



**SAINT MARK'S
COPTIC ORTHODOX
COLLEGE**

**YEARBOOK
2020**



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EXECUTIVE REPORT

MR. TSOUTSA

Head of College



"Regardless of the circumstances, 2020 has definitely been a 'memorable' year in more ways than one commencing with nationwide drought and bush fires, followed by major floods and destruction and quickly on to a world-wide Pandemic with COVID-19 affecting every aspect of our once 'normal lives and routines'. Suffice to say we are all experiencing first hand what living in history feels like and reflecting on the impact that these changes will have in future years."

Mr. Tsoutsa (Head of College)

Extract from Saint Mark's Coptic College Newsletter:
Volume 25 Edition 5 - September 2020



EXECUTIVE REPORT



MRS. NADA

Head of Primary

**MRS.
SHEHATA**

Primary Studies
Coordinator



"May the Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers. May He not leave us nor forsake us"

1 Kings 8:57

Thank you Lord for allowing us to have a blessed year and allowing us to see our precious children grow in your love. Thank you wonderful parents for showing the staff love, support, care and lots of encouragement. In unity and love God dwells and this is why I have seen God's blessings at St Mark's College. I pray that our Lord protects, guides and blesses' our children always. I could not be more proud of how resilient, loving and hardworking our students are. I hope that the 2020 year book is truly able to reflect the joy and happiness that we have witnessed day after day in watching our children grow and enjoy their learning at SMC.

Wishing all our families a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.



COPTIC ORTHODOX STUDIES

***"I can do all
things through
Christ who
strengthens
me"***

Phillipians 4:13



FR. GEORGE
College Chaplain

MRS. SIDHOM

K-6 Coptic Orthodox
Studies Coordinator



Coptic Orthodox Studies aims to lay foundations for teaching and engaging the students to learn about God and the faith of the Coptic Orthodox Church. Through the seasons of the Liturgical Year, students are given the opportunity to actively participate in the celebrations, prayer and liturgical life. Each Coptic Orthodox lesson incorporates values and attitudes such as respect, kindness, love and obedience which are all reflected through the students' life at St. Mark's College.

Term One students in all stages of primary school explored important Christian values through the topic of 'A time to Make Choices'. Key inquiry questions were posed to students to have them think about their current personal values as opposed to the values held by the church. Students understood the power of prayer. As this term coincided with Lent, students also learnt the importance of fasting in growing spiritually and having a relationship with God.

The Term Two topic of "The Holy Spirit Helps Us to Share!" again explored important Christian values of respect, friendship and teamwork. The topic had students contemplate the ways the Holy Spirit can guide their lives and help them make the right decisions. Each stage researched a specific saint and looked at the saint's lives and journey in Christianity. This was explored as a means for students to admire and be inspired to follow the footsteps of the saints.

Term Three had a different focus for each stage. Stage One focused on the topic "Love Means Being Respectful." The key inquiry questions for these students included understanding what respect means, how Christ showed respect and some ways students can show respect.

Stage Two focused on the topic "We Grow with God". The main idea of this term was for students in Stage Two to understand and recognise that children are gifts from God and if we obey God's word we grow as Christians.

Stage Three focused on the topic "God Calls Us to His Kingdom". This had students understand that through Christ's virtues of being a preacher, healer and teacher that God was able to show respect, compassion, and love. These are all values that students have demonstrated in their daily lives here at Saint Mark's Coptic Orthodox College.

Term Four also had a different focus for each stage. Stage One continued the theme of what love means through the topic "Love Means Obeying Rules". Students understood the importance that by following rules in church, at home and in the community, we can show our love for God and one another.

Stage Two were introduced to the Bible through the topic "The Bible is the Word of God". Students learnt the importance of the Holy Bible and how to use the Bible.

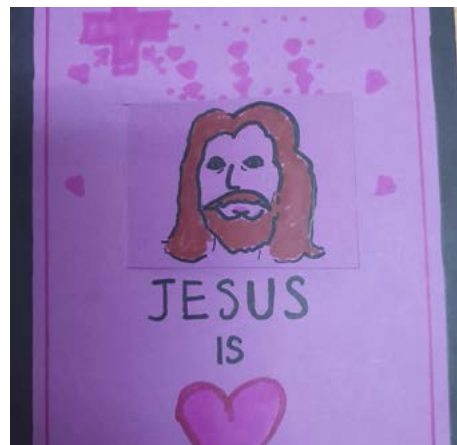
Stage Three explored the Bible scriptures. They looked in depth at the work of the Apostle St. Peter and St. Paul. They also looked at the contribution of the three great fathers and teachers of the church, Saint Athanasios the Great, Basil the Great, and Gregory the Theologian.

