From the Principal

Are we there yet?

When I was a child my family moved from Whyalla to the Barossa Valley and so we had many journeys between those two places which, as a nine-year-old, seemed to take an incredibly long time. We often travelled at night so it was dark and there was nothing to be seen outside the car and nothing that could be seen inside the car. I know that these days my grandchildren have DVD’s and other electronic games to entertain them on long journeys but in the olden days it was quite a different story and it was very, very boring. Are we there yet? seemed a very reasonable question. Of course our parents didn’t find it reasonable, particularly as we asked the same question about every ten minutes, and in between probably engaged in a few squabbles with our siblings, and did a fair bit of whining and whinging.

Long journeys are fraught - boring for the children and frustrating for the parents who have to listen to that question, along with a whole lot of other inappropriate behaviour from their treasures. Parents on long journeys with their darlings can get very annoyed. At least our parents knew how long it would take and if we left at 5pm they knew we would arrive at our destination at about 10pm.

For Moses, and the children of Israel who were following him, it was a different story. No-one knew how long they were going to be on the journey to the promised land when they left Egypt, not even Moses. It is easy to imagine how after about twenty years of wandering around they were getting a bit fed up – and they still had twenty years to go! They whinged and whined, behaved abominably and made God really, really angry. Poor old Moses had to put up with that question as well as open rebellion as they all struggled on. Here was a man, Moses, who had been given a job by God that he certainly didn’t want or feel equipped to do, leading a group of whingers, trying to keep their spirits up under the most difficult circumstances.

His faith in God was amazing and his love of the people he was leading profound. When God was very angry and threatening to destroy them, he interceded on their behalf and begged God to forgive them. He even offered himself for them. What a man!

We are so like those children of Israel! We don’t always follow Jesus who is our leader and, if things are not going the way we want, we certainly whinge and whine. If we are left to our own devices we can allow ourselves to become distracted and go off the rails, just like those people did so long ago, making idols and worshipping other gods like money, or sport, or power or...

Unbelievable as it is though, we have a God who still loves us, who looks at us through Jesus who has taken the punishment for our self-centredness, our disregard for others, for our ME FIRST attitude, for our lack of trust and faith… and who sees us as perfect!

The book of Exodus in the Bible is action-packed. Next time you are a passenger on a long journey, have a read. I promise you won’t get bored!
Congratulations to the Parents and Friends Committee involved in organizing the fundraising and to all of the parents and friends who support that. We are on the way to raising a record amount for the school (which has direct benefits for our students). Great job everyone!

Working Bee
This went off beautifully last Saturday. Another vote of thanks to all the lovely parents who were able to come along. You did a wonderful job and everything looks very neat and tidy and well cared for. Thank you!

BER Progress Report

NSP
Tenders have been received and are currently being finalised so you will see big things happening very soon.

P21
We are expecting the new fitness track to be installed within the next two weeks.

Student Sickness
A larger than usual number of students have been absent due to sickness in recent days. Many of these are flu-related, but to date there has been no confirmed case of Swine Flu.

Your cooperation in keeping children at home when they have flu-like symptoms is appreciated.

Cake Stalls
Our next cake stall is happening tomorrow and goods will be available at the beginning of the day as usual. The Early Learning Centre is responsible for this week’s stall under the expert guidance of Blake Watson.

Last week $161 was raised which, so far, makes our cake stall total $551.50.

Musical Production
Once again our students and their teachers have done an amazing job of planning, practising, preparing and then presenting a polished musical production for the school community. Again this year our production, Are we there yet? which is the story of Moses and the Exodus, included every student in our school.

We had very positive feedback from the members of the audience at our matinee performance on Tuesday. Some thought it was our best ever, and others were happy to tell me that every year we just get better and better.

I am sure that those of you who attend the evening performance will enjoy it just as much.

Student-Free Day
A reminder to school families that the school will be closed on Friday 4 September as staff will be participating in the State Lutheran Schools’ Conference. This may provide a good opportunity for you to spend a family day at the Royal Adelaide Show which is on at this time.

Student Teacher
Our student teacher Marcia Schubert (Room 3) completes her four-week practicum this week.

We have appreciated her input into the 4/5 class and extend our best wishes to Marcia as she pursues her goal of becoming a classroom teacher.
Seasons for Growth

Change, Loss and Grief are issues which affect all of us at some stage in our lives. Learning to deal effectively with these issues is central to personal wellbeing. Unresolved grief can affect a student’s learning. St Peters offers **Seasons 4 Growth** to support students who have experienced a change or loss in their family through moving schools, a serious illness, a death of a loved person or pet, separation or divorce of parents, the addition of new family members or some other significant change.

The programme:

- helps young people to realise that their emotions are a normal and valuable part of life.
- encourages them to express their thoughts and emotions.
- helps them to understand “grief.”
- teaches them to support others.

**The program is not counselling or therapy.**

**Seasons 4 Growth** is an eight-session program that concludes with an additional ‘Celebration’ session. At the end of the year each group will have the opportunity to have another meeting to discuss any issues arising after the program. Confidentiality regarding all discussions is emphasised in these sessions.

**Seasons 4 Growth** groups are facilitated by the School Chaplain and are grouped into four levels for years R/1, 2/3, 4/5 and 6/7. Each participant is given a workbook for journaling.

If you are interested in registering your child for term 3, please complete the attached registration form and return it to James Ziersch, via the school’s office or the classroom teacher by **Thursday 20 August**.

GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to the Green Team on their initiative during Energy Safety and Saving Week.

They inspired us to do our bit to save energy by turning off lights, keeping jumpers on and air conditioners off, and remembering to switch off our computers.

