



The Spirit

St Martins Lutheran College Newsletter

Term 1 Week 2 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Let us be Peacemakers

Welcome to the new school year. I hope that you and your family have had a chance to rest and relax over the Christmas and New Year break.

While we have been enjoying our holidays, it has been hard to get away from some of the events that are happening around our world. The Russia-Ukrainian war is coming up to the start of its third year, with both sides bogged down in ground, missile, and drone conflict. Neither is really making much headway, and so many lives have sadly been lost. At the same time the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict has dragged on for over 100 days, with little sign of a permanent ceasefire.

We desperately need peace. Now, more than ever, we need to be peacemakers – at home, at school and work, in our community, our country and in our world.

So, our College theme for this year is 'A time for peace'.

In Galatians 5:22-23, it says that peace is one of the fruits of the spirit - *Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*

And the bible calls us to be peacemakers.

Pursuing peace means making an effort. But we cannot find and maintain peace simply by our own human efforts; we need God's help, and we need Grace, which is His power assisting us and enabling us to do what needs to be done. The efforts we make must be made in and through Christ. Too often we just try to do what is right without asking for God's help, and that type of human effort produces little good fruit.

Jesus says in John 15:5, *Apart from Me you can do nothing.*

We need to seek peace in our world, peace in our country and community, peace in our homes, peace in our relationships. But first we need to seek peace in our own hearts. Last year's College theme of 'Open hearts, Open hands', is the foundation we need to build on to be peacemakers. As children of our Heavenly Father, who loves us abundantly, we need to be intentional in keeping our hearts and lives open to the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, in prayer, worship, reading the word and fellowship. It is only through the transformation that comes from our personal relationship with Jesus, that we can be changed, and be the salt and light that our world needs.

So, friends, my prayer this year is that we learn to be better peacemakers in 2024. May we be ready to listen and learn from God, to live as people of peace. And may we be good examples in all that we do day by day, so that those around us will learn to be peacemakers too. Amen.

Alan Connah | Principal

WELCOME RECEPTIONS!

Our new Receptions have been enjoying their first couple of weeks here at St Martins. Our youngest students started their College journey with some orientation days late last year, finding their way around the campus. Week 1 saw them officially start their school experience, celebrating their big 'First Day' with classroom introductions and care packages for parents.

On Wednesday 31 January, they received a special welcome from our Year 12s with the annual 'Blessing of the Backpacks' ceremony. Receptions received a special key tag to put on their new school bags by the Senior students.

We can't wait to see where their St Martins journey takes them.



St Martin's
KINDERGARTEN

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www.stmartinskindergarten.sa.edu.au

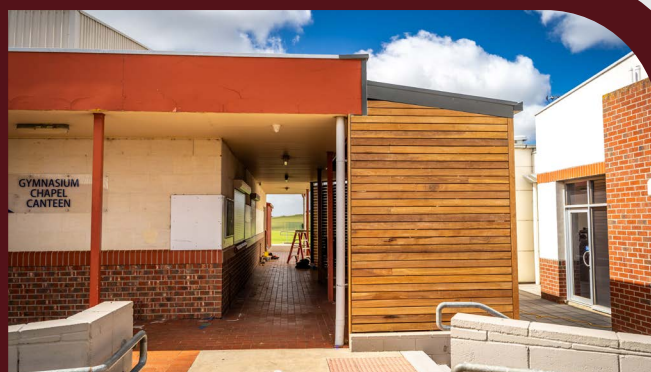
PLAYGROUP KINDERGARTEN
BEFORE & AFTER KINDY CARE

CAMPUS PROGRESS

There has been a lot of activity around the College over the summer break. After 20 years our Gym floor has finally been replaced! On Friday Week 1 the College had its first Worship back for the new year, putting the new deck to good use.

The College is also getting new undercover hardcourts. A large roof is currently being installed over the existing four hardcourts near the nature play area at the north eastern side of the school. This will enable all-year comfort and will be finished in the coming weeks.

Work has also finished on the new timber pergola by the canteen serving window. This will keep our students sheltered as well as block any glare for our canteen staff.



