A Digital School

As you are all no doubt aware, this year Tranby College launched a one to one laptop programme in Year 7. The programme is parent funded and provides students with a Macbook, a suite of software, a protective sleeve, comprehensive insurance, 3 years warranty and the full support of the College ICT department.

The programme has proved very successful to date and the students are certainly enjoying their new learning tool, here are some student quotes:

“Makes school work far more enjoyable and much more interesting. You can create some interesting presentations.” Daniel–Yr 7
“You can store information on the laptop, I tend to lose bits of paper.” Mitchell–Yr 7
“You don’t have to carry as many books with you to and from school. They are awesome! Easy to carry around.” Paola–Yr 7

Last year as part of the Digital Education Revolution the Federal Government launched the National Secondary School Computer Fund. Through this, all schools across Australia were given money to provide computer access for every student in Years 9-12.

This funding prompted the College to expand our one to one programme at the beginning of this term into Year 9. However, the important difference at this stage is that the parents do not fund it because of the money provided by the Federal Government. As in Year 7, these students also are able to have their own laptop for both school and home.

Elsewhere in the College access has subsequently increased as those machines previously allocated to these year groups are reallocated and new laptops are also purchased.

As the programme continues to roll out, the digital landscape of the College in 2011 will be as follows:

- Students in Years 6-10 will all have their own laptop which will include all the components as outlined above for the Year 7 students;
- Students in Years 11 and 12 will have one to one access at school;
- Assuming that the government funding remains, Years 6, 7 and 8 will be funded by parents. Years 9 and 10 will be funded by the government, with parents likely to only need to provide insurance.

The programme will continue to roll out into Year 11 (2012) and Year 12 (2013). However, at this stage the College has made no decisions as to just what sort of technology these students will be provided with.

However, that all said, we must not lose sight of the fact that all technology, laptops included, are not by themselves an education system, and their usage depends heavily on committed teachers, engaged students, effective school administration and sufficient support structures. Our College is committed to the learning needs driving our use of technology and not the other way around. By providing our students with this technology we believe we are engaging with them in the context of the world they will enter as students and employees.
From the Principal

Helping our students to learn how to learn.

It is the end of first semester and so teachers are writing reports to be sent home with students at the start of the holidays.

Writing report comments is not easy. Trying to be realistic, encouraging and constructive all at the same time, whilst also being concise and grammatically correct is a very hard task and one that most teachers are very pleased they only confront twice a year!

So why do we do it? The most basic answer is that it is a form of accountability to parents, but then wouldn’t levels or grades be enough? Possibly, except that ignores the other crucial aspect of reporting which is to help students to become better learners. Teachers in fact do this in many different ways pretty well all the time. For instance, the Middle School Organisers with their weekly student reflections and form teacher responses are designed to help students to learn to take responsibility for their learning and behaviour. Regular contact between teachers and parents in all year levels and the importance placed on supportive relationships and “doing your best” are also part of helping students to become effective learners.

During this semester a group of staff have outlined what they believe to be the characteristics of successful learners and we plan to use this thinking to help students to understand a little more about their learning.

Successful learners at Tranby are:

1. Engaged with their learning, that is they
   - look for opportunities to learn more,
   - look for extra help,
   - ask questions,
   - reflect on their learning, and
   - are proud of their learning.

2. Confident in their ability to learn, that is they
   - can describe what they have learnt,
   - can describe what they did to learn it,
   - can select strategies to help them to learn,
   - help others to learn, and
   - are prepared to make mistakes to learn.

3. Self-disciplined, that is they
   - accept routine and order,
   - persist and complete tasks,
   - set goals,
   - modify their behaviour, and
   - interact positively with others.

4. Effective communicators, that is they
   - listen,
   - speak clearly and effectively,
   - write clearly and effectively, and
   - use IT effectively and appropriately.

5. Engaged with the life of the College, that is they
   - participate in class/tutor/house activities,
   - participate in co-curricular arts and sports,
   - participate in service activities, and
   - provide leadership to those around them.

We hope that this list will help students to reflect on their learning and help them to see what they could do to learn more effectively. Whilst the list may seem to be more immediately applicable to those in the secondary school than to Early Learning, there are many developmentally appropriate ways in which young children can demonstrate many of the characteristics in the list. We will be using it with our students in a variety of ways. We also hope that the list helps parents to extend their conversations with their sons and daughters beyond what they are learning, to how they are learning it.

This is all part of our goal of helping our students to become active, independent learners.
Handy Hints for Improving Learning

*The ingredients of school success are built at home.*

Parents play a vital role in their children’s success at school. Your child inherits your value of education, your attitude to persisting in times of difficulty and your attitude to trying out new things even if you are likely to make mistakes.

