



Important Dates

**Year 7 Canberra
Tour, 10-14 Nov**
 Sunday 10 November 2024

**Breakfast Club,
every Tuesday and
Thursday, 8:15am -
8:45am, Home
Economics Room**
 Tuesday 12 November 2024

R-2 Mass
 Thursday 14 November 2024

**Children's
University
Graduation**
 Thursday 14 November 2024

**2025 Years 8-11
Transition Visit**
 Tuesday 19 November 2024

Dance Performance
 Wednesday 20 November
2024

Year 12 Graduation
 Thursday 21 November 2024

Year 9/10 Liturgy
 Thursday 21 November 2024

**2025 Years 1-6
Transition Visit**
 Monday 25 November 2024

**Year 6 Reflection
Day**
 Tuesday 26 November 2024

Year 5/6 Mass
 Tuesday 26 November 2024

**Year 7 Transition
Day**
 Friday 29 November 2024

**Year 10's Last Day
of Term**
 Friday 29 November 2024

**Year 6 Moving Up
Celebration**
 Tuesday 3 December 2024

**Year 11's Last Day
of Term**
 Wednesday 4 December
2024

**2025 Student
Leadership Camp,
5-6 Dec**
 Thursday 5 December 2024

Year 7/8 Mass
Thursday 5 December 2024

R-12 Carols
Thursday 5 December 2024

**R-6 Academic and
Heart Value Awards**
Monday 9 December 2024

**Years 7-11
Academic and
Heart Value Awards**
Tuesday 10 December 2024

R-11 Awards
Tuesday 10 December 2024

**Last day of Term 4,
3:10pm dismissal**
Tuesday 10 December 2024

Upcoming Events

End of Year Music Showcase

Date: Tuesday 19 November
Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Venue: Community Sports
Centre - St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

Parent Community Group Meeting

Date: Tuesday 3 December
Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Venue: Meya Watta Building
- St Francis de Sales
College - Mount Barker

From the Principal

Year 12 Class of 2024

Our Year 12 students have commenced their end of year examinations and these continue this week. The Year 12 students completed their formal lessons with a great deal of maturity and respect, and the Year 12 Final Day liturgy was a terrific event. The connection of our Year 12 students and their Reception buddies embodied all that is good about our College community. The year has not yet ended for our Year 12's, and their obvious priority is that of final assessments and examinations. Following these, students can truly relax. I take this opportunity to once again thank the parents and guardians of our Year 12 students for your continued guidance of your children and support of St Francis de Sales College. You have lived the education journey with your children, and the fact that your loved children have made it to this point is a credit to your care and support over many years. The College looks forward to celebrating with students and families at the Graduation Evening at Cobbs Hill Estate on Thursday 21 November.

Happy Campers

Our College provides a large range of opportunities for our students to be involved in camps and excursions. This term we have seen our Year 6's enjoy Wallaroo complete with a power blackout, our Year 5's had a great time at Belair, this week our Year 9's are at Hindmarsh Island, and on Sunday our Year 7 cohort board a plane to Canberra. Wow – that is a lot of great experiences for our students. I have to say we have one of the most extensive camp programs that I have seen in schools. We do this to provide rich learning experiences for our students, and it also enables them to develop resilience away from home and make deep connections with each other. I take this opportunity to thank our staff who graciously give up their time away from their own families to support your children on these camps.

The Dell Redevelopment

I am certain that all who have driven along Springs Road recently have seen the progress of the Dell redevelopment. This will be a fantastic addition to our already wonderful facilities here at St Francis de Sales College. The Dell building consists of specialist dance, drama and music rooms, a refurbished Performing Arts Centre, as well as eight classrooms and breakout spaces, along with staff offices. It really is quite spectacular as you can see from the photos below. The building will be completed in late December and ready for students and staff for day one 2025. I must thank our current students and staff who have been magnificent in adapting to working around a significant building site. We are so looking forward to occupying this outstanding educational facility. Our students are very lucky!

