

## BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



**TERM 2 THEME:** Relationships

**TERM 2 VERSE:** Hebrews 10: 24

*“Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”*

## “TO BE LIVING WITNESSES OF CHRIST’S LOVE THROUGH EXCELLENT EDUCATION”

I always look forward to the annual review of events around the New Year. 2018 had the Winter Olympics, the football World Cup, a US President meeting with the North Korean leader and the leaders of both Korea’s meeting together. There was a British Royal wedding that will be remembered for the preacher’s message (that must be a first!) and a company that reached a capital value of \$1 trillion (Apple Inc). There were also twelve Thai boys rescued from a cave and a probe on Mars taking a selfie. Each story made the global news.

As I reflect on 2018 at KISC, many memories come to mind. Some exciting, others challenging and many fun. We started with the Walkathon, raising over \$60,000 for the new futsal pitch. In February we moved to the new site in Thecho. The class of 2017/18 graduated in June and we said goodbye to many great staff and members of the community, including KISC Director Dan Parnell. We got to say hello to some lovely new staff in July, including the new KISC Director Judy Gerber who officially took office at the beginning of the school year. Since then we’ve had bandas, summits causing

disruption, victories in sports competitions and even rain in December.

This year has brought some significant change. Sometimes that is difficult to deal with, but without change we can’t grow and develop. Things can stagnate and lose life if they stay the same. Life is dynamic and constantly changing and we need to find ways to cope with it. In times of change, turmoil and challenges I often read Isaiah 41: 10, “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” The baby we remember at Christmas is the God who created all things. He made the promise to be with us in all situations. When I remember that truth I find it’s not so hard to face changes.



**Angus Douglas, Deputy Director**

# WHOLE SCHOOL LIFE

## A NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF SECONDARY



**David Hamer**  
*Head of Secondary*

**W**hat is a Christian School? Recently three KISC staff members travelled to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to the Association of Christian Schools International Christian Educators Conference. I attended a full day on the topic of biblical integration.

At this seminar one of the questions raised was, 'what makes a Christian school?' The answer given was that for a full picture of what a Christian school is, the following is needed:

- A biblical community
- A school culture that is developed to reflect the type of community God desires us to have
- Spiritual formation where there are activities designed to help students become more like Christ in their character
- Biblical integration, the intentional planning to help students learn academic content in the context of our relationship to God.

The importance of educating the Christian mind is clearly stated in Romans 12: 2, "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then, you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will." In Matthew 22: 37 Jesus replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind."

There are challenges in this for KISC as we continue to work out our faith in education.

## ALL ABOUT THAT BABY



Music, acting, sparkling lights and celebrating Jesus - this year's Christmas Carol Service was one to remember. On 20 December students, staff, parents and community members came together to celebrate. Primary students impressed us with their singing, acting and fantastic costumes as they performed "All About That Baby". We also enjoyed music from the KISC community orchestra, the Nepali choir, the middle school choir, IGCSE music students as well as a special message from guest speaker Arbin Pokharel.



"It was a wonderful night that celebrated the birth of Jesus. It was 'all about that baby' - that very special baby born in Bethlehem," says Ms Gerber. "The lights covering the walls of the hall created a lovely atmosphere." A special thank you goes to Kristi Loper, Amy Lynn and Carolyn Thaxton as well as all the Primary staff for the work they did throughout Term 2 to prepare for the service.



# PRIMARY STUDENT LIFE

## Jesus Others You



### GRADE 2 SKYPES AUTHOR!



Grade 2 had the opportunity to Skype with Jennifer Trafton, author of “Henry and the Chalk Dragon”, after spending two terms reading her book. They were so excited to interview a published author. Grade 2 gives this book, an epic adventure into the imagination and art of Henry Penwhistle, two thumbs up!

An excerpt about the book from Jennifer’s website says, “In the town of Squashbuckle, just about anything can happen, and when Henry Penwhistle draws a mighty Chalk Dragon on his door, the dragon does what Henry least expects – it runs away. Now Henry’s art is out in the world for everyone to see, and it’s causing trouble for him and his schoolmates Oscar and Jade. If they don’t stop it, the entire town could be doomed! To vanquish the threat of a rampaging Chalk Dragon, Sir Henry Penwhistle, Knight of La Muncha Elementary School, is going to have to do more than just catch his art – he’s going to have to let his imagination run wild. And *that* takes bravery.”

### CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD



Students enjoyed learning about different Christmas traditions as they took part in “Christmas Around the World” on Friday 21 December. Students travelled to different classrooms to learn about Christmas in Australia, Zimbabwe, Germany, Philippines, Egypt, Netherlands and Sweden. “It was a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about how other cultures celebrate Christmas,” says Mrs Seymour. “It was a great way for our students to learn that even though others might celebrate differently, we all still celebrate the birth of our Saviour.”

### READING CHALLENGE



Primary students were given a reading challenge this term. Their prize was special reading time (and hot chocolate and popcorn!) with Mrs Seymour and Ms Gerber. Congratulations to all who completed the challenge!

# SECONDARY STUDENT LIFE

## KISC'S GOT TALENT



Secondary students and staff dazzled us with music, dancing, acting, magic tricks and more on Friday 30 November at KISC's Got Talent. It was a wonderful afternoon enjoying the talents of both our students and staff. Ms Coulter, Mr Colville, Ms Solomon and Mr Douglas entertained us with some great judging too! At the end of the show, the audience voted on their favourite acts. First place went to Somang, second to Vishal and Vishwas and third place to Shreeyash, Kevin and Moise. "KISC's Got Talent was a wonderful afternoon enjoyed by the entire school body," says Mrs Loper. "With 21 performances and the participation of nearly 50 students and staff, it was a lovely time of

**"God delights when we live in community. Think symphony, not soloist." -Bob Goff**

celebrating the diverse and extensive talent represented at our school." Congratulations to the winners and all who participated. A special thank you also goes to Mrs Loper for organising this fantastic event.



## BASKETBALL SUCCESS



The girls' and boys' basketball teams made the school proud when we hosted the KISC Friendship Basketball Tournament from 16-25 November. Both teams made it to the finals. The girls' team faced Rato Bangala School in their last game and came away winning 42-28. Special congratulations goes to Joy who was chosen as Most Valuable Player. The boys' team faced a tough St Xavier College in the final. They put up a good fight, but St Xavier came out ahead winning 64-48. Congratulations to both basketball teams and coaches on the excellent efforts!

## SCIENCE AWARDS



Grades 6, 7 and 8 received awards from Ms Edwards for their Science in Action projects in November. Grade 6 experimented with an egg drop, Grade 7 worked with light boxes and Grade 8 created and launched water rockets. All students are to be commended for their hard work and special congratulations go to the winners! (Grade 6 winners: Eunjun, Asha, Esther, Charis and Phillip, Grade 7 winner: Pratyush, Grade 8 winners: Abigail, Parag, Stephen, Sara, Sam and David.)

# PARENTS & STAFF

## SMC UPDATE

The School Management Committee (SMC) met twice in Term 2. One discussion topic has been what more KISC could do to recruit, retain and support its international staff. As a result of our discussions, there will be some changes in KISC's approach. However, recruitment remains a challenge with which the whole KISC community can help with. Please do share the needs with your supporters. You can find the latest vacancies at <https://www.kisc.edu.np/vacancies/>

Over Term 3 we will be looking for some new SMC members; people who are committed to serving KISC and can think strategically. If you would be interested in exploring this further or can suggest others, do email me, Debbie Drew, at [smcchair@kisc.edu.np](mailto:smcchair@kisc.edu.np). Members do not have to be parents but could be from the wider community bringing a particular expertise, such as in education. Being part of the SMC is a wonderful opportunity to develop your own skills whilst contributing to the future of KISC.

**Debbie Drew**, *SMC Chair*



## NOTE FROM THE PTA

To complement our fundraising efforts for the Primary play spaces in Term 1, we arranged a working bee to help speed construction along in Term 2. A few dads, as well as staff and Secondary students, gave up a Saturday and spent eight hours constructing the balance beams and logs that our students thoroughly enjoyed for the last few weeks of Term 2. The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) provided their lunch by way of thanks. It was long day that involved a lot of digging but was also very productive and enjoyable.

The PTA also provided support for the Community Fun Day by organising the food and craft stalls and all the carnival games, as well as paying for the bouncy castle. It was difficult to get support for the event this year; however, it was a fun day enjoyed by all who came along. A big thanks to our small pool of volunteers who gave above and beyond of their time to ensure the day was not only possible but also successful.

