

NEWSLETTER

Issue 13 1 September 2023



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



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SALESIAN HOUSE

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Our boarding home, Salesian House, will be redeveloped with a view to open in 2025

This week I write with the exciting news that plans for a new Boarding House have been approved by SACCS (South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools). St Mark's College has a long tradition of boarding since Sacred Heart Home in Crystal Brook began as a co-educational boarding complex for secondary students attending the College. Boarding was established in Victory House in 1986, initially providing five-day boarding, with another facility, De Compo House, opened in 1992 to meet demand for seven-day boarding, quickly followed by the establishment of Trinity House in 1993. In 2007, after twenty years at Crystal Brook, the boarding facility moved to Salesian House on the St Mark's College site.

There are two Catholic boarding facilities in the Diocese of Port Pirie – St Mark's College and St Joseph's School in Port Lincoln, and I have had the privilege of being Principal in both schools. Boarding in the diocese enables country students to access a quality Catholic education without travelling long distances to Adelaide. With our five-day boarding, students gain the benefit of extensive curriculum choices, including VET and agricultural courses, whilst being close enough to home to stay connected with family and community at weekends. Our boarding students are an important part of our community, and we are committed to ensuring the continuation of boarding at St Mark's and the provision of the best facilities. Consequently, we have been working with architects Russell and Yelland on the design for a new facility and work should begin at the end of this year, with a view to opening in 2025. Students will benefit from individual air-conditioned study bedrooms with ensuite facilities, arranged in pods around a central courtyard for recreation. This week I shared the designs with students, who were very impressed by the plans! To be built adjacent to the current facility, our boarders will not be disrupted during the building process, and it will be exciting for them and us to watch the new facility take shape when building starts.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal



Faith and Mission



House leaders at Benedict following the Liturgy for St John Bosco

Celebrating St John Bosco

This week our school had the huge honour to host the relic of St John Bosco at our school! This occasion was cause for celebrations and celebrate we did! At Benedict there were acrobats, a huge picnic lunch and games on the oval. At Bosco we held a reverent prayer service, led by some of our Year 9 students. During the Liturgy at Bosco, we had the opportunity to process past the relic. At both celebrations we all left our mark on a collaborative art work.

The wax replica of the Saint, that holds the relic, is displayed in a glass casket and comes from the Province of Hong Kong. It was made by Gianpiero Zoncu at the time of Don Bosco's beatification in 1929.

A prayer service was held at the Cathedral on Tuesday afternoon for families and parishioners to visit the relic; this was organised by Isaac Ellis. And our Year 12 students joined with the parish and celebrated mass at the Cathedral with the relic on Wednesday morning.

We thank Brother Stan Rossato for bringing the relic to us on its tour around the country and we wish him well for the remainder of his journey.

Year 10 Retreat

On Thursday our Year 10 students spent the day in Crystal Brook for their annual retreat. The theme of this year's retreat was the many paths in life. Students engaged in many activities and discussions about this theme before walking different paths to the Holy Trinity Church on the other side of town. This exercise helped students to consider what path they are walking and where they are hoping to go in the future.

Mrs Annie Olsen, **APRIM**



Bosco student, Kailee, making her mark



Benedict student, Jacob, making his mark



Working together at Year 10 Retreat

SOUTHERN CROSS:

Click [here for the latest edition](#).

THE WITNESS:

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 7: 4/9 - 8/9			Week 8: 11/9 - 15/9	
Mon	Little Lions Session 6		Mon	Little Lions Session 7
Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup 9.00am - 10.30am	Royal Adelaide Show - Ag Goats and Sheep	Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup 9.00am - 10.30am
Wed			Tues	Sports Council Benedict Library, 7.30pm
Thur	Little Lions Session 7		Wed	Y7-11 Parent Teacher Interviews St Mark's Sports Centre, 3.40pm - 6.30pm
Fri	Little Lions Session 7		Thur	
			Fri	Optional Summer or Winter Uniform* View the Uniform Guidelines: https://www.smc.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/uniform

Benedict Campus:

SRC's

Last week we congratulated our Semester 1 SRCs. They have been expertly guided by Mr Matt Mead, Mrs Jo Wilsdon, and Miss Vyanah Lethbridge. I thank them for their support in establishing the recycling drive, Harmony Day activities, bracelets for the Indigenous Literacy Initiative and many more.

