

TYNDALE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Annual School Report

2009





Tyndale Christian School

2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
1	Charimans Report
2	Message from the Principal
3	School Report
4	Financial Statements 2009



CHAIRMANS REPORT

TYNDALE – THE WAY FORWARD

The 2009 year was very significant for the Association. If ever you may have doubts about the Biblical teaching that God is our Sovereign King and provides for all our needs, we see this clearly demonstrated in the events following the last AGM. We report more in detail under the various headings.

Restructure

Following last year's decision to put the Audit up for tender, we re-appointed our current Auditors I.L. Struthers and Associates. During intensive discussions with our Auditor he stated his concern that the Board appeared to have ignored his repeated advice that the management structure of Tyndale was inappropriate for a school of our size with falling student numbers. As our external adviser Resolve Consulting Group had given similar advice the Auditor warned that this may be a reportable matter, and we should therefore take immediate remedial action. Our original budget for 2010 was showing an unacceptable deficit which we would not be able to fund.

As a result the Board sat down and prayerfully considered, in consultation with the Executive, a new management structure for Tyndale. After having reviewed seven different models it was agreed that the senior management team, the school executive should consist of the Principal, 2 Deputy Principals and a Business Manager. Apart from sharing generic duties for P-12 one of the deputies would concentrate on curriculum matters and teacher training for the whole P-12 school, while the other will concentrate staffing and resourcing, discipline and Pastoral care. Consequently the positions of Head of School would be abolished.

In addition the number of co-ordination positions needed to be reduced as these had grown to 70 % above average. Many prayerful meetings were held before the final decisions could be made as, obviously, staff receiving additional allowances for these supervisory tasks would be adversely affected. Duties were re-assigned for a number of Senior Positions and some staff lost valuable co-ordination allowances.

In previous years, as Tyndale enjoyed a steady growth in student numbers, senior teachers were appointed to year co-ordinator roles and as Key Learning Activity co-ordinators based on the expected number of students and staff under their supervision. As student numbers started to fall, senior staff continued to be responsible for their co-ordination tasks, albeit for smaller numbers, and the school had the benefit of the vast experience that our senior teachers have brought to Tyndale over a long time of dedicated service.

The process of consultation and planning was very intense and time-consuming and, unfortunately took us into December and January, causing unintended hurt and hardship to some staff members and a less than desired start of the 2010 school year. The Board regrets this very much and again apologises for this and the way the timing worked out.

Staffing

Our new principal Mr Jack Joyce, commenced duties in April and started with a baptism of fire, as you can see from the above. Jack has come to us with apparent boundless energy and a wide range of proposals for new initiatives with a great desire that Tyndale presents itself as a professional educational institution of which we and the local community can be proud to the Glory of God. The Board as well as the Staff were not always ready for some of the proposals and we continue to work with our principal to achieve these aims in the framework of the vision and mission statement of the Association.

Long-serving Deputy Principal Dr Charlie Justins was approached in May by the National Institute for Christian Education



(N.I.C.E.) to make himself available as lecturer from 1st July 2009. Charlie has now been appointed as a full-time lecturer and we wish him God's blessing in the next stage of his professional career. While we will miss him as our Deputy it is a pleasure to know that we still have him as a member of the Association, as a part-time teacher, as a teacher of our teachers and as a Christian brother and friend.

The Board advertised for a new Deputy Principal, which later became 2 Deputy Principals. By now you probably know that our new Deputies are Mrs Jill Spence, until now our English co-ordinator, responsible for P-12 curriculum and professional development and Mr Adam Scotney, our previous Head of Middle School and Property Manager, to oversee pastoral care and time tabling. As they settle into their new positions we expect to have to make some adjustments to their job descriptions in order to have maximum benefit of their individual talents and experience. Our Deputies will also continue to have a regular teaching load.

Our search for a new Business Manager was almost successful, but we were unable to make an appointment prior to the beginning of the school year. Newly elected Board member Mrs Julie Tonowicz offered to make herself available to fill this position for the current year and prepare a job description and appropriate procedures for this new position which will be advertised later this year. Julie was the Business Manager for Christian Education National where she has assisted many parent-controlled Christian Schools with managerial and administrative problems. We are thankful for the Lord's provision through Julie, even though we now miss her valuable contribution as a Board member.

The various roles of administration personnel have been re-structured and centralised. A new workgroup called "Student Services" has now been created and is located in the former Conference Room behind the School Office. Our school maintenance staff has been very busy with this re-location and we acknowledge the fine work done by Andrew Kal and Dave Cutajar under the guidance of Adam Scotney in his role as Property Manager. We thank God for giving us such capable staff.

Ian Shaw

As earlier mentioned the re-structure was not an easy task, as it inevitably deals with people as well as positions. The need to prepare the 2010 timetable and staff allocations were a concern as we wrestled with the issue through the various models presented. As Ian spoke to the various models and proposals he commented that by supporting the proposal his own position as Head of Senior School would be in jeopardy. It was a brave position which demonstrated his loyalty to Tyndale and his trust in our Sovereign God, who has always provided for all our needs.

The various proposals were worked through throughout November and December and finally the decision to abolish the positions of Head of School was taken by the Board. As now the situation of redundancy had arisen, the Board decided that we owed Ian the opportunity to receive a redundancy payment. Ian expressed his love for Tyndale and his desire to continue to serve the Lord at Tyndale. Following further discussions Ian proposed for four options for continued employment. The Board offered Mr Shaw employment under one of these options. Ian then decided that he wished to accept the offer of a redundancy package, final details of which are still being negotiated.

