The above parable continues with a story about the return of the prodigal son. Ultimately the father’s love for his son is the driver of his embrace of even one who has done wrong, with his love unconditional. Parents move into the most significant of jobs without any formal training, compass, guidebook or skill set, yet, society expects us to do the job well and to produce wonderful outcomes. The strongest item we have in our tool kit is love.

The job of a parent is life-long, evolving and requiring us to learn and adapt with every developmental stage of the individual as well as family life-cycle stages. As an educational institution, we share the work of parents but do not know all the answers, with many teachers yet too young to be parents themselves, thus understanding the convoluted world of parenting. We have invested in the Michael Grose parenting ideas resource bank to assist you in this remarkable privilege. Many families value his common sense reflections and tips, which he brings to the public with a strong background of experience as both a psychologist and parent himself. We will publish snippets of Michael Grose’s latest articles weekly in this Newsletter as well as provide links where you may access them from our website. In addition, some hard copies of articles will be available in the Uniform Shop and in campus reception areas for your perusal. We hope you will be able to gain much from this useful resource and that it will assist in dialogue with the college about what we may be able to offer our parent community in the form of support. This week is Child Protection Week. We launch this new initiative in a pro-active approach to caring for our young people and their families. We hope you can make use of these resources and welcome feedback if you do, in fact, utilise them throughout the remainder of the year.

Symbol Sleuth competition is back this week! We will run this from time to time in order to keep the interest up. Remember – you’ve got to be in it to win it! We have some lovely book titles just waiting for eager young minds to read.

Dear parents and caregivers

The above parable continues with a story about the return of the prodigal son. Ultimately the father’s love for his son is the driver of his embrace of even one who has done wrong, with his love unconditional. Parents move into the most significant of jobs without any formal training, compass, guidebook or skill set, yet, society expects us to do the job well and to produce wonderful outcomes. The strongest item we have in our tool kit is love.

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**Parish News**

Last weekend we celebrated Migrant and Refugee Sunday at our Parish Masses. The prayers were read in different languages. What a richly blessed community we are in Whyalla, and in Australia as a whole! We thank God for our diversity, especially in the unity we experience in faith and family life. We thank those who joined in to make our Sunday celebrations a happy event. We shared morning tea and brunch after the morning Masses.

Over the last few weeks some of the Year 11 students have participated in training as Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. Last Sunday at Mass we commissioned these students. We congratulate and thank those who will minister in our Parish Family.

At the end of this year Sr Robyn will be leaving Whyalla, she will have some renewal in the first part of next year before moving into a new ministry. Replacing Sr Robyn will be Srs Sonia and Helen; they have responded to the call to minister to the people of Whyalla and the Diocese.

They were with us in the Parish last weekend and will return in February.

This week is Child Protection Week. The theme for this year is ‘WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT’. We are encouraged to wear something white next Sunday to Mass.

A reminder about the Parish Logo competition. We look forward to receiving the entries in the coming week.

Sr Cheryle Thomson
ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</th>
<th>St Teresa’s Church</th>
<th>Our Lady Help of Christians Church</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 7:00pm</td>
<td>Sunday 10:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 8:30am</td>
<td>Sunday 5:30pm</td>
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**Religious Dimension**

On Friday, August 27 at Our Lady help of Christians Church and Saturday, August 28 at Saint Teresa’s Church, a total of thirty children were confirmed by Bishop Greg O’Kelly. The celebration involved much preparation by the children and their families over four weeks. Of course the preparations for this day began the day the children were baptised and their immediate family and parish family have helped the children come to this point in their faith journeys. Much of the confirmation celebration was linked to Baptism as it is the same Holy Spirit the children receive at Baptism that they received at Confirmation.

The Bishop was warm and engaging as he led us through the Mass. As pastoral leader of our Diocese, the Bishop has a true gift of helping us to fan the flames of the Holy Spirit in our lives. The Bishop likened the newly confirmed to beacons of light and asked us to think how much darkness one lamp could dispel. Then he asked how much darkness all of the newly confirmed could dispel. This was his call to the newly confirmed and all present at the Mass. As followers of Jesus we are all called to light the way and be disciples of peace to all.

The children were well prepared and engaged confidently with the Bishop. Their confirmation was a visible sign of the presence of Jesus and brought much joy to them, their families, the Parish and our college community.

Bernie Meixner
REC - STC

**College News**

**Uniform Shop**

*Opening Hours*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:00-10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1:00-4:30pm</td>
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Accompanying this week’s newsletter is a copy of the terms and conditions of second-hand uniform exchange. This form may also be found on the College website.

