



Important Dates

**R-12 Class of 2024
Farewell Mass**
Tuesday 22 October 2024

All Saints' Day
Friday 1 November 2024

**Old Scholars'
Reunion**
Saturday 2 November 2024

All Souls' Day
Saturday 2 November 2024

Farewell Class of 2024



24.10.24

Principal's Update T4, W2



Farewell Year 12

Term 4, though the shortest term, is one of the busiest in a school year. For Year 12 students who complete their formal classes this week, this term is the culmination of 13 years of schooling. Some of our Year 12 students have been at St Mark's College for their entire schooling journey whilst others have joined us at intervals along the way, most notably in Year 7 or 8 and Year 10. Talking with students this week about their experience at St Mark's or listening to the Captains' Reflection at our Candle Mass on Tuesday, it is evident that they have appreciated the friendships they have made, the support from teachers, the range of subjects available to them and the multiple opportunities to grow in many ways, spiritually, physically, emotionally and academically.

Schooling has its ups and downs, like life. There can be challenges in learning, with relationships, decision-making and time management to name a few, and in this way school experiences prepare students for life as an adult. As our Year 12s complete their final assessment tasks and prepare for examinations, we wish them every success, and trust that they will leave St Mark's with dignity and a sense of gratitude.

Enrolment 2025

Work is well underway with planning for 2025 in terms of subjects running, staffing and class allocations. There has been a strong surge in enrolments over recent weeks and in some year levels we are at capacity. If for any reason your child will not be here in 2025, possibly because of re-location, please let us know and contact Mrs Lisa Manners for an Exit Form.

Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of Don Bosco

Over the term break, the Executive Team participated in a pilgrimage to immerse ourselves in the Salesian charism. For two weeks we walked in the footsteps of St Don Bosco, learned about St Francis de Sales from whom the Salesians draw their name, and were inspired by the often-unsung female Saints who had a significant impact on the lives of young women: St Jane de Chantal, and St Maria Domenica Mazzarello who founded the Salesian Sisters with Don Bosco. We celebrated Mass in several significant places in the journey of the founder of our Tradition, including St Peter's Basilica in Rome, where an impressive statue of Don Bosco is testament to his world-wide impact on the education of young people. Each one of us has been strengthened in our commitment to Christ-centred education that enables young people to flourish. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to participate as a team, and we are very thankful to Catholic Education SA for supporting us.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal

24.10.24

Faith and Mission, T4, W2

Baptisms at Benedict

On Wednesday 23 October, four students from Benedict Campus received the Sacrament of Baptism during a special celebration in the Chapel. Baptism is the first Sacrament of Initiation, marking the beginning of a Sacramental journey during which the children will become full members of the Catholic Church and experience meaningful encounters with God throughout their spiritual lives.

Deacon Gary Stokes anointed the students with the oil of catechumens in a prayer that God may give them the strength to do what is right and avoid what is wrong. He then poured water over their heads to baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The students received white stoles, symbolising purity, and baptism candles, symbolising the eternal presence of the light of Christ in their lives.

The College community congratulates Amahli Balmer, Kade Balmer, Campbell Starke and Dillon Wardle on being officially welcomed into the Church this week. We also offer our prayers for four additional Benedict students who will be baptised at St Mark's Cathedral in the coming weeks: Jessica Davey, Alfie Simpson, Olivia Wood and Annabelle Wood. We thank Claire Conaghty for her help in preparing the children for this Sacrament.

Candle Mass

The St Mark's Sports Centre was packed with students, staff, and the families of our Reception and Year 12 students, as they gathered for their final College Mass this Tuesday. The Year 12s were farewelled by their Reception buddies, whose friendships were strengthened throughout the year. Year 12 students received a candle from their buddy and a white stole from their Home Group teacher.

The live College Band was in fine form, playing several of our favourite Mass songs for the congregation to sing during the Mass. In a show of St Mark's pageantry, the Mass was also accompanied by the Diocesan Lantern. This lantern has journeyed throughout the diocese, visiting our 14 Catholic Schools to celebrate this year's theme: 'Let your light shine!' This theme was highlighted several times in the Mass with readings and prayers read by some of our Year 12s who have attended St Mark's since Reception.

