There was an historical gathering of three Salesian schools and the students moved swiftly around courts and fields in many Grand Finals. Our choir sang and our Bishop is recovering and attended an Ordination.

The Primary Choir

I had a chance to listen to the Combined Primary Schools Choir who performed last week. The Northern Festival Centre stage was bursting with primary school students and there was colour and they were singing. We had good numbers in representation and our students sang with such enthusiasm. I spent the evening scouring the rows of students picking out our children. Our students, like all in the choir, were innocent, energetic, excited and trying their best. I found myself tapping, smiling, humming and then loving the particular remembrance of the 100 years of ANZAC. I couldn’t ignore how obviously hard they had worked. All those lyrics; all that movement; all that planning and rehearsal and Ms Nikki Caputo was behind it managing, guiding, supporting. I enjoyed the solo singers making a special connection and felt particularly proud at the efforts of Aislynn Everett who represented our College. She sang with such maturity and charming pitch. It was wonderful. I watched and knew that music is such an important medium. I cheered at the guitar solo of Mr Bret Swensson who made ‘Eagle Rock’ come alive like it did when I used to rock and roll. (I was young once). I enjoyed the accomplished hosting from two St Mark’s College students Quinn Lane and Fergus Tod. They were charming and skilful; gracious and engaging. They honoured their school and we were proud. I joined with an audience who applauded efforts, achievement and the joy that underpinned a gathering such as this.

The Salesian Retreat

Our staff community gathered with the staff groups from Xavier College and St John Bosco Catholic Primary School for a Staff Retreat last week. It was a chance to celebrate the 200th Bicentenary of St John Bosco and to renew our understanding of the Salesian legacy. It was a unique gathering because the three South Australian Salesian schools had never combined before. We assembled at Bungaree Station in Clare, in a working shearing shed. The pungent smell of recently shorn sheep permeated the day as did fleecy floorboards, remnants of shearing equipment, images of past shearers on the walls and a spirit of connection to the grace of Salesianess.

The Retreat was conducted by Salesian priest Father Elio Capra. He is a lecturer at the Catholic University in Melbourne and often does the ‘Catholic lecture circuit’ because he is so engaging and so charming. He brought to us an insight expressed through laughter, story and imagination. The whole thing was generated from hope and he was able to create a cohesion and optimism as well as defining the great elements of the shared Salesian charism.

A dynamic he used was to charm the women and tease them about marriage, men and age. He sensibly avoided the idea of weight. He made us laugh and through comedy, and the frailness of our humanity, explored wisdom. He focussed on three of our male teachers throughout the day and kept inviting them to priesthood. “I notice you don’t have wedding rings on, you fellas,” said Fr Elio in his Italian accent. “What about the Salesians?” It was funny in the morning and by the end of the day, as Elio pressed them,
into answering a simple scripture question, we were all cheering them into the seminary. We all decided that Matt Ryan, Rohan Cheong and Ben Mader would make wonderful Salesian priests and they were slightly slinking into their chairs by the end.

Part of the dynamic of the day was a presentation from each school about their Salesianess. Andrew Sheridan spoke on behalf of St Mark’s. He delivered a wonderful address and profoundly, deeply, shared his sense of his loyalty, reverence and appreciation for what this College has given young people and staff. We had a visit from Bishop Patricio Buzon from the Philippines. He is a Salesian Bishop who spoke with humility and encouragement. There was a sacred stillness and connection when he spoke. It was powerful.

The day was cold. The atmosphere warm. The room was crowded. The comradeship excellent. The catering was superb. The bus trip home dozy. And those shearing quarters, I can still smell those sheep. As Andrew Sheridan said in finishing his talk “I think Don Bosco would be pleased.”

