Dear Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers,

We welcome all families back to our community and the 2013 school year. During the past week we have worked with staff in preparation for a smooth beginning, with much emphasis on building and maintaining positive and engaging learning environments and community culture.

The most effective way that this will happen is through the combined effort and consistent approach of staff. Our distributed leadership approach assists our cause for shared commitment.

COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

We introduce our newly formed Executive team, consisting of Terissa Shepherd and Damien Judd as Co-Principals; Georgia Tyson and John Lyons as Acting Deputies and Bernie Meixner as Assistant Principal in Religious Identity and Mission. Although all of the Executive have R-12 roles, for practical purposes, Damien and Georga are based on the primary campuses and Terissa and John are based at the secondary campus, with Bernie on all three and the ‘conduit’ for parish-school connections.

We also have our larger leadership teams who assist in many practical ways to run our campuses and support children and families.

DAMIENTJUDD
CO-PRINCIPAL

Terissa Shepherd
CO-PRINCIPAL

“"I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgement is just because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.” John 5: 24-30

Damien and Terissa begin a new five year term in the Co-Principalship. In this time we will see the next phase of development of the college, with the demolition and re-building of the Xavier Building in 2013 as the first step towards the primary campus consolidation process. Please see over page for the special article about our future plans to bring the primary campuses together.

WELCOME

This week we have welcomed many new students from Receptions to Year 8s as well as individuals in each year level. We have strong numbers with many year levels at capacity. We also welcome new staff: at St Teresa’s campus: Kristy Howard, Genevieve Foran and Rudell Helmers join us full time; as well as Kristen Davidson joining us part-time across both primary campuses. Mikako Mills will deliver LOTE - Japanese at the primary campuses from Years 2/3 to Year 7 and in Year 8. We have just 2 new teaching staff on the secondary campus, welcoming Gemma Homes and Courtney Taylor. In addition, we are pleased to have Jodie Jones join our Learning Support Team, working with Tracey McLean, Pip Smitheram and Chrissie Young, led by Sarah Smith. Many of you may have also met Cindy Curtis last week in your back-to-school preparations, who has joined Kerry in the Uniform Shop.

Please fill in all forms that have been sent home and return them to the College as soon as possible.
FAREWELL
We bid farewell to Mr Robert Ackling, a long term staff member of 23 years, who leaves the college. Robert has instructed many students in mathematics over the years as well as dedicated time and energy to various extra-curricular activities to support students’ social development. We wish him all the best in the future.

TUITION FEES
The college relies on its operating costs through the combination of government funding and parent contributions through fees. School fees contribute approximately ¼ of the tuition costs for students. They are generally inclusive of camps, resources, events and activities costs so that parents have a true idea of annual outlay. Last year the Board Finance Committee reviewed the fees policy and adjusted some of the procedures to accommodate all families in a more equitable way. Some adjustments were made to how we will administer

“Special Article” XAVIER BUILDING PROJECT

In the past fortnight, work has begun on our Xavier Building Project on the Saint John’s Campus. The Xavier Wing was built in 1975, thus has well outgrown its life that school buildings are meant to sustain. That said, there are many buildings on our campuses much older, yet Xavier always had excessively small classrooms compared to education standard and could not adequately accommodate our growing population.

Our primary campus consolidation plan across the next 5 years provided the impetus to begin grant applications to secure the Xavier Project. We were mindful of South Australia needing to possibly eventually ‘fall-in’ to the 7-12 secondary schooling concept, being taken up by other states; as well as the possible need to accommodate Year 7s whilst the primary project phases occurred; to allow better middle schooling transition; and finally, better accommodation of a combined primary campus on one site, to preserve the ‘small school’ atmosphere most valued by our primary families.

Thus, in 2013, the new 2 story Xavier Building will be underway, and, being set back further than its current footprint, it will allow another open Piazza space for middle school students in our lower yard. All surrounding areas are currently cut off for safety and the site belongs to our builders, Kym Clarke Constructions, from Port Lincoln. These are the same builders who constructed the Gym and refurbished Science. All costs to enable this $3m project are through an Australian Government Capital Development Grant.

