



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

ADMINISTRATION
T +61 8 8632 2800
F +61 8 8633 0104

BENEDICT CAMPUS
T +61 8 8632 4735
F +61 8 8633 0568

BOSCO CAMPUS
T +61 8 8633 8812
F +61 8 8633 0104

SALESIAN HOUSE
T +61 8633 8803
F +61 8633 0104

www.smc.catholic.edu.au



We congratulate our Debutantes and their partners in the Blessing of the Fleet

Story and Connection

Over the weekend I had the pleasure of being a guest of the Italian community in Port Pirie at the celebrations for the Blessing of the Fleet, including the Debutante Ball on Saturday evening. The Blessing of the Fleet in Port Pirie dates back to 1929, when the tradition was brought to the region by Italian migrants from Molfetta. The festival was first celebrated in 1399, and it is remarkable that such a long-standing tradition of venerating the Madonna and carrying her statue from St Anthony's Church to St Mark's Cathedral, and on Sunday down to the waterfront for carriage on the Port Pirie River for the blessing of the fleet, has not only survived but thrived in a town so far away from its place of origin.

My husband Malcolm, and I felt so privileged to be welcomed into the community and invited to be part of this significant tradition. One of the many highlights for us was the opportunity to hear the stories of families who came to Australia as migrants, bringing customs and traditions with them. We are all the richer as a town and a country for being so multicultural and diverse. As migrants ourselves, Malcolm and I have appreciated both the challenge of leaving family in our home country and the blessing of being welcomed into a new country.

Story and connection are so important, particularly in an age where technology and social media render connection superficial in many ways. That families travelled to Pirie for the weekend festivities was a reminder of the strength of family bonds and the love

and pride people feel in their traditions and relationships. This was very evident at the Debutante Ball too as Debutantes and their Beaus danced with each other and with their parents. Putting to one side the looks of intense concentration as steps were remembered and, I have to say, carried out flawlessly, I was touched by the joy and pride that was tangible in the room. I extend my sincere thanks to Philip and Tina Amato and Dino and Liz Gadaleta for their generous hospitality throughout the weekend.

On Monday this week, our staff enjoyed their annual spiritual Retreat which was held at Bundaleer Forest. With so much that has happened this year, it was a wonderful opportunity to connect and share stories with colleagues and friends and be reminded of the power of nature to restore and heal. In the busyness of life, both at school and at home, it is rare to be able to stop rushing, stop juggling twenty different priorities and just be! Thank you to our community for gracing us with this time to refresh and re-focus for the remainder of the year.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal



Staff pause for Liturgy at Bundaleer Forest

Faith and Mission



Our Year 10 RE classes have started cooking meals for Fred's Van

You may recall the Gospel reading of the Mustard Seed that I shared in the last newsletter. I asked if you could suggest what the twist may be in this tale?

'The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.'
-Mark 4:26-34

The parable about the mustard seed describes a tiny seed that grows into a great shrub 'so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade'. A farming community would be alarmed at the thought of attracting birds or other animals, and pests to their fields. Jesus' message about the kingdom of God is that it can actually be disruptive, invasive and unpredictable, much like the world we are currently facing, with all its risk and unknown hurdles. One can only imagine the uncertainties and questions facing Britain at this time, with the passing of a monarch and a changing of a prime minister. Additionally, the message of this parable aligns itself with the sacrifices and commitments that our Year 12 students need to make as they approach their final stages of the schooling journey. Then there are our many students who have recently played and won sporting Grand finals, as well as those who are about to compete this weekend. In their quest for glory,

individual and team success, hopefully they can utilise their resilience that has been solidified by the harder times that they have faced. Napoleon Hill once said that, 'Every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit.' Hopefully, with persistence and a positive outlook, we can find one of these seeds within us all.

Fred's Van

As part of the Community Outreach program our Year 10 students are undertaking a voluntary role, participating in a 'soup kitchen', with food donations to be made to Fred's Van Port Pirie. This experience will enable the Year 10 students to develop their personal qualities in care, compassion, integrity, responsibility, understanding, tolerance and inclusion.

Mrs (Katie) Pole's class participated in Week 6 and Mr Arbon's class will participate in Week 10. Whilst Miss Jones and Mrs (Briony) Pole's class will serve in Term 4.

Family Mass and International Luncheon

On Sunday 25 September we will be celebrating a Family Mass at the Cathedral at 10:30am. Some of our students will be invited to be part of

the Mass and we welcome all families to attend, particularly students who have participated in the Sacramental Program in recent years.