This year's programs had been carefully created and designed to instil Christian themes that students can incorporate in their daily lives for years to come.



COPTIC ORTHODOX STUDIES

Highlights





EARLY STAGE ONE

"Children want the same things we want. To laugh, to be challenged, to be entertained, and delighted"

- Dr Seuss



Mrs Sidhom



Mrs Saeed



KSA

Third Row: Gabriel Beshara, Tristan Prasad, Toline Ibrahim, Lazar Graovac , Liam Jennings, Andjela Todorovic, Antony Ghobrial, Marteos Mikhial

Second Row: Steven Abdel Messih, Gabriella Habashi, Juneer Seryal, Sarah Attard, Karas Gergis, Danielle Zaki, Selina Potrous, Kyrillos Khella

Front Row: Mirola Said, Elena Hanna, Katelyn Ateya, Olivia Bestawros, Isabella George, Eliana Tadros, Maryam Ibrahim, Verena Sarkis, Petra Pavlovic

Teacher: Mrs. Saeed, Mrs Hanna



KSI

Third Row: Raphael Massih, Samuel Kashro, Domadius Mikhial, David Basily, Anthony Shenouda, Joven Guirges, Emmanuel Seidhom

Second Row: Carus Abdel Shahid, Parthinia Shawky, Marina Fam, Mayven Marzouk, Christina Ayad, Nikolina Vasiloska, Eliana Tadrous, Nicholas David

Front Row: Maryam Nashed, Maryes Iskandar, Stasia Marcetic, Zahli Abraham, Daniella Boctor, Jessy Abdo, Paula Kondogiorgis, Caitlyn Fayez, Gemma Nairouz

Teacher: Mrs. Sidham, Mrs Hanna



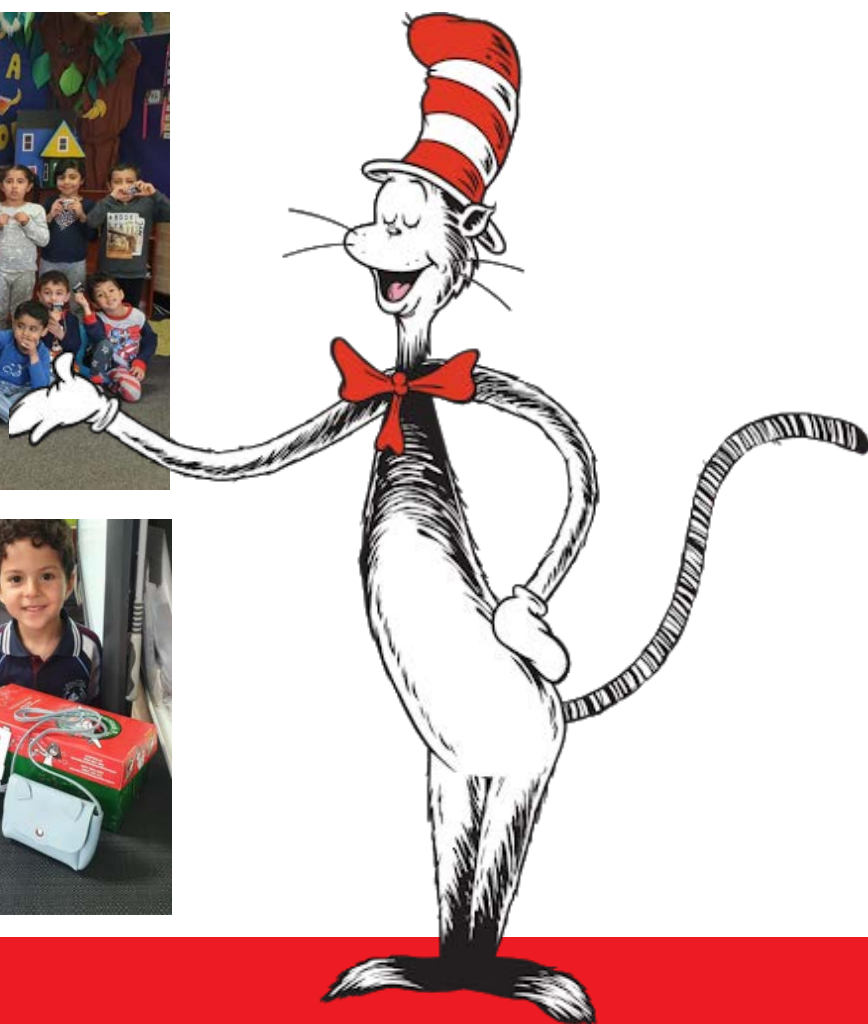
"The more that you learn the more places you will go"

