Welcome back to Term 4!

We have had a lovely start to the final school term for 2016. We welcome Caitlin in Year 5 and family.

We also welcome the onset of the warmer weather. This is my favourite time of year. While I recognise that not all places in the world experience four seasons we are fortunate to have the yearly reminder that growth is not always a constant and often happens in bursts as part of the cycle of life. What’s more it is usually at this point, the beginning of Term 4 when students climb back into their summer uniforms, we truly notice just how much they have grown and matured over the course of the year. As a school we ask them to work hard for the final stretch of the year and look forward to celebrating their achievements at the end. We know you will join us.

ACT Election

The ACT election is now just a few days away. The election has provided an important opportunity for us to raise the issue of fair and sustainable territory government funding for St Benedict’s. As an ACT Catholic school we receive the lowest levels of state/territory government funding of any catholic school in Australia!

Did you know that for each dollar of territory government funding going to a student in an ACT government school your child here at St Benedict’s receives just 17 cents.* By choosing to send your child to St Benedict’s, as a Catholic school in the ACT, you are contributing to saving ACT taxpayers more than $152 million per year.

What Catholic Education Have Asked For:

1. **Provision of land in new growth areas to provide parents a choice for a Catholic Education**

Catholic Education is the second largest provider of school age education in the Territory after the ACT Government. Catholic Education needs to be given priority allocation of suitable land to allow choice in education for the new communities and for Catholic Education to continue to play its significant role in meeting the Territory’s need for school age education.

2. **Meeting the needs of students with disability**

Between 2009 and 2016, the number of students with disability attending Catholic schools increased by 83%. Parents choosing Catholic schools are seeking Territory Government financial support to ensure a student with a disability receives the same level of support regardless of the school they attend.
3. A commitment to progressively increase recurrent funding by 2020
Catholic Education seeks a commitment to increase recurrent funding from the ACT Government to 25% of the average cost of educating a student in an ACT Government school with an annual ‘cost of living’ increase in funding for Catholic schools proportionate to increases in ACT Government schools.

Why Are These Commitments Important?
Achievement of these commitments will ensure a sustainable base for Catholic Education into the future. At a school level the additional funding will assist to provide additional resources to meet school and student needs such as student support services, students with disabilities support, information and communication technology costs and student wellbeing. It will also mean that increases to school fees and levies would be minimised.

Later this week the Catholic Education Commission will be publishing for all schools the response from all the major parties to the commitments listed above. I would urge you to consider the positions of the parties and if elected what their policies will mean for our school and your children. The responses will provide a very real policy difference for Catholic Education.

Matthew Garton
Principal

*ACARA MySchool Website, February 2015

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

Catholic Mission
This month is Mission Month. We make particular efforts to learn more about the amazing charity work done by missionaries around the world, to pray for them and to raise money for Catholic Missions to continue their good work. This Friday at Assembly our Liturgical Leaders will share with us the focus for this year’s Mission Month.

Next week, on Wednesday 19th October, we will hold our Socktober – Silly Sock Day. Children are encouraged to come wearing socks in creative and fun ways. This reminds us that we can “sock it” to poverty if we all work together. Donations are requested from all families for our fundraising for Mission Month.

The following week, on Wednesday 26th October, the Year Six Liturgical Leaders and Ms Younger will represent St Benedict’s School at the annual Archdiocesan Mission Mass. This Mass will be celebrated at St Christopher’s Cathedral, Manuka.

Meaghan Younger
Religious Education Coordinator
SCHOOL NOTICES

Parents and Friends Association

School Disco – Friday 14th October

The Parents and Friends Association are holding the School Disco on Friday 14th October (1st Friday of Term 4). The theme is Onesie Pyjamas. Please return the RSVP slip to school ASAP so they can start organising the catering. If you need a note either contact the office on 62958027 to have one sent home with your child or go to http://stbenedicts.act.edu.au/srcfiles/Disco---14th-Oct-2016.pdf.

P&F Meeting – Tuesday 25th October

The next P& F meeting is on Tuesday 25th October, at 6:30pm in the School Library (Week3). All parents and friends are welcome to attend. If you have anything that you wish to discuss at this meeting, please send it to: stbenedictspfa@gmail.com, no later than 20th October, so that it can be included on the meeting agenda.

Dates to Remember

✓ 14th October – School Disco Year’s K-6
✓ 17th October – Puberty & Personal Dev. Evening, Years 5 & 6, 6.30pm
✓ 18th October - Puberty & Personal Dev. Student Sessions Years 5 & 6
✓ 18th October – School Board Meeting, 6.00pm
✓ 19th October – Socktober
✓ 20th October – NAP – Civics & Citizenship, Year 6
✓ 21st October - Boorowa Touch & Netball Carnival
✓ 25th October – Parents & Friend Meeting, 6.30pm
✓ 26th October – Mission Mass – St Christopher’s, Manuka (Liturgical Leaders)
✓ 5th November – Trivia Night (Adults only)

Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool is open every Friday after assembly 2.45pm to 3.15pm.

Lost Items

One of our students have lost their reading glasses. If you find a pair of blue glasses please return them to the Front Office.
KINDERGARTEN  Sophia M, Alannah C, Tessa P, Ruby S
YEAR 1  Ari B, Alan K and Zack W
YEAR 2  Isobel R and Kyle Q
YEAR 3/4E  Taylah G, Sean F, Carla C, Shyla M and Josephine L
YEAR 3/4B  Isaac D and Mia B,
YEAR 5/6S  Lewis A,
YEAR 5/6Y  James H, Cooper E, Amber T, Bridie L and Georgina T
ITALIAN  Lailani A, Matthew S and Juach G,

Weekly Notes
The following notes have gone home this week and are currently on the website.
- First Bytes
- Canteen Menu
- Canteen Roster
- Scholastic Book Club – Due 25th October
- Redgum Book Club – Due 25th October

Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their special day this week: Brendan M, Madeleine G and Sethmi L.