Times of adversity provide opportunities for parents to teach their children how to cope and not just survive but thrive.

**Organising a Learning Space for your Child.**

As your child grows and develops, there will need to be somewhere set up for them to study and do projects. Some kids just can’t get themselves organised and may need a parent to take care of the practical aspects of setting up a home study area. The parent may also need to be responsible for keeping it neat. It’s ok for parents to assist by thinking of ways to better organise notes as well.

**Organising a Learning Space for your Child – Lighting.**

Natural or indirect lighting such as a desk lamp is best for learning. It is best for your child not to study under fluorescent lighting as it is related to raised cortisol levels in the blood stream (an indicator of anxiety and agitation). Cortisol also suppresses language functions. If you are purchasing a desk lamp try to avoid fluorescent lights.

- How much Television viewing should I allow my children to watch if I want them to succeed at school?
- How much sleep does my child need to succeed at school?
- Know Your Child’s “Down” time
- Eat a good breakfast
- Use Music
- Use aromas
- Monitor their use of video and computer games
- Help them to build the essentials skills for success
- Limit the amount of part-time work

The remainder of the Handy Hints for Improving your Child’s Learning can be found on the Junior School News page of the College Website [www.tranby.wa.edu.au](http://www.tranby.wa.edu.au) (left hand side of the Home Page under College News then under Junior School News).

**Fairy Queen Caroline’s visit to Kindergarten**

On Tuesday 1st June Fairy Queen Caroline visited our classroom. She played games, sang songs and read the children stories. The children asked Fairy Queen Caroline questions about what it was like to be a fairy. Each child received a ‘wishing stone’ as a gift.
Year 7 and Year 8 Camps

As we approach the end of Term Two I am reminded of just what opportunities our students at this College are afforded and what it means when the school says it provides a holistic education.

Last newsletter I was writing about reports and the significance of the discussions parents have with their son or daughter around their academic learning. This week I find myself writing about two other very different experiences our Year 7 and Year 8 staff are preparing for their students.

In the last week of this term the Year 7s will be departing for a wonderful learning experience on the other side of the country as they head to Canberra. The students get to experience many exciting and memorable places, including both the old and new Parliament House, the Australian Institute of Sport and The Australian War Memorial. They will also get the chance to experience a white Christmas in July as they head up to Thredbo and spend a day in the snow!

Whilst our Year 7s are off in Canberra, our Year 8s will be spending three days in Harvey on their own adventure camp. The students will be challenged as they traverse both low rope and high rope courses, climbing walls and an abseiling tower.

I want to take this opportunity to both thank and acknowledge my wonderful staff for their dedication and commitment in providing these opportunities. Being prepared to go away for extended periods of time, away from their own families and loved ones and take on the enormous responsibility associated with such activities should not be under-estimated.

Year 9

Whilst all the above is happening our Year 9 students will be continuing to work hard, but it won’t be all work and no play! The current Year 9 Leaders will hand over their positions to a new group of students for Semester Two, with an election held on Thursday 24th June. The Electoral Education Centre will be visiting the school to run these elections with formal polling booths and ballot papers, providing students with an authentic experience of participating in a democracy.

After House Sport on Friday 25th June, the last day of Term Two, the Year 9’s will enjoy a sausage sizzle with their teachers before changing into formal uniform for the Academic Awards Assembly in the afternoon.
**Senior School News**

Mr Steven Davies

**Year 11 and 12 Examinations**

As I write, Year 11 and 12 students have completed their examinations and are recovering at home ready to commence their Semester Two studies. Examinations are formal events. WACE examinations are conducted under very strict rules and we take the opportunity to mirror the requirements of the WACE examinations so that our students are well-practised by the time these important external examinations come around for students of Stage Two and Three courses at the end of their Year Twelve.

I wish to compliment the students who have just sat their examinations at the College. Their dress and behaviour was of a high standard and they were very well-organised. I hope that their results reflect the effort they put in to their preparation. Examinations are a unique form of assessment and there is no doubt that students need to learn how to prepare effectively for an exam. Performing well in an examination requires effective time management, and examinations in different courses require different strategies. Each examination period is a learning process which hopefully builds skills in our students so that they perform at their optimum level in the WACE examinations at the end of their secondary schooling.

**Semester One Reports, Reflection and Three Way Conferences**

On the last day of this term, each Senior School student will bring home their Semester One Report. Much time and effort has been put in to providing information about the progress of each student. It is very important that each parent and each student reads through the report carefully. There will be important advice given on how improvements can be made in Semester Two. Students may need some help from their parents to gain maximum benefit from such feedback.

