Our Bosco students won the Handley Cup and our Year 7 students spent a night on cardboard. Our parents gathered in support of their sons and daughters and the ‘74 Old Scholars Committee planned a Reunion. On Sunday our Year 4 students prepare for Holy Communion.

The Handley Cup

Our College engaged in our school ‘intercoll’ with Xavier College last week to contest the Father Dennis Handley Cup. Our Bosco students created four netball teams and two football teams. It was a wonderful experience of sporting endeavour and school unity but it was much more in that we shared a sense of the importance of our Salesian network. There was a pride in welcoming and a determination in playing, and whilst we encouraged the effort, we also emphasised the connection in a Don Bosco context. It was about and being together. We reflected upon the legacy of Fr Dennis Handley. He would delight at the contest and he would want there to be plenty of encouragement and smiles all around. The charismatic Dennis Handley, who was Principal of St Mark’s for seven years and Principal of Xavier College for eleven years would applaud the friendship, our celebration and the unity. He is looking down from Heaven now and would surely be slightly chuffed. Somehow St Mark’s managed to scrap through for a win. We hosted an important event and the students responded superbly. There was plenty of desperation, some heroism, a dash too much testosterone and warm handshakes to finish. I know that a big team of staff made something important happen for the students. Thanks to Brett Czechowski and Jess Oxford for this management. Father Dennis Handley was honoured and there is a little silverware in our Front Office.

First Communion

I was at Mass on Sunday when I received, as part of the liturgy, an envelope containing a letter from a Year 4 student describing their preparation for First Holy Communion. Clearly the student was engaged and interested in the process. The student wrote with innocent reverence and a deep faithfulness. I was touched by the hopefulness and respect for this significant moment in their Church life. The Year 4s are well involved in the learning and the theology. They are at Mass and they are open to the deep and profound experience of Eucharist. Their teachers are guiding them and it’s only two weeks away. I’ll pray for them as was requested, however, after reading the reflection I hope that they pray for me. God is certainly listening to them.

The Subject Selection Meeting

I was very pleased that so many parents made attendance at the Subject Selection Night a priority. The sons and daughters, and the mums and dads of the Year 10 and 11s, gathered in big numbers. We set up an important opportunity for making an informed decision. It was about making a connection with the curriculum and looking at the documents. Our students now take a little of their hope for a career, a lot of their love for a subject discipline, and then they try and create for themselves a pathway of scholarship. They will combine this with the trust that they have in faculty members and they will talk to teachers and each other. The students are heading in a 2015 direction. It is exciting times. I thank Mrs Meriam DeVries and her team for their guidance. I look forward to our 2015 senior secondary students making good subject choices. The night was all about possibilities.
Year 7s and a Homelessness Appreciation

After the Year 7s were Confirmed by the Bishop they were given a challenge to somehow live out their new commitment. They had to find an expression of lived Christianity, deep compassion or commitment to social justice. There have been a myriad of generous responses. Two Year 7s, Georgie King and Brooke Smith, under the guidance of Ms Lyn Elbourn and supported by Ms Toni Boulton, decided to create a ‘sleep out appreciation for the homeless’. About 30 students slept on cardboard in the Good Samaritan Hall. They were invited to a Friday night gathering. There were donations from Coles, Baker’s Delight and friends of the event. There was plenty of cardboard from supporting parents Steve and Kelly Reid and Elizabeth Connelly. There was prayer and reflection, a simple tea of soup and sausages and then they did some serious reflection. There were games played, money raised and they watched ‘The Blind Side’ about a football triumph over homelessness. They even had a shelter making competition using only the cardboard so generously donated by HomeFlair Furnishing. I was enjoying the construction until I noticed Ms Elbourn reading the dozens of furnishing labels and allowing strong nesting instincts to take over. (This could cost a fortune!) The students slept tough in the cold conditions and gained a better insight into homelessness and the poor and disadvantage. Georgie and Brooke were outstanding organisers and the creaking bones of the Principal are back to normal. The challenge of Confirmation has been taken seriously and they have all caught up on their sleep.

Salesian College and St Mark’s Girls High School. The visitors kept telling stories. They kept laughing. They were amazed at the College developments. They stood glazed at the Honour Boards and they were genuinely interested in 2014 St Mark’s life. This Old Scholars connection is an important movement within our community. My understanding of the value and importance of this place grows with every association. They care deeply about their legacy and they have great hopes for our future. There has been a very exciting response to our invitation to celebrate the anniversary years 74, 84, 94, 04. We plan to host the general reunion on Saturday October 18. Please contact the College if you want to be involved. This is an experience of blessing.