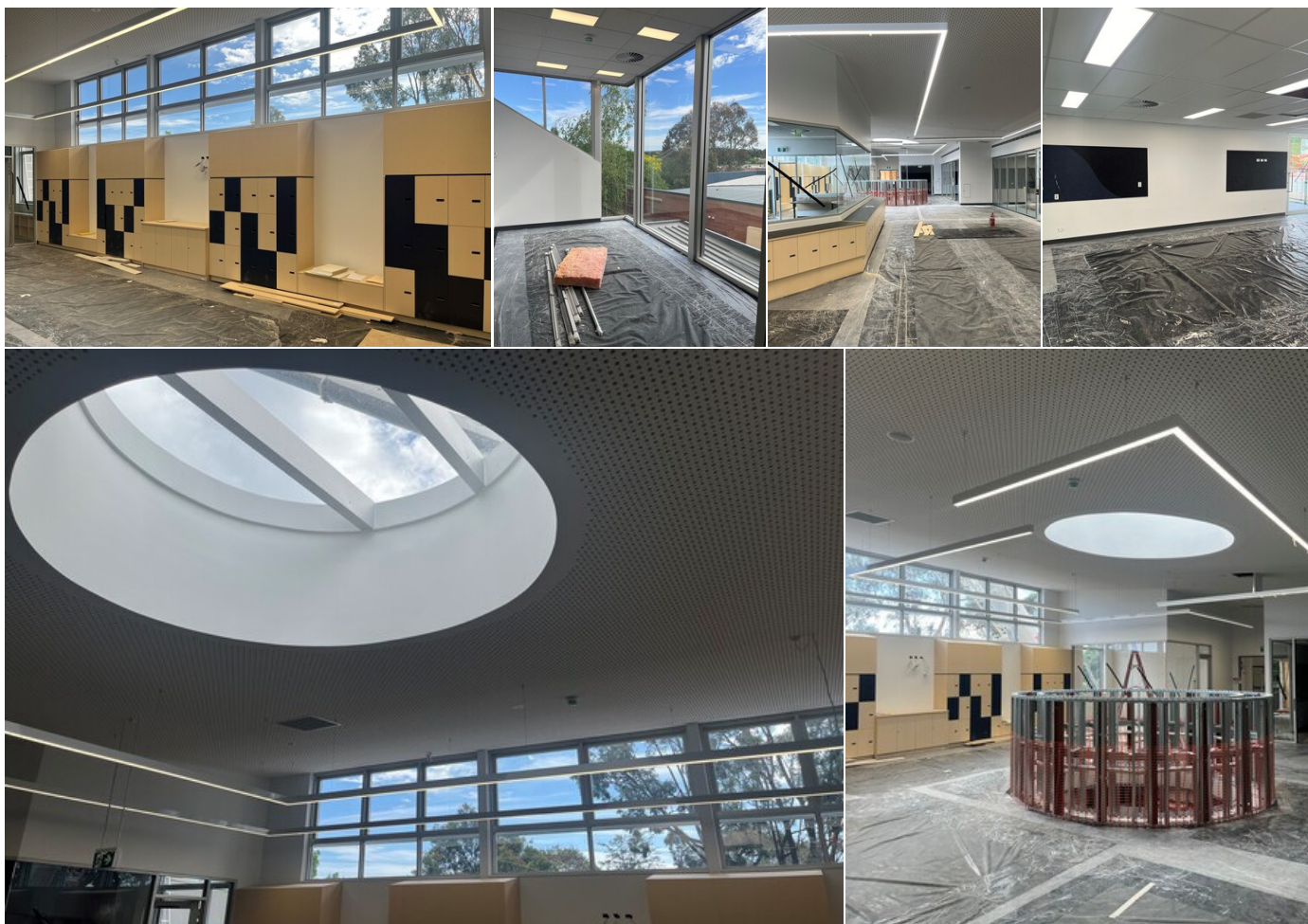
School Fees for 2025

That title caught your attention! I am delighted to inform our College families that there will not be an increase in school fees for the 2025 school year. This is the fifth year in a row that we have frozen school fees for our families, which I am certain will be welcome news. It is at the heart of Catholic education that our schools are affordable and accessible to all. If any family has financial concerns, we ask them to contact a member of our finance team to confidentially discuss additional support through fee remissions.

The Greatest Commandment

Last Sunday's Gospel reading contains one of Jesus' most important quotes. "*You shall love your neighbour as yourself.*" A school is a human institution that brings us into relationship with many others, and each day we may interact with literally hundreds of people. The importance of 'getting along' with others is a key ingredient to the success of a school. We recently received the results of our annual *Living, Learning and Leading* survey, and in this our students told us that they do get along extremely well with their peers, and that in particular they feel safe at school. I am pleased to report that the love and care for the other is alive and well here at St Francis de Sales College.

Andrew Baker
Principal



From the Deputy Principal - Community and Wellbeing

"We must strive to do ordinary things extraordinarily well." - Catherine McAuley

In any educational setting, Term 4 always presents as a bit of a "mixed bag". For our Year 12's, they have grappled with a spectrum of emotions in the last few weeks as they celebrated with nostalgia and excitement their final day of formal lessons alongside the feeling of angst and uncertainty that comes with exam preparation.

For students in Years 5, 6, 7 and 9, they experience the joy of attending year level camps this term, while also preparing with cautious optimism for transition events as we near the conclusion of the academic year.

The message from Catherine McAuley reminds us that we don't need to be anything outside of our ordinary selves during these times, rather, we just need to do the best we can and be the best version of ourselves.

Whilst the journey for our Year 12 students is quickly coming to an end, for the rest of our community, the final weeks of Term 4 are a pivotal time to ensure our learners achieve to their academic potential, and conclude the year successfully. In my message to secondary students following the Year 12 Assembly in Week 2, I discussed the need to focus on the "1 percenters" or "the little things" at this time – such as uniform and grooming, punctuality and sticking to homework routines – because these little things, amount to something much more significant as they accumulate.

These messages of patience and groundedness hold us in good stead for the upcoming season of Advent – a time of waiting and anticipation for what's to come.

Transition Events

A reminder of upcoming transition events that are taking place within our community for the remainder of Term 4:

Transition Activity	Year Levels	Date/Time
Reception Orientation Visit 1 and 2	<i>Term 1 2025 intake Reception Students</i>	Week 5 and 6 Friday 15 and 22 Nov 9:00 - 11:00am
Transition Visit for incoming students in Years 8-11	<i>All incoming students in Years 8-11</i>	Week 6 Tuesday 19 Nov 9:00am - 12:45pm
Transition Visit for incoming students in Years 1-6	<i>All incoming students in Years 1-6</i>	Week 7 Monday 25 Nov 9:00am - 12:45pm
Year 7 Transition Day	<i>All current Year 6 students and incoming Year 7's</i>	Week 7 Friday 29 Nov All day
Reception Orientation Visit 3	<i>Term 1 2025 intake Reception Students</i>	Week 7 Friday 29 Nov 9:00am - 12:00pm
Orientation Visit 4 Welcome Liturgy and Parent Information Session	<i>Term 1 2025 intake Reception Students</i>	Week 8 Friday 6 Dec 9:00am - 12:00pm

Uniform Reminders

Hats

A reminder that the College hat is a compulsory part of the school uniform in Terms 1 and 4 for all students. Hats must be worn at recess and lunch time, and while participating in learning activities outdoors.

Shoes

There have been some questions raised recently in the community regarding what constitutes as an approved “school shoe”. As per the College Uniform Policy, the school shoe must be “black, leather, clean and polished. Canvas or sport shoes are not permitted when wearing the formal uniform. Students are also permitted to wear buckled, black, leather, school shoes.” The diagram below should provide clear guidance for students and caregivers.



Thank you and farewell for 2024

I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to the St Francis de Sales community for your contribution to our wonderful school throughout 2024. At the conclusion of this week, I will be enjoying a period of long service leave until the end of the year. During this time, I'm excited to announce that I will be getting married to my partner Caitlin, and we'll be spending some time together with family in the UK and Ireland.

In my absence, Dale Hoffman (Director of Students) and Paul Wadsworth (Deputy Principal - Learning) will be fulfilling my duties. I wish you all a wonderful end to the year and look forward to reconnecting in 2025.

James Gill

Deputy Principal - Community and Wellbeing

From the Deputy Principal - Learning

A Busy Start to Term 4

We are now approximately halfway through what is always a very busy Term 4. As always, student learning opportunities this term come in many different forms and each of these experiences offer opportunities for our students to develop their skills and reinforce positive attitudes and capabilities.

