



Term 4 Week 6

Faith Focus

COMMUNITY...CONNECTION...BELONGING

My husband and I live in one of three adjoining properties in Bridgewater. We are in the process of seeking "Community Title" for the properties and we are working through the bureaucracy and paperwork that that involves. The three adjoining blocks centre around half an acre of native vegetation, plus an established orchard and vegetable garden, which is a lot of work to maintain on our own! Community title will protect the area from development in the future and preserve a unique piece of bushland that can be shared. Our main motivation is not just to reduce the mowing; we also want to build an intentional community. We are aware that, more and more, the trend in our society is towards a lifestyle that focuses on self and leaves many people feeling isolated and alone. Community title will mean that the three households will share in the upkeep of the native vegetation, orchard and vegetable garden, and in the produce it provides. There will be regular times spent caring for the land together, working alongside one another, jointly investing in the beautiful creation God has given us to call home. The desire is that this little community will also gather to share meals, to support one another, to live out our faith in Jesus, and to intentionally slow down with a warm welcome to others who come to visit.

God has made us to live in relationship. The triune nature of God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and his determination to join us in our humanity, is all testament to the relational nature of our God. And we are made in his image! We were not made to live in isolation, in disconnect from each other and from the environment.

In Hebrews 10:24-25 we read, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another..." And in Romans 12 we are encouraged to... "Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves..... Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality."

There are many different ways to slow down and connect with others. In tiny moments of encounter or interaction, even jobs shared, we can let others know that they are part of God's creation and that we all belong.

Karen Moseley

Principal Ponderings

Over my 13 years at St Mark's I have often talked about the story of our school. From humble beginnings in a couple of transportable buildings we've grown to be blessed with the beautiful facilities we enjoy today, from 40 students to 364 students and 3 staff to 43 staff. We don't stay the same and we journey from one chapter to the next as a community.

As I walked around St Mark's yesterday, I noticed our Foundation students nearing the end of their first year of school and our Year 6 students on the verge of completing their primary schooling. For me it has been (and is for a few more weeks) a privilege to be part of our community for a little over 13 years. Our school's story is one that is centred on the lives of students, families and staff and how they are shaped by and shape each other.

Yesterday our School Board shared a significant moment for the next chapter of St Mark's story when they advised you of Andrew Boesch's appointment as Principal from 2026. I congratulate Andrew on his appointment. I look forward to meeting with Andrew in the coming weeks and handing over the St Mark's story into his capable and nurturing hands.

James Heyne
Principal

Important dates not to miss

Monday, 24th November

Pupil Free School Closure Day (YMCA operating to provide care for the day).

Sat 6th December

Mt Barker Pageant with St Marks Community Float. Permissions to be included are due back tomorrow, Friday 21 November.

Wednesday, 10th December at 7pm

Whole School Closing Service for all students at Inbarendi at Cornerstone College

In This Edition

- Year 4 Choir Performance
- Champions Challenge
- Year 1 Treasure Maps
- P&F Update
- Foundation Afternoon of Fun
- Diary
- Community News and Events

Year 4 Choir

On Tuesday, Year 4 Choir members performed at the St Mark's Church Seniors Lunch. The theme of the lunch was belonging, and it was beautiful to see the young and old come together in celebration at this special time of year.



School life

Champions Challenge

On Thursday Week 5 our Champions Challenge team attended Cornerstone College for our final sporting competition for the year. Champions Challenge is an athletics day against our 3 neighbouring Lutheran Primary Schools; St Michael's, Lobethal Lutheran and Unity College. We were greeted by overcast conditions as we competed in High Jump, Long Jump, ShotPut, Discus, 100m, 200m and 600m.

It was a real credit to our students who competed in a friendly way, supported one another and maintained their "effort" during their events. At the end of the day St Mark's was declared the overall winners for the 5th year in a row... an amazing effort!

Big thank you to the parent volunteers, scorers and LSO's who supported Mr Scott on the day. Students are reminded to was and return their T-shirt via the front office.



School life

Year 1 Treasure Maps

The Year 1 children had to create a map and then write directions for a partner to follow to find the treasure!



P&F Update

P&F Committee - New members needed

The P&F will be sadly losing core members by the end of the year. We ask the whole school community to please consider joining the P&F committee to help keep the great work running into 2026.

Donut Day - Friday 5th December (Week 8)

Order forms have been sent out for Donut Day.

