



The Spirit

St Martins Lutheran College Newsletter

Term 1 Old Scholars Newsletter 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of our 2023 Old Scholars Newsletter. With the worst of COVID-19 now behind us, we have enjoyed a smooth start to the year followed by a very busy term. This has been particularly evident in our return to a more normal sporting program.

For the first time in two years the College held a successful Secondary Swimming Carnival at the new Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre. This was followed by the Regional Swimming Carnival, where we were placed third overall, an excellent outcome.

In early March, the College held its Annual Sports Days. Both the Junior and Secondary School days were a great success and were well attended by parents and friends. This was followed by the College finishing in fifth place at the 78th Annual Secondary Southeast Zone Inter-school Athletics Carnival at Millicent. A week later the College participated in the (D Grade) Secondary Track and Field Championships in Adelaide, where the St Martins team led all day taking home all three shields: 1st in Girls, 1st in Boys and 1st in overall score. Congratulations must go to all our athletes!

Theme for 2023

This year's College theme is: **'Open Heart, Open Hands'**. To help students and staff grow in their understanding of the heart and its relationship with our lives, the College launched the theme with Jesus' words of **'freely you have received, so freely give'**. As we move through the year our theme will remind us to service others in response to God's love for us.

INTRODUCING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL KAT ELLIOTT



Kat has been teaching in NSW, ACT, VIC and SA, and is trained and experienced in both Primary and Secondary Education. Kat has a passion for working with children of all ages to support them in achieving their best and feeling that they belong in their community.

Kat believes she will never stop learning, and enjoyed studying degrees including a Master in Education as well as an MBA with a focus on educational leadership. She has a loving husband and three beautiful children, and is excited to be discovering the South East and the Limestone Coast.

GENERAL NEWS

It is my pleasure to inform you of a number of new initiatives and developments within the College.

Appointment of Deputy Principal

I am delighted to inform you that following a decision by the College Council last year, we have appointed a full-time Deputy Principal. Her name is Mrs Kat Elliott, and her role involves working closely with the Heads of School and the Head of Teaching and Learning to further improve the delivery of student wellbeing and learning across the College. Mrs Elliott comes to us from a senior position at Westminster School in Adelaide. She has been teaching for many years, having worked in NSW, ACT, VIC and SA, and she is trained and experienced in both primary and secondary education.

Secondment of Pastor

This year we have been blessed with a Lutheran Pastor. His name is Pastor Jon Goessling, and he is on secondment to the College for the year on a part-time basis. For most of the year Pastor Jon will be with us from Wednesday to Friday. This year Pastor Jon will be assisted by Mr Isaac and Mrs Trish Bruggemann, who are already known to many College families for their excellent work with the band program. In addition to their music duties, they have both been appointed as Ministry Assistants.

Appointment of Sub-school Wellbeing Leaders

In recognition of the wellbeing needs of students, the College has appointed a Wellbeing Leader to assist each of the Heads of School. They are: Junior School – Mrs Brenda May; Middle School – Mrs Romana Quintel; and Senior School – Mr Rovaun Alexander. They are each enjoying working with students to support their wellbeing.

Wellbeing Centre

Our new Wellbeing Centre (located at the southern end of the Administration Building) has been completed and is now operational. The centre houses our College Counsellor, Mrs Jane Savage, and our new Junior School Wellbeing Leader Mrs Brenda May. The centre also provides a safe space for students who need wellbeing support.

Canteen Upgrade

Towards the end of Term 4 last year our canteen was significantly extended and refurbished to better serve the needs of students and staff. While there are still a few finishing touches to complete, the Canteen is fully operational.

Carparking

To better provide for the needs of our community we have increased the number of carparking spaces available. There are now 49 extra spaces located on part of the "paddock" near the SMOSHC House.

Brand New Bus for Naracoorte School Run

To better provide for our Naracoorte families, the College has purchased a brand-new bus for the Naracoorte school run. The new bus began operating at the start of the year, providing greater comfort and reliability for students. As you can imagine, Barry, our Naracoorte driver, is very happy.

New Kongorong Bus Route

In response to requests from a number of families, the College now operates a Kongorong bus service.

Please remember that once a member of the St Martins family you are always a member. We would love you to call in and visit the College when you get the opportunity.

