



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

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We congratulate our Year 12 Class of 2022 who celebrated their graduation last Friday

Companions on the Journey

As Bishop Karol reminded us at the Family Mass on Sunday in the words of a hymn 'we are companions on the journey, breaking bread and sharing life'. It is an honour and privilege to be writing my final newsletter for 2022 at the end of my first year as Principal of St Mark's College, and what a year it has been!

St John Bosco taught his Salesians that love is the foundation of effective teaching and learning. We do not have to look for extraordinary ways to be good people but should just do ordinary things in an extraordinary way, with humility and generosity. Don Bosco called on us to 'Accept what the day brings', do it well and offer it as a prayer. I can't help but reflect on the ordinary things accomplished this year in extraordinary circumstances, and for that I am immensely grateful and very proud.

Schools are dynamic places; we need to be responsive to changing times and listen to the community. I hope that is what we have done this year with integrity, transparency, and hope, resulting in a new vision and mission reflective of our Catholic identity and our aspirations to best prepare our young people for a rapidly changing world.

We have been guided by tradition but not constrained by it in what might be called a VUCA world – volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous. Reading and responding to the signs of the times is one of the challenging, yet joyful elements of leadership. Change does not appeal to everyone, but it comes from the heart and is guided by our vision and mission.

God's grace is at work in a Catholic

Continued over the page



Hannah, Dolche, Caprie and Amarlee celebrating the completion of their time at Benedict



school, and in the vocation that is teaching, one of the most exciting, challenging, exhausting, yet fulfilling jobs there is. I thank every member of staff here at St Mark's for the energy and commitment they bring to this community. I cannot express how lucky we are to have such a dedicated team of staff, teaching and non-teaching that make St Mark's College the vibrant, safe, well maintained learning community it is. In my last newsletter I acknowledged the long service of Gayle Dunning, Deb Slade, Graham Ford, Jim Scavarelli, Jack Jordan and Margaret Congdon. Their wisdom is woven into the narrative that is St Mark's College.

We say farewell and good luck to teachers who are moving on to new challenges in 2023: Meriam De Vries, David Antell, Cleo Li, Trystan Perry, Rebecca Hill and Hannah Arbon. Farewell also to WHS Officer Leanne Klemm and OSHC Director Chloe Liddicoat. In thanking staff, I take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of Melissa Gadaleta over the last five years as Deputy Principal at Benedict Campus as she passes on the reins to Sarah Freer. Thankfully Melissa is remaining part of our community and will be teaching Italian at Bosco next year.



Students and staff shared the joy of Christmas at the Port Pirie Christmas Pageant

To all our parents and friends, our parish family under the guidance of Bishop Karol and Fr Jimmy, our College Board, and the many people who contribute to the vibrant life of St Mark's, I extend my gratitude for your support of our shared mission to bring out the best in our students who are our reason for being, our inspiration and our hope.

Walt Disney once said, 'You can dream, create, design and build the most wonderful ideas in the world, but it requires people to make the dream a

reality'. It is you, every member of our community, who make St Mark's College what it is. It is you who make the vision and mission of a Catholic school a reality. As we continue to dream about the future of St Mark's and strive to make that a new and wonderful reality, I wish you all a safe, happy and holy Christmas.

*Dr Sandra Hewson, **Principal***



At the Benedict End of Year Liturgy, Amarlee received the Good Samaritan Award and Sherwin received the Salesian Award, they are pictured with Fr Jimmy Pantin and Dr Sandra Hewson



Year 6 student, Sienna passes on the responsibility of leadership to Year 5 student, Harry

Faith and Mission



We wish everyone in our College community a blessed and safe Christmas. Drawing by Pandorah, Year 4.

Christmas Season is here

We are halfway through our Advent preparations. Waiting is somewhat counter cultural and it can easily be overlooked in the hustle and bustle of end of year activities. There is a benefit to preparing and waiting and as Fr Jimmy shared with us last week that advent is about adding air to our lives "ad + vent". Hopefully we all find a little time to take a breath and prepare well.

At Christmas we celebrate the great mystery that God became flesh and dwelt among us. We call this mystery the Incarnation (the word means "to take on flesh"), and it changes everything. The mystery we proclaim at Christmas is that God, the very God who created our world. The one who is light and love and took on our humanity in order to transform us. Through his birth among us, we have seen the face of God and by celebrating Christmas we are reminded that we are God's own children made in God's image. At this awesome mystery, we adore.

