From the Principal

CHINESE WHISPERS
Most of us at some time or another have played a game called Chinese Whispers where the first player whispers a sentence to the next player? Each player then whispers what they think they heard to the next player. The last player announces the sentence out loud. Usually little errors begin to creep in each time the sentence is repeated so the final sentence is very different from the original, often hilariously so.

The name Chinese Whispers is sometimes used as a metaphor for the inaccuracies that occur as rumours or gossip are spread. The most famous example (which may or may not be true!) of a message becoming ridiculously wrong is from World War One when a General is supposed to have sent the urgent message: Send reinforcements, we're going to advance. After passing along the various signals transmitters the original message became: Send three and fourpence, we're going to a dance.

Sometimes incorrect information becomes embedded like the belief that the Eskimo language has hundreds of words for 'snow'. The facts are rather different. There are, for a start, many Eskimo languages from Siberia to Greenland to Canada and Alaska. In 1911, an anthropologist gave four examples of the way Eskimos can talk about snow – snow on the ground, falling snow, drifting snow and snow drift. Just four words.

By 1940 the four words were being talked about as seven; in 1978 a playwright claimed there were 50; in 1984 a journalist claimed 100. Nowadays most people believe there are about 200 different Eskimo words for snow. Even in a snowy Arctic environment, that's a lot of words for the same thing!

Generally such misinformation does not matter very much. We are all familiar with the news media breathlessly announcing a disaster or scandal which later turns out to be much less dramatic or not even true.

Modern communications like blogs and Twitters can spread misinformation very quickly, as can gossip. This is where real harm can be done. Gossip can be harmful to the individual and create mistrust and depression. Gossip can destroy friendships. In Jeremiah 9:8 we read “Their tongue is a deadly arrow.”

Any event – an accident, a crime or even an incident at a party - can generate a huge variety of versions of what actually occurred from those who witnessed or participated in it. And as time goes on, even further mistakes occur in stories about the event, either deliberately or by accident. It's a human tendency to exaggerate and make a more exciting story to entertain our listeners.

We love to hear and tell stories about other people and what they do. That's part of how we build healthy communities by learning what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.

As in everything, however, there are a couple of simple rules. First of all, check the facts. And, second, try to follow the old adage that if you have nothing positive to say, it's better to say nothing.

From: Principals' Digests. Vol 16. 12A

In our school over the years we have worked hard to build up a great community, and that community responds to healthy constructive criticism, because that is how it will continue to grow and improve but it also needs encouragement and acknowledgment of the many good things it provides. How wonderful that so many of you do that so well.
StPetersfest!
St Peters Lutheran School Fete
Sunday 10 April 2011 (only 6 weeks to go!)

Target 200 – Volunteers Needed!
We are starting to get closer to our target of 200 volunteers (ie someone from every family in the school) for the fete. Thanks to all of the people who have already volunteered including our wonderful year 6 & 7 students. We still need volunteers especially for the following stalls: fish and chips, Indian food, Thai food, cakes and produce, café, handball target, asteroid blaster, plate breaking, showbags (yellow brick road), plants and crafts and kids fun house. You can volunteer by putting your name on the rosters up outside each classroom or if you can’t get to school you can register your preferred time the following ways:

• Complete the tear off slip sent home with your child and return to the school by 11 March;
• text or email Penny Markham on 0414 401 469 or pen_noel@hotmail.com; or
• call the school front office on 8278 0800.

Cakes, Lollies and Easter Treats
Calling all cake, lolly and scone makers………the Café, Cakes and Produce and Lollies and Easter Treats Stall need your expertise.
If you are able to make a cake, slice or biscuits for the produce stall, please call Bronwyn Masters 0428 113 059 or email bronm@adam.com.au OR
If you are able to bake scones for the Café please call Jo Williams on 0437 337 792 OR
If you are able to make any lollies or Easter treats for the Lolly Stall please call Mel Russell (0412 718 300) or Kimberly Shiell (0424 409 939).
Thanks!

Transport
We are still looking for someone with a truck who might be able to help us transport equipment to and from Hewett Oval on the weekend of the fete. If this is you or you know someone who may be willing to assist please call or text Penny on 0414 401 469.

