Dear families,

"...and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them away..." Matthew 24: 37-44

Often it is the “sweeping flood”, the tragedy and devastation that will make us take stock of what we have; we might reconsider how we do things, treat others, use our time, carry out our work. As a community who can be constantly challenged with the trials and tribulations of so many amongst us as well as in our wider global ‘family’, we often marvel that those travelling well will have the space and heart to support others in need, and those in need will be supported. At later times, one might ‘go, and do likewise’. As we enter the season of Advent this Sunday, we have the chance to sweep clean and assess; to look at ways of renewal in our relationships, ways of living our lives, so that we might ‘be ready’ for others in order to fully arrive into life’s purpose. Too often, the secular, media driven world will tell us all need to seek happiness like it is an attainable commodity, whereas, hopefully, the call to contemplation during advent encourages us to live a ‘good life’, what Hugh Mackay would call a “life characterised by goodness, a morally praiseworthy life, a life valuable in its impact on others, a life devoted to the common good.”

This week the Year 7 – 9 students gathered together for a social in the Samaritan Hall. In keeping with the above theme, the students provided hospitality to one another in order to assist our Year 7’s with transition, and utilised their socialising fundraising to donate to the relief effort for the work of Caritas Australia in the Philippines. If you would like to make a donation to the Typhoon Haiyan Appeal you can visit: http://www.caritas.org.au/learn/emergency-response

Alternatively you can make a donation through the parish. To donate through the parish simply place your donation in an envelope marked ‘Philippines’ and take to the parish office on Nicolson Ave or drop at any campus office. If you would like a receipt for tax purposes, include your name and address.

FAMILY NIGHTS
Thank you to the families who supported our musical children at our Twilight Picnic held near the Samaritan Hall. An intimate crowd appreciated a diverse display of talents, whilst enjoying a BBQ meal and some wonderful desserts and beverages. We wish to thank Helen Shepherd, Michelle Sims, Julia Anttila, Nicola Faulds, Lou Whitehouse, Tania Taylor and Annette Cameron for your generous donations of cakes and slices. Also a big thank you to Lou and Paul Whitehouse, Wayne Foran, Anita Graham, Angela Marino and Tania Taylor for catering on the evening. Lastly, thank you to Megan Spirat and Julia Anttila, our wonderful music teachers for supporting the students, and to the children for your continued efforts and preparedness to engage in public performances as part of your learning.

We have the OLHC Carols Night coming up on December 4 and STC Family Night on Friday 6. We look forward to seeing all families at their respective campus nights to assist children in celebrating the end of the year together in community. Families will also be receiving letters regarding Prize Night, coming up on December 9. You are encouraged to organise your tickets as soon as possible.

continued p2
FEE SCHEDULE 2014

The Fee Schedule for 2014 is now on the College website or can be requested through any of our front offices. The Fee Schedule will also be on the 2014 Payment Options, which is sent to every family at the start of the school year. The College Finance Committee and the College Board approved the changes in fees at the last Board Meeting. Many factors are considered before the Board approves or disapproves any fee changes. In most cases, a fee increase is simply to cover the increases in charges or fees the College has to pay – it does not mean the College now has more money available – it means our bills are also increasing.

NEW EARLY YEARS WEBSITE

The State Government recently launched a new website aimed at children in their early years. It has lots of great advice for our young ones ranging from washing hands to reading and writing tips. http://www.greatstart.sa.edu.au Please have a look.

END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

We now enter the last 10 days of school for our R-9 students. Whilst the timetable can change a little, it is still a very important part of the year and attendance is expected. One of the key features of a Catholic school is to celebrate together and all students are asked to be at the various end of year masses, liturgies and assemblies.

RELIGIOUS DIMENSION

THE ADVENT WREATH

This Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent, we begin the journey of preparation for the birth of the Saviour. As we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas the Advent wreath is an important part of our tradition. The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of evergreen leaves, a sign of life, growth and hope. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, represents eternity which like God’s love is everlasting.

The four candles represent Jesus, the light of the world. There is one for each week of Advent.

The first purple candle is called the Prophet’s candle. It reminds us of the prophecies about the Messiah in the First Testament. The second purple candle is called the Bethlehem candle and reminds us of the place where Jesus was born. The third pink candle is called the Shepherd’s candle. It reminds us of the joy of the shepherds, the first ones to worship the new born Jesus. The fourth purple candle is called the Angel’s candle and reminds us of the angels who sang of Jesus’ birth.

