



Important Dates

9A & 9B - Outdoor
 Bike Day Trip

Wednesday 29 November
 2023

Year 7 Transition
 Day - Day 1

Thursday 30 November 2023

Year 7 Transition
 Day - Day 2

Friday 1 December 2023

Interschool Cricket
 Cup - Berri

Monday 4 December 2023

End of Year Family
 Night - 5:30-
 7:30pm

Tuesday 5 December 2023

Yr 7 Student Retreat

Tuesday 5 December 2023

Parish and College
 Mass

Wednesday 6 December
 2023

Yr 8 Student Retreat

Thursday 7 December 2023

Whole School
 Assembly and
 Student Awards
 Ceremony

Friday 8 December 2023

Riverland & 2nd
 Grade State Rowing
 Regatta

Saturday 9 December 2023

Riverland & 2nd
 Grade State Rowing
 Regatta

Sunday 10 December 2023

Swimming Carnival

Monday 11 December 2023

Student Free Day

Student Free Day

Thursday 14 December 2023

REMEMBER If you are reading this newsletter from your email don't forget to click 'read more' to expand your view and access all of our feature photos!

Acknowledgment of Country

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that we meet today on Meru Country, and recognise the Erawirung and Ngintait peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We recognise their continuing connection to the earth and waters, and thank them for protecting this land and its ecosystems since time immemorial. We pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging and extend that respect to all First Nation peoples present here today.





PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

STUDENT AWARD *Ceremony*

DECEMBER

FRIDAY

08

9:00AM

PLEASE RSVP

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM
ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI COLLEGE

MORNING TEA TO FOLLOW
RSVP ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER THE EVENTS TAB

High Expectations

As we approach the final weeks of the school year, as a staff team, we continue our focus and expectation of high expectations for all. That includes maintaining a focus on excellence for us as a staff team, and a continued focus on supporting students to maintain high standards for the remainder of the school year.

High expectations and excellence are not the unrealistic and unhealthy search for perfection. Excellence is doing everything to the best of our own ability, with a growth mindset to always learn and grow.

Whilst students will begin to engage in different types of activities and experiential learning over the next few weeks, it is expected they do this in a way that maintains safety and respect for themselves, all students and staff.

End of Year Student Award Ceremony

All parents, carers and families are invited to our award ceremony on the last day of Week 8. This will be an opportunity to reflect and celebrate the individual and collective successes of what has been an amazing first year for St Francis of Assisi College:

Middle Years Student Award Ceremony

Friday December 8th of December

9am – 10.15am

Multi-Purpose Room

Morning Tea after ceremony

Staffing Announcements

I am very pleased to confirm we have completed our teaching appointments for the 2024 school year.

Miss Ramanjeet Arkan

As a Riverland local, Ramanjeet is excited to be returning to family and region. Ramanjeet has been teaching at St Columba College this year, mainly teaching English. She will join our community teaching in the English and HASS learning areas.

Ms Anita Modlinski

Anita is joining our community as a middle year's specialist teacher, primarily taking Year 7 and 8 subjects, including mathematics, science and religious education. We look forward to Anita's strong primary and middle years expertise supporting our students as they progress to senior secondary.

St Vinnies Christmas Appeal

The Christmas season is near and is a joyful time for many. Yet as we know, it can be a challenging time for less fortunate people within our community. Many people within our Riverland community struggle to keep a roof over their heads and food on the table. Inflation, housing stress, high energy prices, and the rising cost of daily essentials make it difficult for families to thrive.

As a school we are taking part in the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. Vinnies Christmas Appeal aims to provide immediate relief from bills, and the basics such as food and clothing, so that families have a chance to survive and celebrate this Christmas.

Further information will be shared with students and families outlining the range of activities our students will engage in over the last few weeks of term in support the Christmas Appeal.

2024 Key Dates

To assist with planning for families, below are the key dates for the beginning of the 2024 school year, and subsequent pupil free days scheduled for each term.

Week 0:

Tuesday 23rd January

- College Leadership Planning
- New Staff Induction

Wednesday 24th January

- All Teaching Staff Planning

Thursday 25th January

- All Teaching Staff Planning

Week 1:

Monday 29th All students commence.