The timing of the implementation, following the unavoidable re-structure decision meant that a number of staff members were advised about the changes during the school holidays. The Board consulted and heeded the advice of the legal advisor of Christian Schools Australia and sought to ensure that at all times Tyndale would comply with conditions under industrial legislation and award provisions, while showing pastoral care and accountability. We regret and apologise to staff who still feel aggrieved, and especially Ian Shaw and his wife Tracy for any anguish and distress the re-structure and redundancy have brought to you and your family.



Ian has served Tyndale faithfully and well for over 20 years as an Industrial Arts teacher, senior teacher and as a member of the executive team. For many years he was the friendly face at the graduating ceremonies of year 12 and year 10. Ian has made a very valuable contribution to the well being of the school in his preparation of reports to the Government for at registration time and submission of applications for education and building grants.

The Association and the Board acknowledge gratefully the service and friendship, as well as the Christian witness of Ian Shaw. We look forward to look forward to his continued input as a parent and Association member and opportunities for further service.

Enrolments

The Board with the Executive have analysed the reason for the downward trend in enrolments. We noted that each year we have between 70 and 85 students graduate from year 12 and a further 10- 12 leave after Year 10 to enter the workforce. In recent years we have 40 to 50 new students enrol for Kindergarten.

Some of the factors contributing to these lower enrolments were:

- Many young children have been sent by their parents to Prep School, and have continued their education in the school to which that Prep School is attached. The Board has commenced Prep School, which has proven very successful and now provides the majority of the intake for Kindergarten. It was recently decided that Prep will be an integral part of our School, rather than an adjunct from which we may obtain students for the "real" school.
- School fees had to be increased each year. Teachers have received award increases beyond those of many others in the workforce. (If a parent needs to find an extra 4% or \$100 for increased school fees, they will need to earn an extra 5.8% or \$146 to be able to pay their tax and their fee increase). We thankfully remember that in 2006 the staff at Tyndale agreed to accept a 3%, rather than a 4% their increase for 3 years in order to support our School at a time of financial stress, as many parents do not receive annual increases of this magnitude and have to make as to the sacrifice they are prepared to make to enable them to provide their children with Christian Education.
- Some people consider that they cannot afford, or no longer afford, to send their children to Tyndale.
- In recent years a number of mostly Anglican schools have been established in the area from which we have sourced our students. This gave parents from small children alternatives for the education of their children.
- With the majority of women now in the workforce very few families have more than 2 or 3 children. We therefore need to attract more Christian families to achieve the same enrolment figures as in the past.
- In the past quite a few families allowed their fees to run into arrears and placed a burden on the other parents to provide the shortfall. Efforts by the office to collect arrears were only partial successful and the amount of bad debts increased substantially. During the last few years the Finance Committee has strengthened the debt collection procedures and a number of families were refused entry or asked to leave.
- Recent changes in Education have made it possible for students to obtain their Leaving Certificate while doing an apprenticeship through a Technical College.

Vision and Education

Following the decision of the Association to confirm our Vision Statement the Board determined that all future recommendations and policies shall be determined with reference to the Vision Statement of the Association. This will apply to all operational and educational policies and processes.

One of our new Deputy Principals, Mrs Jill Spence, will review our curriculum and pedagogical planning and administer Educational policies to ensure that the education received by our children is based on a biblical world and life view. It aims to give students the skills and understanding to prepare them for service as servants of Christ in this world, and to develop fully the talents the Lord has given each of our children for that purpose. One of the processes is to ensure



that the educational path from Prep to HSC will be integrated and a natural progression. Teachers will be encouraged to continue their professional development, and in particular to seek to benefit from courses from NICE and other places for the development of Christian teachers.

Each year Tyndale has set aside two weeks each year for Curriculum development to ensure that our teachers have the opportunity to think and re-think their educational programmes and syllabus to ensure that all subjects in all grades are taught from a Christian perspective.

Teachers new to Tyndale are following an induction programme called FYAT and SYAT, First (Second) Year At Tyndale, assisting staff coming from various backgrounds to work and teach in accordance with the foundational values of the Association. Mrs Spence has already started this programme during the first term.

Conclusion

As a board we have committed ourselves to accountability. We are before the Lord responsible to the Association for the manner and diligence with which we carry out our responsibility. We therefore regard it as our duty to hold the staff accountable for their performance in whatever task they have been assigned. This is done through our Principal, who reports to the Board at the monthly Board meeting. In the current year the Board, through its sub-committees, intends to be busy with the review of policies, monitor enrolments, our Building programme and financial viability.

We are thankful and happy to advise that the 'Refalo' property is now off the agenda. Our now retiring Director of Property, Frank Cavens, and the Property Manager, Adam Scotney, have worked hard to finalise the development of the Wallaby Close cul-de-sac, and the sale of all 5 residential blocks of land, 4 of which are sold on terms of a 6 month deferral for \$1,320,000. This will allow Association to finally repay our property loan and take the pressure of our working capital requirements as well as save us considerable interest costs. We say a big thank you to these men for a job very well done and praise God for this outcome.

