



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

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Year 8s on camp at Picadilly, Codi, Eliza, Karly, Dakota, Lara and Jemma

Cohesion and fun and the frustration of being apart. A silent moment and a Christmas blessing. We are still together in learning and care.

I heard some great stories about the Year 8 camp when they returned. I heard about the adventure and the fun and how well they seemed to get on together. Exhausted teachers returned to tell tales of wonderful children and an important time of cohesion. Scrapped knees and aching joints, near misses and courageous decisions reflected something special together. They embraced opportunity. It makes this Covid fragmentation so much more frustrating, appropriate of course but frustrating - exasperating. I don't like things driving us apart. The image on our front page seemed to me to speak of the camp and friendships and unity, vibrancy and the sheer fun of being together. This image is the spirit of this camp and what the College tries to offer our young people. There are a thousand more images of a thousand other school activities and opportunities. We will get through this all together. I treasure the images, the memories, the efforts of the teachers and the effervescence of the children even when a viral force tries to sabotage. I write sadly of the need for cancellation. This breaks our hearts.

The Christmas Window

There has been some Christmas concentration of late. The Business Port Pire group extended an invitation to decorate a window in the old Prests building. A rich series of windows have appeared and each connects to one dimension of the spirit of Christmas. I am grateful to Ms Meg Arbon (and some other Christmas conspirators) who created a gentle and reverent expression of the Journey of the Magi. Our window is a beautiful creation around journey and search. It hints at coldness and distance and something sacred at the end. It celebrates a star and an expedition and the expectation of holiness in a manger. It is beautifully created by Meg and it helps me understand a little more about the essence of

our faithfulness and a story that changed the world.

NAIDOC Week

Around the school last week there were reminders of National Aboriginal and Islanders Day. There were posters and lessons, prayers said and recognition of the significant contribution of indigenous people to our community. There was much colouring and creating but most poignant for me was the research one class did on Aboriginal involvement in the Australian Defence Forces. It startled me and reminded me about bravery and the contribution of indigenous people. It also reminded me about the power of research and the way it helps us grow in understanding and wisdom. NAIDOC Week had an impact on me.

The 11th Hour Silence

I had the opportunity to stand with our school community on 11 November. We stood in silence with a catafalque and flag. We stood for the Last Post and the Ode. We stood to remember that this country creates courageous people who stand against tyranny. We stood in silence to mark the anniversary of the Armistice which brought an end to The Great War of 1914 - 1918. I stood with our young people for Remembrance



Our Christmas Window lit up at night



Bosco Campus pauses to reflect and remember on Remembrance Day

Day. At our assembly we heard the story of the soldiers and their experience during the Korean War. There was suffering and sacrifice and bravery in the story. I thank Mr Garry Fradd from the Port Pirie RSL who supported our reflections with a poignant speech. I left the assembly with images of soldiers and the freezing cold of Korea. These are brave Australians. Lest we forget.

Boarders Christmas Tea

I received a most delightful invitation to attend the Salesian House Christmas Party. This was the Boarders. This was a party. Upon arrival I saw that the Boarding House was full. There were people with Christmas hats, flashing lights and tinsel. There was a roast dinner and party bon bons. There were lollies, soft drinks and Chrissy decorations. This was a party given to the teachers by the Boarders who created a most festive ambience and I even had too much to eat like a real Christmas dinner. The boarders did two things that I will remember. They took our plates and did our dishes. I felt so pampered. And then they wrote each teacher a Christmas card. When we read them it was the first time this year we didn't get a red biro out to correct the spelling. We got out a tissue to dab the tears. The most lovely words were written. It was truly a beautiful experience by a fantastic group. And TJ Laughton remains the most hospitable of Father Christmases. He smiled and took selfies with every teacher and led the Christmas conga dancing. I thank Denise Arbon, Jane Dickeson and Lisa Manners who supported the boarding students and managed a great Christmas moment.

The Mission Lunch

Last Friday I walked around a Benedict quadrangle that had become a market place of fun and festivity. The Year 6 students created a wonderful series of stalls and activities with fundraising in mind but excitement as the priority. This was the Mission Gala Day. It was a hive of creative industry. There were signs and invitations, stall and activities. There were prizes and tempting sweet delights. The children chatting and bargain hunting, delighting at the prizes, getting themselves painted and embracing a marvellous

atmosphere. There was a game of golf and a fantastic battle with sponge bullets. There were fingers nails painted, hair dyed, ghost tunnels visited and throwing balls for sugary prizes. The wet sponge throwing seemed to wet everyone in the immediate radius and the slam-dunking basketball got slammed and there was much cheering and encouragement. Members of staff hovered at the edges to make sure that things went well but these Year 6 students of ours were outstanding in their initiative, organisation and commitment. The Benedict community worked hard to generate fun and funds. I congratulate the hard work of teachers and the spirit of fun of the students. They were on a mission and the Missions will benefit.

