A common conversation with parents is the ‘stage awareness’ we all experience as our children grow and develop. It always seems that we just work out our best responses and how best to handle the stage and they are one step ahead, moving into the next. Many of us will have adopted aspects of the parenting role modelling of our own childhood. Thus we might insist on certain table manners or how to address the grandparents, have rules about swearing, bed-times and so on. One phenomenon that we did not have any ‘training’ in was how to handle new technologies and to teach our children how to use technology positively in their lives. That is why sharing experiences with one another can help the individual to determine their best ‘planned response’. In this job, as a parent, knowledge can be dangerous, but also a useful tool.

It is important to start early with children about how they use various aspects of information communication technology; not unlike we might have ideas and rules for television use. If a child grows up knowing that mum and dad are privy to their ‘conversations’; aware of site use; aware of the contents and contacts of mobile phones, downloads, myspace and facebook ‘friends’, then it won’t be, or will be less of a case of contention in adolescence. Attempt to impose rules once the ‘stage’ has grown horns, and a fight will be on. Therefore where, when and how ICT is present in children’s lives is crucial.

Mobile phones in the hands of primary aged children creates early problems of angst for those with and those without; allowing children to have myspace and facebook relationships should raise warning signals in parents, particularly if unsupervised. However, if introduced with household rules and children navigate with their parents (both learning along the way), ICT used responsibly is an invaluable asset for study and recreation. Discovering one can relate to distant family both visually and audially through skypeing is something valuable; having your 11 year old wanting to skype friends immediately after school never allows him/her a break from the pressure cooker of socialising interactions, demands, near-misses and brat-pack angst. Many families have a “no communicating in a school week” rule, not unlike the “can’t go out on a school night” philosophy. A modern day take on the “no phone calls after 8” is “mobile phones off and in a central location before bed”.

Why the urge to give advice? Increasingly the tools designed for ease in our lives can create multi-layers of unease; with children needing a learner’s permit and licensed driver supervisor to help them learn how to navigate the information superhighways. Again, the need for partnership between home and school education couldn’t be stronger.

Dear parents and caregivers,

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TERISSA SHEPHERD
CHRIS SLOAN
CO-PRINCIPALS
EDUCATION TAX REFUND

As part of the 2008/2009 Federal Budget, it was announced that from the July 1, 2008, eligible families would be able to claim a 50% Education Tax refund on eligible education expenses up to $750 per child for each primary student and $1,500 per child for each secondary student.

As such for the 2008/2009 income tax year eligible families can claim up to $375 per annum for each child in primary school and up to $750 per annum for each child in secondary school on eligible education expenses.

The major portion of the eligible expenses relates to the cost of home computers and computer related equipment as well as home internet connections and computer software for educational use.

The eligible education expense that is a part of your school fees includes “school text books and other paper based school learning material, including prescribed textbooks, associated learning materials, study guides and stationery.”

As Samaritan College issues an all inclusive account for school fees an estimate has been made that the amount of $140 per primary student and $210 per secondary student relates to the eligible education expenses component of those school fees.

If you are to make an ETR claim you will need to retain proof of payment of your fees (ie: school receipt) and consult with your tax professional to determine your eligibility.

Further information on the Education Tax Refund can be obtained from the following link:

Geoff Cooke
BUSINESS MANAGER
Not only are the primary teachers very busy writing the students’ Reports, we also have graduates from UniSA, Mawson Lakes, who are having a teaching experience in Whyalla for the next two weeks. It is a project to inform, mainly city people, about the benefits of applying for teaching positions in the country.

At OLHCC Alexandra Markow is observing teaching practice in Jo Arcobelli and Bec Fahey’s Year 7 classrooms. Paul Ekermann is working between Abby Thiele and Gareth Molyneux’s Year 5/6 classrooms.

At STC Emma Henderson is placed with Carla Opie Year 3/4 and James Bavестock Year 5/6. Kara Kelly will be observing in Jodie Turpin and Lou Gogoll’s Year 6/7 classrooms.

 Hopefully the graduates will enjoy their time in Whyalla and choose to come to country South Australia when they have completed their studies.

Patricia Page
PRIMARY CAMPUS LEADER

FIRST EUCHARIST
This coming weekend the Parish Community will celebrate First Eucharist with a group of 32 students and their families. This Sunday is the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, a very appropriate feast to have for such a special celebration.

Eleni Vailas           Bernie Meixner
REC - OLHCC            REC - STC

SKY WATCH
Next week both primary campuses will enjoy the Sky Watch Astronomy Visit. The children will further their knowledge of space in the 360 degree portable planetarium.

This is an excellent learning opportunity for our students in this the International Year of Astronomy.

Lou Whitehouse

PHOTOS AVAILABLE
If you would like a digital copy of photos from the following activities, orders can be placed at the St Teresa’s Campus Office. There will be a nominal charge of $2.00 per disk.

Photos of the following activities are available:
- 2/3 Reed Judd Palm Sunday Liturgy
- Shrove Tuesday
- Year 7 Camp – Port Vincent
- Swimming Lessons
- Tenebrae
- 6/7 Turpin Assembly (May)

Monica Cohen

R/ YEAR 1 STORR LITURGY
Miss Storr’s class will be celebrating Liturgy at St Teresa’s Campus on Thursday, June 18 at 9:30 am in the library. Parents are most welcome to attend.

