

Monaro High Scripture Yearly Report

Having started half way through the year and with the retirement of David Bryson as deputy principal and the time that was taking to have a full time replacement put in place, there was a few issues with scheduling of classes and students knowing when and where to turn up. All of these issues were sorted out with the appointment of James Armitage as deputy in term 4.

Overall the time spent with the year 7 students has been productive and I have had an opportunity to talk about God in a way that they had not been able to for the first half of the year.

In the classes we discussed topics such as:

- Who is God?
- Who is Jesus/ Did he really exist?
- The Ten commandments
- Creation/Evolution what's the go?
- Miracles can they happen today?
- Is the Bible relevant for today?
- What is Hope? – I showed the Nick Vujicic video “No Arms, No legs, No Worries”
- Books of the New Testament
- Christmas – what is it really about

I have found the feedback to be a mix of both negative and positive comments from the students but overall most of the feedback has been positive. Each class has had good attendance with about 85-90% attendance of the overall class number, including students that originally opted out coming in and asking to be part of the classes.

Although I haven't started teaching classes this year⁽²⁰¹⁵⁾ I have been able to confirm with the school that I will be teaching both year 7 and year 8 this year. The new deputy principal has changed the class structure and timing so it is less confusing for the students and therefore more beneficial.

With the change in requirements for the Department of Education and community (DEC) there are some challenges ahead for scripture in NSW High Schools but I believe that this will just be a benefit to us and show that Scripture is a variable and important part of schooling.

I look forward to having a new group of students next year and to building on the knowledge that they already have about the bible and to gain a true and real relationship with Jesus Christ.

Some things to pray about for this year:

- That more students will be involved in the classes.
- That there wont be any disruptions to the class schedule.
- For continued good health for me, as I don't want to miss out on any classes.
- For the students to really get involved in everything that is in the classes.

- For more finance to come in so that we can be better resourced and to get more time in the School.

I am excited about the challenges that are ahead for this year and know that God has great plans for Monaro High and for the students that attend this school. I look forward to sharing with you all the blessings that happen this year and next.

David Reading