

Term 1 Week 5

29 February 2024

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY MARCH 1

- 'Pop-Up' Band performance at St Teresa's Campus

FRIDAY MARCH 8

- 'Pop-Up' Band performance at Our Lady's Campus

MARCH 11

- Public holiday

MARCH 13 - 25

- NAPLAN

MARCH 18 - 20

- Year 12 Retreat
- Year 7 camp group 1

MARCH 20 - 22

- Year 7 camp group 2

TUESDAY APRIL 2

- Saint John's Centre, Official Opening and Blessing

FRIDAY APRIL 5

- Secondary Sports Day at Jubilee Park

CAMPUS TOURS

March 7

- 4pm Saint John's

March 12

- 9am St Teresa's
- 11:30am Our Lady's
- 4pm Saint John's

March 14

- 2pm Saint John's

March 19

- 9am St Teresa's
- 11:30am Our Lady's

PO Box 351, Whyalla, SA 5600
 info@samaritan.catholic.edu.au
 www.samaritan.catholic.edu.au

St Teresa's Campus

Telephone (08) 8645 8381
 Facsimile (08) 8645 1129

Our Lady Help

of Christians Campus

Telephone (08) 8649 2077
 Facsimile (08) 8649 1911

Saint John's Campus

Telephone (08) 8645 8568
 Facsimile (08) 8645 8186

Uniform Shop

Toal Street, Whyalla Stuart
 Telephone (08) 8649 3168
 Wednesday 8:00 - 10:00am
 Thursday 1:00 - 4:30pm

Key Points

- Congratulations
- Sacraments
- Sports Day
- 2025 Enrolment Tours
- Opening of the Saint John's Centre
- Student Safety
- Primary Leaders
- Ash Wednesday
- St Teresa's Campus Top Oval
- Coming up...
- SRC Induction
- Life Education Workshops
- Student Absences
- Student Appointments
- Vaping
- Careers News
- Sports News

Throughout Lent, we are called to support Project Compassion, an initiative of Caritas Australia. This year, Project Compassion celebrates 60 years of partnership with some of the most marginal communities in the world. Many of you may remember having the little cardboard box that often sat on your side table at home and you filled it with spare coins that was then brought into Mass at Easter. Now donations are mainly done electronically or through fundraising at school (there are still boxes though!!)

We pray for gratitude for the wonder of faith in God and the beauty of life. May our vision be broad and deep as we embrace people in great need, through our support of Project Compassion, organised by Caritas Australia.

Amen



Congratulations to Ashleigh Hector and Tully Boyle

Ashleigh and Tully, two of our Learning Support Officers, have been awarded a 'Transition to Teaching' Scholarship being offered by the Diocese of Port Pirie. This year the Diocese of Port Pirie launched a scholarship program to encourage existing support staff at regional schools to train as teachers. Ashleigh and Tully will be provided with financial and professional support as they undertake a teaching degree including work placements, targeted professional learning, unique on the job experience, as well as mentoring and coaching opportunities throughout the recipient's university course. In return, on successful completion of their studies, the scholarship recipients will commit to working as permanent full-time teachers in a Catholic Education South Australian (CESA) regional school for a minimum of two years.

Damien
 Damien Judd

PRINCIPAL

Sports Day

My last newsletter outlined our double booking of Saint John's Campus Sports Day with NAPLAN. Our new date for Secondary Sports Day is April 5 held at Jubilee Park with some events held the day before on the secondary campus.

2025 Enrolment Tours

Do you have a friend or relative interested in enrolling their child at the Saint John's Campus (7-12) for 2025? Enrolment Tours are being held soon. Dates are listed in the coming events. Current Year 6 students at our primary campuses do not need to enrol for the secondary campus but are encouraged to attend one of the many tours we will be running.

Opening of the Saint John's Centre

Many special guests including Bishop Karol, will descend on Samaritan College on April 2 for the official opening and blessing of our new facility. Invites for parents and friends of the college will come out soon.

Student Safety

Students and families are reminded to be wary of approaches from strangers, especially when they are unaccompanied or travelling to and from school. If they are approached students should not respond and should not accept offers of rides or gifts. Students should seek the assistance of other nearby adults if they feel unsafe and should report the event to a trusted adult (parent or school staff member) as soon as possible. SAPOL advises that taking out a mobile phone and calling police can deter the offender and they recommend the student making a formal report to their closest police station

The Samaritan Way

Last Sunday we heard in the Gospel of Mark the story of Jesus experiencing the glory of God and being transfigured.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. (Mark 9: 2-3)

In the bible mountain tops were important as sacred places of encounter with God. Both Moses and Jesus experienced God on the top of a mountain. But we do not have to journey to the top of a mountain to experience God in our day to day life.

What glimpses of the glory of God do you see in your daily life? God can be seen in the smile of a child, in children playing with their friends, in acts of kindness to others and in the beauty of our environment.

Consider where do you experience the most profound sense of God's presence in your life? Where is your sacred place?