Meanwhile, we are still in the throes of seeking a land purchase, with a goal to be in closer proximity to the secondary site for easy flow of movement between students and staff, to allow further development of a cross campus community. It is important to share with you a conservative and still very much ‘predicted’ timeline. Should we secure land in 2013 - 2014, we would then need to tender for architects. Bearing in mind that a new primary school is a significant and ongoing project, any prospective architects would need to create worthwhile and creative plans from a design brief that would be a consequence of much community collaboration and consultation, thus one could easily foresee an 18 month process. Following the success of a secured architect, more designing and firming up of plans usually occurs followed by invitation for building tenders. From experience, we know that this too, can be an 18 month to 2 year process. Rough mathematics reveals a 5 to 6 year development timeframe before we would see any celebratory building opening and student movement. We would be grateful for a less conservative timeframe, but feel this is a useful explanation to curb any concerns about speculated upcoming radical change. Therefore, at this stage Year 7s will remain on primary campuses for some years yet and we would only consider the move if all other contexts require it. The economics of the region and Australian Government education policy changes are two significant influences on future context of what our school will become. So within our ‘planning for the future’ initiatives we must build in the essential flexibility to adapt to changing times.

From time to time we will provide updates of our progress with campus consolidation plans – when we have public information or when we become aware that we need to ensure correct community perception. Please continue to watch this space as the source.
A new year and a new start. I wonder what each of us was experiencing this time last year. The fears and excitement of the first day at a new school – primary, secondary or as a member of staff? Hopes and concerns as you send your child off to school for the next phase of their journey in life? Wondering how we will strive to make the year richer and more engaging?

So, how is today different from then? What would we like to put behind us? What do we want to build on? What new direction do we want to take? So many questions and so many possibilities. Fortunately we don't have to deal with them all on our own.

Last Sunday’s second reading told us that we are part of the Body of Christ. St Paul says that each of us has our own contribution to make and each of us can expect to be supported by every other part according to the unique role and gifts God has given each one. Eyes see for the hands to reach out, using the power of the muscles and tendons, directed by nerves and brain cells and fed by the oxygen and energy surging through the red blood cells. The full list of the individual components is incredibly long and complex but a healthy, functioning body utilises every one of them.

When every member of a community recognises their own uniqueness and undeniable dignity and cooperates to encourage and appreciate the contribution of every other person in the group then that community is healthy and life-giving; far beyond what any individual could achieve on their own. Samaritan College has a unique advantage in that it not only functions as a human community because it has as its head and directing power, Jesus, God and human. However, this head does not force himself upon each of us who make up the college community. He invites us to voluntarily take up his offer of making us fully empowered, integrated and functioning parts of the Body of Christ in the form of Samaritan College.

At the beginning of this new school year we can choose to try to make it on our own or to dispose ourselves to becoming more and more the vital part of his Body that Jesus invites us to be. We don't have to face this year on our own!

Fr Arno Vermeeren
ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH TEAM

<table>
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<tr>
<th>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</th>
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<tr>
<td>St Teresa’s Church</td>
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<td>Saturday 7:00pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 8:30am</td>
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**Religious Dimension**

**FAITH, WISDOM AND COMPASSION**

The school warmly welcomes all new families to Samaritan College and we welcome back existing families. We trust our continuing students are well rested and ready to do their best to contribute to our community and apply themselves to their personal learning.

To our families and students who are beginning school we certainly wish them a long and happy association with the college where strong friendships are made and good experiences abound.

The motto of our College is Faith, Wisdom and Compassion. These virtues are gleaned from the Samaritan scripture stories from the bible and they form our vision and mission statements, both of which can be found on the college website.

*Samaritan College is a learning community guided by wisdom and moved by compassion, living the Gospel in faith and action.*

We trust that our college community can continue on their own faith journey and the collective journey in faith of the college. Trusting in God to help us make the correct choices and decisions and allowing God to be with us in our everyday lives is central to our college beliefs.

We also turn to scripture for wisdom to help us discern issues that arise and look to our faith to help us make wise and prudent decisions. The college also understands that we need to look to the collective wisdom of all community members to work together in order to move forward in whatever matters we face.