Grand Finals
The weekends have been filled with great sporting aspiration. It has been a joy and it has been inspiring. There have been cheers and tears. There have been Soccer shoot outs, Netball nervousness, Football glory and the desperation from the Hockey players to stay in the competition during preliminary finals. Supportive mums and dads have lined the boundaries cheering, encouraging, clicking cameras, watching stop watches and checking scoreboards. Generous coaches, so often loaded with the dilemmas of organisation and the demands of team selection, have been outstanding. They were tested in the cauldron of finals and they were strong. They have given their teams a chance at a premiership. This sporting experience has brought us all together in the magnificence of triumph and the despair in a loss. And there have been winners and losers. That is how we learn. I remember soccer dad Nick Gaudio looking particularly cold and drained at the end of a Friday night soccer match saying “That’s the second time in a row that we’ve lost a Grand Final”. I could only think how lucky the boys were to have had him and Joe ‘Muzza’ Sciancalepore as coaches. These men love the game, they care for the boys, and they act with dignity. What more could we ask? It probably wasn’t the time to be philosophical with Nick but the team had improved so much over the season. Like all the teams who have played; like the opposition St Mark’s team who had to play well to beat them; like all those Netball teams where mums had nurtured and cared and urged and demanded. Like those footy teams where so many ran around so much wanting to be like an AFL hero and to impress their dad and their coach; and the Under 13 footballers who won after two previous Grand Final losses much to the delight (and relief) of the ever calm and gracious John Murphy.

I congratulate the students and coaches involved. It is a wonderful part of the St Mark’s dynamic. I know that we will get a chance to formally thank the coaches at our Coaches’ Soiree (Tuesday, September 22). I also want to pay particular tribute to the College Sports Council for the work that they do to make sure so many of our students get a chance to play. They organise. The leadership that they express gives our young people a chance to have fun and learn skills. I have only a small understanding of the enormity of the task. Only they know how difficult it is to get players and volunteers and then to sustain the commitment. They did that and kept things running smoothly. Their management skills are enormous and we are grateful for their care. Our deepest thanks and congratulations on this Grand Final weekend.

Ordination of Ramel Morales
Last weekend we had an ordination of the seminarian Ramel Morales. Ramel was made a deacon which is the step just before priesthood. A bishop is needed for the laying on of hands and our Bishop returned from hospital convalescence for the Ordination. It was a long ceremony of commitment, full of traditions and symbols, long verses and grand organ music. And the Bishop made it a huge priority to be here. He has recently had heart surgery. He has had a quadruple bypass, which has been successful, but our Bishop needs time to recover. It is a matter of convincing him of that. I suspect that he didn’t listen to the wise counsel of doctors, friends and his fellow priests who advised him to rest. The Bishop wanted to honour Ramel. There was a powerful symbolism about his presence. It was tiring and courageous and Ramel was deeply grateful. We will have a new priest in a year and we renewed Bishop in a couple of months. The ordination had beautiful moments of inspiration. The presence of the Bishop was a significant part of that. The commitment of Ramel was another. Blessings and prayers for both men.

Greg Hay, Principal
Religious Education

Last week our staff had the opportunity to gather and reflect on the Salesian Tradition of our school. It was a unique opportunity to gather with our 2 other Salesian schools in South Australia and to acknowledge the work that we do with young people and inspire our work to carry the message of Jesus to promote the development of children's spirituality within our school community. This was a fitting culmination of all the celebrations we have held for the anniversary of Don Bosco’s birth 200 years ago.

Many of our families are involved in the celebrations of the Our Lady of Martyrs this coming weekend. It is a wonderful opportunity as a community to recognise the role of Mary as our help and guide. It is also a significant witnessing of our faith to the wider community of Port Pirie and our Diocese.

Parents of Year 3 children who wish to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation within the school context have one final opportunity to begin the process and get all the necessary information on Wednesday 23 September at 5pm in the Benedict Library.

Katie Pole,
RE Liturgy/Sacramental Coordinator

The Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities’

“We’re Listening Roadshow”

is coming to town.

We are keen to meet and talk with parents in the St Mark’s Catholic College community to find out what’s important to you.

One of our catchphrases is “Parent Voice In Education”

You’ll talk - We’ll listen

Everyone Welcome!

St Mark’s College
Tuesday 15 September
7pm to 9pm
in the
Bosco Campus BGC

RSVP to (08) 8301 6685
or email
fedadmin@cesa.catholic.edu.au

Australian Catholic Youth Festival
3 - 5 December 2015

You'll talk - We'll listen

Everyone Welcome!