We also welcomed our Semester 2 SRCs into the College community by presenting them with their badge. We look forward to their leadership during the second half of the year.

Class Placement

Towards the end of this term and into next term, staff will begin the extremely considered process of class placement for 2024. If you have a request based on educational outcomes, please collect a form from the Benedict Campus office to complete. Please note: requests for specific teachers will not be considered.

Please ensure your form is returned by Friday, Week 10, Term 3. After this date, no further request can be placed.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Bosco Campus:

Subject Counselling

I would like to thank the students, parents and carers who attended the subject counselling sessions last week. Subject selection in the senior years offers a range of options and decisions as students begin to take important steps towards their future pathway. Our staff take pride in the care and effort taken to educate your child about this process and acknowledge and value the important role you as parents play in subject selection. The interviews were very well attended and we hope that you found the process both informative and valuable.

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus: *continued*

A Time to Focus

As the end of the Year 12 academic year approaches the pressure of final assessments and preparing for examinations intensifies. It is a busy time of term where good time management skills and a high level of organisation and planning is essential. For the next 2 months, Year 12s should consider placing a larger focus on their studies by reducing external commitments. Further to this, it is vital that they are present in all classes. At times, they may want to stay at home to 'catch up' on work but it is important that parents know that doing this often places the individual further behind.

At this time of the term, it is important for students and families to recognise that deadlines are critical. As the academic year draws to a close, the possibilities for extensions are reduced as teachers must mark and submit results to the SACE Board by set dates. Therefore, students must carefully plan their final weeks and talk with their teachers immediately if they feel overwhelmed or they are not keeping up. I would like to thank Mr John Gibson who is carefully monitoring student progress and communicating regularly with students and parents

There is no doubt that the final year of secondary schooling can, at times, be challenging. Please do not hesitate to make contact with Mr John Gibson or myself should you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or learning. I also take this opportunity to remind Year 12 students and their families that Trial Examinations will take place in Week 1 of Term 4. The Exam timetable, along with expectations and protocols will be distributed to students in the coming weeks.

Summer Uniform

On Monday of Week 9 we enter the phase of transition from winter to summer uniform. For the remainder of the term students will have the option to wear either uniform. Come Term 4, all students will be expected to be in summer uniform, including the school hat which must be worn by students when outside. Over this term we have had a number of students choosing to wear their PE uniform outside of PE days. Thank you to the parents who have supported our uniform policy and come to supply their child with the correct uniform.

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

College:

School fees for 2024

We are pleased to inform our school families that there will be no increase in school fees for the 2024 school year.

"We recognise that cost-of-living increases are putting significant pressure on families," says Dr Neil McGoran, Executive Director, Catholic Education SA. "Growth in enrolments across the State in our 101 Catholic Schools, together with prudent financial management, puts us in a position where we are able to hold tuition fees at this year's level."

Dr McGoran said the fee-freeze will not impact the quality of education.

"We're committed to keeping school fees as low as possible and ensuring a Catholic education is affordable and accessible to all."

Since 2019, Catholic Education SA has been implementing the Making Catholic Education More Affordable Initiative to ensure Catholic schools are accessible to any family who wants their child to have a Catholic education.

In addition to the fee-freeze, further fee remissions are available to any family who is struggling to pay school fees due to financial difficulties. Families should contact College Administration on 86338800 for more information.

Benedict Campus



BOOK WEEK > We launched Book Week with our annual parade!



