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www.smc.catholic.edu.au



Our Gallagher Year 12s with the winners shield on Sports Day

We all have a light within us.

These newsletters come around quickly, and I hope you find them a valuable resource that provides insight into what is happening at St Mark's College. There is always plenty going on and much to celebrate.

Visit by our Bishop and Director of Catholic Education

Last week, we had the pleasure of a visit from Bishop Karol Kulczyscki and Mrs Nichii Mardon, Director of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Port Pirie.

Our primary students welcomed our visitors in style, and the welcome in Polish was well received by Bishop Karol. During a welcoming assembly, Bishop Karol shared artifacts with the students, including his mitre and crozier, and explained what a Bishop does. The Q & A session could have lasted all morning, such was the interest of students in Bishop Karol's work and travels.

Principals Gatherings

Sometimes the work of being a school leader takes me out of school. Much as I miss being at school, the two opportunities recently, the Leaders Forum for all Principals and leaders in Catholic Education in Adelaide, and last week the Salesian Principals Immersion in Melbourne, provided opportunities to see and hear about practices in other schools. It is always important to examine what is happening within our College, but this is assisted greatly by looking out and learning from others. At the Leaders Forum, our system work on Catholic Identity was the focus, and our responsibility not just to be a Catholic school, but to be an excellent Catholic school. As a school in the traditions of the Good Samaritan Sisters and the Salesians, the immersion experience in

Melbourne was an opportunity to see how the charism of St John Bosco is woven through our work with students to support their learning and wellbeing. As a cricket fan, I confess that a highlight for me was visiting Rupertswood, Salesian College in Sunbury, home of the first ashes match and the place where the bails were burned!

Sports Day

Keeping the sporting theme, I extend my congratulations to Gallagher on being the overall winners of Bosco Athletics Day last Friday. There was excellent sportsmanship and participation. Not being sporty myself, I have nothing but admiration for students who have a go and challenge themselves. I cannot imagine running the 1500m circuit myself, but a few teachers did run alongside students offering encouragement and support. Thank you to all parents and friends who donated baked goods and came along to assist with the BBQ and provide refreshments throughout the day.

Commissioning of Student Leaders

Finally this week, I commend all the students who have risen above what I call 'tall poppy syndrome' to be commissioned as student leaders. Jesus is our best role model for teacher and leader. He was gentle, compassionate, and inclusive, but he challenged injustice and acted courageously to stand up for what was right. We all have a light within us and are meant to shine as children of God. As Marianne Williamson wrote, 'playing small does not serve the world'. Be strong, be courageous and never give up.

Dr Sandra Hewson, **Principal**

Faith and Mission





Macy assists Bishop Karol to piece together his crosier

Bishop Karol and Nichii visit – a polish welcome to our school community

In week 5 we were blessed to have our Bishop Karol and Director of Catholic Education in our Diocese Mrs Nichii Marden visit our school and spend time with our students asking them about our learning. Amelia in Year 5 welcomed Bishop Karol in Polish, "Dzień dobry Biskupie Karolu. Witamy w naszej szkole. Niech Bóg Cię błogosławi" and our Benedict Leaders lead the Reception to Year 6 students in a community Pledge.

Dear God,

At St Mark's College,
We are called to be a community.
We are all part of God's family,
And God loves us completely.
We will use our hearts and minds to
share your love through
compassion, kindness, humility,
gentleness, patience, and forgiveness.
We will use our hearts and hands to do
more for others.

At St Mark's College we will be a community where everyone belongs and is loved.

May we always try to be a strong

community both with each other and with nature

Help us to be thankful, and to celebrate our strengths with each other.
Guide us to follow Jesus in the call to community.
Amen

International Women's Day

Wednesday was International Women's Day and students at Bosco were invited into the Chapel at recess to light a candle for the Women in their lives, our community and across the world. It was humbling to see our students taking up this opportunity and the reverence and righteousness they demonstrated in these moments showed the hope they have for an equitable future for all.

