



Our Year 2 students, teachers and volunteers travelled back in time to the 1900s this week...

Faith Focus

I read in an article from the Education Standards Board titled 'Insights for Effective Transitions to early learning and school' that Evidence-based insights in a recent discussion paper from the Australian Education Research Organisation (AERO) show that an effective transition centres on a child's sense of belonging. They comment further that **'A sense of belonging can assist many aspects of children's learning and development, including their emerging sense of identity, wellbeing and engagement with learning.'** The article outlines practices that support developing a sense of belonging.

When you read that, I'm sure you are not surprised by the article's findings as you can relate to times when you have felt a sense of belonging and times when you didn't. You've felt the difference to your own wellbeing depending on your sense of belonging.

It's unfortunate that in many situations, a sense of belonging or acceptance can seem to depend on what we contribute or can offer, or how well we seem to fit in rather than just being freely accepted. Often we feel like we need to do something to belong.

It's different with God. We all belong to him without having to offer him something first. We don't have to reach a standard or earn his favour to belong. He accepts us because of his love for us and the forgiveness we have through Jesus. In Matthew 19:14 he says **'Let the little children come to me for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them'**. They haven't earned his love but he freely gives it. They, like us, belong to God.

In a world where we all want to belong and be accepted, God is someone you can go to and depend on to be accepted, just as you are. You will always belong to him.

'For in Jesus you are all children of God through faith'
Galatians 3:26

James Heyne

Important Bits

Principal Ponderings The Next Thing

I slowly read a book over the last two months. It's called 'Get your life back' by John Eldredge. I say slowly, because one of the points of the book, was describing how what we do, can become a list of tasks we rush to complete, so we can move onto the next thing. The author encourages us to allow time for transitions in our lives.

The close of one school year and the start of another is a significant time of transition. As we rapidly near the end of our school year, we take note of this and purposely support students to transition from the end of one year to the start of the next. In these coming weeks, important transition activities include

- This week's Foundation 2023 kiss and drop visits
- Our step up day on Monday 12th December
- Our class parties on Tuesday 13th December – thank you again to the P&F for providing a pizza and hot chip lunch.
- Year 6 'Big Day Out' and Graduation Dinner
- Our closing assembly
- Our whole school closing service at Inbarendi on the 14th December at 7pm.

Whole School Closing Service

We look forward to our whole school Closing Service on Wednesday, 14th December.

Attendance at this service is a requirement for all students. During the night all students have a role in the service. If for any reason your child is not able to attend please notify the school office via email.

Families are of course encouraged to join us to experience our whole school gathering. We begin at 7pm at Inbarendi, Cornerstone College.

At this Service we will note a special transition moment when Miss Schultz will join us. We are looking forward to the occasion to thank God for and formally acknowledge the 32 years of care and nurturing that Miss Schultz gave to so many students, families and staff during her time at St Mark's.

ATTENTION!

First Day of Term 1 2023
Monday 30th January for Years 1-6
Tuesday, 31st January for Foundations

Colour Run

The SRC are again excited to host the **ST MARK'S COLOUR RUN**. The Colour Run is a unique event that celebrates healthiness, happiness, and individuality. The Colour Run is scheduled for **Friday, December 9th**.

On this day, students should wear a very old white t-shirt, old shorts or pants and old shoes they are able to run in.

The Colour Run will begin at 2:15pm. Families are welcome to watch their child participate.

Students will be sent home colourful, so we encourage parents to have a towel ready in the car for their child to sit on. The SRC look forward to a colourful end to Week 8 at St Mark's!



Kind Words and Kind Actions

In Term 4 the SRC are focussing on Kind Words and Kind Actions.

During our assemblies, the SRC have been reminding our students of the importance of using Kind Words and Kind Actions in all circumstances. They have also created a number of 'Kindness Love Hearts' each with their own kind word or action to be shared with someone else. When the kindness has been shared anonymously, the student then passes the love heart on to somebody else to fulfill. Their mission of spreading kindness within our school community has been wonderful to see fulfilled.

The SRC has also been hosting 'Ice-cream Fridays' and our recent Crazy, Colourful Casual Day to raise funds for Hungry No More.

