Change is all around us. Everything is constantly changing. Each of us are changing. Was that a wrinkle I noticed just the other day and another grey hair? Some changes we don’t at all enjoy but then there are some that we truly look forward to like a change in season, a new home, or even a new year! Our students have certainly experienced a great deal of change recently with some at school for the very first time while others have moved to a new year level and our 2016 graduates a new school. For some of us, dealing with change can sometimes be a challenge while others seem to find the experience exciting. I’m one of those individuals who does not always look forward to changes - watching my own children grow up so quickly is one change I don’t appreciate.

In chapel last Friday we were reminded that the one thing in our lives that never changes is God. In our ever changing world God remains the constant. In Malachi 3:6 we read, “I am the Lord and I do not change.” Knowing that God never changes is comforting. Knowing that no matter our disappointments, our struggles and all of our wrongs our God of love is always present, forever holding us dearly. In Hebrews 13:8 we read “Jesus is the same yesterday, and today and forever”. How wonderful to know that God’s love for us is constant - never changing.

As you travel through your week, I encourage you to take a moment and rest with God’s Word. The one and only never changing God certainly deserves our undivided attention! Let us thank Him for the strength and insight He provides during times of change.

Loredana Saracini
Deputy Principal

What’s on at St Mark’s

Parent Information Night
This evening we invite families our Foundation - Year 3 families to attend their child’s Parent Information Evening. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child’s class teacher. During the evening teachers will provide information about classroom and homework expectations, timetables, learning programs, camp dates as well as other important information. The evening will commence at 7:00pm in your child’s classroom.

Should families require a crèche, we are offering a service through the school library. Please note staff will not be able to care for children who are not toilet trained.

Assembly
We invite you to join us for our first assembly of 2017 with Year 6B presenting. Assembly will commence at 9:00am this coming Wednesday in the school hall.

Emergency Drill
At St Mark’s the safety of all students is our priority. On Thursday we will be practising both our emergency Evacuation and Lock In procedures. On Monday the students had the opportunity to experience the sound of both sirens in readiness for Thursday’s practice session.

Friday Chapel
We look forward to this Friday’s chapel beginning at 9:00am in the school hall. This week’s chapel will be led by Pastor Clayton. During our chapel we will announce the names of our Semester 1 Student Representative Council and our Sport Captains for 2017. This will be followed by a blessing by Pastor.

Rebekah Sharkie MP will also be joining us for chapel. Ms Sharkie will be presenting St Mark’s with a new Australian flag.
Family Fun Night
Our Parents and Friends will be hosting a whole school family fun night on Friday 24th February. The evening will commence at 5:00pm on the school oval. The Parents and Friends will be hosting a BBQ for a gold coin donation. The coffee van will be available for coffee and tea. Our wonderful class carers will be hosting family games. Families who do not wish to partake in the BBQ are most welcome to bring along a picnic basket. We look forward to our families joining us in what promises to be a fun filled evening.

Book Club
Most classes took home Book Club order forms last week. Scholastic Book Club is an optional service provided by the school. Order forms are sent out twice a term and we also have a Scholastic Book Fair in August. If you wish to place an order, fill out the form and place it in an envelope or sealed bag. Payment can be done by cash or Credit card online (instructions for how to do this are on the form). If you are paying by cash the money needs to be included with the order. Orders are placed on the due date that is printed in the Newsletter and take approximately a week to arrive. Orders and payment for Issue 1 are due on Thursday 16th February.

PEDAL PRIX MEETING
Parents and students who attended the meeting in Week 2 regarding Pedal Prix - I am expecting an email reply (contact@stmarks.sa.edu.au) as to whether you are committed to the Pedal Prix team or if you are unable to commit. Ideally I would receive this no later than Wednesday the 15th of February. The Pedal Prix bike was shown to interested students on Monday lunchtime.

If there are any further questions please contact the school and ask to speak with me. Look forward to hearing from you.

Mr Scott

Practice Fire Drill
An emergency evacuation drill will be held on Thursday at 12.30pm. Should your child come home with any questions or queries, please discuss with your classroom teacher.
Dear parents, caregivers and students,

The Mt Lofty Volleyball club is seeking expressions of interest from students in years 6/7 for our Reds teams for the 2017 Junior league season, played on Friday nights during terms 2 and 3. If you are interested in participating please email the following details to info.mtloftyvolleyball@gmail.com by the 1st of March 2017:

- Name of student
- Age of student
- Email address
- Contact phone number
- Contact person’s name (parent/caregiver)

Once registration has closed, players will receive an email providing required information, and the dates of trials and the 2017 season.

Mt Lofty Volleyball Club
Attention existing players and new players welcome.

**Trials**

*4th March, Saturday*
8:30am = 11&U; 9:30am = 13&U; 10:30am=15&U; 
11:30am=17 & U; 12:30pm=Seniors

*6th March, Monday*
3:30pm-4:15pm= 9 and Under training/trial (just the one session is planned unless we have a larger group)

*8th March, Wednesday*
3:45pm= 11 & U; 4:45pm= 13 & U; 5:45pm= 15 & U; 6:45pm= 17 & U; 7:30pm= Seniors

*14th March, Tuesday* (tbc- may not be required)
3:45pm= 11 & U; 4:45pm= 13 & U; 5:45pm= 15 & U; 6:45pm= 17 & U; 7:30pm= Seniors

***Please arrive at your trial at least 10min earlier than your allocated time slot. Wear appropriate clothing (you will be playing netball!), nails trimmed, hair up and no jewellery. ***

**Net-Set-Go**

At this stage Net-Set-Go will be held during Term 2 on Friday afternoons from 3.45pm. Further information will be emailed and published early April. If you have any little friends wanting to join us please email the Club with their email address so this can be added to our database for correspondence.

Finally, just a reminder that pre-season training for all 15&U - Senior players has started. These sessions are held on Thursdays 6-7pm at St Marks PS.

Register online or contact the club if you are new.

Any further queries please email the club mblnc@hotmail.com or contact Lis 0419 838 184.

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**Family Fun Picnic Day!**

It’s on the 24th February from 5:30pm and we are really looking forward to seeing you at the St. Mark’s School Family Fun night. Our P & F will be there with a sausage sizzle, ice blocks and drinks for sale. We just ask a gold coin donation for our barbeque! There will also be a coffee van on site and of course, you’re welcome to bring your own picnics too!

We’d like to hear from you! To help with catering, please let us know if you’re coming to the Family Fun night and if you’d like to get something from our sausage sizzle. Please fill in the form below and return it to school by Friday 17th February.

St Mark’s P & F

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☐ Yes! We’re coming to the Family Fun night and would love the sausage sizzle!
☐ Sadly we aren’t able to make it to Family Fun night
☐ Yes, we’re coming but will bring our own picnic food

Family name: __________________________ Number attending: ______________________

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