Welcome
Returning from school holidays always means the welcome of teachers, the reconnecting with friendships and the freshness of the new learning. As quickly as those two weeks go there is something about the power of holiday renewal. The children seem to like to see each other again. There is a comfort in our gathering. Smiles are ready. The Reports have been discussed and there are determinations to keep trying. There is always chatter of holiday experiences and the busyness of getting organised and brushing off the groaning resistance of that early morning rise. Certainly there is a sense of purpose in returning. It’s nice to be here. The teachers have got things planned. The students have arrived back with expectation. There are things to do, things to be achieved and so in welcoming you all back I feel confident that we are at a place where people want to be. It’s purposeful and important.

One of the surprises of returning is to see developments around the campus. I was stunned to see the impact of the Bosco landscaping development. There is significant work being done to improve the sense of welcome and ambience. Some trees were removed at the front and whilst they will be replaced there is a space created that opens up the invitation to a place of learning. The Bosco Art Centre is just about at lock up stage. How did that happen so quickly? It has become a most impressive building that will celebrate and create fine art and design. It has become more than I imagined from the plans and the drawings, and it will be a substantial place for learning and creativity.

I have watched the Benedict team pour over the plans for the Stage 2 of the Junior Primary developments. There is more building to happen in the Grade 1 area. Those plans are ready and the architect is finalising ideas, the Council and the Catholic Education Office know it’s happening and we are ready to go out to tender. This will be an expression of the educational philosophy of our faculty and a response to learning needs of our young people. It is another exciting development.

I welcome you all back to the term. I welcome you with confidence in our growth and preparation. I welcome knowing so much happened over the two weeks holidays and there is much to come.

The Philippines
I had an extraordinary experience with 10 students, teachers Toni Boulton and Naomi Creek and Father Francis Montero. We spent our holidays in the Philippines. We visited places of cultural significance and we visited schools. We went to many Churches and indulged in some wonderful tourist activity. We experienced traffic in Manila that is unbelievable, marvelled at the complexity of a country of 100 million and we were fascinated by the rich cultural traditions. We tasted delicious foods and saw the dignity and resilience of people who don’t have our advantages. We filled our days with the joy of meeting those people. The smiles and laughter of children still resonate within and the reverence and respect of the people will remind us of the preciousness of humanity. The gracious hospitality and the music in the souls of the Filipinos filled our hearts with joy. We feel very grateful to have had this discovery. The 10 students were wonderful pilgrims together. I felt blessed to be with them and they formed a united community. They delighted. They

We return to school with enthusiasm and to see some changes. The Philippines Immersion students have stories to tell and the musical students keep rehearsing. Students are refreshed ready to learn and it will be a good term.
entertained. They embraced opportunity. They gave a freshness in their perspective. The two beautiful teachers were gentle nurturers and provided quiet wisdom and support. Father Francis made us laugh and created excitement. And in all of the experience we were looking for the sacred. We tried to interpret our experience with an understanding of our privilege and the holiness of life. It was terrific. We are now planning to tell our story at a Philippines Reunion Night on Monday, August 17. You are very welcome to hear the stories of something extraordinary at 6:00 pm at the Bosco campus.

High School Musical
I have had a chance to sit in on a rehearsal of the College musical production. I have watched the focus and the concentration. I have seen them struggle to go over and over a move or a moment. I have looked at the patient and committed manner of the ensemble who are involved and seen the smiles and the laughter as they clearly grow in unity because of the mistakes and grinding discipline of rehearsal. I have seen the energy of Musical Director Fiona Clarke and become inspired and then watched the vision unfold of Director Sandy Lee and know that something special is happening. The whole thing is mighty impressive. The musical itself is bright and entertaining. The production concept will be simple and effective although at the moment there seems so much unpainted, unfinished. Just ask Sandy. There are moments in the rehearsal that touch hearts with the sweetness of the sound, the fun of the choreography and the commitment of the actors. Choreographer Naomi Creek won’t give up on them as they “get their heads in the game” and now, almost everyone knows their left foot from their right. This is going to be something special. I invite you to the production. It will be superb.