Senior School staff wish for students to play an active part in their own learning by reflecting on their progress and on how they learn, and by setting goals and planning strategies to achieve them. While the Year 11 and 12 students have been away from regular classes during examinations, Year 10 students have gone through an exercise in reflecting on their Semester One performance. Their Tutor has guided them through the first part of a booklet called “Year Ten Reflection and Goal Setting”. This booklet will be included in the envelope with the report for Year 10 students. Please take time to read through what your child has written and spend more time to help him or her to complete the goal setting exercise for Semester Two.

Three Way Conferences will occur early in Term Three. Following on from the activity in Tutor Group, Year 10 students and their parents will initially meet with the appropriate Tutor to discuss the goal setting for Semester Two. Tutors can then help the student and parents decide which teachers they should make appointments with and also what aspects of their study should be addressed.

For all parents the conferences will be an opportunity to meet with teachers who can provide more information about the student’s conduct and progress and to become involved in strategies to support the learning of the student. Please do take advantage of this opportunity when it is provided.
June 6 – 12th is Simply Sharing Week, an ecumenical initiative of several Christian relief and development agencies in Australia. Each year, Simply Sharing Week encourages Australians to learn about and become involved in, issues of social justice. The theme for 2010 is Refugees and at Tranby College we are taking up the slogan, ‘see the real me, not just the refugee’ and encouraging our students to see refugees and asylum seekers as unique individuals - with their own experiences, talents and dreams - rather than the negative stereotypes engendered by the media.

Many of our students find it difficult to distinguish between asylum seekers and illegal immigrants. This isn’t surprising given the negative publicity surrounding recent arrivals of asylum seekers by boat. Australians are constantly being told that boat people are ‘queue jumpers’, that Australia is perceived as a ‘soft touch’ and that we are ‘being swamped’ by ungrateful, illegal immigrants who will steal our entitlements and undermine our national security. Moreover, our political leaders are doing little to challenge these myths and restore a much-needed sense of perspective on this issue. Sadly, it seems that being tough on the world’s most vulnerable people is a vote-winner these days.

The response of the Uniting Church to asylum seekers and refugees is quite different: "The Church is called to be a place of welcome. As faithful disciples we are to provide care and comfort to those who come to this land as strangers, seeking safety.” Asylum seekers are our neighbours, regardless of where they came from and how they got here, and we should go out of our way to care for them, in the same way the Good Samaritan went out of his way to care for his Jewish neighbour. To put it another way, Christians are called to be a reflection of God’s love in the world.

For these reasons, we are encouraging Tranby students to be informed about this issue - to read and listen wisely, seek out information from both government and community groups and listen to the stories of refugees. Also, we ask that all people of faith pray for refugees around the world, that they may find hope, healing and peace in their lives, and that our nation may act with compassion and hospitality towards those strangers seeking sanctuary in our land.
A Skatepark on Tranby along Clyde Avenue?

Some parents have been waiting for the school to talk to them about the proposal that the City of Rockingham has to build a skatepark on Tranby land opposite the Settlers Oval on Clyde Avenue.

At this point there is no firm proposal.

The College Council was approached by the City of Rockingham to consider whether we would make some land available for a community skatepark. Their response was that we would consider it but with some very strong provisos:

1. There must be a ‘get out clause’ for the College if having the facility on our land causes problems for us.
2. The facility must be attractive.
3. There must be a clear process for managing the facility and keeping it attractive and safe.

At this stage, I still do not have a plan to put in front of the school community. City of Rockingham has conducted a planning process and broader community consultation about the design of the facility has taken place. However, neither I nor the College Council has seen this planning. It is still likely to be two weeks away.

In summary, there is no firm proposal in front of the College Council for a skatepark. The Tranby Council has some very clear expectations for any suitable proposal from the City of Rockingham. These expectations will have to be met before the proposal is taken any further and before a decision is made.

Jo Bednall
PRINCIPAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Don’t forget:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2 Finishes:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3 Commences:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is a 3 week break to rest and recuperate ready for Semester 2.

---

**Academic Task Force**
P O Box 627, Applecross 6953
Ph) 9317 4421
learn@academictaskforce.com.au
www.academictaskforce.com.au

**2010 WACE Help**
Revision – Study Skills – Exam Preparation

July Vacation Program
Enrol now for July 5th-9th or July 12th–16th

Please contact Academic Task Force direct for more information on the courses available or go to their website.
IMPORTANT DATES:

16th June  Yr 9 Scitech
17th June  Yr 5/6 Interschool Sport, Carmel College
17th June  Yr 7 Academic Awards Assembly
18th June  Yr 11/12 National Careers & Employment Expo
19th June-25th June Yr 7 Canberra Camp
21st June-25th June Yr 7 Alternate Camp
21st June-23rd June Yr 8 Camp
22nd June  South Of the Swan Dance Festival
23rd June  Yr 10 AFL Sportsready Cup
24th June  ACC Boys Hockey Carnival
24th June  J/S IPSHA Winter Carnival, John 23rd College
25th June  Yr 8-12 Academic Awards Assembly
25th June  P & F Junior School Social