Dr. Seuss



EARLY STAGE ONE

Highlights





Kindergarten Class of 2020



"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning"

Brad Henry



A MESSAGE FROM THE K-2 COORDINATOR

Learning is the process of constantly updating in an ever changing world. In the early years the children experience the most rapid changes of life that are critical in a child's development.

Our curriculum creates a passion for learning and curiosity. This helps to develop high aspirations, a lifetime of memories and provides each child with relevant opportunities for both now and in the future.

As the K-2 Coordinator my aim is to ensure that each child can achieve and progress to their full potential, in their academic, creative, personal, physical, moral and spiritual development. We aim to deliver this through the highest quality of teaching and learning within a happy and safe environment.

Anne-Marie Lotfi

STAGE ONE



Miss Touma



Miss Armanyos



Mrs Andreou



1L

Third Row: Geerika Joshi, Emily Zaki, Sienna Attapallil, Trinity Abdelmalik, Sarah Bastouros, Maria Abd El Nour, Jostina Bagtar

Second Row: Johnn Moufarrege, Samuel Kurian, Emmanuel Dos, Jacob Saman, Caleb Jacob, Adam Tawfik, Martin Khier, Elijah Margi

Front Row: Lucia Hanna, Ruthika Kalani, Eliana Saiegh, Marie Khella, Marina Abdalla, Joy Marzouk, Maria Argyros, Emily Ghobrial, Julie Abdelmesih

Teacher: Mrs. Lotfi, Miss. Bestawros



1I

Third Row: Mariz Awad, Ariana Singh, Emmanuella Henien, Juiliana Azer, Marlene Matta, Hannah Morgan

Second Row: Benjamin Kedes, Georgije Stojanovic, Elijah Rosdy, Karas Seedarous, Zachary Salib, George Beshay, Daniel Botros, Daniel Ibrahim, Mark Fahim

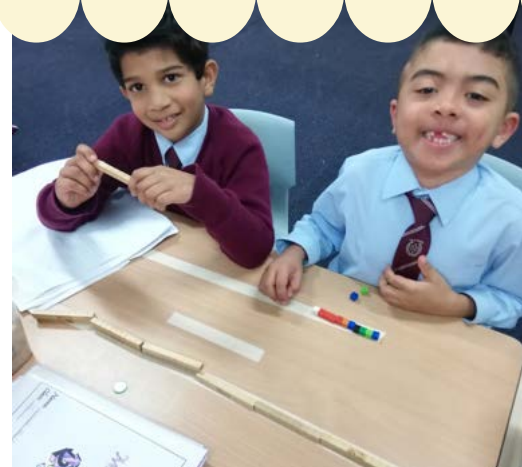
Front Row: Mary Georgy, Manuela Emile, Ereena Beshay, Geena Joshi, Emilie Attia, Alannah Lotfi, Amrita Sivakumar, Lucinda Henein, Maya Berou

Teacher: Miss. Touma



YEAR ONE

Highlights





2AN

Third Row: Daniel Abd El-Malek, Youssef Botros, Daniel Ghebrial, Maksim Jovicic, George Vasiloski, Jonah Moufarrege, Emmanuel Beshay, George Azzer

Second Row: Selena Jizan, Karas Farhoud, Damian Tadros, Cooper Gavan, Lucas Yousef, Athesh Thivakaran, Christophe Morcos, Joshua Safi, Benjamin Ghobrial

Front Row: Madona Ibrahim, Diya Mamman, Maria Fanous, Petronilla Bagtar, Alexandra Mrakic, Gabriella Bestawros, Zaharenia Kondogiorgis, Mariam Yakoub, Verena Ghaly