Caritas Q and A with Tereesa

On Thursday students at Bosco had the opportunity to engage in a Q+A with Caritas Australia about the Project Compassion stories we have been viewing as part of our prayer each day. The Q&A was focussed on Tereesa's story, a young Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with

homelessness while raising her four children. Through the help of Project Compassion Tereesa was able to access support in the form of Baabayn Young Mums and Bubs group where she was able to access housing, learning through TAFE and connection to her culture.

We learned in this session that 88 cents from ever dollar we donate through our Project Compassion boxes at school goes straight to projects like Baabayn. Talking about this connection is a vital step in our Social Justice learning.

More information about Tereesa's story can be found here:

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion/tereesa-story-video/

Mrs Annie Olsen, APRIM



WOMEN'S DAY > Sky lighting a candle on International Women's Day

THE WITNESS:

Click here for the latest edition.

SOUTHERN CROSS:

Click here for the latest edition.



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 7: 13/3 - 17/3 | | | | Week 8: 20/3 - 24/3 | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|--------|------------------------|---|--------|
| Mon | Student Free Day Adelaide Cup Public Holiday | | | Mon | | |
| _ | Mini Mark's Playgroup Little Lions Classroom, 9.00am - 10.30am | | | Tues | Mini Mark's Playgroup Little Lions Classroom, 9.00am - 10.30am | |
| Tues | Sacramental Information Meeting St Mark's Cathedral, 7.00pm | | | | Harmony Day Celebrations | |
| Wed | Principal's Tour - Benedict Campus 9.30am | | NAPLAN | Wed | Year 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews | NAPLAN |
| | Finance, Buildings and Grounds Meeting Bosco Conference Room, 5.30pm | Ag Crutching Course | | | Bosco Centre, 3.40 - 8.00pm | |
| Thur | | | | Thur | Principal's Tour - Benedict Campus 5.00pm | |
| Fri | Little Lions Session 4 | | Fri | Little Lions Session 6 | | |

NAPLAN

Families are reminded that if they wish to withdraw their child from NAPLAN Testing, a copy of the Withdrawal Form can be accessed via Operoo or by contacting the relevant campus.





IMMERSION > Mr Niall Ashby, Dr Sandra Hewson and Mr Matt Munday at Salesian College, Sunbury as part of the Salesian Immersion



MUSICAL > Rehearsals are underway for 'School of Rock'



Benedict Campus:

Zones of Regulation

As a school we have been actively introducing the Zones of Regulation with students across the campus.

The Zones of Regulation teaches students to identify their emotions and build skills towards managing them. These are core to being able to self-regulate their own emotions.

Students are taught strategies for regulation, prosocial skills, self-care and overall wellness. This curriculum is designed to provide children with a toolbox of strategies for mindfulness, sensory integration, movement, thinking strategies, wellness and healthy connections with others.

The Zones of Regulation creates a common language amongst all our members in our community, while providing a compassionate framework to support positive mental health and skill development for all.

This framework teaches students to recognise how they feel and their various states of alertness into four zones. These zones are the Red Zone, Yellow Zone, Green Zone and Blue Zone.



The Red Zone is used to describe extremely heightened states of alertness and intense emotions. This state is associated with feeling angry, rage, terror or devastation.

The Yellow Zone is used to describe a heightened state of awareness and elevated emotions, however the student has more control over their actions in this zone. This state is associated with feeling stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, the wiggles or nervousness.

The Green Zone is used to describe a calm state of alertness. This is where we would like our students to sit most of the time. This state is associated with feeling happy, focused, content, and ready to learn.

The Blue Zone is used to describe low states of alertness and down feelings such as feeling sad, tired, sick or bored.

By recognising which zone students are in and their level of alertness, students are then able to develop strategies to help them move more into the Green Zone. Students also know what they can do when they feel like they are in the Red, Yellow or Blue Zone.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus



Bosco Campus:

Gallagher wins

We held our Bosco Athletics Day last Friday in what were perfect conditions. It was wonderful to see House spirit come alive with our Year 12 students leading the way in encouraging all team members. Gallagher were just that bit too strong for Polding and took out the Frank Lauritsen Shield. I would like to thank our Sports Coordinator Kris Sjostrom for his leadership in organising this important community event. He was ably supported by the entire Campus staff group. I also extend my gratitude to the parent volunteers, who came along in support of the day. We congratulate our Age Champions and Record Breakers who are listed in this newsletter.

