

Term 4 Week 8

5 December 2024

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY DECEMBER 5

- Uniform Shop open
8am-4:30pm

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

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 11

- Front Offices closed due
to staff training

MONDAY JANUARY 20

- Campus offices reopen

JANUARY 20-24

- Uniform Shop Open,
8am- 4:30pm

TUESDAY JANUARY 28

- Students start for 2025

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

- The final newsletter for 2024!
- Year 12 Graduation
- Year 6s
- Prize Night
- Congratulations
- 2025
- Christmas Masses
- Vinnies Christmas Appeal
- 2025 Class Structures - Primary
- Primary Staff for 2025
- Primary Band
- Transition Days
- Reports
- Week 9 Staff Days
- Secondary Staff for 2025

Heavenly Father, You are the God who gives peace.

This second week of Advent causes us to remember that because of Jesus we can experience a Christmas free from turmoil and chaos.

Regardless of our circumstances or our situations, you offer us peace that passes understanding.



The final newsletter for 2024!

At this time of year we say goodbye to a range of people including staff and students and also their families. The names of the staff arriving and those leaving will be listed in the Primary and Secondary sections of the newsletter. These may change by the time the first day of school of 2025 comes around but we thank those staff who have served our college whether they have been here for just a portion of 2024 or served nearly 20 years.

I will make special mention of Gareth Molyneux. Gareth and his family, wife Carrienne is also a teacher at Our Lady's Campus, will leave Whyalla at the end of the year. Gareth was a student at St Teresa's School and Saint John's College and has been teaching at Samaritan College ever since. With Gareth's family very much part of the Catholic Parish of Whyalla, Gareth has therefore been part of this college community since he was born and will continue to have strong links to Samaritan and Whyalla. We thank Gareth for his service and leadership and wish him, Carrienne, Keeley, Xavier and Millah all the best.

Damien
 Damien Judd

PRINCIPAL

The college is growing very quickly with over 100 new students into the college in 2025. For those families who are now ending their time with us, we wish you all the best in the next phase of your future.

Year 12 Graduation

Congratulations to the Year 12s who formally graduated from Samaritan College last week. For some students it was 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.

Year 6s

On Tuesday we also acknowledged the Year 6s and the completion of their primary schooling. They had their own form of 'graduation' at Mass on Tuesday and a special dinner which will be held in the last week of school. Congratulations.

Prize Night

Congratulations to all our Year 6-12 prize winners at our upcoming Prize Night. These awards cover way more than simply high achievement in subjects. There are awards for leadership, community service, Christian Leadership, trade/VET, sport and more. We will also say thank you and farewell to our outgoing Board Chair,

Mrs Tonia Munday. Tonia has served the community tirelessly for several decades and finished her time at Samaritan as the Chair of the College Board.

Congratulations

Jenna Edwards was successful in being renewed as a Lead Teacher. Renewal of certification at the Lead Teacher career stage provides Jenna with formal recognition of her continued exemplary contribution of quality teaching and leadership in Catholic Education South Australia using National standards.

2025

Check out the College Calendar on our website and Facebook for details of 2025 start dates. Our offices open on Monday January 20 and students return on Tuesday January 28. Also note our extra trading hours for our Uniform Shop both this week and from January 20, 2025.

Christmas Masses

Please check the newsletter or the Parish Facebook page for Mass times during Advent and Christmas. There are special celebrations, especially for children.

I take this opportunity to wish all our community a Holy and Blessed Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Parish

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](#)

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

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

[Christmas Day Mass](#)

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

Farewell Gareth and Carrienne



The Samaritan Way

The Story of St Nicholas: A Model of Generosity and Faith

As we approach the festive season, it is timely to reflect on the inspiring story of St Nicholas, whose legacy is woven into the traditions of Christmas. St Nicholas, a 4th-century bishop from Myra (modern-day Turkey), is remembered for his deep faith, compassion, and remarkable acts of generosity.

Born into a wealthy family, Nicholas was known for using his inheritance to help those in need, particularly children and the vulnerable. One famous story tells of how he secretly provided dowries for three impoverished sisters, saving them from a life of hardship. This act of kindness inspired the modern custom of gift-giving at Christmas.

St Nicholas' life shows Christian values of selflessness and care for others. His feast day, December 6, is celebrated worldwide, often with traditions that honour giving and service. For us as a Samaritan College community, his story is a powerful reminder to show Christ's love through our actions.

As we journey through Advent, let us be inspired by St Nicholas to practice generosity and bring hope to others. May his example guide us to live with a heart open to God's mission and the needs of our community.

St Nicholas, pray for us!

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

There is still time to donate to the annual Vinnies Christmas appeal. We are accepting non-perishable food, toys for children, gifts for adults and donations of new summer clothes for children.

