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St Andrews Christian College Newsletter 2023

Issue 1 · 23 Feb 2018

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Principal

Dear Friends,

Welcome to another great year at St Andrews Christian College!

We especially welcome all our new families and staff to the wonderful St Andrews community and pray that their time with us will be a great blessing for all.

New Staff for 2018:

LAB ASSISTANT – Christine Hooi

MUSIC Junior School – Helen Metcalfe

PE PRIMARY – Andrew Farmer

JUNIOR SCHOOL YEAR 1 (maternity leave position) – Gary Ong

IT TEACHER – Etienne Johnson

HEAD OF ENGLISH – Diane Cocking

ENGLISH/PSYCHOLOGY (maternity leave position) – Tianna Harris

PE/SCIENCE/HEALTH (maternity leave position) - Cailyn Holland

ART – Middle School – Marina Heading

CHINESE – 1st and 2nd language – Nelly Wang

FILM & MEDIA – Middle School - Charlene Lee

ART ASSISTANT – Natalie Tunstill

SPORT ASSISTANT - Olivia Rowland

We have welcomed a fantastic commencement to the new year and look forward to the many activities, events and solid learning, teaching and growing at the College.

A special congratulations and blessings to our various staff members who were married or had babies over the summer!

- Mrs Emily Hill is now Mrs Law

- Mr Ben Sheahan is still Mr Sheahan, but now has a beautiful wife
- Mrs Lauren Gaschk (on maternity leave) welcomed a baby boy called Jacob
- Mrs Karen Kirk (also on maternity leave) welcomed a baby boy named Asaph
- Mr Daniel Idrees (past staff member) also married in December

Dedication Service

We held our Dedication Service this week in Rembrandts. This was a special time to come together as a community to acknowledge God as the Head of St Andrews Christian College and to pray together to dedicate everything that we do at the College to God, and for His glory and purposes.



At the Service we also launched our theme and biblical focus for the year:

Love God, Love Others

*"And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly
with your God."*

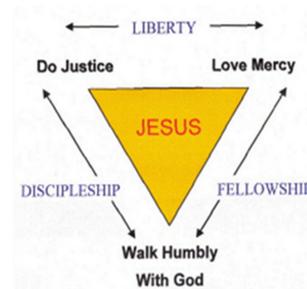
Micah 6:8

There was a story told of a politician who had his portrait taken by a photographer. Well the politician was not at all happy with the proofs and complained to the photographer: "This photo does not do me justice!". The photographer replied, " Sir, with a face like yours, you don't need justice – you need mercy!"

Our mercy must be just and justice must be merciful.

Note the Bible verse from Micah, it says we are to ACT justly and LOVE mercy, not the other way round. A Christian community should reflect God's nature in a balance of righteousness/truth (justice) and love/grace (mercy) and we can only do this if we are walking humbly with God.

Scott Sanders (CEO of Common GRACE) explains that this is like a 3 legged stool and all three need each other in balance to work.



The classroom must reflect God's righteousness through use of codes of conduct that protects all students and is as fair and consistent as possible. But, if a teacher focuses on justice all the time, then there is a focus on rules and order and the classroom becomes very legalistic and harsh.

On the other hand if a teacher just shows mercy/grace all the time in the classroom, there are no boundaries and a lack of respect and a climate of permissiveness will prevail.

Therefore, we aim as teachers to have a humble walk before God, where we are serving Him and those around us.

For a Christian Learning community such as ours at St Andrews, to hold the three legged stool in balance (humility/justice/mercy) there needs to be a vision centred on Jesus Christ and a desire to love and worship Him above all others.

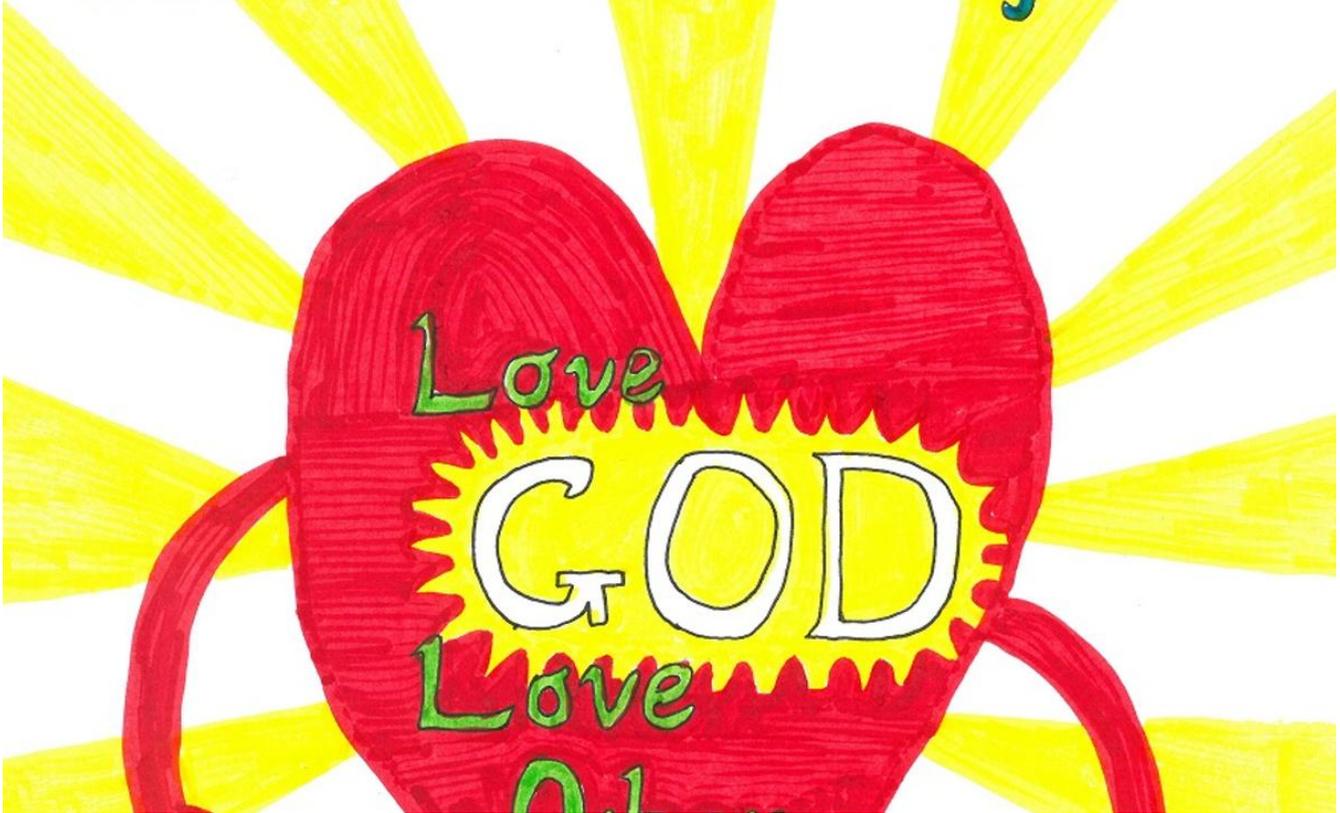
May we all be passionate in the pursuit of justice, extravagant in the practice of mercy and unshakeable in our devotion to God.

