If you can read this … thank a teacher

His name was Mr White and the students in Year 7 (First Form in those days) swapped handshakes in the playground as they celebrated their luck (high fives were just something we saw Americans do on TV in those days). I was one of them. There was no doubt that he was a “cool cat” – one of the coolest. He played representative Rugby League and was tall, robust and had a chiselled face with a chin dimple (real – not artificial like a latter day Michael Jackson). He had been assigned as our Maths teacher.

The feeling was mutual. Mr White loved our class. It was a selective High School and so there were “less discipline problems” than at his last school. Lesson plans were optional. I remember the promise of an excursion became a flippant apology when the day came and went without booking the venue. Our “first period” class was typically an opportunity for Mr White to say, “turn to page 34 and do the problems; don’t bother me – as he unfurled the latest edition of Rugby League Week with his feet on the teacher’s desk.” Soon we disliked him; then we despised him. Anyone can spot a fake.

A College like ours relies on the quality of our staff. We have state-of-the-art facilities and resources and extra-curricular offerings that are staggering in their scope – but our reputation has always been built on quality teaching and learning. The Australian Council for Educational Research has a cart-load of research that supports this assertion.

Good teachers and support staff keep a professional distance; are knowledgeable on their subject area; laugh with students; enthuse students; fill students with wonder; prepare well; keep learning themselves; earn respect. Teachers who covet friendship at the expense of respect rarely achieve either. (Kids don’t need another friend – they need a teacher). Teaching is also a profession that will find you out.

If it is true that, “it takes a Headmaster about a year, a common room about a month and a student about a week to identify a good teacher” (Dr Hawkes, The Kings School, Sydney), then it is almost certain that it takes a Headmaster about a month, a common room about a week and students about 10 minutes to identify a bad one.

As I reminisce, it occurs to me that Mr White lost a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in his life – to leave a positive, rather than negative, legacy. As he turned the pages of the Rugby League week, our respect for him also turned. In the end Year 7 students learnt a valuable life lesson. It would have been better for us to have a bookish, nerdy Maths teacher who was passionate about Maths than a robust, athletic Maths teacher who was disinterested and diffident.

An observer from another independent school recently commented that, “Wollondilly Anglican College has a great feel – it is evident the moment that you walk in – what is the secret?” I am proud of the commitment and professionalism of our Wollondilly staff. They are the difference.

Mr White would never be comfortable here
2014 Festival of Steam

What a fantastic day we had at the Festival of Steam! Thank you to all the staff, students and families who arrived in the rain on Sunday and helped make the day a huge success. The sun came out in time for the parade which saw over 100 students and 30 staff make their way through Thirlmere sporting the green and white WAC helium balloons. We won the "Best School" award which topped off an already wonderful day. Thank you once again for your truly wonderful support.

Enrolments

2015 enrolments are well underway. Transition, Kindergarten and Year 7 are expected to have waiting lists so please, if you are wishing to enrol your child in 2015, return the application documentation as soon as possible. Information about enrolments is available from the College office.

Year 7, 2015 Information Evening

This information evening is for those considering Wollondilly for Year 7, 2015 and will be held on Wednesday, 19 March. More information will follow in the weeks ahead but please mark this date in your diary.

Mrs Christine Mozejko
College Development Manager
Deputy Headmaster

Developing a Culture of Study and Learning
The staff at the College have been working towards developing a stronger culture of study and learning. Here are a few things that we are doing:

- Working with students in roll call to develop study skills and to set goals.
- Issuing all students from Years 7 -12 with a Student Wall Planner to assist with planning homework and assessment tasks and developing positive study habits.
- Providing written feedback to parents and students so the students learn from the homework and assessment tasks they complete.
- Having high expectations on the standard of work that is submitted.
- Communicating with parents about their child’s progress via the College Diary.
- Providing information about their child’s progress via our reports and the Parent Portal.
- Providing extended library hours for senior students.
- Providing timetabled Study Groups on Tuesdays for Secondary students not participating in MISA sport.
- Primary and Secondary Homework Clubs on Wednesday afternoons.
- Encouraging students to achieve their personal best.
- Providing opportunities for extended learning via the programs offered such as Tournament of Minds, Debating and Public Speaking, Maths Clubs, Literacy groups.
- Interviewing senior students to discuss goals and pathways.
- Holding Parent Information Evenings to assist parents and students in their understanding of the HSC, methods in teaching Mathematics and Literacy.
- Mentoring Year 12 students.

I encourage parents to take the time to check through their child’s diary, books and the Parent Portal so they can track how their child is progressing. There shouldn’t be any surprises by the time the Semester One Report is sent home or the Parent/Teacher Interviews occur.

