Then [Jesus] arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. Matthew 8:26

There’s a wonderful passage in the bible which speaks of Jesus with his disciples travelling in a boat. It so turns out that there is a terrible storm, and all the disciples panic. Meanwhile, Jesus is asleep. When they wake him up, he simply “rebukes the winds and the sea”—he tell them to be quiet!—and then we read, “there was a great calm”.

What an amazing person Jesus really is! The very fact that the bible records this event simply having happened is enough to make us stop and think... Are we in a time of life where it’s as if Jesus is asleep down in the lower decks somewhere, while the storms foam and rage? And yet, it’s not as if he doesn’t care about his disciples. Jesus is simply waiting for them to come to him with their problem, and then to demonstrate his wonderful power to them. What a miracle! “And there was a great calm!”

Dear Jesus, you are a human being just like me, and yet you are also the God of the universe. Send to me your calmness. Amen.

St Mark’s Activities and Requests
- Our P and F AGM will be held on Thursday 19th February at 7:00pm in the school staffroom.
- Chess Club continues each Tuesday morning from 11:00am. Until we determine numbers for our Chess Club, students should first come to the Learning Hub (Mrs Page’s room) with their recess. It is open to any interested students.
- Volunteers training sessions on Wednesday 18th at 9:00am and Thursday 26th February at 2:30 pm.
- Our 4S class will lead our whole school Friday chapel this week. We begin at 9:00am in the hall followed by Coffee and Chat in the library.
- Next Monday our Year 3 students (Aldinga Beach) and Year 6 students (Shiloh Hills) depart for their three day camps.
- School Photos will be held on Wednesday 18th March.
- F to Year 6 Twilight Sports Day is being held on Friday 20th March.

Volunteer Training Sessions at St Mark’s
I will be leading the information and training session volunteers are required to attend to be able to volunteer in roles supporting our students. The information and training session will take approximately 45 minutes. The training will be offered on two occasions - Wednesday 18th February at 9:00am and then be repeated on Thursday 26th February at 2:45pm and be held in the school staff room. Please let Julianne in the school office know if you will attend either of these sessions.

If you attended one of these sessions in either 2013 or 2014, you do not need to attend these sessions in 2015.

St Mark’s 2015 Parent Handbook
Next week I would like to have a meeting with any parents interested in assisting with our 2015 Parent Handbook which will have a broader focus than previous parent handbooks. If you would like to assist me in this task, please contact Julianne in the office and we can then plan your involvement to suit your circumstances.

The School Directory will be published separately to the handbook and will contain contact details of school families who have given permission for this to occur.

St Mark’s Twilight Sports Day - Friday 20th March
St Mark’s Sports Day is held as a twilight event to hopefully enable a larger number of parents to attend part of the day. It also enables us to finish our day with a community tea.

Over the next few weeks, we will outline details and preparations for the day.

On Sports Day we alter the start and finish times of the school day. If you are not in a position to provide care for your child in the morning prior to the start of Sports Day, please be assured supervision will be provided for students from 8.45am.

The timing of Sports Day is as follows:

12:00 pm - Optional community picnic lunch for families to share with their children.
12:40 - Roll call in classrooms. This is the formal start of the school day.
12:50 - Students assemble in house teams followed by our opening ceremony.
1:00 - 4:05 pm - Junior and senior tabloid events.

Afternoon Tea
4:30 - 5:00 House Team novelty games.
5:00 - 6:00 Parent/teacher/student races and student relays followed by presentations.
6:00 - Community tea.

James Heyne
Principal
37 Hampden Road, Mt Barker SA 5251 T 8391 0444 E contact@stmarks.sa.edu.au W www.stmarks.sa.edu.au

'Learning & Growing with Christ'
School Photos - Wednesday 18th March

Master School Portraits will be at the school on Wednesday 18th March to take school photos.

Envelopes were sent home with your child last week. Please take the time to read all of the relevant information on the envelopes. You can send the money (cash, cheques, money orders) to the school in the envelope supplied however On-Line Ordering, where parents are now able to select their preferred package online, makes it much easier for both the school and parent community. By ordering on-line, parents have the option to download a low resolution image for a smart phone, a high resolution digital download of their child’s image and Family/Sibling packages will also be able to be ordered on-line. You will need to pick up a family photo envelope from the front office to get a ‘shootkey’ to order family photos on-line. Please make your children aware they are having a family photo. (On-line ordering closes on Monday 23rd March at 11.00am).

If you are not ordering family photos on-line, please collect a family photo envelope from the front office. Family photographs are only for school aged students attending St Mark’s.

There is also the option to purchase SRC and House Captains photos for $15.00 each. A notice will be inserted into the newsletter advising when the proofs have arrived and of the ordering procedure if parents wish to order these.

Children must wear the correct summer uniform on photo day.

House Captains will need to bring their sports uniform to change into for the House Captains photo.

Other children who have sports on that day, can also bring in their sports uniform to change into.

Graduation Packs (Year 6): Each child receives a ‘Graduation Pack’ at the graduation service in December. The graduation pack shows a photo of each individual child and is complimentary (no charge). If your child is absent on photo day, it is up to you to make arrangements with Master School Portraits for your child to have their photo taken at their studio in school uniform. This is to ensure that your child will receive their own graduation pack. This is very important. NB: The complimentary Graduation Pack does not include a class photo - these will need to be ordered from the photo envelope sent home last week.

If parents have any queries, please ring MSP direct on 8391 3951.

Please note: Orders can be placed and paid for after photo day. Please ring MSP to organise this. Do not send in envelopes noting ‘pay later’ as orders are not processed until payment is received.