Scholarship
The College Board has redesigned the Scholarship program of the College and it has an impact on the ‘Year 7s’ and the ‘Year 10s’. The College offers scholarships for financial hardship, the creative arts, for studies in Agriculture (including Rural Operations) and there are scholarships for indigenous students. These scholarships are offered for two years for students going onto Year 8 or Year 11 in 2016. It has become an important support for families and highlights some of our priorities. I invite our families to check the website for consideration.

Bonuses Points
The Vice Chancellors of the three South Australian Universities have completed a review of the Bonus Points system for university access. A new system has been called the Universities Equity Scheme. It has determined certain criteria to access bonus points. They had determined to implement the system this year and it would mean that St Mark’s students do not qualify for Bonus Points. The Vice Chancellors then realised that it was too soon for change when our Year 12s who were almost through their course. I acknowledge that some of our parents were deeply worried about the change and thank them for expressing that to the Universities. There was a graciousness and genuine concern from the Vice Chancellors and they listened to our disquiet. The previous system now remains the same for 2016.

Greg Hay, Principal

Religious Education
We have many significant celebrations happening in the coming weeks that have a faith focus.

During Week 5 we have the 200th birthday celebrations of St John Bosco. A Foundation-Year 12 Mass and celebrations will be held here at Benedict Campus on Monday August 17. The following day Tuesday 18 August, we will have a group of student representatives going down to Salesian College at Brooklyn Park to join in a State celebration with other South Australian Salesian schools. Further information about these celebrations will come closer to the time.

This week parents of Year 4 students should have received a letter home outlining the RELAT (Religious Literacy Assessment Tool) test. Students in Year 4 will undertake this multiple choice online test in Week 7 of this term. This aim of the test is to inform and improve the teaching and learning that takes place in Religion as well as aid and assist the teacher in their assessment of the learning. Results and not used to compare students, teachers or schools. For more information please see your class teacher, Kylie Smith or myself.

For parents of Year 3 students looking to make their First Reconciliation later this year, please note in your diary that the Parent Information evening is coming up on Wednesday August 26.

Katie Pole, RE Liturgy/Sacramental Coordinator

SMC Scholarships for 2016
Year 7 and Year 10 students are encouraged to apply for:

Bosco Scholarship
Two 2 Year Scholarships are awarded to students based firstly on financial need, then academic endeavor, leadership, contribution to Parish, school and community life. The Scholarship will be for up to $2500 per year.

Creative Arts Scholarship
Two 2 Year Scholarships are awarded to students based on a commitment to the creative arts. This student must make a continued contribution to the College in the creative arts of music, drama, fine art, design. The Scholarship will be for $1000 per year.

Year 10 students are encouraged to apply for:

Agricultural/Trade Skills Scholarship
One 2 Year Scholarship is awarded to student based on involvement in Agriculture or Trade Skills. The Scholarship will be for $1000 per year.

Any Indigenous Student are encouraged to apply for:

Indigenous Student Scholarship
Two 2 Year Scholarships are awarded to students based on leadership, sporting endeavor and involvement in academic and community life. The Scholarship will be for $2500 per year.

For Application Forms and further information email: loborn@stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au or go to the St Mark’s College Website Applications close 21 August 2015.

Around the College

St Mark’s College Musical
This colourful, entertaining, high energy, fun-filled adaptation of the TV movie will have you singing and clapping along to all your favourite songs.

Thursday 13 August
Friday 14 August
11am and 7.30pm
Don’t miss out Book your tickets now at the Keith Michell Theatre
86 33 8500
From the Deputy Principal

Welcome back to Term 3! I trust and hope that you were able to spend some quality time with your children over the holiday break? We have another fun-filled and busy term ahead and we look forward to working in partnership with you towards your children’s education.