As we continue on our Lenten journey towards Easter, we are reminded that being Christian is not an isolated event, unconnected with our daily life. It is a challenge for us all to respond to other people with greater generosity, forgiveness, and acceptance.

Each of us is called to a new way of looking and

seeing, understanding that all creation is within the loving gaze of God. We might ask ourselves, how can we open our eyes to see ourselves in relationship with all of God's beloved people?

As Jesus continues His journey to the cross at Easter it is the time to start seeing people in an entirely different light, as the apostles saw Jesus, or see attributes in someone which has never been revealed to you before.

Sacraments

This year our Parish will be more involved in delivering our Sacramental program. Information about First Reconciliation and First Eucharist for Year 4 students and Confirmation for Year 6 students went home at the end of last year and the beginning of this year. If you did not receive this information and are wanting your child to participate please contact me via SEQTA.

Recently, at our Ash Wednesday Parish Mass, students were welcomed and asked to enrol in the Sacramental program. This weekend our enrolling students and their families are asked to be present at Saturday or Sunday Mass to show their commitment to participating in the Sacraments.

It is an exciting time for these young students, our prayers go with them as they begin their Sacramental journey.

Rebecca Sinclair
APRIM



Ronita is 22. She lives with her husband and two children in a barangay (local district) in Quezon City, which is situated in Metro Manila in the Philippines.

Ronita left school when she became pregnant as a teenager. This could have had a life-long impact on her ability to find work and provide for her family but, thankfully, she heard about the Alternative Learning System (ALS) program run by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), Caritas Australia's local partner in the Philippines.

Through the FCJ, Ronita was able to re-enrol in her studies and continue learning in a safe and flexible environment – even with the arrival of her second child.

After completing her ALS classes, Ronita went on to earn her Grade 12 Senior High School Diploma. With her new diploma, Ronita has now secured a job at a call centre and is looking to a brighter future for her whole family.

"I have now graduated senior school and I am so proud of myself," she said. "I feel hopeful for the future... Now it's not impossible for me to achieve my dream... Thank you."

Watch [Ronita's Story](#)

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes, online by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia



Hop to it! The *Easter Raffle* is coming!! It's not *bunny*!!

The annual *Eggtraordinary Samaritan College Easter Raffle* is about to get under way.

Please donate a chocolate egg or a chocolate bunny or two to the Easter Raffle. All donations are gratefully accepted.

Sadly, many eggs are made using slave and child labour or are sold through companies that use slave labour or unfair trading methods. As part of our Easter Raffle this year, we would like to promote the buying of Fair Trade and 'slave free' eggs. Please consider buying eggs with the logos featured below.



Primary Campuses

Please send your donations to your child's classroom teacher or to the office of either primary campus.

Saint John's Campus

Please take your donation to the office.

Chick it out!! Tickets will be on sale in Week 7 and will be 50 cents.

We are not going to put *all* our eggs one *basket*. There will a number of great prizes. The Easter raffle will be drawn on Thursday March 28, Week 9, with proceeds going to Project Compassion.

I'm so eggcited I could eggsplode!!

Primary Campus News

Primary Leaders

Congratulations to our Primary Student Leaders. Officially commissioned into their leadership roles at assemblies during Week 3.

“Lord, as we continue to undertake the role of leader let us be affirmed by the servant leadership we witness in your son Jesus. Let us walk in the path He has set and let those who will, follow. Amen”

We acknowledge the ongoing commitment to leadership and responsibility of all our students.

We thank our Student Agency and Well-Being leaders Jenna Warren and Kristin Murray for guiding the young leaders through their assemblies.

Ash Wednesday

We commemorated Ash Wednesday with liturgies across all three campuses.

“The rich symbolism contained in the ashes being present at our Ash Wednesday Liturgies, reminds us to turn back to God who is full of tenderness and compassion.”

Each Lent, Caritas launches its Project Compassion appeal a practical way of bringing to life our campaign of Christian service. Here at Samaritan, we have a beautiful tradition of donating to Project Compassion, showing empathy for those who do not have what we have.

St Teresa's Campus Top Oval

Look what has been happening behind the scenes.

It's been a long time since the Top Oval at St Teresa's Campus looked so good. Brand new turf and an underground irrigation system installed. The oval should be ready for use in 4-6 weeks.

Coming up...

Class Assemblies and Liturgies start from this week – please keep an eye out for a message from your child's teacher regarding any assemblies over the coming weeks.

Saint Teresa's Campus hold their events at 9:00am on Friday mornings and Our Lady Help of Christians Campus have Assembly at 2:45pm on a Friday and Liturgy at 12:30pm on a Friday.

Assembly generally involves children from all classes, however, Liturgy will run in Upper or Junior Primary groups to make sure the Prayers are contextual.