The Lord has blessed us with further capital grants, which will be further explained in the Property report. One of these is for the building for the Tyndale Trade Training Centre (TTTC), which will allow Tyndale to continue to be a Christian centre for future workers in the hospitality industry in a more appropriate facility. Pupils will be coming from surrounding Christian Schools allowing us to offer a Technical College course, while students are finalising their HSC education. This is a new stream for Tyndale following a recent State government initiative to allow students to complete their HSC while attending Technical College. It opens another our school opportunity for which Ian Shaw has done a lot of preparatory work.

In this time of changing circumstances, new opportunities and scarce resources it is appropriate to remind ourselves that our times are in God's hands and to trust him to guide us and provide for us in the future, To Him be the Glory!

Keith Dickson
Board Chairman

Annual School Report 2009

TYNDALE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Message from the Principal

2009 was a particularly eventful and significant year in the life of our school.

Dr Charlie Justins served as the acting principal during Term 1 2009 while I took over from him at the commencement of Term 2 as the new principal.

The school underwent a Board of Studies re-registration inspection and was, praise God, awarded a 5 year registration period. Congratulations to all the staff who worked particularly well as a team to showcase Christian Education in action through work samples and programs which were displayed as a part of the inspection.

Our Sonic Ensemble and Concert band enjoyed success in the annual Yamaha Music Performance Festival taking out the Gold and Diamond awards respectively.

The school presented a number of spectacular of annual events such as the Spring Fair, Engage, Converge, MADD night as well as having some of our students participating in the annual Advent Pageant held in Blacktown.

The schools camping programme (Year 5-12) was again a series of year based camps which were enjoyed by staff, students and parent helpers, as well as additional subject specific camps such as the Music and Art camps.

Other special events which added value to all of our regular academic and sporting pursuits were our Grandparents and Special Friends Day, 'Tynday', Digger Dan Day, Medieval Day, Princess Day and Blokes Day.

Our annual mission trip to Thailand involving Year 11 students going to serve Thai communities was a life changing for students and staff alike.

On the building and capital projects front we were blessed by the announcement that we had been awarded funds from the Federal government for the construction of a much needed new School Library. The school was further successful in being awarded funding approval from DEEWR for the construction of a trade training centre for the delivery of hospitality courses from 2011.

Parents volunteered in a range of capacities from our major parent's helper group, Tyndale Connect to busy bee, class room helpers, and weekly prayer warriors.

Another eventful and exciting school year for Tyndale as we together with parents we strive to bring quality Christian schooling to our students.

Jack Joyce
Principal

Junior School 2009

Prep School operated on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and had thirty-two students enrolled. They joined K-2 for the Athletics Carnival, attended school assemblies and performed at the Christmas concert. It was delightful to see them wandering around the school on 'excursions' throughout the year.

Classes in K-5 were named after animals that you would find on a safari to complement the theme for Book Week, 'Book Safari'. Students enjoyed Library lessons around the theme for this week. A highlight of Book Week was a concert in the hall with each class performing. The teachers were even in on the act to the amusement of the students and parents. We all love dressing up!

Much of our time in the Junior school is spent learning the basics in all Key Learning Areas, but we do like to take time out to celebrate. In every grade there are special events to look forward to. Craft Day, Insect Day, Old Days Old Ways, Lego Day, Swim School, Advent Pageant, Fairytale Day, India Day, Year 5 to Fitzroy Falls and their Farewell. Joint events include the Swimming Carnival and Water Fun Day, Tynday (its time Tynman was blue again!), Cross Country, Athletics and Tyndale Talent Time. All this and excursions as well!

Year 2 started to learn recorder for the first time this year so that the students would be better prepared for their Year 4 Band experience. This has been running for three years now and has proven to be a very enriching experience for the students, many of whom go on to play in the Sonic Ensemble. Students in Year 5 continue to refine their musical skills by learning the ukulele.

Bandana Day was a wonderful success at Tyndale with the whole school taking part in this fundraising event in May. Many staff and students were willing to have their head shaved, beard shaved or hair cut. What an amazing array of bandanas were purchased and worn to show our support for Cleo in Year 1. Junior School finished the day with a presentation from the Camp Quality Puppets, which helped us to better understand cancer and its treatment.

Our terrific team of teachers worked hard to produce some outstanding results in display and performance, especially evident at Spring Fair. K- 2 demonstrated their fitness and dancing skills and invited parents to join them in a bush dance, 'The Gallopede'. A myriad of research projects and class work were on show for the community to view as well as a performance by Year 4 Band.

Year 2 and Year 3 were again involved in the Advent Pageant organised by Fusion. Year 2 paraded through Westpoint at Blacktown dressed in Bible time costumes singing Christmas carols, whilst Year 3 pioneered a new parade at Emerton shopping centre. Both grades performed the Nativity Story on stage. What a terrific opportunity to share the gospel with the local community!

It was with some sadness we farewelled Mrs Heather Dew, who retired after nine faithful years of service to our Tyndale community in particular, in the Infants section of the Junior School. We also farewelled Mrs Allison Jones, Mrs Tamara Van Ginkle and Mrs Sandy Galea from the Junior School teaching team at the completion of Term 4.

Maree Grande (Coordinator)
for
Michelle Peet
Head of Junior School





Middle School 2009

2009 was a busy year across the whole school and Middle School was no exception. There were many events happening in Middle School and also the added pressure of BOS School Registration. Middle School staff remained positive and worked hard to complete the tasks required of them throughout the year and also made time for a number of other exciting events throughout the school year to make Middle School a vibrant and stimulating part of the school for students to be in.