Car Park

Last Tuesday at the College Board Meeting I presented a proposal explaining the background, process and observations made during our ‘Car Park Trial’ at the end of Term 2. This included any findings, issues and feedback that was presented during the trial to myself or other staff.

My proposal was: ‘To formalise the process trialled in the Benedict Car Park by establishing a more permanent Drop/Off/Pick-Up Zone and Disabled Car Parking spaces so as to ease congestion and maintain a steady flow of traffic at all times.’

Upon providing the Board members with recommendations and after some discussion, the proposal was accepted.

Both Dominic Lodussio and I have since met to begin planning the formalisation of this proposal. Until this officially occurs, the Benedict Car Park will continue with the cones being set up each day until something more permanent is organised.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff and families for their cooperation and patience during this process of change in the car park. I ask that we please continue to follow the procedures put in place and keep the flow of traffic steady as we move to next phase of development. Thank you.

‘You Can Do It’ Program

Program Achieve is a program used at St Mark’s from Foundation to Year 7. It now has a new name – the ‘You Can Do It’ program. The program itself has not changed. It continues to assist students in using the Five Keys to Success and Happiness: Confidence, Persistence, Getting Along, Organisation and Emotional Resilience. Hopefully you have been noticing these in your children’s classrooms? I urge these keys both establishes and encourages positive behaviours in students and their learning.

To reinforce these positive behaviours being the first choice of all our students here at Benedict, we have introduced both a ‘Refocus’ area in each classroom to ensure successful learning can occur in the classroom.

A ‘Parent Booklet’ explaining how the program works will be coming home this week. Please read and discuss it with your children as this will also assist in the implementation of the program here at school. We will be offering a Parent Information Night later in the term. We would love to get some feedback during this session and discuss how it has been going. We will keep you informed along the way.

Stage 2 Building Plan

At the end of this term, we will begin implementing Stage 2 of the Building Plan here at Benedict Campus. Staff in Year 1 and 2 have been busy discussing and planning a second ‘Learning Centre’ to be operational by the beginning of 2016. Our Year 1 and 2 will be moving classrooms before the end of term to accommodate this building beginning during the next holiday break. The plans for this have now been finalised and will be on display in the Front Office over the coming week for those who wish to see them. Please come in and have a look.

Kylie Smith,
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus

Benedict’s new Online Support Program

The ‘You Can Do It’ program assists children to take responsibility for their own behaviour – good and poor – so that they can concentrate on being both successful and happy in all that they do.

A ‘Parent Booklet’ explaining how the program works will be coming home this week. Please read and discuss it with your children as this will also assist in the implementation of the program here at school. We will be offering a Parent Information Night later in the term. We would love to get some feedback during this session and discuss how it has been going. We will keep you informed along the way.

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Kylie Smith,
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus

Benedict School Photos and Family Photos

Wednesday 26 August

• Full school winter uniform to be worn. In accordance with the College Uniform policy if hair is falling onto the face or below the collar it must be tied back. Please refer to the Uniform Policy on the College website for clarification.

• Every student must return their photo envelope even if you are not purchasing photos.

• Photos begin at 8:30am please ensure all students arrive promptly at school on this day.

Please note – NO CHANGE will be available from Benedict or Bosco Office so please have the correct money placed in your child’s envelope.

FAMILY PHOTOS will be held in the Good Samaritan Hall on Wednesday 26 August. Family photos only are available from Benedict or Bosco Office. Some Benedict only family photos may be taken before lunch if the schedule permits. Family photo times:

1.40-1.50pm photos for families with surname beginning A-L

1.50-2.15pm photos for families with surname beginning M-Z

Please note - A waiting time is to be expected due to the large number of families having photos taken.