NEW STAFF WELCOMED

St Martins would like to welcome our new staff for 2024. Among the 15 staff starting with us this term, we are excited to be joined by new Deputy Principal Celia Mara, and Director of Ministry Wesley Olivier.

A passionate education leader with 30 years of experience, Celia joins St Martins following eight years at Balcombe Grammar School in regional Victoria, where she was Head of Teaching and Learning.

Wesley moved to Mount Gambier from South Africa with his wife and two sons in March 2022. After ministering in churches for 12 years, Wesley has loved spending the past two years as a stay-at-home dad. Feeling called to a new form of ministry, he's excited to join the St Martins family in 2024.

All new staff were introduced at our first Worship Service of the year on Friday 2 February and welcomed with a letter from staff.

We're excited to welcome this wealth of experience, personality, and enthusiasm to St Martins and wish them all the best for their time here.

FOLLOW US!

Keep up to date with College activities

St Martins Lutheran College is social! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up with the latest news and activities from the College.



INTERNATIONAL TRIPS RETURNING

After years of halted travel, St Martins is resuming overseas learning trips in 2024! Up until 2019, St Martins staff have taken students to partner schools in Indonesia, Germany and China.

After a very special visit from staff at our sister school SD HKI 3, Robyn Teakle and Brenda May will take a group of students to Indonesia over the upcoming school holidays. The aim of the Service Learning Trip is to make a difference through learning, sharing resources, and building friendships. The partnership also creates an opportunity to see how people in other parts of the world live and learn and to grow as individuals personally, educationally and spiritually.

We're excited to announce that plans are underway for a student trip to Germany in the 2025 April school holidays. The two-week trip is open to all current German students and any current students who studied German up to the end of Year 9, as they didn't have the opportunity to during the Covid pandemic. The planned itinerary includes visiting cities Cologne, Hamburg and Berlin, and villages along the Rhine River and Moselle Valley. The second week will be spent with our sister school. If you are interested in participating contact Frau Frost on hfrost@stmartins.sa.edu.au. There will be an information evening later this term.



SCHOOL CAPTAINS

A massive congratulations to our College Captains for 2024. Year 12 students Lucy Savage and Niel van Niekerk will lead St Martins as College Captains, while Lauren van Eeden and Samuel Halleday were appointed Vice Captains.

Maya Clarke and Jacob Halleday lead our Middle School, while Beau Vivian and Layla have been appointed Junior School Captains.

We know they will serve the St Martins community well.



CAR PARK SAFETY

A reminder to all parents, carers and guests to the College to act responsibly when using the carpark area.

Please only use the designated drop-off/collection areas to ensure the safety of everyone.



OUR 2024 COLLEGE THEME

From Director of Ministry Wesley Olivier:

Good day St Martins family, as has been shared already our theme for this year is A Time for Peace.

For Worship in Term 1 we will approach this wonderful theme from the point of view 'Peace with God'. Starting in Week 1, we discovered that we could find Peace with God by knowing that God longs to be in a relationship with you! God created the world and every one of us, not because He could or was trying to show off. No, He created all things because He desired to share His complete and perfect love with more than just Himself. We are products of that desire.

This week we are learning that true peace is linked to our relationship with God! This is wonderful news because we all need to know that peace doesn't come from external circumstances, but instead it comes from knowing that God is with us in all moments and will get us through any situations we will face – good or bad. We can have peace when we know God is the source of all peace.



The logo for the Yeates House Shield is a yellow square with a white geometric pattern of interlocking lines. The word 'Yeates' is written in a white, stylized cursive font across the center.

YEATES SHIELD WINNERS

A big congratulations to Yeates (yellow) for taking out the House Shield in 2023.

The Shield was presented to last year's Junior House Captains Deklyn Shaw and Gordon Farrugia by the Hon Ben Hood MLC at the Junior School End of Year Service.

Points breakdown:

Yeates (6,093)
Whitty (5,346)
Tremelling (5,082)
Livingston (4,917)

PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

The challenge has begun! Students have received a 'Reading Record Sheet' to keep a log of books read throughout the year.

