CHANGES: GOD’S OPPORTUNITY TO BLESS

We all have changes in our lives. From day to day we need God to help us get through whatever may come our way. Some days we may be shouting, “Praise God!” while other times we may be crying out, “I need a miracle!” Whatever the day may bring, changes will come and we need to have a Godly mindset in order to handle them.

We all face changes in our lives, with some smaller than others. I felt at one point of my life that I was stuck in rut and nothing new was happening. When I finished University it felt like all the changes were happening at once. I moved out of home, I was renting, I was paying bills, I was responsible for myself in more ways than I had been before, I started working full time and starting teaching for the first time. In the almost 5 years I have been here at Navigator College there has also been more changes than I can list. In my personal life the changes have also continued and I am about to embark on the biggest change of my life. When people say, ‘Oh, having a baby will change your life’. My favourite response is, ‘That is the plan!’ This change is something I have dreamed of nearly my whole life and I don’t think I can feel more ready. I’m not naïve though, as I am sure there will be times I will be extremely challenged. Some changes we are ready for and others we are forced into.

I have come across this acronym for the word changes:

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Wow! We can look at each new day and even each second as an opportunity for God to bless us! Each moment contains a gift from God if we want to look for it. It can be in a smile from someone at work, an encouraging word from a friend, God's Word speaking to our hearts, or a pat on the back from our bosses. The list is endless.

In Malachi 3:6, God says, "For I am the Lord, I change not." Isn't that comforting? With all the changes, there is one thing that cannot change -- GOD. This includes His great love for us.

He also says in His Word,

“So God has given us both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can take new courage, for we can hold on to his promise with confidence” (Hebrews 6:18, The Book).

What has God promised you? He has promised to never leave you nor forsake you, no matter what.

"For the Lord will not cast off His people, neither will He forsake His inheritance" (Psalm 94:14, KJV).

So let the changes come. We will not walk in fear, but in faith! We will trust God with all the changes, and know that He is more than able to help us and that He even has plans to bless us.

Every second, if need be, we can find a blessing. Changes can be our friend. Let’s look for God in them.

Dear Lord we thank you for the challenge that change can pose for us and how change can be the stepping stone to greater things. Although all change cannot be planned for by us, we take comfort in knowing it is Your plan for us.

By Martha Noebel (modified by Naomi Woodstock)
FROM THE PRINCIPAL........

Our deepest sympathies go to Nathan Dunn (yr 10), his father Stephen and brother Justin on the passing of Belinda (Nathan's mother) last weekend. May God heal their grief at this time and provide them all with loving comfort knowing that she is with Him and at peace.

As this term comes to a close we have some staff changes, ready for the new term.

Emma Sharrad will be married to Alan Jones this Saturday, the 13th of April. We wish Emma and Alan God's richest blessings as they start a new chapter in their lives together as husband and wife. In addition we farewell Naomi Woodstock who will be on Maternity leave for the rest of the year. We pray that Naomi and Dave's next chapter together is one filled with love, laughter and happiness as they await the new arrival into their family.

SRC CASUAL DAY – END OF TERM
On Friday (Tomorrow) the SRC would like to hold a Casual Day with a ‘Sporty’ Theme. The cost is a gold coin for this privilege. Proceeds for this event will go towards items the SRC feel we need around the College.

NEW ONLINE REPORTING SYSTEM

After much anticipation, our new online reporting system, Knowledge Community, is just days away from going ‘live’. We thank all parents and caregivers of our Middle & Senior School students for their patience and understanding as we transition to this new system. We hope that from Monday the 15th of April parents of Middle and Senior School students will be able to access their child’s report through the online system using their own personalised access login. These login details will be released via email on Friday the 12th April. If the school does not have your current email address, please ring Isabel Pienaar at the college from Monday 15th April to receive your login details and update your email once in the system.

During the school holidays, Isabel Pienaar will be available at the College to assist you with any issues you may be having logging in or accessing your child’s report. She can be contacted between the hours of 8am and 4pm on our office number (08) 8682 5099.

During Week 1 next term, Andrew Jericho, Isabel Pienaar and Sarah Smith will be running guided tutorial sessions which will provide you with another opportunity to be guided through the system and gain an understanding of the different features available. These sessions will be running between 3.30pm and 6pm on Tuesday 30th of April and Wednesday 1st of May. You can come in at any stage during these time frames for assistance.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
The Junior School teachers have been undertaking Parent Teacher interviews this week. Many wonderful comments have been made to me regarding the amazing learning that has developed this term and I would like to commend our teachers on their diligence and hard work throughout what has been an extremely busy term. I also commend our students who have shown enthusiasm and persistence in their work, which is a credit to them. Middle School and Senior School Parent Teacher interviews will be held in Week 2 next term.

As we close this term with our last newsletter I would like to thank you all for a wonderful term's start to our school year and wish you all safe and blessed holidays.

God bless, Kaye

NAVIGATOR COLLEGE CRICKET
The Port Lincoln Primary School Cricket season has finished for Season 2012/13 with the Gators winning many more games than they lost... All boys worked diligently on their skills and improved immensely as the season continued

The highlight was seeing the families sharing in fun and fellowship and also the smiles on the boys faces. Thank you again to all the parents for the continual support throughout the year.

Steve Jude, Cricket Coach

POSITIONS VACANT

NAVIGATOR COLLEGE – TERM 2

Student Welfare Worker

Navigator College is seeking a Student Welfare Worker for a contract, part-time position commencing in Term 2 2013. We require a person with Post Secondary Qualifications in Student Counselling and/or relevant field. Must demonstrate a strong commitment to the Christian ethos of Lutheran Schools. Person must be responsive to the academic, social, emotional, physical and spiritual needs of the students, staff and families of the College.

