

A group of school children, both boys and girls, are sitting on a bench in a playground. They are wearing school uniforms consisting of blue shirts and dark sweaters or jumpers. Some are holding toys like a cup and a ball. In the background, there are trees, a playground structure, and other children. A green trash bin is visible to the right of the group.

Term 2 Week 5

Faith Focus

Waiting for class with friends

"Be still, and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10

The yard duty timetable is part of every teacher's week. It is one of those responsibilities that all teachers undertake without giving it much thought when they begin teaching, it is just part of the job. Over the years, I have had some quite delightful times walking around the school playground watching the various groups of students making up their own games, playing in large groups, or digging away quite happily in the sandpit alongside others. There is often a student who will come up and begin a conversation with "Did you know that...?" and I smile and say, "That's interesting, tell me more" and that student will continue to share their insights with me while I also keep an eye on the rest of the students playing.

There is one complaint that I have heard multiple times while on yard duty, and it usually comes from the youngest students. It usually starts with, "[insert name] keeps chasing me and they will not stop". It often starts as a game, but then one student decides they are tired and wants to stop the game, but they have not yet learnt to negotiate how to do this. My response is quite simple; so simple the student usually just stares at me. I say, "Just stop running, they can't chase you if you are not running".

God reminds us "Be still and know that I am God". Sometimes, we keep running around with so much to do, and so many people depend on us to do things. We forget that we can just take a moment and hit 'pause'. No, the world will not collapse or spin out of control.

I pray we find that moment each day, to be still and know that God is God and we do not need to be.

Meredith Page

Principal Ponderings

It was wonderful to see the way our staff worked to engage students over the last week. Students took part in a range of activities to celebrate Reconciliation Week (thanks to Ms Barolo for her work in putting these resources together) and our students were enthusiastic about planting some trees to mark the occasion. As I wandered around the school, I saw all sorts of interesting things going on in classroom. From life cycles to observable cyclical phenomena (still working that one out), to classrooms where students got to experience 1800's style schooling, complete with dunce caps. We're blessed to have such hard working and creative staff at St Mark's.

It was great last week, to have so many visitors from Cornerstone College and to really have an opportunity to build on this connection. We welcomed Emma, Sky, Declan, Taylor, Kayla, Monte, and Jesse, who were here for their Year 10 work experience. We also had Miss Brookes take our chapel on Friday morning. This term, we have welcomed back a group of Year 12 students from Cornerstone who have been working on their legacy project, helping the students of St Mark's. Our students are very fortunate to have friends from high school come down and spend time with them. I'm sure the Cornerstone students have found it just as rewarding.

This week we wish Mr Scott all the best as he heads off on Long Service Leave for the remainder of the term. His Health and PE classes will be looked after by Mrs Seidel in Weeks 7, 8 and 9.

One final reminder: tomorrow, Friday, June 6, is a pupil free day.

Andrew Boesch
Acting Principal

P&F PJ and Pizza Night

Come along, dressed in warm pyjamas, your pillow, blanket or beanbag and enjoy a movie night with your friends.

Saturday, 14 June, 6:00pm

\$10 entry

Includes pizza, fruit box and bag of popcorn.



Juniors (F-3) in the Hall
Lilo and Stitch

Seniors (3-6) in the Library
Penguins of Madagascar



Flexischools and order forms are now available.

Chapel

Chapel was led by Ms Brookes, Head of Senior School at Cornerstone College, who gave us a message about nurturing and growing the world.





SUPPORTING FAMILIES OF NEURODIVERGENT CHILDREN WITH CAROLYN GRACE

TUESDAY, 10 JUNE 1:30PM – 3:00PM
ST MARK'S CHURCH LINK



To support our families, St Mark's launched Connect in 2024 – a welcoming space for parents and caregivers of neurodivergent children to share experiences, explore practical strategies, and hear from professionals in the field.

We are excited to once again welcome Carolyn Grace to lead our next Connect Session. Carolyn brings a wealth of experience from her work across various school sectors and will guide parents through essential concepts and practical strategies around self-regulation and co-regulation.

TOPICS COVERED

Emotional regulation: What is it and why does it matter?

Putting on my oxygen mask first! What do I need as a parent to stay regulated?

Co-regulation: How to provide safety and support for my child.

Ready to learn? Understanding what safety, support, and readiness to learn look like for my neurodivergent child.

Practical strategies: Creating a sense of safety through relationships, routines, environment, and transitions to and from school.