For Reception - Year 2 students, Miss Kelly will fill in the Reading Record Sheets. For additional Reading Record Sheets for home reading, please let the Library know. Year 3-6 Reading Records need to be kept, managed and submitted by the student/family.

With each returned Record Sheet, students will receive a special token and House points. The challenge end September 6th 2024. For more information, please visit: <https://premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/>



NOTICE BOARD

Latest notices and community events

Please [click here](#) to access the Community Noticeboard for posters and Information of upcoming events and activities within the College, and the wider community.

TERM PLANNER

Keep updated with the upcoming College events

Please [click here](#) to access the College Term Planner for all important dates and upcoming events.

UPCOMING DATES

Thursday, February 8

- Year 12 Retreat at Robe (returning Friday)

Friday, February 9

- Little Wonders performance at Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre for Year 1&2
- JS House Captains and SRC installed at Worship

Wednesday, February 14

- Ash Wednesday MS/SS devotion

Thursday, February 15

- Secondary Swimming Carnival at Wulanda Recreation Centre

Friday, February 16

- Secondary Interschool Swimming Carnival at Wulanda Recreation centre
- Year 6s at Noorla Yo-Long

Tuesday, February 20

- Year 1-11 Parent Info Night

Wednesday, February 21

- House Day
- Year 3 Day out at the Millicent Swimming Lake

Friday, February 23

- MS & SS House Captains and SRC installed at Worship
- Veta Morphus Retreat at Mylor, Adelaide

MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY

WHAT'S AT YOUR LIBRARY FOR FAMILIES?

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

STEAM CLUB

8 - 13 YEAR OLDS
Tuesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics through a series of programs designed to foster a love of learning.
Bookings essential.

TABLE TOP GAMES CLUB

8+ YEAR OLDS
Wednesdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Enjoy all the classics and more! With a selection of games and brainteasers each week - you'll never be bored!
Bookings not required.

LEGO FAN CLUBS: CLASSICS AND TECHNICS

Thursdays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

CLASSICS - ALL AGES
Weekly challenges and fun for the whole family.

TECHNICS - 8+ YEAR OLDS
Weekly challenges, using machines and mechanics.
Bookings essential for both clubs.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON POOL


12+ YEAR OLDS
Fridays 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Join in with a game of 'Kelly Pool' or maybe 'Reverse Eightball' with our weekly tournaments.
Bookings not required.

CAVE CLUB - UNDER 5'S

Fostering a strong connection to community and a sense of belonging for our littles visitors, our Cave Club runs simultaneously with our **Storytime** and **Move & Groove** programs held weekly. Join the Cave Club and start collecting stamps in your Cave Club passport today.

Baby Bounce:
Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00am
Storytime:
Tuesday at 10:30am
Move & Groove:
Thursday at 10:30am



BLUE LAKE BMX CLUB



Do you or your kids love riding... then come and try BMX racing

Training and Gates, Tuesday nights from 5:15pm

Racing, Friday nights, Racing starts at 6:30pm

Hastings Cunningham Reserve, Millard St, Mount Gambier.

4 week FREE trial, through AusCycling



- Suitable for all ages.
- Learn new skills.
- Form new friendships.

bluelakebmx@gmail.com

Blue Lake BMX Club



CHALLENGE YOURSELF

ON BOARD TALL SHIP YOUNG ENDEAVOUR



16-23 YEAR OLDS

LEARN NEW SKILLS


MAKE NEW FRIENDS

EXPLORE THE AUSSIE COAST

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN
youngendeavour.gov.au

YOUNG ENDEAVOUR YOUTH SCHEME
EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS


SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINICS



Football South Australia Holiday Clinics are held across various locations, both metro and regionally, to help boys and girls aged between 5-16. The purpose: to develop functional game skills including first touch, striking the ball, running with the ball and 1 v 1.

Visit footballsouth.com.au/school-holiday-football-camps

METRO ADELAIDE
BAROSSA
LIMESTONE COAST
PORT PIRIE



MOUNT BARKER
WHYALLA
PORT LINCOLN
ROXBY DOWNS

