One day our son, James, came home from school and started to sob saying, “I am not a witch, am I?” After talking with him we found out that his reading and maths group was called ‘Witches and Ghosts.’ The year earlier he had been in a group called ‘Lambs and Kittens.’ We immediately marched to the school to have a BIG talk with his teacher and said to her, “witches are real so you can’t call little children names like these”, and she was happy to let us know she was a ‘clairvoyant’ and knew they were real – she had pictures on the wall and reading books lying around on occult topics. James was 5½ years old! We made an appointment with the Headmaster and he said he didn’t interfere with what his teachers did, so that day we removed James from that school.

We enrolled James in a lovely country school where he received very encouraging report cards that said he was improving. We continued at this school a full year and half until another teacher at this school, who went to our Church, said to us “Do you know that James has the word ‘Dumb’ written on his personal School Records?” and suggested we start to go to his classes as Parent Help. James’ teacher agreed to allow me to be Mother Help on the proviso that I did not have any contact with our son, James. As I worked with the class I noticed that there was a desk with four students off to the side that never got any attention. This desk had one girl and three very disruptive and busy boys. One of them was our son James! This table never got to read or get any worksheets so I asked the teacher why not? She replied that she didn’t expect those students to do any work as they wouldn’t be able to do it. We went to the Headmaster and he said that he didn’t expect James to even get his Drivers Licence, and to take him out of school immediately as he would turn into a delinquent. James had been ‘dancing’ on his desk in frustration as he couldn’t do any work. That day we took him out of school not knowing what we were going to do, and an incredible sense of responsibility hit us. We had lunch with some friends a few weeks earlier who had just started homeschooling using A.C.E. and they had shared with us the Great Commandment. We found out from them how to get in contact with A.C.E. in New Zealand and we got to meet the Worboys family from NZ Christian Academy.

Incidentally the other ‘disruptive’ students who sat with James in a corner – two of the boys have been in prison and the girl had a teenage pregnancy that nearly took her life. She now lives in ‘poverty’ – hand to mouth. One of the boys visited us after we had been homeschooling for a few years begging us to homeschool him but his parents didn’t believe it was ‘socially’ acceptable to do this and he has now served several prison sentences.

Mr. Worboys immediately sent us the Parent Pack and arranged for us to meet with them to Diagnostic Test James to see his learning level. James scored very low in all Tests so we started from the first PACEs even though James was now well over 7 ½ years old. James and his younger brother André started doing the ABC’s of A.C.E. together and we soon found that James had a massive ‘confidence’ issue (“I can’t do this”, or “I can’t say that” were continual statements) and we had a huge task ahead of us to rebuild his confidence. At times we thought it was impossible, and we clung to the Scripture ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.’ Philippians 4:13. Often, when we would come to a complete impasse, totally frustrated, we would make James stand on the coffee table and quote that Scripture and we’d begin again. James must have done this hundreds of times. We knew James wasn’t ‘dumb’ so continued to persevere. James was a very busy boy, and today, the school may have put him on Ritalin but we believed boys can be busy so made sure he had plenty to do with his energy – we had several broken windows, doctors visits for stitches, and a front tooth glued back in from tackling his brother in a rugby game! We were to find out that busy boys make incredible achievers as adults.

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The following article was written by Bill Muehlenberg and published on his Culture Watch website on 4 September, 2012. It was subsequently republished in News Weekly on 29 September.

I thought it of such significance that I have reproduced it here for you to read.

Bill Muehlenberg, who was born in America, and now lives in Melbourne. He is married to an Australian, Averil, and has three sons. He has a BA with honours in philosophy (Wheaton College, Chicago), an MA with highest honours in theology (Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Boston), and is completing a PhD in theology at Deakin University, Melbourne. He was formerly the National Vice President of the Australian Family Association. He was also formerly the National Research Coordinator at Focus on the Family. He currently continues an independent ministry in pro-faith and pro-family activism. He is head of an apologetics/ethics ministry called Culture Watch: http://www.billmuehlenberg.com

Education Wars: The Battle for Our Children
By Bill Muehlenberg, September 4th, 2012.

There is perhaps no greater battleground than that of the education arena. He who can educate (or indoctrinate) our children will win not only our children but the future. For centuries we have known of the crucial importance of education, especially the relatively new public, or state, education.

Abraham Lincoln once put it this way: “The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next.” Vladimir Lenin boasted, “Give me four years to teach the children and the seed I have sown will never be uprooted.” And again, “Give us the child for eight years and it will be a Bolshevik forever.”

