From the Principal

Making the Most of a New School Year
(Part of my introduction to parents at Orientation Evening on Tuesday)

On Saturday (as I was hanging out the washing) I found myself humming along to the song “I am Yours” by Casting Crowns. The lyric that stuck in my head was:

I am a flower quickly fading,
Here today and gone tomorrow.
A wave tossed in the ocean.
A vapor in the wind.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VU_rTX23V7Q

The words ‘I am a flower quickly fading’ had me thinking suddenly about the strange Corpse flower recently in the news. The flower with an unpleasant odour that blooms for only 24 hours. The corpse flower is the ultimate flower quickly fading - literally here today and gone tomorrow! I suddenly had a moment of melancholy as I realized something of this in my own life. At the beginning of a new school year, Andrea and I no longer have any Primary School aged children. This year is the first time in fifteen years we haven’t a child at school with us; one daughter in Year 8, another in Year 12 and a son already 3rd year at Uni. Where did those years go? To add to that, Andrea and I were in Tanunda two weeks ago and found ourselves in the church in which we were married; first time we’d been there together in over 26 years. Time flies… Here today and gone tomorrow…

So my point? Seize the day! Seize the year 2016. This year and every day in it is a gift from God and we get to choose how we use it. How will you help your family to make the most of the time that is given to you? From a school perspective, how might you help make this a fabulous year of learning and growing for your kids?

A few suggestions?
- Be involved in school activities
- Get into classrooms from time to time
- Show your children that you love and respect their teachers
- Encourage all the school staff
- Celebrate the successes along the way
- Help make it fun
- Encourage them to try new things
- Stay informed and check out the newsletters and social media feeds
- Let your children make mistakes and help them bounce back

Most importantly help them to be secure in their identity, as children loved for whose they are and not what they do. Constantly remind them that they loved; by you, by their teachers and most importantly by God. A God who is not here today and gone tomorrow and always has their backs.

“Not because of who I am
But because of what You've done.
Not because of what I've done
But because of who You are.

Mark Rathjen, Principal
We welcomed another new student and her family to our ELC this week—Nikita S. We trust that all our new students and their families are settling in and quickly feeling part of our friendly community.

Principal’s Tour

Our first Principal’s Tour for 2016 will be held at 9am next Wednesday 17 February. If you know of anyone looking for a school or Early Learning Centre in this area, please encourage them to contact the school to book a place on this tour.

Parents and Friends

Don’t forget to buy your tickets for the exclusive Beachhouse Lock-in NEXT WEEK, on THURSDAY 18 February 2016.

With unlimited rides, games & waterslides for two hours for only $25.50, this fun-filled event is open to all past and present St Peters Lutheran School families and their friends.

The venue doors will be locked shortly after the event begins so children are safe within the venue and the venue is closed to the public – don’t be late!

Parents have three options on the night:
1. Drop off & pick up their children for the event.
2. Purchase a spectator ticket at the door for $10 which includes a free small coffee. This gives them access to the event but no participation.
3. Purchase a full priced ticket & join in on the fun!

Tickets are available ONLINE ONLY prior to the event at https://www.stickytickets.com.au/32421 (please note tickets will NOT be available for purchase at the door).

The date of the first Parents & Friends Association Meeting will be confirmed shortly. We are still seeking executive committee and ordinary members. If you are interested in either the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary or ordinary member positions please contact Narelle Adams at stpeterslutheranpandf@gmail.com for further information.

Congratulations

Leanne and Anthony Mibus are thrilled to announce the arrival of Sienna Grace Mibus born Sunday evening 7/2/16 at 7:02pm at Flinders Medical Centre.

Weight 3440g, Length 51cm.
A little sister for Isaac and Lydia. Mum and baby are doing great!

Welcome

We welcomed another new student and her family to our ELC this week—Nikita S. We trust that all our new students and their families are settling in and quickly feeling part of our friendly community.
Primary Years Programme (PYP)

At St Peters we value student leadership and aim to develop this in all our students as they progress through the school. Our Years 7’s have a special leadership role within the school and are encouraged to be role models by exhibiting exemplary behaviour and attitude towards others and our environment.

