At the beginning of this month I attended the Compass conference in Canberra with the Senior School Head and Deputy Prefects. The conference is held over four days with Christian schools from all over Australia attending. The Biblical themes of creation, fall and redemption were presented to students illuminating parts of the Bible that they may not have considered before. Through these presentations the students were challenged to wrestle with their faith and to go deeper into their relationship with God. The conference encouraged students to consider not how God fits into their everyday lives, but how they fit into His story, and how to live out our lives with this perspective. Throughout the conference, students met with the student leaders of other Christian schools and were able to grow together in faith. During the conference the students were challenged in many areas of their lives. In the first lecture given, David Yates spoke on how the position given to us doesn’t make us a leader, instead it is determined by our character, vision, direction and plans. At the end of this conference the students felt encouraged, re-energised and refreshed to do the work God had called them to.

From the conference, there were many new ideas, dreams and plans that the Prefects want to see achieved in our school. One of the main goals is to grow unity in our School across all year levels. To make unity a core part of our School will mean stepping out in faith and reaching out to others.

At Tyndale, we believe that it is our role to provide an environment where every child can strive to achieve their very best and be prepared to face the challenges of life beyond their school years, confident and competent for the challenges ahead. In the Senior School a large part of achieving this is providing a curriculum that is accessible for all students. Last week all students from Year 6 to Year 12 received a booklet called Rise To Your Future. This booklet sets out the options that Tyndale students have in Years 11 and 12 as they seek their future pathway. The packages that we have created cater for a wide range of student needs and post-school pathways. We hope that as you looked through the booklet you were able to have a productive talk with your child about what they want to do in the Senior School and when they leave school. If you would like to hear more about these packages, you are welcome to attend the Rise To Your Future Information Night which will be held on 22 March at 7.00pm in the Auditorium.
GENERAL NEWS

RESOURCE CENTRE NEWS

All is progressing well with our Premier’s Reading Challenge. We have now received over 60 completed sheets with several classes nearing 100% of class participation!! The race is on to see which class will be the first the finish!!

As each student completes the challenge they will be given a puzzle piece to build their class picture of an icon or something relevant to Australia. The students will see their puzzle unfold as the pieces will be placed on gigantic map of Australia! Ms Burton and Mrs Cockburn will explain this further to each class.

Easter

Easter is a very important part of our school community and as we approach this special time we would like to offer the use of some wonderful books to our parents, care givers etc. We have a great selection available to borrow in the R-2 section of the Resource Centre and would welcome any inquiries regarding these resources.

SPORTS CORNER

Weekly Sports Results

For weekly sports results click here

Four of our students competed at the SA State Long Course Swimming Championships held in Marion from 20-24 January 2016, with some fantastic results. Jessica J (9HRE) achieved 5 personal bests, 3 finals and 1 bronze medal for 200m backstroke. Julia D (9JRI) achieved 9 personal bests, 3 finals and 2 bronze medals for 100m backstroke and 200m backstroke. Angelina T (9DPO) achieved 6 personal bests, 2 finals and 1 bronze medal for her part in the 4x50m freestyle relay. Jesse L (10KWH) achieved 9 personal bests and participated in 2 finals. Well done to these 4 students!

SACSA Secondary Basketball

The carnivals were held in Week 4 at Morphett Vale Stadium over three days with results as follows: our 8/9 boys finished 6th, 8/9 girls finished 3rd, Open boys (Tyndale Blue) finished 7th, Open boys (Tyndale Green) finished 15th, Open girls finished 3rd. Thanks to all students and coaches involved.

MIDDLE SCHOOL | P. 8282 5118

PREFECT PERSPECTIVE

by Nicole

In Term 1 it is the start of a new year and everyone comes back to school and feels excited and motivated to do well in their studies, since it is a new year. I encourage you to do your best and put your best foot forward. Don’t give up the race but instead keep pressing on both in your school life and in your relationship with God. God will help you through it, even if you don’t go as well as you expected. Psalms 46: 1-2 says, “God is our refuge and strength and ever present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea." This verse is saying that through thick and thin God will never leave us or forsake us, as he put us on Earth with a purpose and a plan. Finally, Deuteronomy 31:6 says, “Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.”

