NEWSLETTER

Issue 10 21 June 2019

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Our Little Lions are ready to start school in Term 3!

Our Pope says that the 'future is hope'. Benedict gathers at the Cathedral. The Year 10 and 11s walk into the exam room. Our Little Lions are encouraged and everyone's photograph is taken. The Education Minister visits and I got to call out 'Bingo'!

When Pope Francis delivered the first Papal TED talk (translated by TED into English) he said:
"To Christians, the future does have a name, and its name is Hope. Feeling hopeful does not mean to be optimistically naive and ignore the tragedy humanity is facing. Hope is the virtue of a heart that doesn't lock itself into darkness, that doesn't dwell on the past, does not simply get by in the present, but is able to see a tomorrow. And it can do so much, because a tiny flicker of light that feeds on hope is enough to shatter the shield of darkness."

I have been conscious of 'hope' lately. I have been thinking about the opportunity here at St Mark's that 'shatters the shield of darkness'. We are blessed here. We have hope in hearts. We set up opportunities for hope. There is a flame flickering and it so often blazes within our students and our community.

I have been conducting a number of tours around the College of late. It is such an enjoyable experience. I get to share anticipation and talk about the future. We see classes that are doing some very exciting learning. There are some very nice buildings as well. We tour and get to imagine what it would be like to be in this learning world. We get to walk into learning spaces and see exemplary teaching and focus. A tour flames up the flicker of light within. In our St Mark's world, it is as the Pope said; "We are not locked up in darkness"… "We see tomorrow".

R-6 Mass

We gathered as a Benedict community at the Cathedral for Mass. It was the concluding celebration of Catholic Education Week and we fitted in snugly together. It is a huge space, a sacred space, a big holy place for our Benedict students. I love the sense of wonder and awe in the gathering and the hugeness. This year we started our liturgy with the words "Shalom". We heard the words "Peace be with you". It was our theme and the students respond to this with an optimism and determination. I am grateful for the manner in which our teachers guide the students into reverence. It was a 'shalom' moment at the Mass, quiet and grace filled. At the conclusion, we had a picnic across the road at the park. There were vegemite sandwiches, games of chasey, chattering and laughing. They were throwing winter leaves into the air. They sat or walked or played and are so good together huddled or racing, outside in the freshness of winter. It was a beautiful 'shalom' picnic.

The Philippines and Bingo

Our latest Philippines Immersion group continues its fund raising work. This week it was a Bingo Night. Guided by the golden voice of Alex Dunbar, at the local sporting centre, a large supportive group of families gathered. We had daubers to mark the numbers. I think we called them dobbers and we held them with an urgency. We had delicious calorie filled supper just to keep us alert and we needed to keep our concentration. I spent the evening absorbed on numbers in squares. There is a tremendous competitiveness about the game. There is an intensity. People groan if someone else wins. People haven't got time to chat or make jokes because the numbers keep coming. There is an etiquette required at Bingo so I had to behave myself and keep quiet. I enjoyed very much the night and even started to whistle at 'Legs 11', laughed at 90 Top of the House, and smile at 22, two little ducks. I am conscious now of the closeness of the trip to the Philippines. I know that there is a growing excitement and the money that was collected that night will go directly to a most worthy cause.

Little Lions

I was fortunate to attend the graduation ceremony of our Semester 1 Little Lions. About 20 adults with the Year 6 buddies and Term 3

KEY DATES

Board FB&G Meeting
Tuesday 25 June, 6.45pm

Board FB&G Meeting
Tuesday 25 June, 7.30pm

The BGC is full, but quiet- it's exam time for Year 10s and 11s

Reception classmates attended. I told them about the opportunity that awaits them at St Mark's. We know that something special awaits as they begin their first steps into formal schooling. Under the guidance of Ms Teresa Gadaleta, they have gradually gained confidence in our St Mark's world and gently prepared themselves for the challenges of learning in Reception. The experience of watching our newest enrolments is always a delight. They are ready and they are roaring. I know that the Year 6 buddies will look after them. I know that there are extraordinary women ready to guide them. I congratulate Ms Teresa Gadaleta for providing a wonderful service and an excellent program of transition. We wish our new families welcome.