Hungry No More is an initiative of the Uniting Church Mt Barker. It began in February 2000. Today it provides a safe, supportive and welcoming place for between 30 to 50 people. Each Sunday evening the Uniting Church opens its doors for worship followed by a home cooked meal for those who at times face challenges.

All Chapel offerings are also going to this worthy cause, so please keep bringing in your donations. Thank you also to our community for your continued support of the SRC and their student led initiatives.

Dani Barolo
Learning and Curriculum Leader

School Life

Sports News

Lilly H (Year 6) recently competed in the SA Under 12 Years Athletics team for the School Sport Australia Track and Field Championship. Lilly came 4th in her heat for the 200m, won her heat for the 100m and finished 4th in the 100m final. What an amazing achievement!

Liam B (Year 6)- was selected in the Year 5/6 Barker District tennis team that competed at Seacliff. Throughout the week Liam participated in a range of singles & doubles matches against some tough opposition.

Emily W (Year 6)- was selected in the SA School Sport Diving Team that competed in Brisbane. Emily competed in numerous events which included; 12yr old Girls – Springboard & Knockout and 10 - 12 Yr Girls – Synchronised.



Well done to all students for representing St Mark's at these events!

Champions Challenge

Last Thursday, our Champions Challenge team attended Cornerstone College for our final sporting competition for the year. Champions Challenge is an Athletics day against our 3 neighbouring Lutheran Primary Schools; St Michael's, Lobethal Lutheran and Unity College. Students are selected for this team using their results from Sports Day, PE class performance and trials throughout the year.

We had a wonderful day of sunshine as we competed in High Jump, Long Jump, ShotPut, Discus, 100m, 200m and 600m.

It was a real credit to our students who competed in a friendly way, supported one another and maintained their 'effort' during their events. There were many PB's and ribbons, allowing St Mark's to win the shield for the third year in a row!

Big thank you to the parent volunteers and Mrs Holmes for their assistance on the day. Students are reminded to return (washed) their T-shirt via the front office or Mr Scott.



Our Year 6 athletes for their last ever St Mark's Champions Challenge.

Coming Up...

December

Thursday 1st

Year 5 Camp, She-oak Run
Foundation 2023 Transition Visit - Group 2

Friday 2nd

Chapel, 9am - Pastor Ben
Year 5 Camp, She-oak Run

Tuesday 6th

Assembly @ 9:00am - FD & 2M

Wednesday 7th

Foundation 2023 Transition Visit - Group 1
School Captains for 2023 Speeches

Thursday 8th

Foundation 2023 Transition Visit - Group 2
Choir tour to Sash Ferguson & Cinema
Year 6 Dinner from 6:30pm

Friday 9th

Chapel, 9am - led by SRC
Colour Run, from 2.30pm

Monday 12th

All Library books and readers due back today!
Step Up Day
Talent Quest (Years 4-6)

Tuesday 13th

Class Parties

Wednesday 14th

Closing Assembly @ 9am
End of Term 4 - 3.15pm
**Whole School Closing Service @ Inbarendi (gym)
Cornerstone College - 7pm**



The Colour Run is BACK!!!!

We are asking for volunteers on **Friday, 9th December** from **12.30pm** to help set up the colour stations. If you wish to help, please complete the Volunteer Slip below and return to school **TOMORROW, Friday 2nd December**. We require at least 16 helpers for this event, I hope to hear from you!

Tara Wilson



VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

I would like to volunteer to help set-up & help distribute colour during this event.

Set-up Time: 12:30pm

Parent/Caregiver Name: _____

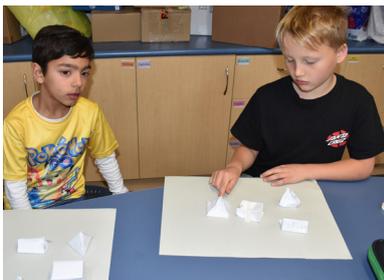
Contact Number: _____

School Life

Year 2 News

Maths

3D objects were the focus for maths classes this week as students created objects and learnt how to count their edges, faces and vertices.



HASS News

They also dressed up in old fashioned clothes to complete their HASS unit.



They made butter, damper, played old fashioned games and made dolls from wooden

pegs. Everyone had a ball and not a screen in sight! Favourite activities included the damper and butter making and playing 'elastics'.



Library News

We have begun our annual stocktake. If your child receives an overdue book notice we would appreciate the return of these books ASAP. If you have any problems, please notify your child's teacher or myself.