Staff Professional Development

Last Friday Linda Laughton and Cassie Williams attended a whole day workshop run by the Association of Independent Schools on communication and problem solving.

On Monday 17 and Monday 24 August several members of staff will be participating in a Mandated Reporting Refresher course.
Out of School Hours Sports

**Football and Netball**

**2/3 Football** - Saturday 15 August at 8.30am

Blackwood/St Peters v Aberfoyle Campus at Aberfoyle Campus Primary School, Budapest Road, Aberfoyle Park.

Players to be at the oval 20 minutes before the game.

Please note all 2/3 Footballers:
The West v Glenelg Mini League game is scheduled for Saturday 5th September. Players to be at City Mazda Stadium at 1.30pm. Free entry to family members.

**4/5 Football** - Saturday 15 August at 9.30am

St Peters v Black Forest at Black Forest Primary School, Glandore Oval, South Road, Glandore

Players to be at the oval 15 minutes before the game.

**2/3 Netball** – Saturday 15 August at 10am

St Peters v Belair at St Peters

Players to be at the courts 10 minutes before the game.

Out of School Hours Sport - Term 4

Nomination forms for Term 4 Out of School Hours sport need to be completed and returned to school by Friday 21 August.

As previously explained, if the form is not in by the due date, your child’s participation in that sport cannot be considered.

This strict adherence to the due date is necessary so that Term 4 sport teams are registered and we are ready to go by the end of term as some sports start in Week 1.

Mrs Smith
For the OSH Sport Committee

**2/3 Netball**—Saturday 1 August

We won! We played a really good game and the score was St Peters 15 to Aberfoyle Campus 5.

*Sarah D*

**2/3 Netball**—Saturday 8 August

On Saturday St Peters played Braeview. The score was 14 - 10. St Peters won. It was our coach, Steve’s, birthday and we sung happy birthday. He turned 40!

*Taylah C*

**2/3 Netball**
The girls have continued to do a wonderful job with their skills improving each week. Since being back this term we have played three games. The first game was against Craigburn Primary which was their first loss for the season with 6 goals to 9. We then played Aberfoyle Campus which they won 15 to 5 at home. Last week was against Braeview which was a tough game. The girls were behind until late in the third quarter when they got their skates on for the rest of the game, coming out winners 14 to 10.

*Steve Masters, Coach*
Dear SPLOSHC families

This week we have been focusing on basketball and have lots of activities to let us ‘see’, ‘play’, ‘wear’, ‘create’ and ‘learn’ about this fantastic sport.

My brother, Luke Gladigau, came in this afternoon for a basketball workshop which the kids enjoyed immensely.

Next week we move to the ever so popular sport at St Peters, Australian Rules Football.

Just a reminder that on Monday 17 August Woodville West Torrens footballer, Adam Grocke, will be coming into SPLOSHC to talk about what it’s like to be in a professional league. I think he has some goody bags from the club and he may even go out and have a kick if time permits.

Please get your Student Free Day Care interest forms back to us ASAP so we can start to analyse numbers and make a decision regarding whether we will be able to run these days.

We are currently starting to put together a SPLOSHC Cookbook. This book will be filled with all the delicious treats we devour at afternoon tea but there is also an opportunity for your family to submit a family-favourite snack that we can then also make at SPLOSHC.

Cookbook entry sheets are located in the MFP during SPLOSHC hours.

Thank you and have a great week!

Hayley Gladigau & the SPLOSHC team

Blackwood Kindergarten 50th Anniversary Celebrations

The Blackwood Kindergarten is celebrating fifty years at Brigalow Avenue and is holding an Open Day on Sunday 20 September from 11am—3pm.

Some of the activities planned include face painting, music, cake and sweets stalls, lucky dips, Devonshire tea and a sausage sizzle.

Bedwetting

A new DVD-based programme, Bedwetting Cured, has been developed by Dr Mark Condon and Physiotherapist, Margaret O’Donovan. It outlines a successful programme for parents to implement at home with their children.

For more information and a free Bedwetting Fact Sheet please visit the website www.bedwetting.institute.com.au or telephone 1300 135 796.
Diary Dates Term 3
(for your calendar!)

**Week 4 (Monday 10/8)**
- Thu 13/8 Musical Performance 7pm
- Fri 14/8 Cake Stall (ELC)

**Week 5 (Monday 17/8)**
- Fri 21/8 Cake Stall (Room 7)
  Toolbox parenting group 2pm

**Week 6 (Monday 24/8)**
- Tue 25/8 Uniform Shop open 3pm
- Fri 28/8 Cake Stall (Room 3)
  Uniform Shop Open 9.15am
- Sun 30/8 Family Service (Room 3)

**Week 7 (Monday 31/8)**
- Thu 3/9 School Photos
- Fri 4/9 Student Free Day/PD Day for Staff

**Week 8 (Monday 7/9)**
- Tue 8/9 Uniform Shop Open 3pm
- Fri 11/9 Cake Stall (Room 8)
  Toolbox parenting group 9.30am
- Sun 13/9 Family Service (Room B)

**Week 9 (Monday 14/9)**
- Fri 18/9 Cake Stall (Room 6)
  Uniform Shop Open 9.15am
  Toolbox parenting group 2pm
- Sat 19/9 Pedal Prix
- Sun 20/9 Pedal Prix

**Week 10 (Monday 21/9)**
- Tue 22/9 Uniform Shop open 3pm
- Thu 24/9 Last day of term for students
  (Casual Day)
  Cake Stall (Room 1)
  Student Led Conferences—evening
- Fri 25/9 Student Led Conferences—day

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