



Recess in the sun

Term 4 Week 1

Faith Focus

The Only Way!

We had a very entertaining Chapel on Monday morning to kick off Term 4! I was talking to the students about baby mammals. Did you know that baby echidnas and baby platypuses are called puggles? When I mentioned that on Monday morning, all 360+ children erupted in laughter.

Funny name, but it's true – both baby echidnas and baby platypuses are called puggles and they're quite unique because they hatch from eggs. They're the only two groups of mammals to do so. The females lay the eggs then snuggle them against their stomach until they hatch. Puggles have then been blessed with an instinct to find their way to milk that is excreted through the skin of their mother's stomach, and they feed and grow.

Unlike puggles, baby koalas and baby kangaroos are born live, but have also been blessed with an instinct to find their way into their mother's pouch where, again, they find milk to suckle. The mother koala or kangaroo licks a path in the fur on her stomach to make a way for her tiny, thumbnail-sized baby to find nourishment and life.

I'm fascinated that God has blessed these incredibly small beings with the instinct to seek the way to life in this way. And he's blessed the mothers with the instinct to make the way for them.

It reminds me of the instinct God gives us to seek nourishment and life beyond the physical and the worldly. God gives each of us an instinct to seek something beyond ourselves, and if we choose to seek him, then we learn that Jesus has made the way for us to follow: to be reconciled to God; to build a relationship with God; to live life in all its fullness, and to have hope in a life that stretches well beyond what we know here on earth. Jesus said himself, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)

When you experience that instinct to seek something beyond yourself, choose God, and know that it's Jesus that makes the way. He is the only way!!

I'm at Chapel most Fridays and available for a chat afterwards. Feel free to come and say "Hi." Or if you prefer, drop me an email at greg@stmarksmtbarker.org.au.

God bless your week!

Pastor Greg

Principal Ponderings

Welcome to Term 4. It has been a wonderful start to the term and again I am pleased, but not surprised, with the settled atmosphere as students have returned. It reflects the quality of our staff and their commitment to creating a welcoming and inviting space for our students.

I have a number of updates I will provide tomorrow with a separate letter to you. For now, please especially note the details and earlier start time for our whole school cross country run being held tomorrow morning.

James Heyne
Principal

P&F

P&F Meeting

Tuesday 21 6:30pm

Teams Meeting to be made available. You can register interest with the front office for access.

Donut Day

P&F will be sending out order forms for Donut Day soon. More to follow

Lost Property

We have quite a few puffer jackets in a range of sizes in the lost property drawer. Please check if any of them are your child's. Any left over by the end of next week will be donated.



Parents and Friends are invited to

St Mark's Cross Country Run

at Keith Stevenson Park

TOMORROW Friday 17 October 2025

Students will be required to wear **House Coloured polo tops**. Please note the **NEW START TIME for 2025 - approx 9.30am**.

Once they arrive they will be seated in their house areas. **Please ensure children are sent to school with a hat and drink bottle.**

The races are varied in length to account for different ages and will be held in the following order:

1st Race - Year 2

2nd Race - Foundation

3rd Race - Year 1

4th Race - Year 3 & 9 year olds (2016)

5th Race - 10 year olds (2015)

6th Race - 11 year olds (2014)

7th Race - 12 year olds (2013)

On the day, we ask that parents/caregivers spread out around the running track rather than gather at the finish line.

Please ensure that you **do not interrupt the counting of places at the finish line** as this is a very busy time for teachers.

We hope to see you there in your house colours to support your team!



School life

Welcome back.

Well it's the final term of the year and the final term for the Year Sixes. Today I will just explain this term and what's to come.

Starting off we have cross country that is happening tomorrow, because it's on Friday of Week 1. We have another running event being Colour Run on Friday Week 2! We also have Year 1 Camp on week 3 and then we have Year 6 camp in Week 4 Thursday to Late Friday. Year 1 Swimming in Week 4 and Year 2-4 swimming week 5. In week 5 we also have the Foundation's Afternoon of Fun!

In week 6, the Foundations have swimming, and, on the Thursday, the Reimagine Market happens. Smaller event but on Monday the HILS Year Sixes come over for a transition to high school and on Friday there is a day of Cornerstone transition.

On the Monday of week 7 we have a pupil free day. On week 8 Thursday night we have the year 6 graduation dinner. In week 9 on Monday, we have Step Up Day and Talent Quest. On Tuesday the Year 6's has the Big Day Out and the class parties happen then, finally, on Wednesday we have the End of year service where we congratulate the Year 6 students and well then it's the summer holidays.

Whole term in just two hundred and fifty words and one thousand two hundred characters and ninety nine is pretty good see you next week

Written by Malakai, Year 6 student as part of the St Marks Scribes



Year 1 Church Mural

The Year 1 children helped the Church to create a mural for their study on the 'Seasons of Creation' during September. Each week was a different focus and the children enjoyed being able to be a part of this.



Games Club

Games club is held every Monday at lunchtime in 6K. Some ladies from the St Mark's Lutheran Church bring a variety of games to play and help run the club. They enjoy coming to games club every week to play games with some of the students. Some of the games are Uno, Uno no mercy, Taco, cat, goat, cheese, pizza, Spot it and Jenga.

