



Important Dates

**Year 9 Rite Journey
Homecoming
Ceremony**

Wednesday 4 December
2024

**Port Augusta
Christmas Pageant**

Friday 6 December 2024

**Port Augusta
Community Carols
Night**

Sunday 8 December 2024

**Year 7 Transition
Days (9-10)**

Monday 9 December 2024

**R-9 Students
Conclude Term 4**

Wednesday 11 December
2024

Years 7-9 Assembly

Wednesday 11 December
2024

From the Principal, Mr Damian Smith

The Seasons are Changing!

The liturgical year has now changed from Ordinary Time to Advent. Ordinary Time is called 'ordinary', not because it isn't special, but simply because the weeks of Ordinary Time are numbered. In fact, the week of ordinary time was significant because we celebrated the Feast Day of Christ the King. It honours Jesus as the King of the Universe who reigns with love, truth, and justice. It was a reminder that the gift of Jesus is the perfect bookend to Ordinary Time as we enter into the season of Advent. I hope that the joy of anticipation that build throughout Advent takes hold for all our families as we edge closer to Christmas.

*Lord Jesus Christ. King of the Universe.
we praise You as the ruler of our hearts and lives.
As we move from the season of Ordinary Time,
prepare us to welcome You anew in the season of Advent.
Live in our hearts with love and peace,
and guide us in hope as we await Your glorious coming.
May we always serve You with faithfulness
and look forward with joy to the fulfillment of Your kingdom.
Amen.*

Year 10 and 11 Final Assembly

Last Friday the Year 10 and 11 students held their last assembly to formally conclude their school year. They recalled and acknowledged significant events and achievements from throughout the year and celebrated their learning and growth. Awards were presented to students to recognise their individual efforts.

When this cohort of students return to school next year, they will be our most senior students and will 'set the tone' for our school community in the way they live, learn and lead. I trust they will have a well-earned break over the summer holidays.



R-9 Water Play and Colour Burst

On Friday Week 7 our R-9 students engaged in a Water Play and Colour Burst Activity Course in the afternoon. Some fun and games on a Friday afternoon was yet another marker for students to know that the end of the year is near. It was great to see our younger students mix with pupils from higher year levels. We often see lots of wonderful examples of mentoring and leadership from our middle and senior year students when we create these opportunities. Thanks and well done to Mrs Jessi Nickolai and the staff for planning and facilitating a fun-filled afternoon.



R-6 Carols Night

Our R-6 Carols Night was held on Monday. The students were excited to celebrate the end of the year and spread some Christmas cheer. The weather held out and it was a lovely evening for students to share their singing and dancing performances with lots of families and friends watching on. Class awards were presented as we marked the end of the school year in a special way. Thank you to all those who came along. Well done to the students and staff for putting on a wonderful event for our school community.



Year 9 Rite Journey Program - Return and Homecoming Ceremony

On Wednesday 4th December our Year 9 students will celebrate their Return and Homecoming Ceremony to complete their involvement in the Rite Journey program. At the start of the year, Year 9 families were invited to attend the Rite Journey Program Calling and Departure Ceremony. Each student presented to their families a letter of gratitude, acknowledging all that they are thankful for in their experiences so far. Throughout the year, students have participated in various learning activities encouraging independence, compassion, teamwork, confidence, and life skills development. The Return and Homecoming Ceremony is the final stage of the seven-step program and a celebration of their growth and development as young adults.

Transition

Our Caritas Cubs will graduate from their transition program at the end of Week 8. Having visited our school every Friday over the past term learnt names, places and faces, they are now ready to join our school community as Reception students at the beginning of next year. We look forward to hosting a small graduation ceremony next week for our newest students and their families!

We also look forward to welcoming a number of new students into our school community in Week 9 for transition into Year 7. Our middle school teachers are excited to engage these students in a range of immersion experiences in different learning areas across our school before they start their schooling with us in 2025.

Christmas Pageant

Our College will be participating in the Port Augusta Christmas Pageant again this year. It is always a great community event, and we look forward to taking part in the celebrations. Our Year 3/4 classes will be supported by some of our older students to host a float with the theme of 'The First Christmas'. It will be lovely to see our students engage in a large-scale community event and share the joy of the Advent season.

Staffing

As the year draws to a close, it is normal for us to thank and farewell people who will soon conclude their time with our school community. At the end of this year, we will be saying thank you and goodbye to the following staff.

