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Celebrating the Feast of Our Lady, Help of Christians with a sausage in bread

Community Voice: Teaching and Learning

Feedback is a Gift

Feedback is a gift. In the last newsletter I shared data about our Catholic Identity, which has provided much food for thought in developing our new Strategic Plan. This week, I am sharing what the community is saying about teaching and learning at St Mark's College. There is much to celebrate and be proud of, but there are also aspects of curriculum, teaching and learning that we can improve to ensure that we are meeting the needs of all students in a diverse and inclusive learning community.

Teaching and Learning

The Parent Satisfaction survey conducted in Term 4 2021, recorded an overall satisfaction rating of 4.20 out of 5. Strengths include the genuine welcoming atmosphere, accessible and approachable staff, and satisfaction with lines of communication. Children like coming to school, and there are avenues to discuss concerns that arise. Scoring slightly lower at 3.83 were satisfaction with teacher performance and confidence that the College is catering for the needs and interests of all learners. This data aligned with the Living Learning Leading Surveys conducted by Catholic Education South Australia in Term 3 last year. This suite of surveys for staff, students and parents gave us valuable perception data concerning the extent to which structures support continuous improvement and collaboration, the levels of competence and knowledge of contemporary curriculum and assessment, and how far students have a voice in planning and assessing their curriculum goals and capabilities.

The teacher feedback indicated readiness for change to support improvement. These changes are already underway, including collaboratively working to construct a shared vision and mission in consultation with community feedback, and the implementation of an annual professional action plan and

performance review process for teachers to reflect on and improve professional practice. In addition, through our staff meetings, we have been critically reviewing data including SACE, NAPLAN, and Progressive Achievement Test (PAT Reading and PAT Maths) to identify strengths and areas where improvement is needed. Consequently, we have established Steering Groups to explore opportunities for change in teaching and learning practices. Among the Steering Groups are teams generating ideas for middle schooling, curriculum innovation, and opportunities to provide greater choice and more agency in what students are learning and how their learning will be demonstrated. These initiatives are a response to what students, staff and parents have been telling us through survey responses; we would be foolish not to listen!

St Mark's College is a proudly inclusive school. We welcome students of all interests and abilities, not because we are legislatively bound to do so, even though this is the case, but because being inclusive and respectful of individual needs and each person's human dignity is core to who we are as a Catholic school. We have a responsibility to support the learning of each child, providing intervention and support for children currently working below the Standard expected for their year, and deepening and extending the learning of every learner. Our data suggests we can do this better, developing strategies to ensure we are consistent in our teaching standards and expectations, and supporting students and families to set goals, reflect on learning, and develop skills to learn collaboratively as well as independently.

We are committed to St Mark's College being a place of learning and wellbeing for all; where every student has a growth mindset and strives to do their best, and every teacher is committed to professional learning and evidence-informed practice to enhance learning outcomes.



Our collective work as a school community is underway, and I am grateful for both the affirmations and the suggestions for improvement that are guiding our goals. I look forward to sharing this work with you in future newsletters.

Farewell Marc Forster

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank and farewell Marc Forster, Deputy Principal, for his leadership on the Bosco Campus over the last four years. Marc's leadership experience will stand him in good stead as he begins his appointment as Principal of Catherine

McCauley school in Adelaide after a week's leave. We wish Marc and his family all the best for the future.

Exciting News: an OSHC for St Mark's College

Finally, this week, I'm happy to share the news that St Mark's College will be offering an Out of School Hours and Vacation Care service through YMCA from Term 3. Information is included in the flyer below. This is an exciting new venture and I hope this service will meet the needs of families in the St Mark's community and beyond.

Dr Sandra Hewson, **Principal**



A statue of Our Lady now features in the garden behind the Benedict Chapel



The YMCA are excited to let you know that we will be commencing a quality Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) service for families that require Before School Care, After School Care and School Holiday Care for students at St Mark's College from Monday 25th July 2022.

If you have questions about the new OSHC service,
YMCA Staff will be available for a families to drop in for a chat:
Wednesday 8th June, 3.00pm – 5.00pm
Venue: Benedict Library

At OSHC children can enjoy a wide range of activities including:

- Sports, ball games and team games
- o Arts and Craft
- Cooking

- Homework time
- o Social interactions with their friends
- Learning through play

We also provide a healthy snack with breakfast in the mornings and afternoon tea after school.

If you wish to discuss anything with us prior to us commencing, please call our OSHC Support Team on 8200 2516 or email oshc@ymcasa.org.au.

What to do now?

- Look out for information sessions or updates throughout the school
- Enrol in the service
- Have a great remainder of Term 2.

How do I enrol?

Before your child can attend OSHC you must enrol your child first.

