Dear families,

This week our Year 3s begin the process of the sacrament of Reconciliation by enrolling at one of the Masses on the weekend. Reconciliation is a powerful aspect of life. Being able to reconcile with anyone about any matter can be a confronting thing for many people. Previously the Sacrament of Reconciliation was called Confession. But the word ‘confession’ could imply to some that it was like a dumping ground for their sins, where they were forgiven, and had to “pay a toll” or do “penance”. Reconciliation is a far more relevant to overall healing. It involves a larger range of human emotions and skills: compassion, patience, understanding, and forgiveness. Reconciliation is a transforming event for the person. The Sacrament links this to God. The focus is on God’s reconciling, healing love. As John says, “God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life. Real love isn’t our love for God, but God’s love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven.” 1 John 4:9-10

NAPLAN

Very shortly, if you have a child in Years 3, 5, 7 or 9, you should be receiving your child’s NAPLAN results. These have been delayed due to a printing error by the government. Staff have also received these results and will now use them to help guide their planning and learning outcomes for both the whole class and the individual child, both for Term 4 and for future year levels. Whilst we remind parents that these NAPLAN results are simply snapshots of your child’s ability at that particular time when they sat the tests, they only form one part of a range of assessment tools we use to judge your child’s abilities. If you have questions about your child’s NAPLAN results or any question about child’s learning then please speak with your child’s teacher(s).

Holy Lands

We welcome back Bernie Meixner who spent his term break in Israel and Jordan with other pilgrims from the diocese, led by Bishop Greg O’Kelly. This was an initiative by the Bishop to allow leadership staff to visit the places where Jesus lived and worked. We were both fortunate to visit last year and have shared the experience with various students and staff groups.

New Staff

We welcome Ms Hollie Whitlock and Ms Ethel Oliver to the secondary campus for Term 4. They are replacing staff who are on leave. We also welcome Peter Fraser, who has joined us for a five week practicum in the area of Science.

Term 4

Whilst Term 4 is the shortest term of the year, and not just for Year 12s, it is still a term like any other term. It is important that students and families still approach the final term of the year as a time for learning and engagement and not just for ‘finishing’ things and getting ready for end of year celebrations. Our staff are also reminded of this imperative.

Hats

This is the key word for the next week or so as some students may not have found their hat from Term 3. All staff and students are to wear their hat when outside during Term 4. Hats are also available at the campuses, to make purchase easier.

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DAMIEN JUDD
CO-PRINCIPAL

TERISSA SHEPHERD
CO-PRINCIPAL
Remembering Hope

The eulogies at a funeral I attended a while ago went for 50 minutes. While well prepared and presented, the length also served to underline that no eulogy can fully capture the meaning of a person's life. I was thinking about this, after my own mother's funeral.

It's dawned on me in recent times that our culture has changed in regards to the end of a person's earthly life. People say "He/she wouldn't have wanted us to hang around with long faces - we're here to celebrate his/her life! " For many, the eulogy now IS the funeral.

While there's a positive element in this mentality, it's a worry to me. It seems too one-dimensional, merely to praise someone's strengths, and smile at their idiosyncrasies, and call that the funeral. And yet, for many in our post-christian culture, that seems to be the essence of a funeral. It begs the question, "Is that all there is? Was that scant summary all we can learn from this unique life and death - and about the meaning, the "end" of our own lives?

For Christians, the funeral is a clear marking-out of our hope. This person's life meant something, not just in their past and our memories, but in the now, for him or her, and in the future for the rest of us.

At a Christian funeral, we go public with our trust in God, taking our point of departure from our faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Like little children reminding their parents, we commend our relative or friend to the tenderness and mercy of our creator. We have hope that their life is "changed, not ended", and that through the purifying love of God, they move now to the fullness of life, the true end or purpose of their being, in a deep mystical union with God.

For us who continue to walk the pilgrim journey in material life, we draw strength from the deceased person's good example, from their humility in the face of personal sinfulness, and from their own hope in God, whatever shape it may have taken in life.

Having a feeling about a future, a destiny, a purpose, is not unique to Christians. The more we learn from science and the theory of evolution (freed from the bonds of ideology!) the more we sense the movement of all being, towards a future of hope and enhanced life. And the clearer becomes our awareness of the loving provident One who holds all things in being, inviting all to that consummate unity with the source of our life and hope.

At my funeral, please keep the eulogy short; make sure you remind God to remember his goodness and overlook my sins; and have a joyful wake, where abundant food, drink and kindness serve to bring heaven happily to mind!