Academic Leadership

I have to formally account for the faithfulness and the learning and the community life of St Mark's at this time of the year, every year. Last week my immediate manager visited to receive my account of the year. As part of this I invited the Learning Team to a table to deliver reports. Nikki Edwards, Teresa Gadaleta, Belinda Rafanelli, Briony Forster and Toni Freer made this extraordinary presentation. They tabled data and improvement. They spoke of professional learning and teacher growth. They gave evidence of a powerful learning community with the children at the heart and excellence as the driving force. I felt so inspired, so grateful, so reassured that so much is happening. These women lead our teachers and bring energy and insight into what is happening in classrooms and what we can do to continually improve.

OSHC

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) has been an important concern for a number of our families. The College has pursued OSHC businesses to invite them to create an OSHC at the College. Unfortunately, there has been no positive response. The companies do not seem to see OSHC as viable at St Mark's despite the great potential that we have presented to them. At this stage there will be no OSHC options for our families in the foreseeable future.

Mr Greg Hay, Principal

Key Dates and Campus Information



The following events are subject to change. As advice is received, the College Executive will make decisions about the continuation of these events, any changes to events relevant to you will be communicated through Operoo.

Week 7: 23/11 - 27/11		Week 8: 30/11 - 4/12	
Mon	Learning @ Home across the College	Mon	New 2021 Year 1s - 6s Orientation Day
Tues		Tues	Reception Orientation Day 2 9.00am - 2.00pm Bosco Presentation Night
Wed	School to re-open after Statewide Lockdown Year 11 Final Day	Wed	New 2021 Year 7s Orientation Day
Thu	Reception Orientation Day 1 9.00am - 12.00pm	Thu	Year 10 Final Day Benedict's All Things Christmas 5.30pm - 7.00pm, Benedict Oval
Fri	Little Lions Session 14 Little Lions Presentation Assembly	Fri	Year 6 End of Year Farewell Liturgy 9.30am, Good Samaritan Hall

Benedict Campus:

- All that I felt was important to share with you this week somehow seems a little less significant now – please take care of yourselves and keep in contact with us if we can support your family in any way. Stay safe.
- Learning @ Home will commence on Monday and continue on Tuesday. Our hope is that we can be back at school on Wednesday with Government approval. Please email me kpole@smc.catholic.edu.au if your child requires supervision onsite during the Learning @ Home days so that we can staff it adequately. Please continue to watch Operoo for all communication.
- Once we have a clearer picture of reduced restrictions we will communicate with families regarding our end of year events including Benedict's 'All Things Christmas' carols night, End of Year Liturgy and Little Lions Presentation. It is a case of one step at a time.
- My thanks to all of the Benedict Community for their efforts with the Catholic Mission Appeal, \$2140.00 was raised to support people in need.

Mrs Katie Pole, Acting Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Bosco Campus:

- Learning @ Home will commence on Monday and continue on Tuesday. Our hope is that we can be back at school on Wednesday with Government approval. In the meantime, please ensure that you child continues to access their classes through SEQTA. It is important that they also continue to check their school email on a regular basis.
- While we Learn @ Home, students are required to check in for Caregroup through Microsoft Teams at 8:45am each morning. This is an important element of maintaining the link between school and students. This process will also be used mark roll taking purposes.
- The University of Adelaide have announced that the Year 11 grade conditional offer scheme established this year for current Year 12 students will be extended to 2021 Year 12 students. This provides current Year 11 students an added incentive to focus on achieving their highest possible grades this semester. This year the University of Adelaide considered students Year 12 Research Project grades, in addition to students' four best SACE Stage 1 grades. For more information please see the [University of Adelaide website](#).
- Our Year 8 students had an action-packed camp. They climbed rock walls, mountain biked the rocky tracks and swung across rivers. I extend my thanks to Elizabeth Munday and her team of teachers for providing this wonderful experience to our students.
- On Remembrance Day we were reminded of the sacrifices others made for our freedom. My thanks to Mr Rochette for organising this prayer service. I also thank Gary Fradd from the RSL for joining us and for sharing his story and experiences.
- The Year 11 Biology exam started on Wednesday, however, due to the Covid-19 restrictions placed upon us the remaining Year 11 exams have been cancelled. Please be assured that this decision will not impact the students' overall grade for the subject or their SACE results.
- In response to the Covid-19 restrictions, all Year 10 exams have been cancelled.

