



Newsletter 2021
Week 3

Term 2

LET US FIX OUR EYES ON



THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTOR
OF OUR FAITH

HEBREWS 12:2

From the desk of Mrs Meyer...



This week I read a four-year-old child's comment (Readers Digest May Edition 2021, p.49) to the question "What are you going to be when you grow up?" He replied, "Still me!"

Whilst this is an unexpected reply, and a bit funny, it got me thinking about how our children change from this naïve, but profound answer. I have watched so many people who start out confident in their own skin, but this changes as they are more exposed to the society in which we live. There are pressures to look different, act different, and be different to how we have been made. We tell our children to just "be yourself", but that can be difficult in this current society.

When I am tempted to think negatively about my own identity, I like to remember what God has already done for me.

Psalm 139:13-14,

'For you created my inmost being;

You knit me together in my mother's womb.

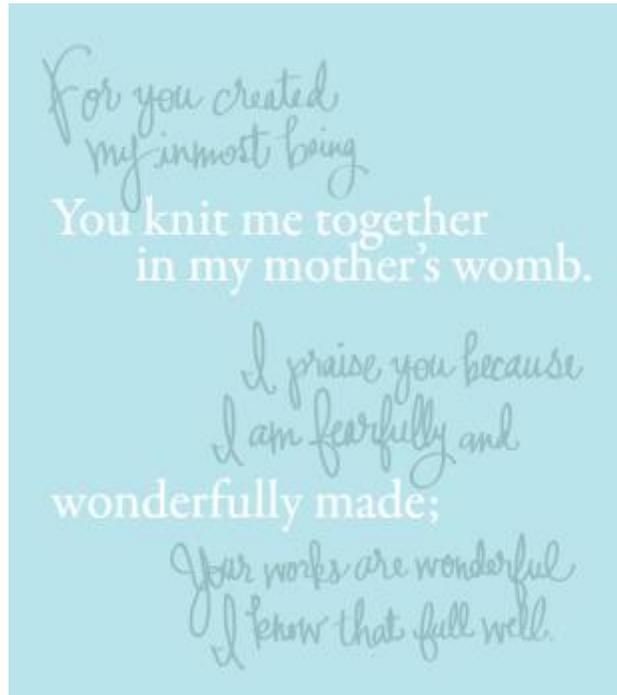
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.'

Let's help our young ones to understand their identity in Jesus, rather than measuring themselves against others.

Have a great week.

Mrs Ella Meyer



Getting to know the staff at SMCS.....

Mr Jared Male

What is your role in the school?

I teach Mathematics, Science and PASS. I am also the homeroom teacher for years 7 and 8.

How long have you been a part of SMCS?

This is my third year here. I started in 2019.

What are you passionate about?

I am passionate about History, Science, and Jesus. I can talk about these for hours.

What do you do for fun?

I like to read books and play board games, especially longer strategy games.



Primary Mutterings



Our Kindergarten students are learning so quickly. They are a terrific class, always doing their best work.

It's only the beginning of Term 2, but they have already begun to take home pre-readers. They know the letters and sounds for 'a, t, m, s, e, p, i, h, k, and n', they can count to 30 and know how to write the numbers to 12 and can show them on a tens frame.

Our Year 1/2 students are also working diligently, perfecting their spelling rules and recalling their multiple letter phonograms quickly. In Mathematics they are quick to recall number facts to ten and have been working on spilt strategy addition and subtraction of two and three -digit numbers –very clever kids indeed! We are currently working on fractions.

Altogether, K/1/2 have been studying stories by Australian author Mem Fox. We have discovered that she writes the stories and gets an illustrator to draw the pictures, that is why all her books look so different. We even had a Hat Day and enjoyed making Koalas in response to our reading.

Just last week we had our secondary reading pals come and join us on Friday mornings to work one on one with our students in their reading skills. The students love having their big buddy come and help them.

K/1/2 have also learnt about capacity and measuring the capacity of a contain with informal units. We have just begun working on identifying 3D objects as they are drawn on paper.

We are so fortunate to have many teachers in our class. Mrs Chesham assists us with Literacy and Numeracy, Mrs Shumack does Science and HSIE where we are looking at different homes for people and animals. Mr Shumack does Gross Motor and has taught our students how to throw, kick and bat a ball. We had fun with Year 7/8 teaching us some gross motor skills last Monday.

Mrs England takes K/1/2 on Fridays and does Sport and Library, where we are learning about Space. She also teaches Art where we have been doing lots of craft to develop our fine motor skills. This term we welcome back Miss Bridie who is learning at TAFE how to be a teacher's aide and will be doing her placement in our school.

