



Link Up Term 1 Week 8 2021

Important Dates

**Year 8 Canberra
Tour Parent
Information Session**
 Monday 22 March 2021

**Year 7-12 Catholic
Interschool
Athletics Carnival**
 Monday 22 March 2021

**College Board
Meeting**
 Tuesday 23 March 2021

**Year 10 Reflection
Day**
 Wednesday 24 March 2021

Mount Barker Show
 Saturday 27 March 2021

R-12 Passion Play
 Thursday 1 April 2021

**R-12 Harmony Day
Celebrations**
 Wednesday 24 March 2021

**Frankie's Café
Grand Opening**
 Friday 26 March 2021

R-6 Walkathon
 Tuesday 6 April 2021

**R-12 Resurrection
Mass**
 Wednesday 7 April 2021

**Good Friday Public
Holiday**
 Friday 2 April 2021

**Easter Monday
Public Holiday**
 Monday 5 April 2021

**ANZAC Day Public
Holiday**
 Monday 26 April 2021

**First day back,
Term 2**
 Wednesday 28 April 2021

**Year 4-7 Barker
District Athletics**
 Wednesday 7 April 2021

**End of Term 1,
3:10pm dismissal**
 Friday 9 April 2021

Year 12 Retreat
 Wednesday 28 April 2021

**Official Opening of
the Early Learning
to Year 6 Learning
Communities**

**Catholic Education
Week**
Monday 3 May 2021

**Parent Community
Group Mother's
Day Stall**
Thursday 6 May 2021

College Tour
Thursday 6 May 2021

Year 11 Retreat
Monday 17 May 2021

**Year 5-12 Mother
and Son Breakfast**
Thursday 20 May 2021

College Tour
Thursday 20 May 2021

Upcoming Events

**R-6 Learning
Reviews**
Date: Wednesday 24 March
Time: 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Venue: St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

**Year 7-11 Learning
Reviews**
Date: Thursday 25 March
Time: 3:30pm - 6:00pm
Venue: St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

Student Free Day
Date: Tuesday 27 April
Time: 9:00am - 3:10am
Venue: St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

Student Free Day
Date: Friday 4 June
Venue: St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

**Parent Community
Group Committee
Meeting**
Date: Tuesday 6 April
Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Venue: St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

From the Principal

Term 1 has been such a busy term full of great opportunities for our students. Our Year 10 students had a wonderful experience in Week 5 on their Challenge Camp to the Coorong. Every year this camp takes our students outside their comfort zones, requiring them to dig deep and show the resilience required to push through what is for many challenging and unfamiliar conditions, exactly the skill sets of course we are looking to develop in our young people. I congratulate them all on the way that they took on the challenge and achieved a wonderful outcome together as a group. As always this was only possible because of the goodwill of staff willing to take themselves away from their loved ones for an extended period, to provide such a great opportunity to our students. Congratulations to all involved!

Since our last Link Up we have entered the Lenten period with our whole school celebration on Ash Wednesday. As a community, we have engaged with the annual Project Compassion Appeal, so focused on the needs of others rather than ourselves. How appropriate for our community, with our focus Heart Value in 2021 of Compassion, for us to be called to support Caritas Australia's Project Compassion Appeal to "be more". The 2021 theme was inspired by Saint Oscar Romero who calls us all to "aspire not to have more, but to be more". Beyond our engagement with Project Compassion, I hope that the remaining Lenten period in the lead up to Easter continues to be a period of reflection and preparation for us all.

Well done to our Senior Student Leaders for their engagement in the Leadership Seminar hosted here at the College in Week 6. Thanks to all involved in the organisation for our Reception to Year 3 students in Week 7 of the Peter Combe Concert. "Spaghetti Bolognese", "Mr Clicketty Cane" and many other Peter Combe classics were loved by our Junior Primary students, and took many of the rest of us on a trip down memory lane to a time when our now older children were of a similar age. Congratulations to all our students who have represented the College with such distinction at the Courier Cup Swimming Finals for Years 4 to 7 students, in which we again performed with distinction and came out as overall winners. Congratulations likewise to those students who attended the Catholic Primary Schools

Swimming Carnival earlier this week. We look forward to the College being equally well represented by our Year 7 to 12 students attending the Combined Catholic Schools Athletics Carnival at SANTOS Stadium next Monday.

I also wish to acknowledge a couple of incredible individual sporting achievements of our students performing at the elite level. Jacqueline Voltz in Year 11 heads away next week to continue her involvement in elite level in cycling, attending the Under 19 National Track Championship in Queensland. We wish Jacqui every success. Leni Newham in Year 8 will also be heading to Queensland in early April, selected in the National Age Swimming Championships at the Gold Coast. We wish Leni every success as well, and congratulate them both on their selection at these representative levels.

Our thanks to all the families who made it a priority this week to be part of our Year 7-12 Learning Reviews, and to all those who are similarly intending to be with us next week for our Reception - Year 6 discussions. We very much value this opportunity to meet face to face and discuss our core business of your child's learning.

The College is also looking forward to having our Harmony Day celebrations on Wednesday next week, given the actual day falls this Sunday on March 21, in alignment with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination for Racial Discrimination. Our Lenten period of course concludes very soon as we enter Holy Week in Week 10, where we will gather as a College community to remember the Passion of Jesus Christ, and the important message of Easter: Gods boundless and unconditional love for each and every one of us.

