From the Principal

Welcome back to the 2013 School Year

It is always an exciting time when we all get back together again after the long break. Relationships renewed, new friendships formed, new learning journeys begun.

Welcome to all and a special welcome to all students and families who are new to the St Peters community. I hope your time in this community will be a blessing to you as I am sure you will be the community.

This year we welcome a number of new staff to our team although most of them are not new to this community;

Mrs Michelle Holmes (Yr 2/3 teacher)
Mrs Belinda Fox (Special Needs) Back from maternity leave
Mrs Anne Dangerfield (Educational Assistant, Yr 1/2)
Miss Alice Carter (Special Needs)

In addition we welcome Miss Anna Reichenbach, a student teacher from Flinders University and Australian Lutheran College who is with Mr Eldridge’s Year 5/6 class over the next two terms. She will also be working with Mrs Grierson in some of the Indonesian classes.

We are excited for Mrs Grierson too as she prepares for the birth of her fourth child later in the year. Anji intends to work for all of term 1 and we will aim to have a replacement Indonesian teacher in place for term 2.

One significant change for 2013 is the increase in our Education Assistant support time in our junior school classes. This year Mrs Mickan, Mrs Graetz and Mrs Dangerfield will be working in the Reception, R/1 and 1/2 classes respectively to give some additional support to our youngest students especially at Numeracy and Literacy times. Teachers will speak to this at the Orientation Evening next Tuesday.

Speaking of the Orientation Evening, We are looking forward to sharing lots of information with you next Tuesday evening. In addition to receiving all you need to know from class teachers, we will be sharing with you about the PYP programme and Chris Smith will give a presentation on Fire Safety as it pertains to our school.

May God richly bless all the members of this school community as we embark on the 2013 phase of our learning journey.

“As we begin a new year, the words of St Paul come to mind, “Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life…and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on your new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.” Eph 4:22-24

Mark Rathjen, Principal
Parents and Friends

Twilight Tea
The annual Twilight Tea will be held across the road at the playground from 5pm on Friday 15 February. This is a great opportunity to get to know other families nice and early in the year—so please make sure you mark this date in your diaries!

Communication Bags
All new students have received their navy blue communication bag (reader folder). Please note that if you would like to replace your child’s existing communication bag, they are available for purchase from the front office for $8 each.

2012 Year Book
If you haven’t already purchased your copy of the 2012 St Peters Year Book—please remember to do so as soon as possible. These are available for purchase at $10 per copy at the front office.

Opening Service And Welcome
Our special beginning of the school year service was held on Wednesday morning. We thank Pastor Ben for leading us in our service and welcoming our new school year.

The following new students and their families (new or existing) have joined our school community this year. We welcome them all and trust that they will soon feel very much at home at St Peters.

ELC

School

LLL Banking (Thursdays)
All new families have been provided with an LLL banking pack, which included a calico bag (for library use) and banking information. Students can make deposits with The Lutheran Laypeople’s League (LLL) through the school.
Banking days are Thursdays where you send your child/ren’s passbook and money to school via the class communication box and it is returned the same day. Please enquire at the school office if you need any further information about this.

Playgroup
Come and play at St Peters Playgroup!

Tea, coffee, toys & activities provided
All pre-schoolers (any age) & caregivers welcome!!

Please bring shared fruit & gold coin donation

Fortnightly Tuesdays, 9am - 11am
Held on the ‘even’ weeks during school term
St Peters Hall
See you there!
Samantha Smith & Tanya Bingham
Classroom Orientation Evening

Our Classroom Orientation Evening for parents of students in Reception to Year 7 will be held on Tuesday 5 February. The purpose of this evening is to provide an opportunity for parents to hear about each classroom teacher’s plans for the year and to find out about some of the school and classroom routines. This will be a general information session and will not provide a forum for parents to ask questions that relate to their particular child. To assist parents who have children in more than one classroom, each classroom teacher will repeat their presentation:

6.15pm – 7.00pm  Reading with your Child (for Reception Parents only)
7.00pm – 7.30pm  First presentation by all classroom teachers
7.30pm – 8.30pm  Primary Years Program (PYP)—Bronwyn Wilson (for all parents)
                  Bushfire Safety Presentation—Chris Smith (for all parents)
8.30pm – 9.00pm  Presentation repeated by all classroom teachers

We look forward to seeing you there.

