



Outside play in between the rain

Term 3 Week 1

Faith Focus

AWESOME

At times it is an overused word, but AWESOME is the word I use to describe the 37 days I shared with my wife in Canada and Alaska, during my Term 2 leave.

We were blessed to experience waterfalls, lakes, rivers, glaciers, snowy mountain peaks, wildlife, lakes and nature in general (I've got over 2000 photos to show this.) The scenery and experiences created new levels of awe and wonder within me.

While I was travelling, I couldn't help but remember Psalm 66 verse 3.

'Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!'

As I daily experienced all the beauty and grandeur of God's creation, I marvelled at how awesome God is. His creation is an awesome deed.

The bible also tells us that God hasn't just created our world and left us alone in it. Just as awesome is his love for each one of us, that through Jesus, we are his children. He reaches into our lives so we have a relationship with him.

Being a child of God blesses us with his love, peace, power, strength and forgiveness in our lives, as we stay connected to him. How awesome is that to tap into!

*See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called **children of God!** And that is what we are!* 1 John 3:1

James Heyne



Principal Ponderings

Thank you for the warm welcome back to St Mark's this week. I have certainly enjoyed reconnecting with everyone and experiencing the St Mark's 'feel' again.

A special welcome to our Mid Year Foundation students and their families who began at St Mark's on Tuesday. We also welcome Safi and Methike and their families who joined 1W on Monday and welcome Mrs Seidel (4K) and Mrs Steven (1U) teaching with us this term while Ms Kotzikas and Mrs Uebergang are on leave.

As we look ahead at the term calendar there are events and activities for both students and families to be involved in. I especially note

- Our Junior Primary concerts in Week 10 on Wed, 24th and Thurs, 25th September
- Our annual student disco on Saturday 30th August
- Our P&F quiz night for our school community on Saturday, 23rd August
- Year 2 camp on the 28th and 29th August
- Book Week is in Week 5, with our dress up on Tuesday, as part of the Week 5 Assembly.

More details of these events are in today's newsletter or from information provided directly by relevant staff.

You can see a full list of our activities and events for the term in the term calendar provided with today's newsletter.

On Monday I provided school families with an important communication from me. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns or would like any support with what was communicated.

James Heyne
Principal

P&F

P&F meeting

Please join us for the P&F meeting on Tuesday, 29 July at 6:30pm in the Staffroom. Everyone welcome

Quiz night

The P&F would love for as many to attend the quiz night as possible. More details are provided further on in the newsletter.

If you cannot make it and would like to contribute, we are happy to accept donations from families for prizes. Chocolates, wine, vouchers. Please present donations to the front office with your name so we can thank you.



School life

Mid Year Foundations

This term Mrs Mibus has a new class of Mid Year Foundations. There are four boys and nine girls. One of the things that they have been learning to do is unpack and pack their bags.

On Wednesday they had their first sport lesson, they said that they really enjoyed it. They also had their first German lesson, in German they learnt where the colors go on the German flag and where Germany is on a map.

Some of their favourite activities to do in the classroom are playing in the play kitchen, playing trains, reading, drawing, playdough, painting, puzzles and playing on the keyboard. They also love it when Mrs Mibus plays songs that they can sing and dance to.

Doing these activities helps the students to make connections and find friends that have some same interests. The new mid foundations are already loving school and are excited about their St Mark's journey ahead of them.

Written by Lydia M, Year 6 student, as part of the St Mark's Scribes



School life

Year 2 Nouns and Verbs

Year 2 students have been learning about what nouns and verbs are, and the differences between them. They watched a video clip, then in partners, had to identify and write down the nouns and verbs they heard.



Congratulations



SAPSASA Soccer

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in the BARKER District SAPSASA Soccer Side (Boys and Girls Teams). They will compete in the State Carnival later this term in Week 4 (11 August – 13 August). We wish you all the best!!

Harry G, Jace C, Jack P, Jacob S, William O (6), and Cora K (5)

Year 5 Decisions

In Christian Studies this term, Year 5 students have begun exploring how values and ethics influence the decisions we make. To begin, students responded to a series of statements by indicating whether they strongly agreed, agreed, disagreed, or strongly disagreed, then explained their reasoning to the class. This sparked thoughtful discussion and encouraged students to reflect on questions such as: Who influences the way I think? How do I make decisions? How do I know if something is a good or poor choice? It was interesting to hear a variety of opinions and begin learning to understand and accept differing viewpoints—an important part of learning and growing together.



School life

Seesaw Communications

We are excited to share with you some important information about how we will be communicating your child's learning progress throughout the school year.