St Mark’s College
Tuesday 15 September
7pm to 9pm
in the
Bosco Campus BGC

RSVP to (08) 8301 6685
or email
fedadmin@cesa.catholic.edu.au
From the Deputy Principal

Choir Congratulations!
Last Wednesday and Thursday evenings the Combined Primary Schools Choir performances took place at the Keith Michell Theatre. A group of girls from our Year 5/6/7 classes took part in this beautiful community event. Under the tutelage of Nikki Caputo, with assistance from Louise Kitto and Lyn Ellbourn, the girls have thrived and become a beautiful singing group that, I believe, is a credit to them all. I would like to personally congratulate them on the time and effort that they have made to attend practices, often missing out on playtime, over a long period of time. They have done themselves, their families and the school proud. Well done Fergus Tod and Quinn Lane for your sensational commenting, and our St Benedict singers; Rebecca Connor, Tiarnah Pisani-Yuke, Amy Wheaton, Alyce Ferme, Scarlett Tod, Ebony Tizio, Alyx Stark, Makenzie Ritter, Kelsey Monaghan, Aislynn Everett, Imogen Good, Lucy Watt, Aleisha Carmody, Meteha DiGeronimo, Sarah DeGioia, Bree Farrugia, Madeleine Denny, Jannah Norton and Chloe Davidson.
A fine performance by all!

‘Year of the Family’ Week
During Week 9 and 10, we will be celebrating the many different types of families in our community as part of the Port Pirie Diocese ‘Family Week.’ Class teachers will be requesting a family photo for students to display in classrooms during this time. Please send these in during the coming week. The Diocesan website has some wonderful resources for families to participate and share in during these focus weeks and we encourage you to take a look and choose some of the ideas listed there. Following is a special prayer that classes will be saying during family week. Maybe you could say it as a family each day too?

Dear God,
Bless us with the gifts of life and love through our family.
We promise to love and care for one another, as your family here on earth, in all we do and say. Whoever we are or wherever we may be, may we feel your love.
Bless our Mums, Dads, sisters, brothers and grandparents.
Be with those who are or feel they are alone.
Help us to be one family and to make our homes places of love, respect, understanding, forgiveness and support.
In times of happiness and in times of sadness, may we never give up on supporting our families.
Amen.

Car Park
Please can families continue to be diligent in using the car park correctly at all times. The same issues continue to arise. Please note:

- **New signage** has now been placed before all pedestrian walkways stating “STOP and wait for traffic.” Pedestrians must wait – congestion becomes an issue for traffic when you stop the flow into the carpark.
- **In the Pick Up Zone:** traffic must move as far forward as possible to ensure there is not traffic banking up along Wandearah Road.
- **Traffic turning into the Car Park:** please look out for buses trying to get in. They are on a tight time schedule and need to have priority.
- **Crossing Wandearah Road:** I am very concerned about students who cross Wandearah Road without an adult. I have spoken with these students and shown them a safe place to cross that is not near the corner of Wandearah and Three Chain Roads. When possible, I will personally ensure that they are safely taken across the road. With no pedestrian crossing available, it is our duty as a community to ensure these students make it home safely. Please be vigilant.

The new line marking and signage in the car park is to (hopefully) take place during the upcoming holiday period. We appreciate your continued support and co-operation when using the car park.

*Kylie Smith,*
*Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus*

Learning about the zoo through Discovery Time

We made a zoo. We put blocks around the zoo to make little enclosures for different animals. We made car parks for when people come in their cars, otherwise they will have nowhere to put their car. *Lilli*

Lots of people helped make the zoo. We made sure there were no gaps for the animals to escape. *Emily*

We used blue squares to make water for the frogs and hippos. *Charlie*

It was fun making a zoo. I made the lion part. I made a bed for them to lay on and grass for them to run on. *Zahra*

I did the frogs. I added water and lily pads with coloured squares. *Chelsey*
The Purple ‘Persistence’ Key

The Persistence Key is all about ‘having a go’ and ‘never giving up’ – no matter how hard something might be. Like the Organisation Key it takes patience, perseverance, a LOT of repetition and many reminders. When we are persistent we learn to have another go when something goes wrong without worrying about how long it takes to get it right.

