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# St Andrews Christian College Newsletter 2023

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## In this issue



Principal



Middle School



Presentation Night



Senior School



Notices



Sport



Calendar



Library News



Parents and Friends Association



Sustainability



Junior School



# Principal

## Newsletter No.12

Dear Friends,

Thank you St Andrews  
Christian College Community  
for a wonderful year!

How blessed are we, to belong  
to such a beautiful community  
that desires to honour God in  
everything we do. This was  
evident in our Junior Christmas  
Concert last week and our  
Presentation Night last night.

As this is the last newsletter for  
the year, I would particularly  
like to thank those staff who  
are leaving St Andrews  
Christian College.

We are thankful for our special  
two ladies who are retiring,  
Jenny Prendergast (13 year's  
service) and Barbara Kentler  
(10 year's service).

Overwhelming thanks also  
goes to Kate Broadley (senior  
teacher), Remy Landman  
(Grounds and Maintenance  
Manager), Tracy Williams  
(contract position in Year 5)  
and Jenny Provis (contract  
position in Year 5). All these  
staff members have been a  
great blessing to the College.

## Mary's Christmas Dream

The author of the story "Mary's  
Christmas Dream" is unknown,  
but unfortunately this is how  
many people 'celebrate'  
Christmas.

### *"MARY'S CHRISTMAS DREAM"*

*I had a dream Joseph. I don't  
understand it, not really, but I  
think it was about a birthday  
celebration for Our Son. I think  
that was what it was all about.*

*The people had been preparing  
for it for about six weeks.*

*They had decorated the house  
and bought new clothes.*

*They'd gone shopping many times and bought elaborate gifts. It was peculiar though, because their presents were not for Our Son.*

*They wrapped them in beautiful paper and tied them with lovely bows, and stacked them under a tree. Yes a tree Joseph, right in their house. They decorated the tree also. The branches were full of glowing bark and sparkling ornaments. There was a figure on the top of the tree. It looked like an angel might look. Oh, it was so beautiful. Everyone was laughing and they were very happy. They were all excited about the gift.*

*They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not to Our Son. I don't think they even knew him. They never mentioned His name. Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to all that trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if they don't know Him? I had the strangest feeling that if Our Son had gone to this celebration, He would have been intruding. Everything was so beautiful Joseph, and everyone was so happy, but it made me want to cry. How sad for Jesus not to*

*be wanted at His own birthday party. I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible Joseph, if it had been real!*

Oh what a 'joy' it is to know the one for whom we celebrate Christmas.

"For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be  
on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful  
Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of  
Peace."

*Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)*

## **DARE TO SERVE – AUSTRALIA'S FIRST SERVICE LEARNING EXPO**

What a blessing this Service Learning Expo was to all who attended!

People from overseas and interstate participated in this special day with many other Christian Schools from around Victoria.



We were inspired by the talks, workshops, the involvement of many missions and especially encouraged in the sessions where various Christian Schools in CSA & CEN shared what their school was doing in SERVICE.

Be encouraged, our youth are impacting the world for Christ and our schools are being transformed as our students step out in faith and 'serve'.

## **2016 OUTER EASTERN PRAYER BREAKFAST**

**Friday 26th February, 2016**

Karralyka Centre, Mines Road,  
Ringwood

Doors open at 6:35am for a  
7:00am start

[www.OEPB.org.au](http://www.OEPB.org.au)

One of our parents, Pastor Ghassan Thomas, is the guest

speaker for this gathering next year.

The College has booked a table, if you want a seat at this table, ring or email Tamie Dekker ([tdekker@standrews.vic.edu.au](mailto:tdekker@standrews.vic.edu.au) or 8847 8300) by Wednesday 9th December.

Alternatively, you can book a table (of 10) for your work or church.