Saint John's Campus - Donations can be placed under the Christmas tree in the Chapel.

Primary Campuses – Please send your donation to your campus office.

As this is the last newsletter for the year I'd like to offer this blessing to all our Samaritan families.

May the joy of Christ's birth fill your hearts with peace, hope, and love this Christmas.

May His light guide your steps, His humility inspire your kindness, and His grace bless your families.

Wishing you a safe, holy, and joyful Christmas season.

In faith and love

Rebecca Sinclair
APRIM

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 8

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

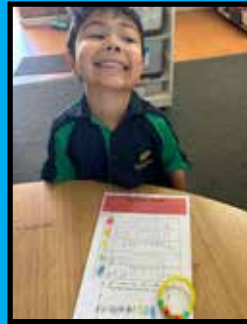
The uniform shop continues to be open during term every Wednesday 8am-10am and Thursday 1pm-4:30pm

Kerry Azzopardi
UNIFORM COORDINATOR

Primary Campus News

Learning at Our Lady Help of Christians Campus

It has been a busy term of learning in Term 4 at Our Lady Help of Christians Campus. Our Reception students in Religious Education have been learning about what makes them special and creating prayer bracelets. Our Year 1/2 students have been learning about information texts and have created information brochures and posters on both an animal and a place. In Year 3/4, the students have been learning about maps. The students created their own island maps, plotted different locations, and recorded the grid references of each location on their island. Our Year 5/6 students have been learning about Cartesian Planes in mathematics and have enjoyed playing Battleships to consolidate their learning.



Year 1/2 Murray – Design and Technology

This term, we received a special letter from the Three Little Pigs asking for help. The clever children in Year 1/2 Murray took on the challenge of designing and building houses that the Big Bad Wolf couldn't blow down. Their creativity and problem-solving skills were incredible to watch! To top it off, Mrs Murray surprised the class in her Big Bad Wolf outfit (borrowed from the Wolf of Little Red Riding Hood – haha). It made for an unforgettable day of fun and learning!



Crazy Hair and Socks Day - St Teresa's Campus

On Friday Week 6, St Teresa's Campus went a little CraZy for CraZy sOcKs and CraZy HAiR DaY!!! All funds raised will support Catholic Mission in the movement to end poverty.



National Fairy Bread Day!

Monday Week 7 was National Fairy Bread Day - We had great fun making fairy bread, and we even wrote our own recipe for it. Huge thumbs up for Fairy Bread from us!



2025 Class Structures

It is with much pleasure that I share with you our class structures and staff placement for 2025. We are pleased to announce Mrs Lisa Phillips, Miss Sophie Peden, Miss Caitlin Crowe, Miss Simran Morani, Miss Kelsey Coad, Mrs Jaimee Boulderstone and Miss Gail Carr as new members of teaching staff. An updated staff list will be published in the first newsletter next year including a full list of our support staff.

**Please be aware, that due to rapid growth and ongoing responses to staffing advertisements, this list is subject to change as we continue to confirm new staff.

Primary Leadership Team	
Principal	Damien Judd
Deputy Principal	Brett Czechowski
Assistant Principal in Religious Identity and Mission	Rebecca Sinclair
Head of Campus (St Teresa's Campus)	Jenna Edwards
Head of Campus (Our Lady Help of Christians Campus)	Matt Quist

Primary Teaching Staff	
Reception - Miss Simran Morani	Reception - Mrs Stacey Raymond/Mrs Lisa Judd
Reception - Mrs Jenna Warren	Reception - Mrs Kristin Davies/Mrs Lisa Judd
Year 1/2 - Miss Sophie Peden	Reception - Mrs Sharon Harris
Year 1/2 - Miss Olivia Marschall	Year 1/2 - Mrs Kylie Fechner
Year 3/4 - Miss Emily Shiell	Year 1/2 - Mr Rebecca McArthur
Year 3/4 - Miss Ashleigh Mayne	Year 1/2 - Mrs Jennie Ness
Year 5/6 - Mrs Jo Arcobelli/Miss Kelsey Coad	Year 3/4 - Mrs Kristin Murray
Year 5/6 - Mr Daniel Marinkovich	Year 3/4 - Miss Lisa Phillips
Teacher Release - Mrs Chelsea Leech	Year 4/5 - Miss Caitlin Crowe
	Year 5/6 - Miss Madeline Foran
	Year 5/6 - Mrs Jaimee Boulderstone/Miss Gabby Rodda

Primary Campus Specialist Staff	
Mrs Natasha Free/Miss Kelsey Coad	The Arts - Our Lady Help of Christians Campus
Mrs Winnie Fitzgerald. Miss Gail Carr	The Arts - St Teresa's Campus
Mrs Abby Thiele	Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics - Our Lady Help of Christians Campus
Mrs Kathryn Perry	Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics - St Teresa's Campus
Mr Dale Raymond	Physical Education - Cross Campus
Mrs Natasha Free	Italian - Cross Campus