What does the Persistence Key look like?

- **Making Mistakes Is OK**
  Mistakes are a huge part of our lives and are the way that we learn and grow. If we didn’t make mistakes, we wouldn’t learn right from wrong. It is important for our children to understand the value of making a mistake and how important it is to not worry and to just have another go at getting it right.

- **Accepting we are not perfect**
  It is important for our children to see us making mistakes, accepting the consequences and trying again. We are their role models and children look up to us to display what our expectations of them are in our day to day lives. Being willing to say we are wrong is an important step in being persistent and accepting who we are.

- **Taking Risks**
  Many of us are often afraid to try something new in case we make a mistake or get embarrassed because we don’t know what to do. Helping our children to understand the importance of taking a risk and stepping outside our comfort zone can be a wonderful way to challenge ourselves, make mistakes and learn not only from the mistake, but more about ourselves and how we ‘tick’.

- **Being Independent**
  It is great to work with others and be a team BUT it is also fantastic to be independent and stand on our own two feet. When we know we can do things on our own, it is very empowering and life-giving in so many ways. We can teach our children to take the easy road and rely on others OR we can encourage independence, with our children relying first and foremost – on themselves!

- **What happens if students do not use the Persistence Key?**
  When students do not use their persistence key, they do not feel successful. For example: If a child is working on a difficult Maths problem, is struggling to understand and doesn’t know how to do it. They decide to just give up and copy the answer from someone nearby.

- **What can this student do??**
  If this student decided to use their persistence key they could:
  - Ask for assistance from the teacher or a fellow student.
  - Have another go
  - But most importantly - they would never give up and they would find a solution to their problem!

So, here at Benedict Campus, we are encouraging our students to be ‘happy and successful’ by using their keys. They cannot do this alone. They need our help! It may take a change in habit/behaviour to become more persistent and ensure that, as a family, you all work together to use the purple ‘Persistence’ key each and every day.

How are you going to work towards being and assisting your children to be more successful and happy today!
From the Deputy Principal

A culture of learning
This term Bosco staff have embraced the opportunity to take part in a new process of professional learning. Over a number of weeks staff gathered in small professional learning teams, each with a different inquiry focus. The role of the professional learning teams was to provide opportunities to support staff in their ongoing development and professional learning. There was a specific focus on the Creating Exemplary Practice aspect of the Strategic Plan. These teams saw teachers working in a spirit of openness and critical reflection, sharing their experiences, ideas and expertise with each other and engaging in an ongoing process of inquiry that saw deep team learning.

At our final gathering groups shared their key insights and learning. It really was quite powerful. New skills were developed, best practice pedagogy explored, prototypes and proposals made. I was reminded what a dynamic profession teaching is.

I got to experience the energy and passion that Bosco staff bring to their classrooms everyday and it was exciting!

I am very grateful for the work of our teachers and acknowledge their commitment to professional learning.

Parent Teacher Interviews (PTO)
In Term 4 the College will be implementing and using Parent Teacher Online. This will mean that parents and caregivers will be able to make their own appointments with their child’s teachers online using any device that has internet access. The program will also highlight which teachers are requesting an interview. Parents will no longer have to make appointments through their child.

An Information flyer about ‘Parent Teacher Online’ and how to log in and make appointments will be included in your child’s school report, which will be distributed on Friday of Week 10. This flyer will also contain your families’ specific log in name and password. For those families who have provided the school with an email address, this information along with the direct link will also be emailed to you.

Year 12 Trial Examinations
Next week our Year 12 students embark on a week of Trial Examinations. With this in mind I would like to take the opportunity to remind families of the following protocol:

• Exams will take place in G1, 2 and 3
• Students are to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start time
• Students will not be able to enter the examination room after 30 minutes has passed
• Students are required to attend all examinations and assigned practical blocks. A role will be taken and absences followed up.
• School uniform should be worn at all times when on Campus
• Copies of the Exam Timetable can be accessed from Bosco Administration

I encourage students to plan their time well. This week aims to provide an authentic examination experience that will enable students to learn how to best utilise their time in preparation for their final examinations.

