



ROSTREVOR
COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

TERM 1, WEEK 9 FRIDAY 01 APRIL 2016

Absentee line: 8364 8387



Holy Thursday Easter Liturgy , Presented by Br Barry Donaghue

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear College Community

I hope the Easter break was a happy and holy time for all. We are now in the Season of Easter which will take us through to Pentecost Sunday. The Easter Season is one of the most profound periods of the Church's year as we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus. Easter is a time to rejoice that, in Jesus, God fully embraced humanity, in order that humanity could fully embrace God. The mystery of Easter has the power to transform lives and to see the world in a new way.

While we focus on the last few days of Jesus' death and his subsequent resurrection, this only makes sense when we consider the message of his whole life. In Jesus' words and actions we are presented with a radical love that announces that God's reign is breaking into history. It is the kind of radical love that transforms lives and breaks through barriers. The outcast, be they a leper, a tax collector or a Samaritan, is invited into relationship with Jesus as a full and complete human being. In many ways, Jesus announces that the artificial distinctions that are used to separate people and place their value on some kind of tiered scale do not represent God's way of looking at human beings.

Instantly, those who accept this invitation to relationship are transformed from within as they now enter into that relationship as full human beings. Their mindsets are radically altered and their innate beauty as a creation of God begins to shine. Likewise, Jesus challenges those whose power relies on enforcing such artificial distinctions in order to maintain their status. He embodies a God of radical love for humanity. In Jesus we encounter the God who liberates through love. In announcing the reign of God, Jesus reveals a God that loves humanity so deeply that God desires to touch creation directly and completely. In Jesus, that God-initiated process of individual and social liberation begins. In Jesus, God touches creation.

Easter begins with God's action and invitation. But, the acceptance of Easter into our lives is not an individual action that will be fulfilled in personal isolation in heaven. By accepting the invitation of Easter we become connected to God's activity in this world and God's desire to transform this world. We join a communal acceptance of becoming agents of God's radical love that seeks to transform the world. In this way, we allow ourselves to become Christ to our world and, through our communal actions, Christ continues to transform our world to bring it to full communion with God.

May the blessings and transformational power of Easter be with each of you.

The following story conveys the sense of transformation and change to which Easter invites us:

The Empty Egg (Author Unknown)

Jeremy was born with a twisted body and a slow mind. At the age of 12 he was still in second grade, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher, Doris Miller, often became exasperated with him. He would squirm in his seat, drool, and make grunting noises. At other times, he spoke clearly and distinctly, as if a spot of light had penetrated the darkness of his brain. Most of the time, however, Jeremy just irritated his teacher.

One day she called his parents and asked them to come in for a consultation. As the Forresters entered the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school. It isn't fair to him to be with younger children who don't have learning problems. Why, there is a five year gap between his age and that of the other students."

Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue, while her husband spoke. "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here." Doris sat for a long time after they had left, staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Forresters. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other

DATES TO REMEMBER

April

Week 10

Sunday 03

Open Day 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Monday 04 - Friday 08

Prefects' Futsal Tournament
Fundraiser

Thursday 07

JY's Assembly 2:30pm

Week 11

Tuesday 12

P@F Meeting 7:00pm - MY/SY Staff
Room - All Welcome

Wednesday 13 - Friday 15

Year 12 Retreats

Friday 15

Term 1 Concludes 3:15pm

Report Distribution (via email)

"DO YOU KNOW WHY THE TOMB WAS EMPTY?"

youngsters to teach, and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read and write. Why waste any more time trying?

As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. Here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared to that poor family, she thought. Lord, please help me to be more patient with Jeremy. From that day on, she tried hard to ignore Jeremy's noises and his blank stares. Then one day, he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him.

"I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed, loud enough for the whole class to hear. The other students snickered, and Doris' face burned red. She stammered, "Wh-why that's very nice, Jeremy. N-now please take your seat."

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?"

"Yes, Miss Miller," the children responded enthusiastically all except for Jeremy. He listened intently; his eyes never left her face. He did not even make his usual noises. Had he understood what she had said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents and explain the project to them.