Blessings to all for a wonderful year!

Catriona Wansbrough

Principal

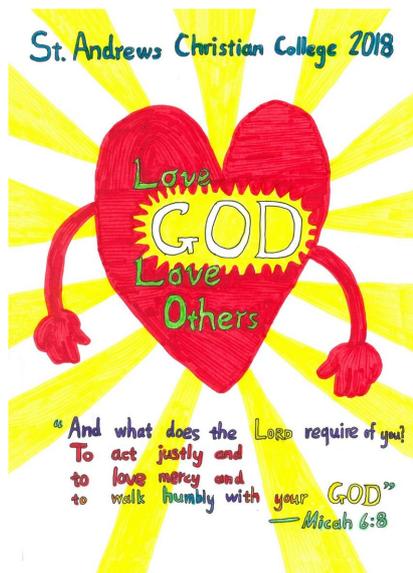
St. Andrews Christian College 2018



News

Theme Poster Competition Winner

Poster Competition Winner



Congratulations to Sam Liu, 8K who won our POSTER COMPETITION for this theme for the College for 2018.

website: www.standrews.vic.edu.au

Here you can find procedures on CHILD SAFETY/GRIEVANCES/ANTI-BULLYING

Policies

For the safety of all our students and for the smooth running of the College we have many policies and procedures.

Please note some of these policies on our College

Student Safety

All students and parents walking across Tyner Rd are to use the **School Crossing** on Tyner Rd. Of course students/families can also

safely cross at the TRAFFIC LIGHTS.

Catriona Wansbrough
Principal

Working Bee

The 1st term Working Bee is on Saturday March 17th. This is a great way to contribute to the College and also gain some Parent Participation Hours. More details to follow.

Ted Waterman
Grounds and Maintenance Manager

Rembrandts Thanks

On Thursday 8th February St Andrews Christian College had the pleasure of hosting the owner of Rembrandts - Mr Sun and his son (who is the manager of Rembrandts) at a visit to our College. We were pleased to have the opportunity to personally THANK the owner for all he has done and the gift of the use of Rembrandts over the past several years.



Mr Sun and his son experienced St Andrews College life as they met with a couple of parents (who presented a letter of thanks), had a couple of class visits, one with a brief Award ceremony (to Mr Sun) and enjoyed a beautiful lunch. During their second class visit, two Year 8 students, Charlie Lamperd and Cathy Liu presented (in English and in Chinese) a special plaque to Mr Sun to honour his COMMUNITY SERVICE to the College.

Gifted and Talented - Maths

At St Andrews, we have a range of activities and programs that cater for gifted and talented children. Over the next few newsletters, we will outline some of the programs and practices that we include in our School curriculum in order to share some of the

understandings and reasonings underlying what we do. The first one of these practices is Advanced Maths Classes.

Advanced Maths Classes

From Year 2 to 6 we have Maths every day during period 3. This allows for students who already know the content of their respective year level to be accelerated to the next year level. At the beginning of each year, we analyse a range of results and allocate Maths classes according to ability levels. We still operate under the normal constraints of class sizes but we ensure that we are doing all we can to cater for the needs of each child.

This year, we have extended this practice into the Senior School where Maths classes are now blocked on at the same time from Year 7 to Year 10. We are still constrained by class sizes and the number of Maths staff but, where possible, all students who require acceleration are placed within this Maths blocking. This means, for example, that a Year 8 student who is working at a Year 9 level, goes to the Year 9 class when Maths is held.

Streaming our Maths classes allows us to ensure that we are maximising student engagement. If a student is working at their level, they will be better engaged and learn more effectively. It is worth noting that the Maths class at each year complete that same work so that students who are not accelerated are not disadvantaged.

If you would like more details regarding the way Maths is organised across the College, please contact myself: mbrewer@standrews.vic.edu.au

Merrick Brewer
Gifted and Talented
Coordinator.

House Shirts

This year we launched the house sports shirts. It has been a fantastic process for our students who have been involved in designing and creating our new house crests. The 2017 Middle School house captains worked together to create the new symbols and meanings for the crests and then handed them on to our

Year 8 Art students under the capable supervision of Tom Gibbs. All the symbols were hand drawn by our students and then our resident graphic designer and marketing manager Susan de Kretser created the digital images of the crests ready for our new shirts.

I am so proud of all our students for their dedication to this process, it has been a valuable learning experience.

