

Term 4 Week 6

21 November 2024

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 28

- Last day of term for Year 11s
- Year 12 Graduation

MONDAY DECEMBER 2

- Reception-Year 2 End of Year Liturgy

TUESDAY DECEMBER 3

- Year 3-6 End of Year Mass at St Teresa's Church

- St Teresa's Campus Family Night and Colour Run

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 4

- Our Lady Help of Christians Campus Carols and Christmas Fair

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6

- Year 6 Activity Day
- Last Day of term for Year 10s

MONDAY DECEMBER 9

- Prize Night

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10

- Reception - Year 6 Transition morning
- Last Day of term R-Year 9
- Year 6 Graduation Dinner at South Whyalla Football Club

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

- Advent
- Year 12 Graduation
- Samaritan Shines
- Staffing
- 2025
- Whyalla Parish Advent and Christmas Mass times
- Key Dates: Term 4
- Year 6 Transition
- Remembrance Day
- Vinnies Christmas Appeal
- Prize Night
- Examinations
- Transition Day
- Parachute Activities

Advent

Next Sunday (not this coming Sunday) is the First Sunday of Advent. It is a period of preparation that lasts for four weeks leading up to Christmas. Advent means 'coming', and in the church we prepare for the Coming of Christ who is 'God made flesh' who walked the earth. For some, this countdown to Christmas is marked by an Advent Calendar. This can be a very helpful and purposeful addition to assist in preparing for the Coming of Christ. That is, of course, if the calendar actually mentions the different Sundays in Advent or the other religious events including how to decorate a Jesse Tree (this is a tree that helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth). Does your Advent Calendar do that? Or is it a drinking game to play with 24 little bottles of Vodka sold under the guise of an Advent Calendar? Or according to your Advent Calendar, there are only 3 more days until Christmas?



Year 12 Graduation

Congratulations to the Year 12s who will formally graduate from Samaritan College next Thursday. The evening doubles, in some way, as their Formal and is a nice way to finish off their schooling. For some students it will be a culmination of 13 years of schooling at Samaritan and for others the journey with Samaritan has only been for the past 11 months. Either way we thank the graduates for the contribution they have made to our college. We wish them all the best for their next journey.

Damien
 Damien Judd

PRINCIPAL

Dogs

A reminder that, as covered in our Parent-Student Guide on our website, we ask that you do not bring your dog (or any pet) into school. This is especially important at pick up/drop off time or for school events. Yes we know that everyone's dog doesn't bite or they all love kids, but evidence suggests the opposite can happen when there are lots of children around or when there are other dogs on site. Plus we do actually have students either allergic to or very afraid of dogs. If one dog is allowed in then all would be – this could equate to 100s of pets coming into school each morning or for an assembly, for example.

On the occasions where there is a want to bring an animal in for 'show and tell', please discuss with your child's teacher and they can work with their Head of Campus around scheduling an appropriate time and completing a risk assessment prior to the visit. Bringing your pet up to the school gate – no problem. But still be mindful that not every child is comfortable or feels safe around dogs, especially when there are several of them.

Samaritan Shines

Thank you to those who attended the fourth edition of this event last week. In addition to the fine food, the BBQ, the Art, the Tech, the outstanding Bands, singing and dance routines, we were also able to use this event to do more tours especially for the families who will start their time at Samaritan in 2025. I hope you felt welcomed and enjoyed the night. Thank you to all our staff including Mark and Alison from Stormfront Productions for making this event possible. Primary families, whilst also attending Samaritan Shines, have their end of year Christmas events still to come.

Staffing

We will list our staff leaving and the new staff arriving in our final newsletter in a fortnight's time.

2025

You can see most of the key dates for 2025 on our calendar (via the website). As noted in the previous newsletter, the Front Offices will open for 2025 on Monday January 20 and stay open all of that week. Students return on Tuesday January 28 (Monday is a Public Holiday). Uniform Shop is open, in addition to its usual times, on Wednesday, December 4 and Thursday December 5, 8:00am to 4:30pm and Monday, January 20 to Friday, January 24, 8:30am to 4:30pm.