Teacher: Mrs. Andreou, Mrs. Hanna



2AR

Third Row: Karass Danial, Abanoub Shenouda, Luke Metira, Parthenia Eskander, Elayna Haouli, Marcus Papasavvas, Alexander Gerges, Michael Attard

Second Row: Leo Edward, Jonathan Basily, Dimas Gubreial, Nana Osei-Kwakye, Haris Kyriakou, Jacob Lawandi, Benjamin Banoub, Christopher Farhoud

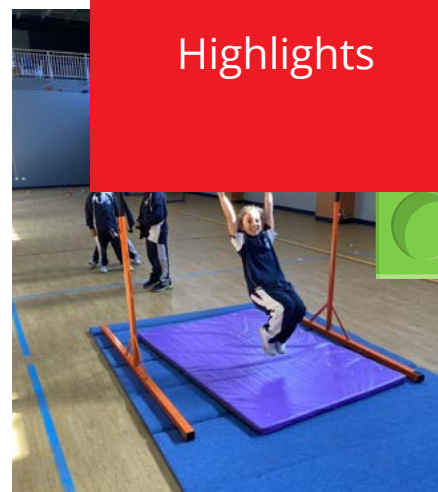
Front Row: Tehya Abraham, Verina Farag, Naomi Ghobrial, Irene Ishak, Alexia Ishak, Trinity Ghaly, Bernadette Fahim, Angelina Azmi, Marina Hanna

Teacher: Miss. Armanyos



YEAR TWO

Highlights



"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world."

Malala Yousafzai



Mrs Magoulias



Miss Spiros

STAGE TWO



Mrs Hanna



Miss Botros



3M

Third Row: Jonah Bechara, Lily Farag, Myra Kaur Arora, Mariam Makar, Faye Daoud, Simona Kajkut, Andrew Shashati

Second Row: Timothy Nazer, Beshoy Shawky, Aaron Saleeb, Michael Daryous, Joshua Beshay, Christian Seidhom, Jonathan Andraws

Front Row: Mariam Shenoda, Pearla Roufael, Saeed Kulkarni, Catherine Iskander, Ivy Marcetic, Parthena Hanna, Jahdai Abraham, Gina Tawfik

Teacher: Mrs. Magoulas



3S

Third Row: Milica Stojanovic, Elizabeth Zaki, Milica Cvetkovic, Naomi Abdelsayed, Alyssa Youssif, Monica Abdalla, Jana Tawfik

Second Row: Mousa Ibrahim, Anthony Salama, Matthias Sidra, Kwasi Osei-Kwakye, Mark Salib, Pavlo Fam, Bishoy Takla

Front Row: Seraphina Saeed, Faith Awadalla, Myriam Khier, Alyssia Dos, Juliana Mekhaeil, Mariam Ibrahim, Emilia Argyros, Celina Attwan

Teacher: Miss Spiros



YEAR THREE

Highlights





4B

Third Row: Lovena Beshay, Filip Buljevic, Olivia Khall, Joshua Soliman, Raphael Beshay, Erieny Hanna, Natalie Attia

Second Row: Benjamin Takla, Tony Tawfik, Cyril Ghebrial, Aaron Awadalla, Elijah Tanios, Jorge Moufarrege, Anthony Mankarious, Jacob Ghaly, Nathan Massih

Front Row: Erena Abader, Eudora Salama, Sofija Nicoska, Angelina Ayad, Marina Andraws, Zoe Kouris, Maria Mikhail, Epiphany Nematalla, Gabriella Kashro, Anna Gorgy

Teacher: Miss Botros, Mrs. Winefield



4H

Third Row: Gabriella Mikhael, Angelina Dawoud, Carol Giris, Novak Jovicic, Katarina Jevtic, Juliette Daoud, Gabriela Sous, David Pragasm

Second Row: Philopateer Shehata, George Nairouz, Cadel Abi-Hanna, Adrian Samuel, Daniel Matthew, Kerelous Abd Elmalek, Paul Nagi Eskander, Daniel Berou, Gabriel George

Front Row: Mikaela Abboud, Christine Ghobrial, Angelica Gavan, Clara Sergious, Ereeny Georgy, Sandy Awad, Delina Berhe, Leah Lawandi, Chanel Lotfi, Isabella Saeed

Teacher: Mrs. Hanna



YEAR FOUR

Highlights



"Seek His will in all you do and
He will show you which path to take."

