

FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

“Students in Years 3–6 took a bus trip to Sydney to experience Matilda the Musical.”

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

ANGLICAN Church (St. Martin’s)
Ulladulla
(Cnr. Green Street & Princes Highway, Ulladulla
4454 2030 www.ulladulla.anglican.asn.au)
Sunday Services:
8.30 am Traditional Prayer Book Service
10.30 am Family Service
5.30 pm Contemporary Service
Carols on the Lawn
7.30 pm – Sunday 13th December.
BBQ starts at 6.30pm
Christmas Services
Christmas Day 8.00 am

Milton
(4454 2030 or 4454-034
www.ulladulla.anglican.asn.au)
Sunday Service:
11.00 am Traditional Prayer Book Service
Carols & Lessons
(8 pm – Wed. 16th December)
Christmas Services
Christmas Day 8.00 am

Milton Community Christmas Carols:
SAS Junior School Choir Performing
Monday 7th December at Milton Primary School
There will be a $2 sausage sizzle and $1 drinks and water from 4.30pm and the evening will wrap up by 7pm.

ANGLICAN Church (St. Peter & St. Paul’s)
Milton
(Cnr. Church Street & Princes Highway, Milton)
4454 2030 www.ulladulla.anglican.asn.au
Sunday Service:
11.00 am Traditional Prayer Book Service
Carols & Lessons
(8 pm – Wed. 16th December)
Christmas Services
Christmas Day 8.00 am

Highway Christian Church: Presents The Christmas Story
Sunday 13th December. 5pm start for the BBQ, and other fun filled activities Carols from 7:00pm

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Milton Ulladulla Baptist Church: Carols in the Car Park
Sunday 20 December. A Christmas event at the church for the community. Sausage sizzle at 6pm, carols at 7pm, finish by 8.30pm.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

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HIGHWAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH:

Carols in the Car Park
Sunday 20 December.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

MILTON ULLADULLA BAPTIST CHURCH:

Carols in the Car Park
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