As for compassion, we look to find ways we can be present to all in times of need, where justice is needed and where we can be the face of God to all we meet.

Our motto is our compass as a college and collectively we work to make these words come to life in our daily routines.

We pray that you find our college to be a place of faith, wisdom and compassion and you and your family are strengthened and nourished by being a part of this faith community.

**But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with compassion.**

*Luke 10: 32 – 34*

**The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.**

*Luke 2: 40*

**And he said to the woman, ’ your faith has saved you; go in peace’**

*Luke 7: 50*

Bernie Meixner
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL IN RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND MISSION
**SCHOOL COUNSELLING SERVICE**

Michelle Gerblich and Cassandra Ward are counsellors with a degree in Social Work, employed by Centacare Catholic Country SA to work across Samaritan College. Michelle is available at Saint John’s Campus on Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am – 2:30pm. Cassandra is available at Our Lady Help of Christians Campus on Mondays and Tuesdays, Saint Teresa’s Campus on Wednesdays and Saint John’s Campus on Thursdays and Fridays from 9am – 2:30pm. The school counsellors are flexible with times and can collaborate with teachers, parents, carers and external organisations with the student’s permission.

Students may seek counselling for a wide range of issues such as worries, stress, lack of motivation, sadness, anger, conflict with others (including friends, teachers and family), grief and loss, study load, bullying, low self-esteem, relationship issues, separation and addictions.

School counselling is a confidential service, and counsellors are NOT permitted to repeat content of sessions to anyone without permission, unless there is risk to a person’s safety. This will be outlined in the first point of contact with students.

Students can make appointments to talk with a counsellor by booking in with the front office, asking their teachers or parents to organise it, placing a message in the drop boxes located in the library and front office (Saint John’s Campus only), talking to or emailing Michelle or Cass.

Teachers or parents may wish to refer a student to the counselling service. In this case the counsellors would meet with the student to describe the service and allow the student to make a decision on if they want to engage in counselling, as this service is voluntary.

We wish you a happy start to the school year and look forward to working with the Samaritan College community in 2013.

Cassandra Ward & Michelle Gerblich
Michelle.Gerblich@samaritan.catholic.edu.au
Cassandra.Ward@samaritan.catholic.edu.au

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**2013 FEES**

A payment options form has been sent home with students this week. Please complete this form and return to Administration at any campus within the next week.

A new Direct Debit option has been provided in 2013. This option allows families to set up a direct debit once and the College will automatically debit the fees from your account on a nominated date. Families preferring to take up this option can find the Direct Debit Agreement form on the Samaritan College website at http://web.samaritan.catholic.edu.au/ (Enrolments and Fees). Alternatively, the Admin staff or Bursar at each campus can provide a copy.

All forms are required to be returned NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

Thank you.

Terry Costello
BUSINESS MANAGER

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

All canteens need parent help to operate effectively, if you feel that you could spare some time each month please complete the following slip and return it to your campus office.

NAME: _______________________________________

CONTACT DETAILS: __________________________

Please tick

**CAMPUS:**

☐ Our Lady Help of Christians
☐ Saint John’s
☐ Saint Teresa’s (help not required)

I would be able to help on Canteen

☐ at lunch
☐ at recess
☐ both lunch and recess

I am available on the following day(s)

☐ Monday
☐ Tuesday
☐ Wednesday
☐ Thursday
☐ Friday

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Welcome to the new school year! It’s great to be back!
It really has been a smooth start to the year and students
and families have returned with such positive energy. This
week I have had the opportunity to meet many parents
and students at both primary campuses and I would like
to take the opportunity to extend a warm welcome to
those who are new to our school. I know first hand how
welcoming and supportive this community can be and
thank you in advance for reaching out to them also.

PARENT NIGHT
I take this opportunity to invite all parents/caregivers to our
Annual Parent Information Evenings that will be held at
each campus next week.
STC – Tuesday, February 5 at 7:00pm in the Library.
OLHCC – Wednesday, February 6 at 7:00pm in the Vessey Unit.
This will be a great opportunity to informally meet your
child’s teacher and touch base, more formal appointments
can be made to share important information regarding
your child’s educational and social needs.