The traditional rendition of 'Shout to the Lord' concluded the Mass in usual ballad style and sung by the Year 12s with gusto. We also presented our College Captains and Vice-Captains for 2025 for the first time.

A big thank you to all who helped in preparing this special event and a thank you to all who attended and made this a special celebration for our graduating Year 12s.

Nativity Displays at Lighthouse Uniting Church

This is an invitation to any St Mark's families that are creating a nativity display this Christmas to have it displayed in this year's Christmas Tree Festival.

You are welcome to provide Nativity Displays of all kinds, shapes and sizes. Perhaps you have family or friends who can contribute as well. There might even be an opportunity to make it a class project.

If you would like it displayed, please drop it off to the Lighthouse Uniting Church, The Terrace, Port Pirie on the morning of Wednesday, 27 November. Pick-up time would be Saturday, 30 November 3:00-4:30 PM.

Cooking for Fred's Van

Our last 2024 Year 10 class cooked their meals for Fred's Van last Monday. The hard work that has gone into organising these cooking sessions is thanks to our RE Curriculum Leader, Ms Fiona Clarke. The attention to detail in the way these meals have been prepared was through the dedication of many of our Year 10s who gave their time and effort to this outreach partnership. They have demonstrated care and compassion for those who are less fortunate than themselves in our community.

The Witness

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

Southern Cross

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

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



18.10.24

Benedict Campus Reminders, T4, W2

Key Dates: Term 4, Week 3 and 4

- **Little Lions Session 10**
Monday 28 October, 8.30 – 11.30am
- **Mini Mark's Playgroup – Diwali Celebrations**

Tuesday 29 October, 9.00am – 10.30am

- **Little Lions Session 10**

Friday 1 November, 8.30 – 11.30am

- **Interschool NRL Flag Rugby Carnival**

Year 5 and 6 students

Friday 1 November, 9.00am – 2.00pm

- **Little Lions Session 11**

Monday 4 November, 8.30 – 11.30am

- **Mini Mark's Playgroup – Nature Walk and Scavenger Hunt**

Tuesday 5 November, 9.00am – 10.30am

- **Dolly's Dream Cross-Campus Workshops**

Wednesday 6 – Friday 8 November

- **2025 Reception Students Parent Meeting**

Wednesday 6 November, 5.30pm

Good Samaritan Hall (GSH)

- **Little Lions Session 11**

Friday 8 November, 8.30 – 11.30am

Welcome

This term we welcome Chloe Liddicoat to our staff. Chloe will join our wonderful team of Education Support Officers (ESOs) who support students while at school. Chloe is a well-known member of our College community as she has previously been the OSHC Director and has been filling in throughout Term 3 when needed.

Please make Chloe feel welcome.

Congratulations

During the school holidays our Mini Mark's Playgroup Facilitator, Micaela Porta, attended the Playgroup SA's 50th year celebration at Government House. At this event, our Mini Mark's Playgroup was awarded Playgroup of the Year by Her Excellency the Honorable Frances Adamson AC.

The Playgroup of the Year award is the highest accolade, recognising an all-round exemplary playgroup that demonstrates exceptional quality in play and learning opportunities, community engagement, facilitator excellence, positive outcomes, and innovation.

Please join me in congratulating Micaela, her dedication and spirit are truly inspiring.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

What's been happening at Benedict Campus?

There's been plenty happening at Benedict Campus during Week 1 and 2...



24.10.24

Bosco Campus Reminders, T4, W2

Key Dates: Term 4, Week 3 and 4

- **Year 12 Exams Commence**
Monday 4 November 2024
- **Year 9 Camp- Group A**
Monday 4 – Wednesday 6 November
- **Year 9 Camp- Group B**
Wednesday 6 – Friday 8 November
- **Dolly's Dream Cross-Campus Workshops**
Wednesday 6 – Friday 8 November

Farewell Class of 2024

It is always a special morning when we gather for the last time as an entire College community to farewell our Year 12 students. Our College Captains and Vice Captains spoke so articulately of the way they have embraced all aspects of our College community, shown care and support for one another and embraced new experiences and challenges. I wish you all the very best with the final assessments and exams. May your future be richly blessed!

End of year for Senior students

The final days for our senior students are as follows:

- Year 11- Wednesday 27 November
- Year 10-Friday 5 December

As advertised our transition days are a compulsory part of the school year to set our students up for success in the coming year:

- **Year 11 into Year 12**- Monday 25 - Wednesday 27 November
- **Year 10 into Year 11** - Wednesday 4 December and **AIF Day** – Thursday 5 December

Full details of the exam timetables and transition days will come home next week. Please prioritise these opportunities for your child's growth and development.

Philippines Immersion 2025

We had a wonderful response to the Information Night for the 2025 Philippines Immersion. A reminder that Expression of Interest forms indicating your willingness to be involved in this experience are due to the Bosco Office by close of business Monday 28 October. To get a greater sense of what the itinerary looks like please follow the daily updates of the [2019 Immersion experience](#).

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

What's been happening at Bosco Campus?

There's been plenty happening at Bosco Campus during Week 1 and 2...



Year 12s Final Week





18.10.24

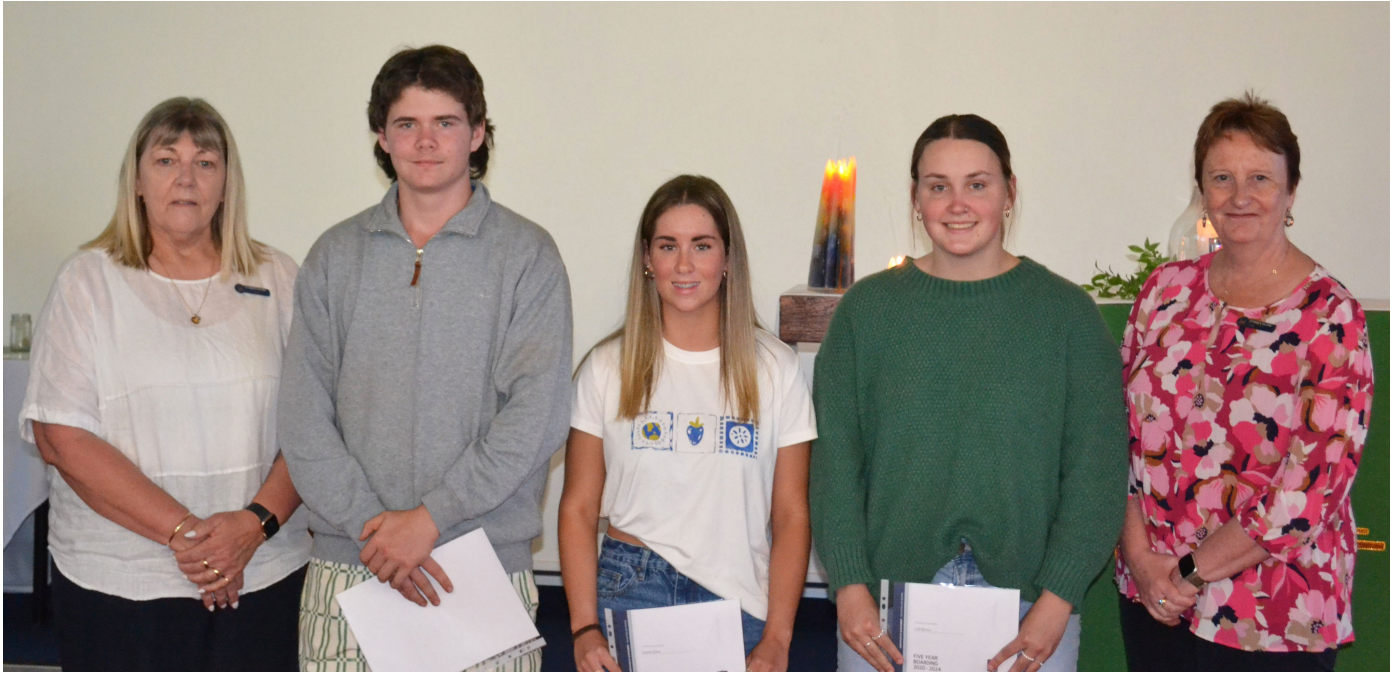
2025 College Fees

Bus fees will be reviewed closer to the end of 2024 when bus routes are determined. We are hoping to maintain current bus fees, however this will depend on student numbers and the need to increase our fleet.

It is at the heart of Catholic Education that our College is affordable and accessible to all. If any family has financial concerns, we ask them to contact our Debtor Support Officer [Sarah Pilkington](#) to confidentially discuss additional support through our fee remission process.

Mrs Jo Court, Business Manager

Salesian House



I enjoyed joining the Boarders throughout this week to celebrate their last week altogether. On Sunday evening we celebrated the end of year with our Farewell Liturgy.

Family and students gathering in the Boarding House to celebrate the year and acknowledge the leaving Year 12s Codi, Max and Sophie. My thanks to Mr Isaac Ellis for his work in preparing our liturgy. Congratulations to Sophie Gillies who was recognised with the Salesian Award for upholding the values of reason, religion and loving kindness throughout the year.

On Wednesday night we celebrated the House Cup and Boarding Awards Night. Each Wednesday of Terms 1-3 boarders competed in teams, participating in a wide range of games and activities. It was announced that the Red team were victorious in 2024.

Congratulations to Cash, Eli, Holly, Jaimeson, Lily and Millie! There were some other awards presented in recognition of the fun had throughout 2024. Congratulations to:

- Cleanest Rooms (as voted by the cleaners) Alex and Macca
- Loudest Music – Jed
- Most 'time' on their laptop (not studying) – Nick
- Loudest singing and laughter – Millie
- Ultimate Room Mates – Annabelle and Holly
- Year 12 completion – Codi, Max and Sophie

We look forward to another great year of boarding in our new Boarding House next year!

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

The Bosco Prize

The Bosco Prize 2024

presented by St Mark's College



2023 Senior Winner - Meteha Di Geronimo (detail)

The Bosco Prize exhibition is a celebration of the talent of Art, Design, Photography and Textiles students at the College

Exhibition Launch Tuesday November 12th @ 5.30pm in the Bishop Gallagher Centre

Hosted by our Creative Arts Captain

Announcement of award winners, including Senior Prize, Junior Prize and Photography Prizes

On display Tuesday November 12 - Friday November 15

To view the exhibition outside of the launch event, please contact
mcongdon2@smc.catholic.edu.au to arrange a time

[Click for more information about the Bosco Prize.](#)

Community News

> [ATAR Week at Uni Hub](#)

Come and speak to Uni Hub during ATAR Week: 16-20 December.

> [KIDtober Kite Day](#)

Join the celebrations at the KIDtober Kite Day, Saturday 26 November.

> [Parent Engagement evening presented by Nathan "Dubsy" Want](#)

Presented by Catholic School Parents South Australia.

College Calendar

[Click here](#) to access the College Calendar for all 2024 events.

Canteen Specials

[Click to see Canteen Specials for Weeks 3 and 4.](#)

Mini Mark's Playgroup



Happy holidays!

Playgroup will resume in Term 4, Week 1 (with a break in Week 2) on Tuesday morning, 9.00am – 10.30am. *All welcome!*

[Read More](#)

Study Hub



Need assistance with your study?

Visit the Bosco Campus Student Hub after school daily until 4.30pm.

Out of School Hours Care



Available at Benedict Campus for Before School, After School and Vacation Care.

[Click here](#) to see the Term 3 Vacation Care schedule for the upcoming holiday break!

[Find out more about OSHC.](#)

College Quick Links

College Uniform

[Uniform Policy and Guidelines](#)

[Uniform Buy, Swap and Sell](#)

Parents + Friends Community

[Join our community!](#)

Term Dates 2024

Term 1 - Monday 29 January - Friday 12 April

Term 2 - Tuesday 30 April - Friday 5 July

Term 3 - Tuesday 23 July - Friday 27 September

Term 4 - Monday 14 October - Tuesday 10 December

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