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award — Bronze Practice Expedition
The Bronze Level Practice Expedition will take place on Saturday, 22 and Sunday, 23 March 2014 from Audley Visitors Centre through the Royal National Park to Wattamola.

Specific Details are below:

Saturday, 22 March:
Departure from Wollondilly Anglican College at 7.30 am travelling by College bus to Audley Visitors Centre – Royal National Park.

Sunday, 23 March:
1.30 pm pick up students at Wattamola, Royal National Park.

Equipment:
Students will need to carry all their own food, equipment, water, sleeping gear and tent. This was covered at the pre-expedition training on Saturday, 8 March 2014. Students will need to use a fuel stove for cooking or eat uncooked meals. An equipment list is in the Expedition Handbook issued to students.

Note: Students will need to carry at least two litres of water. Cooking fires are not permitted in the National Park. There may be an opportunity to swim. Students may choose to bring swimmers. Electric BBQ’s are available at the camp site as well as toilets and showers.

Costs:
National Park Camping fees $15.00 to be paid at front office.

Equipment Hire:
The College has some backpacks and 2 person tents available for hire at $10.00, Trangia Cookers $10.00, Good Quality Rain Jackets $10.00. Hire fees are to be paid before the expedition to the College Office.

Mr Croger, Mrs Croger, Mr Hicks, Mrs Cochrane and Ms Huxtable will be supervising the students. Emergency contact details will be made available. Mr Schroder will be an emergency contact person.

Students are reminded that all College rules regarding behaviour and College expectations apply.

Mr Ian Croger
Deputy Headmaster

A.S.K — Secondary Homework Club
ASK (Secondary Homework Club) will NOT be running on Wednesday, 26 March (Week 9) due to the HICES debating competition being held at WAC and Flynn IRC and other rooms being utilised during that time.

We will be back to normal in Week 10.

Mrs Emily Madden
Community Service

We would like to thank all students who attended the Thirlmere Festival of Steam with a Community Service merit to recognise their involvement. The College was very well represented and made a positive input to the Community. I would like to commend all students on their involvement and thank the student leaders for their assistance on the day.

SRC

The SRC has made a very positive start to the year and as always I have been impressed with their input at our meetings. The focus so far has been to identify areas to work towards in 2014 and looking at how as a group they can become involved in serving the College.

It is great to have a forum that allows for the development of Leadership from Years 3-12 and the manner in which all involved represent their various year groups is always impressive. If you would like to raise issues to be discussed at the meetings, please talk to the SRC members in your various year groups.

Important Upcoming Events

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<td>College Working Bee</td>
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<td>Year 9 Camp</td>
<td>Wednesday - Friday, 12-14 March</td>
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<td>SASC Young Leaders Day</td>
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<td>Year 7 2015 Information Night</td>
<td>Wednesday, 19 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1 Term Service</td>
<td>Friday, 21 March</td>
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Mr Liam Toland
Director of Pastoral Care T-12
**PRIMARY MATTERS**

**SASC Young Leaders’ Day**

On the Thursday, 13 March Wollondilly Anglican College will host the SASC Young Leaders’ Day. This day is for students in Year 6 students who hold leadership positions. They have the opportunity to be involved in activities that address leadership and what makes a good leader. This day also enables secondary student leaders to assist by leading group activities.

**Year 6 Progress Dinner Meeting (Date Change).**

Please note: the Organisation Meeting will be held at 2.00 pm on **Wednesday, 9 April** in the cafeteria, if you are willing to help with the dinner organisation please email k.darby@wac.nsw.edu.au

Ms Jacqui Huxtable
Director of Teaching and Learning T-6
j.huxtable@wac.nsw.edu.au

**PASTORAL CARE CORNER**

Last week every student in Transition — Year 4 received the following information in regards to the afternoon collection process implemented at Wollondilly. To ensure the staff are aware of the usual afternoon collection practice of your child you were asked to return a note giving us these details by Tuesday, 4 March.

Thank you to those families who have done so. If you are yet to return this note could you please do so no later than Friday, 7 March. If you require an additional note, please see the Office staff.

**DRUM SPECTACULAR**

Cooper Papps leads the way for 1 Hope, under the Direction of his Drum teacher David Helman, "Mary had a little lamb " will never be the same again.

Cooper Papps has been able to bring this song rocking well and truly into the new millennium. Year 1 Hope were thrilled to assist with the cymbals and we all sang along. I can tell that Mr Helman has his eyes on Cooper to join the WAC marching band in the not too distant future.