Well did Churchill lament, “Schools have not necessarily much to do with education... they are mainly institutions of control, where basic habits must be inculcated in the young. Education is quite different and has little place in school.” And religious leaders too have seen the battleground that education is.

Charles Spurgeon offered this caution: “To leave our youthful population in the hands of secular teachers, will be to sell them to the Ishmaelites.” But it is not just a question of secularism robbing kids of values. If education were indeed value-neutral, that would still be a worry.

As C. S. Lewis wrote, “Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil”. Or as Theodore Roosevelt once put it, “To educate a child in the mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.”

But education of course is not value-neutral. Someone’s worldview and values will always be pushed. And what we have witnessed over the past century or so is the steady expulsion of Judeo-Christian values, replaced by those of the secular humanists.

But don’t take my word for it. The secular warriors have been most explicit about their intentions of capturing education for their purposes. They have made it absolutely clear that they are engaged in a war on religion, and want to replace it with their own religion: secular humanism.

All the early atheists and secular humanists admitted to the religious nature of their worldview. For example, in late nineteenth century England Thomas Huxley (1825-1895), and other atheists sought to overthrow the cultural dominance of Christianity. Their goal was to secularise society, and replace Christianity with the “church scientific”.

His grandson, Julian Huxley (1887-1975), sought to “develop a scientific religion” which he called “evolutionary humanism”. As he wrote in 1959, “It is essential for the central core of any educational system, because it is evolution, in the broad sense, that links inorganic nature with life, and the stars with the earth, and matter with mind, and animals with man. Human history is a continuation of biological evolution in a different form.”

And they knew the key role which public education would play in carrying out their work of indoctrination. John Dewey (1859-1952), the father of modern education, and a signatory to the 1933 Humanist Manifesto, was adamant about the role of education in promoting agendas and pushing values: “Schools do have a role – and an important one – in production of social change.” (John Dewey, 1859-1952)

Or as he said elsewhere; “We make a religion of our education. . . . Faith in education signifies nothing less than belief in the possibility of deliberate direction of the formation of human disposition and intelligence.” And again, “I believe that education is the fundamental method of social progress and reform.”

The early secular humanists all knew the importance of using the education system to indoctrinate
As the year comes to a close, Regional Student Convention season is now complete, and we are flat out getting things ready for the first South Pacific A.C.E. Student Convention to be held in the Fiji Islands. There will be some firsts in Fiji this year. To begin with it is the first time the South Pacific A.C.E. Student Convention will be held in the Fiji Islands. It will be the first time we will have five different preachers at a South Pacific Student Convention. It will be the first time...I think anywhere in the world that a Prime Minister will attend the opening and address the Convention. It will also be the first time anywhere in the world where the game of Dilio’s Coconut Ker-plonk will be played. This alone will be worth the trip to Convention.

The New South Wales Student Convention was another small event. Although we had very few students and did not even meet the minimum required for the site, it did have a family feel which was very positive for fellowship. Unfortunately with only 20 or so students in attendance, most of the aims of Student Convention cannot be achieved. One way forward for the mainland of Australia could be to not have Student Conventions named after the states in which they are held. Even though there has never been a restriction on students using the A.C.E. program attending any Convention in our region, we still suffer from some state parochialism from time to time.

A suggested plan for the future could be to hold just two Student Conventions on the mainland of Australia next year. One could be called the Australia North A.C.E. Student Convention and the other could be the Indonesia South A.C.E. Student Convention. Students who qualify for student convention may attend whichever convention their school or parents choose. It will be important that those who participated in state based Conventions now learn to accept others and to begin describing their student convention differently. It will be just as important for those crossing borders to regard the location as one of most convenience and regard the new venue as the venue for our Student Convention.

I would welcome any feedback on this issue and/or any alternative suggestions in how we might all move forward together. Send your feedback to roysavage@scee.edu.au

Planning for 2013 is now well underway and the emphasis of the Schools’ Services Department will continue to be outside of Australia. We have a lively growing ministry in Indonesia, activity is also strong in most of the Pacific nations, and we seek your prayer support for how we can best meet the needs of those nations whose economies are not far from destitute, compared to Australia. We also see a growing need for missionary teachers to move into the South Pacific and Indonesia to assist local staff and raise the general level of educational support.

The Schools’ Services Department wishes you a Blessed Christmas and a restful holiday break. We look forward to serving you all again in the New Year and pray that the Lord will prosper your ministry as you stand firm on the truth of His Word and continue to seek a Biblical Worldview.

