



An invitation to a banquet? Read below for more info!

Faith Focus

Come to the Banquet!

You're invited... an invitation comes. There's a special occasion, a big party, maybe a wedding. In April, my husband and I were excited to attend my son Daniel's wedding to his beautiful bride, Jen. It was held on a beautiful, Autumn day and we had a wonderful time surrounded by family and friends. There was a lot of delicious food to consume and a variety of wines were on offer after the ceremony. The word 'banquet' refers to an elaborate and formal meal for many people. When we are invited to a banquet, we know there will be lots of people there, and that the food will be abundant - often too much!! At St Mark's, we often celebrate the last day of term with hot chips. We have also enjoyed donut days, hot cross buns and what is 'PJ and Pizza' night without pizza? In the Bible there are many food and feasting images. Often, they create a picture of God's love and provision during hardship or victorious times. This is a reminder of what God has done for his people and continues to do for us into the future.

In the New Testament, we are reminded that the grace and love of Christ is for everyone. In Luke 14:15-24, Jesus tells a parable about a man who prepared a great wedding banquet and invited many guests. However, those who were invited made excuses and didn't come. They had other things to do - thankfully this didn't happen at Daniel and Jen's wedding! So, the man sent his servants to invite those who were often left out - the poor and people who were generally considered 'outsiders', so that his house would be full. This parable is a reminder to us that God's invitation is open to all of us, regardless of our social status or position.

The banquet God invites us to, involves no unwanted calories. What is this banquet? The prophet Isaiah speaks of the mountain of the Lord,

"On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine - the best of meats and the finest of wines"
 Isaiah 25: 6.

Jesus makes it clear that heaven is like a banquet, laid out in lavish abundance, prepared before time for the Father's guests. We have this banquet to look forward to one day, but in the meantime, we can daily banquet on God's love and provision. We are encouraged to feast on the Word of God, allowing it to nourish our souls and transform our lives. It doesn't matter how old or young we are, how rich or poor, where we were born or who our family is, what matters, is accepting the invitation. God blesses us abundantly each day through His love for us. He feeds our souls. The invitation is for all of us - please come!

Currently at St Mark's Church, there is a banquet of a different kind. Artists from local churches, as well as our own St Mark's students, are exhibiting artwork with the theme of '**COME TO THE BANQUET**'. This is a registered SALA event. This newsletter has more details about when you can attend this special event from **Thursday 24th, to Sunday 27th of August**. Of course, what is a banquet without food? There will be a café that you can sit down and take some time out while you visit the artwork. The invitation is yours - please come!

Sharon Steven

Important Bits

Principal Ponderings

Open Days And Connections

Last Tuesday, we held an Open Day to give an opportunity for families who aren't part of St Mark's, to come and visit. I very much enjoyed showing them who we are. I thank families who have spoken to family and friends and shared their experience of St Mark's.

While I spend time with prospective parents I do also appreciate and value you as our existing families. I thank you that you allow us to partner with you to nurture your child's growth and development. It is important to me that you know that I do have time for you when you have questions, feedback or suggestions on your experience with St Mark's.

I am ensuring that I have time available to hear from you - either in person, on the phone or via email if that works for you. If you would like to catch up and talk through how you are experiencing St Mark's, I would welcome hearing from you. Please feel free to contact Leanne in the office to organise the best way for us to connect.

Traffic News

As part of community, please be mindful of adhering to traffic conditions i.e. travelling at 25km/hr in school zones and 10km/hr on school grounds.

Please be aware of parking regulations and be careful not to park too close to residents driveways or in our designated bus zones which are operational between 8.15 - 9.15am and 2.45 - 3.45pm.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Junior Primary Concert News

With our concert fast approaching, we would ask that if parents know of any planned student absences over the term or for the performance dates, that you would inform Ms Lyall elyall@stmarks.sa.edu.au. This will help in the planning, rehearsal and casting process.

The final dress rehearsal will be **September 25th** and the performances will be **September 27th** and **28th** - thank you!



Upcoming Camp Dates

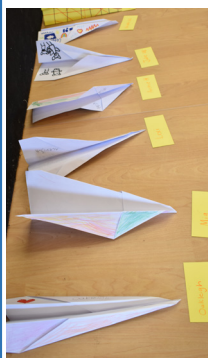
Year 2 - Wednesday 30th - Thursday 31st Aug

Year 1 - Thursday 9th - Friday 10th Nov

Year 6 - Thursday 9th - Friday 10th Nov

Science Week Lunch Time Paper Plane Competition!!

Creativity, Design and Innovation were all on display at yesterday's lunchtime Paper Plane Competition. We offered 3 different categories, creativity, distance and accuracy. Hamish (pictured right) holds his winning design for the accuracy division.



The distance division was won by Samuel S (Year 4) with approximately 13m flown.



Creativity division was won by Class 1K for making a plane from paper they made themselves! See overleaf for their plane design.



The Paper Plane Competition was a great success!



School Life

Year 3 News

As part of their learning about measuring capacity, the Year 3s were challenged to create a container that would hold exactly one cup of rice.



