Prayer
Father, may the risen Jesus who gave up his life for us live forever in our hearts. May we also live our lives renewed with the love of God, and work hard towards reaching our goals. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Principal’s Message
We are never ‘done’.

As a teacher and a Principal I hold a steadfast belief in the capacity of every child to achieve growth, in their learning and wellbeing, spirituality and faith, awareness of themselves and others, and understanding of how they can use their gifts and talents. High expectations are important. I genuinely believe that with good guidance, support and encouragement, young people are energised by challenge. Students want the bar to be set sufficiently high to give them something worth striving for, but not too high that it seems unachievable. If, as teachers and parents, we accept mediocrity, or excuse effort that is below what we know students can achieve, we are doing our young people no favours.

Over the next few weeks, reports will be sent home, and parent teacher conferences will take place. This is an ideal time to share conversations about learning and wellbeing, with students being encouraged to reflect on their achievements and set goals for continued improvement. I read an article recently that suggested if we ban the phrase ‘I’m done’ in classrooms and at home, students could make great progress. If the first effort wasn’t the last effort, but just a step towards a better outcome, then the bar becomes that little bit higher and the sense of satisfaction in achieving personal best becomes a great motivator. This is as true of a Year 4 project as it is in the senior years and achieving personal excellence in the SACE.

In every walk of life we are faced with high expectations and can be coached to better performance. Imagine if you were in a sporting team and didn’t receive or respond to coaching on how to improve your game – consignment to the bench every week would not be very satisfying! Being honest in determining where we are at in terms of skill level or achievement is the first step in setting a goal for improvement and taking personal responsibility to achieve that goal, along with the help of coaches and parents. The same is true of achievement at school, so we really encourage regular three-way conversations about learning to foster a culture of learning and pursuit of personal excellence.

As a school we are involved in this process as a staff, with teachers working on their own learning goals and action plans. We have also been finalising work on the new Strategic Plan for 2016-2018 and our Annual School Improvement Plan, both of which will soon be available on our website. As you can see, we have plenty of homework of our own. In the same way that we have high expectations of our students and an unshakeable belief in their capacity to improve, so we ourselves will continue to set the bar high and be energised in the challenges ahead.

Dr Sandra Hewson
Principal
Activities – Year 12 Christian Service and Retreat and Year 11 Retreat

Next week all Year 7-12 students will be involved in Activities Week. Our Year 12 students and five staff will be heading to Thuruna for two nights for their much anticipated Year 12 Retreat. This Retreat is an opportunity for the group to spend some time away establishing bonds with each other, and exploring the theme of self identity and the impact their actions have on those around them. Sessions include small group reflections, value activities, reconciliation service and reflections on their life so far. I am looking forward to spending time with these students at this Retreat and I’m sure it will be a rewarding and worthwhile experience for them.

Prior to attending the Retreat, all Year 12s will spend time either next Monday and Tuesday undertaking Christian Service in the community as part of our school’s commitment to serving others. The students will perform their Christian Service at a variety of organisations such as Community House, Kirton Point Children’s Centre, Cranston Street Kindergarten, West Coast Youth Services, Salvation Army Store and St Joseph’s School. I am very grateful to these organisations for hosting our students, and I am sure they will appreciate the assistance our students will give them and their organisations.

Our Year 11 students will also head off to Retreat for one night, staying at Trinity Haven. The theme of their Retreat is ‘Web of Life’ which will explore their relationships and interactions with others and with God. Through practical and reflective activities, their relationships with their peers and God will be strengthened and energised.

We look forward to Fr Steve and Fr Adrian attending these Retreats and support the students through Reconciliation services and Masses.

Faith Focus

Congratulations

Last Thursday, Year 4 - 7 students competed in the SAPSASA Regional Athletics Carnival at Ravendale. Some very impressive performances saw them return with 2nd place overall.

Well done to all who gave their best and to those who placed in their events.

Spencer Gulf Catholic Schools Athletics Carnival

The 40th Spencer Gulf Catholic Schools Athletics Carnival was held in Port Lincoln this year at the Ravendale Sporting Complex, hosted by St Joseph’s School. Caritas College (Port Augusta), St Mark’s College (Port Pirie) and Samaritan College (Whyalla) competed in the day’s events. In a thrilling, come from behind effort at the end of the day, St Joseph’s won the overall championship as well as the Handicap Shield, two Age Group Shields for Under 15 and Open Division. St Joseph’s School also had two Age Group Champions, Under 15 Boys Jeb Casanova and Open Division, Lochlan Charlton. Age Group Runner Up medallions were awarded to St Joseph’s School competitors Aisha Gynell (Under 14 Girls), Amelia Rusden (Under 15 Girls), Catherine Southam (Under 16 Girls), Hayley Kennedy (Open Girls) and Kale Olds (Open Boys). Once again, some amazing results and personal bests were achieved.

Around the School

For photos from the Athletics Carnival, please check out our School Facebook Page. Remember to like our page and you will see photos when they are uploaded.
Congratulations, Maddie

Congratulations to Maddie McShane who won the Magic 89.9 ‘Look Local, Shop Local’ Poster Competition on Tuesday afternoon at the Nautilus Theatre. Maddie said, “In my drawing, I tried to fit in all of the well-known icons around Port Lincoln in the most realistic way I could, which was very challenging. I wanted to display as much of the town as I could using lots of bright colours. I didn’t at all expect to win, but I am very grateful. I am eager to be able to use the prize money to get new art supplies for the school”.