It has been great to see the students running around in their new shirts, they look fantastic. The students are allowed to wear these shirts as an extra sport t-shirt for any sport lessons and most importantly on any House event days during the year. If you have not collected your child's shirt yet you can do this from the second hand uniform shop.



Strength - Honour – Unity -
Wisdom

Ephesians 6:10 *“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power”*



Endurance – Integrity – Justice
- Humility

Hebrews 12:1 *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us”*



Perseverance – Courage –
Passion - Success

Joshua 1:9 *“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”*

Yvonne Hughes
Head of Junior School

VCE Results 2017

It has been great to celebrate the achievements of the Year 12 students in 2017.

At St Andrews we recognise that our students are for more than just a VCE result and ATAR number. We aim to educate the whole child:

spiritually, emotionally, socially, culturally and academically. It is pleasing to see the hard work of the students and teachers in the classroom be recognised with excellent results. Some highlights include:

Median Study Score of 32.

10.8% of study score were above 40.

26% of students achieved an ATAR of 90 or above (top 10% of state)

52% of students achieved an ATAR of 80 or above (top 20% of state)

67% of students achieve an ATAR of 70 or above (top 30% of state)

St Andrews Christian College was ranked in the top 100 school in the state of Victoria on the basis of our 2017 VCE results!

In 2018, we are continuing to pursue excellence in the classroom. It is exciting to be able to add a range of subjects to the offering we provide to students. This year we have added:

- Unit 1&2 Chinese second language
- Unit 3&4 Chinese second language
- Unit 3&4 Chinese first language
- Unit 3&4 Specialist mathematics
- Unit 1&2 Theatre studies
- Unit 1&2 History
- Unit 1&2 Studio art
- Unit 3&4 Studio art

Please feel free to ask any questions to find out more about the great things happening at Senior School; inside the classroom and in building the many facets of our students' lives

John Presant

Head of Senior School

It's A Boy!

Here is the beautiful little boy born to Karen and Joan Hwang (Kirk).



Asaph Yong Xuan Hwang born on 16/1/18 at 3.5 kg. Baby doing very well and putting on lots of weight.

Holiday Activities

A great effort by four students from St Andrews, who fundraised for the Epilepsy Foundation prior to Christmas.





Calendar

Important Coming Events for Term 1 2018:

MONDAY 26TH FEBRUARY:

- Senior String Ensemble @ lunchtime in Rembrandts
- Middle School Worship Band Rehearsal @ lunchtime in Rembrandts
- Netball Training - Under 11 & 13 @ 3:45 – 4:45pm in the MPH
- Senior Vocal Ensemble @ 3:45 – 5:00pm in Rembrandts

TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY:

- Year 7 – 10 Boys Before School Training @ 8:15am sharp
- Junior School Choir Rehearsal @ lunchtime in Rembrandts

WEDNESDAY 28th FEBRUARY:

- No School for Preps
- **Year 5 – 12 Interhouse Swimming Carnival @ Aquanation, Ringwood***
- **Community Devotions – for the Whole College Community @ 8:15am in the Meeting Room***
- Year 7/8 CSEN Sport

THURSDAY 1st MARCH:

- **Parent/Teacher Interviews @ 8:00am – 8:00pm – NO School for Students**

FRIDAY 2nd MARCH

- Junior String Ensemble @ lunchtime in Rembrandts

- Intermediate Vocal Ensemble @ 3:45 – 5:00pm in Rembrandts

LOOKING AHEAD – Term 1

- **Monday 5th March – Friday 9th March –** Year 10 Camp – Mill Valley Ranch
- **Wednesday 7th March –** No School for Preps
- **Wednesday 7th March –** Year 9/10 CSEN Sport
- **Friday 9th March –** Open Day
- **Monday 12th March –** LABOUR DAY – Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 13th March –**Preps commence full week at School
- **Tuesday 13th – Friday 16th March –** Year 9 City Experience
- **Wednesday 14th March –** Year 7/8 CSEN Sport
- **Thursday 15th March –**VCE CSEN Rally Day
- **Thursday 15th March –** Year 7 Immunisation
- **Monday 19th– Friday 23rd March –** Year 8 Canberra Trip
- **Monday 19th– Friday 23rd March –** Prep – Year 6 Swimming Program (various times)

- **Tuesday 20th March –** CSEN Secondary Swimming Carnival
- **Wednesday 21st March –** Year 9/10 CSEN Sport
- **Wednesday 21st – Friday 23rd March–** VCE Camp, El Kanah
- **Friday 23rd March –** CSEN Primary Swimming Carnival
- **Monday 26th – Thursday 29th March –** Prep – Year 6 Swimming Program (various times)
- **Wednesday 28th March –** Year 7/8 CSEN Sport
- **Thursday 29th March –**LAST DAY OF TERM 1

** Parents welcome*

Term Dates

TERM DATES FOR 2018

Term 1: Thursday 1st February – Friday 29th March

*Prep commence Friday 2nd February

Term 2: Tuesday 17th April – Friday 29th June

Term 3: Monday 23rd July – Friday 21st September

Term 4: Mon 8th October – Tuesday 11th December



Parents and Friends

PFA Welcome Family Picnic

PFA in 2018

The Parents and Friends Association of St Andrews functions to serve and support the college. All parents who pay the \$5 PFA levy as part of the school fees are members of the PFA. Meetings are held at least once a term and an AGM in Term 4.

Throughout the year the PFA run community, service and fundraising events. In recent years the PFA have helped fund the Junior School toilets, the Media and Film program and landscaping around the new Senior School building.

Community events like Family Picnics and Movie Nights have been enjoyed by all whilst service events have included

Mother and Fathers' Day stalls and various Food Days each term.

We look forward to a great 2018 and encourage all parents to become involved in the PFA and school activities.

