Part of a Puzzle

On the staff room table you will see a less than half-finished jigsaw puzzle. A jigsaw?! Staff have too much time on their hands you might say. Well, if you consider how long it’s been there (three weeks) and how little has been completed, you might think otherwise.

The jigsaw is there not to while away all our spare time but to remind us that we are all special parts of the whole. That each day we all have something significant and important to contribute. Without one of us the big picture is incomplete and not what it could be.

A puzzle piece is small and odd-shaped and usually different from every other piece. Sometimes it is obvious where a piece fits and other times you have to wonder if it doesn’t come from another puzzle altogether. I have certainly discarded pieces and been delighted to find later that it was a piece that actually had great worth to the picture. We all have something to bring to the picture of our school this year - as staff members, students, parents or anyone connected to our St Peters community. The colour of the pieces to which we might contribute include; our time, our talents, our attitude, our encouragement, our sense of humour, our compassion, our integrity, our love and so much more.

The Apostle Peter referred to community and church in a similar way but used the analogy of stones (think puzzle pieces) and a building (think the end picture). Peter refers then to everyone as special and significant ‘living puzzle pieces’, which together form a ‘spiritual picture…acceptable to God…’ But Peter also noted that this puzzle had a piece that didn’t seem to fit and was in fact thrown out as unimportant and not being part of the puzzle picture at all. This piece was in fact Jesus, who as it turned out, was the cornerstone of the whole darn puzzle.

I pray that as we go deeper into our year, we all connect to Jesus the living puzzle piece who values each and every other piece and is precious to him.

What will our St Peters completed puzzle look like this year?

“As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2:4-5

Mark Rathjen, Principal
Parents and Friends

Look out for your sign-up sheet available in all classrooms for inclusion into the St Peters Lutheran Whole School Directory. We ask you to include all details which you are happy to be shared with the school community. If you are unable to put your details directly on your class sheet, please email them to stpeterslutheranpandf@gmail.com. Details requested are Child’s name, Child’s year level, Child’s class, Parents’ names, home address and contact phone number. Sign-up sheets will be available in each class until the end of February 2016.

Mark your calendar for the upcoming annual Twilight Tea to be held NEXT WEEK—on Friday 26 February 2016. This relaxed evening will be hosted by Mrs Watkins’ Year 4/5 class and is a great way to catch up with friends from school since the recent summer holidays.

Look out for all the details regarding the evening, from our Room 6 hosts—coming home with students today!

Concordia College Information Evening

As you are aware, we recently forwarded to all families an invitation to a meeting for anyone interested in sending children to Concordia College for High School. This meeting will also include parents from Our Saviour Lutheran School, Aberfoyle Park. The Principal of Concordia College, Mr Lester Sagenschnitter will be our guest speaker. Please note that if you have not yet forwarded your RSVP, you are still very welcome to attend.

Year 3 BYOD Information Session

All parents of Year 3 students have been invited to meet and discuss the BYOD programme next Wednesday 24 February @ 3.45pm in the Resource Centre. The meeting is particularly for those to whom BYOD is new to their child however all are welcome. Please RSVP to Petria or Bel by Monday.

Installation and Rededication Service

It was an enjoyable day last Sunday when our new staff and school members were installed to their new positions. Please pray for them and all staff and council throughout the year.

Working Bee

Our first working bee for 2016 will be held on Saturday 5 March. Working bees provide a number of benefits to the school and to school families. For your school it means that a lot of the grounds development and regular maintenance tasks are completed at very little cost. This means we can keep our buildings and grounds in good order and condition and our facilities remain an attractive place in which your children work and play. Working Bees also provide a great opportunity for people to socialise and get to know each other better. Families from Rooms 9 and 10 are rostered on for our first working bee and will receive a reply slip soon. We look forward to your support.
What’s happening at St Peters?

Learning about different perspectives and respect for others—
Footprints in the Sand Performance

Looking after our natural world and understanding one another were two of the big ideas that came out of “Footprints in the Sand” a thought provoking and entertaining re-enactment of two cultures meeting and developing understanding and respect for each other.

The performance began with a British explorer and an Indigenous Australian meeting at settlement of the British in Australia more than 150 years ago. Working together, they taught each other words from their own language, shared stories of their cultures and even told a joke or two! As an audience, we joined in some songs, learnt how to say some words in the Kaurna language and laughed at the Captain doing some silly dancing!

Jumping forward to the modern day, ancestors of the two men meet again on the same beach and talk about what has happened to our environment and relationship between the two cultures over the years. We were encouraged to think about working together to look after the environment that has been entrusted to us.

The Q and A time at the end showed yet again that St Peters students are critical thinkers and are able at ask complex and questions.

“How do you feel about reconciliation?”

Feedback from the children was also positive! Even the youngest of the children engaged with the complex ideas presented and connected with the performance.

“I liked it because it showed us about other people.”

“It was all about getting along.”

“The Aboriginal people have different words to us, but it means the same.”

