



St Benedict's Primary School

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NEWSLETTER 11

26th April 2017

Praise the Lord

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school this term. I hope families had a restful time during the school holidays. We have a great term planned including:

- An Athletics Carnival;
- An author's visit from Dr Cameron Stelzer;
- Mother's Day celebrations;
- First Eucharist for some of our Year 3 students;

and of course plenty of reading, writing and publishing, as well as plenty of inquiry learning about new knowledge in Mathematics, Science, History and Social Sciences.

I look forward to the many opportunities that Term 2 will bring for our students.

ANZAC Liturgy

Thank you to Year Four and Ms Ellison who led our ANZAC Liturgy today. It was a solemn commemoration observance, with the students participating with such reverence.

Thank you to Mr John Daunt (father of Sarah, Year 3, Emily, Year 1 and Claire, Kindergarten) who gave the

address and spoke of this year marking the 102nd anniversary of the ANZAC landings at Gallipoli. Mr Daunt spoke not only about the ANZACs, but the role of the military and their families during war and peacekeeping times.



Enrolment period

Enrolment period begins next week and continues for the next four weeks. This is the time to enrol children for high school, primary school and preschool. It is a wonderful time of year because it is a time to watch the Year 6 students take tours with parents and families and see first-hand the care and concern they show for welcoming our guests and helping them feel comfortable. It's also so lovely to hear how proud they are of their school and the enthusiasm they have for their learning. If you would like to enrol a sibling into Kinder

Nurturing personal and academic growth...

...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.

next year please collect an enrolment form from the Front Office. We will be holding Open Days and Open Evenings at the following times;

- Tuesday 2nd May 9am - 11am
- Wednesday 3rd May 3.30pm - 5.30pm
- Thursday 4th May 9am – 11am and 5pm – 7pm
- Tuesday 9th May 3.30pm – 5.30pm

NAPLAN

In two weeks our Year 3 and 5 students will sit the national NAPLAN tests in Literacy and Numeracy.

Our school was going to move to online testing for NAPLAN this year. Unfortunately we have been advised that there are technical issues with the testing system that cannot be adequately resolved before the May NAPLAN dates. Therefore, no schools in the ACT will use online testing this year.

For 2017 this means NAPLAN tests will be done with pencil and paper as our school has done in previous years. Most of our Year 5 students have experienced this previously and are ready to engage in them. It is a new experience for our Year 3 students and their teachers are preparing them well; building their confidence and capacity to engage fully with these compulsory tests.

If parents are concerned about their child participating in NAPLAN, please contact your son or daughter's teacher to discuss the options available.

School Grounds Working Bee

This Saturday 29th April between 8am and 12pm the P&F Grounds & Maintenance committee will be running a working bee. Some of the jobs that they are hoping to achieve include;

- Erecting a basketball post
- Spreading mulch on garden beds
- Cleaning up weeds around the school
- Painting the courtyard wall
- Cleaning up of storage areas

Many hands make light work, yet at this stage we have had no volunteers. If you are able to spare an hour of your time on Saturday it would be greatly appreciated.

Love Your Sister Big Heart Project

Next Friday 5th May St Benedict's will be having a *Five Cent Friday*. Students are invited to bring a donation of coins which will be added to their class collection tin. On the day there will be special competitions to see which class makes the longest line, the largest heart and raises the most money. All donations will be given to *Love Your Sister* at the "Big Heart Project" on Wednesday 10th May. All money raised by the *Love Your Sister* foundation is given directly to the Garvan Institute, who do research into cancer and are working hard to find a cure for this horrible disease. Students are encouraged to make a donation next Friday and wear free clothes.

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

Thank you to Year Three for your prayerful reading and leadership during our First Friday Mass on the last day of last term.

Easter Liturgies

Our second Easter liturgy, focusing on Jesus' resurrection, will be this Friday at 10:30am in our school hall. All families are warmly invited to join us for this joyous celebration of Easter.

ANZAC Commemoration

Today our school community paused for our ANZAC commemoration. Thank you to all those who joined us for this special service, especially our serving and past members of the Australian Defence Force. Well done Year Four on a wonderful liturgy.



First Friday Mass

Next Friday, 5th May, will be our First Friday Mass for the month of May. Year Four are very busy preparing to lead us in this Eucharistic celebration. It will focus on Mary, mother of God and all mothers. All members of our community are invited to join with us to celebrate this Mass at 10:00 in the St Benedict's Church. Morning tea afterwards will be in the school Library.

Five Cent Friday

Next Friday, 5th May, will also be our St Benedict's Five Cent Friday. This special day will be about raising money for cancer research. We are looking to support the *Love Your Sister* foundation, and through them the Garvan Institute, who do research into cancer and are hoping to find a cure so nobody needs to die from this disease any more.

