



St Benedict's Primary School

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NEWSLETTER 13

10th May 2017

Praise the Lord

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

In the Catholic faith May is traditionally known as the month of Mary. It is also the month in which we celebrate Mother's Day and honour our mothers and grandmothers. In doing so we are also honouring the nurturing and life-giving role they fill in our lives. In a special way Mary is their role model and spiritual guide in the blessing that is motherhood. We pray this week for all mothers and mother figures and ask that God will bless them and reward them for their goodness and the gift of life they have given us.

Happy Mother's Day to all!

Mothers' Day Stall

Don't forget that the Mothers' Day stall will take place this Friday. Thank you to all families who have already sent in donations of gifts to help with the Mothers' Day stall. Thank you also to the P&F Fundraising Committee for their coordination of the stall and to those parents who have volunteered to help out on Friday.

School Board and Parents & Friends

Last Tuesday night the School Board elected new office bearers. The School Board consists of:

- Samantha Losanno – Chairperson
- Emma Burchell – Deputy Chairperson
- Belinda Eidum – Treasurer
- John Daunt – Secretary
- Dean Dalla Pozza and Mark Scott – P&F Representatives
- Antoinette Perry – Parent Representative
- Fran Tomadini – Staff Representative
- Alana Quirk – Assistant Principal
- Rachel Smith – Principal
- Fr Stephen Fletcher mgl – Parish Priest

Apart from its ongoing role in policy development the School Board will continue with the strategic directions it set for its work in 2016. They aim to:

- Strengthen St Benedict's as a school of choice;
- Strive to be a school that welcomes diversity; and
- Support the development of a 21st Century learning environment.

Nurturing personal and academic growth...

...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.

At the joint School Board/P&F Meeting last night the group began the process to determine a shared strategic focus that both groups can collaborate on. It was a very productive meeting.

Five Cent Friday

What a fantastic day last Friday was with all students getting behind and supporting this worthy cause. The students had fun participating in lots of numeracy activities to do with money and they didn't even realise they were doing Maths! A precious part of the day was having Connie join the students during the activity time and having both Connie and Willoughby talk to the students. Thank you to all of our community who worked so hard to support this charity event. Thank you to those parents and carers who collected money on behalf of the school at their workplaces and in the wider community.

Today our Year Five and Six students attended the Big Heart event at Lyneham Netball Courts. On behalf of our school they delivered and personally got to add to the heart over \$2500 worth of coins. This is an amazing effort from our small community. I thank you from the bottom my heart for your support of this worthy cause!

Funding for Catholic Schools

Since the announcement of a change in federal funding for schools last week we have seen a great deal of press around the amount of money provided to schools by the Federal Government. Catholic schools receive the majority of funding from the Federal Government with the ACT Government giving Catholic schools 18% of what they give to students in public schools. This is the lowest amount of any State or Territory and during last year's election campaign efforts to get this increased failed.

The Director of Catholic Education Canberra and Goulburn, Mr Ross Fox, has been actively engaging with the Government to ensure a funding guarantee that doesn't disadvantage any students in ACT/NSW Catholic schools including students at St Benedict's. If you would like to hear Mr Fox speak about some of the issues for our schools as a result of the proposed funding I encourage you to view last week's Lateline program on ABC's iView (<http://iView.abc.net.au/programs/lateline/NC125H064S00>). Tomorrow you will receive more information from Mr Fox about the proposed funding.

While the Director and Catholic Education Office is working very hard to support our schools, we continue to focus on the learning and wellbeing of our wonderful students and have continued to enjoy the opportunity to showcase our school to the prospective parents and students during Open Week.

God bless.

Rachel Smith
Principal (Acting)



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

Project Compassion

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their Project Compassion money boxes. If you have not done so yet, please send this in as soon as possible to help us finalise payment to Caritas.



First Friday Mass

Thank you to Year Four and Ms Ellison for your prayerful preparation of the readings and music for Mass last Friday. It was a beautiful way to celebrate the gift of mothers.

Five Cent Friday

Thank you to everyone for your participation in activities last Friday for the Big Heart Project. We raised \$2500 which we have donated today to the Love Your Sister Big Heart Project. It was also a fun way to explore Mathematics and money in particular. Special thanks to our Year Six Leaders for their great organisation and leadership of activities. Look in next week's newsletter for photos of our time at the Big Heart Project.



First Communion

Candidates and at least one parent are requested to be at Mass on Sunday 21st May (9:00am) and to stay for preparation activities following Mass. We should conclude by 1:00pm.

Family Mass

All students and their families are warmly invited to take special part in the 9:00am Mass on Sunday 21st May. Invitations have been sent home and we look forward to seeing as many families as possible at this Mass. Morning tea after Mass is provided by the parish.

Meaghan Younger
Religious Education Coordinator

P&F News

Mothers' Day Stall

All donated gifts should now be at school. Thank you to all the wonderful Volunteers that have offered their time to help on Friday. If you have any time, please feel free to drop in and help between 9am and 11:30am on Friday 12th May.