Mr Marc Forster, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Religious Education



From the APRIM



Year 5s, Demi, Henry, Ayrlei, Marcus and Kealee with their soccer balls made from recycled materials for Mission Day

Two weeks is a long time and so much has changed. I would like to share with you some of the highlights of the last 2 weeks at the College.

Year 8 Retreat

Our Year 8 students went on a rescheduled Faith Formation experience last week. While at Port Broughton they explored the concepts of diversity and inclusivity. A key quality in being a great 21st century citizen. My sincere thanks to the team who facilitated the day for our Year 8s, Ms Elizabeth Munday, Ms Fiona Clarke, Mrs Annie Olsen, Mr Caleb Brown, Ms Ann Russack, Mr Andrew Sheridan and Mr Isaac Ellis.

Catholic Mission Month

"The times we live in do not call for young couch potatoes, but for young people with ... boots laced." - Pope Francis

As a College we supported the work of Catholic Mission Month through fundraising and awareness. This year they were raising awareness of the plight of children in Cambodia with disabilities to access education, health care and employment opportunities.

Benedict embraced the opportunity to kick some goals for kids in need around the world and sock it to poverty!

My thanks to the:

- Year 6 students for their outstanding fundraising stalls
- Year 5s who made the recycled soccer balls in solidarity with the soccer players in Cambodia

- SRC team who facilitated the soccer activities and also helped Mrs Keain with the Liturgy.

Congratulations on a total fundraising effort of \$2140.00!

Vinnies Appeal

A reminder that we are supporting Vinnies with donations to be placed in their Christmas hampers instead of writing Christmas Cards. Thanks to the families who have already donated. Once we are back at school you may have some spare pantry food you can bring in.

First Reconciliation

Our Year 3 students have completed their preparation for First Reconciliation. The scheduled Liturgy to celebrate the sacrament has been postponed and we look forward to celebrating with them at a suitable time once restrictions have eased. My sincere thanks to Mr Niall Ashby, Ms Teresa Gadaleta, Mrs Pia Keain and Mrs Louise Malchow for their formative work with this preparation program.

Congratulations

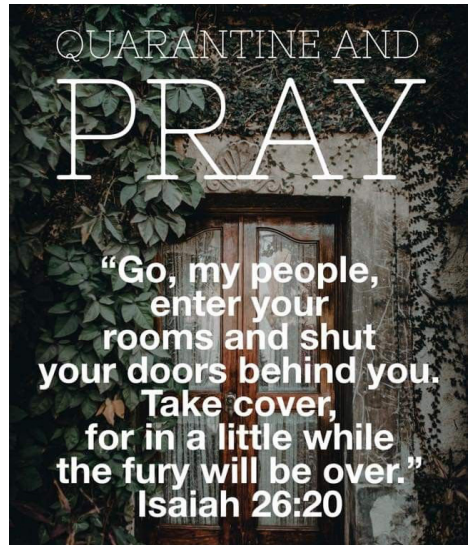
Congratulations to the following children who were recently welcomed into the Catholic church community through the sacrament of Baptism- Liam and Jace Bellifemini, Jaylea Cooke, and Amahlee and Daelan Hawkins.

Until we all return to school may God's blessings be with you all in this circuit breaker time.

Mrs Katie Pole, **APRIM**

SOUTHERN CROSS:

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



Team challenges (and laughs) on Year 8 Retreat



A spiritual place at Year 8 Retreat

Building strong foundations in Literacy and Numeracy

Reading is Thinking

At Benedict Campus, we have an emphasis on the development of literacy skills through the morning Literacy Block, with a big focus on reading comprehension strategies. This has been a key area of development in all of our classrooms from Reception to Year 6. Students have practised and developed reading skills through Shared Reading, Guided Reading (in small groups) and purposeful Independent Reading.

Additionally, in Years 4, 5 and 6 students have focussed on comprehension strategies such as Summarizing, Making Inferences and Identifying Author's Purpose through the Cars and Stars program and literacy focussed workshops. Through analysing data and our observations of students, we have seen impressive growth in the development of reading skills and engagement in reading.

In our Junior Primary classrooms, students have been reading and learning about language patterns and text features through Author Study and Bookmaking Workshops. Teachers have also focussed on the development of Phonological Awareness (sounds, syllables, rhyme, segmentation, blending) and knowledge of letters and sounds in the Literacy Block and through the Jolly Phonics program.

