

Match Reports – Round 6

5A	The 5As put together another gutsy team performance to claim their first win for the year. The boys moved the ball well and rebounded hard, making things difficult for their opponents. On the back of a great first half from Harry Cleary and some tough defence from Billy Towers, the boys put themselves in a great position to win the game. Some clutch baskets from Rocco Holmes and Josh Connell ultimately sealed the victory.
5B	Another great game by a team is getting better every week. On the back of a strong defence that didn't let St Peters score any points in the first quarter we dominated on both sides of the court. Every boy in the team scored points for the first time but more importantly, they are all becoming better players. End result of 52-14 shows the difference between both teams. Man of the Match JD Cootes.
5C	
5Gold	
6A	The 6A boys bounced back well with a convincing win against St Peters last Wednesday. The performance was exactly the standard they should play at every single week, an overall solid team game. It was hard to pick between the boys for the MVP as everyone played an important part in the win. Charlie Cook's standout scoring that kept the scoreboard ticking along and Salem Tamer's brutal on ball defence that resulted in plenty of steals and easy fast-break buckets were two pivotal factors that lead us to the victory. Quinn Lovering and Tom Deem both found ways to create shots for others on offence and the two bigs Connor Campbell and Cohen Netzler held it down in the half court set on defence getting some massive blocks. Overall, the boys should go into their final game of primary school basketball with all the confidence to get the win over St Pats and finish the season on a high note.
6B	With the penultimate game of the season against St Peters being moved to a Wednesday afternoon on the outdoor courts it was an unfamiliar match day for the 6Bs. As St Peters arrived the boys noticed how big and tall, the opposition was. Thankfully, this did little to intimidate the Marist men as they shot out to an early 12-0 lead in the first quarter. The ball movement and transition finally clicked, and our shots were starting to drop. Josh Davis and Carter Gibson both hitting some nice mid-range shots. Miles was clinical from the line and Stanley and Nick again dominated in the paint. The whole team can be praised for their intensity and relentless pressure to record a commanding 48 - 2 victory as we move into the last game away at St Pats.
6C	
6Gold	
7A	St. Peter's was an exciting game for the 7A's. The first half was neck and neck, until the boys opened up the game by playing tenacious defence and sticking together. The boys should give themselves a lot of credit for that performance. The energy in the 2nd half was sensational. Very proud coach.

7B	The 7Bs were rolling after a couple good wins and took that momentum into the game against St Peter's. Though the first quarter was pretty closely contested, the boys lifted their game in the second quarter and never looked back, eventually winning 57-16. It was a great team display which saw every member of the team score a basket thanks to great ball movement and terrific effort on the boards.
7C	The boys got off to a slow start with the wet court going against us, but a big performance from Frank who pulled through on both ends of the floor to push us ahead for the majority of the game. We struggled to get into a rhythm on offense but on defence we were locked in and played well. We won the game by a comfortable margin to keep the undefeated streak going.
7D	
8A	The 8A's arrived at St Peter's without 2 regular starters for the team. No one was fazed and everyone stepped up their game. Slow start but in front by quarter time and stayed there for the rest of the game. St Peter's fought back in the 4 th quarter to close to within 4 points. The team settled and despite some nervous moments the boys finished the stronger to be deserving winners. Continuing to see improvement across the board with one more game to go against St Pat's
8B	The Year 8B team were back on the winners list after an outstanding 41-23 victory over SPLC. After a slow start the boys started working well on the defensive end which resulted in a number of turnovers and easy points on the fast break. The highlight of the first half was Harry Wood hitting 1 st and 2 nd quarter 3pt buzzer beaters. The second half continued in the same fashion with MCA playing great team defence and sharing the ball on offense to create great shooting opportunities. With one game left in the season, the boys have a great chance to finish off the year on a positive note with consecutive wins.
8C	The 8C's overcame a late rally from SPLC to get their second win of the season. The boys dominated the boards on a really hot day and would have wrapped the game up earlier with some sharper shooting! We look forward to a tough final game against Pats on Saturday.
8D	
9A	The 9A boys played extremely well. They overcame many of the challenges we been dealing with in our own game over the first few weeks to win a close one with St Peters.
9B	The boys played extremely well, finding open players and making many tough baskets. I was really happy with the boy's intensity and determination to play well this week. We will continue to work hard practicing boxing out, free throws and shooting lay ups.

