



SSM led us beautifully in chapel last week with an exceptional dance piece.

Faith Focus

The Rock - Our Rock

In the forever changing landscape of the world today, where information and opinions from billboards, television, social media (and even school newsletters) flood our senses, finding a solid foundation for our faith and beliefs are essential. How else can we know what is right? How can we know what is wrong? Where do we go to find the truths of a life really worth living – a life so worthy, so richly blessed that our own children want to shadow our footsteps?

In Matthew 16:13-20, Jesus presents a profound revelation to His disciples, a revelation that not only shaped the early Christian Church but also holds a powerful message for us today.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.'

Matthew 16:13-17 NIV

These precious words describe a pivotal moment in the disciples' journey with Jesus. He takes them to Caesarea Philippi, a place of pagan worship, and poses a crucial question: "Who do you say I am?" Peter's response, *"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God,"* is not merely a well-thought-out answer, but a revelation from God Himself. Jesus identifies this revelation as the foundation upon which He will build His Church—a rock solid enough to withstand the storms of time (Matthew 16:18).

The significance of this passage reaches far beyond its historical context. Just as the disciples grappled with the question of Jesus' identity, we too are faced with a barrage of ideologies, worldviews, and voices vying for our attention. In a world of uncertainty, the confession Peter made remains the bedrock of our faith—the revelation that Jesus is the Son of God.

Jesus continues to be the unchanging foundation upon which we can build our lives, that is why He is called The rock. He guides our decision-making, shapes our values, and provides hope amid challenges. When we place our identity in Jesus, we find purpose that transcends fleeting trends and societal pressures. Without him, I'd simply have nowhere to hang my hat!

As you travel through your week, I invite you to ponder the words of Matthew...consider Jesus as the rock – solid enough to withstand all of life's challenges... and when all is travelling well... I invite you to find a moment to give thanks to a God whose love for us is never-ending.

Loredana Saracini

Important Bits

Principal Ponderings

Stretched

I have a certain amount of apprehension watching someone inflate a balloon. As the balloon continues to grow bigger, there's a point when I start wondering if it is time to stop inflating, before it is too much and the balloon bursts.

At assembly on Tuesday, our Year 2 students shared the highlights of their recent overnight camp to El Shaddai at Wellington. Amongst the excitement they proudly acknowledged how they used persistent, resilience and confidence (3 of the 5 You Can Do It keys) to have a try at new challenges that tested their comfort zones.

One of our greatest challenges as educators and parents, is to know how to provide the right amount of challenge for our students and children. Too little and they will not develop the important life skills they need to be confident and independent young people. Too much and they can become overwhelmed.

I think some of the important ways we support our children are to have them know we believe in them and have their back, reassure them it's OK to have a try and not succeed the first time or maybe even second or third time and importantly accept and love them as they are.

To be reminded of what your children might be experiencing as they tackle challenges head on, maybe try something you find challenging this week.

Achievement Awards

Congratulations to

Lucy VL · Ada K · Madison T
Lily M · Flynn M · Lilly M
Annalise VH · Finley S · Gemma RC
Karla F · Piper BC · Lily D
Aarav G · Lucy H · Connor L
Riley M · Lydia M · Laela W
Imogen M · Mya L · Saphira J
Ashlyn L · Thomas M · Marianna V
who received an award at Week 7 Assembly.



Spring has Nearly Sprung!!

Hats are now a required part of uniform. Please ensure your child has a hat.



Year 5 News

This week, Year 5s conducted an investigation to explore why town planning and housing design is important for settlements who are at risk of flooding.



They considered how the 'storm' affected each house and the environment.

PREMIER'S READING Challenge

ONE DAY TO GO!!! All forms should be handed in by tomorrow Friday, 8th of September.

SAVE THE DATE!

Whole School Closing Service

Wednesday, 13th December

All students are required to attend. Each student has a role in this important community event where we farewell our Year 6 students and conclude our year of learning.

FOUND!

These two items were found at school recently. Please come to the office to collect if they are yours.



Also, the hoodies pictured below, as well as a fitted and flat sheet were leftover from the **Year 2 Camp**. They can be collected from the front office.



