

# SALESIAN HOUSE

Term 4, November 2021

## newsletter



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Mia, Lauren, Meg M and Meg K at the Year 12 Graduation

I am conscious of the deep value of Salesian House life. Perhaps it's because of the impact it has made on the Year 12s, and I heard them say it. And there are parents who speak so highly of the place and have this deep trust in what happens. I experienced the gracious way we had a Christmas dinner together at the home, and the students were so grateful in their chatter. And now Salesian House is nearly empty with students filtering out and I watched Mr and Mrs Arbon smile and reflect on the goodness of the year. It remains a precious place for so many.

In our reflections I know that we wanted the boarding experience to be about lives lived fully. That means living with enthusiasm, and being courageous, and sensitively reaching out, and treasuring friendships, and that's not easy but it happened. Boarding life means smiles, stories, effort, and negotiating relationships. It is about scholarship and learning and connecting to the great challenges of the College. That is what Mrs Arbon and Mr Arbon and Mrs Dickeson and Mrs Manners wanted. Living isn't always easy, living away from home is hard, living together is even harder, but trying to do it well is important. And people tried to live well together. That's the way things happen at Salesian House. People try. It's a place that creates friendship and a home. It is precious.

I congratulate the students. You created an environment that sustained and encouraged. I saw it in the energy and laughter and reverence of the group. I thank the parents for believing in us. I know you have worked with Mrs Arbon in a caring partnership. It's about negotiation and trust but it worked. I thank support staff who guided and directed and supported when it was necessary. They made the home a priority with care and creativity. Most importantly, I hope that parents feel pride in what their child has become, and in what they have learned, and how they have grown. We are certainly proud of them. Salesian House creates such growth and goodness it's hard not to be proud.

Merry Christmas.

*Greg Hay*

Principal, St Mark's College



Congratulations to Anthony on successfully gaining a Metal Fabrication apprenticeship at Kelly Tillage Australia in 2022!

## Salesian House Report

Every year seems to go faster than the last. The Liturgy at the beginning of the year was the first celebration we all gathered for. It is a special occasion to welcome everyone, especially our new boarders, Chloe, Hannah, Claire, Emily, Georgia, Lauren, Zac, Tayah and their families. It was also a celebration to commission the Salesian House Captain for 2021, Meg M. Meg was an enthusiastic, dedicated and caring captain and a great role model to the younger students in the home.

I would like to commend the Year 12 boarders, Mia, Lauren, Meg M and Meg K for their constant dedication to their studies this year and their generous care and consideration to the younger members of Salesian House. It was very evident that the attention they gave helped the Year 8 and Year 9 girls in particular.

I deeply appreciate the respect shown to me this year by all of the students. I have enjoyed the connections with their families. I have enjoyed watching the students as they care and connect with each other.

The food satisfaction for the students has been a challenge this year for Ben (chef) and Jayne (caterer), however they have been in regular communication and have constantly strived to make changes to suit the students.

During the year, I was privileged to witness Sophie H (Year 12, 2020) recognised at the Dux Assembly for her amazing ATAR score of 90.7. I also went to watch the school musical Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat. Congratulations to all involved in the production, I was especially proud to watch Emily H play her part as Rachel on stage. Well done Emily!

Mrs Dickeson has worked hard at introducing a variety of activities for the students and they have enjoyed her interaction and kindness. Thanks to Mrs Manners for all her support to myself, students and families over the past twelve months and beyond. She is very professional and very caring. Thanks also to Mrs DeGioia for her additional support to us as well.

I am grateful to all the staff from the College who gave up their personal time on Tuesday evenings to join us and present their inspirational activities and prayers. A very big thank you to Mrs Pole for her compassion and expertise in organising our liturgies. As it is the end of the year I convey my best wishes to Mr Hay and Ms Ellbourn for being so supportive and caring to staff, students and families of Salesian House for a very long time. Thanks also to Ms McArthur and Mrs Forster for their support and we wish them all the best as they leave the College. Thank you to Mrs Congdon for caring about the students and giving them treats at regular intervals during the year and the help with tutoring for those students needing it. Ms Zhou (school counsellor) has been a great, caring person, always there for the students and staff at Salesian House.

On 15 October, Mr Arbon and I celebrated 20 years of service to St Mark's College as House Parents in Salesian House and Sacred Heart Home. The biggest surprise of all was when Meg M organised a celebration for us with the help of Miss Fromm (Old Scholar of Salesian House and current staff member of the College) who organised 23 previous boarders who offered their congratulations to us. Meg also had the help of many staff. It was a night we will remember for a very long time.

I was very excited and proud to hear the news that Isabelle Bray was appointed St Mark's College Captain for 2022. Isabelle was also chosen by her peers to be the Salesian House Captain for 2022. A busy year coming for Isabelle and I am sure she will be a great ambassador for both roles.

Chloe H received a certificate of participation and showed her amazing photography at the Bosco Prize Exhibition recently at the College. Well done Chloe!

Some of the students helped Mrs Dickeson decorate the dining room and set tables for the Christmas Dinner, it looked amazing and it was a very enjoyable evening. The end of year Liturgy was one of the best celebrations for the year. Mr Hay said an amazing speech for the four Year 12 girls and they were farewelled with lots of compassion. At the conclusion of the liturgy we all gathered in the Salesian House Dining room for a lovely supper prepared by Chef Ben.

I wish you all the very best for the remainder of the year and look forward to welcoming our Boarders and their families back on Sunday 30 January at 6.30pm for our Opening Liturgy and BBQ tea.

*Denise Arbon*

Denise Arbon  
**House Coordinator**



## End of Year Liturgy



Mr and Mrs Arbon with our leaving Year 12 Boarders, Mia, Meg K, Meg M and Lauren



Georgia, Chloe and Meg



Mrs Dickeson with Chris Malycha



Meg and Cathy Kelly, Matt Mead, Chris Kelly, Codi Benton, Bridie and Nicole Mead

## Year 10 Camp

I quite enjoyed the Year 10 camp last week, even though it went by fairly quickly, it was definitely worth it.

The highlight of the trip for me was getting the chance to be able to chill with my friends outside of the school environment, especially when we played table tennis each day and when we went to the cinema.

*Tayah Jones*



Holly, Annabel and Tayah at AFL Max

## Presentation Night

We congratulate our Boarders who were recognised at the Bosco Presentation Night:

- **Stage One - Agriculture Dux:** Isabelle Bray
- **Year 11 Character and Leadership- McNally:** Isabelle Bray
- **Stage 2 Modern History Dux:** Lauren Koch
- **Stage 2 Information Processing and Publishing Dux:** Lauren Koch
- **Industry VET Award:** Georgia Anderson
- **Trades Industry Award:** Anthony O'Loughlin



## Around Salesian House



We celebrated 20 years of Mr and Mrs Arbon as House Parents at Salesian House



Meg and Mrs Dickeson at the Year 12 Farewell Mass



Mrs Arbon, Chloe and Heidi (Chloe's Mum) at the Bosco Prize Exhibition



Mrs Dickeson, Emily, Ms Ellbourn and Mrs Arbon at the Christmas dinner



Georgia shearing one of the Merino during the Ag Shearing course



Alice and Mr Arbon at the Christmas dinner



Happy birthday Chloe (with Georgia)



Alan and Anthony test out the new coffee machine



Happy birthday Jasper (with Alan)