

NEWSLETTER

Issue 14 15 September 2023



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



ADMINISTRATION
T +61 8 8632 2800
F +61 8 8633 0104

BENEDICT CAMPUS
T +61 8 8632 4735
F +61 8 8633 0568

BOSCO CAMPUS
T +61 8 8633 8812
F +61 8 8633 0104

SALESIAN HOUSE
T +61 8633 8803
F +61 8633 0104

www.smc.catholic.edu.au



Agriculture students Charlie, Ava, Charli and Chloe in the Grand Parade at the Adelaide Show

September 3-9 was National Child Protection week, and it was followed on 10 September by Safeguarding Sunday. We are reminded that every child in every community needs a fair go, and that child protection is an important responsibility for the whole community 365 days a year.

In the media, online, in society, homes and schools we see examples of students at risk. We take the safety of students very seriously and have processes in place to consistently address concerns when they arise, based on the information we have. There is no place for bullying and harassment of any kind in our community – verbal, physical, racial, or sexual to name a few. Respect and compassion are two of our core values and we remain persistently committed to educating our students to live these values daily and understand and accept consequences when behaviour does not align with expectations.

The rights of children are listed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Parents and caregivers make decisions in the best interests of younger children to protect them from harm. As children become older, they become more capable of exercising rights and taking responsibility for their lives. Here are some of the Articles from the Convention on the Rights of the Child which can be viewed at: www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child

- Article 3: All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.
- Article 15: You have the right to choose your own friends and join or set up groups, as long as it is not harmful to others.
- Article 19: You have the right to be protected from being hurt or mistreated, in body or mind.
- Article 28: You have the right to good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.
- Article 29: Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

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With the combined effort of textiles entries, the College was awarded The Most Successful School in Junior Textiles at the Adelaide Show!

From the Principal



At St Mark's College we use a range of tools and strategies to support students' safety and wellbeing. An important resource is the Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum – a child safety and respectful relationships curriculum for children and young people from pre-school to Year 12. This curriculum provides age and developmentally appropriate strategies to help children and young people keep themselves safe. Concepts in the curriculum include trusted networks and support services, healthy and unhealthy relationships, rights and responsibilities in relationships, power in relationships, online safety and image-based abuse, and sexual harassment and abuse.

Teachers are trained in the delivery of the Child Protection Curriculum and maintain currency in mandatory notification training – Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect.

Maintaining a safe and positive environment for our children to thrive at home and at school, in their wellbeing and learning, is everyone's business. Together we can help our young people to grow into the kind, educated, respectful and compassionate people we know they can become.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal

R U OK? Day activities across the College



Students wrote messages of encouragement on the Community Wall at Bosco Campus



Alessandra and Jay enjoying a piece of toast from the first Breakfast Club



Jacob enjoying the dance party in the Quad



Guest speakers at Bosco Assembly- Sonya Murphy, Danae Holyman, Emily Lowe and Graham Ford with our College Captains



Students wrote messages of encouragement on the library wall at Benedict Campus



Bosco students competed in 'old school' games during WRAP lesson

Faith and Mission



Congratulations to the Debutantes and their partners at the Blessing of the Fleet Ball

Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Mass and Expo

Last Tuesday Miss Sarah DeGioia and I took the minibus to Adelaide with a group of Year 9 and 10 students to represent our school at the annual Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Mass and Expo. It was an honour to be part of this special occasion and a joy to share Mass with staff and students from many other Catholic Schools. Our group delighted in the beauty and majesty of St Francis Xavier Cathedral and were inspired by the information and ideas shared in the Expo. In his homily Archbishop O'Regan acknowledged that life's challenges can harden our hearts which makes it difficult to see the needs of others and act to support them. He also shared his awe at being there with us all, to celebrate the work we have done through social action to support others.

"I enjoyed going and seeing what people are doing for those less fortunate, it gave us many ideas on what we can now do at the school to help them." Elsie, Year 10

Operation Christmas Child

Social action has been a focus for us at St Mark's this year through living out our values of respect, resilience, faith, compassion and service and we continue this good work with our annual donations to the Samaritan's Purse Operation

Christmas Child initiative.

