**Dear Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers,**

This week’s beautiful reading is one often used as a reflection for the sacraments of baptism, marriage, and funeral ceremonies. Thus it is one which many of us would be familiar. It is fitting that our Commissioning ceremony last Sunday was supported by the recognition that we are sustained by faith, hope and love. If we have not entered our vocation to work with these three ingredients then we should not be here. Jonathon Sacks (2202) speaks of a hope “which is the faith that, together, we can make things better. Optimism is a passive virtue, hope an active one. It takes no courage to be an optimist, but it takes a great deal of courage to have hope. Hope does not exist in a vacuum.....it is born in the belief that the sources of action lie within ourselves.....” and we would thus see that the gift of hope is part of what Bishop Greg named our ‘providential call’.

**PARENT NIGHTS**

These very important evenings took place this week and tonight at the secondary campus. If you weren’t able to attend, please feel free to make contact with your child’s teacher to speak about their plans for 2013. Our staff are more than happy to meet or speak with parents at appropriately arranged times. We thank those parents who did attend. We value your interest, input and shared sense of commitment to your children’s education.

**LENT**

This very important season in the Church year commences next week on Ash Wednesday. All campuses will be celebrating this day with various ceremonies.

**COMMISSIONING OF DAMIEN JUDD**

“It was a special experience on Sunday to be commissioned into my role as Co-Principal by our Bishop, Greg O’Kelly at Mass at OLHC. The Bishop eloquently described how the role of a principal goes way beyond simply ‘running’ the school and that the futures of over 1100 young people and over 120 staff are in the hands of both Terissa and myself. Bishop Greg reflected that to become a leader is a calling, not a job and the church is central to the vocation of a Catholic school principal.”

**SEND HOME FORMS**

It is vital that we have prompt return of ALL forms this week. The new fees commitment form needs to be completed and returned by all. The direct debit facility should make things easier for many and the guidelines for calculation also assist families. Should you have any financial concerns please direct them “in confidence” to the Co-Principals. Advice can be sought from our fees Bursar Cheryl Murfiit on 8649 2077 or correspond directly in writing to the Co-Principals. Please note that documentation of all family income would need to accompany any application for remission.

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_Parent Night, SJC, 6:30pm, grandstand_

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

- OLHCC Scholastic Book Club orders due

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

- Year 11 deadline for white registration slips (SACE)

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

- Ash Wednesday
  - SJC Liturgy led by Year 12, 9:10am Gym
  - OLHCC, 9:30am, Church
  - STC, 9:30am & 12:00, library

**FEBRUARY 18-21**

- Year 8 camps

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

- Opening College Mass

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

- Parents & Friends Meeting, SJC, 7:30pm
Bishop Greg O’Kelly visited Whyalla last Sunday to commission Mr Damien Judd as co-principal of Samaritan College. It is a sign of the importance the bishop places on the Catholic nature of Samaritan College that, as the head of our diocese, he personally accepted Damien’s pledge to uphold and promote the Catholic values of our school. In cooperation with Mrs Shepherd and the school leadership team Mr Judd promised, “to do all in your power to develop our school as distinctively Catholic, founded on the person of Jesus Christ, devoted to the development of the whole person, and where knowledge is illuminated by the light of faith.” The scripture readings were very appropriate for the occasion with the call of Jeremiah and in the second reading where St. Paul reminded us how important faith, hope and love is in our lives. We wish Damien every blessing in his co-principalship of the College.

Sunday was also a time to farewell Chris and Teresa Lynch, Mark and Leanne Carter and Luis and Lisbeth Brito-Fernandez and their families. They have all contributed to the life of the parish and school by sharing their gifts and talents with us - especially their spirit of generosity and commitment. We wish them every blessing for the future and invite more families in our school community to become actively involved in parish life and worship.

Next Wednesday, February 13, is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Masses in the parish that day are 8.00am at St Teresa’s and 7:00pm at Our Lady’s. For us, as Catholics, it is a day of fast and abstinence, which means that we take care to eat only one full meal, make the other meals lighter than we would normally have and to avoid snacks. Abstinence means to not eat meat. Fish is allowed. The law of fasting binds those who have completed their 18th year, until the beginning of their 60th birthday year while the law of abstinence from meat binds those who have completed their 14th year. The spirit of these restrictions is to voluntarily acknowledge our complete dependence on God’s goodness for everything we have by going without. Our discomfort has the effect of drawing our minds to being grateful that we have such an abundance of God’s gifts, to use those gifts responsibly and to share them with others.

