# **LEVSLETTER** Issue 10 June 2022



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www.smc.catholic.edu.au



Congratulations to our Year 7 students who received the sacrament of Confirmation

# A smart community, thinking forward

St Mark's College uniform supports principles of equality and is symbolic of the connection to the values and traditions of the school, promoting a sense of identity and pride. As the Uniform Policy states our uniform is 'a visual and public statement that our students belong to the St Mark's community'. There are advantages to wearing a uniform; it saves time and stress worrying about what to wear, promotes a sense of responsibility and discipline, and avoids unnecessary competition which can impact selfesteem.

I believe a uniform is important and there is no doubt that students look very smart and wear their uniform with pride. All that given, comments about uniform featured strongly in the survey responses from parents and students. The suggestions and feedback about uniform fall into two broad categories: grooming and clothing. This term teachers have engaged students in more discussion about what they feel would be acceptable changes that respect a desire for individual expression whilst maintaining high standards in appearance. A staff steering group then met to consider the feedback and make recommendations for consideration by parents.

When we talk about grooming, we essentially are referring to hair,

jewellery, and make-up. The current policy states that hair should be clean, neat and tidy and, if longer than collar length, tied back. Hair should be in line with natural colours, and unusual or extreme cuts, and shaved patterns are unacceptable. Suggestions have been reasonable. It is generally agreed that extreme cuts and shaved patterns remain unacceptable, but that rules could be amended in relation to hair length and when it needs to be tied back. There are health and safety considerations when longer hair can pose risks in certain activities. It is proposed that students be permitted to wear their hair to shoulder length without tying it back on the understanding that for activities such as Food Technology, Technology, PE and Science, students may be asked to tie their hair back temporarily for safety reasons.

In relation to jewellery, students are seeking to increase the number of permissible ear piercings and be allowed to wear a nose stud, which is an increasingly common adornment. Again, students expressed the desire for more freedom but within reasonable boundaries. The suggestion arising is that students be permitted to wear two small visible studs or sleepers in one or both ear lobes, and that any additional ear piercings be clear studs. We seek parent feedback on the recommendation that students also be permitted to



wear one nose stud of no more than 2mm in diameter. Stretchers, large or dangly earrings or nose rings would not be permitted. Students would be permitted to wear a necklace of religious significance such as a cross or St Christopher, and a single discrete ring such as a signet ring as in the current policy.

After some consideration about nails, the steering group recommend that the policy remain the same, that acrylic and decorated nails should be confined to weekend social occasions, but that students may wear a clear nail polish. Finally, regarding make-up, the recommendation is that a concealer or light skin-tone foundation and light natural make-up be acceptable.

I have been impressed by the mature nature of the conversation and the recognition that proposed relaxation of regulations around hair and jewellery comes with a responsibility not to push the boundaries beyond what is being suggested. Changes to such regulations might be introduced next semester depending on community feedback. I therefore invite you to email me (info@smc.catholic.edu.au) with your comments by Friday 24 June, to enable the College Board to discuss the proposal.

Changes to uniform items and fabrics take longer as we need to work with suppliers and manage stock levels. Transition to new uniform items can take 12-18 months. However, the suggestions made by students, parents and staff will be explored and include the following:

 Making ties optional, as even in the business world these days ties are optional

- A more movement friendly, less formal, gender neutral uniform for R - 6 students
- A different style and fabric of jumper
- Grey, black or white socks, including below ankle socks
- Changes to PE uniform including more comfortable and flexible track pants, leggings, jumper and/or PE jacket
- The choice of wearing summer or winter uniform according to the weather rather than the term (but not mixing uniform)
- Darker, more breathable shirts and dresses

As you can see there were many suggestions, and they will take time to work through. We will meet with uniform suppliers and begin a process of researching what is available and would be functional, durable, and affordable, and in keeping with the standards of our uniform. I welcome parent and student input into further discussions about changes and will form a Uniform Committee comprising students, staff and parents when we have samples to consider.

# **Master Planning**

We were excited this week to begin the process of developing a new Master Plan. Stewart Caldwell from architects Russell and Yelland ran a student workshop on Tuesday afternoon, and then a staff meeting after school. There was much lively discussion about the areas of the school that work well, and what might be developed to support changes in learning and to promote wellbeing.