## STAFFING MOVEMENTS FOR 2016

For your information,  
STAFFING MOVEMENTS FOR  
2016 at St Andrews:

We are so sorry to wave these people goodbye:

- Kate Broadley who has been teaching Psychology and English is going to Siena College.
- Remy Landman our Groundsman and Maintenance Manager is going to Mt Waverley Secondary College
- Barbara Kentler who has taught here for 7 years in

the Primary and then returned to us in the Learning Assistance Department for 3 years is retiring

- Jenny Prendergast who has been with us for 13 years in the Learning Assistance Department is also retiring
- Jenny Provis and Tracy Williams are finishing their contracts

We are excited to welcome the following new STAFF FOR 2016:

- Ben Sheahan will teach Year 6 (FT)
- Karen Kirk will teach Psychology, Maths and Science (.7)
- Bernie McIvor will work in the Learning Assistance Section in the Junior School (FT)

Changing roles of current staff for 2016:

- Wendy Berry will be teaching in the Learning Assistance Department (.6)
- Katie Brown will be teaching full-time in Term 1 (Drama, Biblical Studies and English) and then 4 days a week (.8) from Term 2
- Zoe Watson will work in Reception (.8) and then on special projects with executive (.2).
- Rebecca Elliott will be teaching Year 2 (.4) and also with the Learning Assistance Team (.2)
- Leo Williames will be teaching Year 5 and Year 9/10 Dance Elective
- Dan Ferguson will be teaching Year 5
- Dianne Courtis (.2) in Reception

We welcome back after Maternity leave:

- Lisa Heckathorn – Year 2 (.6)

- Chantel Rodger – Year 4 (2) and Sustainability in Prep to Year 2 (.4) 2016.

- Karen Elbourne – Back in classroom (Drama) from Term 2

Pray for the right person to join us at St Andrews Christian College:

Be blessed!

Yours in Christ's Service,

**Catriona**

- CHAPLAIN (.4)
- GROUNDS and MAINTENANCE MANAGER (FT)

Please PRAY for these 2 roles which are not yet filled for



## Presentation Night

### An Evening of Thanksgiving and Praise

#### Moderator's Blog from Presbyterian Church Victoria

Last night's presentation night at St Andrews Christian College was not your ordinary

school presentation evening. Christ-centred, God glorifying are two phrases that immediately come to mind as I reflect on the evening. From the opening song "One Thing Remains" led by talented students of the school (pictured), it was clear that this

was an evening of praise and thanksgiving for the work God is doing at St Andrews Christian College. The principal Catriona Wansborough's address focussed on the blessings that have been witnessed over this year and reminded the college

community of the focus theme "In Everything Give Thanks"; giving thanks was evident all throughout the evening as we praised God and celebrated the achievements of the students.

From Prep to Year 12, it is clear that the school is not just focussing on the academic success of students but on preparing them for life all the while encouraging them to strive for excellence (according to their ability) in all they do.

The motto of the school is to Give Glory to God. This was achieved last night but I could also see how this is played out in the "every day" life at the school. Further, "Inspired by Faith, Distinguished by Character, Leaders by Influence" encapsulates more of the aims of the college. It is clear that presenting Jesus as Lord and Saviour is at the heart of all that the school endeavours to achieve. The mission of the school is *"To educate our students so that they are well skilled, understand life on the basis of biblical truth, and are motivated to walk with God and serve Him in their lives, so that they will be a positive Christian influence in the world."*

James Bligh, chairman of the council, gave a glowing report on the school's position.

Financially and numbers wise, the school is in a good state.

Thank God for the Board's work in overseeing this ministry. After a torrid few years a short while back, the school has transitioned to new premises and consolidated their endeavours to provide Christian education to families.

There is a waiting list for Prep; pray for wisdom as to how handle this demand. James also gave personal reflections of his continuing time as a parent at the school. Again, the Christian emphasis was on display. He told how his daughter turned up for her Year 12 English exam; the Principal, head of senior school and a couple of other staff all showed up before the exam to pray for the students as they entered into that exam. What a wonderful example of model for the students (and parents) of focussing on the God who is with us asking for His blessing at important times in the students' lives.

There were presentations at all grade levels; the awards given

were academic, encouragement and Christian character as well as awards of achievement in different areas of the school's life. This was done appropriately (without great fanfare) as well as recognising that often it was a difficult choice the teachers had to make in singling out the one recipient of awards.