The year began like many others with new students arriving and being welcomed into the Middle School with camp in Week 3 of Term 1. This was a fun time for students in Year 7 & 8 spending 3 days to renew or establish friendships. Year 7 camp at Morning Glory Campsite in Wedderburn was a great opportunity for students to be challenged by the great outdoors, with activities like abseiling, bushwalking, BMX riding and archery. These challenges stretch some students, but are completed in a safe environment in which they can learn new skills.

Year 8 camp at Elanora Heights allowed students to spend some extended time at the beach and undertaking water based activities such as kayaking and swimming. A highlight for many students despite the early wake up (5am) is the morning walk down Powder works Road to Narrabeen Lake where we see the sunrise and have the opportunity to eat breakfast by the lake and go fishing.

Year 6 ventured to Canberra for their camp in Term 2 and visited many of the sites in our Nation's Capital to learn about the establishment of our Nation and the democratic process that we as Australians enjoy. Many of the 'entertaining' sites around Canberra such as Questacon, Institute of sport, and Telstra tower were highlights of this camp for students.

A specific highlight for our Year 6 students was their involvement in the Channel 7 Series 'It's Academic'. This was a great experience and opportunity for all our students to either observe or be involved in the making of this television series and on all accounts our students represented Tyndale very well.

Throughout the year students in Middle School have the opportunity to be involved in excursions that help them grow in their understanding of their world and the history associated with it. Some key excursions or events for year groups in Middle School are:-

Year 6 – Digger Dan Day (Life on the Gold fields), Rocket day (Science), Bridge building (Science), Meet the Music (Music)

Year 7 – Coastal Environments excursion (Geography), Medieval Day (History), Japanese restaurant excursion (LOTE)

Year 8 – Darling Harbour site study (Geography), Arndell Park shopping tour (Globalisation unit), Sculptures by the sea (Art excursion), Powerhouse Museum (Science)

These opportunities for students are an excellent way for the curriculum to come to life and for students to have learning experiences outside the normal classroom.

One particular highlight for Middle School in 2009 was our Middle School Social – Black and White night. This was a great evening for all students who attended and was organised by students across all grades in Middle School who formed a committee under the direction of Mrs Kazogolo to bring this evening together. All students organising worked very hard and made this evening a great success.

In Term 3 the focus for Middle School Pastoral Care was local mission. During this term all Middle School students are encouraged to think locally about people in need. To help them do this we had some guest speakers from Urban Neighbours of Hope (UNOH) who told us about their work with people in Mount Druitt and other areas not too far from Blacktown. As section of the school Middle School Pastoral Care groups sought to hold events that could help us raise money for this organisation. Students sold lollies, hotdogs, other foods as well as washing cars to raise money. It was great time of community working for a common cause and Middle School raised approximately \$900 which we were able to give to UNOH for their Christmas program.



With the many events and the vitality of students and staff, the Middle School is a vibrant and exciting section of the school to be involved in. There is a wonderful sense of community amongst staff in Middle School and a desire to make the learning opportunities for students of the highest quality. The whole of the Middle School really benefits from the energy and commitment of all involved, and this section of the school continues to deliver quality opportunities across all areas of the curriculum. God has certainly continued to bless Tyndale throughout 2009.

Adam Scotney
Deputy Principal

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Gratitude is an appropriate response for those involved in the life of Tyndale Christian School. Established in 1966 in humble circumstances by a group of Dutch migrants to Australia, the Tyndale school community has many reasons to be grateful to God for the way He has blessed us in our four (plus) decades of operation. Set on 5.6 hectares the school has implemented a 'greening' of the school over the last few years, in particular seeking to plant native plants between the buildings for aesthetic and environmental reasons. Many thousands of children from Blacktown and other parts of Sydney have had the opportunity of learning in an environment that seeks to honour Jesus in every aspect of school life and we regularly hear from grateful former students of their positive experiences and memories of their time at Tyndale. As a school community we are also grateful to God for his provision in many areas in the school year of 2009.

TYNDALE'S VISION

Tyndale's vision statement is:

To see parents and children experience the benefits of Bible based, Christ centred, Parent controlled education in order that they might be prepared and equipped for a life of service as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Preparation and equipping of students for a life of Christian service requires a comprehensive approach to schooling and a partnership between parents and teachers that seeks to give students the opportunity to flourish in a number of areas. As a school, the academic achievement of each child is of central importance.

Successful academic achievement means a child using and developing his or her gifts and talents as well as they possibly can in order to serve God and others. *[Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.]*

The school seeks to provide an environment which is safe, one in which students are nurtured and encouraged to use all of their gifts – academic, sporting relational etc, conscious throughout of the School's motto and ethos of Serving the Lord with Gladness.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

In 2009 our School had 38 full-time teaching staff and 16 part-time teaching staff. Of these teaching staff, all had teaching qualifications from a higher educational institution except one who continued toward completing Dip Ed studies. Three members of staff have Masters in Education degrees and one a Doctorate in Education.

Once again the professional development of staff has included our First Year at Tyndale (FYAT) and Second Year at Tyndale (SYAT) programs. FYAT focuses on Tyndale's distinctive ethos and practices, administration and classroom management.

A number of staff have attended workshops sponsored by Christian Education National which have focused on distinctively Christian Education from a biblical perspective. Curriculum Weeks in 2008 continued to focus on a distinctively biblical perspective on curriculum and other aspects of the life of our School.

Annual School Report 2009

TYNDALE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



The July Curriculum Week in 2009 was again led by Dr Mike Goheen of Trinity Western University in Canada. His focus was biblical foundations and education and staff were encouraged and motivated by the things they learned..