"... we have seen impressive growth in the development of reading skills and engagement in reading."

-Ms Gadaleta

In 2021 students at Benedict Campus will continue to focus on reading comprehension as well as moving closer towards a structured spelling investigation program using the Guided Thinking for Effective Spelling resource.

Ms Teresa Gadaleta, **Literacy Coordinator**



Author Studies: William and Jordy reading 'Hide and Seek' by Anthony Browne and Charlotte in a bookmaking workshop

Benedict students spend around 3 hours each day building their literacy and numeracy skills through dedicated learning blocks.

Developing Problem Solvers for the Future

Our focus in Numeracy for 2020 has been the integration of Problem Solving activities into our everyday Maths lessons. At Benedict, there are 10 problem solving strategies which we have taught students to use to help find a solution:

1. Guess and check
2. Make a table
3. Act it out
4. Identify a pattern
5. Make a list
6. Solve a simpler, related problem
7. Work backwards
8. Draw a picture / diagram
9. Make a model
10. Write a number sentence

As teachers, we are continually seeing students maths skills and confidence grow through the implementation of these strategies. The students' continue to grow as independent learners with a solid basis for their maths learning in the future.

Mrs Belinda Rafanelli, **Numeracy Coordinator**



Year 1s Olivia and Harper solve a problem together

"Open-ended problems are fun to work out because there is always more than one answer to the question. After using the problem solving strategies you can realise how many different and creative ways there are to solve a problem."

- Adeena, 6 Blue

Around Benedict Campus



Mission Day fun and fundraising

As part of *Business and Economics*, Year 6s created their own 'small businesses' to raise money for Catholic Missions.



Khyleen, Brielle, Skye and Ariel offer a sweet treat



Mitch and Raf test out the sponge-throw



Ruby and Rahdy had their nails painted by Taylah and Shyla at the Mission Hair and Nails stall



Whitney spray colouring Peyton's hair



Guess the lollies in the jar, with Sanyam, Jacob, Dash and Aspen

Star Salesian Students

6 Red	Madison Curtis
6 Blue	Cooper Bickley
6 Green	Evelyn Mieglich
5 Red	Chelsey Frkic
5 Blue	Aiden Capurso
4 Red	Saad Shahid
4 Blue	Sloan Chivell
3 Blue	Logan Young
3 Red	Archer George Dane Hudson
2 Blue	Amelia Cunningham
2 Red	Sarah Spence
1 Blue	Alcuin Jacob
1 Red	Millie Hancock
1 Green	Olivia Higgins
Rec. Blue	Fraser Cadd
Rec. Red	Ivy Adams
Rec. Green	Rory Bowman

Star Samaritan Students

6 Red	Mahalia Bateson
6 Blue	Kyleah Dunstall
6 Green	Jay Conradi
5 Red	Henry Watt Liam O'Shaughnessy
5 Blue	Dylan Cagney Mohamed Hendy
4 Red	Lilly Simounds
4 Blue	Shae Smith
3 Blue	William Bishop
3 Red	Jack Woolford
2 Blue	Della Salvemini
2 Red	Connor Whelan
1 Blue	Jayah Scarce-Evans
1 Red	Indiana McArdle
1 Green	Noelle Loizeau
Rec. Blue	Henry Tiller
Rec. Red	Lottie Crouch Mia Saler
Rec. Green	Hunter Maynard

Faith in Action Students

Ava and Adele Yiannoulis

BOSCO CAMPUS

Year 8 Camp

Goals were set and records broken, shoes got wet and koala's woken!



Eliza and Gemma on the tube slide

"In Week 4 our Year 8 students had the exciting opportunity to literally 'head for the hills' for an adventure at the Woodhouse Activity Centre.

Over the 3 days and 2 camps, students were challenged in a variety of physical activities that also tested their resilience and resolve!

The students were fantastic and a wonderful representation of St Mark's College. Thank you to all the teachers who attended! It was definitely one of the best camps I have been on."

Miss Munday, Year 8 Coordinator



Brodie takes aim at the laser skirmish



Kloe mountain bike riding

"I really liked camp it was an opportunity to get to know other people that you wouldn't normally talk to.

I had multiple goals to achieve and one of them was giving everything a good go. I did everything and more!"

Ben, Year 8

"My goal was to get to the top of the rock-climbing wall and I achieved my goal. I enjoyed zip-lining, hunting people in laser tag and hanging with friends from both classes. I really enjoyed camp!"