Musical items were interspersed in the program. There are some talented musicians in the mix at the school but again, each one performed in a way so as not direct attention to themselves.

I was glad to have been a part of the night. Pray for the on-going work at the school. Pray for Catriona, the Board and teachers at the school that they will continue working together for the glory of God as St Andrews continues into the future. Pray for the students that they will not only grow in their academic ability but that God will work in their lives.

Pray for families connected with the school that they also will grow in their love of Jesus. "In everything give thanks" - we have a lot to thank God for with what is happening at St

Andrews Christian College - to  
God be the glory!!

[Moderator's Blog link](#)



## Notices

### House Community Points

**Congratulations to Deakin on winning the Allan Harman Cup for 2015.**





# Calendar

## December 2015

Friday 4th - Last Day of School

## January 2016

Thursday 28th January - Term 1 Begins  
Friday 29th January - Preps Begin - half day



# Parents and Friends Association

## Junior Carols

Thanks to Eriana and Roni for organising the Parent Choir who were able to perform at the Junior School Christmas Concert. Thanks also to our BBQ helpers and to Sally Wade and parents who crafted the Christmas decorations which were free for each family to take home.



## Icy Pole Roster 2016

A final call for parents to be part of the Friday Icy Pole Roster for 2016. This is a great way to serve the school, meet

other parents and tick off some parent hours.

Parents are rostered on in pairs with two Yr9 students to help also.

If you can help once or twice a term on a Friday over lunchtime please email Andrew Musgrove directly at [ajamesm09@gmail.com](mailto:ajamesm09@gmail.com)

***Andrew Musgrove***  
***Icy Pole Coordinator***



# Junior School

## ICAS Medal Presentation

Chris Qiu (Year 2) achieved one of the highest scores in Australia in Science and was awarded a special medal at the ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) Medal Presentation Ceremony at the Melbourne

Convention and Exhibition Centre.



Chris Qiu - Year 2, with his family.



Congratulations Chris!



## Middle School

### Year 8 Celebration Day

Friday 27 November was a whole day of excitement and celebration for the Year 8s. The morning was spent at the Casey Race Aquatic Centre. We had such a wild and exhilarating time on the two amazing waterslides; on one slide we sped down on a raft through a tunnel of complete darkness and on the other slide we were spun at high speed around a huge bowl and then dropped one metre down a hole into a swimming pool! We also had fun splashing around in the pool, playing *Marco Polo* and volleyball. We then adjourned to Jells Park for a picnic lunch after which we engaged in a variety of activities- footy, soccer,

cricket, bush walking and enjoying the lake view and the ducks.



It was an excellent day of laughter and camaraderie and a fantastic way to round off the year. We would like to thank our Yr8 Homeroom teachers for organising such a memorable day for us.

***Audrey Ang (8K) and Chloe Chandraraj (8K)***

### French Day

On Tuesday 27 October, a French Day was held at St Andrews. This day was the result of hard work and planning by the Year 8 French classes and some enthusiastic Year 7 students. Students were encouraged to dress up "French" for a gold coin donation.



There were many food stalls and games set up on and around the basketball court and the multipurpose hall.

Red, white and blue, the colours of the French flag, were visible in all corners of the school.



\$880 was raised on the day, and this was used by Orbus to buy 90 Chichewa language Bibles for prisoners in Malawi. Please pray that these Bibles will bless many lives in years to come.

*Christa Cloete*

*Yr8 French Teacher*

## VICTORIAN PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE

### Message from the Premier



It gives me great pleasure as patron of the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge and on behalf of the former Premiers John Cain, the late Joan Kirner, Jeff Kennett, Steve Bracks, John Brumby, Ted Baillieu and Denis Naphthine to congratulate all Victorian children and young people who took on this year's Premiers' Reading Challenge.

More than 204,100 participants took up the Challenge in 2015. This year, we provided information on the benefits of reading and shared exciting new ways to fire up a love of books in children and young people. We know reading is not only essential for improving literacy skills, but also for encouraging curiosity and a love of learning – qualities that help to make Victoria the Education State.