\$3.50 each, one per student only.

Now with gluten free options for students. Please order on Flexischools or the paperform.

Colour run (Week 8) - Volunteers

If you wish to help with colour run on Friday 5th December please contact the school front desk to put your name down. Arrive at 1:45pm for a debrief by Amanda Kluge.



REMINDER

Library News - Book Club

Orders and payments need to be completed by Monday 24 November.



Week 5 Chapel

We welcomed Rachel Stevens, one of the Chaplains from Cornerstone College, who led us in Chapel last Friday.

School life

Foundation Afternoon of Fun

On Friday November 14th our Foundations had an "Afternoon of Fun!" We walked to the Laratinga wetlands, explored the local area, sculptures, bee honey and local plants, and had a play. After lunch David Booth, our local Indigenous speaker, spoke to us in the hall to support our learning in our HASS unit called 'My Special Place, Your special Place'. Our final part of this unit is discussing special places for local First Nations People. Laratinga Wetlands is a sacred spot for the Peramangk people.

After school we stayed late after school for our "Afternoon of Fun" to have afternoon tea, play, create, complete challenges, watch a movie, have pizza dinner and end with a story by a special guest. It was wonderful to share this exciting experience with them!



Diary

November

Nov 17-21 - FO Swim Week
Nov 20- Reimagine Markets
Nov 21 - Year 6 Transition to Cornerstone
Nov 24 - Pupil Free Day
Nov 25 - Assembly
Nov 26 - FO 2026 Transition Group 1
Nov 27 - FO 2026 Transition Group 2
Nov 28 - Chapel

December

Dec 2 - Assembly
Dec 3 - FO 2026 Transition Group 1
Dec 4 - FO 2026 Transition Group 2
Dec 4 - Year 6 Graduation Dinner
Dec 5 - Chapel
Dec 8 - Step Up Day & Talent Quest
Dec 9 - Assembly
Dec 9 - Class Parties and Year 6 Big Day Out
Dec 10 - Whole School End of Year Service

Friday Chapel

Chapel is held every Friday at 9am in the Hall. We look forward to Foundation H leading us in Chapel tomorrow.

Parents and friends are all welcome to attend and join us in the staff room before and after Chapel for coffee, tea, hot chocolate and biscuits!



You don't have to be part of a group entry to be in the Pageant!

School-age children, teens and adults are invited to take part by riding on one of the Committee's themed floats.



As well as people for floats, we also look for outgoing individuals to entertain the spectators as clowns, or in the important positions of Banner Carriers and Christmas Trees at the head of the parade.

Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th November

Costume Shed, Dumas St Park n Ride, Mount Barker (green shed at the back left-hand side)

To book your Costume Try On appointment, scan the QR code or visit -

<https://calendar.app.google/UN3KcWkDk4zzCnB66>



Follow us for event news & updates!



@mtbarkerchristmaspageant

WBBL LIMITED TICKET OFFER

Use the code below to redeem a **FREE** junior ticket plus two adult tickets for the **price of one** to the Strikers WBBL11 match at **Adelaide Oval**.

Offer valid until 28 Nov

POWBBLAO25

FRI 28 NOV

 

6:40PM @ ADELAIDE OVAL

3-Hour Clinics
21 Jan

BOOK NOW!

9:00am - 12:00pm
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Mt Barker

 

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Vacation Care | 11 Dec–23 Jan

IN-HOUSE	FULL FEE	\$69.90	CCS REDUCED FEE*	\$10.05 – \$36.85
OUT-OF-HOUSE / NOISE / NOISE	FULL FEE	\$90.80	CCS REDUCED FEE*	\$13.05 – \$47.85

*Estimation of fees after subsidy is applied

WEEK 1

Thursday
11 December

In-House

Mission Impossible



Your mission, if you choose to accept it:

Join together with your friends to go on an epic scavenger hunt and find all the items before everyone else!

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Friday
12 December

In-House

Movie And Pjs



Walk the red carpet in your best PJs for our movie day! We'll hold a catwalk parade with prizes for the best PJs, followed by two movies chosen by the children through a poll the day before.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY BREAK
20 December - 4 January



WEEK 2

Monday
15 December

In-House

T-Shirt Decorating



You will be provided with a white shirt, fabric pens, markers and other arts and craft items to decorate your new shirt. You are welcome to bring your own shirt as well.

Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Tuesday
16 December

Incurion

Tiki Wet Obstacle Course



Get ready for an obstacle with a twist. You will need a change of clothes today because you will get wet.

Start: 10:00am
Finish: 3:00pm

Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5

Wednesday
17 December

Incurion

Wiz Bang Family Fun Centre



Spend a day at Wiz Bang playing laser tag and enjoying the indoor playground.

Depart: 12:30pm
Return: 4:00pm
Transport: Private Bus
Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5

Thursday
18 December

Incurion

The Pig Parade



Lambs, chickens, ducks, rabbits, and goats! They are coming to visit. Come dressed as your favourite animal and receive a pig themed gift bag take home
Start: 11:00am
Finish: 1:00pm

Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5

Friday
19 December

In-House

Christmas Gift Crafts



Use recycled materials to create Christmas cards, jewellery and other fun gifts. Be as creative as you can be.

Outcomes: 2, 4, 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
Cayla Thompson
0499 591 662

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



OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

Vacation Care | 11 Dec–23 Jan

SESSION 1 MONDAY	FULL FEE	\$69.90	CCS REDUCED FEE*	\$10.05 - \$36.85
	FULL FEE	\$90.80	CCS REDUCED FEE*	\$13.05 - \$47.85

*Estimation of fees after subsidy is applied

WEEK 3

Monday 5 January	Tuesday 6 January	Wednesday 7 January	Thursday 8 January	Friday 9 January
In-House Paper Aeroplane Competition	In-House Space Explorers	Excursion Inflatable World	In-House Yard Games	Excursion Dunes Mini Golf
				
Spend the morning creating and decorating your paper planes. Then in the afternoon join the competition to see which planes fly the longest distance. There will be prizes to be won. Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Suit up, astronauts! Our Space Explorers Day is packed with rocket-building, solar system fun, and exciting space missions. Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5	Jump and bounce your way through the obstacle courses and enjoy a day out at Inflatable world. Depart: 10:00am Return: 3:00pm Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 1, 3, 5	Play against your friends and the educators with five big yard games. Let's see who the winners will be. Start: 9:30am Finish: 3:00pm Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5	We are off to test our skills and challenge our friends to a game of mini golf. Depart: 10:00am Return: 2:00pm Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 2, 4, 5

WEEK 4

Monday 12 January	Tuesday 13 January	Wednesday 14 January	Thursday 15 January	Friday 16 January
In-House Papier Mache Day	Excursion Funtopia	In-House Game Day	In-House ECO Makeshift	In-House Top Secret Agents
				
Get your creative ideas flowing as you create something all made from papier mache. Use bottles, balloons, cardboard and anything else you can find to make something special. Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Get ready for a fun-filled day of climbing, sliding, and exploring! Today we're heading to Funtopia. Depart: 11:30am Return: 4:00pm Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5	Come dressed in your sporting gear for a big day of games and friendly competitions. Outcomes: 1, 3, 5	Join us for a hands-on celebration of creativity and sustainability! We will design, build, and craft using recycled materials while learning how small actions can make a big difference for our planet. Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5	Dress up as a secret agent because you will need to complete a top secret mission. Outcomes: 2, 4, 5

WEEK 5

Monday 19 January	Tuesday 20 January	Wednesday 21 January	Thursday 22 January	Friday 23 January
In-House Minute To Win It	In-House Water Sports	Excursion Stem Day Science Collective	In-House Mad Scientist	Excursion Hahndorf Farm Barn
				
Use your problem-solving skills to get through all the challenges today with only a minute to do it. There will be prizes to win as well. Outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Bring a spare set of clothes and a towel today as NLS is bringing some fun water games to us. Play water balloon hot potato and join in for some water battles. Start: 1:00pm Finish: 3:00pm Outcomes: 1, 2, 4, 5	Come and see a magic and science show, then meet some animals from Animals Anonymous. Depart: 8:20am Return: 1:30pm Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 1, 3, 5	Grab your lab coats it's time to experiment! Today we're becoming mad scientists as we mix, fizz, and discover the magic of science through hands-on fun. Outcomes: 1, 3, 4, 5	Come meet all the cute animals at the Hahndorf Farm. Depart: 9:30am Return: 2:00pm Transport: Private Bus Outcomes: 2, 4, 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
Cayla Thompson
0499 591 662

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

the 