CONNECTION

Following the presentation, join us for coffee, cake, and conversation – a chance to connect with other families in a relaxed and supportive setting.



RSVP

by Friday June 6th, 2025 via email
contact@stmarks.sa.edu.au

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

School life

A Step Back in Time for Year 5!

Year 5 students recently travelled back to the 1800s for a special hands-on history experience! Their classroom was transformed into a traditional schoolroom, complete with strict rules—students even had to stand before speaking!

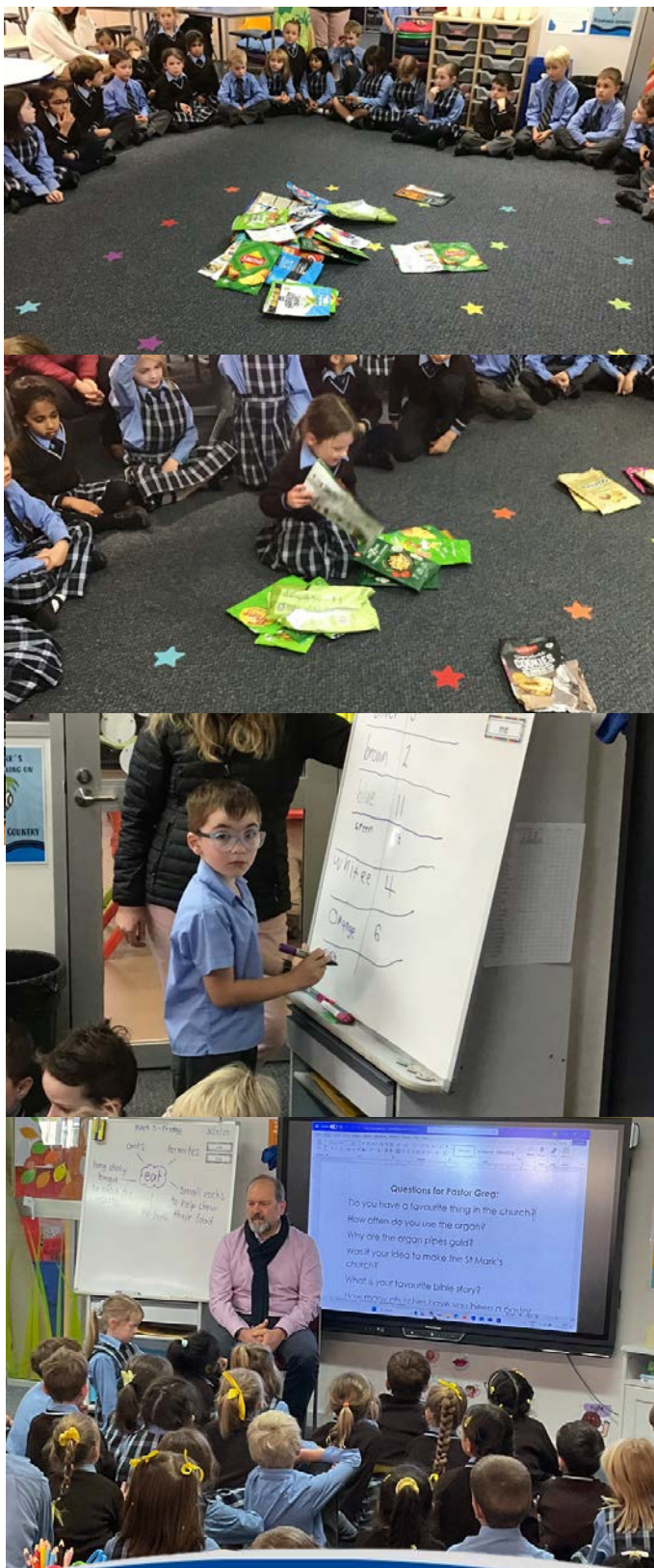
Throughout the day, they experienced what life was like in the 19th Century by writing with ink pens, sewing buttons onto fabric, making damper, playing marbles, and trying their luck at panning for gold. It was a fantastic opportunity to bring history to life and explore how different daily life was in the past.



School life

Year 1 Chip Packets and Pastor Greg visit

Last week, Year 1 students sorted and counted the chip packets, ready to make into blankets, to be donated. They also had Pastor Greg come to have a chat and answer some questions about the church.



Wear your Winter Woollies!