Exams

I walked into the Year 11 exam room the other morning. They were all deep in concentration. They were writing and thinking, analysing and determining solutions. They were part of a process of assessment which brings together a semester of learning. They were trying their best and responding to challenge. I am very pleased with the tone and the attitude that the students bring to this challenge. We are a school that prizes scholarship. One expression of this is those intimidating exams. I look forward to hearing of excellent results.

Photo Day

The rains have come and no one in our region would complain for a moment. "Bring it on" we say. We rejoice in the nourishing, splashing delight of rain. Except perhaps for those couple of moments when the students have to walk from the classroom to the Good Samaritan Hall for their formal school photo. It poured and poured and the extra effort that families had gone to in grooming and dress was dampened just a little. Umbrellas and care, zig zagging dashes to shelter and hands shielding from the wet meant that the day went off very smoothly at Benedict. Thank you for the effort teachers and tolerance students and a bit of fussing from mum. The photo company were good with our children. The Bosco boys seemed very surprised that a top button actually existed on their shirts and we reassured them that it was a very natural part of grooming to do it up. I hope that you will enjoy the treasured memories of the photograph. They remind us of membership to our community and that an education at St Mark's guides us all to excellence and wholeness. They remind us of growth and I think that the photographer captures a beautiful inner spirit. They certainly looked excellent and now we can enjoy the rain without a concern about our hair.

Minister John Gardner

I was delighted to receive the Minister for Education, Honourable John Gardner, into the College last week. He made himself available for a walk around Bosco. I had Captains Millie Tubb and Jack Dickeson with me and we proudly showed the Minister into classrooms and special facilities. I was particularly pleased with the manner in which our students responded to the special visitor. They were clearly engaged in their learning and spoke with confidence about it to the Minister. They were polite and I could see his questioning of them was about their hopes, their future and what they valued. They were very impressive in response. Our quick tour reassured me that this is an outstanding place for growing, for challenge, for a safe community and for learning.

Greg Hay, **Principal**

Minister John Gardner visited the College and toured with staff and College Captains

Religious Education

From the APRIM

Thank you to our College community who donated items for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

Year 12 Retreat
The Year 12 Retreat is a significant experience for our students. It provides a unique opportunity for them to reflect upon their life journey, to discern life's bigger questions relating to their place in the world, meaning and purpose. The Retreat is a three day 'live in' experience that will take place in Week 10, beginning on Wednesday 3 July and concluding Friday 5 July. Details and consent have been sent via Caremonkey. It would be appreciated if this could be promptly responded to by clicking on the appropriate reply. Thank you to the families who have already sent through their consent.

Year 11 Retreat
Retreats are a key feature of our Religious Education experience here at the College. They enable our students to reflect in a spiritual way on important issues and ideas for their development. Our Year 11 students went off to two locations for a day Retreat today. The focus of the day has been Vocations. Throughout the day students were involved in a range of activities inviting them to critically think about the gifts they have and how they might use these to contribute to the world around them.

Vinnies Winter Appeal
Our Vinnies Winter appeal has wrapped up across the College. Hundreds of cans of soup and noodles were gratefully received by St Vincent De Paul Port Pirie this week.

Service
Our Year 10 Students will soon embark on a Community Service Task. Each student will identify the needs in our local community, services who support these needs and then give two hours of their time to one of these causes. We are thankful for the support of so many local organisations who so willingly host our students and allow them to work with them. If you need further information please contact your child's Religion teacher or Ms Fiona Clarke REC.

Immersion Commissioning
This Sunday the Philippines Immersion Team will be commissioned ready for their July departure at the 10:30am Mass in the Cathedral.

Holy Communion
The students in Year 4 who will receive the Eucharist for the first time on 29 and 30 June have their final preparation Commitment Weekend this weekend. Students will undertake Ministries and pin up their grapes. They will also be given a Lapel pin to wear on their First Communion Day. Over the last couple of weeks all Year 4 children have been asked to prepare a Family Meal as part of their learning. It has been wonderful to see theses families share the "Good News" of their Family Celebrations on Social Media.