Entertainment Book

This term we will be selling the new 2017-2018 Entertainment Book Membership for \$60. You will receive hundreds of valuable offers for shopping, dining and accommodation. \$12 of every membership sold will go towards our school. A sample copy is available for viewing at the Front Office. Please make sure you buy a book through St Benedict's School, and tell your family and friends about it too! Entertainment Book using the link: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/23231n> Then pick up your book from Belinda at the Front Office. A sample book is available for viewing at the Front Office.

An advertisement for Entertainment Book. The top half features a dark blue banner with the text "We're fundraising with entertainment™" on the left and a photograph of a family (a man, a woman, and two children) looking at a book together on the right. The bottom half shows a stack of Entertainment Books, including one titled "entertainment ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP 2017-2018", and several smartphones displaying the Entertainment Book app interface. A central "OR" is placed between the books and the phones. At the bottom, a gold button reads "ORDER FROM US TODAY!".

School News

Code Club



This week on Monday afternoon after school we started our St Benedict's Code Club after school. The year 3-6 students who attended eagerly began their first project which was to animate and add sound to musical instruments to create a Rock Band. Watch this space for more exciting updates!

Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2

We are asking for students in Kindergarten to Year 2 to please bring in any board games that they may have a home. The board game will need your name and class on it. The games will be played in week 10.



Weekly Notes

The following notes have gone home this week and are currently on the website.



- Kindy – Thank you note – Due 10th May
- Code Club Expression
- Kindergarten – Term 2 Overview
- Athletics Carnival – Due 15th May
- Kindy to Year 2 – Farmyard Nursery Excursion – Due 15th May

Dates to Remember

- ✓ 9th to 11th May – Naplan Yr3 and Yr5
- ✓ 12th May – Mothers' Day Stall (Helpers Required)
- ✓ 19th May – Kinder to Year 2 Excursion (Farmyard Nursery – Sports Uniform)
- ✓ 21st May – First Communion Preparation Year 3
- ✓ 21st May – Parish Mass - Year 4 Families
- ✓ 22nd May – Dr Camerson Stelzer – Author Visit (Whole school)
- ✓ 26th May – National Sorry Day
- ✓ 29th May – Athletics Carnival
- ✓ 31st May – South Weston 12U Cross Country
- ✓ 2nd June – First Friday Mass, 10.00am

School Fees

The school fees for Term 2 were sent out yesterday. If you requested them by email please check that you received it yesterday morning. Otherwise your fees went home with your child yesterday afternoon. If you

have not received your fees by Friday 12th May please contact Mrs McRae at the Front Office. Fees for Term 2 are due by Wednesday 24th May.

Lost Property

We are only into week 3 and the lost property table is overflowing. If you could please take some time and have a look at the items if your child is missing anything. Many hands make light work and if we all keep checking on a regular basis the table should be empty and the children should be warm.

Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool will be open on Fridays between 2.55pm to 3.15pm. Most items are between \$4.00 and \$10.00.



House Point Winners

The points for Week 2 Term 2 were: Murramai 3,000, **Arakoola** 3,550 and **Tangara** 1,320.

At the end of Week 2, Term 2 the year totals were: Murramai 24,814 **Arakoola** 28,670 and **Tangara** 32,030.

CONGRATULATIONS to this week's winners: Arakoola 3,550!

Well done to **Year 5/6 Blue** who earned the most house points (3,620)!

Merit Certificate Recipients

KINDERGARTEN	Finn Mc, Arwyn S and Claire L
1/2Blue	Grace R and Zella K
1/2Gold	Elvira H and Alain K
3/4Blue	Christopher B and Keira M
3/4Gold	Shyla M and Natalija M
5/6Blue	Anica K and Breahna d
5/6Gold	Nakita S and Shanae R

Book Club Orders

The **Redgum Book Club** forms went home last week. Please remember to only order Redgum online (No orders for Redgum will be accepted at the front office). All books will still be delivered to the school and will be sent home with your child.

Please ensure you have placed your order by Sunday 21st May. If you would like to view the current catalogue please go to https://issuu.com/redgumbookclub/docs/8314_rg_catalogue_term_2_2017_lowre

The **Scholastic Book Club** orders are required at the Front Office by Wednesday 17th May. Due to the tight time frames please consider ordering online as no late orders will be accepted. Sorry for any inconvenience.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Parish News

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday	6.00pm
Sunday	9.00am
Youth Mass	7.00pm
Charismatic Mass	7.00pm (last Sunday of the Month)
Baptisms:	11.00am, 2 nd and 4 th Sundays of the Month

Mass for Mothers: Friday 12th May

All are welcome to a Mass for Mothers at 5.30pm. The Mass will have as special focus on the mother relationship. Come along and pray for mothers both living and dead, to give thanks for their mothering and to pray for God's blessing on the role mothers play.

Canteen

THURSDAY, 11th MAY 9.00am – 11.30am



FRIDAY, 12th MAY

Ruth Joyce
David Noble
Rochelle Fitzgerald
11.30am – 2.00pm
HELPERS REQUIRED
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9.00am – 11.30am
Belinda Daunt
Rochelle Fitzgerald
11.30am – 2.00pm
Alcira Caggiano
HELPERS REQUIRED

Term 2 Roster is now up on the website. Please have a look, complete and return to the front office or just turn up to the canteen when you get a moment to help.

Look forward to working with you.

Yours in tongs.

Cara Cook, Canteen Manager

