



# Issue 18, 3 November 2023

## Important Dates

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**Year 12 Exams (6-14 Nov)**

Monday 6 November 2023

**Yr 6 Port Augusta City Council**

**Excursion**

Monday 6 November 2023

**Yrs 7-9 Assembly (7B)**

Thursday 9 November 2023

**Yrs 3-6 Assembly (6G)**

Thursday 16 November 2023

**Mass of Thanksgiving**

Friday 17 November 2023

**Year 12 Graduation Dinner**

Friday 17 November 2023

**R-2 Assembly (RecB)**

Thursday 23 November 2023

**SAPSASA Super 8's Cricket**

Friday 24 November 2023

**Year 9 Community Day**

Tuesday 28 November 2023

**Yrs 10 & 11 Last Day**

Friday 1 December 2023

**R-6 Carols Night & Arts Showcase**

Monday 4 December 2023

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## From the Principal, Mr Damian Smith

### Year 12's Last Day

Last Friday the Year 12's celebrated their final day of formal schooling. It is always a day mixed with an array of emotions. The Year 12's held an assembly and expressed their gratitude to the staff who have supported them with their learning and development throughout their time at our school. It was very fitting, given that their final day of school coincided with 'World Teacher's Day'. They reminisced about their school journey as they looked back at images and videos from years gone by. It was a nice way to 'round off' their last day. After the assembly, the Year 12's and staff gathered for a shared lunch in the staff courtyard. Stories were told and photos were taken. Memories were made. I credit the Year 12 students for ensuring that grace and gratitude flavoured their final day of school. May our prayers be with them as they continue to study hard in preparation for exams and put the final touches on their learning before they graduate.



### Staffing

On Monday communication from Mrs Nichii Mardon, Director of Catholic Education, was shared with the school community in relation to Mary Manning's appointment to the position of Catholic Identity and Mission Advisor, within the diocesan Catholic Education Office team starting in 2024. This will conclude more than 33 years of service and dedication given by Mary to our school community. Of course, we will acknowledge this in a special way towards the end of the year. I congratulate Mary on her appointment and look forward to celebrating her time at Caritas College over the coming weeks.



I am pleased to share with the school community that Chloe Shanahan has been appointed to the role of Assistant Principal Catholic Identity & Mission (APRIM) commencing in 2024. Chloe joined Caritas College in 2023 and has demonstrated her capacity and commitment in the role of Leader of Catholic Identity. I am excited that she will now continue her leadership as the Assistant Principal Catholic Identity & Mission. Please join me in congratulating Chloe on her appointment.

The College is currently in the process of finalising staffing arrangements for 2024. Until this process is complete, we are unable to confirm class structures and teachers for next year. At the end of each year, we prepare ourselves to bid farewell to a number of staff leaving our school community. It is important to acknowledge the work of those staff who will be leaving us and we will be doing this for those staff members closer to the end of the year.

## Class Placements for 2024

In the coming weeks, teachers will begin the process of class placements for next year. Teaching staff will spend a considerable amount of time placing students into classes, taking into consideration a range of factors. These factors include:

- Progress of learning
- Student's individual needs (social/emotional, learning, physical, behavioural)
- Relationships
- A balance of gender

Sometimes other factors may also need to be considered. Requests by families to have a specific teacher can have some implications for class placements. Firstly, staffing may not be determined until January and we are unable to confirm who will be teaching what year level. Therefore, we may not be able to honour all requests for a particular teacher. Secondly, by granting some requests by parents and not others, the school is placed in a position of conflict. In the interests of fairness and equity, we cannot make accommodations for some and not others. We welcome any concerns you may have and you can discuss these with the Director of Learning and Wellbeing of your child's respective cohort. Please be assured that the process for class placements focuses on the overall learning and wellbeing needs of each student and supports them to grow in love, wonder and understanding.

## R-6 Social

Our school was abuzz last Thursday with the R-6 Social. It was fantastic to see our young people immerse themselves in different games and activities. Thanks to Mr Wallis and the SRC who facilitated the event. It is important to us that our students develop a strong sense of belonging and connection within our school community. I am grateful for events such as this which bring people together in new and different ways.



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## From the Leader of Catholic Identity, Chloe Shanahan

### All Saints and All Souls Day

November commences with All Saints Day on 1 November and All Souls Day on 2 November. During this month, the Catholic Church observes a tradition of honouring and remembering both the Saints of the Church, as well as our departed relatives and friends. It's a powerful reminder that, whether living or deceased, we all belong to the Communion of Saints, a spiritual unity that transcends time and space. It a reminder of those who have been faithful to the Gospel and how we are continually inspired to live a faith-filled life. These saints and these souls; these people, have gone before us and responded to the invitations of their time with imagination, creativity and courage. In honouring their journey, we also commit ourselves to living out our faith tradition in a way that honours the past and a confidence in a life beyond what we know.

