COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15
• Year 1/2 Foran Mass, 9:00am, St Teresa’s Church, please arrive by 8:45am

NOVEMBER 18-22
• Involvement Day Information for Year 7s please see p4

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19
• Current Year 7s All Parents’ Information Evening, Gallery, Samaritan Hall, 7:30pm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21
• Year 2/3 Ness Mass, 9:00am, OLHC Church
• R/Year 1 Howard Liturgy, STC library, 9:30am

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22
• “Not the International Night Twilight Picnic”, 6pm, Samaritan Hall Courtyard. Enter via Norrie Avenue gate. BYO Picnic or purchase BBQ, softdrinks, dessert, coffee

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
• Year 7 & 8 Social, p6

Dear families,

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees; man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7

St Benedict advised us to ‘listen with the ear of the heart’ and therefore look beyond the externals; the outer shell we clothe and distract the world with, to then see and hear the true person. When we work with young people we seek the blend between guiding them forward with right and proper intention that sometimes brings the ‘tough love’, and also with positive spirit in order to build self esteem in the right measure. Shrouding them in a soft cotton ball world does not build resilience; supportive and restorative conversation is the goal. Acknowledging that mistakes happen and we learn from them enough not to repeat them is worthy goal setting. Putting in place preventative measures is a shared responsibility between school and families. At times school also must discern a tough stance, as well as an educative one.

Staff Appointments

It was announced this week to staff, that Louise Whitehouse has been appointed as the Acting Deputy Principal for the primary campuses for Semester 1, 2014. Ms Eleni Vailas is still on leave for the first 6 months of 2014 and Miss Georga Tyson will be finishing her 12 month acting position and returning to Adelaide at the end of this year. We will be formally thanking and farewelling Georga, later this term.

Congratulations to Lou for entering this acting position for six months. Your commitment to the children is highly valued. Ms Maddy Keen and Ms Kerry-Ann Harman have secured permanent positions at our primary campuses.

Before School Supervision

We have had some disturbing cases of students being dropped at school prior to supervision starting in the morning. Some students are even on site prior to the first staff member arriving. Students are not supervised prior to 8.30am at the primary campuses. Before School Care facilities are available at Toal Street. Please ring the College for more information regarding this service.

Reconciliation

Throughout this week, students from Year 3 have been making their First Reconciliation. This process is a family event held at various times after school. It is more than simply confessing sins but rather the children set in place ways to reflect, reconcile and improve. Congratulations upon achieving this milestone sacrament.

We alert parents to the Primary News in this newsletter as it reminds them that the final chance to speak with us about your child’s placement for 2014, is now upon us.

DAMIEJ JUDD
CO-PRINCIPAL

TERISSA SHEPHERD
CO-PRINCIPAL
Relay for Life on the Saint John’s Campus Oval. What a great sight it was to see so many people from so many different groups assembled on the oval last Saturday afternoon. How inspirational it was to see the lap of honour of cancer victims, survivors and carers celebrating life, their struggle against the disease and their determination to do all they can to help fund research for effective treatment. This year’s event saw an encouraging number of teenagers and young adults taking up the challenge and helping to raise a most commendable contribution to the Cancer Council.

We would especially like to thank the College leaders and the College community for your generosity in making the venue available and in your dedicated support in facilitating the success of events such as these. It has always been our experience that when the College opens its facilities for parish/school events such as the 70 Year Anniversary of Catholic Education in Whyalla and the recent farewell celebrations for the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, and community fundraisers such as the Bubblegum Markets, that your support is exemplary. Not only are they admirable for the good that they do but also for the positive, public expression that they give of your Catholic and Christian ethos.

Last Saturday’s Children’s Mass and the Sunday evening Youth Mass were lively, joyful and enthusiastic expressions of our faith. The parish would also like to commend the various classes who have contributed to our weekday Mass celebrations by their careful preparation, thoughtful prayers and reverent participation (and for the shared goodies afterwards). There is a great deal to be grateful for in the way in which the school and parish communities interact. The parish team have received many positive and encouraging comments from parishioners which we hereby pass on to all concerned. Thank you and God Bless.