Following the Mass will be the Annual International Luncheon, hosted in the Good Samaritan Hall at Benedict. This luncheon celebrates Migrant and Refugee Sunday.

If you would like to attend the luncheon, tickets can be purchased from the Parish Office: 8632 3977.

Parish Notices



Blessing of Pets, Sunday 25 September

Families are invited to bring their pet after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 25 September, for a special blessing as we celebrate the season of creation.



The inaugural

'Mothers who Pray for their Children' workshop with Bishop Karol and

Carolina Cetenaeski will be held on Saturday 24 September, 7.00 - 8.00pm at St Mark's Cathedral. All welcome!

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 9: 19/9 - 23/9			Week 10: 26/9 - 30/9		
Mon	First Day Summer Uniform Either full summer or full winter uniform can be worn from today	Life Ed Van Year 6 and 7	Mon		
	SAPSASA Track and Field		Tues	Celebration of Success 11.30am, Good Samaritan Hall	
Tues				Coaches Presentation 5.30pm, Good Samaritan Hall	
Wed			Wed	Smelters Picnic Student Free Day	
Thur	National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty the Queen Public Holiday		Thur		
Fri	Benedict Sports Day		Fri	Team Colours Day Final Day of Term 3 Benedict- 12.20pm and Bosco- 12.30pm Year 7 - 12 reports issued	

Benedict Campus:

Term 3 has nearly concluded with extra-curricular activities too numerous to mention. I'd like to reassure caregivers that amongst the wealth of incidental learning, the mandated curriculum continues to be covered! These last few weeks have seen some truly blessed moments with a Combined Choir performance, a visit from SA Strikers and SAPOL, the Blessing of the Fleet celebrations, a Staff Retreat and excursions for Year 4 and Year 5. We've even managed to squeeze in an emergency Evacuation Drill and a trip to the theatre for the Years 3-6 students to support Port Pirie Youth Theatre. As always, the contribution of staff in organising these events is dedicated and thorough and certainly appreciated by the students.

As COVID restrictions continue to ease, we can offer more opportunities for you to visit the school. There will be a General Assembly next Wednesday 21 September in the GSH at 11.20am. General Assemblies usually take place every Week 3, 6 and 9 on Wednesdays at 11:20am (after Recess).

Please note these upcoming school closure days; Thursday 22 September and Wednesday 28 September.

Staff have begun the extremely considered process of working out class placements for 2023. If you have a request based on educational outcomes, please collect a form from the Benedict Office to complete. Please note: requests for specific teachers will not be considered. These are due by Friday, Week 1, Term 4.

A friendly reminder that there is no morning supervision until 8.25am and that after school supervision concludes at 3.40pm. Any child still at school at 3.45pm will be escorted to the office to wait. The office closes at 4.00pm. We appreciate your effort in trying to adhere to these times for the safety and wellbeing of your children.

Ms Melissa Gadaleta, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus:

R U OK Day

Last Thursday Bosco Campus celebrated R U OK Day. The day began with extended care group where each student was given a Kit Kat in order to start the Chit Chat. Teachers provided students with a You Tube clip on how to start the conversation with their peers as well as a Power Point dedicated to the importance of recognising the change in their peers and friends.

It was fantastic to see students getting into the spirit of the day and most wore a splash of yellow. Throughout lunchtime there were many activities to engage students in conversations. I thank the staff for their support in making the day important and meaningful for students.

Teenagers can withhold lots of information for a variety of reasons. To encourage active listening and build trust within your relationship I encourage you to ponder the following questions to encourage them to open up:

- 'How did that make you feel?'
- 'It sounds like you were (name the emotion), were you?'

Summarising is also another great way to take the emotion out of a situation and allows your child to hear back what they have said. Often as parents we want to fix our children's problems, however as they develop into young adults it is important that we provide them opportunities to move towards finding a resolution themselves by asking, 'What do you think is the best thing to do now?'. Later ask them how the situation played out. Rephrasing these questions allows them to learn about how to process situations for themselves.

As a College, we acknowledge the importance of marking this day for our teens so that the message is important every day, not just R U OK Day. If you are concerned about your child, I encourage you to seek out the Year Level Coordinator and see how we can support both you and them.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Acting Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

College:

Individual NAPLAN Reports have arrived this week and will be distributed in envelopes to families via students early next week. If you have any concerns about your child's NAPLAN Report please make contact with your child's teacher in the first instance. NAPLAN provides us with some useful benchmark data to inform teaching and learning. However, the tests are only one snapshot of achievement and should be considered in conjunction with teacher assessment. We value all students for who they are and the unique skills, talents and personalities they bring to our College.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal



Danae Holyman : Wellbeing Officer

We welcome Danae to the College as the Wellbeing Officer who will be supporting students and their families from Reception - Year 12. Danae's name may be familiar to our community as she was previously the School Counsellor at the College. If you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing please contact the College on 8633 8800.