Year 7 students and their Foundation Buddies

Benedict Campus Important Dates

As the term begins please take note of the following Upcoming Events:

• Week 4
  - Monday - Sports and Special Photos Day
  - Tuesday - Friday – College Musical

• Week 5
  - Science Week
  - Monday - St John Bosco 200th Birthday F-2 Maxs @ 9am
  - Tuesday - St John Bosco 200th Birthday Mass in Adelaide
  - Saturday/Sunday – First Holy Communion

• Week 6
  - Book Week
  - Monday – Book Week Assembly and Star Awards
  - Wednesday – School Photos
  - Friday – Book Week Parade

• Week 7
  - Friday – Pupil Free Day - Staff Formation Retreat

Special Education News

Welcome back! I hope everyone had an enjoyable break over the busy term. It’s that time of the year when we review our IEP’s. Teachers will be contacting parents of those students who receive adjustments in the classroom.

Often these students:

• Have been formally diagnosed with disability by a health or allied health practitioner.

• May not have a formal disability diagnosis, but have impairment that requires adjustments.

• Have an intellectual, physical, sensory and social/emotional disability as well as students with difficulties in learning or behaviour due to disability.

This is a very important meeting to discuss the goals and adjustments required in the classroom. It is important to ensure a successful learning can take place for your child. Kind regards,

Louise Richards,
Special Education Teacher - Benedict Campus
From the Deputy Principal

Academic Excellence
During Term 1, we gathered as a Bosco community to acknowledge students who excelled in their learning during Semester 1. To receive an Academic Excellence Award, students must have obtained a minimum of 5 As or placed in the top 10% of their cohort. Students recognised at this celebration have shown a deep commitment to their studies. They are focussed, have spent time completing homework tasks, clarify their thinking with teachers and have meticulously edited and refined their work before submitting assessments of the highest standard. The Academic Assembly was a proud moment at Bosco where hard work and success were acknowledged and celebrated.

Students who received Academic Excellence Awards for Semester 1 include:

Year 9:
- Angi Allan
- May Bessen
- Elia Coombe
- Alisha Fray
- Simon Nguyen
- Edan Smith

Year 10:
- Ebony Bennifer
- Adalita Hay
- Nicole Mahon
- Jessica Robbels
- Monica Turci
- Eliza Watt

Year 11:
- Chloe Anderson
- Samuell Cades
- Ella Gibson
- Maddison Pryor
- Brianna Stevens
- Lucy Wood

Year 12:
- Georgia Afford
- Ellen Bowley
- Stephanie Dix
- Molly Head
- Vyanah Lethbridge
- Emily Noonan
- Erin Swindans

Building project
We are excited to announce the development of a Senior Secondary Precinct. In Term 4 we will commence the building of a new Senior Secondary (Year 11 and 12) Precinct. This project is most exciting and will provide a new state of the art learning space for our senior students as they engage in their studies. Both staff and students have been consulted in the design of the building and fit out. I was most impressed by the creativity of our students and am confident that we will create a dynamic technology rich learning environment that will enhance our students’ capacity to become independent and deep thinkers and learners. The area that will be developed are the current Bosco classrooms which are located adjacent to Home Economics and behind the rotunda. Construction is due to begin in Term 4 with the hope that the building will be ready for the beginning of the 2016 school year.

SACE Information Evening
On Tuesday 4 August we invite our Year 10 and 11 parents to attend our SACE Information Evening. The evening will be separated into two locations so that year level specific information can be covered. Details are as follows:

Year 10 into 11 - Good Samaritan Hall (Bosco Campus) 7.30pm
Year 11 into 12 - Bishop Gallagher Centre (Bosco Campus) 7.30pm

The evening will provide parents with important information about the requirements of SACE both at Stage 1 and Stage 2 as well as the subject selection process. We encourage students to attend with their parents as the information presented will be need to be discussed as a family so that informed choices are made about subjects for 2016. Students will also receive their subject selection form on this evening.

