Sr Rochelle visited St Mark’s College and spoke to staff and students about the spirituality of the Salesians Sisters.

We enjoyed a special visit from some Salesian sisters. The Year 12s gathered for Retreat. The teachers completed Semester Reports and we had a chance to applaud the outstanding work of our friend and gardener Spiro Gauci. The Year 10s discovered the world of work and I asked “What are those spades, and headphones, those cameras and that wheelbarrow doing in the Front Office?”

**Staff Faith Formation**
At the end of every term our staff community takes a chance to meet together for a time of reflection. It’s a gathering under the banner of ‘faith formation’ and we meet after school for about an hour and a half. This week we were delighted with a visit from three Salesian Sisters; Sr Rochelle and Sister Delma from Melbourne, and Sister Emema from Samoa. They led a session on the spirituality of the Salesian Sisters and gave a particular emphasis on the life of founder Maria Mazzorola. We heard a story of inspiration and then saw the work of the sisters around the world. The nuns themselves were gracious, reverent, full of laughter. They are the type of people the Pope is talking about when he talks about a ‘life giving’ gospel. The work that they spoke about was heroic. It was simple goodness becoming greatness. It’s a perspective of our Church that is easily missed.

**Salesian Joy in the Good Samaritan Hall**
The Salesian Sisters took the opportunity to speak with groups of students from the Benedict campus. They conducted workshops about the spirit of Don Bosco and the deep love of Maria Mazzorola. Their message about Salesianess is that it is lived in a spirit of joy. They convinced me that there is no need to be a Christian if you can’t smile about it. To prove it the students sang and a danced through an hour of fun and music. They heard an important story and rocked and rolled a Gospel message. They had a chance to think about love and they laughed and laughed through a joyful presentation.

**Year 12 Retreat**
We farewelled our Year 12s for three days of retreat this week. They joined together in a time of connection, laughter and discussion. They looked excited as they boarded the bus. There is a freshness and unity about wearing those new Leavers tops and that was the uniform of the day. Our Year 12s did look fresh in the coldness of the morning and they were certainly unified. They went to an important opportunity, these wonderful young people. They are intelligent, sensitive, struggling, determined, frustrating, and perceptive and so much more and they offer all this with their teachers in a sacred time together. The students care very much about this experience and they want to connect and affirm what is important to them for the year. They want to be together and to make the Retreat special. It becomes, through their generous spirit, a special time for asking questions and searching for answers. What people matter in my life? What is most important in life? What is my heart saying? What does God want for me? They are a better school because these people come together to deeply reflect and to have fun and to create a good memory. It is a blessing that they can share the Eucharist together and connect along this searching pathway. They are nurtured by the teachers and each other. They make contact as friends. They grow.

**Year 10 Work Experience**
Our Year 10s have ventured into the world of work with an excitement and I guess some nervousness this week. They have
been generously accepted into industry and commerce, health and service. They dressed up, turned up and polished up skills in their Work Experience involvement. We are very pleased to have the support of the Port Pirie community. Certainly, many get a chance to have some deep learning outside the classroom that will inform and guide them in choices about career. More importantly they are learning lessons about confidence, resilience and the strains of an adult world….the very demanding adult world.

Reports
I've had a chance to read the End of Semester Reports. I was able to look at indications of much hard work and evidence of much quality achievement. They have done so much and as I read I felt a sense of gratitude to the teachers who set up so many opportunities. I know that they genuinely care for the children. I know that there has been much diligence and determination from students and they have worked hard. It was there in the A's and the B's and the comments and affirmations. The teachers are confident that the students are working. They have written about it and want to let families know of the achievement. There were some delightful sentences that mums and dads will read as coded messages. If you get ‘delightful conversationalist’ you can give that chatter box you love so much a hug. If you get ‘trying to win the battle against distraction’ you might surmise there is much to go in the battle. If you get ‘lots of energy for class activity’ you know that the world is full of passionate, impulsive interest for your enthusiastic child and we wouldn’t have them any other way. Certainly there are some challenges for the new semester and we need to keep talking and supporting one another to create the flourishing young people that they will become. Please let the teachers know if you have any concerns.