Student Drop Off / Pick Up Procedures

School Car Parks can be very dangerous places and, to keep all of our students as safe as we possibly can, we have drop-off and pick-up procedures in place for parents to follow. This is clearly outlined in the Parent Information Handbook 2013, which every family has received.

Parking
Parents are reminded **not to park** in the staff and visitors car park on the Eastern side of the front door while dropping children off in the morning.
Parents are also reminded that Cumming Street has been identified by the Country Fire Service (CFS) as one of high risk if, in the event of a fire or emergency, vehicles are parked inappropriately.
There is a legal requirement under the Australian Road Rules that at least 3 metres of road is left clear alongside parked vehicles to enable other vehicles to pass (ie it is an offence to park within three metres of a centre white line). This rule is enforceable and will be monitored by the Mitcham Council, so please do not park in the wrong place, or you may incur a fine.

Morning Drop-Off
The Trevor Terrace car park is the **only** area allowed by the Council for dropping off students. Cars need to enter and exit from Trevor Terrace.

Afternoon Pick-Up
We are emphasizing to all those picking up children at the end of the day the importance of abiding by the procedures, to minimize cars reversing and pedestrians in the car park at this busy time. It is very important for the smooth and expedient managing of the pick-up for parents to display the family name on the left hand side sun visor so that teachers can have children ready to get into the car when you come along.
It is also imperative that you are on time. **Please do not come early or late.**
Please respect the instructions of teachers who are managing the pick-up and abide by the guidelines we have developed for the safety and welfare of all of our students.

Parking
Please note—we have an arrangement with one of our neighbors that we have agreed not to park in front of the house immediately opposite the school administration building (Cumming Street). Although this is not a designated 'no parking' zone, we would very much appreciate parents/caregivers complying with this arrangement. Thank you for your understanding.
School Staff 2013

Mark Rathjen (Principal)
Rebecca Geue (Year 6/7 teacher)
Matt Eldridge (Year 5/6 teacher)
Trevor Burmeister (Year 4/5 teacher)
Heidi Schutz (Year 3/4 teacher)
Nicolle Jakube (Year 2/3 teacher)
Michelle Holmes (Year 2/3 teacher)
Kathryn Davies (Year 1/2 teacher)
Claire England (Reception/Year 1 teacher)
Andrea Rathjen (Reception teacher)
Celina Read (Reception teacher)
Penny Rawinski (Physical Education teacher/The Arts teacher)
Bronwyn Wilson (PYP Coordinator/Teacher-Librarian)
Sarah Smith (Learning Support Coordinator)
Anjali Grierson (Indonesian Language Teacher ELC-7)
Belinda Fox (Literacy/Numeracy Support teacher)
Ros Green (SPLOSHC Director)
Helen Radford (Business Manager)
Deb Bahnisch (Enrolments Officer/School Secretary)
Jackie Grear (Receptionist/Admin Assistant)
Samantha Smith (Receptionist/Admin Assistant)
Liz Bird (Lutheran School Officer)
Angela Graetz (Lutheran School Officer)
Mary-Ann Mickan (Lutheran School Officer)
Sharon Smith (Lutheran School Officer)
Tracey Tessitore (Lutheran School Officer)
Lee-Anne Munro (Lutheran School Officer)
Anne Dangerfield (Lutheran School Officer)
Alice Carter (Lutheran School Officer)
Barbara Rohde (ELC & SPLOSHC Accounts)
Chris Smith (Maintenance)
James Ziersch (School Chaplain)
Early Learning Centre
Diana Gaskell (Director)
Sarah Midson (Teacher)
Emma Sturges (Teacher Assistant)

Uniforms

Second Hand Uniform Shop
The Second Hand Uniform Shop (which is located in the MFP, under the verandah) will be open this Friday 1 February from 8.45am and next Friday 8 February immediately after Chapel. Enquiries regarding uniforms, at any time, may be directed to:
Ali Harper (0407 189 226)
Natasha Caruso (0412 252 947)
Melissa Sharrad (0417 747 926)

St Peters Lutheran School
2013

Piano, Guitar, Singing and Theory Lessons!
Lessons available after-school and on-campus!
Lessons are for beginners through to advanced students and are available to both students of St Peters and members of the St Peters community.

On-campus, convenient, group or individual music tuition.