Our class also presented our class item at the Primary assembly this week. We presented a poem called "Three Bears" and a song with a dance called 'My Lighthouse'. I'm sure if you could be there you could ask anyone of our students to perform these for you.

So, our K/1/2 classroom is a very industrious and exciting place to be and I'm so proud of all my wonderful students.

Mrs Wadland

K/1/2 Teacher







High School News



9/10 History students have been studying *Australians at War*.

In this unit, we are researching and learning about the experiences of Australian Soldiers and Nurses during World War One and Two. Students wrote a memorial about a soldier they researched for their assignments. Some students researched family members who served.

Mrs Elyse O'Connor

Private Frank Parker

By Phoebe Gilpin

Private Frank Parker, born 1894 in Port Melbourne, served in WW1 under the 5th Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, service number: 634. Before the war Parker was a Railway porter and was an unmarried man because of this, his next of kin was his mother, Mrs. N.H. Parker. He enlisted at the age of 20 and on the 21st of October, 1914, he was put on the HMAT Orvieto A3 destined for Egypt. Parkers Battalion landed at ANZAC Cove on the 25th of April 1915 as a part of the second wave of men. Frank says that

when they landed “We were about a mile, a mile-and-a-half off the course and we landed in a sort of gully.” he recounted that if they landed in the original position that was planned, they’re wouldn’t have been many of the men left. He also talks about how disorganized they were. “And we got mixed up, we were all over the place. There was 5th Battalion, 6th Battalion, 8th Battalion all over the place,” and “Most of the officers were gone, it was just a matter of everyone for himself,” (Frank Parker talking about the landing Gallipoli). From the 6th to the 8th of May the Frank Parker, 2nd Brigade, was transferred to Cape Helles to support the attack on Krithia. This attack gained little advancement and lost a third of their men. The 2nd brigades' men were then transferred back the ANZAC Cove and served throughout the campaign until the evacuation in December. He survived the landing Gallipoli and sailed for the western front in France. Once there, Frank Parker was involved in the battle of Pozieres in the Somme valley. He was wounded there in 1916 and suffered what is known as shell shock or what we now know as PTSD. He then returned in October 1916 to Australia. Once back in Australia he died in 1988 at the age of 94.



References

Retrieved 1 May 2021, from <https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/awm-media/collection/RCDIG1067377/large/5368943.JPG>

Frank PARKER. Retrieved 1 May 2021, from <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/98379>

Gallipoli landing. Retrieved 1 May 2021, from <https://www.nma.gov.au/defining-moments/resources/gallipoli-landing>

PTE Frank Parker. (2015). Retrieved 1 May 2021, from <https://www.abc.net.au/ww1-anzac/gallipoli/eyewitness/200021702.html>

Leo David Willis LAC

by Joseph Ventura



(Sheppard, 2021)

Born in Campsie, NSW, 17 June 1913. Address: 35 Kinsel Avenue, education and occupation: up to year 7, due to family problems (father addicted to alcohol). Left school early to work at a jeweler, and later Yorkshire Insurance Company. Next of kin: Marcia Nance Willis. Personal characteristics: 5' 8", average weight, fair skin, brown hair, Christian. What sort of person was he: honest, hardworking, conscientious, and strict. (Sheppard, 2021)





(Stan, n.d.)

Service number: 132665. Date and place of enlistment: 6 April, 1943, Sydney, aged 29 years old. Discharged: 19 September, 1945. Departure from Australia: 6 April, 1943, to Nadzab - New Guinea, then to Morotai (name of boat unknown). Rank: LAC (Leading Aircraft man), he was also a paymaster, and had to stand guard and watch for Japanese¹. He was never directly involved in any sort of violence throughout the course of the war. Unit: (likely to be Number 24 Squadron), Number 77 Wing, Number 10 Operational Group, stationed on Morotai for the larger part of the war, bombing Japan, and Japanese territories. No. 77 wing travelled to Nadzab, in New Guinea, Morotai, in Indonesia, and other places along the China Strait. He would have experienced the Battle of Morotai, from 15 September 1944, to the end of the war (Stan, n.d.). (Sheppard, 2021)

William John Taylor

by Will Taylor

William John Taylor was born on 23rd November 1917 in Brisbane Queensland, the youngest of 3 children. He enlisted at Annerley, Qld on the 28th August 1940 at 22 years and 9 months old. Before this he was a chemist shop assistant. He was 5 foot 10 inches tall, with blue eyes, brown hair and was a member of the Church of England. His army number was Q19294 and he was in Unit 15BN. He began his army service as a private and in 1941 he was promoted to Acting Corporal and then to Lance Sargent.

