From the Principal

I was at a sporting event watching some of my grandchildren the other day when it occurred to me what a wonderful stage of life it is when the children are in primary school. Generally parents are in the prime of their lives somewhere between 25 and 50, healthy and energetic. The children are still at home dependent, to a large degree, and most of the socialising involves the whole family. At primary school, parents also seem to be much more hands-on and involved with the school their children attend and that creates the opportunity to make new friends and enjoy activities outside of school together as well. At primary school, children often have their first experience of competitive sport and what a joy that can be. The development of skills is a wonder to behold. At the same time, I guess many are wondering how they are going to pay the school fees when the darlings go off to the preferred secondary school, who is going to look after the kids if they are sick on the days parents work and what about that mortgage?

Then I was thinking about the stage of life when one is a child themselves and all the wonders of that. Time seems to take ages to pass and when I was young we were able to play fabulous imaginative games outside and down the creek that ran near our house. I didn’t have to worry about the mortgage or superannuation, saving for a new car or who was going to do the shopping or mind anyone else if I felt sick because my Mum would be looking after me. At the same time, I did have my own set of concerns that, while childlike, were very real to me as I recall.

Then there is the stage of life that I am currently enjoying. We have no children living at home to be concerned about. On most Saturdays I can sleep in as long as I like. I can read a book without getting interrupted. The house stays pretty tidy because there are only two of us there. We finally have no mortgage and live quite comfortably in our home of 36 years. We have plenty of room and two bathrooms so we never have to fight to get in there. Our grandchildren come for a sleepover and I watch movies, play games, scratch backs and eat unhealthy food and then they go home and we have a lovely rest. At the same time, we certainly don’t have the energy we had, we are sometimes concerned about our health and worry about the world our grandchildren are growing up in. We wonder if we should sell our house and move to a smaller block and what will happen to us when we are old and feeble.

Every stage of life has its own joys and its own challenges. I am reminded of those wonderful verses in Ecclesiastes particularly 3:11 God has made everything beautiful in its time. We are encouraged to make the best of our present life and live in the day praising and thanking God for his creation, for the relationships he creates and the blessings of food and shelter that he provides each day.

For everything there is a season…….

Term 3 Issue 6
27 August 2009

Congratulations to Glenn and Miranda Dixon on the birth of their daughter, Yolanna Justine - a little sister for Tasman and Ronan.

Family Service
Everyone is warmly invited to the St Peters Family Service this Sunday at 10am where Mrs Rawinski’s 4/5 class will have special involvement

Special points of interest:
• Tomorrow—
  Cake Stall
  (Room 3)
  Uniform Shop
  Open 9.15am
• Sunday 31/8
  Family Service
  (Room 3)
• Thursday 3/9
  School Photos
Cake Stalls
Last week Mrs Mibus’ R/1 class did a fine job of providing the fare for the cake stall and they raised $245.35. This takes the running total of our cake stalls to $1,126.85 which is a fabulous effort.

Tomorrow the Room 3 people (4/5 class) under the leadership of Simone Taylor will be providing the goodies.

Building Education Revolution

Progress report—NSP
Work was begun on the installation of our new fitness track and then came the beautiful rain. For the time being, progress has been held up because of the wonderfully wet ground.

Staff Professional Development

Last Friday Liz Bird attended a morning workshop run by the Association of Independent Schools on supporting students with writing strategies and how learning is affected by sensory issues.

Student-Free Day

A reminder to school families that the school will be closed next 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.

If your child is not returning to St Peters in 2010

Planning for the 2010 school year is already in progress and we are beginning to review our staffing numbers and other general educational resource needs for the year. In order to assist with this planning, it is essential that we have details of current students’ intention to continue at St Peters in 2010.

The School enrolment policy states: “where a student is to be withdrawn from the school, parents are required to give the Principal one term’s notice, in writing, before the withdrawal date, otherwise parents will be liable for an additional term’s fees”. Therefore, if your child is not returning in 2010, notification must be received in writing, addressed to the Principal by the end of Term 3 on Thursday 24 September 2009.

In some cases it may not be possible to give a clear commitment for next year but, bearing in mind the policy stated above, it is important for us to have as clear a forecast as possible.

If you would like to discuss your enrolment situation for 2010, please contact the Principal.

Staff and Student Illness

We are currently struggling with staff members and students alike suffering from what appears to be the second round of winter ailments. As you are aware, we have had one confirmed case of Swine Flu and health authorities advise that one of the most effective ways to protect yourself and others from the flu (whether seasonal or pandemic) is to practise good personal hygiene. That includes regular washing of hands and covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.

Any students who have flu-like symptoms must stay at home until they are well. If a student is diagnosed as having Swine Flu, then they should stay home for a minimum of seven days following the diagnosis. Please note that siblings in families where Swine Flu has been diagnosed are not required to be at home unless they present with flu-like symptoms themselves.