Junior and Middle School Camp Experiences

In Week 1 of term, our Year 6 students participated in a fun filled camp at Wallaroo, where they further developed their team building skills and had plenty of opportunity to test their resilience and perseverance as they engaged in various outdoor challenges. This was followed by our Year 5 Camp at Nunyara Conference Centre (at Belair) in Week 3, consisting of outdoor activities with a focus on teamwork, personal responsibility and positive communication. As I write this article our Year 9's and Year 7's are preparing for their camps in the coming weeks. The Year 9's will be heading to Hindmarsh Island where they will participate in surfing, kayaking, raft building and other challenging outdoor activities, whilst the Year 7's will head to Canberra and focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and civics and citizenship. These camp opportunities, as well as the many sports carnivals and excursions that are continuing throughout Term 4, offer our students the chance to learn more about themselves and build deeper relationships with each other and their teachers.

There is some very important learning that takes place when students step out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves to complete tasks they may, at first, find difficult. Persisting and persevering in this manner helps young people discover that they can overcome the challenges that life presents, and that they do have the physical and mental tools and capabilities needed to face times of uncertainty. These camp experiences require students to stay away from home for a few days, eat different types of food from what they are used to, co-operate and collaborate with people they may not usually associate with and negotiate different daily schedules and events. Successfully meeting and overcoming these types of challenges helps our students become the best versions of themselves, and prepares them for their future schooling and life beyond the boundaries of our College. Many thanks to all the staff, parents and

community members involved in organising and running these valuable learning experiences for our students.

Farewell and Good Luck Year 12's

On Friday of Week 2, we farewelled our 2024 Graduating Class of Year 12's with a whole College liturgy. It was a great celebration and a fitting conclusion to their formal schooling at St Francis de Sales College. It was wonderful to see them presented to the community with their Reception buddies, representing the entire 13-year journey through school. We wish all of our Year 12's well over the coming weeks, as they complete their final exams and assessments, and we look forward to celebrating with them at the upcoming Year 12 Graduation Dinner.

World Teachers' Day

As I mentioned in my last *Link Up* article, World Teachers' Day was held in Australia on Friday 25 October. This day was a great opportunity to celebrate the outstanding work our teachers and staff do in educating, inspiring and supporting our students. There is no doubting the energy, enthusiasm, commitment and dedication our teachers bring to this vocation, and I again publicly thank them for the manner in which they support and nurture the students in their care.

The Educators SA Awards night took place on Friday 25 October as part of the celebration of World Teachers' Day. **Jane Hosking**, our College's Laboratory Manager, received the **Honour Award** for her dedication to science education. Jane also recently received a Laboratory Managers Association of SA award for **Exceptional Science Service**. Both of these awards are very well deserved and represent the outstanding work Jane does here at St Francis de Sales, and in the broader community, to support science education. Congratulations Jane! We are very fortunate to have you as part of our school community and these awards are something you should be very proud of.

Celebrating our Children's University Graduates

Congratulations to the 16 Junior School students who will soon be recognised for their learning, participation and volunteering through the Children's University program at a Graduation Ceremony to be held at Bonython Hall, Adelaide University on Thursday 14 November. This program highlights the importance of life experiences, outside of normal schooling, in the learning journey of a young person. It also recognises the significant role parents and teachers have in fostering learning and helping young people reach their full potential. A big shout out to our 2024 Children's University graduates and their families who supported them on this educational journey.

Impress Writing Competition and SAETA Spring Poetry Anthology

The **Impress Writing Competition** is run in conjunction with The Once Upon a Festival, an event hosted by Immanuel College. It is a two-day extravaganza of writing and illustrating workshops and author and artist talks. This year's competition theme asked writers to craft a tale filled with clues, evidence, suspects, crime scenes, victims and red herrings. All entries are blind judged by a panel comprising members of the South Australian Teachers Association, guest authors and teacher volunteers. Success was experienced by our College with Annabelle Pham, Year 11 announced Runner Up of her category for the story *The Scarlet Spirit*. And our English Learning Area Specialist, Nicole Elding, announced Runner Up of the teacher category for the story *A Snip of the String*.

In other wonderful news from our English department, Charlotte Peacock's poem *Shattered Veridian*, and Ella Taylor's poem *The Old Man's Tale*, were selected for publication in the **SAETA Spring Poetry Anthology**. Both students attended an official launch of the Spring Poetry Festival on Saturday 26 October at the University of SA Magill Campus, where they were presented with copies of the anthology, listened to readings of original works by other poets and were able to enjoy a delicious morning tea.

Congratulations to our successful English students and staff.

Reactivation of SEQTA Engage

As a result of our recent system upgrade and temporary loss of access to SEQTA Engage, all parents should have recently received an email requesting that they re-activate their SEQTA Engage log on.

If you currently do not have access to SEQTA Engage, it is important that you re-activate your account using the details in the email which you would have received from the following email address: noreply@seqta .

Please be mindful that the SEQTA Engage activation email may have gone to your spam or junk folder and that it needs to be acted upon within 7 days.

If you cannot find the email, have not re-activated your account within 7 days or are experiencing any issues with this re-activation, please contact the College on 8393 1000 or email Student Services at info@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au to re-provision access.

