

# THE CORACLE

## ST COLUMBA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



*St Columba College*

Established jointly by the  
Anglican & Catholic Churches

Friday 3 February 2012

Term 1 **Issue 1**



SENIOR  
SITE  
OPENING



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



It is with great excitement that I welcome you back to the 2012 school year. It was wonderful to visit classrooms this week, to reconnect with students who are returning and of course, meet all of our new students. A very special welcome to our new Reception and Year Eight students. I hope that your first few days at St Columba have been a wonderful experience for you all.

While students recommenced school this week, staff returned last week and have been meeting with Professor Elizabeth Leo, from Durham University in England. Professor Leo has been speaking with staff about learning and we have been thinking about what the hallmarks of excellent teaching and learning look like at St Columba College. Asking ourselves questions about how we learn, how we prefer to learn and in what settings our best learnings have occurred, may well help us to understand that learning is both a natural yet complex task that we undergo every day.

Everything we do at the College teaches students something. We want our students to think about their own learning in a way that empowers and engages them in a manner which is motivational. I ask, parents, that you continue to ask your child/children about their learning, speak with them about their homework and ask them about what they are doing in the various subjects they undertake.

We are delighted with our 2011 Year 12 results and I congratulate Laurence Preen on being our College DUX. Laurence will be invited back to address the students and staff at our first Academic Assembly for 2012. I congratulate all of our Year 12s as they soon commence their further study or employment. We are so proud of their achievements! I will publish a more detailed report of our results in the next edition of the Coracle.

I would like to thank parents for the manner in which your child/children have returned to school. Having your support to ensure that dress standards are attended to is a great support in terms of establishing a culture of high standards at the College. I ask that we continue to focus on ensuring that all students present themselves in the best possible manner, according to all relevant College policies.

I am sure you have noticed a great deal of progress has been made on our Senior Site during the school holidays. While we are pleased with the progress there is still a couple of week's work to be done to complete the site. However, classrooms will be in use as they are all ready for action!

Finally, as we begin our year together I would like to say how committed we are to working in partnership with parents and to providing our students with the very best learning opportunities. Our Anglican/Catholic traditions and practices form the foundation for everything we do. We seek to help our students to understand that the God of all creation walks the journey of life each and every day with us. May we all be blessed as we begin 2012.

Deep Peace,

**Madeleine Brennan** Principal



## SENIOR SCHOOL REPORT

Welcome back to the 2012 school year and what a fantastic way to begin our year with the official opening of the new Senior School site. While there is still a significant amount of work to be done to finish the site, the most important component, the students' classrooms, are open and functioning. A special welcome to the Year 10 families who will be part of the Senior School community for the first time.

I would particularly like to thank all of those involved in Wednesday's opening and in particular the students for their excellent cooperation and participation. Moving to the new site is an historic occasion and our students today created their own piece of history as the first Senior students to occupy these classrooms.

A particular focus for our students this year will be to make full use of their Pastoral Learning times. To assist students with this process each student will begin a journal this week and continue to use it for the rest of the year. This will be an opportunity for them to consider their goals for the year, to reflect on their learning generally and to also make specific references to subjects and major assessment pieces. Our goal in particular is to help our students become reflective thinkers about their learning.

Our Pastoral Learning Teachers play a key role in supporting your children throughout the year and I would invite all parents to contact their child's Pastoral Learning Teacher if they have any concerns or there are any factors staff should be aware of. I would also like to introduce the Pastoral Learning Coordinators in the Senior School for 2012. Mr Louis de Jager will look after Year 12 as well as take on the role of Director of Student Wellbeing in the Senior School. We welcome Mrs Kerryn Humphries to the Senior School in her role as Year 11 Pastoral Team Leader, and once again Mrs Natasha Williams will be responsible for Year 10. These teachers bring a wealth of experience and expertise and look forward to working with you and your children throughout the year.

As always study in the Senior School brings with it many challenges as students strive to achieve their goals. Success comes with a committed approach to study, support from families and working closely with teachers. We look forward to a successful year for all students in the Senior School.

