



Issue 6, 12 April 2024

Important Dates

ANZAC Day

Thursday 25 April 2024

**Student Free Day -
Staff Professional
Learning**

Monday 29 April 2024

**TAFE Auto Block
Week (29 April-3
May)**

Monday 29 April 2024

**Year 11 Outdoor Ed
Mambray Creek
Hike**

Wednesday 1 May 2024

**Year 9 Outdoor Ed
Excursion**

Friday 3 May 2024

**Caritas Cubs
Reception
Transition Program**

Friday 3 May 2024

**Year 10 Post School
Careers Excursion
(8-10)**

Wednesday 8 May 2024

**R-6 SAPOL
Incursion**

Thursday 9 May 2024

**SAPSASA
Football/Netball**

Friday 10 May 2024

**Caritas Cubs
Reception
Transition Program**

Friday 10 May 2024

**Catholic Education
Week (13-17)**

Monday 13 May 2024

**TAFE -
Electrotechnology
(14-16)**

Tuesday 14 May 2024

**SSSSA 7/8 Girls
Netball**

Tuesday 14 May 2024

From the Principal, Mr Damian Smith

End of Term

I want to acknowledge the efforts of staff, students and families over the past 11 weeks. Term 1 is long and jam-packed with events and activities. We've hosted, celebrated and engaged in liturgies, feast days, sports day, interschool competitions, swimming lessons, SAPSASA events, excursions and many other things. All these things have happened in addition to the high-quality teaching and learning that occurs every day at school. I certainly enjoyed the end-of-term assemblies where students have shared and celebrated their learning and achievements over the past 11 weeks. Well done to everyone on a positive start to the school year. I wish all families a happy and safe term break. May you find some rest and relaxation before coming back refreshed and ready for Term 2. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 30th April.

Loving God,

Thank you for journeying with us throughout Term 1. May the things we've learnt and the experiences we've had this term be stepping stones for us to use for the rest of the year as we continue to grow in love, wonder and understanding.

Amen.

Special Visitors - Mr John Neate & Mrs Nichii Mardon

Last week we were fortunate to have Mr John Neate (Chairperson of South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools) and Mrs Nichii Mardon (Director of Catholic Education SA, Port Pirie Diocese) visit our college. John and Nichii enjoyed a tour of the college, where many of the students were excited to share with them their learning. We love having people visit us and showing them why our school community is so wonderful.



Year 12 Retreat

To conclude the term, our Year 12 students participated in a 2-day retreat experience at Spear Creek Holiday Park. This retreat is a compulsory aspect of the Religious Education course. It is also identified by students as an integral part of their Year 12 experience, as it provides an opportunity for the students to connect with others and supports faith and spiritual growth as they journey through their final year of schooling.



Interim Reports

As per our assessment and reporting schedule, students in Years 3-12 will receive an Interim Report at the end of Week 11. This report will provide a helpful snapshot of your child's learning throughout Term 1. Please take this opportunity to discuss your child's achievements and growth at this point in the school year. I also encourage parents/caregivers to check SEQTA and review the assessments that have been uploaded throughout the term.

For your information, I have provided further details below relating to how and when we use SEQTA to report on student achievement throughout the year.

While students in Years R-2 do not receive an Interim Report at the end of Term 1, you can check the SEESAW application, which is used to provide parents/caregiver with an ongoing window into student activity, learning and achievements. I encourage parents/caregivers to contact their student's class teacher if you have any questions.

SEQTA Engage (Years 3 to 12)

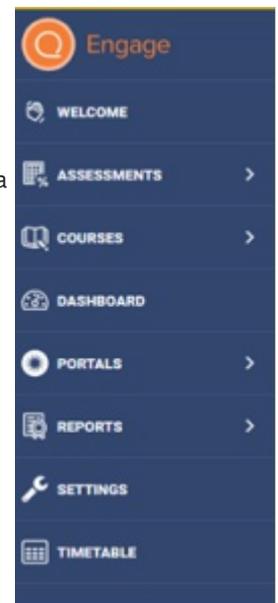
Student achievement is reported to families and caregivers in a variety of ways including formal parent teacher learning conversations, end-of-term and end-of-semester formal reports. In 2022 our College changed the way we report to families to be more seamless and help families to access information about their child's growth and achievement more regularly.

SEQTA Engage supports reporting of achievement to students and families in a continuous manner. Students experience a series of ongoing assessments across learning areas which embrace a mix of formative (identifies areas of strength and challenge – may not contribute to overall grade – rather informs the learning) and summative (assessment of achievement at a point in time, contributes to overall grade). As summative assessment tasks are completed, teachers release results through SEQTA Learn (students) and SEQTA Engage (parents/caregivers) in a timely manner.

