



Upcoming Events

Term 2 Calendar

Date: Thursday 10 April -
Wednesday 30 August

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Volunteer Induction Session

Date: Tuesday 13 May

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Catholic Education Week Open Morning and Prayer

Date: Friday 16 May

Time: 12:00am

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Whole School Mass - Sorry Day

Date: Wednesday 21 May

Time: 9:30am

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Mid Year Reception Information Night

Date: Tuesday 27 May

Time: 6:00pm

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Mid Year Reception Transition Visits

Date: Wednesday 11 June -
Wednesday 25 June

Time: 9:30am

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Year 2 Excursion to Unley Museum

Date: Thursday 29 May

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

Year 6 Photography Excursion

Date: Wednesday 4 June

Venue: St Thomas School -
Goodwood

From the Principal



With the beginning of this new term we have already enjoyed a number of wonderful community events. It was fabulous for us all to come together during the first week for an Easter Mass celebration and then last week we enjoyed a whole school assembly led by Year 1 classes with a special focus on Mother's day. It was lovely to see so many Mums join us on Friday for morning tea and I hope that you all were treated to a special day on Mother's Day. Our children certainly enjoyed shopping at the Mother's Day stall and we extend our gratitude to the P&F who coordinated and supported this valuable experience for our community. Last week also saw our Year 5 students attend an excursion to Mercedes college following an invitation to join their whole school community for a Mass celebrating their Mercy tradition. Following Mass, our students joined together with their Year 5 classes for a small craft activity before returning back to school. What a wonderful experience for our Year 5's to visit one of our neighbouring Catholic Schools and share some strength of spirit in Mercy tradition with them.

Last week we also celebrated with the joyous news of the election of Pope Leo XIV.

We remember his Holiness Pope Leo XIV in our prayers as he begins this new ministry of communion, with a special intention to bring peace and unity to our world as leader of the Universal Church. Catholic Education Week begins this week with a theme of 'Shine With Open Hearts' where all Catholic schools this week will be highlighting in a variety of ways how we 'shine brilliantly'. At St Thomas we are inviting all our family members to join us for morning prayer in classrooms this Friday. So please come along if you can, begin your day with coffee in the Workshop, followed by prayer in your child's classroom at 9am.

Following on from our very successful Gala in March, we gathered our Gala Committee and Stall Holders late last term for a 'Thank You' event. We were delighted to share with them the wonderful news that our Gala brought in just over \$31,000! Of course, we have expenses to take into account, but with these funds we will be able to purchase new replacement Ipads for our Junior Primary classrooms. These will be very well received by both students and teachers.

Last week we welcomed two new staff members to our team: Ms Loretta Gagliardi, our new Marketing and Communications Coordinator, replacing Mrs Liz Wright who finished at the end of last term. We also welcomed Mrs Marie Smith, our new Canteen Coordinator. Marie has been working tirelessly to get our new canteen up and running, with many of our students already sampling the delicious pasta lunch last week. We will be very excited to launch the new canteen this week, with a start-up menu while we are in the midst of our community consultation process. It has had a sparkling new renovation and is looking very fresh!

We wish our Year 5 Classes a very successful Camp at Mylor over the next two days. I am sure they will have a fantastic time, experience some new activities and hopefully learn more about themselves and each other in doing so.

For the last part of this term I will be on Leave, with Paul Mensforth filling the Acting Principal role, and Mrs Melissa Canil as Acting Deputy Principal. I congratulate them both and wish them well for this time. During my time away I feel very fortunate to be travelling to Europe to visit family, then participating in an educational tour and spiritual pilgrimage coordinated by Catholic Education South Australia. I look forward to attending a Leadership Conference in London on Catholic Identity and Mission, visiting some London schools and visiting some Religious Congregations in Ireland. A visit to Catherine House and the Mercy Congregation in Dublin is sure to be a highlight! I look forward to sharing more with you upon my return.

Wishing you all a great term ahead!

Belinda Burford

Principal

From the Acting Principal



As Term 2 draws to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect with deep gratitude on the many moments of joy, learning and community spirit that have shaped our journey this term. From the many Assemblies, Community Prayers and Masses, which have held wonderful celebrations of our diverse and inclusive community; to the wonderful excursions and classroom experiences, for which we are grateful

to have such a dedicated staff.

Last week, we celebrated with a special group of our students who had prepared for and celebrated their Confirmation as part of the Emmaus Catholic Parish Sacramental Program. Archbishop Patrick O'Regan lead the liturgy and showcased an incredibly comprehensive knowledge of saints and feast days. We look forward to being part of the final part on their journey through the Sacraments of Initiation, when they celebrate their First Communion.

We have also been blessed with the amazing sounds of our instrumental students at our Semester One Instrumental Music Concerts. We hit a new record, with the highest number of students performing in the concert series!

This week, student reports were released, offering a snapshot of the learning and growth that has taken place across our school over the last six months. These reports are a celebration—not just of achievement, but of effort, curiosity and progress. While the grades held in the reports can offer insight, what matters most is how we use this information to discern the next steps in each child's learning journey—together in partnership. I encourage families to engage in rich conversations with their children about what they've learned, what they're proud of, and where they hope to grow next. These conversations will prepare students well for our upcoming Learning Conferences, especially our Year 3-6 students who will lead this conversation with their teacher and parents/caregivers. I encourage families to book-in using the links found on Audiri.

