Forever Excelling

FROM THE PRINCIPAL  
Mrs Gina Kadis

Christmas is a time for family. It is a time for giving and a time for celebrations. The best gift we can give our children …… is a great education.

We thank you, the parents of our students, in the exercise of your choice of St George College to educate your children. We appreciate your trust placed in St George College and in return we assure you we are a school that treats everyone – staff, students and parents - with dignity and respect. We are a school that encourages each child to value their educational experiences and to do their absolute best, nurturing their unique qualities. We are a school that promotes tolerance, understanding and friendship. We do this through the exemplary learning programs that our teachers deliver in their classrooms. We do this through the numerous celebrations within our College that unite us and allow us to act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. Celebrations like our recent Junior School Concert for all our Reception to Year 6 students; our inaugural Grandparents and Special Friends Day; our heartfelt Remembrance Day full school assembly; our Graduation Ceremony and Graduation Dinner to farewell our Year 12s – unite us and remind us of the strong educational experiences we give our children, both within the classroom and through valued enriching activities within our wider community. Finally, we highly value Academic Excellence by acknowledging at our Academic Awards Ceremony the individual achievements of our top students in each year level.

We are a College that is at the heart of the St George Community and Parish of Thebarton and Western Suburbs. Our holy church is a place of reflection and joy – where The Very Reverend Fathers Patsouris and Father Kon lead us in spiritual worship, and provide us with the opportunity to engage in a range of activities to give our students both a strong sense of self, and community. We thank Mr George Portokalas the Community President and his fellow Board members, for the support the Community gives our College. Our children have enjoyed the opportunities to contribute to Community events – singing and dancing for their Senior Citizen luncheons and to put a smile on the faces of many.

It is important to thank the Members of Parliament both State and Federal, who legislate for quality education. Without the support of the Governments and Parliaments, St George College and our fellow schools cannot possibly fund the education we provide to the children. The fees our parents pay simply are insufficient to cover the cost of the facilities and educational programs necessary to prepare our students to make their mark in society in the fields they choose. In turn this allows our parents to continue to enjoy the right to choose the education they want for their children.

Finally it is important to thank three special groups in our College for working with distinction. To all the staff for their dedication and hard work to ensure St George College students excel. Their capacity to care for our children and community is infectious. Their capacity to teach is exceptional and highly valued by us and the Board of Governors. Secondly, we thank the members of the College Board, led by the Co-Chairmen, Mr Bill Gonis and Mr Peter Pilouras, for their invaluable support and guidance. The many hours of voluntary work that they invest in supporting the staff, students and families in our College is highly prized. Thirdly, sincere thanks to our dedicated Parents and Friends Committee, for the outstanding fund-raising activities that they organized for our students. Students look forward to using the new sporting and playground equipment on the Junior Campus, and students on the Senior Campus the new furniture kindly donated for the new Global Centre for Innovation and Technology.

St George College  |  PO Box 29 Torrensville Plaza 5031  |  T 8159 8100  F 8234 5942

2016 TERM DATES  
STUDENTS COMMENCE

Term 1 (11 Weeks)  
Tues, 2 February—Fri, 15 April

Term 2 (10 Weeks)  
Tues, 3 May—Fri, 8 July

Term 3 (10 Weeks)  
Tues, 26 July—Fri, 30 Sept

Term 4 (8 Weeks)  
Mon, 17 October—Fri, 9 Dec

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
DURING SCHOOL TERMS

14 March  Adelaide Cup Day
25 March  Good Friday
28 March  Easter Monday
2 May  St George Day
13 June  Queen’s Birthday

COLLEGE CHRISTMAS  
HOLIDAY HOURS

Mon, 14 Dec to Thurs, 17 Dec
9:00am—4:00pm
Fri, 18 Dec
9:00am—1:30pm
Mon, 21 Dec to Fri, 15 Jan
Closed
Monday, 25 Jan
9:00am—4:00pm
Tues, 26 Jan (Australia Day)
Closed
Wed, 27 Jan to Fri, 29 Jan
8:00am—4:00pm
Mon, 1 Feb
8:00am—4:30pm