Should you have any questions or queries about Examination protocols or expectations please contact Meriam deVries or myself at the College on 8633880.

Summer Uniform
On Monday of Week 9 we enter the phase of transition from winter to summer uniform. For the remainder of the term students will have the option to wear either uniform. Could I remind students and families that during this time a complete uniform must be worn, meaning all summer or all winter, not a hybrid version of both. Come Term 4, all students will be expected to be in summer uniform, including the school hat which must be worn by students when outside.
Fair is foul and foul is fair in English Week

Our annual English Week took place in Week 5 of this term and was a resounding success. Staff and students alike took the opportunity to come dressed as a character from page, stage, screen or even television and we were treated to appearances by Jon Snow, a plethora of priests from Father Ted, and Cap’n Jack Sparrow (resplendent in orange eyebrows). The menacing presence in class of the Big Bad Wolf caused Little Red Riding Hood and Granny some consternation and the Bosco Office became an intimidating witches’ den (be very afraid if you were the wit who asked if anyone would notice the difference).

Students made literary quote badges, entered the 50 word Very Little Book Competition and participated with vigour in the second annual St Mark’s Poetry Slam.

It was truly a celebration of all things English and a fine time was had by all!

Colleen McComish, English LAC

Our Year 12 students are considering their career options as University and TAFE application deadlines draw closer.

SATA Applications

The first significant deadline of the 2016 university admissions cycle is on Wednesday September 30. This is the early closing date for most undergraduate university courses. It is also the closing date for Medicine, Dental Surgery, Oral Health and Veterinary Bioscience at the University of Adelaide. After September 30 any new SATAC applications will be subject to a late fee.

The second key date is Monday November 30. This is the closing date for most undergraduate courses. New applications after this date are not guaranteed equal consideration for selection. It is also the final closing date for Medicine at Flinders University.

I remind students their online application is not complete until they are in possession of their SATAC Reference Number. This is a 9 digit number that will be emailed to students along with their preference list once the application process is complete.

Students wishing to apply for TAFE should be reminded that online applications open Monday September 14.

Monday November 30 is the closing date for TAFE course preferences. Applications after this date will not be guaranteed equal consideration. I encourage any student who requires assistance with their SATAC University or TAFE applications for 2016 to come to the Bosco Administration Office and make an appointment with Mr Gibson or Mrs deVries.

Kate Kilpatrick,
Deputy Principal - Bosco Campus

Our Year 12 students are considering their career options as University and TAFE application deadlines draw closer.

Our Year 12 students are considering their career options as University and TAFE application deadlines draw closer.

Staff and students at Bosco Campus celebrated English Week by dressing up as their favourite characters from page, stage, screen or television.

Staff and students at Bosco Campus celebrated English Week by dressing up as their favourite characters from page, stage, screen or television.

Kate Kilpatrick,
Deputy Principal - Bosco Campus

SATA Applications

The first significant deadline of the 2016 university admissions cycle is on Wednesday September 30. This is the early closing date for most undergraduate university courses. It is also the closing date for Medicine, Dental Surgery, Oral Health and Veterinary Bioscience at the University of Adelaide. After September 30 any new SATAC applications will be subject to a late fee.

The second key date is Monday November 30. This is the closing date for most undergraduate courses. New applications after this date are not guaranteed equal consideration for selection. It is also the final closing date for Medicine at Flinders University.

I remind students their online application is not complete until they are in possession of their SATAC Reference Number. This is a 9 digit number that will be emailed to students along with their preference list once the application process is complete.

Students wishing to apply for TAFE should be reminded that online applications open Monday September 14.

Monday November 30 is the closing date for TAFE course preferences. Applications after this date will not be guaranteed equal consideration. I encourage any student who requires assistance with their SATAC University or TAFE applications for 2016 to come to the Bosco Administration Office and make an appointment with Mr Gibson or Mrs deVries.
SMC Soccer

Last Friday night the soccer grand finals were played at Byrne Park. It was an exciting display of soccer and there are certainly some very talented soccer players representing St Mark’s. Thanks to all supporters who came out to cheer the students on.