MEETING WITH TEACHERS
I encourage this to be the case throughout the year. Quite
often in the rush of the day we feel it appropriate to catch
our child’s teacher briefly before or after school. As you
would be aware these are two of the busiest times of
the day, so please make an appointment to meet your
child’s teacher at another time. This is not only a sign
of professional respect but ensures your concerns or
affirmations are given the attention and air time they truly
deserve.

SCHOOL BANKING
School banking is available at both primary campuses.
Both campuses are visited by Alliance One and Bank
SA. Commonwealth is also available at OLHCC Campus.
Parents wishing to organise banking for their children are
encouraged to contact their primary campus for further
details.

MEDICAL FORMS
A gentle reminder to all families to please return your
medical and permission forms as soon as possible. It is
imperative that your information is updated as soon as
possible, particularly if you have changed address or phone
numbers. More importantly so much can change over the
summer break and we must have an up to date account of
your child’s medical profile to avoid complications in an
emergency situation.

CRUNCH AND SIP
The ‘Crunch and Sip’ program will continue to be a valued
part of the day at our primary campuses. At 10:00am
students will break for their brain food and water, please
ensure that your child/children brings their water and fruit
or vegetables to eat at this time. This not only maintains
hydration but allows students to recharge their batteries as
such with regards to concentration and fatigue.

UNIFORM
At both campuses this week we have had the opportunity
to hold assemblies with the staff and children. These have
been a great way to introduce new staff and students. It
was fabulous to see students of all ages wearing the school
uniform so well and I sincerely thank you for ensuring this
is the case in what can be a very hectic time of year. For
any parents who are unsure of the uniform requirements
these are clearly outlined on the website and in the new
school diaries for Years 3 – 12.
Welcome back to our families for a new year of school. I especially welcome our new students and parents to the secondary campus.

Our first parent evening is on Thursday, February 7. We will convene on the grandstand at 6:30pm for the introduction of the teaching staff for 2013.

The College was very pleased with the results of the students from 2012. 25% of the Year 12 cohort achieved an ATAR over 80 and there were 7 who scored an ATAR in the 90s. The Samaritan College community wishes to congratulate Raghav Goel who was the highest achiever. It is important to acknowledge the efforts of all the teachers of the college who contribute to the ongoing success of our students.

STUDENT DRIVERS

Any student who has their provisional drivers licence is allowed to drive to and from school. We ask that students inform the College through use of the “Driver Permit Form” accessible through the College website. There is usually no reason why permission would not be granted, the form primarily helps us to keep track of the vehicles that are parked on and around the grounds.

In the interest of safety, parents are requested to give their consent for any child who is a passenger in another student’s vehicle. This permission would only allow the student to travel to and from the secondary campus at the start and end of the day.

CHANGING SUBJECTS

After the holidays it is not unusual for students to have a change of mind with regards to their subjects. Unfortunately some of the subjects are currently full, however, if there is space we will allow students to make these changes. For this to happen it is important that the necessary forms are filled in to ensure that all the stakeholders have given their consent. The “Subject Change Form” can be found on the College website under the FAQs, FORMS & FILES section.
Students who are in Year 11 and 12 should also avail themselves of the Stage 1 or Stage 2 Subject Structure located under the Curriculum and Vet aspect of the Learning tab. Time will be devoted later in the term to give our students an overview of the website for easier access.

John Lyons
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

PARENTS OF YEAR 8 STUDENTS

Welcome, as a parent of a Year 8 student! Many of you have had this privilege before but, for some, this may be a new experience. Hopefully your child has settled in well to beginning life on the Saint John’s Campus and has begun to understand the joys of high school.

A few things that your child’s caregroup teachers will be reminding them about include:

Enjoying the experience of adjustment period – Starting at the senior campus can be daunting but students are encouraged to make the most of the change. Making new friendships, being the youngest at the college and being in a new environment can all bring exciting opportunities.