Emmerson, Year 8



Charlie on the obstacle course



Tyler after falling from the rope climb



Zara rock climbing

Bosco Campus



HOSPITALITY > Stage 1 students created their own pop-up restaurants showcasing delicious, cultural foods. Pictured, Lia, Alana, Bianca and Sarah who created 'Mangiamo' inspired by Italy.



CHILD STUDIES > Stage 1 students planned and hosted a range of themed parties for some lucky Year 1s! The parties included decorations, activities and food. Pictured, Georgia and Max.



RELIGION > Year 10s Anthony, Archer and their classmates made lasagna and zucchini slice for Fred's Van.



VISUAL ARTS > Year 8 Art students explored the functionality of art by making ceramic plant pots, decorated with patterns inspired by a particular culture. Thank you Julie-Ann Fox for your generous donation of succulents! Pictured, Nicole creating her pot and Zara's finished piece.



DESIGN + TECH > Final general engineering projects by Year 12 students (in order of photos) Ben, Patrick and Jay

COLLEGE SPORTS TEAM PHOTOS:

College Sports Team Photos are now available through Advanced Life. To order a copy, go to www.advancedlife.com.au and enter the code: RE8 JJD 5N9. These photos will appear in the 2020 College Yearbook.

Should you have any queries concerning team photographs or online ordering, please contact Advanced Life directly via the website: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

Community Notices

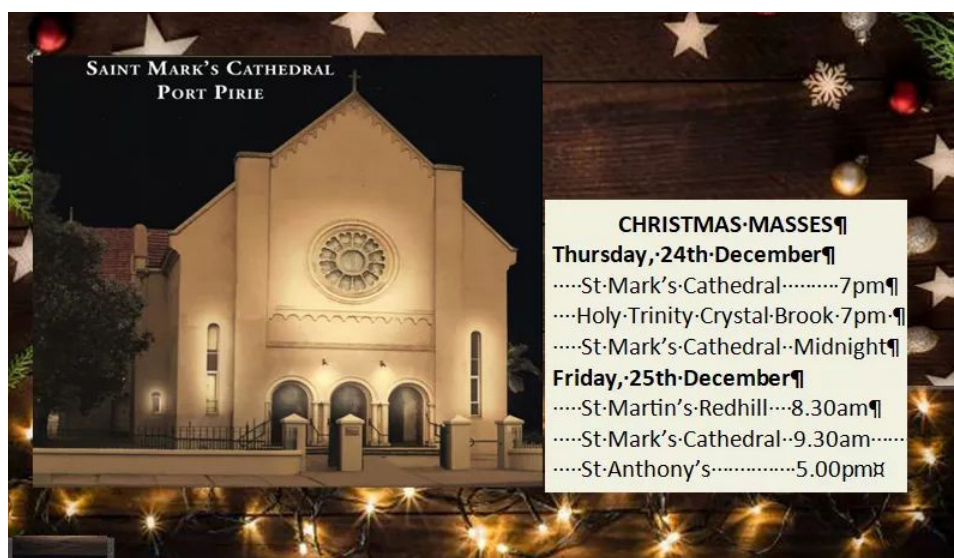
Circuit Breaker – Surviving the Lockdown

An Online Event from the Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults

Friday 20 November 2020 from 7:30pm, access via Zoom and Facebook Live

The hour-long event will feature music from local young people, Zoom games, discussion, lockdown resource sharing and a short prayer. Young people over the age of 18 are invited to participate:

- [Register for a Zoom video call](#)
- Live stream the event on [COYYA's facebook page](#).



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Thursday, 24th December

-St-Mark's-Cathedral.....7pm
-Holy-Trinity-Crystal-Brook-7pm
-St-Mark's-Cathedral-Midnight

Friday, 25th December

-St-Martin's-Redhill.....8.30am
-St-Mark's-Cathedral-9.30am
-St-Anthony's.....5.00pm



To request an appointment online, go to: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/dentalappointment

For clinic locations, go to: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/findyourclinic

Online safety webinars for parents and carers in 2021

eSafety Education offers free, live webinars providing parents and carers with the knowledge, skills and tools to support their children to have safe and positive online experiences.

Term 1: eSafety's guide to cyberbullying and online drama

- 9 February, 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- 10 February, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
- 10 February, 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
- 15 February, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

Limited spaces available, to find out more information, visit:

esafety.gov.au/parents/webinars

Port Football and Community Sporting Club

Open daily from 9.00am



Online Canteen Orders for Benedict and Bosco:

www.flexischools.com.au