- Online at sa.ymca.org.au/what-we-do/oshc/st-marks-college-port-pirie
- Once on the School page of our website click the Register and Enrol button, then follow the Xplor directions.
- Call the OSHC Support Team on 8200 2516 or email oshc@ymcasa.org.au if you need any further assistance.

Enrolments open Monday 30th May!







Our 2021 SRC students created a beautiful mosaic of Don Bosco which features at the entrance of Benedict Campus



Many students were inspired to dress-up as teachers for Career's Day. Photographed are Miss Hill and "Miss Inglis".

Faith and Mission



From the APRIM



'She is clothed with strength and dignity;
She can laugh at the days to come.
She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue
– Proverbs 31:25-26

Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day

Tuesday 24 May, was the Feast Day of Mary, Our Lady Help of Christians. This Feast Day has been celebrated in Australia since 1844. John Chrysostom was the first person to use this Marian title in year 345AD, however, it was St. John Bosco's devotion to her that propagated this devotion to Mary Help of Christians throughout the world. She remains a role model and spiritual guide for the Salesian family, which recognises and invokes her as its principal patroness. The Feast promotes awareness of the support and help that Mary provides for all who have faith in her, turn to her and pray to her.

Current COVID conditions meant that Mass had to be held at two separate campuses. A big thank you to Fr Jimmy who made time to celebrate the Mass at Benedict, followed by Bosco. The message of his homily, whilst centred on the loving qualities of Mary, also reflected on the importance of being neighbourly and hospitable in our thoughts and actions.

National Reconciliation Week

Today marks the beginning of National Reconciliation Week and the theme for 2022 is, 'Be Brave. Make Change,' which encourages and welcomes braver and more impactful action, as Australia continues its journey towards a more just, equitable and reconciled nation. The dates of National Reconciliation Week remain the same each year; 27 May - 3 June, commemorating two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively. Another significant event occurred yesterday, National Sorry Day, marking the anniversary of the tabling of the Bringing Them Home Report. The first National Sorry Day occurred on 26 May 1998.

Class activities were prepared by Mrs Jenna George, Miss Neive Jones and Miss Ebony Bennier, at their respective campuses. They were designed to engage students in discussion and reflection around what they can do, as individuals, to be brave and make change. Activities offered to the students included;

- A classroom prayer and reflection to recognise National Sorry Day
- The creation of a Reconciliation Wall for students to add ideas and thoughts too about how we can promote a future that recognises and acknowledges the importance of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the past, present and future of our nation.
- Lunchtime activities including the sharing of Dreamtime stories, as well as experimenting with storytelling through art – inspired by our First Nations people.
- A Reconciliation Week poster task, representing this year's theme 'Be Brave, Make Change.'

Benedict were also fortunate to witness a presentation by Indigenous performer, Sean Choolburra. His entertaining, humorous and educational performance included, dance, stories, painting, didgeridoo playing and the use of aboriginal artefacts such as fishing nets, hunting shields and firesticks.

Upcoming Feast Day

The Feast of Corpus Christi is also known as The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. It is celebrated on 3 June. This Feast commemorates the immense gift of the Eucharist in our lives and in the Church. In Latin, Corpus Christi means Body of Christ. The feast day allows us to focus solely on celebrating the real presence of Christ - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity – in the bread and wine. This Feast Day holds even greater relevance for St Mark's at this time, with our Year 4 students preparing for their Sacrament of First Holy Communion on June 18 and 19. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers, as we do the students who will be celebrating their Sacrament of Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, 5 June.

Mr Shane Arbon, **Acting Catholic Identity Leader**



Lewis receives communion from Fr Jimmy



Sophie, Harvey and Millie with their class work about Our Lady Help of Christians



Alice, Lily, Peyton and Chloe enjoying a sausage on Feast Day

THE WITNESS:

Click here for the latest edition.

SOUTHERN CROSS:

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 5: 30/5 - 2/6			Week 6: 6/6 - 10/6		
Mon		ootball		Mon	
Tues				Tues	
Wed	Mid Year Reception Orientation Meeting Benedict Library, 5.30pm	SAPSASAFo	Camp	Wed	Choir 9.30am-12.30pm
	Year 2 and Year 4 Hot Shots				Year 2 and Year 4 Hot Shots
		5/	Ed		OSHC Information Session Benedict Library, drop in between 3.00 - 5.00pm
Thur			dool	Thur	SAPSASA Cross Country
Fri	Reconciliation Week Concludes	-	Outdoor	Fri	Little Lions Session 11
	Year 7 Confirmation Rehearsal		Year 11		Reception Blue and Gold Excursion
	Little Lions Session 10				Year 7 and 8 Local Football Carnival
	2 Red Excursion				

Benedict Campus:

Our Lady Help of Christians

This week we celebrated Our Lady Help of Christians. Mary is celebrated on that day in the role she had as a help and guide to Australians in times of need. She is a key model in our tradition of faith, hope and love. Thank you to the staff who broke open this key Feast day with our students and considered the needs of Australia and our world to day with the students.