Friday, 13 June (Week 7)

To show solidarity and support for families and individuals in need this winter, St Mark's, along with Lutheran Care, invite you to Wear Your Winter Woollies!

To take part, wear your favourite woollies (e.g. scarf, beanie, jumper, socks, onesie, winter pyjamas or 'Oodie') to school, next Friday, 13 June.

To support Lutheran Care's programs for vulnerable people, we ask students to contribute a gold coin, OR, a long-life pantry or hygiene item (e.g. canned food, pasta, noodles, pasta sauce, coffee/tea, long-life milk, cereal, shampoo, conditioner, soap, hand sanitiser).

We will have a guest from Lutheran Care speak to us at Chapel about how we are supporting the important work they do.



Book Club

Issue 4 Book Club order forms have been sent home. This order will be sent in early due to the extra week of School holidays. Orders and payment need to be in before Monday 16 June.

Thank you.
Mrs Paterson



Thursday, 12 June, Week 7

Next Thursday, students will spend the afternoon outside getting hands on in nature. Students are asked to come to school wearing clothes they can get a little bit dirty...and parents be prepared for students to jump into your cars this way! Students travelling by bus, please bring a change of clothes.



Do you love adventures?

Go on a Nature Scavenger Hunt this weekend and help us prepare for our Nature Play Day. Can you find any of the below on your nature hunts?

- Seedpods of all shapes and sizes
- Flowers
- Cool coloured and shaped leaves
- Something furry
- Pebbles/stones
- Shells
- Excess fruit – lemons, limes, berries
- Gum nuts

Really, just anything from nature that ignites the 5 senses and that is safe for us to play with in our nature play experience!

Bring in your findings to the front office next Tuesday and Wednesday ready for the day!

Small grant available for drought affected students

We have been notified of a small grant (up to \$750) available for students who are directly affected by the drought. The grant (paid by the Federal Government) must be allocated to school fees. The set of criteria is as follows:

- Student attends a South Australian Independent school which has an ARIA of 0.2 or greater (St Mark's Lutheran School has been identified as meeting this criteria);
- Student is enrolled at the school and in a year level for which the school is eligible for Australian Government recurrent funding (Reception to Year 12) and has a regular pattern of attendance at the school;
- Family is experiencing financial distress as a direct result of drought in South Australia;
- Principal place of the student's family residence is located in South Australia and outside of the township; and
- Student's family meets the assessment criteria for School Card as the government school rate.

If you are not eligible for School Card, however can prove a significant change in circumstance (directly related to the drought), you may be eligible for this funding.

Please contact our Business Manager (cschmarr@stmarks.sa.edu.au) if you feel that your student is eligible, and the school will apply on your behalf.

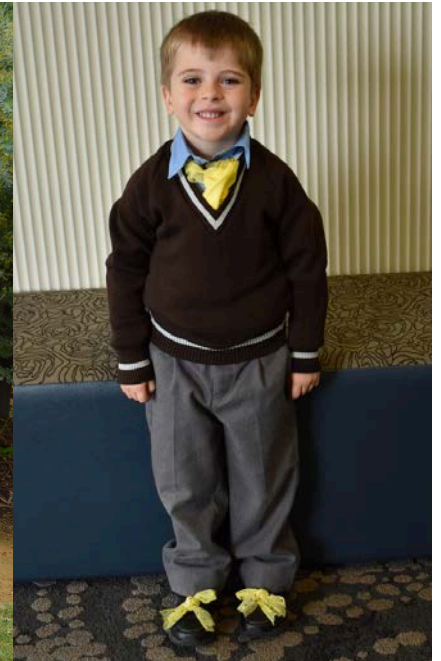


School life

National Reconciliation Week

By The St Mark's Scribes

Last Friday, students were invited to wear a touch of yellow to recognize National Reconciliation Week. The theme this year, Bridging Now to Next, was about reflecting on the past and moving into a better future.



On Friday each class planted one of five plants, Westringia, Yellow Buttons, Finger Limes, Acmena Orange Crush and Goodenia at the bottom of the oval. We did this to recognize these plants strength and ability to grow in harsh environments. We had lots of fun planting!



School life

Congratulations



STATE Cross Country

All the best to our runners who have qualified for the State Cross Country Day- Sydney B, Jack P (6), Annabelle W, Seth W, Patrick S (5) and Lilly M (4). These students will participate at the Oakbank Racecourse this week. Goodluck!

