Our Year 12s gathered in farewell ritual and the boarders enjoyed a final liturgy. Our newest parents visited and the Old Scholars looked in awe at the Fatima Bell. The building projects are well under way, some sheep have been clipped and there was the announcement of the new College Captains for 2015.

**Final Year 12 Mass**

There are traditions in the College that powerfully define a moment. Traditions like candles and cards and hugs. Our Year 12 Farewell Mass this week expressed such traditions and touched our hearts for good measure. Around the school they call it the ‘Candle Mass’. It is the Year 12 Farewell Mass and reflects a moment in the liturgy when the Year 12s receive a candle from the Foundations. It’s our blessing symbol. Attached to the candle is a special dedication written by the Foundation students and that candle is kept to light the way for fine young men and women who are now ready to leave. It is about the human connection and it is about achievement and resilience, family and faithfulness. It’s about singing loudly a unifying hymn (Shout to the Lord) and walking as a group to receive Eucharist. It is about leaving the much loved assembly for the last time. It is poignant and we gathered on Tuesday in the Good Samaritan Hall. There were many parents in attendance and the Year 12s looked excited, a bit numb, unified. Melissa Gadaleta coordinates it all. She makes sure that the powerful connection of family is highlighted. Prayers are pronounced by brothers and readings proclaimed by sisters. Brothers and sisters in Foundation and Year 12 take up the offertory and prayers of the faithful are never more sincerely prayed than by a nervous, proud and well-rehearsed sibling. George and Brooke as Captains spoke of gratitude and there were eye glistening moments when we realised that these wonderful young people would be leaving us. There are still exams and last assignments and a formal Graduation but we won’t be the same any more. Our Year 12s have stood up, it was a beautiful ‘Candle Mass’ and they are leaving.

**Boarders Farewell**

I was part of a wonderful farewell liturgy at Salesian House. We gathered in the Bosco Chapel to pray for the Year 12 Boarders and then certificates and speeches acclaimed the year. The gospel reading was about being ‘the salt of the earth’. It was Matthew the gospel writer, who understood, like masterchefs and the take away food industry, that salt matters. I reflected on how the salty elements of Salesian House were their commitment to welcome, to hospitality, to community and to reverence. All of these elements in living together enhance and ‘salt’ the experience. We were very proud of our Year 12 Boarders who ran the whole liturgy and also Patrick Williams who was awarded the Salesian House Award. It’s the ‘Brownlow’ for boarders and Patrick embodied a respectful commitment that makes the place so much better. The gathering concluded in a huge feast at the boarding house. Calories, congratulations and camaraderie concluded the night.

**The Principal Tours**

I was particularly proud of our College last week when we invited our newest parents into a Principal’s Tour. We walked through Benedict during a typically happy day - whatever typical
means anything in this busy, complex Benedict world. There were a range of lessons, a terrific engagement of the students and we heard and saw evidence of important learning. Students spoke about their experience at St Mark’s and were outstanding advocates for the place. The teachers were invited to answer some of my questions and (after a half smile half glare at me) spoke with authority and confidence. They reassured the parents of the care and scholarship of the place. There was a tone of order. There was the colour of creativity and an enthusiasm for being together present and obvious to the visitors. There were specialist subjects looking spectacular and parents supporting the Foundation PE program. There were abundant smiles and a fare dash of cuteness so that I would imagine that our newest parents would have left with confidence in their choice of school.

The Building Projects
There are four building projects in the school at the moment. The Benedict Early Years redevelopment, the Boarding House upgrade – kitchen and six bedrooms, the Trade Training Centre and the development of plans for a new Technology and Art Centre. The deadline for three of them is January 2015. It is marvellous to see these projects underway. I am very grateful to teachers for flexibility and tolerance, the maintenance team for support and Dominic Lo Basso for project management. This is very exciting and it’s about the learning and care of our students.

Shearing at St Mark’s
One part of the Trade Training Centre that has been completed is the ‘shearing shed’ facility. It is state of the art, clean, functional and as impressive as a Tom Roberts ‘Shearing the Rams’ painting. A couple of nights ago I noticed Farm Manager, Joel Head, driving this huge semi-trailer full of sheep into McNally Farm and the new Shearing quarters. As the sun was setting and the dust cloud from this huge machine settled he unloaded 200 sheep ready for the Agricultural students to complete a TAFE Accredited shearing course. I visited the students the next morning and it was a marvel. It was tough, difficult, sweaty, hard and grinding. They bent over and tussled with a new skill. They grew from clumsy and uncertain to more confident and capable. The students were very tired every night. The same muscles ached at the end of each day and I marvelled at their achievement. And whilst the students grew in insight, the sheep remained either indifferent or a bit miffed about the haircut.