Final Assessment, Feedback and Student Learning for 2024

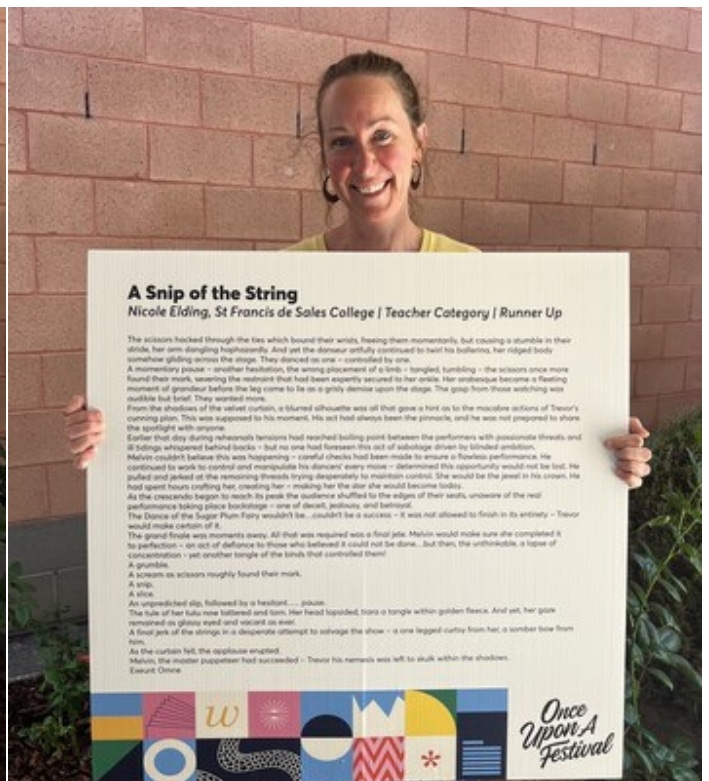
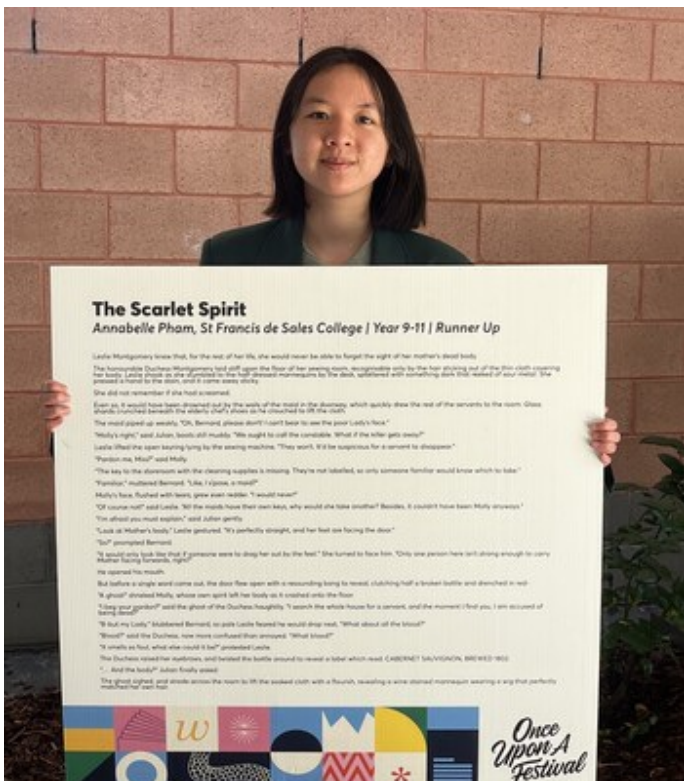
With the Adelaide Christmas Pageant taking place last weekend, we know that the end of the school year is not far away. At this time, it is important students maintain perseverance and focus on their learning, utilising the last few weeks of term to ensure they conclude the year in the best possible manner. At this time of year, students may feel some pressure to complete assessments and final tests or exams. This is a normal part of school life, and good preparation, organisation and communication will help students cope during this busy time. I encourage families to speak with their child about how they are feeling, and to contact the College regarding matters of concern or ways we can further support.

Assessment is a key aspect of teaching and learning at St Francis de Sales, and it involves the ongoing process of providing descriptive feedback to support learning growth. Final assessment grades and comments capture how well a student achieved in an assessment task, but at St Francis de Sales we also highly value the impact that descriptive feedback has in assisting our students move forward in their learning. Our teachers use SEQTA to communicate formative feedback to students, which provides them with the opportunity to reflect on and monitor their progress and review how well they have attended to assessment learning intentions and success criteria; in turn enabling them to set learning goals and work towards these. We encourage parents to check their child's SEQTA page for updates and to assist them with reflecting on and evaluating their learning. Please let the College know if you are having difficulty accessing SEQTA Engage.

I wish all members of our St Francis de Sales community a wonderful second half of the term, and I look forward to sharing in more celebrations as we approach the Season of Advent and head towards the end of the 2024 Academic year.

Paul Wadsworth

Deputy Principal - Learning



From the APRIM



Term 3 Mercy Mission Appeal

On Tuesday 24 September, we celebrated International Mercy Day with a Can Sculpture Activity as part of our fundraising for the Mercy Mission Appeal. A small group of students from each level gathered in the Community Sports Centre on the day to create sculptures using the cans of food that had been donated by students within their year level. It was a fun experience and we managed to donate 22 baskets full of canned food to the Adelaide Day Centre (Mercy Sister organisation).

Congratulations and thank you to all for the generous giving that is definitely part of our College culture. This canned food will be distributed to those in great need all over Adelaide by the Adelaide Day Centre.

All Saints and All Souls Day

Last week we celebrated the important feasts of All Saints and All Souls Day. On these days we especially remember our loved ones who have died, and we hold their memory and life-lessons in our hearts. We also in a special way acknowledge the saints who have lived a life striving to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. The life lessons of St Francis de Sales we hold dear in our community and deeply value. Pope Francis states, *"The feasts of All Saints and All Souls are days of hope. The virtue of hope is like a bit of leaven that enlarges your soul. There are difficult moments in life, but with hope you go forward and keep your eyes on what awaits us. Today is a day of hope; our brothers and sisters are in the presence of God, and we, too, will be there in the Lord's arms as we follow the path of Jesus."*

Vinnies Christmas Appeal

As is our tradition, Term 4 is our Vinnies Christmas Appeal charity focus. Each Homeroom has received a basket to collect donated items, which will be collated by Vinnies to create Christmas Hampers for people in need this Christmas. The Vinnies volunteers deliver these hampers on Christmas Day, to families in great need within our community. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Vinnies has informed us that they are in need of the following items for the Appeal, in order of most importance:

- New or secondhand (in excellent condition) toys and books for ages 10 and under
- Non-perishable food items and Christmas foods (E.g. tinned vegetables, peanut butter, jams, vegemite, sweet biscuits, cereals, coffee and tea, tinned tuna, tinned meats, Christmas puddings and other Christmas sweets etc)
- Toiletries (E.g. shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorants, body wash etc)

The last day to donate is Friday 29 November.

Faith-in-Action Group

This week, the Faith-in-Action Group participated in a wonderful service activity Cooking for Vinnies Fred's Van. The students baked muffins and cookies for those in need. The session, led by Teagan Rickman, Sister Shiji, and myself, offered a hands-on way for

students to give back to the community. Students were able to learn about the St Vincent de Paul Society Fred's Van and its mission to support vulnerable people in our area. This activity provided a valuable opportunity for students to experience the impact of helping others and to contribute in a meaningful way.

Jade Pace

Youth Minister

Advent

Now that the Adelaide Christmas Pageant has been and gone, we are reminded that Christmas is not too far away.

We are now in the final few weeks of the Church's Calendar. On Sunday 1 December (end of Week 7), Advent begins! This marks the start of the new year in the Church's calendar. Advent is a time of expectation, waiting, hoping, and praying in the lead up to the coming of Jesus at Christmas. The Liturgical colour in Advent is purple, so in Week 8 and 9 each classroom Prayer Table will display this colour as a reminder of the liturgical season.