As a part of our Year 7 leadership programme, on Monday 8 February, the students completed training in the PAL programme. The Play At Lunch (PAL) programme trains the students to be leaders out in the yard during recess and lunch time, by providing structured activities for younger students to develop play skills through fun games and activities.

Andrew Delaney from DECD wrote and implements the PAL programme throughout the state not only to Department schools, but also many interested independent schools like ours. He worked with our Year 7’s for the whole day giving them pointers on how to encourage others, to give explicit instructions, what a good role model does and says. He also taught the children many fun games that they can in turn play with the younger students during break times.

At the end of the day, the Years 7’s had the chance to practice the leadership skills they had developed with Mrs Derrington’s Year 1 class. In small groups they taught the Year 1’s three different games. They had them totally engaged and started developing many important skills such as hand eye coordination, concentration, listening and following directions.

What a great bunch of leaders we have here at St Peters!

Bronwyn Wilson
PYP Coordinator

Whole School Performance—
Footprints in the sand

On Tuesday 16 February we are excited to be holding a whole school performance from R-7. Footprints in the Sand is a story about ways of understanding our relationship to the natural world. The children will watch the performance and then have the opportunity to have a question and answer time with the performers. The performance closely aligns with the cross-curricular perspectives of sustainability and Aboriginal culture.
Orientation Night
Thank You

A big thank you to all who came to the Orientation Evening on Tuesday night. It was a great way to begin a new school year and to be up to date with what's happening in your child's class and around the school. If you were unable to attend, you should look out for a handout of information from your child's teacher.

Concordia College
Information Evening

Yesterday all families would have received an invitation to a meeting for anyone interested in sending children to Concordia College for High School. It is a meeting which also includes parents from Our Saviour Lutheran School at Aberfoyle Park. The Principal of Concordia College, Mr Lester Sagenschnitter will be our guest speaker. There is an RSVP required, so please check your child's bag.

Installation and
Re-dedication Service

Everyone is very welcome to attend our Installation and re-dedication service at St Peters church this Sunday 14 February at 10.00am. This is a special service where new staff, Mrs Low and Ms Clayton and council members, Jo Simpson and Sue Pfeiffer will be installed. Also, all school staff and Council will be re-dedicated to their service in this community. It would be a great encouragement to see lots of school families join us.

Parent Handbook

The updated version of the SPLS Parent Handbook has been sent home via Skoolbag and will be posted on the school website.

Parking Control

City of Mitcham has forwarded to us some information regarding their enforcement of parking restrictions around schools and kindergartens. To provide for student safety around roadways at school drop off and pick up times, any breaches of the Australian Road Rules observed by compliance officers may result in the issue of an expiation notice.

Attached to this newsletter is a brochure provided by the City of Mitcham regarding parking regulations.

Purple Bows for Lent

The colour purple has a significant meaning within the Christian church and is used as a symbol of mourning and penitence during Lent, as well as being the traditional colour for royalty.

The worship committee of St Peters has packaged up purple material for making a bow and invite members of the church and school community to use it to decorate outside their home during the season of Lent (a similar idea to the red bows in Blackwood at Christmas time).

The packages which include material for one bow, instructions on how to tie it and an Easter tract, will be available for several weeks at a cost of $2 from the front office reception of St Peters school.

We would encourage you to purchase as many as you would like and give to other people if you wish. Our aim is to eventually offer these bow packages to other Christian denominations in Blackwood.

Our official uniform supplier, Devon, has advised that they are selling Rugby Tops at the "special" reduced price of $49.00 (normally $92.00) while stock lasts.
Come and play at St Peters Playgroup!
Tea, coffee & activities provided.
All preschoolers (any age) & caregivers welcome!!
Please bring shared fruit & gold coin donation
Every Monday, 9am – 11am
During the school term
St Peters Church
See you there!
Evie Stevens - 0422 398 640

St Peters Out of School Hours Sport News

PARENTS: Please email sharon.smith@stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au with ANY OSH Sport questions, news items, etc.

Term 1 2016
OSH Sport Teams
The following teams are going ahead this term:
- Kanga Cricket (R-2)
- C Grade Cricket

The following teams are still to be confirmed, we are waiting for some parent confirmations:
- Year 1/2 Basketball
- Year 5 Basketball
- A Grade Cricket

There is also the potential for a Year 4 Basketball team, however, we are looking for 2 more players for this to happen.