Firstly, Henry Wallis will be taking leave from his permanent position next year to travel overseas. We wish Henry all the best for his exciting adventure. We will farewell Dominick Hentschke, Gus Nelson & Deb McArthur, who will be moving on to new opportunities outside of Port Augusta.

A couple of our valuable Educational Support Officers will also be leaving our school community at the end of this year. Goodluck to Abbey Grindell & Gemma Horgan who will be exploring new openings elsewhere.

We thank these staff members who have all contributed to our school community in different ways. They have left lasting impressions on students and families and we wish them all the best for the future.



Scholastic Book Fair

In Week 7 we held a Scholastic Book Fair. The library was abuzz with students and families looking to purchase books to immerse themselves in. The lure of the joy of reading resulted in over \$6,000 worth of books being sold. For every item sold, the College earns credits to be able to purchase new books for the library. Thanks to our wonderful librarian, Amanda Fullerton, for organising and overseeing the Bookfair.

Children and Social Media

We recently held an information session for parents/caregivers around cyber safety to support all of our students to be safe online. There was some very useful information and helpful tips for families, and we received positive feedback for hosting this session. Further to this, I note the recent passing of laws in federal government relating to children under the age of 16 accessing social media. I encourage all parents/caregiver to peruse the letter from Peter Malinauskas [here](#) relating to this issue.

End of Term

Our Reception to Year 9 students will remain engaged and learning until Wednesday Week 9. On Wednesday 11th December, Year 3-12 student reports will be released on SEQTA Engage (please remember to download and save) and Reception - Year 2 student reports will be generated and sent home with your child. Student Free Days will be held on 12th and 13th of December where staff will complete First Aid training and engage in learning and processes to support the transition of students from one year level to the next.

From the Assistant Principal Religious Identity and Mission, Chloe Shanahan

Advent - A Season of Preparation

The Church season of Advent begins this Sunday, 1 December. Advent is a season of preparation, extending over 4 Sundays before Christmas. It can be difficult to not get caught up in the hype of Christmas, with carols playing in stores and trees on sale very early, gifts being exchanged before the holiday breaks begins, and chocolate calendars giving us a count down to the big day. It is important that we take the time to slow down and consider the meaning of this liturgical season, particularly in the commercialism of our society. Advent helps us to focus on the importance of Christmas where Jesus, a tiny baby born in a little town of Bethlehem, brought love, hope, peace, and joy into the world.

One of the most well recognised symbols of Advent is the Advent wreath. The wreath has three purple candles and one pink, surrounded by greenery to represent life. Each Sunday, a new candle is lit and the themes of Advent are hope, peace, joy, and love.

As we light the first candle of our Advent wreaths, we stop and consider hope. This candle takes us back to Isaiah's foretelling of the birth of Christ and all the promises that God gave us in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus.



Year 9 Rite Journey Community Day

Throughout their Rite Journey class, Year 9 students have been exploring what they have to offer the community, which is connected to their RE learning of what they stand for as young people. Students have also considered the impact that their actions can have on the lives of others and what it means to be active citizens. Last Tuesday, students gathered together at All Saints Church to participate in a range of activities to learn about different organisations, how they connect with people, the services that they offer, and to give back to the wider Port Augusta community.

After liturgy with Holy Communion, students spent some time making Christmas cards, for hampers given to those in need, and writing letters to the elderly in our local nursing homes. This was an opportunity for students to take some time to think about some of our marginalised and vulnerable community members who may or may not have people to spend time at such a joyous time of year for many.

Students were split into groups to participate in different activities for the remainder of the day. Time was spent making sandwiches for Fr Jim to give to those in need, as well as beautifying the Church grounds in preparation for the summer, and visiting Vinnies and assisting in dressing the window mannequins, sorting through donations, setting up the Christmas display, and of course, purchasing items.

The highlight of the day for a couple of groups was visiting the Senior Citizens Centre to engage with some of our elderly citizens by playing cards, carpet bowls, bocce, bingo and spending time talking to and listening to their stories. It was clear that there were benefits to both our students and elderly citizens after the time they spent together.

Students embraced our school theme Let Your Light Shine throughout the day and have made an impact on the community in their acts of service learning.



Immaculate Conception of Mary

Whilst we move into the season of Advent, and prepare our hearts for the birth of Jesus, it may seem a little strange that we side step and turn our focus to Mary. Whilst the beginning of the Christmas story has its focus on Mary and Joseph making their way to Bethlehem to be counted in the census, we stop to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary on 8 December. However, as this is a Sunday, it will be celebrated the following day on 9 December.