**EASTER HAT PARADE**

Transition to Year 2, it’s that time of year again when we get to celebrate Easter at the College. Start thinking about your Easter Hat for our parade. More details to follow.....
Rehearsals continue to progress well for both Primary and Secondary cast members. Secondary cast members should now be working without scripts. Students need to be practising songs between rehearsals.

On Monday, Secondary cast members will be working on the choreography of the wolf chase scene, scenes 4, 4b, 5, 6, 6a, 6b. We will then run the show from the beginning to the end of scene 6b (where the Beast yells “This is not a request!”).

Mrs Sarah Talbot
Director of the Musical

LUNCHTIME PERFORMANCE GROUPS

Just reminding you that there are many dance performance groups at lunch that we would love for you to attend.

- Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) dance group is on a Tuesday at lunch at the bottom of the Elizabeth building after you have eaten.
- Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6) dance group is also on Tuesdays at lunch in the Warne Auditorium starting at the beginning of lunch.
- The Years 7 and 8 dance group is on Fridays the second half of lunch at the Auditorium.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Miss Melanie Humble and Mrs Kim Vidler

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2014

Sunday, 2 March was ‘Clean Up Australia Day’. It is estimated that over 500,000 people nationally volunteered their time and energy to clean up our environment.

In Tylers Road and Silica Road, Bargo, a team of neighbours and College volunteers bent their backs in a huge clean up. We were pleased to find less roadside rubbish as compared to previous years.

Sadly though there are a very small minority who still cause massive damage through large scale dumping. The photo shows the results of a calculated and sinister plan to dump what would appear to be most of the contents of a home. We also found a pile of gyprock, similarly dumped. Please keep an eye out for this sort of activity and report it. Moreover spread the message that this activity is unacceptable and toxic to our environment.

Special thanks to the following students who got stuck in:
Olivia Spinley, Emeche Shanley, Tyler Dunn, Josie Dunn, Hayden Dunn, Cheyanne Allen and Maisie Hart.

Mr Jay Hart
World Read Aloud Day: Yesterday morning we kicked off our Literacy Week with a Read Aloud Session. Students from Years 5-12 visited classes from Transition to Year 4 during roll call time. They paired up with younger students and read a picture book or two. It was a fantastic time of sharing literacy.

Scholastic Book Club: Orders for the first book club will be given to the students on Friday. If there are any problems please email me directly.

Fathers and Literacy Day:
Save the Date – Tuesday, 11 March from 8.15 am until 10.00 am for fathers of students in Transition to Year 4. Fathers play a very important role in developing literacy skills in their children. We look forward to seeing many fathers visiting next Tuesday. Please return the attendance note to assist us for catering purposes.

Premier’s Reading Challenge:
Congratulations to all the students who received their 2013 participation certificates at last Friday’s assembly.

Mrs Louise Saint-John
IRC Coordinator
As stated last week, our first Working Bee for 2014 is on Saturday, 8 March 8.00 am till 4.00 pm and we would love to have you join us here at the College. For those of you who are new to our College, it is a good way to be a part of the greater College community, meeting and working side-by-side while having some great fellowship with other parents and students. It also helps to get some of the things done around the place which we don’t normally have the time for. Some of these jobs are:

- A big job due to the rain we have had is the weeding and tidying up of all our garden areas around the College.
- A third of our trailer has agapanthus in it which was picked up this week and need planting probably around the Flynn carpark.
- Some reasonably small dead trees will be removed.
- Lower branches of some trees can be pruned so we don’t hit our heads on them.
- Mulch can be added to the gardens
- The College carpark gutters can be swept to rid them of leaves which can then be put on the gardens as compost.
- The cover girls will be covering some books with Mrs Saint-John in the Flynn 2 classroom from 9.00 am.
- A great job for the kids is the picking up of papers around our field.

So don’t forget to bring your gardening tools, gloves and anything else you think might help on the day. We always have a great time at our Working Bees so come along and be a part of the action to help keep our College looking great.

As always a delicious Morning Tea will be provided by the Wollondilly Anglican Community Church and a BBQ lunch will be provided by the P&F.

Mr Fred Schroder
Property Manager
**PRIMARY SPORT**

Congratulations to all our swim squad on your successes on Tuesday night. Most swimmers swam their personal bests. Congratulations to Ryan Eagles who came third in the 12/13 Years 100m event. Well done to all swimmers.

Next week, most IPSSO games (oz tag, basketball and soccer) will be held at Macarthur Anglican School. Cricket will be played at Harrington Park. The junior games will start at 12.00 pm and the senior games will start at 12.45 pm. Please remember drinks, hats and any safety gear.