Footprints in the Sand gave us a chance to reflect on the PYP concept of connection. The relationships we develop with each other and our natural world are important for sustainability and helping our world to be a better place. It also helped us to think about our partnerships with the Indigenous Australians and what needs to happen for true reconciliation.

Bronwyn Wilson
PYP Coordinator
This is a brief overview of the 2016 SAPSASA events which we will be entering this year. All the sports get organized closer to the dates but I wanted to give you a heads up if you want to put some of the dates into your calendar.

**Knockout competitions**

The school creates a team of the best players from Yr 6/7 (occasionally a Yr 5 will be selected) and enters the knockout competition. The competition is played during school time. SAPSASA creates a draw after we have entered. The school then organizes a time with the opposition to play the game. If we win we continue on in the competition. If we lose we do not play again.

The competitions we can enter this year are as follows.

**Term 1** – Boys and girls cricket.

**Term 2** – Boys and girls netball, boys and girls AFL (18 players required), and boys and girls soccer (11 players required).

**Term 4** – Tennis (boys and girls).

We have currently nominated a team for both boys and girls cricket. Term 2 nominations are due on the 15th of March. I will be asking for student interest closer to the nomination date.

**Day carnivals**

The school selects a team of players and participates in a day carnival. These carnivals can have students from Yr 4-7 depending on the individual sport.

**Swimming** – Friday 4th March 6:00pm at Marion Outdoor Pool. Students who are born in 2006 or earlier can enter. The events are 50m Breaststroke, 50m Freestyle, 50m Backstroke and 50m Butterfly. There is a limit to the number of students we can enter per race.

**Lacrosse** – Wednesday 30th March at Women’s Memorial Playing fields on Shepherds Hill Road. Teams are single gender Yr 4/5 or 6/7.

**Cross Country** – Friday May 20th at Belair National Park. Students who are born in 2006 or earlier can enter. The distance is between 2km and 3km.

**Athletics** – Wednesday 24th August at Santos Stadium. The school trials students in a variety of athletic events and the best students from the school are selected to participate in the carnival. Students who are born in 2006 or earlier can enter.

**Basketball** – 4/5 and 6/7 Girls Wednesday 27th July, 4/5 and 6/7 Boys Thursday 28th July. The venue is TBA.

**Volleyball** – TBA

**District team**

Southern Heights also enters teams in week long carnivals. Students wishing to try out for a team need to let me know which sport they are interested in and I will pass on the details of the trials to them. These teams give preference to Yr 7’s but occasionally Yr 6 students with outstanding ability may be accepted. The district enters teams in the following sports… boys and girls soccer, boys AFL, softball, tennis, cricket and hockey (boys and girls).

If you have any questions or queries please contact me penny.rawinski@stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au
Term 1 2016
OSH Sport Teams
The following teams are going ahead this term:
  Kanga Cricket (R-2)
  C Grade Cricket
  A Grade Cricket
  Year 1/2 Basketball
  and
  Year 4/5 Basketball

All students, of confirmed teams, should have their information letters and consent forms already. The 4/5 Basketball team letters will be sent home today.

Most competitions have started during the week beginning 15 February (Week 3), except the 4/5 Basketball, which will start in Week 4.

Game Information for Teams
The Year 4/5 Basketball team will be playing in the Year 4 competition at the Recreation Centre on a Wednesday night. We received confirmation from the centre yesterday.

The Year 1/2 Basketball game information can be found at the following link
http://www.marion.basketball.net.au/
Please look under fixtures.

All Cricket information can be found at the following link http://spsc.sa.cricket.com.au/
Please look under MyCricket

Take Up The Challenge!!
2016 Premier’s Reading Challenge
Welcome back to a new school year. This is the thirteenth year of the Premier’s Reading Challenge and this year the PRC is challenging all students from Reception to Year 12 to read 12 books by 9 September.

We would like as many students at St Peters to “Take Up The Challenge” in 2016.

All information that families require can be found on the Premier’s Reading Challenge website at www.prc.sa.edu.au

In our school library you will find many books marked with a Reading Challenge sticker—this shows what year level the book is suitable for. Students can read books at a higher year level but not lower. You will also find blank Student Reading Record forms; these can also be downloaded from the website.

Our school contact person for 2016 is Mrs Smith in the library.

Keep your kids smiling
Have you received a letter from Medicare about the Child Dental Benefits Schedule?
The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, pre-schoolers and most children under 18 at the School Dental Service.

Please call now for an appointment.
Marion GP Plus Dental Clinic
Phone: 7425 8400
Diary Dates Term 1
(for your calendar!)

**Week 3 (Monday 15/2)**
- Thu 18/2  P&F Event at the Beachouse

**Week 4 (Monday 22/2)**
- Tue 23/2  Information Session re Concordia College Enrolment—7pm (Chapel)
- Wed 24/2  Year 3 BYOD Information Session—3.45pm (Resource Centre)
- 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

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**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.

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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
@StPLblackwood stpetersblackwood

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