Assessment Time

It is getting to the time of term where Assessment tasks are due. It has been pleasing to see the vast majority of students being proactive with getting work submitted on time and also seeking assistance when unavoidable circumstances arise preventing work being completed. I am grateful for the work of teachers, parents and students in adhering to the deadline policy out of equity for all. Supporting students with this responsibility builds organisation, resilience and agency over their learning. I have included the expectation of all students here for your reference.

Students will:

- Ensure that they are aware of task requirements and due dates.
- Be proactive in planning their work, seeking support, assistance and/or guidance throughout the assessment task as needed.
- Catch up on learning missed due to unavoidable absence by communicating with the subject teacher and using learning resources that have been provided and uploaded to SEQTA.
- Make the best use of learning time and resources during lessons.
- Request, when necessary, an extension at least ONE day prior to the deadline. This will only be considered for genuine reasons such as illness, an unforeseen incident beyond the student's control or exceptional family circumstances, that affects their ability to submit an assessment task.
- A request for extension due to extenuating circumstances must be made in writing to the teacher and been signed by the student's parent/caregiver.
- In exceptional circumstances, teachers may use their discretion to grant an extension without a note, but the request must be documented, and parents notified.

Year 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews

On Wednesday 22 March, Year 11 and 12 parents are invited to attend Parent Teacher Interviews. This will be an important opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers and see how they are progressing with their learning. The interviews will be held in the Bosco Centre from 3:40pm to 8:00pm. It is an expectation that students attend with their parent/caregiver. Interview times will be made online through Parent Teacher Online (PTO). An individual letter outlining your log in and password details as well as how to make bookings will be emailed to parents in the next week.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day was this Wednesday 8 March. It is an opportunity for us to acknowledge and celebrate all the wonderful women in our school community. Our College has so much to be grateful for in recognising the hard work, dedication and unwavering commitment of women. I was pleasantly surprised (along with all female staff) with a visit and a gift of recognition from our Year 9 Girls. Thank you for taking them time to affirm the role models around you.

Today, along with four of our senior student leaders, I shared in the Soroptimists International Women's Day lunch where we had the opportunity to hear from speaker Sue Scarman, Mayor of Northern Areas Council.

Year 7 Camp

As I write this article our Year 7 students are off on Camp. A great opportunity for team building and relationship building. I look forward to hearing all their recounts in the yard back at school next week.



College:

Parents and Friends Association

This week we held the Parents and Friends AGM. Sadly, there were very few people in attendance and the group has been dwindling for some time. We were unable to elect officers to take on key roles like President or Treasurer. Kate McBride has done an amazing job with a small group of committed parents over recent years, but Kate has now stepped back as P+F President due to other commitments. Thank you Kate for all you have contributed to St Mark's College.

Over the years, the P+F have contributed significantly to the College, running events and raising funds to respond to requests and initiatives across the College, including most recently funding an Honour Board for our College musicals and new shades for Sports Day. The number of parent helpers at Bosco Sports Day suggests that people are willing to help out but perhaps there is less interest in attending regular meetings and being on a committee. Going forward, the P+F is not able to continue in its current form. Soon, we will send out a brief survey asking about interest in contributing to one off events according to availability and expertise. In that way we may be able to keep parent involvement alive without a regular commitment. Please consider how you might like to be involved. It would be a shame to let the valued contribution of parents and friends lapse, and we love having parents involved whenever possible.



Creative Arts Captain Ayeisha with Musical Director Ebony Bennier near the Musical Honour Board which was funded by the P+F

Dr Sandra Hewson, **Principal**

College Board Nominations

Our College Board is an advisory body supporting the Principal in the effective governance of St Mark's on behalf of the Bishop of the Diocese of Port Pirie.

Members of the Board have a delegated responsibility from the Bishop for the overall well-being of St Mark's College. The Board ensures we operate within the policies and guidelines of the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools, promotes educational excellence, exercises financial stewardship, ensures compliance with legal obligations and fosters harmonious and positive collaboration within the school community.