This term we will continue to use Seesaw as our primary platform to share timely and meaningful insights into your child's learning journey. This platform will allow you to view your child's progress regularly, and celebrate their growth and achievements as they happen.

Each term, your child's classroom teacher will post four individual learning updates to Seesaw:

- 2 posts from English
- 2 posts from Mathematics

Each post will include:

- A clear description of the task or learning activity.
- A comment from the teacher that provides specific feedback on your child's work and that clearly articulates your child's achievement.

In addition to classroom learning posts, specialist teachers (e.g. German, Health & Physical Education, Music) will contribute a minimum of two snapshot posts per term. These posts will also include an informative description of your child's year level experience in the specialist area.

This approach will continue to strengthen the connection between school and home by keeping you informed and engaged in your child's learning throughout the year.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to ensure you are connected to your child's Seesaw account so you don't miss any updates. Please feel free to reach out to the office if you need help setting this up.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you through Seesaw.


Library News

Book Club

Issue 5 Book Club has been sent home this week. Online orders and other payments need to be completed by Friday, 8th August.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The countdown is on!! It is now only about 6 weeks until the end of the Reading Challenge. Congratulations to 6 K who have had the whole class complete the challenge last term. There are several other classes close to finishing also. Please encourage your children (as I do!) to keep reading and borrowing Readers Challenge books so that they can receive a medal this year.

A graphic with the text 'BOOK AN Adventure'. 'BOOK AN' is in a small, red, sans-serif font, and 'Adventure' is in a large, red, cursive script font with a red underline.

BOOK WEEK

In Week 5 part of our Book Week celebrations will include an optional **dress-up day on Tuesday, 19 August**. The theme this year makes dressing up VERY easy. The theme is "Book an Adventure".

As I have explained to the children - 'Every book is a new Adventure', therefore every book character leads us on an adventure into their story. There are also some real life adventurers like Bear Grylls, Steve Irwin and any of the famous explorers. Think also of characters in adventure stories e.g Famous Five, Secret Seven, Alice in Wonderland, Narnia, Wolf Girl, Emily Eyefinger, Rowan of Rin, Deltora Quest, Peter Pan, Treasure Island...Looking forward to seeing as many children as possible participate in what is always a fun day!

Louise Paterson
Library Manager

The St Mark's Scribes

The St Mark's Scribes are a small group of Year 6 students who plan, research, and write articles for the newsletter. They provide a student point of view to the events happening around the school each week.

The St Mark's Values

After coming back from our holidays, part of getting back in the school routine is remembering our wonderful school values. Service, Love, Curiosity, and Courage are the four building blocks to our daily lives at St Mark's.

Remembering these values helps us with making friends, learning, and much more. So, next time you get the chance, try showing our four values in any way you can. Whether it's tying a friend's shoelaces, encouraging someone on the monkey bars, or simply giving a smile. You never know, it could make someone's day just that little bit better.

By Elsa



From the School Captains

It's Term 3 and the start of a whole new semester. Two of our School Captains Lucy and Jake told us a little bit about what's coming up. Students will soon be voting for the new SRC. The School Captains are very excited to work with these new students and explore new ideas. In Week 5 we also have Book Week. The theme this year is 'Book an Adventure!' so don't forget to prepare your costumes! Finally, at the end of this term, we have our Junior Primary school concert. Our School Captains are looking forward to hosting this and watching the wonderful performance.

By Ruby

Hi everyone, Today we interviewed the school captains to find out what is going on this term and this is what we got. On Friday the 25th of July the students going for SRC will do there speech then on the 1st of August the new SRCs will be announced. Later this term the school play for Years Foundation to Year 4. When the SRCs are announced they will figure out what charity our money is going to this term. In Week 5, Book Week will happen. The theme is Every Book is a New Adventure. So with all that information, I think you should be able to keep up with this term and I will see you next week.

