From Pastor Gus

Welcome to a new year at Holy Trinity!

A new year, a whole new beginning.

It’s a new beginning for all of us. A new beginning for our Foundation children. A new beginning for teachers who are new to our school. And a new beginning for those families who are new to our School community.

Welcome to you all. We know that you will all bring blessings to us and we pray that we may also be a blessing to you all.

All of our lives consist of a beginning – our birth. And an end – our physical death. What is in between is the journey, the process of living and growing. In the day to day, common ordinary things that make up so much of our life. And there is a whole lot packed into that!

Our God knows no beginning – and to him there is no end. He even reveals himself to Moses as ‘I AM WHO I AM.” (Exodus 3:14) Notice the present tense used! God is the ever present eternal reality.

And yet in Jesus he has a beginning – a human birth. He has the journey, his life. And he has the end – his death. That was what he came for! The angel said to Joseph: ‘you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.’ (Matthew 1:21)

Jesus suffered, died and rose again to secure for us the forgiveness of sins. He died in punishment for the wrongdoing which holds us captive. Every day we fall – Jesus lifts us up again. Every day we fail – Jesus gives us another chance.

Every day we may even grieve at disappointing ourselves. Jesus gives new opportunities and new beginnings.

That means we need to let go of the past. And embrace the present and the future with God’s presence and his power and his help. Through the Holy Spirit who makes Jesus’ presence real for us.

We don’t know what the new year holds. But we know that God holds us and in Jesus he walks with us in this new beginning. Our new beginning. The new beginning which is the gift of our ever present God in his grace.

Ever present Lord Jesus, be with us and bless us in this new school year. Amen.

Prayer Points

We pray for:

- All the new families who have joined our school.
- Our new staff, Chloe, Natalie, Meagan, Liz, Tanya, Matthew McLoughlin, Jacqui, Nicole and Kate

In our prayers this week

Our School families
- Monday February 8th
  - Joel & Kim Adams and family
  - David & Elizabeth Allen and family
- Tuesday February 9th
  - Nathan & Kristy Altman and family
  - Mark & Amenze Amilegbe and family
- Wednesday February 10th
  - Benita Appleby and family
  - Jarred & Shannon Arnott and family
- Thursday February 11th
  - Mark Ashburn & Melissa Douglas and family
  - Paul & Sharon Atherton and family
- Friday February 12th
  - Michael Adamu & Georgia Bailey and family
  - Chris & Cathy Baker and family

Worship Services

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<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>HTLS - Chapel</td>
<td>Friday 5th</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>Holy Trinity Church</td>
<td>Sunday 7th</td>
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<td>HTLS &amp; Installation</td>
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<td>February</td>
<td>- HTLS &amp; Installation of HTLS Staff &amp; Council</td>
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<td>Vectis Lutheran Church</td>
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Diary Dates

- 9th February
  - Pancake Day - recess
  - Parent Information Night 7pm
- 9th February
  - First Lunch Order Day-Yr 6-9
- 11th February
  - First Canteen (whole school) & Lunch Order Day - F-Yr 5
- 12th February
  - Family BBQ 6.30pm
- 15th February
  - PFTA Meeting 3:30pm
- 16th, 17th & 18th February
  - Parent Teacher Interviews 3.30 - 6pm
- 23rd February
  - Hong Kong visitors arrive

Julia helps her brother Ryan settle in to school

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From the Principal
Welcome back to another brand new school year and a very special welcome to families, especially students, who are new to our school. May your time with us be richly blessed. It has been great to see the children at school this week and there are many stories being told, friendships renewed and handball battles resumed. This year our student enrolment is 428 and it was fantastic to see an almost full hall for our Opening Service last week.

The teachers and support staff have been very busy planning and preparing and we pray that this year will be one of growth, excitement and full of opportunities that encourage your child to develop their talents, skills and attitudes.

This year we welcome Miss Chloe Davis (Yr 3), Miss Natalie Lienert (FL), Miss Meagan Silvers (FS), Miss Liz Doyle (Middle School), Mrs Tanya Mock (Middle School) and Mr Matthew McLoughlin (Middle School) as teachers. We also welcome Mrs Jacquie Nuttal and Mrs Nicole Fischer as part-time Teacher Aides. Mr Wallace will welcome an assistant, a new Finance Officer Mrs Kate Matuschka. I know that the skills and expertise they have will add to the rich academic, co-curricula and organizational programmes that we have at Holy Trinity.

