

SALESIAN HOUSE

Term 2, June 2021

newsletter



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COLLEGE**

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Alice, Codi, Chloe, Hannah and Georgia making biscuits for the College staff during National Boarding Week

The distinct 2021 boarding group is now established. Things have come together in the ease and rhythm of another school year. People are used to the tempo of the place. Things happen predictably. There are smiles. School matters. Worries, concerns and challenge. Organisation counts. Time goes quickly. Our wonderful boarders gather in the dining room comfortably. The boys all seem to sit together, and the girls enthusiastically chat. The collective goodness is a wonderful feature. It happens because of the graciousness of people and the generous reverence in the place.

Gathering is important. They bustle together as afternoon tea is created, cooked and crafted for that after school hunger. They slump a little as they get to the dinner table wondering about the menu. They are quiet and private in the early morning, with half-dressed sleepiness, picking at breakfast with only a slightly urgent Denise Arbon stare for the late ones. But it's all working. They are secure. They know where to sit. There is a confidence in the environment and a comfort in friendship. The joy of boarding life remains in the connections. The contact. The friendships. The rhythms and patterns. I have enjoyed watching the gradual cohesion of the boarding community.

There is now a real focus from the Year 12s and their study is clearly important. We want them to do well. The Year 8s have mates. They are polite and optimistic. The Year 9s and 10s gather to chat with confidence. There is an energy about the Year 11s. They are gracious. The one rule that seems never to be broken is when Denise Arbon insists that the boarders say "Good Morning" when the students leave for school and "Good Afternoon" when they return. Eye contact is mandatory and a smile not optional either. It is another powerful feature of the place.

Our young people have active lives. They love games, the Wednesday visit. They have stories and study. There are phone messages to check and Salesian House activities to be involved in. The community seems to function with a gentle harmony even if adolescence can be noisy and impulsive, busy and single minded. The energy and the fun has a contagious goodness. That is part of the charm of the place.

I find the moments of quiet prayer inspiring. There is a sensitivity and reverence from the students. and it seems we are a place that listens to its heart, listens to goodness and responds with generosity. Some of the prayer night activities are quite extraordinary.

We are in the enrolment season now. I have had the opportunity to speak with a number of families as they consider the boarding option. I am convinced that the families ask about Salesian House and St Mark's because of your recommendation as parents. I acknowledge the affirming and public voice that you give about this school and this home. I find Salesian House a place of encouragement and your recommendation has been vital in the constant enrolments.

Warm regards

Greg Hay

Principal, St Mark's College

Salesian House Report

How fast is this term and the year 2021 going?

One of our highlights this term has to be our prayer Tuesday evenings. Thanks to Mr Hay, Mr Forster, Mrs Pole and all of the teaching staff who give up their private time to join the Boarding students and staff and present an inspirational activity or presentation. These presentations are always meaningful, spiritual and sometimes challenge our emotions in a positive way. Thanks to Katie Pole for organising the roster of our willing and encouraging leaders.

Jane Dickeson has coordinated a number of activities to engage our Boarders throughout Term 2. These activities are scheduled around our regular activities like prayer evenings, student trainings and appointments and of course, those all important Street Nights! Some of the activities included:

- Creating a colourful piece of artwork displaying everyone's thumbprint as part of Reconciliation Week. This piece is still being completed, but you can see a photo of Claire showing the artwork in progress over the page.
- Students enjoyed creating clay earrings under the expert guidance of Micaela Porta (who has her own earring business *Evie and Me* and works at our Benedict Campus). A number of colorful and creative earrings were created during the afternoon.
- Enjoying a touch of nature visiting Solomontown Beach at high tide and Telowie Beach to enjoy sunset
- A number of short activities encouraged laughter and fun, including the cottonball challenge, Guess Who-es quiz and the Oreo Challenge (although it must be said that more Oreos were consumed than used for the activity!)
- Visiting the St Mark's Sports Centre each week to play soccer, basketball, netball and even trampolining on the mini trampolines

Metro Canteens are the new managers of the catering for Salesian House. On Sunday 8 August Jayne James, manager of the food supplies will be attending our parent meeting. It would be great if as many parents as possible could attend this meeting. Parents will be welcomed to ask any questions about the food and drinks available to the students. It would be advisable to discuss the menu with your children and get them to let you know what they might like. Please save this date to come along, and speak to Jayne with any questions.

Looking forward to a safe and happy end to Term 2 coming up soon.

Denise Arbon

Denise Arbon
House Coordinator

Champion Juvenile Rider

Congratulations to Georgia who has been named the Southern Campdraft Association (SA,VIC, southern NSW) Champion Juvenile Rider for 2020 and 2021 season.

Campdrafting is a traditional Australian sport involving horse and rider and working a beast. You start off in a small yard call the camp with 7 cows. The aim is to select and cut the beast off clean from the mob and bring up to the front of the camp and work/ block the beast to show off your horse's skill working a cow, you are scored out of 25. Once you are out of the camp you are to try to attempt getting the beast to figure eight around the first two pegs and then up through a gate. 4 points are given for the completion of the course and 60 for how your horse performs. Recently in April I was lucky enough to go over to Victoria and stay with some friends and was able to compete at numerous campdrafts over there. I was fortunate enough to win the Southern Campdraft Association (SA,VIC, southern NSW) champion juvenile rider for 2020 and 2021 season.

Georgia Anderson



Georgia competing in the Campdrafting competition

Photo Credit: Pink Heath Photography



Claire with the artwork that students created during Reconciliation Week



Bridie and Ruby completing the plant growth practical in Science



Alan with Blake and Connor at the Adelaide Careers and Employment Expo



Mia takes off in the relay races with Reception students at Feast Day



Georgia, Issy and Anthony talking about their learning experience on McNally Farm at the Ag Sponsors BBQ



Emily enjoying the Macerena at lunchtime on Feast Day



Alan enjoying a visit to Telowie Beach



Meg with Trixie and Tilly on the Ferry during their recent Agriculture trip to Kangaroo Island



Anthony playing the new PS4 at Salesian House



Claire and Codi create football team colours in a test tube during science



Lauren and Meg were part of the group to sleepout and raise over \$4000 for Vinnies, Port Pirie



Meg making her own version of a healthy canteen lunch in Child Studies



Charlee observing osmosis during a Biology lesson



Zac participating in the Crutching course at McNally Farm



Georgia making clay earrings in the workshop with Mrs Porta



Madison and Tayah check out the high tide at the beach with Mrs Dickeson



Luke cooking crescents with Mrs Gibson in Food Technology