Peace! 06/12/2016  Issue 38

What does peace look and feel like for you? Is it a quiet moment away from noise, distractions and pressures? Is it sitting around the dinner table with your family sharing the joys of your day? Is it walking and watching in awe the sunrise or sunshine? Is it the completion of a task or the end of an issue? Is it a deep seated sense of contentment as you watch your children giggling and playing in the backyard? Is it 15 minutes with a good book? Some of my favourite peaceful moments have been floating in a hot air balloon over the Murray River, swimming at the crystal clear Emma Gorge lagoon in the Kimberley this year after an hour hike to get there and watching my three sons, now all adults sitting together (with two living interstate it’s quite rare) and laughing and joking as young men.

I have to admit though there are many days and occasions that I feel quite a lack of peace. I try to keep my smile, remain positive, work on one task at a time but I just know inside I’m more worried and restless than I should be.

On Sunday at St Mark’s worship we lit the Second Advent candle - the PEACE candle. Christian peace, like Hope last week, is something different to how I generally think about things. Rather than a peace I experience when I am away from pressures, enjoying a situation or environment or in the midst of a wonderful experience where my peace is dependent on circumstances, Christian peace comes in the midst of whatever circumstances I am experiencing. I mentioned last week that we Hope IN God not THAT God will. Our peace comes from our hope in God and us having an unwavering conviction that God loves us, Jesus has rescued us from our sin and God as Holy Spirit is always with us. My peace comes from knowing I am a child of God and he is bigger than any circumstance I will experience. Circumstances cannot change how much God loves – and that brings amazing peace. A peace worth unwrapping at Christmas.

‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid’ John 14:27.

Finishing our year together
It’s an exciting time as we celebrate our year together with two community events on our last student attendance day next Wednesday 14th December.

- You are all warmly welcome to join us at 9:00am in our hall for our final assembly for the year. During our assembly the following will occur:
  - Our School Band will perform
  - We will present our final achievement awards, acknowledge and farewell students not re-joining us in 2017, announce and present the winners of our house shield.
  - Acknowledge and thank our 2016 student leaders
  - Announce our 2017 School captains and hand the leadership mantle to our future leaders.
  - In between events we will enjoying singing some Christmas carols.

- Final Merit Awards will be given out across this week. Final achievement awards will be presented at assembly next Wednesday morning. If your child has four merit awards ready for an achievement award, please forward these to the Front Office by next Tuesday morning.

- We will all gather at Inbarendi, Cornerstone College at 7pm for our closing service. All students from Foundation to Year 6 are required to attend the service as they all play a role during the evening. We will farewell our graduating Year 6 students and formally close our school year.

‘Learning & Growing with Christ’
School Council 2017 elections.
Our 2017 School Council was elected on Sunday 27th November at our annual election meeting. Continuing in the second of their two year term are Gordon Sumerling, Justine Lockwood, Colleen Bradfield and Sam woodman. Re-elected for a further two year term are Beverley Gogel, Roberta Kohlhagen and Craig Chapman. Joining our school council for the first time will be Sharnie Hutchinson. At our final meeting for the year we will acknowledge and thank Solizna Verwey who has served faithfully on our school council for six years and has now retired from council. We thank her for her many years of loyal service.

Thank you
On Friday evening our ever willing band of P and F volunteers and helpers provided student discos for our students. This marks the final event they have contributed to our community this year. On behalf of all of us who have benefitted, we thank them for Sportsday catering, PJ and pizza nights, hot cross bun and donut morning teas, ice block day, our amazing fete and the thousands of dollars they raised to purchase resources for our students.

Our school would not be the wonderful place it is without the P and F and I offer my sincere thanks to them for their amazing efforts this year.

It’s not surprising given their incredible commitment that they are already planning a special new family event on Friday 24th February. Please mark your calendars and plan to come along for an afternoon and evening of fun and fellowship for the whole family.

This week at St Mark’s
Over the remaining days of this term we will be highlighting the weekly focus areas we have had during this term we’ll be asking each class to consider the focus areas to be intentional about in their classes and play areas. During the term we have highlighted ‘communicate respectfully and politely to others’, ‘listening attentively and politely to others’, ‘look after the school’s facilities, resources and other’s personal equipment’, ‘move around the school in a safe manner’ and ‘play fairly and keep the rules of games.’

