Being a Positive Influence

Throughout the last week I have reflected on the people who have been a positive influence in my life. My thoughts centred around my family and friends and I found myself thinking about the ways that they have shaped me as a person. I then considered how as a teacher I have the ability to be a positive influence on the lives of my students. *It is through striving for excellence and integrity in our own lives that we can set a positive example for those around us.*

Even as adults, we are all influenced by other people and we all have an influence on others. Whether it is within the family structure, with friends or in our work place, there is always a group of people that is impacted by our words and actions. Sometimes this influence is positive and sometimes it can be negative.

Everyone has an area of influence. You may not realise it or be aware of it, but there are people that are able to observe your actions and are impacted by your choices. While we cannot make a decision for someone else, we can be aware of the influence that we have on people. If we continue to strive for excellence and integrity in our own lives, then we can only be setting a positive example for those around us.

Consider who is in your area of influence. Be willing to discern who you can gain wisdom from and how you can encourage and lead those who are willing to follow you.

*Titus 2:7 “Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works and show in your teaching integrity, dignity and sound speech that cannot be condemned.”*
What a busy week we are having! It’s Book week and all manner of fun events are happening this week.

As we celebrate Book Week this week, we do so with many other public libraries and schools around Australia. We are celebrating the 69th Book Week, the longest running children’s festival in Australia. This year’s theme is ‘Connect to reading’, a very fitting theme for our College as we have just implemented an extensive literacy program. This was introduced to the Navigator staff by Ms Margaret Menner, an internationally renowned literacy expert, who shared her experience with the staff during Professional Development week in July.

**LOOSE CHANGE FOR A CAUSE CHALLENGE**

Last Friday the Year 11 Service Learning Team ran a loose change challenge to raise money for our partnership College, GKPS. The students from across the whole College were lining up a collection of coins on a word and symbol drawn out with chalk on the ground. The challenge was to try and fill up every letter of the word and all parts of the symbol with coins which will then be collected up and put towards our funds for GKPS and will go towards purchasing bunk beds for the boarding house. A huge congratulations to everyone involved and to all who supported this event, as we raised $860. Just a reminder that Chapel offerings will continue to go towards this very worthy cause.

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

A huge congratulations goes to Nathan and Sarah Wohling on the birth of their second baby Ebony Jane. We wish you all every blessing as you continue this exciting journey in your lives.

God bless
Kaye
A FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY WITH ANZ
We’ve been given the opportunity to strengthen our support for the Navigator College Incorporated through a referral program with ANZ Bank. For every drawn home loan referred to ANZ, we will earn an upfront commission (up to 0.5% of the eligible ANZ loan amount actually approved and drawn).

With this additional income, we hope to continue to grow and benefit the community through Navigator College Incorporated.

To find out more, including terms and conditions, call ANZ Port Lincoln Branch Manager, on (08) 8682 5402. Alternatively, see Liz Smith for a Referral Form.

BOOK CLUB
Many thanks for the wonderful response to the Book Club this term. Orders should be sent back to the College shortly where they will be distributed through your child’s class. If for any reason you do not receive your order please contact the library.

If you requested that orders be collected by the Parent/Caregiver, then they will be available for collection at Student Services once the orders arrive. As a result of your wonderful support, the library has received over $500 in free books and we thank you for your continuing support.

Annette Mesecke & Uta McQuillan, Librarians

2014 HORIZON MAGAZINE COVER COMPETITION
We would like to invite all those budding designers out there to create a cover for our 2014 Navigator Horizon Magazine. The competition is open to all Navigator students from Reception to Year 12.

The theme this year is the Navigator Journey. The design can be in any medium, photography, collage, drawing, sculpture or a mixture. We would like it to be A4 sized (portrait). For further details see your Home Group teacher.

Entries can be delivered to Student Services and the closing date is Friday August 29th 2014. The winning entrants will have their design on the front cover as an inspirational introduction to our fantastic 2014 Navigator magazine.