In the end, many containers had a little extra space to fill, while a few others spilled a little bit of rice over the top.



It was interesting to see students estimating, predicting and then modifying their design.

Sport News

Congratulations to the students below who will compete next week (22nd of August) at St Michaels Lutheran School in SAPSASA High Jump trials. These trials were postponed in Term 1 due to bad weather. Students were selected based on their performance in sports lessons and Sports Day results.

Good luck to

*Mya L · Isaac M · Chloe S · Alexey L
Ethan D · Grace S*

Year 5 News

As part of National Science Week, Year 5s completed a construction task with their Year 1 buddies.



Students were challenged with building an innovative spaghetti and playdough free standing structure in only ten minutes. It was a great time of working and learning together - and fun too!



After the challenge students spent time eating lunch together.

Coming Up...

August

Friday 18th

Chapel, 9am - led by School Captains and SRC
ICAS English
Year 5 Science Day @ Cornerstone College

Monday 21st

ICAS Science & Spelling Bee
Mission and Ministry team meeting 4.45pm

Tuesday 22nd

Assembly, 9am led by 3L and 4S
Book Week Parade

Thursday 24th

Band Rehearsal 8.30am

Friday 25th

Chapel, 9am - Andy Traegar (Cornerstone Chaplain)

TONIGHT!
DON'T FORGET
Cyber Safety Parent Sessions
Light refreshments provided.

7PM
SCHOOL HALL



Father's Day Stall

Father's stall will be **Thursday, 31st August** from 8:45am in the staffroom. Children will be able to purchase gifts for fathers or carers on the day. Items will be either \$5 or \$10.

Information about our upcoming Student Disco is overleaf, **Flexischools should be open next week** for bookings. Please note the opportunity advertised below - we would love to meet with other parents during the disco.

DURING THE STUDENT DISCO!

BYO DRINKS

P&F PARENT GATHERING

SATURDAY
9TH SEPTEMBER, 2023
START AT 6PM

SCHOOL LIBRARY



School Life

Book Week News

Book Week is next week! DRESS UP DAY is **Tuesday, 22nd August.**

For the theme 'READ, GROW, INSPIRE' Children may dress up like:

READ – a Book Character they enjoy;

GROW – something found in gardens i.e. flower, tree, butterfly, bird, gnome, gardener;

INSPIRE – inspirational character i.e. doctor, nurse, vet, horse rider, racing car driver, farmer.

I hope students can participate and enjoy the day!

Kind regards

Louise Paterson
Librarian



LOST!!!

- A size 8 brand new unnamed school sports jumper
- A size 14 sports jumper named Jeno

If you find these, please return to the front office.

MIXED UP SHOES After Dance Club

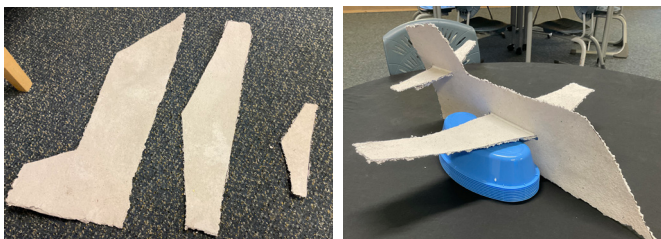
Please check that your child has a left and a right black school shoe that are the same size. One of our students now has two left shoes, Size 13 and 1. If you have the matching pairs, please return to the front office.

Important!

Any families with **siblings due to start school in 2025**, could you please submit an **enrolment application** asap. Our formal process is underway with offers of enrolment being made. If you require an application or have any questions, please speak with Leanne Llewellyn via the front office.

Year 1 News

For the Science Week Paper Plane competition, the Year 1s made their own paper and then turned it into a paper plane. Here are the different processes they went through...what an amazing class project!



Year 4 News

Our Year 4s have had a few guest speakers recently, this time, indigenous local David Booth shared his knowledge about how Aboriginal people used natural resources and sustainable practices.



St Mark's Lutheran School Mission & Ministry Team

Current & New Parent Volunteers
All Welcome!

When? 4:45pm Monday August 21st
Where? St Mark's School Library
RSVP: Friday August 18th
School Office: 8391 0444

At our get together we'll discuss **Nifty Knitters, Kids Hope, Whispers of Hope** & the **2023 Mt Barker Pageant**.

I look forward to welcoming you to St Mark's for a coffee, cake and conversation on how together we can continue to do **God's work** for **St Mark's church, school and beyond!**

You Are Special Junior Primary Concert 2023

Are you ready?
It's going to be SO SO EXCITING!

The Star Wemmicks laugh and then suddenly fall silent as the beautiful ladies enter, gliding stylishly across the stage, almost in slow motion. They stop and strike a pose. The other Wemmicks stare in admiration.

'Gosh... I'll have that dress, shoes, hat, gloves and even that handbag!' thought Ms Saracini!

A highlight of Term 3 is our school Junior Primary concert! We welcome families at the following times...