# Farewells

In closing this week, I'd like to acknowledge staff who have left or will be leaving St Mark's College at the end of the semester. Mr Giulio Wan concluded his contract last week, Ms Emily Komljenovic leaves us in Week 7 to take up a position at St Patrick's Technical College in Adelaide, Miss Emma Stone is returning to Adelaide at the end of the semester, and Mr Peter Rochette will also be leaving St Mark's after many years of teaching. We thank them all for their contribution to St Mark's College and wish them all the best in their future endeavours. We also wish Mr Jim Scavarelli a restful break as he takes LSL for the remainder of this year.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal



Student leaders across both campuses were eager to be involved with the Master Planning discussions with architects from Russell and Yelland

# **Faith and Mission**



# From the APRIM

'May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.' -Romans 15:13

# Pentecost Sunday

Last Sunday we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit visited Mary and the other followers of Jesus while they were gathered in an upper room and we often associate this visit with wind and fire. Pope Francis tells us that on this Feast, which is often called the birthday of the Church, the Holy Spirit brought harmony: Pope Francis feels that this is something deeply needed in "today's frenzied pace of life."

What we need is the Holy Spirit to bring order to our lives. We pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit in all of our lives and in the lives of those who cry out for strength and help in these difficult times.

# Sacrament of Confirmation

Last Sunday's Mass was also a special celebration for the St Mark's candidates who received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Fr Jimmy Pantin and Deacon Gary Stokes were joined by Bishop Greg O'Kelly who returned to the St Mark's Cathedral to stand in for Bishop Karol, who is currently in Poland. Bishop Greg made the Mass very personal for each candidate and feedback suggested that many members of the congregation, whether that be visitors, family members or sponsors, appreciated the way in which the service was delivered; with warmth, purpose and well-timed humour.

Bishop Greg's homily was also very profound. He spoke about how the Confirmandi, after receiving a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, can now use this in every aspect of their lives, acting with faith and making independent life choices that reflect the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

When talking about the ways in which confirmation can positively support and influence the lives of the Confirmation candidates, Bishop Greg made reference to a statue of Christ, in a French village, that was destroyed in a bombing raid during World War II. Although it was rebuilt, the hands were never recovered from the rubble, so the villagers placed a plaque on the statue with the inscription, "I have no hands but yours."

This saying very much aligns to an instruction from St. Teresa of Avila, given to her Discalced Carmelite community in Spain:

"Christ has no body now on earth, but yours; no hands, but yours; no feet, but yours. It is your eyes through which Christ's compassion looks out to the world; your feet with which he must walk about doing good; your hands with which he blessed humanity; your voice with which his forgiveness is spoken; your heart with which he now loves."

This has become the basis of countless prayers and hymns over many years. Three simple words that can inspire the thoughts and actions of anybody, regardless of their denomination. The Holy Spirit can be a source of comfort or a source of inspiration, depending upon the situation and the intention of the person who is willing to accept its' guidance. Given the symbolic significance of the Holy Spirit this week, with the celebration of both the Solemnity of Pentecost and the Sacrament of Confirmation, I invite you to consider a couple of questions that were sourced from Greg Sunter, a Catholic Educator in Brisbane. They could be discussed at the dinner table, used in prayer, or quietly reflected upon in your own personal time; Questions for Children

- What is the relationship between Jesus and the Holy Spirit?
- Where in your life could you use the guidance and strength of the Spirit?

Questions for Adults

- Why might Pentecost sometimes be regarded as the birth of the Church?
- Where in your life could you use the guidance and strength of the Spirit?

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



Bishop Greg confirming Aiden

THE WITNESS: Click <u>here for the latest edition</u>.

SOUTHERN CROSS: Click here for the latest edition.

# **Key Dates and Campus Information**



Our College Calendar is continuously being updated on our website: <u>www.stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au/news/calendar</u>. Click to find the most accurate event information.

Week 7: 13/6 - 17/6		Week 8: 20/6 - 24/6			
Mon	Queen's Birthday Public Holiday	Mon	Parents and Friends Association Bosco Conference Room, 7.00pm	tball ey	
Tues		Tues		A Ne Jocke	
Wed	Benedict Photo Day	Wed	T3 Receptions Orientation Day 1 8.45am - 12.00pm Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews	SAPSASA Netball and Hockey	ns
Thur	Valdocco Centre Official Opening	Thur			Exar
Fri	Bosco Photo Day	Fri	Little Lions Session 13		Year 10 Exams
	Year 4 Retreat		Excursion: Reception Green and Reception Red		¥
	Little Lions Session 12				
Sat / Sun	First Holy Communion St Mark's Cathedral, Saturday 6.00pm and Sunday 10.30am				

# **Benedict Campus:**

As we continue our roll out of Clarity this term you might notice the language of Learning Intentions and Success Criteria coming home with your children. I certainly noticed at Assembly this week that students were being awarded for using the 'Bump it Up' walls in classrooms to improve the quality of the work they produce.

As I walk through classrooms we are starting to ask students the 5 questions shared with you in the last newsletter. This enables us to support students and get a sense of the effectiveness of our classroom practices. Clarity also suggests great ways for parents and teachers to work together in the shared responsibility for the growth and learning of our students.