Fr Jim Monaghan
FOR THE PARISH TEAM

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>St Teresa's Church</th>
<th>Our Lady Help of Christians Church</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

This term some of our Year 3 children will be preparing for and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The emphasis in preparing children for this sacrament is based on asking the children to reflect on times when they did not live as Jesus asked them. After the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the apostles and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained." (John 20:22-23).

In Baptism, we begin to live as followers of Jesus. We live as his disciples. As Jesus’ disciples, we want to make good choices. The Holy Spirit guides us in making good choices. Some choices are easy. Other choices are not so easy. Every time we make bad choices, we hurt our friendship with God and with others. Jesus always loves us, even if we make bad choices or hurt others by what we say or do. Jesus looks into our hearts. He sees that we are good. If we do something wrong and we are sorry, Jesus forgives us. Jesus gives us another chance. In receiving forgiveness we become closer to God and to one another again and we try harder to be a better person. Reconciliation gives us the opportunity to repair any hurt between us and God.

Prayer of Sorrow

O my God, I am very sorry
That I have sinned against you,
Because you are so good,
And with your help
I will try not to sin again

Rebecca Sinclair
DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS (PRIMARY)
**WELCOME BACK**

A warm welcome back to all students and families from your holiday break, welcome also to our new reception students who have had their very first days of school this week. You are very welcome at Samaritan College. No doubt children are well rested and surprised at how fast the year has flown by. Term 4 is no different to any other term in that it is jam packed with creative curriculum and learning opportunities. As always please keep the communication lines open with your child’s teacher to ensure a successful final term for our students.

**SUMMER UNIFORM TRANSITION**

This term students return to their full summer uniform and of course the ‘no hat no play’ policy was being affirmed by staff and students from the first day back. Please encourage your child to ensure their named hat is packed on a daily basis as it is a duty of care for our staff to ensure they sit out in the shade as an alternative if their hat is not on hand.

**PARENTING WORKSHOP**

You have hopefully seen a poster displayed in your child’s classroom or in either of our primary offices advertising a free parent workshop by Mark Le Messurier. I encourage you to take up the opportunity to hear Mark speak. It is rare to have access to opportunities like this in the country and the session is free. The session is on Friday, November 1 from 6 – 7:30pm at the Gabmididi Manoo Children and Family Centre on the corner of Hinks Avenue and Clutterbuck St, Whyalla Norrie. To RSVP ring the DECD Whyalla regional office on 8645 6568.

Grace and blessings,

*Georga Tyson*

**FIRST RECONCILIATION**

This weekend, October 19 and 20, there are enrolments for the First Reconciliation program. Attend any Mass over the weekend to complete your child’s enrolment into the program.

**MASS**

Year 5/6 Smith will celebrate Mass on Friday, October 25 at Saint Teresa’s Church. Parents are welcome to attend. Students are to meet at the church by 8:45am.

Year 4/5 Fiedler will celebrate Mass on Thursday, October 24 at the OLHC Church at 9:00am. Parents are welcome to attend.

*Bernie Meixner*

**SELF-ESTEEM WORKSHOPS AND REMINDER OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELLING SERVICE**

Late last term the school counsellors provided Self-Esteem Workshops at Saint John’s Campus for a group of secondary students interested in learning more about building self-esteem. The counsellors enjoyed working with the group and helping them start a journey to discover their views on themselves and how this affects their approach with life. We are open to providing this as workshops again and will seek interest for 2014. Please contact us if you would like any assistance or information about self-esteem in the meantime.

We would also like to remind the students and parents that the school counselling service is available at each campus. Students may access the school counselling service for a variety of reasons which may include: feelings of sadness, anxiety, stress, anger, bullying, family separation, difficulty with change, loss of a loved one, suicidal ideation, self-esteem, body image, self-harm, conflict with friends or family, relationship difficulties and negative coping mechanisms. The school counsellors are also available to consult with if you have concerns about a friend, family member or another student.

You can make contact with us confidentially through the school counselling message drop boxes (secondary campus), telephone or email, which are listed below. You can also ask another school staff member or parent to make contact with us on your behalf.

School counsellors are trained social workers who are non-judgemental and understand that at times everybody needs someone that will listen and help problem solve. Sometimes it can be easier to do this with someone who is neutral and who will not be biased.