Ag Shearing Course
Monday 20 October to Friday 24 October

Year 12 Final Day
Friday 24 October

Benedict Assembly
Monday 27 October

First Reconciliation Commences
Monday 27 October

SAPSASA Interschool Sports Day
Thursday 30 October

All Saints’ Day
Saturday 1 November

All Souls’ Day
Sunday 2 November

Year 12 Exams commence
Monday 3 November

SAPSASA Cricket and Tennis Carnival Week
Monday 3 November to Friday 7 November

Melbourne Cup
Tuesday 4 November

Our new College Captains
It is my pleasure to announce that the College Captains for 2015 are Erini Seindanis and James Ganley. After a process of discernment and voting, speeches and discussion our two newest captains, humbly but with smiles, will step into the shoes of leadership. We are delighted and wish them well.

Greg Hay, Principal
Prayer for Completion of Year 12

O God of Wisdom,
I thank you for the knowledge gained
and the
learning experiences of the year.
I come to you this day and ask you to
illuminate my mind and heart.

Let your Holy Spirit be with me as I
prepare for
exams, guiding my studies, and
giving
me insight so that I can perform to
the
best of my ability.

Please grant me the strength to
handle the
pressure of these final days of the
year, the
confidence to feel secure in my
knowledge, and
the ability to keep an appropriate
perspective through it all.

Help me to keep in mind what is truly
important,
even as I focus my time and energy
on these tests
in the immediate future.

Finally, may I sense your peace in
knowing that I
applied myself to the challenges of
this day.
I ask this through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Amen

Melissa Godolaeto, APRIM
From the Deputy Principal

Our 513 students, and our staff, have returned from a well-earned holiday break, ready for the last term of the 2014 school year. As we commence the term we -

• look forward to our Mission Month learning and activities occurring over the coming weeks
• also look forward to the SAPSASA Interschool Sports Day to be held next week
• have started our concert rehearsals
• have the Year 6 and 7 students involved in an aquatic excursion
• keep the Year Three students and staff in our prayers as the students will soon celebrate the sacrament of peace and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

It has been a frenetic start to the term!

Classes for 2015
Parents who wish to request consideration for their child's placement in classes for 2015 are to submit a Student Placement Consideration Form outlining sound educational/medical/social reasoning for the request. This form can be collected from the Benedict Office. All requests must be made in writing. Completed forms need to be submitted by Friday 7 November.

Requests regarding teachers or the type of class structure will not be considered. Class structures and the placement of teachers into teaching roles is the responsibility of the College. Whilst every appropriate request is considered, not all will be able to be met given the combined needs of our large and complex school community.

School Uniform Reminder
Students are to wear white socks with the College PE uniform. Black or multi-coloured socks are not part of the College uniform. We ask all parents to please ensure your child is in the correct uniform.

Congratulations
Our school community wishes Lauren Cooke all the very best for her upcoming marriage to Richard and many blessings on their future life together.

Helen McKeough
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus

Port Pirie Inter-School Primary Sports Day

This year’s Inter-School Sports Day involving all eight Port Pirie and District Primary Schools will be held on Thursday 30 October 2014 (ie Term 4, Week 3).

If the weather is inclement on Thursday 30 October, then the Sports Day will be held on Friday 31 October 2014. A decision will be made by 9.00am on the Thursday and schools notified if this is the case. Students will compete in sprints, long distance events, team games and relays.

The Sports Day will be held at St Mark’s Bosco (Secondary) Campus Oval and will include Year 4 –7 students. The programme will begin at 10.15am and conclude with shield presentations at 2.00pm.

Schools will compete in two groups – The Pirie Group (Risdon Park, St. Mark’s Salesians and St Mark’s Samaritans) and The Flinders View Group (Airdale/ Napperby, Mid North Christian College, Solomontown and Pirie West), with each group competing for the H. E. Welch Championship Shield, Bill Buchanan Incentive Shield, Charlie Olson Sprint Shield and the Mark Bickley Team Game Shield.

Spectators are most welcome but are requested to remain on the outside of the track. A parking area is available on the south side of St Mark’s Bosco Oval by entering off The Terrace, on the south side of the buildings. Proceed through the double gates at the back of the tennis courts.