UNIFORM SHOP  
HOLIDAY HOURS

School Holiday Opening Hours  
Prior to Term 1 2016

Thursday, 28 January
12:30pm—3:30pm
Monday, 1 February
9:30am—3:30pm

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia  |  Community & Parish of St George, Thebarton SA
www.stgeorgecollege.sa.edu.au
Like all families – there comes a time when some must leave home. This leads me to some farewells. We sincerely wish Ms Melanie Newstead well as she leaves St George College, to pursue a new career change in Italy. Ms Newstead we thank you for your generosity and commitment. Best wishes also to Ms Colleen Roberts for her exceptional work as our Junior Campus Resource Centre Librarian. Ms Roberts we wish you a happy retirement and thank you sincerely for encouraging our children to read well and read widely – in Greek, Italian, Chinese and English.

We farewell some of our contract staff and hope to welcome them back in the future. Thank you to: Mrs Angela Gaitzis, Ms Jessica Lock, Ms Alison Pearce, Mr Christopher Rasch and Ms Katina Cacas.

In closing, thanks again to our parents for choosing St George College. Enjoy a fabulous festive season with your families and friends.

Travel safely and Happy New Year 2016 for us all!

Arrangements for 2016

Senior Campus
Deputy Principal and Head of Senior Campus, Peter Karamoshos
(Year 5 to Year 12)

Junior Campus
Assistant Principal and Head of Junior Campus, Stephanie Kosmetos
(ELC to Year 4)

Attention: Reception to Year 7 Parents

Notification of your child’s placement for 2016 will be mailed out to families before Christmas.

Key Diary Dates for 2016

New Event: Student and Parent Information Day for 2016
Monday, 1 February

We invite all families to join us on Monday, 1 February 2016 to find out timetable and locker information, and have queries answered.

Senior Campus

Please meet in the Performing Arts Centre at 10:00am. This session will conclude at 11am.

This meeting will introduce our new Pastoral Care system run through Heads of House – Athens, Sparta, Olympia and Pella. The session will be presented by Mr Peter Karamoshos and Heads of House – Miss Angela Drakopoulos, Mr Michael Rodas, Miss Vicky Sakellarious, Mr Ben Hall and Mr Matthew King.
From the Head of School-Senior

Year 12 Graduation

Our whole school community came together on Wednesday, 18 November to celebrate the journey of our Year 12 class of 2015. Celebrations began with a ceremony in the Performing Arts and Sports Centre in the afternoon and a celebratory dinner the same evening at the Adelaide Pavilion.

Parents, grandparents, staff and students came together to wish our Year 12 class all the best for their future endeavours. College Prefects, Eleni Skoumbourdis and Anthony Nicola addressed their peers and their families and shared the most pivotal moments of their school life at St George College. College graduate, Sara Kahsay performed the song Hallelujah to a standing ovation and the ceremony concluded with words of encouragement and many family photos.

The dinner was equally as enjoyable and gave everyone the opportunity to relax and enjoy each other’s company. Glowing speeches followed by our Year 12 SRC, Dimitra Papadopoulos and Dimitrios Lyrtzis as well as Old Scholar and staff member Iliana Toumbas. Even though Iliana was a student at St George a number of years before our SRC, the same messages resonated in both speeches; the sense of community, care for each other and a drive to succeed and live our College motto – FOREVER EXCELLING.

Miss Angela Drakopoulos

Congratulations to our Graduating Class of 2015
Another important event in our College Calendar is the Academic Awards Ceremony. We celebrated many student success stories on Tuesday, 8 December in the Performing Arts and Sports Centre of our Senior Campus.