Thank you for your consideration and cooperation with this.
SAPYP Coordinators’ Hub and Spotlight Seminar

St Peters was alive with visitors last Thursday as we played host to teachers and PYP coordinators from schools across Adelaide.

Nineteen coordinators gathered in the Resource Centre for lunch and a SAPYP Hub meeting. This group works together to address issues that are common to all IB World Schools, including the provision of professional development for teachers and school staff, sourcing and sharing resources, curriculum development and communicating with the International Baccalaureate regional office.

From 3:30 onwards the school was inundated with teachers who had been invited to view our classrooms and attend the mathematics seminar. Around 100 visitors made their way through the classrooms where they were able to view the purposeful way student work is displayed and talk to our teachers about their teaching practice. They then made their way, via afternoon tea, to the chapel, where Rebecca Geue presented a DVD and PowerPoint demonstrating how mathematics is taught at St Peters using an inquiry approach. This was very well received and left the audience wanting to hear more about our beliefs about learning and teaching and the strategies used across the school.

When visitors come to St Peters, I often hear them exclaim about the quality of the facilities we have – the well-equipped classrooms and the spacious Resource Centre. And they also enjoy the setting with the beautiful trees and outlook across Blackwood Park. Not all schools are as well resourced or situated as St Peters, and I am very grateful for the foresight shown in planning this school. However, a school is best reflected, not in the built environment, but in the character of its students. Our Year 7 students acted as hosts throughout the day. They helped visitors with car parking, greeted them at the front office and then took them down to the classrooms. They truly were a credit to St Peters and played a significant role in facilitating the day.

John Dow
PYP coordinator

School Photos

School photos will be taken next Thursday 3 September. Photo envelopes for orders were distributed to every student last week marked with their individual name. Please return these envelopes to the office promptly. Family order forms are available from the office if you wish to have your children photographed together (school children only).

All students are to come dressed in their full winter uniform (girls are to wear white socks unless otherwise mentioned by your class teacher). Please see information regarding sports photos in OHS Sports on page 4 of this newsletter.

This year we are having a whole school photo to mark our 10 Year Anniversary which will be taken at 8.45am. It is imperative your child/ren arrive on time to ensure the whole school is in the photo.

Sunscren Time Again

UV levels in South Australia will now reach levels above 3 every day until the end of April next year. UV levels peak over the middle hours of the day (10am—3pm) when extra care is needed to ensure skin is protected.

The SunSmart UV Alert is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology daily to indicate the hours during the day that the UV radiation level will be 3 and above (i.e. 9.35am—4.10pm) when skin protection is necessary. To find out today’s weather forecast for your location log onto www.bom.gov.au/weather/uv or www.sunsmart.org.au for more information about the alert.

27 August 2009
**Out of School Hours Sports**

### Year 2/3 Football

29th August 8.30am
Plympton vs. St Peters at Plympton;
Owen Street, PLYMPTON
Please be at the oval 20 minutes before the game
Team photo to be taken at the game this week

Don’t forget the End of Season Breakup
RSVP – Friday 18 September 2009

**SANFL Mini League Game**
Sunday 6 September 2009
1.30pm sharp at City Mazda Stadium,
Milner Road, Richmond
Family admitted free
(including grandparents)
Please meet at front oval gates. Do not enter ground until advised.
Please bring mouthguard, drink bottle,
green shorts, green socks and Blackwood/
St Peters Guernsey

### Year 4/5 Football

29th August 9.30am
Aberfoyle Campus vs. St Peters at Aberfoyle Pk;
Budapest Rd, ABERFOYLE PARK
Please be at the oval 15 minutes before the game.

**SANFL junior football review**
The SANFL Football Commission has appointed an independent taskforce to conduct a review of junior football across all levels in South Australia. The purpose of the review is to identify key issues and make recommendations to ensure maximum opportunities for young people of all backgrounds to participate in football programs and have a clearly defined pathway.

To engage with any individuals and groups who have not been consulted by the taskforce members, an online survey has been developed as a means of gathering additional information, comments and suggestions from the football public.

The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete and can be found at: [www.sanfl.com.au](http://www.sanfl.com.au)

### Year 2/3 Netball

Saturday 29th August at 10am.
Please be at the courts 10 minutes before the game.
Blackwood vs. St Peters
At Blackwood Primary; Seymour St EDEN HILLS.

### Woods Panthers Cubs Program

Seeking 5-7 & 8-10 year olds
Off season training sessions with qualified coaches
WHEN: Thursday September 3rd, 10th & 17th from 6.00 – 7.30pm
WHERE: Club Courts – Adey Road, Blackwood
COST: $25 – includes a free club t-shirt
Download registration form from website
or contact Jackie on 0438 376 176.
See Noticeboard outside Room 2 for extra information.