For more information please feel free to approach us at the school, contact us by calling the school or calling Centacare from 2:30pm weekdays on 8645 8233. You can also email us:

- michelle.gerblich@samaritan.catholic.edu.au
- cassandra.ward@samaritan.catholic.edu.au

We hope you enjoy Term 4,

*Cass & Michelle*  
SCHOOL COUNSELLORS
loSt proPerty - fRom MURray vENture

1 Tent
1 Sleeping Bag
1 Pillow
1 pr socks
1 drink bottle
Please collect from Saint John's Campus front office.

Car safety reminder

A reminder to parents/caregivers dropping off and picking up students. Please be aware of students crossing roads, students walking in front of and around cars.

For STC community, please be patient when trying to get a park; double parking is extremely dangerous and illegal. Parking in the lane ways is not advised as it is unsafe and the council officers will be monitoring this. It is advised that students and parents use the walkway at the front of the school and not cut through the carpark as often there are cars leaving. Please use the school crossing when crossing the road as the area outside STC can be very busy.

For the OLHCC community, students are not to be dropped off or picked up by car from the front office carpark before and after school for safety reasons. However, you are able to use this car park if you need to come into the front office during school hours.

The Dentist car park on Toal Street is not to be used by parents as this is a private car park and you can be fined.

polIce checKs

If you are volunteering at any campus you must have a current Catholic police check and you need to sign in and collect a badge from the front office.

If you are in classrooms after 9:00am you will need to go to the front office and sign in.

Catholic Police Check forms are available at the front offices.

Ruth Donnellan
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Secondary Campus News

Secondary attendance hotline: 0488 626 818 - text messages only, otherwise please phone 8645 8568.

Welcome back to all families and students for the final term of 2013 and a warm welcome to new families to the Samaritan Community. This term we have two new teachers starting with us, Miss Hollie Whitlock and Miss Ethel Oliver - these teachers are covering some of the changes that have occurred since Term 3, or are going to occur later this term.

With new teachers coming into the school there is usually a need to make adjustments to class timetables, unfortunately this might impact on the days where a child should wear their PE uniform. Can parents please assist their children in keeping tabs of which days PE uniforms can be worn and the days when normal uniform is to be worn.

It was really pleasing to note that nearly all students had a hat and were wearing it during recess and lunch. Students who have misplaced their hats can get a new one from the canteen for $20.00, it might be worthwhile checking to see if the older hat is in the canteen as a lost and found item. With any item of clothing, that is not continually worn, it is important that students write their name on the inside of the item for easier identification.

On the topic of lost and found, the front office currently has 15 USB drives that students have left in or around computing areas. Whilst some of these are named the majority of the names do not help us adequately identify the owner. Can students please use their full name when naming their property; this will enable the prompt return of items through caregroup teachers.

There are three subject based camps in the next three weeks; the Year 11 Outdoor Education camp, Year 10 Sport and Recreation camp and the Year 9 Outdoor Living camp. Students who are involved in these subjects, especially at year 11 and 10, should make every effort to ensure that their class work for other subjects is not going to be adversely affected by their absence.

As the final term draws to a close for each year level, students will be involved in Liturgical celebrations to conclude the year. Each Wednesday different classes attend a Mass at the Saint Teresa’s Church first thing in the morning. It is compulsory for the students but parents or grandparents are more than welcome to attend and see their child/grandchild celebrating Mass with the class. The Masses usually start at 9:00am and take 30 – 40 minutes.

John Lyons
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (SECONDARY)
COMMUNITY NEWS

THE SISTERS OF GOOD SAMARITAN ARE LEAVING WHYALLA

After 71 years of faithful, caring, service to the people of Whyalla, the Sisters of the Good Samaritans are leaving Whyalla at the end of the year. Originally, the sisters came in 1942 to teach at the newly built St Teresa's School, living in the convent behind the school. As Whyalla's population expanded, they also taught at St Francis Xavier's School and eventually at Our Lady Help of Christians School and Saint John's College. As well as having a teaching role, the Sisters of the Good Samaritans undertook a pastoral role especially in Whyalla West.

To thank the Sisters of the Good Samaritans and celebrate the blessings that they have bestowed on us over the years, the Catholic Parish of Whyalla are inviting people to a weekend of thanksgiving and farewell on November 1, 2 & 3, 2013.

Friday, November 1: 7pm Mass followed by supper. Venue: St Teresa's
Saturday, November 2: 9am Morning prayer followed by brunch. Venue: OLHC Church
Saturday, November 2: 6pm Dinner, $25 followed by a social evening, 7:30pm. Venue: Central Whyalla Football Clubrooms
Sunday, November 3: 11am Mass followed by a picnic on the oval. Venue: Samaritan Hall, Saint John's Campus.

