It was wonderful to be able to host a group of rugby players from across the North West of NSW and to hear very positive comments about our school, what we offer, the facilities and the nature of the innovations that are becoming a part of the everyday at SGS.

One parent commented that they wished they had a school like this close to them. It was a good reminder that we are fortunate to be a part of such a wonderful school.

The boys were amazed at the wobbly stools and the other options that vary the seating across the school. This was especially clear for the students who are in trouble for always rocking on their chair. ‘Can you phone our Principal and tell him about these stools?’, was the request from one of the players.

We will continue to seek to develop the best paths for our students, that will improve the learning environment and the learning journey for all.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Paul Smart
Principal
Primary News from Mr Feeney

Last week, following our participation with the bands and ensembles, our Primary choirs were involved in the Upper Hunter Eisteddfod, again with some wonderful results. Our Kinder Krooners Choir and our Voiceworx Choir both earned first places for their performances and there were many encouraging and very positive comments from those parents and friends who were able to be there, supporting the students. I do want to thank Miss Wendy Thomas, Mrs Tori Saunders, Mr Jason Buckley and especially our valued accompanist, Mrs Joan Manning, for their combined efforts to prepare the students and facilitate this special opportunity. We value the creative arts and the many opportunities to cultivate interest and skill in these areas for our children.

Further to thoughts around the creative arts, and through an initiative of the Arts Health Institute called ‘Sing Out Loud Together’, our Year 6 students have again been given the opportunity during 2016 to explore and share a wonderful creative experience with the residents of Strathearn Village in Scone. The Arts Health Institute is an organisation that facilitates national programmes designed to bring the arts into health and aged care environments. Their belief is that the arts enrich our lives and that when we are ill or infirm, we need this creative engagement more than ever. They believe the arts help humanise institutions and are vital in providing quality in care, and in this context, they seek to bring creativity to care. I’m sure we all appreciate this perspective.

This term, Year 6 Gold students have been travelling to Strathearn Village each Wednesday for a session in which they sing and share stories together with the residents. The students, together with their Strathearn ‘buddies’, are working towards a concert which will be presented at Strathearn Village later in the term. This is a very special programme and we do acknowledge the support of Strathearn Village and The Arts Health Institute to enable our students to participate.

Over this last week, I’ve had the great privilege of being able to attend the IPSHA and APPA Conferences in Auckland NZ. These have been Trans-Tasman gatherings of Primary School Principals and Leaders and amazing opportunities for gathering new thoughts, reflecting, visiting schools and sharing with colleagues. A common theme throughout the week, is that we all want the best and brightest future for our children and are committed to working constantly to make this a reality, wherever we are. I have been enriched and inspired in so many ways.

I do remember doing a double take, when I first read on the IPSHA Conference speaker list that Billy Graham would be attending. I later discovered that this wasn't the renowned American evangelist, but rather a New Zealand national champion boxer with an amazing inspirational story - a story packed with many accounts of situations where the lives and futures of boys have been changed simply by someone who took time to show they cared. Often we complicate life when the simple sincere and quietly sustained words and actions are what can make a lifelong difference. Billy Graham shared how his own life was changed when someone reached out and simply showed him they cared, through encouragement and kindness, which helped build self-belief and hope.

Primary staff have been involved together in a number of valuable AIS PD Programmes over this year, and these continue both this week and next. This week, as part of our Schools’ Leading Learning funding, the focus has been on the development of student’s writing. Next week, the focus will be on English and further understanding of this key learning area. I do want to acknowledge Mrs Janet Walsh, our Primary Curriculum Co-ordinator, who has worked hard to ensure these opportunities have been available for the Primary teachers and that we are all kept informed, equipped and enthused with current curriculum developments. One great benefit of these PD opportunities through this year has been the increased learning conversations amongst the staff and the resultant collaborative planning around implementation in the classrooms.

Good Humour for the Week
Did you hear about? ...

The two silk worms who had a race and ended up in a tie!
The man who went shopping for camouflage trousers, but wasn’t able to find any!

Congratulations to Olivia Thrift (Year 2 Gold), Tahdg Magner (Year 6 Gold), Rachael Fleming (Year 4 Gold), who are all celebrating birthdays this week. I do wish these students all the best as they enjoy this special milestone and share the time with family and friends.
Announcement from the 2016 Fete & Markets Committee

To all our helpers and supporters of the 2016 SGS Fete & Markets

We are delighted to announce that we have raised a net figure of $29,000 at this year’s Fete & Markets. To everyone who helped and supported this event – thank you so much! We are thrilled with how the day progressed and delighted with the amount of money raised.

