Greetings everyone.

I hope this newsletter finds you well, enjoying the greater amount of sunshine in this beautiful part of the world.

As we draw deeper into the fourth and final term of the school year we are busy finalising home group placements and teaching appointments for 2017. On Monday 12th December you will receive more specific information about your child’s homeroom and teacher, their 2016 end of year report and further information about staffing across the age groups and areas of responsibility in our school.

As has been the case in previous years, we will be welcoming returning and new staff and saying thank you and farewell to staff who are moving on to other opportunities and/or spending more time with their family. Times of change are also times of growth and opportunity.

At the end of this year we will be saying farewell to Kate Turner who has been our Acting Deputy Principal this year and she will be returning to All Saints Catholic Primary School at Seaford. Kate has made a significant contribution to Galilee this year across many areas of the community. It has been a pleasure to work with her and we wish her all the best for the next phase of her leadership journey.

Luke Buchanan has won a teaching position at St Martin de Porres School, Sheidow Park. Luke has made a significant contribution to Galilee over quite a number of years, especially in the areas of stage 1 and stage 3 learning communities. I know there are some dads who will be queueing up now to run in the dads/teachers race on sports day. Perhaps we can entice Luke to make a guest appearance?

Rachael O’Reilly will be leaving to prepare for the birth of her baby. Rachael’s contributions to our stage 3 learning
community have been valued by her colleagues and many students. We will have to touch base with Rachael again on St Patrick’s Day to see how she is celebrating.

Nicole Perry has won a new teaching position at All Saints Catholic Primary School at Seaford. Nicole has been an important part of the Galilee community for some years now, contributing to the learning of children in Early Years, Stages 1 and 3. Thank you Nicole for your energy, new ideas and wisdom.

Bethany Kinnear is expecting her first child in the coming weeks and will be spending her time focusing on her growing family. Bethany has made wonderful contributions in Stage 1 and the Early Years areas of our school. We wish Bethany all the best with the birth of her baby and look forward to her making a special visit back to Galilee when the time is right.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Natalie Bowden and Andrea Pengilly who have worked alongside each other and Catherine McCluskey to provide a wonderful learning program in our Early Years team in 2016. Natalie has been undertaking some ESO and teaching work at Galilee and is a wonderful, energetic staff member. Andrea has shared great energy and enthusiasm for being involved with many aspects of the school, including dance, fitness and sport. We hope to still see Andrea working with us in another role in 2017.

Catherine McCluskey is going to be taking some leave in 2017 to further her research and study in children as mathematicians. We will be keeping touch with Catherine during the course of 2017 to learn more about her study.

I’d also like to thank Kristen Hunt who has replaced Bethany Kinnear during this term. Kristen has worked beautifully with the children and families in Reception this term. It can be very challenging to step into a learning community at this time of the year but Kristen has achieved this. Kristen will continue to work with us at Galilee in her Education Support Officer role in 2017.

We will have the opportunity to acknowledge and thank these staff members at our Community Prayer at 9.15am on Thursday 8th. You are most welcome to join us in thanking them for their contributions to our learning community. While we are sad to be parting with our valued colleagues we are also excited about the opportunities to be welcoming and working with new staff at Galilee in 2017. Our new staff members will be here at Galilee over the next couple of weeks to meet their colleagues and the children they will be working with and will be very keen to meet with you at the beginning of 2017.

We welcome back Shanna Campbell who returns from parenting leave. Shanna has previously taught at Galilee in the Stage 1 area and will be returning two days a week. Shanna is looking forward to developing strong relationships with the children and families at Galilee next year.
We welcome Maria Taylor who will be teaching in the same home group as Shanna three days a week. Maria has been teaching at St Peter’s Woodlands, Glenelg and is especially passionate about learning in the natural environment.

We will also be welcoming Michaela Black and Leanne MacAloney, both from St. Martin de Porres School, Sheidow Park. Both Michaela and Leanne will bring a wonderful energy and new, creative ideas to share with your children and our wonderful staff.

Another teacher joining us in 2017 is Rachael DeTullio. Rachael is currently working in Whyalla and is looking forward to moving back down to Adelaide and continuing her wonderful career with us at Galilee.

We will also of course be welcoming back Jodie Higgins who will return part time to the Co-Principal role at Galilee. Jodie has spent this year with her family and is looking forward to contributing to our wonderful learning community in balance with her parenting role. We look forward to working with Jodie to maintain and build upon the successful energy and practice in our community.