That evening, Doris' kitchen sink stopped up. She called the landlord and waited an hour for him to come by and unclog it. After that, she still had to shop for groceries, iron a blouse, and prepare a vocabulary test for the next day. She completely forgot about phoning Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school, laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in the large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. After they completed their math lesson, it was time to open the eggs. In the first egg, Doris found a flower. "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sign of new life," she said. "When plants peek through the ground, we know that spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arm. "That's my egg, Miss Miller," she called out. The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, which looked very real. Doris held it up. "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes, that's new life, too." Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine." Next, Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that moss, too, showed life. Billy spoke up from the back of the classroom, "My daddy helped me," he beamed.

Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty. Surely it must be Jeremy's she thought, and of course, he did not understand her instructions. If only she had not forgotten to phone his parents. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another. Suddenly, Jeremy spoke up. "Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "But Jeremy, your egg is empty." He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb was empty, too."

Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?" "Oh, yes," Jeremy said, "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then His Father raised Him up."

The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the schoolyard, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away.

Three months later, Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the mortuary were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of his casket..... all of them empty.

God Bless

Simon Dash

Principal



COLLEGE BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT

The College Board is seeking members of the Rostrevor community with a strong background in finance to nominate to sit on the College Board's Finance Committee. Expressions of Interest can be lodged with Sandra Mestros, Acting PA to the Principal, via email – smestros@rostrevor.sa.edu.au.



Find us on
facebook

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Frank Ranaldo
Deputy Principal



Open Day

We are looking forward to seeing many new and current families this Sunday at our Open Day. Student tour guides do a great job to showcase all that we have to offer. One can become complacent about his/her learning or work environment and it is only when you compare to others or hear others speak so highly of what you take for granted that you realise how lucky you are.

Tours commence at 1.15 pm and families have the opportunity to see the College in action; visiting classes, observing Science practicals, watching Music performances and much, much more. After the tours families can return to any of the areas to speak with staff or enjoy some afternoon tea in the Valley while listening to musical performances from students.

Term 1 Assessment Cycle

Teachers will be in the process of finalising assessments for the first round of reports for all students from Reception to Year 12. Where has the term gone? During this time, it is critical that students, particularly in the Middle and Senior Years remain focused and manage their time effectively to ensure that they complete all tasks which are included in this reporting cycle.

It is worth reminding our children that the only place that 'success' comes before 'work' is in the dictionary.

Supporting our children

I would like to share a story with you:

A man spent hours watching a butterfly struggling to emerge from its cocoon. It managed to make a small hole, but its body was too large to get through it. After a long struggle, it appeared to be exhausted and remained absolutely still.

The man decided to help the butterfly and, with a pair of scissors, he cut open the cocoon, thus releasing the butterfly. However, the butterfly's body was very small and wrinkled and its wings were all crumpled.

The man continued to watch, hoping that, at any moment, the butterfly would open its wings and fly away. Nothing happened; in fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its brief life dragging around its shrunken body and shriveled wings, incapable of flight.

Out of kindness and his eagerness to help, the man had failed to understand that the tight cocoon and the efforts that the butterfly had to make in order to squeeze out of that tiny hole were Nature's way of training the butterfly and strengthening its wings. The butterfly's struggle to push its way through the tiny opening of the cocoon pushes the fluid out of its body and into its wings. Without the struggle, the butterfly would never ever fly. The man's good intentions actually hurt the butterfly.

One of the messages in this story is that the struggle was part of what the butterfly needed to do in order to fly. Without the struggle, the butterfly was destined to crawl around on its belly and probably die an early death.

Life is full of struggles, which I like to call challenges. They hone our skills and make us strong. People who enable other people take this away, perpetuate co-dependency unknowingly. They are well meaning but their intentions create more harm than good. While it is painful to watch a loved one struggle with life's daily challenges, our job is not to do their work for them. Our job is to stand by in support and love remembering that, experiencing challenges and dealing with these is necessary for growth.

As our children go through their schooling and life in general, we need to keep in mind as parents that struggling is an important part of any growth experience. In fact, it is the struggle that builds strength and resilience and causes one to develop their ability to fly.

God bless.

