

CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 26th MAY 2017

MONDAY, 22nd MAY 2017

Good Morning All

Welcome to the start of Week 4 for us.

It's a beautiful sunny day here but chilly. We give thanks for the new day.

THANK YOU to the School, all the staff and students who were able to attend the service last night for one of our mother's Mrs Sosefina Fa'asisila. THANK YOU to Rev Ikilifi Pope the minister and congregation at Saione Church for allowing Wesley College the opportunity to lead a failotu and to present our gifts to the family.

THANK YOU to Rev Dr Nasili Vakauta for his guiding presence and assistance throughout the failotu.

THANK YOU to those of our parents who were able to join us.

Our Koha was \$1000, a floral casket arrangement, two ngatu and mats - THANK YOU for all the donations.

We remember the family in our prayers today as they farewell their mother at her funeral this morning.

Our theme for this week is 'DOING THE HARD YARDS.'

The Bible reading is from Matthew 7: 7-8, 13-14 on pages 1012 and 1187 in the Wesley Bibles.

"Doing the Hard Yards" originally a rugby phrase, refers to the times a player has the job of picking up the ball, driving the opposition back one or two metres, going to ground and placing the ball for the next player to repeat the process.

It's hard work - energy sapping, then you get up and do it again. It's the basics of the game, used to set up good field position and to wear down the defence.

"Enter through the narrow gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

These verses refer to "DOING THE HARD YARDS" and how important it is to understand that life and living requires us to answer the call to getting the basics right.

In DOING THE HARD YARDS we discover who we are, what we're good at, how much harder we may have to work, what God might be calling us to. We are helped by asking ... seeking ... knocking on those who already know what the hard yards look like.

Not so we don't have to do the hard yards ourselves, but to help us to get through the small gate. DOING THE HARD YARDS is hard work but work we can do together. We are reminded from the reading that whatever we do God is always with us.

Have a blessed day

TUESDAY, 23rd MAY 2017

Good Morning All.

A beautiful sunny cold day here at Wesley. A new day a new way, we give thanks.

We continue with our theme for the week of DOING THE HARD YARDS.

Part of the message this morning was a YouTube clip of the Cambridge Rowing team in the UK preparing for their huge annual event against foes Oxford University. DOING THE HARD YARDS is very much a part of their preparation which includes physical training, mental preparedness and the right attitude. It is a team sport and in DOING THE HARD YARDS together, the journey of discovery about themselves and their relationships with one another they find, is fundamental to their success. The actual rowing and race is only part of the equation, that the importance of DOING THE HARD YARDS in terms of team spirit and team relations is equally vital.

DOING THE HARD YARDS is a living principal fundamental to the whole of our life and relationships with God and with one another. To maintain and sustain the things that are important to us there is the innate understanding that DOING THE HARD YARDS is a given which brings value and worth, credibility and dignity to who we are and what we believe. DOING THE HARD YARDS requires faith and provides hope in the knowledge that our hard work and effort is neither In vain nor without God.

We DO THE HARD YARDS because we are thankful for the life and living we are blessed with and enjoy.

It's a way of giving back, given what we have been given.

It's a way of living in the world which speaks to God and to others about who we are.

Have a blessed day

WEDNESDAY, 24th MAY 2017

Good Afternoon All

It's overcast at Wesley but a tad warmer. We give thanks for each new day.

GO WELL to our 1st XIII League and Netball teams playing later today.

We continue with our theme for the week of DOING THE HARD YARDS.

The Bible reading was from 1 Corinthians 12 :12-27 on pages 1426 and 1247 in the Wesley Bibles.

Following is a letter received from the Rev Ikilifi Pope the presbyter at Saione Parish where the funeral for one of our mother's Mrs Sosefina Fa'asisila was held last Sunday.

Rev Aliitasi,

Once again, on behalf of the Fa'asisila family and the parish I convey our sincere thanks for attending the family service last night.

Saione Parish was over the moon and excited to see so many students from Wesley college visit our humble church.

This is the very first time ever, that our falelotu/church was fully packed with students from Wesley College.

As you are aware, Saione is one of the Tongan churches from Vahefonua where the majority of its children study at Wesley College.

Therefore, we were very honoured by the respect shown from the Principal, teachers, Board of Trustees members and the students of Wesley.

When Wesley College visited last night it was really inspiring and encouraging for us and the parents of Saione parish whose children attend Wesley.

We commit to sustain the relationship with the college and keep encouraging our parents to send their children to Wesley.

Malo 'aupito

Ikilifi Pope Superintendent Saione Parish.

We have in our recent past as a school undertaken THE HARD YARDS to imbed in our everyday way of living our Special Character and the Methodist ethos. That these statements of our faith and identity are living principles in our life as a school, family and community. When we work together as one, united in purpose and in direction, faith and in hope, the impact our school makes and is blessed in making, speaks volumes. In our way of being our Wesley way, we cannot be silenced as to who we are, where we come from and what we stand for and so often it is in the 'unspoken' where we make our greatest contribution.

We stand united in faith and through prayer with the people of Manchester and the UK.

Have a blessed day

THURSDAY, 25th MAY 2017

Good Morning All

A beautiful sunny morning here at Wesley but winter is definitely on its way. God is good!

DOING THE HARD YARDS is our mantra this week.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 10:22-25 on pages 1345 and 1520 in the Wesley Bibles.

DOING THE HARD YARDS is hard graft all the time every time. We are to be relentless die hards!

It's giving the same effort all the time to any task or relationship we are in.

The possibilities are endless, the opportunities to give things everything we've got, says we will accept nothing less than DOING THE HARD YARDS. This becomes the bench mark for our whole way of living.

It's encouraging and inspires others to follow our example and to role model a similar way of being.

Maybe you're an artist in the making. Maybe you're an inventor in the waiting. Maybe you are the best friend anyone will ever have.

In DOING THE HARD YARDS we're not trying to be better than anyone else, just trying to be the best that we can be.

DOING THE HARD YARDS is about bringing our gifts and talents to fruition and to experience the fullness of life God gives.

It takes courage to practice and perseverance. Our greatest rival to success is ourselves and self-doubt. Be encouraged!

v22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings

...

v23 Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful ...

Our prayers for former student Mr Patrick Pole a teacher now in Manchester and his School. Of the two students from his school who attended the concert, one has died and the other is seriously injured.

The call to be relentless, DOING THE HARD YARDS so that our world be that safe place for all people takes courage.

Let us be unswerving in the hope that we profess from the One whose promises are faithful.

Have a blessed day

FRIDAY, 26th MAY 2017

There was no Chapel message today.