Students are invited to bring as many coins as possible in to their class. There are collection tins in each classroom. On Friday there will be special competitions for which class makes the longest line, the largest heart and raises the most money. All money will be given to *Love Your Sister* at the "Big Heart Project" on Wednesday 10th May.

Meaghan Younger

Religious Education Coordinator

P&F News

Mothers' Day Stall

Please bring donated gifts to the value of \$5 by Friday 5th May for the stall. Please return the volunteer slip to the school by Monday 8th May if you can help with the stall.

St Benedicts P&F are raising funds for improvements to the outdoor lunch area for students, and for classroom equipment.

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!

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/23231n>

The advertisement features a dark blue background on the left with the text "We're fundraising with entertainment™" in white. On the right, a family of four (a man, a woman, and two children) is shown reading a book together. Below this, a stack of Entertainment Book Membership boxes, event vouchers, and credit cards is displayed next to the word "OR" and four smartphones showing the Entertainment Book app interface. At the bottom, a gold button reads "ORDER FROM US TODAY!".

School News

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

Every year, tens of thousands students across the ACT participate in the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge. It is an additional opportunity to celebrate reading, promote a love of literature and help children discover the joy reading can bring.

The Challenge for every student is to **read 15 books**. Students can make their own book choices, including novels, non-fiction, poetry etc. All books read count, including those read in class Literacy time or as home reading. These books will be recorded on a specific reading log and signed off by class teachers. We are aiming for every student at St Benedict's to complete this challenge.

To get the most out of the Challenge, try choosing books from different genres, sharing your favourite books and stories with your classmates, or exceeding the 15 books set by the Challenge. By participating, students can win book vouchers for the school library.

Join the Challenge and marvel at all the journeys reading can take you on!



Weekly Notes

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



- Nominations – School Board – Due by Friday 28th April
- NAPLAN – Changes Yr3 & Yr5 Students
- Working Bee – Saturday 29th April
- First Day Byte – Term 2

Dates to Remember

- ✓ 28th April – Easter Liturgy – Resurrection 10.30am (all welcome)
- ✓ 28th April – Friday Assembly 2.40pm - Hall
- ✓ 1st May – 19th May – Enrolment Period
- ✓ 2nd May - Open Day 9am-11am
- ✓ 3rd May – Open Day 3.30pm-5.30pm
- ✓ 2nd May – School Board AGM meeting, 6pm
- ✓ 4th May – Open Day 9am -11am and 5pm - 7pm
- ✓ 5th May – First Friday Mass – Mother’s Day Mass 10.30am (all welcome)
- ✓ 12th May – Mothers’ Day Stall (Helpers Required)

Happy Birthday to the children at St Benedict’s who celebrate their special day this week: Celeste M, Gabriella S, Elvy B and Obi O



Ways of Being Awards



Congratulations to all the students whom received an award at the end of Term 1 for Being Welcoming. These students all showed the spirit of St Benedict’s. Well Done!

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.



Canteen

THURSDAY, 27th APRIL 9.00am – 11.30am



HELPERS REQUIRED
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11.30am – 2.00pm
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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

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Parish News

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

Weekend Mass Times

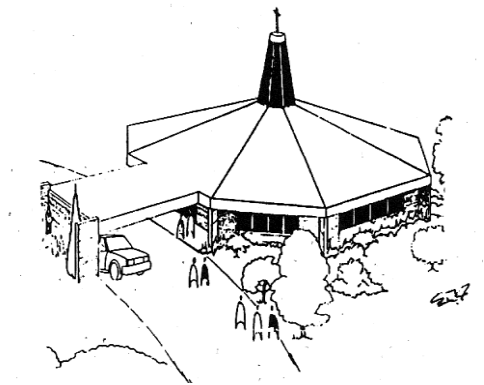
Saturday 6.00pm

Sunday 9.00am

Youth Mass 7.00pm

Charismatic Mass 7.00pm (last Sunday of the Month)

Baptisms: 11.00am, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month



Wednesday 26 April
Try a Day at St Clare's

Become a St Clare's girl for the day! All prospective Year 7, 2018 students are invited to experience the exciting and enriching opportunities that St Clare's has to offer. Please register online at www.stcc.act.edu.au

Thursday 27 April
Open Evening (4.30 pm to 7.30 pm)

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all prospective students and their families to visit the College during our Open Evening. The Principal's address will commence at 6 pm in the College Hall and school tours will be conducted throughout the evening.

Monday 15 May
Year 11, 2018 Information Evening (6 pm to 7 pm)

Discover the many courses and leadership opportunities available for senior students at St Clare's. New and continuing students are invited to attend.

“ Everyday when you walk into St Clare's College you know you're about to walk into a place of enthusiasm, learning, fun and most of all wisdom. **”**

Arabella Haskins Year 9

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*Welcome to our
Spirited Learning Community*