Wishing you God's richest blessings for the year ahead.

ATHLETICS CARNIVALS

On Tuesday March 7, the College Middle/Senior School Athletics Carnival was underway!

Students enjoyed a day of great competition in the traditional track and field events.

It was a very close battle between the Houses all day, but at the end of competition, Livingston (for the first time in 15 years) took home the win.

The final score for Middle/Senior Carnival was:

1. Livingston: 1,769
2. Tremelling: 1,508
3. Yeates: 1,339
4. Witty: 1,212

On Thursday March 9, hundreds of parents, grandparents, carers and family members came along to the College's Junior School Athletics Day!

The day is a highlight on the calendar for our Junior students and they were out to impress the crowds, with their speed and agility!

Sadly, there can be only one winner - with Tremelling this year's Athletics Champions!

Thank you to the volunteers, Parents and Friends and the Year 7 students that came out to support and help make the day fun!

Well done also to Mr Minuzzo and the sports team for their massive effort to ensure the day was a great success!



2023 STUDENT LEADERS

St Martins is excited to announce the 2023 College Captains!

Senior Captains: Alex and Bella

Senior Vice Captains: Ainsley and Kaelan

Middle School: Lucy and Ezekiel

Junior School: Austin and Meeka

These students are excellent reflections of St Martins values, and they have represented the College with passion and enthusiasm.



2023 SWIM CARNIVAL

On February 16, St Martins was thrilled to welcome back the annual Secondary Swimming Carnival! In the brand new Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Mount Gambier, students were welcomed back with a scorching 37° day!

Swimmers took part in the traditional events, fun novelties, and free swimming time. There was even a Staff vs Student relay (the staff won).

The final score for the day was:

1. Tremelling: 473.50
2. Livingston: 417.50
3. Whitty: 384
4. Yeates: 377



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BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Our Year 12s officially welcomed the new Reception students to the College with the annual 'Blessing of the Backpacks' ceremony on Wednesday February 1. This was a special activity shared between the youngest and oldest students.

The new scholars were presented with a special key tag and some wise words from the experienced students as a welcoming gift.

We wish our Reception students the very best as they begin their journey here at St Martins.



SESSA ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

On Thursday March 30, following the Interschool Carnival, 51 Middle/Senior students travelled to Adelaide to compete in the Secondary Track and Field Championships at the Athletics SA Stadium.

After two years without competing in Adelaide, students were excited as it has been a popular trip in the past.

Competing in the D grade competition, the St Martins team led all day and took home all three shields that were on offer! 1st in Girls, 1st in Boys and 1st in the overall scoring.

HARMONY WEEK

Week 9 was Harmony Week, the College celebrated with students participating in special activities, they were also given a chance to wear orange and learnt about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians.

Students had the opportunity to make friendship bracelets. Colours in the plaited wool included those found in both the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags. They also baked cupcakes for a Harmony-themed stall that was sold at the school on Thursday.

Throughout the week, Junior school students participated in lunchtime activities in the library.



FOOTY ROADSHOW

On March 21, Junior School students were treated to a very special opportunity, to get up and close to four amazing trophies!

The AFL, AFLW, SANFL and SANFLW trophies were on display as part of the lead up to the AFL's 'Gather Round' in mid-April.



2022 HOUSE SHIELD WINNER

At the end of 2022, during the Junior school service the House Shield winning team was announced. Throughout the year, points are awarded to each house based on participation in a large variety of activities and events.

The final tally was:

Yeates	5,474
Whitty	5,193
Tremelling	5,148
Livingston	4,985



SSSA SWIMMING ADELAIDE

On Friday March 3, 33 of St Martins Middle and Senior School students competed in the SSSA Swimming Championships at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre.

Students competed against ten other schools in the E grade competition with some great results. The girls finished 4th overall and the boys finished 1st, leaving us in 2nd place overall!



RECEPTION & YEAR 12 EASTER TRAIL

On the morning of April 5, our Reception and Year 12 students buddied up for an Easter egg hunt around the College.

The students were given 4 clues and had to work together to find all of the Easter symbols.

One of the clues led them to the chicken coop, where our Reception students were excited to find a different type of egg than usual.



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