The College gathered to celebrate sport. Our Benedict students enjoyed the Sports Day. The Blessing of the Fleet and Debutante Ball was sacred and spectacular. The Builders are now rolling in.

The Sports Assembly

The College gathered this week to celebrate sport. We took the opportunity to acclaim our champions and honour our sporting endeavours. It has been a thrilling couple of weeks of finals and it was the end a long winter season of effort. Students have gone into the cauldron of battle innocent, excited, intent, nervous. They have had fun. They have hoped for victory and played for honour. They have been overjoyed at success and felt the despair of loss. They have hugged coaches and presented them with gifts. They have loved their game and their teammates. Our assembly celebrated that. Certainly the finals were applauded at the assembly and we know that those games mattered very much and people worked hard. The finals are now a memory. The effort that was made is what endures and the quality of our response is what matters, win or lose. And our gathering was very much about the quality of character that we learn through sport. There were 1000 of us in the Good Samaritan Hall. Students enjoyed speeches and presentations, a stunning guest speaker and photographic images of themselves at games. It was all very dignified and formal. We had a chance to hear from guest speaker Bianca Joyce who is an ex Hockeyroo. She spoke about her life as an international player and stunned us with a story about being dropped from the Australian squad three weeks before the London Olympics. She spoke about resilience and having a dream. The 1000 people were spellbound. We had a chance to applaud the Sports Council Awards. The Junior Sportsman and Sportswomen were Dakota Petagna and Jamison Murphy. The Senior Sportsman and Sportswoman were Sam Ferme and Lucy Wood. Their contribution to College sport was affirmed as outstanding. Their leadership and achievement has been excellent and the way they played was acknowledged as enhancing the quality of a game at St Mark’s.

Two students were then awarded the Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year. Jacob Evans and Merina Caputo were summoned to the stage and congratulated. A biography of their busy sporting lives and achievements was read out. They have an excellence and determination that is extraordinary. They have a drive to succeed and a talent that is special. I was left wondering how two young people could have such an inner motivation, manage so much in life and remain so balanced and gracious as people. It was very inspiring.

Later that night we gathered with the many coaches over an afternoon tea and drinks. Much was repeated. The sense of celebration remained. Major sponsors Alsanto through Mark Allan and Tony Sims were present. Students, who were ambassadors for their sport, spoke of their gratitude to coaches, the importance of the team, and the appreciation that parents and the College had supported them. A gift was given, a supper served and we toasted the wonderful spirit culture of sport at the College. I felt very privileged and certainly very grateful for our coaches and the work of the Sports Council. It was a wonderful chance to gather as a whole school and to reflect on the value of sport. That day we recognised that there are many remarkable qualities in our students when they enter a playing arena.

The Benedict Spots Day

Our Benedict students gathered at the Bosco Oval on a beautiful spring day to enter into the fun and competition of House Sports. They were there in their bright House colours to run and tunnel a ball, to pass a baton and then to cheer. They were there to earn individual ribbons and points for their House. There were gleaming trophies in the background and honour was at stake. Well, perhaps not desperate honour, but there was the fun of competing on a day that was beautifully organised. It was efficient and
fun, exciting and noisily energetic. The College Captains, Erini Seindanis and James Ganley, opened the ‘games’ with a lovely speech. The Parents and Friends set up a coffee stall and enjoyed a roaring trade of donated cakes and Krispy Kreme sweetness. The teachers were patient, gentle and guiding in the business of the day. The student leaders from Grade 7 were quite outstanding. It was remarkable to watch the attention to detail, respectful management and thoroughness as they organised teams and made things happen. It was a wonderful moment of leadership and team spirit and surrounding all of this were the hundreds of parents in support. It became a huge community day. It was a great day for family and competition, teamwork and effort.