9C	<p>Last weekend the 9C's played an excellent brand of basketball. They came out of the gates with great on ball pressure which resulted in a number of fastbreak points. Controlling the pace on offence was a major factor for their 45 point win over Saint Peter's.</p>
9D	<p>The boys played as a team right from the very start of the match and continued to play basketball throughout, even when the opposition started to throw 3 pointers from halfway and lose a bit of interest in the match. The MCA players were great sports and never disrespected the opposition. Our team worked on their combinations and passing to keep the scoreboard ticking over right up until the final whistle. They know this coming Saturday will be a bigger challenge but are looking forward to it. Well done lads!</p>
10A	<p>We started the game slow and were then making quick inroads through our 4 out, 1 in offence which really started opening up the floor....at this point I was ejected from the game (late 1st Qtr) and can only report on hearsay...all of which indicated the boys continued to fight hard and made an unbeaten SPC side really work for the win. I definitely let the lads down on Saturday by letting emotion get the better of me...especially as I know we were good enough to beat SPC. A good lesson learnt, and I shall continue to harness the spirit of the Zen Master Phil Davis (Ala Phil Jackson) :-)</p>
10B	<p>Well, what a difference a week can make...</p> <p>The team sat down at last Tuesday's training session for a soul-searching session to try and determine how to turn a disappointing season around. The discussion focussed around three elements that as a team, we needed to focus on; team work, attitude and intensity.</p> <p>Round 7 had the 10Bs facing off against an undefeated St Peter's side, a challenge that the team was ready for after a positive week of training. To stop St Peter's, the team were asked to play a more physical style of basketball and not let their opposition set foot inside "the paint"; This was our court and we were going to let St Peter's know it!</p> <p>A very even first half saw both teams trade buckets with the home team entering the break with a narrow 5-point lead, but to the boys credit their defence was on top and St Peter's were starting to turn over the ball. The third quarter saw the MCA boys really show that they can play, they dominated the court at both ends going on a 15 – 2 run, a season defining quarter and hopefully something the boys remember. The game finished 42 – 26 an impressive win but also a realisation of where the team should be.</p> <p>Charlie Weaver again showed the progress he has made throughout the season dominating the boards at both ends of the court and Matt Sharland</p>

	scored some soul-destroying long range 3-point shots. But it was what the scoreboard couldn't show that the boys should all be most proud of, it was their team work, their attitude and their intensity that won them the game and what they should celebrate.
10C	
10D	
11A	After a poor attendance at training the boys managed a convincing 4th win in a row. Solid trainer Dylan Cooper played his best game this season absolutely dominating the boards and high scoring through rebounds. He has been offered a chance at all schools and it is well deserved. Paul Strachotta showed his wares and was easily best guard on court. Marcus came back from injury and put some much needed zip into the squad.
11B	The boys continued their undefeated season this weekend with a strong showing against a solid St. Peter's team. Special shout out goes to Xander Bussa who was named captain for the game, and made 100% of his free throws, as well as Lachlan Ford, who left his heart out on the court and played intense defence all game. As always, the game was back and forth at the start, until we started pulling away with a few good opportunities under the rim. Hopefully we can continue our form into St. Pat's next week, and close out the season undefeated.
11C	
11D	The lads have hit their strides with three on the trot! A much bigger win than the score line reflects, with only 6 players available for the majority of the game. The boys dominated the boards despite being undersized, a thrilling win.
1sts	The first V had a really good week at training and had prepared well for a St Peter's team that had been competitive in all of its previous games. The boys had been building week by week and playing more consistently for longer stretches. SPLC got out to a fast start and led 9-2 after 2 minutes but the boys stay composed and by the end of the first quarter, were down by 1. The second quarter saw both teams trading baskets, sloppy turnovers and giving up offensive rebounds was the only thing keeping SPLC in the game as we went into the half time break down 2. The winner of this game was going to be determined by who dug deeper and stayed together longer. The second half began and with some excellent full court pressure, aggressive rebounding and slick shooting, we pulled away and kept pushing the margin out. The boys played with tremendous spirit and attitude and walked away deserved winners. Everybody contributed to the win and played a part in setting the standard. It was especially pleasing for our senior boys to wrap up their Ashgrove basketball careers in such a well-rounded team performance.

2nds	<p>After a tough loss against Iona, the MCA 2nds were keen to make amends and capture a winning season on Saturday against SPLC. The first quarter grind was a tough battle as both teams looked to take it to the basket and play physical basketball. After switching to a 2-3 zone, the boys exploded and kicked it up a gear, holding SPLC to just 14 points for the next 3 quarters of play. The MCA 2nds also found their flow offensively and had their best offensive scoring game of the season as they didn't settle for jump shots, instead attacking the paint and making the right play. The dominant win was earmarked by hustle plays and effort on the inside in a great final home game by the boys. Next week's final matchup vs St Pats will undoubtedly define the season.</p>
3rds	
4ths	