Principal Chan and 28 other visitors from Hong Kong will be arriving on Tuesday 23rd February for a week of fellowship, learning and exciting new experiences. Please make them feel very welcome. Last week a letter seeking Host Families for our Hong Kong visitors was sent home and I ask you to consider this wonderful opportunity carefully. Please return your form by tomorrow if you are interested in being a host family. Our Yr 6 tour of Hong Kong will take place from Tuesday 15th March to Wednesday 23rd March.

Mr Surridge, Mrs Kerrie Pietsch and Mrs Kate Matuschka will accompany myself and 14 students on this experience of a lifetime.

Our Middle School continues to grow and we will be going to tender shortly for Stage 2a. We anticipate that this will be completed by October when Stage 2b will commence.

Mr. Jeff Gork
Principal

HTLS - Family Barbecue
All school families are warmly invited to our Family BBQ, which is being held on Friday 12th February. It begins at 6.30pm, and will be held in the school grounds. Please bring your own picnic rugs or chairs, and cool drinks (beer and wine are permitted). Order forms for sausages and hamburgers have been distributed. Come along for an evening of fun and fellowship, and meet the new families and staff.

Chapel
Chapel is held every Friday morning in the hall. Chapel for Junior Primary is held at 9.00am and Middle School at 11:30am. Parents are welcome to join us. During the year each class participates in Chapel. The Chapel roster is published in the newsletter.

Chapel Offerings
As part of our philosophy at HTLS we encourage students to be mindful of people less fortunate than themselves. Bringing a small offering to Chapel on Fridays is a wonderful way to display this. Chapel offerings are donated to various charities throughout the year.

House Captain Speeches
House meetings will be held tomorrow, Friday the 5th of February to elect Sports Captains for 2016. Best of luck to the students presenting their speeches.

Pancake Day
Next Tuesday, 9th February, we will hold a Pancake day to raise funds for Uniting Care. Pancakes will be supplied to all students and staff at recess, for a gold coin donation. Gluten, egg and dairy free pancakes will be available.

Uniting Care will be using funds raised to support the homeless, abused and vulnerable children and adults, the frail aged, families in crisis and people with disabilities.

Parent Information Night
Tuesday 9th February, 2016
The evening will commence at 7pm. There will be two 30 minute sessions in each classroom.

Carpark, Pick Up & Drop Off
Parents please remember when dropping off and picking up your child/ren to always set a good example; by being patient and courteous; by never walking across the middle of the carpark behind parked cars; and use staffed crossings and paths. The drop off lane is only to be used when students can confidently get in and out of the car by themselves. When exiting the drop off lane please give way to buses/cars.

Hats
As we are a Sunsmart School, hats must be worn outside at all times. Please remind your child to pack their hats, and please ensure all hats are named.

Preps - Reminder
Reminder to parents that Foundation students do not attend school on Wednesdays for the next 4 weeks. Their first Wednesday will be Wednesday 9th March.

Parent/Teacher Interviews
Parent/Teacher/Student interviews will be held at 3.30 - 6pm on Tuesday 16th, Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th February. Further details regarding booking online will be issued soon.

Fees
Fee statements have been issued and should be paid promptly. Fee statements will now be sent home with students, please advise the office if this arrangement is not suitable.

Bus Travellers
We keep accurate and up to date daily lists of all students travelling home on school buses, to ensure that children don’t get left behind. If a student isn’t marked off as boarding their bus, then the bus is held up until the child is located. If your child is normally on the bus and will not be travelling home on it, the school office must be notified before 3pm. A note may be sent in via the office tray.

Lutheran Laypeople’s League
Students are welcome to open a passbook account with the LLL. Account opening forms are available at the office. Deposits can be made into LLL bank accounts every Monday at school, through the office tray system.
Office Trays
We have an office tray system as a means of communication between classrooms, parents and the office. Any notes from parents can be placed in the office tray in each classroom in the mornings, which will then be forwarded to the office. The trays are then returned to classrooms each afternoon so that students collect and take home any notes from teachers or the office.

