Life Goals

At the beginning of the term, staff was fortunate to spend a day together where we looked at Positive Education and Wellbeing. Within the session, as well as looking at our gifts and abilities, we also discussed accomplishment and what it means to lead an ‘Accomplished Life’.

Our learning on this day included an opportunity to set some personal goals. Goal setting can allow for us to focus our attention and to define what we would like to achieve, steps to take to achieve it, and why we want to achieve it.

Throughout our lives, there are many different goals we might set and things that we might aim to obtain or achieve: financial security; a promotion at work; buying a new house or car; hitting the gym and toning up; finally finishing that one, seemingly-never-ending project... and the list goes on. Once all that hard work comes to fruition, achieving a goal can certainly provide a strong sense of pride and accomplishment.

These types of goals in themselves are not wrong. They are, however, temporal. I have been reminded when reading the bible at different times over the past week that it is important to have an eternal goal and focus at the centre of life. That is Jesus Christ. Time and energy spent on the eternal is never wasted.

From Luke 12:33b-34

‘Make sure your treasure is safe in heaven, where thieves cannot steal it and moths cannot destroy it. Your heart will always be where your treasure is.’

What will you focus your energies and attention on this week?

Submitted by Rebecca Mueller
COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
Beginning next week, I will be offering sessions called Community Conversations. This will be an opportunity for parents and caregivers to meet with me to discuss various aspects of the school. These structured conversations will be held in the Creative Space after Chapel fortnightly on Wednesdays (approximately 9:30am). To enable valuable discussion time, I’d like to limit the group to approximately 20 people. If you are interested in joining me for our first Community Conversation next Wednesday, 17 August at 9:30am, please contact Ann Belcher in the office or at admin@stpaulba.sa.edu.au. After-hours sessions will be offered from time to time, however these sessions work best whilst the school is bustling with activity. So if you work on Wednesdays, please consider fitting a future Community Conversation into your schedule or during a leave day.

POKEMON GO SAFETY
The Pokemon Go App created a huge buzz through the holidays and continues to be incredibly popular as both a game and a media issue. The game has huge potential to get gamers, young and old, outside and active. There are, however, some safety issues that you should be aware of. For example, luring Pokemon through the game also has potential to lure other game players. As with all cyber safety, the best way for parents and caregivers to keep their children safe is to be involved and join the fun. A video about Pokemon Go and safety can be viewed at https://safesmartsocial.com/pokemon-go-parent-app-guide/.

ST PAUL FACEBOOK
To follow on from our website redevelopment last year, we are focusing on regular updates to our Facebook page. We’d love for the entire school community to get on board and like our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/stpaullutheranschoolba/ or search for St Paul from your Facebook page. Please invite your friends to like us too!

PARTY THROUGH THE AGES
The St Paul Parents and Friends Team have been busy preparing for this event on 5 November. Please support the Parents and Friends in the great work that they do by joining the parent community for a fun-filled evening of music, entertainment and games. Please look out for a flyer in your child’s bag today.

Leila Mattner | Principal

EXCURSIONS AND INCURSIONS
Last week saw our Year 1 and Year 2 students enjoy excursions. The Year 1 classes went to the Adelaide Zoo and the Year 2 classes visited Port Adelaide and followed this up with a sleepover at school. These types of experiences allow students to see links between the real world and their classrooms. The ‘Musica Viva’ group also visited us at school last week and ran music workshops for all students. This was a great experience for students to see creativity in action on a professional performance level. Thanks to Mrs Von and the Year 1 and 2 teachers for organising such rich and meaningful learning experiences for our students.

SENSORY PATH
The Year 3 classes have been very busy of late in the garden at the back of the amphitheatre. One of their ideas was to install a sensory path that provides a hidden intimate space where students can enjoy the different odours, surfaces and growing plants in this area. The path, designed to be walked on with bare feet, encourages students to enjoy and feel a variety of materials and use their imagination and creativity in a playful way.

YEAR 5 STUDENTS TAKING ACTION: ODD SOCKS DAY
Last term in their integrated unit of inquiry, the Year 5 class declared war on poverty and waste! This Friday they will share their learning journey at the Year 5 assembly including the ways they took action.
An integral part of deep units of inquiry, the ‘Taking Action’ phase challenges students to take their learning beyond the classroom.

These students have already organised a school wide morning tea fundraiser but this Friday they are asking all members of the community, (you included!) to wear odd socks. This is not a fundraiser, it is an awareness raiser. The students would like you to look and feel a little bit odd, because in their words, ‘Isn’t it odd that poverty still exists in the world today?’ What a great way to spread a simple and yet powerful message in a way that doesn’t cost a cent. Congratulations to these students for taking action and putting poverty at the front of people’s minds for a day.

