Time to Shine

After years of hard work, sacrifice and dedication, our Winter Olympic athletes now have a time to shine. The Sochi games are underway and we are eagerly waiting for them to shine and receive the accolades they deserve for their talent. It seems that on special occasions or events, we often look for or notice others shining.

During the games, let’s not forget that each day we all shine. Through our words and actions, we all shine ‘something’ to the people around us. We can shine attributes like love, compassion and care while at other times our furrowed brow, manner or mood can shine something else altogether. Whether we acknowledge it or not, we all shine every day.

God wants us to shine. In fact he tells us clearly we have an opportunity to shine his love to the world through all we do. Miss Liebelt reminded us at our chapel service last week, that through God’s great love and power in our lives, we can be lighthouses of his love in our daily world. When we look to and rely on God as our saviour, we can shine God’s goodness into the lives of others in practical ways. I pray our St Mark’s community is a place for all to shine. Matthew 5:16... In the same way, let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

St Mark’s Lutheran School Fete - ‘Our Community’
I’m excited as we plan for ‘Our Community’ fete on Saturday 5th April. Our planning team is meeting this Thursday evening (13th February) from 7.00pm in the school library. Any parents or friends are welcome to join us to be part of planning this important school event. Included in today’s newsletter is an overview of activities and stalls planned to date and a request for your ideas and offer to help. As you would appreciate, the success of our fete will largely depend on the contributions we all, as families, make. Every offer of help, no matter how big or small, will add to the community effort. Please provide your response on the sheet provided.

Parent Information Nights
Tonight we will host our Reception to Year 3 Parent Information Night. We begin at 7.00pm in the hall, when I will share the focus areas for our year ahead before parents move to classrooms to meet teachers. If you have school aged children who require care during this time, please bring them to the Library from 6.45pm. School staff will provide supervision during the Information night.

Cont’d o/leaf.....
2014 Student Leaders

Tomorrow morning at 9.00am, we will hold our first school assembly for the year. I will have the pleasure of announcing our SRC leaders and sports House Captains. We also look forward to our 4K class sharing at assembly.

On Friday the SRC and House Captains, along with our School Captains, will be installed into their positions at our Wednesday Chapel service beginning at 9.00am.

Keeping Us Safe

As with any community, we have guidelines we follow to minimise risk and keep St Mark’s a safe place for students and adults alike.

I draw your attention to the following guidelines and request your support for them:
- Observe the speed zones (25 km/h) along Hampden Rd. Vehicles (even school parents) who do not observe this speed zone, are putting our students at greater risk without any benefit gained by the illegal speed.
- If your child arrives after 8.50am, please bring them to the office and personally sign them in at the office. If they leave before normal dismissal time, please come to the office to sign them out.
- The back gate on Exhibition Road is locked between 9.00am and 3.00pm. All access to the school is from the front office during these times.
- Before the classrooms doors are opened at 8.35am, all students and their parents are asked to wait in the quad area between the library and administration area. Please do not wait by classrooms or allow your children to play on the playgrounds. This enables us to ensure all students are appropriately supervised.
- After school, all students move to the pickup area at the end of the library building or the bus waiting area unless they have been met by a parent at the classroom. Students are not allowed to use the playgrounds after school.

Your cooperation with our guidelines is appreciated.

In today’s newsletter, I have included information from the SES highlighting ways to stay healthy during the heatwave. On these hottest days, we will usually have recess outside with modified activity and then remain indoors at lunchtime. Please remember to send a drink bottle to school for your child.

Thank you for your support as we have begun this school year together.

James H
Principal

School Fees

The fee statement for Term 1 fees have been sent home with your child today. Fees are due Tuesday 25th February (unless you have a prior arrangement with the school). Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

2014 Calendar Dates

Term Dates 2014

Term 1
Thursday 30th January - Friday 11th April
(Adelaide Cup 10th March, Good Friday 18th April)

Term 2
Tuesday 29th April - Friday 4th July (Monday 28th April is a pupil free day)
(Queen’s Birthday Holiday: Monday 9th June)

Term 3
Tuesday 22nd July-26th September (Monday 21st July is a pupil free day)
(Friday 5th September is a pupil free day)

Term 4
Tuesday 14th October-Wednesday 10th December (Monday 13th October is a pupil free day)

St Mark’s Care-Net

For a number of years we have been able to implement a Care-Net program at St Mark’s with the assistance of Class Carers, who will be introduced to you at our upcoming Parent Information Night.

At times during the year, families experience both difficult and joyful times – bereavement, a birth, an accident, a serious illness, an injured child, etc. Through the Class Carer and Care-Net system, the school community has the opportunity to help and support each other and to provide care when needed.

If you know of any families, or are a family who would benefit from extra care or are experiencing any of the above mentioned difficult or joyous times, please let your class teacher, your Class Carers or Janene O (the Community Carer) know as soon as possible.

If you would like to assist in the CARE-NET, please fill out the WILLINESS TO HELP form included in last week’s newsletter and return to the front office as soon as possible. Thank you.
MUSIC NEWS

BAND News
Band rehearsals will begin this Thursday 13th February beginning at 8.30am with a set up/warm up time of 8.20am.

CHOIR News
Rehearsals begin on Friday 14th February for Senior Choir (9.30am) and Junior Choir (10.30am) in the music room.

Instrumental Lessons
These are available in a number of instruments including piano, guitar, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drums & violin. These lessons are held at school by visiting tutors. Please see Julianne in the front office if you are interested in an enrolment form. If you are already enrolled, tutors may be contacted directly to arrange lesson details. Please note that there has been a fee increase to $28 per half hour lesson.

