



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

ADMINISTRATION

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BENEDICT CAMPUS

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BOSCO CAMPUS

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SALESIAN HOUSE

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www.smc.catholic.edu.au



Year 12 student Henri, receiving his candle from Reception student Henry

Joy, Gratitude, and Optimism

I cannot believe how quickly this, my first year as Principal at St Mark's College, is flying. Here we are in Term 4, packed with events and milestones and Christmas holidays are not that far away.

I was reflecting recently on a phrase from Matthew's Gospel, 'Seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you' (Matt 7:7). Despite the problems that exist in our daily lives, and in the world at large, which are not hard to find, I believe there is something joyful to find in each day if we look for it, and always something for which to be grateful.

At our R-12 Mass this week, we celebrated our Year 12s in their final week of regular attendance before final assignments and examinations are completed prior to Graduation. It was a joyful occasion and poignant for Year 12s, marking a significant milestone for them and their families. We wish our class of 2022 all the best as they formally complete Year 12; whatever the outcomes of their work, they are beautiful, strong young men and women with good values and good hearts.

It was lovely to welcome families at our Boarders' liturgy at the beginning of term and enjoy a celebratory meal together. It has been a long time coming in this challenging year, but worth the wait. During the liturgy we farewelled our boarding supervisors, Denise and David Arbon, after 21 years of dedicated service. I thank them for all they have contributed to St Mark's community and wish them well in their retirement. From Week 3, Mr Joseph Murdock takes over as Director of Boarding and we

look forward to him being joined by new boarding supervisors Georgia Pryor and Isabella Arbon.

On Saturday last week, we welcomed many old scholars to a school reunion. It was a lovely occasion and opportunity to hear many stories and experiences that showed the genuine affection for St Mark's and appreciation for schooling here. Thank you to all the staff and students who made the event such a lovely occasion.

World Teachers' Day is recognised in Australia this year on Friday 28 October. Every year I am thankful for the work of educators around the world; they make such a difference to the lives of young people, and the vocation is complex and challenging in so many ways. With teacher shortages, and staff changes, this year has been more challenging than most and I cannot thank our teachers enough for their flexibility, hard work and absolute commitment to our students and our community. I take my hat off to them!

Whilst we enjoy the activities scheduled for Term 4, planning and staffing for 2023 is well underway. To assist us in this planning, I ask that families please let us know in writing by next week if students are not continuing at St Mark's next year. This is critical information so that resources can be allocated effectively for the best outcomes next year. We are still receiving enrolment enquiries, so if students are leaving, for whatever reason, I welcome an opportunity to discuss this with you.

I wish you all the best for Term 4.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal

Faith and Mission



Year 7s celebrating the presence of the Apostolic Nuncio in our Diocese

Welcome Apostolic Nuncio Most Reverend Archbishop Charles Balvo

This week Bishop Karol was honored to receive a visit from the Pope's Australian Delegate, His Excellency Archbishop Charles Balvo. Our Year 7 students represented the College community at the Wednesday morning Mass which Archbishop Charles concelebrated with Bishop Karol. Archbishop Balvo said the task of any Apostolic Nuncio is to be "the eyes, ears, hands, if you will, of the Holy Father, an extension of the Holy Father's Ministry, because the Holy Father has his concern for the Church, all aspects of its life". It was a privilege to join with other parishioners and Diocesan schools in supporting this pastoral visit.

Mission Month

October, is when we celebrate World Mission Month, a month dedicated to the life-giving work of missionaries around the world.

This year the campaign invites us to walk hand-in-hand with the Church of Ethiopia and the local communities towards providing life-changing opportunities to those most in need.

Pope Francis, in his 2022 World Mission Sunday message, invites everyone to answer the call to be missionary, sharing that "Mission is carried out together, not individually...".

Collaborative social justice and building community is so much a part of what we aim to achieve as a College community. Being missionary means to give hope to those who have lost hope, and to work together with the community to continue building a better, more just, world for everyone. Here in Australia, we form people to go out and be missionary in their professional and personal lives; to pray, advocate and act for those on the margins. Catholic Mission has offices in 27 Australian dioceses.