If a lunch order is required, please clearly mark on the bag, IPSSO Sport and the meal will be ready in time. Please return any outstanding NASSA Soccer notes.

Mr Stuart McIntosh  
Primary Sports Coordinator

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**SECONDARY SPORT**

This week in MISA we played St Benedict’s College. Our Girls Basketball team had their first win of the season! Well Done.

A special mention has to go to our Girls Volleyball team. WAC’s Years 7 to 9 Girls Volleyball team are shaping up to be an unstoppable group as they continued their winning streak in a nail-biting game against Mount Carmel on Tuesday afternoon. The end result was 2-1 and being a close scoring game the girls showed true determination and team spirit. A big shout out goes to Grace Meier-Kapavale, Bree-Anna Ellul and Ellie Moore who have improved their serving skills each week. Marie-Luise should also be congratulated on the way she leads the team with encouragement, sportsmanship and always a massive smile! Keep posted for future results. **GO GIRLS!!**

In MISA we play St Patricks College next week;
- Touch (Girls) – Kayess Park, Minto
- Basketball (Girls) – Minto Basketball Stadium
- Volleyball (Girls) – St Patricks College

**Important Dates:**
- Wednesday, 26 March NASSA Opens soccer trials
- Monday, 31 March AICES swimming carnival
- Thursday, 10 April WAC Secondary Cross-Country

Mr Richard Madden  
Secondary Sports Coordinator

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Grevillea flag raising ceremony
ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Katelyn Fairley in Year 9 is our feature artist of the week. This term Year 9 are studying a unit called Creature Concepts. They are studying how animals have been used in art through history and developing their drawing skills. Katelyn has demonstrated sophisticated graphite drawing skills in her animal study of a ‘Zebra’. Wonderful graphite rendering work Katelyn.

Mrs Belinda Taylor
Secondary Teacher

DEBATING NEWS

The first round of the HICES Debating competition was held at Broughton Anglican College on Tuesday, 25 February. Five teams from the College participated in round one. Two teams from the Junior school debated the topic That zoos are safe havens for animals presenting the affirmative side. The Middle school team argued for the case That humans should not interfere with the natural extinction of animal species. The Senior teams, made up of students from Years 9 and 10, only received one hour to prepare a case on the Topic That endangered species are worth saving.

A squad of over 30 of our students travelled to Broughton to participate in their own debate and then watch and support other teams from the College. A number of schools including Broughton Anglican, Chevalier College and Shellharbour Anglican also competed.

Our results for round one were very encouraging with our Junior and Middle school teams being successful in proving their case. Our Seniors built very strong team lines but they were narrowly defeated on the day. Our Opens team had a Bye for this round of the competition.

All our debaters deserve congratulations for the time and effort they put into their research and preparation. They represented the College with great pride. Round two will be held at Wollondilly Anglican College on Wednesday, 26 March from 3.30 pm onwards. Parents are welcome to attend and watch the debates.

Mrs Wendy Croger and Mr Michael Matthews
College Debating Organisers
Just a reminder that the P&F AGM Meeting is on this **Monday, 10 March** (please note that all Executive roles have received nominations).

Please join us in the College Canteen at 7.00 pm, meet our new coordinators and find out how you can be part of the fun!

**Mrs Danielle Turner**
P&F President

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**BULBS FUNDRAISER**

Why not plan a floral display for your winter/spring garden, plant a pot of hyacinth or tulips or just purchase a bag of bulbs for that special gardener.

**WE ENCOURAGE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY/FRIENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TERM 1 FUNDRAISER!**

Please return order forms and payment in an envelope marked “BULBS ” to the College office **anytime** over the next three weeks.

**ORDERS CLOSE MONDAY, 17 MARCH**

You could WIN
- a $25.00 voucher from Tahmoor Garden Centre OR
- a $50.00 Lowes voucher
simply by placing an order

Drop completed order forms into the office anytime
Bulbs will be delivered to the College and distributed to students before Easter

Catalogues are still available at the office
Your support in this fundraising effort is greatly appreciated.
From time to time, families undergo trauma such as severe or terminal illness. There are **support structures in place at the College to assist families** during these times. Parents have kindly offered practical support such as meals for other families. Please continue to contact Mrs Hay or Mr Shaw at the College, to assist. Confidentiality will be respected when requested.

**Tahmoor Netball Club**: The club is looking for girls aged 5 to 12 years old. For more information and to register, please contact Allison Scott on 0438 350 566 or email ajatcs@hotmail.com by Friday, 7 March.