Roy Savage Dip.T.,B.Ed.
Manager
Schools’ Services Department
The Regional Convention season is now at an end for the year, and it has been a great year for seeing lives changed for the Lord. South Pac is almost upon us, and for those of you not coming let me tell you that you are going to miss a most spectacular Opening Ceremony! Our Fijian friends are putting on quite a show for us and it will be an awesome experience. Please continue to keep this event in your prayers.

Tasmanian Convention turned on some absolutely beautiful weather for us all and a great time was had down in the Apple Isle. Victorian Convention was cold on a few days, but then warmed up beautifully. We had a great response from students at the Evening Rallies in Victoria. Please pray for these precious young people. Sadly this was the last NSW Convention as numbers are just too low to continue, but we are hoping to see the NSW folk at one of the other Conventions in 2013.

The following items have been things that we have noted at several Conventions this year. Please make sure that you check the Guidelines before you choose what you are doing.

**Group Bible Speaking** – please note that a ‘Conductor’ is NOT ALLOWED in Group Bible Speaking. Students must perform without any assistance.

**Platform** – Please note that there are MINIMUM times for most events. Students need to try to meet these times! When students get nervous during a performance they often rush through their piece and this can cause them to be just below the minimum time. The judges know this and it is not a problem. What is a problem is the number of events that are well below the minimum time e.g. in poetry recitation the minimum time is 1 minute – many students are presenting poems that last less than 30 seconds. This means that judges hardly get enough time to hear the student speak, let alone make a meaningful comment. Please make sure that you check the Guidelines for all Platform events before choosing your piece and make sure that the piece you choose is suitable and meets all the criteria.

**Photography** – Please note that photography items should not be ‘ready to hang’! Please do not put wire on the back of your photo mat as it makes them very difficult to display. Photos also must not be framed.

All **Framed Artwork** must be ready to hang. Cheap plastic frames might be OK, but often as we go to hang them the little hanging doovey (yes, that’s the technical term) breaks off and we have no way to hang these pictures. Hanging them is not just a nice way to display the artwork, it is a way of keeping the work safe, rather than having them leaning against something or on a table. Please check the Guidelines for the correct way to present Artwork and avoid the disappointment of lost marks for such an avoidable thing.

**Judges** – Unfortunately we cannot cover everything to do with judging at the Judges Meeting and so we rely on a certain amount of common sense to prevail during the judging process. It has been brought to my attention that some students are being marked down in performance events because of their uniform, which the judge may not like! As students have no control over the choice of uniform they must not be penalised for the aesthetics of that uniform. Please use common sense! If the student is wearing the uniform correctly and it meets the Dress Code, and hair is tidy, etc, then you cannot take marks off for presentation. However, if the uniform is untidy, doesn’t meet dress code or is dirty, hair is untidy, etc, then marks are legitimately lost.

**New Guidelines** will be available early January. A Variations to Guidelines sheet will be available on the web site once the new Guidelines are issued. Please take the time to read through the Variations and check out the changes in the Guidelines before planning events for 2013.

**Convention Training** is available to schools or homeschools throughout the South Pacific. If you are interested in booking Convention Training for your staff or Convention Workshops for your students in 2013 please let me know so that I can book in dates.

**International Student Convention** 2013 will be held from Saturday 25th to Thursday 30th May 2013 at the Central Missouri University, Warrensburg, Missouri, USA. If you are interested in any information regarding ISC please email me as we will be working on the itinerary early in the new year. ISC is followed by a tour usually of 4-5 days, which is full of fun and great experiences. It is a wonderful experience, especially for senior students, so think about ISC for your students in 2013.

Well, it’s that time of year again! I wish you and your families and schools a Blessed Christmas Season. May it be filled with precious memories. Looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year sometime.

Kathy Fisher
Convention Coordinator
Schools’ Services Department
We soon found out that we had no support from our Church or family and attracted a lot of negative attention, however our Pastor encouraged us to persevere. One day, whilst doing a Biology PACE and the Social Studies Vocational PACE, James came to us and said that he was inspired to be a doctor, and find a cure for cancer, as he had read in his PACEs. We thought that would be a huge task for him to achieve but he tucked it in his heart. At that time André, at about 7 or 8 years of age, said he wanted to be a pilot and be married. André has never gone to school and did extremely well using A.C.E., and since he finished Year 13 early he went on to do his 6th Form Year and 7th Form Bursary through the Correspondence School. André never had any issues with learning at all probably due to him doing the ABC’s of A.C.E. thoroughly – we encourage people never to rush those vital beginnings. James finished A.C.E. Year 13 at 17 years of age and then completed his 7th Form Bursary before heading off to Otago University in Dunedin to do the Health Science course.