Please see the YouTube clip below, which you may like to view with your family.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S02KOlw7dIA>

There are a number of activities that you can be done at the College in Home Class or with families at home, during Advent. More information about the two activities is attached and listed below:

Jesse Tree

During the Advent season, a Bible Story is read each day which relates to Jesus' family or God's people. After the Bible story is read and discussed, an ornament is placed on a tree – the Jesse Tree. This is often done from the beginning of Advent to Christmas Day. Resources attached as a PDF and YouTube clip below.

What is a Jesse Tree?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qKuDIBvKf4>

Advent Wreath

Advent Wreaths are often used as a visual and symbolic way to mark the four Sundays before Christmas and Christmas Day. You may wish to make a Wreath with your class or at home with your family. **If doing this at the College, avoid using live-flame candles due to the associated risks.** Instead, perhaps use three purple paper-flowers, a pink paper-flower, and a white paper-flower to represent the candles. See the two YouTube clips below.

What is an Advent Wreath?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPHXooW6Nfl>

How to make an Advent Wreath

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cunOkJlLe4

Thank you. Enjoy your Advent preparation!

In Peace

Oreste Farrugia

APRIM



R-6 Highlights

Term 4 continues to be a busy and productive term with lots of exciting learning and events happening across our R-6 community.

Year 5 and 6 Camps

The Year 6 students were off to camp in Wallaroo in Week 1 and the Year 5's headed off to Nunyara, Belair in Week 3. The students all had an amazing experience at their year level camps, enjoying lots of fun and adventurous activities that foster personal growth, teamwork, collaboration, and problem solving. Much fun was had by all, and there were certainly some tired students, teachers, and volunteers at the end of each camp!

Year 5 Camp Student Reflection

Year 5 camp was fun and exciting. It was at Nunyara Conference Centre in Belair. We got to school at 8:45am and left on the bus at 9:15am on Wednesday. It took around half an hour to get there. Georgia's favorite part was the activities. Her favourite activity was the water obstacles because you had to use your teamwork and communication skills to do well. Ben's favourite part of camp was climbing the giant tree, which was 12 metres tall. The dorms at Symmons House were amazing because they were spacious and clean. We definitely recommend it to next year's Year 5's.

By Georgia and Ben

Year 6 Camp Student Reflection

At this year's Year 6 camp, we went on a trip to a lovely location called Wallaroo. It was a three-hour bus trip, but we had a stop at Dublin. We found out who our dorm members were just before dinner. Since there was little room for dorm space, some people got put in another building across the street near some shops.

Some of our activities at camp include kayaking, fishing, pizza making, orienteering, group development, beach afternoon, paracord and tribal games. On the second night, we were going to watch a movie together with all the Year 6s, but the power went out because of a fierce thunderstorm, so we went back to our building, and just did some colouring, uno, and relaxing with friends before bed. Some people in the building across the street went on the balcony and watched the spectacular lighting. After that, lights were out.

The next day we packed up and did the last few games and activities before the bus ride back to school. The bus ride back to school felt longer than the bus ride coming to Wallaroo, and it might have been because everyone was tired, and wanted to go home to see their families again. Some bad things include getting our shoes soaked during the kayaking, and walking back in pouring rain, however some of the good things include seeing a seal under the jetty while fishing, making superb pizzas as big groups, and having a great time with friends.

By Thomas and Julian

Book Fair 2024

In Week 3, we held the annual Scholastic Book Fair, and it was a huge success again this year. We would like to thank all the families who supported the Book Fair by purchasing books, posters, and stationery items. This year we sold a total of \$7,715.31, and as a result, we will receive approximately \$2,300 worth of new reading resources for the R-6 students which will be a wonderful boost to our classroom libraries.

Alice Taylor

R-6 Director of Learning and R-6 Literacy Leader

7-12 Highlights

Term 4 is shaping up to be another busy term as our learning for the year comes to an end.

We have already had PAT testing for Years 7-10 in order to give the teachers a good indication of the growth of our students in their learning over the past 12 months.

Our Year 12's have completed all their work and are diligently working through their final exams at the moment. The Year 10's and 11's have exams looming in Week 7 and the Year 9's will have their exams on Tuesday of Week 8.

The Year 11 students will also attend transition sessions for their Year 12 subjects at the end of Week 7. Letters about the exams, transition sessions and the exam timetable will be sent home shortly.

The final weeks of term are a time for working hard to demonstrate our learning for the year and produce our very best results so that our Christmas break can be one of relaxation knowing that we have truly shown who we are and what we are capable of. There are a lot of exciting activities and excursions planned this term to help consolidate our learning as we enjoy another full and exciting term.

With Year 9 camp this week and Year 7 Canberra Tour in Week 5 there is much to be excited about. Our Year 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to visit the Ingenuity expo put on by the Engineering department of Adelaide University where they were able to interact with engineers and gain an understanding of the scope of honours programs that engineers can be involved in.

We are all looking forward to another full and enriching term.

Kerin Tinnion

7-12 Director of Learning

Year 12 Final Day



On Friday 25 October we farewelled our Year 12 students at the R-12 Final Day liturgy, where we recognised their final formal schooling by presenting the Year 12 students and their Reception buddies to the College community. We are proud of our Year 12 students for the manner they approached their final week and their interactions on the day as they dressed up and shared brunch while participating in fun activities. Final SACE exams started on Monday 4 November and will continue until Thursday 14 November and we are very proud of

how the students have prepared for and attended their first week of exams and continue to wish them every success as they look beyond College life.

Ros Mattner

11-12 Year Level Leader and SACE Coordinator



LMASA Awards: Exceptional Service Award and SASTA Honour Award



Jane Hosking has recently been recognised for her exceptional service to science education spanning 23 years. Jane's commitment to science education goes above and beyond, and her enthusiasm to share her knowledge and continue her education is outstanding. She offers invaluable support and technical expertise to Science teachers and students providing an enriching learning experience.

She has a wealth of knowledge and is always eager to share her understanding and in addition willingly researches new technologies and techniques to improve the teaching of science through practical experience. She is a problem solver for times of challenge and has provided guidance and mentoring for developing teachers and new staff. Coupled with her approachable nature which extends to students and staff alike, Jane's input has contributed towards sparking curiosity and fostering a deeper understanding of scientific concepts.