Samaritan's Purse is a Christian organisation that takes its name from Jesus Christ's story of the Good Samaritan. This gives a clear picture of God's desire for us to help those in desperate need wherever we find them. After describing how the Samaritan rescued a hurting man whom others had passed by, Jesus told His hearers, "Go and do likewise." For over 50 years, Samaritan's Purse has done our utmost to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering.

The Operation Christmas Child is a hands-on way for our students to bless children in need across the world by filling shoeboxes with toys, hygiene items, school supplies, and fun gifts. Further information about how to support this cause has been sent via Operoo and to class teachers, but you can find more here: occ.samaritanspurse.org.au

Blessing of the Fleet

It was a privilege for some of our students to represent our school in the Blessing of The Fleet procession on Sunday. I was filled with pride at their enthusiasm and respect in being a part of this special event!

Mrs Annie Olsen, **APRIM**



Year 3s dressed as 'Italian girls' in the procession



Carrying the College banner



Jayden, Mav, Elsie and Davyn celebrating the Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Mass



Poppy, Elise and Leila celebrating the Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Mass

SOUTHERN CROSS:

Click [here for the latest edition](#).

THE WITNESS:

Click [here for the latest edition](#).

Key Dates and Campus Information



Our College Calendar is continuously being updated on our website: www.stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au/news/calendar.
Click to find the most accurate event information.

| Week 9: 18/9 - 22/9 | | Week 10: 25/9 - 29/9 | |
|---------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Mon | SAPSASA Track and Field | Mon | |
| Tues | Mini Mark's Playgroup 9.00am - 10.30am | Tues | Mini Mark's Playgroup 9.00am - 10.30am |
| | College Board Meeting Conference Room, 7.00pm | | Sports Assembly, R-12 Benedict GSH, 12.20pm |
| | | | Coaches' Presentation |
| Wed | Year 11 Retreat and Bushwalk | Wed | Student Free Day - Smelters Picnic |
| Thur | | Thur | |
| Fri | Benedict Sports Day | Fri | My Team Colours' Day, R-12 |
| | | | Final Day of Term 3 Dismissal- 12.30pm 7 - 12, Mid-Semester Reports Issued |

Benedict Campus:

This week I have had the pleasure of joining the wonderful community at St Mark's College. As you would be aware Mrs Sarah Freer is on Long Service Leave and I will be replacing Sarah whilst she is on leave. This week's newsletter is a great opportunity to introduce myself so here is a little bit of information about me. I live in the beautiful coastal town of Port Lincoln and work at St Joseph's School. My role is from Pre-School to Year 12, and I teach Art and Religious Education. I am originally from Adelaide and grew up in Gawler where I attended Xavier College. It was here at Xavier College where I was first introduced to the Salesian charism. The Salesian charism has always been close to my heart as I was fortunate enough to be taught by Fr Dennis Handley, past Principal of St Mark's College. I have a son who is in Year 4 and a cheeky cavoodle dog. I have only been here for a few days but have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far. I thank all the staff, students and families for making me feel very welcome and I look forward to meeting and getting to know as many people as possible in my time here.

Another face and name you may not be that familiar with yet is Sarah Grapentin who joined us earlier this year. Sarah moved to Port Pirie 12 months ago with her family and works in the administration office every day from 10.00am-2.00pm. She will be the other friendly voice on the phone and smiling face in the front office who will always be there to answer any of your questions.

Year 4 Excursions

Our Year 4 classes have been lucky enough to go on an excursion to Clare where they visited Seven Hill, the Mintaro Maze and Clare Valley Model Engineers. Students were all very excited and thoroughly enjoyed their time out of the school on this excursion.

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Acting Deputy Principal, Ms Nicole Russell



Administration Officer, Mrs Sarah Grapentin

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus: *continued*

Reception Photos

Our newest members of the school community had their photos taken on Wednesday. It was lovely to see the students looking so well presented for their first official school photos. Thank you to the parents for getting them into their winter uniform especially in the hot weather.

