Easter Message

I can’t believe that we have come to the end of Term 1. This term I have seen our young people actively engaged in their learning and working in a very positive environment where each person is valued and respected for who they are, individuals who matter greatly to God. It is because we matter greatly to God that we have Easter. Our term concludes with the most important religious event in the Christian calendar. Whilst many of us enjoy and benefit from a physical break in our normal routine and many of us will have a chance to holiday, I would like to encourage each member of our SAS community to reflect on what Easter means and meditate on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Does the message of Easter impact the way you live everyday? Does the experience of Easter change us and shape how you live beyond the Easter holiday? I hope that Easter is a time that all of us can renew and refresh our commitment to God and our faith in Him.

One of my favourite verses in the Bible comes from the Book of John 10:10. It says

I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.

Long after we have eaten hot cross buns, chocolate eggs and have had opportunities to catch up with friends and family, I pray that the Easter message of hope and love will impact on the way we live and treat others everyday of the year.

Mrs Lorrae Sampson
Executive Principal

Disclaimer:
Whilst the information is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication, circumstances may impact on the accuracy. Please consult the Parent Portal or School website for any updates or changes to dates.
There are a few colloquialisms that get bantered around from time to time that relate to the concept of time. We regularly hear that “time fly’s when you are having fun”, or “time fly’s when you base your life around a school term” and the classic “time seems to speed up as you get older”. Well personally, I must be having fun, basing my life around school terms and getting older at an alarming rate because Term 1 has flown by! That is the joy of working in a school and spending a significant proportion of your time (or almost all of it when you have 5 kids of your own!) with young people.

The students at Shoalhaven Anglican School have been an amazing group to work alongside so far this year. There have been some fantastic achievements, many personal bests, high levels of engagement in learning and some amazingly positive attitudes on display, at every step of the way this term.

Our junior school students (plus a few of the staff and parents I am reliably told) put their dance shoes on and had a fantastic night at the Junior School disco on Friday last week. A big thanks goes out to the school’s parents and friends members who organised a really fun night for our students and to the Junior School teachers for sharing part of their Friday night with the students.

Seth Seidel in Year 7 stepped up and took on a challenge from Wednesday to Friday last week which stretched his comfort zone. Seth attended the Nowra Anglican School Year 7 camp at Waterslea and had an amazing time interacting with about 80 NAC students (most of who he had not met before) and getting involved in the great activities on offer. Our Year 7 and 8 students more broadly, are working hard and are taking leaps and bounds in their learning under the expert guidance of their teachers this year.

The Year 10 and 11 students engaged in the Trade Skills Centre program have been completing an integrated unit titled ‘Trades and Me’ this term, which is giving them a greater insight into their chosen trade area. A big focus of the TSC program is to help the students become ‘work place ready’ young people. The work placement days have been an important step in assisting our students to build networks and connections and prepare for their future careers.

Year 12 completed their exams on Thursday last week and were rewarded with an afternoon of Stand Up Paddle Boarding on Narrawallee Inlet, following the achievement assembly on Friday. Balance is important in the HSC year, as students manage the demands of study and contemplating a future career path, with everything else that happens in late adolescence. From what I observed on Friday afternoon, the experience of being active, engaging with the natural environment and sharing time with friends on the water, was just what the doctor ordered.

I would like to wish our school community a safe and relaxing Easter break and encourage you to get along to one of our local churches to celebrate what Jesus did for all of us when he went to the Cross.

Mr Tim Knowles
This term has gone quicker than any I have experienced. This new season for our school has taken some adjusting but it has been very rewarding to be involved with the community at SAS. Our community has experienced some change but with that change comes opportunity to shape the future.

The classic Greek philosopher Socrates states, “The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” So how are we going with that? Are we pouring our energy into the new? People respond differently to change, some want nothing to do with it, others see the opportunity for something great and they run with it. We have a great opportunity to get involved with our school community, to shape it for the future by contributing.

The recent destruction left by Cyclone Pam on Vanuatu has left up to seventy per cent of the population homeless. The country now is forced to deal with their change and rebuild. A recent Sydney morning herald article calls the Australian public to not just provide a band aid solution and throw some cash at the problem but to give more. The article is titled: ‘Cyclone Pam and Vanuatu: don’t just give cash, give a damn’. The article begins with, “Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, Canberra, Newcastle and the Gold Coast have been flattened overnight - their entire populations left homeless. Imagine that headline’. It’s easy to not give a damn when the issue doesn’t affect you directly. But when there is a need in our community we are called to make a difference, to contribute, to rebuild. This article highlights an interesting trait of human character, we like a quick fix that doesn’t require much heart and energy.