Jane has also been recognised for her dedication to science education, receiving the South Australian Science Teachers Association (SASTA) Honour Award for her support of teachers and laboratory staff. This award recognises her consistent and passionate contribution to SASTA through professional development of science educators, facilitating professional networking and ensuring that teachers have the technical backing they need for effective classroom delivery. It acknowledges her advocacy for early career teachers, actively supporting them through her contributions at the Early Career Teachers Conference. In addition, it acknowledges her work with SASTA's reference groups and volunteering at the Oliphant Science Awards exhibition. Her award recognises her long-standing commitment to SASTA and the broader science education community and is a clear demonstration of her passion for inspiring the next generation of science learners.

Zonya Grear

Learning Area Specialist - Science

VET and Careers

Barista Course and Frankie's Café

During the Term 2 school holidays, St Francis de Sales College partnered with HitSA Training, Mount Barker to deliver a barista training course to a group of Middle and Senior School students. This hands-on experience equipped the students with valuable skills that will help them secure casual employment in the future. Several of the students are already putting their newfound abilities to work at Frankie's Café in the Meya Watta building, where they prepare and serve coffee to parishioners and staff following Community Mass.

Katie Oliver

VET Coordinator



Music



Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring ting tingling too, but we have a few boxes left to tick off before the jolly sounds of Christmas Carols are to be performed to the public.

To close out Term 3, our very talented music students had the opportunity to experience the excitement of live performance, something that we will continue to look to build upon in the future.

Under the direction of Nicole Moxham, our superbly prepared, reliable and talented Festival Choir, joined other schools and colleges as part of the 350+ strong Catholic Schools Music Festival which was held at the Adelaide Festival Theatre in Week 10 of Term 3, a project and commitment that commenced in Term 1 this year for our ever-reliable choir members and Nicole.

Week 9 of Term 3 we staged our annual Instrumental Music Concert which saw some 60 students perform across two sessions where family and friends enjoyed the sounds of violin, drums, piano, guitar and double bass and to complete our 2024 Instrumental Music Concerts, our very talented singers took to the stage in Week 4 of Term 4 to present a set of pop and rock classics together with some special appearances by Year 7 pianist Christopher Soesanto, junior choir *Piccole Voce*, our College 'Girl Band' powerhouse *Seven Hearts* and a very special performance by one of our Year 12 students, Abby Spence.

With only a few weeks left in the 2024 school year, we still see a very busy Music Department calendar with a number of performance events coming up.

Week 7, Tuesday 19 November, we present the End of Year Showcase Cabaret, which will once again take place in our Community Sports Centre, all in an intimate cabaret setting. *Heart n Soul*, *De Groove* and *Mixed Bag*, together with vocal group *Musaic* will be sure to get the party atmosphere going plus there will be some very special solo performers throughout the night. Bookings are now open for this fantastic night at the following link.

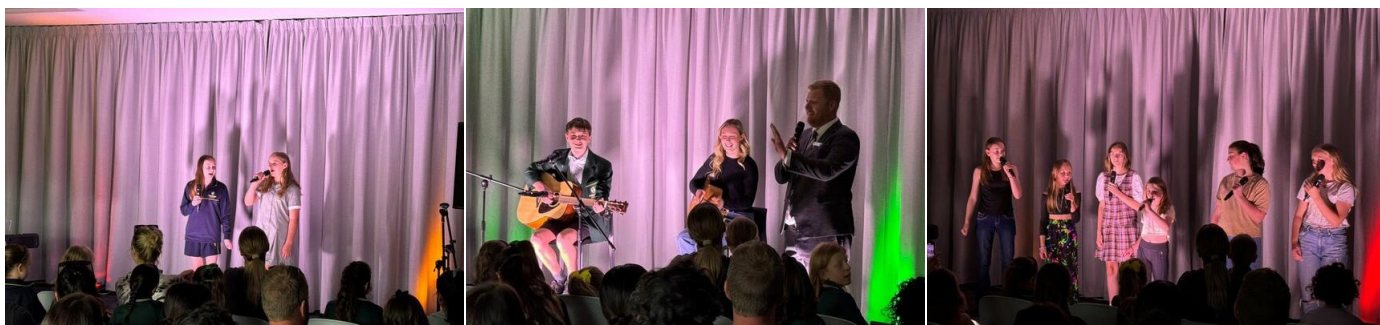
stfrancis.catholic.edu.au/music-showcase

In the closing weeks, we will continue our series of *The Music Lunchbox* concerts with a concert in Week 8, a combined Reception - Year 6 Classroom Concert which will see all Years 2-6 classes perform their pieces to the other classes and then it will be time to break out the tinsel and flashing Christmas lights as we have our special Christmas Choir, *Angelicus*, perform at the Oakbank Balhannah Christmas Concert and then it is off to the BIG Mt Barker Carols evening for our vocal group *Musaic* who will be one of the feature artists.

...and while all of this is happening, we will continue to pack the boxes in readiness for our exciting move into the BRAND NEW Performing Arts precinct for the start of 2025.

Sarah Dodd, Nicole Moxham, Fern Cox and Aleks Bojanic

Your Music Team



Sports Report



Senior Basketball – 9/10 Girls and Boys

At the end of last term our 9/10 Girls Basketball Team competed in the first round of the Statewide Division 1 Competition. We hosted the round robin event in our Community Sports Centre and competed against Tenison Woods College, Trinity College and Heathfield High School. The girls played exceptionally well, led by the incredible Daisy Hocking and well supported by the rest of the players, including sharp-shooter Isla Millard. The girls were able to battle through some tight moments but were able to progress to the next round.

This took place in Week 4 of Term 4 where the team travelled to Henley High School to compete for a spot in the finals. Unfortunately we were without Daisy Hocking who is preparing to represent Australia in an upcoming tournament. This had a significant impact and although the girls fought hard they were defeated by a well-drilled opposition.

Earlier this term our 9/10 Boys travelled to Prince Alfred College to compete in the first round of the Statewide Division 1 Competition. They were up against some incredible competition, and although there were some excellent efforts they were unable to win all of their matches. They should be very proud of their efforts and we are looking forward to next year when they will join our Open players to form a very strong team.

Junior Basketball – 5/6 Girls

As we noted in our previous *Link Up* our 5/6 Girls made it through to the State Finals Day after winning through a tough round robin event held at our College. They travelled to Wayville to play against a number of other schools. The girls had a great day where they played in some incredibly tight matches and learnt a lot. We would like to thank the Year 9 Basketball Academy coaches for their efforts, and the future looks bright for these players!!

