



21.11.24

Principal's Update T4, W6



At our final College Board meeting of the year this week, board members had a tour of the new boarding house, which is due for completion in December, although earthworks for the carpark will continue into next year. Our boarders will soon be helping to pack up Salesian House and the boarding facility that was transported here from Crystal Brook in 2007. Whilst one door closes, another one opens as we continue the tradition of boarding here at St Mark's College.

This week we officially farewelled Mrs Margaret Fantinel at Benedict with a lovely morning tea to thank her for over 35 years of service to the College and wish her well in her retirement. Marg's calm presence and beaming smile have been a hallmark of Benedict Office for years, but there is no doubt that she and her husband Shane are embracing retirement with enthusiasm. At the end of the year, a number of staff will be concluding their time at St Mark's and embracing new beginnings. Mr Mark Murphy and Mrs Angela Jordan are retiring after over sixty years of service between them. Whilst I hope we see them back for some relief teaching in the future, I cannot express deep enough thanks for all they have contributed to St Mark's College over the years. Ms Melissa Gadaleta also concludes in a permanent capacity at the end of the year, and I know will be deeply missed by staff and students across both campuses, but hopefully, we will see Melissa back for some relief teaching. Whilst not retiring, Mr John Gibson and Mrs Jane Gibson are leaving St Mark's College after many years to move to Port Lincoln and take up positions at St Joseph's College. Our loss is considerable but is definitely Port Lincoln's gain and I wish John and Jane every blessing in their move; it is hard to leave a place when you have been part of the fabric of the College for so long. The collective years of service of these staff have had an immeasurable impact on the College and the wider community and I know many families will share my gratitude for all they have done to support them over the years.

I'd also like to thank and say farewell to Miss Bree Williams, Miss Brodie Nugent, Miss Olivia Carslake, Miss Alana Zubrinich, Mrs Sue Holze and Miss Morgan Cullen who are taking on new challenges next year, and wish Mr Kris Sjostrom, Mr Niall Ashby, Mrs Nikki Edwards and Miss Stacey Hier all the best as they take a year of leave. For each of these staff, new beginnings beckon and there are exciting times ahead as we welcome new teachers and non-teaching staff to the College in 2025.

In closing, and in keeping with the theme of new beginnings, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr Ben and Mrs Bridget McInnes on the safe arrival of Goldie Lou.

There is excitement in the air as we close this year strongly over the next couple of weeks and continue preparing for new beginnings in 2025.

Dr Sandra Hewson, Principal

08.11.24

Faith and Mission, T4, W4

Baptisms and Upcoming Sacrament of Reconciliation

The College is assisting the St Mark's Parish with the preparation of candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which will culminate with a Communal Liturgy and Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, 20 November at 7:00pm. This Cathedral service will allow some of our Year 3 students to experience, for the first time sacramentally, an encounter with God's mercy and forgiveness. This will begin their preparation for receiving Holy Communion for the first time next year. As human beings, we are tempted by sin in all shapes and forms – where we 'miss the mark' and fail to live authentically, being true to ourselves and each other, with wholeness and love. Opening up about this to God is the objective of Reconciliation.

At weekend Masses in the weeks leading up to the celebration of the Sacrament, there will be commitments made and presentations to our Parish Community, allowing our participating families to be embraced as part of the Catholic Church.

Several of our Year 3s have also embarked on the process to be baptised into the Catholic Church, in order to share the same commitment to receiving the love of God into their lives. Several Parish Weekend Masses have seen baptismal candidates presented and baptised; several baptisms have also happened at the Benedict Chapel. We are blessed to have many students with a strong desire to being part of our vibrant Catholic community.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

The College Community is invited to assist in the donation of funds or goods to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Each year, St Vincent De Paul Society receives many requests for assistance from families and individuals in our community that are struggling to meet daily needs for living, especially in the festive season. Christmas should be a special time to celebrate the coming of hope, peace, joy and love into our world, but when there are some who experience little of these in their lives, it should drive us into action.

The College has blue-lidded donation bins at each Campus to receive at anytime donations of clothes or non-perishable food items (especially at this time) that could make the lives of those who go without a little brighter. The Port Pirie Conference is looking to make Christmas Hampers that can be distributed to go some way to helping a family this Christmas.

I thank all those who have also contributed to Vinnies appeals so far this year and encourage those who can to make a contribution to this one as well – it will be much appreciated!!!

More information about the Christmas Appeal will be coming out to families in the next few weeks.

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

22.11.24

Benedict Campus Reminders, T4, W6

Key Dates: Term 4, Week 7 and 8

- **Little Lions Session 14**
Monday 25 November, 8.30 – 11.30am
- **Mini Mark's Playgroup – Let's get cooking!**
Tuesday 26 November, 9.00am – 10.30am
- **Little Lions Session 14**
Friday 29 November, 8.30 – 11.30am
- **Orientation Day 1 for 2025 Reception Students**
Thursday 28 November, 8.45am – 12.00pm
Meet on lawn in front of library
- **Orientation Day 2 for 2025 Reception Students**
Monday 2 December, 8.45am – 2.00pm
Outside Magdalen Centre
- **Orientation Day for New 2025 Year 1-6 Students**
Monday 2 December, Benedict Campus
Please bring your school bag, pencil case, writing pad, water bottle, recess and lunch
- **Orientation Day for 2025 Year 7 Students**
Monday 2 December, 8.40am – 3.15pm
Bosco Campus, Polding Lawns (lawns located behind the Main Admin Office)
Please bring your school bag, pencil case, writing pad, water bottle, recess and lunch
- **Mini Mark's Playgroup – Christmas Craft**
Tuesday 3 December, 9.00am – 10.30am
Final playgroup for 2024, see you next year!
- **Night at the Movies – Cast A**
Wednesday 4 December, doors open at 5.00pm, celebration begins at 5.30pm
- **Night at the Movies – Cast B**
Thursday 5 December, doors open at 5.00pm, celebration begins at 5.30pm
- **Year 6 Completion of Primary School and End of Year Liturgy**

Friday 6 December, 9.30am, Good Samaritan Hall

- **Christmas Pageant**

Saturday 7 December, students involved to meet at the float (Memorial Drive) before 5.40pm

- **Blessing of the Cribs**

Sunday 8 December, 10.30am at St Mark's Cathedral

Students at their families are invited to have their Christmas crib blessed.

Little Lions Graduation and School Journey

We are thrilled to announce that our Little Lions are ready to spread their paws and embark on an exciting new journey into primary school! This milestone marks the culmination of their early learning adventures, filled with laughter, discovery, and friendships. As they step into this new chapter, we are confident that their strong foundation will support them in thriving academically and socially. Join us in celebrating their achievements and wishing them all the best for their bright futures!

First Reconciliation with Year 3 Students

Some of our Year 3 students celebrated a significant spiritual milestone, their First Reconciliation. This sacrament offers a moment for reflection, forgiveness, and a deeper connection with their faith. It is a time to come together as a community to support and guide our children through this meaningful experience. It was wonderful to celebrate this celebration with families and community members. A special thank you to Miss Brodie Nugent for guiding our students in this important spiritual journey.

Uniform Expectations

As a gentle reminder, we uphold certain uniform expectations to foster a sense of pride and unity among our students. Hair should be neatly tied back if long, and natural hair colors are preferred. Nail polish is not permitted, and only small, stud and sleeper earrings are allowed for safety reasons. Our [College Uniform Guidelines](#) ensure that all students present themselves in a manner that is respectful and conducive to a positive learning environment. Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining our school's high standards.

Mrs Sarah Freer, Deputy Principal, Benedict Campus

What's been happening at Benedict Campus?

There's been plenty happening at Benedict Campus during Week 5 and 6...



21.11.24

Bosco Campus Reminders, T4, W6

Key Dates: Term 4, Week 7 and 8

- **Year 11 into 12 Transition Days**
Monday 25 – Wednesday 27 November, Bosco Centre
- **Year 10 Exams**
Thursday 28 - Friday 29 November and Monday 2 - Tuesday 3 December
- **Salesian House Christmas Dinner**
Monday 25 November
- **Year 11s Final Day**
Wednesday 27 November
- **Year 12 Graduation**
Friday 29 November
- **Orientation Day for 2025 Year 7 Students**
Monday 2 December, 8.40am – 3.15pm
Bosco Campus, Polding Lawns (lawns located behind the Main Admin Office)
Please bring your school bag, pencil case, writing pad, water bottle, recess and lunch
- **Orientation Day for New 2025 Year 8 – 10 Students**
Monday 2 December, 8.40am – 3.15pm
Bosco Campus, Polding Lawns (lawns located behind the Main Admin Office)
Please bring your school bag, pencil case, writing pad, water bottle, recess and lunch

- **Bosco Presentation Night**

Tuesday 3 December, 7.00pm, St Mark's Sports Centre

- **Year 10 into 11 Transition Days**

Wednesday 4 – Thursday 5 December, Bosco Centre

- **Year 10 Final Day**

Thursday 5 December

- **Cathedral Mass, Year 7-9**

Friday 6 December

Spirit of Anzac

It was a pleasure to attend the Premier's Anzac Spirit School Prize Gathering this week where Lili Bowman was a 2024 Awardee. Lili's impressive entry was three months' worth of thorough research on her great, great uncle – Doug Bowman along with an application document and interview.

The event highlighted the great work of regional schools with most awardees coming from country areas this year.

This event has been running since 2007 and Lili will experience a rich opportunity when she will travel to Vietnam next year with all other 2024 Anzac Spirit Prize winners. I am grateful to her HASS teacher Mr Reece Snowden for supporting Lili and her family in this work and application process.

Year 10 and 11 Exams

Year 11 Exams are well underway, with the final exam scheduled for today. They have engaged in the process well; I have been impressed by their approach this week in revising and committing to the examination conditions. I get a sense that they are preparing well for their final year as secondary students. After all, it is just around the corner!

Next week Year 11 students spend 3 days with an Orientation into their final year of schooling. Attendance is vital in setting up for a successful year of SACE completion. From Monday our Year 10s will undertake their exams before their transition days into Stage 1 SACE.

End of Year

Arrangements for end of Year celebrations and Activities days in Week 9 will be communicated shortly. We look forward to sharing these with the students.

Mrs Katie Pole, Deputy Principal, Bosco Campus

What's been happening at Bosco Campus?

There's been plenty happening at Bosco Campus during Week 5 and 6...



22.11.24

Bosco Prize Exhibition

Several prize winners were recognised during the evening, we congratulate:

Senior Prize - Dane', Year 10

Junior Prize - Ivy, Year 7

Photography Senior Prize - Jessica, Year 12

Photography Junior Prize - Matilda, Year 9

Senior Textiles Prize - Shyla, Year 10

Junior Textiles Prize - Ruby, Year 9

The **People's Choice Award** was presented to Molly, Year 11 following the Exhibition Launch.

We also encourage our encouragement award winners:

Encouragement Award - Dane, Year 7

Highly Commended - Ava, Year 11; Emily, Year 12; Molly, Year 11; and Emily, Year 9

Thank you to Mayor Leon Stephens, College families, and friends for joining us to celebrate the students' achievements.



Community News

> [ATAR Week at Uni Hub](#)

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

> [Organ and Trumpet Recital](#)

Sunday 24 November, St Mark's Cathedral.

College Calendar

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

Canteen Specials

[Click to see Canteen Specials for Weeks 7 and 8.](#)

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.

[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 - Wednesday 11 December

All Content Copyright 2024 ©