

NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 24 February 2023



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COLLEGE**

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Year 9 families gathered at Solomontown Beach to mark the launch of the Rite Journey

Many parts; one body.

From Sunday to Tuesday last week, I had the pleasure of attending a Professional Learning Forum in Jamestown with my principal colleagues in the Diocese of Port Pirie, our Director of Catholic Education in Port Pirie, Mrs Nichii Mardon, and leaders from the Catholic Education Office in Adelaide. Our focus was school improvement within the context of our vision and mission for Catholic Education, and our call to community as a system of schools working together to provide quality education shaped by our Catholic identity and values.

There are 14 Catholic schools in the Diocese of Port Pirie, including primary schools, Reception to Year 9 schools, a secondary school in the Riverland and two R-12 schools, St Joseph's School in Port Lincoln and St Mark's College in Port Pirie. Each school is unique in its location and traditions, but we have much in common. As the song by Marty Haugen goes 'We are many parts. We are all one body. And the gifts we have, we are given to share. May the spirit of love, make us one indeed.'

We talked about living well and learning well, and the importance of good pastoral care as a foundation for learning. When basic needs are met in terms of enjoying authentic, respectful relationships and feeling a sense of belonging, learning can happen. Every student is seen, heard and matters. We were joined in our Forum by Chris Smyth, Director of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Armidale, and his message resonated strongly with me: the best form of pastoral care is good teaching. Students need to be clear about what they are learning, why,

how they will be assessed and where they can seek assistance to continue to improve. A strong learning culture has high expectations and high standards. It uses data to plan for and measure improvement, is collaborative in its work and keeps students at the heart of everything.

At St Mark's College, our professional learning community is focusing this year on using the classroom as what might be called 'The Third Teacher'. Learning Walls provide an additional resource for students. Learning intentions are made explicit, and students understand what they need to do in the next steps in their learning to continue to improve. As a staff, we believe that every child can learn and can achieve to a high standard with the right support. Catholic Education South Australia has engaged Dr Lyn Sharratt as a critical friend to support continuous improvement, and we are enjoying learning about, and implementing some of her strategies for success. Lyn joined our forum via Zoom and reminded us that 'the work of collaboration and school improvement is hard, so we need to do it together'.

The Principals' Forum was energising, inspiring, and affirming in equal measure. We are on the right track! Collaboration for improvement is our core business as a school and in partnership with our students and their families. When this journey and commitment are shared by all of us who are invested in the success of the students here at St Mark's College, teachers, parents and of course and fundamentally the students themselves, then the sky is the limit.

Go well!

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal

Faith and Mission



SHROVE TUESDAY > A basket of promises collected on Shrove Tuesday

Beginning of Lent

This week we begin Lent, a season of preparation in the Catholic Church. Over the next six weeks we have a chance to reset and refocus. To adjust our gaze from ourselves and what we want and need, which is so easy to do, especially in the busyness of a new school year. Now is the time we set our eyes, hearts and hands on those who live on the margin, those who go without or live with hardship... On the environment, where it could be flourishing – but isn't... What can we, as a community, do to make a change?

At times the issues seem too big and daunting to contemplate change, but we need to remember that every small act makes a big difference and can change a person or communities lives forever. In a world of cashless purchases, it can be a challenge to find change to donate to our Project Compassion boxes, now is the time to take up that challenge.

The Project Compassion theme for 2023 is, "For Future Generations". 'Spanning across the six weeks of Lent each year, Project Compassion brings thousands of Australian schools, parishes and supporters together to raise funds

for people living in some of the most vulnerable communities across the world.' Your generous support can help change lives today - and For All Future Generations.

Perhaps you could have a conversation with your family about what you hoped this world would be like for their generation? What might your collective hope be for the next generation, or all future generations?

To mark the beginning of this Lenten season our Year 12 students joined with Parishioners at the Cathedral to celebrate Mass. Ashes were then distributed to staff and students at an R-6 Liturgy at Benedict and House Liturgies at Bosco. The Ashes smudged onto our foreheads remind us to turn away from sin and to listen to the messages of the Gospel. These messages tell us that everybody matters, every broken relationship can be mended, everyone is created for joy and to live life to the fullest and all humanity and creation are to be cared for.