LITTLE LIONS > Our Little Lions tried a range of instruments in Music, Dance and Drama



SUMMER CARNIVAL > Lily and Harry were awarded Tennis Sportsmanship Certificates at the recent Summer Carnival



BUDDY BENCH > Our Year 2s were excited to see the new Buddy Bench that Year 12 students Nick and Tom created for the primary campus

Congratulations to our Semester 2 SRC's:

6R	Olivia and Caleb
6B	Macy and James
5G	Madison and Trace
5R	Saasha and Max
5B	Lia and Jayce
4G	Ruby and Fletcher
4R	Amy and James
4B	Isabelle and Bailey
3R	Charleigh and Lincoln
3B	Maya and Nash
2R	Isla and Campbell
2B	Ollie and Cheston
1G	Charlie and Noah
1R	Aria and Campbell
1B	Charlee and Jude
RY	Baylee and Connor
RW	Ava and Jake
RG	Jaymes and Bruno
RR	Isla and Jay
RB	Lily and Izak

Thank you to our Semester 1 SRC's:

6R	Lauren and Curtis
6B	Zara and Archer
5G	Tatum and Hayden
5R	Sarah and Hugo
5B	Lexie and Xzavier
4G	Marlo and Harvie
4R	Millie and Kingston
4B	Indiana and Jett
3R	Aria and Paxton
3B	Finlay and Luke
2R	Eden and Alfie
2B	Emerson and Levi
1G	Stella and Kaison
1R	Nazalia and Lachlan
1B	Liana and Jensen
RG	Lara and Parker
RR	Raya and Isaac
RB	Charlie and Tarkin

Bosco Campus



HASS > Last week, our secondary students participated in a Parliamentary experience, learning about the levels of government, electorates, and elections and how they can contribute to our democracy



MENTORING > Over three lessons our Year 10 students have mentored our Year 7s, preparing various scenarios where students learnt strategies on how to manage conflict effectively



YEAR 8 > Orienteering, bushwalking, cultural experiences, and team-building games were all part of the fun of Year 8 Camp at Pichi Richi Park last week



STEM > Year 9s have been learning 3D modelling and are designing cases for handheld games consoles. The first part of this process was learning to solder!



PE > Year 8s have been learning the skill of lawn bowling



PHOTOGRAPHY > Our Stage 1 Photography class braved the cold to explore the photographic technique of "Painting with Light", producing some spectacular results. A big thank you to Lindall White for generously volunteering her time, knowledge and expertise!



AGRICULTURE > Our Agriculture Immersion students were excellent ambassadors for our recent McNally Farm Open Days. Over the two days they guided over 200 visitors around the farm, sharing their knowledge and introducing them to our farm animals.

College Sport



U13s win the football premiership



The Port Pirie Junior Football Season came to a conclusion for all players last Sunday. Congratulations to all players who showed great improvement throughout the season.

It was a fitting finish for our U13 team's fine season taking out the premiership, final scores:

St Mark's 9 4 58 Lions 4 2 26

Congratulations to Connor who was awarded the Brian 'Pokey' Hector Award for player of the match.

A huge thank you to our dedicated coaches and families who supported our

teams and go players on the park each week. A very special thank you to Matt Ganley who was our league delegate throughout the season.

Congratulations to our St Mark's players who were recognised for their efforts this season:

- U11s Team of the Year: Xzavier, Braxton, Jayce, Darby, Gilbert, Hudson, Jack and Archie
- U11s Best and Fairest: Braxton
- U11s Best Utility: Jayce
- U11s Best Team Man: Xzavier
- U11s Most Improved: Madison

- U11s Most Dynamic: Gilbert
- U11s Most Consistent: Hudson
- U13s Combined Team for Port Pirie:
 - Best and Fairest- Ashton
 - Leading Goal Kicker- Connor
- U13s Team of the Year: Ashton, Bailey, Connor, Cody and Ryleigh
- U13s Best and Fairest: Ashton
- U13s R/U Best and Fairest: Riley
- U13s Best Team Man: Connor
- U13s Most Improved: Jack
- U13s Coaches Trophy: Bailey
- U13s Best Club Man: Ronan
- Finishing Players awarded Life Members: Bailey, Ashton, Cody, Connor and Ryleigh



Our newest Life Members Ryleigh, Cody, Ashton, Connor and Bailey

Soccer heads into finals!

