

Wednesday 16th October 2024

#### HORIZON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

BALAKLAVA 21 Gwy Terrace, Balaklava, SA, 5461 PO Box 367, Balaklava, SA, 5461 P: (08) 8862 2100

59 Main North Road, Clare, SA, 5453 PO Box 105, Clare, SA, 5453 P: (08) 8842 1808

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#### Welcome to Term 4:

Welcome back to our final term for 2024. I trust you had a restful break with some enjoyable family time together.

We are looking forward to a busy term 4, with some highlights including:

- Senior Graduation Dinner: Wednesday 23rd October
- Primary Road Safety Session Friday 18th October
- Year 7 Year 10 Regional Youth Alive: Wednesday 23rd October
- Final Assembly for Year 12 students: Friday 25th October
- Casual Clothes Day: Thursday 31st October
- 2025 Foundation Transition Visits: starting on Fridays 25th October
- Year 12 Exams Week: Monday 4th November Friday 8th November
- 2025 School Transition: Friday 29th November
- Swimming Lessons: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November
- Foundation Year 1/2 Pevan and Sarah Concert: Thursday 21st
- Swimming Carnival Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November
- Year 10 Exams Week Monday 25th November Friday 29th November
- Year 9 TRJ Event: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December
- Year 5/6 Class Market Day: Thursday 5th December
- End of Year Awards Night: Thursday 12th December

# Mike Clisby - Principal

# **Who Loves Pruning?**

If you have ever enjoyed a beautiful tree in your garden, or even in a neighbour's garden or a public park, you would know the joy it brings. Beautiful foliage, flowers, fruit, even a feeling of wellbeing - that all is right with the world at that moment. A beautiful tree is a delight!

But sometimes, a keen and ruthless gardener may prune your tree and seriously interrupt your enjoyment of it. What was a vibrant, healthy, and beautiful tree is suddenly much smaller, strange and miserable. It now has the look of a freshly shorn sheep. A bit silly!

But come Spring, that same tree flourishes remarkably, where another, left unpruned, begins to weaken, flounder and look sad. The pruned tree gets stronger, bigger, has a new energy and vibrancy brought about by the pruning!

So, there it is! The paradox.....that we need tough things in life to help us grow in strength and character. We need loved ones to encourage us to take a risk for a good cause, to try very hard to achieve and to not 'opt out' even if it is easier to do so. We all need tough things to challenge us, because God tells us that is the way a good life is lived. Children as well as adults need some stress, correction, even tough times, to help them become strong, resilient and flourish! God teaches this in his Word.

Romans 5:3-5. .....but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame .....

As hard as it is to enforce rules and boundaries when our children are complaining (and when others are letting their own 'refuse' or 'not show' or 'skip out'), allowing our children to 'opt out' to avoid hard things is usually not best for them. In love we want the best for our kids, and God's Word tells us that this will sometimes mean the tough love that feels harsh...but is good. Just like the pruning of a tree.

In the long run, developing good character (for believers, Godly character) is more important than short term comfort......and even those who do not believe, say the same. Our hope for the students here at Clare is that they will be challenged and stretched as we partner with parents to develop their Godly character.

#### Belinda Seminutin - Head of School



The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. Mark 2:10

#### Diary Dates:

# Seniors Graduation Dinner Wednesday 23rd October

# Last Day for Year 12's

Friday 25th October

### **Primary Road Safety Session** Friday 18th October

# Year 7 - Year 10 Regional Youth Alive

Wednesday 23rd October

### 2025 Foundation Transition Visits

Friday 25th October

# Casual Clothes Day

Thursday 31st October

# Year 3/4 SACSA Basketball

Thursday 31st October

# Year 5/6 SACSA Basketball

Friday 1st November

#### 2025 Foundation Transition Visits

Friday 1st November

#### Year 12 Exams Week

Monday 4th Nov – Friday 8th November

#### 2025 Foundation Transition Visits

Friday 8th November

# **Brekky Bikes & Being Active**

Thursday 14th November

# 2025 Foundation Transition Visits with new Parent Information Session

Friday 15th November

# Swimming Lessons

Monday 18th November – Thursday 21st November

### Foundation - Yr 1/2 Pevan and Sarah Concert

Thursday 21st November

#### Swimming Carnival

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

#### Year 10 Exam Week

Monday 25th November – Friday 29th November

#### 2025 Transition Day

Friday 29th November



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#### **Welcome New Students:**

It was wonderful to welcome two new students to the Year 8 and Year 9 class.

