



Year 3 learning about service and volunteering.

Faith Focus

This week at Chapel I have the privilege of being involved with giving the Year 2s their very own bible!

“Wait!”, I hear you say, “What is the Bible, and where does it even come from?”
 Well, I’m glad you asked!

The Bible is a collection of writings of numerous people, from various walks of life, over a period of several thousand years. The one thing that all the writings have in common, though, is that they are all believed to have been inspired by God. That is, in some mysterious and miraculous way, God spoke to these people and told them what to write down.

The Bible itself tells us that, “*All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right*” (2 Timothy 3:16 New Living Translation).

The contents of the Bible then, are considered sacred by several religious traditions comprising billions of people worldwide.

Simply put, the Bible shows us God’s gracious and loving character, and his desire to have a meaningful and interactive relationship with us.

It’s believed there have been something like 6 or 7 billion copies of the Bible printed over the centuries, and it has been translated into at least half of the known languages of the world. The Bible is acknowledged as being the most influential book of all time.

I consider the Bible to be my handbook for life, and I read something from the Bible every day. As I do, it’s always fascinating to find that God knows exactly what I need at that time and gives me more than I ever expect. Sometimes he gives me comfort or peace. At other times he gives me encouragement or inspiration. Sometimes he even challenges me or confronts me with a truth that I need to address – but God always speaks to me, provides for me, and draws me closer to himself through the words of the Bible.

I pray that you are able to find time to read the Bible regularly to also nurture and grow your relationship with God – and if you’ve never tried it, you can start here!

I’m at Chapel most Fridays and available for a chat and/or to answer questions afterwards.

Feel free to come and say “Hi”.

God bless your week!

Pastor Greg

Important Bits

Principal Ponderings

The second of our four St Mark's values is **Courage**.



Courage – We welcome challenges as opportunities to learn and grow, moving forward with optimism and confidence.

Our Courage descriptor again says a lot in just 15 words.

'We welcome challenges' – This might not be our first thought but through our values we create a culture where we can indeed welcome challenges. We can be confident in all we do and take a positive approach to what lies before us.

'As opportunities to learn and grow' – We see ourselves as learners, approaching every opportunity as one to learn from. We know we can have a go and try. When it doesn't always turn out how we hope, that's OK.

'Moving forward' – We're not stuck where we are, and we embrace the opportunities in front of us.

'With optimism and confidence' – We have a positive can do mindset as we know we support each other to give it a go and try our best. We value having a go.

As we practice courage at St Mark's, we build capacity for us all to be confident and engaged in learning and growth. Our St Mark's culture will continue to support confident young people growing into their best selves as they maximise the opportunities in front of them.

Every bit helps.

From day one of St Mark's, we've grown to who we are today because we've been blessed with the contribution of volunteers. I'm so grateful for this. It might have felt like volunteering has become harder to make time for in recent years, and society did have a pause from volunteering for a few years when these opportunities ceased.

Yesterday I sent home an overview of the wonderful support our P and F is providing at our upcoming Sports Day. Their contribution to community building and the atmosphere of Sports Day is legendary and embedded into the success of Sports Day.

Next Friday is your opportunity to continue to shape the success of St Mark's. Whether we think this way or not, we are all part of P and F – the parents and friends of St Mark's. It really isn't 'that' group of volunteers. It's all of us!

Now is the time to play your part and volunteer an hour of your time, amongst watching your children, to continue to build our community.

Please complete the attached volunteer form and return to the front office ASAP. If you have any questions regarding volunteering, please contact Christopher Luck, our P&F President via text messaging on 0418 194 786 or via email stmarkspf@gmail.com.

James Heyne

Courier Cup

On Thursday the 29th of March, 17 enthusiastic swimmers attended the Mountain Pool, Mount Barker, to represent our school in the annual Courier Cup swimming carnival. In the lead up, these students attended trials to prepare and have shown a strong commitment to improving their swimming strokes!



Mr Scott and Mrs Holmes were very proud to witness the students efforts and team comradery. Well done to our swimmers; winners of the Barker District Overall Shield!!! Amazing effort! Swimmers will be acknowledged at Assembly in Week 7.