NAPLAN

Year 3 and 5 students sat the NAPLAN tests in Weeks 2 and 3 and it was wonderful to see so many complete the process which will continue to inform our teaching focuses into the future. I would like to express my gratitude to the teachers for supporting students with this testing, Mrs Louise Malchow, Miss Stacey Hier, Miss Brodie Nugent, Mr Bret Swensson, and Mrs Karen Murphy. A big thank you to Mr Niall Ashby for overseeing the implementation and the logistics of NAPLAN and to Mr Darren Giancaspro for ensuring the IT was set up and ready to go.

Reconcilipation Week

Today begins Reconciliation Week. It is a time to particularly focus on our journey as a Nation towards Reconciliation and acknowledge the continuing impact of White Australia policies and the Stolen Generation on our First Nations people today. May our education and understanding of these historical events continue to close the gap and develop a more just Australia. This year's theme is 'Be Brave. Make Change' and Mrs Jenna George has arranged many awareness and dialogue activities for Benedict Campus to engage with. Please ask you children about these important issues throughout the week.

Careers Week

Students at Benedict Campus enjoyed a day of dressing up as what they would like to be when they grow up. The aim of Careers Week is to consider future aspirations and challenge stereotypes. Being futures orientated involves managing learning, work and leisure to progress through life. It includes gaining and using the skills and knowledge needed to plan and make informed decisions. These are part of the key capabilities we try to develop in students each day. Our hope is that from this work each student leaves our College with a strong sense of their giftedness and plans for using those gifts and talents purposefully throughout their lives.

SAPSASA

Best wishes to our students competing in SAPSASA Football and Netball in Adelaide next week!

Key Dates and Campus Information



Sports Training

Now that the Winter Sports Season is in full swing from time-to-time inclement weather will mean that trainings are cancelled. Coaches will notify the office by 2:30pm if this is the case or if later than that will attend the training venue to ensure all players are collected by families. Please have a pick-up plan in place with your child for these occasions. It might be that they catch the bus home as normal or meet a family member in a specific location to go home

Mrs Katie Pole, Acting Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Bosco:

Equipping students to thrive in the new world of work

When it comes to work, what do young people want?

Do young people today want to be their own boss or work for a company in someone else's employment?

It's a question that challenges us but is worth taking some time to think about. The traditional career path of finishing school and either going to university or starting a trade is becoming a pathway of the past. Young people today are demonstrating a significant movement away from this pathway to one that they describe as Hybrid.

McCrindle Research regularly conducts "market research" on a good deal of areas, including education. Just this week they released a report titled, "Equipping students to thrive in the new world of work." By asking more than 1000 secondary and tertiary students for their perspectives they were able to provide some insights on the current context of Australian education. Not surprisingly, only 14% of the students surveyed are looking for traditional employment!

But what does this mean? Research is telling us more and more that the future workforce desires a flexible working lifestyle, career mobility and the incorporation of technologies to assist with productivity and to generate greater benefits.

Our students are preparing for this world not only through traditional schooling but through the plethora of information that is available to them through that tiny device that every teenager has...the mobile phone! New skills are not only coming from teachers, but from websites and social media platforms such as Tik Tok.

I invite you to have a conversation with your child and explore what the world of work looks like for them. What do they feel they need to prepare for this? How do they believe St Mark's College can support them as they embark on this new path?

For those interested, you can download the infographic of the highlights here: <u>Education Future – Research and trends for the education sector</u>

Mr Marc Forster, **Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus**



THANK YOU > Students at Benedict collected various food, hygiene and winter goods to donate to those in need. Members of the M-Team packed 57 bags to distribute to help our neighbours.



THANK YOU > Our Bosco community collected 103 blankets to donate to Vinnies

Benedict Campus





RECONCILIATION WEEK > A group of students from all backgrounds gathered to create this bright Rainbow Serpent for Reconciliation Week. Photographed are Jayah, Jace, Charlotte, Elyna, Madeleine, Eli, Ruby and Xavier



LITERACY > Receptions enjoyed reading 'Family Tree' during National Simultaneous Storytime. Olga and her classmates painted leaves for a Magdalen Centre Family Tree.