As pledged previously by the P&F, the money raised from last year’s Homemade/Handmade Markets and this year’s Fete, will be allocated towards the redesigning of an all-weather surface playground area for Primary, stretching from the Kindergarten classrooms through to outside of the MPR. This is a much needed resource. A committee has been formed to start working on a design and obtain indicative costs, which we look forward to sharing with the School community shortly for comments and feedback.

Once again – to the School community, a HUGE thank you for supporting our major fundraiser for the year. Here’s to an even more successful 2017 SGS Fete & Markets.

Kind regards,

Yvonne Clerke
2016 Fete Co-ordinator
From the Chaplain

So Jesus called a child to come and stand in front of them, and said, ‘I assure you that unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the Kingdom of heaven. The greatest in the Kingdom of heaven is the one who humbles himself and becomes like this child. And whoever welcomes in my name one such child as this, welcomes me.’ (Matthew 18:1-9)

What a contrast God’s way of ranking people is to ours. We live in a world of progression, advancement and ambition. For many, there is a constant need to perform, to succeed. I love to read and follow stories about successful sports people. Sports people are among our greatest heroes. Tonight NSW and QLD will face off in the opening State of Origin battle. Who will be the greatest?

Who is the greatest in God’s eyes? Jesus says that to be the greatest in His eyes, we are to be like a child; humble, trusting and unpretentious. What a comforting thought to know that God wants us without all our personal tickets of success and human measures of greatness. He wants us to be humble and childlike. What a challenge!

Weekly Chapel Bible passages and relevant links can be found at twitter.com/sgschapel

In Prayer this week:
Reflect on: Matthew 18:1-9
Give thanks for: Rain!; God’s goodness in sending us Jesus, the resurrection and the life, so we can have a way to be friends with God; Parents, teachers and supporters who truly care for us
Pray for: Our Government and the next season of politics in Australia, that equitable outcomes abound for all Australians; For the school building project; For families and students who are ill or struggling at the moment; Year 2 and Year 9 students; For your son or daughter’s teacher/s! (specific prayer requests can be sent to prayers@sgsnsw.edu.au to be prayed for by our weekly prayer group- not published in newsletter)

Rev’d Nate
natkinson@sgs.nsw.edu.au
We are half way through the term and it has been busy. Last week Kirsty’s Group participated in National Simultaneous Story Time. Wednesday was the day we had all been waiting for!! We were going on the SGS bus. We got into our lines, remembered our bus safety chat and boarded the bus. The children really loved the bus trip, it was almost not long enough. The children excitedly sat on the bus and chatted to their friends and felt very grown up. We arrived at the Council Chambers and joined hundreds of other preschool and school friends to take part in National Simultaneous Story Time. The book was "I got this hat" by Jol and Kate Temple. We thank Upper Hunter Library for including us in this fantastic community event. We also thank Mr. Feeney and Mr. Tess for driving us on the bus.

National Simultaneous Story Time is an annual campaign that aims to encourage more young Australians to read and enjoy books. Now in its 16th successful year, it is a colourful, vibrant, fun event that aims to promote the value of reading and literacy, using an Australian children’s book that explores age-appropriate themes, and addresses key learning areas of the National Curriculum for Grades 1 to 6 and the pre-school Early Learning Years Framework.

On Tuesday we had the pleasure of hosting the “Science on the Move” interactive show. The children watched with wide eyes as Ann taught us about magnets, balance, colours and mirrors before everyone had a chance to explore and investigate all of Ann’s wonderful toys and science fun. This was a great way to further investigate science in a fun, hands on environment.

Over the weekend Kirsty, Georgi, Jane, Emma and Cathy made the trek to Liverpool for a “The Educators’ Big Day Out”. This was a fantastic day jam packed with workshops reflecting the latest research in early Childhood Education and Leadership. We all returned with a new passion and a reminder of how important our role is in enriching children’s lives. We never take for granted the privilege we have in moulding young lives.

Every day each group will be using the large worms for dedicated gross motor activities. Now that it is getting very cold, we would rather leave the children’s shoes on their feet. For this reason the children will need to wear jogger style shoes everyday. These are the only shoes that we will allow on the worms. This decision has been made as part of our risk assessment and with the children’s safety at the forefront of our programme. Please make sure your child wears joggers every day to preschool.

The Winter Programme is in full swing and it is getting colder now. Please make sure your child has adequate warm clothing as we do play outside every day.
The benefits of seeing live theatre

Although some schools in the state, both country and city, are reluctant to take students out of class for culturally enriching trips, the English and Drama faculties have a policy of seeing as much live theatre as possible in any year. This is because, apart from being a fun day out, research suggests that attending a live production of a play being studied adds significantly to students’ knowledge and understanding of the text, develops vocabulary and critical thinking, builds tolerance and strengthens the ability to read emotions in others.