Horizon Magazine Committee

2014 MAGAZINE SPONSORSHIP
Navigator College will be publishing its 2014 College Magazine later this year which will be an overview of College activities and events throughout the year. In order to offset the printing costs, we are asking local businesses and organisations to sponsor our 2014 Magazine. The following two sponsorship options are available: $110 for a business size advertisement in the magazine and $330 for a 1/3 page advertisement. All adverts are GST inclusive and a receipt will also be issued for taxation purposes. Please contact the College Front Office if you are interested in advertising in our 2014 Horizon College Magazine. Local businesses will be contacted via a letter in the near future. If you have a business ‘contact’ who might be interested please let us know. Thank you in anticipation.

HOMESTAY PROGRAM
Navigator College offers a Homestay Program for students who cannot commute to the College daily. The Homestay Program involves families in Port Lincoln who are willing to board students during the school term. These students will require board for five days per week. The host family will receive payment from the family of the boarding student, according to the guidelines set out by Navigator College.

If you are interested in hosting a student please contact Mark Thiel on 8684 2012 or the College on 8682 5099, or call into the Front Office for an information booklet.

BORROWED ITEMS
Anyone who has borrowed spare clothes, including ties from the Sick Room, could you please return these items as soon as possible to Student Services.

LOST PROPERTY
Just a reminder to check lost property when you have misplaced an item at College. We have plenty of items that have been left here such as jumpers, lunchbox containers, headbands and reading glasses.

Thank you
Student Services
The **International Baccalaureate** (IB) is an academic programme that we offer in our Primary and Middle Years at Navigator College. This high quality curriculum is internationally recognised and represents education systems from many different countries, rather than one national system.

A major aim of the International Baccalaureate is to promote international mindedness. This means that the students develop an understanding of not only their own cultural and national identity, but also the identity of those who live in other countries. Our curriculum equips students with the skills to live and work with others internationally, which is essential for life in the 21st century.

The IB programmes are accessible to students in 148 different countries. Navigator College is one of 152 IB World Schools in Australia and we are the only one on the Eyre Peninsula. The programme is taught in an ‘inquiry’ style approach where the students are encouraged to take action as a result of their learning. The programme in essence is designed to equip our students with the skills they need to be life-long learners.

IB schools enable the students to direct their own learning with opportunities to investigate personal interests. This does not mean that the students have total control over lessons, but through their questions and discussions they are able to contribute to the direction of the unit. This type of curriculum encourages a positive attitude to learning by encouraging the students to ask challenging questions, to reflect, to develop vital research skills, and to learn how to learn. Community service is also encouraged as the IB believes that there is more to learning than academic studies alone.

The Primary Years Programme (PYP) is delivered to students from Reception to Year 5. The PYP in particular focusses on helping students to develop methods of inquiry so that they can use critical thinking skills and ask questions. The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is delivered to students from Year 6 to Year 10. This program helps students to connect themselves with the wider world.
Schools are busy places. You only have to look at the events that occurred over the last week, and the size of this newsletter, to realise plenty goes on. In the busyness it is often a good opportunity to stop and reflect on what schools and in our case Lutheran schools are about.

Lutheran Education Australia promotes that our Lutheran schools “aim to encourage and support students, informed and sustained by the word of God, to develop their God-given talents so that they may shape and enrich the world.” (LEA, 2005) As an IB PYP school, we are about “developing inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.” (IBO, 2009) Parents in the past have expressed their need for their students to feel happy and safe and to achieve their potential.

I have done quite a bit of reflection over the last few days and I believe that the key to the development of these objectives is relationships.

We want students to develop good relationships. Good relationships with their teachers, with their friends and with all other classmates, despite their differences. We want the students to witness healthy relationships between their parents and their teachers, and between all members of staff.

As an IB PYP school many of the learner profile attributes and attitudes centre around the development of healthy relationships.

As a Lutheran school we subscribe to the Lutheran values, which at the core involve relationships. But ultimately, we want our students to experience a relationship with God. This is our model for how to love others, how to serve others and how to look out for others.

When we develop these excellent relationships, it is then that we can begin to achieve our true potential. As we get caught up in the busyness, let’s not lose sight of what Navigator College is really about. The development of excellent relationships.