The progressive lighting of the candles during each week in Advent symbolises the expectation and hope surrounding Jesus’ coming into the world. The light is dim at first but becomes brighter each week announcing that the celebration of Jesus’ coming draws steadily near.

Rebecca Sinclair
DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS (PRIMARY)

CANTEEN ROSTERS

Monday, December 2 – Friday, December 6

<table>
<thead>
<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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Joanne Foubister</td>
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<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>Tonia Munday</td>
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<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Nicole Higgins</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tracey Murray</td>
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<td>Thu</td>
<td>Geniene Prater</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monica Pennimpeide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Rebecca &amp; Fiona</td>
<td>Jenny Lee</td>
<td>Roseanna Wragg</td>
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Annette Cameron  Rose Cassar  Marg Coad
CANTEEN MANAGER  CANTEEN MANAGER  CANTEEN MANAGER

2 of 6  November 28, 2013
A few weeks ago we celebrated with the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, the completion of their mission here in Whyalla. They made a most significant contribution which made the establishment of Catholic Schools in Whyalla possible.

I caught up with Sr Ellen who left Whyalla in the mid 1990’s who was the last Principal (as a Sister) at St Teresa’s. She is still continuing working with families and children in a northern Queensland mining community. I spoke with her about her life as a religious and she said that she was so happy and content as she reflected back over her life.

The reason I mention this is because we are about to say farewell to our Samaritan College Year 12 graduates and we wish them happiness and success in their futures. Perhaps these days religious vocations may be less considered as an alternative, however, who knows in what shape or form vocations might appear in the future, and lead people to live a life that makes a difference?

The Parish is presently distributing its Christmas ‘Good News-letter’ with Mass times etc. If you are not on the mailing list and would like to receive a copy please email whysaint@internode.on.net and we will deliver a copy to you. A new parish website is currently being developed.

While Christmas is a time of relaxation and joy, we acknowledge that for many it might be a time of mixed emotions, particularly for those who may have suffered family loss during the year. I would ask that we keep these people close to our hearts during this period and extend extra care towards them over the season.

**Christmas Eve Family Masses** will be at 6:30pm at both Churches.

Children's practice for Mass at St's Teresa's Church:
- Thursday, December 5, 4pm,
- Monday, December 9 at 4pm

Children's practice for OLHC Church:
- Sunday, December 15 after 10:30am Mass

Mike McCarron
FOR THE PARISH TEAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEKEND MASS TIMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Teresa’s Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 8:30am</td>
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**PARISH EVENTS**

**BLESSING OF THE CRIB**

On December 7 and 8 families are invited to bring a piece of their nativity scene from home to have it blessed at Mass on this weekend. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Advent and prepare as a family for the Birth of Christ.

**DONATIONS FOR THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Saint Vincent de Paul Society are seeking donations for their annual Christmas appeal. Donations of non-perishable food items suitable to add to a Christmas hamper are being sought. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so by sending items to school via your child’s class teacher.

The parish will also have a collection on December 7 and 8 at the weekend Masses.

Donations of toys will also be accepted. Please leave any donations of toys unwrapped.

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**COLLEGE NEWS**

**UNIFORM SHOP**

**OPENING TIMES**

Uniform shop will be **closed** on Wednesday, December 11 for BELS Course

Final day for 2013:

*Thursday December 12*, 1:00pm - 4:30pm

*January opening hours:*

*Monday 20 – Friday 24*, 8:30am - 4:30pm each day.

*Tuesday January 28*, 8:00am-10:30am for late arrivals.

Hours from then on as usual.

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Samaritan College would like to thank the sponsors of Samaritan's Got Talent:

- Sempre
- Cafe Laguna
- Rex
- Travelworld
- Discount Chemist Warehouse
- Razzleberry Bling
- Bo Peep
**PRIMARY CAMPUS NEWS**

**SAMARITAN HAS TALENT IT’S CONFIRMED**

On Monday of this week all students from both primary campuses and the Year 8 and 9 students gathered in Samaritan Hall to see the finals of Samaritan’s Got Talent. This was an initiative that began last year when Year 12 student Laura Shaw organised the competition as part of her research project. This year our Arts co-Coordinator Winnie Fitzgerald got the ball rolling and coordinated the performances with Lisa Howard from the secondary campus and Melinda Gray from Our Lady Help of Christian’s Campus. Four finalists from each performance performed before a panel of guest judges and the 700 plus crowd of students. The afternoon was a great success and was a firm reminder about the many opportunities offered to Samaritan students through The Arts. Congratulations to Owen Ranenberg, Ethan Daley and Daniel Leahy who danced their way to first place, Grace Smallacombe who sang beautifully for second place and to Trinity Fazah who placed third and also shared her vocal talents.