Students enjoyed dressing up for Benedict's first Careers Day



DEVELOPMENTS > Our Year 2s tested out the new sandpit next to the Valdocco Centre



PENTECOST > Shaydon and his classmates created triptychs to show the three symbols of the Holy Spirit – fire, wind and a dove

Bosco Campus





BOARDERS WEEK > Our Salesian House Boarders celebrated National Boarding Week last week, enjoying a dinner out with Dr Hewson



CHEMISTRY > Year 11 Chemistry students have been making esters using distillation apparatus. Photographed is Holly.



FOOTBALL > Our Year 7 and 8 boys enjoyed two convincing wins at the first round of Knock Out football last week. Photographed is Liam.



 $AWARDS > Across\ Bosco\ Campus, Outstanding\ Endeavour\ was\ celebrated\ with\ awards\ given\ across\ all\ year\ levels.\ Photographed\ are\ our\ Year\ 8s\ who\ were\ recognised$



DRAMA > Year 7 students have taken to the stage performing 'Happily Ever Laughter'



PE > Year 10s studying 'Sports Studies' coordinated and ran coaching clinics for our Year 4s, photographed are Marcus and Lia

Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS									
	Recess:		Lunch:						
Week 5 Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Fruit Box	\$4.00 \$6.00					
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Small Chicken Wrap + Fruit Box	\$3.00 \$5.00					
Wed	00K 00K	\$2.50	Loaded Baked Potato + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Thurs	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Vietnamese Beef Salad with Noodles + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00					
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Fruit Box	\$3.00 \$5.00	Enchiladas + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Week 6 Mon	Egg and Bacon Pastry Rolls	\$2.00	Taco + Fruit Box	\$2.50 \$4.50					
Tues	3 x Pizza Scrolls	\$2.00	Chicken Carbonara + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00					
Wed	00K 00K	\$2.50	Pizza + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00					
Thurs	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Chicken Stirfry + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00					
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Fruit Box	\$3.00 \$5.00	Lasagne +Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00					

BOSCO CAMPUS									
	Recess:	Lunch:							
Week 5 Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Squash Dog + 375ml Zero Can	\$4.00 \$6.00					
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Wrap + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Wed	OOKOOK	\$2.50	Loaded Baked Potato + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Thurs	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Vietnamese Beef Salad with Noodles + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + 375ml Zero Can	\$3.00 \$5.00	Enchiladas + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Week 6 Mon	Egg and Bacon Pastry Rolls	\$2.00	Taco and Salad + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.50 \$7.00					
Tues	3 x Pizza Scrolls	\$2.00	Chicken Carbonara + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Wed	00K 00K	\$2.50	Pizza + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00					
Thurs	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Chicken Stirfry + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00					
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + 375ml Zero Can	\$3.00 \$5.00	Lasagne + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00					

Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au
Flexischools: 1300 361 769 Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752



school photographs are coming up soon



chosen by your school. Format may vary from options shown.











8888





Stickers

Please note: Traditional or Composite group and the presentation format are chosen by your school. Sibling photos, if available, can also be ordered online and must be ordered prior to your photo day. A late fee will apply for photos purchased after ordering has closed.

how to order

order online

Online payment options include Visa, Mastercard and PayPal. Alternatively, you can choose to pay over 10 weeks using LatitudePay.



Go to www.advancedlife.com.au on your computer, phone or tablet.



Enter your school code:

RE8 JJD 5N9

in the 'order and download' box. This will take you to your school's secure online ordering site.





Click on 'Order Photos' and complete your details and procedures. During this process you can place orders for additional children at your school and sibling photos, if available







cash/envelope ordering

Your school prefers orders to be placed online. However, if you are unable to order online, please complete your order using the order envelope provided.

STEP 1

Complete a separate order envelope for each individual child's package/s ordered. If ordering for more than one child, payment should be enclosed in the envelope of the eldest child and this should be indicated on the envelope of the other child/children (the envelope that does not have cash enclosed).

STEP 2

Enclose exact cash payment in one envelope for the package/s you are ordering. Payment for more than one child should be in the eldest child's envelope and marked at the bottom of the envelope in the space provided.

STEP 3

Return your completed envelope/s, with correct cash payment, to our photographers on the day.

Please note: You must enclose exact correct payment, as change is not available. Credit card payments can only be made online and we no longer accept cheques. There is a separate envelope for sibling photo orders, should your school choose to offer sibling photos.

School photographs will be returned to your school 4-6 weeks after the day of photography

IMPORTANT - "not for publication" students

If you have instructed your school that your child's image is "not for publication" (sometimes called "do not publish" or "not for media release" instructions), the school will ensure that your child is not presented to our photographers on photo day and school photographs will not be available for purchase. If you wish to change your instruction, then you must notify your school, so they change their records and identify your child as able to be photographed for school photography purposes. All students presented to our photographers by your school on photo day will be photographed, their images will appear in school photography packages with their fellow students and these packages will be available to purchase by all families.