The Samaritan Way

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. This feast day is celebrated on the last Sunday of Ordinary Time before the beginning of the Advent season that starts the new Church liturgical year.

Christ's kingdom is one of love and grace. He is a humble servant, a witness to truth. The power of his kingdom takes the form of the cross — and beyond the cross, the empty tomb, the risen Saviour, the comforting Spirit, and a community of witnesses.

Christ's Kingdom is a kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, of justice, love, and peace. He is the one who loved us so much that he handed himself over to die so that we might live. For Jesus, the Kingdom was not about power and status but about justice and peace for even the lowliest. It is a fitting conclusion to the liturgical year

The Feast of Christ the King is followed by the start of the Advent season. During Advent there is an emphasis on hope and expectation, it is the season of waiting and anticipating the coming of the Christ Child. We watch as he arrives in the most humble and vulnerable of circumstances.

The progressive lighting of the candles during each week in Advent symbolises the expectation and hope surrounding Jesus' coming into the world. The

light is dim at first but becomes brighter each week announcing that the celebration of Jesus' coming draws steadily near.

Let us consider the love that Christ has for us as we move into the Season of Advent.

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Let us consider the love that Christ has for us as we move into the Season of Advent.

O God,

as light comes from our Advent candles,

may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us,

warming our hearts and

brightening our way.

May Christ our Saviour bring life

into the darkness of this world,

and to us, as we wait for his coming.

Amen

Test your Advent knowledge – How many can you get right?

1. What does the word "Advent" mean?
 - a. Beginning
 - b. Arrival or coming
 - c. Hope
 - d. Waiting
2. How many weeks does the Advent season last?
 - a. 3
 - b. 4
 - c. 5
 - d. 6
3. What colour is most commonly associated with the Advent season in the Catholic Church, and what does it symbolise?
 - a. Purple, symbolising penance and preparation
 - b. Blue, symbolising peace
 - c. Green, symbolising growth
 - d. White, symbolising purity
4. The Advent wreath has four candles, typically three purple and one pink. What does is the name of the pink candle?
 - a. the Shepherd's candle, reminding us of the joy of the shepherd
 - b. the Bethlehem Candle, reminding us of the place where Jesus was born

- c. the Angel's candle, reminding us of the angels that sang of Jesus's birth
 - d. the Prophet's candle, reminding us of the prophecies of the Messiah in the Old Testament
5. Which Old Testament prophet is often read during Advent because of his prophecies about the coming of the Messiah?
 - a. Jeremiah
 - b. Isaiah
 - c. Ezekiel
 - d. Daniel

Rebecca Sinclair
APRIM

Answers to Advent quiz

1. b. Arrival or coming
2. b. 4
3. a. Purple, symbolising penance and preparation
4. a. the Shepherd's candle, reminding us of the joy of the shepherd
5. b. Isaiah

Whyalla Parish Advent and Christmas Mass times

During Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. All of our Samaritan families are warmly invited to attend any of the Masses over the Christmas weekend to celebrate the coming of the Christ Child

3rd Sunday of Advent December 14 and 15

The Blessing of the Cribs

The Blessing of the Cribs is a special tradition where Nativity scenes are blessed, reminding us of the joy and hope that Jesus' birth brings to our lives. This ceremony invites families to prepare their hearts for Christmas by focusing on the true meaning of the season and celebrating the spirit of Advent. Please come along to any weekend Mass. Bring a part of your own Nativity scene to receive a blessing

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday December 24, 6:00pm Family Mass at St Teresa's Church

Sunday December 24, 9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Teresa's Church