2024 Pupil Free Days

Term 1:

Friday 8th March 2023

Term 2:

Friday 7th June

Term 3:

Friday 6th September 2024 – Staff Retreat

Term 4:

Thursday 12th and Friday 13th December 2024

(important school days are also available [here](#) on our website calendar)

Nathan Hayes, Principal

Leader of Learning



Career Education for 2024

Career education benefits children academically during their school years and empowers their future participation in careers across their adult years.

Students who explore, experience and think about their futures in work often experience lower levels of unemployment, receive higher wages and are happier in their careers as adults. Beneficial results are found in relation to both students who continue to tertiary education and those who enter the labour market directly from school. OECD, 2021

In 2024, at St Francis of Assisi college, we will be providing a Career Education program targeted for each level for year 7-10 students. Throughout this program, students will have the opportunity to

- explore who they are and their abilities
- examine employability skills
- investigate jobs of the future and growth industries
- experience industry visits with the local Riverland community
- participate in work experience
- develop a resume
- participate in a mock interview
- develop a Career Action Plan

Our career education program will also align with the Living, Learning, Leading Framework by enhancing students' self-efficacy and empowering students to

- explore diverse careers and develop hope for the future.
- find a greater sense of purpose in their school education, seeing stronger connections between what they learn in the classroom and the knowledge required for future work.
- be more motivated to develop their literacy and numeracy skills.
- develop their Key Capabilities.
- Acquire the attitudes and skills necessary to build a strong Learner Profile and be successful in SACE subjects Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) and Activating Identities and Futures (AIF).
- knowledge and skills to transition from school confidently and successfully to training, study or employment.

PAT and NAPLAN

In week 4, all students completed the Progressive Achievement Tests (PAT). There are two tests: PAT-R (reading) and PAT-M (Numeracy). These are diagnostic assessments conducted to measure student's growth throughout the year. They provide valuable information to teachers about your child's learning strengths and needs. The tests will indicate what skills students have mastered, what skills they are consolidating and even more importantly what skills they need to be educationally stretched. Later in the term, all teaching staff will analyse both NAPLAN and PAT data to enable them to better plan learning programs and ensure successful learning outcomes for all students.

Natalie Meuret, Leader of Learning

College Community Wellbeing

Student Transitions

We look forward to meeting our 2024 Year 7 cohort at our two formal transition days held on Thursday November 30th and Friday December 1st.

Year 7 Transition Program

Thursday Nov 31st | Friday Dec 1st

Limited Spaces for 2024
Enrol Now!



If you are interested to reserve a place for your child or to book a tour, please contact the College on (08) 8585 4500 or via email info@assisi.catholic.edu.au

Student Leadership Council - Applications for 2024

Applications for student leadership positions have now closed. Thank you to all our applicants! The applicants will receive a communication shortly detailing if they have been shortlisted and when their interview time will be.

The College has the following leadership positions to be filled by appointed members from the student body for 2024 in each of the four houses:

AQUA		
Year 7 Leader	Year 8 Leader	Year 9 Leader
Year 10 Leader		

TERRA		
Year 7 Leader	Year 8 Leader	Year 9 Leader
Year 10 Leader		

IGNIS		
Year 7 Leader	Year 8 Leader	Year 9 Leader
Year 10 Leader		

VENTUS		
Year 7 Leader	Year 8 Leader	Year 9 Leader
Year 10 Leader		

The process adopted by the College allows for multiple inputs into the decision making process by the College leadership team. Each applicant's application is reviewed and a shortlist of applicants are invited to an interview. Additionally, shortlisted applicants are also listed in a democratic voting system and voted upon by the student body. All aspects of this process are treated equally and give guidance to the selection panel in their decision making.

