From the PRINCIPAL


It’s a foolish idea, really. After all, it’s the silly season. Although your calendars, minds and ‘to do’ lists may be bursting at the seams, I do encourage you to look over your shoulder at 2018 just for a moment. What is it that’s made it magnificent?

Did your child or children lose their first tooth, learn to read independently, take initiative at home, care deeply for someone or achieve something amazing in the class or on the sporting field? Were they just the best version of themselves when you least expected it?

Whatever it may have been, I’m certain there’s something to celebrate, and although each year also carries with it struggles, trials and disappointments, one of our roles as parents is to show a ‘stiff upper lip’ and look to the glass that is surely half full. I hope you’re able to dwell on all that has been good and right with this year as you slow down a little in the weeks ahead.

From my perspective, 2018 has been chaotic, frantic and all those other busy words. It has been all of that, though, because I’m blessed. I’m blessed to be amongst all that is Encounter. As I take a short rest over Christmas and the New Year, I’ll certainly reflect in the rear-view mirror and give thanks. Where do I start?

If I’m honest, however, I already have one eye on 2019. It’s going to be an epic Encounter experience and I can’t wait to share it with you and your kids.

Please have the most wonderful summer holiday period with your family and friends, and see you on Tuesday, January 29th.

Blessings for your Christmas and New Year

KELVIN

What’s On!

Week 9 Term 4
Monday 10th December
• Year 7 2019 Transition Day
• Year 9 Beach House Excursion
• Year 7&8 Fleurieu Aquatic Centre Excursion
Tuesday 11th December
• Year 7, 8 & 9 Victa Cinema Excursion
• Early Learning Graduation 2.30pm
• Encounter Hoops Classic 2018 4-8pm Kondole
Wednesday 12th December
• Last day of Term 4
• Year 6 Graduation and Awards Ceremony & Year 6 Parent Morning Tea 9am
• Closing Service 2.30pm
• Dismissal 3.10pm
• Early Learning Christmas Party Urrimbirra 4.30-6.00pm

Week 1 Term 1 2019
Monday 28th January
• STUDENT FREE DAY
Tuesday 29th January
• Term 1 Commences
• Opening Service including Foundation Schultüte Ceremony 9.15am
• Welcome Morning Tea
Wednesday 30th January
• Middle School MYP Information Evening 6pm
• Foundation 2019 Information Evening 4.30-6.30pm
Thursday 31st January
• Year 12 Retreat
Friday 1st February
• Year 12 Retreat

Looks like school, feels like home...
encounter.sa.edu.au
From the Head of Junior School

This year is certainly finishing in the same way it started - with lots going on and Christmas just around the corner.

I thought I would take the opportunity in my last newsletter for the year to share something that popped up in my newsfeed on one of the social media platforms to which I subscribe. It was an open letter from a teacher (somewhere) to parents (everywhere) at Christmas. As a mother myself, I thought it too good not to pass on.

Dear Parents at Christmas,

I know at this stage of the year, there is pressure to create the perfect, magical Christmas. I know that you are working hard to make sure you give your kids the best gifts possible. You want them to have a great Christmas. You want them to love their presents. You want to get it right. But these expectations on yourselves can add to the stress common at this time of the year.

I want to let you in on a little secret. Every January, when your child comes back to school they tell me about the Christmas holidays. They tell me about the days everyone stayed inside and watched their favourite family movie. They tell me about the trip to the beach. They tell me about spending Christmas with Grandma and being excited when you came back from work. They tell me about snuggling up in bed or how you stayed up late playing board games or went to the beach but forgot to take the towels. They tell me about visits with friends and how they stayed up til midnight on New Year’s Eve. They tell me about how they loved the day you stayed in your pjs all day or the day you spent time baking or listening to music. They rarely mention what they got for Christmas. For them, Christmas is you and your love and your time and routines and feeling safe. You and your undivided attention are their favourite things.

May you find time to spend with your children these holidays. May you enjoy the break from school routines. Most of all, may you have a blessed Christmas time with your children celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Blessings

TORI WEISS

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From the Head of Middle & Senior School

This week I’m writing from Melbourne, where I am with our College’s 3 teams of students competing in the Australian Schools Basketball Championships. How exciting to be part of such a wonderful event, even though it feels like I’ve landed into the ‘land of the giants!’.

