Issue 12 - 2 August 2012

The Olympic Flame

Last Friday, the cauldron was lit during the London Olympic Games opening ceremony. The Olympic Flame is always lit months earlier from the sun’s rays at the temple of Hera in Olympia, Greece, and then handed over to the host city’s representatives, where it is transferred from one torchbearer to another, spreading the message of peace, unity and friendship. The last torchbearer lights the cauldron, which burns throughout the games. The flame is extinguished at the closing ceremony.

Many of the torchbearers are elite athletes or high profile people, but some are more ordinary people like 25 year old Nathalie Murphy. Nathalie was homeless at 15 when she first became involved in Kids Company. She later achieved a degree in Theatre and Performance Studies and is giving back to Kids Company by making fundraising films for the charity.

Another of the torchbearers was 15 year old Lauran Ferebee a young carer. She helps her mum look after her younger sister, which she sometimes does on her own to give her mum a break. Her opportunities to go out or spend time with her mother are limited.

The torchbearers have used such words as ‘amazing, exciting, really cool, fantastic, honoured and I never dreamt of carrying the Olympic Flame’ … On day 68, an onlooker remarked that the torch relay was all about overcoming barriers and difficulties...

I was struck by the parallel with our life journey. Jesus (God’s Son) lit the flame of our friendship with God by taking our place on the cross. This act overcame the barrier between us and God that we couldn’t mend ourselves. His spirit (or flame, to carry on the analogy) is with us throughout our life, reminding us that we can have peace, unity and friendship with God and each other because of Him. This flame can help us overcome or cope with the difficulties in our lives too.

And the best thing about this ‘Flame of Friendship’ with God is that it never goes out and can never be extinguished! No matter whether we are high profile people or just getting on with our lives the best we can, Jesus has honoured each of us with the invitation to carry his flame of love to others.

What a privilege!

The above article was written by Helen Wicker (Concordia Kindergarten)

[Olympic game information from: http://www.london2012.com/torch-relay]

We celebrate with two Lutheran colleges on the Sunshine Coast, Qld who had past students in the gold medal 4 x 100 women’s swim relay team at the weekend. Brittany Elmslie, past student from Good Shepherd Lutheran College at Noosa and Melanie Schlanger, past student from Immanuel Lutheran College in Maroochydore.

Prayers points:
- Students and families as they consider subject choices for their studies in 2013.
- Students and staff experiencing ill health.
- Student Leaders in our schools.
- All the volunteers who serve our schools and centres.
St Mark’s Lutheran School,  
Mt Barker

In Term 2 St Mark’s ran a Cambodia Appeal to raise money for a much needed medical centre in the Aural district in Cambodia. The school has previously supported the building of a school in this area. There were many different events organised by the SRC to raise money and awareness under the banner of ‘Food Matters’ including an art show, a produce table, a casual day, a rice day using ration cards and an obstacle-a-thon. Our chapel services also focused on the needs of people in Cambodia and the weekly offerings were given to this cause also. Overall St Mark’s raised over $10,500 and the students have a renewed understanding and compassion for the people of Cambodia.

SA Staff Conferences - 7th September
On Friday 7th September staff from all SA Lutheran schools will attend the annual conferences. Secondary school staff will meet in a variety of college venues under the theme “Connect - Share - Learn”. The programs for the day are tailored for networking with others in similar roles, as well as participation in workshops.

The Primary / Pre-School conference will be held at AAMI Stadium. The theme for the day is Walking in Wellness and Wholeness with guest presenters David Parkin and Karni Liddell. The details to register were sent to schools early this week. Prompt response to the registration requirements would be appreciated by the coordinating committee.

Health and Safety Representatives Level 1 course
All Health and Safety Reps who have yet to be trained are entitled and encouraged to attend this course, which is provided by an approved Safework training provider with experience in the education sector.

Dates: 6th -10th August, 9.15 am – 4pm
Venue: LLL Conference Room, 175 Archer St, North Adelaide
Please register here for this course. Further details and enquiries: Gerry Conley, Ph: 0400 642 225 or email gerry.conley@lsa.lutheran.edu.au

Vacancies in Lutheran Schools
For details of positions vacant in Lutheran schools, follow the link below and click on “Vacancies in Lutheran schools”. www.lutheran.edu.au

Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School
25th Anniversary
Saturday the 25th August
All past staff, students and families are invited to join us for a night of celebration.
More details on our website – www.goldengrove.sa.edu.au