André, the following year, went to Massey University to complete his Bachelor of Aviation Degree. He spent 5 years as a pilot for Mission Aviation Fellowship, (MAF), Australia NT (Gove), became Senior Pilot, Check and Train, and Safety Officer, and now flies for CareFlight, based in Darwin. Yesterday he flew in a medical team, and then transported a girl who had broken her neck, from Catherine back to Darwin and we were able to track his flight from his inflight GPS, and pray for them as they flew. At 21 André married a lovely girl whom he met at Church whilst at University.

James had a wonderful time at University and made many friends and became part of the Otago University Rowing 8’s (representing Otago University at the NZ Rowing Championships), Soccer, and Water Polo teams. He also completed his first year with B+ passes but not enough to get into medicine. He continued to complete a Bachelor of Science double major in Genetics and Biochemistry and he cut down on the sports to concentrate on better marks. He travelled to Saudi Arabia where he did some research on the Human Genome Project in Riyadh. He completed his Masters in BioEthics under the Medical School, and then started a Pharmacy Degree at Otago University. He met his wife doing the same course and when they married he transferred to Auckland University. James gained his Pharmacy degree with Honours, as well as their Research Award. He completed his Clinical Pharmacy Papers at Middlemore Hospital. He could now take on Medical Studies however, Auckland University offered James a PhD Research Project researching super critical fluid behaviour, in world leading-edge studies, that was endorsed by the Medical School. He was invited to present his papers at International Pharmacy Conferences in Copenhagen, Denver and New York, (invitation only) and was asked to continue this research at a top German University. He has also published several articles in prestigious international journals and has now completed his PhD. James is now a lecturer at Auckland University Pharmacy / Chemistry faculty. Not bad for a child whose headmaster said wouldn’t even get his Drivers Licence!

We had a 14 year gap between André and our lovely twins, Joel and Siska, they have never been to school, are using A.C.E. and have just stepped up to complete their very first A.C.E. Student Convention.

Upon reflecting the success of the boys and how they stepped up we realised there is one very important key – Student Convention. We have two children who will succeed at anything the Lord puts on their heart, however we also have two others who needed something more to challenge them to step up. Student Convention did this for them, where it takes them out of the books, and into the real world of pressure and performance that prepares them for life and ministry. To us, the complete success of A.C.E. depends on Student Convention - whether they earn ribbons/trophies or not. It is about confidence to have a go, and there is something about public speaking, with boys, that grows their inner confidence. Students get to realise that with hard work they can achieve their potential in God with excellence. Also, they get to meet other students using A.C.E. who are achievers and can make life long Christian friendships.

In God we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

Dave & Francisca Falconer
Christian Home Educators
Corporate Hamilton.
the young. They knew that if they could get to our kids at an early age, they could win them for their religion of secular humanism. Way back in 1919 the American Communist Party had this as their slogan: “Give us one generation of small children to train to manhood and womanhood and we will set up the Bolshevist form of the Soviet Government.”

John Dunphy, who wrote “A New Religion for a New Age;” in The Humanist (January/February, 1983) was most clear about this: “...the battle for mankind’s future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers who correctly perceive their role as the proselytizers of a new faith: a religion of humanity. . . . These teachers must embody the same selfless dedication as the most rabid fundamentalist preachers, for they will be ministers of another sort, utilizing the classroom instead of a pulpit to convey humanist values in whatever subject they teach, regardless of the educational level – preschool, day care center or large state university. The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new – the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjacent evils and misery, and the new faith of humanism.”

Or as Charles Francis Potter, another signatory to Humanist Manifesto put it, “Education is thus a most powerful ally of Humanism, and every American public school is a school of humanism. What can the theistic Sunday-schools, meeting for an hour once a week, and teaching only a fraction of the children, do to stem the tide of a five-day program of humanistic teaching?”

More recently the postmodern philosopher Richard Rorty (1931-2007) said this: “I, like most Americans who teach humanities or social science in colleges and universities, try to arrange things so that students who enter as bigoted, homophobic, religious fundamentalists will leave college with views more like our own.”

Rightly did Thomas Sowell write in his 1993 volume, Inside American Education: “Advocates of Secular Humanism have been quite clear and explicit as to the crucial importance of promoting their philosophy in the schools, to counter or undermine religious values among the next generation.”

Or as Dennis Prager put it in his recent book, Still the Best Hope: “Just as the purpose of Christian seminaries is to produce committed Christians, the primary purpose of most Western universities is, consciously or not, to produce committed secular leftists. The major difference between them is that Christian seminaries declare their purpose, and Western universities do not.”