Karla F • Carli H • Phoenix C • Jace C • Jake S
Emily T • Ruby S • Grace S • Sophie M
Oscar W • Max I • Josh N • Lachlan S • Billy M
Anika W • Emma C • Isobel J



School Life

TOMORROW!
Friday, 8th of March

Years 4 - 6 Sports Day Program

600m run

9.45am - 10.40am (approx)

Children run in following order - girls first

• born in 2015 > born in 2014 > born in 2013 > born in 2012



Discus

10.40 - 11am (approx)

girls born in 2015

11.20am - 12.50pm

boys born in 2015 • born in 2014 • born in 2013 • born in 2012

Parents are welcome to watch and cheer!

Twilight Sports Day
Friday, 15th March

School begins at 12.40pm on Sports Day!

If you are unable to provide supervision for your child before 12.40pm roll call, we can provide modified supervision for them at school from our usual start time. Please inform us through the front office if you need this assistance and ensure they have a packed recess and lunch. YMCA will provide their usual before school care on the day.

- All students need a (plain) house coloured polo shirt of their team colour
- HOUSE COLOURS- **BARKER- Yellow, DUNN- Red, DAIVSON- Blue, and STURT- Green**

We look forward to seeing you there wearing your house colours! A program and map of the events are included in the newsletter.



Tomorrow we will fly the Australian Flag at half mast as requested by the Commonwealth Flag Officer from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Australian flag will be flown at half mast as a mark of mourning and respect for Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue.

Dr O'Donoghue, a proud Yankunytjatjara woman was courageous and passionate in her work and service for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Her State Funeral will be held on Kurna Country, at St Peter's Cathedral, North Adelaide tomorrow afternoon – Friday, 8th March.

Coming Up...

March

Friday 8th

Chapel, 9am - Pastor Greg, giving the Year 2 Bibles
Years 4-6 600m run/discus - from 9.45am

Monday 11th

Public Holiday

Tuesday 12th

Assembly, 9am

Wednesday 13th

NAPLAN test period begins

Connect group, 1.45pm - St Mark's Link

Thursday 14th

Band Rehearsal, 8.30am

Friday 15th

Sports Day - school begins at 12.40pm



Sports Day is Coming!

Tomorrow is the last day to order your Twilight Sports Day P&F Snack Pack - order form overleaf - don't miss out!

P&F are seeking volunteers for Sports Day for:

- **BBQ;**
- Cake stall;
- Making or donating cakes/biscuits.

It's a great chance to make connections with other parents and develop community. Complete and return the form overleaf.

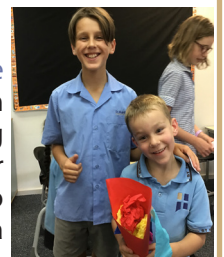
If you would like to donate/bake for the cake stall, please include details of ingredients and please, no nuts! House coloured patty pans are available from the office if you would like to make cupcakes in your House colour!

Easter Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

Order forms for delicious Kytons Bakery Hot Cross Buns are attached. Get your cash only orders in to the front office by **Tuesday, 19th March for collection on Tuesday, 26th March** ready for the Easter weekend - YUM!

German News

'**Wilkommen zu Schule!**' **Welcome To School!** Following the German tradition of giving and receiving school cones (schultüte), the Year 6s made and gave schultüte to their Foundation buddies as a welcome to St Marks.



They wrote a card and explained the schultüte in simple German sentences to their buddy. Traditionally, these gifts are given to German students from their parents on their first day of school.

School Life

Year 3 News

Year 3s put their HASS learning into action on Monday afternoon by being active citizens in our St Mark's community. They worked in groups, volunteering to help out around the school after planning what they would do, how they would do it and what they would need.



Pedal Prix News



Last Saturday, Year 6 students were invited to a Come and Try session at St Mark's where students were able to gain confidence in steering, braking and trike handling.

The team will have it's first race on Saturday, 18th May 2024 at Tailem Bend. Students will be busy training over the coming months, in readiness for this race.