School Life

Pedal Prix News

It is the end of the 2023 Pedal Prix season and our Lutheran Lightning team were recognised at assembly for their success and commitment. This year in the Junior Primary Mixed division, we came first in two races and second in the last race - a wonderful achievement!



Well done to the 14 team members and their supportive parents - special mention to team manager Jason Mann for facilitating such a great season.

Year 1 News

In Science this week the Year 1 students participated in an investigation. They explored how push and pull forces can change the shape of objects.

It turns out you use lots of push and pull forces to create cookies.



Book Club order forms have been sent home. Orders and payment need to be in by **Friday, September 15th**.

Are You Missing Uniform Items???

Our Lost Property Drawers are located by the girls toilet. Please check for any items you may have lost and **PLEASE LABEL** uniform clearly - then it will be returned to you if found!



Coming Up...

September

Friday 8th

Chapel, 9am - led by 6KB
Premier's Reading Challenge forms due

Saturday 9th

Student Disco, hall - Foundation - Year 2 • 6pm - 7pm
Years 3 - 6 • 7.30 - 8.45pm
Parent Gathering, library - 6pm - 8.45pm

Wednesday 13th

Band Rehearsal 8.30am
Year 6 Lightning Carnival

Thursday 14th

St Mark's Open Day

Friday 15th

Chapel, 9am - led by 5H
Cornerstone Cabaret Performance (Choir)
Book Club orders due

ATTENTION BAND MEMBERS!

Band Rehearsal has been rescheduled to **Wednesday** in Week 8 (13/09) and Week 10 (27/09) instead of Thursday. Week 9 remains unchanged.



Thank you to all - we sold out on all gifts from the Fathers Day stall. We hope all the Dads enjoyed their special gift. [A special thank you to Shannon Roesler and Robyn Williams for organising the stall.](#)

Student Disco

RSVPs are now closed for students, but Parents are welcome to stay and chat in the library during the disco, see promotion below.

DURING THE STUDENT DISCO!

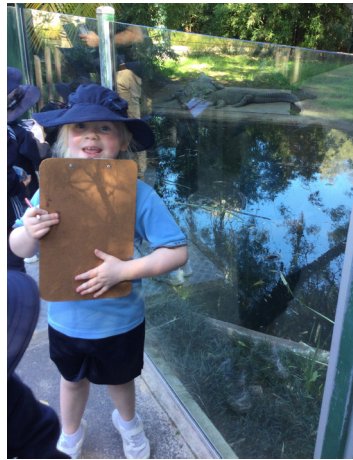
BYO DRINKS NIBBLES PROVIDED!

P&F PARENT GATHERING

SATURDAY
9TH SEPTEMBER, 2023
START AT 6PM

SCHOOL LIBRARY





You Are Special Junior Primary Concert 2023

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

"Of course I do! I made you. I've been so looking forward to seeing you."

Eli takes a good look at Punchinello. Then, Eli points at the dots.

"But what's all this? Looks like you've been given some bad marks."

I wonder what the dots mean?

Well... we'll just have to wait and see!

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 book your seats at the following link. <https://www.trybooking.com/CLEKG>

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

Loredana Saracini
Deputy Principal

School Life

St Mark's Lutheran School Council Nominations

Nominations for four (4) positions on the St Mark's Lutheran School Council are now open.

School Council holds governance responsibility for St Mark's Lutheran School. It comprises up to eight members including:

- at least six members required to be members of the St Mark's Lutheran church or another Lutheran Church
- up to two members who are practicing Christians from the school or wider community.

The four positions open for nomination are for a two-year term (minimum three Lutheran members with one able to be a practicing Christian member). Current School Council members completing their two year term are able to re-nominate.

School Council membership is voluntary and requires members to meet once a month during the school year, with some out of session activities from time to time.

Applicants will ideally have experience in one of the following areas: financial management, risk management, information technology, education, facilities and master planning. These skills will complement School Council's current skills profile.