During Lent there will be a number of weekly discussion groups. The theme of this year’s program is “We Wish to See Jesus.” Our sharing helps us to deepen our faith journey as we walk with Jesus from the temptations in the wilderness (First Sunday of Lent) to the glory of the resurrection (Easter). Joining a group is a good opportunity to meet some new people and perhaps take on a more active involvement in the development of our faith relationship with Jesus and each other.

Sr Cheryle Thomson
ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Teresa’s Church</strong></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**

**A REFLECTION ON OUR PLACE**

With Australia Day, the beginning of our new school year and in planning our Opening College Mass, I have been reflecting upon the idea of belonging. As humans, we have this inherent yearning to feel a sense of belonging. We all have a place in this world, we all belong somewhere. Sometimes it is hard to find, sometimes it is so comfortable that we don’t even notice this place exists. Coming back to Samaritan College for another year, I hope we all feel like we belong here, that we all feel welcome. Despite differing backgrounds, different interests and different goals, I hope that we can all feel a sense of ‘place’ here. I hope that in this place, we recognise the rights of all people, we support those who need it, we celebrate those who deserve it and we live our vision of Faith, Wisdom and Compassion.

Carly Higgins
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR
PARENT NIGHT

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week we held our Parent Information Evenings on the Primary Campuses. Many parents attended the sessions to meet our new and continuing staff. It was impressive to walk through and see parents and teachers mingling and making connections for their essential partnerships. So good to see that staff have ‘hit the ground running’ and classrooms have been so well prepared and quality work on display.

MUSIC LESSONS

As you would be well aware our students are exposed to The Arts through our specialist programs with teachers Melinda Gray and Winnie Fitzgerald. As a college we are also fortunate to be able to offer our students private tutorage with externally sourced experts. The offer to take up a place in these programs was made late last year and students will commence their instrumental lessons this week. Please be aware of this and encourage your child to take up the responsibility to be organised for their lesson.

LAP VOLUNTEERS

The Learning Assistance Program known as LAP is once again looking for LAP volunteers. LAP is a social interaction program that supports students in their journey of learning. The skills that you need to be a LAP volunteer are patience, a listening ear and one hour per week.

Like all volunteers in schools you will need to have a current Catholic police check. (These are free for school volunteers.) Both primary campuses run this program.

If you are interested in being a LAP volunteer please register your interest via the front office at your campus and our LAP coordinator will be in touch.

BBQ COOKS NEEDED

If you have an hour to spare Tuesday between 10-11am, we would love your help at either OLHCC or STC with cooking pancakes for the students for Shrove Tuesday. Please ring the front office if you can assist.

Grace and blessings.
Georga Tyson
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

We welcome the new children, and their families, to Samaritan College.

Reception
Wil M
Aimee S
Kate H
Leila C
Charlie W
Nicholas A
Joseph D
Victoria C
Corey B
Khayden B
Kai E
Thomas H
Kaden H
Madison L
Ruby M
Riley O
Louie P

Emma S
Jake T
Katie-Jade T
Joseph T
Soﬁa W
Tiana N
Enzo M
Khai P
Lilian S
Harrison M
Indya H
Trevaye S
Jasmine M
Callum P

Year 4
Blake B
William S
Mekiah S
Victoria J
Lachlan A
Andi Z
Year 7
Allan C
Joshua A
Alexander K

OLHC SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Issue 1 out now
Due date Friday, February 8
You can bring your orders to the library before and after school. I look forward to seeing you all.

Helen Shepherd
OLHC LIBRARY

COMPUTER SAFETY

Parents have a very important role in digital citizenship education, as do all caregivers of children e.g. older brothers and sisters. Hector’s World is a New Zealand website set up to speciﬁcally help young people and their parents safely navigate their way through the world wide web. Please visit www.hectorsworld.com. It is a site aimed at children aged from 2 to 9 years old and to be viewed together with a parent or older sibling.

Jenny Kondylas
ICT COORDINATOR

February 7, 2013
SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWS

With the removal of Xavier this week there has been a very physical change in the appearance of the Campus. The students have been very understanding about moving around the Campus with care and staying clear of the building site. There is still a bit to do before we will start to see any new buildings taking form, however, it is hoped that access between the Gym and Library will soon be granted via the back of the grandstand.