Best wishes to all for a great finish to our Term 1 and may every blessing of Easter be with you as a family in the weeks ahead.

Gavin McGlaughlin

Principal

From the Acting Deputy Principal - Learning

It is hard to believe that it is already the end of Week 8 and it is great to see students across the College engaged in their learning. Our youngest students have settled in well and our Year 12 students are already 25% of the way through their year! Learning Reviews are currently underway and these are an excellent opportunity to catch up with your children's teachers; however, ongoing communication and feedback through SEQTA, Seesaw etc throughout the year ensure that students, families and teachers are continually engaged throughout the learning journey.

All families should now have access to SEQTA Engage and I encourage you to check regularly throughout the year to discuss learning progress with your child/ren. If you do not have access or are unsure as to how to log in, please email **Michele McDonald**. Please be reminded that reports will be issued through SEQTA at the end of Term 1 for Year 7-12 students and will not be issued in hard copy. R-6 reports will be distributed at the end of Semester 1 in a similar format.

This term, teaching staff have been continuing to develop their individual goals around our *Vision for Learning* in addition to working in various teams around differentiation and developing rich learning tasks. Part of this work has included looking at ways that assessment tasks and associated rubrics are displayed to students in SEQTA and in the coming term, you may notice this in the way work is presented and assessed.

Before the end of term, students and families will notice some changes to their SEQTA home screens which will hopefully improve functionality and communication. This will include useful links and what is hoped will be a simpler and more effective way to access college documents. You will notice a new 'documents' link which will essentially replace the 'Parent Portal' that is currently accessed through the college website. This will reduce the number of locations where families will access information and in the future, we are aiming to develop individual Year Level Portals which will include information specifically relevant to those year level groups.

In the last Link Up edition, I encouraged all students to take calculated risks in their learning and to 'have a go' at something new. I have heard and seen various stories of student success from individual students and staff and this has been incredibly rewarding for all.

I want to thank all members of the St Francis Community for accepting me this term, it has been an incredibly rewarding and enjoyable experience and one that I will look back on with great memories. I look forward to hearing of the ongoing progress and success of the College and wish everyone a rewarding, safe and happy year ahead.

Ryan Fleetwood

Acting Deputy Principal - Learning

From the Deputy Principal - Community and Wellbeing

'Tis the Season to be Healthy

This time last year when we were stepping into the uncertainty of the pandemic, the only thing we knew for sure was that we weren't sure. And while there are still lingering questions about what we can and can't be sure about, we can be sure that living through a pandemic has been an experience none of us will forget. The focus on health and wellbeing has never been so evident. The hazy days of autumn are synonymous with spectacular sunrises, predictable weather and equally sensational sunsets that close out daylight saving until springtime. This year too, with the Easter break falling in late Term 1, there are plenty of reasons to be thinking about staying well, keeping active and making the most of the beautiful SA climate.

How is the **40 Minute Challenge** going? In the last Link Up, this challenge was proposed. **Forty Minutes a Day** of activity that gets the heart going. It could be walking the dog, a run at the park, a swim, bike riding or participating in an organized sport. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reports that 25% of children and adolescents aged 2-17 were overweight or obese in 2017/18. Statistics also tell us that rates of physical activity amongst the young are declining as more time is spent in front of a screen. We know too that habits formed in the pre-adult years can become ingrained and trends would indicate that while our population is aging, poor dietary habits and reduced exercise will have a serious impact upon the nation's health in the future.

All the more reason to set some achievable goals with health, fitness and wellbeing that become habits. For the remaining weeks of Term 1, for adults and children alike, make a point of being active and establish a pattern that includes regular activity and a general focus on wellbeing. A reminder to access The Learning Curve Positive Education and Wellbeing resources via the website learningcurve.com.au. Login details can be found via the SkoolBag app. Together, let's help make this an autumn of healthy habits.

Paul Fairlie

Deputy Principal - Community and Wellbeing

APRIM

Pope Francis has declared this year, 'The Year of St Joseph' (spouse of Mary, mother of Jesus). Today, 19 March, is the Feast Day of St Joseph, within the 'year of St Joseph'. A very special celebration indeed! Its an opportune time to think about 'fathers' and 'father-figures', and the role they play within a family. St Joseph was a humble man who played a vital role in the upbringing of Jesus and the wellbeing of Mary. The Pope has recently written a book titled, *Patris Corde* ("With a Father's Heart"). He describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of "ordinary" people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, "the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence," who nonetheless played "an incomparable role in the history of salvation." The Pope has encouraged us to pray the prayer below on the Feast of St Joseph:

Prayer for St Joseph

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Our Senior Student Leaders have made a great start to their leadership roles this year, and have been actively involved in our community. They were fortunate to have a Leadership Formation Day recently, facilitated by the external group, 'yLead'. This provided them with an opportunity for skill development and team-building.

The Senior Student Leadership Team meets weekly and some of the things that they have committed to are:

- Planning and preparing 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' which are held at lunchtime every Week A
- Each member rostered to raise the Australian and Indigenous flags on the flagpoles each morning, and taking them down at the end of the day
- Each member is rostered to assist with Breakfast Club, held every Wednesday and Thursday morning
- Each member rostered to assist with College Tours.



I thank the Senior Student Leadership Team for their work and service thus far. The group consists of Kayla Riddle, Neva van Raalte, Amara Rourke, Ashlea McGregor, Lucas Pantano, Lucas Rutter, Sophie McCallum, Macy Fox, Harry Cates, Molly Wheatley, Drew Brace and Madeliene Lipscombe.

