

NEWSLETTER

Issue 16 27 October 2023



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**

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Beau presented Darcy with a candle and card to wish him all the best after school

Welcome back to Term 4. I extend a warm welcome to new students and families who have started their educational journey with us at St Mark's this term. It was a pleasure during the term break to meet with many new families for enrolment conversations in preparation for students joining us next year. I am always humbled and grateful for the trust placed in our College by parents who choose St Mark's as the school for their children.

No school is perfect, but I know that we have something special here. In talking with some of our Year 12 students this week as they finish their formal attendance at school prior to examinations and submission of final assignments, it is evident that they recognise this too. Whilst there is a sense of excitement that schooling will soon be finished and they can embrace the next chapter of their lives with enthusiasm, there is also a sense of gratitude for their time at St Mark's College and some sadness that this is coming to an end. Our special Candle Mass was beautiful this week and reflected one of the many joys of being an R-12 College as our Reception students gave candles to the Year 12 cohort to light them on their way into new beginnings. We wish all Year 12 students the best of luck as they complete all the formal assessment requirements necessary and enjoy the celebrations that mark the end of their schooling.

Enrolments at St Mark's College are very strong for 2024. Some year levels are almost at capacity, but we are still receiving enrolment enquiries. We are also in the process of making decisions about which subjects will be offered next year. This is dependent on class sizes and having teachers available, which remains a challenge here as it is regionally and nationally. If for any reason, you are not intending to continue schooling at St Mark's next year, please let us know within the next week so that we can make places available for enrolment. Please contact the office for an Exit Form. If cost of living pressure is a factor in any consideration of leaving St Mark's,



Dr Hewson with our new College Captains Adam and Zara and Vice-Captains Blake and Isabella

From the Principal

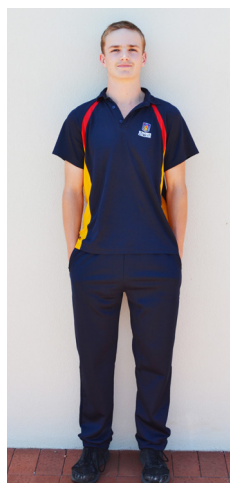
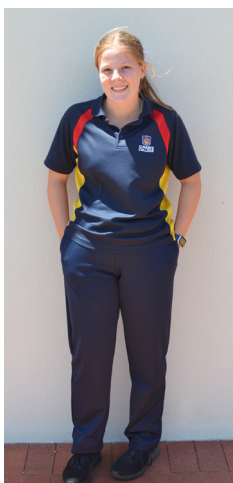


please contact us and we can work through payment plans with you. Our mission is to ensure that Catholic schooling remains affordable and accessible as a choice for families.

I'd like to thank and congratulate all Year 11 students who were nominated for a student leadership role next year. A rigorous process of interviews and presentations was undertaken, and the standard of application was extremely high which bodes well for next year. It takes courage to seek leadership. I was very impressed by the students' understanding of what leadership means and the responsibilities that come with it. I was delighted to announce at the end of our Candle Mass our senior student leaders for 2024. Congratulations to new College Captains Zara Bowman and Adam Smith and Vice Captains Isabella Martlew and Blake Nicolson.

On a final note, you will see below photographs of senior students modelling the proposed new trackpants and jacket. The response from secondary students has been very favourable as these items are warm and comfortable, and students seem to like the proposed long sleeved PE shirt as an option. From next week, the sample items will be on display in the Benedict Library. I encourage you to drop in and have a look at the cut and fabric of the jacket, shorts, PE shirts and trackpants. I will send a survey out later this term asking for feedback on the proposed changes, which include primary students moving to this active wear uniform for comfort, movement, and durability. One more recent suggestion is that we consider replacing the cotton formal shirt with a plain blue polo with logo that would go with the pants and the skirt. Both boys and girls dislike the lack of flexibility of the cotton shirt and the visibility of sweat stains which means jumpers are worn in warm temperatures causing students to be uncomfortable. Food for thought!

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal



Faith and Mission



Our Salesian House Boarders celebrating the end of year.

Salesian House End of Year Liturgy

For our Boarding students the year began in the Chapel on the evening before school began, welcoming our Boarders and their families. On Sunday we joined again in the Chapel for the End of Year Liturgy and to Farewell our Boarders who will not be returning next year. The celebration is a special one for the families in our community who don't get to spend a great deal of time together or at our school. Salesian House offers a unique experience for some of our students and it was evident in the gratitude from our Year 12 Boarders that they, and their families value the time and effort that goes into their education and schooling both from home and their home away from home.

