**From the Principal**

**Psalm 27:4** “One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.”

**Dear friends and families**

Consistent with the children’s picture book ‘Where's Wally’, last Wednesday a member of staff challenged us all in our morning staff devotions ‘Where’s God’! Being themselves dressed in red and white stripes as a ‘Where’s Wally’ certainly added to the engagement and impact of their devotion to follow. No doubt as a parent you would have seen the school was full of ‘Wally’s’ last Wednesday as can be seen in the pictures below. Although this was a lot of fun for all involved (including my car for those viewing the Emmaus Facebook page!) there was an important higher purpose for the day which draws to the very core of our College and our reason for existing. The ‘Where’s Wally’ theme was to promote book week which this year has the slogan ‘Books light up our world’. Bookweek as an event is about the place of Books in our lives, in the life of schools and children. It gives us the opportunity to ‘notice’ the awarded books for 2015, and to celebrate together how books shape us and mould us. Bookweek transforms our Library program and gives us the chance to explore books in some detail (using picture books for example as the means to explore and analyse, and develop critical and creative thinking).

In the words of Madeline L’Engle “a book, too, can be a star, a living fire to lighten the darkness, leading out into the expanding universe.” Change the word ‘book’ to the ‘Word of God’ and you can see the actual theme of the day at Emmaus. The Word of God lights up our lives, and our desire is for the Word of God to be available to all. The $1024.00 raised as a result of this day is all going towards supporting the work of Mr David Barnett (long time relationship with Emmaus) in association with Wycliffe to translate the Word of God (Bible) into the language of the Indigenous Pitjantjatjara people. Please pray for David as he approaches this important ministry in the APY Lands.

Last Saturday evening the P&F Bush Dance was a huge success and blessing to our community. Our very own and very talented Mrs Judy Potter rallied the troops and led us in an engaging evening of ‘boot-scooting’. The photos below say more than my words ever could about the evening! I would like to extend my thanks to all the P&F for their months of planning leading up to the event; and their work at and after the evening (cleaning up straw!). If you are interested in learning more about the P&F and how you too could be involved into the future, please let me know.

**Blessings,**

**Andrew Linke**

**Principal**

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**Weekly Prayer Meeting**
**Tuesday Morning**
8.30am - 9.00am
**Junior School**

**2015 Oliphant Science Award Winners**
These awards are an annually held competition for South Australian School students from Reception to Year 12 to develop their interest in Science through a Science based competition with a range of categories to suit a wide variety of abilities and interests. The Oliphant Awards provide students with an opportunity to expand their scientific literacy, by showing interest and understanding in the world around them and engaging in discussions about Science. Emmaus Christian College had an excellent result. Thank you to Susanne Milne for her support and facilitation of the Oliphant Science competition in the Junior School. Congratulations to the following Junior School students. Our prize winners are Mahalia (1st), Chloe (2nd), Jenna (Special Company Award) and the highly commended award winners are:- Cameron, Joshua and Daniel.

**Bookweek**

Junior School began celebrating Bookweek early with a performance called ‘Shine a Light’ at Junior School Assembly in Week 5. This was a good introduction for the Bookweek theme– ‘**Books Light up Our World.**’ During Bookweek, the library was slowly ‘lit up’ with art and work by the Junior School students related to the theme, or to books which have been short listed for the Book of the Year Awards. Every day there were special creative activities and competitions for the students to do in the Library at lunchtime. The week culminated, on Wednesday, in a whole school ‘Where’s Wally’ dress up day and fundraising event focused on Bible Translation. Junior School ‘Wallys’ made a ‘flash mob’ appearance with a song and dance at the beginning of the day. Thanks go to our amazing Librarians, Carolyn Hull and Alicia Buxton, for organising the events for the 2015 Bookweek.