Separated Families: parents can place multiple orders for children by either placing all the orders in the one envelope or handing in multiple order envelopes (please make enquiries at the front office if you haven’t received a photo envelope). If this is the chosen method, please label the envelope ‘Mum’s Copy’ or ‘Dad’s Copy’ so upon delivery the correct photo order is returned to the correct parent.

Photos will be delivered early Term 2.

Canteen

Canteen orders are to be placed in the ‘lunch order box’ in your child’s classroom on Friday only. Lunch bags (plain brown paper bags) can be purchased in packets from supermarkets. Please use separate bags for hot and cold items with your child’s name and class written on both bags. Remember: if your child is away on canteen day (Tuesday), please email ymitchell@cornerstone.sa.edu.au by 10am to cancel your order. It will then be held over to the following week. If you haven’t emailed by 10am, your order will be forfeited.

A new item has been added to the canteen list. Iced tea (available in lemon, mango, peach and black currant flavours - $2 each - 100% Australian Owned and Made).

Mt Barker Lutheran Netball Club Trials

Trials (at St Mark’s Lutheran School courts): Saturday 28th February: U/9: 1.30-2.00-pm, U/11: 2-3pm, U/13: 3-4pm
Thursday 5th March: (no under 9’s) U/11: 3.30pm, U13: 4.30pm
Registration (closing soon) and Enquiries to 0417 872 548 or mblnc@hotmail.com

St Mark’s Lutheran Church Children & Youth Ministries

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES kick off again in 2015! Here is a snapshot of our ministries:

Playgroup: Thursday mornings during school term 9am-11am; Contact the school.

Sunday’s Cool: During 10:30am service. Contact the school.

JFFA (junior youth Year 5-8): commencing Friday 20th February, 6pm - 8pm; Contact the school.

Senior Youth (Year 9-1): Contact the school.

Young Adults: various events throughout 2015; Contact the school.

For Your Information

- Hills Connect - monthly Sunday night service for youth of the Adelaide Hills - Sunday 22nd February at Lobethal Lutheran Church, 6pm tea, 7pm service

Invigora

February 21st 2015
St John’s Lutheran School, Highgate
A day conference to reinvigorate how you parent & minister to children.

Key-note Terry Williams

– FREE Crèche – Expo – Workshops –

For more information & to register go to www.blueprintministries.org.au

An information leaflet is available from the front office.
David Attenborough’s

Life Cycle of a P&F Volunteer

*Foundation Parent:* a nervous creature – usually joins the mob (P&F) to seek friendship, to find out about the environment of the school and to become more involved with their offspring’s natural habitat.

**Tasks:** Can jump into the P&F at any level. Usually they start off with ‘helping’ roles.

*Year 1 Parent:* This inquisitive creature is becoming more comfortable in their surroundings. They become quite well adjusted to the P&F hierarchy and look to provide more assistance to the group.

**Tasks:** Making use of their new found social standing, the jobs of fundraising are undertaken.

*Year 2 and 3 Parent:* By this stage of their lifecycle they are positively blooming with confidence taking on more fundraising duties and becoming a social butterfly within the group.

**Tasks:** Feeling so confident within the P&F environment they seek out committee roles and start organising events.

*Year 4 and 5 Parent:* Now at their most productive stage of their lifecycle and completely at ease in the P&F environment. Their offspring themselves take on more leading roles within the school mimicking the behaviours of their P&F parents.

**Tasks:** Fetes, cupcake days, hot food days, quizzes, catering sports days, raffles – there is no limit to what this community of busy volunteers can achieve.

*Year 6 Parent:* Alas, recognition of the end of their lifecycle dawns upon them with their brood leaving the school. The one shining light is the lifelong friendships formed in the P&F through working together for a common cause.

**Tasks:** Wind up their involvement in the P&F and lament as to where 7 years went.

To be part of this wonderfully rewarding life cycle, start by coming to the P&F AGM on **Thursday 19th of February 7:00pm** in the school staff room.

LIFE SUSTAINING REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.
German News!
Was passiert im Deutschunterricht im Term 1?

Herzlich Willkommen Frau Olliges und Frau Tappehorn!

Welcome Frau Olliges and Frau Tappehorn!

Und ein neues Jahr ist im Deutschunterricht angebrochen. Es könnte besser nicht sein, den wir haben zwei Praktikantinnen, die uns tatkräftig zur Seite stehen. Frau Olliges und Frau Tappehorn.

The students have had a very special start to the new year of learning German, particularly due to the wonderful assistance by the assistant teachers, Frau Olliges and Frau Tappehorn. Both assistant teachers will be with us on Thursdays and later during Term 1 on some Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The students have eagerly started back into the German lessons this term. While the Foundation students have been busy settling into the routines during the German lessons (all of course, in German), Year 1 and 2 students have started on creating family photo albums and booklets to be presented orally in German later on during the Term. Year 3 students are preparing a “Who am I” poster to then be able to make statements in German about their worlds. While the Year 4 students are diving into the world of German fairy tales, Year 5 and 6 students are busy creating digital posters and cartoons about their lives.

Wir wünschen Ihnen und ihren Familien eine gesegnete Woche!
We wish you and your family a blessed week!

Frau Lößelbein, Frau Olliges und Frau Tappehorn

Upcoming German Events

Detailed information about the events will be sent home in due course.

Year 3 languages activities at St Michael’s in Week 7, 12th of March.

German dance workshop with Reinhard Struve from “Bund der Bayern” for the Year 4 and 5 students on 5th of March.