Year 12 Candle Mass

Continuing the long standing tradition to farewell the graduating class, our whole school gathered in the St Mark's Sports Centre on Tuesday 24 October for the Candle Mass. The Receptions were nervous and excited to give their buddies a candle and a card and wish them well for their futures. And the Year 12s were overjoyed to walk down the aisle to their little friend. The community felt a great sense of pride watching the exchange and the budding friendships that have blossomed over the year. Thank you Year 12 students for leading our school through another wonderful year. We wish you all the best with wherever your path takes you.

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields

and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Mrs Annie Olsen, **APRIM**

SOUTHERN CROSS:

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

THE WITNESS:

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



Year 12 students Alan and Tayah are presented their certificates by Boarding House Supervisor Ms Luanne Smith.



Chloe and her mum Heidi light a candle with APRIM Mrs Annie Olsen.



Tayah was presented the Salesian House Award, she is pictured with her family.

Faith and Mission



Aslin is presented with her stole.



Congratulations to our Class of 2023!



Annabelle hugs her Buddy Keeley.



Connor receives a candle from his Buddy Harry.



Sanya receives a candle from her Buddy Lara.



Ayeisha with her Buddy Hugo.



Shout to the Lord!

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: 30/10 - 3/11			Week 4: 6/11 - 7/11				
Mon	Little Lions Session 10	Uniform Display in Benedict Library <i>Come and take a look!</i>	Mon	Little Lions Session 11		Year 12 Exams	Uniform Display in Benedict Library <i>Come and take a look!</i>
Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup		Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup			
	RW and RY Parent Teacher Interviews						
	Sports Council Benedict Library, 7.30pm						
Wed	Breakfast Club Good Samaritan Hall, 8.20-8.40am		Wed	Breakfast Club Good Samaritan Hall, 8.20-8.40am			
				2024 Receptions Parent Meeting Good Samaritan Hall, 5.30pm			
Thur	Little Lions Session 10		Thur	Little Lions Session 11		Ag Shearing Course	
				1G Excursion			
Fri	Interschool Rugby Carnival, Year 5s and 6s		Fri	Remembrance Day Prayer Services			
				Little Lions Session 11			
		1R Excursion					
		Year 6 Retreat and Transition					
		Year 5 Leadership Day					

Benedict Campus:

Welcome to New Staff

This term we have welcomed Mrs Virginia Chambers and Miss Ellie Hunter to our staff. Virginia has come to us from Port Augusta and joins our teaching staff for three days a week. She is currently working with our Little Lions and mid-year Reception students. Ellie joins us to help support our students within the classrooms alongside our teachers. Ellie is an Old Scholar and has loved connecting with a range of students.



Welcome Mrs Chambers!



Welcome Miss Hunter!

Student Representative Council 2024

After reviewing the current model used for Student Representative Council (SRCs) at Benedict the teachers would like to propose in 2024 we create an SRC team for the full year consisting of Year 3-6 students.

Reception - Year 2 students have the opportunity in their classrooms to show extra responsibility and service through the use of daily helpers which provides each student multiple opportunities to have a turn throughout each term.

Continued over the page

Key Dates and Campus Information



Library Borrowing

This year students will have the opportunity to borrow books up until Week 6. We ask families to return their library books in Week 7. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this. Returning books early allows our librarian Felicity a chance to update our stock ready for next year.

Literacy

This year at Benedict we have had a strong focus of Literacy in the early years. We spent time last year working collaboratively to find the best model to use consistently through our early years. This year our Reception and Year 1 teachers began the year with a two-day training on how to implement InitiaLit in their classes.

InitiaLit is an evidence-based whole-class literacy program providing all children with the essential core knowledge and strong foundations to become successful readers and writers. InitiaLit is a three-year program, covering the first three years of school (Reception - Year 2). Next year our Year 2 students will be joining the program and our teachers will be start their training in the next few weeks ready to roll the program out next year.

Breakfast Club

Starting Week 3 we will be offering a Breakfast Club in the Good Samaritan Hall on Wednesday's, 8.20am-8.40am. All welcome!

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

Bosco Campus:

This week is the last time we all gathered together as the entire 2023 Bosco and College community. Tuesday saw the beginnings of acknowledging and farewelling our Year 12 students as they prepare to leave the College for new ventures. We wish them all the best in completing their final assessments and exams. Thank you to all the family and friends who joined us for the R-12 Farewell Mass.

Salesian House

Last Sunday we joined together for an End of Year liturgy at Salesian House. We gathered in the Bosco Chapel to pray for the Year 12 Boarders and then certificates and speeches acclaimed the year. Our two Year 12 Boarders spoke fondly about their experience during the liturgy. Tayah was awarded the Salesian House Award because she embodied a commitment and involvement that makes the place so much better. The gathering concluded in a supper at the boarding house. I am grateful for the contribution of the Year 12 Boarders over a number of years and enjoyed celebrating the spirit of unity and cohesion in our boarding community.