In other Student Leader matters, the Vinnies Faith-in-Action (FIA) group are also doing a terrific job in their service role. The leaders of the group for 2021 are: Sophie McCallum, Holly Paech, Toris Bynoe-Kinsley, Chelsea England and Sarah Morley. I congratulate these students and am pleased to be working with them this year. Each term, the drink-container cage kept near the courtyard, is emptied by members of the Vinnies FIA Group. The bagged containers are then taken to the bottle-depot to be recycled. Congratulations! So far this year we have recycled 2,293 drink containers, giving the College \$229.30. The money raised enables the group to put it towards social-justice and ecological activities for the College. A special thanks to Sr Shiji, Sam Sachse and the members of the Vinnies FIA group for managing the collection process!

As we enter the latter half of our Lenten journey, I encourage you and your family to reflect upon how you can deepen your relationship with yourself, others, and God. A focus on service and prayer is a way to assist us with this.

In Peace

Oreste Farrugia

Assistant Principal - Religious Identity and Mission (APRIM)

Year 11 RE Excursion Student Reflection



On Thursday 4 March, the Year 11 classes went on an excursion to the St Francis Xavier Cathedral on Wakefield Street in the city, and the Marion Mosque on Marion Road in Park Holme. This excursion was to complement our current assessment task in Stage 2 Religious Studies.

The St Francis Xavier Cathedral tour involved a tour of the sacred space including the pipe organ and the bell tower, led by Timothy

Davey, who also provided his personal answers to the four guiding questions within our assessment task. Afterwards, we were given time to walk around the space to take photos and get a closer look into the magnificent building.

The Marion Mosque tour was facilitated by three Muslim women who discussed the religion of Islam and the five pillars of faith which all Muslims must comply with. They addressed many of the prejudices and misconceptions many have on the Islam faith by describing their true purpose, which we found very thought provoking and enhanced our intercultural understanding.

It was very fascinating to see the major differences between the two venues. The Cathedral is very grand architecturally, with many statues, artworks, and monuments to show what Catholicism is made up of, while the Mosque was simply a space of prayer. Despite their manifest differences, these two buildings serve the exact same purpose: coming together in community to worship their religions' respective gods. This excursion was very compelling and has provided an extensive insight into different religions.

Lucas Rutter

Year 11 Student Leader

R-6 Highlights



The last few weeks in R-6 have been filled with so many exciting learning opportunities across our neighbourhoods, as staff and students prepare for our upcoming Learning Reviews next week. There has been a focus on assessing students using Diagnostic Testing through platforms such as Essential Assessment and Lexile Pro. The data gathered has been used to inform our teaching and learning programs moving forward and has enabled staff to consider the most appropriate methods of differentiation for their students.

On Wednesday 10 March, our R-3 students were treated to a wonderful performance by Peter Combe! He was at his engaging and entertaining best for all of our students and families who attended. All in attendance were grateful to share in a community event again, something which we missed out on a lot last year.

Rowan Thomas

E-6 Director of Learning

Year 12 Jackets and Senior Badges Presentation

It was with great excitement our Year 12s gathered in the Mercy Courtyard on March 3, to receive two key components to their rite of passage towards completing secondary school; their Year 12 jackets and Senior Badges.

This was an important opportunity to rally the cohort together in recognition of how far they have traveled, and to provide them with an opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to finishing the journey that they are on. After receiving their badges and jackets from Gavin McGlaughlin and their homeroom teacher, students proudly posed for the now-traditional group photo.

As Molly Wheatley said, 'It was a great day – it was exciting and meaningful to receive our jackets after watching so many other year

levels go through the process’.

As has been the practice for several years, students managed the design process throughout Year 11, which just adds to the sense of ownership that they rightly feel. It’s great to see the students wearing their uniform with pride not only around the College, but in the wider community.

Jacob Robson

7-12 Director of Learning



College Board

It is great to see 2021 underway after the difficult year that was 2020 now behind us. The threat of COVID-19 is still ever present and the board is acutely aware of the ongoing risk to our community. Significant planning has been undertaken for this year and the College is well prepared to respond to any heightened risk that may occur this year.

The early focus for the board this year will be reviewing the Junior School uniform to ensure that it is fit for purpose with the new facilities. Board member Mel England is heading up a sub-committee to review the uniform so consultation will be underway very soon. The voice of parents and students affected by any change will be extremely important so please keep an eye out as further information will be provided in the near future.

Adding to the uniform review will be a review of all College policies. Board member Kate Clarke will be heading a second sub-committee to review and refresh the College policies to ensure they are relevant and up-to-date. This body of work is well underway and as they are approved, you will see the updated policies loaded onto the College website. I will provide information throughout the year in this forum as we move our way through the suite of existing policies.

You would have all seen some significant changes to the bus routes and more importantly a large reduction in costs to families and the College through some fantastic work by our Principal, Business Manager, Finance Committee and Board. A substantial amount of work went in to achieve this fantastic outcome and I would like to personally thank all involved.

Further to this, the Finance Committee also made a recommendation late last year to hold school fees at the 2019 rates which was again supported by Board. Through excellent financial management by Business Manager Paul McCabe, supported by the Finance Committee, the College was able to avoid increasing costs for parents again this year.