Teachers ask themselves as they plan for student learning:

- What am I teaching?
- Why am I teaching it?
- How will I teach it?
- How will I know the students have learned it or not?
- What next... if this works? Where will I go for help?

As parents these questions can also be used as a framework for discussions with teachers for the benefit of your child:

- What is my child learning?
- How is he/she doing?
- How do you know?
- How could they improve?
- What supports can I provide if they are struggling? When can we check in again?

# How to support your child with friendship issues

When students are experiencing friendship issues it can be a difficult and highly emotive situation to navigate as a parent. Perhaps the most difficult aspect is that you don't know exactly what your child is going through. It is really important to ask and talk it through with them in a calm and non-judgemental way.

# **Key Dates and Campus Information**



Ask about the impact of it on your child. Ask about who else knows and then ask for permission to act as an advocate for your child in creating solutions.

The trickiest part in responding to these situations is also the most powerful action. This is to understand and encourage that coming together, in good time, with the other child is likely to produce the best result. Please communicate with us if your child is having issues. The more we talk through issues we are more likely to achieve a resolution to the issues.

# Mrs Katie Pole, Acting Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

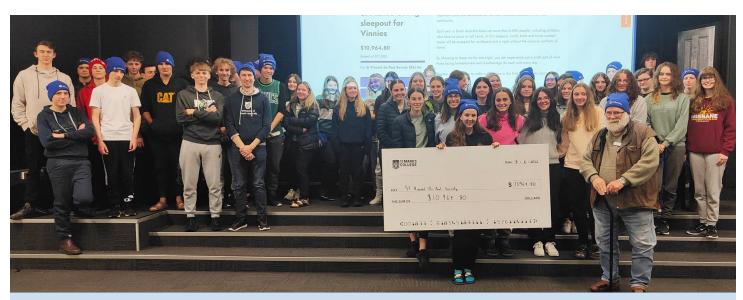
# **Bosco:**

Respect is a value which we want our young people to display and demonstrate with every interaction they have within and beyond our school. As a staff we want the students of St Mark's College to display respect for themselves first and foremost. Students need to understand that they are made in the image and likeness of God and should be celebrated for being themselves. Each and every one of them display the qualities and talents that are different from each other; students need to recognise that they are enough just the way they are. Although things may not go the way they want all the time, they are gaining valuable life lessons in how they define themselves.

Secondly, we encourage our students to display respect for others and the world around them. This means showing respect to their teachers, peers, and the property around the school. Unfortunately, for some this has not been the case in the last few weeks. There has been damage to school property, mainly the boys toilets and we can't imagine that this happens at home. The increasing amount of litter also indicates a lack of respect for the environment and our grounds, maintenance staff and cleaning staff. Staff will be working with students to reduce these issues and continue to help students to develop safe, respectful and community oriented behaviours and interactions with others.

When students come to school, we want them to be in a safe environment where they can interact with others in a positive way. I appreciate your support in helping to reinforce the value of respect with the young people in our care.

# Mrs Sarah Freer, Acting Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus



SLEEP OUT >Congratulations to our Year 11 students and Bosco staff who slept out for Vinnies SA. The group raised over \$11000 for the homeless and disadvantaged in our local communities, an incredible effort!!!

# **Benedict Campus**





EXCURSION > Year 2 Red exploring Wirrabara Forest on their excursion



RECONCILIATION WEEK > Lachlan shares a story with our Reception students



COMMUNION > In preparation for First Holy Communion our Year 4s have made a meal for their family. Photographed is Max.



EXCURSION > Year 2 Blue enjoying Laura playground on their excursion

Congratulations	,
to our award winnorc	

to our award winners

	Star Salesian	Star Samaritan	
6R	Lexi	Daniel	
<b>6B</b> Lucas		Kailee	
5R	Jack	Reagan	
5B	Jace	Jordy	
4R	Braxton	Anna	
4B	Lia	Shelton	
ЗR	Millie	Addison	
ЗB	Daelan	Lily	
3G	Ruby	Isabelle	
2R	Luke	Olivia	
2B	Harry	Finlay	
1R	Olivia	Alfie	
1B	Ainslee	Dante	
RR	Harper	Stella	
RB	Adelyn	Calliope	
RGr	Lachlan	Olga	
RGo	Avery	Anastasia	



RECONCILIATION WEEK > Our Receptions have created some beautiful artwork inspired by our First Nations peoples love of their country. Photographed are Alana and Henry.

