



**ST MARK'S
COLLEGE**



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Year 11 students raised over \$18000 for Vinnies SA at the School Sleepout. Pictured are Ava, Jessica, Madeline, Chloe, Eva, Alex and Capri.

Connection

For most students it was an excellent start to the term last week. I had several conversations with students following their WRAP lesson at Bosco during which they reflected on their Term 1 achievements and set goals for this term. It was great to hear from Year 7s that they have really enjoyed the transition to a secondary school setting, are enjoying the work and have excellent relationships with their teachers.

Connection with peers and teachers is so important. Connection can lower anxiety, help us regulate our emotions and lead to higher self-esteem and empathy. When it breaks down it can impact students' learning and wellbeing. There has been a great deal in the media recently about student behaviour in schools, most of it very negative in the call for a 'return to old school discipline', and the government's proposal to add a behaviour curriculum in public schools. Thankfully, most students do the right thing. Guided by parents, as their first and most important teachers, and programs that do exist and have been taught for some time in schools, most students are respectful, kind, and supportive of others. Most, however, is not all, much as we might wish it to be and teach for it to be. Bullying, harassment, and disrespectful behaviour are not acceptable in any community, and we will continue to work hard to foster this understanding and respond in a way that is educative but also helps students take responsibility for their actions with appropriate consequences. This is an ongoing process and, in some circumstances, takes an enormous

amount of time and involves outside agencies.

In The Advertiser and on ABC Regional Radio last week, you may have heard me talk about Positive Behaviour interventions and Supports, an approach being steadily implemented at St Mark's College, although we are in the early stages of a three-year implementation. We have developed a Matrix of expected behaviours that I've included here for your information. It is a trial document this year and may be amended. None of this is new in many respects. Media has focused on lining up and standing behind desks, but this really misses the point about setting the tone for a respectful lesson by entering classrooms prepared for learning and ready to contribute responsibly and appropriately. Respect is the foundation of all positive interactions and relationships.




I congratulate Year 11s this week who spent a very chilly evening sleeping out with generous and committed teachers to raise funds for the St Vincent de Paul Society. It was a fantastic effort, and an example of the good young people can do in the world. Benedict students supported this fundraising with a pyjama day last week and had great fun in the process. The many positive actions of young people today are sometimes overshadowed by the anti-social behaviours of a few. Perspective is important. Let's celebrate the many wonderful things our students do and keep working together to support our young people to grow and be the best they can be.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal



ST MARKS' COLLEGE

Positive Behaviour Intervention Strategy

	All the Time	Learning Time	Break Time
 <h3>Respect</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow instructions Proudly wear correct school uniform Care for the school, your own and others property Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Be honest and make good choices Speak respectfully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greet each other as you quietly enter the learning space Follow the class entry routines regardless of arrival time Allow teachers to teach and students to learn Gain attention appropriately Keep the learning space tidy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk around the school in a sensible manner Be efficient when at lockers and bag racks Line up and follow processes at the canteen Always dispose of rubbish in the correct bin
 <h3>Learning</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be punctual and ready to learn for all lessons Earn House Points by displaying positive behaviours and academic achievement Model positive behaviour and aspire to lead others Use technology safely and appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strive to be an effective learner Make an effort to do your very best Check SEQTA / classroom notices daily for tasks and communication to be organised Celebrate achievement and productive lessons Seek and respond to feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eat your food, go to the toilet and fill up your drink bottle Participate fully in all school activities Prepare for class when you hear the bell
 <h3>Responsibility</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be kind to yourself and look after your own wellbeing Show genuine interest and care for others Show acceptance and understanding of others' cultures and differences Use kind and appropriate language Be aware that our actions can impact others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice when others may need help and offer support if you can Be inclusive of other cultures and diversity Include others and work collaboratively Ensure your work is submitted on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help and include others Play and interact safely Agree on the rules when starting a game and be a good sport Remove yourself from conflict by walking away and seeking staff support Care for equipment and return it

RESPECT

COMPASSION

RESILIENCE

SERVICE

FAITH

Faith and Mission



Year 1s enjoying PJ Day with Year 11s Amelia and Eliza who coordinated the Pyjama Day fundraiser.

Confirmation Workshop

This week our Year 6 and 7 students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation came together at Bosco Campus to make their banners. Each banner highlights the candidate's name and Confirmation Saint. A Confirmation Saint is chosen as a role model for the candidate that inspires them in their faith and action in the Church community.