The next AGM is scheduled for Tuesday 4 May, so if anyone is interested in joining the Board, please either contact me for further information or keep an eye out for the email asking for nominations which will come out shortly.

We acknowledge and welcome the voice of our community members and I welcome your thoughts anytime at chair@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au

David Kyriacou

Chair of the College Board

Year 10 Survival Camp



On Monday 1 March, the Year 10 girls and boys gathered for the annual Year 10 Survival Camp. The students were punctual, which reflected the high degree of anticipation they had about the trip. After packing the buses and most students demonstrating an ability to be able to understand instructions relating to day pack, duffle bag and spare bag, we split into our groups, bid farewell to family and friends and went on our way. The girls were heading to Long Point, just past Meningie to begin their kayaking adventure, and the boys were heading to Goolwa Beach to carve up the waves for a two hours surfing session. After Hugo Jenke had lead the boys in a call and response style chant (something about a church and a pub), the boys had arrived and we were ready to surf. The conditions were good and the waves fairly clean, meaning the boys were able to work on their surfing craft and enjoy their time in the water. After the surf, there was a quick opportunity to use the last public toilet we would see for five days and then we boarded the bus for Hindmarsh Island, where we would have lunch, pack our backpacks and travel over to the Young Husband Peninsula via a small tinny, four people at a time. While packing our backpacks, it came to light that Callum Harlow had decided to bring a dry bag in order to store his water for the week, a decision that he has still not been able to explain due to the inherent wetness of the substance he was intending to keep within his dry bag, a mysterious choice to say the least. Once on the peninsula we became acquainted with some of the local wildlife (a seal and several pelicans, as well as hundreds of nesting birds) while we waited for all the group to make the short trip over. Once we were all assembled there was a quick tutorial on how to read a map and use a compass and we set off on our relatively quick walk to our first campsite at Barker's Knoll. Within an hour or so we had arrived and it was time to learn how to set up our tents and then how to use the Trangia stove to cook our dinner. While what some students cooked could barely be called food, we all filled our stomachs after a big day and prepared for our night walk into the dunes and to the beach side of the Young Husband Peninsula. After marveling at the stars and the rise of a full blood moon, with no light pollution, Hayden Whelan-Davis decided to disappear into the night sky himself, before reappearing about 20 minutes later just before the rest of the group were about to send out a search party into the dunes to find him. After a friendly chat with Mark Andrews, Hayden re-joined the rest of the group as we headed back to our camp to get some sleep before our big hike the following day.

Day two was our biggest hike of the camp and involved about 15km of walking along the beach and through the dunes. With our 20kg packs, some found the going more difficult than others, but spirits were high as Alle Esperida lead the group in song and we attempted to break the back of the hike in the morning to allow us to get to our campsite early and relax in the afternoon. The boys took limited breaks and worked together as a team to make really good time in the morning before the day started to heat up. Although some of the boys overshot the camp and walked a little bit further than required, both groups made good time and were at our campsite by mid-afternoon.

Along the walk we saw a variety of wildlife, including some washed up puffer fish, a wide variety of birds and several kangaroos in the sand dunes. Once at the camp, several boys decided to cool off in the Coorong, while Russ Warneke threw a line in and was successful in catching three fish. Alex Noakes found two walking poles (sticks), which he insisted on carrying with him for the rest of the journey, and after some relaxation time, the boys set up camp and started cooking their dinners. Once we were cooking, the idea of walking around, rather than through, our Trangia circle proved too much for some, and several boys found themselves doing large numbers of push ups, which are the standard consequence for inappropriate behavior on these trips. After another meal where many were eating questionable substances, the teachers decided the boys needed an early night and the boys retreated to their tents, with some taking detours of ranging time intervals to other groups' tents before finally arriving in their own.

The third day of the camp involved some post breakfast pushups to make up for some rubbish that was discovered after our initial clean-up of the camp site, before heading off for our morning hike to the change-over point, where we would swap our backpacks for kayaks for the remainder of the camp. The walk was fairly uneventful and relatively quick, which meant we were at our change over point by late morning, which was before the girls arrived with the kayaks. When the girls arrived, the boys and girls swapped stories while unpacking backpacks and kayaks and eating lunch. Some members of the Year 10 group were happier than others to see each other for the first time in 54 hours, with Mitchell Kyriacou keeping track of the seconds until he was reunited with Matilda Caire. After unpacking, it was time to pack up again, with the girls attempting to get all their belongings into their backpacks, which was too much for several of the girls, meaning that some of the boys had to step in and strap some extra bags to their kayaks. In the end, the girls' backpacks were packed, the boys had loaded their dry bags into their kayaks and it was time for the girls and boys groups to say goodbye and continue on our journeys. Unfortunately, prior to leaving in our kayaks, some of the boys were unable to follow instructions regarding filling up their water bladders, meaning that we had to ration water on the last couple of days of our trip, but hopefully a valuable lesson about listening to instructions and then following directions was learned. The boys set off on their short paddle to the next camp site, but due to the windy conditions the short paddle was still a physical challenge for many, but everyone struggled through and made it to our final destination for the day. The late afternoon was then spent setting up tents and exploring our new surroundings, with the ancient ghost gums, rolling dunes, sandy beach and the Coorong stretching out like a dog waking from an extended slumber, making for a very picturesque scene. After dinner, and some more push-ups, some of the boys explored the dunes and witnessed a stunning sunset, before playing some night games and heading to bed for a well-earned rest. The third day was definitely the most challenging for many of the group and it's fair to say that although many of the boys were still upbeat, there was a general feeling of exhaustion, mixed with a dash of homesickness and a pinch of apprehension about the next two days, that settled on our camp site on the Wednesday evening.