By Malakai

TERM 3 2025

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Regular events	Mainly Music 9.30 - 11.00am <i>Church</i>	Whole School Assembly (odd weeks) 9am	Band 8.20-9.15am Lunch Orders	Choir 2.40-3.15pm <i>Hall</i>	Whole School Chapel 9.00am <i>Hall</i>
1	Jul 21 School Term Starts Years F-6 Opening Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>	Jul 22 FO Mid Year commence	Jul 23	Jul 24	Jul 25
2	Jul 28	Jul 29 Year 2 Walking Excursion	Jul 30 Year 2 Walking Excursion Maths Olympiad	Jul 31 Eat, Meet, Greet FO Mid Year	Aug 1 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>
3	Aug 4	Aug 5 Whole School Assembly 9am - <i>Hall</i> ICAS Writing	Aug 6 German Day	Aug 7 ICAS DT	Aug 8 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>
4	Aug 11 SAPSASA Soccer National Science Week	Aug 12 SAPSASA Soccer	Aug 13 SAPSASA Soccer ICAS English	Aug 14 FO Mid Year School Photos	Aug 15 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i> HILS Cornerstone Science
5	Aug 18 ICAS Spelling Book Week (dress up optional)	Aug 19 Whole School Assembly 9am - <i>Hall</i>	Aug 20 FO Mid Year Playdate	Aug 21	Aug 22 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>
6	Aug 25 ICAS Maths	Aug 26	Aug 27	Aug 28 Year 2 Camp El Shaddai	Aug 29 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i> Year 2 Camp El Shaddai
7	Sep 1	Sep 2 Whole School Assembly 9am - <i>Hall</i>	Sep 3	Sep 4 P&F Father's Day Stall	Sep 5 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>
8	Sep 8 SAPSASA Hockey	Sep 9 SAPSASA Hockey Lightning Carnival	Sep 10 SAPSASA Hockey Maths Olympiad	Sep 11	Sep 12 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>
9	Sep 15	Sep 16 Whole School Assembly 9am - <i>Hall</i>	Sep 17	Sep 18	Sep 19 Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i> State Athletics
10	Sep 22	Sep 23	Sep 24 JP School Concert	Sep 25 JP School Concert	Sep 26 School Term Ends Closing Chapel 9.00am - <i>Hall</i>



Whispers of Hope

At St Mark's we care for our students and families. One way we do this is through Whispers of Hope.

Whispers of Hope is an invitation to families to act as a whisper of hope in our community by cooking a meal, emergency school pick up or drop off, emergency babysitting or any other ways families are able to care for others. **I invite you to email contact@stmarks.sa.edu.au with your availability for Term 3 Whispers of Hope.**

Should you require further information about Whispers of Hope, please do not hesitate to contact me, Julian Feldstein, the Pastoral Care Worker, through the front office on 83910444.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank families who were able to assist in the Whispers of Hope program in Term 2 of 2025. You truly are the hands and feet of Christ in our community. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to consider how you might contribute to the care of others in our community in Term 3.

Julian Feldstein
Pastoral Care Worker



ST MARK'S 2025 QUIZ NIGHT



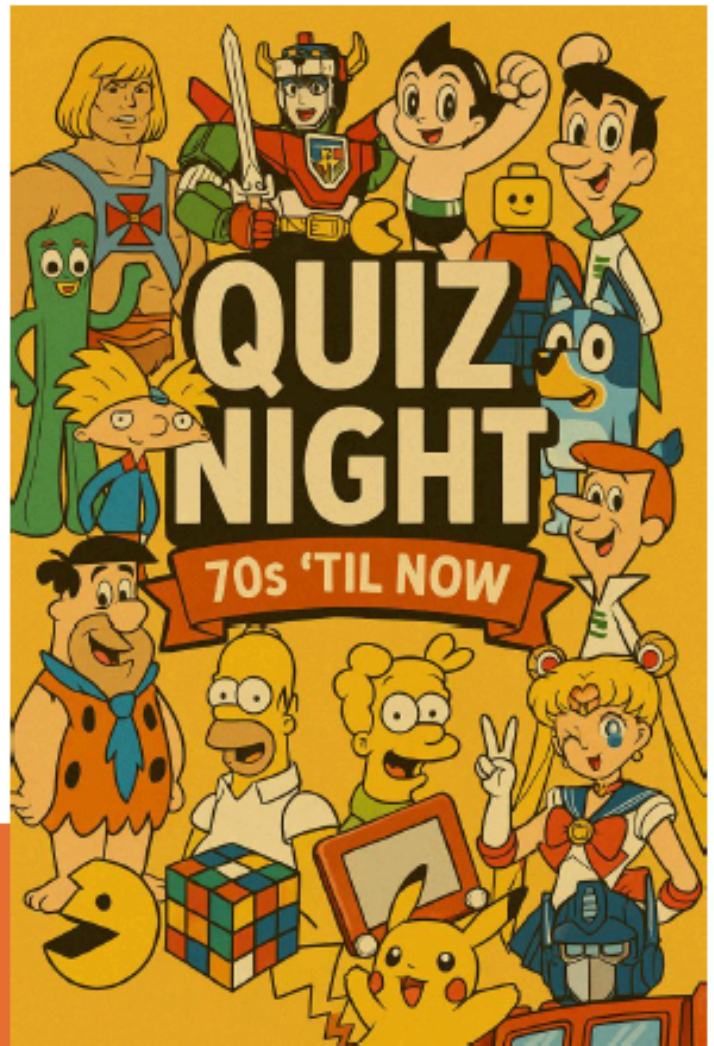
Get ready to put your thinking caps on and join us for a night of laughs, friendly rivalry, and brain-busting fun - all in support of our amazing school community