Primary Staff

Leaving:

Kirsty Connor, Carriane Molyneux, Beth Gould, Gareth Molyneux, Gen Foran moves to Secondary, Jo Murray, Ash Hector and Kym Jenkins (ESOs)

Coming:

Kylie Clothier (ESO), Sophie Peden, Simran Morani, Gail Carr (from Saint John's Campus), Cailin Crowe, Lisa Phillips, Jaimee Boulderstone (from Saint John's Campus), Kelly Abdulla (ESO Aboriginal Support at Our Lady Help of Christians Campus), Nathan Tavra (ESO), Kelsey Coad, Gabby Rodda, Amelia Grindell (ESO) who will help coordinate First Nations programs across the three campuses.

Junior Primary Christmas Liturgy

We have come together at our Junior Liturgy to sing, to pray and to listen to God's Word. Our special gathering tells us our school year is coming to an end and that we are preparing for the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Safe holidays

We wish to thank our staff, student and parent community for their ongoing support and commitment to the school and the students' development. We wish you all the best for a safe and prosperous holiday period and look forward to what 2025 will bring our school community.

Matt Quist and Gareth Molyneux
PRIMARY CAMPUS LEADERS

Primary Band

Members of the Samaritan College Primary Bands celebrated another great year of music, and were presented their Band Participation Certificates by Mr Judd as they gathered for their final meeting of 2024. A big highlight for the Band this year was their performance at Samaritan Shines, and we congratulate the students for an excellent year of learning, playing and performing music, and especially working together as a team

Alison, Mark, Kym
BAND EDUCATORS

Upper Primary Graduation Mass

We have come together on Tuesday of Week 8 to celebrate the Eucharist and to acknowledge our Year 6 students. They have reached the end of their

primary education and are moving on to new and exciting adventures as they start their secondary education in 2025.

We are proud to see who these students have grown into; they are young people of friendship and honesty. They have good hearts and have grown in their faith. The memories and friendships they have made in their primary years will be with them as they grow.

Our prayers are with the students as they walk into their future as young adults. We pray especially that they feel God's closeness and give them calm hearts and quiet confidence in the knowledge that God holds them in the palm of his hand.

Rebecca Sinclair
APRIM

Secondary Campus News

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

Year 12 Graduation

It was an absolute delight to attend Thursday night's Year 12 Graduation Ceremony to acknowledge the cohort's achievements. Our student leaders spoke well, and the graduands themselves presented as mature and competent young adults. Kudos must go to Ms Clark who organised the ceremony and the dinner, as well as to Mrs Sinclair for preparing the "then and now" slideshow and the front office staff for their administrative assistance.

Transition Days

Last week our Year 6 students visited the campus for the third and final time before they join us next year. For our junior students, the day was an opportunity to taste life as a high schooler, moving to different lessons and experiencing a variety of teachers. At the other end of the spectrum, our Year 11s were given a taste of Year 12, with teachers providing course and assessment information for Stage 2 subjects. Some teachers also set holiday work so the Year 12s can 'hit the ground running' in 2025.

Reports

Teachers of Year 7 - 11 students are busy entering final grades and proofreading reports in readiness for distribution next week via SEQTA. Year 11 grades have also been submitted to the SACE Board.

Week 9 Staff Days

This Tuesday (December 10) is the students' final day, and information has been made available to Year 7 - 9 parents and caregivers about what this day will entail. For the rest of the week campus staff will undertake professional development and planning activities in preparation for 2025.

New Staff for 2025

As Damien mentioned, we say goodbye to several colleagues in a few days. Miss Bugden is returning to Adelaide, as are Miss Christian and Mr Huddleston. Mrs Shivvaan has accepted a position in Tasmania, and Mrs Seeraj is moving to Victoria. We are also farewelling Mrs Watson, our trusty lab assistant.

While campus staffing is still being finalised, we are pleased to announce that Euzanne Kruger, Bokai Zeng, Melissa Diver, Sarah Hemming, Steven Rose, Octavia Rose, Paul Mu, Peter Homes, Brittany Dunchue, Karinna Hass and Gen Foran will join our teaching team next year. These last four colleagues will already be familiar to some students and families as they have worked at Saint John's Campus before (Gen), have worked as relief teachers for us this year (Brittany and Peter) or did their teaching placements here earlier in the year (Karinna). We also welcome Amelia Grindell to Samaritan. Amelia is an ESO who will help coordinate First Nations programs across the three campuses.

Tanya Gibson
HEAD OF CAMPUS