UNIFORM

Students should, by now, be familiar with the days when they are allowed to wear their sport uniform and the days where they need to be in the normal uniform. There are many different reasons why a student is unable to attend school in the correct uniform, but without explicit permission from parents or guardians, through the diary, students may be asked to go home and change into the correct uniform for the day. Further information regarding the uniform can be found in the student diary on pages 132 – 135 inclusive.

LATE ARRIVAL OR ABSENTEE

In the interest of student/child welfare we ask that parents and guardians contact the school in the event that their child is going to be either late or absent on a day. As an added safety element this should also be followed up with a written, signed, note in the diary for the caregroup teacher.

SHROVE TUESDAY

Shrove Tuesday marks the end of the season of Epiphany and is the vigil for the Starting of Lent. Traditionally viewed as a day of repentance, Shrove Tuesday has become the last day for celebration and feasting before the period of fasting required during Lent. As such we celebrate this day with our Pancakes.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) will be cooking pancakes for sale in front of the Mother Teresa Centre. To make the feast even more enticing it is Two-for-One Tuesday! Get two pancakes with maple syrup for only $1.00.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Next week we celebrate Ash Wednesday, the first day in the Christian season of Lent. The 40 days of Lent represent the time that Jesus spent in the Desert, the 40 years that the Israelites spent in exile after the Exodus. As a College we will have Liturgies where Ashes are distributed and worn as a sign of Repentance, Humility and Renouncing Pride. This is why when the ashes are distributed it is proclaimed: “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” We wear the Ashes to acknowledge that we Sin and are in need of Repentance and Renewal. The day is one when many Christians focus their attention on Fasting, Praying and Almsgiving.

YEAR 8 CAMP

The students and caregroup teaches of Year 8 should be readying themselves for their two day camp. The purpose of this camp is to give the students and teachers greater opportunity to get to know each other, especially as they have come from many different areas to be together this year. It is anticipated that all students will attend the camp, if there are any concerns please contact one of the caregroup teachers or the Year Level Coordinator to discuss the issue.

John Lyons
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

CHOOSING YOUR FRIENDS WISELY

A good friend is someone you can:
- talk with honestly and who will listen without judging you
- trust
- rely on
- help and be helped by
- share interests with
- be silly with

When you are with a good friend you feel good about yourself:
- they allow you to be yourself
- listen to you
- stick around when times are rough
- like you just the way you are.

All friendships have difficult times and everyone makes mistakes sometimes. But if someone regularly puts you down to your face or behind your back, makes fun of you, makes you feel bad about yourself, they are not acting like a friend.

How to be a good friend

Accept a person as they are, you can like other people even if you don't agree with everything they say or do.

Be a good listener.

Try not to give advice unless you are asked for it.

Be positive; talk about the good things in your life.

Don't be a cruel gossip or spread rumours… ‘She said…he said’.

Be kind.

Most importantly, be yourself, don't pretend to be anyone else.

For more info: http://www.headroom.net.au/

From the school counsellors! ☺
CONGRATULATIONS!

Samaritan College congratulates Jasmine Bridgeman on making the South Australian Country Basketball team which will be competing in a National Carnival in Brisbane during the April school holidays. Samaritan College has many young people achieving fantastic team and individual honors in a variety of sports. If your son/daughter has achieved a fantastic feat, please email me at matthew.quist@samaritan.catholic.edu.au and I can give them a public congratulation.

Matt Quist
PE/SPORT CO-ORDINATOR

SACE

As the organised chaos, excitement and anticipation of the start of the year start to settle down, the process of enrolling students into Stage 1 and 2 classes commence on DATEX Online, the SACE Board’s database. Stage 2 students, especially, should be mindful about subject changes as the longer they wait the more they will have to catch up on, which might be to the detriment of their grade in their new chosen subject.

This week the focus will be on completing SACE paperwork. Documents sent home this week will concentrate on registration slips and Stage 1 results from 2012. It is important to return documentation by the due date and to keep all communication from the SACE Board in a safe and secure place for future reference.

Year 11 students are asked to return their white registration slips (SACE Board copy) no later than February 12. Yellow registration slips (student copy) can be completed and kept as a record of what has been consented to.

Stage 2 Scientific studies (Health Science) need to note that TAFE accreditation for units done within this course can only be sought if the student has successfully negotiated the SACE. A pass grade in Scientific studies will not automatically guarantee TAFE recognition without attaining the necessary credits for SACE completion.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR STAGE 2 STUDENTS

Students with known pre-existing conditions who require external assessment variations are required to submit paperwork to the SACE Board for approval by 28 March. Students who believe they are eligible for special provisions are asked to come and see me to complete the appropriate paperwork.