On Thursday, the fourth day of camp, we were up early to make the most of the perfect paddling conditions. After packing down and eating a quick breakfast we were back on the water, but in contrast to the previous day, the boys were fresh and paddling in calm conditions, meaning that we were able to glide over the water, as opposed to being knocked around by the wind and waves, as we'd experienced the previous afternoon. The sun was out and the ease with which we were able to move forward, mixed with the beautiful backdrop of the glassy water and undulating sand dunes, meant that the negative attitudes from the previous evening evaporated and were replaced with optimism and happiness, as Takunda Mashinge led the way for one group and Oscar Koral did most of the work in the kayak he was sharing with Hugo Jenke, in the other group. By the time we made a quick morning tea stop we were well over half way to our next camp site, and knowing that the majority of the work was behind us and it was only mid-morning, lifted the spirits further. After another paddle, we were at our lunchtime destination, a giant dune on the edge of the Coorong that, once climbed, offered panoramic views over the Coorong and back inland towards the Fleurieu Peninsula. The dunes also presented the chance for some dune jumping competitions, dune sliding and friendly wrestling between Ali Tahir and Kaan Zade, as well as the chance to just kick back and enjoy the warm sun while taking in the scenery. After enjoying the dunes, it was time to eat lunch and then paddle around the final headland of the day to our final camp site. Once we had arrived and pitched our tents, many of the boys took the chance to have a refreshing swim before some games of death hacky or just chilling out and enjoying each other's company. Prior to dinner, we ventured into the dunes for a reflection on the camp experience, where the boys thought about the things they had missed and indicated what they are most grateful for in their everyday lives. Their own bed, mum's cooking and girlfriends were the most missed aspects of everyday life; interestingly not one of the boys mentioned missing their phone or access to social media. After our reflections we shared our last dinner of the camp together, rationed out some more water and cleaned our Trangias until they glistened. There was then some time for night games after another stunning sunset, before heading to bed and, in some cases, getting some well earned sleep.

Our final day began with packing up tents and a quick breakfast before making the short paddle across the Coorong to Long Point. Fortunately, the paddle on the last day was quick, as conditions were choppy again, and the short crossing was still a challenge. On arrival at Long Point, the first job was cleaning our kayaks. Some of the boys found themselves cleaning two kayaks rather than one due to an inability to remain in their own tent on the previous evening, but all members of the group got stuck into the task at hand and completed the job efficiently. Many of the boys decided to make use of the first non-bush toilet we'd seen since Monday, as we packed the rest of our gear and returned all borrowed equipment to Wilderness Escapes, the company who ran our camp. Once the trailers were loaded with kayaks and the remaining camping gear, we set off for our lunch stop at Meningie. Once we arrived, the first stop for many

was the drink fountain and for others it was the flushable toilets. Once the boys were suitably hydrated and had visited the bathroom, we prepared the famous bucket lunch, which would be our last meal together for the camp. Before boarding the bus and making the 90 minute journey back to school, we did a final debrief, where we spoke about the level of perseverance shown by all participants and how this has built resilience, which can now be applied in other aspects of our lives. The boys were, in general, a credit to themselves and demonstrated not just resilience, but great team work, morale and a willingness to put their heads down and get the job done. Many friendships were made or strengthened on the trip and I'm proud of the way the group conducted themselves both as one team and as individuals. Once back at school, the boys were reunited with the girls and stories of the second half of our journey were swapped. From all reports, the girls were also outstanding and enjoyed building the same skills as the boys on their journey. Thanks so much to all our teacher volunteers who attended the camp and gave up a week of their lives and left their own families at home in order to facilitate this experience for our Year 10 students – we'll do it all again next year!

Mark Andrews

Year 9-10 Leader and Careers Coordinator



Dance

Let's Love – Upcoming Dance Performance

Week 5, Term 2 is the week to mark in your calendar for the Semester 1 Dance production – **Let's Love**. This performance will showcase the talents of the Year 8, 9 and Stage 1 and 2, Semester 1 Dance classes, along with the after-school R-3 Dance Minis and the Year 4-7 Dance Crew, all presenting their choreographed routines. Our Performing Arts Centre will host two evening performances for parents and friends, along with a Junior school matinee performance. As Sir Ken Robinson says, dance allows students 'who need to move to think', and in providing Dance as part of the curriculum, we allow them to do just that! More information about how to book for

this widely anticipated event will be made available soon – **Watch This Space!**

Peta Bojanic

Senior Dance Teacher

Drama

Stage 2 Drama and Stage 1 English Excursion

Students of Year 11 English studies and Stage 2 Drama will be attending the State Theatre Company's performance of Euphoria presented at Her Majesty's Theatre, Adelaide on Thursday 13 May, which is both a privilege and an important part of the learning required to meet the standards for SACE English and Drama.

It is always a privilege to take our students out of the College for special events such as this as they are a credit to the College, conducting themselves in an exemplary manner at all times.