Spectators will need to bring their own chairs and drinks as there will be no catering services available. No pegs can be used for shades due to the underground sprinkler system.

Spectators are asked not to walk through the classroom areas as there will be classes in progress.

Bernie Kelly
Benedict Sports Coordinator
Deputy Principal for the Day

When the raffle to be ‘Deputy for the Day’ was announced, I was really excited and I bought 10 tickets. When my name was read out at Assembly as the winner, at the end of last term, I felt scared and nervous. I felt a bit scared this morning but when I got used to things I was happy! I got a staff badge to wear for the day.

Some of the things I did was:
First I walked around the yard and visited some classrooms and checked the yard before the Principal Tour. I sat down in my chair and I sent an email to Mr Mead. Then we went on the Principal Tour and got lollies from Mrs Slade. Then we came back in the Office and planned lessons.
After recess I had a meeting with Mr Hay. I then marked 5 Green’s Diaries and made sure they were all signed.
I went to Assembly and introduced the School Captains, Cooper and Ellie. Ms Gadaleta got me to say ‘wear your hats at lunch time’...everyone said ‘Good Afternoon’ to me.
I had lunch with my friends and went for a walk around the yard to see if everyone was doing the right thing.
After lunch I had a meeting with Mr Cagney and Mr Dwiar about computers in the redevelopment. I came back to the Office and started my newsletter article. Then I had another meeting with Mr Cagney, Mr Dwiar as well as Mr LoBasso. We made a decision about the redevelopment.
After this meeting my Auntie Cathy visited me to say hello. I showed her the new Honour Boards.

in the Library. My cousin’s name is on one of the Honour Boards.
Mr Harris came to ask about painting during the school holidays. We had to go over the Library to check out the shelves to be moved and walls to be painted.
We went on with the Newsletter and then I went to my class for a visit. I came back and finished off the newsletter article.
The day was good to experience. I learnt what it was like to be a Deputy Principal. It is a hard job because you have to do lots of work and answer lots of questions!

Thomas Hunter,
Deputy Principal for the Day

Term 3
Deputy Principal’s Award for following class and school rules

Foundation Blue - Michael McGinnis
Foundation Red - Laura Snowden
Foundation Green - Ariel Tee
Year 1 Red - Mia-Lee Bateson
Year 1 Blue - Alex Spolding
Year 1 Green - Michael Camporeale
Year 2 Red - Adam Smith
Year 2 Blue - Cohen Tee
Year 3 Green - Daria Connelly
Year 3 Blue - Khlaen Head
Year 3 Red - Anna Cunningham
Year 4 Blue - Chloe Davidson
Year 4 Red - Aiden Blieschke
Year 5 Green - Alana Reid
Year 5 Blue - Trixie Stanley
Year 5 Red - Kayla Pisani
Year 6/7Gold - Mitch Cunningham
Year 6 Red - Sam DeGioia
Year 6 Blue - Ardia Mead
7 Red - Caitlin Caputo
7 Blue - Jackson Porta

International English Competition Results

Credit
Noah Waters
Jonas Blight
Participation
Mason Bickley
Kamsi Onwuchekwa
Henri Phillipps
Laura Watt
Mollie Watt

Dyslexia Empowerment Week 10 - 25 October

1 in 10 Australians are estimated to have dyslexia, the most common disorder under the Specific Learning Disorders (SLD) umbrella, with worldwide figures estimating it’s actually as high as 16% to 20%!!!
That’s a lot of Australians (or 3-6 students in every single classroom) who, as we see it, have Specific Learning Differences that need our understanding and support.
That’s what led many of the Australian SLD community to create Dyslexia Empowerment Week, now in its second year, which is from 19 - 25 October 2014.
The aim of this very important week is to increase our communities’ awareness and understanding of dyslexia so that people with dyslexia (including all those students sitting in a classroom) receive the understanding and support they need!
A reminder Neil MacKay will be visit our school on 6 November to share his knowledge and experience how to cater for these children at home and in our classrooms.
Neil MacKay is an educational consultant and trainer who created the concept of Dyslexia Friendly Schools in the UK. He is an experienced teacher who has taught for 26 years, working with children of all ages with a wide range of needs and abilities.
Neil is known for his ability to bring the classroom into his training and for providing lively, entertaining and thought provoking opportunities for teachers and allied professionals to reflect on and develop their practice.