Congratulations to all teams for your fantastic participation and sportsmanship and to our winners:

- **Under 10 United** who defeated Risdon United 4 - 2. MVP for the match was **Blake Hanlon**.
- **Primary Victory** defeated **Primary Strikers** in a very exciting and tightly contested match. After a nil all draw at full time, extra time was played, still with no result. The game then went into penalty shoot outs and the winners were Primary Victory 3 - 1. Both teams played fantastically.
  MVP was awarded to **Joshua Denny**.

Our Junior High School team fought hard all game and were victorious in defeating MN/Rangers 4 - 1. MVP was awarded to **Jake Noble**.

In the Senior high school game St Mark’s were unfortunately defeated by John Pirie 4 – 0.

We held a very successful wind-up on Wednesday with most soccer players attending to enjoy pizza, hot chips and soft drink. It was great to have so many coaches present, as well as parents and other family members. The coaches presented each of their team members with medals and the younger students in particular were very excited to receive these. Coaches were presented with gift baskets as a token of the College’s appreciation for their efforts this year.

I would like to once again thank the following coaches for their help in guiding our players through another successful soccer season.

Many thanks to **Joseph Amato, Vinny Degioia, Andrew and Jules Fowler, Sacha Smith, John Smith, Adam Saler, John Saler, Darren Giancaspro, Phillip Amato, Matty Hunter, Sebastian Caputo, Sam Gadaleta, Joseph Sciancalepore, Nick Gaudio, James Hellmanns and Steve Garden.**

A big Thank you to **Ken Fay** for all his assistance and for coaching the High School teams this season.

Thank you also to **Anthony Spadavecchia** for being the Soccer Parent Representative on the College Sports Council this year.

Thanks also to those who have assisted teams in any way over the season and also to our referees and linesmen for their help.

Congratulations to **Ben Spadavecchia, Baylee Sparks and Ellie Todd** who have been selected in the SA Regional squad to compete in Fiji in December as part of the Ultimate Fiji Soccer cup.

If any parents have taken soccer photos during the season, which can be added to my collection to use for the sports assembly, could you please email them in JPEG form to pkeain@stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au. Thank you for your assistance.

We look forward to seeing all our players back again next year as well as any new players who would like to be a part of St Mark’s soccer.

**Please remember to return all guernseys as soon as possible.**

Thankyou

**Pia Keain, SMC Soccer Coordinator**
SMC Netball

The netball season came to an end with the Grand Finals on Saturday 5 September. We had 16 teams who competed in the finals matches.

Congratulations to our teams who competed in the Grand Finals E Grade, G Grade, I Blue, U13 Div1 Gold and U13 Div2 Blue. We also congratulate our Premiership teams F Grade, U13 Div1 Blue, U13 Div2 Red and U11 Red. There were some very exciting games with the slimmest of margins and overtime victories. We had a number of individual significant achievements in our club this year. Congratulations to –

- A Grade Player of the year and Team of the Year - Kate Kilpatrick
- F Grade: Runner Up Best and Fairest - Millie Tubb
- Best Team player – Chelsea McBride
- I Grade: Runner Up Best and Fairest - Lucee Bessen and Caitlin Tee
- Best Team Person - Caitlin Tee
- Congee Cup - Dakota Petagna
- 13 and Under Division 1: Best and Fairest - Dakota Petagna
- Best Team Person - Dakota Petagna
- Goal Throwing award - SMC Red
- 11 and Under: Best and Fairest - Ava Amato, Runner Up Best and Fairest – Harper Bridley,
- Best Team Person - Ava Amato
- Conlin Cup - Ava Amato

Congratulations also goes to the many players who represented our club and association at combined and regional levels.

A season of netball does not operate without a significant amount of work.

I would like to thank all those who contribute to the junior and senior committees that organise our club – Simone Caputo, Bianca McBride, Marie Harvey, Liz Noonan, Ashton Puddy, Jenna Howell, Elise White, Emily Williams, Angela Mellow, Lisa Manners, Martine Wright, Jodee Markham and Jane Gibson. With 24 teams competing across Modified, Junior and Senior competitions we had a significant number of coaches, managers, umpires, scorers, timers, canteen workers and so forth. I would like to thank all those who so willingly and generously gave of their time to ensure our teams were ready to compete.