St Mark's Lutheran School is hosting a **Quiz Night Fundraiser** and we'd love to see families, friends and the wider community come together for a great cause. Get creative, get punny, and bring the energy with our theme **"Childhood Nostalgia"**

Date: Saturday 23 August 2025

Time: 6:30pm for 7pm start

Location: School Gym, St Mark's Lutheran Primary School



Bookings are NOW OPEN – please follow the link:

<https://st-marks-p-f-quiz-night-2025-tickets.eventbrite.com.au>

🎟️ **Tickets are only \$15!** 🎟️

There'll be awesome prizes up for grabs including for the **winning team** and **best dressed**. We have some wonderful donations from **KX Mount Barker**, **Sazon**, **SILK Laser**, **Silver Bark Brewery** and **Wicks Estate Winery** with more to come. Any and all other donations would be most welcomed - please contact us at stmarkspf@gmail.com or let the school know if you can help in any way!

Don't worry if you're not a trivia buff - this is a night for everyone, packed with laughs, snacks, and community spirit. All funds raised will go straight back into improving our school so your children can benefit.

🧠 **Let's get quizzical for a great cause** 🧠

Diary

July

Jul 29 - P&F Meeting 6.30 Staffroom - All welcome

Jul 30 - Math's Olympiad

Jul 31 - Foundation Mid Year Eat, Meet, & Greet

August

Aug 1 - Chapel

Aug 5 - Whole School Assembly

Aug 6 - German Day

Aug 6 - Chapel

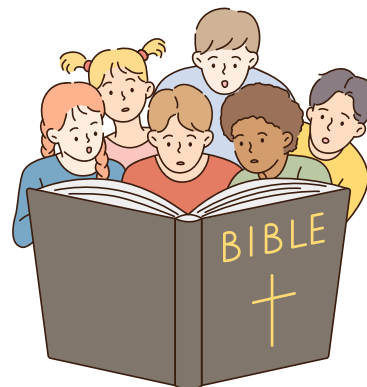
Aug 11-15 - Science Week

Aug 18-22 - Book Week

Aug 19 - Assembly & Book Week Dress Up Parade

Friday Chapel

Please note there is no Chapel tomorrow, Friday, Week 1.





**ADELAIDE HILLS
COMMUNITY AUSKICK**
@ The Summit, Mount Barker
Thursdays, 4 to 5pm
8 sessions
7th Aug to 25th Sept

nab AFL Auskick
4 - 7 YEAR OLDS



REGISTER NOW



ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE

**ADELAIDE HILLS
COMMUNITY SUPERKICK**
@ The Summit, Mount Barker
Thursdays, 4 to 5pm
6 sessions
7th Aug to 11th Sept

AFL Superkick
7 - 12 YEAR OLDS



REGISTER NOW

BOTH PROGRAMS ARE FREE WITH THE ORSR SPORTS VOUCHER.

ALREADY PARTICIPATED IN AUSKICK OR SUPERKICK THIS YEAR? CONTACT SANFL TO RECEIVE A \$55 CONTINUATION OFFER - MONICA.PARTRIDGE@SANFL.COM.AU

PLAY.AFL



**HFL ALL GIRLS
AUSKICK**
@ Stirling Oval, Stirling
Mondays, 4 to 5pm
8 Sessions
4th Aug to 22nd Sept

nab AFL Auskick
4 - 7 YEAR OLDS



REGISTER NOW



**HFL ALL GIRLS
SUPERKICK**
@ Stirling Oval, Stirling
Mondays, 4 to 5pm
6 Sessions
4th Aug to 8th Sept

AFL Superkick
7 - 12 YEAR OLDS




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Community News and Events




We're coming to town

Give life. Give blood in Mount Barker
26 August to 29 August



We're Popping up in Mount Barker
Mount Barker Pop-up Donor Centre
St Mark's Lutheran Church,
35 Hampden Rd,
Mount Barker SA 5251

Book your donation now



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NOW FOR TERM 3

MOUNT BARKER HAHNDORF STRATHALBYN



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