**CAROLS NIGHT / FAMILY NIGHT**

Carols night at OLHCC – Carols night will be held on Wednesday, December 4 and will commence at 6:45pm, families can begin arriving from 6:00pm.

Family Night at STC - Family Night will be held on Friday, December 6 and 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.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES NEEDED**

At the last Family Night there will be a P&F raffle basket drawn. We welcome donations of prizes for these raffles. Please send them in to your campus office and they will be gratefully received.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTIONS**

As we approach Advent and the school term draws near to its end, we spare a thought for those families that will go without this Christmas. As a Catholic community we ask for your help to make a difference in the lives of many families by donating to the St Vinnie’s Christmas Appeal. Please donate non-perishable food items or toys for children of any age. Donations can be made to your child’s class. The primary campuses will participate in this initiative.

**END OF YEAR REPORTS**

The end of year reports will be sent home on Monday, December 9, as will the information regarding which class your child will be in next year.

**2014 CLASSES**

On Tuesday, December 10 at 9am, the students will be placed in their 2014 class and will spend the morning with their new teacher. As you know from previous newsletters the process for student placement began many weeks ago; we have been extremely thorough and looked at these placements with many things in mind. Changing student placements is not as simple as moving one child from one class to another. When we finalise class placements and celebrate them with families very rarely do we make changes. We as the adults really set the scene for the relationship the children have with their classmates and their teacher as Napoleon Hill said.

“Think … before you speak, because your words and influence will plant the seed of either success or failure in the mind of another.”

Georga Tyson
ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

**COLLEGE END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS**

There will be many Liturgical celebrations to help conclude the year.

**RECEPTION TO YEAR 2/3 LITURGY**

On Tuesday, December 3 the Reception to Year 3 students will celebrate with a Liturgy at OLHC Church. The Liturgy will begin at 9:15am. St Teresa’s Children are to be dropped at OLHC campus in the morning and will then be transported back to their own campus by bus.

**YEAR 3/4 TO YEAR 7 MASS**

On Thursday, December 5 the Year 4 – 7 students will be dropped at St Teresa’s Church by 8:45am to celebrate their end of Year Mass. All students will be returned to their campus by bus.

Bernie Meixner
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL IN RELIGIOUS IDENTITLY AND MISSION

**YEAR 6/7 CHRISTMAS PLAY**

There will be a Year 6/7 Christmas Play at OLHCC Church, 12 midday and 2pm on Wednesday, December 4. Parents and friends are welcome.

Melinda Gray
ARTS COORDINATOR

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

A successful and joyous Year 7 Dinner was held on Tuesday where the students danced the night away and celebrated their primary years together. Like any of these types of events, the students took lots of supervised pictures of each other in friendship groups to remember this occasion. What the students now do with these images is where Mum and Dad can enter the frame. It is up to the parents to ensure that if posted on a social media site (remembering Facebook require users to be 13) then do they have the permission of everyone in the photo? YouTube falls under this category too. Any comments need to be monitored and any inappropriate images should never be posted. If you need to stop and think if an image is ‘inappropriate’ then it most certainly already is.

Damien Judd
CO-PRINCIPAL
MATERIALS NEEDED FOR SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS

With the launch of the Science Australian Curriculum, come exceedingly long lists of materials required to carry out the very “hands-on” experiments and investigations. Staff at the primary campuses are endeavouring to put together kits for teachers, to minimise the time taken to constantly source out these materials. While some materials need to be purchased and others are consumable (supplied by the teacher), there are quite a few that can be scrounged from homes - so we require your help please!

Any clean donations from the following first 6 science unit lists can be taken into either campus library please.

**Science Unit - Package it Better**
- post bags
- sm CLEAN pizza boxes
- egg cartons
- flavoured milk cartons, clean
- 2L milk plastic bottles, clean
- empty gladwrap boxes, cereals boxes, gift boxes
- gift bags – small
- assorted plastic bags
- TETRA juice boxes – clean
- tissue boxes
- rigid plastic packaging – not damaged
- poster rolls
- alfoil
- aluminium plates
- CD cases / DVD cases
- biscuit casings
- bubble wrap
- corrugated cardboard
- padded jiffy bags
- washers and bolts (need lots for weights) - not rusty please

**Science Unit - Light shows**
- 42x small shoe boxes
- tissue paper
- vellum
- cellophane
- perspex
- baking paper
- foil
- crepe paper
- 32x metal spoons
- 32x small glossy coffee cups