Hot Shots Carnival – Tennis

In Week 1 of this term we took our whole Year 4 cohort to the Littlehampton Tennis Club to participate in a Hot Shot Tennis Carnival. It was a fantastic day with all students having a lot of fun and keeping active. We are hoping that some of these students will join the local clubs as there were some talented students showcasing their skills!

SACPSSA Athletics

In Week 3 of this term we took an enthusiastic team of Year 3-6 students to the South Australian Athletics Stadium to compete against various catholic schools from around the state. The students all tried their absolute best and a number of students were successful in winning various ribbons throughout the day. Some standout performances were from Ava Morris, Year 3 who won first place in 100m and 200m as well as bringing home the first place relay. Paxton Newman (Year 4) and Blair Layden (Year 3) smashed their 800m and 400m races (respectively) and both broke the current records. Jude Millard was also named the Year 6 Age Champion.

SAPSASA Representatives

In the final weeks of Term 3 the following students in Year 5 and 6 were selected to represent the Barker District in the following sports. A huge congratulations to all.

AFL – Alexandra, Amelie

Cricket – Alexandra

State Representatives

Following on from representing Barker District in Athletics last term, Paxton (Year 4) has been selected in the School Sport SA state team to compete in the Australian Championship in the upcoming event. Congratulations and good luck!

In the final weeks of last term we had our Year 11 student, Ruby represent South Australia in the National Equestrian Competition in Tamworth. This is an outstanding achievement and we are very proud of her efforts.

International Representative

This year we have had one of our students, Daisy be selected to represent Australia in the U/15 Australian Women's Basketball National Team. This team will be competing in the upcoming FIBA Oceania Cup. This is a truly remarkable achievement and we wish Daisy all the best.

Sports Awards Night

During Week 4 we held our Annual Sports Awards Night, which was coordinated by Stage 2 Basketball Academy Student Jesse. This was where we recognise the outstanding achievements of our sports individuals and teams.

The 2024 Major Award winners were:

- Junior Team of the Year: 5/6 Girls Basketball (made it to the Statewide Finals Day)
- Senior Team of the Year: 7/8 Boys Basketball (finished 2nd in the state)
- Sportsperson of the Year: Suvali
- Athlete of the Year: Daisy

Nadia Honner

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



Old Scholars Reunion - Class of 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019



It was wonderful to welcome back our old scholars from 2004, 2009, 2014 and 2019 to their reunion. It was a celebration that provided them the opportunity to see our redeveloped facilities, catch up with old friends and share stories and experiences of their time here at the College. Thank you to all the staff and students who made the event such a great occasion. And a special thank you to a group of our Year 10 students and teacher Karen Boswell, who did a magnificent job of catering for the evening. We look forward to continuing these celebrations for years to come.

To be the first to hear about our upcoming reunions, join our **Old Scholars Association** via our website at [> Old Scholars Association](#).

Join our St Francis de Sales College Community

We are seeking the following positions to join our community:

Youth Minister

Commencing: 20 January 2025

Hours Per Week: 28 hours per fortnight/41 weeks per year

Employment Status: Contract

Applications Close: 9:00am, Monday 18 November

Reception to Year 6 Teacher, with the possibility of Year 5/6 Year Level Leader

Commencing: 22 January 2025

Hours Per Week: Full-time

Employment Status: Permanent

Applications Close: 9:00am, Monday 18 November

Sports and Events Management Assistant ESO

Commencing: As soon as possible - by agreement

Hours Per Week: 75 hours per fortnight/42 weeks per year

Employment Status: Contract

Applications Close: 9:00am, Friday 29 November

Queries to: Lisa Andrew, Assistant to Executive

T: 8393 1035 | **E:** landrew@stfrancis.catholic.edu.au

For more information about these positions and to apply visit the Employment page on our website at stfrancis.catholic.edu.au/about/employment

Onsite Psychology Services at St Francis de Sales College

Our College is pleased to share that students can now access private Psychology services with Tom Parkin, Psychologist. This service adds to the existing range of Allied Health services families may access onsite. If you are interested in accessing private Psychology services with Tom at the College, please refer to the information below:

Visiting Psychologist

Tom Parkin (TD Psychology)

Availability

Mondays, during school hours

To make a booking

Please ring the office at TD Psychology to make a booking and discuss payment, referrals and any other matters.

Contact Details

Telephone: (08) 8269 1818

Email: tdpsych@bigpond.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm

Payment

Invoicing is arranged through the TD Psychology office.

Costs

Therapy sessions: \$234

Assessments: \$1000

Rebates and Claiming

Parents/carers may be able to use a Mental Health Care Plan (please see your GP or Paediatrician to arrange) to claim some rebates.

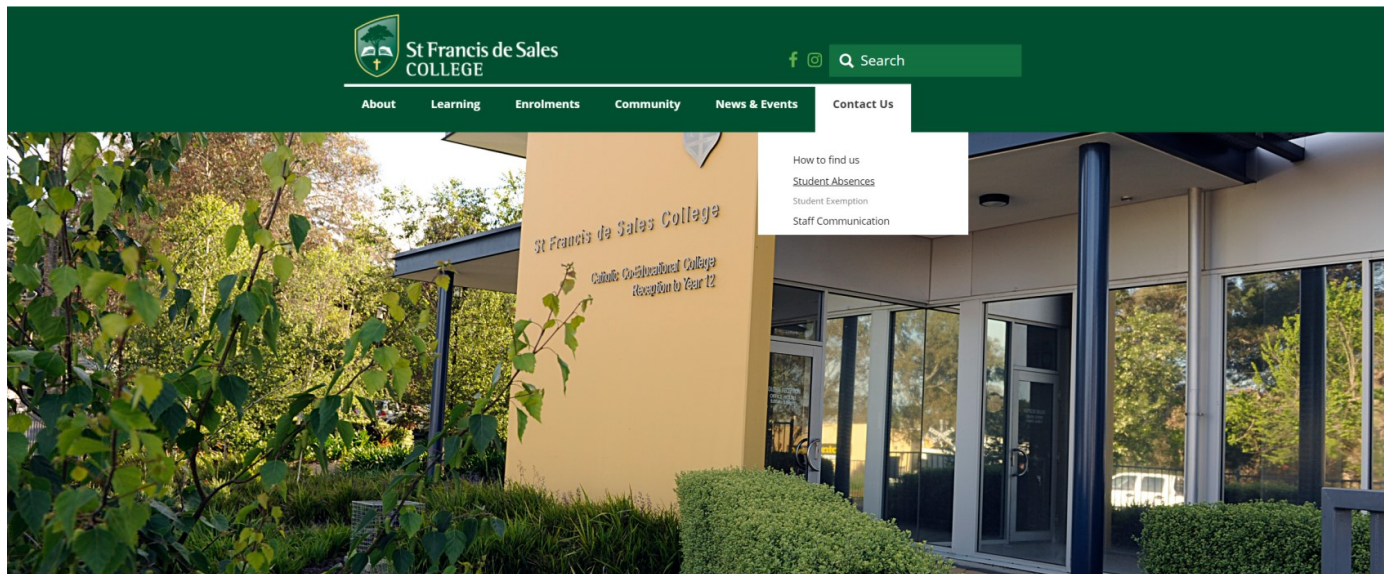
Private Health funds may offer rebates – please contact your fund to confirm.