May we each have a moment where we can embrace the season of joy, hope,

peace and love so that we can be people of light in the world sharing good tidings to all.

Prayer for the End of the School Year

At the end of this school we give thanks to God:

*For all the teaching and learning that have taken place in our school, both in and out of the classroom,
For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced*

*For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed
For the respect and care that have been given.*

We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown.

For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles,

For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days and for the love that has kept us going.

Wishing you all a blessed and happy Christmas. May 2023 be fruitful as we continue our journey as a community.

ST MARK'S PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Crystal Brook	Christmas Eve	6.00pm
Port Pirie	Christmas Eve	7.00pm
	Midnight Mass	12.00am
	Christmas Day	9.30am
Solomontown	Christmas Day	5.00pm
Redhill	Christmas Day	8.30am

As this is my last APRIM article I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their involvement in all Faith Formation and Religious learning opportunities at St Mark's. I am thrilled to be working alongside Mrs Annie Olsen who is taking up this role next year and wish her every success in leading the Catholic Identity within our College.

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 9: 12/12 - 16/12

Mon	Year 7, 8 and 9 Activities Day	
Tues	Year 7, 8 and 9 Pool Day	PP Aquatic and Leisure Centre, 9.00am - 2.30pm
Wed	Year 9 Rite Journey conclusion	Solomontown Beach, 8.40am
	End of Term 4, 2022	Benedict dismissal- 12.30pm and Bosco dismissal- 12.30pm
Thur	Staff Learning and Formation Day	
Fri	Staff Mass and Farewells	

Benedict Campus:

For the last time as Deputy Principal of Benedict Campus, it is my pleasure to contribute to the College Newsletter, as we near the conclusion of another school year.

The conclusion of any school year brings a sense of nostalgia but when the concluding year signifies a great change, it brings its own unique set of emotions.

Pleasingly, Benedict Campus continues to evolve and reinvent as each new staff member and cohort bring their own special touch, and for each leaving staff and class, their legacy remains.

As I've reflected on what has been experienced and achieved in 2022, and personally for me since June 2016, I have been reminded of what a truly special place Benedict Campus is. From Mini Mark's and Little Lions, through Sacramental Programs and the emergence of Year 6 Leaders, it is a welcoming environment where students grow, develop and enjoy success physically, emotionally, spiritually and academically.

All this and much more whilst working in partnership with you, the parents and caregivers. We may have some ups and downs but please be assured that our intentions are always for the best outcome for your child. I know for certain that the staff of Benedict care for the students deeply and want them to achieve their very best. And so, thank you families for your ongoing support, faith and trust in St Mark's College.

Sadly, it is time to acknowledge and farewell some primary staff members who have other plans for 2023. We farewell Miss Hannah Arbon, Mrs Gayle Dunning, Miss Rebecca Hill and Mr Bret Swensson and thank them immensely for the contribution they have made. We are so fortunate to have had such wonderful people on staff and I know you will join with me in wishing Becky and Hannah all the best for their new teaching roles, Bret who is on leave in 2023 and Gayle on her retirement. They have all been a pleasure to work with and have brightened the Benedict community with their positive natures.

May I also extend the best wishes of the St Mark's community to the students and their families leaving SMC at the end of the year. We wish you well and thank you for your contribution to our community.

It has been an enormous privilege to oversee the education of the students of Benedict Campus. It is a great blessing to be a small part of their educational journey, one I will always cherish.

Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a fulfilling New Year!
Ms Melissa Gadaleta, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus:

Year 12 Graduation

It was an absolute pleasure to celebrate with students and their families at the Year 12 Graduation, the coming to an end of their formal schooling journey. For some families, this evening also marked the end of their formal connection with the College, as their final child graduated. I would like to sincerely thank all parents and caregivers of the 2022 graduates for entrusting St Mark's College with their child's education. It has been a privilege to see them grow and flourish into the fine young men and women they are today.

Orientation

This week we held orientation as the Year 6s ventured to Bosco from Benedict and surrounding schools to familiarise themselves with the campus. These students experienced an action-packed day after having a making connections afternoon the Friday prior at Benedict. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to get to know Mr Caleb Brown, their Year 7 Coordinator and begin to familiarise themselves with his expectations for the coming year. There were also students who will be joining Years 8-11 next year immersing themselves into the life of St Mark's. It was a day filled with opportunities to make new friends and get a taste for some of the subjects they will undertake next year.