Stormfront will be running 'Pop-Up' Band performances at the Primary Campuses, (St Teresa's Campus Friday March 1 and Our Lady Help of Christians Campus Friday March 8) to generate some further interest for the College's Band promotion. If your child is interested in being a part of the Band, make sure they get the necessary forms from the Pop Up performances or their teacher.

The Official Clean-Up Australia Day is this Sunday, March 3, however, Samaritan will be holding their Clean-Up Australia Day activities in Week 6 (next week).

Please keep an ear out for any NAPLAN communication – the practice tests have been administered and the nation-wide testing will be completed during Week 7 and 8.

Matt Quist & Gareth Molyneux
HEAD OF PRIMARY CAMPUSES





*Ash
Wednesday*



Secondary Campus News

Secondary attendance hotline: 0473 989 587 - TEXT messages only, otherwise please phone 8645 8568.

Please follow up phone calls with a note to the caregroup teacher.

SRC Induction

Last Tuesday we presented our Year 7 – 11 student leaders to the school community at our annual SRC Induction Assembly. Congratulations to the following young people who have been elected to represent their peers for the remainder of the academic year.

Year 7	
Benedict	Grace Cane-Sims and Rachelle Williams
MacKillop	Xavier Wright and Lacey Smith
Rice	Lila Collins and Sheree McIntyre

Year 8	
Benedict	Declan Sturt and Unathi Dube
MacKillop	Patrick Kelly and Seth Morgan
Rice	Jack Hammond and Katie Smith

Year 9	
Benedict	Raffielle Williams and Ruby Giddings
MacKillop	Saxon Breen and Joshua Mustchin
Rice	Rory Cash and Jim Collins



Year 10	
Benedict	Maddelyn Ravanelli
MacKillop	Ayaan Shaik and Dana Free
Rice	Lachlan Miller and Marcel Daniels

Year 11	
Benedict	Mia Perry, Dylan Evans and Amy Gordon-Ramke
MacKillop	Jacqueline To and Dimitri Milovanovic
Rice	Miley Wilson and Thomas Hobba



Life Education Workshops

Last week students in Years 7 – 11 attended a series of workshops run by Life Education. As their name suggests, they provide life education information and skills to students on a range of topical matters such as vaping and alcohol use. The aim of these workshops is to educate and empower young people to make healthier lifestyle choices.

Sports Day

As some of you might be aware, we have had to move the date of Sports Day to Friday Week 10 (April 5). We apologise for any inconvenience this move might have caused.

Student Absences

Most students and families would appreciate the detrimental impact regular and/or continued absence can have on a student's learning; however often these absences are unavoidable – illness, funerals, medical appointments cannot always be scheduled during the holidays or, in the case of our Year 12s, study lessons. Parents and caregivers are asked to notify the Front Office of student absences so we can record them as 'explained' and hence meet our reporting obligations.

Student Appointments

Families are asked to ensure that students are aware of/reminded about appointments and are respectfully advised that Front Office staff are not always available to find students who are unaware of or forget they have these appointments. This is particularly the case when there is only one staff member in the Front Office.

Vaping

Vapes, also known as e-cigarettes, are becoming increasingly popular among young people, and it would be naive to think that Samaritan students are immune to the temptation e-cigarettes pose. The extent of the harm both nicotine-free and nicotine based vaping products pose is unclear, but evidence suggests that vaping is not risk-free. Vaping is illegal for children under the age of 18. It is for this reason that Samaritan College cannot condone the practice, and students who are caught vaping on school property will be responded to in the appropriate manner. SAPOL has advised that schools are within their rights to confiscate and destroy vaping products found in a young person's possession, locker or school bag.

Careers News

The first edition of the Careers News for 2024 was published last week. This fortnightly publication contains information about all-things careers for students in all year levels - career pathways, employability skills, work experience and more! Digital copies are emailed to families and hard copies are available in caregroups and the Careers Room in the CBC Building



Tanya Gibson
HEAD OF CAMPUS

Sports News

Well done to Kai Edwards (former student, now attending Sacred Heart College) who was invited to the SANFL Centre of Excellence Testing for football earlier this month. Well done Kai.

Jaikara Stainer attended South Australian Clay Target Association State Carnival at the beginning of February this year. Whilst she competes in Juniors she also competes at a C Grade level against all other shooters at this level. At the state carnival she has won the 75 Target Champion of Champions for C grade which was a great achievement for a Junior to win.



She also achieved the chance to shoot off to join the Women's State Team to shoot at the National Championships. Jaikara also won the 50 Target Commonwealth Continental for Juniors, 50 Target Continental Championship for C Grade, 75 Target Champion of Champions for C Grade, and the Overall High Gun for the highest combine score for the weekend for C Grade.

Well done Jaikara.

Samaritan College is so proud of all our students and their achievements.

If students have recently been awarded something or have been selected into a higher level sporting team, please let us know about it and email Sport Coordinator Mr Sheedy – sean.sheedy@samaritan.catholic.edu.au

Sean Sheedy
SPORT COORDINATOR

Community News

"The services and events contained in this section are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children."

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