This year, as part of our Shakespearean studies in English, we have already taken Years 10 and 11 to see ‘The Taming of the Shrew’ and ‘Hamlet’ respectively, by the Sport for Jove Theatre Company. Students agree that seeing these thoroughly entertaining live performances has helped their understanding and engagement with each play. We hope that Year 9 will also benefit greatly from their trip to ‘Macbeth’ on June 14th, and Year 8 will love their trip to see ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ in August.

Drama students have already seen a new Australian play – ‘The Great Fire’ – at the Belvoir St Theatre, and will have the opportunity to see various other productions, both classic and contemporary, during the course of the year. Year 12 Drama are off to see one of their set texts for the HSC, ‘Stolen’, this weekend. These trips will enhance their understanding of theatre design, acting styles, director’s techniques and the effectiveness of promotion and programming.

We know that sometimes there are doubts about the value of all the organisation required for such excursions, as well as the fact that students apparently lose a day at school, but we firmly believe that the experience has more benefits than at first realised.

Maria English

All Shook Up - the Musical

All Shook Up DVD’s are available to purchase from Mrs Saunders for $10 each — please contact tsaunders@sgs.nsw.edu.au if you are after a copy.
**OVERVIEW Vocal Eisteddfod 28 May 2016**

**Katie MacDougall**  
1st Country 14 yrs and under  
1st Popular Solo 14 years and under  
2nd Own Choice 14 years and under

**Hamish Guiana**  
1st Musical Theatre 12 yrs and under  
1st Own Choice 12 yrs and under  
3rd Popular 12 yrs and under  
HC Country 12 yrs and under  
HC Junior Duets

**Tegan Ferries**  
1st Own Composition Open Age  
2nd Country 14 yrs and under  
2nd Musical Theatre 14 yrs and under  
2nd Junior Duets

**Hayley Cook**  
1st Own Choice 14 yrs and under  
2nd Popular Solo 14 yrs and under  
3rd Country 14 yrs and under  
HC Junior Duets

**Grace Saunders**  
2nd Own Choice 12 yrs and under  
HC Junior Duets

**Abby Davis**  
HC Country 14 yrs and under

**Sam Heaton**  
2nd Junior Duets

**Sarah Dart**  
1st Junior Duets
Year 8 History Model Building

Year 8 History built models as part of their studies of Medieval Europe. There was much time and effort evident in their constructions as well as some excellent research supporting their designs and the details that they chose to include on the models. Traditionally, the models have been judged in a model competition, after the assessment process has been concluded. This year, the models were judged by Rev Nate and Ms Gibson. The judges enjoyed viewing the hard work of Year 8. The results of the medieval model competition are-

**Highly Commended:** Anna Ward-Thomas, Brigette Kelly, Jim Merrick, Clancy Moore, Karissa Harper, Isla Folpp, Nathan Cole, Alexander Bates and Harry Williams

**Winners** were Noah McDonald and Willa Mitchell for their models of peasant houses.

Congratulations to all these students!

Ms Gibson

HSC Seminar Day - Singleton

On Friday, May 27, our Year 12s joined thousands of others to take part in a seminar day designed to assist all HSC students to approach their examinations with confidence. Despite the cold, blustery conditions, they made their way to six sessions at a variety of venues around Singleton to hear from HSC markers about the best ways to maximise their marks.

With few exceptions, the students agreed that the day was beneficial, and most came away with useful notes and tips on how to improve their results. Mrs Hollis and I were impressed with the cooperative attitude demonstrated by the students and hope they retain what they have learned for the Trials.
Combined Independent School’s AFL

Congratulations to Noah McGrath who last week competed with the CIS AFL Team at Warners Bay at the NSWPSSA State Championships.

For the first time since the NSW CIS inception into the competition in 2006, CIS won the carnival, competing against Mackillop, Riverrina, Polding and Sydney South West.

The boys played an exciting brand of unselfish football dominating from the outset putting them into a strong position throughout the tournament and giving them the right to play the Grand Final against a strong Riverina team. The win was a superb team effort with CIS 8 goals, 3 behinds—51 points defeating Riverina with 3 goals, 7 behinds and 25 points.

Well done Noah and congratulations on your fine efforts.

Congratulations to Garth

Garth Hutchinson will be familiar to many of you. Garth has worked at Scone Grammar School for a number of years around the grounds and doing maintenance.

Each year we hear more and more of Garth’s success as a Ten Pin Bowler so it is with great pride we share with you his latest haul of trophies from the “Star Gazers League 2016” – Congratulations Garth.