R U OK Day

Yesterday we celebrated R U OK Day with students wearing a touch of yellow. We started the day with our first breakfast club with over 70 students attending. Classes wrote encouraging and hopeful messages on the graffiti wall and then we all headed out to the Quad for a whole school dance led by our Year 6 captains. After the dance students were treated to a nice cold Zooper Dooper. I thank all those involved who helped organise activities for our staff and students. If you haven't already done so please check out the Year 1-4 SRC video that was posted on Facebook.

Reminders

- Sports Day is Friday, Week 9, Term 3.
- Student Placement forms are due to be returned by Friday, Week 10, Term 3. After this date no further request can be placed.
- Smelters Picnic is Wednesday, Week 10, Term 3. This is a school closure day.

Ms Nicole Russell, Acting Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus



Reception White were excited to celebrate Harmony Day



Jaxon and Jaymes adding their mark to the graffiti wall



SPORTS DAY BBQ

Rotary will have a BBQ and Drink Stall at Benedict Sports Day. Support them by buying a sausage or steak sandwich for lunch or a cold drink!

Due to unavailability of volunteers a cake stall will not be held this year.

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus:

R U OK? Day

The R U OK? Charity aims to inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with the people around them and start a conversation with those in their world who may be struggling with life.

Our Student leadership team planned out this week as they wanted to make it authentic and helpful to student wellbeing. Their aim was to create meaningful ways to promote positive relationships and communicate the idea that you don't need to be an expert to reach out - just be a good friend and great listener. I commend them on their work on this week long focus that I hope all students will take into their everyday interactions.

The 4 steps to have a meaningful conversation are:

1. Ask R U OK?
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in

Excursions

Different learning areas have been consolidating their classroom learning out in the community. You will see photos (later on in the newsletter) of the Yr 9 STEM visit to Adelaide where the students participated in Engineering experiences at UniSA.

Year 8 students complemented their learning in Italian through a visit to the Port Pirie Boat Museum. This was a very timely visit following the annual Blessing of the Fleet Feast last weekend. Students were able to look at the Our Lady of Martyrs Italian Community historical display of their experiences in migrating to settle in Port Pirie. Some students shared their reflections of this visit with me.

It was a good excursion to the Boat Museum and we learnt a lot about how all of the different Italian people came to live here from Italy. We also learnt about how they lived and worked historically. - Indi

The excursion was good and educational. I learnt a lot about our Port Pirie history, Italian migrants, and fishing in the olden days. - Isabella

The Boat Museum was interesting and showed a lot about the history of Molfetta. It was interesting to see all of the fisherman's history, and how their family still lives in Port Pirie today. - Eve

Learning Conversations

It was great to see the conversation and collaboration between parents/caregivers, teachers and in some cases, students on Wednesday night. These important conversations about student growth and achievement make for good outcomes for our learners. Next week our Year 7-9 students will start putting thought into choosing elective subjects for 2024.

Class placements

At this point in the year background planning is well underway to create learning and classes for students in 2024. Staff will soon commence the process of providing the best structures and classes for optimal learning.

Elective subject offerings are constructed around student strengths and subject preferences. Students are then placed in a Home Group for Core learning and Pastoral Care. If you have a request or consideration based on educational outcomes for 2024 classes, email me kpole@smc.catholic.edu.au by Friday, Week 10, Term 3. Please note requests for friendships and specific teachers will not be considered.

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Benedict Campus



RECEPTION > Our Reception students have been exploring the range of emotions we feel. Last week they created their own faces showing different emotions using biscuits, icing, and delicious decorations!



PERFORMING ARTS > Year 6 students have visited the Music Centre at Bosco as part of a String's Workshop. During the workshop they learned to play the start of 'Wild Thing' firstly on the acoustic guitars and then on the bass guitars in the band room.



EXCURSION > In Week 6, our Year 5s ventured off on their excursion to Melrose along with a train ride on the iconic Pichi Richi Railway.