**Student Led Conferences**

This year as an exciting new initiative the Junior School are introducing ‘Student Led Conferences’ as another form of reporting student progress. A ‘Student Led Conference’ is based on the belief that children are capable of taking responsibility for their own learning and reporting their progress to their parents. The conference will replace the traditional Parent/Teacher Interviews normally held in Term 3. All families will now have the information about ‘Student Led Conferences’ and how to make a booking. The sessions will be 20 minutes with three students reporting to their parents in the same time slot in each class. Both parents will need to attend together as there will be only one time slot per student.

**Junior School Theme for 2015**

“God lights our world and our way. Signs from God?” Week 7 Bible Verse – “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God.” *James 1:5*

**Annette Craven**  
Head of Junior School

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**Middle School**

This week we had a team of 4 teachers from our College presenting at a session on ‘Technology in the classroom’, considering pedagogy and engagement for students with the Association of Independent Schools. The four presentations included:

- **Helen Rance** - Promoting higher order thinking skills in Year 8 History: using digital tools to encourage creativity, evaluation and analysis.
- **Francoise Finlayson** - Re-visioning oral language assessment in the Middle School: Animation as a formative assessment tool in the French language classroom.
- **Ben Squire** - Maths online: strategies for differentiating learning and student self-regulated learning.
- **Shenay Weyers** - Shakespeare online: pedagogical approaches to engage Year 9 students in a deep understanding of a Shakespearean tragedy.

Well done for being recognised for their outstanding work and for the support and leadership of Adrian Cotterell as he has worked alongside them in a mentoring role.

**Andrew Edmondson**  
Head of Middle School

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**College News**

**Middle & Senior School Science**

Well done to Sophie, Georgia, Natasha and Jade on receiving ‘Highly Commended Awards’ in the Scientific Inquiry Section of the Oliphant Science Awards. Natasha has received a special award from the Australian Institute of Energy, for her project on Wind Turbines which will be presented to her at the Oliphant Science Awards presentation evening. Outstanding work to all of those who entered the competition.

There is a Geoscience Summer School being offered to students currently in Years 9, 10, 11 or 12. There are 20 places available on the course which is run by the Department of State Development, Mineral and Energy Resources group. Any student wishing to apply for the 8 day course which will run from Monday 7th to Wednesday 16th December 2015, must see Mrs Storey for an application form.

**Allison Storey**
8/9 Girls Basketball
The day began with some players never having played basketball before and were learning to dribble around the back of the stadium on the pavement. It was safe to say they were very confident. Annie lead the way and all the team filled their roles to perfection. We won all our games bar one! We then lost to the winning team in the preliminary final and finished third. A fantastic effort from all six girls and we are very proud of them. Go Emmaus!

RSPCA Cupcake Day
Amelia (6CW) and Eleora (6CW) would like to thank all those that purchased cupcakes on Cupcake Day, in total $212.50 in donations were made to the RSPCA.

Parents & Friends

Bush Dance with The Wild Matilda’s
What a hoot! Big smiles and huge fun for everyone. Thank you for coming and joining in the fun…dancing, eating, boot throwing, plane throwing! Thank you to those that helped out with hale bale moving, stage transporting, MCing, catering, selling drinks, cleaning up and just generally assisting to make the night the success that we all enjoyed. If you missed this night, dust off your boots for next time. A special thank you to the businesses and families for their generous donations for the Silent Auction - Kytos Bakery, First Froots-online shopping, Back In Motion at Woodville, Endota Spa at Marion, Officeworks at Marion, Bunnings at Marion, Peta O’Loughlin and the Tedesco family.

Woolworths Earn & Learn
We are still collecting the stickers for the ‘Woolworths Earn & Learn’ program. If you shop at Woolworths we would love you to join us in collecting them. The completed sticker sheets and/or stickers can be placed in the collection box which is located at student services. Points earned will be used to purchase learning equipment and resources for our school community.

