Dear Parents/Caregivers,

'The above reflection comes straight from our charism - the story of the woman at the well, and it rings true for our community, when we consider the ongoing hard work of families, staff, religious personnel who have carved out the Samaritan story for 70 years. As our Arts team plans another musical, works continue on various maintenance projects at the three campuses, teaching staff meet and plan new curriculum with the next national agenda; and staff continue to support many individuals and groups in all aspects of their development; one is struck by the dynamics of an ever evolving community, yet there is a chameleon stability that manages to exist, with a core of tradition and story, relationship and experience. We continue to reap and continue to sow; may we grow in appreciation of our connectedness and contribution to the growth in each other with every interaction, each joy, challenges and learning moments.

"A hundred times a day I remind myself that my inner and outer life depends on the labors of other men (and women), living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the measure as I have received and am still receiving." Albert Einstein

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These important evenings are coming very soon for each campus. The secondary campus has reacted to some feedback provided last year during our new reporting process, and is now spreading their Parent Teacher Nights across two nights. We strongly emphasise that we would like all parents to look to make a time to see their child's teacher(s). Interviews are definitely not just for those students who are struggling. Primary campus teachers will send home letters with timetables for families to nominate an appointment. Please note that the first term meeting is dedicated to discussion of the Essential learnings that children are meeting as part of the SA curriculum Standards and Accountability Framework outcomes.

RESPECTING PERSONAL DIGNITY

At various times we have the need to readdress with students how they conduct themselves with adults, with one another, in the yard, classroom and out in public. This is an ongoing thing but at times we also are explicit in our teaching. Swearing is a proliferation that is part of secular life, but like all undesirable versus undesirable behaviours, our education about boundaries, continued p2
appropriate and time and place, ensure that the adults guiding young people are conveying the right message. Should you ever feel concerned about unacceptable behaviour we encourage you to bring it to our attention. There is still room for “the village to raise the child” and often this is done through the communication networking of the significant adults; the judgements about intervention or letting go and the supportive shared spirit of working together. We have appreciated calls from families who have been proactive and helpful in assisting our community to work with young people in guiding them towards right practice, in a non-judgmental and rather, a helpful, manner.

**ORANGE VESTS**

You may have noticed our staff now wear fluoro vests when on yard duty, including before and after school duty. Aside from some OHSW reasons, research has shown that when staff are highly visible in the yard, students feel safer and cases of bullying decreases, especially at the start and end of breaks when the cluster of students is at its greatest.

**MRS VANZO**

This week we temporarily farewell Jade Vanzo who begins her maternity leave. We wish Jade and her impending new family all the best.

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**Parish News**

**Prayer with young children at home**

Our parish is offering a special Lenten gift to parents with young children.

As most parents are aware, the prayer life of a child is born and raised in the family environment. The Parish and our College operate to support you in this sacred responsibility.

This Lent, on Tuesday, March 20 at 2pm at Our Lady’s, in the Blue Room, and on Thursday March 22 at 4:30pm at St Teresa’s in the parish hall, there will be a workshop on praying together with your children. It’s for parents and grandparents of primary aged children and toddlers. Any teenagers who’d like to learn more and help their younger siblings are most welcome.

Sister Sonia will be leading the sessions - they’ll be the same, at Our Lady’s and St T’s. She will use some excellent new resources which will give parents some extra skills for helping children learn the habit of prayer, at their own level. In the session you’ll learn ways that the whole family can participate. As you know, from hearing the children talk to you about their experiences of class prayer, liturgies and class Masses, young people are very open to the presence of Our Lord in their lives. They love the Gospel stories, stories about the saints, praying together and taking it in turns to lead and say prayers.

The new prayer resources will be given free of charge to participants. The Our Lady’s session is planned for parents and grandparents who are arriving to collect children from school - you just arrive that bit earlier, have the session, and then go on home with the children. The St T’s session, at St T’s Parish Hall on Nicolson Ave, is planned for after you’ve got the children home and hosed; you are welcome to bring them to the session, because child minding will be provided.

Any families are welcome - you don’t have to be Catholic, though we do urge all Catholic families to come along.

This is the joyful season of Lent: a time of renewed hope and life for families and the Church. I do hope you are able to be present for this special Lenten activity in our Parish.

May God continue to bless you and your family

*Father Jim Monaghan*

**ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH TEAM.**

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**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

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<tr>
<th>St Teresa’s Church</th>
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**College News**

**HISTORICAL SLIDES**

The College has 1000s of slides dating right back to the opening of the Saint John’s Campus in 1963. We would like to convert these to a digital format.

We are seeking volunteers who are willing and able to do this. It would require having your own computer and the device that scans slides onto the computer and of course, a spare few hours or so.