Soccer is heading into finals after completion of the minor round. Congratulations to all of our teams who have had a great season- in particular, our Minor Round Premiers:

- Primary: St Mark's Wolves
- Junior High: St Mark's Falcons
- Senior High: St Mark's

We would like to wish all those representing Port Pirie in the South Australian Junior Soccer Association State Championships this weekend all the very best!



Our U7s showing their commitment to the game, playing in the rain



Braxton and Jack compete for the ball

Good luck!

Good luck to our St Mark's teams competing in grand finals this weekend:

Netball: U11s Div 1

SM Celtic Red V SM Celtic Blue, 11.15am

U11s Div 2

SM Celtic Red V Blue Wrens, 11.15am

U13s SM Celtic V Blue Wrens, 11.15am

G Grade

SM Celtic Red V Solomontown, 1.00pm

F Grade

SM Celtic Red V Blue Wrens, 1.00pm

D Grade

SM Celtic V Blue Wrens, 2.30pm

C Grade

SM Celtic V Solomontown, 1.00pm

Hockey:

U14s combined Panthers and SMC V Crystal Brook, 9.00am

Community Notices



Seventeen of our students will be starring on stage in *SpongeBob The Musical* with the Port Pirie Youth Theatre! Get your tickets for:
Friday 1 September, 11.00am
Friday 1 September, 7.30pm
Saturday 2 September, 7.30pm

Visit: www.countryarts.org.au/events/spongebob-the-musical/

MID NORTH EDUCATION CENTRE

POST SCHOOL INFORMATION SESSION

FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Parents and students invited

September 6, 2023
2 PM - 3 PM

at
Mid North Education Centre
55 David St, Port Pirie

INFORMATION FROM

- Bedford day options
- Community Bridging Service (CBS)
- Novita
- Maxima

BROCHURES FROM

- Orana

If you have any question or concerns please contact Rebecca McCarthy
rebecca.mccarthy434@schools.sa.edu.au

Online Teens' Eating and Body Image Webinars for Parents:

Supporting Teens to Eat Well in a Food Confused World

Tuesday 12 September, 7-8pm (AEST)
Free

Body Confident Children and Teens

Tuesday 17 October, 7-8pm (AEST)
\$15.00

Visit: <https://events.butterfly.org.au/portal>

SPELD Specific Learning Difficulties SA

Port Pirie PARENT WORKSHOP

FREE Parent Workshop

Understanding reading difficulties - Why some children struggle and how to help

- Develop an understanding of reading difficulties, including dyslexia
- Develop a practical understanding of the associated characteristics and difficulties
- Explore ways to support your child

This 2 hour workshop is a great first step to gaining a better understanding of reading difficulties and practical strategies that can help your child.

Monday 11 of September, 6:00pm-8:00pm

Mid North Education Centre

BOOK ONLINE at:
spelsa.org.au/regional-parent-workshops

Thank you to the Department for Education for supporting this initiative.



Wandearah Cricket Club: Junior Registration and Training

Junior Blast U9, U11, U14 and U16
Wednesday 13 September,
4.00 - 5.00pm at Port Oval nets

New and current players welcome - come and have a go!

BBQ sausage sizzle

Contact 0400 081 278 for more information

Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = Fruit Box)	
Week 5				
Mon	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Pizza Triangles	\$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	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Taco + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00	Spicy Beef Burgers + Drink	\$6.20 \$8.00
Week 6				
Mon	Rat Bait	\$2.00	Schnitzel and Gravy Roll + Drink	\$5.50 \$7.00
Tues	Ham and Cheese Triangles	\$2.00	Hot Dog + Drink	\$4.80 \$6.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Beef Lasagne + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Chicken Stirfry + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00	Chicken Cordon Bleu Burger + Drink	\$6.20 \$8.00

BOSCO CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = 375ml Zero Can)	
Week 5				
Mon	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Pizza Triangles	\$2.00	Lamb or Chicken Yiros + Drink	\$6.00 \$8.00
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Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752