NDIS clients are billed through NDIS.

Melissa Symonds

Director of Equity and Inclusion

Is your child going to be away?



You can notify the College of your child/ren's absence via our Absentee Form on our website. To lodge a form go to stfrancis.catholic.edu.au/contact-us/student-absences. Alternatively, call the **Absentee Line** on **8393 1001**.

Both the Absentee Form and Absentee Line are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If a student is away from school for **more than three days** an Exemption Form must be completed. This form is also available via our website, refer to stfrancis.catholic.edu.au/contact-us/student-absences/student-exemption.

Lost Property



We recognise it is inevitable that items will be misplaced by students and visitors to the College. We therefore hope to reunite these items with their owners.

Our central collection point for lost property is located in the entrance of Student Services, Ralston Building, where students can look for missing items.

At the end of each term, unclaimed and unnamed items will be placed in the second-hand uniform sale or donated to Vinnies. All food and drink containers will be disposed of.

To help us return these items in the future we encourage all families to name and label all personal items including clothing, food and drink containers, bags, books and stationery.

Read more of our eNewsletter online

Click on the below **Read More** link to view Calendar Dates, Student Achievements, Community Notices and much more.

Term Dates 2024

Term 1 - Monday 29 January - Friday 12 April

Term 2 - Tuesday 30 April - Friday 5 July

Term 3 - Tuesday 23 July - Friday 27 September

Term 4 - Monday 14 October - Tuesday 10 December

[Read More](#)

Future Enrolments

A friendly reminder to current families who have children that are commencing at St Francis de Sales in future years 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 to download a digital copy please visit the **Enrolments** page on our website.

[Read More](#)

Our 2024 Heart Value is...

Wisdom

“How much better to gain wisdom than gold; to gain insight rather than silver.” (Proverbs 16:16)



Student Achievements



Her Excellency awarded the Australian Sports Medal to six athletes from South Australia who represented Australia at the Virtus Global Games 2023, including our Year 12 student Gabriel Cregan. This prestigious medal, part of the Australian Honours, recognises the invaluable contributions of athletes in major sporting events.

Gabriel claimed gold in the 100m breaststroke, 4x50m freestyle, 50m breaststroke, 4x100m medley, and 200m breaststroke in France.

Congratulations on your outstanding achievement!

Community Engagement

Remembrance Day 2024



We thank our 2025 College Captains, Cara (left) and Holly (right), for laying a wreath at the Mt Barker RSL Remembrance Day Service.

Project Compassion Appeal

The theme for this year's Appeal is *For all Future Generations*. The Appeal officially began at the College on Ash Wednesday, 22 February.



Uniform Shop

Hills Schoolwear are our uniform supplier. They are based in the Mount Barker Homemaker Centre, and part of the Worklocker family.

Items can be purchased direct from their store during the below opening hours:

Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm

Saturday, 9am to 12noon

Online ordering is also available. Visit the **uniform** page on our website for more information.

[Read More](#)



LUNCH ORDERS



Place your lunch orders online with Qkr! Simply download the app from the **App Store** or **Google Play** or visit qkr-store.qkrschool.com/store/#/home



[Read More](#)

Order online at any time or on the day by 8:00am.

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.



To find out more about the service click on the below [Read More](#) link or call Camp Australia on **1300 105 343** or email info@campaustralia.com.au.

[Read More](#)

Community Notices

WALKING NETBALL
TUESDAYS 10AM
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!
NETBALL SA COACHES

St Francis de Sales School
Community Sports Centre
8 Dutton Road, Mount Barker

netball

MINI MAKERS' MARKET

MOUNT BARKER COMMUNITY LIBRARY
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30
OPEN 10AM - 2PM
CASH ONLY; PLEASE BRING CHANGE
LET'S CELEBRATE THOSE WHO CREATE!
ARTS, CRAFTS & PRODUCE
 ENQUIRIES TO LIBRARY@MOUNTBARKER.SA.GOV.AU

 MOUNT BARKER
COMMUNITY LIBRARY


MT BARKER
 UNITED SC

**ARE YOU INTERESTED
 IN PLAYING CLUB SOCCER
 THIS SEASON?**

- » *Mt Barker United is the place for you!*
- » *Spaces available for players aged 5-18*

For more information contact: info@mbusc.com.au

Charity
MOVIE NIGHT

THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER
6:30PM | WALLIS CINEMAS MOUNT BARKER

MOANA 2 (PG)

RAISING MONEY FOR
HANDS ACROSS THE WATER
Connecting underprivileged and disadvantaged children in Thailand with homes, food, education and future pathways

SCAN FOR TICKETS
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS GREAT CAUSE!



URAILDA DISTRICTS FOOTBALL CLUB
Swamp Rd, Uraidla

COME & TRY
Girls 12 - 17yrs

Sunday 17th November
11am - 12.30pm
&
Monday 2nd December
4.30 - 6pm

*** No experience necessary**

womens@udfc.com.au
Ursula 0403 372 856

www.uraidlafc.com

ALL WELCOME






Become a Knight

The Knights of the Southern Cross are seeking new members. Membership is open to all men 18 years or older.

As a service organisation, Knights assist our local community and those in need.

If you are interested in becoming a Knight of the Southern Cross (a fraternal Brotherhood recognised by the Vatican), find out more at a meeting that is held the second Wednesday of each month, 7pm-9pm.

For more information call Mike on **0414 572 840** or view <https://youtu.be/vIVQYNkSGlw>. We hope to see you at our next meeting.

A green banner with white text. The main text reads 'The Southern Cross' in a large, bold font. Below it, in a smaller font, is 'Part of your Catholic family since 1867'. To the right, there is a red and white logo that says 'Living Catholic' in a stylized font.

Read

More

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