Students and their families have been attending commitment Masses each weekend, where they have shared their learning with the parish community and have received prayers and support from parishioners.

Also present were a new feature of Sacramental Preparation: our Faith Friends. These are active members of our parish community that shared their experience with the faith and actions guided by the Holy Spirit. Recounting their experiences with Confirmation highlighted that it can provide lasting change in one's life through celebrating the Gifts of the Holy Spirit found within each one of us.

A big thank you goes to all the parents, friends and members of staff that have guided our candidates so far. It is great to see so many students engaging and celebrating the Sacraments this year.

Year 7 Retreat

In combination with the experience of our Confirmation candidates, our Year 7s came together at the Lighthouse Uniting Church for further instruction and engagement with the significance of the Holy Spirit on their annual retreat. This Thursday, Year 7s and their Religion Teachers engaged with what the Holy Spirit can do in one's life and reflected on experiences where people in our lives have demonstrated qualities that are guided by the Holy Spirit.

At the lunch break, some of our Faith Friends joined us again to be a parish presence at this school event.

Vinnies Sleep Out

Last week, Benedict Campus held a PJ Day to raise money to support the Year 11 students' sleepout. It was a great opportunity to have some comfy fun while discussing the importance of supporting people in need in our local community.

On Thursday night this week, Year 11 students spent the night in conditions faced on a frequent basis by people who are homeless throughout Australia, in the Vinnies Community Sleepout. This action has been part of a fundraiser raising at least \$18,000 so far to assist Vinnies in their support of those in

our community that are experiencing financial hardship and homelessness.

Youth homelessness is a major issue in Australia. Year 11s have been dedicated in making their experience of homelessness a one they won't easily forget. Expressing solidarity with people who are homeless allows us to see that this is an issue that needs addressing urgently.

The guest speaker was Deacon Gary Stokes of our local Vinnies Conference. He shared insights into the kinds of conditions and states of living that many people face that approach Vinnies for help. He made it clear that the assistance that they provide can only continue through the generous fundraising that happens at events like these. He shared his deep appreciation of the amount raised so far and assured students that this money will make a big difference in the lives of those they assist.

Over the last few weeks the Year 11s have organised different actions and activities to prepare for this event. It was run very smoothly on the night and made a memorable experience for both students and members of staff. Many braved the cold night air and slept outside. The College is very proud to see that they showed deep respect for the situation and the activities and presentations on the night.

Ms Brodie Nugent, Mr Isaac Ellis, Ms Fiona Clarke and Mrs Megan Congdon
St Mark's College Catholic Identity Team

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 3: 13/5 - 17/5				Week 4: 20/5 - 24/5			
Mon	Winter Uniform to be worn from today To view the Uniform Guidelines, visit: www.smc.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/uniform	Catholic Education Week	Y11 Outdoor Camp	Mon	Little Lions Session 10		Laudato Si Week
	Little Lions Session 9				Tues	Mini Mark's Playgroup Cookie Decorating, 9.00am - 10.30am	
Mini Mark's Playgroup Careers Week Dress Up, 9.00am - 10.30am	Tues			Open Knockout Football			
Y9 + 10 Knock Out Football				College Board AGM Bosco Library, 7.00pm, all welcome			
Wed	R-6 Cathedral Mass St Mark's Cathedral, 12.00pm, all welcome			Wed	Uni Hub Employment and Career Expo		
	Y7-9 Parent Teacher Interviews St Mark's Sports Centre, 3.40 - 6.30pm						
Thur		Thur	Y9 Retreat				
Fri	Little Lions Session 9	Fri	Our Lady Help of Christians Feast Day R-12 Mass, St Mark's Sports Centre				
	Y6 + 7 Confirmation Rehearsal Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday 19 May, 10.30am at St Mark's Cathedral						

Benedict Campus:

Gates

As we begin a new term it is a timely reminder to ensure that safety for all students is at the forefront. Please be reminded that the front school gates need to be closed after 8.45am and remain closed until 3.15pm. If you are entering the school within these times, please ensure that the gate is firmly shut behind you.

This is one small way in which we can ensure the safety of all our students.