High School Musical Camp
While most were resting over the holiday break our Year 10 to 12 High School Musical students were busy rehearsing in the BGC. Students gathered early on Tuesday morning, sleeping bags and finger buns in hand and their dancing shoes on. Their enthusiasm and excitement for this event really is contagious. There was singing practice with Mrs Clarke, character development with old Scholar Deanna Soja and full scene rehearsals the Director, Ms Lee. Students rehearsed day and night. I was astounded at the progress made in such a short period of time and I know this is due to the hard work of our Musical staff and commitment of our students. I cannot wait to see the final production in Week 4 when we go live at the Keith Mitchell Theatre. If you haven’t bought your ticket yet, I encourage you to do it. It truly is outstanding, a must see production.

I also acknowledge the generous time and effort of our P&F who supported the High School Musical Camp. Never have I seen so much food. From gourmet salads, to potato bakes and home-made fruit salad and ice cream. It was such a wonderful treat to come in from a long day of rehearsal to a gourmet salad, to potato bakes and home-made fruit salad and ice cream. It was such a wonderful treat to come in from a long day of rehearsal to a

Work Experience

Eliza at Nyrstar Port Pirie Smelter

Year 12 student Georgia Schulz enjoying the Philippines Immersion experience.

A trip to the Philippines
Hello, my name is Georgia, and I’m in Year 12. A little over two weeks ago, I was one of 10 students who, with 3 teachers as well as Father Francis, flew over to the Philippines to experience and immerse ourselves in the culture and the way of life of the Filipino people. Our trip started with a great deal of excitement, and just as many nerves, and over those two weeks, we grew and experienced more than many of us could have possibly imagined. We learnt so many things about their culture and thanks to our fantastic tour guide Patrick, we were able to learn all about the rich history of the Philippines, and see many areas tourists wouldn’t normally go to.

Some of the highlights we all shared were the visits to the local schools, churches and communities, especially St Mary’s Academy in Cebu, where they greeted us at the gate of the school and placed necklaces around our necks. They made us feel so welcome and we were overwhelmed by their kindness and their joy at our presence. The students and teachers of the schools we visited, such as Macapagal and Good Shepherd, touched our hearts, with the questions from the children and their respect and kindness. We made many new friends and cherish their care and kindness.

One of the more trying tasks we did while we were there was swimming with the whale sharks. This is something I personally had never imagined doing and many of us were fearful when first we were taken out to swim with them, but once we were in the water, it was simply stunning seeing them so close. I have every confidence that this immersion has provided the whole group with a new understanding of the Philippines, of their culture and way of life. It reflected on things throughout the trip, the way a child’s eyes would light up as we handed them a toy, the conditions we saw some of the people living in, and the constant smiles on everyone’s faces. The care shown towards us and to each and everyone else, has become something important for us to remember. Leading up to us actually leaving, we held many fundraisers throughout Bosco and Benedict campus and we were able to raise an amazing $5000 that, now that we are back, will be divided up amongst the poorer schools we visited. This is an amazing achievement and I’d like to thank you for your generosity. It was truly one of a kind experience that all of us will forever treasure, and would love to do it all again over.

Georgia Schulz, Year 12 student

Year 10 Work Experience 2015

During week 10 of Term 2 the Year 10 students participated in Work Experience. The students had training in Work Health and Safety before they set out. All students organised their own placements and feedback from employers has been excellent. This outcome shows our students have self-motivation, maturity and a great work ethic. The students now will consolidate their experience and learning during their P&LP (Personal Learning Plan) subject this semester.

I would personally like to send out a big thank you to all the local employers who agreed to take on our students for Work Experience.

Simone Atkinson, Student Pathways Coordinator

Work Experience

Ryan at Johnson Home Improvements

Year 12 student Georgia Schulz enjoying the Philippines Immersion experience.
**Around the College**

**Year 8 and 9 Student Report**

A group of Year 9 and Year 8 girls played some high standard netball on Monday. We played against the Riverland, Kadina, Faith and Trinity. The netball was tightly contested and although we didn’t win any games it was good to mix together and play as a team. Thanks to Miss Kelly for coaching and Donna Allan for scoring. Gracie Peterson and Elle Coombe.