This is the day we celebrate Mary's conception; the time when she was conceived free from original sin in order to become the mother of Jesus. It wasn't until the 18th century that this particular day was celebrated and declared an important feast day in the Church's

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your
womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death,
Amen.



From the All Saints Catholic Parish

All Saints Catholic Parish invites families to the Masses for Children and Young People, on *30th Nov, at 6:30 pm or Sunday 1st December at 10.30 am*. As Jesus said to us, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them! People who are like these children belong to God's kingdom." We hope that in 2025 we will have Masses for Children and Young People each term.

It's a busy time of year for us all, and we hope that being part of a sacred celebration like this might support families in keeping a sense of balance in the busy-ness.

The Masses for Children and Young People should be fun, interactive and formative for the young people taking part. If you're coming, please arrive a bit early. Anyone who'd like to be a Reader or a Server would need to arrive at 6 pm on Saturday, or 10 am on Sunday, so they can rehearse their part, get used to the microphone, etc.

There are plenty of interesting but less demanding roles. Some young ones may like to sing with the music group or play an instrument; some may like to help bring up the gifts or else bring up one of the symbols for the Jesse Tree, and hang it on the tree; some may enjoy ringing the bells, or being a welcomer, or helping Christine re-stock the children's activity packs for the younger ones. Older ones might help light the candles of the Advent Wreath, or extinguish them at the end using the snuffer, or read the verse that goes with the lighting of the first candle. Some might lead the Penitential Rite. We're keeping it simple, and it's a family prayer time, so we don't have to worry about it being a performance. We look forward to seeing you, and your family, and joining in the Eucharist together. Families who aren't Catholic are most welcome to join in too.

Please also note that we are also running Young People's Art ministry at All Saints on Sundays (17/11, 24/11, 1/12, 15/12) between 2-3pm. The art already underway for Advent will appear next Saturday/Sunday. All welcome to join in the remaining art sessions!

Looking ahead a bit further – rehearsal for the Nativity Play during the Christmas Family Mass (5.30 pm, December 24) is on Sunday 22nd December at 11.30 am.

Teaching and Learning

Years 3-6 Choir - Visit to Nerrilda

On Wednesday, 27th November, the Years 3-6 Choir spread some early holiday cheer by visiting Edenfield Family Care - Nerrilda. The choir beautifully performed a selection of Christmas carols for the residents, filling the air with joy, warmth, and festive spirit.



Year 9 - HPE

As part of Year 9 HPE this term, students have been participating in several different recreational games. This unit concluded with students visiting the Port Augusta Bowling Club. The students got some tips from members of the club before playing some games of bowls. Thank you to the members from the Bowls Club for giving up their time and facilities to help out our students.



Year 10 - Science

The Year 10 Science classes spent the early part of Term 4 investigating the theories around rockets and had a chance to construct their own. The students worked in groups to design and construct their rockets, and all collaborated well. During week 5, all three Science classes spent the morning launching their rockets, with all groups having successful launches.



Out and About







Christmas Community Carols

SING ALONG SONGS & LOCAL PERFORMERS

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with a magical evening of carols! Join us for a night of joyful singing, festive treats, and family fun. Bring your loved ones and your holiday cheer as we come together to sing all the Christmas classics! Food available from 5pm.

For More information call 0424 122 888

AT 06:00 PM

8TH

DECEMBER

**ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH
51 FLINDERS TERRACE**

Vinnies Christmas Appeal
St Vincent de Paul Society
good. work.

SNACK
cake
Special items for Christmas such as puddings, cakes, biscuits or treats

Baby food and formula

Cordial, long-life juice or fruitboxes

Pre-packaged food like pasta, rice, noodles etc

Tinned ham, tuna, salmon etc

Christmas crackers or decorations

**VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL
FOOD DRIVE**

Long-life milk or custard

Jams, spreads, honey or vegemite

Tinned vegetables and fruit.

Tea, coffee or milo

Preserved fruits

Please place your donations here and help Vinnies provide hampers for those in need this Christmas.

While all donations are gratefully accepted, please think about the types of foods you like to enjoy during Christmas when you are donating items. Please also consider donating supermarket vouchers or gift cards so families can purchase and enjoy fresh meat, fruit and vegetables on Christmas day.

JOIN OUR
TEAM!⁺

PRIMARY TEACHER +

Fixed Term/Contract, Full Time

SECONDARY TEACHER +

Fixed Term/Contract, Full Time (English & HASS)

SECONDARY TEACHER +

Fixed Term/Contract, Full Time (a combination
of any 2 or more subjects)

SECONDARY TECHNOLOGIES TEACHER +

Permanent/Ongoing, Full Time (STEM/IT)

FLEXIBLE EDUCATION TEACHER +

Fixed Term/Contract, Full Time (delivery of
highly personalised curriculum across R-12)

+ APPLY NOW!