Narelle S
Music Coordinator

Boys Summer Short Sleeve Shirt
Please note the correct colour embroidery on the boys summer shirt should be: ‘St Mark’s’ in blue and ‘Lutheran School’ in gold. If this is not the case, you can return the shirt to The Uniform Shop for a refund/exchange. The Uniform Shop telephone number is 8398 3983.

Secondhand Uniform Shop
There is a Secondhand Uniform service available to parents of the school. The Secondhand Uniform Shop will be open after school on Mondays between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. Debbie B (Year 2 Parent) is the Coordinator for the Secondhand Uniform Shop. If you cannot come to the school on Mondays, please ring Debbie direct (0438 633 901) to arrange a mutually convenient time (the secondhand uniform shop will only be open on Monday afternoons and at arranged times).

LIBRARY

Book Club
Order forms and payment are due in to the office (or class trays) by Wednesday 19th February. The order will be placed online and usually takes about a week to arrive.

Premiers Reading Challenge
Forms for the Reading Challenge were sent home last week. The Reading Challenge has been going for approx. 9 years now. It was first initiated by the Premier to try to increase children’s exposure to books and to help literacy levels. Over the years the level of participation at our school has increased. Last year we had about 60% of our students complete the challenge. So… what do children have to do? Between now and mid-September they need to read 12 books. Eight books have to be from the readers Challenge list for their year level and 4 can be free choice. In our Library these books are identified by coloured dots. Reception-Year 2 orange dots. Year 3-Year 5 green dots and Year 6 Blue dots. Parents of younger children who are not able to read can read the books to the children. On the student Record sheet you need to write the title and author of the book and then sign your initials. Easy!!! With 8 months to do it, there is really no reason why all students cannot achieve this goal. The first year of completion students get a certificate and in the years following they get a medal. Please help support your children by encouraging them to read. Thank you.

Louise P
Teacher/Librarian

Courier Cup (SAPSASA Swimming) Trials
Courier Cup trials will be held this Thursday 13th February between 3:45pm and 5:00pm for students turning 10 this year or older. Forms were due in today, Tuesday 11th of February. If students would like to come to the trial on Thursday, they must fill in a form and return to the school by tomorrow, Wednesday 12th February. Forms are available from the front office.

Mount Barker Lutheran Netball Club
Player Registration and Annual General Meeting - Monday 17 February 2014 at St Mark’s Lutheran School Library. 6.30pm Registrations. 7.30pm AGM
New umpires, players and coaches most welcome. $50 deposit payable prior to 1 March 2014. Trial dates Saturday 1 March, Thursday 6 March and Wednesday 12 March (times will be notified at a later date). Enquiries 0417 872 548 or email mblnc@hotmail.com
Coming Up
• Parent/Teacher Information Night R-3 - Tuesday 11th February
• Chess Competition - Wednesday 12th February @ 8.00am
• Assembly - Wednesday 12th February
• Fete Planning Meeting - Thursday 13th February @ 7.00pm
• Chapel/Installation of School Leaders - Friday 14th February
• Senior Chapel (4S) - Monday 17th February
• Junior Chapel (1UM) - Tuesday 18th February
• Parents & Friends AGM - Thursday 20th February

For Your Information
• KIDS TAEKWONDO - Mt Barker Training Centre, Town Hall, Gawler Street, Monday & Wednesday beginners class at 6.00pm. Enquiries 0412 909 500 or 0417 802 186 www.worldtaekwondo.com.au
St Marks School Fete...
“Our Community”
Saturday 5th April 2014

IDEAS FOR 2014:

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<th>Market Stalls</th>
<th>Cool Drink stall</th>
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<td>Plant stall</td>
<td>Vintage books</td>
<td>St Marks labelled wine – red &amp; white</td>
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<td>Vintage Clothing</td>
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<td>Cake stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plant Stall (taken)</td>
<td>Coffee (taken)</td>
<td>Face Painting</td>
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CLASS STALLS: side show alley, pick a stick, lollipop carnival, lego exhibition/nerf gun game, other assorted games

MARKET STALL: $50 per stall, provide own table and a raffle donation to the value of $20

ENTERTAINMENT: Bouncy pillow, pony rides, Balloon Man – balloon animals and bubbles (booked)

ART COMPETITION: Design a wine label based on the theme “Our Community”

FETE DAY COMPETITIONS: Decorated bike and biscuit decorating

The Fete Planning Team would love to hear your ideas and feedback:

Do you have any other ideas for entertainment?

What food stalls would you like to see at the fete?

Other comments or ideas:

Would you like to help out in any of the following ways (please circle):

- Set up on the day Y / N Stall Convenor Y / N Preferred stall: ........................................
- Pack up on the day Y / N Stall Helper Y / N Preferred stall: ........................................
- Run a market stall Y / N Details of Market Stall: ........................................
- Provide a donation towards the Major Auction Y / N Details of donation: ........................................
- Provide a donation towards a raffle basket Y / N Sell raffle tickets on fete day Y / N

Join the Fete Planning Team Y / N

Contact Details:

Name...........................................................................................................................................

Email Address...................................................................................................................................

Contact Number.................................................................................................................................

Child’s Name.....................................................................................................................................

Please return this form to the front office by Friday 14th February - thank you.
St Mark’s Parents & Friends
Annual General Meeting

THURSDAY 20\textsuperscript{th} FEBRUARY
7.00pm - Staff Room

Come along and join in ...
If everyone does a little bit, then we can do
A LOT for our children and the school!