SAPSASA State Football Carnival



Congratulations to Elijah M, Oscar H (5), Riley M and Connor L (6) who represented the BARKER District at the State Football carnival last week. The boys faced a variety of weather conditions and learnt a lot about themselves as players and teammates. Coached by Mr Scott, the team won 7 games (lost 2) and the BARKER district team were declared winners of Division 3. Well done all!

Lambs visit Year 1's

*Wreny had two little lambs,
Their fleece was white as snow;
And everywhere that Wreny went
The lambs were sure to go.*

*They followed him to school one day
and tried to act the fool;
It made the children laugh and play,
To see a lamb at school.*



Diary

June

June 5 - Year 4 Playdate 3.15pm
June 6 - Pupil Free Day
June 9 - Public Holiday
June 10 - Connect Session
June 10 - Assembly
June 12 - Nature Play Day
June 13 - Wear Your Winter Woollies Day
June 14 - P&F PJ & Pizza Night
June 19 - Mid Year Foundation Transition 1
June 19 - Year 1 Excursion to Monarto
June 20 - Foundation Excursion to Zoo
June 24 - Assembly
June 26 - Mid Year Foundation Transition 2
June 27 - End of Term 2



Welcoming children in Years 4 - 6 to our
NEXT JAFFA EVENT



Sunday June 15, 1:30 – 3:30pm
St Mark's School Library
Bring \$4.00, Enthusiasm and Your Friends

Contact Emma Graetz on 0418 898 430 or
emmagraetz@gmail.com to RSVP by Friday June 13 or
for any questions you might have.
See you and your friends there!



Community News and Events




Games,
Puzzles, Lego and
Colouring In
available anytime



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
7 Percussion Instruments 1pm, 2pm, 3pm Free Ages 5 plus	8 Felt Animal Bookmark Drop In 10am-4pm Free	9 Circus Skills 10-11am & 11.15-12.15pm \$5	10 Macrame 11.30am & 1.30pm \$5 Ages 8 plus	11 Free Play Activities - Board Games Lego Colouring In	12 Dungeons and Dragons Ages 14 plus Free July 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th 12-3pm	13 Library Closed
14 Ignite Virtual Reality Drop In 11.30am- 4.30pm Free	15 The Scientific Bubble Show 3-4pm Free	16 Japanese Shaved Ice Candle 11am & 12.30pm \$5 Ages 8 plus	17 French Knitting Drop In 1-3pm Free	18 Free Play Activities - Board Games Lego Colouring In	19 Dungeons and Dragons Ages 14 plus Free July 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th 12-3pm	20 Library Closed

Bookings for activities at <https://mbcl.eventbrite.com.au>

Community News and Events

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Vacation Care | 30 June – 18 July

IN-HOUSE	FULL FEE	\$69.90	CCS REDUCED FEE*	\$10.49 - \$34.95
	FOURTH OF FAMILIES	\$90.80	CCS REDUCED FEE*	\$13.62 - \$45.40

*Estimation of fees after subsidy is applied

WEEK 1

Monday
30 June

In-House

Favorite Character Day



Dress up as your favourite movie, book, or game character. We can read books, colour in and watch shows with your favourite characters. Participate in a show and tell of your character.

Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5

Tuesday
1 July

Excursion

Adelaide Zoo



Come with us on an adventure to visit Adelaide Zoo, see the new pandas and pick your favourite animal.

Depart: 8:30am
Return: 3:30pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 2, 4, 5

Wednesday
2 July

In-House

Emergency Services Day



Dress up as your favourite emergency service person and join us to learn about them and what they do!

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4

Thursday
3 July

Excursion

Bowling And Playground



Play two rounds of bowling with your friends and come with us to the playground at Murray Bridge.

Depart: 9:00am
Return: 3:30pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5

Friday
4 July

In-House

Teddy Bear Picnic



Grab your favorite teddy and join us for a magical Teddy Bear Picnic! We'll whip up some tasty picnic snacks to take home and enjoy fun-filled adventures outdoors with our cuddly companions!

Outcomes: 1, 4, 5

WEEK 2

Monday
7 July

Excursion

Maritime Museum



Come with us to the Maritime Museum where we will have time to explore. Walk to a nearby park for a play.

Depart: 8:15am
Return: 3:00pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 2, 4, 5

Tuesday
8 July

In-House

Music Day



Be loud and express yourself through music, create your own instrument, listen to music and have a boogie on the dance floor.