Debutante Ball and Blessing of the Fleet
I had the opportunity to attend the Debutante Ball and the Blessing of the Fleet ceremony held recently. It was a remarkable experience of gracefulness and faith. It was a gathering to honour the Italian traditions of Port Pirie and for our Year 11 St Mark’s students to publicly present themselves. There was a deep faithfulness and honouring a spirituality connecting us to the Mother of God and there was a chance to dress up and delight at a feast as we see the beauty of our young people; see their handsomeness and potential and the love of their family and the dignity and grace that is within them. The celebratory Debutante Ball was wonderful. The atmosphere was loving, the dancing graceful, the formality touching. The Mass, procession and prayers on a beautiful Sunday gathering was rich with Italianess. The picnic was filled with chatter and Italian meats and sweet cakes. There was Tarantella, Carabinieri, Pas de la crem (Marie Capurso) and prayerful rosary being prayed to Our Lady of Martyrs. What struck me was the unity and joy of the community. It seemed so important to be together. We are stronger and more cohesive by remembering our traditions and background and the Italian community do this so well. There seemed to me no greater expression of this than our students involvement in the Debutante Ball and the number of students and immediate past students who carry the statue of Our Lady in the procession. They honour community. They have a faith in tradition. They carry a legacy. It is a moment of goodness. I was very proud of our students.

In Roll the Builders
As the term comes to a conclusion the builders will roll in. We are upgrading the College Administration building and continuing with the Art and Technology block upgrades. There will be activity at Bosco with a new Senior Secondary precinct and a continuation at Benedict of the Magdalene Centre learning space. This is driven by the ongoing master plan to develop excellence in our facilities and create spaces that enhance learning. It is a busy time of building. It is guided under the auspice of the College Board and through the project management skills of Dominic LoBasso, our Business Manager. We have saved money to pay for it. We are not taking out a loan. We are not going to increase school fees. In the complexity of so much happening this is being managed responsibly. This is exciting and about opportunity for the students. In all of that there will be trucks, metal girders, tradesmen, hammering, architects plans and squeezing into alternate classrooms for next term. The College is growing. The developments are exciting. The pace seems breathtaking. This is part of our ongoing, unfolding excellence.

I wish you all a happy break before our final term.

Greg Hay, Principal
Religious Education

Last week I had the pleasure of packing up 45 shoe boxes of love that will be sent overseas for children to receive this Christmas. I would like to thank the Benedict classes for supporting the Samaritan’s Purse program that was facilitated by St Mark’s Parish. These gifts will provide hope and love to 45 children in other countries who otherwise may not receive anything this Christmas. Special thanks also to Angela Jordan and the SRC students who carefully checked and organised the boxes ready to be sent off.

This week is the Focus Week for our Diocese’s Year of the Family. Classes have been busy creating displays to celebrate and recognise the significance of family. We will also be focussing on the many blessings we receive from our family.

Next term in conjunction with our School Family Fun Day on October 25, we will have a School/Parish Mass at 10:30am as part of our celebrations of Family. Details of this Mass and requests for participants will go home at the start of Term 4.

I would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday break and look forward to seeing everyone return refreshed and ready for Term 4.

Katie Pole, RE Liturgy/Sacramental Coordinator
From the Deputy Principal

Congratulations
A heartfelt 'Congratulations' to Henry Whiting, Bernie Kelly, Todd Arbon, Jo Wilsson and Annie Keane for preparing our annual Sports Day last Friday. The weather was glorious and the students organised and primed for the day. The House Captains did a stupendous job of organising their teams, with the events running so smoothly we ran ahead of time all day! To our students, thank you for your fantastic team spirit and fair play – it made the teacher’s job very easy and enjoyable. Thank you also to the staff for their support and enthusiasm on the day, to the P&F for running the stall for eats and drinks and to our marvellous Maintenance crew who assisted in the set up and pack up of the equipment as well as line marking the events. A lot of organisation goes into this event and it definitely showed in the smoothness of its running, the joy on the children’s faces and the roar from the crowd of parents and significant others that came to watch and enjoy. Well done everyone! A definite team effort!!

Car Park
A note went home on Wednesday concerning the line marking that is to occur in the school holiday break by the Port Pirie Council. Could parents please ensure to familiarise yourselves with the new Drop-Off/Pick-Up extended area. I thank you for your co-operation and support of the process involved so far and have appreciated the many comments and suggestions along the way. There is no doubt in my mind that the car park has improved within this process and I hope and trust that our families will continue to utilise this wonderful space to ensure it continues to work well. Our ultimate aim was, and continues to be, to ease congestion and make our car park a safe environment. Thank you for assisting in this process.