**Greg May** Head of Senior School

# CAREERS NEWS



## RESEARCHING FUTURE PATHWAYS

Happy New Year and welcome back to the College in 2012. For Senior students it's never too soon to start researching future pathways. At the end of 2011, I met with Year 10s and gave them a list of useful websites to access to help them make informed choices about their future pathways. These included:

- Sign up to UNISA Career Shop  
<http://www.unisa.edu.au/careershop/default.asp>
- Sign up to receive information from Adelaide Uni  
<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/study/register/>
- Use the Flinders University Course Navigator  
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/courses/course-navigator.cfm>
- Contact TAFE SA about information sessions  
<http://www.tafesa.edu.au/courses/info-sessions>
- Find out how apprenticeships and traineeships work  
<http://www.dfeest.sa.gov.au/Services/Students/Adviceforskillstrainingemployment/tabid/184/Default.aspx>  
<http://www.gtalt.com.au/>
- Investigate job opportunities  
Saturday Advertiser, [careerone.com.au](http://careerone.com.au), [seek.com.au](http://seek.com.au), [jobsearch.gov.au](http://jobsearch.gov.au), [jobs.sahealthcareers.com.au](http://jobs.sahealthcareers.com.au), [www.vacancies.sa.gov.au](http://www.vacancies.sa.gov.au)
- Speak to family, friends, friends of friends, be cheeky...approach places where you would like to get a job.

## STUDENT AND STAFF EXPECTATIONS AND EXPERIENCES PROJECT

THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY

A group of researchers quizzed first year university students about what they expected from university and from lecturers. For example, they asked questions about how much help students expected to get with essays, how soon their work would be marked and returned and so forth. The researchers also asked university lecturers a number of questions. The results of this research are very interesting because what students expect is not what happens; university is very different from school. The team of researchers would like to invite parents, students and teachers to a Presentation and Networking Event which will involve a presentation of the project results with a networking session after the presentation (drinks and nibbles will be provided). I have seen a snippet of this presentation and it is presented in a very easy to understand way.

**Date:** Thursday 23rd February

**Time:** 5.00-7.30 pm

**Where:** The University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus, Napier Lecture Theatre 102

You must register online at [www.adelaide.edu.au/altc/expectations](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/altc/expectations)

## VIDEOS MADE BY STUDENTS STUDYING DEGREES

UNISA's Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences offers a range of degrees. If you want to know a bit more about them you can watch student testimonial videos to hear first hand information about the following university courses.

- Architecture and Design
- Art
- Australian and Indigenous Studies
- Communication
- Education
- International Studies and Languages
- Psychology
- Social Work and Human Services

Go to the link below to access these videos

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/eas/testimonials/default.asp>

# POST SCRIPT



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## IMPORTANT DATES:

### Term One, 2012

#### FEBRUARY

- 21 Shrove Tuesday  
Stage 1 & 2 Parent Information Evening
- 22 Ash Wednesday
- 27 Year 10 Parent Information Evening

#### MARCH

- 5 Middle School Community Evening
- 12 Adelaide Cup Holiday
- 20 Stage 1 & 2 Parent Teacher Interviews
- 21 Stage 1 & 2 Parent Teacher Interviews

#### APRIL

- 2 - 8 Holy Week
- 5 END OF TERM ONE
- 6 Good Friday



## UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES

Call: 8254 0610

<b>Monday</b>	8.15 am - 12.00 noon
<b>Tuesday</b>	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	8.15 am - 12.00 noon
<b>Thursday</b>	1.00 pm - 4.00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	8.15 am - 12.00 noon

**TERM ONE IS FULL SUMMER UNIFORM**



## ANDREWS FARM JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

Looking for players 3 years through to 14 years (boys or girls)

Registration enquiries:  
Noreen 0412 158 105 or Karen 0405 133 319

**REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN**

**Contact the club today for more  
information** [www.afjsc.websyte.com.au](http://www.afjsc.websyte.com.au)



## CENTACARE FAMILY COURSES

Centacare are offering a number of courses for families which offer support on family issues and managing teenagers. Some of these courses are:

**WHO'S IN CHARGE:** A free 7 week course for parents whose children are abusive towards them

**WHEN KIDS PUSH YOUR BUTTONS:** Based on the book by Bonnie Harris and led by accredited facilitator Clare Bowyer

**HOW TO TALK SO KIDS WILL LISTEN AND LISTEN SO KIDS WILL TALK**

**SUGAR & SPICE:** What's your teen girl made of?

**MUM'S HOUSE DAD'S HOUSE - DEALING WITH CHANGE AFTER SEPARATION:** A workshop for separated parents wanting to understand and manage the changes in their family

**KEEPING KIDS IN MIND:** A Post Separation Parenting Course

**For more information visit the website:**  
[www.centacare.org.au](http://www.centacare.org.au)



## HARLEQUIN NETBALL CLUB

Trials for Central Districts Harlequin Netball Club, which plays in the Adelaide Metropolitan Netball competition at ETSA Park on Saturdays, will be held at Argana Park from 6:30 - 8:30 pm on Thursday 9 February, Sunday 12 February and Thursday 16 February.

Primary (11 & Under) and Sub Juniors (13 & Under) players required.

Trial forms are available from our website, [www.harlequinnetball.com](http://www.harlequinnetball.com) or contact Ali on 0433 328 268 for more information. New players welcome.