Year 10s final week

Our Year 10 students had their final week and the opportunity to experience exams as part of finishing the semester. As is tradition a farewell was prepared, and Mr Ben Goode gave each Core group the opportunity to reflect on their year. We look forward to our Year 10s fully engaging with the SACE curriculum when they commence Year 11.

Farewell

As the term draws to a close, we take the opportunity to give thanks for all the opportunities and experiences that 2022 has offered us. I am most grateful for the work of our dedicated staff who are moving on or entering retirement next year. We will miss their friendly faces, warm smiles and generous spirits. My deep thanks goes to each of our departing Bosco teachers: Mr Graham Ford, Mr Jim Scavarelli, Mr Jack Jordan, Mrs Meriam DeVries, Mr David Antell, Ms Cleo Li and Mr Trystan Perry. They will be remembered for their energy and passion for all things St Mark's.

With Mrs Lisa Manners commencing in the position of Principal's PA, we will welcome Ms Kellee Hall permanently into the Student Services Officer role next year. She will be the first voice you will hear for all student enquiries and messages next year. From Term 2, Kellee will look forward to welcoming all as they enter the newly developed Student Hub. We look forward to sharing more about this space during 2023.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Holy Christmas. My best wishes to students and families who are moving on from Bosco Campus to their next Chapter. I look forward to welcoming most of you back to a new year of community in 2023.

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Benedict Campus



PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE > Students across Benedict were awarded certificates and medals in recognition of their completion of the Premier's Reading Challenge. Pictured are the students who received silver medals for their third year of participation.



ORIENTATION > Our 2023 Receptions visited for their orientation days. Pictured are Larni and Lily



ORIENTATION > Our Year 6s visited Bosco Campus and tried a range of subjects as part of their orientation. Pictured are Ronan, Zac and Sherwin.

Congratulations to our award winners

	Star Salesian	Star Samaritan
6R	Hunter	Sienna
6B	Amarli	Cooper
5R	Jack	Dane
5B	Amahlee Olivia	Lachie
4R	Eddie	Hugo
4B	Pandorah	Emily
3R	Macy	Harvie
3B	Jace	Will
3G	Poppy	Alcuin
2R	Lana	Cecilia
2B	Aubrey	Carter
1R	Evie-Rose	Nate
1B	Campbell	Ainslee
RR	Beau	Lachlan
RB	Adelyn	Beyleigh
RGr	Caleb	Michael
RGo	Macy	Ascha



LITTLE LIONS > Congratulations to our little Lions who graduated and are officially 'ready for school'

Bosco Campus



FOOD TECHNOLOGY > Year 10 students created their own 'Edible Enterprises' creating a range of baked goods and selling them to Bosco staff and students



VISUAL ART > Year 7 students have created two-point perspective drawings of imaginative cities. The above drawing is by Emily.



PRESENTATION NIGHT > Our Bosco Presentation Night awarded the outstanding efforts of our secondary students in academics, sports, agriculture, trades, VET, leadership, creative arts, character and house spirit. Pictured are Year 12 students Thomas, Eliza, Ava and Mabel.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY > Our Year 8s have been baking and decorating colourful Christmas biscuits which will be gifted to our local Meals on Wheels and Fred's Van



SALESIAN CAPTAINS CONFERENCE > School captains from nine Salesian schools across Australia visited St Mark's College and the region, taking the opportunity to connect and build their skills in leadership

Bosco Campus



Bosco Presentation Night

Congratulations to all students who were awarded on the night!

Year 7 Academic Excellence

Kaden, Angus, Emily, Peyton, Eve, Ruby, Lara, Max and Molly

Year 8 Academic Excellence

Leilia, Eden, Bailey, Jack, Lili, Liam, Skye, Isabelle, Charlie, Shyla, Whitney, Ariel, Matilda, Imogen, Charli, Poppy, Olivia, Hilary and Paxton

Year 9 Academic Excellence

Davyn, Mitchell, Alyssa, Alex, Kodi, Cooper, Eva and James

Year 10 Academic Excellence

Ella, Zara, Meg, Zara, Isabella, Kloe, Sophie, Jessica D, Jessica E, Claire, Zara, Joshua and Adam