Katie Pole, **APRIM**

James preparing his family meal

Angus' family dinner

Ayrlei prepares her family dinner

Jake's family dinner with both Lavis families

BENEDICT CAMPUS

Mid-Year Reception Orientation Day 2
Thursday 27 June,
8.45am - 2.00pm

Year 4 Teaching Mass
Thursday 27 June

Year 4 Retreat
Friday 28 June

First Holy Communion
Saturday 29 June, 6.00pm
Sunday 30 June, 10.30am
St Mark's Cathedral

From the Deputy Principal

What's happening?
With so much happening each and every day it is difficult to select only one or two experiences to reflect on for each newsletter. Other than continuing to share some information about Inquiry Based Learning, this week I'm randomly selecting a student from each year level to highlight what has been happening at Benedict Campus...

Reception:
In Reception Blue, the Little Lions have come in to our class. We have to be kind to them and help them to get things right. It feels good to help them.
James Ramsay

Year 1:
In Science we have been growing fruit. During the lock-in drill we were planting some plants outside and then we had to go inside and close all the windows! We have made a sign that says, "No touching these plants." My friends want to eat the strawberries!
Brielle Williams

Year 2:
We have been learning about animals for our writing. Cheetahs are the fastest land animal and my favourite animal. We've also been learning about Uluru and Cooper Pedy and it has been interesting.
Harper Sismey

Year 3:
For Art lessons we are going around the school filming what it is like to be in 3 Blue. So far we have filmed unpacking in the morning, playing on the playground, working in the computer room and going to the library. We are using an i-pad and I am enjoying it.
Sahana Sivalingam

Year 4:
In Maths' lessons we have been collecting data and making pictures and other graphs with the data. I've been enjoying it because we get to rule lines and get to know about other people and what they like.
Hamish Caputo

Year 5:
In 5 Green we have been learning about and doing Optical Illusion art. It can play tricks on your mind and on your eyes. I enjoyed it because you got to use lots of colour, it took lots of time and we got to display it in the office.
Laura Snowden

Year 6:
In Science lessons all the Year 6s have been building bi-carb soda and vinegar powered boats. I am in a group with Maveric and Ryder and we are great collaborators. We built two boats in case one doesn't work! It has been fun because it has been lots of hands-on work.
Jackson Smallacombe

Inquiry Based Learning
This fortnight Mrs Sarah Freer discusses some of the skills our students will develop through an Inquiry Based Learning approach;

Why use Inquiry Based Learning?
As we look towards the future, students need to be equipped with skills for an ever changing world, a world that we don't quite know what it looks like! There are, however, particular skills that will enable students to be successful regardless of what they choose to do later in life. Some of the skills students need to have are:

- Complex Problem Solvers: they will need to solve problems we have never experienced before.
- Critical Thinkers: they will need to use logic and reasoning to explore issues or problems, come up with a range of solutions to a problem and weigh up the pros and cons of each approach.
- Creative: to be able to think outside the box.
- Coordinate with others: a sound set of social skills to interact with a range of people from one-on-one discussions to working in collaborative teams.
- Negotiators: finding ways to get their ideas heard and plans made in a positive way.

Melissa Gadaleta,
Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Reception student Willow and Finlay enjoying their fruit break at Orientation Day

Benedict Campus

Science in 5 Green

Angus, Jonathan, Jaxon and Isaiah enjoying the science experiment

This term, 5 Green have been learning about States of Matter in Chemical Science.

Everything found on Earth can be grouped into one of three states of matter: solid, liquid or gas.

In order to figure out which state of matter an object fits in, we have to examine its properties. The properties we look at are shape, mass and volume.

As a class, we wondered if there were any objects that could be grouped into more than one state of matter, so we conducted an investigation.

By adding 320g cornflour, 200ml water and a dash of food colouring, we were able to create an interesting substance with a gooey consistency, called 'Oobleck'. We observed the substance closely and after some investigating, we discovered that depending on the type of force applied to the Oobleck, it was able to act as both a solid and a liquid!