UNIVERSITY OF NSW MATHS COMPETITION
The University of NSW Maths Competition will be held next Tuesday 16 August in the hall after recess for those students participating.

Jason Fay | Director of Learning

General News

YEAR 5 ACTION: ODD SOCKS DAY
We ask all students to wear odd socks this Friday 12 August to support people living in poverty. We think it would be great if parents and teachers could wear odd socks to school or work on this day too. If people ask why, tell them ‘I think it’s odd that there’s still poverty in the world’.

ADDRESS COLLECTION
Today your child would have brought home a notice regarding address collection by the Government. We will be providing each child’s address to the Government over the coming days in order for our funding levels to be set. Please feel free to contact Robyn Mader should you not want your address details included. There is no student identifier with any address, we are simply providing a list of where our students live.

AFL FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Earlier this term, Nathaniel Keeler represented South Australia at the U12 2016 Schools AFL Championships in Maroochydore, Queensland. Out of 8 teams represented at the carnival, South Australia finished second only to Victoria ... a truly outstanding achievement.

Nathaniel, with the support of his family who watched every game, played in all five games including the grand final and was a fine contributor to his team’s performance.

He reflected on his elite-level experience:

‘I enjoyed the carnival, getting to know a new group of team-mates, but the lead-up training with the focus on tactics and strategies was really good. I feel like I’ve learnt a lot more about the game. The further the carnival went, the better I played. I felt more confident.’

Nathaniel’s coach, Stuart, observed that, ‘Nathaniel has great natural speed and agility and did a lot of good work in the midfield and as a forward’.

Well done Nathaniel! We appreciate your achievements.

BOOK WEEK 2016: DRESS UP DAY
To coincide with Book Week, we will be holding a dress up day based on book characters. This special assembly will be held on Friday 26 August. This is a much anticipated event at St Paul and it is always great to see the vast array of costumes on the day. Students will get an opportunity to parade their costumes during assembly. For students who would like to dress up and participate in the day, they will need to make sure that they have the book with them on which their dress up is based. Students can also come dressed in the Book Week theme “Australia: Story Country”.

Please note: This is not a casual day, if students do not wish to dress up they will need to wear normal school uniform.

I look forward to seeing lots of creative costumes!
OUR VISION:

Connected.
Innovative.
Grounded in Christ.

OUR VALUES:

God’s Word
2 Timothy 3:16-17

Acceptance
Romans 15:7

Excellence
1 Corinthians 10:31

Respect
Luke 6:31

Compassion
1 John 3:18

Hope
Titus 3:7

Community
2 Corinthians 13:13

Love
1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

This year the school will be involved in the Jump Rope for Heart event. Jump Rope for Heart is a major fundraising event for the Heart Foundation.

There will be two options for registering your child and collecting sponsors.

1. Online – using the following link to our schools official jump rope website. Click on http://jumprope.everydayhero.do/jumprope2016/?group=St-Paul-Lutheran-Primary-School-BLAIR-ATHOL-SA-121464 to see our school’s fundraising website.

2. Paper form – sent home with students tomorrow.

We ask for your help and time in supporting the students and school to raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

FATHERS’ DAY RAFFLE

Fathers’ Day is coming and the Parents and Friends Team have put together two raffle prizes. The prizes are on view in the office and by the canteen. Raffle tickets can be purchased from the school office for $1 each or 3 for $2. Thank you for your support.

A Fathers’ Day stall will also be held on Thursday 2 September. This will be a similar format to the Mothers’ Day stall earlier in the year where students will be able to select several small gifts and a card.

TOOLBOX MIDDLE YEARS

Want to have heaps of fun with your kids and create a terrific family team armed with practical solutions for the tricky bits? Toolbox is series of relaxed informal parenting sessions and its focus is on making parenting a really positive experience. The toolbox course includes sessions on: building character, self-esteem and emotional resilience; teaching skills and building memories; blending love with discipline; building trust and increasing responsibility; understanding personality types and challenging behaviours; and making the most of the “tween” years.

• Cost: $20.00 per family, includes workbook
• When: Thursday 25 August to Thursday 30 September
• Time: 9:30am - 11:30am
• Where: Magill Primary School, (OSHC Room), 11 Adelaide Street, Magill
• Register: https://www.trybooking.com/KZMI

An Information will be held on Thursday 18 August at the Magill Primary School OSHC from 9.30am- 10.30am. Please register at https://www.trybooking.com/.