25th June - Term 2 Finishes
(This is a 3 week break)
19th July - Term 3 Commences

Atomic Learning

Atomic learning www.atomiclearning.com is an online site that provides mini-videos for computer software skill development. As a member of the College Community you are able to access this website 24/7 and view tutorials which provide easy-to-follow instructions about how to use small aspects of an enormous range of computer software programs. Both the Macintosh and Windows platforms are supported and the clips are often as brief as 20 seconds. Please use this service by going to their website and logging in with: Username: Tranby Password: College.

ACC Interschool Cross Country

On Thursday 3rd June Tranby competed along with 51 other schools in the ACC Cross Country carnival at Alderbury Reserve.

Tranby had many strong performers throughout the day with many students finishing in the top 50 out of up to 400 runners who competed in each race. Some particularly outstanding performers are listed below:

Brooke Capewell  4th Under 14 Girls
Kirsty Morrison  9th Under 15 Girls
Logan Hughes   11th Under 16 Boys

As the ACC marks the end of Cross Country for this year, Tranby College would like to thank the team for their commitment to the Colleges program in 2010. We would especially like to thank the Year 11 & 12 students for their commitment during a very busy time of the school year. We also acknowledge all students who pushed themselves to achieve their best in all of the events, they should be proud of their efforts. Thank you must also go to the staff and parents for their support for the team over the course of the term.
STUDENT PROFILES

Name: Erena Barnes
Discipline: Jumping
Team: Peel Metro Horse and Pony Club
Favourite Rider: Daniel Staeck
Favourite Team: Australia

I first started riding at the age of 6 at Foxdale Riding School. I rode there for 6 years, and that’s where I got Clancy. I had him for 1 year and he taught me a lot. He was a brilliant jumper and gave me confidence to jump 1.30m. I then got George, a 5 year old thoroughbred gelding straight off the track. It took about a year to train him, and now he is pretty much perfect. We’ve been to a lot of competitions and he has pleased me in every one.

Name: Teagan Jones
Discipline: Jumping and dressage
Team: Tranby College
Favourite Rider: Sonja Johnson
Favourite Team: West Coast Eagles

I first sat on a horse when I was 5 years old. Ten years later I am now riding an amazing chestnut, a 17 year old warm blood gelding called Bolle who won me my first ribbon and took me to the Interschool Equestrian Championship. I have been riding Bolle for just over a year now and my mum had him before I did. Together we have come so far and only getting better. I am aspiring to be jumping 90cm next year at the interschools.

PERFECT 300 for Mitchell Shorto

Well done to Mitchell Shorto who achieved his first perfect 300 game (12 strikes in a row) on 6th May. A perfect game is a great achievement in Ten Pin Bowling, one never achieved by most bowlers.

Mitchell has been ten pin bowling for the last six years and has represented WA for the last two years at the President’s Junior Interstate Shield Competition, coming away with two silver medals. He has also started competing in the Eastern States in Youth competitions to gain more experience.

One of Mitchell’s short-term goals was to bowl a perfect game (and hopefully there are many more to come). His next goal is to represent Australia, hopefully in his last year in Juniors next year at the Asian Schools Championships, or sometime in the future in Youth Competitions. His ultimate goal would be to be able to compete on the Pro Tour Circuit. Good Luck Mitchell.

Tranby College Senior School Athletics Carnival Term 3 2010

Venue: Settlers Oval
Field Events: Monday 9th August
Track Events: Monday 16th August
JUNIOR SCHOOL SOCIAL

Friday 25th June

T & E Building – Tranby College

**ENTRY is $2.00 pay at the door** (please have correct change)

Kindy, Pre-Primary, Year 1 & 2 – 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 – 7.30pm – 9.30pm

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Kindergarten students must be accompanied by an adult.

ALL students must be collected by an adult from the T & E Building after the event.

No students will be allowed to leave unaccompanied.

Only Tranby students may attend, and only in their year group session.

No younger siblings please.

**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

************

The canteen will be selling sausage sizzle, drinks, lollies and chips.

There will also be novelties to buy, ranging from $1.00 - $3.00.

**TEA & COFFEE AVAILABLE FREE TO PARENTS**

Located in the 1st classroom to the left, inside the Social room,

This room is strictly for parents only.

If you are able to assist at the Social please add your name to the parent roster in the parent room which is located in Middle School.

or

Email Charmaine redfern4@aapt.net.au