We wish them the best of luck for the 2024 season and hope they enjoy the experience.



Connect in 2024

At St Mark's we care for the wellbeing of all students and their families. While parenting brings a myriad of blessings, at times it can be tricky. Being a parent or caregiver of a neurodivergent child can bring with it additional challenges.

In Term 4 last year, St Mark's hosted it's first 'Connect' get together. This was well received by parents with one parent sharing...

"It was great to hear other parents share their struggles. I so needed to hear this."

From **1:45pm Wednesday, 13th March**, we invite you to our first **Connect** for 2024. At this time, Carolyn Grace who has many years of experience working in schools across sectors will touch on the following...

- Emotional regulation - what is it?"
- "Putting on my oxygen mask first - What do I need as a parent/caregiver to be regulated?" Strategies to help parents be regulated.
- Co-regulation - providing safety and support for my child - explanation of what co-regulation is and what it offers.
- "Ready to learn? - When I feel safe, I will be ready to learn". What does this look like for my child? What are their individual needs? (especially for those with neurodivergence). What do they need the most? What's currently working? What's not?
- Strategies to support my child to be ready to learn - the importance of creating a sense of safety relationally and environmentally, having predictable and consistent routines, language and strategies, supporting the transition to and from school.

This presentation will then be followed by coffee, cake and conversation. Our Connect session will be held in the St Mark's Church Link.

A child-minding facility will be available in the Link for non-school age children.

Please RSVP your attendance by Tuesday, 12th March by contacting the front office on 8391 0444 or email contact@stmarks.sa.edu.au

We look forward to bringing our St Mark's families together in the spirit of supporting one another.

Loredana Saracini
Deputy Principal

ORDERS DUE TOMORROW!



Snack Packs

Make life easier for yourself on Sports Day with a P&F Snack Pack.

These will be delivered to your child's classroom during afternoon tea break so they can refuel for the next events. Including a fruit box, cheese and cracker dipper, mini fruity gems, piece of fruit and popcorn.

Additional snack packs can be ordered for siblings and collected from your nominated classroom.

Order by completing form below and sending to the office with the correct money or via [*flexischools*](#) app.



*****Orders close Friday 8th March*****

I would like to order _____ (number of Snack Packs) at \$7 per bag to be delivered to

_____ (name of child) in class _____ on Sport's Day

I would like to order _____ (number of Snack Packs) at \$7 per bag to be delivered to

_____ (name of child) in class _____ on Sport's Day

I would like to order _____ (number of Snack Packs) at \$7 per bag to be delivered to

_____ (name of child) in class _____ on Sport's Day

I would like to order _____ (number of Snack Packs) at \$7 per bag to be delivered to

_____ (name of child) in class _____ on Sport's Day

Total money enclosed \$ _____



This year, St Mark's Sports Day will be held on March 15th. It is a wonderful time for parents, grandparents, sibling and friends to come along and join with our community. The Parents and Friends Association will be operating a BBQ and Yiros stall as well as a Coffee and Cake stall throughout the event. We would love your help to run these stalls, plus it's a great way to meet new people. If you are able to help, please fill out your details in the relevant column/columns and tick the time slot/slots that you are available.

  BBQ cooking	  BBQ / Yiros Serving	  Cake/Coffee Stall Serving
I can help cook the BBQ at the following times Name: _____ Contact Number: _____	I can help serve at the BBQ and Yiros Stall at the following times Name: _____ Contact Number: _____	I can help serve at the Cake and Coffee Stall at the following times Name: _____ Contact Number: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 – 11:00am (set-up)	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 – 11:00am (set-up)	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 – 11:00am (set-up)
<input type="checkbox"/> 11:00 – 12:00pm (lunch)	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:00 – 12:00pm (lunch)	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:00 – 12:00pm (lunch)
<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 – 1:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 – 1:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 – 1:00pm
<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 – 2:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 – 2:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 – 2:00pm
<input type="checkbox"/> 2:00 – 3:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:00 – 3:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:00 -3:00pm
<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 – 4:00pm (dinner)	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 – 4:00pm (dinner)	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:00 – 4:00pm
<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 – 5:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 – 5:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 – 5:00pm
<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 – 6:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00 – 6:00pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:00pm (pack up)
<input type="checkbox"/> 6:00pm (pack up)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:00pm (pack up)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	