Andrew O'Brien
PFA President

Family Picnic

All families are invited to the St Andrews Family Picnic which will be held on Saturday 24th February from 4:30pm – 7:00pm in the College grounds.

The picnic will be a great chance to catch up with friends and experience the sense of

community within St Andrews Christian College as we welcome the new school year. There will be a range of free activities for the family to enjoy including a sausage sizzle, jumping castle, animal farm, face painting and balloon sculpting and we might even chance a sighting of a fire truck. Drinks and icy poles will also be available for purchase while you are entertained by the musical performances of the students from St Andrews.

We are also looking for Parent Volunteers to help with the various activities on the day. All hours spent volunteering will be able to be credited to your Parent Participation Hours for the year. All interested

parents should confirm their interest by emailing pfa@standrews.vic.edu.au

Volunteering

Parents are reminded that if you are volunteering at school you'll need a current Working With Children Check. These can be done [online](#) and then submitted at a post office at no cost.

The school also requires parents who volunteer or go on excursions to read and sign a Child Safety Code of Conduct form, which is available from the school office.

2nd Hand Uniform Shop

The shop will be open on a Tuesday morning from 8:30am - 9:30am.

Please note that this year the Second Hand Uniform Shop has changed its opening day from Wednesday to Tuesday each week during the School Terms.

The Second Hand Uniform Shop is located in Rembrandts.

We are looking for parent volunteers for 2018 who can commit to assisting in the Uniform Shop. Please contact Liz Romney via pfa@standrews.vic.edu.au

School Banking

School Banking has recommenced for the year and will take place each Tuesday of the school term.

Icy Pole Friday

Every Friday lunchtime. Please note that due to supplier price increases a new Price List has been issued for Icy Pole Friday and is attached for your information.

 [PFA_Icy_Pole_...](#)

We are looking for parent volunteers for 2018 who can commit to assisting with Icy Pole Friday. Please contact Andrew Musgrove via pfa@standrews.vic.edu.au

Parent Participation Hours

Families can participate by being involved in a variety of activities. During the year, notices will be sent out requesting parent help at various events or activities, for example, helping at sports carnivals, covering library books, icy pole Fridays, 2nd Hand Uniform Shop, PFA events, classroom help or attending working bees.

Parents are required to record the hours they have completed in the Parent Hours Book which is kept in the College Office. You will be charged a Parent Participation fee of \$250 at the commencement of each year and will be credited at the end of the term for any work done. You will be credited at a rate of \$25 per hour of work completed, up to a maximum of \$250 for the year. The time requirement for each family is ten hours per year.

Term 1 2018 PFA Events

- *Saturday 24th February 2018 – Welcome Picnic*
- *March - Hot Cross Bun Food Day*
- *Entertainment Books Fundraiser*

2018 PFA Executive Committee

President: Andrew O'Brien
 Vice President: Sally Wade
 Secretary: Lesley Goh

Treasurer: Jean Lee
 Assistant Treasurer: Eric Chen
 Email: pfa@standrews.vic.edu.au



Missions

Cambodia Mission Team 2018

on St Andrews second Mission Discovery Trip to Cambodia. We will travel with Samaritan's Purse staff to see how God is working through our brothers and sisters there, using the financial resources we have been able to give. We will be visiting villages, running activities at schools and participating in Christmas in a Shoe Box distributions, maybe even handing out some of the boxes students at St Andrews Christian College have donated.



The Cambodia Mission Trip team are Hamish Maudlin, Alex Visser, Eunice Lim, Katelyn Farmer, Emilie Hughes, Natasha Rowley, Tom Audet, Hannah Collis, Aimee Crotty,

Fundraising

Last year we were able to send just over \$10 000 to Samaritan's Purse in Cambodia to help pay for toilets and safe drinking water in the Prasat Rang school.



This year we would like to raise the same amount again to provide resources and teacher training at Prasat Rang.



Improving the quality of teaching has a huge effect as this testimony from another school shows; **'Because of Samaritan's Purse We Can Read, We Can**

of students being functionally literate to 70% in just one year. With the tools and materials available, passionate and driven teachers like Lang Sreynuth have the means to effectively impact young lives and educate the children of Cambodia.' (See <https://www.samaritanspurse.org.au/shaping-young-minds/> for the full story)

We can help achieve the same result at Prasat Rang School and we hope to visit the school on our mission trip in December.

The majority of our college fundraising this year will be directed to this project so please give generously when the opportunity arises.

Greg Crotty
Cambodia Mission Trip
Coordinator



Junior School

Preps

Junior School

What a lovely start to the year! It has been wonderful to hear the buzz of excited little voices telling me stories about their new teachers and the new subjects they are enjoying. This year in the Junior School we have introduced STEM which is a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths based program that incorporates group work and thinking skills. I am taking the students for

STEM this year in two semester groups. This semester it is Prep, Year 1 and one Year 2 class. While I am doing these classes the other Year 2 class, Year 3 and Year 4 are having a specific IT class with Mr Gary Ong. In the middle of the year Mr Ong and I will swap and this will provide the students with a great basis for technology and future STEM studies in the Middle and Senior years of school.

It is going to be a great year full of new experiences for our students in the Junior School.

Yvonne Hughes

Yvonne Hughes
Head of Junior School

PMP

Thankyou to a number of parents for your willingness to help us with PMP! The Preps will do PMP on Monday morning (9:10-9:40am approx.) and Preps and Yr 1 will do PMP on Wednesday morning (9:15-10:05am).

The program cannot run without you being available to help the small groups of children and we appreciate you giving of your time.