Building Update
During the last couple of weeks, our Year 1 and 2 classes have been relocating classrooms in preparation for our Stage 2 building project. At the same time, our specialist teachers have also been relocating to allow for this to happen. All classes and specialist teachers are now fully moved and settled in their new spaces and our new container is now full of furniture and resources in preparation for 2016. This process was amazingly smooth. The staff and students managed this with grace and a generous spirit. The students were well prepared and have settled quickly. Thanks goes to our Year 5/6/7 classes and teachers who assisted classes to move; to Maintenance staff for their muscles, moving expertise and patience; to Matt Dwiar for ensuring the computers in Room 4 were safely moved and stored and to the staff and students who made the move and did it with a minimum of fuss. Due to this organisation, McMahons have already started the demolition process this week and the build is off and running! Exciting times ahead!

Thank you
We have had the privilege of having two University placement students at Benedict this term. Jacinta Huxtable (Curtin University, WA) has been working with Sarah Freer in Reception Green all term and Todd Arbon has been working with Des McKieough and Henry Whiting in Year 5 Red as well as with Bernie Kelly in PE lessons during the last four weeks. We thank them for their keenness to learn, their willingness to participate, their friendliness within the community and their enthusiasm for being a part of our school during this time. We have appreciated the contributions you have both made and wish you every success in your future endeavours with teaching.

Kylie Smith,
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus
The Yellow ‘Confidence’ Key

The Confidence key is one that grows as you acknowledge and believe in yourself and your abilities. The more successful you feel, the more confident you will be. The old quote ‘Confidence breeds success’ is absolutely correct. Knowing that making mistakes is part of our learning is also a key aspect of being confident to give things a go, no matter what!

What does the Confidence Key look like?

Believing in Yourself and what you can do
Everyone is different in what they can and can’t do well. We all have our own special talents and gifts. If we are confident in our abilities and ‘disabilities’ and are able to acknowledge that we can’t do it all, this is a huge step in accepting who we are. This acceptance assists us in becoming more confident to persist in those things that we need more help in and to always give things a go – no matter what mistakes are made.

Having a Go
Mistakes are a huge part of our lives and the way 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. Having confidence to do this is the key.

Looking and Sounding Confident
Enthusiasm in learning is a key to being confident. Knowing that you can ‘have a go’ and make mistakes confidently, makes a massive difference to the outcome. Assisting our children to look and sound confident is an important step in helping them be successful in all they do, no matter the ‘bumps in the road’ along the way.

What happens if students do not use the Confidence Key?
When students do not use their confidence key, they do not feel successful. For example:
If a child is struggling to do their work and is too scared to ask for assistance in case they look ‘dumb or silly’ in front of their peers.

What can this student do?
If this student decided to use their confidence key they could:
- Ask for assistance from the teacher or a fellow student.
- Have another go.
- Believe in themselves!
But most importantly - they would never give up and they would get help to 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 yellow ‘Confidence’ 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

Bosco Campus has continued to be rich and vibrant in culture this term and we have much to be grateful for. Students have embraced College life through their love of music, sport and social justice. They have performed at Musicals and music evenings, represented St Mark's in KO sport and our sporting exchange, they made soup for the homeless and achieved some outstanding results at the Royal Adelaide Show. It has been a wonderful term filled with many life giving moments.

Parent Teacher Interviews

The final round of Parent Teacher Interviews for 2015 will be held on Wednesday 21 October from 4.00pm to 8.00pm.

For these interviews we are introducing a new internet-based booking system called Parent Teacher On-Line (PTO). Using this system parents will be able to book interview times from any device that has internet access. The program will 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. This yellow 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 PTO link will also be emailed to you. If you do not receive this email, please check your ‘Junk Mail’ inbox as your email filter may have placed it there.

If you encounter any problems using PTO or are unable to access the internet from home, please contact the Bosco Administration Office and they will be able to book interview times on your behalf.

We look forward to seeing you at the Bosco Parent Teacher Interviews next term.

Building Development

I am pleased to announce that ‘Phase 1’ of the Art and Technology building is now complete. The new art rooms and multimedia suite is now finished and will be operational as of day 1, Term 4. The Art Faculty have been busily working to transition into their new space, setting up new furniture and state of the art equipment that is sure to enhance the learning of our students. The completion of the Art rooms is most exciting and I know that students are eager to move in. Year 12’s, whilst only here for another two weeks, will be sure to embrace the new dedicated Year 12 space, designed specifically to showcase their work.