Jesus says regarding some religious leaders, ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me’. Matthew 15:8. These religious people were in a habit of giving minimum, enough to look the part. Jesus says, that not enough. Your actions and words are not what I want but your heart.

We can easily give to things we care about, it doesn’t require much thought or motivation to give food to my kids. I’m invested in them so I just do it. But when it comes to giving to our local community or a people in need I justify giving minimum to look like I care without investing my heart.

After adjusting to this year how are we moving forward together? How can we contribute more?

Are you invested in God? Are you invested in our school community? Are you invested in caring for those in need outside your community? Real change will only occur when we give our hearts to the cause.

I encourage you to give beyond the minimum, to invest your heart and energy into our community, our future and people in need.

Shaneo
The school office will be closed from Friday 3rd April till Monday 6th April. The office will reopen Tuesday 7th April. Enjoy the Easter break.

**Uniform shop changes**

As indicated earlier this term, Midford our uniform supplier is moving towards an online ordering system for the supply of uniforms for our school. They will take orders and then have the uniforms picked and packed from the stock held at Nowra Anglican College and delivered back to SAS the following day.

From the start of Term 2 the online ordering system will be accessible to families, with the school maintaining a size set of current garments so that students can be fitted for their uniforms as required.

The final fitting day with Karen prior to the commencement of online ordering will be:

**Tuesday 21st April from 12-4pm**

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**Achievement**

This past week saw a number of our students achieve their Gold and Principal’s Awards. Theirs is a wonderful achievement and one that I would hope that most, if not all, students in the Junior School should achieve by the time they leave in Year 6.

The great thing about achievement at SAS is the variety in which students can achieve – be it in academics, service, co-curricular or application. It is so important that students have the opportunity to do well across a number of areas, developing the holistic learner. Students are encouraged to give everything a go, to try their best, to reach for their potential.

As we head towards the first term holidays, it is important to reflect on the wonderful achievements of our students – from the little wins in learning, the progress, the attainment of skills throughout the term, to the achievements that we saw at Assembly last week. Please take the time to reflect on what your children have achieved this term, no matter how tiny or great. All of our students have grown in learning this term and I look forward to this positive growth continuing next term.

Mrs Anna Carswell
Head of Junior School

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FROM THE HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL
Year 2 have made it to the end of our first term.

In the last few weeks the children have learnt to draw a funny fish, a castle and completed an Easter art project.

They also brought their favourite toy in to share for news, talked about their favourite holiday and told each other about their family.

In maths they have learnt about addition, subtraction, fractions, mass, time and capacity. The unit of work on People Who Help Us was interesting and informative. It has been a fantastic term, full of fun, learning and creativity.

Well done Year 2! I am looking forward to what the rest of the year brings.

The Koala Group (3 year olds) walked to the school with Karen and Maria. Along the way they met Shane who directed them to the Music Room. The children were very excited to see all the types of musical instruments in one place. Shane introduced them to the different types of drums and musical instruments. Even the drums had two different types of drumsticks to use. Each child was given the opportunity to choose and play an instrument. Shane demonstrated the different sounds the instruments made and explained tempo and beat. The children created the orchestra and sang “10,9,8 God is Great” as well as “Crash, Bang, Bang.”

Shane then took us all to another room where more instruments were set up. Shane played the drums and Matt the Music teacher played the guitar. The children watched and listened with great interest.

On the way back we went and visited Rueben’s dad in the SAS office. As we crossed the road over and back we practiced our road safety by “Looking, listening, thinking and then walking.”
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AFL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
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YOU MUST REGISTER!!
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(9:30am - 1:30pm)
COME ALONG FOR HOURS
OF SKILL & FUN
(BOYS & GIRLS 4 - 12 YEARS)
DROP THE KIDS & GO FOR A SHOP!

Includes a sausage and a drink
Conducted by qualified AFL Staff

Cost: $30
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If your call is re-directed to voicemail, please leave your child’s details to complete the registration process

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