Drama Productions – Year 9 and 12

During Week 7, Term 2 the Stage 2 Drama students will take to the stage to perform the heart-warming dramatic production of Bethel Park Falls by Jason Pizarello. The residents of the small town of Bethel are facing a crisis: their beloved park has been sold out from under them and it's sending their lives into a tailspin. In nine interconnected vignettes, sixteen locals grapple with the loss of jobs, homes, and spouses, but find love, courage, and forgiveness as the park magically transforms through four seasons of the year in a single day. From a tired security guard trying get home to the kids, to a young mayor in over his head, to a nostalgic fisherman who can't seem to catch anything, everyone takes a fall... and picks themselves up again. Bethel Park Falls draws a group of complex, fascinating, funny people together into one poignant story about the spaces where communities connect. The production of Bethel Park Falls is the SACE Year 12 assessment performance and we would like to wish the Stage 2 Drama students all the very best for this SACE assessed performance. During the same week the Year 9 Drama students will present the crazy and chaotic pantomime Goldie Locks On by Paul Cockcroft. What starts as one girl (Goldie) deciding to let herself into the Three Bear's house, turns into a veritable home invasion when more fairy tale characters turn up at the front door, demanding entry and causing Goldie no end of problems! **Watch this space** for further information about the Year 9 and 12 Drama productions of Bethel Park Falls and Goldie Locks On.

Peta Bojanic

Senior Drama Teacher

[View this article online to read more](#)

Sports Report



7-12 Sports Day

Last Thursday 11 March the annual 7-12 Sports Day was held and this year we were lucky to have near perfect weather for the day. Throughout the event the students were involved in various novelty games, indoor competitions and athletics events, culminating in the continuous House relay. It was wonderful to see all of the students get into the spirit of the day by wearing bright colours and crazy costumes, and this year we even had drums and music to add to the atmosphere!! All students participated enthusiastically in the novelty events and the indoor hybrid game, and there were a number of outstanding results in the Athletics events. The final relay saw the lead change numerous times with Savoy ultimately winning the race. Congratulations to Padua for winning the House Sport Cup and to Geneva for winning the House Spirit Cup. Well done to all the Age Champions (see below) and a huge thank you to the staff and Year 6 volunteers who assisted in the running of a successful day.

House Sport Cup – Overall Points

Padua – 1064

Savoy – 976

Geneva – 863

Lyon – 845

Age Champions

Year 7 – Riley Humphrys and Lainie Jackson

Year 8 – Alex Moran and Sienna Fox

Year 9 – Wilton Wairimu and Eleanor Tongerie

Year 10 – Benjamin Murphy and Stephanie Formby

Year 11 – William Thomas and Jae Beermann

Year 12 – Kurt Conzales and Madeline Lipscombe

Knockout and Interschool Sporting Opportunities

Throughout the next two terms we will have an increased number of opportunities for students in Years 6 to 11 to trial for school representative teams. As these teams are nominated the coaches will place notices in SEQTA Notices with the relevant information for students. Parents and caregivers can also keep an eye on SEQTA notices through SEQTA Engage. If there are ever any questions about these activities please email **Nadia Honner**.

Nadia Honner

Learning Area Specialist - Health and Physical Education and Specialist Sport Coordinator





Visit St Franics de Sales College at the Mount Barker Show



In collaboration with Alive (Mt Barker) we will showcase our College at the Mount Barker Show on Saturday 27 March, 9am - 4:30pm, Adelaide Hills Recreation Centre and Grounds.

Thank you to staff, students and members of the Parent Community Group and College Board who have volunteered their time to work at the show.

We hope to see you there!

Sarah Sims

Marketing and Communications Coordinator

Parent Community Group (PCG)



We have started the year well with meetings resuming face-to-face. Meetings are currently being held in the Art Room to comply with COVID regulations. New members, Emma Petersen, Thanuja Hiripitiyage and Nicole Baker were welcomed to the group and already there have been some great ideas discussed.

We are excited to announce the Grand Opening of the new St Francis de Sales College **Frankie's Café** next Friday 26 March. Frankie's will open fortnightly on Friday mornings from 8:15am - 9:00am. The café is located in the foyer area of the Meya Watta Building. All families are welcome to visit the café to purchase a coffee or tea for a gold coin donation. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Additionally, we are busy organising the Mother's Day Stall that will be held on Thursday 6 May. Due to COVID restrictions, the Mother's Day Stall will look a little different, however, there will be plenty of items available for purchase.

We welcome new members at any time throughout the year and is always looking for new ideas. We value all contributions. If you would like to join the PCG or would like further information, please email PCG@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au.

We would like to thank everyone for their valued contribution, and we look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Sue Werts

Chair of the Parent Community Group

Meet New PCG Member - Emma Petersen



Describe your family and what a typical weekend looks like?

Hi we're the Petersens! Dad, Sasha, who works in telecommunications, Mum, Emma is a theatre Nurse at Mt Batker hospital, Tabitha (age 5), in reception and Harvey (nearly age 2) who attends ELC at Alive!

We are a family of four living on a small hobby farm in Wistow... our weekends are usually filled with jobs on the farm, caring for our chickens, ducks, sheep and dogs. We love spending time in the garden, on the farm and with our family and friends!

What attracted you into the Parent Community Group and why did you volunteer to be a member?

I loved the idea of being involved in my kids schooling life and also think it's important to be a role model for my kids. I hope to teach them to get involved, be helpful, kind, enjoy meeting new friends and be proud of the school community they belong to.

What are your hopes for the future of the St Francis de Sales College community?

I hope the College community can continue to be a welcoming and happy environment for my kids to grow and learn in. I hope the community can always strive to embrace the diversity of different families. I'd love it to be a place to find friendship, fun, compassion, celebration and support.