Anxiety and Worry in Children and Teenagers Online Workshop

Catholic School Parents SA is pleased to present:

Anxiety and Worry in Children and Teenagers presented by Madhavi Nawana Parker, Positive Minds Australia

Tuesday September 20 2022, 6.30pm - 8pm (online)

To register visit: registrationcentre.cesa.catholic.edu.au/event-4941231

Benedict Campus



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION > Our Year 3s celebrated the Nativity of Mary (the celebration of Mary's birth) making flowers with special birthday messages



SCIENCE > Lexie, Della and their classmates in 4 Blue made kites as part of their learning into Force and Flight



EXCURSION > 4 Red visiting St Aloysius Church at Sevenhill



EXCURSION > Year 5 students enjoying their excursion to Melrose



EXCURSION > Year 4s enjoying a ride on the miniature train in Clare



MUSIC, DANCE + DRAMA > Peyton, Sophie, Lily and Logan performing 'The Very Noisy Bear' for their classmates

Bosco Campus



RU OK? DAY > Across the campus students participated in a range of inclusion and wellbeing activities, including this vibrant Message Mural



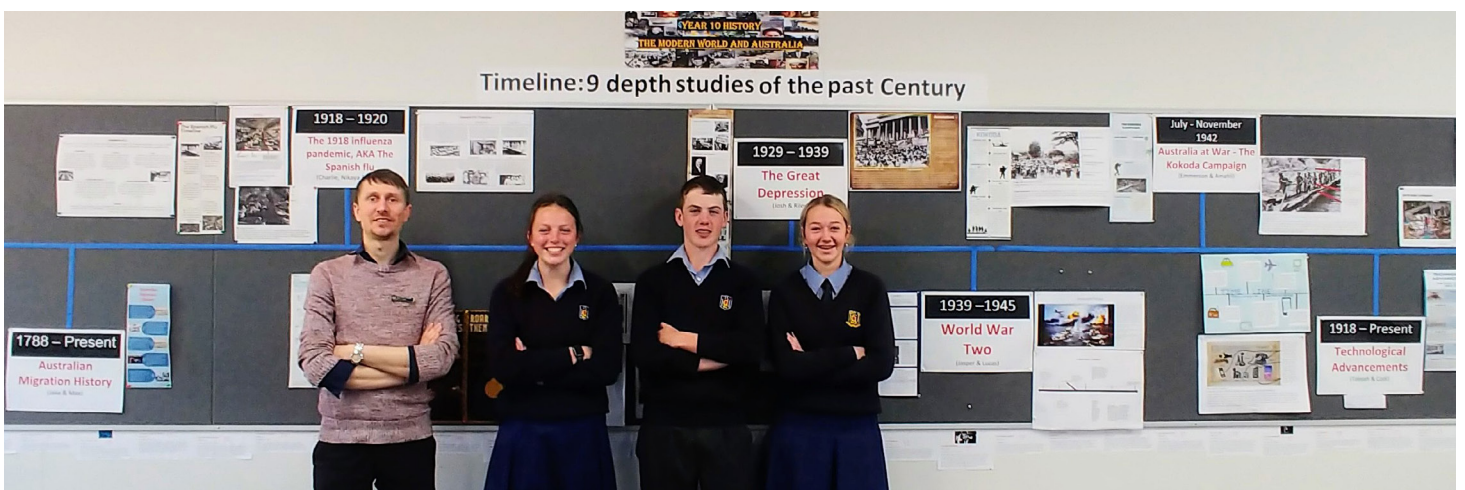
INCLUSIVE EDUCATION > Jack has been enjoying a range of activities in the Learning Centre during break times. Recently, he has collected and tracked the Harry Potter collectables from Coles. Great job Jack!



FOOD + HOSPITALITY > Year 12 students have prepared, cooked and packaged a range of delicious meals to donate to Tasty Tucker, and initiative offered through Uniting Country SA's Community Centre



GLOBAL STUDIES > Year 8 students brought something to show and share with their class, giving a sense of pride in their heritage



MODERN HISTORY > Students in 10S have worked together to create a timeline overview of the past century using the technique of examining the macro (overview) and micro (depth studies) features of that time

Bosco Campus



Well done to the St Mark's students who submitted their work to be part of the Gladstone Art Exhibition. It takes bravery and initiative to display your artwork in public and Ivy (Year 5), Joel (Year 7), Isabelle (Year 8), and Ian (Year 12) are commended for this. A big congratulations to Ian, who was judged the winner of the Junior Fine Art section with his digital painting titled "The Floating Farmlands".