Next Parents and Friends Meeting
The next P&F meeting is on Thursday 17th September at 7.00pm in the staffroom. This will be a time to look at P&F at Emmaus and how we can support the community in 2016. New and/or ‘guest’ attendees are always welcome. Due to building work please access via the front of school. Future diary note: The final P&F meeting for 2015 will be on Thursday 19th November.

Helen Grear
P & F President

Student/Family Support Worker

Father’s Day
I realise that for many people Father’s Day can be associated with sadness and grief. For others it can be challenging due to ongoing issues with their fathers. No matter what relationship adults have with their own fathers, nothing can distract from how important fathers can be in the lives of their children. Steve Biddulph who is a family therapist and retired Psychologist has written several books on the importance of fathers in their children’s lives.

Steve says this about fathers of daughters, that “Today’s young fathers spend three times as long with their children each day - talking, playing and teaching them - as the fathers of just one generation ago. And if they do it right, they’re a powerful force against the online porn, the girls’ magazines, the ads and all the explicit TV programs that are encouraging our daughters to grow up too fast. Indeed, girls with an involved dad have been found in many studies to do better at school and have higher self-esteem. They’re also less likely to become pregnant too young or have problems with alcohol or drugs.

And about raising boys Steve says that we can “never be complete without deep involvement with adults of our own sex”. He explains: “It takes the help of many men to turn a boy into a man. School doesn’t do it. Watching TV doesn’t do it. Mum, however hard she tries, can’t do it on her own. Boys need exposure to healthy men.” Men especially need to be real fathers in their sons’ lives so as to teach them the skills and emotional backbone needed to be husbands and fathers themselves one day.

May I encourage fathers – or those who act as fathers in the lives of the children in their care to remember what a vital role they play in the social and emotional development of their children.

To read more from Steve Biddulph we have several books in our parent library and you can also follow him on line. Attached to this newsletter is an interesting article on Fathers from Parenting ideas.

Sue Chapman
Student/Family Support Worker

First Aid

Medication Plans for Camp
Can we please remind parents of students attending one of the several camps later this term that if your child may require medication during their camp a Medication Plan completed by the doctor is now overdue. If you have already given your child a medication plan to hand in at school can you please ensure that they have done this and that it is not still in their school bag. Thank you.

Ros Argent and Maria McIver
First Aid Officers
Uniform Shop

2015 Normal Opening Hours
Monday 8.30am - 10.00am
3.00pm - 5.00pm
Thursday 8.30am - 10.00am
1.00pm - 1.30pm
3.00pm - 5.00pm

Christine Blom-Cursaro
Uniform Shop Manager

Music

Music Calendar
Please encourage your child to perform at this musical event and come along to hear the amazing talents of our students.

Term 3, Week 7, Thu 3rd September - Spring Instrumental Night, 7.00pm in EPAC
Term 4, Week 4, Thu 5th November - Junior School Music Showcase, 7.00pm in EPAC

Andrew Verco

Canteen Roster

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<th>Week 7 T3</th>
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<td>Wed 9th</td>
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<td>Sharon Smith</td>
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Thank you for the time you volunteer in the canteen, it is very much appreciated. The hours are from 9.30am to approximately 1.30pm. Due to Occupational Health and Safety, please make sure you wear enclosed shoes and long hair is tied back. Please also remember to sign in at the Front Office and wear a visitors badge before you commence in the canteen. This is a legal requirement in case of fire evacuation/lock down. Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

Christine Blom-Cursaro and Janine Richards

Community News

South Australian Road Users
SAPOL Road Safety have provided the details for the ‘Talkin Road Safety School Edition’ Issue 16, September 2015 which is now published on the South Australian Police internet page under Road Safety:-

This edition discusses:-
• Change of email address for the Road Safety Section.
• 2015 Royal Adelaide Show.
• Schoolies Festival Voluntary Breath Testing by the Road Safety Section.
• Has the reduction in country speed limits made SA country roads safer?
• The case for wearing bicycle helmets whilst riding.
• Keeping your children and your pets safe when parking your car in the sun.
• Top 10 Tips for safer driving.
Leadership Opportunity for 12 -15 Year olds- YMCA SA Junior Parliament

Applications are now open for young people aged 12-15years old to participate in the first ever YMCA SA Junior Parliament!