I do hope that you will be able to join us for our end of year events which provide a wonderful opportunity to transition from this year to the school break with our families and into 2017. We have our Thanksgiving Mass and Volunteer morning tea, our Community Prayer celebrations, our annual Carols Evening and the Year 7 Sending Forth celebration.

Kind regards,

Anthony Garton
Acting Principal
The Season of Advent ...
This time of year so often happens in a rush. The church season of Advent invites us to take a breath, notice the love and compassion around us, remember the hope we hold for our families, our world and trust in the love of God that holds us all.

At Community Prayer each week we recall the stories of journey and longing that lead to Jesus’ birth. These stories remind us God’s love may be found in really difficult circumstances. Remember ...

• Mary’s long journey to Bethlehem
• The lack of decent accommodation
• The baby, Jesus, laid in a manger (an animal’s feed box!)

This was not a wealthy family and life for them wasn’t easy and yet something remarkable happened! God’s love is born in ordinary, sometimes surprising, sometimes difficult ways and places.

What do we do during Advent?
During homeroom prayer we will light the candles of an Advent wreath or add to the Jesse Tree or an Advent calendar and present a small part of the story of Jesus’ birth.

Some groups are creating, with Godly Play dolls, stories of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem where even the stones, plants and animals make the path smooth and welcome the birth of Jesus. One of these stories is our front office. Please stop to look.

Ms Balacco’s, Ms Treloar’s and Mr Westover’s homegroups represented our school community beautifully at the Aldinga Advent Pageant with other local schools at the Aldinga Shopping Centre. This year we performed the Nativity Play.

Ms Janssan’s group are providing us with an opportunity to help those in need by donating non-perishable items for Vinnies Christmas food hampers.

Please join us at Community Prayer over these weeks to stop, reflect and pray for our families and world.

Sharon Doyle
APRIM
Quiz Night

A fun filled night was had by all when the community came together to answer the many brainteasers posed by our very own quizmaster Anthony Garton! The night was a sell out and we enjoyed a curry lovingly prepared by Karena from The Salopian Inn. We enjoyed the games, raffles and of course the Silent Auctions with many families heading home with many quality items kindly donated by local businesses, families and friends. A huge thank you to the Parents and Friends Coordinating Group for all their work on the night and in the lead up to the night. We raised $4225 which will go towards purchasing resources for the Outside Learning Environment, thank you and congratulations to all who supported the 2016 Quiz night.
Generous Donations From The Students & Families Of Each Classroom
Generous Donations & Support From Teachers & Staff
Thanks To Anthony Garton - Master Of Ceremonies
and BIG Thanks to our Parents and Friends Coordinating Group for all of you hard work and enthusiasm and a BIG thank you to all who came and supported this fabulous night out!

Funds raised go to resources for Galilee children. In the past we have purchased Shade sails, Portable shade gazebos, learning kits for students, outside learning resources, bbq and more!
IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE ABSENTEES

Please note the number for absentees SMS is 0407761162. When you send an SMS on this number please make sure that you provide a reason for absence and please do not add anything other than plain text. If you add characters or emojis the message will not be delivered legibly. We thank you for your cooperation with this.

Please join us for the Galilee Thanksgiving Mass Wednesday December 7th.

Where: Mary of Galilee Catholic Church
When – Wednesday 7th December
Time - 9.15 am

After Mass you are all welcome to join us for Morning Tea.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Community Carols Night

We are looking forward to all the children and their families gathering together at the end of the year for a picnic and community carols.

Date: Friday 9th December
Time: 6:15pm - 7:30pm
Venue: Galilee Catholic School
On the figure 8 lawn on the eastern side of Stage 1

Please bring a picnic basket tea for your family. Students will be seated with their families and move to the stage as they are invited to lead the singing. Please be mindful of your children’s safety and ensure they are with you under your care when not leading the singing. We look forward to gathering together during this time of Advent as Christmas draws near.

Kate Turner
Acting Deputy
CAN YOU HELP SUPPORT OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY?