Mrs Annie Olsen, **APRIM**



ASH WEDNESDAY > Mr Mead marks a cross on Parker's forehead



ASH WEDNESDAY > Amity marks a cross with ashes on Ms Symons forehead



SHROVE TUESDAY > Rhys and Noelle enjoying a pancake

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: 27/2 - 3/3		Week 6: 6/3 - 10/3	
Mon	Salesian House Parents Council 7.00pm via TEAMS	Mon	Parents + Friends Association AGM Bosco Conference Room, 7.00pm
Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup Little Lions Classroom, 9.00am - 10.30am	Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup Little Lions Classroom, 9.00am - 10.30am
	Board Meeting Bosco Conference Room, 7.00pm	Tues	R-12 SRC Liturgy and Badge Presentation St Mark's Sports Centre, 9.45am
Wed	Visit from Bishop Karol and Mrs Nichii Mardon 11.00am - 3.30pm	Wed	
Thur		Thur	Reception Reading Night
Fri	Bosco Athletics Day	Fri	Little Lions Session 4
	Little Lions Session 3		

Year 7 Camp

Benedict Campus:

This term is moving at a quick pace. Classrooms are buzzing with committed students and work is starting to appear in rooms. Teachers have been working in their year level teams to provide many different learning opportunities for students. I thank them for their dedication to ensure each student has the opportunity to learn and has started the year well.

Little Lions

Last week we welcomed 30 Little Lions to our school. They were full of excitement and nerves. The Little Lions explored the classroom and ventured out into the playground. They met their Year 5 Buddies who were eagerly excited to play and guide them in some 'work'. The Year 5 Buddies will be a special friend to the Little Lions and help them in their transition to school.

Mini Mark's

This Term we have established a SPiCE (Supported Playgroup in Catholic Education) playgroup on Tuesday mornings. Hosted by Mrs Micaela Porta and Ms Nicky Welch, we have welcomed many new families into our school and we enjoy connecting with parents and children during this time.

Safety of students

Please ensure if you are coming onto the school grounds after 9.00am and before 3.15pm that you close the school gate behind you. We are dedicated to providing a safe place for our students and ensuring school gates are closed during school hours helps keep those who like to explore our school grounds safe. I thank you in anticipation for your assistance with this.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus:

Rite Journey

On Tuesday morning, our Year 9 students were formally sent off on their Rite Journey by parents and teachers. The morning was held at Solomontown Beach and included a ritual with important symbols of rites of passage they will undertake. These experiences are so important to the development of our young people as they look towards adulthood. Thank you to the families who attended for showing your children that this is important work. Thank you also to the Rite Journey team for your work in facilitating the morning. The swans in attendance were a wonderful addition to the morning as well.

Student Leadership

Part of our WRAP program this year involves a revamp of the Student Leadership program. The aim of the change is to strengthen student voice and agency in the College. I was impressed with the application submissions that our Year 7-11 students completed and thankful for all students who volunteered for leadership in 2023. Successful and unsuccessful candidates were notified today.

Student leadership is not confined to a small group of individuals as leadership potential is inherent within all learners. Student leadership includes listening, being able to clarify issues and advocating on behalf of the students they represent. Student leaders have an increased sense of responsibility to help others and to model leadership principles and values. Trust, autonomy and relationships are enhanced through the development of leadership qualities.

Our future is bright with students wanting to be people of service and action. We will formally induct our 2023 student leaders during an R-12 Liturgy in the St Mark's Sports Centre on Tuesday 7 March at 9:45am.

Safety on the way home

We have had some reports of near misses with students watching their phones as they navigate the Kingston Road and Terrace intersection. We will give reminders to students about Road Safety and ask that you as parents and caregivers could as well.

NAPLAN is near

Our Year 7 and 9 students will complete NAPLAN testing shortly with the Government moving the tests to March. On Tuesday 28 February there will be a trial test to make sure we are set to go. I would ask that all students ensure they charge their devices overnight and come to school with some earphones ready to set up for the start of the test during Home Group. Full details are available for parents and caregivers via an Operoo sent last week.