All students of confirmed teams should have their information letters and consent forms by tomorrow (Friday 12 February). This will include those confirmed after this newsletter has been received by all.

Most competitions are starting in the week beginning 15 February (Week 3).

The Summer Netball team competition is for T4 2015 and T1 2016. Games recommenced on Monday 1 February. A timetable for the rest of the term was forwarded to coaches on Tuesday 9 February.

Welcome to our first Book Club for 2016
Inside there are lots of great book bargains to choose from. All the students’ favourite series and some new ones can be found inside.
Catalogues were sent home with students yesterday.
The closing date for orders is 15 February.
The LOOP will be open on the Scholastic website until Monday night.
Please follow the prompts in your catalogue.
If you wish your order to be kept as a “SURPRISE” please put your name (not your child’s) and a contact number on the top of the form and we will hold your order at school for collection.
Or alternatively, you can email Sharon at sharon.smith@stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au

St Peters Playgroup

Grasshopper Soccer

Australia’s #1 non-competitive soccer program for girls and boys aged 2 – 12
Starting in Week 2!
Grasshopper Soccer starts SOON at 7 locations close to you.
Thursday afternoons – Bellevue Heights PS
Friday afternoons – McLaren Vale PS and Noarlunga Leisure Centre
Saturday mornings – Reynella East College and Seaford Rise PS
Sunday mornings – Hallett Cove School and Brighton Oval
For more information visit our website, www.grasshoppersoccer.com.au
OR visit our facebook page, facebook.com/GrasshopperSoccerSouthernAdelaidea
OR contact Daniel by phone, 0433 422 347 or email daniel@grasshoppersoccer.com.au
St Peters Lutheran School Blackwood

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BLACKWOOD SA 5051

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We’re on the web…
www.stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au

St Peters Lutheran School, where the message of Jesus Christ is communicated and celebrated, is a caring, supportive learning community that encourages global consciousness, responsible action and life-long learning.

Diary Dates Term 1 (for your calendar!)

Week 2 (Monday 8/2)
Sun 14/2 Installation Service

Week 3 (Monday 15/2)
Wed 17/2 Principal’s Tour—9am
Thu 18/2 P&F Event at the Beachouse

Week 4 (Monday 22/2)
Fri 26/2 Twilight Tea

Week 5 (Monday 29/2)
Fri 4/3 SAPSASA Swimming
Sat 5/3 Working Bee (Rooms 9 and 10)
Sun 6/3 Community Worship (Rooms 1 and B)

Week 6 (Monday 7/3)

Week 7 (Monday 14/3)
Mon 14/3 Public Holiday

Week 8 (Monday 21/3)
Thu 24/3 Sports Day
Fri 25/3 Good Friday

Week 9 (Monday 28/3)
Mon 28/3 Easter Monday
Wed 30/3 Principal’s Tour

Week 10 (Monday 4/4)
Wed 6/4 Parent/Teacher Interviews
Thu 7/4 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Week 11 (Monday 11/4)
Fri 15/4 Last Day of Term 1

Walking Home

A reminder that if your child/ren are going to walk home from school this year, we ask that you please discuss the responsibilities associated with walking home with them and complete a walking home agreement (as attached to last week’s newsletter). This not only helps to educate your child about appropriate behaviour when walking without an adult, but also gives the school a list of walkers to help us track the students at pick up time. Walking home agreements should be handed in to the Front Office by the end of this week.

These dates are subject to change so please make sure you check them each week.

Find us on Facebook and Twitter and now, Instagram— for all the latest on what’s happening around St Peters Lutheran School Blackwood

St Peters Lutheran School Blackwood
@StPBlackwood stpetersblackwood

If you’re sharing something about us, please remember to use the hashtag #stpetersblackwood or tag us @stpetersblackwood with your photos.

St Peters Lutheran Church

Services each Sunday at 10.00am

ALL WELCOME

Coming up…

14/2 Service of Installation and rededication followed by shared morning tea 10am
17/2 Mid week Lent service 7:30pm led by Pastor Tim Klein: A Place of Service

Any enquiries please contact Pastor Ben:
82782322 or pfeiffer241@gmail.com

Jesus said, “One does not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matt 4:4)