...every person is intrinsically valuable for who they are, not what they can do.
EASTER: MORE THAN CHOCOLATE

As we near Easter time and our Easter baskets become full of chocolate eggs, we begin to reflect on perhaps the most important moment in history: the crucifixion of Jesus. One of the reasons that Jesus died on the cross for us was because He was called to a life of service. Jesus’ death was an act of obedience towards his Father.

The Tyndale Middle School has a heart for serving others because we live in a world filled with corruption and decay and we are called to bring preservation, healing and flavour. Leviticus 2:13 says, ‘You shall season all your grain offerings with salt. With all your offerings you shall offer salt.’ God wants us to be salty Christians! Organisations that will be a part of our Easter basket presentation assembly in Week 6 will hopefully feel the love and saltiness of our giving. Each year I am astounded by the generosity of our Tyndale families, and looking at 20 baskets filled with eggs is further proof of this. Thank you to the many families who bought chocolate for our baskets— you have demonstrated the love and service that Jesus displayed in His life.

Matt Lang
Year 7 Coordinator

A PLAY WITH WORDS

The new year brings new enthusiasm, fresh ideas, and a multitude of holiday experiences to share with others. Middle School English this term capitalises on this enthusiasm by focusing on narrative writing in Term 1. Students are encouraged to develop creative noun groups, to write with cultural understanding and to simply immerse themselves in their own imaginations.

Year 6s will predominantly focus on Dreamtime stories for writing. This will be coupled with spelling, grammar basics, reading comprehensions and class novel activities.

Year 7s will focus on narrative writing which will then be followed by the study of persuasive writing where students will deliver speeches improving their public speaking skills.

Year 8s have begun the term by focusing on narrative writing, in particular historical fiction. Students are encouraged to immerse themselves in an era or a moment in time and write from a unique perspective. The second half of the term involves poetry and all the fun that it has to offer.

Year 9s have begun the year with persuasive writing; learning to formulate their opinions on such issues as animal rights demonstrating their ability to argue effectively.

Kristen Jones
Middle School English Curriculum Leader

SENIOR SCHOOL

PREFECT PERSPECTIVE
by Jayden

Throughout the Compass conference, we were challenged by the power that stories have in shaping our lives; be it the Biblical story, or our own personal stories. We were told that human nature is to find meaning beyond ourselves, and that ultimately, being human is about giving yourself for something bigger than yourself. This, however, raised the conflicting issue of identity, and discovering what our personal purpose is in this world. The answer provided was that, “[You] can’t answer the question ‘what am I to do?’ unless [you] have already answered a prior question, ‘of which story am I a part?’” Additionally, that “When we submit our lives to what we read in scripture, we find that we are not being led to see God in our stories, but our stories in God’s. God is the larger context and plot in which our stories find themselves.” Through this shift in perception we can discover that, like a good book, God has authored a purposeful meaning for us as characters in his overarching story for the world. In finding God’s purpose, we should endeavour to embrace the “you” that God has made, and to be present in His world, and love it.

CANBERRA TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

From 26 February to 1 March, Daniel Isler (Head Boy), Mariah Murphy (Head Girl), and ourselves as deputy head prefects, joined Mr Kinch and Mrs Porch in travelling to Canberra for the 2016 Compass leadership conference. This conference was a four-day intensive look into the power of stories and how the Biblical story can impact our lives, ending with sessions in discovery and wisdom, and becoming Christians of creativity and meaning. Embedded in the conference were also trips to the National War Memorial, Parliament House, and an all-schools-combined
bush dance to finish off our time together.

Some of our trip highlights include a private tour of Parliament House with MP Tony Zappia; segwaying around Canberra; the bush dance; and of course, the challenging and motivational lectures within the conference. However, our biggest highlight of this trip has to be the deep friendships formed with the Captains of Nambour Christian College, our sister school from Queensland. We loved getting to know such beautiful and encouraging people, and formed instant connections in sharing our personal goals and aspirations for this year.

The Nambour captains have become amazing friends and we look forward to catching up with them in the Sunshine Coast later this year!

Madeleine L and Jayden F