Dear school families,

It has been nice getting to know you over the last few days. We have appreciated your warm welcome, friendly manner and great humour. Thank you for your many prayers as we settle into life at Carmel.

My husband, Randal, and I have been living in New Zealand for the past eight years. Prior to that we have lived most of our lives in Canada, where our families remain. We are pleased and delighted to be living with you now in beautiful Perth, Australia.

I have been in Seventh-day Adventist Education for over 18 years now and have enjoyed working with students of varying cultures and backgrounds. Randal has recently worked as a draftsman for an engineering company.

Our passions include a love for the outdoors, exercise, Bible study, mission work, and our newly embraced plant-based eating lifestyle.

As far as school life is concerned, the 2014 school year is off to a good start with teachers, parents and students motivated to improve learning. We are all in training, just as the Bible writer, Paul, compares life to an athletic race. We are currently training in this world to become good citizens and to make a valuable contribution. This requires skill and a good character. It is pretty exciting to realize that our personal development here, now, prepares us for eternal life when Jesus recreates the earth for us to live in.

Like all good athletes, we need to eat healthy food, get exercise, drink water, experience sunshine, be temperate, get fresh air, take rest, and trust in God. We pray that we can all say, “we have finished the race…” 2 Timothy 4:7 and “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:14

Enjoy God’s blessings and guidance this year!

Mrs Davina Peters
PRINCIPAL

NEW STAFF
The College is pleased to welcome four new staff: Miss Tahlia van Oyen, Mrs Brenda Ball, Miss Miranda Leijser and of course our principal, Mrs Davina Peters. An introductory profile and photo of these staff appear later in this newsletter.

NEW REGISTRARS
We have two ladies joining our office team, who will be job sharing the Registrar's role. Mrs Narelle Duncan will be working Tuesday and Wednesday and looking after fees and Mrs Julie McCutcheon is responsible for student records and will work on Mondays and Fridays.

P&F MEETING
The first Parents and Friends Meeting for 2014 will be held on Wednesday 12th February at 6.30pm, upstairs in the College dining room. This is an opportunity for you to be involved in the College and new families are always welcome.

YR 7 PARENT NIGHT
Families with students in Year 7 are encouraged to attend the parent information evening being held Thursday evening, February 27th, at 7.30pm.

CANTEEN
Please take note that lunch orders this year are now only available Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Attached is the new menu. Lunch orders still need to be placed in the letter box outside reception before 9am.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The swimming carnival will be held on Thursday, February 20 at Kalamunda Wet and Wild. Parents are welcome to come along and cheer the students on.

UNIFORMS
Uniforms are looking good. Thank you to those families who have seen to this. There have been a few teething problems with the new boys shirts due to the design. We are working through this and are asking they be tucked in at this point but there will be more communication to follow. We thank you for your patience and understanding on this matter. Uniform checks will be starting next week. Please check that dress and skirt length touch the knee, nail polish is only clear, make up is discrete and natural and piercings must adhere to College Guidelines which are in the student diary.

YR 8 VACCINATIONS
Year 8 students received paperwork today about upcoming vaccinations. Please ensure you complete the paperwork and return it to Reception. It is due back by next Tuesday, February 11, and all families are required to return the completed forms. Thank you for your promptness with this.
NEW BABY

We were very excited to get the news that Mrs Dusci’s baby arrived safely on 20.01.2014. Nate Maxie Dusci was 8.2lbs and 52cm long. We wish Emma and Matt all the very best and hope we get a visit soon!

OUR NEW STAFF

Although there are various views on the term ‘chaplain’, one that is rather intriguing finds its origin in the fourth century and it is reported as ‘capella’ or a cloak that was used by a compassionate soldier to comfort a shivering beggar. The keeper of this cloak was called a ‘cappellanus’, which is now shortened to Chaplain.

Interesting hey?

After learning, I began to think and see that this year, as the new school Chaplain, I would like to be doing this—metaphorically that is. Carmel believes in establishing holistic individuals, and doesn’t cease at academics (or not simply academic), and the Chaplain works within this framework to provide a safe space where spirituality, life skills and all matters of questions can be discussed.

So hello, my name is Miranda Leijser and this is a little bit of what I am about.

Hello! My name is Tahlia van Oyen and I finished my Bachelor of Education at UWA just last year. I was raised in Kalgoorlie, and moved to Perth in 2010 to start my university degree. This is my first teaching job, although I have had experience at both public and private schools. I will be teaching English, Visual Arts, Drama, History and Maths. I’m really looking forward to teaching in such a supportive and caring school.

Mrs Brenda Ball is no stranger to Carmel. She taught here for a number of years before she retired and is very much looking forward to being back in the classroom this year. She will be teaching with us in the Art Department while Mrs Emma Dusci is on maternity leave.

Mrs Julie McCutcheon (L) and Mrs Narelle Duncan (R) are job sharing the Registrar’s role. If you have queries regarding fees, bursaries, Secondary Assistance and the like you will need to speak with Narelle who works on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Julie will be available to speak with on Mondays and Fridays and she will be responsible for student records.

CARMEL STAFF - 2014

Principal: Mrs Davina Peters
Deputy Principal: Mr John Minett
Director of Studies: Mr Darren Martin
Reception Desk: Mrs Di Dowsett *
Mrs Marcia Hutchinson*  
Financial Officer: Mrs Narelle Duncan *  
Registrar: Mrs Julie McCutcheon *
Yr 7 Core Teachers: Mrs Heather Hughes  
Mr Adam Di Rosso  
Mrs Janelle Kopp * (TA)
Yr 8 Core Teachers: Mrs Nerolie Hiscox  
Miss Tahlia van Oyen
Yr 9 Core Teachers: Mr Sepeti Fui  
Mr Brad Flynn  
Miss Larissa Hockley
Teaching Staff:  
Mrs Brenda Ball *  
Mr Mark Bergmann  
Mrs Denise Brown *  
Mr Brad Flynn  
Mrs Jessica Foster *  
Mr Sepeti Fui  
Mr Ron Hiscox  
Mrs Amanda Lobegeiger  
Mrs Robyn Robinson  
Mrs Carly Smoker *  
Mr Devin Stafford  
Mr Kevin Stafford  
Mrs Tania Stafford *  
Mr Robert Stanton
Chaplain: Miss Miranda Leijser  
Librarian: Mrs Nerolie Hiscox  
Indigenous Liaison: Mrs Janine Beck *  
Mrs Connie Toga *
Marketing & Staff Development:  
Mrs Nicola Warchol *  
House Parents: Mrs Karen Major  
Mr Peter Major  
Gardener: Mr Shannon Smoker *  
Estate Manager: Mr Norrie Taylor
* denotes part time staff

There will be times when you need to contact a staff member in relation to the schooling of your son or daughter. You can contact a teacher by using their first name last name @adventist.org.au  
For example, bobsmith@adventist.org.au

SCHOOL FEES

School fees will be posted out this week. Please ensure your payment commitment form is returned by Friday, February 21.