To enquire contact Carly McDonald at enquiries@novarmusic.com
0413 853 490
Visit us at www.novarmusic.com

Term Dates 2013

Term 1
Wednesday 30 January—Thursday 11 April

Term 2
Tuesday 30 April—Thursday 4 July

Term 3
Tuesday 23 July—Thursday 26 September

Term 4
Tuesday 15 October—Tuesday 10 December
Daily Timetable/ Absences

The staff begin each day with a devotion and short meeting from 8.10—8.30am. School commences at 8.45am. Students who arrive at school before 8.30am will go into Before School Care and the regular fee will be applied.

The teachers will be in their classrooms from 8.30am.

The best time to phone the school for any student absences is between 8.30—9.00am. Alternatively, you may send an email to admin@stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au (also indicating the reason for the absence).

If your child/ren arrives late for any reason, please report to the office and “sign in”. As part of increased awareness of where each student is at any time, and to comply with government accountability requirements regarding student attendance, students who arrive at school after 8.45am or leave prior to 3.15pm are required to be “signed in or out”.

This register is kept at the school office and we request that parents/caregivers fill this in when they bring or remove a student from any classroom, together with the reason for the absence.

Your cooperation will support us with our duty of care and help us to comply with government accountability requirements.

Recess is from 10.45—11.05am
Lunch is from 1.05—1.45pm
School finishes from 3.00—3.20pm

Classroom teachers are on duty until 3.30pm every afternoon. Any students who have for some extraordinary reason not been collected by that time will be sent to Out of School Hours Care (SPLOSHC) from where they will be collected by their parent or caregiver. SPLOSHC fees will apply.

We would ask that if there is a reason why your child cannot be picked up on time, please notify the school.

From the Chaplain

Chess at St Peters

Last year we had a very successful team of 8 regularly attending inter-school chess competitions. This year we have 3 of the girls but 4 of the boys have left, so maybe this year we can have a girls team of 4 attend the Girls Only inter-school chess competition in term 2. In term 1, we can have a St Peters school 7 game Chess tournament during lunch time on Thursday or Friday. A sign up sheet will be sent to Year 2—Year 7. If your child is interested in attending some chess coaching or beginners chess, please collect a registration form from the school office.

Class-Support Coordinators

Class-Support Coordinators are a small group of people from the school community including the Principal, Mark Rathjen, the School Chaplain, James Ziersch, and parents/caregivers from each classroom whose primary responsibility is to provide support and physical care for families of the school.

The list of volunteers is almost complete and we will have our first meeting next week. This will be organised via email.

A list of Class-Support Coordinators for 2013, together with further information about this group, will be sent home soon.

Prayer Team

Wanted: a person or people to pray for families, on a regular basis with the school Chaplain. Each week families are listed in the school newsletter and sent home a note requesting any specific prayer request. If permission is given, this request is also passed on to Staff and a list of people via email. Cathy Tighe met with James Ziersch most weeks to pray any confidential requests over the past five years. Now the Tighe family have left, James would like to continue meeting with another person for at least 15 minutes each week. Time on a Thursday or Friday is flexible. Please contact James on his mobile: 0435008513. The Prayer lists will be done differently this year.

James Ziersch
Chaplain
St Peters Lutheran Church

Services each Sunday at 10.00am

ALL WELCOME

Coming up...

10/2 Installation and Rededication Service for Staff and School Council

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

Thanksgiving service Sunday February 10

The school community is warmly invited to attend this special Thanksgiving Service at 10am on Sunday 10 February. This service will include the installation of teachers from St Peters and a Rite of Transition for Pastor Ben Pfeiffer.

As part of the Thanksgiving theme there will be an opportunity to donate non-perishable items to Lutheran Community Care during a special time in the service. Please bring along any canned or boxed items you would be willing to donate.

At the conclusion of the service you are all invited to stay for a sausage sizzle.

We would love to see you there.

Diary Dates Term 1
(for your calendar!)

Week 1 (Wednesday 30/1)
Wed 30/1 School commences for students
Fri 1/2 Second Hand Uniform Shop Open— from 8.45am

Week 2 (Monday 4/2)
Tue 5/2 Playgroup
Fri 8/2 Second Hand Uniform Shop Open— after Chapel
Sun 10/2 School Staff Installation/Commissioning Service 10am—All welcome

Week 3 (Monday 11/2)
Fri 15/2 Twilight Tea

Week 4 (Monday 18/2)
Tue 19/2 Principal’s Tour Playgroup
Sat 23/2 Working Bee (Rooms 1 & 2)

Week 5 (Monday 25/2)

Week 6 (Monday 4/3)
Tue 5/3 Playgroup

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