All Saints Day is also the feast of our parish church and community and we give thanks to those who have gone before us and paved the way to be the children of God and bring about the kingdom here on earth.



### Welcome Back Fr Jim!

This week, we welcomed Fr Jim back to Port Augusta after some well earned leave in France. This leave saw him walking some hundreds of kilometres on the Camino, taking time to reflect and pray in lots of communities, but to renew and strengthen his relationship with God. We look forward to welcoming him back to our College community and to hear about his journey and adventures. In his

absence, we also give thanks to Fr Ranjith and Fr Boguslaw who ministered to our parish and College community throughout September and October.

## Port Pirie Diocese RE Leaders Retreat

It was wonderful to spend the beginning of Week 3 with all of the RE leaders of the Port Pirie diocese in Jamestown as we began to explore the 2024 theme, which I am excited to share with you at a later date. This was a time to deeply dive into the theme and what this may mean for our respective communities but also our diocese and how we can connect throughout the year. I know our community will be able to truly reflect deeply in 2024 on what our theme means for us, just as we have as we have considered our call to community.

## Spotlight on RE - Year 9

Last term, our Year 9 students explored the connection between science as human knowledge and our Catholic faith. They further developed innovations that use STEM concepts and uphold human dignity for those who are affected by a range of social justice issues. Over the last 2 weeks, students have shared their learning with the year level in pitch presentations. We have been fortunate to hear of innovations that target issues such as homelessness, food security, good health and wellbeing, education, and access to clean drinking water, just to name a few. This has been a great way to jump into their final topic of work this year based around Discipleship and Mission within community.

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## Teaching and Learning

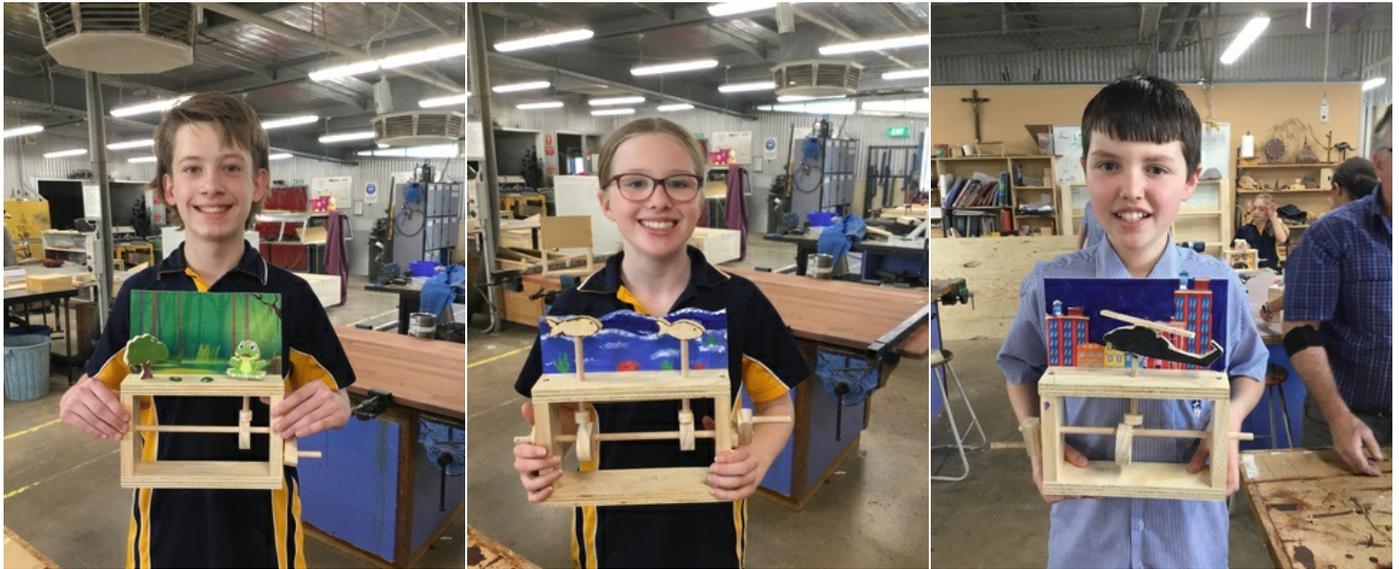
### Year 1 - Push and Pull

The Year 1 Blue class have been learning all about Push and Pull. A push is when you use force to move something away from you. A pull is when you use force to move something closer to you. Students made their own race tracks and used a car to push and pull their way to the finish line.