Timeline	
Week 6/7	Interviews conducted & Student Vote
Week 8	Announcement at Whole School Assembly (Friday)

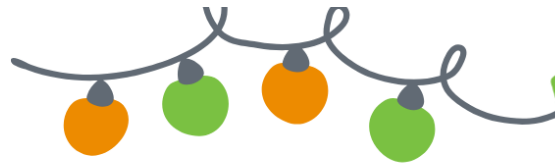
Wellbeing In Focus



Community Building

I took this photo the other week in the Collaboration Centre - also known as the 7-9 Building (of course, our young adults were not very impressed with having their photo taken!). What caught my eye was the diverse group of students in this small space of the building all mingling together. The Year 9's didn't care they were hanging out with the Year 7's; it is showing that no one feels like a space is specifically for a certain year group which you may remember from your own high school experiences!

What the photo doesn't capture is the sounds that I could hear at the time – the laughter, the jokes, the quiet conversations. This gathering of students represents everything our College strives for: Acceptance, Care and Safety. All qualities that lead to building of community.



headspace
Berri

Join us for our

Self Soothe Christmas Workshop

Create a gift for yourself
or someone special

7th Dec at headspace Berri

12-15yr: 4pm-5.30pm

16-25yr: 6pm-7.30pm

Age group 12-15yrs must be accompanied by an adult

Macrame / Affirmation bracelets /
Succulents / Self Soothe Boxes

Registrations required
for entry- Cost is free
for participants



This event is proudly supported by Foundation SA



Registrations are required for this event as there is limited spots available.

For more information please contact headspace Berri on 8582 4422.

Facebook event for more details > <https://fb.me/e/1fn6VRTqz>

Eventbrite & Tickets can be found here > <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/self-soothe-christmas-workshop-tickets-763246860907?aff=oddtcreator>

Ongoing Support

At St Francis of Assisi College, we have a well-rounded Wellbeing team with broader access to professional support. Please get in touch with Mr. Luke Cotter (Leader of Wellbeing) if you wish to seek support for your child.

"There's no shame in failing. The only shame is not giving things your best shot."

- Robin Williams

Luke Cotter, Leader of Wellbeing

Year 9 Retreat/Camp

This week our Year 9s enjoyed their Year 9 Retreat/Camp in Adelaide. They toured Parliament House and explored the process for passing a bill. Followed by a visit to the Adelaide Magistrates Court to explore the roles of courts, judges, defendants, and lawyers within trials, as well as the rights of the accused and victims.

Day 2 was their Retreat. Retreats are a valuable opportunity provided in Catholic Schools for students to bond with their peers and to focus on our unique Catholic Identity. The theme of the day was centered around our College Motto of *Laudato Si'*. Students were split into three different workshops: Care for Self, Care for Others, and Care for our Common Home. In the evening students were surprised with an EPIC silent disco, completely funded by (part) of their 2022 \$20 Boss profit!

Day 3 was dedicated to putting social justice into action. All leftover food was donated to Christ of the King Church, to be used for community care packs. Students spent the morning at the Marine Discovery Centre at Henley Beach, learning about the importance of the Great Southern Reef. They then worked together to complete a beach debris survey/clean up, this resulted in the collection of an astounding amount of rubbish in just a 600 metre stretch of beach.

Thank you to **Mrs Trudgian, Miss Graney, Mr Lyons and Miss Gibbons** for this amazing experiential opportunity.



What's Cooking?



Photo: Students eating outside, making the most of our lovely new garden space

Students over the past week have been enjoying using fresh produce from our kitchen garden. We made Falafel Wraps, making our own Tabouli and had a go at making Vegetable Pasties. The Year 9's have been working hard at presentation and plating, making the most of our fresh herbs.