Please call the uniform shop for any further information.

Kerry Azzopardi    Sharron Waldron
Toal Street, Whyalla Stuart
Ph: 8649 3168

**Spectacular DVDs ARE WAITING FOR YOU!**

Spectacular DVDs are available from all campus offices to those who have pre-ordered. DVDs are $10 each - to be paid on collection.

Thank you
From Michael Grose:  
**Praise with impact**

Praise can become meaningless for some kids unless it is done with a little thought and care. Praising and encouraging kids can be difficult for many people. It just doesn’t come naturally. They are hard-wired for criticism rather than praise.

Some children, particularly boys, feel awkward receiving praise unless it is done carefully. It can be misconstrued as being manipulative and not genuine, particularly when it is simply a throw-away line. Praise can become meaningless for some kids unless it is done with a little thought and care.

**THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF PRAISE THAT HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON CHILDREN’S (AS WELL AS ADULTS’) BEHAVIOUR AND SELF-ESTEEM.**

**Descriptive praise:** Throw a spotlight on the behaviours that kids do well. Rather than a trite ‘well done’ draw a word picture of what they did well and let them know its impact. Tell them what you see and how you feel. “Wow. You have tidied the room really well and put everything back where it should be. It’s a pleasure to come into the living room.” Such comments genuinely made become stored in their bank of skills and builds up their confidence. Private praise is more effective than public praise for boys as they can become embarrassed being praised in front of their friends or relatives. Use for: keeping house rules, changing poor behaviour (when combined with ignoring some of their poor behaviour).

**Summary praise:** Give your child a positive label to live up to by summing up their positive behaviours with one word. “You really worked hard to finish your project. That’s what I call persistence.” “You cleaned up the kitchen without being told. You are a self-starter.” Persistence and self-starter become part of your children’s ICRS (Internal Character Reference System). Use for: kids who lack confidence, kids of all ages but particularly those under 10 as they really use parents as reference points.

**Self-praise:** Praise is always a bit more powerful when it comes from yourself so allow children to brag a little. “I did that well.” “I am really pleased with the way I did that.” “I love the art I did at school today.” Teaching kids to self-praise can be a little tricky but you can start by asking them how they feel about their efforts. When you use descriptive feedback you actually show kids how to self-praise. Some kids need to be cued regarding self-praise. “Are you pleased with yourself because you tried your best in the game?” Encourage them to say they are pleased with themselves rather than just agree with you. This gets them into the habit of self-praise. Use for: kids who always want your reassurance, use for children’s efforts rather than behaviour.

There are plenty of people in your child’s life who are critical of them – including their peers and maybe siblings. It is a parent’s job to tell kids what is right about them, so spend a little time telling kids what you see and feel when they do something well. Make up positive labels that they can add to their Internal Character Reference Systems and encourage them to brag a little when they have done something well.

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**PRIMARY NEWS**

The students who are in the Whyalla Choir are having their last rehearsals on Tuesday and Wednesday, next week. The performances are on Wednesday 15 and Thursday, September 16, at 7pm. Best wishes to all who are participating! Thank you to Melinda Gray for her hard work in preparing the students from both campuses.

Aiden O’Connor  Alana Hancock
Alanna Green  Anna Huang
Chantelle Mason-Moia  Crystal W
Demi Dunn  Eddie McCarroll
Elizabeth Wood  Georgina Bray
Georgia McLeod  Grace Shepherd
Georgia Bray  Isabella Cumerlato
Holly Stainer  Jenna Daniels
James Ward  Joshua Quinn
Jessica Rozendaal  Kellie Adamson
Kara Moore  Liam Capone
Kayla Gibbons  Madeline F
Laura G  Madeline Goldsworthy
Maddison Behm  Madeleine Nolan
Mark S  Megan Mudge
Molly McGovern  Rachel Wood
Rebecca Bubicich  Rylie Fischer
Selina M  Shannon O’Rielly
Sheridan R  Stacey Adley
Stephanie Clifton  Suré Van Niekerk
Tapiwa Mativenga  Teagan Venning
Yolande Manuel  Zadok M

In addition, all our students are going to Whyalla High on September 17 for a performance called ‘Music is Fun!’

Pat Page
PRIMARY CAMPUS LEADER

**CONFIRMATION PHOTOS**

Photographs of the Confirmation Celebrations are available to be collected from the primary front offices at a cost of $5 per pack.