How do you see the College Heart Values lived in our College community?

This year focusing on "compassion" I've already seen first hand how compassionate the community of St Francis is. Tabitha had made so many new friends who are kind and focused on their learning. There is always a compassionate friend to help take her to the nurse if

she scrapes her knee! As a parent I have felt welcomed, and plenty of compassion shown to me from other parents, teachers and staff who have helped me make the transition to officially a "School Mum!".

Alive (Mount Barker) Catholic Early Learning Centre Update

Alive Catholic Early Learning is unique in that we are an Early Learning Centre that offers long days. The language used is particularly significant because we are all about learning and therefore are not a day care centre. We believe that children are capable and competent from the youngest of ages and no matter how old they are they have the capacity to learn. This week is Brain Awareness Week and a wonderful chance for us to celebrate the many learning opportunities that have been happening at Alive Catholic Early Learning Mount Barker.

All our educators recognise the significant impact that they can have on a child's brain development and the building of their brain architecture. The metaphor of brain architecture as a way to help people understand how the brain develops emphasises the importance of providing a strong foundation for future development. How we respond to babies and children and the interactions that we have support the brain connections that children develop. Providing a wholistic curriculum with a strong social and emotional focus ensures that we are creating a strong foundation for future learning to occur, supporting children to thrive and reach their full potential.

If you would like to find out more about brain development in early childhood development you can view the following video **'How to Boost Your Child's Brain' from a Harvard Professor Learn how to boost your baby's brain from a Harvard Professor | UNICEF - YouTube.**

Another great resource is an article that explains how our brain architecture is built and the importance of serve and return interactions with babies and children, refer to developingchild.harvard.edu/science/key-concepts/brain-architecture for more information.

Liz Schembri

Head of Early Learning



Second-hand Uniform Sale

In getting ready for the return of the Winter Uniform in Term 2, we will host a Second-hand Uniform Sale to be held:

Wednesday 7 April

3:00pm – 6:00pm

St Francis de Sales College

Community Sports Centre, Function Room

There will be set prices on all items.

We are happy to take good condition current uniform items to sell on consignment or they can be donated to the College.

Items that are to be sold on consignment need to be labelled (each item) with surname/email address/what the item is including size e.g. *Smith, abc@abc.com, Boys L/Sleeve Shirt, Size 12.*

All items to sell in the sale are to be dropped off at the College Administration Office by 4:30pm, Thursday 1 April.

For all enquiries email finance@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au

Term Dates 2021

Term 1 - Wednesday 27 January to Friday 9 April

Term 2 - Tuesday 27 April to Friday 2 July

Term 3 - Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September

Term 4 - Monday 11 October to Tuesday 7 December

Enrolments 2021 | 2022 | 2023

A friendly reminder to current families who have children that are commencing at St Francis de Sales in 2021, 2022 or 2023 and are yet to submit an enrolment form please do so as soon as it is convenient.

Enrolment forms can be collected from our Administration Office or for a digital copy please email **Helen Dimech**.

[Read More](#)

Uniform Shop

Winter Uniform Purchases

Appointments will be required from the 1 to 30 April. Bookings can be made online via our **College website**.

Devon Clothing opening hours:

Tuesday 8:30am - 11:30am

Thursday 2pm - 5pm

Saturday 10am - 1pm

For any enquiries please **email Devon Clothing** direct.

[Read More](#)

In the news



Lainie Jackson (left) and Jordan Tongerie received the Barker division championship shield on behalf of St Francis de Sales, having retained the title following Thursday's 2021 SAPSASA swimming carnival.



Mountain Pool Swimming Club member Ali Walsh (right) was on hand to award the trophy for the fastest backstroke competitor to Arabella Thomas from St Francis de Sales College.

SPER No good

By Jeff Pistola
A teenage Adelaide Hills soccer player aims to continue taking all opportunity presented over the coming season.

Mr Barker, resident Dawson Springs, has been signed to the APSA State Soccer League (SSL) club Eastern United in the 2018 campaign. After winning last season's State League championship, the Eastern United have been crowned arguably the youngest starting goal custodian in the country.

Mr Barker, resident at St Francis de Sales College Eastern United, was recruited by the club to work in the pits during a stint at NFL club, Cumberland United in 2015. Barker has been a professional soccer player since 2010, after joining Slovenian Premier League club Triglav Kranj as an international academy player. The teenager has enjoyed a solid career in the Slovenian football league system, playing in the modified ranks for both Triglav and Mr Barker II of games. The background in football did give me of a foundation, particularly in the areas of kicking and with goal keeping and footy being similar, my way to be a keeper.

I think being subjected to the physical side of footy also helped, given you usually get a bit knocked a round.

The venture into playing soccer for the Adelaide Hills was in 2015, when an Uncle of Mr Barker was contacted by a local soccer club, Eastern United, to coach Barker. Barker was recruited to the club and also the prestigious Sapsa Cup, a national trophy. Barker has played with Adelaide Hills Eagles in 2015, and also the experience of winning both the 2015 State championship and Sapsa Cup trophies. During 2015, the Hills program was invited to represent the Hills at a League club, Adelaide City, which was selected in the Adelaide State Soccer League which opened the year. Barker was invited to participate in a two-week visit throughout Italy, play Academy matches against the likes of Fiorentina and Lazio, and also a trial with renowned Serbian Superliga club, Red Star Belgrade.