Awards were presented for Australian and International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS), International Certificates for Attainment in Modern Greek; Year level DUX awards to Years 7-11. The Year 12 DUX will be announced at the inaugural Merit Ceremony in February 2016, following the (South Australian Certificate of Education) SACE results.

Year 12 School Leaver Statements and Year 12 subject awards were also presented, as were the awards for community service. There were a number of senior students acknowledged for their community spirit. Year 10 students; Sarantos Makris, Costa Andresakis and Vladimir Beric assisted their school community on many occasions by setting up and managing sound and music at our school events. Service to their school extended to after hours and weekends and for this we are eternally grateful.

We thank our special guest, Matt Williams MP Federal Member for Hindmarsh who presented the Hindmarsh Shield to Year 11 student Athanasia Angelo for displaying admirable community service.

Heartfelt thanks to all families for their attendance, loyalty and support. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students, their families and staff a Blessed Christmas Season and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Miss Angela Drakopoulos
Acting Head of School (Years 7-12)
Christmas Picnic Party!

The children in Reception P and Reception N had a wonderful festive time at our Christmas Picnic Party!

The children wrote a letter to their parents with requests for special picnic party food and there were lots of Christmas hats, tinsel, hair decorations and reindeer ears in the classroom on Wednesday morning. Here is a snapshot of our favourite parts of the party - Sophia enjoyed the mango ice cream, Amaliah liked eating her chips and fruit and sitting with friends Kristen and Pippi and Andreas liked eating his ice cream and playing chasey with Grace and Grigori. We all enjoyed the gorgeous sunny weather and having the WHOLE block to ourselves to play with the sports equipment after our picnic.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays everyone!

Melanie Newstead
Reception Teacher

Meeting Bruce and Wallace!

Tuesday November 25, 2015

Our learning about the amazing work of Guide Dogs was all put into perspective yesterday when Guide Dog Wallace visited our Preschool with his owner Bruce.

Bruce is a vision impaired man who began to lose his sight at age 40. Wallace is his second Guide Dog companion. Bruce told us about his story and how Wallace has helped him to live a normal life and get around like people with sight. Bruce told us that Wallace takes him to the shops, the post office and knows where all the local bus stops are. We were really impressed! The children asked fantastic questions and learned a lot; like how you are not supposed to pat a Guide Dog when it is wearing its harness.

The children also got to give Wallace a pat when his harness was taken off. We had so much fun!

Some of the questions asked by the children to discover information:

- “Where did you get him (Wallace) from?”
- “Does he (Wallace) sleep?”
- “Can we pat him?”
- “If you (Bruce) put your glasses on, can you see?”
- “How does he (Wallace) know that people are blind?”
- “What things does Wallace help you with?”
- “Did Wallace go to a special puppy school?”
- “How old is Wallace?”

Our Guide Dogs donation tin is still available for your charity in the Preschool. We urge everyone to continue giving to this amazing cause. You never know who blindness will affect; and we can only make lives easier by giving a few dollars here and there. Thank you so much!
**Year 4 Beach Volleyball**

On Friday, 20 November, Mrs Moro’s Year 4 class participated in a Beach Volleyball competition at Glenelg Beach. There were 2 girls and 2 boys teams and they all had a great time getting their feet in the sand and showing off their volleyball skills.

The day began cloudy and students were combating very windy conditions. Finally the sun came out and the SGC teams were able to get a few wins on the board. Unfortunately, neither the boys or girls teams made it to the finals.

Thank you to Mrs Moro for coaching the teams and to Year 8 students Rosa Maru Desta and Ethiopia Bayew for being great umpires.

**Under 11 Netball CHAMPIONS!**

WOW! What a successful year the Under 11 Netball team have had. In their very first season and with many players not having played netball before, the team has achieved something many thought would only be a dream.