## Year 7 - Automata

Our Year 7 students have been looking at mechanical movement in Design & Tech. They have used what they have learnt to build their own Automata toy. An Automata is a mechanical toy that uses hand-powered mechanisms to create movement in a scene of characters. Students designed and built their own Automata using cams and crank shafts.



## Years 10-12 - Carrapateena Mine Visit

A number of students from Years 10-12 recently visited Carrapateena Mine to gain an understanding of the many employment opportunities offered and the facilities available for FIFO workers on site. They had the opportunity to explore the village including the medical centre, kitchen and recreational facilities. They then ventured to the mine site where they donned their PPE and were shown the met lab, automotive workshop and mine control room and observed the above-ground operation.



# Out and About





for siblings of children and adults with disability/illness

## Get in touch

 08 8253 4936

 [info@siblingsaustralia.org.au](mailto:info@siblingsaustralia.org.au)

# Supports for Children

Siblings Australia is a national profit-for-purpose organisation promoting better support for siblings of children and adults with disability and their families. We believe that recognising and responding to the needs of siblings in childhood is a vital part of providing holistic support to families of children with disability.

We recognise that sibling children are at increased risk of feelings of isolation and challenging emotions, and that meeting the needs of all children can be tough for many families.

By supporting sibling children, we can help to maximise their well-being and capacity to manage, and also strengthen the lifelong relationship with their brother or sister with a disability.

We're here to help you facilitate the best possible wellbeing outcomes for your whole family.

## How we can help

### SiBWISE

Is our online learning program, designed to help parents and professionals better understand and respond to the needs of siblings of children with disability.



Scan the QR code to learn more

**One-on-one parent support** sessions are tailored to the child and families specific needs and provide parents with information and strategies to better support their sibling child.



Scan the QR code to learn more



**Alex and Arlo: A Sib Story** for children aged 4-7 to read with their parents. Download your **FREE** e-book using the QR code



### SiBWORKS

Facilitator training to equip your child's health professionals with the tools and resources to facilitate our internationally recognised peer support program for siblings aged 8-12 years.



Scan the QR code to learn more

[siblingsaustralia.org.au](http://siblingsaustralia.org.au)





for siblings of children and adults with disability/illness

### Get in touch

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# Supports for Families

Siblings Australia is a national profit-for-purpose organisation promoting better support for siblings of children and adults with disability and their families. We believe, and research shows, that recognising and responding to the needs of siblings in childhood is a vital part of providing holistic support to families of children with disability.

We recognise that sibling children are at increased risk of feelings of isolation and challenging emotions, and that meeting the needs of all children can be tough for many families.

By supporting sibling children, we can help to maximise their well-being and capacity to manage, and also strengthen the lifelong relationship with their brother or sister with a disability.

If you're the parent of a sibling child, we're here to help you facilitate the best possible wellbeing outcomes for your whole family.

## How we can help

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A vibrant, whimsical illustration for a book fair. The background is a mix of purple, teal, and pink. At the top, there are small icons: a bottle of 'DRINK' with a red liquid, a purple trunk with a red hat inside, a yellow character with a red mushroom on its head, a blue teapot, and a blue butterfly. The main text 'Come to our BOOK FAIR' is written in large, white, outlined letters. Below the text, there are four main characters: Alice in a blue dress with a white apron and a blue bow in her hair; the Cheshire Cat wearing a red beret; the White Rabbit wearing a top hat and holding a pocket watch; and the Mad Hatter wearing a tall green top hat with a '10/6' tag and a striped shirt. At the bottom, there is a red banner with the Scholastic logo and the word 'SCHOLASTIC' in white capital letters.

# Come to our BOOK FAIR

 SCHOLASTIC



2023

# Academy Photography

It has come to our attention that a number of school photos sent out to families may appear distorted. This generally appears to be due to the vertical stripes of our boys and girls formal shirts.

If you believe that you have received one of these photos, please contact Academy on 1800 816 224 so a new one can be sent out.

**GOOD LUCK TO OUR YEAR 12  
STUDENTS IN THEIR UPCOMING  
EXAMS**

**DONUT  
BE AFRAID**

**YOU GOT THIS!**



# R-6 CAROLS NIGHT & ARTS SHOWCASE

**MONDAY 4 DECEMBER**





# CARITAS ART

## EXHIBITION

*Experience the journey of  
Caritas' senior Art students  
and their 2023 creations.*



**THE PLATFORM GALLERY  
CURDNATTA GALLERY  
2 Stirling Rd, Port Augusta**

**Opening Night Wednesday,  
22nd November  
Displayed until 8th December**