Spiro – time to begin Retirement
Spiro Gauci is a loyal and long serving member of staff who attends the gardens and ensures good maintenance around the place. Spiro is a worker driven to get jobs done well. Spiro takes pride in the College and is unrelenting in his efforts. He is a grandfather who chats with Marc and Sam over at Benedict between his busy day of jobs. He has now just offered his resignation and told us it is time to begin his retirement. I can’t actually imagine Spiro as retired. There is always something to do. There is always the next part of his disciplined routine. There is always a job to quickly fix up or to help someone out. He works too hard and has been so important to us at St Mark’s. I can imagine him taking a bit more care of himself. No more St Mark’s gutters or lawns to worry about or no more emergency responses, no more great efforts to get things ready in time. We say farewell to a valued employee and hope that ‘thank you’ might in some small way be enough to tell him how much we care and appreciate him. Spiro your legacy are the gardens and the grace that you gave us. We are so grateful.

Wheelbarrow and Spades
“What are those spades, and headphones, those cameras and that wheelbarrow doing in the Front Office of Benedict?” I asked the ladies at Reception. “Who purchased all of that?” There was a huge amount of booty. Treasure. They smiled and explained that it was a response from the Parents and Friends who had sought out ways to support the teachers in the Benedict classrooms. There was a ‘treasure chest’ full of responses to an invitation to enhance the learning. The P+F had purchased all of this. It caught my breath again to recognise at how generous, creative and hard working our Parents and Friends are. We sincerely thank them.

Greg Hay, Principal

We thank Spiro for his hard work and pride in the College and wish him well. Spiro is pictured above with his grandsons Marc and Samuel.
From the APRIM

Loving God,
as we encounter Your image in
every child
no matter what age,
we ask for wisdom and Your
grace to:
see the wonder and awe of the
world
through the eyes of children,
acknowledge and celebrate
their agency,
listen to their voices with
respect and understanding,
celebrate with them as they
live who they are called to be,
invite and nurture their full
participation in life and
community,
value their relationships and
heritage,
commit ourselves to their right
to dream,
seek meaning,
to love and to grow in knowing
that they are
Your children loved by You.
We ask this prayer through
Jesus,
the Child, the Adult, the Christ,
who lives with You and the Holy
Spirit,
Amen

Melissa Gadaleta, APRIM

St Vinnies Winter Appeal

The students of Year 7 Blue, as the result of the Year 7 Confirmation service program, decided to hold
a St Vinnies Winter Appeal. The Year 7 students would like to thank all the students who sent in their
donations.

Crenie Kumar and Tayla Scarman
Year 7 students
From the Deputy Principal

Reports
Reports, distributed on the last day of Term 2, will provide all parents and caregivers with comprehensive feedback on their child’s progress in the first half of the year. If you wish to clarify or follow up any of the information provided please make a time to see your child’s teacher(s) in Week 2 of next term.

Grandparents and Grandfriends Day
Invitations have been extended to Grandparents and Grandfriends to join us for Grandparents Day on Friday July 25:
- Morning Group (Grandparents of Polding and McNally students) at 9 am
- Afternoon Group (Grandparents of Bosco and Gallagher students) at 1 pm.

The grandparents and grandfriends will join us for a prayer service, tour of the campus and classroom activity. We look forward to sharing the day with these very important people in the lives of our students.

Personal Responsibility
We have had an enormous amount of lost property reported this term. Often these items are brought into the Office after being left outside during recess and lunchtimes and an overwhelming majority of these items are unnamed. We remind parents that it is each individual student’s responsibility to take care of their personal items.

Term Three
A reminder that Term Three commences on Tuesday July 22.

Work Experience
We welcomed three students from Bosco Campus—Maddie Kennedy, Hannah Combe and Lachlan Waters, who completed their Work Experience placement in Week 10 at Benedict Campus.

Practicum Placement
In Week 10 we have welcomed back to Benedict Campus past student, Sophie Porcelli, who is preparing to commence her practicum placement at Benedict Campus next term.

Farewell
We farewell Jake and Riley Twigden from the school community and wish both them and their family our best wishes for the future.

Staffing News
We wish all the best to Meredyn Bell, Lyn Howell, Angela Jordan and Jack Jordan who will all be taking Long Service Leave in the first two weeks of next term. Kylie Capurso and Louise Kitto will continue working at Benedict Campus next term covering the teaching duties of staff taking long service leave.