Fr Arno Vermeeren
FOR THE PARISH TEAM

<table>
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<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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CARITAS AUSTRALIA has started an appeal to help the victims of Typhoon Haiyan.
- $30 could provide crucial sleeping kits to keep two families warm
- $50 could provide four families with vital cooking kits
- $105 could provide three families with essential water and sanitation kits
- $460 could provide four families with much needed emergency shelter


A Prayer in the wake of disaster

We pray for the victims of all natural disasters. For the elderly without shelter, for the children without schools, and for those who have lost loved ones; may comfort be theirs amidst this painful time.

We pray for the victims of all man-made disasters. For the people of Sudan, the Middle East, and all who suffer as a result of violence and greed; may justice bloom in their lives.

We pray for those who give care to victims of disasters. For all emergency aid workers, relief organizations, and especially those who are both caretakers and victims; may they be strengthened in their critical work.

Amen.

Carly Higgins
REligious Education CoordinATor (SeconDAry)
**COLLEGE NEWS**

**OUR CHANGING WORLD WITH SOCIAL MEDIA**

Being connected or disconnected? The burgeoning challenge of tackling the social networking world of young people with still developing brains and tender self esteem, is an evolving dance on a shifting carpet. Yet what are the constants, whether it is in today’s technological medium or yesterday’s passing of notes and whispering behind cupped hands?

The constants are the necessary childhood learning of respect and dignity to oneself and others. Our parents called it manners. Are today’s parents still working on the "please"and "thank you" at an early age? No doubt the answer is "yes", as we tend to parent, to some extent, as we were parented. And there lies the shortfall. The social networking phenomenon did not exist in its current form when we were parented. Thus ‘new rules’ of engagement need to be invented, without the foundation and confidence of the grounded learning experiences of our own formation. We need to be "walking with" our children through the social media landscape, guiding them into right citizenship; just as we wish to observe and shape their playground friendships, parents need to be involved rather than shy from the technology. Yet involvement carries responsibility, in how we behave and the profile we also develop online, as children learn so much from their greatest role models.

Most parents can recall the changing moments in their children’s development; the first time they walked or strung a sentence together, and they have kept the greatest kindly picture, first tooth and such mementoes. They might also remember the moment “we let him have a gameboy/DS, or today, use my Ipad”. Once the gate opens and the horse bolts it is difficult to return it to the pen. So it’s best to set the ground rules first, not be continuously on the hop trying to gain much valued ground in the screen and device battle that soon becomes open slater, once you add in like minded friends, their connecting capabilities and the emotional blackmail of “everyone else is allowed to.....”

Facebook, AskFM, Instagram, Snapchat, tumblr, kik, and whatever next start up is waiting in the virtual wings is where we are currently dancing on that shifting carpet. Each development is designed to appeal to the ignorance and thrill seeking nature of young people. Their potential to take risks without thinking through consequences plays right into the lure of new designs that have created anonymity as the ‘new black’ of social media. To ‘be with’ your children on this ride is to tap into others who know. To hide our heads in the sand and dismiss it as ‘all rubbish’ is to court trouble and ignorance of our own children’s developing personalities, behaviours and public profile.

Society points its finger to schools and what ‘they’ should be doing to educate the young people of the perils of speeding, drink driving, abusing drugs and alcohol, cyber-safety and bullying, protecting mental health and all manner of social ills. Yet it is not the soul responsibility of the education institution. With the virtual world, control does not rest with schools. Families are more in the locus of control thus shared responsibility is a must if we are to assist our growing generations to be able to cope with the incredibly dangerous medium in their hands. Schools can do pre-education to alert and raise awareness and inevitably they also must operate with response – ability, a fact of life that sits in the cause and effect realm. It seems that education only rings true for those who make the serious mistakes, and it is there we find ourselves working with the young people who realise the impact far too late.