St Mark’s snapshots
- Our swimming program concludes this week with our Year 2 and 3 students participating in lessons each day at State Swim.
- Our choir went on tour yesterday performing at Sash Ferguson and Mt Barker Kindy on Dumas St. They were joined by our band and together enjoyed lunch and a movie to thank them for their service to our community during the year.
- Our final Friday chapel service this year will be held this week and will be led by our Foundation S class. This will be followed by our thank you morning tea for our amazing volunteers who have helped and supported us during the year. Please come along and join us.
- On Monday 12th December we will hold our step up to 2017. During the middle session of the day students will move to their 2017 classes and spend some time with their 2017 teacher. Students will bring home class lists at the end of the day.
- On Tuesday 13th December our SRC are holding a casual clothes day as part of their fundraising for our local charity Christian Care and Share.
- Class parties will be held on Tuesday 13th December. Class teachers will provide information for you this week.
- End of year student reports will be brought home on Wednesday 14th December.
- Final school assembly will be held on Wednesday 14th December at 9:00am in our hall. You are all welcome to come and enjoy announcements of a variety of awards and sing a few Christmas carols along the way.
- Whole school closing service at Inbarendi, Cornerstone College, 7pm on Wednesday 14th December for all students.
- Stationery pack collection days on Tuesday 24th, Wednesday 25th and Friday 26th January 2017.
- St Mark’s family fun night on Friday 24th February 2017.
Parents & Friends

Thank you to everyone that placed an order for tea towels.
Your orders will be ready for collection from the Front Office from Monday, 12th December in the afternoon.

As a small token of our appreciation for our volunteers and helpers of St Mark’s this year, the staff would like to invite you to morning tea on Friday, 9th December 2016.

9.00am Chapel, followed by morning tea on the grass outside Year 2 classrooms.
Please RSVP to the Front Office by Tuesday, 6th December 2016.

Christmas Casual Day

As part of our contribution to help those less fortunate in the local community, the SRC are holding a casual day on Tuesday 13th December (last week of school). The theme is Christmas, so please dress up in anything to do with Christmas and bring your gold coin donation. All proceeds will go to Christian Care and Share, Mount Barker.

James Heyne
Principal

2017 Term Dates

Term One
- Year 1 to 6 students commence on Monday 30th January
- Foundation 2017 students first day of school on Tuesday, 31st January.
- Last day of Term One on Thursday 13th April

Term Two
- Monday 1st May to Friday 30th June
- Monday 3rd to Friday 7th July (Professional Learning week for staff — No student attendance)

Term Three
- Monday 24th July to Friday 29th September

Term Four
- Monday 16th October to Wednesday 13th December
This term the SRC have decided to support the charity Christian Care and Share, Mount Barker with our Chapel offering and our Christmas appeal.

**Christian Care and Share is a local charity who provides emergency food parcels and other practical assistance to people in need in our local community.**

Each class will have a Christian Care and Share collection box to receive your kind donations. Please donate non-perishable food items and new small toys to help local families at Christmas. This encourages our students to show love, care and compassion for those in our Mount Barker community who are not as fortunate as they are at Christmas and would otherwise go without.

We thank you for your continued support helping to make a difference in our community.

SRC

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**SAPSASA Tennis**

Congratulations to Hugh Rogers who was successful in gaining selection in the SAPSASA Barker District Tennis Team. Hugh competed at the Millswood Complex over the week of November 21st to the 25th. Hugh and his Barker team mates finished 5th of out 9 teams in a very tough competition. Well done Hugh!

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**Flynn Samardzic** undertook an AMEB Guitar Exam in debut and got an A+ high distinction.

Well done! Congratulations Flynn!!!!

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**REMINDER**

This is the last week for LLL Banking—thank you!