Mrs Burgess, Food Technology Teacher



Rowing SA 3rd Grade and Novice State Championships

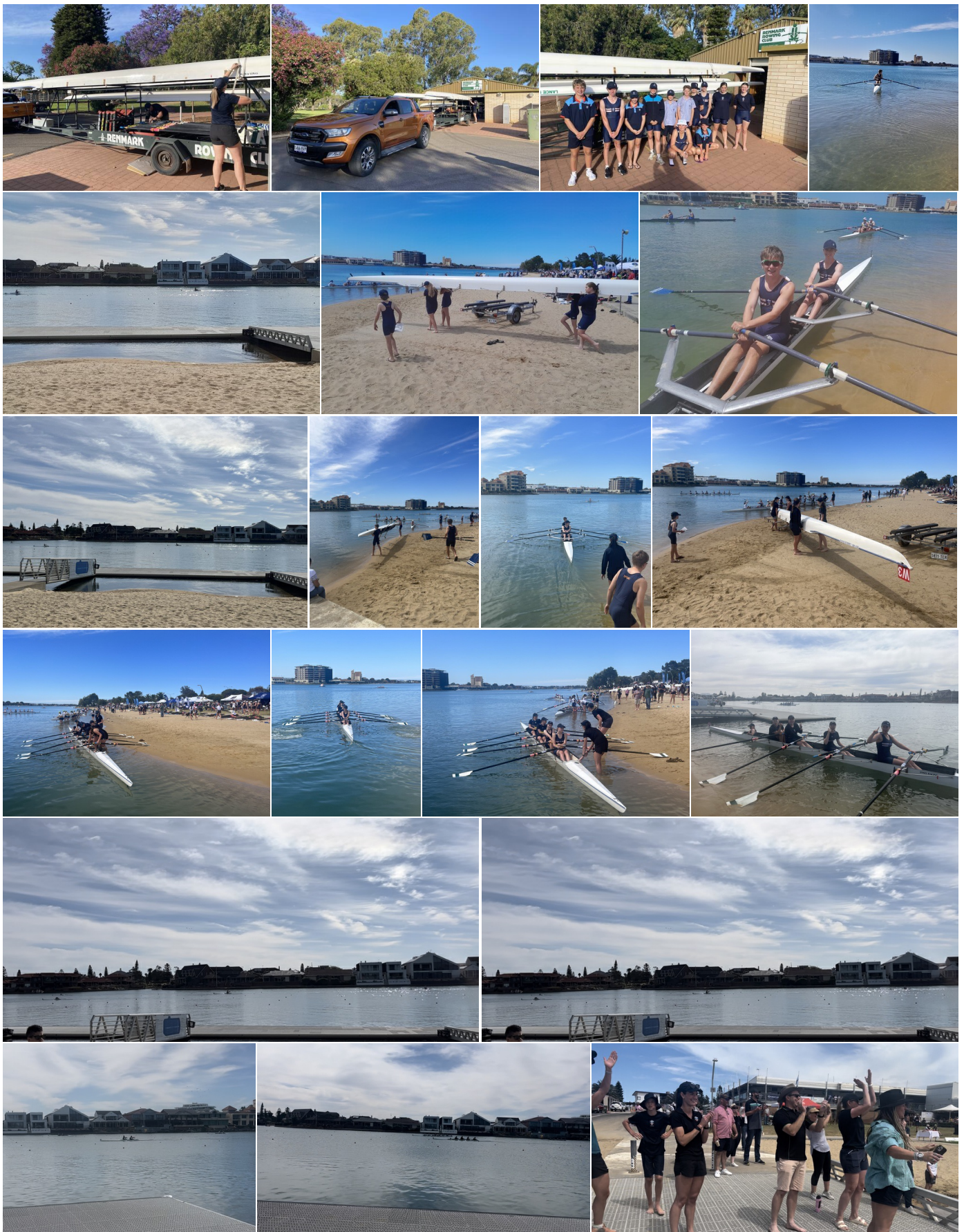
On Saturday 18th November, our Rowing Program students travelled to West Lakes to compete in the Rowing SA 3rd Grade and Novice State Championships. This was our first regatta where we not only transported our own equipment, but it was also our first where we competed against other schools.

We entered six events across the day; 3M1x, 3M2x, 3W4x+, NM1x, NM2x, NW4x+. Each rower had the opportunity to compete in two races, with our Yr8 W4x+ making the 3W4x+ final and getting an extra race. We narrowly missed the finals in the NM2x and NW4x+ races, with both crews missing progression placings by 0.47s! Very close racing amongst some very well-established school crews with a long history of rowing. Our rowers competed exceptionally well and proved that their training is making a difference, with all crews showing huge improvements since our last regatta in September; reducing race times, improving crew technique and how they conduct themselves as a team. Well done!!