Please leave your name and contact details at the secondary campus if you can help. It would only take a handful of volunteers for this to be done.
RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

FACET OF OUR LIVES

A little over a year ago, the thirty-three Chilean miners were welcomed to the surface at Camp Hope after a sixty-nine-day ordeal underground. During their captivity in darkness, these men changed in remarkable ways. Jimmy Sanchez, nineteen, the youngest miner, was working in the mine temporarily to support his family. When his mother, Norma, saw him emerge from the rescue capsule, she said, ‘This was like watching Jimmy being born again … He was totally changed, a very different person, much more mature’. Others commented that ‘we suffered so much, went through so much pain, so many anxious days together … In so many ways this was a life-changing experience’.

In addition to the Lenten spirit of prayer, fasting, and service, the weeks of Lent bring us face to face, like the miners, with our temptations, some glimpses of God, our failings, the choices we face, personal sacrifices, and the sacrifice of Jesus himself for our salvation.

The Lenten ministry of Jesus’ Spirit fashions us as a people on a journey towards Easter: loving us, finding us willing, moulding and fashioning us, each facet of our lives.

This Lent make every attempt to travel the journey with Jesus your travelling companion that will take you towards Destination Easter.

Source: http://gpbs.com.au

There will be a Communal Rite of Reconciliation this Thursday, March 15 at 7:30 pm at OLHCC Church. This is a good opportunity during Lent to ask for forgiveness and come closer to Jesus in preparation for Easter.

A LENTEN PRAYER

Jesus, I'm at my best when my relationships are working. Keep jolting me to grow together with those I love, and not apart from them. Amen.

Bernie Meixner
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS IDENTITY & MISSION (APRIM)

POSITION VACANT

EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICER

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

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.

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
“Will they ever be friends?”

This was my wife talking as she took a deep breath and waded into the murky waters of another noisy sibling fight in our home. Like many couples in the 1980’s we had three children quite close together, which we’ve since learned tends to increase the likelihood of sibling competition.

Fast-forward two decades it’s pleasing to see that the three siblings enjoy relatively close relationships, often turning to each other rather than their parents when problems and issues arise.

Like world peace, family harmony is an admirable concept worthy of aspiration but well nigh impossible to attain. It seems that kids in families are programmed to fight with each other, but parents also have the power to facilitate learning.

When parents take an active approach to helping their children resolve their fights, they are teaching them a valuable life skill as well as reducing the incidence of fighting over the long term. Here are some ideas;

1. **MODEL good conflict resolution skills**
   Kids wear L plates when it comes to solving disputes. Some kids will yell, get abusive or even get physical when they are settling disputes. Show them better ways of sorting out problems by talking things through with your partner, compromising and apologising when you’ve said something upsetting to your partner or your children.

2. **Help kids MANAGE their emotions**
   “Yep, it would make me mad too if someone said that to me.” Usually someone’s feelings get hurt when siblings argue so make sure you recognise their emotions without taking sides. This focus on feelings helps kids develop emotional literacy and promotes empathy in siblings as well.

3. **MONITOR sibling relationships**
   Keep your antenna up for the signs of discord within sibling relationships. Some disputes kids can sort out themselves, but you need to be ready to intervene and assist kids in the peacebrokering, or at least to act as a safety net when one child continually appears on the wrong end of a power imbalance.

4. **MENTOR them to sort out disputes**
   Kids need the chance to sort their conflict out themselves, but sometimes they need a little coaching. Don’t waste time trying to sort out who started an argument. Instead make some suggestions such as taking turns, giving way, bargaining and swapping.

5. **Encourage them to MAKE-UP**
   Kids often get over disputes far quicker than adults. They can be squabbling one minute and cuddling up the next, so it gets tricky intervening sometimes. However there are times when you need to encourage a child to mend bridges with an aggrieved sibling. This can mean kids have to swallow their pride, admit that they may be wrong, make an apology or make some sort of restitution such as doing a special favour. This type of restoration means kids must take responsibility for their behaviours and is a sign of growing maturity.

The sibling relationship will last longer than the parent-child relationship and is just as influential on children’s development as the parent-child relationship. It’s important for parents to foster sibling closeness so that the sibling bonds will stay for life.

**Parenting Ideas by Michael Grose:**

**Healthy Sibling Relationships**

*Kids learn so much through sibling relationships. It’s from siblings they learn to solve conflict and how to maintain friendships, just as they learn about gender from their brothers and sisters.***

**Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews**

Throughout Weeks 8 and 9, Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews will be taking place. The interviews will be based around the Essential Learnings as described in the South Australian Curriculum Standard Accountability Framework.