The team played in the Grand Final on Thursday, 3 December at St Clair Recreation Centre. Conceding the first goal, it looked like the game was going to be tough, however after Alexia Desyllas scored the first goal for SGC, they were unstoppable. All players played brilliantly and every player did their part to help the team win 12-2 and become the 2015 UNDER 11 DIV. B CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to all the players for their hard work, to the new players for their determination to learn a new sport and improve their skills, to the experienced players for displaying excellent leadership and teamwork skills on the court and lastly to the coach Melissa Desyllas and parent/family supporters who attended every game and supported the team throughout the season.

**Saturday Morning Futsal—Under 12’s**

St George College entered its first Saturday morning Under 12 Futsal team. Playing at Findon Indoor Sports Centre, the players embarked on a fast paced version of soccer but on a smaller field, with a smaller ball and with slightly different rules. The team has competed well and represented the College proudly. The team will have a mid-season break for the Christmas holidays before finishing of the season. Thank you to parent coach Georgia Carapetis and to all the other parents who have been dedicated to the College Co-Curricular Sports Program.

Here is short article written by two of the players Elia Carapetis and Lazar Bojanic:

‘It all started on a Saturday morning at Findon Indoor Sports Centre. When we walked onto the field, our hearts were racing, the whistle blew for kick off and the season started. It was such a experience to play in the same team as our friends for the first time. The season started with a loss but that never stopped us as we have won our way into second position. Playing Futsal with our friends is such a great experience and we are going to keep excelling next season’.

Daniella Marciano
PE Coordinator—Rec to Year 7
VET and Hospitality at St George College

Hermain Cain once said ‘Success is not the key to happiness. If you love what you are doing YOU will be successful’. With these words of wisdom, it is great to see students develop and explore different pathways while still at school. As a teacher I am passionate about students being successful and happy in their lifelong learning and future careers.

Vocational Education and Training (VET) is education and training that gives students skills and knowledge for work. VET enables students to gain valuable employment skills and knowledge and make relevant connections into their chosen industry while completing their SACE.

All VET qualifications are nationally accredited and go towards the SACE. Recognised Certificate III levels may also contribute to the calculation of student’s ATAR.

This year students have completed an array of courses such as:

- Certificate II Hairdressing
- Certificate II Retail Makeup & Skin Care
- Certificate III Fitness
- Certificate III Technical Production
- Certificate I Doorways To Construction
- Certificate II Construction – Plumbing

At St George College we have a fabulous state of the art Trade Training centre that offers VET courses in Hospitality: Certificate II Kitchen Operations and Certificate I Hospitality. Students undertake their training in an exciting, social and team environment.

I am a fully qualified and experienced industry chef, who has worked internationally and locally in 5 star hotels and boutique restaurants.

I work in partnership with TAFESA to deliver nationally accredited competency units in accordance with industry standards to our students. Part of the course requirement, students are required to undertake ten days of structured workplace learning. This allows them to see and experience a real work place and make connections with their learning.

There are limited places available for Certificate II Kitchen Operations in 2016. For more information please contact 8159 8100 or visit http://www.wats.sa.edu.au/.

Caroline Swaffield
VET and Hospitality Coordinator
End of Year Fun and Celebrations

Students in Years 7 to 10 at St George College had the opportunity to participate in the Community Activity Program during Weeks 8 and 9. The program gives students the opportunity to participate in activities that can be found in the local communities as a way to celebrate the end of the year and to reward the students for their efforts. Teachers also ran a variety of activities at College that kept the students engaged.

Students visited the local and not so local community to participate in a wide range of activities including:

- Bowling
- Hiking at Mount Lofty
- Fun and games at the Beach House
- Greenhill’s Adventure Park
- Movies at Greater Union Cinemas—Marion
- Swimming at the Marion Aquatic Centre
- Beach carnival.

Students who remained at College had the opportunity to create Christmas crafts, cook in the Trade Training Centre, participate in chess, quiz and sports competitions and experiment in the science laboratory.

A big thank you to all the staff who assisted in delivering such a wide range of exciting activities for the students to enjoy.

Michael Rodas and Vicki Sakellariou
Community Activity Coordinators