MINI MARK'S > Zoey enjoying the Teddy Bears' Picnic at Mini Mark's Playgroup.



SCIENCE > Year 2s have been exploring how materials change. We looked at how materials change through recycling and then recycled our own scraps of paper into new paper. The students were so excited to be making a difference to the world by recycling!

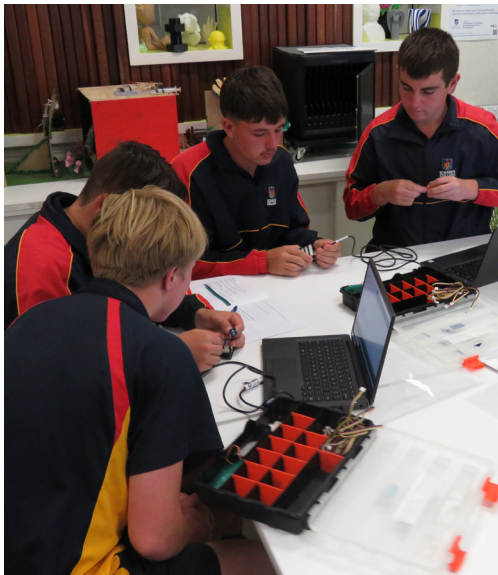
Bosco Campus



SCIENCE > Year 8s have been finding out how different compounds interact with each other by creating 'footy colours' in test tubes.



AGRICULTURE > Our McNally Farm goats collected 3 ribbons at the Show- Checkers (with Mitch) 4th in Chevron 26-27.5kg class, Bilfred (with Sophie B and Sophie C) 4th in Chevron 28kg - 29.5kg class and Darwizzy (with Tyron) 6th in Heavy Weight 42-43.5kg.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES >

Year 9 students travelled to Adelaide to participate in a variety of engineering activities at University of South Australia. They engaged with:

- Computer Engineering: students programmed Arduino boards to control different outputs.
- Electrical Engineering: students soldered various electrical components onto a board to create a multipurpose game system.
- Civil Engineering: students built bridges that will be stress tested and the results sent back to school.



RETREAT > Mav, Trey and Davyn delivered a range of food items and hygiene products donated by Year 10s to the Food Hub.



CHILD STUDIES > Our Year 11 Child Studies students have been studying language development in children. Using a storybook, the students designed an activity related to the book to promote areas of language which they shared with our Reception students.



HASS > Year 8 students have been studying Civics and Citizenship and learning how laws are made and the types of laws used in Australia. Students worked together to create their own laws which were 'passed' by Mrs Pole and will now be sent to Rowan Ramsey for him to present in parliament.

College Sport



Netball Season



Congratulations to our D Grade Premiers

Congratulations to our St Mark's Celtic Netball Premiers for 2023:

U11 Div 1 Red, G Grade Red, D Grade and C Grade

We had a number of players individually recognised by Port Pirie Netball Association for their exceptional seasons:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------------|
| • U11 Div 2 | Best Team Player + Best and Fairest | Marlo |
| • U11 Div 1 | Best Team Player | Brielle |
| • U11 Div 1 | Runner Up Best and Fairest | Madison |
| • U12 | Best Team Player + R/U Best and Fairest | Macy |
| • U13 | Best Team Player | Elise |
| • G Grade | Best Team Player | Chelsey |
| • G Grade | R/U Best and Fairest | Ashlee |
| • G Grade | Best and Fairest | Kealee |
| • F Grade | Best Team Player + Best and Fairest + Recorder Cup | Harlee |
| • E Grade | R/U Best and Fairest | Mya |
| • D Grade | Best and Fairest | Lucy |
| • C Grade | R/U Best and Fairest | Sophie |
| • C, D, E Grade | Bath Cup (Most Votes) | Lucy |
| • C, D, E Grade | Goal throwing Award | C Grade - 526 Goals |
| • A Grade | Team of the Year | Brooke |