During the year Tyndale staff were involved in a wide range of other professional development days and in-services provided by a variety of organisations including the NSW Association of Independent Schools (AIS), the National Institute for Christian Education (NICE), the Centre for Community Welfare Training (CCWT), and various other independent training providers such as universities and professional teacher organisations. A number of staff also marked School Certificate and HSC examinations. One staff member lectured part-time for the National Institute for Christian Education which provides accredited Masters Degrees in education and a number of teachers are pursuing post-graduate studies in education. In-services that staff were involved in (often accessed by more than one staff member) included subject specific seminars and workshops, student focused workshops, seminars focusing on pedagogy and skills development and compliance related seminars.

The topics included: Differentiating the Curriculum K-12, HSC Mathematics, senior English, Design Tech, Science SASS 2009 Conference , Differentiating Maths to the two ends of the spectrum, Creating a quality assessment task, Aspergers disorder, first aid, asthma, anaphylaxis, Teens through to adulthood, Challenging, challenging behaviours, Microsoft Office 2007, Teaching resources online with Moodle, Copyright information update, Behaviour management – a whole school approach, Careers forum, Science laboratory assistants seminar, Making school a better place for boys, Jungle Tracks – STARTTS programme, Problem solving in Years7-10 Maths, Teachers new to Christian education, Creative writing PETA, Dreamweaver, Careers Advisor Day, Ancient History teachers conference, Trade training centres seminar, IT in-service (various), Support for New Scheme Mathematics, Working Mathematically K-8 and similar. A total of \$35, 648.00 was spent of professional development during the year.

Prep School

After much preparation, the **Prep School** continued into its' second year under the capable leadership of Mrs. Connie Moerman. Prep school continued to operate on 3 days each week until 2010 when it is hoped that it will become a 5 day per week operation. The Prep School is well resourced as a result of the generosity of various benefactors who contributed time, labour, equipment and materials. The Prep school numbers continue to grow and has proved to be a very positive endeavour.

Property

Under the capable leadership of Mr Adam Scotney (Head of Middle School and Property Manager), a number of physical changes were made to enhance the school environment for our children. These projects included:

1. The refurbishment and painting of the School Administration building
2. The demolition of D Block in readiness for the new Library development due to commence in 2010.
3. The relocation of the Uniform Shop building.
4. The recarpeting of several class room blocks and toilet upgrades in Junior and Senior school as part of the Federal Government's School Pride funding program.
5. Refurbishment and relocation of the Food Technology room.

Student Formation

Preparing students to become responsive disciples of Jesus Christ is an important focus for the school and is addressed in a multitude of ways – from devotional times with students during roll-call, morning assemblies, pastoral care lessons, in the context of camps and through regular classroom interactions.

Throughout the school student leadership is encouraged in the context of service. Most of these opportunities manifest themselves informally and are encouraged by staff in the normal warp and woof of school life, but there are a number of opportunities built into the school program. The Junior School has an effective buddy system for example where Grade 5 students care for and support Kindergarten students. The various musical bands in the school give expression to their musical gifts by playing for others both within the school but also for folk in nursing homes or for school functions. In the past year, three groups of SALT (Sound and Lighting Team) students have been trained to assist at the various assemblies and concerts which require this type of support.



In recent years we have been pleased to see senior student leadership develop in a number of areas such as the Year 11 overseas excursion to Thailand and the Year 12 "Senior Student Christian Leadership Conference" in Canberra.

Library Report 2009

This year in the library we have had a strong focus on literature.

We were fortunate to have the author (and grandmother of one of our families) Maureen Bartlett come and speak to years 3 – 5. She introduced her new book on a dolphin, 'Tigerfin and the ferry children.' Shona Bailey the illustrator also came along and shared how she went about illustrating this book, with the children.

Mrs Waters continues to take Reading Time during Wednesday lunchtimes, which is always popular with the Junior School. In term three we introduced Middle School Games on a Thursday.

On Wednesday 26 August we had a special Book Week Assembly in the Hall. Children were encouraged to come to school dressed as a favourite book character or as part of the theme 'Book Safari'. There was a Book Character parade and some short performances from different classes. The teacher's reader's theatre performance of 'A nice walk in the jungle' was a highlight for the students.

Again, as part of our Book Week activities, the children were asked to participate in a game called 'Book Safari'. This is a voluntary activity encourages the students to read and reflect on their reading. One of the sections required the family to read a book together.

This year we held a Book Fair during FONO and with a percentage of the sales we were able to purchase new books for the Take home reading scheme as well as new titles for the library.

During the year another five computers were installed in the library, bringing the total number students can be use to 13. Teachers can send students during class time to complete work using these computers and there are still computers available for Senior students during their study periods. This has made study periods for Year 11 and 12 much more productive.

The highlight of 2009 for the library was the successful application for the government grant to build a new library. We look forward eagerly to its completion in 2020.

Music at Tyndale 2009

Music at Tyndale has a P – 12 focus to give a continuing development in listening, performance and composing. Students are given the opportunity to unwrap the wonderful God-given gift of music as they work with specialist music teachers with a variety of music experiences. The course is mandatory from P – 8 and then offered as an elective in years 9 – 12. One of the highlights of 2009 was the news that one of our year 12 students studying Music 2 in year 12 was offered a position at the Conservatorium of Music in composition.