Our students have contested wonderfully, showing not only their skill and commitment, but more importantly such wonderful sportsmanship. Our captains have led by examples, Under 20 men by Lewis Ridley, Under 17 Women by Tahlia Griffiths and Under 17 Men by Nick Baxter. Whilst we see them and their work ethic every day in the classroom, I’m so very proud to stand with my Encounter uniform on while these young men and women represent our College in this environment. As we head into the finals, I know that win, lose or draw, our young people have done Encounter and the Fleurieu proud.

As this is my last newsletter article for the year I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Encounter community for their ongoing trust and support, along with the incredible staff for their tireless work this year.

As the holidays are upon us, my wish for you all is peace and joy as we celebrate the blessing of the birth of our Lord and saviour.

Blessings for your week.

PENNY MCKENZIE
Staff Devotion
by Katie Nuttall

With Christmas rapidly approaching it is all too easy to get swept away in the preparation and organisation of ensuring the ‘perfect’ Christmas.

I have been guilty of this, especially as we are jetting off to Perth the day after school ends!

This time of year can be a whirlwind of present buying and wrapping, sorting out who’s bringing what to Christmas lunch, co-ordinating the relatives, and worrying about where the funds for all these activities come from!

It was refreshing last Sunday to just ‘be’ during Church and listen to the message presented. I am reminded time and time again that we are imperfect vessels, yet God’s love for us is enduring and always there; we just need to listen. We need to stop in the ‘busyness’ of life and let God speak to us.

Let us be reminded why God sent his son to earth for us during this season of Advent.

Merry Christmas to you all.

House Captains 2019

Congratulations to the following students who will be leading their Houses next in 2019.

Rosetta
Sam Tummel
Georgia Perry

Yilki:
Max Burgess
Molly Peier

Granite:
Georgia Riggs
Henry Round

Coorong:
Paige Rice
Ashlee Sugrue

College Captains 2019

Congratulations to Kate Lomman and Leon Phillips on their appointments as College Captains for 2019.

Year 10 & 11 Academic Awards

Congratulations to the following students on their academic achievements in 2018:

Year 10

Pre Maths Methods: Nick Baxter
Christian Studies: Meesha Whittam
English: Abigail Wright
Personal Project: Georgia Riggs
Dance: Georgia Riggs
Personal Learning Plan: Nicholas Skanes
History: Georgia Riggs
Wood Tech.: Sam Tummel
Art: Ashlee Sugrue
Japanese: Georgia Perry
Food Technology: Jessica Crabb
Science: Stuart Scott

Academic Endeavour Awards:

Makayla Mann, Meesha Whittam, Makayla Orchard Reed

Year 11

General Maths: Henry Martin
Chemistry: Leon Phillips
English Literary Studies: Sophie Stratfold
History: Lauren Slattery
Dance: Kye Jericho
Chemistry: Nasyah Turner
Aboriginal Studies: Delia Althorp (Yr 9)
Photography: Kye Jericho
Modern History: Lauren Slattery
Legal Studies: Kate Lomman
Religion Studies: Leon Phillips
Japanese: Leon Phillips
Maths Methods: Lauren Slattery
Physics: Leon Phillips
Materials Tech.: Lauren Slattery
Physical Education: Leon Phillips

Academic Endeavour Awards:

Kate Lomman & Chloe Mason
Around the COLLEGE

School holidays and welcoming the BeYou initiative -
A message from the Wellbeing Team.

School holidays are almost here! Summer break is the perfect time for students to spend time with their friends, family, and pursuing the passions and interests that they love outside of school. As students move into their much deserved summer break, we are aware that for some, this also means a break from the daily support of their fantastic teachers and support staff. Whilst freedom and flexibility are important during holidays, it is important that students are still mindful of regular routines that help keep them mentally healthy. Keep drinking lots of water, don’t go to hard on the Christmas lollies, manage time on electronics (no better time of year to get outside!), sleep is still critical, and keep developing your relationships with new friends. If someone in your family is struggling with their mental health, it is important to have a plan of who you can reach out to. Family, friends, or formal support such as Headspace, Beyond Blue, or your local GP are great places to start.