**Open Girls Student Report**

When we arrived at Trinity College we were all very excited for the netball competition. We had many close games, winning two and losing three. Unfortunately, our efforts weren’t enough to get through to the final in Adelaide. We believe if we were given another opportunity we would fight harder in our games and show what a great netball school we are. It was a most successful year. We are all excited for the netball this weekend. Many grades play both Saturday and Sunday in the catch up round.

**SMC Netball**

A reminder that we have a double header in netball this weekend. Many grades play both Saturday and Sunday in the catch up round. Please check your draw for details. I have been asked by the Canteen manager at the netball to remind parents and carers that it is their responsibility to find a replacement if they are unable to fulfil their designated time in the canteen. Most people will only be required to do 1 shift per season up until finals. Please help our canteen managers out by turning up on time.

Katie Pole,
SMC Netball Coordinator

**SMC Hockey**

The Hockey season is progressing very quickly, and after a break for school holidays, the Saint Mark’s players are back out there ready for the business end of the season, with finals quickly approaching.

**Chocolate Fundraiser**

Thanks to Mark Murphy for organising the Chocolate Fundraiser for Saint Mark’s Hockey this season. Players will be distributed with a box of chocolates to sell over the coming week. We ask that once chocolates are sold, if money can be returned to either the Benedict or Bosco Admin Office. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Good luck to all teams as they progress to finals, please remember to let your coach know if you are unable to make it to training or games. Thanks to all coaches for giving up their time and for your outstanding efforts so far this season.

Jessalyn Oxford,
SMC Hockey Coordinator

**Parents and Friends**

St Marks College Parents & Friends Survey

St Marks College Parents & Friends Survey has now been emailed to all Parents and Guardians. It can also be found as a link on the Parents and Friends Facebook page.

We would love to hear from everyone. Please take 5-10mins of your day to have your say. Closing date is the 7 August.

SMC Parents and Friends Committee

**YCS Holiday Fun**

On 13 July the YCS Group (Young Christian Students) went out to lunch and bowling with Sister Elizabeth Young and Ms Veronica Travers.

Students enjoyed fun day during the holidays, going out for lunch and playing 10 pin bowling with Sr Elizabeth Young and Ms Veronica Travers.

Crenie Kumar and Amy Burgess,
YCS members

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Old Scholars Reunion

ATTENTION
ALL PAST STUDENTS
of
St Mark’s College
Port Pirie

You are invited
to a
SCHOOL REUNION
on
Saturday 17 October 2015

Celebrating Anniversaries for
Graduating Classes of

3.30pm Tour of College
4.30pm Mass
Followed by drinks & nibbles
in the
Bishop Gallagher Centre

A great opportunity to stay
connected, renew school
friendships and relive memories
made during your school years.

To register your interest
please contact
Maryann on 86 33-8800
Keep up to date with news and
events via Facebook.

New Scholars Reunion

Piano and Singing Lessons

Lessons available at school. For more info contact
Anne Hansen on 0429 866 242 or 86 36-2231.

Australian Air Force Cadets
Information Night

Friday 7 August at 8pm at 614 Squadron, Port Pirie
Multi-User Depot, 141 Warnertown Road. For more
information contact Stefanie Schmidt on
0412 169 047 or email xo.614sqn@aafc.org.au

Bosco Art Room Redevelopment

Nyrstar Apprenticeships 2016

Applications are now open for Full Time
and School Based Apprenticeships in the
following trades:
Metal Fabrication
Fitting and Turning
Electrical
To register your interest or request
further information, please email
pp.Apprentices@Nyrstar.com
Application Forms will be provided upon
registration of interest.
Applications close 28 August 2015

Port Football and
Community Sporting Club
Open daily from 10.00am