Katie Pole, SMC Netball Coordinator

Open Hockey

On Monday 24 August, the St Mark’s Open Boys and Girls Hockey team travelled to the Pines in Adelaide to compete in the State Schools Sports Hockey Final. The competition was fierce throughout the day, with teams from St Peter’s, Walford, Mt Gambier, Henley and Trinity also making it through.

In an outstanding display of hockey throughout the day both teams were able to cement their spot in the Grand Final. The boys were up first, finishing minor premiers they were in a good position, but couldn’t find their form from earlier in the day, and went down. The girls followed, they were pumped and ready to go after penalty shoot outs to get into the GF. At the final siren, St Mark’s were on top, securing their position as the best team in the State.

Sincere thanks goes to Matt VanGiesen and Danica Manfield for coaching the teams on the day and congratulations to all St Mark’s players for the way you competed throughout the day, it was an excellent display of sportsmanship.

Jesslyn Oxford,
Bosco Sports Coordinator
SMC Hockey

Finals
The season is rapidly approaching the end, with the finals series already begun and the Grand Final just around the corner. We have 3 teams playing this weekend, striving to make it to the big GF. We wish the U15 Boys, the U18 Girls and the U18 Boys the very best this weekend in their matches as they attempt to have a win to pursue the premiership.

The U15 girls battled hard against Crystal Brook last weekend in the Semi Final, but unfortunately were knocked out. The U15 girls have improved immensely over the season, and should be very proud of themselves. Over half of the side plays in the U12 grade as well each weekend. They are a young side and their future looks very promising! Well done girls!

Association Awards
The Association Presentation Night was held on 29 August and we had a number of St Mark’s players receive awards. Congratulations to the following players that represented St Mark’s this season and received awards.

Lucy Wood – U18 Girls Best and Fairest
Thomas Dickeson – U18 Boys Runner Up Best and Fairest
Team of the Year:
U15 Boys - Thomas Dickeson, Nelson Ferme, Samuel Ferme
U18 Girls - Lucy Wood, Kireea Cugley, Jane Murphy
Sportsmanship Award Nomination – Braiden Smith and Ashleigh Morrell
Hockeyworld Sponsorship Award Winners – Caleb Connor and Kireea Cugley

St Mark’s Presentation Night
This year the format for presentation night has changed. It will now be held at the Port Football Club on Wednesday 16 September at 5:30pm. Here we will recognise the Best and Fairest player, the Runner Up and the Best Team Person in U15 and U18 grades and present all U9 and U12 players with their medallions. Tea and drinks are available to purchase. Your child should have received a note home from school, please return, indicating numbers attending for catering purposes. All welcome, hope to see you there!

Thermomix Raffle Fundraiser
Many thanks to all who purchased a ticket in our Thermomix Fundraiser. We are pleased to announce all tickets have been sold and the winner will be drawn on Presentation Night 16 September.

Jesslyn Oxford, SMC Hockey Coordinator

SMC Football

The Under 13 SMC footballers finished the 2015 on a high by winning the Port Pirie Junior Football Association’s Grand Final. The boys played an excellent brand of football all game in what was a close tussle all day. However, they managed to kick away from their gallant opposition to take out the premiership. Congratulations to Kallis Freer who was the best player on the ground. John Murphy coached the team extremely well on the day as he has done throughout the season. Damian Freer also guided the boys as runner throughout the season.

The Under 13’s represented St Mark’s College with enthusiasm and with the spirit that we expect from our students on the sporting field. Thank you to Toni Boulton who coordinated the Sunday BBQ. Thank you to all of our coaches, helpers and those who donated food throughout the season. The club doesn’t function without the generosity which people have shown this season.

Matt Mead, SMC Football Coordinator

Congratulations to our Under 13 SMC Footballers who won the Port Pirie Junior Football Association’s Grand Final.
Science Week

During Week 6, Bosco staff and students celebrated Science Week. There were water rockets on the oval, lunchtime sessions with the animals from McNally Farm, Galaxy Explorer workshops, daily quizzes and a quiz on all things science which pitted staff against students. We can proudly announce that the students narrowly pipped the teachers to be proclaimed as the winners, well done to Leo, Crenie, Amy, Harry and Clem. In the week prior, five Year 9 students had the opportunity to attend ‘Illuminate’, a science camp generously hosted by The University of Adelaide and in association with other schools from the Mid-North area. Students were able to test their forensic science skills and enjoyed touring the university’s facilities.