Play Club

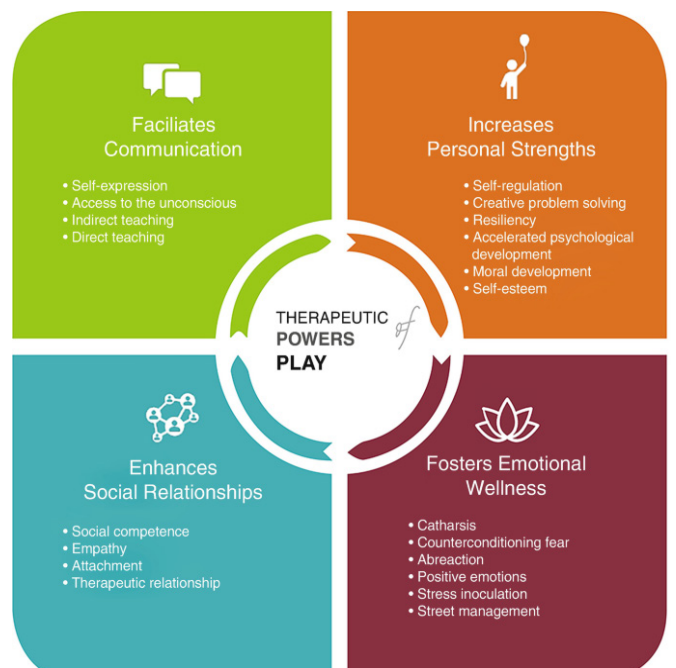
"Play is often talked about as it was relief from learning, but for children it is serious learning"- Fred Rogers.

When raising children, the role of play cannot be underestimated. Child psychologist, Charles Schaefer wrote "The Therapeutic Powers of Play" (1993) where he was able to define all these powers, displayed in the table.

St Mark's recognises that recess and lunch have the potential to be a tricky time for some children.

During lunch times (weather permitting), staff have been setting up and supporting play activities in the Quad area, outside the front of the library. These activities are available to all R-6 students to participate in.

Continued over the page



Key Dates and Campus Information



Some of the activities last term have included lawn bowls, Finska, giant Jenga, giant Lego blocks, toy cars and other outside play materials.

This has provided opportunities for students from different grades to engage positively. Children have been able to connect with other students who enjoy similar play activities. There is no one way to play and St Mark's wants to make play accessible to every student.

We have sought to provide students with some of their preferred play activities and would be keen to hear from parents, if they feel like their child is having some difficulties with engaging with others or there is a particular activity that their child would enjoy. If you or your child have any suggestions for Play Club, please contact Community Engagement and Wellbeing Officer, Susan Read on 0458 144 705.



Henry engaging in play based activities during lunch time.



Georgia and Evelyn enjoying Play Club.



Building the tallest tower at Play Club.

Online safety

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to familiarise yourselves with the Carly Ryan website that has many useful resources for parents when it comes to online activities: www.carlyryanfoundation.com/resources/fact-sheets

Similarly, the e-safety commission has some excellent tips and ideas about how to keep your children safe online: www.esafety.gov.au/parents

We understand and acknowledge that students are participating in a variety of online platforms. As they engage with these platforms outside of school hours it is important to be aware that often these issues spill over into the classroom and school yard. Evidence suggests that social media is a tool for anti-social and unkind behaviours outside of school, and it is important that parents monitor what their children are doing online. Our teachers provide many lessons to students about understanding the importance of being safe online, however we are not able to be there every step of the way to help them make the best choices when reacting to a situation.

This is where we as educators need your help, as the first educators of your children, to help them understand what they are engaging in and what they can do if they incur a problem when online.

This is a forever changing realm and we need to work together in order to produce ICT safe and literate citizens.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus



FAREWELL > Today we farewelled Miss Ellie Hunter, ESO from Benedict Campus, we wish you all the best!

Key Dates and Campus Information



Bosco Campus:

The value of learning

Welcome back to Term 2. With progress reported it is an opportunity to continue to build on Term 1 successes as we work on getting better in a range of skills and knowledge. We have undertaken a number of activities in the first two weeks with much to look forward to throughout the term.