Maddie won $250 prize money, as well as $250 for the School. Check out the Port Lincoln Times today for their article on the Poster Competition.

Good Luck Jade & Kyle

Jade Calverley (Year 12) is competing at the 2016 Australian Hancock Prospecting Championship this week in the S6 Division in 50 Free and 50 Breaststroke at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre. We wish Jade all the best for her events. News just in is that Jade swum a personal best time this morning in her 50 freestyle event. Super effort.

Also, we wish Kyle Chalmers (past St Joseph’s student) good luck as he swims this week at the Australian Swimming Championships (Rio Selection trials) in Adelaide.

Drama Plays

This week, Year 8 and 9 Drama classes have been entertaining various Primary and Secondary groups with their performances of “Cowpokes of Calico” and “Truth Juice” in the Performing Arts Centre. These plays are the culmination of their term’s work and were very well done. Congratulations to all students involved and to Mr Andrew Morris (Drama Teacher).

Early Years Assessment

The Year 1 students are currently undergoing the Early Years Assessment in Literacy. This assessment is done during the children’s fifth term at school, giving the teachers valuable information on what the children already know and, what needs to be either reinforced or taught.

The EYA includes letter identification, concepts about written print, sight word knowledge, written vocabulary, hearing and recording of sounds and running records of the children’s reading standard. The children have participated well when withdrawn from the classroom, being able to work one on one with their teacher, and the results have been pleasing.

DECD Buses

We have been notified by the Primary School Bus Coordinator, that the DECD buses will run at 2.30 pm next Friday – the last day of term. As we will have a normal dismissal time, this may have implications for your children. Please arrange for alternative collection of your child/ren on this day.

Boarding House Progress

Reminder about Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for Year 1-5 classes begin on Monday, 11th April.

To ensure the swimming lessons are successful we are asking for your support in the following ways.

- Sport uniform may be worn every day.
- Children bring a pair of thongs/sandals to wear to the Leisure Centre.
- Children bring an old tracksuit to wear over their bathers

**Please ensure that all items of clothing, footwear, goggles and towels are clearly labelled with the child’s name.**
Muroto Visit

We wish James Lyon-Green-Rudland (Year 11) and Eric Deng (Year 10) all the best as they travel to Japan as part of the Muroto Delegation shortly. We are sure they will have an amazing time.

‘I am looking forward to making new friends and learning new things’.

Eric

‘I am looking forward to meeting my host family and seeing the amazing sights of Japan’.

James

Junior Table Tennis Coaching Program

Date: Tuesday, 3rd May at Table Tennis Stadium, Coronation Place. 5.00pm - 6.00pm.

Students 8 Years and over. $30.00 for 10 week program. Contact Barry on 0459330444.

St Mary of the Angels Parish Mass Times

Saturday Night - 6.00pm
Sunday - 9.00am (followed by breakfast)
Every 1st Sunday of the Month
- Coffin Bay Mass at 6.00pm
Every 2nd Sunday of the Month
- Youth Mass at 6.00pm
All Welcome!

Deckchair Cinema

- Friday, 8th April at Centenary Oval, Port Lincoln. 6.30pm - ‘Shaun the Sheep’ (G), 8.30pm - ‘Man Up’ (M). Entertainment, food, drinks, BYO chair or rug. Tickets $5.00 pre-sale, Gate $10 per person, under 3 years free. Tickets available from Youthoria Cinema - Hallet Place, Mana Wellbeing - Lewis Street. EFTPOS not available. Proceeds to the Leukaemia Foundation and Youthoria. Gates open at 6.00pm, onsite parking $2.00.

Lincoln South Football Club

Lincoln South Football Club are looking for players for our under 9 and under 11 teams (both boys and girls can play at this level). If you would like guaranteed game time each week and to learn new skills come and try out on Wednesday nights at Centenary Oval, U9 4.5pm and U11 4.30-5.30pm. For more info contact Kyron Cocks on 0455 174 606.

Canteen Roster - Week 11 Term 1

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If you are able to help at any stage, please contact Val Ingerson on 8683 2400 at school or 86826457 at home.

Get Ready! Next term we will have two meal choices available per week. These will be different every week.

Keep looking in the Newsletter! Cost will be $5.50 per meal.

Community News

NAPLAN 2016

10 - 12 May

NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It tests the types of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life.

The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation and numeracy.

As the NAPLAN results are useful, we encourage all to participate, however, as this is not our only form of assessment, we do not want students to become anxious about them.

NAPLAN is just one of the diagnostic tools available to teachers to help guide each individual student’s learning.

2016 Federal Election

Youth Survey

Youth Action and Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth have launched a national survey of Australian young people so they can highlight the importance of young people’s issues at the upcoming Federal Election.

Please take part in this survey so your voice can be heard: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ARACY-YPelectionsurvey

The more young people (12-25) to fill in the survey, the stronger stories there will be to tell.