Greg Hay, Principal

YEAR 7S AND A HOMELESSNESS APPRECIATION

Year 7 students made shelters and slept in tough conditions to gain a better insight into homelessness.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Benedict Campus and Family Photos
Wednesday 27 August

Bosco Campus
Thursday 28 August
Around the College

From the APRIM

Year 8 Retreat
Last Thursday fortnight our Year 8s experienced their first full day Retreat. The theme of the Retreat was ‘Making Choices’. A very dedicated and enthusiastic team of teachers; Fiona Clarke, Robert Cronin, Neal Fitton, Deb McArthur, Peter Munday, Mardi Nolan, Emma Patton, Matthew Ryan and Veronica Travers thoroughly prepared games, talks, role plays and meditations to give the students a rich experience of ‘Retreat’. I’d like to commend the students for really getting into the spirit of the day and the teachers for their meaningful facilitation. Also, a very special thank you to Emily Noonan, Year 11, for once again sharing her inspiring African experience with the students of St Mark’s.

First Holy Communion
Preparations are well underway for First Holy Communion which will be celebrated in the Parish on the weekend of 23/24 August. Please keep the students and their families in your prayers.

The students are currently undertaking their Commitment Programme. The Commitment Programme unites the three areas of the students’ preparation of First Holy Communion with their families, the school and the parish coming together in celebration. Therefore, it is more beneficial for the students if they participate in the Mass whilst seated with their families, rather than sitting as a year level or with groups of friends, as they are then able to make the connection that weekend Masses are family orientated rather than a school event, and participate more fully in the service. We thank you in anticipation of your support with this request.

First Reconciliation Meeting
If you would like your child/ren to prepare for and make their First Reconciliation with the school community at a special Liturgy on Wednesday 29 October at 7pm, please attend the Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 27 August, 7.30pm at the Old Convent, Gertrude Street. The compulsory meeting goes for approximately 30 minutes. All information is distributed during the meeting. If you can’t make the meeting you will need to speak with a parish priest after a weekend Mass not your child’s class teacher.

Year 10 and Year 11 Retreats
Information and consent forms were distributed to the Year 10s and 11s this week. Please ensure that your child’s consent form is returned to the Bosco Office by Monday 25 August (Week 6) at the latest.

Melissa Gadoleta, APRIM
First Holy Communion
We look forward, with the Year 4 students, as they prepare to celebrate their First Holy Communion on the weekend of August 23/24. We continue to keep the class teachers who are preparing the students, Miss Lauren Cooke, Mr Bernie Kelly and Mrs Pia Keain, and the students, in our prayers.

Book Week
Next week students will celebrate Book Week. Thanks go to the staff who are organising and preparing activities. Next Wednesday will be our ‘dress up’ day. The theme for Book Week this year is ‘Connect to Reading’.

School Choir
We wish our choristers, and Mr Bret Swensson, all the best as they make final preparations for their performance at the Keith Michell Theatre in early September. They will join other regional schools for the Festival of Music Combined Choir performance.

Benedict on Broadway
We have started preliminary planning for our Benedict End of Year Concert - Benedict on Broadway. Further information will be released as details are finalised.

Helen McKeough
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus

International Science Skills Competitions and Assessment Results

Credit
Jonas Blight
Participation
Mason Bickley
Kamsi Onwuchekwa
Marc Richards
Ethan Markham
Mollie Watt
Laura Watt

International Computer Skills Competitions and Assessment Results

Distinction
Ayeisha Everett
Credit
Sophie Tattoli
Participation
Myles Jackson
Kamsi Onwuchekwa
Alyce Ferme
Jonas Blight
Ethan Markham
Jack Wulf

Congratulations to Year 4 student Madeleine Denny who was welcomed into the Catholic Church on Wednesday 6 August.

From the Deputy Principal

First Communion

Book Week 2014
The theme for Book Week is 2014 is Connect to Reading. Benedict will be celebrating next week with a dress up day on Wednesday 20 August. Students are asked to come dressed as a character that they connect or relate to. Parades will be held in the Good Samaritan Hall during the morning with classes divided into two groups. Parents are more than welcome to attend.