Plate Breaking Stall
Don’t forget to drop off your old crockery for this fabulously fun stall. Please bring any items to the school front office and leave it in the Plate Breaking collection box.

Second-hand items
There will be another second-hand items drive at the end of week 7 so don’t forget to put aside any items you think may be someone else’s next treasure e.g books, toys, DVDs, CDs, working electrical items and so on.

Twilight Tea
It was lovely to see so many families enjoying the balmy weather last Friday evening. The venue proved to be a winner, with people appreciating the space for the children, the fences to keep the little people close by and the oval providing a great place to have a hit of cricket. The atmosphere was very pleasant and relaxed. A very BIG thank you to Blake Watson, Chairperson of the P & F, Bron and Steve Masters and Lisa and Paul Wallis, for organizing this for us. They certainly know how to turn out a well cooked sausage!

This social event raised $298.49 towards the P&F Fundraising efforts for 2011. Thank you.

Working Bee
Thank you to those wonderful parents who attended our working bee last Saturday. Much was achieved, and everything was looking very neat and tidy when we got to school on Monday. I know the shrubs really appreciated their haircut!

Mathematics Sessions for Parents
The first session was held in the MFP last Friday afternoon, and it provided the opportunity for some very interesting questions from those parents who were able to come along. From that discussion it seems that there are questions out in the school community about our approach to times tables. An explanation of what times tables students are expected to learn and in what year levels, will come to you through class newsletters in a few weeks. There will also be an explanation of the status of long division and the algorithm that you and I were taught when we were in primary school, and that is attached to this newsletter. The group will continue to meet and to begin will explore the how, why and when we teach the following: Fractions, Base 10 and Patterning. There may be more but this will be determined by the interest of the parent group as time goes by. Miss Geue, our maths key teacher, is very keen to be involved and to allow for that we have moved the sessions to Thursday in the MFP from 1.45pm – 2.45pm. We will continue meeting weekly until further notice. Everyone is welcome to come along whenever you can manage it.
Primary Years Programme (PYP)

Inquiry Learning

True inquiry requires action.
The International Baccalaureate Organization states, "In the PYP, it is believed that education must extend beyond the intellectual to include not only socially responsible attitudes but also thoughtful and appropriate action. An explicit expectation of the PYP is that successful inquiry will lead to responsible action, initiated by the student as a result of the learning process."

Action can be as simple as children actively turning off the water when they brush their teeth (and, even better, persuading their families to do the same) after learning about water conservation. Other Action requires more reflection and planning.

The Action Cycle of the Primary Years Programme

The action cycle is the simple yet powerful tool used to teach children how to take action. By going through the three steps of choosing, acting and then reflecting back upon the results of their choice, students are able to grow socially and personally, developing skills such as cooperation, problem solving, conflict resolution and critical thinking. This is an important part of student's participation in their own learning.

Here are just some of the ways action has taken place at St Peters over the years as a result of successful inquiries.

- Students took an active role in school and home recycling systems with some children encouraging their parents to buy different items with less packaging in order to minimise rubbish. (Unit on Recycling)
- A student making a set of rules for their home when playing with their siblings to ensure that they played peacefully. (Conflict Unit)
- Students donating to the Cora Barclay loud shirt day offering for hearing impaired people. (Equal Opportunity Unit)

Bronwyn Wilson
PYP Coordinator

My School 2.0

On 4 March the My School 2.0 website (www.myschool.edu.au) will be launched.
This website provides profiles on each school, including ours, and includes information about the school such as numbers of students and staff, attendance rates and results from the national literacy and numeracy tests. There is a lot of information contained on the website including for the first time, financial data.
Our school already uses a range of data to inform us about the performance of students. The information My School provides will be additional information that will support us in continuing to provide quality programs and continuing to achieve positive learning outcomes for all our students.
For further information about our school, parents and community members are encouraged to look at our website, read our newsletters and talk to your child’s teacher as well as the principal.
If you have any questions in relation to My School please contact the school.
Prayer Team

Next week (week 6) St Peters’ Prayer Team will be praying for—

School staff: Anjali Grierson (Indonesian Teacher), Sarah Smith (Learning Support Coordinator) & Penny Rawinski (Sport / Art Specialist)