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



REMINDER

Library News

Book Club

Issue 7 Book Club was handed out this week. Orders and payments need to be completed by Friday, 31 October.

School life

Year 4 forces of maths

In Science Year 4AY students are exploring different forces. As an introduction to this unit, the students had a lot of fun creating and trialling their Hot Wheels tracks.



Colour Run

2.15pm, Friday, 24 October

The time is almost here for St Mark's annual Colour Run. The Colour Run is a unique event that celebrates healthiness, happiness, and individuality. The Colour Run is scheduled for Friday, October 24th.

On this day students should wear an old white t-shirt, old shorts or pants and old sneakers they are able to run in.

The Colour Run will begin at 2:15pm. Families are welcome to watch their child participate.

Students will be sent home colourful, so we encourage parents to have a towel ready in the car for their child to sit on.

Students catching the bus home will be provided with an opportunity to change before leaving St Mark's. If your child is catching the bus after the Colour Run, please have them pack clean clothes and shoes to change into.

We are seeking parent volunteers to assist with the Colour Run. Volunteers are required to be at various colour stations and help colour our already colourful students! If you are able to volunteer and don't mind becoming colourful too, please contact Mrs Kluge via email akluge@stmarks.sa.edu.au

We look forward to a colourful end to Week 2 at St Mark's!



Fruit Juice Icy Tubes

In Term 4 the SRC will be selling delicious Fruit Juice Icy Tubes each Friday. The ice blocks will be available after lunch eating time outside of the Library. Please bring a \$1 coin if you would like to enjoy one. Any profits will go towards our Term 4 giving focus – Hungry No More in Mount Barker.

Chapel Offerings this Term

This term, our SRC have decided to put our chapel offerings towards Hungry No More. Hungry No More is a program run by the Mt Barker Uniting Church that provides a safe and supportive environment for people every week. Amazing volunteers give their time, talent and love to serve God and vulnerable people in our community.

This program includes providing a free community meal, T@6, every week to anyone who needs it, a community food pantry for anyone in need that invites people to “take what you need, give what you can”. They also run a Drop in Centre, that offers friendship, support, and a free lunch.

Written by Elsa, Year 6 Student as part of the St Mark's Scribes

Diary

October

Oct 17 - Cross Country
Oct 24 - Chapel
Oct 24 - Colour Run
Oct 28 - Assembly
Oct 30 - Year 2 Excursion
Oct 30-31 - Year 1 Camp
Oct 31 - Chapel

November

Nov 3-7 - Foundation Swim Week
Nov 6-7 - Year 6 camp
Nov 7 - Chapel

Friday Chapel

Chapel is held every Friday at 9am in the Hall - but please note that Chapel was held on Monday this week.



A place to be nurtured

Gather your tribe. Connect with baby

Over eight weeks, come to mainly babies for gentle interactive music sessions with your baby. Experience the enjoyment of cuddles and giggles as you tickle, pat, jiggle and bond with your little one.

Parent's say: This is a fantastic way to bond with your baby and meet other parents. It is a weekly event to look forward to. You'll learn new songs that you find yourself singing throughout the weeks in-between. You'll connect with and delight in your little one. These are friendly, caring sessions that provide time to get to know and enjoy your baby.

This group is for parents and their baby. Each family will receive a bag with items you'll need for the sessions and be able to keep beyond the eight weeks.



MIXED & ALL GIRLS TEAMS, UNDER 6 - UNDER 16

COME AND TRY SOCCER

OCT 21 Miniroos Come & Try
Under 6 - Under 9 5:30-6:30pm
Under 10 - Under 11 6:45-7:45pm

NOV 2 Miniroos Come & Try
Under 6 - Under 9 11:00 - 12:00pm,
Under 10 - Under 11 12:30 - 1:30

NOV 4 Miniroos Come & Try
Under 6 - Under 9 5:30 - 6:30pm,
Under 10 - Under 11 6:45 - 7:45pm

QUESTIONS?
WE'RE HERE TO HELP!
FSA.JUNIORS@MBUSC.COM.AU

SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER

The details of our next series

10:30am Thursdays
16 October - 4 December

St Mark's Lutheran Church
35 Hampden Road
Mt Barker

For more information,
call 1800 979 658

We cannot accommodate older siblings and ask that you make other arrangements for their care.

Together, joy-filled communities mainlymusic.org

FLEET LAUNCHBOX
by Fleet

Summit to the Stratosphere

A launch event
by Fleet Space Technologies

Join us for a one-of-a-kind celebration of space, science, and imagination, as students from across Australia launch their own satellites into the stratosphere.

From the classroom to the cosmos

- Live satellite launches
- Drone demonstrations
- Community coffee and food stalls
- Award presentations
- STEM challenges and exhibits
- Guest speakers and live commentary

SUNDAY
2nd November
9am to 2pm

Summit Sport and Recreation Park
304 Springs Rd, Mount Barker SA 5251

Register your school group

Get your free public ticket