Parent, Teacher and Student Conversations

This week was the first of our Year 7-9 Parent/Teacher/Student learning conversations. I was so pleased to see students coming along to join in and take up their part in reviewing their learning progress and goals. Achievements were celebrated and plans were put in place to support any areas of struggle. It was also good to note the increasing number of students who are opting to use the Student Hub Study Support after school, This is one of the many supports we have to partner with you in student learnership. Mr Rutjens opens this facility until 4:30pm Monday to Thursday every week. If you need more information on it speak to our leaders of learning Ms Ann Russack, Mrs Kate Elmendorp and Mrs Talia Sale.

Year 11 Sleepout

Each year in South Australia, there are more than 7,400 people experiencing homelessness, including 1,345 children under the age of 12. Thursday night our Year 11 students and teachers swapped comfy beds and home-cooked meals with cardboard and a night without the comforts of home. The sleep out gave us the opportunity to experience just a small part of what those facing homelessness and disadvantage do each and every day.

I was delighted to join the group over night. Their fundraising and advocacy undertaken by the students was impressive and the way that they embraced the event left me feeling proud.

Knockout Sport

Our Knockout Sporting competitions commenced this week with the Year 9/10 Football. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to be a part of a team playing as peers and competing against the best players in other regions. I would like to remind students and families that it is a privilege to be going and there is an expectation that work output, behaviour and attendance is at a high level to be able to participate in any of the school representative teams.

Careers

The Year 10 students ventured to Adelaide today for the Careers Expo. This is a beginning of the future pathways focus of Term 2. The students will also get an opportunity to discern possible future employment or careers on camp and then when they venture out on Work Experience in Week 10.

Staff Professional Development

Staff participated in a formation day on Monday 29 April. This included building on our PBIS (Positive Behaviour Intervention Strategies) training. This term we are re-teaching the expected behaviours on our school matrix. Support in behaviour is offered to all students. The PBIS team are also working on Tier 2 interventions for those students who need extra support in upholding our school expectations. This involves extra learning in some non-preferred times.

If a child doesn't know how to read, we teach. If a child doesn't know how to swim, we teach.

If a child doesn't know how to multiply, we teach. If a child doesn't know how to drive, we teach.

If a child doesn't know how to behave, we ...teach? ...punish?

Why can't we finish the last sentence as automatically as we do the others?

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

Key Dates and Campus Information



College:

Canteen and Boarding House Catering Review

Thank you for your contribution to our Canteen and Boarding House Catering Review. As part of the review we would like to answer the following requests:

- Students have the option to order a whole range of food online through FlexiSchools including healthier options – wraps, sandwiches, salads. A variety of food options are available through online ordering and this is the best way for students to get what they want. Not every item on the menu is prepared for purchase in our canteens, however Metro are committed to increasing the variety of food available at our canteens based on student requests and dietary needs.
- Brand name drinks such as Coke and Pepsi will unfortunately continue to not be available online or in our canteens. This is because of the sugar content of these drinks. Alternative soft drinks are available with a lower sugar content. Opinion regarding this was divided in the survey results.
- Milk drinks are ordered once a week and only available in the canteen not online. Metro's order process unfortunately is unable to be changed.
- Bosco at this point in time does not have the facilities to prepare milkshakes, smoothies and hot drinks; however this can be considered with a new canteen layout possibly in future years as building continues.
- Bosco canteen food whilst not as hot as students would like, is still within the right temperature range for sale. St Mark's College will consider a new server to increase the heat of food during future capital purchases.
- Pies are larger and back on the canteen menu and FlexiSchools for order at a price of \$5.00.
- Unfortunately FlexiSchools ordering cannot be extended to a 9:30am cut off as Metro will be unable to meet recess orders, 9am will remain as the cut off time for ordering food.

Mrs Jo Court, **Business Manager**

How to be an Upstander

An upstander is someone who chooses to support a person who is being abused or harmed. There are ways you can be an upstander online while keeping yourself safe.

Click below to read this valuable article and have conversations with your children. By doing something to help a person being bullied or abused online, you can be part of creating a positive cultural change.