Therefore, parents/caregivers can expect the following:

- release of results through SEQTA Engage in an ongoing manner
- an interim report at the end of Term 1 and Term 3 which will indicate the grade achieved so far in each learning area as well as an indication of effort, made available through the SEQTA Engage Dashboard
- end-of-semester report end of Term 2 and 4 to indicate the overall grade achieved in each learning area as well as an indication of effort, made available through the SEQTA Engage Dashboard

As a parent/caregiver you will find the information in the tabs on the left-hand side of the screen. This is where information regarding assessment and reports will be accessed (see image →).



If you need help accessing the SEQTA App, please contact the school and we will happily assist you. Information regarding SEQTA is also available on our school website.

Please note the communication Year 3-12 families would have received on 11 April relating to our school transitioning to a new Student Information System. This upgrade will not impact on families accessing their child's interim report at the end of Term 1 but will require your attention when Term 2 begins to access SEQTA Engage. Further details will be communicated to families when this needs to occur.

Mobile Phone & Personal Devices Policy

As previously communicated, earlier in the term the College Board approved a new Mobile Phone & Personal Devices Policy. I ask all parents/caregivers to read and familiarise yourself with the policy. You can access it [here](#).

The policy will be implemented in full at the beginning of Term 2. Staff and students have had the opportunity to learn and understand their roles and responsibilities. As such, I kindly ask all parents/caregivers to discuss this with your children. Ultimately, we are confident that our new policy will support students to contribute to a safe and supportive learning environment at school which will support and enhance their learning and wellbeing.

Uniform - Shoes Reminder

The end of the term is an opportune time for a gentle reminder about the expectations for our school uniform. Please be aware that the approved college shoe is a black leather school shoe with no discernible logos or imagery (remembering that canvas shoes are not permitted). The below infographic can be useful in understanding which shoes are appropriate for school

WHAT IS A SCHOOL SHOE AND WHAT IS A SPORTS SHOE?

✓ School Shoe



✓ Sports Shoe



✓ Home Shoe



Student Free Day - Monday 29 April

The first day of Term 2 is a Student Free Day. Staff will be engaging in professional learning about behaviour education and wellbeing. Specifically, we will be focusing on zones of regulation, which are a framework designed to help individuals, especially children, develop self-regulation skills and emotional control. The wellbeing of our entire college community is important to us as we strive to enable everyone in our college community to reach their full potential.

From the Leader of Catholic Identity, Chloe Shanahan

Easter Hope - Christ is Risen!

Across the last 2 weeks, classes have joyfully celebrated the risen Christ; the basis of our Catholic faith. We continue to live the story of Jesus, sent by God, sharing our humanity, offering hope to those who seek guidance and support with the challenges in our world. The disciples throughout the Gospels grow in their courage and confidence to follow Jesus, celebrating his Resurrection, much like we are called to do today as we journey together as a faith community.

With the chocolates fast disappearing from our pantries, we continue to celebrate Easter for 50 days, until the feast of Pentecost (19

May). This allows us to reflect on the hope we hold in our lives, within our community, and in our world. The Easter season is a time for us to reflect on new life and to consider the importance of taking time to individually reflect on how we can make our life 'new'.

Year 12 Retreat

Our Year 12 students have spent the last 2 days at Spear Creek on their Retreat. This has been a great opportunity to support our students in connecting with each other away from the pressures of school and an opportunity for faith and spiritual formation as they journey together as our senior cohort. We look forward to hearing about their experiences upon their return.

All Saints Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle is a powerful symbol of a pillar of fire and a reminder that Christ is our light. This candle is blessed in the Easter fire, at the Easter Vigil, and is an important symbol to our Catholic faith. Fr Jim asked whether the Paschal candle could again be designed by our College with a First Nations focus to suit our context here in Port Augusta. Using our diocesan artwork (initially created by Nicole Russell, Acting Principal at St Joseph's School Renmark, and Emmalene Richards, Barngala woman and Cultural Consultant) for our theme 'Let Your Light Shine', the candle shows that there is a piece of light in all of us, God's light, and we are called to let our light shine before others. Each of us is integral to God's mission of bringing God's light and love to the world, just as Jesus did through his Resurrection.

Through the red to yellow tones of the candle, representing the red dust surrounding Port Augusta with God's light shining around us, the design represents the cross and tomb – a symbol of who we are as a Catholic community, what we are called to do, and the belief in the joy of the Resurrection.

A special thank you to those staff that assisted in the design and creation of this beautiful candle, one that will be used throughout our liturgical year until next Easter.