When you come to school to help, please "sign in" as a "Visitor" in the School Office. When you have finished helping for the morning, please ensure you also "sign out" in the School Office. You can also fill in your Parent Assistance Hours in the folder in the School Office before you leave. After you have signed in, you can go to the Multi-Purpose Hall. The children will meet you there with their teachers. All helpers (in the classroom, on excursions, at PMP and swimming) need to complete a "Working with Children Check". If you already have a WWCC, please go online to include

St Andrews Christian College as one of your organisations. Please also show your card to our School Office (for our records). If you do not have a WWCC, please go online to apply for one. When you have lodged your form, you will be given a receipt number. Please show a copy of this receipt to the School Office for our records. When your Working With Children Check is confirmed, please show your card to the School Office.

If you are unable to "help" on your rostered day, please arrange a "swap" with someone else on the roster.

Sonia Sires
Prep Teacher

Soccer



On Tuesday 20th February we officially became a soccer school! Mr Andrew Farmer

began our first training sessions for Year 3 and 4. The students were amazing, with many talents being revealed filling the staff with great anticipation about the prospects of taking over the world of soccer. We look forward with much excitement to the future of soccer at St Andrews, a huge thank you to the Middle School students who helped and our very own "Super Coach" Mr Andrew Farmer.

More about this program on the Sports Page.

Yvonne Hughes
Head of Junior School

Extra Curricular Activities

Eco-Captains

On Friday , 6 excited students from Years Prep to 3 attended the inaugural "Eco- Captains Chat and Chew!"

We introduced ourselves, enjoyed eating some chips and lamingtons (!) and shared some ideas about the role of an Eco Captain.



Some great ideas were shared! These included: name tags for the Eco-Captains, a reward system to encourage students to be good stewards at our school, making announcements in Assembly and re-introducing “Waste Free Wednesday”. After our

initial meeting, some other students have expressed interest in taking on this role so as of today, the Eco-Captains are:

Elijah F. (Prep), Joachim (Year 1), Sophie (Year 2), Darren (Year 2), Odella (Year 3), Annabelle (Year 3), Adina (Year 4), Elise (Year 4) and Beatrice (Year 4).

We will meet again in a week and hope to update you in the next newsletter with some more ideas. Stay tuned!

Sonia Sires

Prep Teacher and Extra Curricular Activities Co-ordinator

Extra Curricular Activities

Here is a list of extra curricular activities available to Junior students during Semester 1.



Sonia Sires

Prep Teacher and Extra Curricular Activities Co-ordinator



Middle School

Middle School students with the owner of Rembrandts

Year 7 – A Year of Opportunities!

While our existing St Andrews students enter Year 7 as an extension of Middle School, we should not forget that Year 7 is also the start of Secondary School, even though this is not such a clear distinction at St Andrews. Students who join us in Year 7 from other schools are very aware of the fact that they are now starting their secondary education.

Year 7 brings many challenges to our students, but challenges are opportunities to improve and I trust that our Year 7

students and parents will take this viewpoint. At the start of Term 4 last year, some of our Year 7 students took the time to write down their insights about the year in an article entitled "The five most important things I learnt in Year 7". From a teacher's point of view, these are amazing insights, and I would like to share some of these articles with you in this and coming newsletters.

I have enjoyed the experience of Year 7 at St Andrews Christian College. I have gained many new skills and I feel I have improved in all

areas: academic, personality and extra curricular. Below are the five most important things I have learnt in Year 7.

WAYS TO STUDY FOR EXAMS

Exams are a crucial part of Year 7, and it is very important to study hard and do well.

Throughout the year, many of my classmates have shared their study methods with me, including cue cards, memorisation and summaries.

These are all fantastic strategies for ensuring good marks; however, I would like to suggest my method for excellent exam study, namely

note taking. Writing short notes helps you to summarise the information in the text in a direct way. Dot points allow you to revise quickly and think about the most important facts while writing them down.

HOW TO WRITE A TEXT RESPONSE ESSAY

A text response essay is a very important essay type, and it is essential for all students of English to be able to write in this way. The text response essay is based on the structure of a persuasive essay, but the topic will be about some aspect of the text (book) you are studying. The basic text response essay follows a simple I3C formula, consisting of the introduction, three body paragraphs and a conclusion. Each body paragraph has very straight-forward structure, based on the acronym TEEL. TEEL stands for topic sentence, evidence, explanation and link. These sections come together to make up the perfect body paragraph.

LAUGH NOW, CRY LATER

This is a useful motto that reminds you not to mess around in class while important

concepts are being taught. From this saying, I can tell you that if you do not focus in class, you will regret your decision sooner or later – meaning you might cry! My English teacher used this phrase when the class got restless while she was explaining something.

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP YOUR LOCKER NEAT AND TIDY

Lockers and locks are given to students by the school, with the responsibility to keep them organised and clean both inside and out. The purpose of the lockers are to help students to keep their books and instruments organised and safe. When your locker is messy, you are unable to find anything, and important items can sometimes go missing. You can lose your homework or diary, and even end up in detention! Keeping your locker neat and tidy at all times, should be the pride of every student. Lockers should not be taken for granted!

ALWAYS WEAR THE CORRECT UNIFORM TO SCHOOL

It is very important to wear the correct uniform to school.

Whether it is winter, summer or sport, correct uniform maintains discipline throughout the school. This is one of the most important things I have learnt this year!

Suhani Poddar (8L 2018)

Year 7 has been a challenging year with many new experiences. Through the year I have gained more knowledge on many special and important things. Some of these things are organisation, studying, how to get over problems, understanding different personalities, how to shoot in netball, and many more.

One of the top important things I have learnt this year is the importance of organisation. Before coming to Year 7, I found myself quite good at organising, but Year 7 took me to a whole new level! You need to be able to get to classes on time, have the right books, etc. To accomplish this, you need to have some kind of system in class and in your locker. From this I have felt that I had learnt a new life skill that will stay with me and help me for the rest of my life.

In year 7, tests and exams are popping up more often.

Another important skill I have gained in Year 7, is the knowledge of how to study and prepare for these. It is always good to study more rather than less, but in an efficient way. The teachers and students have shown me many new techniques on how to study, and I have made my way through them to find the best for me: writing notes, answering questions and reading over the chapters/notes.