Early last year he was offered a contract to play with the Hills United side, but after some intervention, Barker decided to return to the Hills. Barker is currently a member of the Hills United side, and is looking forward to the 2018 season. Barker is currently a member of the Hills United side, and is looking forward to the 2018 season.

European dream

Having been in Slovenia this time last year, Barker is looking forward to return to Europe and playing at a higher level. Barker is looking forward to return to Europe and playing at a higher level.

"There's no doubt, being good enough to play at Champions League level is certainly an aim, he said.

Community Notices

MARCH
27



YOUTH GROUP COME AND TRY

**Saturday 7-9pm at the
Parish house**

Come and try our youth group! There will be dinner, games, Bible studies, and lots of fun! For the ages 11+ with a small cost of \$3 that will go towards food. Come along to mass at 6pm and then join us after at the Parish house, or just come straight to youth! After the holidays we will continue to meet up in the odd weeks of term on Saturday nights.

CALL OR TEXT RUBY ON 0447 516 380


**ASTON HILLS
GOLF CLUB**
at Mount Barker

JUNIOR GOLF CLINICS

APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

\$10 PER CLINIC

**TUESDAY 13TH
THURSDAY 22ND**

1.30pm - 2.15pm

or

2.15pm - 3.00pm
both days



Attendees will receive a
free drink and a gift

To Book in please
Phone (08) 8391 0547
Registrations close
Friday the 9th of April

435 Bald Hills Road
Mount Barker SA 5251



www.astonhillsgc.com.au

MULTI-SPORT SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM



**MURRAY
BRIDGE**
TUE 13 & WED 14 APRIL
9:30AM - 12:30PM
JOHNSTONE PARK



**CRICKET, FOOTBALL AND NETBALL JOIN FORCES TO BRING
BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-10 A TWO DAY MULTI-SPORT
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM!**

Register now for two days of cricket, football and netball fun, where kids will be engaged in plenty of skill and game based activity that will include modified games with other kids the same age. All skill levels are encouraged to register as each participant will receive a participant pack!

REGISTER NOW!

[HTTPS://MULTI-SPORT-MURRAY-BRIDGE.EVENTBRITE.COM.AU](https://multi-sport-murray-bridge.eventbrite.com.au)

LinkSA School Holiday Special

Between **10th to 26th of April 2021**
receive **1 free child bus ticket** with
every bus ticket purchased.

**Available On All LinkSA Bus Route
Services in these Regions**

🚌 Murray Bridge 🚌 Barossa
🚌 Victor Harbor 🚌 Adelaide Hills

Mention this special to the driver in order to
receive 1 free child bus ticket (4-15 years).



For timetable information check
out our website at

www.linksa.com.au





**Mt BARKER
ANZAC DAY 2021
WILL BE AN RSL MEMBERS
invitation
ONLY SERVICE.
WE ASK THAT for COVID-19
reasons.**

**THE GENERAL PUBLIC DO NOT
ATTEND THE DAWN SERVICE**

- * PARTICIPATE IN THE "LIGHT UP THE DAWN" COMMEMORATION AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY.
- * VISIT OUR NEWLY OPENED "AVENUE OF HONOUR" AND LEARN ABOUT THE MEN, BEHIND THE NAMES.
- * VISIT THE MEMORIAL ON MANN ST, AFTER 9AM TO LAY A WREATH OF REMEMBRANCE.
(PLEASE REMEMBER SOCIAL DISTANCING).
- * DECORATE YOUR FRONT YARD WITH A REMEMBRANCE THEME.
- * ATTEND THE ANZAC DAY CLASH, BETWEEN Mt Barker and Hahndorf football Clubs A grade match.

There will not be a Gunfire Breakfast in 2021.



Strathalbyn Catholic Church Hall - 3 Chapel Street Strathalbyn

Community Fundraiser

for the

Fathering Project

<https://thefatheringproject.org/>

Knights of the Southern Cross

\$10 each at the door. Book your table of up to 10 people now!

email knightsoutherncross@gmail.com

Tea/Coffee provided at no cost. BYO nibbles and drinks



OSHC

Camp Australia is proud to partner with St Francis de Sales College, providing your children with a safe environment in which they can explore and play.

If you would like to learn more about how we operate our OSHC service, please visit before or after school and our friendly staff will be available to answer your questions.

If you prefer to speak to us, you can contact our Customer Care Team that is available to support families 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - except for National Public Holidays.

[Read More](#)

LUNCH ORDERS.



Place your lunch orders online with Flexischools. Simply download the app from the **App store** or **Google Play** or visit **flexischools.com.au**



1 Order online at anytime or on the day by 9:30am. **2** Pay with Visa, Mastercard, PayPal or direct deposit. **3** Enjoy!

[Read More](#)

Naturally Smart Coffee



'Naturally Smart Coffee' products are available for purchase to families. Part proceeds of the sales will go towards St Vinnies.

All orders must be made online and the deadline for orders is the 1st and 15th of each month.

The coffee will be delivered to the College and given to your child to pass onto you.

How to order

Step 1 The first step is to create an account on the 'Naturally Smart Coffee' website, **[select this link to create an account](#)**

Step 2 For Account Type, select St Francis de Sales, Mt Barker

Step 3 In the Comments section of the account set-up, select Parent (Child's name and Class)

This information will be saved as part of your personal account, so only needs to be done at the initial set-up.

We thank you for your support!