Benedict Campus has taken up this challenge and will go on Mission. Full details are in the Operoo that went home this week. If you would like to join us and support the work of Catholic Missions the link to our College fundraising page is as follows: <https://www.socktober.org.au/fundraisers/stmarkscollege>

Month of the Rosary - *Praying the Rosary is like Holding Mary's Hand!*

October is not only Mission Month but also the Month of the Rosary. The Rosary invites us to discover the power of contemplative prayer. Mary is honored in the Catholic Tradition for the life of faith and discipleship she lived.

Praying the Rosary is similar to small children reaching up to hold the hand of their mother in complete trust. During her lifetime, Mother Teresa always carried a rosary in her hand. In this way,

she said, she was holding Mary's hand.

Saint Louis de Montfort said, "Mary is the safest, easiest, shortest, and most perfect way of approaching Jesus." May she draw us ever nearer to her Immaculate Heart and to that of her beloved Son. Our Lady of the Rosary, Our Lady of Victory – Pray for us!

St Francis de Sales describes the rosary as a very useful way to pray, provided you know how to say it appropriately.

Farewells

Term 4 is so much more than a time for final assessments and exams. It is also a special time of beginnings and endings much like the seasons of life. So far in 2 weeks of Term 4 we have gathered with Old Scholars to reflect upon the past years together. Our Boarders celebrated as an entire community for the final time with students family and staff and this week we came together as an entire College to formally farewell our Year 12 students. It is a wonderful rite of passage where we say farewell. In each of these events we recognise with love each and every person who has called this place "home" through reflection and affirmation.

Congratulations

We congratulate Tabitha in Year 3 who will be welcomed into the St Mark's Parish community through Baptism this weekend. God's richest blessings to Tabitha and her family.

Mrs Katie Pole, **APRIM**

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 3: 31/10 - 4/11			Week 4: 7/11 - 11/11			
Mon		Year 9 Camp	Mon	Board Meeting 7.00pm, Bosco Conference Room	Year 12 Exams	Year 8 Camp
Tues	Sports Council 7.30pm,Benedict Library		Tues	SAPSASA Cricket		
Wed			Wed	2023 Reception Parents Meeting 5.30pm		
Thur			Thur			
Fri	Little Lions, Session 10		Fri	Little Lions Session 11		
	Year 6 Rugby Carnival					

Benedict Campus:

Welcome to Term 4!

After 27 years of teaching it never ceases to amaze me just how quickly Term 4 arrives. Each of the school terms are busy but Term 4 always seems the busiest with the completion of one year and the preparation and transition into the next year occurring simultaneously. It also offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the growth of the students as staff consider their educational needs for 2023.

Currently, the Year 6s are experiencing an Aquatics' Day at Pt Augusta which is sure to make some everlasting primary school memories and build a few additional skills in areas they may not have experienced before.

The Year 5s will soon begin the Senior Primary Leadership Program to assist them in recognising their leadership skills and potential as they look to elect the Primary Captains and House Leaders for 2023 and become the senior cohort of Benedict Campus.

The Year 3s are growing in their understanding of making choices and the subsequent consequences of those choices, exploring forgiveness and mercy as some of the students prepare to make their First Reconciliation.

I also know that the Year 2s and Year 4s are being very industrious with their studies, having enjoyed some special events earlier in the year.

The Year 1s are preparing Class Masses, a very special occasion for them and their families whilst also looking forward to their upcoming Class Excursions to Wallaroo.

The Receptions proudly undertook their significant role at the Year 12 Farewell Mass with great enthusiasm, probably wondering if they will ever get to be that big!

Many R-6 classes are tapping into their entrepreneurial skills as they prepare stalls and activities for Mission Gala Day and the SRC have promoted their Socktober initiative to raise awareness and collect hygiene products for people in our community who would benefit from some additional kindness.

May I express a huge thank you to our committed staff for their continued work and support, especially with the extra-curricular activities they provide for the students, and to you, our families and friends for your ongoing support both in kind and financially.

Ms Melissa Gadaleta, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus:

Congratulations

Welcome back to Term 4, a term that is rich and full. This sense of busyness is a sign of a thriving school community. Our Year 12 students had their final day of formal schooling today. They will now work to ensure that they have completed all assessment tasks and prepare for any exams they might have, ready to move onto new pathways and build their future.

