Dear Parents/Caregivers,

“All of you should be like minded, sympathetic, loving towards one another, kindly disposed and humble. Do not return evil for evil or insult for insult. Return a blessing instead. This you have been called to do, that you may receive a blessing as your inheritance.” 1 Peter 3: 8-9

In the past two weeks we have been working with Catholic education consultants who assist families and schools with indigenous education and learning plans, social and emotional education and special and adaptive education. We are most grateful for the additional expertise as well as the opportunity for dialogue with parents. All of the work we do with various parties enables us to work towards developing and enriching an inclusive learning community which celebrates our diversity and the value that diversity brings to every child’s and adult’s learning.

DEVELOPMENTS

Despite it appearing to be all quiet there is a lot of background work going on regarding future sites for the combined primary campus and also for the re-development of the Xavier building at the secondary campus. All of which relates to the overall amalgamation process. Because of the legalities of purchasing land and seeking tenders for buildings it is still very much a confidential process and when information is more certain then families will know. What is certain is that we continue to operate and maintain both our primary campuses. It would be at least 3-5 years before any possible movement to a new campus could occur.

NATIONAL YOUTH SURVEY

Each year Mission Australia conducts a survey into key and emerging issues for young Australians. In summary for 2011, they identified 5 main issues that young people saw as crucial.

1. Coping with Stress – they note a 17% increase since 2009
2. Body image – this is especially high in females
3. Family issues – despite some reluctance of teenagers to admit it to their parents, most still see a happy family environment as critical
4. Getting advice and support
5. The environment

It is important to note that as part of our Year 12 Religious Education and Human Development program, that students attend ‘well being’ sessions. These sessions have become invaluable over the years for helping students to deal with stress, coping mechanisms and where and how to access support. Year 12 students are beginning these sessions shortly and they do not impact on their other subjects.

POSITIONS VACANT

Please note that there are some employment vacancies at the College both for teaching and non-teaching positions. Please visit our website for more information or contact Karen McGinnis at the College.
On the First Friday of March each year the World Day of Prayer service is held in a different Church. This year it was held in the Presbyterian Church. This evening was well attended by many women from the different Churches in Whyalla. The evening’s liturgy was prepared by the women of Malaysia and the theme was Let Justice Prevail. In the prayers, we heard the women speaking out against all forms of injustice in their country. They see this as a moral responsibility to be involved and take action so that things can improve for them. Sr Angela Maher who works with Centre Care Whyalla gave the reflection – she spoke about some of the difficulties women face in Malaysia and encouraged us as women to take responsibility for areas in the local community where we can speak out and help change come about. I am sure we all left the evening with our eyes open so that we can see the needs of others.

In the Parish we have a number of people involved in Lenten Discussion Groups. At these meetings we look at the Gospel passage for the following Sunday. It is a good way to get to know the different parishioners in the parish and to share our faith and it helps us prepare for Easter.

We have three women who have been meeting with our RCIA team since last September and they have been enquiring into the Catholic Faith. At the Easter Vigil we look forward to welcoming these candidates into our Parish Community.

Last week we had a Year 8 class join us for the Wednesday morning Parish Mass and over the coming weeks we will have a class join us at these Masses. The parishioners always look forward to them joining us for a week day Mass and sharing morning tea.

Next Thursday evening March 15 at Our Lady Help of Christians Church at 7pm we have a Parish Reconciliation. We have been practicing with the children a song they can sing at that Liturgy. Come as a family and join us for this Parish Celebration.

Sr Cheryle Thomson
ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH TEAM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Teresa’s Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 7:00pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 8:30am</td>
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Recently members of the SRC from Year 10 and 11 were given the opportunity to travel to Port Augusta to take part in some activities that gave them a little more awareness of the contribution that Caritas Australia makes to the lives of many people in our world. As part of the day our students joined students from Caritas College and St Mark’s College to listen to Fr Bernard, a Jesuit priest who works with refugees on the Thai-Burma border, talk about the valuable part our donations through Project Compassion make. We were also shown some thought-provoking facts about how much some people in the world spend on luxuries (such as $20 billion on ice-cream!).

Upon our return the students were asked “what will you look at through different eyes from now on?”

Here are some of their responses:

That most of the world’s population lack the basic needs which we take for granted.

Catholic means universal.

That 1% of the world’s goods goes to the poorest people.

Caritas doesn’t just give money, they take the time to teach new and life-changing skills.