**Learner Driver Information**: An information session is being held for Parents/Guardians of learner drivers on Wednesday, 12 March starting at 6.30 pm (bookings essential please email leanne.ledwidge@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au)

**1st Tahmoor Scout Group**: Looking for Cubs (Girls and Boys) aged between 8 to 10 years. Meet Wednesday 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm. For more information please call Phillip Norton 4681 8811.

**Mount Annan Botanic Garden Challenge Walk**: Sunday, 9 March 2014 Mount Annan Botanic Gardens will be holding their annual Challenge Walk. For more information please visit www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/challengewalk or see the College Office for an entry form.

**World’s Greatest Shave (Wollondilly Rainbow Shave)**: Derk’s Pet and Rural Produce 110 Cedar Creek Road, Thirlmere. Saturday, 15 March 9.00 am - 3.00 pm. Please come and join the fun and raise money for this great cause! Krabooz Crab Display, Face Painting, Zumba, Jumping Castles!

**Mental Health First Aid**: The community is invited to attend a 12-hour Standard Mental Health Aid Course, at the Tahmoor Community Centre (Monday, 31 March and Tuesday, 1 April 2014 from 9.30 am to 4.30 pm). This course will cost $150.00. For more information please call Tania McCurley on 4683 2776.

**REMINDER**: Daylight savings ends in NSW on Sunday, 6 April 2014 when clocks go back one hour!

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Please Note that this page is a service to the Community and items advertised do not necessarily carry the endorsement of the College. The College tries to be selective with what is advertised but cannot take responsibility. Please look into events advertised carefully.

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**F.L.O.W.E.R.S. Canteen & Cafeteria**

College Merchandise is available for sale at the canteen. A list of items and prices can be found on the College website. Please find your updated copy of the canteen price list enclosed in this edition. Discard any other copies you may have at home to avoid any confusion.

Canteen roster Term 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday 13/3</th>
<th>Help Needed</th>
<th>Help needed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 14/3</td>
<td>Liz Hayes</td>
<td>Judy Scholes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 17/3</td>
<td>Lesley Bramich</td>
<td>Michelle Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 18/3</td>
<td>Wednesday 19/3</td>
<td>Judith Rigg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20/3</td>
<td>Virginia Williams</td>
<td>Marie Bellia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 21/3</td>
<td>Judy Scholes</td>
<td>Marie Bellia</td>
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If you would like to put your name down to help out in the Canteen we have vacant spots available. You can do half a day (8.00 am until 11.00 am) or (11.00 am until 2.00 pm) or a full day. One, two, three or four days a term, whatever you can manage would be very much appreciated and lighten the load for our wonderful band of faithful volunteers. In particular I am in need helpers for Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please consider volunteering even if just for one day a term. If you are already a volunteer why not encourage your friends at the College to join you for a day or two!

Think healthy, Eat healthy, Live healthy! Mrs Carolyn Richards
March

Thursday 6  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  
Reading to Transition Tembo  
Meeting with Wests Tigers  

Friday 7  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  
Reading to Transition Tembo  
Reading to Upper Primary  
Middle Chapel  

Saturday 8  
College Working Bee – Term 1  

Monday 10  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  
(Evening) Parents and Friends Association Executive  
(Evening) Parents and Friends Association AGM  

Tuesday 11  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  
Fathers and Literacy Morning Tea  
(Evening) 10 Year Staff Celebration  

Wednesday 12  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  
College Executive Meeting  

Thursday 13  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  
World’s Greatest Shave  
(Evening) Visit to Year 9 Camp  

Friday 14  
Student Interviews Secondary 2015  

Saturday 15  
College Council Planning Day  

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Dates to Remember

Saturday, 8 March  
College Working Bee  

Friday, 21 March  
College Term Service (7.00 pm)  

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Wollondilly Anglican Community Church (WACC) meets in the Clifford Warne Auditorium every Sunday at 9.00 am.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Philippians 4:8

The secret to peace and happiness is not to tell ourselves what bad things to avoid, but to focus on the good things to embrace. Better still, to focus on the source of all things good-Jesus himself. All of these excellent and praiseworthy things are from him. Worth a thought.

Rev Rob Meischke 0437533106
This week’s Pretend Headmaster Ashton Bielaczek (KC), is counting down the days until the start of the Football season!

Prayer Points

Thank God
- Staff at the College and their dedication to professionalism,
- Community spirit of the College (at the Thirlmere Steam Festival and Clean up Australia).

Ask God
- To be with our unwell staff and students,
- To be with Management as they plan for the next Building program at WAC.

Psalm 127:1 Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain.  
Excellence, Endurance, Eternity.