Schools are also bound by child protection obligations mandated by law. As responsible adults, parents are morally obliged to share concerns. Unfortunately communities prefer gossip than stepping forward. Standing in empathy shoes is the best motivator; by asking oneself, would I like that said about my child?? – is a good yardstick to prompt action. Below are some useful tips that have been shared by parents throughout the years of conversing with them as they learn to navigate this evolving and challenging area of ‘parental guidance recommended’.

- Have a serious think about when it is okay to allow your child to have their own phone/tablet, etc and for what purpose. (Remember: the gate open/horse bolts scenario).

- On the dangers of entering into this digital world too early – preserve the joys of being free to be a child - we have not evolved as fast as our commercial world – we still need to be in nature, touch grass with bare feet, move more than ten thousand steps a day, run, jump and play and be oblivious to adult ways. Indulge the childhood memories of back yard games, bike riding milestones, good clean fun.

- When we do arrive at the technology juncture, a good starting point is to begin online together, or ask the Aunty or Uncle in the family who is more tech-savvier than the rest to assist. They are also great distant and protectively critiquing observers of your children’s profiles and online behaviours. Desist from jumping in to be net warriors......we are the adults in the situation, after all.

- Tap into the ‘old school’ paradigms of our parents: ie: official bed-times and lights off equals official bed times and lights off/screens off and screens out of the bedroom.

- Keep bedrooms for sleep and public rooms for television, computers, online games, and all other devices.

- Set up a charging dock/place in the kitchen for all devices to be placed at night. Stick to your guns – establish these habits, practice them yourself as the reminder.

- Invest in a digital radio alarm or old fashioned ticking clock if you can cope with it, for each household member, so the phone is not used as an alarm excuse, and, for the teen who is slow to arise, place it out of reach of the bed.
• Read up on the health perils of having electronics near where you sleep (don’t invest in the sleep apps – you are deepening addiction while you sleep…)
• Taste your glass of water after it has been sitting by electronic devices all night/day. The burnt plasticy taste is enough to bring home the point.
• Limited time on the land line with everybody listening was our ‘joy of privacy’ when growing up. How early in life did our parents think it was acceptable to be talking endlessly on the telephone, if at all? Develop notions of ‘time and place’.
• Maintain ‘old school’ beliefs that the family who eats together stays together and adapt to the current times with additions of phone use etiquette – the “non-negotiables” eg: no phones at the dinner table. Have little ‘look forward to’ family habits, eg: share a “what made you laugh/smile today” story each evening.
• Keep articulating positive behaviours in the ‘manners’ realm. Just as we correct the burps, swearing, etc, remind them about treating others with fairness, respecting people’s dignity, respecting the opposite gender, communicating in appropriate ways.
• Find news articles that inform about the challenges and responsibilities. Read them together, talk about the circumstances….. bring home the message of personal responsibility.
• Teach them about respecting people’s privacy – we should ask before taking another’s photo and seek permission to post it anywhere.
• Find out about the law. Emphasise to your children the serious breaches of law that occur when inappropriate images of minors, in particular, are received, stored and shared. Some apps and software also come with age restrictions. (Why do so many primary aged students have Grand Theft Auto when it has an R 18+ rating?!) Explain how inappropriate use of text and photos can sit within the legal ramifications of defamation of character
• Explain ‘inappropriate’, some children just don’t know
• If others are harassing online, learn how to screen save and copy to bring to the attention of the relevant authority. Be a ‘trooper’ for another child, not just your own. Bring bullying to the attention of those who may be able to help.
• Read up on the scientific findings that show that constant phone use/engagement in social media has a similar dopamine release to illicit drug use – we are in a new age of addictive behaviours…… do we really want to aid and abet this battle?
• Moderation of hours spent on anything is the key. Have acceptable usage times.
• Screen time is the new currency for parents; use it as the ‘privilege’ earned for being a responsible member of the household. The flip side is that it can be a privilege lost. Is the bedroom tidy and are the rostered dishes done? Have we been behaving at school or causing hassles for parents who needed to be rung?
• Have an ‘ownership clause’. Parents buy the devices, but the software, games, etc, are the birthday and Christmas presents. If confiscation of the device needs to happen – do so, they can keep their presents but there won’t be the console, phone or device to operate until it is returned.
• Have pre-paid and limited phone credit and be the one in control. Withhold credit if respect of the device and personal and family responsibilities are not observed. The old adage of ‘needing the phone so I know where they are’ has already lost its legs.