As we look into 2019 and beyond, The Wellbeing team is excited to be part of the nationwide BeYou initiative that has recently been rolled out in collaboration with Beyond Blue, Early Childhood Australia, and Headspace.

“BeYou aims to transform Australia’s approach to supporting children’s and young people’s mental health in early learning services and schools. Our vision is that every learning community is positive, inclusive and resilient – a place where every child, young person, educator and family can achieve their best possible mental health.” - https://beyou.edu.au/

We believes it is critical that we support the mental health and wellbeing of the school community from an evidence based preventative approach. This framework provides an effective model for implementing a community approach to developing mental health and wellbeing.

As we say goodbye to the students for another year, we would like to thank everyone in the school community for engaging throughout 2018 with your son/daughters wellbeing. We rely on you to assist us. Should you have any concerns or questions about mental health and wellbeing, please feel free to contact Tom Ling (Wellbeing Coordinator) or Jo Ashcroft (College Counsellor).

Regards, Encounter Lutheran Wellbeing Team.
tom.ling@encounter.sa.edu.au
jo.ashcroft@encounter.sa.edu.au

2019 STATIONERY ORDERS

Stationery orders for the 2019 school year can be ordered from now until 21st December 2018 through Lighthouse Books by following the link below:


All year 7 to 12 orders placed before the 21st December will receive a 20% discount on most stationery items.

Late orders (strictly after 21st December 2018) will incur a $15 service fee to cover additional ordering, packaging and distribution.

All Booklist enquiries should be directed to booklist@lighthousebooks.com.au

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES
JANUARY 2019

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 18th</td>
<td>9am - 3pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 24th</td>
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Around the COLLEGE

Below is a notification that the DPTI posted on their FB page regarding the give-way rules applicable to the junction of Adelaide Road and Agnes Gillespie Drive which will effect most of our College community on a daily basis.

SA Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
24 November at 10:00

Safety improvements have been completed at the junction of Adelaide Road and Agnes Gillespie Drive, Hayborough.

Works included the installation of dedicated turning lanes for traffic turning left and right into Agnes Gillespie Drive, and upgraded lighting at the junction.

At the T-Junction of Adelaide Road and Agnes Gillespie Drive at Hayborough, the cars turning right from Adelaide Road into Agnes Gillespie Drive (Car A in this diagram) should give way.

Thank you for your patience while these important works were undertaken.
CASUAL & CRAZY HAIR DAY

FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER

As a fundraiser on behalf of Granite House

in support of KICKSTART FOR KIDS™

bring a GOLD COIN donation
Christmas Message from The College Board

The Board of Encounter Lutheran College would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank the staff, families, volunteers and broader College community for their support and work within our unique, inspiring and growing College.

We wish everyone a joyful Christmas and happy and safe holiday.

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR
STEAM WORKS
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

SILLY SCIENCE
Get silly, get a little mad as you partake in some SUPER science experiments! Holiday Clubs will become a lab as you experiment with slippery slime and creative cartesian divers while developing kids deductive reasoning.

BUILD IT! WIN IT!
Soccer is “The World Game!” This day is dedicated to fair play, engineering and creating. Decorate your very own table-top soccer games, then give 'em a spin against your friends. After that, you'll head outside for soccer skills and games together.

PUPPETRY, PARODY PERFORMANCE!
Learn about the oldest form of storytelling - the art of shadow puppets, and how they have been used to tell stories for thousands of years. Be inspired, and build your very own shadow puppet theatre to tell your own stories with, just like they did back in 3000 BC.

DESIGN THINKING CHALLENGE
Imagining, collaborating, creating is what drives engineering! Work together in small teams to build a mechanical masterpiece using a variety of materials to offer. Like real engineers you'll blueprint and experiment, then it's time to get building.

SEAS THE SUMMER DAY!
Who doesn't love to be beside the sea side? We'll bring the beach to you, and you'll get to be the artist creating your own decorative coastal jar filled with beach elements and plenty of imagination! Then the theme continues outside with some classic and creative new beach games.

SOLAR RACES
Welcome to the Solar-Powered Games! We'll be harnessing the power of the sun when we build and decorate our own solar technology powered vehicles for special kids. Once your vehicles are ready, we'll put them to the test with awesome distance challenges.

SOMETHING FOR EVERY CHILD