I can make the following baked goods for Sports Day



I can make the following gluten free, nut free and/or dairy free baked goods for Sports Day



Name _____ Phone Number _____

** The P&F can supply house coloured patty pans for muffins and cupcakes

Sports Day – Friday Program

12:40pm – **Students need to be in their classrooms at 12.40pm to meet their teachers and for roll call**

12:50pm – Students will be seated at house tents by their class teacher and ready for the opening of the 2024 Sports Day followed by the Acknowledgement of Country.

1pm – Introduction to Sports Day, including House Captain's oath before groups move off to tabloid events.

Junior Primary Tabloid Rotation 1.05PM

Event	Found. Driver	Found. Hassold	Year 1 Uebergang/ Schubert	Year 1 Wright	Year 2 Kuchel/ Burden	Year 2 MacKenzie	Year 3 Liebelt	Year 3 Marsh/ Wesley
Sprints	1	8	3	2	5	4	7	6
Accuracy Throw	2	1	4	3	6	5	8	7
Distance Push	3	2	5 REST	4 REST	7	6	1	8
Jumping Hoops	4 REST	3 REST	6	5	8	7	2	1
Vertical Jump	5	4	7	6	1	8	3	2
Hockey Hit	6	5	8	7	2	1	4	3
Goal Throw	7 REST	6 REST	1	8	3	2	5	4
Accuracy Kick	8	7	2	1	4	3	6	5

Senior Primary Tabloid Rotation 1.05PM

Event	GROUP A- 9 GIRLS/9 BOYS	GROUP B- 10 BOYS	GROUP C- 11 BOYS	GROUP D- 10 GIRLS/ 11 GIRLS	GROUP E- 12 BOYS/ 11 YEAR GIRLS	GROUP F- 12 YEAR GIRLS
Shot Put	1	6	5	4	3	2
Javelin	2	1	6	5	4	3
Long Jump	3	2	1	6	5	4
Sprints 85m	4	3	2	1	6	5
Goal Throw	5	4	3	2	1	6
High Jump	6	5	4	3	2	1

AFTERNOON BREAK – 4:05 – 4:30

** Students enjoy their afternoon break in the comfort of their classrooms*

Second Session – Junior/Senior Events

4:30pm – Foundation/Year 1 – Rob the Nest and/or Water Bucket Relay (junior oval)

4:30pm – Year 2/ Year 3 – Water Bucket Relay and/or Rob the Nest (junior oval)

4:30pm – **Year 4-** Sack Race, **Year 5-** Egg and Spoon and **Year 6-** Knee Ball Relay (senior oval)

*** YEAR 4-6-** complete all activities once- (time permitting)

Third Session – Whole School

5:10pm- House War Cry

5:20pm- Student/Teacher/Parent Race

5:30pm - Presentation of House Sports Shield

6:00pm - St Mark's Community Tea

ATTACHED IS PAYMENT OF \$

School Life

St Mark's Celebrates Harmony Day

Friday, 22nd March



Harmony Day is a time to celebrate Australian multiculturalism!

The message of Harmony Day is 'Everyone Belongs'. It is about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values - freedom, respect, fairness and equality of opportunity.

To celebrate Harmony Day we are calling for Cultural Champions. A Cultural Champion is a student, parent, aunt, uncle, grandparent or friend of St Mark's who is able to share something of their culture with our students so they come to know, understand and grow in their appreciation of the colourful tapestry that makes up Australia.

Ideas for Cultural Champions may be...