In August 1942 he landed in Papua New Guinea to fight alongside 8500 other Australian soldiers. He began his time in New Guinea in Port Moresby and while there he experienced several day and night air raids by the Japanese. Soon after this he was transported to Rouna Falls at the foot of the Owen Stanley Ranges where the Kokoda track started. Here he worked on the track and nearby airstrip.

In October 1943 his brigade were transported by DC3 airplane over the Owen Stanley Range. They were escorted by fighter aircraft in case the Japanese were on the other side waiting for them. They landed at Dumpu in the Ramu Valley where their job was to relieve the brigade that had pushed back the Japanese in that area. The rainfall here was 200-300 inches and it rained nearly every day and night. The engineers had to build a suspension bridge over the river in the valley to be able to get

wounded men out. Before this, the wounded had to be taken across the river by pontoon, carried by natives over the mountains then evacuated by jeep ambulances.

One morning 3 Japanese planes snuck up the valley and machine gunned the camps. William was right in their path. He didn't have time to get to an air raid shelter so dived into the river. Thankfully he was not hurt and there were only minor casualties among the unit.

He arrived back in Australia in September 1944 and was amazed by the huge crowd out to meet them when they landed in Townsville. From here he travelled back to Brisbane and was granted leave to spend time with his family.

After the war William John Taylor became a school teacher, got married and had 3 sons. He spent 12 Years as a missionary in Fiji with his young family before returning to Queensland. He died in 1990.

He was my Great Grandpa.



1 - Australia soldiers on the Kokoda trail

<https://indopacificimages.com/papua-new-guinea/guide-to-diving-papua-new-guinea/understanding-papua-new-guinea/papua-new-guinea-and-wwii/>

<https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRetrieve/Interface/DetailsReports/ItemDetail.aspx?Barcode=4471935&isAv=N>

Sport Spot



Our first ever Zone Cross Country was held on Monday 3rd May in Nowra. It was a beautiful and warm autumn day, and the specialized Cross-Country track – Willandra Cross Country Course was a magnificent venue. Hard indeed to stay focused on running, while there were lush green surrounds to enjoy.

We took a team of 19 students from across Primary and Secondary. The students were very successful, with 11 students qualifying for State Cross Country later in May.

All of our students ran well, but in particular, we can be very proud of Matthew Groves who came third in 8/9 Year old Boys and Jordan Groves, who came second in the 12 Year old Secondary Boys events.

Thanks to all the parents who were able to take their child/ren to this event. The team had a good group vibe and the students were very supportive and encouraging of one another. Go team SMCS!

Mrs Dani Wadland

Sports Coordinator.









From the Student Service Council



On Friday, the SSC kicked off their Term 2 fundraiser - **HOT CHOCOLATE FRIDAY!**

All funds raised this term will go towards helping with High School and Primary camps.

We had a wonderful and organised group of students from the SSC, who prepared the hot chocolate mixture, (taste testing was done beforehand to ensure there was enough chocolate flavouring) set out the cups, took the orders and collected and counted the money.

If you bring a keep cup you will pay less and receive bonus marshmallows!

After this first week we have decided to increase the cost of the hot chocolates (we won't need to if more people bring keepcups!) to help us cover the costs of purchasing takeaway cups.

Hot Chocolate Fridays (Weeks 2-9)

When: First Half of lunch

Cost: \$1.50 or \$1 if you bring a keepcup

Marshmallows will be served with each cup of Hot Chocolate.

Organisation:

- All students will line up in the link in one line.

- As students pay and give their order, they will be given a number
- When your number is called you will come and collect your order.

Happy Hot Chocolate Fridays!

SSC and Mrs Shumack



ANZAC DAY



On Sunday 25th April 2021 SMCS students, parents, staff and members of our community participated in the Cooma Monaro RSL Sub-Branch Commemoration of Anzac Day.

It was a clear sunny day as we gathered to remember those who have fought and died for our country. It was a really special day to share with our Cooma community.

The ADFA Bandpipes and Drums led the procession up the main street of Cooma, and then along Vale Street to the Cenotaph where the service was held.

Hymns were played by the amazing ADFA Bandpipes and Drums, prayers said and the Australian and New Zealand National Anthems were sung by the amazing voice of Isabelle Wicks of ADFA Bandpipes and Drums.

The Address was given by Rear Admiral Stephen Hughes CSC RAN (Head Intelligence Capability Royal Australian Navy). He spoke of the courage and commitment of those in the services. In particular he spoke of the posthumous award of the Victorian Cross given last year, 78 years after the death of Ordinary Seaman Edward 'Teddy' Sheean.