House Point Winners
The points for Week 10, Term 3 were Murramai 6,775, Arakoola 7,160 and Tangara 14,570.

At the end of Week 10, Term 3 the year totals were: Murramai 75,614 Arakoola 83,839 and Tangara 106,003.

CONGRATULATIONS to this week’s winners: Tangara 14,570!

Well done to Year 5/6S who earned the most house points (13,810)!

Canteen
FRIDAY, 14 OCT  9.00am – 11.30am
Hannah Norgrove
Helpers Needed
11.30am – 2.00pm
Helpers Needed
MONDAY, 17 OCT  9.00am – 11.30am
Sylvie Rodier
Helpers Needed
11.30am – 2.00pm
Helpers Needed

Nancy Lyons, Canteen Manager

COMMITTEE NOTICES
Parish News
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm

St Benedict’s Parish Raffle
The Parish is currently holding a raffle to raise funds for the Collins Wing. If anyone has some time to sell raffle tickets or would like to purchase some raffle tickets, please see Belinda at the School Front Office. All tickets need to be sold by the 30th October.

St Claire’s Uniforms
A previous St Benedict’s family would like to offer sizes 8 womens and 16 girls free to a good home. If you know of any students that might be going to St Clair’s next year or currently and would like some uniforms – both summer and winter all in good condition. Please call Carmen on 0416 347 997
ST BENEDICT’S TRIVIA NIGHT 2016

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

Time: 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start
Approx. 11:00pm finishing time

Venue: School hall

Contact Name: ________________________
Contact Number: ________________________  No. in Team: ______

A great community gathering event!

Teams between 2-10 people

Family, friends & work colleagues welcome

BYO drinks and nibbles (alcohol permitted)

A child free zone

Tea and Coffee available

Prizes for best dressed team and most highly decorated table

The night is about having a good laugh, a sing-a-long or 3 and making use of all that ‘random’ knowledge

Register your team via form below or by contacting the school. Registrations close Friday 28th Oct.

For more information, contact the school on 62958027

Cost: $5 per person paid on the night
No other fundraising during the night

ST BENEDICT’S TRIVIA NIGHT 2016
Help promote healthy living at school and WIN!

The Mid North Coast Local Health District has launched a photographic competition to get Australian communities thinking and talking about health.

Primary and high school students are encouraged to grab their mobile phone, tablet or trusty camera to capture images that promote ‘Healthy Life Healthy You’ for their chance to win a laptop computer or a family holiday.

**Schools can also share in more than $16,000 in prizes**

*www.yourhealthlinkphotocomp.com.au*

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**www.sutherlandact.softball.org.au**

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*Ever wanted to play Softball, T Ball or Diamond Ball?*

*Do you think your kids would like to have a go?*

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**Season starts next week! Come and Play!**

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The Saturday Morning Junior Competition is played at Mawson Playing Fields from October to March (with a break for summer holidays).

We have teams for school age boys and girls:

- T-Ball (6-9 years)
- Diamond Ball (4 - 5 years)
- Softball (10+)

Contact person for the Morning Junior Competition is Mike Sargeant on 0434 148 544 or email sutherlandsoftball@gmail.com

Sutherland Softball Club is a friendly, family-oriented club that welcomes new members. Check out our website at [www.sutherlandact.softball.org.au](http://www.sutherlandact.softball.org.au)

Either get your friends together and form your own team or come along and we'll find you a team.

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*Did you play softball when you were younger and want to play again?*

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You can register at [www.sutherlandact.softball.org.au](http://www.sutherlandact.softball.org.au)

The Saturday Afternoon Competition is played at Hawker Playing Fields.

We have teams in the competitive and social grades – so any age and experience welcome.

Contact person for the Afternoon Competition is Alan Bain on 0411 674 355 or email sutherlandsoftball@gmail.com

We also have a mixed team in the Thursday evening Slow Pitch Competition at Hawker – which doesn’t require any experience and is lots of fun! Email sutherlandsoftball@gmail.com for more information.
Karate

Footy is over  Summer is coming  now is the time to join

No contracts: pay as you go
Family specials

Children who train in karate are less likely to be bullied and school work and class behaviour can improve
classes continue during school holidays

- Build confidence
- Improve fitness
- Gain self discipline
- Learn self defence

South side classes in:
  Calwell  Conder  Gowrie  Kambah  Narrabundah  Isabella Plains  Wanniassa  Waramanga  Weston  Woden

Classes: northside Canberra, Queanbeyan, Cooma, Goulburn, Yass

contact Wendy 0406 375 091
wendy.gkr@gmail.com

Fitness with purpose: Learn self defense
ACT RURAL FIRE SERVICE
OPEN DAY & FIELD DAY

Sunday 23 October 2016 from 10am till 3pm

All you need to know about bushfire in the one place and meet the people that help protect you each bushfire season

Welcome to Country • Smoking Ceremony • firefighting demonstrations • joy flights • bushfire preparedness tips • jumping castles • face painting • petting zoo • food stalls • free parking • lucky door prize • and more...

ACTRFS helicopter base at Hume, next to Southcare, 68 David Warren Rd off the Monaro Hwy.

PREPARE.ACT.SURVIVE.
This bushfire season.