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**St Mark’s Lutheran Church invites you and your family to worship with us this Christmas and New Year**

- **Christmas Eve Service**
  - Unwrapping the Gift of God
  - Saturday 24 December
  - 6.30pm for carol singing, 7.00pm worship service including children’s presentation, Supper provided.
  - Inbarendi, Cornerstone College

- **Christmas Day Service**
  - Sunday 25 December
  - 9.00am, St Mark’s Lutheran Church

- **New Year’s Eve Service**
  - Saturday 31 December
  - 7.30pm, St Mark’s Lutheran Church

- **New Year’s Day Service**
  - Sunday 1 January 2017
  - 9.00am, St Mark’s Lutheran Church

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**SPORT STAR TRAINING**

- 5-12 Yr Olds
- Boys & Girls
- Half Day & Full Day Programs Available
- Qualified Coaches
- Fun, Active Sessions
- All Abilities Welcome
- Grouped According to Age and Ability
- Professional, well structured sessions
- Written Feedback Reports (Full Programs)

0474 844 672
WWW.SPORTSTARTRAINING.COM.AU
Thanks from the P & F

At our last meeting, we were able to reflect on and celebrate the achievement of the past 12 months. With your help, we’ve raised money which has gone on to help our St Mark’s School in so many ways... with more to come!

We’ve raised money through entertainment – quiz night, fete, pizza and pj nights and a school disco. We’ve raise money through food – donut day, cupcake day, ice block day, hot cross bun day, and sausage sizzles at our sports day.

We’ve raised money through merchandise – St Mark’s cookbook (there’s still some left and they make an excellent Christmas present), Enjo t-towels, microwaveable toys, plants and bulbs....

It’s all been achievable through the help of those on the P & F committee and those of you in our community who come in to help us hand out cakes, ice blocks and so on.

We have a lot planned for next year which we’re looking forward to and we’ll meet early in Term 1.

The P & F stands for Parents and Friends. This means YOU! Parents and friends of the St Mark’s School.

We are always looking for new members to join our committee. We have meetings every 4 – 6 weeks on a Thursday evening. You can choose when you can help (nothing is mandatory!). You’ll meet some wonderful people across all year levels – from those who have children in Foundation right through to Year 6. It’s never too late to join us – you can pop along to a meeting at any time during the year and I can guarantee you, you’ll get a real buzz from meeting new people and sharing ideas and fellowship!

Finally, thanks again to all of those who have helped out during the year, to all of you who have supported us in one way or another and to those who are on the P & F committee. We couldn’t achieve all that we do without you.

Louise Borgo
P & F Chair

Thank You

On behalf of the Poletta family we wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to the St Mark's school community for the support shown to our son Bailey.

Over the last five years, St Mark’s and Bailey's wonderful teachers have supported him in such a way that he has been able to integrate in a mainstream schooling system. We thank the teachers, staff and students for their inclusivity, acceptance and their dedication in trying to support Bailey in the best way possible.

It is with a heavy heart that we have decided to enrol Bailey in the new Treetops school for children with autism and we can only hope that Bailey is loved and supported as much as he was at St Mark's. We will be forever grateful for the great start to his education and will always hold a special place in our hearts for St Mark’s.

Special thanks to Ms Kotzikas, Mrs Schubert, Mrs Mackenzie, Mrs Hassold, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Messenger, Mrs Short and all other staff that have interacted regularly with Bailey over the last five years.

Dean and Alana Poletta
SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES OVER THE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERIOD

As we all look forward to the Christmas and New Year’s break there are still plenty of sport activities and opportunities for our St. Mark’s students and their families. Below are just some of the options available over the holiday period with links to further information.

Seymour College  546 Portrush Road, Glen Osmond
- Wednesday 14th to Friday the 16th of December
- Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st of December
- Monday 16th to Friday 20th of January

Seymour College offer a huge range of activities over the Christmas break for boys and girls aged 4-14 Years; Acro Dance, Archery Tag, Baseball, Bike Riding, Bubble Soccer, Cirkidz, Dance/Hip Hop, Fencing, Gymnastics, Harlequin Circus Wheel, Horse Shoes, Hotshots Tennis, Nerf Bows, Quidditch, Science, Self Defence, Soccer and Swimming.

For more information or to book please see <www.seymour.sa.edu.au>, Community > Community Programs. Or talk to Mr Scott for more information.