Some messages from our Year 12 leaving students

The best thing about being a part of the St Mark's College Year 12 cohort is the connections and relationships that we have formed together, with both our peers and our teachers. Throughout the challenges that this year holds, our relationships have only strengthened. -Eliza

I would like to say thank you for the very welcoming experience I have had at St Mark's, coming from another school, and would like to say farewell and good luck to all the teachers, staff and students still with St Mark's. -Kalan

I would like to thank the College for all the support and enjoyment over my thirteen years of schooling, the welcoming community has been great for both myself and the greater school community. I would like to give my best wishes to all of the staff and students still with the College in years to come. -Charlie

Over my 13 years of schooling at St Mark's College, there are many parts of my education that have shaped who I am. Very grateful to be finishing this year on a good note alongside my peers and teachers who have been a great support along the way. -Tyla

For those who have exams to complete here are some tips for success

1. Make the most of your study time, make a schedule and stick to it
2. Don't just study solo – why not try a study group?
3. Deal with your stress – stress is normal until you let it get too much. Build in some rest, exercise, and healthy eating to maintain a good balance
4. Ask for help – Your teachers are here to help.
5. Get plenty of sleep.
6. Prep the night before – pack everything you need for an exam the night before.

7. Make the most of your morning – get up early and have something to eat.
8. When you're in the exam room... take your time.

Uniform Reminder

As we begin to enter the summer months, I have reminded students that hats are a compulsory component of the school uniform during Term 4. Students not wearing a hat during PE, Recess or Lunch will be required to sit inside or under shade.

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus



A guard of honour to farewell our Year 12s



We congratulate our 2023 College Captains Amity and Connor along with our Vice-Captains Tom and Sophie

Key Dates and Campus Information



College:

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

Our OSHC are seeking registrations of interest for before and after school hours care for 2023. To register, simply follow the link sa.ymca.org.au/what-we-do/oshc/st-marks-college-port-pirie and complete your details.

Due to low numbers for before school hour care, the YMCA are considering removing this service. It is important to register to ensure this service is able to continue.

College Fees 2023

St Mark's College is pleased to advise fees will reduce for school card and low to medium income earnings starting 2023. To view the 2023 College fees, visit: https://www.stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au/files/13131/Fee_Schedule.pdf

Please note: school card and low to medium income earners will be required to complete a form to apply for discounted fees.

Mrs Jo Court, **Business Manager**

COVID-19 Advice

To protect our school community, staff and students should note:

- If you are unwell please stay home.
- If you have cold or flu symptoms you should get tested for COVID-19.
- If you have COVID-19, please stay at home until your acute symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever) have cleared. In consideration for the health of others, when you return to school, please wear a mask while indoors until 7 days have passed since your symptoms first started or since you tested positive, (whichever is earliest).

NAPLAN 2022

Parents and caregivers should now have received the individual report for their child's NAPLAN results this year. These were sent home with students at the end of last term.

Participation in the NAPLAN tests this year was good, and generally higher than state and national averages. This reflects our inclusive approach to NAPLAN. All students are encouraged to have a go and not be anxious about the tests.

Our school is diverse and we welcome and value everyone, acknowledging that students are at different stages of their learning and development, and have a range of learning needs. This is reflected in our NAPLAN results, which provide just one snapshot of learning at a given time in standardised tests. We analyse NAPLAN data, together with ongoing student achievement records and results from Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT Reading and PAT Maths, which will be conducted again in the next couple of weeks) to inform our future planning and set targets for improvement.

% of Students Achieving the National Minimum Standard

	Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	Year 9
Reading	100%	98%	99%	97%
Writing	100%	96%	93%	88%
Spelling	100%	100%	94%	97%
Grammar and Punctuation	100%	93%	95%	94%
Numeracy	100%	100%	95%	99%

Dr Sandra Hewson, **Principal**

Benedict Campus



SRC DISCO > Benedict students enjoyed a Disco organised by the SRC on the last day of Term 3

OSHC Vacation Care - holiday fun!

Now taking bookings for the Christmas holidays.