Our crews also represented our College extremely well and were well supported by their families. A big thank you goes out to them all for assistance with boat unloading, re-loading and managing a few breakages on the day. It was a great regatta experience for all involved and we received a lot of very positive feedback from the wider Rowing SA community.

Our rowers now set their sights on the Riverland Regatta in Berri at the end of Week 8.

Stephanie Turnbull, Rowing Program Coordinator & Rowing Coach

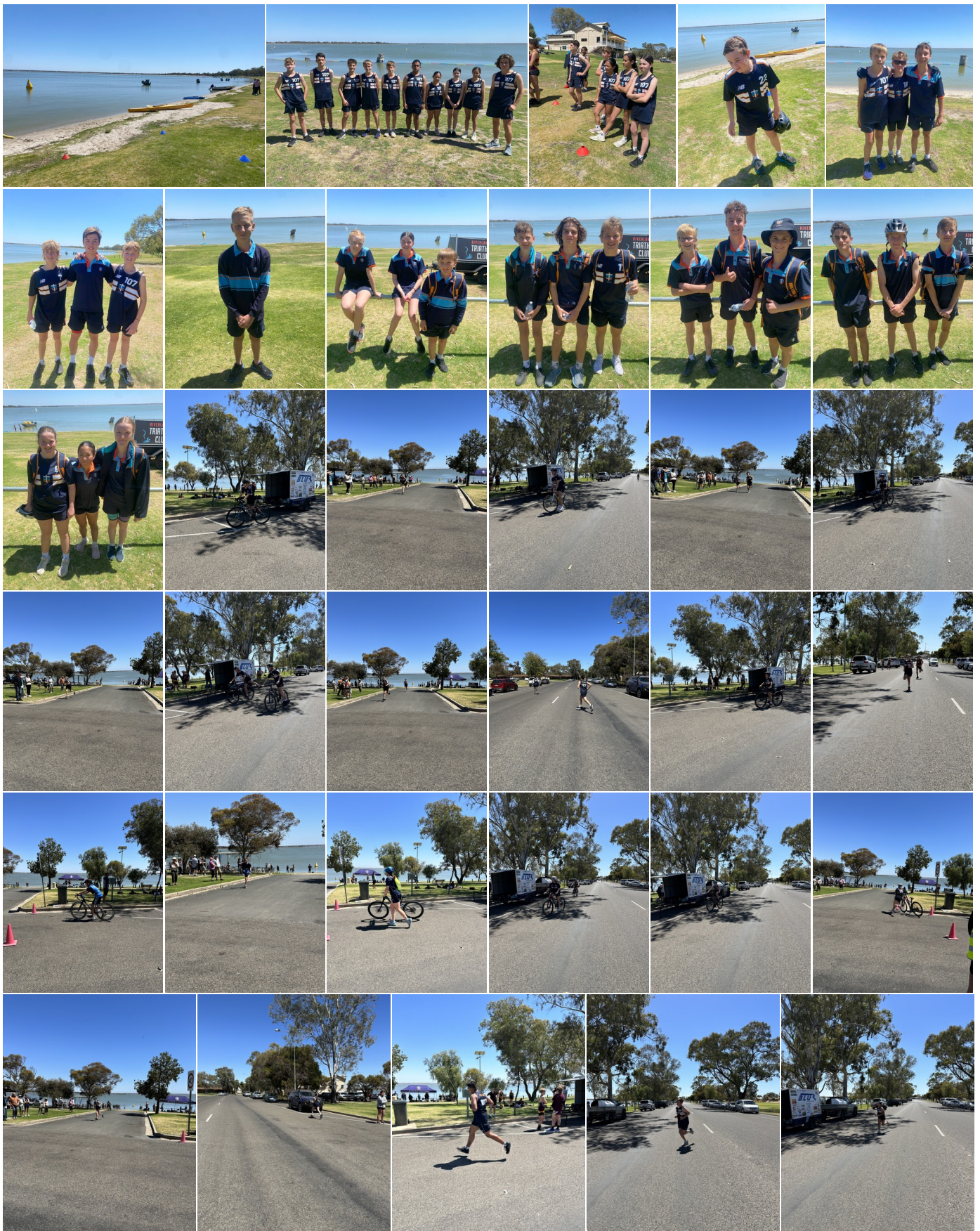


Inter-School Triathlon



Approximately 30 College students competed against the four other Riverland High Schools in their first ever triathlon. Triathlons are great inclusive events using three different skills and merging them into the one event.