The Co-curricular music program at Tyndale runs in conjunction with the classroom program and offers a wide variety of opportunities for students to experience and develop the gift of Music.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES

Year 4 Band

Students are introduced to Concert Band instruments in the Year 4 Band Program where every student is provided with an instrument and music resources. They attend group tutorials each week where they are taught the skills required to play and care for their instrument as well as developing their skills in reading music notation. As well as group tutorials each student plays in a larger ensemble, developing skills in listening, co-operation and team building. The main focus is to discover and develop the gift of music with which God has blessed us. 2009 was the third year the program operated and each year has seen approximately 25% of students continue playing their instrument beyond year 4 when they can progress into one of the other Instrumental Ensembles.



Sonic Ensemble

Sonic Ensemble includes students from Middle and Junior school and allows students with minimal experience playing their instrument, to work together in an ensemble. Students meet to rehearse for one hour a week before school and in 2009 numbers grew to about 50 involving students from Year 2 to Year 8. Sonic Ensemble attended Music Camp in preparation for participating in the Yamaha Festival. Their performance earned them a Gold Award. They also performed at MADD Night and FONO and combined with the Concert Band to provide music for the Carols morning in December.

Concert Band

Concert Band includes students from Middle and Senior schools, along with a number of staff and parents, and gives students the opportunity to continue developing their musicianship and performance skills. Students meet before school for a one hour rehearsal each week and in 2009 were able to use their gifts in performing at a number of school functions including Easter Gathering, Senior Creative Arts Night, FONO, and Converge as well as the Carols morning in December. Highlights of the year were Music Camp, an invitation to perform at the Orange Blossom Festival Gala Concert for the Hills Shire and their performance at the Yamaha Festival where they were given a Diamond Award for their performance. This award is only given to bands that show outstanding musicianship in their performance.

Jazz Band

Jazz Band was initiated to give student the opportunity to experience a different style of playing. Students from Concert Band and Sonic Ensemble are invited to join the Jazz group which is led by Mrs Skinner and Mrs Pfeiffer – a parent and tutor at Tyndale.

Praise and Worship Bands

In 2009, 3 Praise and Worship Bands gave students from Years 7 – 12 the opportunity to train as leaders in Music, learning skills in working together as a small ensemble to lead others in worship. They were able to put this into practice at the Easter Gathering, MADD Night and school assemblies. The senior group also played in Martin Place as part of the Easter celebrations run by Fusion in the city.

At this stage the time commitment of music staff to operate the ensembles listed doesn't allow time to run an ensemble for vocalists. All students are encouraged to sing in music classes and have been working on the Tyndale School Song which was written for the school by Mr Phil Dokmanovic and Mrs Heather Skinner.

S.A.L.T.

With the many and varied performances occurring at Tyndale, the need has arisen for a group of students to be trained in operating the sound and lighting equipment in the Hall. This year has seen the set up of three teams under the banner Sound And Lighting Tyndale (S.A.L.T) and undertaking training in audio and lighting operation. These students take time out of school to set up for performances and then operate the equipment for performances. Students have shown a real willingness to serve in this area.

Careers & Vocational Education

In 2009 the Careers department held its first Information Mornings. The Year 12 Morning had representatives from Universities, Private Colleges, TAFE and Gap Year providers. The Year 10 Morning had representatives from School based traineeship providers, Group Training Organisations, Exchange Programmes and TAFE. These representatives gave a brief presentation to the assembled students (and parents) after which there was the opportunity for students to talk individually to the representatives.

Interested students also had the opportunity to complete their Barista Training and/or their OH&S Construction "White Card". These courses were so popular that some students missed out due to the limited places being filled very early.

Students who displayed appropriate interest/vocation attended the UNSW Engineering Day and the UWS Open Day. All Year 10 & 12 students attended the Cumberland Career Expo with an enormous mix of business and tertiary education providers available. The Careers Advisor was one of only 20 professionals nationally to receive a Federal Government Trade Placement Scholarship.



2009 was also the year that the school was successful in winning the Trade Training Centre Grant to construct a specialised Hospitality Centre. This centre will also involve cooperation with Toongabbie Christian School and Kuyper Christian School, our partners in this venture. When operational this centre will provide training in Hospitality (both Commercial Cookery and Food & Beverage) to Certificate II level with plans under way to offer training to Certificate III level in the future. To operate, the new centre will require an additional Hospitality teacher to be employed, trained in Commercial Cookery and Food & Beverage.

One of our Hospitality students was invited to compete in the Kenvale "High Flyer's" programme. Although she was unsuccessful in gaining either prize, she made excellent business contacts and developed her skills significantly.

Our Hospitality Teacher received additional training through the AIS in Food & Beverage as well as receiving training through Kenvale College in units of the new Hospitality syllabus. Training was also provided through the AIS for our IT teacher to qualify for IT VET teaching. The school also received AIS funding to provide an additional week of workplacement to our Hospitality students.

2009 External Exams

Teachers at Tyndale take very seriously their responsibility to ensure that the education provided for students is academically rigorous. Students are encouraged and guided to perform to their highest level academically, not only because of the importance of results in accessing further study options but because students ought to be encouraged to use and develop all their gifts, including academic talents, to the utmost, in order to prepare themselves for a life of service to God and others.