YEAR 5/6 USHER
Upper Assembly
Mr Usher will hold an Upper Campus Assembly on Friday, June 19 at 9:30am.

Bernie Meixner
CAMPUS COORDINATOR

JUNIOR HOCKEY

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Opponent 1</th>
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<td>Friday 12/6/09</td>
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<td>Minkey Field 1A</td>
<td>NAPS/Long 2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10:00am</td>
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JUNIOR DISCO on Friday night at the Hockey Clubrooms 7:30pm–9:00pm.

Stay around after your games and pay a $2 admission fee to the disco. Drinks will be available, glowstick products, and free ice blocks for all junior players.

Well done to all the players who represented Whyalla or the Country West Zone at the State Championships over the long weekend. While we didn’t have any finalists except the senior women, all teams played well and competitively, and were not disgraced at all.

Juniors can now prepare for SAPSASA competitions in week 8.

Also this Friday is the Inter-School Hockey Carnival. Good luck to Samaritan teams playing.

Tania Taylor
JUNIOR HOCKEY COORDINATOR

ST TERESA’S SRC
The SRC would like to thank everyone who participated in our fundraising efforts for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. We raised $292. Rachel Fitzgerald was the winner of the “Guess the Number of Jellybabies” competition and Asha Reed won the Colouring Competition. Congratulations girls!

Winter is with us now and the SRC would like to support the local Blanket Appeal by raising funds through a “Coin Toss”. Please start bringing coins to the classroom. The date for the “Coin Toss” will be announced soon. Thank you.

Josie Sanders and the SRC

ST TERESA’S SRC
LITURGY OF THE WORD

You are most welcome to join us for Liturgy of the Word next Thursday, June 18 at 2:45pm in the Church. It will be presented by, Ms Winkler, Ms Hart, and Ms Fiedler and the First Communicants as a continuation of our First Eucharist celebrations. We hope to see you there!

Eleni Vailas
CAMPUS COORDINATOR

STUDENT PRACTICUMS

Across the College we are hosting student teachers from Mawson Lakes as part of their nine day country immersion. Our staff recognise and value the role of teacher mentor to assist in developing professionals of the future. We welcome Amelia Role, Kate Barry and James Harris.

We also farewell Melissa Phillips and Ryan Baker who have been supported in their extended practicums.

Brett Czechowski
SECONDARY CAMPUS LEADER

YEAR 12 RETREAT

The Year 12 Retreat is fast approaching. To mark the beginning of this wonderful journey all Year 12 students and their families are expected to attend Reconciliation at Our Lady Help of Christians Church at 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 16. Please remember that retreat is an essential part of the spiritual fabric of the College, and as such it is an expectation that all students attend.

The senior retreat is a special time and is an opportunity that we are proud to be able to offer. It is the memories from this event, and the Murray Venture, which feature predominately in graduation speeches. Staff also enjoy sharing this journey and having the opportunity to foster positive relationships with their senior students.

Yvette Agars
YEAR 12 COORDINATOR

YEAR 11 MOCK TRIAL

Parents and friends of Samaritan College are warmly invited to attend the annual Year 11 Legal Studies/Contemporary Issues in Science Mock Trial, to be held in Xavier Wing on Friday, June 19 from 11:30am. Please come and watch the legal and forensic stars of the future in action and be part of the jury who determines whether Dr Brian McDonald (Year 11 student Zach Day) is guilty of murder!

Tanya Gibson
YEAR 11 LEGAL STUDIES TEACHER

YEAR 10 EXAMINATIONS

The Year 10 examinations will be taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week (Week 8). Students will be sitting examinations over these two days in SOSE, PE, Mathematics, English and Science. There will be study lessons timetabled throughout those two days to allow students extra preparation time, but students should already be revising their work each night in preparation for the heavy workload next week. A timetable for the two days will be sent home with every Year 10 student today.

Trent Keiper
YEAR 10 COORDINATOR

YEAR 8 MASS

The Year 8 Blue students will be involved in their own Mass on Tuesday, June 16. Parents and other staff are more than welcome to attend. Mass will be held in the Emmaus Chapel at Saint John’s Campus commencing at 8:30am.

Mark Westlake

ST TERESE’S CAMPUS

Mon Karen Taylor
Tue Janice and Georgina Stewart
Wed Lexie Gill Jessyka Hanson
Thu Tonia Munday Donna Clark
Fri Judi Kneebone

Please note: Mini Fruits are no longer available.

Annette Cameron
CANTEEN MANAGER

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CAMPUS

Mon HELP NEEDED
Tue HELP NEEDED
Wed Dana Campion Sunny Chung
Thu HELP NEEDED
Fri Carmel Rosalia

Rose Cassar
CANTEEN MANAGER

SAINT JOHN’S CAMPUS

Mon Sue Clements Chris Barsby
Tue Helen Butt HELP NEEDED
Wed Anneli Hardman Bev Carlson
Thu Julie Rotherham HELP NEEDED
Fri Julia McMahon Deb Drobnjak

Marg Coad
CANTEEN MANAGER