It started with a 200m swim, being in waist/ chest deep water, following the Lake Bonney shoreline to the transition area where students hand over to their first team-mate to complete a 10km bike ride with the 3rd and final leg a 2.5km run. The Riverland Triathlon Club hosted the event from the Lake Bonney Yacht Club and coordinated the marshals on the day. Over 100 students participated in this inaugural event. Our Year 9 Sports Academy students, particularly, gained valuable experience, got a taste of a new sport, along with some good competition.





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Summer Challenge Series – Triathlon

Lake Bonney, Barmera (near Yacht Club)

Short Course: 200m swim, 10km bike ride, 2.5km run

Sprint Course: 800 m swim, 20 km bike ride, 5 km run

Event # 1– Sunday 19th November 2023

Event # 2– Sunday 21st January 2024

Event # 3– Sunday 18th February 2024

Event # 4– Sunday 17th March 2024

Registration and Costs

8:30 am registration for 9:00 am start

All ages and abilities welcome

- \$20 non-members,
- \$10 TriAus Members,
- \$5 Juniors for short course
- Club members free



Check our Facebook page for more details



St Francis
of Assisi College
Laudato Si'

Your help is needed

St Francis of Assisi College is needing lane timekeepers
at the College Swimming Carnival

Date: Monday 11 December

Time: 10am-12pm and 12pm - 2pm

If you can help please call us on 8595 4500



END OF YEAR FAMILY NIGHT

TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER
5.30-7.30PM

CELEBRATION

We welcome current and 2024 students and families to join us in celebrating the end of the 2023 school year with a BBQ dinner, drinks and outdoor games.

BBQ and soft drinks provided.
BYO chairs or picnic rugs.

RSVP appreciated:
www.assisi.catholic.edu.au/news-events-calendar-events/events

RSVPs appreciated, use this link: [RSVP](#)

AFSS is Seeking Foster Carers across the Riverland

- Are you passionate about the future of Aboriginal children and young people?
- Are you supportive and understanding?
- Can you help keep young people safe and connected to their culture and community?




AFSS is looking for people just like you, who want to play their part in caring for Aboriginal children and young people.


Please Contact AFSS:

Nicole Barber ✉ nicole.barber@afss.com.au ☎ 8582 5503



Aboriginal Family Support Services
Together with the community

 follow us on facebook

 www.afss.com.au



BARMERA'S SANTA'S CAVE

@ BONNEY THEATRE

❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

COME AND VISIT SANTA DURING DECEMBER ON:

- FRIDAY 8TH PAGEANT NIGHT : 7PM-9PM
- SATURDAY 9TH : 10AM-1PM
- SUNDAY 10TH : 10AM-1PM
- THURSDAY 14TH : 2PM-5PM
- FRIDAY 15TH : 2PM-5PM
- SATURDAY 16TH : 10AM-1PM
- SUNDAY 17TH : 10AM-1PM
- THURSDAY 21ST : 2PM-5PM
- FRIDAY 22ND : 2PM-5PM
- SATURDAY 23RD : 10AM-1PM

CAVE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:
WRITE YOUR OWN LETTER TO SANTA, CHRISTMAS
CRAFTS, CHRISTMAS STORY TELLING · LOTS MORE



Berri
Barmera
COUNCIL

Ral Ral Avenue Bridge - Advanced Works Notice

OFFICIAL



ADVANCED WORKS NOTICE



Ral Ral Avenue Bridge (Bookmark Creek)

- Bridge Joint Repair Works

Ral Ral Avenue Bridge (Bookmark Creek), Renmark between Thursday, 30 November 2023 – Thursday, 21 December 2023

THIS notice is to advise you for upcoming **bridge joint repair works at Ral Ral Avenue Bridge (Bookmark Creek), Renmark.**

These works are being undertaken by Jamtek Structural and Fulton Hogan on behalf of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport as part of the flood recovery works.