Book Week Parade groups and times:

9.10 am
Foundation Blue
Foundation Red
Year 1 Blue
Year 2 Blue
Year 3 Blue
Year 4 Blue
Year 5 Blue
Year 6 Blue
Year 6/7 Gold
Year 7 Blue

9.40 am
Foundation Green
Year 1 Red
Year 1 Green
Year 2 Red
Year 3 Red
Year 3 Green
Year 4 Red
Year 5 Red
Year 5 Green
Year 6 Red
Year 7 Red

SCHOOL PHOTOS
Benedict Campus and Family Photos
Wednesday 27 August

Bosco Campus
Thursday 28 August
Rave Competition

On Friday 1 August I had the privilege of taking 39 Year 6 students to the Keith Michell to represent St Mark’s College in the ‘RAVE Dance all Night’ competition. The students had been preparing hard for the event practising at lunch times for the past 14 weeks. During the day the students had the opportunity to participate in a variety of dance workshops including hip hop and break dancing. The students performed in two groups in the evening - Fly to Your Heart which was awarded an Honourable Mention, and Thriller, which was awarded a Judges Choice award. I was very proud of the amazing performance the students gave.

I would like to thank the following teachers who helped: Mrs Keain, Ms Ellbourn, Mrs Murphy, Miss Capurso and Mrs Richter. I would also like to thank Sarah Watt and Tracy Sjostrom for their help with costumes and hair.

Karen Davison, RAVE Coordinator

Benedict House Cup Challenge

The Foundation to Year 3 students had a House Cup Challenge competition last term. They had to design a “Be a Good Buddy” poster. All winners earned 10 points for their team. All entrants earned 1 point for their team.

The results were:
Gallagher -99
Bosco -98
McNally -79
Polding -78
These points go towards the House Cup Challenge trophy. Posters are being displayed around the school to remind people to be a good friend at school.

Angela Jordan, Year 3 teacher
From the Deputy Principal

Fr Dennis Handley Cup
On a glorious autumn day, St Mark’s College and Xavier College, Gawler once again contested the Fr Dennis Handley Cup. It is the fourth time we have staged the competition and St Mark’s was again the victor winning four shields to Xavier’s two. The atmosphere throughout the day was carnival-like. Students from both campuses spent much of their own time supporting their peers on the netball court or on the football field. Our school was very much a home that welcomed.

My thanks to Jesslyn Oxford for coordinating the event and for the many who supported her, including coaches Kate Lavis, Ann Russack, Jane Gibson, John Gibson, Mark Murphy, Graham Ford and Greg Phillips.

The final results were...

Year 9/10 Football
XC 12-10-82 d SMC 6-10-46

Year 11/12 Football
XC 20-14-134 d SMC 4-6-30

Year 9 Netball
SMC 41 d XC 39

Year 10 Netball
SMC 72 d XC 35

Year 11 Netball
SMC 52 d XC 33

Year 12 Netball
SMC 49 d XC 39

Best Players included:
Maggie Peterson (Year 10 Netball),
Georgia-Rose Scormon (Year 11 Netball)
Jordan Afford (Year 12 Netball).

Subject Counselling

Parents and students are now invited to meet with a subject counsellor in the Bishop Gallagher Centre on the following evenings...

Year 10 Wednesday, August 20 from 1-6pm
Year 11 Thursday, August 21 from 1-6pm

If you have yet to make an appointment, please contact Vicki Vella at Bosco Reception on 8633 8812.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

We have decided to offer our Semester Two Parent/Teacher Interviews a little earlier this year. Traditionally, interviews have been conducted in Week 2 or 3 of Term 4. This is not an ideal time for Year 12 as most courses have been completed and exam preparation is well underway. We are now offering interviews on Thursday, September 3 (Term 3). Interview time sheets will be sent home soon so that all students, including those in Year 12, have an opportunity to reflect on and plan for the learning opportunities available in the second half of the semester.

Brett Czechowski
Deputy Principal - Bosco Campus
McNally Farm News - Crystal Brook Show

This year we had nine keen Year 10 and 11 students helping out at the show, and participating in School Steer events. In the Handlers event, we had very strong competition, and this was a great experience for our students. Congratulations must go Benedict student, Peggy Jackson, who was judged best handler under 12 years of age, parading her Santa Gertrudis. Congratulations also to Ashleigh Marrell who led our Shorthorn, Moreton, Dylan Isgar who led Dozer, our Santa Gertrudis, and Larry Stanley who led our Red Angus, Stewie, in the Under 18 years class. All handled the steers very well. Several of our students participated in the Steer Judging competition, with Larry Stanley making it into a field of 6 finalists, and gaining third place. Congratulations Larry on a fine effort. In the Trade Steer yearling class, our Red Angus came first, and in the 12 months and older class our Santa Gertrudis came second, followed by our Shorthorn in third place. Overall, a very enjoyable day. Our Boer goats are progressing very well, in preparation for the Adelaide Show, and we now have a doe and three kids for the students to work with. Year 9 Agriculture elective students will lead the goats at the Adelaide Show, with Year 8 students also gaining experience, helping with the training programme at school.