Students and their families in room 10 (Year 3) and their teacher—Heidi Schutz
• Joanne Christopher (parents: Deisi & Nirmal)
• Emily Meynell (parents: Bronny & Trevor)
• Matthew Nelson (mum: Cathy)
• Eduard Van den Berg & Annika (Rm 8) (parents: Anna & Reinhardt)

St Peters’ Prayer Team
(James Ziersch, Cathy Tighe, Angela Graetz, Sam Smith, Mel Pruszinski, Liz Bird, Bronny Meynell, Ali Newman and Pastor Ben Pfeiffer)

St Peters Support Program

I’d like to thank the volunteer parents who have returned their response to our request for help. The Class Support Coordinators have now been given an updated list of parents who are willing to help other school families in a time of need. The list enables Class Support Coordinators to contact parents who have indicated specifically how they are able to help. Some families have limited time, so this response allows us to be selective in who we ask for a particular need. If you have not yet returned your tear off response, then the Class Support Coordinators may still inform you of a need that cannot be met by volunteers on our list, and then you can indicate your availability to help at that time.

God bless your care and support of others,
James Ziersch (Chaplain)

School Business Directory

Fiona Dimou has once again kindly offered to compile a School Business Directory to be available to the School community for their information. A notice regarding compilation of this directory has been distributed to each school family, with a request that details be received by Friday 4 March.

If you have a business/service that you would like to communicate or share with the school, we encourage you to provide your details for inclusion in the directory. Spare forms are available at the front office if required or, for further information, contact Fiona on 0418 804 792.

SPLOSHC

We would like to welcome and thank Ali Newman who has joined the SPLOSHC Committee. We look forward to Ali’s input and feedback throughout the year.

Dance and Drama

This week at SPLOSHC we are starting dance and drama.

Dance will be on Tuesdays with Siobhan Allen. There will be two sessions, years R-2 and years 3-7. Sessions will be held 3.30-4.30, so the children will be finished in time for the 4.30 pickup.

Siobhan has studied Classical Ballet with the RAD (Royal Academy of Dance) for over 15 years and also has specialised training in Contemporary, Jazz and Tap. Siobhan has also studied full time at the Adelaide Centre of Arts and performed in many independent works including work with renowned choreographer Leanne Ringlestein (Lee Warren Dancers and Australian Dance Theatre).

Drama will be on Wednesdays with Jemma Moody. These sessions will also be completed by 4.30 in time for 4.30 pickups.

Jemma has a passion for drama productions and has studied drama through Trinity College and has completed Drama Curriculum Studies at Flinders University. Jemma has been involved in many drama productions including assisting in the school production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at Kings College School, Cambridge, UK.

We are extremely lucky to have these talented women on our staff at SPLOSHC and be able to include dance and drama into our program. Both of these activities are included in your SPLOSHC Fees.

The SPLOSHC Team
Ros, Siobhan, Jemma, Lauren, Craig and Tammy

Clean Up Australia Day

This Friday is Clean Up Australia Day for schools. As part of our service to the community students will be cleaning up both within the school grounds, but also along the verges on Trevor Terrace and Cumming Street adjacent to the school, as well as the Blackwood Oval. It would be greatly appreciated if each student could bring a pair of disposable rubber gloves and tongs to school tomorrow to enable them to do the work in a hygienic manner.
**Out of School Hours Sport**

**OSH Sport Fees**
Term One OSH Sport fees are now overdue and payable. Basketball and Soccer top fees are $6 each; Cricket fees are $20 per player. These fees cover Term 1 OSH Sport.
Parents Please Note: There may be other fees for your child’s sport depending on the centre or association it is played under.

Invoices will be going home next week to all families who are still to pay.

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**Still Missing!! Cricket Bats from B Grade Team Bag**
Could all cricket players and family and friends of last year’s B Grade cricket team please check at home or ask the respective families if they have equipment from St Peters?

We still have 2 wooden cricket bats missing. They have ‘SPLS’, ‘B grade’ or ‘C grade’ marked on them and we would like them returned to school as soon as possible.

Thank you to the player who returned a bat to the team on the weekend.

Confirmed player numbers from the combined local schools of St Peters, Blackwood, Eden Hills, Craigburn and Bellevue Heights indicates that the 2/3 and 4/5 teams for 2011 will be combined teams, within the West Adelaide Football Club primary school competition.