Above all, talk to each other – not about other people’s children, and what they are up to, rather, act as collaborative surveyors of care for young people living in an age of unknown impact.

Terissa Shepherd
CO-PRINCIPAL

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**Canteen Rosters**

Monday, November 18 – Friday, November 22

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ST TERESA’S CAMPUS</th>
<th>OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CAMPUS</th>
<th>SAINT JOHN’S CAMPUS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Rita Marinkovich</td>
<td>NO HELP REQUIRED</td>
<td>Luisa Damani</td>
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<td>Tue</td>
<td>Courtney &amp; Maddie</td>
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<td>Allyson Noble</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>Michelle Bolitho</td>
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<td>Thu</td>
<td>Mandy Smallacombe</td>
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<td>Chrisoula Karssen</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>Mitchell &amp; Sam</td>
<td>Jenny Lee</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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Annette Cameron
Canteen Manager

Rose Cassar
Canteen Manager

Marg Coad
Canteen Manager
MICHAELA TO REPRESENT IN SOCCER AT STATE LEVEL

You may well have seen in the Whyalla News the announcement that one of our Year 7 girls, Mikayla Lorenz, has been selected to play soccer at State level. Mikayla’s skill was identified through the State Talent Identification Championships where she was invited to be a part of the State team as goal keeper. Mikayla will represent South Australia in Fiji and compete against all other states as well as the Fijian team. We wish Mikayla the very best for her time in Fiji, she leaves early December with her proud mum Anthea, brother Lachlan and Aunty Roseanne.

SAPSASA CRICKET

Last week a number of Samaritan boys represented Whyalla at the SAPSASA Cricket Carnival. The team played very well together and won 2 of its 4 games against teams from other regions of South Australia. All members of the team contributed to a great week and some of the highlights were two half centuries, strong fielding and some large wicket hauls. I extend my thanks to Sam Lewis, a teacher from Hincks Avenue Primary, who coached the team for the week. As the team captain Mitchell Schwerdt said “it was a great week and opportunity playing in Adelaide and Sam was a fabulous coach”. Well done to Henco Cronje, Sam Custance, Clay Crompton, Angus Judd (wicketkeeper), James Leever, Daniel Marinkovich, Shane Morton, Jack O’Halloran, Mitchell Schwerdt (capt) who represented Samaritan so well.

BUSHFIRE APPEAL

Last week in the newsletter I thanked the community for supporting the two primary campuses in raising money for the NSW Bushfire appeal. I had reported to you that including the Woolworths contribution we raised $1347.00. In fact this amount was without the Woolworths contribution. Together both campuses and Woolworths raised a total of $2694; a fabulous result!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Monday our Year 6/7 students lead the Remembrance Day services at both campuses and did so, most reverently. It really is very important that as a school such occasions are honoured respectfully and students are well prepared and conversant as to why we do commemorate such an occasion. Samaritan is well known for honouring the past. Our students have played a significant role in the ANZAC Day Service and parade for many years, this connection to the past starts with our very youngest students and the example our senior students set for them on such occasions. Well done to all involved!