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YEAR 7 TRANSITION DAYS

MONDAY 9 DECEMBER
TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER



R-9 Students Term 4 Concludes

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER @ 3PM



Christmas Eve Nativity Play

Rehearsal Sunday 22nd December
after 10.30am Mass

All children and young people welcome.
The Nativity Play is part of the 5.30pm
Christmas Family Mass on 24th December

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ART MINISTRY

4 SESSIONS

SUNDAYS FROM 2PM-3PM | 17/11, 24/11, 1/12, 15/12

FAMILIES ARE WELCOME, PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO
PARTICIPATE



THE FIRST 2 SUNDAYS - ART FOR
THE 4 SUNDAYS OF ADVENT

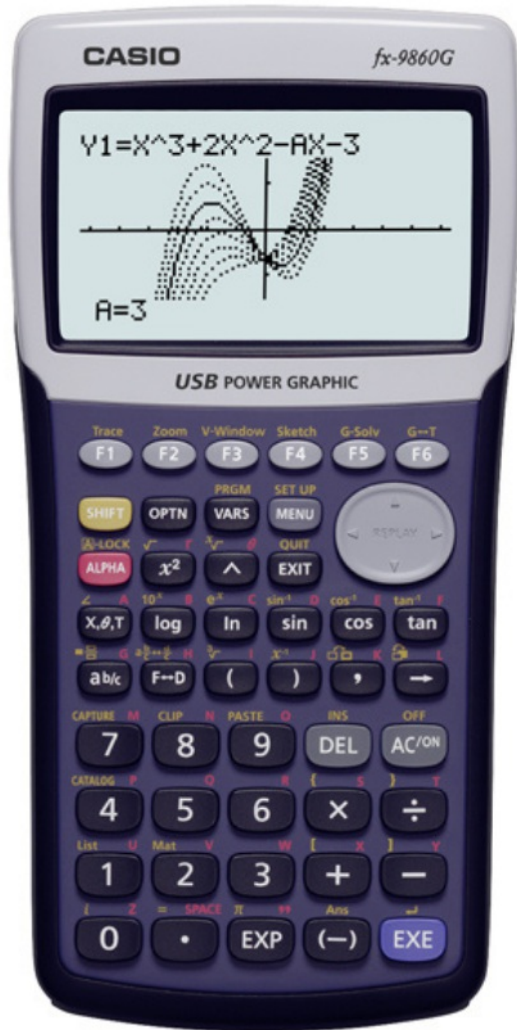
THE SECOND 2 SUNDAYS - ART FOR THE
CHRISTMAS SEASON - CHRISTMAS
MASSES AND EPHIPHANY

NOTE - PARISH CHRISTMAS LUNCH, 15/12

Do you have a graphics calculator you would like to sell???

Contact the College Front Office if you have one of the following for sale:

**Casio fx-9860G AU Plus
Casio fx-CG20 AU
Casio fx-CG50 AU**



**caritas
cubs**



**LAST CARITAS CUBS
PLAYGROUP FOR 2024**

**MON 2 DEC
9.00AM-10.30AM**

**TUES 3 DEC
1.30PM-3.00PM**

**WED 4 DEC
9.00AM-10.30AM**



PERM-A-PLEAT SCHOOLWEAR CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

PLEASE NOTE THAT PERM-A-PLEAT SCHOOLWEAR WILL BE CLOSED FROM 20 DECMEBER TO 8 JANUARY. ORDERS PLACED DURING THIS PERIOD WILL BE PROCESSED FROM THURSDAY 9 JANUARY 2025.

Please note that Perm-A-Pleat have advised an average 4% increase in prices as of 1 january 2025

Order and delivery prior to Christmas:

Consolidated Orders 9.12.2024

Home Delivery 16.12.2024

Ordering and delivery in New Year

Consolidated Orders 13.01.2025

Home Delivery 20.01.2025



Congratulations

**HARRY
FREEMANTLE**

on gaining an
apprenticeship as a
Boilermaker
with

**Century
Engineering**



Congratulations

**ETHAN
MALONEY**

on gaining an Electrical
apprenticeship

with

Progress Rail



Congratulations

**MASON
FOLBER**

on gaining an Electrical
apprenticeship

with

Progress Rail