Junior Parliament provides young people with an opportunity to learn leadership skills, team building skills and public speaking while learning about the parliamentary process.

What is involved? Junior Parliament involves a 3 day/2 night camp in the October holidays. Participants receive skills training and leadership development before heading to SA Parliament House to spend a day debating in the House of Assembly chamber!

‘Junior MPs’ will debate ideas and solutions they have created to problems in SA that they have identified.

Our 2015 Program - Basic Details
- Dates: 6th to 8th October 2015 (Inclusive)
- Residential Camp Location: Rostrevor College, Glen Stuart Rd, Woodforde
- Cost: $200

Is Junior Parliament right for me? Participants must be in Years 7-9 or equivalent in order to participate (12-15 years old). If you’re passionate about your community and the future of SA, if you have an open mind and are willing to learn, and if you want to meet new people and have a life-changing experience, then Junior Parliament is right for you!

Who runs the program? The Junior Parliament program is run by a team of volunteers called ‘The Taskforce’, lead by Program Coordinator Michelle Brown. All taskforce members are past participants of the Youth Parliament program. They are there to guide the participants on their leadership journey and empower them to unlock their inner leader and advocate!

How much does it cost? The cost of attending the program is $200. This includes meals, accommodation and transport while on camp (not including transport to and from camp).

Applications are online http://form.jotform.co/form/52150434347853

Please complete this registration form by 6th September 2015. For further information, please contact Michelle Brown, YMCA SA Junior Parliament Coordinator by email at michelle.brown@ymca.org.au or by phone on 8200 2519.

West Torrens District Cricket Club

We are the oldest cricket club in South Australia and have fantastic training, coaching and playing facilities. We are holding a Registration/Information Evening on Monday 21st September at 5.30pm to 7.30pm at WTDCC clubrooms, Henley and Grange Memorial Oval, Atkin Street, Henley Beach. We welcome players from across the district who are keen to take the step into Premier Cricket at U14 & U16 levels. Pre-season has already started so please contact us asap! We also field teams in the local U11 and U13 community competitions. For more information, please go to www.westerneagles.com or via email juniors@westerneagles.com or contact Junior Co-ordinator Marty Edmunds on 0408 120 470.
Year 11 & 12
SACE & International Baccalaureate Spring Revision Program
Mon 28 Sep - Fri 2 Oct and/or Mon 5 - Fri 9 Oct

“The most useful holiday program I have ever been to. There is no doubt these seminars helped my results improve by at least 15%.”
M. Dimauro

“Very useful seminars. I feel much more confident about my exams. These seminars help to structure and motivate students to do work during the holidays!” M. Fioretti

“Improved my confidence in all topics SIGNIFICANTLY.” J. Bobolka

From $40 per day!............ Early Bird offer closing soon..............

Phone 82317776 or enrol online: www.aeg.sa.edu.au
Adelaide Education Consultants L30, 91 King William St Adelaide
It’s time for dads to Speak Up

Michael Grose looks at the role of a father’s ‘presence’ and the need for fathers to ‘speak up’ to their kids to impart important life lessons.

The messages for fathers from parenting experts like myself have morphed over time. Two decades ago dads were encouraged to ‘be a presence’ in the lives of their children. Authors such as Steve Biddulph and Daniel Petrie urged fathers to be very present in their children’s lives rather than a distant or aloof figure. They reminded us that kids need good men around them to model how to relate, how to behave and how to live a good life. Raimond Gaita author of the superb book Romulus, my father articulated this notion beautifully when he wrote, “I know what a good man is, because I’ve seen it in my father.”