This has been a very challenging year for me, and I have been faced with many challenges and problems. With the help of friends, teachers and my parents, I have found ways to overcome problems one by one. To me, this is the best thing I have learnt: to share my problems and find ways to deal with them. All of my family, friends and teachers have helped me see this, and I thank them so much!

Starting Year 7 was like starting all over again. A new school, new environment, new people, new friends. An important thing I learnt was to understand that people have different personalities. This is

important to me, because it helped me to appreciate people more, and how to make them feel better. This has also helped me to make great new friends, and to talk to others comfortably.

Being able to shoot in netball might seem like such an unimportant skill to some. When I learnt to shoot, it was so important to me, because it made me very happy. It encouraged me, and showed me that I could do anything if I tried my best and put in all my effort. It also showed me that we do not always succeed on the first try.

Overall, Year 7 has taught me so many life skills. I became stronger, with much more knowledge of the world.

Michelle McCabe (8L 2018)

It is heart-warming for us as teachers to see how students absorb the things that we teach them and take the lessons that they learn seriously – I am sure the same counts for parents.

I hope these articles will be an encouragement for all the Year 7's of 2018!

Christa Cloete

Year 7/8 Coordinator

Cyber Wisdom

From 2018 onwards, students in Year 7 and 8 will be allowed to take their iPads home every day. It is both critical and inevitable in today's educational framework that more and more work gets done on some type of device. As teachers, we need to prepare our students for a technology-based future, but we also want to see them become responsible citizens of that future. Parents have an important role in partnering with the school to help students use their devices wisely, without being constantly distracted by social media.

The article quoted below stresses this balancing act and the role of parents to help assure that their children get sufficient time away from the screen, in order to improve their sleeping patterns and help them to concentrate better. Creating solid house rules around the use of social media during Middle School years, will give parents the

advantage to direct the amount of hours their children spend on cyber media even in later years.

A survey commissioned by cyber safety platform Family Zone, found teenagers are being robbed of valuable sleep time in the lead-up to exams due to a combination of stress and too much time on social media through their mobile phones and laptops.

The same devices that they are using to study are also a constant distraction.

Key findings of the survey show:

- 83 per cent of parents think their children sleep less during exam periods. 78 per cent of kids agree.
- Over 70 per cent of parents and kids say that their kids/they get between 2-4 hours less sleep each night during exam times.
- 61 per cent of parents state the reason that their kids sleep less during exam periods is due to increased screen time for studying or recreation.

- Almost 90 per cent of parents describe electronic devices as a distraction in their kids' everyday life, while 86 per cent of children say they are.
- 40 per cent of kids say electronic devices become more of a distraction during exam periods.
- 83 per cent of parents say that their kids have electronic devices in their bedroom, while 70 per cent of kids state they are more likely to have devices in their bedroom during exam periods.
- 62 per cent of kids are concerned by the amount of screen time that occupies their time, while their parents are more worried, at 72 per cent.
- 75 per cent of parents say their kids' devices don't have parental controls installed, while 88 per cent of kids say they don't.

"The survey confirms what every student and parent know, mobile devices are affecting study and sleep times, especially in the distractions

social media presents 24 hours a day," cyber expert, David Kobler, says.

"It is important for parents to take charge of their children's social media usage, creating rules around the times and content they are accessing, to give them the best chance in the end of year exams.

"Digital devices are critical for all students for study purposes these days, so they need to be within arms-reach, but this also means, so is the distraction to use them for non-study purposes. It's a tough balancing act for students and parents."

(Article by Education HQ News Team, 17 October 2017.)

From our side, we can make the following suggestions:

- Go through the Digital Use Agreement with your child, and ensure that they know what they are signing for, when they sign the agreement together with you.
- Keep a copy of the Agreement handy at home.

- Restrict casual use (playtime) on iPads to the weekend and then only where the students are visible or sitting with the rest of the family.
- Emphasise that the school iPad is not a toy, but rather a learning resource.
- Charge the iPad where it will not be accessible to your child during the night – for instance in the master bedroom.
- Be aware that the younger generation knows much more about technology than most of us as parents or teachers do, and that they might use that knowledge to hide what they are really doing on a device.

We are so privileged to have an informed and supportive parent body at St Andrews, and we look forward to sharing the responsibility for our students' future with you.

Many blessings

Christa Cloete
Year 7/8 Coordinator

Middle School Duolingo Championship

During Year 6, 7 and 8, students have the opportunity to be part of the Middle School Duolingo Championship. Some students have already signed up for Duolingo in Year 5, but by the start of Year 6 all students should have a Duolingo profile. Parents of Year 6 students or new students who still need to sign up, can go to Duolingo.com on a desktop or laptop, and help their child to create a profile.

It would be much appreciated if parents could ensure that students have a set of earphones that they can use in class while playing Duolingo. However, while there are some

opportunities to do Duolingo in class, this area of French is seen as the students' French homework, and should be worked at a few times each week at home.

Keep a look out for the names of our Duolingo Golden Owls in the next newsletter!

Thank you for your support in encouraging our students to steward every opportunity that comes their way.

À bientôt!

Madame Cloete
French Teacher, Year 6 - 8

Extra Curricular Activities

Here is a list of extra curricular activities available to Middle and Senior students during Semester 1.

 EXTRA CURRIC...

Sonia Sires
Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator



Senior School

Outer Eastern Prayer Breakfast

Welcome to our new Chinese Teacher!

This year we have the privilege of introducing Chinese as a subject at the Senior School.

This year we offer:

- Year 9 Chinese
- Year 10 Chinese
- Unit 1&2 Chinese Second Language
- Unit 3&4 Chinese Second Language
- Unit 3&4 Chinese First Language.