Paul Matthews, Agriculture Teacher

Bosco Roses

As part of beautifying the Bosco House area, Bosco House students planted six yellow standard roses around the library. Each rose was planted by a representative of each caregroup. We hope that these roses will spread colour throughout the area as they grow and bloom.

Melanie Cockerill, Bosco House Leader

Attention - Students and Families who are interested in taking up VET Study

Please download the 'Part Time Student’s Information Booklet' from the school’s web site. This contains background information and an application ‘of interest’ form.

The link is:
http://www.stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au/home/secondary/vocational-education-and-training-vet-
then click on the document link near the bottom of the page.

Mr Shane Fantinel,
VET Coordinator

Maths Ad(d)s - Career in Mathematics and Statistics

Attached to this SMC Newsletter is a PDF from the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute.

The AMSI publishes Maths Ad(d)s which informs students of career opportunities that involve Mathematics. Letting students know about the wide range of jobs available in the area of Maths, may encourage them to take their Mathematics study further. Please read the PDF for further information.

Graham Ford,
Mathematics Coordinator

Congratulations to Year 7 student Peggy Jackson who was judged Best Handler under 12 years of age.

Congratulations to Year 10 student Larry Stanley who won 3rd place in the Steer Judging Competition.

Chloe, George and Hannah planting the Bosco Roses.
Sports News

SMC Tennis

Registration Forms for St Mark’s Tennis for the 2014-15 season will be distributed early next week.

Registration forms and fees will be due back to the Bosco and Benedict Office by Wednesday 27 August.

There will be no G Grade this season but beginning players will instead, have the opportunity to be involved in the skills based “Hot Shots” programme co-ordinated by Grant Hanlan. Players can register through St Mark’s. The programme will have a beginners and advanced group at different timeslots on Saturday mornings. Information will be distributed to our F-2 students, however Year 3 beginners may also wish to be involved. Please see me if further information is needed.

It is likely that Saturday morning matches will be played in set timeslots this season, with A Grade for example, always being played at 10:30am.

Des McKeough, SMC Tennis Coordinator

SMC Netball

The end of the season is upon us.

Congratulations to the following teams playing off in the finals this weekend: C Grade, D Grade, E Grade, F Grade, G Grade, H Grade, I Grade Blue, Under 12 Div 1 Blue, Under 12 Div 1 Red, Under 12 Div 2 Blue, Under 12 Div 2 Red, Under 11 Blue, Under 11 Red, Under 11 Gold.

Our Under 8 and 9 players complete their last round of matches this weekend, with A Grade for example, always being played at 10:30am.

Katie Pole, SMC Netball Coordinator

SMC Hockey

The hockey season is drawing to a close with 3 more minor round games left for most teams. The U9’s and the U12’s finish their season with 2 more games to be played and they do not play finals. The U15’s and U18’s have 3 more games and then play in finals.

All teams have tried their best and have been quite successful.

The Committee would like to thank all the coaches who have given their time to help and guide our players. Thanks also to those who have umpired or worked in the canteen this season.

Without your help the Junior Association would not run so smoothly.

There will be an U9, U12 and U15 Windup on Thursday 21 at school. Forms need to be returned by Tuesday 19 to the Front Office at Benedict or Bosco for catering purposes.

SMC Hockey Committee

SMC Hockey U9, U12 and U15 Presentation

Thursday 21 August
4:30pm to 5:15pm
at Benedict Campus
(Lawn area between classrooms and Benedict Library)

Pizza, hot chips and a drink
Cost is $7 player and $3 extra child

Notes will be sent home soon.
Please return your form and money to the Front Office by Tuesday 19 August.

SMC Hockey Committee

Rugby Carnival

On Friday of Week 3 the Year 6’s participated in a Rugby Carnival. We played 6 games then it was finals. The St Mark’s 2 team played Pirie West in the finals but came second after a 7 minute overtime. It was a fun and exciting experience to play a sport that not a lot of people play. We would like to thank Mr Kelly for setting it up and to everyone who helped out. The Year 6’s really enjoyed it.