The more teaching that Caritas is able to do, with our support, the more productivity will occur in poorer communities.

People that are forced to flee their countries are not just asylum people or boat people, they are simply people who would like a new beginning for their families.

Christine Duffield
DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS
**PARENT COMMUNITY NEWS**

**REMINDER NOTICE**

We have a booking for the Advanced Life Photography Family Portraits again for this year.

This has proved very successful in the past with many of our College families taking up the offer of a beautiful, framed family portrait for the value price of just $20.

**We need a minimum of 30 families to hold the photography session**, and these spaces will fill fast! This offer is open to all College families and any friends and family outside the College community as well. Invite everyone!

The College is the recipient of the $20 fee for your Family Portrait, so this aids the fundraising efforts of the Parent Community.

**Date:** Saturday, March 24  
**Venue:** Our Lady Help of Christians Campus in the Vessey Unit.

Appointments can be made by phoning Tania Taylor on 0412 953 770. You will then be given information regarding how to make payment – as payment is required before the appointment date and time. No money can be accepted on the photography day.

Please see the flyer for further information, or call any of the campus offices. Please also pass on the second tear off voucher to your family and friends to invite them to have a beautiful family portrait taken.

_Tania Taylor_  
ON BEHALF OF THE PARENT COMMUNITY

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**UNIFORM NEWS**

**Hats** may be purchased at the front office at the primary campuses.

Hats, socks & sport socks may be purchased from the canteen at Saint John’s Campus for secondary students. Please purchase these items outside of Recess and Lunch.

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**LITURGIES AND ASSEMBLIES**  
**PRIMARY CAMPUSES**

At OLHCC 2/3 Ness will be celebrating their Liturgy on Thursday, March 15 (Week 7). I know the children have already started to prepare for their first Liturgy of the year and look forward to sharing their efforts.

This week (Week 6) we have had to postpone R/1 Francis’ Assembly until next week in Week 7. It will take place on Friday, March 16, 12:30pm in the Vessey Unit.

At STC in Week 7 2/3 Reed/ Judd will be celebrating their class Mass on Wednesday, March 14, 9:00am at St Teresa’s Church and Year 6/7 Gogoll will be presenting their Liturgy to the upper primary classes on Friday, March 16, 9:30am under the shelter shed.

_Rebecca Sinclair_  
DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS (PRIMARY)

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**POSITION VACANT**

_Samaritan College_ offers Catholic education in a community environment for Reception to Year 12 students. Incorporating three campuses, Samaritan College endeavours to educate the whole person in faith, wisdom and compassion.

**EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICER**  
**STUDENT SERVICES**

Part-time contract until end of 2012  
20 hours per week

The successful applicant will exhibit initiative and relational skills in working with students through ‘in-class support’ and classroom withdrawal. The position is based at Our Lady Help of Christians Campus. Experience is ideal but not essential.

All applications are subject to Catholic Education SA screening procedures.

**Position Commences:** Immediate start  
**Enquiries:** For role clarification contact Co-Principals’ Assistant: Karen McGinnis.

**Applications close Monday, March 19, 2012**

Forward to:  
The Co-Principals  
Samaritan College  
PO Box 351  
Whyalla SA 5600  
Telephone (08) 8645 8568  
Email info@samaritan.catholic.edu.au
Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose:
When not to worry

I can't advise you about what you should worry about as a parent. That's your prerogative. But I think there are times when it's not worth worrying too much.

We all worry as parents. It comes with the job.

There are three things I've noticed about parenting worries. First, small kids give you small worries and big kids can provide big worries. Hmm! That maybe a little scary but you'll be ready to cope when your kids are older.

Second, parents always seem to be concerned about one child at a time. You fix one child up and then suddenly another one presents with an issue or concern. Doh! That's the way of family life.

Third, the bigger the family the less parents worry about individual kids. Concerns tend to be about the family, or the kids in general, in bigger families.

Don't sweat the small stuff

Lately, I'm finding parents worrying about stuff (kid's behaviour, learning, confidence levels) that they shouldn't really be concerned about. In many cases, maturity will solve these issues.

Also, for many kids a problem today will be forgotten tomorrow, yet we adults tend to hang on longer to those same problems long after the child has given up caring.

I can't advise you about what you should worry about as a parent. That's your prerogative. But I think there are times when it's not worth worrying too much.

It's not worth worrying when:

1. a child's misbehaviour fits into the normal behavioural range. A mum was worried that her four year old may have some problems as he was checking out the genitalia of a mate. Nope – that's pretty natural curiosity for that age group. Working out what's normal is a challenge for inexperienced parents.