Overall the school has been pleased with the external results. Tyndale is a school that takes students with varying academic gifts and abilities and there has been a wide range of results reflecting the diverse abilities of our students. Tyndale entered 79 students for the School Certificate and 56 students for the HSC (45 of whom elected to receive an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Assessment Rank)). There were a number of outstanding individual results in both the School and Higher School Certificates but the value-added for our students with learning difficulties who typically perform well beyond early expectations also gives the school great satisfaction.

The parents who started Tyndale over 40 years ago had high aspirations for their children and their school – they wanted their children to be taught in an environment that honoured Jesus, an environment that equipped children with academic, social and relational skills, with spiritual insight and with a love for God and humanity, children who would be, and continue as adults to be, life-long learners and life-long servants of Jesus – whether as retail assistants, university lecturers, corporate executives or door to door canvassers. External examinations are a means to that end rather than an end in themselves, and that end is given expression in the school's Vision Statement.

School Certificate

The 100 & 200 hour courses offered by Tyndale in 2008/09 to Year 10 (internally assessed according to externally established (Board of Studies) criteria were: *Australian Geography and History, Commerce, Computing Studies, Drama, English, Food Technology, Mathematics (Advanced, Intermediate and Standard), Music, PD/H/PE, Science, Sports Science, Industrial Tehnology - Timber, Textiles and Design and Visual Arts.*

External Exams in Year 10

In addition to the internal assessments conducted in the above subjects, students sat for external exams in: English – literacy, Mathematics – numeracy, Science, Australian History, Civics & Citizenship, Australian Geography, Civics & Citizenship and Computing Skills. (These external exams are not based directly on the syllabuses in these subjects). Tyndale students in Year 10 achieved close to state averages in all subjects – see tables above.

School Certificate Results – 2009

English Literacy

Band	Tyndale %	State %
6	1.3	5.6
5	42.3	35.0
4	43.6	41.5
3	10.3	13.8
2	1.3	2.2
1	1.3	0.4
None	0	1.5

Mathematics

Band	Tyndale %	State %
6	3.8	6.3
5	10.3	17.8
4	28.2	25.1
3	35.9	31.4
2	20.5	17.0
1	1.3	0.9
None	0	1.6

Science

Band	Tyndale %	State %
6	5.1	7.4
5	26.9	28.8
4	34.6	34.2
3	28.2	19.4
2	5.1	8.0
1	0	0.7
None	0	1.5

Australian History Civics and Citizenship

Band	Tyndale %	State %
6	0	5.3
5	15.4	17.7
4	56.4	35.4
3	21.8	27.3
2	5.1	10.1
1	1.3	2.5
None	0	1.6

Australian Geography Civics and Citizenship

Band	Tyndale %	State %
6	1.3	5.3
5	24.4	22.4
4	38.5	31.0
3	32.1	28.1
2	3.8	11.1
1	0	0.5
None	0	1.6

Computing Skills Competencies

Band	Tyndale %	State %
Highly Competent	55.1	61.9
Competent	44.9	36.6
CND		0.1
None		1.4

Tyndale students in Year 10 achieved very close to state averages in all subjects.

Higher School Certificate - Results 2009

	Average ATAR
All Students - Tyndale	57.3
Female Students - Tyndale	62.2
Male Students - Tyndale	53.3
Approximate NSW Average	64

Highest ATAR score was 95.8 and there were 13 students with ATAR scores above 70.

Tyndale – 2009 – Band 5 and 6 HSC results	Band 5	Band 6	No. of students
Ancient History	1		7
Business Studies	1		14
Chemistry	-	1	5
Design and Technology	2		11
Drama	2		3
English (Advanced)	2		14
Food Technology	2		11
General Maths	3		28
Hospitality Examination	2		15
Information Processes & Technology	4	1	9
Information Technology	1		1
Japanese beginners	1	1	6
Mathematics (2 Unit)	-	1	13
Music	5		7
PDHPE	1		12
Physics	1		5
Studies of Religion	4	1	7
Visual Arts	8	1	12
Armenian Continuers	1		1
Chinese (Background)	-	1	1



Indonesian Beginners	1		1
Retail Services Exam	1		1
Tourism Exam	1		2

Senior School teachers' review of students' results indicated that students performed close to the school's expectations.

There were a number of outstanding results including students who achieved Board of Studies distinguished achievers performances (in Chemistry, Visual Arts, Studies of Religion II, Mathematics - 2 Unit, Mathematics Extension 1, Chinese Background, Japanese Beginners, Information Processing and Technology).

An analysis was undertaken of our HSC results by an external consultant in order to determine how students performed in particular subjects in relation to their overall performance. This enables the school to identify whether particular classes have performed according to, above, or below expectation. While Senior School staff are constantly looking at ways to improve external examination results, it is the view of Senior staff that the 2009 HSC results reflected very closely the abilities of the cohort.

Teachers are committed to ensuring that students are enabled to perform to their highest level academically not only because of the importance of student results in accessing further study options but also because of their understanding that students should use all their gifts to the utmost, including academic gifts, in order to prepare themselves for a life of service to God and others.

Tyndale is a school that takes students with varying academic gifts and abilities and there has been a wide range of results reflecting the diverse abilities of our students. Tyndale entered 78 students for the School Certificate and 54 students for the HSC (45 of whom elected to receive an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank)).

National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

NAPLAN is the annual assessment of all students in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 across Australia in literacy and numeracy. NAPLAN uses national scales to measure achievement in the domains of Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy. Parents receive individual student reports which show their child's performance against the national average, while schools are given a package of data enabling them to compare their results against other schools and highlight areas of relative strength and weaknesses. These assessment results are also used to allocate funding to support schools in strengthening their literacy and/or numeracy programs.