The Dream. Believe. Achieve. Athletics Holiday Development Clinic, January 2017
- Under 9-18- Thursday 12th and Friday 13th of January
- Under 6-8- Wednesday 18th of January
* SA Athletics Stadium (145 Railway Terrace, Mile End 5031)

For more information or to register; www.salaa.org.au/holidayclinics or athleticssa.com.au/holidayclinics

World Tennis Challenge Kids Tennis Day (FREE)
When: Jan 8, 2017; Where: War Memorial Drive
Time(s): 9:00am to 11:00am Sunday 8 January 2017

The popular World Tennis Challenge Kids Tennis Day is back in 2017, and this year it will take place at Memorial Drive Tennis Centre and Telstra Plaza. This is a FREE event that is open to 5-12 year olds. Activities include ANZ Tennis Hot Shots courts, jumping castles, face painting, Speed Serve plus many others.

For more information please see <http://www.tennis.com.au/sa>

Tour Down Under
879 kilometres of racing across 73 South Australian towns incorporating 20 events over 9 days, The Tour Down Under is the ultimate festival of cycling. Please see <http://www.weekendnotes.com/tour-down-under/>, for explanation of starting points and activities for each day.

Adelaide Aquatic Centre
Hours: Mon-Fri 6am-9pm   Weekends & public holidays 7am-7pm
Jeffcott Rd North Adelaide, SA 5006   Phone: 8203 7665

Hahndorf Mini Golf
When: Open 7 days a week: 10:30am – 4:30pm (weather permitting)
Where: 17 Mount Barker Road Hahndorf
Who: Everyone – no minimum or maximum age
**The Big Wedgie**

**What:** The Big Wedgie – the Tallest Inflatable Waterslide in the World | Glenelg

**When:** Friday 16 December 2016 to Sunday 5 February 2017 | 10am to 8pm every day (not open 28 & 29 Dec 16)

**Where:** Wigley Reserve & Colley Reserve, Glenelg

**Who:** Waterslide Fans

Minimum Height: 1.2m  Minimum Age: 7 years  Maximum Weight: 110kg


**Adelaide Strikers Clinics - Cricket**


**Free Outdoor Movies in Adelaide This Summer**

**Friday January 13 2017**, ‘Kung Fu Panda 3’ free screening at 8.30pm

Civic Park Tea Tree Gully becomes a free outdoor cinema again, with markets, free entertainment and more inflatable fun for kids.

**Friday January 20 2017**, free movie ‘Minions’ at 8.30pm

Civic Park Tea Tree Gully becomes a free outdoor cinema again, with markets, free entertainment and lots more fun for kids.

**Teams**


**Adelaide 36er’s** (Basketball) – Tickets fluctuate depending on seating position, Fixture available at [http://www.adelaide36ers.com/](http://www.adelaide36ers.com/)


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**Library**

Just a reminder that all Library Books and Readers were due back LAST WEEK!

Congratulations to Foundation, Year 2 and Year 5’s who have the least amount of books to return!

If you are leaving the school this year PLEASE check for books and return ASAP. There are still 39 books borrowed out to Year 6 students.

Thank you.

Mrs Paterson

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**CHRISTMAS STALL**

There will be Christmas decorations and gifts for sale in Janene Overton’s room on:

**Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th Dec at lunch time.**

All these things have been made by year 6 students in our LUNCH CLUB.

Prices are 50c / $1 / $2 / $3

Profits will go to Gifts of Grace.

Janene Overton
& the LUNCHCLUB students
SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN – COMING SOON

Get ready for a ‘Sensational Summer’ of fun! Summer Holiday Club is coming to your school and it is going to be one of our greatest holidays yet.

Here are just some of the feature theme days coming up:

**At the movies**
SING (PG) The movie event of the Summer is here. We're off to meet Dapper Koala Buster Moon and see the world's greatest singing competition!

**Science Spectacular**
Interactive Science Session - Bubble, Bubble, POP! Mini Scientists get ready, it’s time to experiment! With a take-home Science notebook.

**Flying Hole in One**
Frisbee Golf Course - Will you be first to score a flying hole in one? A colourful and wildly fun indoor obstacle course awaits and we're ready to score! Plus, you’ll get your own take-home Frisbee!

**Inside Out**
Nesting Dolls - Design and take-home your masterpieces. Will it be a footy team? A music band? The choice is yours!

**Program Details**
To find out more about what’s on at our Holiday Club program on site and to book visit

We look forward to seeing you and your family soon.

From The Team at Camp Australia.