Steve Jude
Head of Junior School

**FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL.....**

**LEARNING TO READ COFFEE MORNING**

Tuesday, 2nd of Sept
8:45-9:30am
Multipurpose Room

Junior school staff and parents who attended Margaret Menner’s reading workshop were so inspired by her workshop that we would like some more families to learn how your child can become a life-long reader. Come and escape the cold with a coffee and warm your hearts as you discover some of the key elements to supporting successful reading at home.

Please note: There will be no Junior school classroom reading on this morning so you can attend this session. To register your interest, please call the front office to RSVP.

Even if your child is already an excellent reader you will still find this valuable!

“The workshop was fantastic. The strategies we learnt for reading at home, has already resulted in positive changes in our household. My son is enjoying reading so much more.” – Parent comment
Words of affirmation can transform a person’s belief about what they are capable of. There are most likely people in your life right now who have never been told “You are a winner! I believe in you.” People you work with, play sport with, classmates or family. In his book I Declare, Joel Osteen tells the story of Henry Ford, the inventor of the motor car. Ford was at a point where no one had encouraged his idea. He had just about convinced himself to give up when he met Thomas Edison, one of the greatest minds that ever lived. Ford was introduced to Edison as “the man trying to build a car that runs on gasoline.” When he heard it, his face brightened up. He hit his fist on the table and said “You’ve got it! A car that runs on its own power plant; that’s a brilliant idea!” This approval was a turning point in Ford’s life. The rest is history.

It is amazing the confidence and faith that can be generated by the declaration of approval by those around us. We can give this declaration for others.

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up…” 1 Thessalonians 5:10

One of the declarations from Joel Osteen’s book I Declare goes like this, speak it out as you read it:

I DECLARE I am a people builder. I will look for opportunities to encourage others to bring out the best in them and to help them accomplish their dreams. I will speak words of faith and victory, affirming them, approving them, letting them know they are valued. I will call out their seeds of greatness, helping them to rise higher and become all that God created them to be. This is my declaration.

My charge to all this week is this:

Be the person who speaks faith and affirmation into someone else today. Be the person, by your words, to transform their doubts about themselves into confidence and hope.

WHATS HAPPENING IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School Assembly was a point of celebration this week. This followed on from the presentation of ICAS Certificates at Chapel.

Pictured to the right are those who received Merit Awards for their effort, attitude and achievement. Back: Chelsea Hart, Kaleb Bryant, Hayden Carey, Bryce Sellen, Greta Kennedy and Lauryn Farmer.

Front: Tristan Binder, Leah Musolino, Jazlyn Miller, Maleah Higgins and Lexyee Kolpondinos.

Andrew Jericho
Head of Middle School
RESPECT FOR SELF
Quite often we are challenged by conforming to the way of community. As we grow together in community we are required to compromise our desires in order to maintain a harmonious relationship with others. Those of us who are married would acknowledge this and those of us who have been married for a long period of time would understand the need for a continuation compromise. When I look back on my life I see the changes I have made to myself have been a direct response to my interactions with others and predominantly with my wife. These interactions have made me a better person and more respectful of the things I have. When I look at the College and all the needs we, as staff and as students have to conform too, I see the same or similar attributes arising.

Whilst we sometimes are challenged by conformity and use examples of losing individuality, not being able to be myself or I am constrained by my inability to express myself. I would argue that these are all valid responses but there are times when conformity works to the greater good of all. Whilst I am not professing that we should at all times follow others, that would lead to a boring existence, more so it is looking at the needs of others and supporting them rather than focusing on a selfish individuality that has no concern for the rights of others. I see conforming as a shared responsibility to co-exist.

Here at Navigator College we have rules and regulations, some we are mandated to abide and others the leadership have devised in order to set a standard of shared responsibility for our community. These we have coined as the Foundations for Success – Respect, Communication, Learning and Safety. Every aspect of school life revolves around a community conforming to these principles. With these principles in place everyone in our community has a set of rules to follow. Sometimes we fall short of meeting these principles. Sometimes we challenge these principles, but all the time we need to remember we are in community and therefore we have a responsibility to conform our individual wants to the needs of others.

SENIOR SCHOOL HAPPENINGS
Subject selection forms are now due for all students entering Years 10-12. I look forward to seeing the mix of subjects we will offer based on student choices next year. I am excited to see that students are choosing Allied Health subjects as we see the Trade Skills Centre rise out of the ground.