"In 1942, Ordinary Seaman Sheean was the youngest crewman on the Australian minesweeper [HMAS Armidale \(I\)](#) as a loader for the ship's Oerlikon anti-aircraft guns.

Less than six months later in the vicinity of Timor, HMAS Armidale came under coordinated torpedo and bomb attack by enemy Japanese aircraft.

Returning to his station while wounded, the 18-year-old Sheean strapped himself to the anti-aircraft gun and opened fire at the enemy. He tried to defend his shipmates who had abandoned ship and were being strafed by gunfire from the enemy aircraft.

Witnesses described how he hit at least two enemy aircraft before he went down with the ship".

His story can be found on

[Teddy Sheean to be awarded posthumous Victoria Cross | Navy Daily](#) Teddy Sheean to be awarded posthumous Victoria Cross. Published on 13 August 2020 LSIS Kylie Jagiello (author), Mr Jay Cronan (photographer). Topic(s): Honours, Awards and Trophies, Naval Heritage and History, HMAS Armidale (I) Chief of Navy Vice Admiral Michael Noonan AO speaks after the announcement by His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor-General of ...news.navy.gov.au



Thank you to Mrs Kamenyitzky for organising the wreath, school blazers for the SSC and rosemary twigs for us all to wear.

Thank you to those who attended and walked with our school community. It was lovely to see so many and share a special day with you all.

There is so much to thank God for, and Anzac day reminds us to take time to reflect and give thanks.

Lest we forget

Emily Shumack



School News





Cooma School Lunches - through Subway - is available for you to place your order before 9.30am on *Mondays* and *Thursdays* for a yummy and healthy lunch order!

Our friends from Cooma Lunches are going bigger and better! They will now offer a greater menu, incorporating a wider variety of choices. There are also several Gluten Free options available too! You can order the original wraps and salads we had last year as well as warm food. Lunches are delivered to the School for your convenience.

Please support this venture because it raises money for our school.

Just follow the link below and place your order by 9.30am on Mondays or Thursdays!

<https://www.coomaschoollunches.com.au/>

COOMA SCHOOL LUNCHES

10% OF ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL

FOOD DRINKS SIDE ITEMS CONTACT

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is a point in time assessment of literacy and numeracy skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participate in the annual NAPLAN tests in writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

Our school will be participating in NAPLAN Online between **11 and 21 May 2021**.

In preparation for NAPLAN Online, our school will also be participating in practice tests between 22 March and 1 April. The practice test is a trial-run and key preparation activity for NAPLAN Online in May. It is not an assessment of student ability and the tests will not be marked.

Excessive preparation for NAPLAN Online is not recommended. Students can use the [public demonstration site](https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site) (<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) to familiarise themselves with the types of questions and tools available in the NAPLAN Online tests.

If you have any questions about NAPLAN Online, please contact your child's teacher.

School Notices



SMCS & CBC Working Bee

Saturday 1st May saw a foggy start to a beautiful day for the SMCS & CBC (Cooma Baptist Church) Working Bee. It was our first working bee since 2019, so with many jobs to do and hands to make light work, it was a wonderful day!!

A BIG thank you to:

Neil, Anna, Zack and Mia Poucher,

Nick, Rowena, Milli and Max Liosatos,

Paul and Dani Wadland,

Alana Stibbard,

Elyse O'Connor,

Dr Robert Wiles, and

Dr David Learoyd

For tackling the pruning of the hedges; cutting trees and branches; gardening and weeding; cleaning air conditioner filters, lights, shade sails, and MPH door tracks; painting steps; working on the back garden; whipper snipping and edging.

Thank you and we look forward to another Working Bee, potentially later in the year!

Mrs Lucy Gotts









SMCS NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a General Meeting of Snowy Mountains Christian School Limited will be held at Snowy Mountains Christian School, Corner Baroona Avenue and Boona Street, Cooma North.

Date: Sunday, 16th May 2021

Time: Commencing at 11:50am.

We would love to see all members of the Company present and anyone else interested is most welcome.

Lucy Gotts

Company Secretary

If you would like to find out more about becoming a member of SMCS Limited, please contact a SMCS Ltd Board Member.



Casual Relief Teachers

SMCS is seeking to extend their casual relief teacher database.

At SMCS we strive for excellence. This not only applies to academia but through expression of our faith as well. Hence, ideal applicants will need to demonstrate a love of learning including personal growth, and a desire to excel.

To apply for a position, please obtain the application form from either our website (www.smcs.nsw.edu.au) or enquire at the office on 02 6452 4333.

Please drop your application at the school office or mail to:
The Principal
PO Box 53
Cooma
NSW 2630

Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any further questions.