By Jack Jensen, Josh Denny, Bailey Congdon

On Friday of Week 3 the Year 6’s took part in a Rugby Carnival against 3 different schools. We versed Pirie West, Solomontown and Airdale. We would like to thank the other schools for coming out and participating to make this day possible. The St Mark’s girls were very successful, Mr Dix’s team came 3rd, Mrs Murphy’s team came 5th and Mr Mead’s team came 6th. The boys made it into sudden death in the grand final but lost. It was a very enjoyable day. We learnt many different skills that we don’t usually use like passing backwards, diving and constantly running. We would like to thank Allan, Dave and any others who helped out in organising the 2014 Rugby Carnival.

By Lucee Bessen, Caitlin Tee and Maggie Waters

Year 6 students had fun and developed different sporting skills during the Rugby Carnival.

St Mark’s Sport proudly sponsored by
On Wednesday the 6 August, St Mark’s hosted the fourth annual Fr Dennis Handley Cup. Each year, the sporting exchange takes place between the two Salesian schools in South Australia, St Mark’s College and Xavier College of Gawler in memory of Fr Dennis Handley, a past Principal of both schools. The sun was shining and the players ready to compete in Football and Netball matches to fight it out to win the cup. The Year 9 and 10 boys were first to take the field, where they played a strong Xavier side. The St Mark’s boys, led by Mr Murphy and Mr Gibson had many opportunities throughout the match, but Xavier pulled through with the win, defeating St Mark’s by 36 Points. This game was followed by the Open team, coached by Mr Phillips and Mr Ford. Xavier proved to be too tough for the St Mark’s players defeating them easily. It was left in the hands of the netballers. The Year 11 and 12 girls took the court first, both at Bosco and Benedict, led by Mrs Lavis and Mrs Gibson, and fought hard to win by comfortable margins. The Year 10 Netball team, coached by Miss Russack, were all class, and won their match convincingly. It was up to the Year 9 girls, led by Mrs Gibson, to secure a win, and also guarantee that the Fr Dennis Handley Cup stayed at St Mark’s. In a tight contest, the girls were able to score the win by only 2 goals, meaning the Fr Dennis Handley Cup was presented to St Mark’s College.

Many thanks to all of the people that helped to make the day run so smoothly, particularly to coaches, umpires, house leaders and representatives for their hard work.

Congratulations to all players for competing, and securing the Fr Dennis Handley Cup for 2014.

Jesslyn Oxford,
Bosco Sports Coordinator
Notices

Join the new Port Pirie 18/U Super League Tennis Competition

A new 18 and Under Super League Social Tennis Competition will commence mid October 2014. Ages 15 to 18 years welcome. A great opportunity to play tennis and have fun with your friends while enjoying songs on the PA during play. Games will be fast 1 hour only play and there is no need to join a club. We are also seeking help to design 4 team shirts. Phone Grant Hanlon 0414 320 840 or email pirietennis@bigpond.com

Patriots Junior Basketball Club

Registration night for the summer season will be held on Wednesday 27 August at the Port Clubrooms from 7pm to 8pm. All welcome!

Australian Veteran’s Children Assistance Trust (AVCAT) Scholarships

AVCAT is a national independent charity administering tertiary scholarships for children and grandchildren of ex-service men and women. Our 2015 scholarship applications open on 18 August 2014 and close on 31 October 2014. For more information please visit www.avcat.org.au or email us on avcat@dva.gov.au

MNCC Aviation Open Day

Friday 22 August from 10am to 2pm. Come and see the Mid North Christian College Aviation Program Open Day and see the program in action - sit in on a theory lesson or view the restoration of an Aero 45 plane.

Applications NOW OPEN for Nyrstar Apprenticeships 2015

Applications are now open for full time & School Based Apprenticeships in the following trades:

• Metal Fabrication
• Fitting & Turning
• Electrical

Minimal standard for all positions is completion of year 11 by the end of 2014. To register your interest please email pp_apprentices@nyrstar.com to receive further information and an application form

Applications close 22nd August 2014

St Mark’s College McNALLY FARM OPEN DAY

Community members are invited to visit our McNally Farm and enjoy a tour by our students of the exciting Ag Skills Centre area of our College.

Wednesday 20 August 10am to 2.30pm
Entry via Drage Street
For more information please call the College on 86 32-2800.

St Mark’s College Class of 1994

In honour of our outstanding achievements and dedication to creating a fantastic school experience, come and celebrate our

20 Year School Reunion
on Saturday 18 October 2014
7pm to 11.30pm at the Portside Tavern, Port Pirie

Tickets $45 single or $80 couple
Finger Food
Dress - Cocktail

Contact Jacqui on 0448 784 884 or jacquimac76@gmail.com

St Mark’s College
McNALL Y FARM
OPEN DAY

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