

THE KING'S HERALD

...a positive high school experience and positioned for Godly leadership...

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Digging Down in the Inner Self

I wish every parent could have joined us for our usual chapel time this past Tuesday morning. Weeks earlier, 47 students and 8 adults headed to Peru and the Dominican Republic to haul sand, bricks and sod. To be sure, there was heavy lifting, sweat pouring from bodies becoming accustomed to hard labour, but there was more. At chapel a few of the students volunteered to tell their stories, and share their feelings and the deeper emotions that surfaced while they created parts of buildings for children who live in abject poverty. They became aware of themselves as they bunked together, encouraged long devotions and argued which song to sing next. They discovered feelings that come from down deep. These students are changed for good forever. They have changed attitudes towards poverty in faraway places and undoubtedly also for the poor who are closer to home.

As I sat and surveyed our wonderful students, I won-

dered how many would like to be part of next year's mission adventures. Judging by their rapt attention and enthusiastic applause, I suspect the majority would like to be the ones reporting back next year. Wouldn't it be awesome if 100 students headed out next January for the experience of a lifetime? I offer my encouragement to every student: be brave, be courageous, set a goal and make it happen – you will never regret it!

Thank you to our staff, Mrs. Noseworthy, Mr. Walraven, Mr. Wahab, Mr. Taekema, Ms. Bruce-Mueller, Ms. Scholman, Ms. Conlin and Mr. Masengi for giving of your time, gifts and their spirit. Thanks for the hard work in making memories of a lifetime.



Mr. Vanderkooy, Principal

CURIOUS ABOUT AP?

The Advanced Placement (AP) program offers highly motivated secondary school students the opportunity to write challenging university level exams. The College Board, who administers the AP program, suggests that students who experience AP are more likely than other students to graduate from university with a double major and are twice as likely to pursue a Ph.D. or studies in medicine or law. Last year, nearly 14,000 Canadian students wrote more than 20,000 AP exams. Successful completion of an AP Examination can result in a university credit, advanced standing or both, depending on the policy of the university.

More than for practical or statistical reasons, however, the AP program is valuable for students who have a passion to learn. Engaged students are challenged with insightful questions that demand analytical, critical thinking. It is a program designed not so much to get students into university, but rather to help them succeed in university.

This year, King's will offer AP exams for Music, Calculus, World History, French, and Chemistry. Five teachers who have experience with the AP program will offer regular tutorials and provide resources to students with the understanding that those planning to write the exam will need to be self-motivated to learn and diligent in their work. The teachers are Mr. Norbury, Mr. Smith, Mr. Ford, Madame Scholman, and Dr. Kahama. The exams are scheduled for May, and the cost to each student is \$120.00 (non-refundable). The last day to sign up with a teacher or at the office is February 20. For more information about the program, please visit www.ap.ca.

We look forward to pursuing the AP program so that in coming years we can offer courses as well as exams. We are eager to continue challenging students to think deeply about the subjects they love.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- *Monday, Feb 16*
Family Day holiday - no school
- *Friday, February 20*
Marks updated on Maplewood
- *Thursday, March 5 (4 - 5:30 & 6:30 - 9:00)*
Learning Dialogues
- *Fri. March 13 - Mon. March 23 (inclusive)*
March break - school is closed
- *Wednesday, April 1*
Mid-Semester 2 Learning Reports
Distributed
- *Thursday, April 2*
Grade 10 Literacy test
- *Fri. April 10 - Mon. April 13 (inclusive)*
Easter Break - school is closed

PERU MISSION TRIP 2009

When people ask me about my trip to Peru, all I can say is that it was amazing!! It was a lot more than that but I'm always at a loss for words. It was an amazing experience and we all became like one family.

In Peru, we experienced what it is like to live life simply, in other words with very little technology and for us girls no hair straighteners. Mrs. Bruce Muller learned to live without her suitcase for about three days. It was an eye opening experience to see how people in Peru live – in some parts of Peru, water is delivered to the people, there is no running water available to them .in some areas, there is no electricity or necessary plumbing. I came to realize that everything comes so easily to us, but in Peru they work very very hard to get things that we take for granted in Canada. We all stepped out of our comfort zones and learned to appreciate all that we have been blessed with here in Canada.

JOIN US FOR PRAYER...

Join a growing group of committed parents who pray for King's, its students and staff every Thursday morning at 8:45 in the conference room in the main office area. All are warmly welcomed - and we're done by 9:30.

YEARBOOK UPDATE...

Only a few more yearbooks remain to be sold ... once they're gone, they're gone! Watch for them on sale in the atrium. As well, businesses are welcome to contact the office about placing ads in the yearbook - a great way to promote our business and support the King's Yearbook!



We teamed up with Kids Alive International, an organization that works with at-risk and orphaned children. Our main focus was to help in the preparation of two recently constructed children's homes in Pachacamac. On the worksite, we were physically tested and found muscles we never thought we had – we painted and did some landscaping for new houses for the children. Steff Collins became Little Bo Peep and nurtured the sheep that lived on the worksite - she also took the liberty of naming it Louse. By the end of the week, the team was tired and had been eaten alive by sand fleas, but we completed our tasks and saw the fruits of our labour. We felt like there was still more for us to do.

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At the end of the work day we would go back to the apartment, shower, and then walk to the children's home for dinner. There we would always be greeted by a smile and the wonderful smell of Peruvian food – each night we had the opportunity to try a different Peruvian dish and on our final day there, their specialty, Guinea pig.

After eating, we would play with the children. Most of them had gone to camp for the week but there were still a few kids for us to play with. Vanessa, an eight year old, could speak English fluently and we relied on her to translate. During one of those evenings, we had the opportunity to do devotions with the children and play parachute.

Every night we would have group devotions. I think that this was the most memorable time of the trip. This was when we would talk to each other about our days and we grew spiritually together. We got the opportunity to discuss things that we would not normally talk to each other about. This trip gave all of us the opportunity to get to know each other and connect in a way that

would have never happened in the school hallway.

On the weekend we got to experience the touristy aspects of Peru – we had fun bargaining in the Indian markets, being pushed by the massive waves of the Pacific ocean at the beach, and viewed over 100,00 bones at the catacombs of the St. Franciscan order! We visited Burger King and Starbucks as well! We learned that ordering food in Spanish is quite a bit harder than we thought, especially with all the extras you could add to your meal.

If there is one thing we will never forget about Peru is the view of the mountains, the makeshift houses that people live in and the crazy driving – no speed limits! We went there as a group of strangers and came back a true family. I am thankful for the awesome opportunity. I know all our lives were impacted and we did make a difference in the lives of some children in Peru.

SARAH MALLO

The Peru Team (from left):

Mr. Jason Taekema

Stephanie Collins

Matt Wick

Sara Wardle

Rani Aziz

Stephanie Sintichakis

Riley Reimer

Marco Ross

Sarah Mallo

Christina Hong

Catherine Plessl

Ms. Bruce-Mueller