Proverbs 3:6



Mrs. Shehata

*I wasn't born to 'just teach'. I
was born to inspire others, to
change people and to never
give up; even when faced
with challenges that seem
impossible.*

WE ARE TEACHERS

STAGE THREE



Mr Potts



Miss Takla



5T

Third Row: Jaden Beshay, Youssef Badawy, Youssef Tawfik, Abanoub Matta, Marko Krsticevic, Noah-Jesse David, Jamie Al Armani, Steven Filobos

Second Row: Rafael Sidhom, Jacob Magdy, Ameer Shahat, Joseph Andrews, Marcelino Seryal, Emanuel Ghali, Philopateer Khalil, Daniel Ateya, David Gerges, Jason Wahbah

Front Row: Jerusha Raj, Sarah Grace Kilada, Michaela Condoleon, Esther Ann Gijo, Gabriella Lufe, Angelina Sadek, Marina Takla, Susanna Fam, Anne Youssif, Elina Bastouros, Anthea Zaki

Teacher: Miss Takla



5/6S

Third Row: Rafael Banoub, Jemima Job, Maximos Mattar, Kyrillos Shenoda, Lucina Ghobrial, Jacob Hilmi, Chloe Vigers, Andre Wahbah, Elias Khoury, Jacob Moufarrege, Andrew Morcos

Second Row: Steven Sarkis, Christian Dimitry, John Abdelmesih, Karim Ghobrial, Gabriel Beshay, Mark Michael, Antony Abdelmessih, Anthony Georgy, Josiah Nematalla, David Lawandi

Front Row: Miriam Henien, Clara Ghatas, Giovanna Dos, Elaria Fam, Marly Mikhael, Mary-Chanelle Pragasm, Merolla Abdel Malek, Abigail Sous, Angela Bechara, Karma Khalil, Zorica Atanasova

Teacher: Mrs. Shehata



YEAR FIVE

Highlights





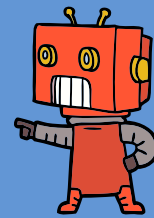
6P

Third Row: Fady Badawy, Zachary Tanios, Hayden Vigors, Kosta Todorovic, Jeremiah Thapa, Arsany Farhoud, Oliver Shenouda, Sean Raj

Second Row: Zacariah Abboud, Daniel Faragalla, Andrews Punnen, Anthony Mikhail, Anthony Mekhaeil, Pavly Fahim, Christian Abi-Hanna, Daniel Saleib, Emmanuel Takla, Daniel Bechara

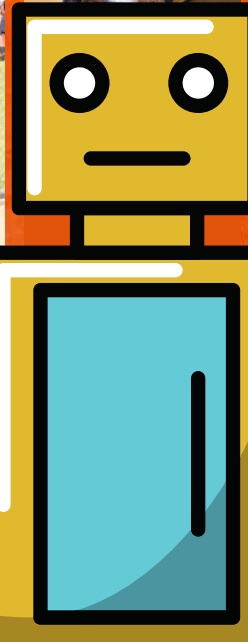
Front Row: Sellina Saeed, Lana Mamman, Mariam Mikhail, Jovita Amalaraj, Joslyn Ghali, Mariah Metira, Anastasia Mrakic, Joyce Abdelmessih, Daniela Bastouros, Marinia Daoud, Jolina Guirges

Teacher: Mr. Potts



YEAR SIX

Highlights



Year 6 Class of 2020

"Graduation is not the end; it's the beginning."