CLASS PLACEMENTS BEING FINALISED

Over the past few weeks our primary campus leadership team have met with a small number of parents to take on board any additional educational information required for consideration with class placement. As you can appreciate the placement of students takes quite some time and thorough thought and as such the opportunity to meet with a team member will soon draw to a close. Again, if you have any ‘educational information’ that may be new to the school or we are unaware of, please make time to see one of our Primary Campus Leadership team members next week to share this information. They will then further discuss this with Damien and myself. I make particular reference to ‘educational information’ knowing that this is all encompassing of social and psychological needs as well.

TRUCK / TRAILER NEEDED

We still require a trailer / truck with sides to assist a few of our Reception/Year 1 classes as they parade in the Whyalla Pageant. If you have a vehicle that would be suitable for the pageant and are willing to assist please contact our office staff at either campus.

FAMILY NIGHT AT STC TO COMMENCE AT 6:45PM

Please note that the first act for Family Night on Friday, December 6 will commence at 6:45pm. This will allow families time to head home and have a meal before returning for the performances, as well as consider the risk of possible heat. As was the case last year there will be a disco following the last performance.

Georga Tyson
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
RECONCILIATION
The children who have been preparing for First Reconciliation will celebrate the sacrament this week. The group has been most enthusiastic and presented to all the Parish events in the lead up. The state school children have joined in and made friends easily with the Samaritan students. Our prayers are with these children and their families at this special time.

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

MASS
Year 2/3 Ness will celebrate Mass on Thursday, November 21 at OLHC Church. Mass begins at 9:00am. Parents are welcome to attend.

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.”

YEAR 7 & 8 SOCIAL
There will be a social held for Year 6 & 7 to raise money to help the people in the Philippines who have been affected by the recent natural disaster.

Samaritan Hall
Wednesday, Week 7
November 27
6:30-9:30pm
Fluro Theme
BBQ & soft drinks available for purchase.
Year 8 SRC

COMMUNITY NEWS
The Quilters Guild of Whyalla invites you to
STITCHES OF TIMES GONE BY
Saturday, November 30
11:00am to 7:00pm
at Whyalla Primary School Gym
Walls St, Whyalla
ENTRY $5
Includes: lucky door prize and complimentary devonshire tea
show also presents
raffle quilt, trading table, quilt shop, cake stall, favourite display quilt
RAFFLE PROCEEDS TO BE DONATED TO WHYALLA DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP
SECONDARY CAMPUS NEWS
Secondary attendance hotline: 0488 626 818 - text messages only, otherwise please phone 8645 8568.

CYBER CONCERNS AND LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS
It is time to encourage parents to talk with their children about some of the risks around computers and mobile phones. Last term, at the Year 8 & 9 education nights, we talked about some strategies that parents might use to enable students to get a decent night of sleep. These same strategies should be employed to keep children safe from potential dangers through their internet and mobile phone use.

It is unfortunate that last week a number of students’ names were brought to my attention as having taken, sent and/or received explicit images of themselves and others. The students concerned told me that the images which they created, using their mobile phones, were done in either a bathroom or their bedroom. The application used to send the images was ‘snapchat’, one where the images are only meant to be visible for a short period of time, however, what students forget is that they can be easily copied and stored or worse still shared with other people.

From a legal perspective, a person, regardless of age, can be charged with producing child pornography if the subject in the photos is under the age of 18, this includes taking nude ‘selfies’. A person who saves the images can be charged with possession of child pornography, and sending the images on changes the situation to distribution of child pornography, even if the image sent is a selfie to their boy/girl friend.

To protect our children the college will talk with any student who has been identified as having a part in anything to do with child pornography. Students will be asked to submit their phones, during the conversation and questioned regarding their involvement. Students who disclose that there are images on their phone will have them handed to the police for checking. Those who claim there is nothing on their phone will be asked to provide verification.

As parents you can help your child to stay safe by encouraging that all devices which connect to the internet are used only within the shared spaces of the home. This includes mobile phones, computers, tablets and some gaming consoles.