Frank Ranaldo

OPEN DAY 2016

Sunday 03 April, 1.00pm – 4.00pm
All community members welcome



**ROSTREVOR
COLLEGE**

A CATHOLIC ALL BOYS' DAY & BOARDING
COLLEGE IN THE EDMUND RICE TRADITION
Reception to Year 12



SPIRITUALITY



Br John Ahern
Assistant Principal
Religious Identity
and Mission



Easter Liturgy

This week I include an excerpt from an article written by Professor Tom Groome from Boston College about Easter.

“Changed, Changed Utterly”

Since my Irish childhood, Easter always brings to mind W. B. Yeats’ powerful poem “Easter 1916.” He wrote it in honour of the “Irish Rising” against British rule that began on Easter Monday 1916, the name and date deliberately chosen to echo the rising of Jesus. Yeats’ refrain throughout the poem is “All changed, changed utterly. A terrible beauty is born.” It captured well the rebirth of the Irish nation through that Easter Rising – one hundred years ago this year. It also names the import of Easter for all who believe that “Christ is risen.” If we really believe it!



The Resurrection of Jesus

Paul stated bluntly the high stakes of Easter faith: “if Christ has not been raised, then our faith is in vain” (1 Corinthians 15:14). But how can we wager on this Easter gamble? How can we thank God with rock solid faith “for giving us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3)?

Pause and Reflect

- What do you name as the meaning of Easter for your own life-in-faith?
- Recall some of the roots and foundations that help to sustain your Easter faith?

They Couldn’t Make This Up

What convinces me most of Easter is how the stories of Jesus’ resurrection so poorly portray his disciples. All of the accounts have them being incredulous, slow to believe, some were “startled and terrified and thought they were seeing a ghost” (Luke 24:37). Even today’s Gospel says that the two male disciples “did not understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead.” Two other disciples on the Road to Emmaus were with him all day and didn’t recognize him – until he “broke the bread” with them. If this was made-up, the first disciples to craft these stories would surely have represented themselves in a better light – as expecting Jesus’ Resurrection.

If that wasn’t enough to convince that they couldn’t have made this up, read the rest of today’s Gospel story, John 20: 11-18 (too bad the Lectionary leaves it out). There we find that Mary Magdalene became the first to encounter – and believe in - the Risen Christ. And this is agreed by all four evangelists. As Mark 16:9 states explicitly, “he appeared first to Mary Magdalene.” So Magdalene was, as the early Church named her, “the apostle to the apostles” (not a prostitute – a later and total misrepresentation). Again, if this was a made up story, its crafters and their culture would never give the central leadership role to a woman; indeed, our Church still stumbles in this regard.

So, we can reliably confess that “Jesus was raised

on the third day” (1 Corinthians 15:4); that bonded with Christ by baptism, we, too, are raised up and can “live in newness of life” (Romans 6:4). We can trust that “the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also” (2Corinthians 4:14), that even death has “lost its sting” (1 Corinthians 15:55-57). We know for sure that we will all die but just as surely “in Christ, all shall be brought to life” again (1Corinthians 15:22). Now death is no more than a “change of life” (Preface, Mass of Resurrection).

So Yeats said it well: “all is changed, changed utterly; a terrible beauty (he meant “awesome”) is born.” After Easter no oppression can finally triumph, no evil have the last word, no cross be too heavy to carry, no addiction be beyond recovery, no sin be unforgivable. Because “Christ Jesus . . . was raised to the right hand of God and intercedes for us” now nothing can “separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:34 and 38-39).

Reflect and Decide

- How can you best celebrate the marvel and meaning of Easter?
- How will you put your Easter faith to work tomorrow

Br John Ahern



Br Barry Donaghue With Br John Ahern After the Easter Liturgy.

JUNIOR CAMPUS



Geoff Aufderheide
Director - Junior Campus

As we have recently formalised and acknowledged our Junior Leadership Team for 2016 it is natural that we consider their roles for the coming school year.