Jane Bennett, Science Coordinator

Science Camp

On the 20 August 2015, St Mark’s College students Dale, Cooper, Mia, Jessica and Simon, along with students from other schools travelled to Adelaide to attend a 3 day camp. Students attended The University of Adelaide and UniSA’s Mawson Lakes campus to learn about science careers. Attending the University also meant travelling like a normal uni student, so we took public transport around Adelaide. We learnt about food science, forensic science and neurology at the University of Adelaide. The lecturers were very nice and could tell a lot about what they do. We were given tours through the campus. The university was unbelievably big and there were so many resources for research. The campus was such a friendly environment with so much history behind it. On the final day all students visited the UniSA Planetarium. It was a favourite for the students because of its beautiful display of the night sky. We learnt about the movement of stars and different formations of stars, like our most commonly known ‘Southern Cross’. We also learnt about the mental and physical requirements to withstand the force of launching into space. On the 22 August, students travelled back and returned home to tell all the wonderful stories they had experienced at the Science Camp.

The camp was so much fun, and gave me a visual idea on what going to University would be like. It’s a rare opportunity to receive, so it is worth having a go.

Simon Nguyen, Year 9 student

Year 8 and 9 Knockout Hockey

On Tuesday 25 August, the St Mark’s boys and girls B/9 Knockout Hockey teams travelled to Adelaide to compete in the State Knockout Hockey Final. The teams competed against teams from Grant High School in Mount Gambier, Portside High School and Henley High. Both teams faced tough competition throughout the day, but played very well to make it to the Grand Final.

The girls faced tough opponents in Grant High School, they had previously lost to these girls but were determined to challenge Grant. The girls started off strongly, with a great goal from Brooke Smith, however the Grant girls answered back quickly. St Mark’s were playing great hockey, linking well and offering some great patches of play. Aleisha Finlay scored another great goal, however again, Grant proving too strong and secured their win 4-2 with two quick goals. The St Mark’s team played very well, and should be proud of the way they played throughout the day.

The boys finished as minor round premiers and faced Henley High in the Grand Final. The St Mark’s boys played a great game, with opportunities at goals, and also strong in defence. The score was held to nil all the entire game, the ball just not finding the back of the net. With only four seconds to go, Henley won a short corner, and luckily slotted a goal after the siren, meaning St Mark’s were runners up for the day.

Huge thanks goes to Annette Lane and Owen Smith for coaching the boy’s side and congratulations to all St Mark’s players for the way you competed and represented the College on the day.

Jesslyn Oxford, Bosco Sports Coordinator
In Week 6 Benedict students were very creative, dressing up in the Book Week theme “Books Light Up Our World” and as their favourite book characters.
Celebrating English Week and Book Week

Week 5 at Bosco Campus is English Week and Week 6 at Benedict Campus is Book week. As literacy is one of the unifying elements of the College and in a celebration of these two weeks, one Year 8 and two Year 9 classes read picture books to seven Benedict classes. The Bosco students, in their groups, chose with care picture books suitable for their assigned classes and practised the reading of these. They also devised pre-reading, during reading and post-reading questions and prepared pictures for the Benedict students to colour in. This activity was one that was enjoyed by all. It was engaging to see both young and old students concentrating on colouring in and sharing in the fun, laughter and excitement of literature.

Marg Congdon, English Teacher - Bosco Campus

As a part of Book Week Year 2 Blue travelled to the Port Pirie Library and had a fabulous time taking part in special reading activities.
Talent Quest

Friday 9, Saturday 10, Sunday 11 October. All ages, all genres. Over $3500 in prize money. Junior and Senior Categories, Solo, Duo and Group Sections, songwriting competition.

For more information contact Roma Sampson on 86 33-4417 or 0488 147 862 or romasam@bigpond.com.

Follow facebook ‘Harnessing Young Talent’.