‘Phase 2’ begins in the holidays and will focus on redeveloping the Technology workshops. This phase is due for completion at the end of the term, ready for student use at the beginning of the 2016 school year.

Bosco Campus will be a busy place over the holiday break as we also begin construction on the new Senior Secondary Precinct. The precinct will transform the current Bosco classrooms into a new, open plan and very dynamic space that will stimulate student learning. It will be a home for both Bosco House and for our Year 12’s. The precinct is due for completion early January.

Summer Uniform

In Term 4 all students will return wearing their summer uniform. With summer comes the 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. I would also encourage families with daughters to have a look at the length of the summer dress. Some have experienced a growth spurt over the winter break and the hem line has crept up a little. Earlier in the week I reminded our girls about College rules and expectations. Your support in making adjustments over the holiday period is greatly appreciated.

Year 12 Farewells Begin

With only a two academic weeks left for our Year 12 students I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the following key events:

The F-12 Farewell Mass

Year 12 Farewell Mass (F-12) will take place on Tuesday 20 October at 10.00am. This event will see the whole College come together to farewell the class of 2015. Parents and friends are welcome to attend. This Mass is very special for our Year 12 students; they have looked forward to it all year.

Year 12 Thanksgiving Mass

The Year 12 Mass of thanksgiving will be held at St Mark’s Cathedral on Thursday 22 October at 7.30pm. All Year 12 parents, family and friends are invited to this special occasion. This is the ceremonial farewell by St Mark’s College to its Year 12 students. In recent years, it has been a very memorable occasion for every Year 12 student and their family and friends.

The Last Day

The last day of school for Year 12 students is Friday 24 October. Year 12 students are permitted to wear appropriate casual clothing on this day. This day Year 12’s will gather for a cooked breakfast with their teachers at 7.45am followed by a range of farewell rituals which will conclude at 11.15am. Students are not to return to the College after dismissal on the final day. Although this is the last day of formal classes, some students may be required to come to school to finish assessment items at a later date. Year 12’s returning to the school to complete work or exams must be in school uniform up until 28 November.

In closing, I wish our students and families a restful break this holiday period.

Kate Kilpatrick,
Deputy Principal - Bosco Campus
Year 12 Child Studies

The Year 12 Child Studies students recently presented Miss Howell’s Foundation class with a range of props to encourage them to engage in imaginative play. The Year 12’s designed the props using particular themes including pirates, airport and travel, fire fighter and pizza shop.

*Jane Gibson, Year 12 Child Studies Teacher*

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Capital Developments

Construction on the new Senior Secondary Precinct at Bosco Campus is starting. This includes transforming current Bosco classrooms into a new open plan and dynamic space that will stimulate student learning and be a home for both our Year 12 students and Bosco House.

**Main Administration Reception Upgrade**

Work will commence on the upgrade to General Administration Office reception area during the Term 3 holiday break. During the construction phase (Term 4) the main entrance to the reception area will be redirected to the back entrance of the building and we apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause.

**Bosco Admin Office Hours**

Friday 25 September 8.30am - 12pm.
Closed for School Holidays from Monday 28 September to Friday 9 October. Office reopens and School resumes Monday 12 October.

**Art/Tech Redevelopment**

McMahon Services have completed the new Art Centre and handed the keys to the school on Friday 11 September 2015. Staff have been busy setting up the area in preparation for the start of Term 4. Demolition work for Stage 2 (Tech Studies workshop) will commence during the Term 3 holidays and is expected to be completed just before the Christmas break.

**Senior Secondary Precinct and Benedict GLA Early Year’s Stage 2**

The Benedict GLA Redevelopment Stage 2 project commenced on Monday with the builders taking over the site and commencing the demolition work of the old decking. The development of the Senior Secondary Precinct which includes internal modifications to the existing six transportable buildings, a new fully enclosed breakout space linking classrooms and associated site works and landscaping will also commence during the Term 3 holiday break. Both projects are expected to be completed prior to the start of Term 1 2016.

*Dominic LoBasso, Business Manager*
Sports News

SMC Tennis

2015/2016 Junior Tennis Season
The 2015/2016 Junior Tennis Season starts 16/17 October. This year we have a total of 26 teams some of these being combined grades, A/B Grade Girls and Boys, C/D Grade Girls and Boys, E Grade Girls and Boys and F Grade Girls and Boys.