Congratulations to our C Grade Premiers



Congratulations to our G Grade Premiers



Congratulations to our U11 Div 1 Premiers



Harlee was awarded F Grade Best Team Player + Best and Fairest + Recorder Cup



Macy was awarded U12 Best Team Player + R/U Best and Fairest



Marlo was awarded U11 Div 2 Best Team Player + Best and Fairest

minimark's PLAYGROUP

Join us for a morning of fun at Mini Mark's Playgroup before end of term:

- **SPORTS DAY FUN**
in the Good Samaritan Hall, wear your favourite team colours!
- **DEVELOPMENTAL CHECK'S**
optional service for children

Tuesday mornings, 9.00am - 10.30am, all welcome!

Old Scholars' REUNION

Celebrating Anniversaries for
Graduating Classes of
1983, 1993, 2003 and 2013

Saturday 28 October 2023

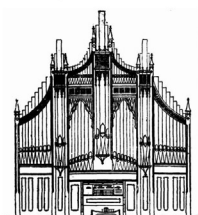
Old Scholars are invited to arrive from 3.30pm

| | |
|--------|--|
| 4.00pm | Tour of the College |
| 4.45pm | Drinks and nibbles in the Bosco Centre |
| 6.00pm | College celebrations end |

RSVP to the College on 8633 8800 or
smc_oldscholarsreunion.eventbrite.com.au

Community Notices

St Mark's Cathedral Parish, Port Pirie
presents...



**An Afternoon of Music Variety
On the Cathedral Pipe Organ**

Performed by

Mr Trevor Fletcher

Artistic Director of Live Arts at Newland

Adults \$20 Concession \$15
Children (U16) Free

**Sunday, 24 September 2023
3.00 p.m.**

St Mark's Cathedral
107 Gertrude Street, Port Pirie

Enquiries to Isaac at liellis@smc.catholic.edu.au



Butterfly
LET'S TALK eating disorders

**Online Teens' Eating and Body Image
Webinar for Parents:**

Body Confident Children and Teens
Tuesday 17 October, 7-8pm (AEST)
\$15.00

Visit: <https://events.butterfly.org.au/portal>

nyrstar Port Pirie SMELTERS PICNIC

Wednesday 27th September 2023

Baby Competition
Live Entertainment
Side Show Alley
Stalls
Yellow Brick Road
Fun day for all

Memorial Park - Port Pirie
9.00am - 5.00pm



VACSWIM is South Australia's most renowned summer holiday program giving your kids confidence in and around water!

VACSWIM
WATER AWARENESS - WATER SAFETY - WATER CONFIDENCE - WATER SKILLS - WATER FUN!

SKILLS FOR ANY SEASON!

Enrol from Friday September 1st 2023



December and January • 5 day blocks • Ages 3 - 12 years • Beach, lake, river and pool locations

vacswimsa.com.au



Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

| | Recess: | | Lunch: (Drink = Fruit Box) | |
|----------------|--|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Week 9 | | | | |
| Mon | Small Sausage Roll | \$2.00 | Squash Dog + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 |
| Tues | Puff Doggies | \$2.00 | Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Drink | \$6.00 \$8.00 |
| Wed | OOK OOK | \$2.50 | Pitta Bread Pizza + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 |
| Thurs | Pizza Muffins | \$2.00 | Beef Chow Mein + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 |
| Fri | 3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink | \$3.00 \$5.00 | Chicken Patty Burgers + Drink | \$6.20 \$8.00 |
| Week 10 | | | | |
| Mon | Rat Bait | \$2.00 | Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink | \$5.50 \$7.00 |
| Tues | Ham and Cheese Triangles | \$2.00 | Chicken Wrap + Drink | \$3.00 \$5.00 |
| Wed | Smelters Picnic Day - Student Free Day | | | |
| Thurs | Pizza Muffins | \$2.00 | Beef Goulash + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 |
| Fri | Final Day of Term | | | |

BOSCO CAMPUS

| | Recess: | | Lunch: (Drink = 375ml Zero Can) | |
|----------------|--|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Week 9 | | | | |
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Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752