If you have any questions, concerns or wish to communicate to your child's class teacher/s, please feel free to contact them via the school office, Class Dojo (for Primary) or email them directly. Our teachers are happy to answer any questions or concerns that you might have!

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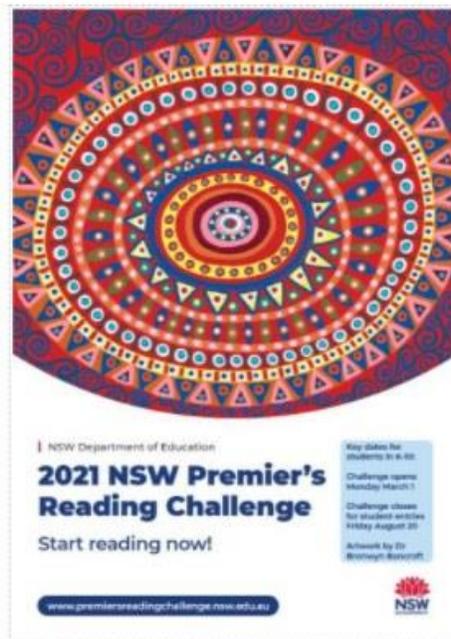
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NSW Premier's Reading Challenge 2021



The 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge opens on Monday March 1. If you would like your child to enter this Challenge you can obtain an entry form off the school website and send it in to school by the end of March so I can enter your child into the system. Don't forget you can keep track of books you are reading over the summer to be added to your reading log once the challenge opens.

The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is available for all NSW students in Kindergarten to Year 9.

Happy Reading

Mrs Amanda Forster

Premier's Reading Challenge Coordinator

Community Notices





COLIN BUCHANAN
LIVE IN CONCERT

WWW.COLINBUCHANAN.COM.AU

AUSTRALIA'S NO.1 CHRISTIAN KIDS ARTIST

FRI 14 MAY 5PM
SNOWY MOUNTAINS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
BAROONA AVE. COOMA. NSW

TICKETS **\$15** BOOK NOW
 COLINBUCHANAN.COM

Mother's Day craft @ Cooma Library!!



Mother's Day is just around the corner!
 Come to the Library, be creative, and make a
 spectacular brooch and card for that special
 person in your life!

Please book your spot as places are limited!
 6451 1637

Saturday 8 May
10.30am



Snowy Monaro
 REGIONAL LIBRARY
 Books are just the beginning

SNOWY MONARO
 REGIONAL COUNCIL

Upcoming Sessions



Parents, Carers and Community Members in the Snowy Mountains region are invited to attend a free mental health education session in Term 2.



headspace National is hosting mental health education sessions on ways to support a young person when you are concerned about their mental health.



The sessions aim to:

- * Strengthen your understanding of mental health and the warning signs for suicide and self-harm.
- * Strengthen your understanding and skills in how to cope and where to find help.
- * Build awareness of local services and the various support services available.
- * Strengthen relationships between local area mental health services, local schools, headspace centres and other community organisations.



Cooma

Date: 12 May 2021
Time: 12 - 1pm
Location: Online webinar
Registration: [Click here](#)



Cooma

Date: 24 May 2021
Time: 6.30 - 7.45 pm
Location: Online webinar
Registration: [Click here](#)



Cooma

Date: 7 June 2021
Time: 7 - 8.15pm
Location: Venue to be confirmed. Refer to Eventbrite for details.
Registration: [Click here](#)

Calendar of upcoming Events



>>> May 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 Working Bee |
| 2 | 3 Zone Cross Country | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Mother's Day | 10 NAPLAN starts | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 NAPLAN ends Colin Buchanan Concert | 15 |
| 16 SMCS AGM 12pm | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 Exam week | 25 Exam week | 26 Exam week | 27 Exam week | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

>>> June 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Whole School Photo Day | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Athletics Carnival | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 High School Camp Borambola | 22 High School Camp Borambola | 23 High School Camp Borambola | 24 High School Camp Borambola | 25 Last day of Term 2 High School Camp Borambola | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

2021 SMCS solar generation



SMCS has almost 120 solar panels and 30kW system which are installed on top of the MPH roof.

2021 Term Dates

2021 Term Dates

Term 1: Wednesday 27 January – Thursday 1 April

Term 2: Monday 19 April – Friday 25 June

Term 3: Monday 19 July – Friday 17 September

Term 4: Tuesday 5 October – Wednesday 8 December

Board of Directors

John Vanderhout (Chair Person)

Judy Taylor (Secretary)

Robert Wiles

Lance Lawton

Farhad Khan

Malcolm Anderson

Neil Poucher

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