Three Board members are concluding their service to the Board at the AGM in May and I sincerely thank Moira Coffey, Martin Hayes and Natalie Ferme for their support and contribution to the Board. This means we are seeking nominations from members of College community to join the Board. Potential members of the College Board should:

- Possess an enthusiasm for and willingness to promote the mission of Catholic schools;
- Bring to the Board their gifts and skills
- Desire to give service to their school community;
- Have an ability to work cooperatively and constructively with all Members of the Board;
- Be prepared to undertake formation;
- Uphold confidentiality in Board matters and not pursue individual agendas;
- Have sufficient time for Board duties;
- Have a current police check clearance.

I welcome a conversation with you if you are interested, and encourage you to nominate for the College Board.

Nominations, stating your name, experience and why you would like to join the Board, should be submitted to Lisa Manners, lmanners@smc.catholic.edu.au Board Secretary, by Friday 7 April.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Dr Sandra Hewson, **Principal**

Benedict Campus





VISIT > Mrs Nichii Mardon,
Director of Catholic
Education in the Diocese of
Port Pirie and Bishop Karol
Kulczyscki visited Benedict
Campus. They are pictured
with our School Captains
and Vice-Captains Hannah,
Harry, Elliza and Jack along
with Principal Dr Sandra
Hewson and Deputy Principal
Mrs Sarah Freer.



LITTLE LIONS > Evelyn enjoying a story with her Buddies Lexie and Emily at a visit to the library



THANK YOU > Thanks to Steve and the Port Pirie Golf Club for the donation of new golf equipment to use at both campuses



 $\label{eq:music_power} MUSIC, DANCE + DRAMA > Reception students have enjoyed acting out parts from "Where is the Green Sheep" by Mem Fox$



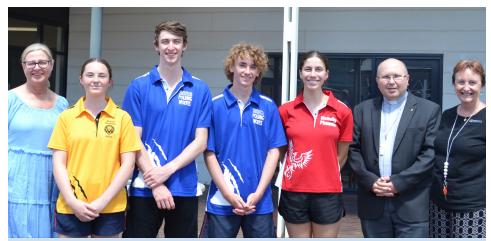
CLEAN UP > Classes discussed the importance of looking after our environment and wrote their own pledges. Pictured are Sarah and Saesha with the 5 Red pledge.



CLEAN UP > Our Year 1s were excited to help clean up as part of Clean Up Australia Day, pictured are Emersyn, Jensen, Isabel, Spencer and Caleb

Bosco Campus





VISIT > Mrs Nichii Mardon, Director of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Port Pirie and Bishop Karol Kulczyscki visited Bosco Campus. They are pictured with our College Captains and Vice-Captains Amity, Connor, Tom and Sophie and Principal Dr Sandra Hewson.



CHILD STUDIES > Year 12 Child Studies students prepared a learning activity to engage Year 1 students, pictured are Grace, Elsie and Olga



RITE JOURNEY > Year 9 students made gifts for female staff in recognition of International Women's Day, pictured are Danniella, Leila and Skye



AGRICULTURE > Year 9 students picked grapes as part of the harvest process at McNally Farm. Across all year levels Agriculture students have picked, weighed, de-stemmed and crushed grapes ready to start fermentation.



TEXTILES > Year 10 students love "loved" practicing the newly learnt skill of appliqué, pictured are Eliza, Ashley, Chloe and Alyssa



PE > Thank you to Tech Teacher Mr Mark Murphy who made some Korfball goals for the PE faculty

Bosco Athletics Day





RELAY > Eliza, Ava, Codi and Keeley take their mark in the $4 \times 100 \text{m}$



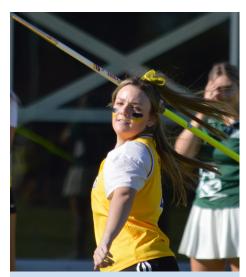
TRACK > Cooper, Curtis and Angas race around the track



SHOTPUT > Kobi ready to throw the shotput



 $\label{eq:WINNERS} \textbf{WINNERS} > \textbf{Lily, Kaden and Eden with their} \\ \textbf{ribbons}$