Parents, Friends & Teachers Association
The first meeting of the PTFA for the year will be held on Monday 15th February at 3.30pm in the staff room. Everyone is welcome and we would love to see some new faces. If anyone has an agenda item for the meeting please email Merrilyn Koch on gregkoch@ozisp.com.au by Monday 8th February. If you’d like more information please contact
Pres:  Kerri Nichols 0429 810774
Sec:  Merrilyn Koch 0402 811990

Wimmera Machinery Field Days
The school will be operating Kiosk 2 at the field days on the 1st, 2nd & 3rd March, 2016. This is a major fundraiser for the school and will involve serving BBQ food and drinks. The school is looking for volunteers over these three days. If you are able to assist, please complete and return the roster (sent home today) by Friday 19th February. For further details contact Kerri Nichols 0429 810774.

Skoolbag App
‘Skoolbag’ is an App which allows parents and the school to communicate more effectively and efficiently. Parents can download the App from the ‘Apple App Store’ or the ‘Google Play Store’ by searching for ‘Holy Trinity Lutheran School.’ This is a free app. Absences can be notified by this app and often the school sends out alerts.

Uniform Shop
The uniform shop is open Tuesdays 3-4pm and Fridays 9-10am.

Uniform may be ordered via an order form sent to school with your child, along with the payment. Items ordered will then be sent home with your child. Order forms can be downloaded from Skoolbag or the office.

Scholastic Bookclub
Bookclub brochures will be going home with students this week. These are distributed twice a term, and they offer books, software, games, activity packs, etc. at reasonable prices. Parents should feel under no obligation to purchase from the brochures, but may like to take the opportunity to develop or extend their child’s interest in reading. Our school receives Reading Reward points from each purchase. These points enable us to choose new books at no cost to the school. All orders for this edition of the Bookclub must be returned to school via the office trays, by Friday, 12th February. Cheques should be made payable to ‘Scholastic Australia’. Credit cards may also be used. For more information, contact Kay Schultz, Library Assistant.

Lost Jumper
Gabrielle Igros has lost her named size 6 woollen jumper, please check your child/ren have their own jumper.

Lucky Banker
Romy, pictured below is the Lutheran Lucky Banker for this week. A weekly prize will be awarded to a student who makes a deposit with the Lutheran Laypeople’s League.

Canteen & Lunch Orders will commence next week.

Lunch Orders
There will be a change with lunch orders this year. Foundation to Year 5 will continue to order their lunches on Thursdays. Years 6 to 9 students will order on Tuesdays. Lunch orders are delivered by local coffee lounge Thipatyi. Canteen bags and a new price list will be sent out to each family shortly. If you do not wish to order lunches please return your canteen bags to the school office. Canteen lunch order bags need to be filled out and have correct money enclosed, and sent to school with your child on the appropriate mornings. Your child is to place their order in the canteen box in the classroom before 9am. The canteen boxes are collected by Thipatyi Coffee Lounge at 9.30am, orders are filled and lunches are delivered back to school at lunch time. More bags are available from the office.

Canteen
At recess time each Thursday the school canteen will be open to the whole school, with snacks and drinks for sale. Snacks include fresh fruit skewers, homemade goodies, hedgehog, rumballs, packs of tiny teddies, bbq shapes, snakatas, noodle snacks, iced marie biscuits, zooper doopers and drinks etc. Parents are welcome to send money to school with their child/ren to buy snacks at recess.

A school canteen menu and price list will also be sent home shortly.

Canteen Volunteer forms
A canteen volunteer form will be distributed shortly. This form asks for volunteers to help run the canteen at recess time on Thursdays. One helper is required for approximately one hour (from 10.30-11.30am) so it’s a great chance for all parents to have a go. Please fill out the roster sheet and hand it in to the office as soon as possible so rosters can be finalised. It would be great to see some new faces helping out, plus children love seeing mum or dad serving in the canteen at recess time. We also require parents to make hedgehog and rumballs at home (main ingredients are supplied). If you can help with this, please fill out the form and hand it back to the office.