We are challenged by this message from Luke to;

"Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." (Luke 6:38)

Through many messages and requests in today's busy world, we often are asked to give of ourselves, our time or our finances to those who may be less fortunate or to those who are in seeming desperate need. Just recently we have been asked to offer support to those at the margins through the annual Project Compassion fund raising initiative via the Catholic Church. When handing on a donation to such a cause throughout the season of Lent, we give without counting the cost to our own pockets – however large or small that might be.

For our Junior Campus Leadership Team, we constantly ask them how they give to others through their role as leaders. Do they lead fundraising initiatives? Do they give their time for College events? Do they give of their hearts when working with younger boys?

One way for the boys to give to others is by their own service. For our Campus Captain and Vice-Captain that might be in running College tours for prospective enrolling students and their families. For our House Leaders it may be giving up their break times to support sports initiatives in the yard to engage boys in their House groups.

In addition, for our new Leaders: **Luke Beltrame** (Environment Captain) and **Joel Condo** (Social Justice Captain) and their teams, sometimes leadership roles provide you with an opportunity to give by making people aware. For Luke and his Environmental Team (**Owen Hickey, Anthony Close, Tyson Bos and William French**) leadership in this area will highlight that by looking after our local environment we can gain a lot in return – the most obvious being an understanding of how it all works and our own role in supporting its development both locally and globally. For Joel



Junior Campus Leaders

and his Social Justice Team (**Anton Slivak and Innocent Muchenje**) leadership in this area will highlight how an organisation like Edmund Rice Camps SA supports those at the margins of our own society.

It would be easy to raise lots of money by selling items like food and drink however each group have been charged with the ideal that it is by 'giving of ourselves' that we gain the most understanding and provide the best level of support. Please watch out for coming news in relation to how these teams of young men will provide leadership by example and action throughout 2016.

Congratulations to all boys who nominated for such roles and to those who were successful. It is an exceptional problem to have when we have so many boys who are willing to put themselves forward for such important roles in the everyday life of the College.

Geoff Aufderheide

SPRING FAIR - PARENTS & FRIENDS

The P&F Committee have started organising this year's Spring Fair. If you are interested in running a food stall or any other stall representing a business or community group, please contact the P&F Committee by email on pandf@rosvor.sa.edu.au or call Rob or Sofia for further information:

Rob Costanzo (President)
0417 815 736

Sofia Gemma (Secretary)
0417 821 077



Rostrevor College Olympics Quiz Night

Saturday 4th of June 2016

Arrive 6.30pm for 7pm Start

Tickets \$10 per person – Tables of 10

Tickets can be purchased via the QKR app or by [clicking here](#) *On sale 08 April, 2016

BYO Food

All beverages to be purchased at the bar

Desserts available to be purchased on the night

TEACHING & LEARNING



Kerry Hodkinson
Director - Teaching and Learning

Assessment

The mid semester assessment period is now upon us, with students and teachers working tirelessly to finalise assessment pieces in readiness for the end of term. As is always the case, students are required to adhere to all deadlines and maintain high expectations in regard to both behaviour and learning as the term draws to a close. It is also imperative that they commence or continue accessing the College's support services if further assistance is required. This is in the form of specialised **Maths Help** (Friday lunchtimes) or **Smart Work Sessions** (hosted in the Equity Hub after school Monday-Thursday).

The mid semester reports will for the first time feature your son's Grade Point Average (GPA) which is calculated by taking into consideration his attainment in each of his subjects. This will enable greater tracking of student progress, and hopefully increase student motivation and engagement as they have one quantifiable way of monitoring their grades. It will also empower them with a greater understanding of their qualification for Palma Merenti or Principal's Awards, with a more open dialogue between Pastoral Care teachers, Heads of House, students and families possible as a result.

Please remember to access the College Parent Portal and contact the subject teacher in the first instance if you have any queries.

ICAS Competitions – Middle Year and Senior Year students

The International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS) is a program which enables students to sit skills-based assessment in an independent fashion. Rostrevor College students have participated in, and performed extremely well in a range of ICAS Competitions for a number of years.

Junior Years families have already received notification regarding this, but for Middle and Senior Years students, Heads of Faculty have been in communication with students to discuss their interest in entering one or several of the various ICAS Competitions which are available. ICAS is highly regarded as a comprehensive academic assessment.