James Dobson and Gary Bauer, writing in Children at Risk (1990) said: “The humanistic system of values has become the predominant way of thinking in most of the power centers of society. It has outstripped Judeo-Christian precepts in the universities, in the news media, in the entertainment industry, in the judiciary, in the federal bureaucracy, in business, medicine, law, psychology, sociology, in the arts, in many public schools and, to be sure, in the halls of Congress.”

Or as Ann Coulter rightly complained in Godless America: “Public schools are forbidden from mentioning religion not because of the Constitution, but because public schools are the Left’s madrassas. . . . At least the crazy Muslims get funding from Saudi Arabia for their madrassas. Liberals force normal Americans to pay for their religious schools.”

Quite so. We now have religion and values galore in our public schools. But they are those of the secular humanists. And this has certainly not been by accident; it has been quite deliberate, as the above evidence affirms. Those with agendas have long known the importance of capturing education for their purposes.

As William F. Buckley warned a half century ago: “The most influential educators of our time – John Dewey, William Kilpatrick, George Counts, Harold Rugg, and the lot – are out to build a New Social Order. There is not enough room...for...religion (Christianity). It clearly won’t do...to foster within some schools a respect for an absolute, intractable God, a divine intelligence who is utterly unconcerned with other people’s versions of truth...It won’t do to tolerate a competitor for the allegiance of man. The State prefers a secure monopoly for itself...Religion (Christianity), then, must go...The fight is being won. Academic freedom is entrenched. Religion (Christianity) is outlawed in public schools. The New Social Order is larruping along.”

As Mark Steyn put it in After America: “The massive expansion of American education is evidence not of progress but of its exact opposite – its decay into ideological factory farms. It’s a progressive 4-H: Hogwash, Hypersensitivity, Habitation, Homogeneity – for the price of which you wind up in Hock.”

The schools have been captured by the other side. Unless our children have been given a solid training in the biblical worldview, they will be ill-equipped to take on the secularist educators. As Dr. D. James Kennedy pleaded, “Don’t send an eight-year-old out to take on a forty-year-old humanist. I have never seen any people more unhappy than fathers or mothers who have come to me and said, ‘Where did we go wrong? We gave him everything, and now he’s turned his back completely on everything we believe.’ Yes, they gave him everything but a Christian education.”
PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS

• Pray for the four young preachers coming to South Pac - Michael Doherty, Stephen Villarreal, Penioni Kuinikoro, & Joel McGeorge

• Pray for God to intervene in the hearts and minds of those in our communities that speak out against the A.C.E. program.

• Pray especially for the final preparations for South PACE and for all those travelling to this event. Also please pray for good health and safety whilst in Fiji.

• Praise God that we have the privilege of working in ministries using the A.C.E. program
**Imanuela Akatemia...Rarotonga, Cook, Islands**

**Positions Vacant for 2013:**
1. **Full-time Teaching Principal**
2. **Full-time Teacher**
3. **Ancillary Staff Positions - Monitors and Office / Accounts Administrator**

Imanuela Akatemia (God with Us Academy) is an A.C.E. based, Kindergarten to Year 13 School in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. The school is founded on Christian principles and it is governed by AOG. Applicants must have made a genuine commitment to Jesus Christ. An attractive remuneration package will be offered to suitable applicants. Training will be provided with the A.C.E. curriculum.

For more information or to apply, please contact the school via email at: imanuela@oyster.net.ck or via post at PO Box 3090, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

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**Position Vacant**

**FULL TIME EXPATRIATE TEACHERS NEEDED...Commencing July 2012**

A Christian International School in Semarang is looking for expatriates who love children and have a special calling in education.

**Main responsibility:** To supervise a learning center (classroom) & mentor up to 15 students at a time.

**Qualifications:** A degree (Bachelor’s or Master’s) from an acknowledged university overseas; Native speaker of English

**Prerequisite Training:** ACE Supervisor Training & Certification (arranged by the school through SCEE Indonesia, with 50% subsidy once contract is signed)

**Length of Contract:** 2-3 years

**Remuneration Package:** Salary of Rp. 7 - 15 million/month (depending on qualification)
- Working Visa (all expenses covered); Return flight
- Medical insurance; Housing

**Work hours:** 7 AM to 4 PM - Monday to Friday (plus any days when there are events/conferences)

If you are interested and feel you qualify for the position, please send your resume to vcis.semarang@gmail.com (email subject: Application).

**Please indicate in the resume:** Past teaching experiences, full time/part time/volunteer
- Preferred age range
- Extracurricular activities to lead

Only shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview.