



Artist impressions of our new Foundation indoor/outdoor spaces - we can't wait for it to be finished!

Faith Focus

Where Is Your Safe Place? Where Do You Feel Most Secure?

Some people have a specific location that is their refuge. Others are content in many settings, but look to particular people for their sense of safety and security. As members of St Mark's, we share a common desire and duty to make our school a safe and secure place for all who attend.

The question of where people can turn for safety and security was a big one in biblical times. War was a constant threat. Neighbouring peoples were not always that neighbourly. Feuding tribes and nationalities would constantly be invading each other's territories, but every city or village had a safe place.

Usually in the centre of the city there was some kind of structure; a castle, palace or fortress, where those in the surrounding area could flee when danger was afoot. This is the picture the Psalm writer uses when he says, **'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in danger'** (Psalm 46:1).

We use this Psalm on Reformation Sunday, which is coming up this week. This is the day we commemorate the beginning of the Lutheran Church in Germany just over 500 years ago. Martin Luther loved Psalm 46, because it reminded him where he could turn when he felt attacked. He turned to God. He found in God his safe place, his secure ground, his fortress.

When everything else gives way or moves or changes, God remains constant. He is in the heart of the city and he is always ready to welcome those who come to him for refuge.

Pastor Ben

Important Bits

Principal Ponderings

What Did You Learn Today?

Have you ever asked your child 'What did you learn today?' When they answered, did they tell you all about the task or activity and what they did? It's great to hear what they did, but it doesn't really answer the question 'What did you learn?'. Sometimes the answer can be 'nothing' if they feel they didn't get the right answer.

I think for a long time, we have been conditioned to equate learning with achieving the one right answer. Back in the 70's when I was in primary school, my experience was that the goal was to get it right in a set manner. Anything less than the right answer, wasn't acknowledged as time well spent.

Our school motto is '**Learning and growing with Christ**'. I really like this, as it highlights an active and ongoing process rather than a finite end point.

Learning is a process where we take steps forward, and even steps back sometimes, as we try new things, make mistakes and take time to reach mastery and understanding.

When you next ask your child what they are learning about, explore the process and the steps they take towards a destination. I'm sure it will be a richer conversation.

Building Progress

Despite the period of wet weather, our builders have managed to make good progress on our project.

You can now enter the front office via the new entry door, avoiding the wind and rain that was previously an issue. The construction fencing will remain in place for up to 4 weeks as there has been a delay with the paving of the walkway areas.

While this is in place, **please do not use** the drop off and pick up area as pedestrian access. If you walk in to school via the Hampden Rd **entry driveway**, please walk around the back of the main building to access classrooms, do not walk across the drop off zone. If you walk in to school via the Hampden Rd **exit driveway**, remain on the library side of the main building until you reach the quadrangle. Please plan ahead to enter the school via the walkway that takes you to the side of the building you need to access. Please refer to the email sent before the term began for more information.



Cross Country

We look forward to our students participating in our annual whole school Cross Country event next Thursday. Once our COVID safe plan is complete, I will advise options for you to attend the event as spectators.

Welcome!

Welcome to Lachlan J (5A) and Dean A (40-W) and your families - we hope you settle in quickly and enjoy our St Mark's community.

Sport News

BARKER District Athletics Day



Our 27 St Mark's athletes bravely faced the rainy conditions last Friday, the 16th of October, to participate in the Barker District Athletics day. This event is for upper primary students aged from 10 to 12 years, and usually takes place in Term 1; so it has been a long time coming!

Our students participated with great effort and many were successful in receiving either points or ribbons for our team. Unfortunately, the High Jump was cancelled due to the rain (and the safety of our students) but these students will be able to participate in an event on Thursday, the 22nd of October at St Michaels Lutheran School.

We finished the day **6th overall** and **3rd in the Adjusted Shield**- an amazing achievement.

Students are reminded to wash and return their school athletics polo shirts ASAP.

Well done to you all.

Reminder

All student mobile phones are to be handed in to the front office before school to be stored securely until students depart.

School Life

Year 5 News

The Year 5 classes have been studying animal adaptation in Science. They have chosen a particular animal to study, created a report and had the opportunity to share their learning with their Year 1 buddies.



They also played animal adaptation games on the laptops. The games were created by the Year 5's in Term 3 using PowerPoint. Creativity, Technology and Science used together to supercharge learning!



Year 3L Garden

The garden is producing beautifully! Last week we harvested spinach, lettuce, kale and spring onions. This week our class enjoyed delicious snow peas, our extra produce was given to others around school.



Interested in learning a Language?

The School of Languages is a government school that teaches 23 languages in different locations around the metropolitan area. The school operates outside regular school hours. Find out more through their website:

www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au, or see Leanne in the front office for further information.



LOST!

Danika V-H (2S) has lost her size 8 brown school jumper.

Jess S (5SM) has lost her brown school jumper

Please return to the classrooms if found.

Coming Up

October

Friday 23rd

Chapel, 9am - led by Pastor Ben

Foundation excursion, Adelaide Zoo

Tuesday 27th

Assembly, 9am

Wednesday 28th

Band Rehearsal, 8.20am

Thursday 29th

Cross Country - Keith Stephenson Park

Friday 30th

Chapel, 9am

Year 6 excursion - Parliament House

Book Club Orders Due



At our P&F Meeting last night, we discussed what the last couple of events will be for the year. We are focussing on providing fun and free (or low cost) events to bring joy (and maybe some treats!) to the school community.

We will release our new event next week.

Many Blessings,
Deb Zimmermann
P&F Chairperson

Important

A **Payment of \$423.25** was deposited through Westpac Bank (Mount Barker) on Friday, 16th October with no reference, if this is your payment, please contact the front office.

Thank you

Library News

The Library will soon be doing stocktake and will need all overdue books returned. Notes have been given to students indicating how many books are overdue, and we would appreciate prompt returns. You don't have to wait for your child's library borrowing day, just return them to their class box.



Book Club Order forms have been sent home, and orders (and payment) are due in by **Friday, 30th October**. If you are wanting to order items as Christmas gifts, please notify us and we can put them aside for you to collect at your convenience.

Mrs Paterson

School Life

Year 2K News

Over the last few weeks, the 2K students planned and wrote their own children's picture books. The target audience was children in Foundation.



They were very excited to sit with a Foundation child and read their published books to them. They focused on reading clearly and with expression.

It was a wonderful experience for everyone, and another way we can create community across our year levels.

Year 4 News

Our Year 4 students have 'Circle Time' as part of our You Can Do It (YCDI) program. In 'Circle Time' students are encouraged to discuss topics and play games with the aim of developing positive relationships through practising listening skills, respecting one another and unity.

For the first weeks of term they have been exploring identity and what makes each of us unique. After a discussion about identity, they realised that the differences between people are a great thing, because they allow us to work together more efficiently as well as share our talents with those around us.



The display in the hallway reminds us that at St Mark's, we are unique individuals that are working together as one team. Each day we have a chance to show kindness and share our God given talents with one another.

Year 3 News

Maths

In Math lessons, our Year 3's are learning about 2D shape and 3D objects. They created their own memory games to practise learning about 3D objects and 2D shapes, and learnt about the attributes that make things either shapes or objects.

They also have been looking around the school grounds to find 3D objects, and noticed lots of rectangular prisms. Why do you think that is?



The Year 3's have been doing some thinking about this.

When you look around the school what objects and shapes can you find?

Poetry

In writing class, 3L has been focusing on poetry writing. This week they studied the context, purpose and audience of different poems, and then had to write some poems as a group.

- The context had to be about school
- The purpose had to be describing an aspect of school
- The audience was our parents/peers as school

Below are a few excerpts from the poems they collectively wrote...enjoy!

A day at school

*When I walk into school
I see my best friend who's
really cool
I step into 3L
Then I hear the bell*

*I sit down at my desk
And always try my best
It is now devotion time
We sing a song that
rhymes*

*Math is really fun
We learn more than one
plus one
Fruit snack comes, Ya Ya
Ya
I'm excited for fitness play*

*It is almost recess
I hope my apple crumble
isn't a mess
Recess is too short
I must line up and not talk*

Getting Ready For School

*As I get dressed
I put on my school clothes
I hear a funny sound
What is it? Who Knows*

*I've got time to go outside
I go and shoot some hoops
I step is something squishy
I then discover it is dog
poops*

*I run inside
Because I hear my yelling
I get in the car
But sometimes it's smelling*

*I soon arrive at school
I jump out the car window
I run through the corridor
And get caught by Miss
Barolo*

Community Life

ZOOPER DOOPERS \$1
Friday @ lunchtime!



YOU COULD PLAY WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST FOR FREE!

Local programs also available in Nairne and Mount Barker!

Woolworths CRICKET BLAST

SPORTS VOUCHERS

OUTDOORS NON-CONTACT

HAVE A BLAST!

GET INTO WOOLWORTHS CRICKET BLAST. IT'S A FUN AND ALL-INCLUSIVE PROGRAM FOR KIDS WITH A DISABILITY – WHETHER IT'S YOUR FIRST TIME WITH A BAT OR YOU'RE A BACKYARD CRICKET STAR!

Echunga Cricket Club
Echunga Oval on Thursday's 4 - 5pm
5/11/20 - 3/12/20 xmas break 28/01/20 - 25/02/21
hully01@live.com
0428 762 359

*BASED ON PROGRAM RRP OF \$99. MORE INFO AT SPORTSVOUCHERS.SA.GOV.AU



JOIN A CREW NEAR YOU TODAY

PLAY CRICKET

OFFICIAL KIDS PROGRAM



SEASON LAUNCH NOVEMBER 1ST

Join us on Sunday November 1st for our season launch!

- 11 am - 6pm
- Exclusive discounts on Memberships.
- Free ice cream with swim purchase.
- BBQ fundraiser hosted by Mountain Pool Swim Club.
- Enrolments for GoSwim swimming lessons.

Cameron Road,
Mount Barker 5243
8391 1464



Get That Diary Out!

October

Friday 23rd

Chapel, 9am - led by Pastor Ben
Foundation excursion, Adelaide Zoo

Tuesday 27th

Assembly, 9am

Wednesday 28th

Band Rehearsal, 8.20am

Thursday 29th

Cross Country - Keith Stephenson Park

Friday 30th

Chapel, 9am
Year 6 Excursion - Parliament House
Book Club Orders Due

November

Wednesday 4th

Band Rehearsal, 8.20am
Year 6 Aquatics Excursion

Thursday 5th

Year 6 Aquatics Excursion

Friday 6th

Chapel, 9am

Important Term 4 Dates

Year 1 Excursion - 13th November

Year 6 Big Day Out - 8th December

Last Day of Term 4 - Wednesday, 9th December

St Mark's JAFFA Junior Youth welcomes children in **Years 4-7**

JAFFA YOUTH PRESENTS...

DUCK DUCK GOOSE CHASE



Let's try a Scavenger Hunt with a difference!



The next JAFFA Youth event is going to move forward into the 21st Century and seek the use of current technologies to find and solve the clues to find a treasure.

Sunday 25th October 2020

3 - 5pm in St Mark's Church LINK

Bring: \$3.00, enthusiasm and your friends

Contact - Emma Graetz on **0418 898 430** or
emmagraetz@gmail.com for any questions and to RSVP by 23 October 2020.