Christmas Day Mass

Monday December 25, 9:00am at Our Lady Help of Christians Church

Primary Campus News

Key Dates: Term 4

Week 8

Monday December 2	Reception - Year 2 End of Year Liturgy at Our Lady Help of Christians Church
Tuesday December 3	Year 3 - 6 End of Year Mass at St Teresa's Church
Tuesday December 3	St Teresa's Campus Family Night and Colour Run
Wednesday December 4	Our Lady Help of Christians Campus Carols and Christmas Fair
Friday December 6	Year 6 Activity Day

Week 9

Monday December 9	Prize Night
Tuesday December 10	Reception - Year 6 Transition Morning
Tuesday December 10	Year 6 Graduation Dinner at South Whyalla Football Club

Alopecia Awareness Day – Our Lady Help of Christians Campus

On Friday, Week 5, Our Lady's held a Crazy Hair Day to raise awareness about Alopecia! Alopecia is a condition that lots of Australian's live with, which has a symptom of hair loss, it is important that people understand the impacts that this can have on their peers.

The Year 5/6 students had the opportunity to paint Mr Quist's bald head with a colourful design as a reward for their positive behaviours in class! Thanks to Aston for bringing the head paint!



Year 6 Transition

During Week 5, Year 6 Students from St Teresa's Campus and Our Lady Help of Christians Campus joined DfE students for their first transition afternoon at Saint John's Campus.

During these transition visits, students have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the day-to-day running of the secondary campus, including pastoral care lessons, subject lessons, interaction with a variety of teachers and experience a lunchtime!

They will have a full day of classes in Week 6 and 7!

Remembrance Day

Students from both campuses lead respective Remembrance Day Liturgies on November 11. They spent the week talking about what it means and the importance of the day whilst creating some art pieces. Through their discussions and the Liturgy, they ensured that they will continue to remember the sacrifices that the men and women who have served our country have made, especially those who gave their all.

We Will Remember Them.

Matt Quist and Gareth Molyneux
PRIMARY CAMPUS LEADERS

Year 1 Excursion

All Year 1 students went on an excursion to Cowell during Week 2 of this term, what an absolutely thrilling day! Our adventure started with an amazing tour of the oyster farm with Ron and his fantastic team at Eyre Shellfish. The kids were in awe as they learned all about how oysters are grown! Then, we took a step back in time in Cowell, exploring its rich history with fascinating visits to both the Historical Museum and the Ag Museum. It was a day filled with fun, learning, and unforgettable memories! What a fantastic experience!



Serving up an Ace in Physical Education

Students have been focusing on striking sports this term, with a close focus on tennis in the last two weeks. Tennis is not just about serving an ace or smashing a forehand, it's about developing hand-eye coordination, agility and balance. These skills are important in many sports. Our upper primary students are also learning valuable teamwork and communication skills as they play games with partners and groups.



Playing tennis also helps students develop their resilience and perseverance, as it's a sport that can be frustrating at first but allows students to experience how practice can lead to improvements. Whether students are hitting the ball over the net or cheering on their classmates, they're getting a great workout while having a blast.

Dale Raymond
PE TEACHER



Arts Mania - Term 4 - 2024 at St Teresa's Campus

"Shark Attack " - Great work Godwin and Chloe.

"Halloween Art" - Ollie, Luna and Frankie

Our amazing senior primary choir at the Adelaide Festival Theatre.

Practising for the Samaritan Spectacular - Looking good girls and those smiles....

The beautiful and talented Hewett sisters , Taylor and Georgia.

Mime - "The Box" - Isla and Griffin.

Winnie Fitzgerald

ST TERESA'S CAMPUS ARTS



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

Every year our generous Samaritan community donate to the Vinnies Christmas appeal. The volunteers at St Vincent de Paul always gratefully accept the donations of food, toys for children and gifts. Many families Christmases are made better and brighter by our donations.

The Samaritan/Vinnies Christmas Appeal will be starting next week, Week 7, with donations being accepted until the end of Week 8. Donations can be sent to your campus office.