Parent Information Evenings

Our Parent Information nights have now concluded. I extend my gratitude to all those who came and supported the evenings. We recognise that to be successful, our students need support from both home and school. We know that a strong partnership with you will make a difference in your child's education. For those who were not able to come a copy of the information presented is available as an attachment on the Operoo regarding Parent Information Evenings.

Should you have any questions or queries about your child's wellbeing or learning, I encourage you to make contact with your child's Home group teacher in the first instance. I hope that families left feeling informed and excited for the year ahead.

Thank you to the staff for coming along to meet with our families and make connection.

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Benedict Campus



Welcome to our Semester 1 Little Lions



Fletcher



Mayah



Jake



Cooper



Evelyn



Kai



Fallan



Henry



Jack



Leo



Lenny



Ivy



Ava



Dominic



Emilia



Baylee



Toby



Hali



Andie



Darcy



Reagan



Connor



Frazer



Siddharth



Avery



Harper



River



CAMPUS TOURS Starting school in 2024?

Join us for an upcoming Campus Tour
at our primary campus:

Wednesday 15 March, 9.30 - 10.30am

Thursday 23 March, 5.00 - 6.00pm

Register here:

www.stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au/enrolment

Benedict Campus



SCIENCE > 4B have been studying ecosystems in science and have grown their own 'hairy head' plants



MUSIC, DANCE + DRAMA > Lia, Xavier and Jayce trying on drama costumes



ART > Students in 3R have been creating a range of colourful art pieces which are on display in Valdocco



SELF PORTRAITS > 2R have been creating self portraits inspired by artist Frida Kahlo, pictured are Evie-Rose, Flynn and Amahli

Receptions learn fire safety from local MFS



Larni with Firefighter Greg



Lachie in the fire truck



Nellie spraying the fire hose

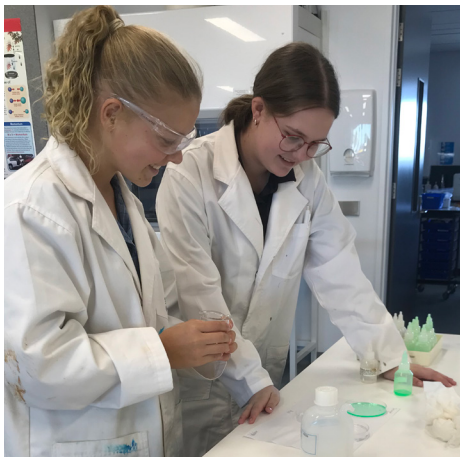
Bosco Campus



AGRICULTURE > Year 12
Ag students were excited to attend evokeAG, the Asia Pacific region's premier agrifood tech event at the Adelaide Convention Centre this week. We would like to thank Belinda Cay and her team at AgCommunicators for arranging this awesome opportunity for our students and AgriFutures Australia evokeAG, for generously allowing students to attend the event at no charge.



RITE JOURNEY > Ariel and her parents share a special moment at the Rite Journey launch



BIOLOGY > Minette and Matilda experimenting with beetroot cells broken down by detergent and acid



TEXTILES > Year 10 students have created these bright and colourful pieces using the technique 16th Century embellishment technique 'Cut and Slash'. These pieces will form part of a folio of techniques as part of their learning in Structural and Applied Design Embellishments.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES > "I am enjoying Digital Technologies because I get to learn how to code in games. It is hard but once you succeed in your code you feel great." - Dash

The Year 9 Digital Technology elective class have been learning Python through Minecraft Education. This involves students designing, creating, and debugging algorithms to solve problems. We have been learning about logic, conditionals, loops, and variables, as well as understanding the syntax of Python.

P+F Association



Can you donate some baked goods for the Bosco Athletics Day?

Donations of baked goods that can be delivered to the Food and Drink Stall from 8.00am on Athletics Day (please include an ingredients list).