The Essential Learnings are capabilities which are drawn upon throughout life and enable individuals to productively engage with changing times as thoughtful, active, responsive and committed local, national and global citizens.

These Learnings are:

- **Futures** - Develop the flexibility to respond to change, recognise connections with the past and develop solutions.
- **Identities** - Develop a positive sense of self and group, accept individual and group responsibilities and respect differences.
- **Interdependence** - Work in harmony with others and for common purposes, within and across cultures.
- **Thinking** - Becoming independent and critical thinkers, with the ability to appraise information, make decisions, be innovative and plan creative solutions.
- **Communication** - Communicate powerfully.

The Mid Year Report which will be sent home at the end of Term 2 will clearly show academic achievement and an opportunity will be available for you to meet to discuss this report.

**Year 7 Aquatics Camp**

In Week 9, students from both Campuses will be attending the Year 7 Aquatic Camp at Port Vincent. This is an opportunity to build community through faith and to develop skills of independence and self-reliance.

The students from the OLHC Campus will be attending the Camp from Monday to Wednesday, March 26-28.
On Wednesday, March 21 the primary campuses will be holding a Coloured Clothes Day to give recognition to the diversity in our country and the importance of living in harmony with one another.

In 2012, the Harmony Day theme is Sport - play, engage, inspire recognises the important role and positive influence that sport has in our multicultural nation. Involvement in sport whether as a participant, volunteer, spectator or administrator unites people of all ages and fosters a sense of belonging, acceptance and an understanding of other cultures.

The SRC Representatives from both campuses met together to discuss ideas on how we could raise money for Project Compassion and promote National Harmony Day. A unanimous decision was then made to combine these two important initiatives with a Coloured Clothes Day.

Thank you for your support

Lou Gogoll
SRC COORDINATOR & PRIMARY STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Coloured Clothes Day
Wednesday, March 21

When: Wednesday, March 21
Where: primary campuses
Theme: anything associated with sport or wear something orange (Harmony Day theme colour)
Bring: Gold coin donation (money raised will be given to Project Compassion)

OLHC SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
Issue 2 - 2012

Please bring orders to the OLHC library before or after school.
Please ensure that your teacher's name is written at the top of the form.

Last day for orders is Friday, March 16

Ann Wilson

March 15, 2012
SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWS

Secondary teachers are currently in the process of putting together the first reports for their students in 2012. We have two styles of reports that parents will see at different times throughout the year. All students will receive general and subject specific indicators that reflect the current progress in the subject. Those in Year 11 and 12 also get a written comment to give some indication of where improvement can be achieved. It is important to remember that these reports are a progress report and they go hand in hand with parent/teacher interviews. These evenings will be conducted over two evenings namely Tuesday and Wednesday April 3 and 4. Both evenings start from 3:45 pm with the last interviews scheduled for 6:30 pm. There will be an interview time sheet included in the report to assist with booking teachers for either night.

At this point in time it is known that some teachers will not be available for the evenings, due to scheduled camps or sporting events. If you feel that it is important to meet with a teacher then please contact the College and ask them to make an appointment to meet at a mutually convenient time.

STUDENTS OUT AND ABOUT

YEAR 12 RETREAT

The Year 12 Retreat is one of the most memorable events in a Samaritan College student’s journey. It is almost time for the 2012 cohort to experience this special time in their lives. This year’s retreat will take place from Wednesday to Thursday of Week 8 at two beautiful locations: Trinity Haven and Thuruna near Tumby Bay. We wish the students and teachers well as they embrace this once in a lifetime occasion.

ADELAIDE ATHLETICS

A team of 22 students will travel to Adelaide on Monday Week 8 to represent the Port Pirie Diocese Catholic Schools on the athletics field and track. We wish the students well in their quest for excellence and thank Miss Howell and Mr Baker for their support of our students.

John Lyons
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

SACE EVALUATION

You may be aware that the SACE Board has commissioned an independent Evaluation Panel to conduct an evaluation of the first full year of the new South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). The purpose of the evaluation is to analyse and interpret the initial effects of the implementation of new arrangements for the SACE following its first full year of operation, and to identify areas where improvements should be introduced. The full Evaluation Brief may be found at www.sace.sa.edu.au/about/key-information/first-year-evaluation; in the meantime the Terms of Reference for the evaluation are set out below:

The Evaluation Panel operates under the auspices of the Board to undertake many responsibilities, which includes:

a) To determine the evaluation strategy for the SACE First Year Evaluation with reference to the SACE Reform Principles in the SACE Review Report and to the Legislative Principles in the SACE Board of SA Act.

b) To determine the most effective means of including the perspective of students in the evaluation process.

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 6, 7 and 8 on Thursday evenings for all Samaritan College families.