Visit: sa.ymca.org.au/what-we-do/oshc/st-marks-college-port-pirie



Tilly and Eva enjoying crazy hair day



Archer playing LEGO



Hunter, Annabelle, Aubrey, Harper, Jameson and Lucy bravely holding the python from Australian Bush Buddies

Congratulations
to our Deputy Principal
award winners for following
class and school rules

6R	Indee
6B	Elise
5R	Malakai
5B	Noah
4R	Luca
4B	Max
3R	Marlo
3B	Harper
3G	Luke
2R	Luke
2B	Ivy
1R	Eden
1B	Delaney
RR	Aria
RB	Mackenzie
RGr	Indigo
RGo	Anastasia



CONGRATULATIONS > Ms Atkinson has recently graduated from a Graduate Diploma in Psychology from the University of Adelaide

Bosco Campus



CLASS OF 2022 > Our Year 12 students were officially farewelled at the Candle Mass



CONGRATULATIONS > Bodhi was one of 17 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 12 students who have been recognised for completing their schooling in Catholic Education



BOARDING > We farewelled Denise (and David) Arbon at the Salesian House End of Year Liturgy and welcomed the new Director of Boarding, Joe Murdock



MUSIC > Year 11 Music students attended a songwriting workshop with Adam Thompson. They all contributed to the songwriting process and worked to produce a video for the song 'From My Heart'.



COMMUNITY > During the holidays, artist Cat Dean was busy transforming one of the girls toilets blocks at Bosco into a welcoming and vibrant space



SCIENCE > Adam and Zachary testing reaction rates and concentration changes of chemicals

The Bosco Prize 2022

presented by St Mark's College



Bosco Prize Exhibition
Entry is now open, prizes include:

- Senior Prize (Y10-12)
- Junior Prize (Y7-9)
- Photographic Prize (Y7-12)
- Encouragement Award (Y7)
- Wine label design competition

Please encourage your child to give it a go!

Exhibition launch is 15 November, all welcome.

Community Notices

Support your school!

with **EZCOVERS**

Looking for covers for your child's school books? Why not book with EZ Covers?

When you place your order at <https://au.ezcovers.com/>

make sure you select 'St Mark's College' during the checkout process so that 15c from each cover is donated to the school's P+F!

Get off that computer NOW!

presented by Mark Le Messurier

Wednesday 2 November 2022, 6.00pm - 8.00pm (in person or online)

To register visit: <https://cspsa.catholic.edu.au/newsroom/events?eventID=7155>



Port Pirie Scout Group Come & Try Scouting



For Youth age
5 to 11 years old

Meeting Monday
evenings from 6pm

Pt Pirie Scout Hall,
Mary Elie Street

For more info contact:
Janet McCulloch
gl.ptpirie@sa.scouts.com.au





PETER COMPE

30TH OCTOBER
WOODWARD PARK
11:30AM-3PM

Come wash your face with orange juice with us!
BYO picnic or some food & beverage stalls available

Some activities provided

'mainly music' is turning 10!
You are invited to join us in our Celebrations

Sunday, November 6th, 2022
2:00pm-5:00pm
Woodward park

FREE Fun for ALL Ages!
Come and Celebrate with the mainly music family.

Including:	Bouncy Castle	Music
	Craft	Games
	Free sausage sizzle and Birthday Cake	BYO Chair

Port Pirie Regional Council
Supported by the Port Pirie Regional Council
Community Assistance Grants

For more information please contact Belinda Ph: 0417 823 281

Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch:	
Week 3				
Mon	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Chicken Schnitzel Burger with Bacon and Cheese + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Tues	Egg and Bacon Pastry Roll	\$2.00	Chicken Tender Wrap + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pizza + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Squash Dogs + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Fruit Box	\$3.00 \$5.00	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Week 4				
Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Steak and Onion Sandwich + Fruit Box	\$5.50 \$7.50
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pizza + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Chicken Stir-Fry + Fruit Box	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Burrito Wraps or Bowls + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00

BOSCO CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch:	
Week 3				
Mon	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Chicken Schnitzel Burger with Bacon and Cheese + 375ml Zero Can	\$6.00 \$8.00
Tues	Egg and Bacon Pastry Roll	\$2.00	Chicken Tender Wrap + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pizza + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Squash Dogs + 375ml Zero Can	\$5.00 \$7.00
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Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752