Louise Richards,
Special Education Coordinator

Presenter: Neil MacKay
St Mark’s College
Benedict Campus Hall
When: 6 November 2014
At: 3.45pm to 7pm
Tea/coffee and light snack provided
From the Deputy Principal

With Thanks
I am grateful to Janet Haskett for her leadership of the Bosco Campus during my absence. Janet brings much experience to the role and there is a confidence in the appointment. Thank you, Janet, for your support and generosity.

Time abroad was shared equally between family and, well, Don Bosco. On the latter, Greg Hay, Lyn Elbourn and I shared an experience of walking in the footsteps of Don Bosco and St Francis de Sales. We began in Geneva where St Francis was Bishop-in-Exile (owing to the Reformation of the Catholic Church) before moving to Annecy, France where the Salesian story takes hold. From there we moved to Turin, Italy and ventured into the hills to visit the birthplace and spiritual home of the Salesian order, Colle Don Bosco. We celebrated Mass many times at Valdocco (where he established his first school and oratory) in the centre of Turin and came to appreciate just how hard Don Bosco had to work to realise his dream. The pilgrimage was a profound experience. We share a global charism. Excitement abounds as we prepare to celebrate 200 years since the birth of Don Bosco in 2015…watch this space!

Farewell and Captains
Blessed with the gift of an air-conditioned hall, we said farewell to the Class of 2014 by celebrating Mass with Father Paul Quirk last Tuesday. It was a sacred occasion and something we all look forward to. For many the Year 12 Farewell Mass is a highlight as one generation presents a candle to the other thus symbolising the end of one journey and the beginning of another. We ask our graduands to share the light of Christ with the world. We ask that they are men and women who do good things; people who will make a difference in this rapidly changing world of ours. We hope they only know peace and happiness in their lives. At the conclusion of the Mass, Mr Hay announced Erini Seindanis and James Ganley as our incoming College Captains. We offer our congratulations to Erini and James and give them every support as they assume this important leadership role within the College.

Summer Uniform
We have now completed the transition stage of wearing the winter uniform. With summer comes the daily reminder of wearing the College hat when outdoors. Students generally appreciate the sensibility of wearing a hat in our climate but they also need reminders to do so. Can families please ensure each child has an approved College hat? Your assistance will help to ensure punitive responses to non-compliance are kept to a minimum.

Certificates of Achievement
At our year level meetings this term, we acknowledged those students who worked hard to achieve their personal best in the last reporting cycle. Each student was presented with a certificate by their respective Year Level Coordinator for Excellence in Effort and Organisation. Please join with me in congratulating the students listed below.

Brett Czechowski
Deputy Principal - Bosco Campus

Congratulations to
Angel Allan
Bernadine Butterick
Jessie LaForgia
Eden Smith
Maya Bessen
Alanna Mathews
Aleasha Finlay
Ellie Combe
Mia Dennis
Talia Phillipps
Georgia Tefanis
Georgia Tiller
Nico Muhsin
Adelia Hay
Ebony Bennier
Caitlin Malycha
Courtney Saler
Eliza Watt
Natasha Williams
Chloe Anderson
Ellia Gibson
Jessie Veitch
Patrick Williams
Annalize Venables
Maddison Caputo
Annie Ford
Maddison Pryor
Brooke North
Jane Murphy
Georgia-Rose Scarman
Ellen Bowley
Brenna Dite
Danielle White
Brooke Caputo
Sasha DeVries
Deanna Sofia
Acacia Vormister
Adina LaForgia
Dylan Raftery
Adam Reichstein
Madeline Stapley
Alexander Young
Sean Blieschke
Chloe Buchanan
Jack Fraser
Maddison Gibson
Amy Mark
Daniel Mezzino
Year 10 Drama

The Year 10 Drama students inspired us all on the last day of Term 2 when they performed their Masked Movements. The students worked within groups to choreograph the movements of Rudolf Laban and performed them in an Immersive style of theatre. The roaming audiences had the opportunity to bring each performance to life by pressing play on the supporting audio systems and then enjoying the creative talents of the actors.

Fiona Clarke, Year 10 Drama Teacher

Thank You!