The exhibition is open to the public at the Gladstone Town Hall until Friday 7 October, 10.00am - 4.00pm daily.

Mrs Megan Congdon, Visual Arts Teacher

McNally Farm on show

After two terms of preparation, our team of 25 Ag students, 4 staff, 8 Boer goats and 6 Led Wether sheep headed off to compete in the Royal Adelaide Show. The team represented the College in the Grand Parade along with livestock and handlers' competitions.

We are excited to announce a number of awards:

- 1st Prize - School Wool Competition
- Top 20 Handlers - Chloe, Year 9
- 5th Place - Boer Goat 103G weight class
- 6th Place - Boer Goat 103E weight class

This fantastic experience offered to our students would not be possible without our sponsors, Michael Kelly (Narridy) who donated the sheep along with Geoff Wurst and Andrew Smith (Laura) who donated the goats.

Mr Joel Head, Agriculture and Trade Skills Manager



Leading the goats in the Grand Parade



Madeline, Minette, Chloe and Ava looking after the goats



Max and Adam working with the sheep

College Notices

Out of School Hours Care : Update of OSHC Hours

Thursday 22/9	National Day of Mourning for Her Majesty the Queen	Closed
Friday 23/9	Benedict Sports Day	Open 6.30am - 8.30am + 2.00pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday 28/9	Smelters Picnic Day	Closed
Friday 30/9	Last Day of Term	Open 6.30am - 8.30am + 12.00pm - 6.00pm
Monday 3/10	Public Holiday	Closed

Looking for donations : School Toilet Project

One of the girls' toilet blocks at Bosco Campus will soon receive a make-over as part of the "School Toilet Project", an initiative that aims to make school toilets a more welcoming, positive and soothing environment. Artist, Cat Dean, a former Port Pirie resident has been commissioned to create a mural, and a group of Year 9 Rite Journey girls are working to incorporate their own inspirations into the project.

We are seeking donations of natural looking artificial plants and pots or hangers that may add to the relaxing vibe that the students are aiming for. If you have anything that may be suitable or your business might be interested in contributing to the project, please contact Megan Congdon at mcongdon@smc.catholic.edu.au



Community Notices



THE COUNTDOWN TO KIDTOBER 2022 IS ON!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.KIDTOBER.COM.AU

OR FIND US ON FACEBOOK

FOR DETAILS ON ALL OF THIS YEAR'S EVENTS!

KEEP YOUR EYE OUT FOR A PRINTED CALENDAR
FROM YOUR CHILDCARE, KINDY OR SCHOOL
BEFORE THE END OF TERM.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU
OUT AND ABOUT IN OCTOBER!



Magpie Warblers Trivia Night

Friday 23 September, 7.00pm

Northern Festival Centre

\$15 pp / tables of 10

For tickets visit the [NFC website](#)

St Joseph's Parish School Disco

Friday 30 September, 6.00 - 8.00pm

Entry at the door, contact 8662 2016 for information

Free Digital Storytelling and Advocacy Workshop : Enabled Youth Disability Network

For people in Port Pirie living with a disability, aged 14 - 35 with an interest in learning about advocacy

For information visit the [EYDN Website](#)

Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch:	
Week 9				
Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Ham and Cheese Triangles	\$2.00	Small Chicken Wrap + Fruit Box	\$3.00 \$5.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Spaghetti Bolognese + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	PUBLIC HOLIDAY			
Fri	SPORTS DAY			
Week 10				
Mon	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Chicken Burger with Bacon and Cheese + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Tender Wrap + Fruit Box	\$4.50 \$6.50
Wed	PUBLIC HOLIDAY			
Thurs	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pizza + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	LAST DAY OF TERM			

BOSCO CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch:	
Week 9				
Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Squash Dog + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Ham and Cheese Triangles	\$2.00	Chicken Wrap + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Spaghetti Bolognese + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Thurs	PUBLIC HOLIDAY			
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + 375ml Zero Can	\$3.00 \$5.00	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Week 10				
Mon	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Chicken Burger with Bacon and Cheese + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Tender Wrap + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$6.50
Wed	PUBLIC HOLIDAY			
Thurs	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pizza + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + 375ml Zero Can	\$3.00 \$5.00	LAST DAY OF TERM	

Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752