NAPLAN results for Tyndale Christian School for 2009 indicate that Tyndale Christian School is performing solidly in all areas of literacy and numeracy. Year cohorts are performing near, and in some areas significantly above, state average in all domains. The solid grounding in the areas of language and numeracy is very evident in the performance of students in the junior years.

Parents in Partnership and Parental Responsibility

One of the critical questions that we seek to address at Tyndale is: "Whose is responsible for the education of children?" Others in the wider community might suggest that it is the government's responsibility to ensure that every child receives an education, and while we respect those who hold this perspective and appreciate the government's support for our school, this is not our viewpoint. If this was a school that belonged to a church we might be inclined to suggest that it was the responsibility of the particular church and the teachers they employ to educate children. This is not the perspective of Tyndale either.

This school acknowledges the responsibility of parents in the education of their children. It is to parents, therefore, that God has given the responsibility of ensuring that this school maintains its ethos as a Christian school, a responsibility that is exercised in partnership with teachers and other Tyndale staff. This responsibility is realized in a myriad of ways – in the day to day of listening to reading,



assisting with camps or excursions, assisting at working bees (four were held in 2009 – one in each term), and/or serving the school as members of our parent volunteer group, called Tyndale Connect. Tyndale Connect assisted with catering for school events, fundraising, distributing meals to families in crisis or need, providing volunteers for various activities, events and excursions.

It is a joy to be able to say that this is so often the reality at Tyndale! In terms of giving the school its direction, parents can fulfil their responsibilities by joining the school association, serving on committees, attending association meetings and even standing for election for the school board.

Teacher responsibility

What is the role of the teacher then, if parents are doing all of the above? The responsibility of the teacher is to partner with parents in this process – to guide and teach children in curriculum areas in which parents may not have expertise, e.g.

- helping students to see that Mathematics has an incredible beauty, consistency and dependability because God has made the universe in that way, or
- helping students to see the beauty of language and appreciate the wonderful ways it can be used to praise God and bless other people or
- helping students to see the beauty of Timber, of Music, of Art, of the Sciences, of Spelling ... etc. Our role as teachers is to participate with you, to open up to your children on your behalf, the wonders of God's Creation in a schooling context.

Concluding remarks

The parents who started Tyndale over 40 years ago had high aspirations for their children and their school – they wanted their children to be taught in an environment that honoured Jesus, an environment that equipped children with academic, social and relational skills, with spiritual insight and with a love for God and humanity – children who would be and continue as adults to be, life-long learners and life-long servants of Jesus – whether that was as retail assistants, university lecturers, corporate executives, missionaries, musicians, builders, child care workers or poets.

Academic rigour is a focus and priority right through the school but this is not at the expense of but rather in conjunction with a celebration of all of God's gifts including sport, music, imagination, art, craft and humour.

An underlying purpose of schooling at Tyndale is that children have a full educational experience encompassing the depths and breadths of the Creation and that through experiences lived in community with classmates and guided by dedicated teachers and other staff, that they will come to love and serve the Creator and live full and joyful lives as followers of the Son.

In Colossians 3 we read "*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters ... It is the Lord Christ you are serving*"

For the glory of God alone,
Jack Joyce
Principal



Property Report

The year 2009 was very busy for property with a large number of opportunities arising for schools via the Building the Education Revolution (BER) funding. This coupled with the regular school maintenance and working bees meant that there were many opportunities for us to improve our school facilities in 2009.

As part of the BER we undertook a range of projects which included :- C7 Science room refurbishment, new school front fencing, new guttering on H Block, complete refurbishment of I Block toilets, new carpet in 20 classrooms across the school and new gymnasium equipment in the school hall. These projects were all fully funded under the BER National School Pride funding in which the school received \$200,000.

General maintenance around the school has continued to be an ongoing task. The beautiful grounds and well maintained facilities that our school community enjoys is in large part kept looking good and in working order by the excellent work of Mr Andrew Kal, Mr Bernie Kooy and Mr David Cutajar. Their efforts do not go unrecognised by visitors to the school who regularly comment on the standard of our grounds and facilities.

Working bees in 2009 were again a wonderful time of community building amongst parents and staff and also contribute greatly to the way in which we maximise the work achieved around the school. A big thank you needs to be extended to those parents who faithfully attend these days and commit their time and effort to the projects undertaken. Last year a great deal was achieved by those who attended. Projects undertaken during the 2009 Working Bees were:

Term 1 – Painting H Block in preparation for new guttering

Term 2 – New garden area outside staff lunchroom and new pathway.

Term 3 – Prep work for the demolition of D Block to make way for the new library and Multi-purpose hall.

Term 4 – New deck and ramp to Uniform Shop and general painting work.

As 2010 roll along we would welcome all members of the school community to consider being involved in Working Bees in 2010.

Planning for 2010 was also a big part of 2009 with a number projects and grant applications which will be completed in 2010. These projects include: National Solar Schools Grant for \$50,000 to insulate B & C Block classrooms and also to install Solar Power generation on the School Hall, BER Primary 21st Century funding for the New School Library and Multi-purpose hall which will be build throughout 2010.

It is exciting to see how the Lord has blessed Tyndale in the many ways through property ventures in 2009. We know and trust that the Lord will continue His good work in this place throughout the coming years.

Mr Adam Scotney
Deputy Principal/Property Manager

2009 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