[→ www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/be-an-upstander](http://www.esafety.gov.au/young-people/be-an-upstander)

Mr Ben McInnes, **Digital Technologies Learning Leader**

Uniform Discounts

A reminder to families that the following current St Mark's College uniform items have been marked as 50% off until fully sold at Mensland and MES Streetwear:

- **Activewear:** PE Jacket- all sizes, PE Tracksuit Pants- all sizes, PE Shortsleve Polo- sizes 2-6 (limit of 2 items per student) and PE Shorts- sizes 2-6
- **Girls Uniform:** Dress, winter skirt, blue shorts, and blue pants (all from sizes 2-6)
- **Boys Uniform:** Grey shorts, grey pants, short sleeve formal shirt and long sleeve formal shirt (all from sizes 2-6)
- Formal jumper sizes 2-6

Please remember there is a 2 year transition period from 2025 for all uniform items. This means you can continue to wear the current uniform right through to December 2026.

Mrs Jo Court, **Business Manager**

Benedict Campus



EXCURSION > 2 Red on excursion in Wirabara Forest



MINI MARK'S > Our playgroup families celebrated their Mum's with a pamper party and craft, pictured is Giavanna, Caitlin and Cooper.



SCIENCE > Year 1 students have been investigating living things and created their own diorama showing the environment for a specific animal. Thank you to Mr McInnes for 3D printing the animals!



EXCURSION > 2 Blue enjoying the autumn conditions at Laura Playground.

Congratulations
to our Deputy Principal
award winners from
Term 1, 2024:
*Demonstrating an ability to
get along with others*

6R	Miller
6B	Eddie
5/6G	George
5R	Brodie
5B	Harvie
4R	Ela + Lincoln
4B	Annabelle
3R	Gabe
3B	Layla
2R	Aria
2B	Archie
2G	Scarlett
1G	Parker
1R	Hugo
1B	Jaymes
RG	Harry
RR	Bohdi
RB	Charlie
RY	Heidi

Congratulations to all of our students who were recognised with College Value awards at the end of last term.



COMMUNITY > Students wore their PJs or casual clothes to support the Vinnies Sleepout, pictured is Sherdin and Alcuin.

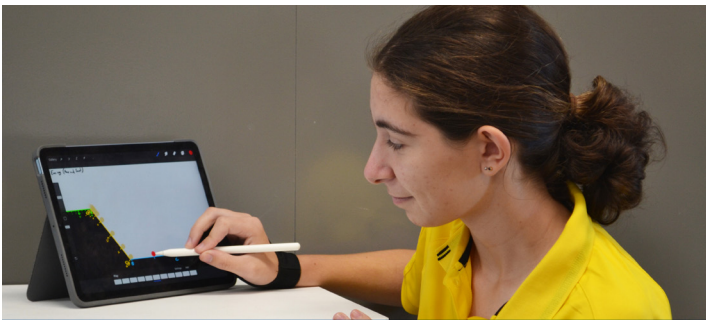
Bosco Campus



CREATIVE ARTS > Semester One Music and Creative Arts students immersed themselves in a day of exploring and appreciating the creative products of professional musicians and visual artists in Adelaide last term. Students toured the Art Gallery of South Australia, attended a music concert at Elder Hall, and attended the SACE Art Exhibition.



RAP > Year 11 students attended the Road Awareness Program this week learning that "You get to choose the risk; but you don't get to choose the consequences".



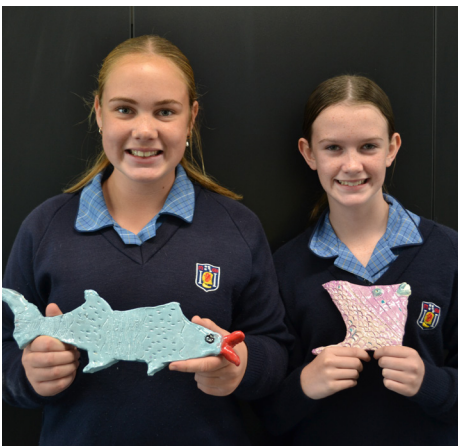
CREATIVE ARTS > AMELIA

Amelia is focussing on animation for her studies and says she has always been fascinated by animation films. She aspires to be working with technology or in the entertainment industry (animation or video game designing). "This is one of my only subjects that let my mind get creative, so I highly recommend it for students who are more expressive and artistic."



AGRICULTURE >

Agriculture students Eliza, Alex, Hilary and Adam shared their learning journey at McNally Farm with our Ag Sponsors at the annual BBQ. Our Ag Sponsors support the Ag program in a variety of ways and we are grateful for their support.



VISUAL ARTS > Year 7s Harriet and Peyton with the fish they moulded from clay and painted once fired.