Orrin Hatch



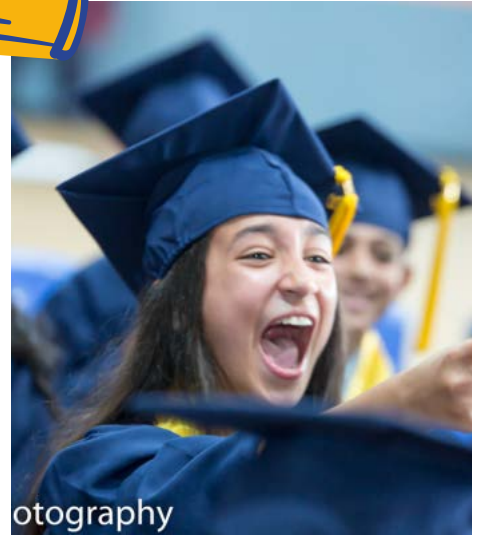
- Fourth Row:** Andre Wahbah, Kosta Todorovic, Jovita Amalaraj, Chloe Vigors, Joslyn Ghali, Mariah Metira, Anastasia Mrakic, Joyce Abdelmessih, Lucina Ghobrial, Jacob Hilmi, Jeremiah Thapa
- Third Row:** Pavly Fahim, Andrew Morcos, Jacob Moufarrege, Oliver Shenouda, Hayden Vigors, Arsany Farhoud, Elias Khoury, Zachary Tanios, Maximos Mattar, Fady Badawy, Sean Raj
- Second Row:** Mrs Jacqueline Shehata (Teacher), Daniel Bechara, Daniel Faragalla, Andrews Punnen, Anthony Mekhaeil, Christian Abi-Hanna, Anthony Mikhail, Mark Michael, Daniel Saleib, Emmanuel Takla, Steven Sarkis, Zacariah Abboud, Mr Thomas Potts (Teacher)
- Front Row:** Clara Ghatas, Jolina Guirges, Angela Bechara, Marly Mikhael, Daniela Bastouros, Merolla Abdel Malek, Mary-Chanelle Pragasam, Mariam Mikhail, Marinia Daoud, Lana Mamman, Sellina Saeed



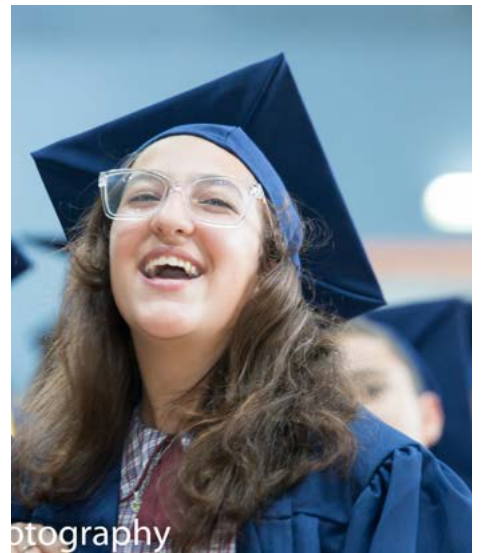
Year 6 Class of 2020



us Photography



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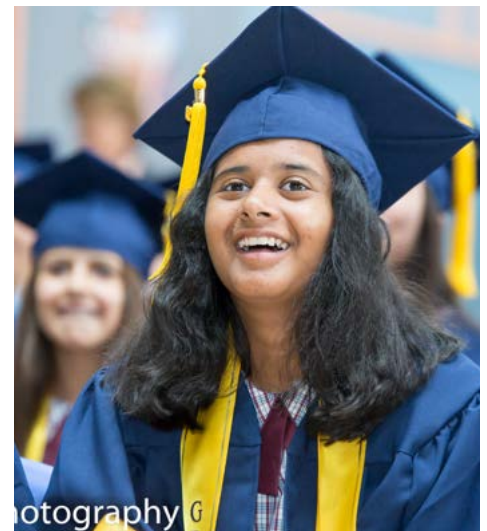


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ocus Photography

Year 6 Class of 2020





SUPPORT AND SPECIALIST STAFF

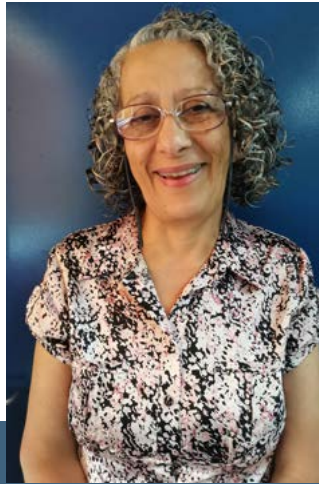
"To live is Christ."



Mrs Hanna



Mrs Winefield



Mrs Hanna



Miss Bestawros



Mrs Ibrahim



Mr Yacoub



Miss Georgiadis



Mrs Holland



Mr Nestorovski



Ms Thompson



Mr Armanyos



Mrs Ibrahim



SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

"If your actions inspire others to dream more,
learn more, do more and become more, you are
a leader"



© The School Photographer 2020

Our Student Representative Council (SRC) is a student-based group designed to foster school spirit and leadership among students. The members of the SRC change each year to maintain a fresh approach and a strong student voice within the school. Members are leaders who help to create and nurture constructive ideas within the school community. They are approachable students who are representatives of our student body.