Please feel free to contact me during the year should complications arise that might prevent your SACE completer from ‘getting over the line’ so to speak.

More about Stage 1 special provisions next week!

Until then!

Maresa Lyons
SACE CO-ORDINATOR

COLLEGE EXPECTATIONS

Our College Vision Statement posits that Samaritan is a learning community guided by wisdom and moved by compassion, living the Gospel in faith and action. Accordingly, staff at Samaritan College endeavour to create quality learning environments in which all students feel comfortable and confident when interacting with their teachers, support staff and peers. Underpinning these interactions are the following expectations:

- Students and staff will use appropriate language when communicating verbally and in writing
- Neither staff nor students will engage in offensive jokes or banter (for example, tell jokes of a racial nature)
- Public displays of affection between students are discouraged on school grounds or when participating in College events off-site
- Eating and drinking in classrooms is prohibited (water is the only exception)
- Students are not permitted to use mobile phones or listen to music (for example, via streaming) during lessons
- Staff and students are expected to display reverence during morning and afternoon caregroup prayer
- Staff will act immediately to alleviate bullying, harassment and generally disrespect in the classroom and yard

These expectations are designed to give effect to our Vision Statement by ensuring pleasant physical, and supportive emotional, learning environments. Any deviations, therefore, will be dealt with by staff in the appropriate manner and, where necessary, parents will be informed. We appreciate your understanding and support in such matters.

Tanya Gibson
DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

MATHS HELP

Maths Help has commenced and will take place every Tuesday in the Library from 3:45 pm to 4:30 pm. This is an opportunity for all students, junior (Yrs 8-10) and senior (Yrs 11-12), to get assistance with homework and assignments, and to revise for upcoming tests and exams knowing that there is a teacher available to help. This is also a good way of catching up on work missed due to absence.

"CENSUSATSCHOOL"

Students in Year 8 and 10 will soon be taking part in the Australian CensusAtSchool project. CensusAtSchool was developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to promote statistical literacy and raise awareness of the important role of the national Census of Population and Housing.

Students complete an anonymous online questionnaire, covering topics such as: arm length, favourite food and languages spoken. They then become “investigators” and use the questionnaire response data to find patterns and trends from any number of topics.

Learn more about CensusAtSchool on their web site www.abs.gov.au/censusatschool.

Estelle Geldenhuys
MATHEMATICS CO-ORDINATOR
SCIENCE HELP

Studying Science can at times become difficult, and without some additional teacher assistance, some students may feel overwhelmed or disheartened. To assist students in achieving their true potential in Science, we offer Science Help on a Tuesday afternoon, from 3:45 – 4:30 in the library. Any student is invited to attend if requiring extra assistance with class activities, homework, test preparation or assignments.

Senior Science students are reminded that they should be proactive in seeking assistance from their teachers on a daily basis as required.

Tony Hall
SCIENCE COORDINATOR

SCIENCE FUN FACT

There are nearly 100,000 kilometres of blood vessels in the human body – laid end to end they would circle the Earth 2.5 times.

CANTEEN ROSTERS

Monday, February 11 – Friday, February 15

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<tr>
<th>MON</th>
<th>Nardia Hogan</th>
<th>Joanne Foubister</th>
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<tr>
<td>TUE</td>
<td>Tonia Munday</td>
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<td>WED</td>
<td>Courtney Higgins</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU</td>
<td>Tracey Clark</td>
<td>Fiona Andrew</td>
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<td>FRI</td>
<td>Rebecca Coffey</td>
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Annette Cameron  Rose Cassar  Marg Coad
CANTEEN MANAGER  CANTEEN MANAGER  CANTEEN MANAGER

COMMUNITY NEWS

“The services and events contained in this section are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children.”

TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Registration evening for Table Tennis is on Friday, February 15 at 7:30pm at our Clubrooms at Jubilee Park Showgrounds.

Also our clubrooms are available for Social events and School Competitions at a realistic hire charge. Please contact Bob Morris on Phone/Fax 8645 0000 or mobile 0419 864 749.

WHYALLA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Early Childhood Services
Gigglepots (0-2 years)
Wednesday 2:00pm
Friday 10:30am

Pre-school Story time (2-5 years)
Wednesday 10:30am
Thursday 10:30am
Thursday 2:00pm

Toy Library (0-8 year olds)
The toy library is a free lending service available at the Whyalla Public Library.
Open library hours
For more information please contact the
Whyalla Public Library
8645 7891