Stage 1 Academic Excellence

- **Biology:** Kate
- **Outdoor Education:** Harper
- **Stage 1 Agriculture:** Sanja
- **Design and Technology- Furniture Construction:** Brodie
- **Physical Education:** Anna
- **Sport Studies:** Harper
- **Nutrition:** Kate
- **Visual Arts- Art:** Meteha
- **General Mathematics:** Bella
- **Psychology:** Kate
- **Spiritualities, Religion and Meaning:** Sophie
- **Chemistry:** Ethan
- **Specialist Maths:** Makon
- **Food and Hospitality:** Bella
- **Design and Technology- General Engineering:** Callahan
- **Physics:** Anna
- **English:** English
- **Music Experience:** Kate
- **Business Innovation:** Milana
- **Child Studies:** Aslin
- **Mathematical Methods:** Ethan
- **Essential Mathematics:** Grace

Stage 2 Academic Excellence

- **Nutrition:** Ryan
- **Design and Technology - General Engineering:** Adam
- **Design and Technology - Furniture Construction:** Charlie
- **Physical Education:** Eliza
- **General Mathematics:** Mabel
- **Specialist Mathematics:** Ryan
- **Research Project:** Ryan
- **Physics:** Nirav
- **Creative Arts:** Charlotte
- **Business Innovation:** Georgia
- **Essential English:** Georgia
- **English:** Eliza
- **Food and Hospitality:** Bree
- **Child Studies:** Bree
- **Psychology:** Eliza
- **Biology:** Sheridan
- **Mathematical Methods:** Ryan
- **Chemistry:** Nirav
- **Agricultural Production:** Isabelle

Character and Leadership Awards,

- **Bosco:** Liam and Ian
- **Gallagher:** Bailey and Meteha
- **McNally:** Lucas and Sophie
- **Polding:** Jake and Eliza

Sportsperson of the Year,

- **Female:** Leana
- **Male:** Charlie

Art + Design Prize,

Junior Winner: Lucy
Senior Winner: Ayeisha

Agriculture Industry VET Award: Adele

Ag Trades Industry Award: Connor

VET Tertiary Ag Award: Tate

Alsanto VET Student of the Year: Adam

Eyre Trading Award: Brodie

Salesian House Award: Isabelle

Rotary Award for Outstanding Citizenship: Charlotte

Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award,
Year 10: Isabella
Year 12: Mabel

ADF Future Innovators Award, Year 10: Kloe
Year 12: Tom

Elsa Chilvers Scholarship: Ryan

Soroptimist International Award: Isabelle

Uni SA Award for Academic Achievement: Tom

Teachers' Award: Ava

Salesian Service Award: Eliza

Service to College Award: Thomas

Insignis Award (Best All Round Student): Mabel



PRESENTATION NIGHT > Students awarded for VET, Agriculture and Trades included Adele, Connor, Tate and Brodie

College Notices

minimark's

**NEWS
FLASH!**

Next year, Mini Mark's will commence as a weekly playgroup!

Mini Mark's Playgroup with Mrs Micaela Porta will be held on Tuesday mornings between 9.00am - 10.30am in the OSHC Centre at Benedict Campus.

We look forward to welcoming new and current families to this new program. Keep your eye out for more information early next year!

SA Country Basketball - Congratulations!

Congratulations to Zachary (Year 7) and Riley (Year 6) who have been selected for the U14 development team to play for SA Country Basketball in January 2023 at the Lauren Jackson Stadium in Albury NSW. Well done!

Community Notices

PORT PIRIE YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL

Is your child/ren 10 years of age by the 1 January 2023 and interested in theatre?

An Information Night for this years performance of SPONGEBOB the Musical will be held on Wednesday 1 February 2023, 6.00pm (venue to be confirmed).

Follow [Port Pirie Youth Theatre on Facebook](#) for more information.

Port Pirie Christmas Carols

Sunday, 11th Dec 2022

7pm — 9.15pm

@ Memorial Park

*Guest Artists &
Combined Choir*



Carols @ the Cathedral

SUNDAY, 18th Dec 2022
7pm—8.30pm
@ St Mark's Cathedral
*Combined Choir
& Christmas Tableau*

*Soloists:
Isaac Ellis
Matthew Jeffrey*

Free will offering will be collected for the work of Hope Partnership.