Curriculum Support Officer

Navigator College is seeking a Curriculum Support Officer for a contract part-time position commencing in Term 2 2013. A Certificate in Education/Children’s Services (or equivalent), with experience, will be a distinct advantage.

Enquiries:

If you would like to confidentially discuss aspects of the positions being offered, please do not hesitate to contact the school. If telephoning, please ask in the first instance to speak to the Principal’s Assistant. E-mail enquiries are encouraged via dmoseby@navigator.sa.edu.au

Applications Close for both positions: 3rd of May 2013
TERM 1 REFLECTIONS – Stuart Cox, Head of Senior School

It is amazing to reflect on the term that is finishing and marvel at all the events that we as a community engage. In reflection I say “My goodness how did we fit all that in?” Importantly though we remain focused on our calling - the reason we are here and this is not just from the perspective of an educator but from the perspective of members of the community, teachers, students and families.

The Year 12 students have been busy aligning themselves to the rigor of study at a Year 12 level and the Year 12 teachers are aligning themselves to the support and facilitation of curriculum that will direct the students towards their future career paths. To Year 12 families, most of whom are new to having a child studying at this level, we say hang in there. Offer the support your child needs, direct them to the people who can assist them in their questioning and help them to see the short period of time that is Year 12 and that it will all conclude very quickly. It is timely to remind the students of this as we enter into the holiday period that the rigors of Year 12 should not stop. It is important that our Year 12 students remain focused and keep the end result in mind. This being said a balance of life is needed to rejuvenate and recharge to maintain good health. Finding a balance that meets all of the necessary criteria needed throughout this year is the difficult part.

On Wednesday the 1st of May (Week One Term Two) there will be a retreat at Trinity Haven for our Year 12 students to continue forming relationships as a cohort. This is also an important time for the students, as it comes at a time of self realisation as the first term has concluded and the students have had to make many personal changes to their perception of study. I have two presenters organised for the day and evening both of whom come from Adelaide and both have had significant time in Secondary schools. The proposed outcomes are: to gain perspective, to build personal and spiritual relationship, and to re-address study habits. The event promises to be a great starting point to develop capacity in everyone, ready for the new term.

This week two of our student leaders will be heading to Adelaide for the Lutheran Schools student leaders forum. This is a great opportunity for our students to engage with other student leaders that will allow them to visualise the size of Lutheran Education in South Australia, allow them to create networks of people for the present and future and enable them to develop the leadership skills through the engaging presenters at the forum. This will be an exciting event for our students and we look forward to hearing their experiences.

Our Year 11 Service Learning activity has begun the planning phase and we are pleased with the initial response from the students and families. We held a Parent Information evening for interested families and I thank Hayden Ellis for his presentation of how the trip affected him personally. It was very informative and raised the eyebrows of a few parents when he told of the positive changes to his family life. Student numbers have been concluded and the flights have been booked. This year we have also invited two significant people to come to us from Indonesia in the first week of Term Two. The Principal of SMA school, Jintan Saragih, and the Education Secretary National Committee of LWF, Indonesia, Ridwin Purba, will be here for us to continue forging our Port Lincoln/ Pemetang Siantar relationship. The 2012 Year 11 students will look forward to catching up with these individuals as they were significant contributors to our visit last year. They will also form part of a Indonesian Cultural evening on Tuesday the 30th of April for Year 11 students and families attending the Service Learning trip, 2013.
We have celebrated this term with object lessons during chapel and Pastor Ben has engaged the students with thought provoking sermons. As a formal aspect of our school these chapels are open to all the families of the school, not just the students. It is always a great time for all of us to be thankful of the gifts we are given and to share in Gods’ Word.

You would have already heard about the great Sports Day we had. It was a fantastic time for those who understand that we are all about ‘community,’ to celebrate each of the achievements that were gained by those that participated. It must be noted that Ferdinand, the Magellan mascot made a guest appearance. He was dressed in the team colours thanks to Sue Thiel and handled or trained to walk on lead by Dereck McDonald. To each of these people a heartfelt thank you as the students enjoyed the surprise.

Friday 3rd of May is the inaugural Year 12 Formal, a glamorous event where the students can dress to impress, the paparazzi can click their cameras and the students can strut the red carpet. We are all looking forward to this event.

As you can see from this calendar of events we are a vibrant and active community. We celebrate culture and life in the knowledge that God is provider of everything. We are a wonderful community of people who celebrate education and the possibilities this can bring.

I wish all our families time to reflect and gather themselves prepared to engage in the next term but more so that they acknowledge the gifts they have been given and share the wonders of life and community.

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**WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN**

Navigator College will once again participate in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Last year’s participation and the generous contribution of Navigator families & friends earned our college a large number of points which could be converted to wonderful resources for curriculum areas such as mathematics and literacy. The Navigator Resource Centre received many high quality big books and a beautiful carpet.

Woolworths Earn & Learn started this week and it’s simple to participate: When shopping at Woolworths Earn & Learn points can be collected from the checkout operator and placed on Woolworths Earn & Learn sheets. There will be 1 Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every $10 spent. Once completed sheets can be placed in the Navigator College collection box or taken to the administration office at Navigator College. The promotion goes from 8th of April to the 9th of June 2013. Thank you for supporting our college in earning valuable resources in the coming weeks!

Uta Ennecking-McQuillan
Earn & Learn coordinator