Community Notices

CRYSTALBROOK FITNESS CENTRE

5/10KM

FUN RUN/WALK

REGISTRATION VIA EVENTBRITE
ADULT \$30
U16 \$15
U5 FREE

SUNDAY
MARCH 26 2023
9AM START

5KM START @ FITNESS CENTRE
10KM START @ BOWMAN PARK

NO BIKES COFFEE VAN MEDALS FOR FINISHERS

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH FACEBOOK PAGE AND EVENTBRITE

Creative Arts Events at Flinders Uni

- Oskar Eustis, NYC Artistic Director:
Friday 3 March 2023, 2.30pm
Adelaide Festival Centre Banquet Room
- Blood Wedding: Honours Year Drama Production
1-3 March 2023, 7.30-9.00pm
Matthew Flinders Theatre

BABY BOUNCE

For newborns to 5 year olds with their parents or carers
Nursery rhymes, singing and sometimes a story

Every Thursday*
10:00am - 11:00am

*Closed for school and public holidays

PORT PIRIE REGIONAL
LIBRARY



PORT PIRIE REGIONAL
LIBRARY

Legos Club

Ages 5-12
Every Thursday
Term 1, 2023
3:30 - 4:30pm

Bookings Essential
Ph: 8632 1649

Hand Hygiene and Physical Distancing applies

YOUTH EVENTS

PIRIE LIBRARY AGES 11-17 PH 8632 1649
TERM 1, 2023 TUESDAYS 3:45-4:45PM

Week 1, 31st January Tuesday Hangouts 3D puzzles, PlayStation 3, board and card games	\$2	Week 2, 7th February Will it float? Build things from paper or popsticks and test if they float
Week 3, 14th February Tuesday Hangouts 3D puzzles, PlayStation 3, board and card games	\$2	Week 4, 21st February Craft Build or make something with the craft items supplied
Week 5, 28th February Tuesday Hangouts 3D puzzles, PlayStation 3, board and card games	\$2	Week 6, 7th March IT Surprise!
Week 7, 14th March Tuesday Hangouts 3D puzzles, PlayStation 3, board and card games	\$2	Week 8, 21st March Fairy Bread Balls Sprinkles, bread, condensed milk and chocolate
Week 9, 28th March Tuesday Hangouts 3D puzzles, PlayStation 3, board and card games	\$2	Week 10, 4th April Easter Egg Challenge Build something to stop your Easter egg breaking when dropped
Week 11, 11th April Tuesday Hangouts 3D puzzles, PlayStation 3, board and card games		

\$2 FEE CONTRIBUTES TO THE COST OF MATERIALS USED IN THE ACTIVITIES
HAND HYGIENE PHYSICAL DISTANCING APPLIES

Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = Fruit Box)	
Week 5				
Mon	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Drink	\$6.00 \$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pitta Bread Pizza + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Fri			3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00
Week 6				
Mon	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Tues	Pizza Triangles	\$2.00	Small Chicken Wrap + Fruit Box	\$3.00 \$5.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Steak and Onion Sandwiches + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Thurs	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Honey Chicken and Fried Rice + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00	Spicy Beef Burger + Drink	\$6.20 \$8.00

BOSCO CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = 375ml Zero Can)	
Week 5				
Mon	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Drink	\$6.00 \$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pitta Bread Pizza + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Fri	Bosco Sports Day- see menu on following page			
Week 6				
Mon	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Tues	Pizza Triangles	\$2.00	Chicken Wrap + Fruit Box	\$6.00 \$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Steak and Onion Sandwiches + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Thurs	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Honey Chicken and Fried Rice + Drink	\$6.00 \$8.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00	Spicy Beef Burger + Drink	\$6.20 \$8.00

Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752



Bosco Athletics Day Menu

Ordering through Flexi-Schools will still be available.

FOOD:

An assortment of sandwiches, rolls, wraps and salads will be available on the day.

- Sandwiches \$4.50
- Rolls \$6.00
- Wraps \$6.00
- Salads \$6.00
- Fruit Salad \$4.00 (small) and \$5.00 (large)

DRINKS:

- 600ml Flavoured Milk \$4.80
- 300ml Flavoured \$3.80
- 250ml Fruit Juice \$2.40
- 500ml Fruit Juice \$4.00
- 600ml Water \$2.80
- 375 ml Nippy's Milk \$3.80
- 375ml Zero \$2.00
- 500ml Ice Tea \$4.60

ICE-CREAMS:

- Zooper Dooper \$1.00
- Icy Twist \$2.00
- Cyclone \$2.80
- Paddle Pop \$2.50
- Ice-Cream Cup \$2.00
- Calippo \$1.50

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