- ✓ Sharing a picture book in your language of origin
- ✓ Providing a cooking experience of a particular dish
- ✓ Teaching a traditional dance
- ✓ Sharing interesting facts about your country of origin
- ✓ Engaging our students in a craft activity typical of your country of origin
- ✓ Teaching students how to play a game from your country of origin
- ✓ Sharing a migration story – Why did you come to Australia?
- ✓ Teaching our students another language (e.g. numbers and colours in Italian)
- ✓ Teaching a traditional song or poem
- ✓ Being open to our students interviewing you about your journey and settlement in Australia
- ✓ Sharing cultural events of your country i.e. Petunia Festival in Ukraine, Carnevale in Italy

Should you have any questions about this event, please call the Front Office on 8391 0444. If you wish to join St Mark's as a Cultural Champion, please complete the tear off slip below or email me at dbarolo@stmarks.sa.edu.au by **Tuesday, 12th March**.

Depending on how many Cultural Champions respond to this event, will determine how the day will unfold. The logistics of the day will be planned once all responses have been collected.

Students on the day are able to wear either a cultural costume or an item of orange which is the colour chosen for Harmony Day.

I look forward to celebrating Harmony Day with you all. This will be an occasion which I know will help our students grow in their appreciation of the cultural richness of our learning community.

Dani Barolo
Learning Leader
5th March, 2024

Harmony Day – Friday, 22nd March

I _____ (name) would like to be a Cultural Champion at Harmony Day on Friday
22nd March. I will be able to share _____
_____ (a brief explanation of what you will share).

Signed: _____

Community



EDGE
EARLY LEARNING

WHERE YOUR CHILDREN DISCOVER THEMSELVES.

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EDGE MOUNT BARKER

Now Available to order on Wednesdays

CORNERSTONE COLLEGE
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GRAB YOUR LUNCHBOX
via flexishools.com.au

All boxes contain the 5 food groups
Vegetables, Fruit, Grain, Dairy & Protein

NUT FREE

The Pizza Pack

The Frittata Pack (v)

The Sandwich Pack

Choose your sandwich from the options available

All boxes come with Fruit & Veggies (seasonal) & a sweet treat

Get That Diary Out

March

Friday 8th

Chapel, 9am - Pastor Greg, giving of Year 2 Bibles
Years 4-6 Sports Day, 600m run/discus - from 9.45am
P&F Snack Pack orders due

Monday 11th

Public Holiday

Tuesday 12th

Assembly, 9am

Wednesday 13th

NAPLAN test period begins
Connect group, 1.45pm - St Mark's Link

Thursday 14th

Band Rehearsal, 8.30am

Friday 15th

Sports Day - school begins at 12.40pm

Tuesday 19th

Kytons Bakery Fundraiser Order Forms due today

Thursday 21st

Band Rehearsal, 8.30am

Friday 22nd

Chapel, 9am - 4K
Harmony Day

Tuesday 26th

Assembly, 9am

Thursday 28th

Holy Thursday Chapel, 9am, 9am

Friday 29th

Good Friday Public Holiday

WE'VE MOVED!

TRINITY CHURCH

Come join the celebration!

Trinity Church now meets at Mount Barker High School every Sunday at 10am.

To celebrate, we're having a housewarming party on **Sunday 17th March**. Church and Trinity Kids (3yrs to yr6) at 10am, followed by free barista coffee, BBQ lunch, ice-cream, fairy-floss, face-painting and loads of fun for all the family.



April 2024 School Holiday Program

Chemistry Capers Make slime, lava lamps & more... ages 5-8 At Parkindula Homestead Tues 16 10am	Warrawong 2U Amazing, interactive experience with wildlife kids all ages At Parkindula Homestead Thurs 18 10am	Crochet Crochet all skills levels ages 12+ At Mt Barker Community Centre Thurs 18 2pm	Character workshop Draw a basic cartoon character ages 6+ At Mt Barker Community Centre Fri 19 10am	Cooking Cook a Mexican lunch with a chef ages 6+ At Mt Barker Community Centre Mon 22 11am	Jaw Dropping Chemistry Have fun with Nitro Nat! Make & take home wicked wormy slime ages 5+ At Mt Barker Community Centre Wed 24 2pm
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For bookings and more info,
 Mount Barker Community Centre
 3 Durmus Street Mount Barker
 Ph. 83912747
MOUNT BARKER COMMUNITY CENTRE

ZOOOPER DOOPERS Friday!

\$1