The pack of photographs include:

- individual shot of candidate prior celebration
- candidate with bishop receiving certificate
- candidate being confirmed by bishop
- family
- group

If extra photos are required please inform the office staff of the type of photo(s) that you require and extra copies will be made up and distributed as soon as possible for a cost.
I really enjoyed camp at Pichie Richie Park. I especially enjoyed the bon fire and making banana boats. I enjoyed going to the dam and catching tadpoles. I enjoyed the challenges Nic set for us and the food Jodie supplied.

Katelin Morgan

Camp was fun. I especially liked building the shelters out of sticks and leaves. The views were amazing. Pichie Richie Park is a great place to have camp because there is lots of adventure.

Shannan Herbert

I loved camp. It was awesome. When we go to the top of the hill the views were amazing. It was fun learning how to do orienteering. My group won Yeah!!! I made good friends with the dog Prince Louis. I liked toasting marshmallows.

Eddie McCarroll

We really enjoyed camp at Pichie Richie Park. I especially enjoyed the bonfire and making banana boats. I enjoyed going to the dam and catching tadpoles. I enjoyed the challenges Nic set for us and the food Jodie supplied.

Katelin Morgan

Congratulations OLHC U/13s Minor Premiers who completed the season by winning the Grand Final on Saturday. OLHC 6 defeated MOPS 0, a great team effort by all.

Karen Pudney
ON BEHALF OF THE JUNIOR HOCKEY COMMITTEE

Congratulations to Tayla Shaw who recently participated in the SAPSASA Golf competition in Adelaide. Tayla came equal second in the Country SA group and then played on to finish third in the state. Tayla now heads to Queensland later in the year to play for South Australia. Well done Tayla.

SAPSASA GOLF

Liturgy and Assembly
On Thursday, September 16, R/1 Sanders will be having their Liturgy at St Teresa’s library at 9:30am. There will be morning tea in staffroom afterwards. All parents are most welcome to attend Liturgy and morning tea afterwards.

On Friday, September 17 Year 1/2 Wohling will lead a Junior Campus assembly in the library at 9:30am.

BOOK WEEK PARADE
Book Week Parade photos are on display in the library. Please feel free to drop in and have a look.

WE WANT YOUR NEWSPAPERS!!!
Keep bringing in your old newspapers and place them in the special blue recycling bins.

Anyone from Samaritan College is welcome to recycle their newspapers here.

Bernie Meixner
CAMPUS COORDINATOR - STC

Liturgy of the Word
You are most welcome to join us for the last Liturgy of the Word for this term next Thursday, September 16 at 12:30pm in the Church. It will be presented by Rec/Year 1 Francis and Year 4/5 Seals. We hope to see you there!

FOYER DISPLAY
Please venture into the Front Office this week to view the fantastic foyer display presented by Year 3/4 Tullio all about ‘Celebrating Our Fathers’. Come in and read the acrostic poems and prayers the children have written about their fathers.

Eleni Vaifas
CAMPUS COORDINATOR

April 5 Camp at Pichie Richie
Last Wednesday the children in Year 5 went to Pichie Richie Park for their annual camp. They were treated to excellent weather, great food and wonderful surroundings. The children were a pleasure to have on camp as they rallied to meet new challenges and entered into all activities with enthusiasm. The manners of the children were excellent and they were wonderful ambassadors for our school. Thanks go to Mr Usher and Mrs Whitehouse for their enthusiasm and planning.

Bernie Meixner

Book Week Parade photos are on display in the library. Please feel free to drop in and have a look.

JUNIOR HOCKEY

Congratulations OLHC U/13s Minor Premiers who completed the season by winning the Grand Final on Saturday. OLHC 6 defeated MOPS 0, a great team effort by all.

Karen Pudney
ON BEHALF OF THE JUNIOR HOCKEY COMMITTEE
**SECONDARY NEWS**

**PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS**
On Friday of next week, students will be bringing their progress reports home for Semester 2. The following Wednesday will be Parent/Teacher Interviews. Your child will be bringing home a booking sheet for these interviews in the next few days. I urge you to take advantage of this night but also remind you that our staff are available for parent meetings at other times.

**STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**
From time to time employers contact the College requesting assistance in filling a vacancy. This information is forwarded to the students. We encourage all students, especially those in Year 12, to consider all options in determining what they intend to do when leaving school and to seriously consider any potential employment opportunity when it arises. We are very grateful that so many employers choose to look at students from Samaritan College.

**YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE**
Year 10s will be on Work Experience in the final week of this term. Part of their preparation involves them completing a basic OHSW course which includes an online ‘OHSW Passport’. These passports must be completed before the student can embark on their work experience. This passport does not take the place of the all important induction they will do at their worksite.

**ZOO CAMP**
The final group of Zoo Campers are currently returning from Adelaide. We thank Miss Rule for arranging this wonderful and unique experience for the Year 8s. The Zoo does take bookings from private groups should you wish to spend a night in the Zoo.

Damien Judd
SECONDARY CAMPUS LEADER

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**SECONDARY NEWS**

**YEAR 11 SEMINAR DAY**
On Tuesday, September 14 all Year 11s will be involved in a Religious Education Seminar Day. We have a guest speaker, Jonathan Doyle, who will lead gender specific sessions on sexuality and values. Jonathan holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education, a Master's Degree in Leadership and Management in Education and is currently completing a second Master's Degree in Marriage and Family studies, before embarking on his PhD. He is the director of Choicez Media. More information is available on his website: [www.choicez.com.au](http://www.choicez.com.au)

Students are to arrive at school as normal and then we will walk to St Teresa’s Parish Hall where we will remain for the day. Students are allowed to wear their PE uniforms and are to bring their own lunch and recess. The day will end at 3:20pm and students will be dismissed from St Teresa’s Church at this time.

All students are expected to attend. Should you have any questions regarding this please feel free to contact me at the Saint John’s Campus.

Angela Rogers
REC

**ITALIAN BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER**
As part of the fundraising for our upcoming Italian Trip we will be holding a Bake Sale at the Whyalla Garden Centre on McBryde Tce on Saturday, September 18 from 10am – 2pm. We hope that you can come along and buy some cakes and support our trip!

Lisa Howard
CULTURAL STUDIES COORDINATOR

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**ITALIAN NEWS AT THE PRIMARY CAMPUSES**

*Buongiorno. Mi chiamo Maestra Calder.*

Welcome to our Italian News from the primary campuses. Each term there will be an update of the Italian program from different classes.

The Reception/Year 1 students are learning greetings and introductions using puppets of Australian animals. The children are also learning common animal names through stories. It is wonderful to see their enthusiasm for learning the animals: some animals are il cane (dog), il gatto (cat), il koala (koala), il canguro (kangaroo).

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Year 3/4 Opie and 3/4 Tullio have been reading letters from their Italian penpals at Caritas College in Port Augusta. The students are now drafting and editing their letters to describe themselves, their family and their hobbies to each other. It is great to see the students keen to use their Italian knowledge for a purpose and as a bonus make a new friend! Some phrases to try: Io mi chiamo… (My name is…) and Scrivimi presto (Write back soon).

You may like to practise some simple words and phrases with your children.

Heather Calder
ITALIAN TEACHER
Children’s Sunday

“IT’S ALL WHITE TO SAY NO!”

Sunday, September 12, 2010

at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week

The theme for this year is

WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

We fly white balloons to acknowledge what the Catholic parish of Whyalla is doing to provide a safe environment.

Joining with others in this awareness raising campaign we proclaim to our parish and to society at large our determination to protect young people and to stop child abuse wherever it occurs.

Child protection is everyone’s business – we have a shared commitment to create a safe community.

Did you know…? Every hour in Australia 7 children are sexually assaulted.

Help us make Australia the safest place in the world to raise a child. Wear white to Mass this Sunday to show your support for this campaign.

Visit one of the following to find out more or to make a donation to this campaign:
whiteballoonday@bravehearts.org.au
www.bravehearts.org.au
www.whiteballoonday.com.au

Samaritan College Restaurant

Located in the Dining Room at Saint John’s Campus
70 Gowrie Ave, Whyalla Playford

$45 per head
4 course set menu
7pm start
BYO Beverage

For information and bookings please ring Mechelle at Saint John’s Campus on 8645 8568.
www.info@samaritan.catholic.edu.au

Future Dates for 2010
October 21  November 18
November 4   December 2

Bookings essential as places are limited.

LITTLE ATHLETICS

Fun, Fitness and Family. Do you like running, jumping and throwing events? Do you like trying to improve your personal best? Come and try athletics in a family friendly atmosphere where doing your best is what it’s all about.

The new season for Little Athletics is about to get underway. ‘Come and Try’ days for the 2010/2011 season are on Sunday, September 19 and Sunday September 26 at 9:30am at Jubilee Park. Season starts in Term 4.

Bernie Meixner