Parent Engagement Sessions

This week we held two Parent Information evenings around development and wellbeing. One was from Headspace who also offered student sessions through this week and the other was Mark Le Messurier who spoke on the development of the adolescent brain. Parents who attended spoke highly of the sessions finding them to be interesting and informative. The more we can learn about mental health and how to work with young people in our family and the community the better.

P.A.R.T.Y

This week a group of our Year 10 and 11 students got the opportunity to participate in a PARTY Program. The day session was focussed on Risk Taking behaviour, Choices and Trauma that comes all too often from these behaviours. The program gave them access to reliable information from SAPOL and medical professionals. I thank Briony Pole and Nathan Brook for accompanying our students in this learning experience. Marveric and Isabella shared their reflections on the session with me when they returned to school:

We were given an insight in to statistics around road fatalities and how easily accidents can happen. We talked to different health professionals to get an understanding of the impacts of serious injuries to those who experience trauma. - Isabella

The day helped me to understand to the importance of driving safely. I learnt strategies to look after my mates in cars and at parties. Maveric

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Around the College



RECEPTION > Our new Receptions are building their literacy skills. 'Fish rhymes with dish' by Ivy.



AGRICULTURE > Year 8 Agriculture students with the produce they have grown at McNally Farm.



RECEPTION > Reception White students enjoying a tea party- an opportunity to help grow confidence, extend vocabulary, and develop a strong connection with one another.



AFL > Year 10 students completing the 'Intergrated Learning- AFL' subject working on their general fitness.



YEAR 12 > Pausing for the National Anthem before the soccer grand final.



YEAR 12 > Celebrating the last day of school!

College Notices

SHARE THE DIGNITY

What to include:

- Full size shampoo and conditioner
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Roll on deodorant
- Sealed packets of pads and tampons
- Body wash or soap

What not to include:

- Open packets of pads and tampons
- Razors/knives/scissors
- Spray Deodorant
- Food
- Tablets/Medicine
- Loose items

HELP US HELP WOMEN
WHO ARE DOING IT
TOUGH!

DONATE YOUR OLD
HANDBAGS

All donations to
the Student Hub
by the 24/11



The Bosco Prize 2023



Entries are now open for the Bosco Prize.

Please encourage your child to enter or put their work on display. They do not need to be a current Visual Arts student to enter.

Information and entry forms have been emailed to all Bosco students.

Art, Design, Photography, Jewellery, Craft, Digital, Sculpture, Textiles - all types of visual arts and crafts accepted.

Community Notices

JOIN YOUR LOCAL SA AMBULANCE SERVICE VOLUNTEER TEAM TODAY



More volunteers are needed for the Mid North Regional Response Team.

Do you want to learn new skills, meet people and give back to your community?

Gain a qualification in healthcare.

www.saasvolunteer.sa.gov.au
1300 175 584



MENTAL HEALTH MONTH OCTOBER 2023

HAVE THE CONVERSATION



Help us celebrate Mental Health Month!

**FLINDERS VIEW PARK
MAIN STREET
PORT PIRIE**

**Wednesday 11 October 2023
10.00am to 2.00pm**

Please join us for a jam-packed day with free sausage sizzle, entertainment, activities and information on local mental health and wellbeing services.

LIVE MUSIC • BBQ • STALLS

BRING A PICNIC RUG AND MAKE A DAY OF IT!

OUR COMMUNITY EVENT



**KIDS Light Party
Tue. 31st October
At Baptist Church
(44 Hannan Street)**

6pm - 8pm

**CRAFT - GAMES - STORY - HOTDOG
& TREATS**



Supported by The Churches of Port Pirie

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**Bookings now open for
piano or guitar lessons in Term 4.**

Weekly Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = Fruit Box)	
Week 3				
Mon	Ratbait	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Ham and Cheese Triangles	\$2.00	Metro Burger + Drink	\$6.20 \$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pitta Bread Pizza + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Sweet and Sour Chicken + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Fri	Pizza Muffin	\$2.00	Spicy Beef Burger + Drink	\$6.20 \$8.00
Week 4				
Mon	Small Sausage Roll	\$2.00	Squash Dog + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Tues	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Wrap + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Irish Beef Stew + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00
Thurs	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Baked Spud + Drink	\$6.00 \$8.00
Fri	3 x Mini Sausage Rolls + Drink	\$3.00 \$5.00	Beef Lasagne + Drink	\$5.00 \$7.00

BOSCO CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = 375ml Zero Can)	
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Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752