The coach’s positions for these teams have been filled with parents from those schools who nominated to coach this year.

There is still a possibility of a combined 6/7 team but organisers are still looking for at least 2 more players. They already have a coach for this team.

Please let Mrs Smith know if you want to play, either in person or via email: sharon.smith@stpeterslutheran.sa.edu.au

Grant Lovelock from West Adelaide has also agreed to be the St Peters/Blackwood delegate for the 2011 season.

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**Brett Lee’s Weet-Bix Cricket Boot Camp!**
Learn from one of the cricketing world’s fastest and most exciting pace bowlers - Brett Lee.

To celebrate the summer of cricket, Weet-Bix has teamed up with Cricket Australia to help you learn the secrets of the pros. You can learn about all facets of cricket, including bowling, batting, wicket-keeping, fielding and leadership, all through the expert guidance of Brett Lee.

Weet-Bix continues to be a proud supporter of grassroots cricket. So, test your skills, complete the challenges, and receive a certificate at the Weet-Bix MyCricket Website today.


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**Sport Results**

**B Grade Cricket**
We had our first game of the season against Blackwood last Saturday. After an evenly contested game, Blackwood won by a few runs in the last couple of overs.
The boys did a great job in very warm conditions and played well as a team. Congratulations to Jordan for his first B grade game and Tom for his first ever game of Cricket! Well done to everyone. Paul Tippett

Justin Smith and I will be coordinating the team. If your son is unable to play please make one of us aware of it so we are not waiting for their arrival on match day. Our details are in the school parent contact list. As there will be no training during the week, can you please try to get there around 8am to allow time for the team to do some training?

Cheers, Paul Tippett

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For CURRENT information on Out of School Sport items/EVENTS, PLEASE see the noticeboard outside Room 2.
Diary Dates Term 1 (for your calendar!)

**Week 5 (Monday 28/2)**
- Thu 3/3 Maths Parent Workshop—1.45pm
- School Council Meeting—7pm
- Fri 4/3 After Chapel Coffee (Room 9—Mrs Laughton)
- Clean-up Australia Day

**Week 6 (Monday 7/3)**
- Thu 10/3 Maths Parent Workshop—1.45pm
- Fri 11/3 After Chapel Coffee (Room 8—Mrs Fox)

**Week 7 (Tuesday 15/3)**
- Mon 14/3 Adelaide Cup Day Holiday
- Thu 17/3 Maths Parent Workshop—1.45pm
- Fri 18/3 After Chapel Coffee (Room 7—Mrs Mibus)

**Week 8 (Monday 21/3)**
- Thu 24/3 Maths Parent Workshop—1.45pm
- Fri 25/3 Sports Day
- Sun 27/3 Family Service (Room 1 & 2)

**Week 9 (Monday 28/3)**
- Thu 31/3 Chess Interschool Competition (Girls only)
- Maths Parent Workshop—1.45pm
- Fri 1/4 After Chapel Coffee (Room 10—Miss Schutz)

**Week 10 (Monday 4/4)**
- Thu 7/4 Chess Interschool Competition
- School Council Meeting—7pm
- Fri 8/4 After Chapel Coffee (ELC)
- Sun 10/4 St Peters Lutheran School Fete

**Week 11 (Monday 11/4)**
- Mon 11/4 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Tue 12/4 Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Thurs 14/4 Last day of term

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

**St Peters Lutheran Church News**

St Peters worship services are held each week at 10.00am

**ALL WELCOME**

**Coming Up...**
- Ash Wednesday Service—9th March 7:30pm
- Lenten devotional services in the lead up to Easter—from Wed 16th March at 7:30pm
- Confirmation course to begin later this year

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

*Jesus said, “Rise and have no fear” (Matt 17:7)*

**The Big Family Outing**

is a weekend of art and performance handpicked for families.
It is part of the Come Out Festival and being held on the weekend of 26 – 27 March.

Come Out venues include the Adelaide Botanic Gardens; Adelaide Festival Centre; BankSA stage; Her Majesty’s Theatre; Tandanya to name but a few.

Tickets for all Big Family Outing events are sold through BASS