In order to offer such a range and advanced level of Chinese Academic subjects at St Andrews we have welcomed a new teacher to the College. Mrs Nelly Wang (王月英) has joined us this year. She was born in China and moved to Australia in 1996. While in China she taught undergraduate courses for over 10 years at Xi'an Jiaotong University. Besides teaching Chinese, Mrs Wang also does translation and interpreting as she is a qualified NAATI

translator. She is an experienced educator in both Chinese First and Second Language courses; we are delighted to have someone of her expertise to teach here at St Andrews Christian College.

Outside of teaching, Mrs Wang enjoys folks dances, drawing, calligraphy, swimming and playing table-tennis. Her husband and son are both IT engineers.

Already in her short time at St Andrews Mrs. Wang has made

a positive contribution to our school community. It is a great blessing to have her join us this year and lead our Chinese language teaching.

John Presant

Head of Senior School

Olympiad Training Program

Dear Students / Parents,

The School of Chemistry, The University of Melbourne and CEA (Chemistry Education Association) is offering a 14 week training program "Olympiad Training Program for the Australian Science Olympiad Examination in Chemistry". It covers all concepts in Year 12 Chemistry as well as a significant number of first year university topics. Students who have attended this program in the past have reviewed it enthusiastically and have achieved excellent results in the Australian Science Examination in Chemistry, with High Distinctions and Distinctions. Past students have been selected to attend the Summer Olympiad Program at Monash University.

In 2018, the program will run on Monday evenings 5:30-7:30pm on 5, 19, 26 March, 16 April – 4 June, 18 June, 16 & 23 July at Melbourne University.
The cost is \$310 per student.

For further information, please contact Mr Fernandes - lfernandes@standrews.vic.edu.au

Louis Fernandes
Senior School Teacher

Essay Competition Winner

Winner, First Place
Michaela Swank
St Andrews Christian College
<https://literatu.blog/2017/12/11/essay-content-winners/>



Literatu and its co-sponsors are pleased to announce the winners of the "Advance Australia... THERE!" essay competition.

From the hundreds of submissions, three winners have been selected at the

Primary (Years 5-6), High School - Secondary (Years 7-9) and Senior (Years 10-12) levels. One winner in each section.

Winners

Senior School: Michaela Swank, St Andrews Christian College. Teacher: Irena Yevlahova

High School: Olga Medvedieva, Queenwood School for Girls. Teacher: Amy Hall

Primary School: Vanessa Kite, Macarthur Anglican School. Teacher: Kylie Elling



The 'Literatu' Team congratulate Michaela and the whole team at St Andrews Christian College, "We appreciate all teachers' and students' participation in the contest. As companies involved in technology and education, we wanted to support schools as they target improvements in what is often the most challenging skill for

students to learn and teachers to teach. We applaud the teachers and schools who have fostered these excellent efforts.”

Students had to consider: how technology can improve, impact and enrich their learning and their future. Three Year 10 St Andrews students have entered the senior section of the competition and we were overjoyed when we had received exciting news that from hundreds of entries into the Senior Section of the National Essay Competition, Year 10 St Andrews student, Michaela Swank, had been selected as the winner.

Here is her essay.

How should we use technology to create the best future for Australia?

Technology improves by the minute with new discoveries and advances being made all the time. It is a tool that has affected many professions and ways of life making tasks quicker and easier. As time goes on we can see technology spreading into areas that have never felt its presence before.

Its purpose? To make our lives comfortable and more efficient.

Education is one area that utilises technology in almost every field. Whether it be admin, presentations in class, research, or access to the best learning materials, it is all made easier with technology. It provides better communication between students and teachers helping to improve the quality of learning. There are even online classes and video lessons that are made available so people can study when and where it is suitable for them. This allows people to further their learning around their busy schedules and creates opportunity for those who might not be able to afford more expensive alternatives.

Education is an area that technology can be used for good, to improve our country and equip people to live in this digital age. After all, technology becomes useless if we have no one who knows how to use it.

The work force is also heavily affected by technological advances. Each year thousands of jobs are replaced by technology. In an article from 2015 it was estimated that

over 40% of jobs would be replaced by the year 2025.

Though it may be cheaper to run the machine, it puts many people out of a job. It is a serious issue that needs to be addressed however it is not the only side of the story. There are many instances in which technology has created jobs. We need people to maintain it. We rely on technology to do many things but like us it is not perfect and at times it malfunctions. Many businesses have a social media account to reach out to the people and someone needs to take care of that. Engineers and inventors are needed to create new technology and improve old technology. It comes back to education. We must know how to utilise it for our benefit. As our technology advances so must we.

Australia has many opportunities in which to use technology but it needs to be discussed thoroughly and looked at from all points of view. Does it benefit the majority? Is it going to be used improve and advance our nation? We need to use technology to improve our world, especially for those that

are struggling to keep up. We need to stop and think about where we are going with this. What kind of future do we want to create for our nation? A future that allows us to use our gifts and be confident in our skills and abilities. A future that causes us to look at the people around us and be inspired to create something that might improve their lives. We need to encourage a generation that can take the technology we have created and use it to make our world a better place. These are the things that must be considered and taken into account as we march towards an age that is dominated by technology.

Irena Yevlahova
Careers Coordinator

Careers News

Welcome to the St Andrews Careers Newsletter for 2018.

After the great success of our Year 9 girls in Programming Challenge for Girls (PC4G) at The University of Melbourne in 2016, our school was invited to participate in 2018. Last week three Year 9 girls attended the Introductory Session. They learned about creating animations, building interactive narratives and programming simple games in 3D. At the end of the school year, they will put their coding skills to the test in the final competition.

Following are our most recent newsletters.

 Careers Newsl...

 Careers Newsl...