### OSH Sport - Term 4

We have enough interest for the following teams to go ahead in Term 4:
Junior and Senior Kanga cricket; B Grade cricket; Year 3, 4, 5 basketball and Year 7 boys’ basketball.

Both Kanga cricket teams and Year 4 basketball require a coordinator so if you could help by being the coordinator of one of these teams we would appreciate a call from you. If these teams do not have a coordinator by Wednesday 23rd September we will have to withdraw them from their respective competitions.

### Sport for All SA Inc

Life. Be in it.
The Sport for All Centres at:
Unley High School,
Immanuel College Sports Centre and MARS Sporting Complex, Marden
are offering various sports for the summer.

The season starts Monday 12th October and runs through to April 2010 (end of term 1).
Team registration is due by 24th September.

If you do not have a team but would like to play contact the centre; they may have a team looking for extra players!!
For further details: [www.sa.lifebeinitsports.org](http://www.sa.lifebeinitsports.org)
or see the noticeboard outside Room 2

### Sports Photos

Sports team photos will be taken next Thursday 3 September. Please make sure your child/ren has their normal school sports uniform including their white sandshoes and socks to change into at recess for the photo. Pedal Prix riders will need to bring their Pedal Prix team t-shirts on the day.

**Coaches/Coordinators**
Can you please make sure ALL school sports tops are back at school for these photos. They will be returned afterwards so you will have them for sport on the weekend. You are welcome to have your photo taken with your team which will happen between 11.30am—12.30pm.
Chaplain’s Chat

Motivating Our Children to Do Their Best

“Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.” Winston Churchill

We want our children to do their best. But what is their best? How do you know if your children are living up to their full potential? Consider these ideas from MVParents.com

• Notice how much your child is self-motivated. Some children seem to know what they want and go after it. Others seem to dillydally a lot. Every child has a different amount of self-motivation.

• Children are motivated to do their best when they enjoy what they’re doing—and whom they’re with. (Some boys are only motivated if they like their teacher) That’s why one child can have a great year in maths one year and a not-so-great year the next. Teachers change. Circumstances change. A lot affects a child’s motivation. Pay attention to what increases your child’s motivation—and what squelches it. Keep introducing them to new activities so that they can discover new things that they can enjoy.

• Motivation can be seen at the time of being challenged. When children are overly challenged, they may give up because the expectations are too high. If they’re not challenged enough, they may become bored. Try to find the right balance for your child.

• Be aware of the difference between extrinsic motivation (being motivated by others with rewards) and intrinsic motivation (being motivated internally to do something which is what we are all about at St Peters). Although it’s okay to try to motivate children from time to time with rewards, try to get in touch with what makes your child motivated from the inside and focus on encouraging their own motivation.

• Look for fun ways to spice up activities that your child doesn’t enjoy, such as certain chores or doing homework for least-favorite subjects. For example, play music and dance while you dust. Or let your child sit with a favorite toy while doing homework.

• For parents with preschool aged children: Motivate your child’s curiosity, not by pushing or forcing your child to learn; (eliminate the flash cards and memorization activities) instead, focus on the things that fascinate your child, or use their imagination, such as befriending ants outside or having tea parties with stuffed animals.

God bless your parenting.

James Ziersch
Chaplain

Bits & Pieces

Children’s Book Sale
Step into Scholastic’s September Spring Sale and grab a fantastic bargain. Purchase children’s favourite novels, picture books, chapter books and activity items from as little as $1.

Thursday 17 and Friday 18 September : 8am—5pm

Scholastic Book Fairs Warehouse
39-41 King Street, Norwood

Lost & Found
Can families please check their child’s school jumpers. Lauren Sparre’s (Room 3) has gone missing and may have been accidentally picked up by someone else.

A silver loop earring and a loose “diamond” have been found. Please call at the office if you think either of these may belong to you.

Thank you.
Diary Dates Term 3
(for your calendar!)

**Week 6 (Monday 24/8)**
- 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
- Marketing Meeting 3.30pm
- School Council Meeting 7pm
- Fri 4/9  Student Free Day/PD Day for Staff

**Week 8 (Monday 7/9)**
- Mon 7/9  Burnside Primary School visiting classrooms
- Tue 8/9  Uniform Shop Open 3pm
- Wed 9/9  SPLOSHC Meeting 9am
- Fri 11/9  Cake Stall (Room 8)
- Toolbox parenting group 9.30am
- Class Support Coordinators’ Meeting 2.15pm
- Sun 13/9  Family Service (Room B)

**Week 9 (Monday 14/9)**
- Tue 15/9  SAPSASA Athletics’ Day
- Thu 17/9  Finance Committee Mtg 6pm
- 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)
- Fri 25/9  Student Led Conferences—day

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