This week, we were also privileged to host an incredibly successful Preschool Professional Learning event, which served as a pre-gathering for the National Reggio Emilia Conference beginning in Adelaide this week. Early years educators from across the region, and across different sectors, gathered to hear from our very own Adam Christie (St Thomas Preschool Coordinator), alongside esteemed speakers Professor Alma Fleet and Anthony Semann; both with whom Adam has recently published the book 'Re-defining Planning and Assessment: Seeing Children Through Pedagogical Documentation.' Their insights into rich assessment and child-centred documentation reaffirmed our commitment to seeing and celebrating every child as a capable, competent learner. (You may be interested in finding out more about the book on the Pademelon Press site: <https://www.pademelonpress.com.au/product/redefining-planning-and-assessment-seeing-children-through-pedagogical-documentation/>)

Another highlight of this week was our celebration of St Thomas Feast Day. The day began with a beautiful liturgy, followed by joyful activities in House Teams that brought students together in fun and aimed to inspire in them an even deeper sense of community. The day was also focused on our support of the Vinnies Winter Appeal. We were deeply moved by the generosity shown through gold coin donations, food items, and clothing—all of which will support our local Vinnies conference and the broader Vinnies Winter Appeal. Your kindness will make a real difference in the lives of those in need in our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Mr Toby Priest the best of luck on his next chapter in the world of politics. Toby will be taking leave for the remainder of the year and the beginning of the next. It has been officially announced, that during this time, Toby will be running a campaign as a new Labour candidate for the seat of Morphett. While Toby is on leave, Mr Sebestyen Maglai will be teaching PE. We wish Toby all the best for this important work and will watch closely over the next nine months. (To find out more, please see the South Australian Government press release: <https://www.premier.sa.gov.au/media-releases/news-items/labor-unveils-candidates-for-five-key-seats>)

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the all-amazing Mrs Melissa Canil for her compassionate leadership as Acting Deputy Principal over the last five weeks. Melissa's dedication and commitment to students, staff and families has truly been a strength for our community during this time. We wish Melissa all the best on her next adventure as Acting Deputy for Semester Two at St Mark's College, Port Pirie.

We look forward to hearing all the stories of Belinda's adventures upon her return at the beginning of next term. And as we head into a well-deserved break for our students and staff, I want to thank each member of our school community—students, staff and families—for the energy, care and commitment you bring to our shared mission. May the holidays offer rest, renewal and time with loved ones.

(And, don't forget to read every day to enter our Holiday Reading Challenge!)

Go gently,

Paul Mensforth

Acting Principal



Please access the link below for the latest news from Camp Australia

[View this article online to read more](#)

Oliphant Science Awards



Oliphant Science Awards – Get Involved!

We're excited to invite our students to take part in the **2025 South Australian Oliphant Science Awards!** This is a fantastic opportunity for curious minds to explore science in fun and creative ways.

Registrations are due to the school office by May 11th. Entries are due later in the year.

All information, including project categories, due dates, examples and the registration form are available on the [Oliphant Awards website](#).

The cost to enter is **\$11 per entry**, payable via the **school app**. (Students need to register separately. Payment is not registering)

Please note: **Parents will be responsible for dropping off and collecting projects at the event venue.**

We can't wait to see our students' amazing scientific creations!

Chris Rampazis

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Finance



FEE INFORMATION

Finance

Term 2 School Fees were due 31st May.

Prompt payment is appreciated.

To request a copy of your fee statement please email accounts@stg.catholic.edu.au

Jodi Jansons

Business Manager

accounts@stg.catholic.edu.au

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Holiday Reading Competition



Congratulations to the Winners of our Holiday Reading Competition

To encourage our learners to read every day, we held our first Holiday Reading Competition!

Students were encouraged to fill in the 'raffle ticket' for every day they read in the holidays. These tickets went into the raffle draw for great prizes!

Our Holiday Reading Raffle was drawn at Assembly last week, with 10 very lucky prize winners! But... the BIG SECRET IS... the real winner was the extra reading our learners completed and enjoyed in their holidays!

Let's continue to grow strong, capable readers at St Thomas School and Preschool!

Kind regards,

Laura Donnellan

Leader of Learning

[View this article online to read more](#)

The Workshop



We Are Open This Friday!

8:30AM - 9:30AM

GREAT COFFEE, FRUIT SMOOTHIES,
TOASTIES & PRE-LOVED UNIFORMS





CABRA
Dominican College

**DO YOU HAVE A CHILD
CURRENTLY IN YEAR 4?**

**We are now accepting
enrolment applications
for Year 7, 2028**

Applications close Friday 19 September 2025

cabra.catholic.edu.au



Enrolment applications will close at the end of **Term 3, Friday 19 September 2025**.

Principal's tours are held at the college each term, we encourage families who may be considering Cabra Dominican College, to join us on a college tour. More information including tour dates and the registration link can be found [HERE](#)

If I can be of assistance with any questions, please feel most welcome to contact me at

e: registrar@cabra.catholic.edu.au or phone: 8179 2429.

Goodwood Community Centre Open Day

This is a special email from Goodwood Community Centre - we are having an open day!

This FREE event will showcase the rich cultural diversity of programs and services provided at Goodwood Community Centre.

Activities will feature come and try sessions, goodie bags, tastings, refreshments and free live entertainment including

- Kids Music and Moves
- Science Collective Show
- face painting
- Broadway Burn live on stage

Saturday 17 May, 11am - 2pm
Goodwood Community Centre
32-34 Rosa Street, Goodwood

Free, no bookings required. Food and coffee available for purchase. For full details, please [visit our website](#), phone [8372 5143](tel:83725143), email gcc@unley.sa.gov.au or ask a staff member at our office.