Thank you
At the end of last week we took delivery of several items that have been provided by the Parents and Friends from their recent fundraising endeavours.

We thank the Parents and Friends for their generous support. In this Newsletter, and the next, you will be able to see some of the items that have been purchased for the use of our students.

Helen McKeough
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus

News from Special Education
This term has been a very busy yet a very productive term for us all. David O’Connor presented to staff at Benedict about the important role vision plays in a child’s learning. David has been a behavioural optometrist for 50 years and is a wealth of knowledge.

I have purchased a screener for dyslexia which can give now parents an accurate indication of whether the child shows signs of dyslexia from the age of 5. I would also like to say a big thank you to P&F who have contributed $602 towards purchasing a variety of educational resources for our students on the LAP Program with a focus being on dyslexia and autism. Remember if you are concerned about your child’s progress please speak to the class teacher.

Have a safe and enjoyable break.

Louise Richards
Special Education Coordinator
**Year 3 Excursion**

My favourite part of the excursion was when the emu ate Miss Kitt’s lunch.

*By Riley King and Antonio Amato.*

It was fun walking through the creek and up the hills.

*By Sophie Logoudis and Levi Hoskin*

For our excursion we went to Port Germein where we looked for crabs, walked along the Jetty and then played on the playground. We then went to Mambray Creek where we went on walks and played in the creek. We had lots of fun.

*By Amity Williams and Milana Tattoli*

We walked nearly 11 kilometres it was lots of fun. We saw Kangaroos and emus.

*By Aaliyan Hashmi*

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**Gymnastic Skills**

On Monday Mr Murphy’s Year 8 PE Class invited us over to Bosco to teach us some Gymnastic skills. We got to use 7 different apparatus. We had lots of fun.

*Year 3 Green students*

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**Thank you to Parents and Friends**

The Year 4 students would like to thank the Parents and Friends for purchasing 12 sets of headphones for use in our classrooms. The headphones allow us to use the iPads, laptops and computers in class, without disrupting other class members. They are very useful during reading and literacy groups! Thank you!

*Year 4 students*
From the Deputy Principal

New Driving Laws
In the coming days the South Australian Government will launch a media campaign concerning new driving laws to be introduced on Monday, July 28. Last Friday, we asked our Year 11 and Year 12 students to gather in the BGC to discuss the implications of these new laws. A letter was distributed which outlined key points of the legislation…

Night Driving Restrictions
From Monday, July 28, holders of a P1 licence aged under 25 must not drive between midnight and 5am, unless they have a qualified supervising driver (who has held a full driver’s licence for a minimum of two years and has not been disqualified in the previous two years) seated beside them or they meet one of the exemption criteria below:

- Driving to and from work or driving in the course of employment;
- Driving to and from education/training or driving in the course of education/training with a school, university, TAFE, apprenticeship or other formal training provider;
- Driving to and from formal volunteer work, or driving in the course of performing formal volunteer work;
- Driving to participate in sports, artistic, charitable, religious or scientific activities; or
- A police or emergency services officer on duty.

Learner motorcyclists under the age of 25 with a P2 or full licence for a car will also be subject to the night driving restriction.

Passenger Restriction
From Monday, July 28, holders of a P1 licence aged under 25 must not carry more than one passenger aged between 16 and 20 (excluding immediate family members) unless they have a qualified supervising driver seated beside them or they meet one of the exemption criteria below:

- Driving in the course of employment; or
- A police or emergency services officer on duty.

An exemption from the passenger restriction will not be available for any other purpose, including education and training.

The Government understands that passenger restriction may impact upon students who currently travel together, for instance where a P1 driver currently drives with more than one passenger aged 16 to 20 between school campuses or to assist with car-pooling etc. Under the new laws, this practice may continue but only if the P1 driver has a qualified supervising driver in the front seat beside them.

Where a qualified supervising driver is present, the passenger restriction does not apply and additional passengers aged between 16 and 20 may travel in the vehicle. Immediate family members are also exempt, which means that P1 drivers will still be able to take their brothers and sisters to school, regardless of their age.

P1 licence holders are responsible for complying with these new laws and will be informed of the changes. They do not need to apply for an exemption from the night driving restriction for education and training purposes but may need to provide evidence that they meet the exemption criteria if requested by police.