Equity Hub

ICAS Competitions are available in the following areas. If your son has an interest in participating, please ask him to contact the relevant Head of Faculty as soon as possible.

Digital Technologies – Mr Joel Phillips
jphillips@rostrevor.sa.edu.au

Science – Mr Anthony Beltrame
abeltrame@rostrevor.sa.edu.au

Mathematics – Mr Peter Steel
psteel@rostrevor.sa.edu.au

Kerry Hodkinson



Equity Hub, Br Michael Coughlin attends a study Smart Work session

Battle of the Bands 2016

In support of 'Catholic Education Week'

YOU'RE INVITED



Friday, 13 May 2016 | 6pm to 8pm
Rostrevor College Basketball Courts (Covered)
Entry: Gold Coin Donation

COME ALONG | HANG OUT | ENJOY
SOME AWESOME PERFORMANCES!

BATTLE OF THE BANDS | SCHOOL CHOIRS
BBQ & DRINKS

PLUS A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY
ROSTREVOR COLLEGE ROCK BAND



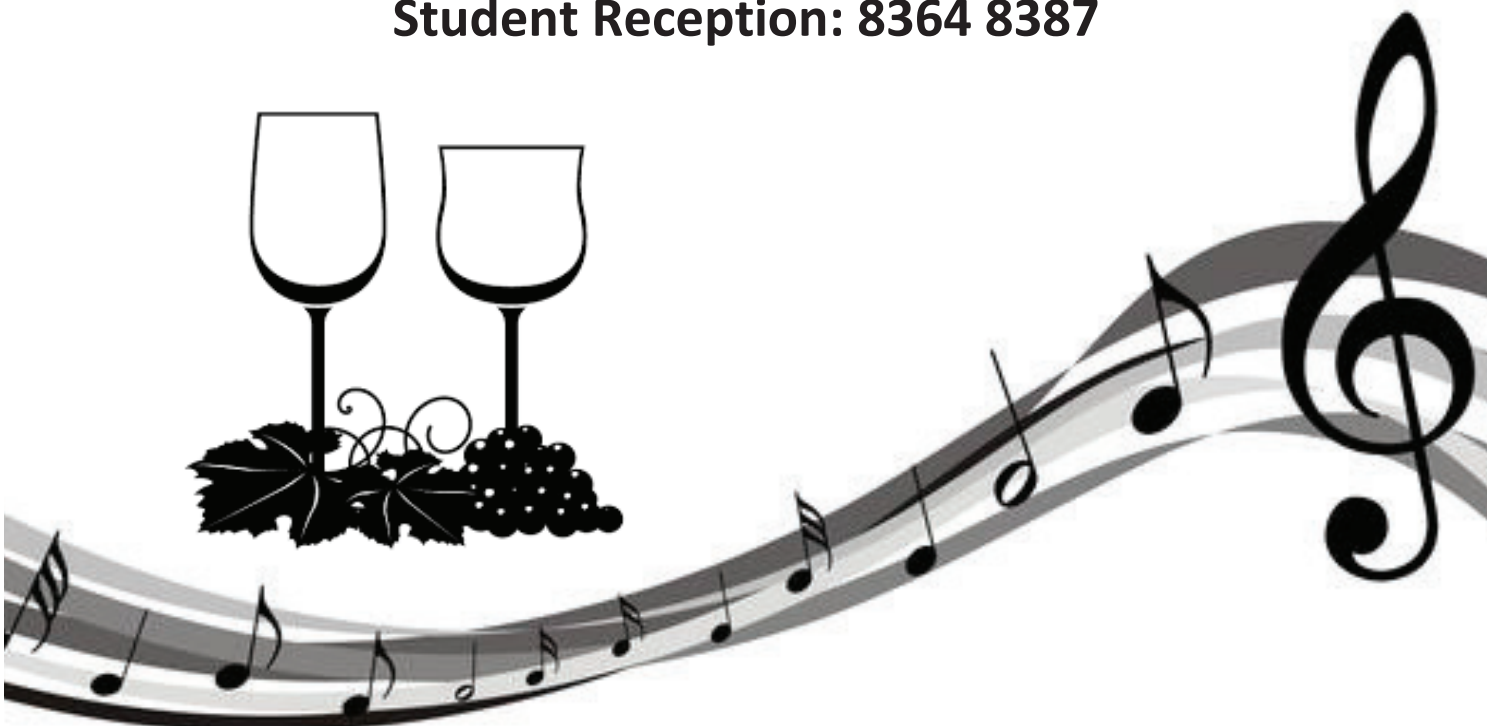
ROSTREVOR COLLEGE MUSIC SUPPORT GROUP
Wine and Cheese Night
2016