St Vincent de Paul Society
Fred’s Van in Aldinga
Can you help?
Fred’s Van provides a free weekly nutritious hot meal to those in the community who are struggling to make ends meet, prepare a dinner or just feeling lonely. It is a sit down meal in the Aldinga Community Centre
Details: Required fortnightly for a weekly shop: existing Menu and shopping framework: no financial outlay: Approx. 2 hours per week shopping required Thursday or Friday
Please contact Teresa Branch 0419 857 966 if interested.

Willunga Parish

Times for Masses for Christmas and and New Year

**Christmas Eve - Saturday, 24th December**
6:30pm at Mary of Galilee Church, Aldinga
7pm at St. Joseph’s Church, Willunga
Midnight Mass – St. Joseph’s, Willunga

**Christmas Day - Sunday, 25th December**
9am at St. Joseph’s Church, Willunga

**New Year’s Eve - Saturday, 31st December, 2016**
5:30pm at Mary of Galilee, Aldinga

**New Year’s Day - Sunday, 1st January, 2017**
8:30am at St. Joseph’s Church, Willunga

Corner Quinliven & How Roads Aldinga SA 5173 p 855799
Congratulations to Alana McG, Jasmin B, Kaylee B and Lucy F who represented Galilee Catholic School as part of the Catholic Schools Music Festival on Saturday Nov 19th at St Michaels Catholic College.

Alana: I really enjoyed seeing all the other schools and being a part of something big. I felt really proud!

Jasmin: It was really fun and I enjoyed singing with new people!

Kaylee: The Catholic choir performance was awesome and unlike the Festival Theatre it was roomy for when we did actions. The view of the parent’s was great and our voices sounded better than you can explain.

Lucy: It was exciting to sing with the choir in front of how many people there were. I love to perform.

Galilee OSHC News

The December 2016/January 2017 Vac care programme is now available at the office or on the school website. Please return booking forms with deposit as soon as possible to avoid missing out.

Galilee OSHC will be limiting children’s screen time beginning this holiday period. Tech play, such as iPads and video games, will be limited to between 8am and 10am, and 4pm and 6pm daily. While OSHC Services have a requirement to provide some technology to students, we also maintain the importance of natural play and learning that occurs through programmed and spontaneous activities away from the screen.
Attendance Matters

If your child is going to be absent, late, or leaving early please notify the office by SMS on 04 07761162 before 9am. Please provide the following details:

- Child’s name
- Reason for absence/early departure/late arrival
- child’s home room teacher

Galilee Directory

School
info@galilee.catholic.edu.au
p 85579000

Fr. Charles Gauci
p 83821717

Sr Margaret Ann Connelly
p 0488287552

Centacare
p 85579050

Galilee OSHC
p 85579043
Director m 0411382054

Galilee OpShop
Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am - 3pm
p 0451830929

Galilee Playgroup
Monday 9am - 10.30am
Miss Gould & Miss Little
p 85579000

PFCG:
pfeg@galilee.catholic.edu.au

Contributions to be submitted by
3pm Tuesdays to
njwalters@galilee.catholic.edu.au
Inclusions at the Principal’s
discretion and some items may
need to be amended depending on space.

Book Day Wednesday 25th January 2017

Book day 2017 will be held on Wednesday 25th January from 8.30am to 4.00pm.

Book day is provided for parents and or carers to collect their child’s books to take home and prepare for use throughout the school year. Teachers will provide detailed instructions with your pack. This is an exciting exercise for children and we believe this will give them a greater sense of ownership of their books.

All books must then be returned on the first day of school. You will be responsible for replacing any lost or damage books from your pack.

Will there be a fee?

Yes! There will be a fee of $50 per student payable on the day at the front office prior to collecting your books; this will then be credited to your school fees for 2017. However, if you fit one of the below criteria you will be exempt from paying this fee;

- You were eligible for school card in 2016
- You already have a direct debit payment agreement in place for 2017 and all prior fees are up to date or enter into an direct debit agreement on book day
- Have paid 2017 fees in full prior to book day

What will happen on book day?

On book day you will come to the school between 8.30am and 4.00pm.

- Visit the front office to make payment or collect your paid voucher for those in the exempt categories above.
- You will then be directed to the designated area for collection of packs
- Take your books home and follow the teachers instructions on how they want them named and or decorated.

Please remember to bring the books back on the first day of term Monday 30th January 2017.

Should you have any queries please talk to one of our friendly office staff.

Kind Regards

Kylie Taylor

Finance Officer
finance@galilee.catholic.edu.au