# **Bosco Campus**





MUSIC > Secondary Music students were treated to a performance by the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra at Elder Hall last week



FOOD TECHNOLOGY > Year 8s made their own danish pastries in the Home Ec Kitchen. Photographed are Taylah and Matilda.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY > Year 7s made rainbow cookies in the Home Ec Kitchen. Photographed are Cooper and Angus.



VISUAL ARTS > Year 9 students developed a unique character and illustrated a children's book cover with their chosen media, finishing it using digital technology to apply the typography



PPEP TALK > Year 10 students attended a presentation from Ailsa for a presentation about 'Periods, Pain and Endometriosis'



HASS > Year 7s have been studying Ancient Australia and created their own artefacts.

# **College Sport**





KNOCKOUT HOCKEY > Our Year 7,8 and 9 team won in the first round, and will progress to the next round in Adelaide



KNOCKOUT HOCKEY > Our open team had a win, a loss and a draw in round one



E SPORTS > A growing number of students are competing in E Sports at lunchtime on Thursdays. Photographed are Ryan and Zac.



KNOCKOUT NETBALL > Our Year 9 and 10 team were undefeated and now progress to the next round



KNOCKOUT NETBALL > Our open team were undefeated and now progress to the next round



KNOCKOUT NETBALL > Our Year 7 and 8 team were undefeated and now progress to the next round



KNOCKOUT FOOTBALL > Our Year 9 and 10 footballers had two wins in Riverton and now progress to the next round

# **COMMUNITY NEWS**



**Register for the** session now



 When: Wednesday
7.00pm ACST,
7.30pm AEST,
5.30pm AWST
Where: Via Zoom Details at w Cost: FREE w.trybooking.com/BLDRE

PPFA is committed to supporting teenagers who suffer severe period pain, pelvic pain and endometriosis to allow them to fulfill their potential and live their best life provible.

If you have any further queries please email us at contact@pelvicpain.org.au, call (08) 8291 7923 or visit our website www.pelvicpain.org.au



# **Community Notices**

# advance school photography & print specialists

#### order online

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

#### STEP 1

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

#### STEP 2

Enter your school code: RE8 JJD 5N9 in the 'order and download' box.

10 This will take you to your school's secure online ordering site.

#### STEP 3

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



PPEP TALK PPEP TALK<sup>®</sup>NEXT STEPS

ecologist, Pain Specialist and a

of 'Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain' Dr Susa Evans on Zoom for PPEP Talk<sup>®</sup> Next Steps.



PayPal

provided. STEP 3 Return your completed envelope/s, with correct cash payment, to our photographers on the day.

offer sibling photos.

provided.

STEP 1

STEP 2

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

cash/envelope ordering

Your school prefers orders to be placed online. However, if you are unable to order online, please

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

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

does not have cash enclosed).

complete your order using the order envelope

accept cheques. There is a separate envelope for sibling photo orders, should your school choose to



# **Apply for Nyrstar 2023** Apprenticeships now

Applications for full-time Apprenticeships in the following trades can be submitted

- Metal Fabrication (Boilermaking) Fitting & Turning
- Electrical

Minimum standard for all positions is completion of Year 11 by the end of 2022. To receive further information and an Application Form please email portpirie.recruitment@nyrstar.com

#### **Applications Close:** inday 3rd July, 2022

Please note you must have valid rights to work in Australia. Nyrstar is an equal opportunity employer and supports diversity within the workforce. We encourage applicants of all gender. The Nyrstar Port Pririe safety policy requires clean shaven employees. Nyrstar Port Pririe is a non-smoking site.

**REMINDER:** School Photos are next week! Have you placed your order?

# Weekly Specials

# **BENEDICT CAMPUS**

BENEDICI CAMPOS				
	Recess:		Lunch:	
Week 7 Mon	Public Holiday			
Tues	Bruschetta	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Fruit Box	\$4.00 \$5.00
Wed	ООК ООК	\$2.50	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Thurs	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Homemade Soup and Roll + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Week 8 Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Metro Burger + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Tender Wrap + Fruit Box	\$4.50 \$6.00
Wed	ООК ООК	\$2.50	Pizza + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Beef Stirfry + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Burrito Wrap or Bowl + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00

# **BOSCO CAMPUS**

	Recess:		Lunch:	
Week 7 Mon	Public Holiday			
Tues	Bruschetta	\$2.00	Squash Dog + 375ml Zero Can	\$4.00 \$6.00
Wed	ООКООК	\$2.50	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Thurs	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Rolls + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Fri	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Homemade Soup and Roll + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
Week 8 Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Metro Burger + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Tender Wrap + 375ml Zero Can	\$4.50 \$6.00
Wed	ООК ООК	\$2.50	Pizza + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Beef Stirfry + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Fri	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Burrito Wrap or Bowl + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00