In a wonderful exercise by Mrs Sarah Smith the Indonesian request for beds is slowly becoming a reality. A coin line was placed outside the multipurpose room and raised $860 towards the beds. A big thank you goes out to Mrs Sarah Smith for the initiative and to all who laid a coin in support of this worthy cause. The Service Learning participants began learning an Australian song to perform to the SMA GKPS School. A daunting task but a very worthy one.

Stuart Cox
Head of Senior School
The Science and Engineering Challenge is an outreach program conducted nationally by the University of Newcastle, designed to inspire Year 10 students to study science and mathematics at a senior level. Students compete in school teams, participating in a series of exciting activities that are designed to demonstrate the varied and practical elements of a career in science- and engineering-related fields. Currently in its thirteenth year, the Challenge takes students out of the classroom and provides them with a memorable day of fun, teamwork and discovery.

This year our team consisted of a mixed group of Year 10 students. We travelled to Whyalla on the Tuesday afternoon and spent the night at Samaritan College. The Challenge was held at the Leisure Centre in Whyalla. It started at 9.00 am and finished at 3.00pm Wednesday.

The Navigator team competed against other Eyre Peninsula schools during the day in different activities like: Bridge building, Electra city, Helter Skelter Shelter, Flight, Catapult, Hover Frenzy, Mission to Mars and Huff Puff golf. Students were grouped in teams of three. Our team had a few practise sessions to ensure that they were prepared for the day.

Throughout the day scores for each school were announced. That made the day quite nerve wrecking but motivated our students to step up and do their best. Our bridge building team had outstanding results when the strength test was done on the bridges of all the different teams in front of all the judges, staff and students (highlight of the day). We won the bridge challenge and our “engineers” were ecstatic about the achievement. We performed well in a number of the activities and the students were really involved and gave their best. When the final scores were read and our Navigator team came THIRD, we were all very excited about this improved achievement this year.

I am very proud of our Navigator team’s behaviour, commitment and perseverance that they showed in the challenges. We are looking forward to participating next year and we will be aiming for first place.

Francois Pienaar (Student Development/VET/Careers Coordinator)

Back row left to right: Ms Jenni Morel (Teacher), Eliza Patrick, Ebony Miller, Kate Grainger, Isabella Meyer, Brianna Crook, Nick Constantinopolous, Tyla Hunt, Ruby Gassner, Samuel Farmer, Joel Averay & Mr Francois Pienaar (Student Development Coordinator).

Front row left to right: Imogen Slater, Hannah Versteeg, Jasmine Slater, Juliette Tsesmelis, Ellen Cooper, Jesse Potts, Dana McFarlane, Hannah Marshall and Skye Wright.
If Fairness is one of the 24 character strengths in Martin Seligman’s theory of a Flourishing Life. Treating people fairly is one of your abiding principles. You do not let your personal feelings bias your decisions about other people. You give everyone a chance.

- Fairness falls under the virtue category of justice. Justice describes strengths that make life fair. They are broadly interpersonal and describe the best interaction between the individual and a group or community.
Fairness is a cognitive judgment capacity that involves reasoning and making judgments. It involves two types of reasoning:

- **Justice reasoning** which emphasises logic and weighing principles to determine moral rights and responsibilities
- **Care reasoning** which includes empathy and compassion; the ability to put yourself in somebody else’s shoes.

Self-monitor to see whether you think about or treat people (staff, students and parents, people of other ethnicities and cultures) stereotypically. The next time you make a mistake, self-monitor to see whether you admit it. We have to reflect regularly on how we respond to people and try to improve where we went wrong.

Fairness is a high priority at Navigator College. We want to instil the true meaning of fairness with our students and as teachers we endeavour to live out fairness in our everyday daily tasks.

It is our objective at Navigator College to improve the overall positivity by embedding Positive Psychology into our daily programs and interactions. Students are involved in positivity activities in their home classes which improve the overall happiness of students and staff.

Francois Pienaar
Student Development/ VET/ Careers Coordinator
Muroto Visit 2014