Training
Training commences Term 4 Week 1. Please see the Team list on Thursday for practice times. Programs and Parent Rosters will be given out on Monday Week 1, Term 4.

Playing Times
Playing times are as follows A/B Grades 10.30am Saturday, C/D Grades 8.30am Saturday and E and F Grades 4.30pm Friday.
For all enquires see the SMC Tennis committee members Jane Dickeson, Fran Combe, Carmel Freer and Andrew Gebert.

SMC Tennis Committee

SMC Netball

The netball season has come to a close with the Junior and Senior Presentation nights completed. I would like to again thank all volunteers who helped and assisted in a variety of roles throughout the season. A special mention to Bianca McBride who was awarded the “Saint of the Year” service award for season 2015. Her enormous contribution to the Junior and Senior teams and all aspects of our Netball Club is greatly appreciated. Congratulations to all trophy winners and we look forward to seeing everyone out on the court again next year in the blue, red and gold.

Katie Pole, SMC Netball Coordinator

St Mark’s Sport proudly sponsored by alsantoco

Congratulations to Ella on her numerous Cheer and Dance Awards.

Congratulations Ella!

Congratulations to Year 6 student Ella Smart! She recently competed in two Cheer and Dance Competitions in Queensland and won the following awards -

Aussie Gold International Cheer and Dance Competition:
Cheerleading Partner Stunt - 3rd Prize - partner Chelsea White
Cheerleading Group Stunt - 5th Prize - partner Chelsea White
Level 1 Cheerleading Team - 2nd Prize
Senior Level 1 Pom Team - 3rd Prize
National Cheer and Dance Competition:
Lyrical Audition Section - 3rd Prize
Cheer Audition Section - 1st Prize - National Title Holder
Cheer and Chant Section - 1st Prize - National Title Holder
Benedict Sports Day

Bosco Captains Lillian and Jack celebrate their Benedict Sports Day victory with their team.

Polding Captains Shannon and Jamison being presented the Fatima Incentive Shield by Mrs Pauline Waters.

Gallagher Captains Will and Keelie being presented the Salesian Running Shield by Mrs Helen McKeough.

The weather was glorious for Benedict Sports Day. Students enjoyed a fun day full of excitement, energy, competition, teamwork and effort.
Con
gratulations to the winners of the Benedict Campus Book Week Writing Competition Liam, Alyssa and Ethan.

Book Week Writing Competition Winners

The Fox and the Horse
Long ago in a beautiful forest lived a mean orange fox, a brown horse, a rabbit and a frog. One day in the forest the fox set up a trap for the horse. He waited and waited and finally the horse stepped into the trap. The fox yelled out, “Got you!” but the horse escaped and he called his friends over to make a plan. Then the fox set up the trap again. The horse got trapped so he called for his friends again and they set the horse free. Fox was furious so the fox was never to be seen again.

By Alyssa Ganley - Year 2 student

Impy the Pug
Impy was a happy little Pug who lived in a kennel with his parents. One day his parents told Impy that it was time to go out into the world and find a new home.

First Impy went to the pond and asked the ducks if he could live there. But...it was too wet. Next he went to the South Pole and asked the penguins if he could live there. But...it was too icy. Poor Impy could not find a home.

Just then he saw another pug in a big kennel who said, “Come and share my home!”

By Ethan Park - Year 4 student

Scruffy
Scruffy was a bull dog. He looked vicious and mean, but really all that he wanted was a friend. All the other dogs would shiver and shake when they went past him! This made scruffy very, very sad.

One day he saw a cat, “Oh if all the dogs get scared of me, surely this cat will too,” Scruffy said. But...the cat came up to him and said, “Are you okay? You seem a bit sad. My name is Mittens. Do you want to be my friend?” Scruffy said, “Yes!” And from then on Scruffy and Mittens were best friends!

By Liam Pennel - Year 4 student
Our McNally Farm staff and students at the Adelaide Show.

Royal Adelaide Show

On 9 and 10 September, 35 Year 9,10 and 11 Agriculture students attended the Adelaide show to compete in the Schools Led Steer events (Year 10 and 11) and the Schools Led Goat wether events, Boer Goats (Year 9). School Staff attending the show were Paul Matthews, Joel Head and Monique Maddigan (Steers) Ben Mader and Matt Ryan (Goats).