JAVELIN > Sophie throws the javelin



HIGH JUMP > Trey makes the leap

FRANK LAURITSEN MEMORIAL SHIELD (OVERALL WINNER):

| 1st | Gallagher | 2264 |
|-----|-----------|------|
| 2nd | Polding | 1981 |
| 3rd | McNally | 1814 |
| 4th | Bosco | 1707 |

RECORDS BROKEN:

| Tahlia | Triple Jump | 8.11m |
|--------|------------------------|--|
| Class | | 1404 |
| Stoan | 100111 | 14.84 |
| Leana | 1500m | 5.47.00 |
| Beau | Triple | 12.65m |
| | Jump | |
| Beau | 800m | 2.13.86 |
| | Sloan Leana Beau | Jump Sloan 100m Leana 1500m Beau Triple Jump |

AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS

| U13 | Ashton and Sloan |
|------|--------------------|
| U14 | Lily and Archie |
| U15 | Beau and Davyn |
| U16 | Charlie and Keeley |
| Open | Morrie and Claire |



LONG JUMP > Harry competes in the long jump

COMMUNITY NEWS

College Notices

College Scholarships

St Mark's College annually offers a range of scholarships for new and current students. This includes scholarships for boarding, indigenous, academic, VET and agriculture.

For information and to download an Application Pack, visit: www.smc.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/scholarships



Playgroup Reminder

Mini Mark's Playgroup is back this week, we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, 9.00am after the long weekend!



CAMPUS TOURS

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

Employment Opportunities- Do you know someone who might be interested? St Mark's College are currently advertising for:

• Boarding House Supervisor Hours Negotiable - Permanent, Part-Time

Boarding House Supervisors Multiple positions available - Casual, Part-Time

Boarding House Supervisors work with our Director of Boarding and contribute to the active supervision and mentoring of students on a rostered basis. Supervisors work predominantly in the evenings, sleeping at the Boarding House and seeing the students off to school in the morning.

For information and details about the advertised positions, visit: www.smc.catholic.edu.au/about/employment

Community Notices

Joining the Catholic Church

If you are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church and maybe even becoming a member of the St Mark's Parish in Port Pirie, you might like to participate in some sessions that lead towards the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). For more information please contact Michael Preece: 0428 881 423

michael.preece@pp.catholic.org.au

Music Tuition

Wendy Palmer has lesson times available for piano, guitar and vocal tuition.

For information, please contact Wendy: 0439164899.

Hook in 2 Hockey

Join Hook in 2 Hockey, an 8 week program for 5-10 year olds, where children can develop their skills and knowledge of the sport.

Register online registration at the below link:

www.revolutionise.com.au/portpiriehc/events/173840/

For more information contact:

Darren Coe - 0430 731 992

Lisa-Marie Williams - 0438 029 250



Weekly Specials

| BENEDICT CAMPUS | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| | Recess: | | Lunch: (Drink = Fruit Box) | | |
| Week 7 Mon | Public Holiday | | | | |
| Tues | Small Sausage Roll | \$2.00 | Squash Dog + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 | |
| Wed | 00K 00K | \$2.50 | Pitta Bread Pizza + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 | |
| Thurs | Pizza Muffin | \$2.00 | Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink | \$5.50 \$7.00 | |
| Fri | 3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink | \$3.00 \$5.00 | Lasagne + Drink | \$6.00 \$8.00 | |
| Week 8 Mon | Pizza Muffins | \$2.00 | Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink | \$5.50 \$7.00 | |
| Tues | Small Sausage Roll | \$2.00 | Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Drink | \$6.00 \$8.00 | |
| Wed | 00K 00K | \$2.50 | Chicken Tender Wrap + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 | |
| Thurs | Pizza Muffin | \$2.00 | Hot Dog + Drink | \$4.80 \$6.50 | |
| 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 7 Mon | Public Holiday | | | | | |
| Tues | Small Sausage Roll | \$2.00 | Squash Dog + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 | | |
| Wed | 00K 00K | \$2.50 | Pitta Bread Pizza + Drink | \$5.00 \$7.00 | | |
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 $\textbf{Online Canteen Orders:}\ \underline{www.flexischools.com.au}$

Flexischools: 1300 361 769 **Metro Canteens:** 0447 978 752