A decade or so ago the ‘be a presence’ message for dads was turned up a few notches to become involved in all parts of children’s lives. A raft of research linked a father’s active involvement with positive educational and social outcomes for kids, as well as a dad’s satisfaction with the role. Men embraced this ‘hands on dad mantra’ in droves.

Suddenly changing nappies, going to parent-teacher interviews, helping with homework, coaching (or umpiring, managing, cutting oranges for) their children’s sports teams became the new fathering norm. Family breakdown, long working hours and Fly In Fly Out jobs, rather than lack of will, were seen as impediments to men’s ongoing involvement in their children’s lives.

It’s time to speak up

It’s time to ramp up father’s presence once again, but in a different way. The recent actions of some high profile representatives of the Millennial Generation – from being arrested in a $9000-a-night hotel, through to cringe-worthy public antics - has many Australians scratching their heads in bewilderment. Quietly, many people are questioning the quality, or lack thereof, of the advice they receive from their fathers. Being present and involved in children’s lives isn’t enough per se for this current generation.

TIME magazine recently described this group as ‘a generation with narcissistic tendencies that contribute to a feeling of entitlement before they’ve achieved anything’. But an overblown sense of importance is only half the story. Growing up in a reality TV culture where everything is critiqued it is little wonder that today’s young people are perhaps the most critical generation that have ever lived – posting careless criticism of ideas, people and institutions at the tap of a finger at unfathomable speed, fast losing the art of thinking things through. So what’s a dad to do?

I firmly believe the current generation of young people are in dire need of some old-fashioned, very grounded fathering advice such as ‘Don’t get ahead of yourself”, “Treat others respectfully at all times” and “Think before you speak/tweet/post anything nasty about anything/one else.”
It’s time for dads to Speak Up ...

Okay these messages can and do come from mothers but they have equal, if not more potency when they come from the traditionally more reserved parent— their father. Sometimes a few well-chosen words said with conviction from a highly regarded elder have more impact than a series of reminders, talks, and dare I say, lectures.

Reclaim your place

Part of the modern parenting malaise is that many fathers are unsure of their place when their children are unsocial, unfriendly or just plain painful in public. Which side of the fence should I stand on when my child or young person misbehaves— the side of my child or the side of the offended institution or organization? I suspect fathers of past generations would have had few qualms about letting their offspring know their position when they behaved like brats. A clip around the ears would have been the preferred method. While I disagree with the methodology I wholeheartedly agree with the sentiment expressed.

It’s not just when kids act like brats that dads need to step forward. They need to be present when children and young people are hurt, fearful, lonely, sad and depressed. The best thing that they can bring to the table is their vulnerability and a willingness to talk about feelings. I suspect most adolescents would think likewise if asked.

I agree with Guardian columnist Mariella Frostup who recently wrote, “Despite 70 years of full-on feminist rhetoric we still bring up boys to be emotionally buttoned up and girls to remain painfully vulnerable to any emotional undercurrent.” I’ve long believed that it’s fathers, rather than mothers, who take their sons to an emotional space…or not, as the case maybe. The male inability to admit weakness or talk honestly about feelings may currently pervade the halls of power and business, but it should not and must not be the norm at home. Keeping fear, affection, sadness and other emotions under a veneer of ‘she’ll be right’ control is exhausting for men, just as it is for those around them.

Become the story-teller

Storytelling used to be the most potent strategy parents used to pass on knowledge and wisdom to their offspring. For too many reasons to mention here storytelling is now a lost art. It’s a shame because most children crave to hear their father’s warts ’n’ all story from the horse’s mouth so to speak, rather than have it told to them by someone else, usually their mother. It’s how the vulnerability comes out and also how kids know that their dads are human. Realistic rather than exaggerated stories offer kids hope and can become their map to help them navigate new territory such as starting secondary school, dating, and going for a job. “My dad found things tough but he got through it. I reckon I can too” is a great message for a young person.