If you have a question about a topic featured in the Careers Newsletter, please contact Careers Coordinator Mrs Irena Yevlahova iyevlahova@standrews.vic.edu.au

Irena Yevlahova
Careers Coordinator

Extra Curricular Activities

Here is a list of extra curricular activities available to Middle and Senior students during Semester 1.

Sonia Sires
Extra Curricular Activities Coordinator



Sport

Zatopek Athletics Championships

St Andrews Netball Club

It was great to come down recently and see all the girls playing! The new under11's looked very cute in their uniforms. We have had a great start to the year and I look forward to seeing how all the girls improve this season. Remember to direct any queries to netball@standrews.vic.edu.au

I recommend getting the Netball Victoria app on your phones for handy access to fixtures, results and ladders. Also check out our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/standrewsnetballclub/>

Lauren Gaschk
St Andrews Netball Club
President

Soccer at St Andrews

Thank-you to all parents, student and teachers who have given me such a warm welcome to the school. Please bear with me whilst I learn many many new names and forgive me if I ask twice for your name.

I am a great football (soccer) fan and do a lot of local coaching at Knox City FC and

for School Sport Victoria. I am hoping to start a Soccer Club at St Andrews to raise the next generation of Socceros from the school. We will begin on a Tuesday session after school from 3:30-4:30 with Grade 3 and 4 students this term. Hopefully I will be able to let other students have the chance to join in future terms and we are thinking of starting a primary soccer league on a Thursday night at the local FFV Football centre along High street Road.



I am particularly keen to recruit some extra coaches from the older students at the school and parents if you hold a current Working With Children Check. I can supply some coach training in time and the more coaches we have available means the more students we can train up, so let me know by e-mail on afarmer@standrews.vic.edu.au or come and have a chat with me in the PE department. So let us work together to get the St Andrews Soccer Club going and breeding the next generation of Socceroo and Matilda footballers to get to a future World Cup !!

Andrew Farmer
PE Teacher

Zatopek Athletics Championships

Four of our senior boys competed in the 4x100m at the Zatopek Aths Championships in the city late last year. They placed 7th with a time of 45.55 seconds, 2.5 seconds behind the winning school.

The relay team had qualified to represent CSEN schools and competed against some of the strongest sporting schools like Trinity, Aquinas and Melbourne Grammar.



It was an awesome experience for them. Well done boys!



Library

Library News

Library Staff: Lynne Marks,
Joanne Edwards, Wai-Peng
Heath

Junior Library

Lunchtime Monday

Middle/ Senior Library:

Monday to Friday: Recess and
Lunch

After school:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays
and Fridays until 4pm.
Wednesdays until 3.45pm.

Email:

library@standrews.vic.edu.au

Volunteers please!

The Library would love your
help. We are looking for people
to help in the following areas

- Shelving in the morning
from 8.45am
-9.45am. Young children
welcome. A current
Working with Children
check needed. You only
need to commit to 1 day a
week for 1 term. We need

volunteers for Terms 2, 3
and 4

- Book covering. We will
provide the contact and
instructions. The books
can be taken home,
covered and returned to
school. We would
appreciate the books
returned in a week.

If you are interested in doing
either of these, please contact
the Library
on library@standrews.vic.edu.au
or in person and leave the
following details

- Your name
- Your child's name and grade
- Your email address or a telephone number

Whether you would like to cover books or shelves, if you would like to shelve, please let us know the

term you would like and the day(s) you wish.

The Library Staff



Alumni

Year 12 2017

Engagement Congratulations!

Congratulations to past students Durwin Zhang and Natalie Miranda who were recently engaged.



VCE 2017

Congratulations to our newest alumni, the Class of 2017 for their outstanding results!

Our students have worked exceptionally hard in their studies this year and it is a pleasure to share the results

with you. I would like to thank the teachers of St Andrews for their efforts in preparing students for this time in life.

Thank you also to parents for the work in encouraging and supporting their children through their schooling.

We congratulate Hope Smith, who achieved the top result for St Andrews Christian College with an ATAR of 97.15!

At St Andrews we know that an ATAR result does not define a student—our students have been prepared for life in the service of God's Kingdom far

beyond the tests, exams and results.

Some highlights include:

- 26% of students achieved an ATAR of 90 or above (top 10% of state)
- 52% of students achieved an ATAR of 80 or above (top 20% of state)
- 67% of students achieve an ATAR of 70 or above (top 30% of state)
- 10% of study score were above 40.

One student, Sam Audet, received a perfect study score of 50 for his efforts in Further Mathematics.



Hope Smith—Top ATAR Result

I'm sure you will join with me in celebrating the achievements of the Class of 2017.

John Presant
Head of Senior School



Community Notices

Newsletter 1

This section of our newsletter is to give our families information about programs being run by organisations outside of the school which may interest our school families.

These organisations are not endorsed by St Andrews Christian College.



Junior **Saturday Footy**
REGISTRATIONS
NOW OPEN for 2018!
www.saturdayfooty.com.au
SFL SATURDAY JUNIOR FOOTY LEAGUE
 IN A LEAGUE OF ITS OWN

of Mathematics in their course of study. In addition, they will develop and enhance problem-solving techniques, strengthen areas that require improvement and boost their confidence in maths.

Professional with many years of experience and result oriented tutoring for students is available at grade 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 (VCE).

Saturday Football

This is a Saturday competition – perfect for those that have Church commitments on a Sunday!

 [SFL flyer-v2.pdf](#)

Maths Tutor

It is important to give your child a good foundation and head start in Mathematics at an early age. With the acquired foundation and understanding, he/she will be able to grasp and appreciate the application

For grade 11 and 12 (VCE) maths [General Maths 1&2, Further Maths 3&4, Maths Method 1&2 and Maths Method 3&4], do make your booking early as vacancy is limited.

Contact Michael Loh
at 0403879001 or email me
at michael.lhl@gmail.com

Art and Craft Show for Vanuatu