A big thank you to Bosco students Jack, Tayla, Ellen, Hannah, Georgia-Rose, Georgia, Stephanie, Georgia, Kane, Erini and Faye who volunteered their time on the weekend to act as tour guides and waiters at the Old Scholars Reunion.
SMC Tennis

The Season Opening
Thanks to parents and supervisors for their assistance with teams last weekend. The atmosphere at the Tennis Centre was great and it was good to see so many parents out on court involved with the games. Considering it was the first week, things ran very smoothly and players certainly enjoyed their first matches for the season.

Player availability
To maximise the number of matches played by each player, some teams are playing with bare numbers rather than having 6 or 7 players in a team. Parents are asked to support the teams by making players available on a consistent and regular basis. Please contact coaches as early in the week as possible if players are unavailable for matches.

Canteen Rosters
Canteen rosters have been distributed to all those parents who volunteered. We appreciate your help. Only one parent has been rostered in each timeslot on Friday 4.30pm and Saturday 8.30am. Two parents have been rostered on at 10.30am on Saturdays. Some extra volunteers are listed as reserves. If any volunteers are available to work in the canteen at 10.30am on Saturday 1 November please see me this Saturday.

Country Tennis Carnival Selection
Nomination forms for selection in Pirie teams for the Country Tennis Carnival in January have been distributed and need to be returned to the Tennis Centre by Saturday 8 November. Please note the change of date from previous years. The Carnival is now a week later.

Des McKeough,
SMC Tennis Coordinator
The Old Scholars’ Gathering

It was a joy to welcome back to St Mark’s scholars from 1964, 1984, 1994 and 2004. The Bosco campus scrubbed up well for the visitors. We shared a beautiful Mass with Father Francis and there were decorations, drinks and speeches in the Bishop Gallagher Centre. However, it was the hugs of recognition, the excitement of their stories, the sense of gratitude for this place that made the event so special.

The catering, by Lyn Ellbourn and Parents and Friends helpers, was delicious. The display of memorabilia was absorbing, fascinating, but to hear the reflections of past College Captains and year level representatives had us laughing, imaging, remembering.

A part of the exhibition was the Fatima Bell. This is like a holy relic from a past time. The Good Sam sisters permitted students to ring it in early days at Fatima campus. It was a duty of honour. I had said to Deb Slade that we should label it and write a little paragraph in museum curator style about its importance in the history of the College. She smiled knowingly and said it only needed placement, slightly raised, isolated and suitably reverential. She was right. The old scholars all remembered it, all laughed in awe, and talked about the privilege it was to ring and the power that it held. I once again admired the richness of this place. I once again was reminded the impact St Mark’s has. I felt very privileged to be associated with this group.

Greg Hay, Principal
Rate our website!

The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities was established by parents for parents and exists to serve the vibrant and engaged parent communities in our SA Catholic schools.

We want you to rate our website and tell us what you think!

➢ Is our website easy to navigate?
➢ Is the information on our website useful? Has it helped you to support your child’s learning at school and home?
➢ Is there anything missing that you would like us to include on our website?

If you haven’t yet checked out our website now is the perfect opportunity! Go to www.parentfederation.catholic.edu.au

We look forward to hearing from you! fedadmin@cesa.catholic.edu.au

Singing Lessons

Individual and private lessons. Take just one, two or more. 30 minute lessons for $17 each. Ring Anne for more information on 0429 866 242 or 86362231.

Moonlight Movies

On Friday 14 November in Memorial Park, Port Pirie from 7pm to 10pm. Storytime with Larryn from Port Pirie Regional Library from 7:30pm to 8pm Disney Movie ‘Frozen’ from 8pm - 9:30pm Free Community Event with food and drink stalls, children’s entertainment. BYO deck chairs and picnic rugs. For more information phone 86 33-8727 or specevents@pirie.sa.gov.au

Port Pirie Child Care Centre Family Night

On Friday 21 November 2014 from 6pm to 8pm at Port Pirie West Children’s Centre (on First Street). All welcome!

Port Augusta Junior Tennis Tournament

On Sunday 9 November 2014, at the Port Augusta Tennis Association Courts, Augusta Terrace, Port Augusta. Tournament beings at 9am sharp. Entries close Tuesday 4 November. Sponsored by Alinta Energy and Augusta Power Stations. Please phone Terry on 0408 852 517 or email manning.t@internode.on.net

2014 Yearbook

If you are after an extra copy of the College Yearbook, please place your order with payment at either our Benedict Front Office or Bosco Front Office. Cost is $24.50 each. Please note - one copy per family is automatically issued.

Port Football and Community Sporting Club

Open daily from 10.00am