Further information about the new laws and the exemption scheme can be found at www.mylicence.sa.gov.au

Report Collection
With so much activity in our final week of term, report collection reflects student movement on the final day, see table below.

Wishing you peace and renewal this holiday season.

Brett Czechowski
Deputy Principal - Bosco Campus

Report Collection on Friday 4 July

Year 8, 9 and Year 11
Reports issued during Afternoon Caregroup (approx 12:25pm).

Year 10
Students (or sibling) may collect from Bosco Office until 3pm.

Year 12
Issued to students on their return from Retreat.
The Year 10 Music students recently performed a concert for their parents & friends.
SMC Soccer

Teams braved the cold and played in very wet and windy conditions last weekend. Our younger soccer players continue to impress with their skill development and technique. Parents and players are reminded that there is a game this Saturday 5 July. There is then a two week break and games resume on 26 July.

Last week the SAPSASA soccer carnival was held in Adelaide and we had several of our Year 6 & 7 students participating and representing Port Pirie. A great week was had by all.

Pia Keain, SMC Soccer Coordinator

SMC Football

SMC Under 9’s Football - Player Comments

Jack Rafanelli - I like SMC football because I can kick the ball to my friends.

Cooper Ferme - I like SMC football because I get a lot of kicks.

Rylan Akker - I like SMC football because I make new friends.

Noah Gebert - I like playing SMC football because I play with my friends and its fun.

Mitchell Cretan - I like playing SMC football because it is fun and I like football.

SMC Under 11’s Football

We have been playing very well, we lost our first game in three years, we lost to Sollies. We are still on the top of the ladder, we love playing for St Mark’s.

Deakin Murphy and Charlie Ward

SMC Under 13’s Football

This year in U13’s we have won 6 out of 9 games. Nearly all of our players have kicked a goal this year. Our team is getting better as the season goes on! Thanks to all of the parents for helping out at the barbecue with the drinks and bacon and egg burgers. They were really nice.

Jamison Murphy and Kallis Freer

SMC Netball

With the school holidays starting this week netball goes into a break after Saturday’s matches (5/7). Under 8 & 9 players do not play on Saturday 12 or 19 of July. Under 11 through to Seniors resume their matches on the 19 July. Please let coaches know as early as possible if you are unavailable to play matches during the holiday weekends so that replacement players can be organised in advance.

I hope that everyone enjoys their holiday break.

Katie Pole, SMC Netball Coordinator

St Mark’s Sport proudly sponsored by alsanto constructions
Around the College

McNally Farm

Year 9 Art - Digital Surrealism (Photomontage)

SAPSASA Hockey

During the week of 23 to the 27 July, 17 St. Mark’s students took part in SAPSASA Hockey in Adelaide. Congratulations to both teams, they competed in Division 1, the boys coming second and the girls coming sixth. New skills were learnt, as well as many new friends made, a good time was had by all. The boys were coached by myself and managed by John Northcott. The girls were coached by Jo Atkins and managed by Jenna Tiller.

Weather wise it was gale force winds, hail and rain on most days. Many thanks not only to the players, but also the parents who supported their children throughout the week in such challenging conditions.

Annette Lane, SAPSASA Hockey Coach

A big thank you to local farmer Kym Reid for his help with our Year 12 Ag students. Kym explained to our students the complete process of farming and marketing pigs and this will help them greatly with their Research Assignment.

Notices

Hip Hop Bounce

Enrolments are now open for Term 3 so get fit, have fun and stay warm. First class is free. Classes in cheerleading, classical ballet, jazz, contemporary, adult dance-fitness and the latest hip hop styles. For more information contact Natasha on 0416 239 676 or natasha@hiphopbounce.com.au

Bank SA - Score big rewards in Term Three

Bank SA has been helping kids of all ages learn how to manage money for 166 years. Kids who understand how money works can carry those skills into their adult lives – helping them stay financially secure.

In term three, Bank SA will be assisting students from Saint Marks College to learn about money management, whilst also helping Saint Marks College to raise valuable funds.

The money raised from this initiative will go towards Caritas Australia.

Details about this program will be sent home with students.

For more information, see the school office or call the Bank SA Port Pirie Branch on 08 8633 9200.