in conjunction with
CLAYMORE WINES, CLARE VALLEY

Venue: Callan Hall – Rostrevor College
Saturday 30th April 2016 – 6:30pm

First glass and cheese platter supplied
Wine available for purchase on the night
Tickets \$10:00 pp

Door prizes and Entertainment included
Tickets to be purchased from Donna Douglas
Student Reception: 8364 8387



Changes to Volunteer Police Checks

The Catholic Church in SA has recently foreshadowed changes to some of the arrangements relating to police checks for volunteers. These changes are consistent with moves across South Australia to align the volunteer police checking process more closely with recommendations arising from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

While the Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide's Police Check Unit (PCU) will still manage the police check process, some of the changes, effective from 1 May, include:

- Sourcing a Working With Children Check through the SA Government's Department for Families and Social Inclusion (DCSI);
- A streamlined and simpler application process;
- The opportunity for volunteers to volunteer on 7 occasions per year without the requirement for a police check (where the volunteering does not include excursions or overnight stays);
- No requirement for children under 18 years of age to hold a check;
- The provision of a convenient wallet-sized clearance card as distinct from a clearance letter

As our school transitions to the new arrangements by 1 May it is possible that we may invite you to renew your current check, prior to its usual expiry date, under the current arrangements. If this is the case we will contact you.

In the meantime, if you have any questions with regards to police checks as a volunteer please contact Sandra Mestros, the Principal's Assistant.

P. 8364 8301

E. smestros@rosvor.sa.edu.au

TERM DATES 2016

Term 1

Tuesday 02 February to Friday 15 April

Term 2

Tuesday 03 May to Friday 08 July
Queen's Birthday/Volunteer's Day, 13 June

Term 3

Tuesday 26 July to Friday 30 September
Labour Day, 03 October

Term 4

Tuesday 18 October to Friday 09 December

Do you have exciting news about a current student or Old Scholar? We'd love to celebrate these achievements with you and the Rostrevor Community.

Contact us with your story:
news@rosvor.sa.edu.au

For sporting achievements, please contact Jeff Fischer:
jfischer@rosvor.sa.edu.au

**A CATHOLIC ALL BOYS' DAY & BOARDING
COLLEGE IN THE EDMUND RICE TRADITION**
Reception to Year 12

Safety Alert

Catholic Education SA has released a student safety alert for all of its schools.

Further to previous emails regarding safety alerts, I write to advise that a concerning incident has been reported today by a school in the eastern suburbs. This incident involved students being approached by an unknown male within the school boundary.

While this is NOT associated with any student at Rostrevor College, the safety of members of our community and particularly students, is our prime concern.

Students and families are reminded to be wary of approaches from strangers, especially when they are unaccompanied or travelling to and from school. If they are approached, students should not respond and should not accept offers of rides or gifts.

Students should seek the assistance of other nearby adults if they feel unsafe and should report the event to a trusted adult (parent or school staff member) as soon as possible.

SAPOL advises that taking out a mobile phone and calling police can deter the offender and they recommend students make a formal report to their closest police station.

Of course, if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the College.

Uniform Shop

Term 1 Holiday Opening Hours

Thursday 28 and Friday 29 April
9:00am to 5:00pm

Monday 01 May - 12:00pm to 4:00pm
(Boarders Only)

Appointments can be made for fittings, by phoning 8364 8383 or email rosvorcanteen@spotless.com.au

Please note there will be some 2nd hand uniforms available for sale each day. All uniforms are in good condition and reasonably priced.



**ROSTREVOR
COLLEGE**

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