**Science Unit - Desert Survivors**
- newspapers
- assorted size / colour / shape containers

**Science Unit - Earthquake Explorers**
- cereal boxes - lots

**Science Unit - Material World**
Pairs of gloves made of a variety of materials -
- woollen gloves
- ski gloves
- gardening gloves
- disposable gloves
- rubber gloves
- evening gloves
- cotton gloves
- latex gloves
- oven gloves
- exfoliating gloves
- baby mittens
- motorbike riding gloves
- horse riding gloves
- gloves used for different occupations - butcher / fire station / nurse / industrial / police
- clean margarine or cream cheese containers
- clean meat trays
- cereal box margarine or cream cheese containers
- clean meat trays
- plastic Woolies bags
- clear supermarket bags
- paper bags
- fabric bags (about A4 size)
- 2m polar fleece fabric – any colour
- 2m cotton fabric – any colour
- 2m woollen fabric - any colour
- 2m plastic (like raincoat) - any colour
- magazines
- 30x 375- 400g food tins, ie canned corn, baked beans etc (no sharp edges and clean please)
- 30x soft drink cans, clean

**Science Unit - Change Detectives**
- 30x 120mL baby food jars
- 30x 250mL jars (ie tartare sauce, ginger, pickles, apple sauce…)
- 30 x 330mL jars (salsa..)
- 30 x 500mL jars (jams, bolognaise sauce, pasta sauce…..)
- 40m rope

We sincerely thank you, in anticipation.

Diana Jeffery, Helen Shepherd, Ruth Gardiner and Tania Taylor
PRIMARY CAMPUS LIBRARY STAFF

November 28, 2013
A few weeks ago there was mention in the newsletter around the importance of Cyber safety. This week we took the opportunity to provide information to our Year 11 students around the risks of over-sharing, the pitfalls of Ask.fm, the truth behind snap-chat and aspects of bullying. As the new leaders within the student body it is hoped that they will help to stop any instances of online harassment of other students and provide support for each other. Next week we will provide similar information to students in Years 9 and 10.

The final event for the year is our annual Prize Night where students’ achievements throughout the year are acknowledged. This year it is being held at the Middleback Theatre on Monday, December 9, commencing at 7:00pm. Parents of prize winners should have received information as to the availability of tickets for the evening. To ensure that everyone has access to seating on the night we ask that families limit their purchases to 2 tickets per award recipient. Families requiring extra tickets will be able to purchase them from Tuesday December 3. Our guest of honour, Amy Ward, is an old scholar who, after her tertiary studies and many years working overseas, is currently working as a legal advisor to the State Attorney-General.

John Lyons
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

COLLEGE END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

There will be many Liturgical celebrations to help conclude the year.

•  Year 11 End of Year Mass

This Friday, November 29 the Year 11 students will celebrate Mass to finish the year. Students are to come to school as normal and then walk as a group to the church with their caregroup teachers.

•  Year 12 Graduation Mass

On Wednesday, December 4 the Year 12 Graduation Mass will take place at St Teresa’s Church at 7:00pm.

•  Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

The Year 12 Graduation ceremony will be held at the Middleback Theatre on Thursday, December 5 at 6:00pm. Please be sure you have organised your tickets and booked for dinner afterwards at the Westland Hotel.

•  Year 8 – 10 End of Year Mass

On Friday, December 6 the Year 8 – 10 students will celebrate the end of the year with Mass at Samaritan Hall. Mass will begin at 9:15am and parents are welcome to attend.

Bernie Meixner
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL IN RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND MISSION

2012 ANNUAL

The 2012 Annual is available for collection. If you are now living out of town please contact the office on 8645 8568 to confirm address details.

Lorraine Ackling
PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

"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.”

Children living in two homes

Are you a separated parent of a primary school child living in shared care?

If you are, please contact me. My name is Luisa Matacin and I am a PhD candidate at the University of South Australia in Whyalla. You can contact me on my mobile 0431 290 771 or by email luisa.matacin@mymail.unisa.edu.au if you are interested in a confidential interview or want any further information about the project.

‘Shared Care’ and Primary Schooling: What is going on for Children, their Parents and Teachers?

I am currently researching how primary school children living between 2 households (at least 4 nights per fortnight) experience their schooling and how parents and children’s teachers manage and respond to these arrangements. By sharing your experiences (confidentially) you will contribute to an improved understanding of children’s experiences of living in two households and attending school, an opportunity to discuss issues of concern around this topic and the potential identification of ways to improve children’s experiences.

This project has been approved by the University of South Australia's Human Research Ethics Committee, DECD and Catholic Education SA.