2020 SPORT ACTIVITIES



The year 2020 has seen many clear changes, adjustments and interruptions, it has truly been both a memorable year but one many will wish to forget. At Saint Mark's, we are one of just a handful of schools in NSW who managed to hold both a Swimming and Athletics Carnival back in Term 1 with Saint Marina and Saint Anthony as respective winners on the day. Since this very positive start to the year, no other school subject has been affected more than Sport. In this entirely unprecedented situation, almost the entire year of competitive sport in the form of our IPSSO competition for years 3-6, term 4 Swim School and other interschool events such as ASISSA all cancelled. Nevertheless, despite the clear disappointment of being deprived of these opportunities, there have been some subtle silver linings with sporting activity at the college this year. One area that stands out is the ability for teachers to observe, engage and delight in their students' sporting activity in a way that would normally be a rarity to witness first hand.

It reminds us as teachers and students alike of the role physical activity plays in breaking up our professional and academic lives in a way that boosts our spirits, enjoyment of where we are, our energy levels and productivity in all that we do. I would posit that the benefits of this sporting time together are even more far reaching as this sporting activity time has enabled student and teacher to see a range of new and different positive aspects about one another. The adventurous program of House Competitions across a range of sports and co-curricular activities may not have proceeded as planned yet several key house events have gone ahead due to the commitment of our House Captains in setting up and facilitating events. The House point scheme was introduced into Primary this year wherein House Captains collect weekly totals of points collected in class through effort, attainment and great conduct in class. Saint Marina emerged as victors overall this year in a well-contested and close competition.

As we've returned to some semblance of usual sporting activity, the Saint Mark's School spirit we have witnessed this year has been evident in all ages and stages. This is most encouraging as we look to resume our usual agenda of activities next year. On a personal note, it was my goal to promote skill development, engagement and exposure to new activities by working more closely work alongside years Kindergarten – Year 2 this year. The reduction of College participation elsewhere did enable this to happen in age groups with extra time to develop and refine techniques, understanding of rules and tactics; it is my sincere hope the level of enjoyment in our sporting lives in the Primary School will continue to grow, achieve new firsts and targets within and beyond the school premises in 2021. We look forward to the completion of the new Primary building to assist both Primary and High School in achieving these curricular goals.

Mr Potts (K-6 Sports Coordinator)



SWIMMING CARNIVAL Highlights



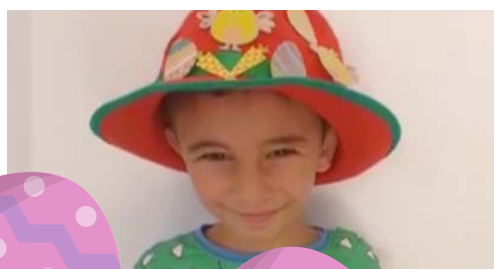


ATHLETIC CARNIVAL

Highlights



SMC'S ANNUAL EASTER HAT PARADE



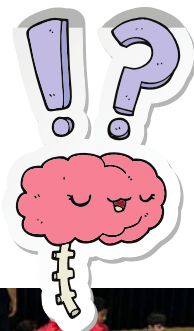


St. Mark's Coptic Orthodox College's Annual Public Speaking Competition

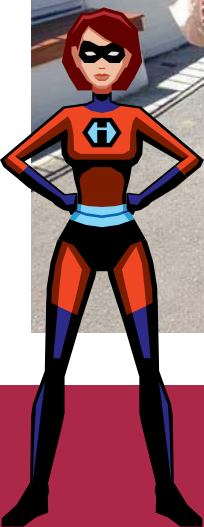




BOOK WEEK



Curious Creatures, Wild Minds



Wet'n Wild



Merry Christmas



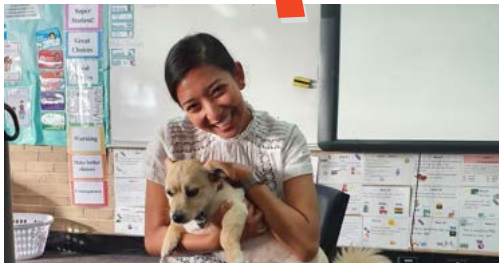


THE FUTURE -
CONSTRUCTION

NEW PRIMARY BUILDING

COMING
SOON





HAPPY
New Year

from the Primary team

