Welcome back to School for Term 4! I am delighted to report that both our Vanuatu and Outback Mission trips have returned safely and enjoyed a wonderful time exploring foreign cultures and places. Many of our students commented that it was the highlight of their life thus far and I am most grateful for the hard work of the staff and the wonderful conduct of our students. They held the name of the Lord and the School in high regard and are a credit to each family they represented.

Year 12
The HSC examinations have commenced with all students arriving ready to demonstrate the skills and content they have learnt. The examinations will run for the next three weeks. Please pray for good preparation and clear thinking. For over half the students sitting the examinations, they do so in the knowledge they already have a university offer. This occurred via early entry programs over the October holiday break and those students are to be warmly congratulated on achieving these offers. There is a wide variety of degrees being offered from Bachelor of Advanced Nursing to Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering to Bachelor of Business. This is a wonderful testament to their preparation and initiative.

Strand
Once again this term our Friday afternoon Strand program will offer a diverse range of extra-curricular subjects, including 3D printing, personal training and scrapbooking, just to name a few. I thank Strand Director Vivienne Russell for her careful planning and invite parents and grandparents to come and join in as they are able.

Upcoming Events
This is a most exciting term, with camp week for Years 3-10, Grandparents Afternoon for Junior School, Year 12 Formal, Junior School Presentation Assembly, the Nativity presentation for Prep-Yr2, our annual Thanksgiving service amongst many others. Please ensure you mark some of these dates in your calendar so you don’t miss the ones relevant to your family. If you have not yet bought your tickets to our Spring Soiree or Year 12 Formal, please contact the office ASAP.

New Families
We would like to welcome three new families to SHCS; the Wass, Hilaire and Willersdorf families have joined our school as well as the Johnston family who have returned to our community after some time studying, working and travelling overseas. We pray you will feel warmly welcomed by our School community.

In Christian Education
Andrew Middleton
Principal
Uniform Shop News

A reminder we are in summer uniform for the remainder of the year and although students are still able to be in the old items of uniform; new uniform items are required upon commencement of the 2017 school year.

NB: The new summer dress for Junior School girls (sizes 4-8) is currently being redesigned for a better fit, with estimated arrival date of early November.

Please note that uniform orders can be placed directly through the School Office and they will be processed and sent home with your child on the next Uniform Shop day providing payment is made; or will be left in the School Office for payment and collection.

Canteen News

Canteen days are Wednesdays and Fridays and lunch orders are to be submitted prior to the 9am bell on these days as follows – at the canteen for High School students and with their class teacher for Junior School students. Online Canteen is an effective way to order lunches – see info@ouronlinecanteen.com.au for more information. Volunteers are always welcome and this is a great way to meet new people and also fulfill Parent Service hours. Please leave your name at the School Office if you would like to be involved (all training will be given on the job).

Parent Pick-up area and before School supervision

Students are supervised from 8.15 am in the Courtyard outside the Café, ensure children go to that area should they arrive at School at this time. Students are supervised in the Parent Pick Up area between the Library and the Science block until 3.30pm each afternoon, they will then be taken to the School Office for supervision until a parent arrives. Please be aware that parking is not permitted in the Drive Through pick up area between 8am – 4pm on school days.

Term Dates for 2017

Term 1 Wednesday 1st February – Friday 7th April
Term 2 Wednesday 26th April – Friday 30th June
Term 3 Monday 24th July – Friday 22nd September
Term 4 Monday 9th October – Tuesday 12th December

Mums in Prayer Group

Mums in Prayer group will recommence on Tuesday 18th October from 8.50 – 9.50 in the Café. We will spend time praising God together and praying scripture for our children, staff and every aspect of the life of our School community. All Mums, carers and grandmas, aunts etc welcome.

Book Club Orders

Next Scholastic Book Club orders (Issue 7) are due on the 28th October 2016. Don’t forget to check out the online ordering process, it is very easy; otherwise, please bring completed order forms to the School Office (don’t forget your name and class!).

Cake Stall Prep to 12

At our end of term cake stall we raised $730 which was split evenly between Bourke and Vanuatu. Thank you to all those who made, supplied and purchased cakes. The Junior School Mufti day raised $300 for World Vision, which was sufficient to purchase 2 food packs enough for 12 people for one week and 1 education pack, which provides educational supplies for 6 refugee children. Thank you to all those who dressed in mufti and crazy socks and helped support Syrian refugees through world vision.

Spring Soiree

Don’t forget to RSVP for the Spring Soiree! It sounds like it will be a lovely evening spent with old friends, making new friends and enjoying some lovely food and beautiful music. Please contact the School Office asap on reception@shcs.nsw.edu.au to secure your place.

Years 7 - 10 Camps

By now your child should have brought home forms for their year group camp. If you require an additional form, please contact the School Office. Permission slips and dietary requirements are due back to School by the 18th October so we can finalise numbers for the various activities. Payment is due by the 24th October.

Operation Christmas Child

Don’t forget, we are collecting items over September and October and we would love for you to help us fill boxes for children who often don’t receive any other gifts. Head to https://www.samaritanspurse.org.au/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/to get a glimpse into Samaritan’s Purse and Operation Christmas Child.

Suggested gifts ideas include - something to wear, something to love, something special, something for school, something to play with, and something for personal hygiene. Please don’t purchase items that - leak or melt, are food or lollies of any kind, are used or damaged, are breakable, are things that can scare or harm a child, are gambling related items or any religious literature. If you have any queries, please call the School office. Please return items to your class/homeroom teacher and pray for the children that will receive this practical showing of love.