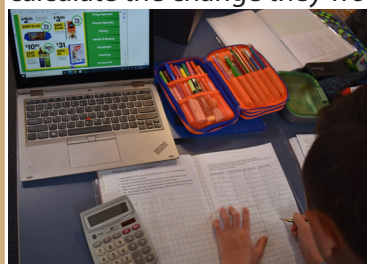
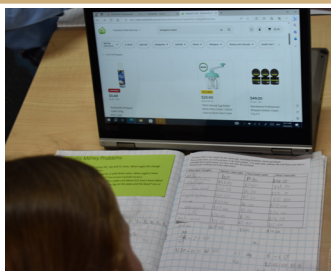
School Council membership is elected by members of the St Mark's Lutheran Church Mt Barker, in their role as Members of the School, at an Annual Election Meeting in November. Elections are based on recommendation from School Council.

Nomination forms are available by contacting School Council Chairperson Casey Work on 0422 070 986 or by contacting the School Front Office on 08 8391 0444 or contacts@stmarks.sa.edu.au.

Nominations are due by Wednesday, 4th October.

Year 4 News

As part of the Maths curriculum, students in Year 4 have been 'shopping'. They had to choose items from a catalogue and add up the cost to check if they had enough money and calculate the change they would receive.



Understanding dollars and cents and how they work together is a great introduction to thinking about whole and decimal numbers... and it's fun too!

Year 1 News

Creativity and Maths were coupled together in Year 1 this week as the students



created pictures using 2D shapes.



They are learning the names and features of shapes so they can recognise and define them.

Important!

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

2024 School Term Dates

Term 1

Monday 29th Jan - Friday 12th Apr (Years 1-6)
Tuesday 30th January to Friday 12th April (Foundation)

Term 2

Monday 29th April - Friday 28th June

Term 3

Monday 22nd July - Friday 27th September

Term 4

Monday 13th October - Wednesday 11th December

Community

LOST!!!

MIXED UP SHOES After Dance Club

One of our students has two left shoes, Size 13 and 1.
If you have the matching pairs, please return to the front office.



Join us at JAFFA for ...

BOARD GAME BLITZ

Welcoming children in Years 4 to 6
Sunday September 17, 1:30 – 3:30pm
St Mark's Church Link
Bring \$4.00, Enthusiasm and Your Friends

Contact Emma Graetz on 0418 898 430 or
emmagraetz@gmail.com to RSVP by September 15th
or for any questions you might have.



ADELAIDE HILLS HAWKS

Inspired by the Matildas?
Ready to take your Football to the
Next Level?

Join the Adelaide Hills Hawks!
The Premier female football club
in the Hills!

Registrations are now OPEN for trials for 2024
Location: Hawks Nest, 1 Hutchens Road, Woodside

Girls: U9 - U17; Monday 16 and Wednesday 18 October 6pm - 7.30pm
Boys: U8 - U16; Thursday 19 and Friday 20 October 6pm - 7.30pm

Register online: <https://tinyurl.com/hawksfc24>
Contact: trialseadelaidehillshawks.com.au



Get That Diary Out!

September

Friday 8th

Chapel, 9am - led by 6KB
Premier's Reading Challenge forms due

Saturday 9th

Student Disco, hall - Foundation - Year 2 • 6pm - 7pm
Years 3 - 6 • 7.30 - 8.45pm
Parent Gathering, library - 6pm - 8.45pm

Wednesday 13th

Band Rehearsal 8.30am
Year 6 Lightning Carnival

Thursday 14th

St Mark's Open Day

Friday 15th

Chapel, 9am - led by 5H
Cornerstone Cabaret Performance (Choir)

Monday 18th

Full dress rehearsal for JP Concert - costumes required

Tuesday 19th

Assembly, 9am
State Day Athletics

Thursday 21st

Band Rehearsal 8.30am
Foundation 2024 Playdate

Friday 22nd

Chapel, 9am - led by Mrs Page and Mrs Saracini

Give Life. Give blood in Mount Barker.

St Mark's Lutheran Church
26 September to 29 September



Tuesday 26 September 12 pm - 6 pm
Wednesday 27 September 11 am - 5.30 pm
Thursday 28 September 11 am - 5.30 pm
Friday 29 September 8.45 am - 3.30 pm




THE CABARET TIME MACHINE

LET'S GO BACK TO THE FUTURE



Friday, 15 September
6.00pm for 6.30pm start until 9.30pm
inbarendi, Cornerstone College

PRESENTED BY
THE CORNERSTONE COLLEGE
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
\$15 per ticket | \$10 concession



Tickets on sale now