Jenny Maroske
Canteen Co-Ordinator
Phone 5382 7912
From the Counsellor

Two of my three children were born nearly exactly one year apart. This has made for some entertaining times on the home front, but now the real fun has begun with them entering school. My daughter is in year one this year, and my son just began his first year in prep. The whole prep experience for my two children has been very different. Last year, getting through the school day was a real challenge for my daughter. Most days she was in tears and it took nearly the whole year for her to adjust and enjoy school. Thus I was maybe a little nervous about how my middle child would go starting prep. He’s a pretty cruiser kid and loved going to kinder, but on the morning of the first day of school he dissolved into tears and told me he didn’t want to go. Unfortunately, this all came about approximately two minutes before I was headed out the door to work. I’d like to say I was able to share some profound words of wisdom that changed his mind, but all I managed was a quick “Sorry buddy, everything will be fine. Your big sister will look after you”. Quick kiss and hug whilst wiping away tears and I was off. Cue all-day mummy guilt and imagery of my son in tears, rocking in the foetal position in his classroom. However, when I arrived home he was able to tell me that everything was ok, he discovered he actually liked his teacher and got to do some pretty fun things while he was there. So far, so good; however anxiety in children is a pretty common occurrence.

Since the start of school I’ve seen quite a few anxious students. Whether the child is an anxious preppie, beginning school as a new student, or maybe anxious about starting in a new classroom with a new teacher, it is very common for children to experience some type of anxiety at the beginning of the school year. A bit of anxiety is good for us because it allows us to become more resilient and assists us with finding ways to naturally work through change. The anxiety will usually pass as the child becomes used to the routines, teachers and friendship groups. Some things that can help in the meantime include; working through “What’s the worst that can happen?” and then have a plan for that. Try to re-direct attention away from their worries and focus on the positives. Ask “What are three fun/interesting things you did today?” Get to know their timetables and be prepared. Be there. So far, so good; however anxiety in children is a pretty common occurrence.

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Operation 19:14 - Need Help!

Operation 19:14 is calling for volunteers to help with our major fundraiser. Monies raised go towards the annual free family event. Volunteers are required to help out as gate attendants for the Wimmera Machinery Field days on March 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Each volunteer will get free entry into the field days for the day. Shifts can be flexible and go for about 4 hours and range in times between 7am till 3:30pm. It’s quite social and a lot of fun, but we need a lot of people to make it possible. A short training is provided, so you will be well informed on what to do. Please call Linda on 0428 538 194 for more details.

Sacramental Program for Catholic Students 2016

RECONCILIATION/CONFIRMATION/EUCARIST

Enrolment and information session for parents

Wednesday February 17th at 6pm
Ss Michael & John’s Parish Centre
10 Roberts Avenue, Horsham

Parents of children currently in Year 3 and above in 2016, who wish them to be included in this year’s sacramental program are asked to attend. At this meeting we will explain how the program runs and what your commitments are by enrolling your children. Enrolment will also take place at this time.

Contact Anita at the Catholic Parish Office on 5382 1155 for more information.

Bring your child’s Baptism certificate if they were not baptised at Ss Michael & John’s, Horsham.

Bridges

Bridges is a literacy program that pairs a student who needs help in reading, in the early years, with a Literacy Assistant who wants to make a difference in a student’s life. The lessons go for 30 minutes and are held 3-5 times per week. The actual program is flexible, lasting from 3–10 weeks. Everything you need, except your time and commitment, is provided by the school. If you are interested at all and feel that you could assist, even in a part time capacity, please call the school and let us know. We are happy to talk to you and answer any queries you might have. We know the rewards from this program will be long term for each child involved, and for you as an Assistant.

Carol McDonald (Bridges Coordinator)

Kids Time

Kid’s Time has resumed for the year. We will be gathering every Sunday for the school term at 10am in the Lutheran Education Centre (behind the Lutheran Church).

Kid’s Time is aimed at Kinder and Primary aged children and includes a snack, bible story and activities.

All families welcome.

Hope to see you there!

Contact James on 0412 302 341 for further information.

Piano Lessons

Ms Elsbeth Ampt
PIANO & KEYBOARD
Lessons are held at school
Ph Elsbeth on 53863528

Sporting Clubs

New competitions starting for
• Haven Tennis Club
• Horsham Badminton
• Horsham Squash Club
• Grampians Junior Basketball

Please refer to the school noticeboard for further details.