Wednesday September 27th – Matinee Performances

9:30 am Band, FH, 1US, 2M, 3MOW, 4LG (Group 1)

11:30am Choir, FD, 1K, 2K, 3L, 4S (Group 2)

Wednesday September 27th – 7:00pm Performance

Band, FH, 1US, 2M, 3MOW, 4LG (Group 1)

Thursday September 28th – 7:00pm Performance

Choir, FD, 1K, 2K, 3L, 4S (Group 2)

Please pencil the date in your diary. Information on how to book your seats as well as details of costumes required will be made available in the coming weeks!

We look forward to families joining us for what promises to be a wonderful Junior Primary concert!

Loredana Saracini
Deputy Principal

School Life



NEON DISCO

Saturday 9th September 2023

Years F to 2 - 6:00 - 7:00pm. Years 3 to 6 - 7:30 - 8:45pm

COME AND HAVE SOME FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND DANCE UP A STORM. JOIN US FOR A DISCO!
Presented by the St Mark's P&F Committee

\$10 per Child
Includes: Disco Entry, a Fruit Box, a packet of Chips & Lolly Bag.
Please bring along a named drink bottle of water.

Come dressed in your BRIGHTEST NEON COLOURS!!

*No walk-ins will be permitted.
RSVP closes Wednesday 6th September 2023 at 4PM.
Parents are welcome to stay for light snacks in the Library. BYO drinks*

Disco RSVP

Please send completed form back to class or RSVP on [flexischools](https://flexischools.com) by **Wednesday, 6th September**.

Student(s) Name _____ Class _____
☐ Foundation – Year 2, 6-7pm. OR ☐ Year 3 – Year 6, 7:30 – 8:45pm

Student(s) Name _____ Class _____
☐ Foundation – Year 2, 6-7pm. OR ☐ Year 3 – Year 6, 7:30 – 8:45pm

Student(s) Name _____ Class _____
☐ Foundation – Year 2, 6-7pm. OR ☐ Year 3 – Year 6, 7:30 – 8:45pm

I would like to help at the following disco

☐ Foundation – Year 2, 6-7pm. OR ☐ Year 3 – Year 6, 7:30 – 8:45pm

Parent / Caregiver Name & Contact Number if you can volunteer on the night:

Community

**LCA/NZ Simultaneous
Art Exhibition 2023**

Hosted by the Lutheran churches and schools of Adelaide Hills at
St Marks Lutheran Church Hall

24th to 27th August 2023

Come and see a variety of St Marks and other local artists' media and interpretation on the theme

"Come to the Banquet"

Opening times for the exhibition:

Thursday	2pm to 6pm (Students and families encouraged to attend)
Friday	10am to 3pm 6pm to 8pm Invite only event
Saturday	10am to 3pm
Sunday	9.30am combined church service 11am to 3pm



Tea, coffee and nibbles will be available for you to enjoy while you view the works.

We would love to have you support this event

Profits from monetary donations will go towards Australian Lutheran World Service Famine appeals.
Donations of cakes, biscuits and nibbles across the 4 days would be highly appreciated.

**ALCOHOL AND DRUG
EDUCATION FOR
PARENTS AND
COMMUNITY**

Thursday 24th August
6pm - 7.30pm
Mount Barker United Soccer Club
304 Springs Road
Mount Barker

Bookings:
mtbcc.eventbrite.com
8391 2747




Join us at this **free** information session designed to give you - parents, caregivers and community members the tools and confidence to talk to young people about alcohol and other drugs and how to stay safe



Learn more about:
Current use of alcohol and other drugs among young people
Talking to a young person about alcohol and other drugs
Positively influencing a young person's choices






**24 August 7pm
@Mount Barker Swim School**

Come and Try

Can you swim freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke and want to swim competitively with Mountain Pool Swimming Club? Scan the QR Code to register

Get That Diary Out!

August

Friday 18th

Chapel, 9am - led by School Captains and SRC
ICAS English
Year 5 HILS Science Day @ Cornerstone College

Monday 21st

ICAS Science & Spelling Bee
Mission and Ministry Team Meeting 4.45pm

Tuesday 22nd

Book Week Parade

Assembly, 9am led by 3L and 4S
ICAS Science & Spelling Bee

Wednesday 23rd

ICAS Science & Spelling Bee

Thursday 24th

Band Rehearsal 8.30am
ICAS Science & Spelling Bee

Friday 25th

Chapel, 9am - Andy Traegar (Cornerstone Chaplain)
ICAS Science & Spelling Bee

Monday 28th

ICAS Maths

Wednesday 30th

2024 Foundation Playdate

Thursday 31st

Band Rehearsal 8.30am
Fathers Day Gift Stall
Year 2 Camp

September

Friday 1st

Chapel, 9am - led by 5SM
Year 2 Camp



SA Dental

Your child's dental health is important to their overall health and wellbeing.

All children from 0-18 years are welcome to attend SA Dental. There are no out-of-pocket costs for most families. Book an appointment today!

To find your closest SA Dental clinic, visit
www.dental.sa.gov.au/find-a-clinic

To request an appointment, visit
www.dental.sa.gov.au/kids/request-an-appointment