Kind Regards,
Louise Paterson
Librarian



Achievement Awards

Congratulations to...

Foundation Year 2

Sienna B · Mila B · Nicolas C
Marigold E · Connor H · Elise M
Thomas J · Orlando H · Thomas P
· Chelsea S · Mya L · Eliana P
Anwit T · Thomas W · William E
Ezra F · Alice J · Austin L
Timothy W · Sebastian B · Ashton F
Haris K · Finley S · Seth W

Year 3 - Year 6

Emily B · Rhys G
William O · Luke P · Poppy S
Harrison W · Sophie B · Isla K
Patrick M · Skyla MD · Lachlan S
Imogen M · Lachlan S · Darcy S
Evie T · Finley B · Chloe F
Owen G · Thomas M · Sophie M
Lachlan C · Josiah M

who received Awards at our Week 7 Assembly.

Year 4 News

Maths

Did you know there are 6 different faces on the Teddies inside a Tiny Teddies pack?

Our Year 4s were given a handful of Tiny Teddies each, sorted them and placed them into a graph.



Community



Icecreams for sale tomorrow!

Bring a Gold Coin to purchase one!



Welcoming children in Years 3 - 6 to our last Jaffa event for 2022



JAFFA CHRISTMAS



Sunday December 4, 1:30 – 3:30pm
St Mark's Church Link
Bring \$3.00, Enthusiasm and Your Friends

... and remember to DRESS FESTIVE!

Contact Emma Graetz on 0418 898 430 or emmagraetz@gmail.com to RSVP by December 2nd or for any questions you might have.



Each Monday 9.30-11.00am

St Mark's Lutheran Church

Contact for further details

Jane Hill 0417008133

Annette Cavies 0427181471

Growing out of Uniform??

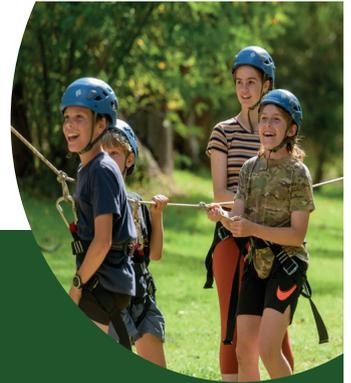
Stock up for 2023 at our onsite 2nd Hand Uniform Shop.

- House Coloured Polos - \$2
- School Ties - \$2
- Pinafores - \$20
- School Pants - \$10
- Winter Shirts - \$5
- Formal Jumpers - \$20
- Sports Shirt - \$5

Pop in to the front office for more information.



Mylor Adventure Camp Adventure Plus! Holiday Program



Fly high with our Giant Swing, splash wild whilst canoeing, feel the rush with our Flying Fox...

Our full-day adventure outdoor holiday program is tailor-made for children aged 7-15 years.

Activities include...

- Flying Fox
- Low Ropes
- Parachute Express
- Bouldering Wall
- Nature Walk
- Giant Swing
- Bridge Building
- Team Building Games

Get in touch!

T: 08 8388 5234

E: adventure@baptistcaresa.org.au

W: baptistcaresa.org.au/mylor-adventure-camp



@MylorAdventureCamp



Wirraway Musters School Holiday Program



Looking for some amazing outdoor and Horse-Riding adventures for your kids during School Holidays?

Our Musters run for up to five days and four nights and are designed for young people aged 10-17 years.

Activities include...

- Horse Riding
- Sheep Mustering
- Low Ropes
- Archery
- Amazing Race
- Theme Games
- Shelter Building
- Bush Walking

Get in touch!

T: 08 8388 5234

E: wirraway@baptistcaresa.org.au

W: baptistcaresa.org.au/wirraway-homestead



@wirrawayhomestead

GOD WITH US?

2pm Saturday 10th December
Laratinga Pavilion, 100 Springs Road, Mount Barker

TRINITY CHURCH

GOD WITH US?

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel which means 'God with us'

Join the women of Trinity Church Mount Barker to hear how Christmas changes everything.

Make a gorgeous fresh flower wreath and enjoy some delicious afternoon tea.

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Earlybird cost of \$25 per ticket. To register scan the QR code or visit the Trinity Church Mount Barker website. Teenage girls welcome.