These workshops will start at 7:00 pm 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 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

Students OUT And About

Year 12 RetrEAt

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John Lyons
Acting Deputy Principal

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The Evaluation Panel operates under the auspices of the Board to undertake many responsibilities, which includes:

a) To determine the evaluation strategy for the SACE First Year Evaluation with reference to the SACE Reform Principles in the SACE Review Report and to the Legislative Principles in the SACE Board of SA Act.

b) To determine the most effective means of including the perspective of students in the evaluation process.
c) To identify areas of concern that have been raised during the first year of the SACE operating under the new arrangements, including but not limited to, the new compulsory requirements of the SACE, the relationship between the Research Project and Year 12 subject enrolments, and the operational impact of the SACE for schools and the SACE Board.

f) To gather relevant information and data relating to the new arrangements for the SACE.

h) To take into appropriate account the relationship between the SACE results and the university entry selection process operating in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

i) To advise the Board on improvements to the arrangements for the SACE that are consistent with the SACE Reform Principles outlined in the SACE Review Report and the Legislative Principles defined in the SACE Board of SA Act.

More information can be found at www.sace.sa.edu.au

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Year 12 students and their parents/caregivers are reminded that applications for Special Provisions are due to the SACE Board by the end of Term 1. Students who wish to apply need to see me as soon as possible to collect the necessary application forms.

Tanya Gibson
DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

YR 11 & 12 IPP PHOTOSHOP TUTORIALS

After school Photoshop tutorials for Year 11 and 12 IPP students every Wednesday in the Design Centre from 3:30 to 4:30pm. Come and learn how to use Photoshop to an advanced level and use the skills you learn to improve your IPP work.

Matt Scadding
IPP TEACHER

YEAR 12 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Parents/ Caregivers and Year 12 Students,

In preparation for the Year 12 Retreat next week, students are required to take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reconciliation is a sacrament of healing and will spiritually prepare students for the retreat. Asking for forgiveness and receiving absolution or a blessing is a wonderful way to begin an experience such as retreat.

Reconciliation for the Year 12 students will take place on Sunday, March 18 at 5:30pm at Our Lady Help of Christians Church. Reconciliation is conducted after Mass when the community are asked to come forward to receive absolution or a blessing. It is a most welcoming form of the Sacrament and parents and siblings are welcome to attend.

If you need more information please contact me at the College.

Bernie Meixner
APRIM

MURRAY VENTURE

As you read this newsletter the advice we have been given by various River Murray authorities have suggested that there should be no issue in us running our Murray Venture as planned. The flood waters interstate are not expected to have any significant impact on the part of the river that our Year 10s camp and kayak in. Students therefore are to prepare as normal which includes securing a work experience placement.

kind regards,
Damien Judd
ACTING CO-PRINCIPAL

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.

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 go to the school charities. Please deliver donations to the school library. Raffle tickets on sale now.
COMMUNITY NEWS

Migrant Courses
On offer by Advancing Whyalla these include come along meet new people. Improve your English in a safe group. Classes offered are:

**Basic English**
For new to Australia residents wanting to improve their English skills.
**Monday 9am– 12pm**
**Monday 7pm– 9pm**

**Finding your way**
A TAFE accredited course for people wanting to explore what being an Australian means and what their new community has to offer.
**Tuesday 9am– 2pm**

**New Opportunities**
A TAFE accredited course for people wanting to set new goals, look at study/work opportunities available in Whyalla and apply for jobs.
**Wednesday 9am– 2pm**

For further information please contact Advancing Whyalla on 8645 5999

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**School Holiday Clinics at Netball SA Stadium**
16 and 17 April 2012

Have fun while learning new netball skills, drills and techniques!

- **NetSetGO! Come and Try**
  - **5 - 7 Years**
    - Monday 16 April 2012 9.00am – 11.00am
    - Cost: $42.00
    - Registration opens at 8.30am
  - **8 - 10 Years**
    - Monday 16 April 2012 2.00pm – 3.00pm
    - Cost: $52.00
    - Registration opens at 1.30pm
  - **11 - 16 Years**
    - Tuesday 17 April 2012 10.00am – 3.00pm
    - Cost: $72.00
    - Registration opens at 9.30am
Subway Lunch Included

Book Now!
Go to www.netballsa.asn.au or telephone 08 8238 0500. Registrations close COB 11 April 2012

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**CANTEEN ROSTERS**
Monday, March 19 – Friday, March 23

**ST TERESA’S CAMPUS**

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**OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CAMPUS**

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Annette Cameron
**CANTEEN MANAGER**

**SAINT JOHN’S CAMPUS**

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Marg Coad
**CANTEEN MANAGER**