2. a child is moving from one stage to the next. Kids get 'kinder mouth'; boys can give mum a hard-time at five and again in early adolescence; some girls develop an 'attitude' at seven, and again at thirteen; boys vocabularies shrink to three words in early teens; and fourteen-year-old girls will often have little time for their dads. These behaviours are indicative of different stages of development. Annoying yes, but not always worrying!

3. a child is displaying an independent streak. Sometimes kids put their foot down and say: “NO! I'm not trying at that sport or activity anymore because I don't enjoy it”. They are no longer willing to unquestioningly do the things that you want them to do because you think those things are good for them. A show of independence is usually a healthy thing, although it can be difficult for parents to swallow.

4. a child struggles periodically at school, either socially or academically. The ups and downs of growing up mean that kids don't always learn on an even trajectory. They have good years and bad years at school. They also have good years and bad years socially. That is, they have years where they sit next to their best friends and have a ball. And other years finding and keeping friends can be a little tougher. Helping kids ride the lows and the highs is part of the parenting job. Sometimes we worry at the first sign of a problem. Time and children themselves solve many problems when they get the chance.

In doubt, talk honestly and openly with some trusted parents, preferably with some experience. Also talk with your child's teachers who generally have had more experience of these issues.

We all worry as parents. It's a worry being a parent. But it doesn't always have to be!
Attending camp helps the students to become more independent and to build relationships with each other, their teachers, the instructors and other adults.

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

A big thank you to the students for helping to clean up our campus environs last Friday by participating in Clean Up Australia Day. The students collected a large amount of rubbish from around the campus grounds. Great work children!

**ASSEMBLY POSTPONED**

There won’t be an Assembly this Friday – R/1 Francis OLHCC as it has been postponed to next Friday, March 15.

Yours in Faith, Wisdom & Compassion,

Eleni Vailas  
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

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**FIRST EUCHARIST**

I would like to alert families that the parish will begin preparation for the Sacrament of First Eucharist next term. Information will be sent out to families early next term. If your family is new to Whyalla please speak to Sr Cheryle, your child’s teacher or myself if your child will be participating in the program so you do not miss any information.

Thank You

Bernie Meixner  
APRIM

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**HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH READING**

What to do when your child does not know a word.

**Strategy 1**

- Give your child time to think
- Refocus your child to look at the word
- Ask your child “What does the word begin with?”
- Direct your child to the pictures for clues.

If this doesn’t work try the second strategy.

**Strategy 2**

- Go back and re-read the sentence encouraging your child to make the first sound of the unknown word

If this doesn’t work try the third strategy.

**Strategy 3**

- Ask your child to look at the whole word and ask the question “What do you know about the word”? eg. is there an “ing” on the end of the word or does it have a “sh” or a “ch” sound in it
- Break the word into chunks to help your child hear the word st – ay – ing, then ask your child to re-read the sentence putting the word into context.
- Stretch the word with your child eg. scrrrunnnch.

If this doesn’t work try the fourth strategy.

**Strategy 4**

- Ask the child to read on to the end of a sentence. Then ask “What word would make sense in the sentence?” Listen to your child’s suggestions and ask “Does the word look like …(the suggested word)”?

Then get your child to re-read the sentence putting the word in context.

(This strategy is a more difficult concept for young children, it is not recommended for beginning readers)

If this doesn’t work or is not developmentally appropriate try the fifth strategy.

**Strategy 5**

- Sometimes a word is difficult or unfamiliar to a child - simply tell them the word

Interestingly the reason we don’t use sounding out or stretching as a first strategy is that the English Language is only approximately 50% phonetic. This means that, half the words in the English Language cannot be read by sounding out. Therefore, it is important that we show young readers that there are other strategies to work out unknown words and that reading for meaning is most important.

Above all make the reading a pleasurable experience for both your child and yourself. Whilst the strategies above are in great detail, the actual process should be quick and may not require all five strategies every time. Always praise their efforts and if possible encourage your child to re-read the books to someone else.

**The more we read the more we know,**  
**The more we know the more we grow,**  
**So read, read, read. Dr Seuss**

For further information on reading please take note of the upcoming literacy workshops or speak with your child’s teacher.

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**HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD WITH READING**

What to do when your child misreads a word.