AWARDS STILL BEING DETERMINED
On a separate front the teachers are currently in the process of determining the various DUX for subjects in Years 9 – 12 and the DUX, Proxime and Christian Leadership Awards for the caregroups. In some subject areas these awards are quite closely contested, and the recipient is yet to be decided, hinging on some of the last pieces of work.

John Lyons
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL (SECONDARY)

SELF-HARM COUNSELING INFORMATION SESSION – YEAR 8 STUDENTS
On Tuesday, November 12, the Year 8 students attended a counselling session that provided them with information about what to do if they have concerns about the mental health of one of their friends.

The session was held by the school counsellors, Michelle and Cass, in the Chapel. The counsellors provided a 40 minute session that included a PowerPoint presentation and some activities focused on identifying warnings in those around them who are having feelings or thoughts about self-harm. Unfortunately, it is becoming a reality that many of our students may know someone who feels the need to self-harm or may think about it themselves. Evidence provided by Headspace Australia suggests that 6-7% of Australian youth aged 15-24 years engage in self-harm in any 12-month period. In reality, it is indicated that these statistics could be much higher.

During the session, students learnt about the psychological and physical signs that could indicate a want for self-harm and brainstormed ways they could improve their own moods when feeling unhappy. They listed people who they could speak to, mums, dads, Year Level Coordinators and other teachers, friends, if they were worried about their own mental health or someone else’s. The counsellors were able to break down some of the previous myths about self-harming, such as:

- self-harming is done by those who are just seeking attention
- self-harming is a ‘trend’ or ‘emo’ thing
- the person who self-harms must have a mental illness

If you or your child are seeking more information regarding self-harming, please feel free to contact the school counsellors at the College or visit www.headspace.org.au.

Beck Kane
YEAR 8 COORDINATOR
At Saint John’s Campus, we are excited to announce that we have started to incorporate new touch screen technology into our classrooms with the arrival and deployment of 30 iPads. A number of teachers are excited to get these into our classrooms as soon as possible as their potential is almost endless.

Over the last week, the Junior and Senior Japanese classes have started to use the iPads to interact and develop their language skills in a far more user-friendly and interactive environment that ever thought possible a few years ago. In the past, when a student wanted to find out words or phrases to extend themselves, they had to navigate dictionaries, find reliable websites, or locate their teacher. Likewise, when trying to improve their understanding of the syllabary of the language, they had to search for hours trying to find a quality internet based tool to show stroke orders drawn properly and accurately. Now, the iPads can double in our classroom as a translator and stroke order teacher in a far more user-friendly and interactive environment, which is improving all of the students’ hand writing and communication accuracy.

Over the coming months, as the teachers and students become more familiar with the technology and their applications to teaching and learning, we hope to see the use of the iPads expanding throughout the College.

Josh Boden
JAPANESE TEACHER

In August, Year 8 to Year 12 students took part in the 36th Annual Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank and conducted by the Canberra-based Australian Mathematics Trust. Students from Year 3 to Year 12, from around 40 countries, sat the AMC on the 1st of August. An Australian initiative, the AMC was introduced in 1978 as the first competition of its kind in schools here. It is now a truly international competition, having become the major school mathematics enrichment event and benchmark for mathematical ability throughout the Pacific and South East Asia. It tests a range of skills from basic numeracy skills through to advance numeracy problem solving.

Saint John’s Campus entered 71 students in the AMC. The following students obtained a distinction: Matthew Tarran, Carl Schwenke, Ben Schuh, James Basbas, Jenny Zhang, Holly Viedt, Cassidy Coad, Eddie McCarroll and Ryan Bodinner. 26 students achieved a Credit and 7 received a Proficiency Certificate. All other students who competed received a Certificate of Participation and every entrant is provided with an individual performance report.

Well done and congratulations to all students who participated!

Estelle Geldenhuys
MATHEMATICS COORDINATOR