Works are scheduled to commence **Thursday, 30 November 2023** and expected to be completed by **Thursday, 21 December 2023**, weather permitting. Works will be undertaken daily between 6am and 5pm, Mondays - Saturdays.

During the works and during the day, access to Ral Ral Avenue Bridge is permitted, however, traffic management will be implemented and only **one lane** will be open to traffic over the bridge which may result in additional travel time to road users.

At night and on Sundays, both lanes will be open to traffic over the bridge with reduced speed restrictions in place.

Road users are urged to take extra caution when workers are on site, follow the directions of traffic controllers and observe signage when travelling through the area.

We appreciate your cooperation and patience while these important works are undertaken.

If you have any site related questions or concerns, please contact Yiannis Tyrikos-Frazis (Jamtek Structural Project Engineer) on 0401 273 636.

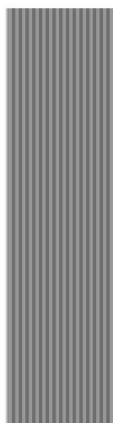
Kind regards

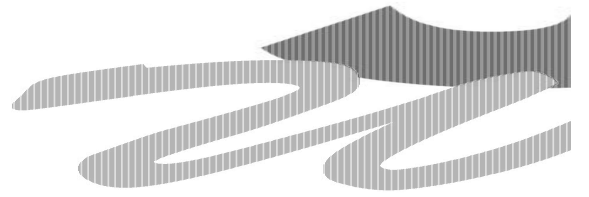
Jamtek Structural and Fulton Hogan

23/11/2023

OFFICIAL

KFC Recruitment Opportunities







 **ROYAL LIFE SAVING**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



HOLIDAY SWIM

ENROLMENTS OPEN
NOW

**Swim
and
SURVIVE**

GET IN QUICK!



WWW.HOLIDAYSWIM.COM.AU

Holiday Swim is a Royal Life Saving Society South Australia initiative bringing affordable and educational swimming and water safety lessons to pools and inland waterway locations across Metro and Regional South Australia since the 1950's. The aim of the program is to teach children critical life saving skills and basic swimming skills, to equip them with the knowledge to stay safe in, on and around the water.

The aim of keeping the program affordable, is to reach families and communities that might otherwise miss out on the opportunity to participate in swimming lessons, and as we approach the busy Summer months now is the time to equip them with the knowledge to save a life.

The program will be returning in December 2023 and January 2024 with the newly adapted Royal Life Saving Swim & Survive program.

Royal Life Saving also offer pathways into the aquatic industry with their ICONIC Bronze Awards. The Bronze Star, Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, Award of Merit and Distinction levels are designed for those wanting to further their knowledge and skill set, before moving into the aquatic industry as Lifeguards and Swim Teachers within the local communities.

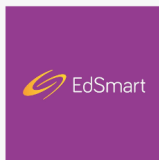


Stay Connected!



SEQTA

SEQTA is used in many ways. Students and Parents/ Caregivers are able to access lesson details, assessment submissions, grades and feedback. SEQTA Engage is great for parent/teacher communications, student timetable details and to keep up to date with the College notices.



EDSMART

Edsmart enables parents to sign and return permissions electronically. Our College utilises Edsmart to send out school policy information and agreements, permission and consent forms, general updates and information around upcoming events.



FACEBOOK

St Francis of Assisi College Facebook page features exciting event updates and general information. We share school sporting results, student achievements, along with many photos and videos of our students and activities both inside and outside the classroom.



NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter is sent out fortnightly via email. You can also find our newsletter link on our webpage. In our newsletter, we share what's happening in the College community, upcoming events and general notices.

Absentees to be notified via: SEQTA Engage, or absent@assisi.catholic.edu.au, or call 8595 4500