Equestrian News

We wish our Equestrian Team much success at the North West Equestrian Expo to be held at Coonabarabran from Friday 3 June until Tuesday 7 June.

Horse Health Forms need to be completed in the three days leading up to Scone Horse Sports Day to be held on Tuesday 14 June. These forms are on the School Website. They need to be handed in at the gate on the day of competition.

Entry forms for the Scone Grammar School Interschool Stockman’s Challenge will be on the SGS website soon. If a school family would like to be involved in sponsoring this inaugural event please contact me – adavies@sgs.nsw.edu.au and send your logo to aforsythe@sgs.nsw.edu.au so that we can include it in the programme.

A committee meeting for this new event will be held on Thursday, 16 June in the Primary Staff Room at 3.30pm. Looking forward to seeing you there.

All Equi-skills Students – we will be meeting with Marcia Williamson next Monday, 6 June in Lab 1 at 3.30pm.

Anne Davies
Equestrian Co-ordinator
My family and I have been showing our cattle since the start of this year (2016). We have been to a number of shows around NSW and we have competed in them with strong results and awards. Recently our steers were killed at Wingham Abattoir after we had shown them at Wingham Beef Week.

My family and I have broken these steers in ourselves and we prepare them ourselves. We don’t just turn up on the day and get to lead an animal.

Shows competed in:
- Gunnedah Show
- Muswellbrook Show
- Mudgee Show
- Tamworth Show
- Rylstone Show
- Maitland Show
- Wellington Show
- Wingham Beef Week

The SGS Primary Da Vinci Decathlon team last week in Sydney.

National Simultaneous Story Time
For Your Diary

Week 6 (A)
Thursday 2 June
Outward Bound
Friday 3 June
Coonabarabran Equestrian Expo until Tues 7 June
Choose Maths Year 9
Outward Bound
Saturday 4 June
Outward Bound return
Year 12 Drama to "Stolen" in Parramatta

Week 7 (B)
Monday 6 June
Coonabarabran Equestrian Expo
Year 9 Ag students Fieldwork to Woolooma
Tuesday 7 June
Coonabarabran Equestrian Expo
Secondary Athletics 800m in sport time
HRIS Basketball Gala Day
Wednesday 8 June
School Photos
Sing Out Loud Together 6G at Strathearn
Secondary School Social
Thursday 9 June
HRIS Secondary Netball Gala Day
HSC Ancient History Lectures at Sydney Uni until 11 June
Friday 10 June
HSC Ancient History Lectures at Sydney Uni until 11 June
D of E Gold Years 11 /12 at Sydney until 13 June
Saturday 11 June
Festival Of The Fleeces at Merriwa

Week 8 (A)
Monday 13 June
Long weekend
Tuesday 14 June
Scone Horse Sports
Newcastle Knights' Knockout 10s
ICAS Comp Writing
Year 9 to MacBeth at Seymour Centre
HRIS Secondary Trials Football
Wednesday 15 June
Years 11&12- Drama “All My Sons”
Science & Engineer Challenge at Muswellbrook
Sing Out Loud Together 6G at Strathearn
HRIS Public Speaking Years 3-6 at Cessnock
Years 9 /10 Elective Music at Lyric Theatre
Thursday 16 June
D of E Silver Year 11 to Barrington Tops
D of E Bronze Qualifier Year 9 to Barrington Tops
Friday 17 June
D of E Bronze Qualifier Year 9 to Barrington Tops till 18 June
You are invited to
Families Together
this Sunday
5 June

11am at St Luke’s Church
A short child focused service, followed
by craft for children, real coffee for
adults and lunch together
Come and bring the family

RSVP for catering purposes by the day before
Jenny Sylvester – 0409 818977 or jennys12@tpg.com.au

Canteen Roster

Term 2

Week 6 (A)
Thursday 2 June
Jenny Crackett, Sinead Scott
Friday 3 June
Jenny Crackett, Kelly Malone.

Week 7 (B)
Monday 6 June
Jenny Crackett, Joy Harvey
Tuesday 7 June
Jenny Crackett, Linda MacCallum
Wednesday 8 June
Jenny Crackett, Katie McCann
Thursday 9 June
Fiona Bailey, Amanda Dowell
Friday 10 June
Fiona Bailey, Erryn Day, Julianne Christopher

Week 8 (A)
Monday 13 June
LONG WEEKEND
Tuesday 14 June
Fiona Bailey, Catherine Raphael
Wednesday 15 June
Fiona Bailey, Rachel Northam
Thursday 16 June
Jenny Crackett, Tracey Stewart
Friday 17 June
Jenny Crackett, Kylie Odgers, Di Gillett