I commend everybody who participated, particularly those who successfully reached their reading challenge target.

I extend my sincere thanks to you for supporting the 2015 Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge.

Yours sincerely

*The Hon Daniel Andrews MP  
Premier*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO  
ALL THE STUDENTS IN  
YEARS 7& 8 WHO  
PARTICIPATED IN THE  
VICTORIAN PREMIERS'  
READING CHALLENGE**



## Science - Make Your Hands Glow



## Senior School

### Valedictory Dinner

On Wednesday 18 November, we finally said the official farewell to our Year 12 Class of 2015 at their Valedictory Dinner.



What a beautiful evening it was. Mrs Robinson worked tirelessly to ensure that the tables looked absolutely

spectacular as the families arrived. Our special guest for the evening was Mrs Stephanie Henson who came especially to give these amazing young men and women her blessing as they graduated.



Various teachers gave little insights into the lives of the students from the perspective of their classes. Some of these were rather amusing. Mrs Wansbrough gave an inspiring speech about the pathways we come to in life and ensuring that at every crossroad we look to God to guide us in choosing the right direction.

Our valedictorian this year was Daniel Terrington. He

spoke about the impact St Andrews has had on his life in so many ways and how our school has helped him and his class mates grow and mature not only into fine young adults but also as Christians.

I trust that you will continue to remember our graduating class in your prayers as they embark on the next stage of their lives either in the workforce or at university. We pray that as they go out into the world, they will be seen to be “inspired by faith; distinguished by character; leaders by influence”.

To our class of 2015: *“The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine*

*upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.”* Numbers 6: 24 – 26 (NKJV)

**Natalie Farmer**  
**VCE Coordinator**

## Year 9s Collecting For Salvos





# Sport

## Year 3-6 Christian Interschool Aths

On Wednesday 18 November, a select group of students from Years 3-6 represented St Andrews at the Inter-Christian Schools Athletics event. Our students ran fast, jumped high, threw long distances and tunnel-balled strategically all throughout the day. There are a number of bigger schools that have owned the top 3 spots at this event for the last decade, but this year St Andrews finally managed to break the mould and finish 3rd, a fantastic effort! All our students should be commended for

their participation and effort on the day!

## Junior School Athletics Day



Last week the little legends from the Junior School went to Knox Aths Track to participate in the Junior House Athletics Day. Ribbons were given liberally for everything from fast running to big smiling. Some students

amassed almost double the amount of ribbons possible to be won - perhaps we need to ask some of the Junior teachers about that!



A big thankyou needs to go to the PFA for providing refreshments to the staff when they were needed most. Thanks also to students in 6L who gave up their time to

serve the Junior School by running the various tabloid stations on the day.

1st - Parkes

3rd - Barton

2nd - Deakin



# Library News

## Library

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

Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 3.45pm.

**Email:** [library@standrews.vic.edu.au](mailto:library@standrews.vic.edu.au).

## Junior Library

Open at lunchtime on Mondays.

## Middle/ Senior Library:

Open each day at recess and lunch.

## After school:

Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays until 4pm.



## We are on the move!

Goodbye to the old Junior Library

AND....

Hello to our new Junior Library in the Innovation Centre.



Farewell to the Middle/  
Senior Library



Hello to our new home in the  
Innovation Centre!



We are very grateful to all staff, students and volunteers who have helped us pack and move.

## Thank you to all our helpers!!

We would like to say a very big “Thank you” to all of our parents who volunteered to help – whether with book covering or shelving. We are most grateful to you for the time you spend with us. It makes the library run smoothly.

## Keep reading

While St Andrews’ Library closes over the school holidays, students can keep up their reading by visiting a local library. Check with your local library to see if there is a summer reading program or a summer competition. Most libraries now offer an e-book option, which means that you can download and read a book from home. All you need is a library card.

We would like to wish everyone Merry Christmas and God’s richest blessing for the New Year.

*Lynne Marks*  
*Library Coordinator*



# Sustainability

## Compost