Outcomes: 2, 4, 5

Wednesday
9 July

In-House

Magic Day



Learn some magic tricks on magic day! We can learn to shuffle a deck of cards, show us the tricks you already know and watch some incredible magicians on the TV for inspiration.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5

Thursday
10 July

In-House

Arts And Crafts Day



Using recycled materials, things from nature, or anything you can find to create or paint as much as you can throughout the day.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Friday
11 July

Excursion

Movies



Enjoy some fresh air with us as we walk to the movies to watch a new movie at Wallis Cinema Mount Barker.

Depart: 9:45am
Return: 12:30pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 1, 2

WEEK 3

Monday
14 July

Excursion

Old Tailem Town



Travel back in time and see what life was like for the settlers of South Australia from 1860 - 1960.

Depart: 9:00am
Return: 3:30pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5

Tuesday
15 July

In-House

Lego And Puzzle Day



Work together to build a city out of Lego and finish some big puzzles as a team.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Wednesday
16 July

Excursion

Farm Barn



Travel to see all the different farm animals at the Hahndorf Farm Barn. What farm animal would you have if you had a farm?

Depart: 9:15am
Return: 2:15pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 2, 4, 5

Thursday
17 July

In-House

Puppet Show



With your friends, make your puppets, create a story then show off your creations in our puppet show!

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Friday
18 July

In-House

PJ Movie Day



Come dressed in your comfy pjs for the last day of the holidays. Chill out and relax with a movie and calming activities.

Outcomes: 1, 3, 5



Book your session via the Xplor Home App
Visit sa.ymca.org.au/OSHC for more information

St. Mark's Lutheran OSHC
37 Hampden Road, Mount Barker, 5251
Wayne Copley
0499 591 662

OSHC Support Team
P 08 8200 2516
E oshc@ymcasa.org.au
f /YMCA SA OSHC



Community News and Events



Winter adventures at Woodhouse Adventure Park!

Whether the kids are attending the 'Drop & Go' UNPLUGGED program, you're visiting as a family for the day, or settling in for an overnight stay, you can expect memorable screen-free fun at Woodhouse in Piccadilly!

School Holidays UNPLUGGED, our 'drop & go' kids-only day camps, feature adventures designed to keep primary school kids active and entertained all day... with a different theme daily, including Challenge Hill obstacle course and Tube Slide (weather permitting). Just \$78 per day (Scout Members save 20%) from 9am to 5pm.

🔥 PLUS check out the Events page on our website for exciting events, perfect for keeping the whole family active and entertained this Winter.

www.woodhouse.org.au

THE SECRET DOOR

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE PERFORMANCE
JULY 11 AT 11 AM
MURRAYBRIDGEPAFC.COM

TWO CURIOUS DETECTIVES UNCOVER A MYSTERIOUS BOOK THAT LEADS THEM TO A SECRET HIDDEN DOOR, TRANSPORTING THEM TO MAGICAL WORLDS FILLED WITH MYSTERY AND ADVENTURE. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IS ENTIRELY UP TO THE AUDIENCE.

IN THIS INTERACTIVE CHOOSE-YOUR-OWN-ADVENTURE PERFORMANCE, CHILDREN TAKE THE LEAD, MAKING DECISIONS THAT SHAPE THE DETECTIVES' JOURNEY. TOGETHER, THEY'LL SOLVE PUZZLES, OVERCOME CHALLENGES AND UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF EACH ENCHANTED REALM. WITH EVERY CHOICE CREATING A NEW PATH, NO TWO SHOWS ARE EVER THE SAME!

Christmas in July

July 7th - 10th, Barmera

JC LIFE 2025

Christmas in July

Junior Christian Life (JC Life) aims to provide a fun, safe place to meet others, grow their relationship with God, and build friendships through worship experiences and exciting activities in a loving Christian community.

SAVE THE DATE	BUS	PRICE
July 7th - 10th 2025	Available from Adelaide & Barossa areas. See website for more details	\$200 Regular camper \$5 per person sibling discount \$50 for first time camper

WHO
YEARS 4 - 7

LOCATION
Camp Kedron, Barmera

REGISTRATION
Visit: Blueprintministries.org.au/camps/jc-life/
REGISTRATIONS CLOSE JUNE 23

OTHER INFORMATION
For more information contact:
Phone: 8267 5211 OR Email: admin@blueprintministries.org.au
Sponsored by LLL

JC
Junior Christian Life

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ministries
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
NORTHERN TERRITORY