UPGRADE > A newly resurfaced basketball court was ready to welcome students back to school for Term 2 thanks to funding from the Australian Government's School's Upgrade Fund.



AGRICULTURE > Cattle have arrived at McNally Farm! Thanks to the Burt family for supplying Murray Grey cattle and the Inglis family for supplying a Shorthorn Steer. Pictured are Adele and Eliza Inglis with their Grandfather, Lindsay.

APPLY NOW >

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.

Applications are due Friday 28 June, visit: www.smc.catholic.edu.au/enrolment/scholarships

Vinnies Canned Food Drive!

TILL WEDNESDAY WEEK 3



Support Vinnies SA with our Year 11 Canned Food Drive at Bosco Campus!

Please deliver any donations of canned goods to Main Administration by Wednesday 15 May.



The College Board AGM will be held on Tuesday 21 May, 7.00pm in the Bosco Library.
All welcome!

Port Pirie Information Night



Please register your attendance here:

Date: Thursday, 16th May 2024

Time: 5:30-6:30pm

Location: Uni Hub Spencer Gulf, 97 Ellen St, Port Pirie SA 5540



YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP



Do you live in Port Pirie?

Want to help plan fun events and projects for other young people in the community?

Come join the Port Pirie Regional Council Youth Reference Group!

Want to learn more? Visit: www.pirie.sa.gov.au/noticeboard/latest-news/youth-reference-group

Parent Engagement Event - Teens, parties, alcohol and vapes 14 May 2024, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Adolescence is a challenging time for all concerned, with many parents feeling as though they are not adequately prepared, particularly in areas such as alcohol and other drugs. Having good quality, accurate information is vital.

Livestreaming will be available on the evening, with the recording available for 48 hours for viewing, visit: registrationcentre.cesa.catholic.edu.au/event-5689801



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

We invite new and enrolling families to join us for a Campus Tour followed by Morning Tea:

Monday 13 May, 9.30pm
Benedict Campus, R-6

Wednesday 15 May, 9.30pm
Bosco Campus, 7-12

Register at:
www.smc.catholic.edu.au

Canteen Specials

BENEDICT CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = Fruit Box)		+ Drink
Week 3					
Mon	Small Sausage roll	\$2.00	Squash Dog	\$5.00	\$7.00
Tues	Egg and Bacon Pastry Rolls	\$2.00	Small Chicken Wrap	\$3.00	\$5.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pitta Bread Pizza	\$5.50	\$7.00
Thurs	Croissant Half	\$2.50	Wedges	\$5.00	\$7.00
Fri	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Spicy Beef Burgers	\$6.50	\$8.00
Week 4					
Mon	Pizza subs	\$2.50	Hot Dog + Drink	\$5.00	\$7.00
Tues	Ham and Cheese Triangles	\$2.00	Hash Brown	\$1.50	\$3.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Chicken Carbonara	\$5.50	\$7.00
Thurs	Yumbos	\$2.50	Mongolian Beef and Rice	\$5.50	\$7.00
Fri	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Cordon Bleu Burgers	\$6.50	\$8.00

BOSCO CAMPUS

	Recess:		Lunch: (Drink = 375ml Zero Can)		
Week 3					
Mon	Small Sausage roll	\$2.00	Squash Dog	\$5.00	\$7.00
Tues	Egg and Bacon Pastry Rolls	\$2.00	Chicken Wrap	\$6.50	\$8.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Pitta Bread Pizza	\$5.50	\$8.00
Thurs	Croissant Half	\$2.50	Butter Chicken with Rice	\$6.60	\$8.00
Fri	Pizza Muffins	\$2.00	Spicy Beef Burgers	\$6.50	\$8.00
Week 4					
Mon	Pizza subs	\$2.50	Hot Dog	\$5.00	\$7.00
Tues	Ham and Cheese Triangles	\$2.00	Chicken Burrito Wrap	\$6.50	\$7.00
Wed	OOK OOK	\$2.50	Chicken Carbonara	\$6.50	\$8.00
Thurs	Yumbos	\$2.50	Mongolian Beef and Rice	\$6.50	\$8.00
Fri	Puff Doggies	\$2.00	Chicken Cordon Bleu Burgers	\$6.50	\$8.00

Online Canteen Orders: www.flexischools.com.au

Flexischools: 1300 361 769

Metro Canteens: 0447 978 752