Use of the school diary – It is crucial that these are used to assist the students to be organised and prepared for each day.

Uniform – Information regarding expectations is in the students’ diaries, including wearing of jewellery and make-up.

Please keep an eye out for a letter addressed to you that will be arriving home, with your child, early next week. The letter will outline a few more details that will be handy to know as a parent of a Year 8 student.

Beck Kane
YEAR 8 COORDINATOR

COMMUNITY NEWS

TUTORING SERVICE

Tutor experienced with the current school curriculum, offering individual assistance to secondary students at Samaritan College, in Humanities subjects including English, Studies of Society and Environment, Religious Education, Research Projects, and Media Studies, and, instruction for students who require assistance with, or would like to enhance, their communication skills in the broader practices of expressive and persuasive language use, and effective reading and comprehension.

For details, log on to www.tutorfinder.com.au, select Spencer Gulf as the Region and English as the Subject.

Phone: 0414 757 476
Email: johngerardmartin@hotmail.com
Current Police Clearance to Work in Catholic Education SA
John Gerard Martin

FROM THE SACE COORDINATOR

A warm welcome is extended to all new and returning students after a well-deserved break. I will be working closely with the Years 10, 11 and 12 cohorts and subject teachers this year to ensure a smooth path to the ultimate goal of completing the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). Please feel free to contact me with any SACE related queries or concerns at the College during office hours. I will be on site on Mondays and Wednesdays and can be reached via email (Maresa.Lyons@samaritan.catholic.edu.au) on other days. The Newsletter will be a valuable source of information in the coming weeks so please check it weekly so see what is happening in the SACE world.

The SACE website should be visited regularly as it contains valuable subject specific information and general advice that is vital for student success www.sace.sa.edu.au

STAGE 2 RESULTS 2012

I would like to congratulate the class of 2012 on their dedicated efforts and consequent excellent achievements. Raghav Goel was the Dux of the College with an ATAR of 99.1. Other students with 90+ ATAR scores were David Donnellan, Preshena Prem, John Stuppos, Ben Liffner, Ashlee Ellis and Daniel Meixner. May these wonderful results serve as inspiration for the class of 2013 and I thank all the teachers for their hard work and dedication in getting the best out of their students.

Until next week!

Maresa Lyons
SACE COORDINATOR

CANTEEN ROSTERS

Monday, February 4 – Friday, February 8

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<tr>
<th>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CAMPUS</th>
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<th>SAINT JOHN’S CAMPUS</th>
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Marg Coad
Canteen Manager
NOTIFICATION TO STUDENTS/PARENTS/SCHOOLS
Primary/Secondary Student Concession 4 Week Bus Passes

The student passes will be available for the 2013 school year. Each pass is valid for travel to and from the student’s boarding and alighting points for four school weeks. Passes need to be purchased in advanced from Des’s Transport at 5 Oborn St and a separate pass must be obtained for each period. Each pass will cost $24.40 or approximately 61c per trip.

Application Forms
When purchasing a pass for the first time in the school year, or if a student changes schools during the year, the student will need to fill out a gold application form. This form must be signed by the student’s parent/guardian and the student’s school.

The 2013 pass period dates are given below. Note that these dates are featured on the reverse of the Application Forms and are inclusive.

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<td>29 January to 22 February</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>25 February to 22 March</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>25 March to 3 May (Includes two weeks School Holidays)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>6 May to 31 May</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>3 June to 28 June</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1 July to 9 August (Includes two weeks School Holidays)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>12 August to 6 September</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>9 September to 18 October (Includes two weeks School Holidays)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>21 October to 15 November</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>18 November to 13 December</td>
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Information on services and fares is available from Des’s Transport on 8644 7744. Please note that whilst three of the 10 pass periods feature two weeks of school holidays, the cost of the pass is the same as for a four week period; as such you are not paying for the school holidays and students are not entitled to use the pass during these holiday periods.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided for the Student Concession Monthly Bus Passes, please contact Des’s Transport in the first instance. Alternatively you can contact the Department of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure, Public Transport Division, on telephone (08) 83030822.

Forms are available from the front office or from Des’s Transport.