Rebecca Sinclair
APRIM

Secondary Campus News

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

Year 12 Graduation

Year 12s will be formally celebrated at their Graduation Ceremony at the Middleback Arts Centre on November 28 at 6pm. This involves all students being presented on stage and addresses by our Deputy Head students and Mr Damien Judd. Following the ceremony is the celebratory dinner at the Westland Hotel Function Room from 7pm. Families have been emailed regarding ticketing information.

Prize Night

The annual Samaritan College Prize Night will be on Monday December 9 beginning at 7pm. This event celebrates the academic achievements of our students Years 6-12 and the 2025 Senior Student Representative Council is presented. Families will receive communication from the College in the next few weeks if their child is successful in receiving an award.

Examinations

Over the next two weeks, Year 10 and 11 students will sit their final exams for 2024. The Year 10 exams will be conducted during their normal lessons (i.e. their science exam will be held during their double science lesson). The Year 11 exam timetable has been released, and Year 11 students are at liberty to come and go from the campus as they need. It is expected that students sign in and out at the Front Office, we also ask that students do not bring take away food onto campus.

Transition Day

Today our Year 6 Samaritan students will experience their first full-day transition day on the senior campus (our non-Samaritan Year 6s will spend the day with us tomorrow). This follows their half-day orientation visit last Wednesday. A unique timetable has been arranged for the day and will be provided to the students during morning caregroup. Campus staffing for next year has not been finalised so the teachers who take the transition lessons might not be teaching this subject in 2025.

Tanya Gibson
HEAD OF CAMPUS

Parachute Activities

Miss Bugden's Year 10 class, alongside Mr Sheedy's Year 10s and Mr Brauwer's Year 8s, recently participated in parachute activities as part of their Resilience Project lessons. These activities focused on collaboration, teamwork, and fostering cross-year level interactions. Students worked together to guide a ball through the centre hole of a large parachute, strengthening their communication and cooperation skills. Following this, they created parachute domes, where they went around sharing something they were grateful for about each other, fostering a sense of community and appreciation. This reflection continued until the parachute dome gracefully collapsed, symbolising unity and support.

Alicia Bugden
TEACHER

Uniform Shop Extra Opening Hours

The times below are additional hours that the uniform shop will be open at the end of this year and the beginning of next year to accommodate families in purchasing uniforms for 2025.

Term 4 Week 9

Wednesday 4 December 2024, 8:00am-4:30pm

Thursday 5 December 2024, 8:00am-4:30pm

Term 1 2025 (The week before students start back at school)

Monday-Friday 20-24 January 2025, 8:30am-4:30pm

The uniform shop continues to be open during term every Wednesday 8am-10am and Thursday 1pm-4:30pm

Kerry Azzopardi
UNIFORM 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."

THE CHAIR

A Whyalla Players youth production performed by children from 8-13 years

November 22nd and 23rd
D'faces Hall, Viscount Slim Avenue
Doors open @ 7 for 7.30pm show.

WHYALLA PLAYERS
EST. 1956

The poster features a central illustration of a wooden chair. To the right, three circular vignettes show a teddy bear, an axe, and a church. A logo for Whyalla Players is at the bottom center.

PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS

POOR AND INCONSIDERATE PARKING CLOSE TO SCHOOLS PLACE CHILDREN AT RISK

MOST ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN OUTSIDE SCHOOLS OCCUR WHEN A CHILD HAS THEIR SIGHT OBSCURED BY PARKED CARS

KEEPING KIDS SAFE

- Do not park on zig zag lines or KEEP CLEAR markings.
- Do not park across driveways.
- Do not park on footpaths or verges.
- do not drop kids off in the centre of the road.
- do not park where there is a no stopping sign or continuous yellow line.
- adhere to the speed limit of 25kph while children are present.

SLOW DOWN

UNEARTH WHYALLA

The infographic includes illustrations of a school street scene, a 'SLOW DOWN' sign, and the UNEARTH WHYALLA logo.