When your child makes an error do not intervene at the point of error, let them finish the sentence and then say, “Try that again”. When the child re-reads if they repeat the same error try one or all of the following questions:

“Does that make sense to you?” – this question is useful when the meaning of the sentence is lost.

“Do we say it like that?” – this question is useful when the word chosen is not part of correct English structure eg. “The dog walk down the road.” or “The boy done the painting.”

“Does that look right?” – this question is particularly useful if the word makes sense but is not the word in the text. Ask your child to “stretch” the word and look at the text, often they will usually recognise the error.

eg. If the text said “The dog raced across the road” whilst the word ran would make sense, a closer look would enable the child to see the error.

Remember if the word is particularly difficult or unfamiliar to the child, tell them the word so that meaning can be maintained.

**PRIMARY LITERACY TEAM**
SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWS

ICT USE
Students at the secondary campus are all required to abide by our ‘computer usage guidelines’. These guidelines are found on our website. All students agree to these guidelines when they login i.e. they have to acknowledge they have read and understood them before progressing. Unfortunately some students have had their network access removed for choosing not to follow these basic requests.

Damien Judd
ACTING CO-PRINCIPAL

CLASS MASSES
Last week, 8 Gold participated in the first secondary campus class Mass of 2012. Students will be joining the parishioners at St Teresa’s Church for the regular Wednesday morning mass, under the direction of their RE teacher. This week it is 8 Blue’s turn to experience this very important part of the Catholic faith.

SRC PRESENTATIONS FOR STC
The SRC presentations for STC have been rescheduled for Friday 2:50pm, to begin at 3:00pm. By now parents should have received a flyer to that affect. We look forward to seeing you there if it is at all possible.

CONGRATULATIONS
The Spencer Gulf Athletics team returned from Port Lincoln with a third place overall and 5 out of 8 age group champions…..thank you to Miss Howell, Mr Baker and Miss Nolan for accompanying the students on the day and for the time and effort put into preparing the students for their events.

‘ANNIE’ AUDITIONS
The College musical has reached the next stage – the audition phase. Students have been asked to put their names forward for the different roles and the audition process will start in Week 7.

YEAR 10 UNIREADY PROGRAM
Year 10 students will be participating in this UniSA initiative every Friday afternoon from the March 16. Permission slips should have been returned to the College by now….parents are asked to contact the College should they wish for their child to participate in this program.

LITERACY PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS
In order to promote an increased understanding of literacy skills in the early years, we will be presenting a series of workshops in Weeks 5, 6, 7 and 8 on Thursday evenings for all Samaritan College families.

These workshops will start at 7:00pm in the Our Lady Help of Christians Campus library and will be approximately one and a half hours in duration. A cup of tea or coffee will conclude each evening.

Please note the following dates for the various evenings have been changed. The program is as follows:

Thursday, March 8:
Speaking and Listening

Thursday, March 15:
The Reading Process/Helping your Child to Read

Thursday, March 22:
Understanding the Writing Process

Thursday, March 29:
Numeracy

Please indicate your interest in attending these sessions by completing the following response slip and return it to your school campus as soon as possible. Thank you

Lou Whitehouse and Rebecca Sinclair

LITERACY RESPONSE SLIP
I am interested in attending the Literacy Parent Information sessions.

NAME: .................................................................

CONTACT NO: .......................................................

(please print)

SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWS

ICT USE
Students at the secondary campus are all required to abide by our ‘computer usage guidelines’. These guidelines are found on our website. All students agree to these guidelines when they login i.e. they have to acknowledge they have read and understood them before progressing. Unfortunately some students have had their network access removed for choosing not to follow these basic requests.

Damien Judd
ACTING CO-PRINCIPAL
PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS GOING HOME WHEN UNWELL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Students and parents are reminded that mobile phones should NOT be used whilst at school. This includes scenarios where a student is feeling unwell and would like to go home. Students should obtain a diary note from a teacher, they will then be sent to the front office where a phone call will be made to inform parents that the student is feeling under the weather.

STUDENTS OUT AND ABOUT

Year 10 Sport and Recreation students were away on camp this Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you to Mr Baker, Mr Gilligan and Miss Agars for accompanying the students on the trip.

Year 11 Outdoor Education students will be travelling to the Murray Bridge area next week. Thank you to Miss Nolan and Mr Keiper……we wish you safe paddling on the waters of the Murray!

The College welcomes any assistance from parents or caregivers in accompanying classes on excursions or camps, locally and when travelling is involved. The only requirement is to have a Catholic police check completed, which can be arranged through the College. Teachers organising the excursion or camp can be contacted for more information.