We pray they will settle in well as the term progresses.

#### Chapel:

A short Chapel gathering will be held in The Cottage this Friday at 2.45pm.

# **Breakfast Club:**

Breakfast Club runs every **Thursday** morning from 8:30am.

Students can take this opportunity to enjoy a delicious ready-made breakfast before they begin their day at school.

# <u>Ice blocks available for Students in Term 4:</u>

Ice blocks will be available at lunch time every Tuesday for Term 4 & Term 1, to provide a refreshing treat for the students during the warmer months.

The ice blocks available will be,
"Quelch" fruit sticks for .50cents and
lemonade "Icy Poles" for \$1.00. The
proceeds from the sale of the ice
blocks will go towards a school
project.

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#### Mainly Play:

Mainly Play will continue every Wednesday from 9.30am

- 11.00am in The Cottage. If you know of anyone with toddlers, who would be interested in attending, please share this so they can join in the fun!



### Hats in Term 4:

A reminder that hats are a compulsory part of the uniform for Term 4 to ensure our students are 'sun smart' at school. Students will be required to wear a Horizon school hat when outside. Hats are readily available to purchase from the uniform shop for \$17:00.

### **Subway Lunch Orders - Term 4**

Subway lunch orders will be offered to students in this term on Fridays.

The envelopes for ordering will be sent home with students today, and when ordering, both the money and envelopes are to be returned on Thursday for lunch orders to be ready for delivery on Friday.

\*\*Please return the order envelopes to school even if students will not be ordering for the week.

#### **Student Absence at Horizon:**

Student Attendance is very important at Horizon Christian School. Last term we had noticed a significant increase of student absence, late arrivals and early departures.

Some of the statistics about missed schooling are concerning and far-reaching. Missing one day a week does not seem like much, but it adds up to 2 weeks in a term. Across one year, this is 8 weeks or nearly a term lost. Extend this to 6 years of secondary schooling and this will add up to more than a year of missed learning opportunities. This has a serious impact on a child's learning. Under the Education and Children's Service Act (2019) all children of compulsory school age (between the ages of 6 and 16 years) are require to attend the school every day it is open for instruction.

Please find attached with this week's newsletter important information about Absence, Arranged Absence, Late Arrivals and Early Departures

We look forward to seeing an improvement in our attendance data over the coming weeks.

#### **Bush Fire and Catastrophic Fire Danger:**

As the weather begins to warm up, it is a timely reminder to send to families our Bush Fire and Catastrophic Fire Danger Protocols. Please find attached our Bush Fire and Catastrophic Fire Danger Policy. We encourage you to make yourselves familiar with the protocols should a Catastrophic Fire Danger Day be declared.



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#### **Bible Adventure Day:**

On the last day of Term 3 we had our annual Bible Adventures Day. This was a fantastic day, filled with lots of great learning and fun. The focus this year was Jesus's life. Primary and secondary students enjoyed a range of creative activities as they learnt more about Jesus. Teachers and some special guests ran a selection of crafts, videos, discussions, plays, puppet shows and games throughout the day with our students. What an absolute joy it was to spend a whole day exploring the truth of Jesus and who he is. Thankyou to Cathie Fabian, Nikki Rimmer and Kerryn Walker for coming in and helping run wonderful sessions with our students.



#### Well Done Declan!

Declan has been racing in Queensland during the holidays in the Fox Australian Super Cross Round 1 and Round 2. He did very well to get 7th in Round 1 and 8th in Round 2. A great achievement with some of his competitors being older and more experienced riders!











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Mid North Lutheran Ministries welcomes all to join us on **Sunday, 27**<sup>th</sup> **October** for Worship and a Long Lunch at Melrose Park, Clare.



Praise & Worship - 11 am BYO Everything Lunch NOON!

Free Lawn Games \$2 Train rides Come and relax with Family and Friends!