During our meetings in Term 2, we discussed ideas on how to continue and improve the parent seminars that have been introduced, gave feedback to the school about the Primary clubs system and planned ways to encourage KISC staff, which included providing small Christmas gifts. The PTA also led prayer walks around the school and helped organise the pre-Christmas Concert afternoon tea gathering.

**Kylie Colville**, *PTA Chair*



## EQUIP HAPPENINGS

### DECEMBER VISIT TO LAMJUNG DISTRICT



We were greatly encouraged by this final visit of the year and the relationships we have built. As well as observing lessons in each of the 15 partner schools, we met with the principals to review our 5-year partnership. We were joined by former KISC staff, Phillipa Munday, who gave a presentation on raising awareness of students with 'specific learning difficulties'.

### KATHMANDU VALLEY PARTNERSHIPS AND LINKS

We continue to follow up on trainings and build relationships with our closest partner school, Somang Academy. This month, we met with the principal and CEO of Machhapuchhre School, to see how a partnership with this progressive school could be mutually beneficial.

### TRAINING FOR MOUNTAIN CHILD PARTNER SCHOOLS

EQUIP will run five days of training for teachers from Mountain Child's partner schools in northern Gorkha District, at their Kathmandu offices in January. We also plan for teachers to observe primary classes at KISC. We are honoured to support teachers who are making a significant contribution to improve the quality of education in this remote Himalayan region of Nepal.

### NEW EDUTECH PARTNERSHIP

Edutech is an organisation that set up high quality ICT labs for public schools in Nepal. Simon Hall and Khim Kandel had a very positive meeting with Edutech founder Mike Chisholm and his Nepal team in early December. We are now in the process of signing a partnership to set up ICT labs in some of our partner schools in Lamjung.

### NOVEMBER VISIT TO NUWAKOT DISTRICT



This was our final visit to complete a short-term programme in partnership with Samaritan's Purse Nepal. The road conditions were much improved since our September visit, but we still had some 'hair-raising' journeys to get to the six schools. We were able to follow up on our trainings, complete the classroom libraries and run parent workshops. We were joined by Samaritan's Purse Canada's Regional Director of Asia, Bruce Piercy, who also was able to see the completion of their playground project.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FURLOUGHS IN TERM 3

**Elizabeth Jens:** Head of Faculty ELL & SMC Representative (returning in Term 4)

**Lizzy Neiger:** Grade 2 Teacher (returning in July 2019 as Head of Primary)

## WELCOME IN TERM 3

**Helen Brown:** Librarian

**Susan Shyr:** Grade 2 Teacher

**Manika Blon:** Teaching Assistant Grade 4

## FUTURE HEAD OF PRIMARY ANNOUNCED

Join us in congratulating our next Head of Primary, Lizzy Neiger. Currently she is our Grade 2 teacher and will spend the next two terms on furlough, returning to start in this new position in July 2019. Lizzy's attributes as a person and as an educator will enable her to carry on the wonderful work that Samantha Seymour has done over the last five years at KISC.



## ART TEACHER



Pooja Thapa, who has been working as a Teaching Assistant in Grade 4, will be teaching Primary and Middle school art at KISC starting in Term 3. Pooja is a trained teacher and is excited to take up the challenge of teaching art!

**KISC** EST. 1987

### CONTACT US!

We are always happy to hear from you. Or, if you are in Nepal, please come visit!

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PROJECT OF HDCS | HUMAN DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Work with **US!**

Help us recruit! Please share our vacancies in 2019-20 with friends or family you think would be a good fit at KISC. If someone you know is interested they can email their CV or resume to: [recruit@kisc.edu.np](mailto:recruit@kisc.edu.np)



## STAFFING NEEDS

### THIS ACADEMIC YEAR:

- Human Resources and Recruitment Manager (now)

### 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR:

#### Primary

- English Language Learner (ELL) Teacher

#### Secondary

- Art Teacher
- Drama Teacher
- Economics/Business Studies Teacher
- Guidance Counsellor
- History Teacher
- ICT Teacher
- Mathematics Teacher
- Psychology Teacher
- Student Support Teacher
- Visual Arts Teacher

#### Operations Staff

- Short-term Network Systems Administrator

**TERM 3 THEME:** Building Character

**TERM 3 VERSE:** 1 John 3: 18

“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.”