John Lyons
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

YEAR 12 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Part of the Religious Education Program for Year 12 includes a number of Seminar Days at Saint Teresa’s Church lead by Father Jim and the Parish team. The seminars give the students information and practical ideas on the challenges that they will face when they leave school. The seminars take the title of “The Vocation of a Young Christian Adult”. The seminars will take place in Religious Education Lesson time and begin with a Mass, followed by input and sharing. We conclude the sessions by having a morning tea together.

As well as fulfilling the Religious Education component of the seminars, they are also an excellent way for the Year 12 students to mix with each other as such opportunities rarely occur for the senior students.

The dates of the Seminars are:
- March 14
- April 4
- May 9
- May 30

As the seminars are part of the Religious Education Program we expect all students to attend. The seminars were successful and well received by the students last year.

Bernie Meixner
APRIM

WHYALLA SCHOOLS STAGE BAND

QUIZ NIGHT!
7:30 pm March 24
Edward John Eyre High School Hall

With a special performance from the Whyalla Schools’ Stage Band!

All funds raised go towards the Band’s tour to compete in the Generations in Jazz Festival in Mt Gambier.

$10 entry per person or $70 for a table of 8
Please call 8645 7677 to register your table. Tickets are payable at the door.

ANNIE AUDITIONS

WEEK 7 (next week)
ALL INTERESTED YEAR 8S – 12S ARE WELCOME.
SIGN UP AT XAVIER WING.
IF THIS CAN HAPPEN THAT WOULD BE FANTASTIC, AS WE HAVE VERY FEW NUMBERS AT THE MOMENT.
THANK YOU
WINNIE FITZGERALD AND THE PRODUCTION TEAM

EASTER RAFFLE

It’s that time of year again. Students, parents and friends gather your donation of Easter goods and drop them in at the library. Make sure you have a ticket and are in the running to win first prize! The more donations the SRC has, the bigger and better the prizes can be and there can be a larger number of prizes to improve chances of success. All money collected from ticket sales to go to the school charities. Please deliver donations to the school library. Raffle tickets on sale now.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following boys who received awards at the annual Whyalla Cricket Association Awards. Remy S (8Red) won the U/14 Bowling Award, Issac Smith (9Gold) won the U/14 Batting Award, Shannon Pudney (9Gold) won the U/14 Fielding Award, Steven Palmer (12White) won the U/17 Bowling Award and John Stuppos (12Red) won the U/17 Batting award and the Junior Cricketer of the Year. Juan Estepa (12White) made the ‘A’ grade team of the year which is a fantastic effort. Well done to all the boys.

Matt Quist
IN2 CRICKET COORDINATOR

SPENCER GULF ATHLETICS

On Friday, March 2 Samaritan College competed in the Spencer Gulf Sports Day against other catholic schools from the area. Overall we had a successful day, coming third and second by a small margin in the handicap shield. We won five individual age champions out of a possible eight. These students were:

- Michael Karoussis open boys
- Courtland Stopp under 16 boys
- Emily Goldsworthy under 16 girls
- Jasmine Bridgman under 15 girls
- Lewis McLauchlan under 15 boys.

From the Samaritan College team, 22 students have been selected to represent Spencer Gulf in Adelaide, joining a combined team made up of the best athletes from Saint Marks Port Pirie, Saint Joseph’s Port Lincoln and Caritas College Port Augusta.

Kirby Howell
PE AND SPORT COORDINATOR

SCHOLASTIC CATALOGUES

The March edition of the Scholastic Book club catalogue is now available at the circulation desk of the Saint John’s Campus Library. Purchases made will contribute to points earned by the College which will be redeemed for resources. The catalogue can also be accessed online at www.scholastic.com.au.

CANTEEN ROSTERS

Monday, March 12 – Friday, March 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ST TERESA’S CAMPUS</th>
<th>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CAMPUS</th>
<th>SAINT JOHN’S CAMPUS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
<td>Allyson Noble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Judi Kneebone</td>
<td>no help required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Donna Clark</td>
<td>Antonetta Rogers</td>
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<td>Thu</td>
<td>Leeanne Carter</td>
<td>Lizbeth Fernandez</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Meg Sheasby</td>
<td>Sunny Chung</td>
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Annette Cameron  Rose Cassar  Marg Coad
CANTEEN MANAGER  CANTEEN MANAGER  CANTEEN MANAGER