In the School Steers events there were 150 steers from 45 schools, and with the school goats events, around 150 goats from 35 schools. Our results with our Steers were as follows:

**Second place** - Breeder’s steer, Heavy domestic 435kg to 485 kg. Shorthorn “Ottis” prepared and paraded on behalf of the breeder, GE Ashby and sons.

**Third place** - Schools steer Heavy domestic 455Kg to 475 kg. Hereford “Bert” Kerlson Pines (Mark and Andrew Wilson)

**Third place** - Schools steer Heavy domestic 515kg to 530 kg. Simmental “Corey” AJ & JD Head, Calaundra.

**Fifth place** - Schools Steer Export 535 kg to 555kg. Red Angus “Bluey” Breeder –Angle Farm GR & RA Smith, Port Pirie.

**Best team of three** - We also had our Red Angus“Bluey” and our Hereford “Bert” chosen in the best team of three for their breed in the ‘O’Connor’s teams event. Our Shorthorn “Ottis came a close fourth in this event.

Thanks must also go to Inglewood Props (Sam Inglis) for the supply of “Hank”, our Shorthorn.

Our Boer Goats and their handlers performed admirably, in both the Grand Parade, and final Judging events, under the guidance of Mr Ben Mader and Mr Matt Ryan. The Goats had very strong competition, and the results were as follows.

**Second place** - Chevon 23 kg to 29.9 kg. “Matty”

**Sixth place** - Chevon 30kg to 34.4 kg. “Joey”

Many thanks must go to Margaret Miller, Coota Park Boer Goat Stud Kadina, for supplying our goats, and for her ongoing help and support.

A big thank you must also go to Mr Hay, for travelling to Adelaide to visit our teams and help out. A great time was had by all.

The McNally Farm Team

Our steer “Bluey” in the best 3 Red Angus team.

Our steer “Bert” in the best 3 Hereford team.

Our best ribbon was won by our Shorthorn “Ottis” who gained 2nd prize.

Our goat “Matty” receiving 2nd prize.
**Special Education News**

Another busy term has flashed by and what a productive term it has been! The focus this term has been on **Dyslexia**. So what is Dyslexia? A good way to understand dyslexia is to establish what it is not. It's not a sign of low intelligence or laziness. It's also not due to poor vision. It's a common condition that affects the way the brain processes written and spoken language.

Dyslexia is primarily associated with having trouble reading. Some doctors, specialists and educators may refer to it as a 'reading disorder' or a 'reading disability'. But it can also affect writing, spelling and even speaking.

This term a number of staff from both Bosco and Benedict Campus have participated in an online training course in Dyslexia. The key findings are that these individuals with dyslexia, or a related difference, require **explicit, direct and systematic** instruction in both oral and written language. Here at St Mark's, we offer a number of intervention programs which assist students with Dyslexia and other learning difficulties. Mini-Lit is implemented with the Year 1-2 students and Multi-Lit with our Years 4-7 students. These support programs have once again continued to make a significant difference to our students learning and ability to read, write and spell.

For those who don’t know, 2015 is the 'Year of the ESO'. The ESO's at Benedict Campus are: **Lyn Howell** (co-ordinates Rainbow Reading and works with some students in Multi-Lit), **Hannah Lavis** (coordinates Mini-Lit), **Michelle Malchow** (co-ordinates Multi-Lit and does some Quicksmart), and **Julie Van De Water** (co-ordinates the Quick Smart program). I would like to thank our wonderful ESO’s for all their hard work throughout the term. The staff celebrated on Thursday last week with a delightful morning tea and were presented with cards from the students.

Early next term I will be travelling to Melbourne for a week long course to become a tutor in Orton Gillingham MSL approach. MSL is “Multisensory Structured Language (MSL). Not only has this step-by-step multi-sensory approach to reading, writing and spelling transformed the lives of thousands of dyslexic children and adults, it is now proving to be an excellent method of developing literacy skills in all children.

The MSL Orton Gillingham approach is considered the golden standard for the treatment and remediation of dyslexia and assists ALL children including children who have been identified with dyslexia or a related learning difference. The multisensory component is what makes MSL different to other traditional reading and spelling programs and will compliment both the Multi-Lit and Mini-Lit programs.

I hope everyone has a safe and restful break and we look forward to sharing more exciting news in the next semester.

*Louise Richards,*  
**Special Education Teacher - Benedict Campus**
**Parents and Friends News**

**Up and coming events**
Monday 19 October at 7.30pm - Parents and Friends Meeting
Sunday 25 October at 11am to 3pm - St Mark’s Family Fun Day and Amazing Race. All welcome!

**Parent and Friends Survey**
Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our survey. The results are mixed and we definitely have room for improvement. Your main concerns were communication – who we are, what we do, how we do it and how you can be involved. Given this we will now be providing regular updates in this newsletter and our facebook page. From the next issue onwards each executive and general member will give you a profile of what their role is, who they are, and why they chose to volunteer their time to P&F. We will also provide regular updates on what’s been happening in P&F and will ask you for your input.

**What can you do?**
So starting today, if you haven’t already, go ahead and like our facebook page! Click on the link in the St Marks College website, http://www.stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au/saint-mark-s-community/parents-and-friends, sign into facebook and join. This page provides you with second hand uniforms for sale, regular updates on events coming up at school, answers to questions you may have, interesting issues, P&F meeting minutes/agendas and so much more to come.

Secondly thanks to your amazing generosity we currently have over $10,000 in our P&F account. We have some projects in the pipeline but want more good ideas on how to spend these funds to benefit our children. What are your thoughts?

Lastly next term P&F will be planning for 2016, we want to know the best time for meetings, what community events you would like organised and what fundraisers you would like to see happen.

There are 3 easy ways to respond – post on our facebook page, email us on dj.court@bigpond.com or simply ask the Admin Staff at Benedict or Bosco to give us a message.

**Thank You**
Thank you for supporting our most recent fundraisers - Krispy Kreme which raised $1,148 and our Sports Day Cake Stall $1,300, and watch out for our next event on Facebook, the Family Fun Day is going to be a day not to be missed!

**SMC Parents and Friends Committee**

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**SMC Family Fun Day**

**Sunday 25 October**

**11am to 3pm**

**Benedict Oval**

**Amazing Race**

$5 per pair/team

Everyone Welcome!
Northern Demons Soccer School is suited for boys and girls of all ages and abilities. Learn ball control, first touch, dribbling, shooting and much more. Sessions at St Mark’s College, Bosco Oval. 5 - 10 year olds on Saturday 17 October - $25 for one hour session. 11-15 year olds on Saturday 24 October - $30 for 1.45 hour session. Contact Andrew McMillan 0456 828 386 or email andrew.mcmillan@live.com

**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 8633-4417 or 0488 147 862 or romasam@bigpond.com. Follow facebook ‘Harnessing Young Talent’.

**Singing Lessons**

Available at school. For more information please call Anne Hansen on 0429 866 242 or 86 36-2231.

**Come and Try Art !**

From 11am to 2pm at Crystal Brook Institute, 21 Bowman Street, on Friday 9 October. As part of Mental Health Week. All ages welcome to attend this free workshop. Acrylic Workstation, Ink Workstation and Watercolour Workstation.

**Smelters Picnic Football Competition for Juniors**

Win cash at the Smelters Picnic on Wednesday 30 September by participating in the Long Bomb. The longest kick for each grade. 1st prize is $50.00, 2nd prize is $20.00, 3rd prize is $10.00. Grade 3 & under Registration at 10.00am for a 10.15am Start Grade 4 & 5 Registration at 10.45am for a 11.00am Start Grade 6 & 7 Registration at 11.30am for a 11.45am Start Please meet in front of the Little Grand Stand (Concrete Grandstand) at Memorial Oval (Main Oval) in Pt Pirie to register your name. If you have any questions please call Craig Oliphant on 0428851978.

**Drawing and Art Workshop**

Saturday 17 October from 1pm to 3pm at Port Pirie Baptist Church Hall, Hanman Street. This workshop aims to use a combination of drawing, painting and creativity to help children build confidence and develop positive self-esteem. Suitable for children aged 10 - 16. Each participant will receive an art folio and art supplies to continue their journey. Gold coin donation appreciated. Contact Felicity on 0468 697 180 for more details and to reserve a spot.