Sacraments - First Eucharist

A number of children in our school and parish community will begin their formation and preparation sessions to receive their First Holy Communion in Term 2. This is an exciting time for these children and we continue to pray for them and their families as they continue their faith journey. The first session for these children and their families will be Saturday 4 May at 6:30pm or Sunday 5 May at 10:30am at All Saints Church

An infographic with a teal background and white circular callouts. The left callout asks 'HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED... what the word Eucharist means?' and features a cartoon character with arms raised. The right callout explains that the Eucharist comes from a Greek word meaning thanksgiving and is the gift of Jesus in the form of consecrated bread and wine. It also mentions that receiving the Eucharist is called receiving Communion. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a chalice and a host. The text 'catholic education south australia' and '# FAITH FACTS' is repeated in the top corners. 'Family Faith Formation Team' is written at the bottom of each callout.

FAITH FACTS

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED...
what the word **Eucharist** means?

FAITH FACTS

It comes from a Greek word meaning thanksgiving.
The Sacrament of the Eucharist is the gift of Jesus in the form of consecrated bread & wine.
Receiving the Eucharist is also called receiving Communion.

Family Faith Formation Team

From the Assistant Principal (Learning & Wellbeing), Alanah Rowe

Reporting Student's Approach to Learning

Across the year, your young person will receive interim and semester reports through SEQTA. These reports capture learning up to that point of the year, a look into their academic achievements to year level curriculum and an understanding of the young person's approach to learning. To best understand what is captured in the approach to learning are the key elements of behaviour, diligence, and engagement. Behaviour includes classroom conduct and attitude, politeness and respect, and the consideration of the learning of others. To capture the student's diligence towards their learning it is measured against their self-discipline and self-reflection, independent motivation towards tasks, persistence and conscientious application to classwork and homework. The last area of measurement is engagement which encompasses classroom focus, communication both verbal and nonverbal, punctuality, participation and contribution to groups and the wider class community. Your young person will receive a descriptor on their report stating, needs improvement, inconsistent, satisfactory, good, or excellent. That descriptor captures student achievement across the three core elements of behaviour, diligence, and engagement.

Teaching and Learning

Year 2 - History

In History, the Year 2 classes have been learning all about the past and how technology has changed things. Mrs Press collated items from the past to create a Year 2 museum including items from the home, items from school, items from the shops, and items to play with. It was amazing to see these different things in real life. The stories and theatrics used to present these different items from the past was highly engaging for our little learners.



Year 8 - Tech Studies

The Year 8 students have just completed a wooden box. They had to design, cut, sand and nail their box together using rebate joints. The boxes were different in size as students were required to think of something that they wanted to store and work from that idea.



Year 12 - Child Studies

The Year 12 Child Studies class have investigated the developmental benefits of imaginative play and how to encourage children to spend less time on screens and more time on creative pursuits. They planned and constructed an 'activity box' that could encourage creativity and then invited their LAP buddies to test them out.







Caritas
COLLEGE

JOIN OUR
+ **TEAM!**

RECEPTION TEACHER

- ✔ Fixed Term/Contract Position
- ✔ Full Time
- ✔ Commencing 22 July 2024
- ✔ \$10k incentive payment

APPLY NOW!

Visit: www.cesa.catholic.edu.au/working-with-us/positions-vacant/job-detail/97892

DOGS IN THE SCHOOL YARD

It is wonderful to see families walk their dogs to school to drop off and collect their children. For safety reasons, however, we ask that pets do not come on the school site at drop off and pick up time.

While they are often cute and cuddly, we can't assume that all students and visitors are comfortable and feel safe with dogs in the school yard. Further, when we allow one dog in the school yard, we then set a precedent for others. Therefore, we ask that dogs are not brought onsite at drop off and pick up time.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.





Mothers Day Stall

Wednesday, 8 May (Week 2)

Stall will be located in the Library and will be held during Lessons 1 & 2.

Gifts for sale between \$1.00 - \$10.00.

Maximum of two gifts per student.

Students will be able to purchase with their class on the day.

If you are able to donate to the Mother's Day Stall, please drop off at the Front Office by Monday 6 May



Student Registrations
close Friday 17 May

2024



SA'S LARGEST
SCIENCE
COMPETITION



**CARITAS CUBS
RECEPTION TRANSITION
PROGRAM**

3 MAY - 5 JULY

Friday 8.30am - 11.30am
Friday 12.00pm - 3.00pm

The advertisement features a collage of four photos showing children in blue school uniforms. Top-left: Two boys sitting on a wooden bench. Top-right: A boy on a slide with another child above him. Bottom-left: A girl and a teacher sitting at a table. Bottom-right: A girl and a boy playing with colorful blocks on a rug.