If we interacted with the Oobleck gently, it would act as a liquid and change its shape. If we punched the Oobleck (a sudden force), it would harden, not allowing our fist to go through (acting as a solid). This generated some confusion as well as some excellent scientific discussion!

Todd Arbon, **Teacher 5 Green**

Tahlia, Skye, Maelie and Poppy

Sam, Zackary and Liam

Reception Orientation

Receptions Emersyn and Ruby with Carys

Harvie works with Liam

Amy helps Ivy use the whiteboard

Receptions Luke and Sophie work with Luke

Benedict Campus

Reception Green and Blue Excursion

Excursions are great fun!

Harper patting the donkey

Ruby feeds the goat

Reception Blue say 'hello' from Port Broughton

Maya found a shell

Oliver investigates the rock from the beach

Daelan feeds the goats

Emersyn and Indiana exploring at the beach

BOSCO CAMPUS

From the Deputy Principal

Research Project

When speaking with our Year 12 students this week I could sense their relief with the Research Projects completed and ready for moderation by the SACE Board. Our students have put a huge amount of work into their research and should be commended on their persistence, resilience and determination to do well. The Research Projects will be presented at an Exhibition Evening for Year 12 parents and caregivers on Thursday 27 June, 7.30pm in the Bosco Centre. While the Research Project has come to an end, the Year 12 marathon still has some distance to go. I encourage all our Year 12 students to remain focused, dedicated to their studies and mindful of their goals and aspirations. The final weeks are fast approaching. Work hard, remain focused on your end goal and maintain your determination. If any students are struggling with the pressures of Year 12, I encourage them, or their parents, to contact the Year 12 Coordinator, Mr Fay.

Semester 2 Begins

Monday 24 June marks the beginning of a new semester and for many, this means new electives and new teachers. Students in Years 8 - 10 have already completed their subject selection process. Stage 1 students with reservations about their choice should see the Director of Curriculm Mrs Briony Forster. Students have two weeks to make any required changes, making Friday 5 July the last day to change Electives.

Reports Distribution

As the end of the term fast approaches I take this opportunity to outline our report distribution process. This term there are several key events in the final week meaning report distribution will be staggered.

- Year 12 students will receive their report on dismissal on Tuesday 2 July before going on Retreat
- Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 students will receive their report at dismissal on Friday 5 July, 12:30pm
- Year 10 students are on Work Experience during the final week. Parents are able to collect reports from the Bosco Office on Friday 5 July between 8:30am and 2:00pm

I remind families that the final day is a normal school day and attendance is expected. Reports will not be posted home. Absent students will need to wait until Day 1, Term 3 to collect their report.

Work Experience

It has been pleasing to see the eagerness in which Year 10 students have embraced Work Experience. This is an important component of our curriculum and provides students with an insight into future career possibilities. I congratulate all students for their organisational skills and commitment to due dates. This is an important employability skill to develop and continue. Work Experience is scheduled for Week 10, Monday 1 July - Friday 5 July. I thank all the employers within the Port Pirie and wider community for their support of this program. I look forward to hearing about the experiences of our students and seeing some of the photos of our students in action.

Exams

This week the Year 10 and 11 Exams were conducted in the BGC to conclude Semester 1. These grades will be recorded separately on the students' reports. The students are to be commended on their conduct throughout each session. Hopefully, everyone will be able to choose their subjects wisely for next year as a result of this experience. I would like to thank the staff for their supervision of the Exams over the last week.

Philippines Immersion Departure

The excitement builds as our Philippine Pilgrims prepare for their departure. On 8 July, fifteen Year 10 and 11 students, accompanied by Marc Forster, Matthew Munday, Fr Harold Camonias and myself will make our way to the Philippines for an immersion experience. We will visit a number of schools and organisations that provide education, food, shelter and spiritual development to the Filipino people. The experience will be both challenging and enriching. In preparation students have engaged in a number of formation sessions, as well as the organisation of fundraising initiatives. The group have been outstanding in their fundraising efforts and with two weeks to go to reach their $10,000 goal they have already raised over $9500. All money raised will go directly to the schools and services we visit in the Philippines. Pilgrims will allocate funds based on the needs of each school community, providing them with money to purchase much needed educational materials and develop infrastructure. Our students will be farewelled and commissioned at school and in the parish.