The language of fathering is a very physical one. That is, many dads build relationships with their children through games and active pursuits. It’s very often how dads pass on important lessons such as fairness, persistence and winning and losing. If physicality is a bloke’s only strategy then a father is left out in the cold when his sons and daughters move into adolescence – well passed the playful age.

A man’s just got to talk to get his messages through. He can start by letting kids know when their behaviour is likely to offend others; when they behave like chumps when they are not yet champs; and when they need to show respect to those who’ve tread whatever path they are on before them. This is what great fathering is about in these interesting times in which we live.

Michael Grose
Build up Frequent Father points

Michael Grose looks at the importance of topping up Frequent Father points, and the benefits for both dads and for kids.

A good friend enthusiastically told me how he was looking forward to spending a few days away on his own with his two kids, aged 10 and 13. He was feeling quite chuffed.

He was having some ‘dad time’ with his kids.

Good on him!
He was doing some memory building & relationship building, as well as having some fun.

He told me that he was aware that his kids were getting older and he knew such opportunities were diminishing.

Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their kids was through their wife. She would explain him to the kids (‘Your dad’s very busy but he would love to see you play sport but he can’t make it.’) As well, she’d keep him up-to-date with the children’s lives.

Blokes, it seems, are valuing the time they spend with their kids on their own.

Or at least the dads I mix with are. Spending time alone with kids is a great way to build confidence in dads.

And the kids usually just love it.

Mothers can play a role here by not getting in the way if their husband or partner wants a little time alone with kids. (Most mums I meet welcome this!)

Children usually associate their fathers with activity. When I ask children to tell me about their dads they usually talk about the things that they like to do together with their dads. Playing, walking, fishing, wrestling....the list goes on.

It’s through shared activity and involvement in kids’ lives that dads build up frequent father points. It’s hard to build good connections with kids when you are not there!

Don’t wait until adolescence
These relationships are best built in childhood, when kids just love their dads to bits and want to be around him. It gets trickier in adolescence, but having shared interests developed in childhood gives you a connection point during these sometimes-turbulent times.

Dads also benefit from spending time with their kids. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men. I’m not sure where the health benefits come from, but I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing about getting into a child’s space. There is a big kid inside most men just busting to get out.

These days we take parenting pretty seriously and it’s easy to forget that one of the fundamentals of raising kids well is to spend some time in your child’s space, doing stuff, or not doing stuff, whatever the case maybe.

So how are your (or your partner’s) Frequent Father points going? If they need some topping up then you can start by doing something together that the kids enjoy. Having a bit of fun together is the best place to start.

Author’s note: Sole mums can take these ideas on-board to have a NO RULES weekend with your kids, where you have a change of routine and activity that can give kids the chance to see you in a different way.
Join Michael Grose for our 4-week online parenting course

**Mood Meter Program for Parents**

Help your kids learn to manage their emotions, improve their mental health and be happier.

**Mood Meter Program for Parents** is one of a series of online courses to teach you how to develop emotional intelligence in your kids:

- Mood Meter is a practical tool developed by the research team at *Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence*
- Gives parents and kids a common language to talk about feelings
- Empower kids to recognise and then respond to how they feel
- Teach kids self-awareness and put them in control of their emotions
- The Mood Meter is great for kids that are visual learners, particularly boys
- Suitable for all age groups

The 4-week **Mood Meter Program for Parents** starts on 11 September.

Join now for $57 to take advantage of FREE access to **Parentingideas Club** before the course starts on 11 September.

Or why not join **Parentingideas Club** for $197 annual membership and get access to **Mood Meter Program for Parents** plus the CLUB plus 5 more online parenting courses planned during the next 12 months.

(details here: www.parentingideasclub.com.au/Parenting-Programs)

Full details and registration at:

Or contact the Parentingideas team 03 59831798
office@parentingideas.com.au