Invitations are at the back of both churches and the Parish Office, Cnr Nicolson Ave and Wilsdon St, Whyalla

ENTERTAINERS NEEDED

Students or members of the community who are interested in showing us their talents by busking on the oval at Samaritan College, Saint John's Campus, after the thanksgiving and farewell Mass for the Good Samaritan nuns. This celebration will be held on November 3. Please contact Gai Travers on 8649 3154 if you are interested or would like more information.

“"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.”

McDonalds Whyalla will be hosting McHappy day 2013 on November 11. All donations and proceeds from now until this date are raised for Ronald McDonald House Charity. Few members of the staff at McDonalds have come up with numerous ways to raise money and beat our $5000 target from the previous year and one of the ideas were to hold a disco for the young children.

Junior Disco

*Date: November 1
where: Whyalla Rec Centre gymnasium
time: 6:00-8:30
Age- 5-13
entry- $5

Sausage sizzle will be available, $2, also during the night will be homemade cakes and nibbles, drinks, lollies, chocolate etc. a bouncy castle was donated for us to use by the Jumping Castles Whyalla. Have special guest for the younger children: Elmo, mini mouse, Shrek, Abby Cadabby, Kermit the Frog, Banana in PJ and paddle pop lion which also were donated to us by Whyalla Costume Hire (Lisa Callaghan) and there will be spot prizes for the best dressed and dancing. *
Parenting Ideas
by Michael Grose:

Parenting when you don’t see instant results

The results of your parenting often don’t come until adulthood but you’ve got to keep doing your best in the meantime. That’s one of the great frustrations of being a parent.

There aren’t too many activities you do where it can take years to see the results.

Parenting is one of them.

As your kids grow up, you put in a lot of groundwork teaching them how to behave, how to be confident, how to treat others well and so on. But you don’t always see the REAL results of all that effort until your kids are adults.

Nevertheless, you’ve got to keep doing the right thing regardless, even though it takes a lot of faith.

I was reminded about this when speaking to a mother recently whose son had struggled at school all his life.

She’d put so much of her emotional and physical energy into helping him learn, jollying him along and nursing him through the many ups and downs that only struggling kids seem to experience.

Her son, now a teenager, was about to give up trying. And I could see that his mother felt like giving up too!

She asked: “When do you stop being a child’s coach and cheer leader?”

The answer, of course, is that you can’t!

She knew that but, like her son, she needed some encouragement to keep going.

We all do from time to time.

That’s why it useful to remind yourself that parenting is a long-term activity.

The Einstein Factor

All parents should be aware of the Einstein Factor.

Albert Einstein was one of the preeminent scientists and thinkers of the 20th century, yet he maintained that he was no smarter than anyone else. He believed he just stayed on problems longer than most people.

In the same way, there are some children with whom you just have to stay on the job longer than you would with others.

If you have a shy or socially-challenged child you might have to stay on the job until adulthood, when she finally finds her own way of building a network of friends and colleagues.

If you have an ADHD-type child you might have to keep on the job longer to keep him out of trouble. You may not see the results until his mid-20s when all that energy goes into starting up his own business or doing something absolutely amazing. In the meantime, explain, teach and be firm!

If you have a late bloomer you probably have to keep him interested in learning until he learns the practical skills needed to succeed in the workplace or in business, just as many kids who struggle at school end up doing.

In the meantime, encourage, scaffold and model learning.

We all want instant results in whatever we do. Parenting is no different, except that instant results are rare!

That doesn’t make it any easier when you don’t see results for the effort you put in. But you’ve got to keep on doing the right things, and making the best choices for your kids. In other words, you need to bring the Einstein Factor into your parenting. To help do this:

1. Get support and feedback from your partner, or a colleague. Feedback fires you up.

2. Keep building the skills and knowledge that will help your kids be successful or overcome individual challenges. Kids get lifelong learning from parents more than school.

3. Be around people who fire you up and energise you. It’s no coincidence that great parents hang out together. Support keeps you grounded.

Small hinges swing big doors

A former parenting mentor used to say, “Small hinges swing big doors”. He meant that it’s the little things done by parents on a regular basis that make the biggest difference to kids.

You’ve just got to choose the right actions and keep doing them day after day. Have faith that the results will come eventually!

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Canteen Rosters

Monday, October 21 – Friday, October 25

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<td>Rita Marinkovich</td>
<td>Courtney &amp; Maddie</td>
<td>Michelle Bolitho</td>
<td>Mandy Smallacombe</td>
<td>Mitchell &amp; Sam</td>
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<th>ST TERESA’S CAMPUS</th>
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<td>HELP REQUIRED</td>
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Annette Cameron Rose Cassar Marg Coad
Canteen Manager Canteen Manager Canteen Manager