Katie Pole,
Acting Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Year 11 Retreat
Friday 21 June

Semester One Concludes
Friday 21 June

Semester 2 Commences
Monday 24 June

STEM Expo and Research Project Exhibition
Thursday 27 June, 7.30pm

Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 1 - Friday 5 July

Year 12 Retreat
Wednesday 3 - Friday 5 July

Bosco Campus

In the Home Ec Kitchen

Year 7: Year 7 Food and Textile students have created their own signature pizzas topped with their favourite toppings, their final practical for the semester. The pizzas don't only look amazing but tasted delicious! Throughout Semester 1, the Year 7s have learnt about the importance of hygiene within the kitchen whilst developing their cooking skills.

Year 11 / Stage 1: This term Stage 1 Food and Hospitality students have been able to practise their butchering skills thanks to the guidance of Ben Dunbar from Alex's Meats. Ben kindly donated an afternoon and the chickens to help the students learn how to butcher a chicken into 7 different cuts. The skills learnt have allowed students to be able to understand the hospitality industry in more depth but also gain valuable practical skills. Thank you Ben!

Emily Komljenovic, **Food and Textiles Technology Teacher**

Taliyah and Taya

Tom and Matt learn from Ben

Eliza, Katherine and Isabella

Georgia cuts the chicken

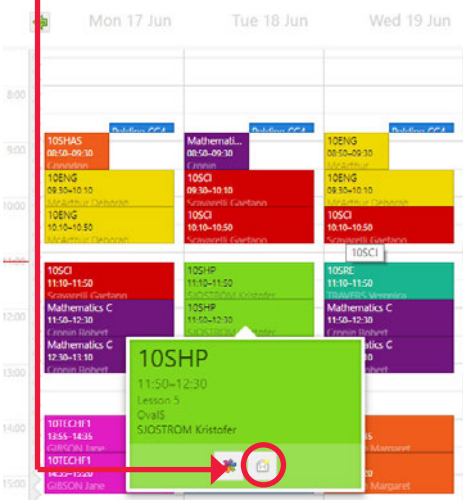
Morrie and Austin

Lucee, Kasey and Kealy

SEQTA Tip-

How to email your child's Subject Teacher

1. Login to SEQTA Engage
2. Go to your child's Timetable
3. Select the applicable subject, pop out box will appear.
4. Select the email icon
5. If email is set-up on your mobile device or PC, it will open an email message to send direct to your child's teacher.



Congratulations Nathan!

Nathan recently competed at the Lawn Bowls Australian Open in Adult singles, pairs, and fours and also in the Under 18 singles.

Nathan made it to round 64 and 'in the money' for the mens pairs and won silver in the Under 18 Boys.

Photo and information supplied by Nathan's family.

Around the College

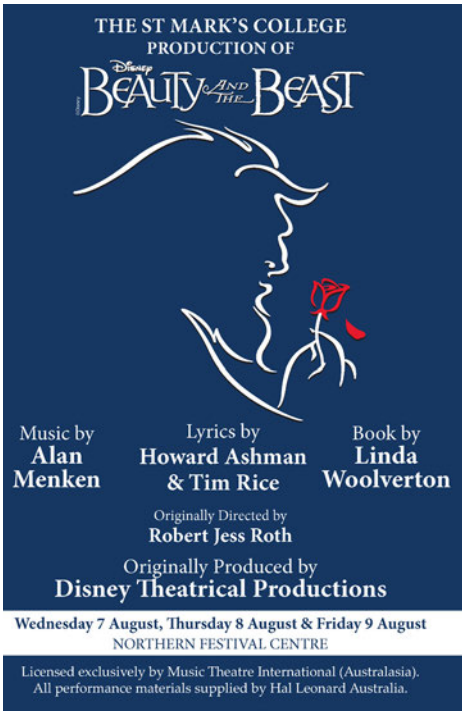
Beauty and the Beast - College Musical

Mr Hay directing the ensemble

It's a tale as old as time and now St Mark's students from Year 6 - Year 12 are bringing it to life on stage at the Northern Festival Centre. The cast have been working under the direction of Mr Hay and supported by Ms Fiona Clarke, Mr Isaac Ellis and Miss Nikki Caputo for several months in preparation for the show. Tickets are now on sale. Performance times are:

- Wednesday 7 August, 10.30am and 7.30pm
- Thursday 8 August, 10.30am and 7.30pm
- Friday 9 August, 10.30am and 7.30pm

Tickets can be purchased at the Northern Festival Centre or online at:
https://www.countryarts.org.au/events/saint-marks-college-presents-beauty-and-the-beast/venue/northern-festival-centre/



Cross Country Championships

St Mark's College recently had two students represent Pirie district in the School Sport SA Cross Country Championships held in Oakbank on June 6. To qualify for the event students had to meet a qualifying time of 15 minutes for 3km. Zara Bowman (Year 7) and Tyron Congdon (Year 5) both displayed grit and determination as they came up against some well-trained runners from across the State, with each age group having up to 200 competitors. Zara ran a consistent race, finishing near the centre of her field and Tyron knocked an impressive 80 seconds off his personal best time.

Megan Congdon, **Pirie District Manager**

Tyron and Zara at the Cross Country Championships

COMMUNITY NEWS

UNIFORM TENDER - Update from the College Board

The College Board went out to public tender for the supply of our school uniform. The successful company was Perm-a-Pleat and they will work with Mensland and MES Streetwear to supply uniforms for our students. They will be in operation in November. At this stage all uniform requirements will be met as usual from Intersport. We will keep you advised of progress.

We write with sincere thanks for those who submitted a tender application and acknowledge the work and hope that is put into such a document. We thank Intersport for the service and partnership that we shared over the last six years.

Community Notices

Australian Government
Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business

JobsFair

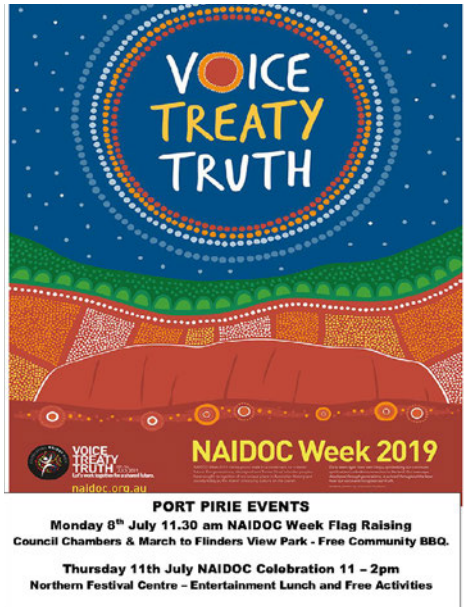
21 June 2019 – Port Pirie, SA

- **Talk face to face** with local exhibitors, including employers about real and current employment opportunities across Port Pirie and the surrounding region.
- **Participate in information sessions** to improve your chances of getting a job and learn how best to find employment opportunities.

Come along to the Port Pirie Jobs Fair on 21 June 2019, bring your résumé and speak to real employers looking to hire.

Date: Friday 21 June 2019
When: 10.00 am – 2.00 pm
Where: Northern Festival Centre
106 Gertrude St
Port Pirie SA 5540

For more information visit: **www.employment.gov.au/jobsfair**
For enquiries about the Jobs Fair please contact Skana Gallery on **0477 753 390** or **skana@skanagalleryconsulting.com**



Volunteer Needed- Fred's Van Port Pirie

St Vincent de Paul is looking for a person to undertake the role of Principal Volunteer, responsible for the coordination of Fred's Van in Port Pirie.

For more information contact Teresa Branch
P: 0419 857 966
E: tbranch@svdpsa.org.au

Port Football and Community Sporting Club
Open daily from 9.00am