



# St Benedict's Primary School

Tallara Parkway  
NARRABUNDAH, ACT, 2604

Ph: 02 6295 8027

Email: [Office.StBenedicts@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Office.StBenedicts@cg.catholic.edu.au)

 @StBenedicts2604

## NEWSLETTER 4

28<sup>th</sup> February 2018

*Let mercy live among us*

## PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Swimming Carnival

It was an outstanding day at the Swimming Carnival last Thursday. It ran extremely well, with time being made up after a delay due to buses. So many of our students were courageous and attempted events they hadn't considered before.



The most memorable moment for me was when I witnessed some of our Year 5 and 6 swimmers finish their race and then turn and cheer on their competitors who were still completing the race. I swelled with pride at their absolute passion for encouraging others. They weren't the only ones either. So many boys and girls supported each other throughout the day. I am very proud of our students. More than you can imagine.

Thank you to the staff who operated as a fantastic team and also to the many parents who assisted. Without you we genuinely couldn't have run the day. Thank you. Thank you to Ms Ellison and Miss Walshe for all their organisation of the day.

Students will receive ribbons at next week's Assembly. Ribbons will also be given for those who placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> in the 50m, 100m and 200m events. Selections for the St Benedict's team at the South Weston PSSA carnival will be announced early next week and are based on qualifying times and not place ribbons received.

### Interim Reports and Three Way Conferences

Students will bring home their interim reports this Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March. As mentioned in the *General School Information 2018* note, this year we would like to change the structure of our reporting model, moving to a model that encourages student and parent engagement, and celebration of achievement. As part of this change we have moved the Three Way Conferences to earlier in the year and they will now take place next week, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Optional Parent/Teacher Interviews will be offered on two occasions later in the year when the semester reports are sent home. A note was sent home yesterday regarding booking a time for Three Way Conferences.

*Nurturing personal and academic growth...*

*...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.*

## **Learning Potential**

Last year I shared with you the Learning Potential App and the Learning Potential Resources website and feel it is worthy of sharing again. The free app for parents and carers contains useful ways parents and carers can be more involved with their child's learning. Research indicates that when parents and carers are involved in their children's learning, it can have very positive impacts on education outcomes. The app allows you to include your child's age and filter the information so that you only see the information that relates directly to the age of your children.



Launched in February 2017 the Learning Potential Resources website provides parents of primary school children with ideas, activities, games and videos to help support their children with literacy and numeracy skills. The website shows how to turn everyday activities like cooking, watering the garden or walking the dog into fun and interactive learning opportunities. It supports the Australian Curriculum for primary school and is structured in three main sections:

- 'everyday ideas' showing parents how to practise literacy and numeracy skills with their child during everyday life.
- 'practise together' articles giving parents ideas about how they can reinforce literacy and numeracy skills their child is learning at school.
- 'practise online' activities, including online games and videos that parents and children can do together to practice these same skills.

The Learning Potential Resources website was created by Education Services Australia with funding from the Australian Government. View it at [www.learningpotential.edu.au](http://www.learningpotential.edu.au).

## **Lockdown and Evacuation Procedures**

Thank you to all parents and visitors who have embraced the change to the locking of the gate next to the carpark and are accessing the school via the Front Office between 9am - 3pm. As mentioned in last week's newsletter the school with the support of the school board is reviewing all of our school policies and procedures in preparation for registration. As part of our review of our lockdown and evacuation policy we have made the decision to lock the gate next to the carpark during the school day and ask that all parents and visitors access the school through the front of the school and the Front Office between 9am – 3pm. This is to ensure that the only access to our school is via the Front Office and that all visitors to our school sign in at the Front Office and any student is signed in or out. The gate will be locked at 9am and opened again at 3pm. Thank you for your support with this change.

## **Disco**

There has been a change of date for the school disco. The disco will now take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. A note will go home shortly.

Thank you for your ongoing care and partnership in your child's learning.

God Bless.

Rachel Smith  
Principal

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE



### Lent

A special Lenten Calendar of Kindness has been sent home with your child this week. The calendar includes an act of kindness for your child to do each day. We ask that families encourage their children to participate in our school 40 Days of Kindness to help us prepare as a community for the death and resurrection of Jesus.



### Sacraments

Enrolments for our Sacramental Programs of Reconciliation and Eucharist have now been finalised. A home program will be distributed at the Reconciliation Retreat this Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March to provide support for parents in preparing their child for the sacraments.

**IMPORTANT:** the date for the Sacrament of **First Eucharist is confirmed for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July** (yes, the original date). We apologise for any confusion that this has caused. Thank you for your understanding.

### First Friday Mass



1/2 Blue will be leading Whole School Mass this Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Mass is held in the St Benedict's Church from 10:00am. Families are warmly invited to join us for this liturgical celebration. Morning tea will be provided by the families of students in Years 1/2 Blue. Parents are invited to stay after Mass for morning tea and a chat with Clergy and Staff in the Library. Parents of the hosting class are welcome to bring their child along to the morning tea.

### Morning Assembly

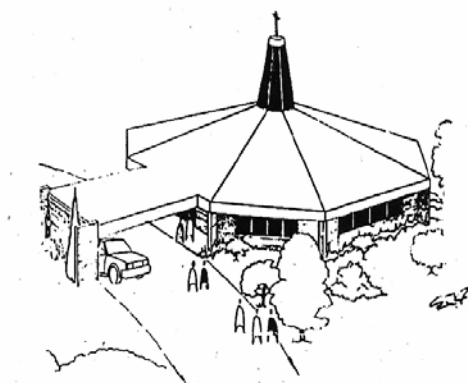
At morning assembly there is now a white basket with St Benedict's School Prayer cards inside. Parents and carers are welcome to take one of these on arrival to assist in saying the School Prayer and then return them to the basket afterwards.

## 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 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays of the Month

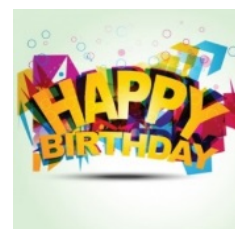


## Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool is open every Thursday and Friday between 2.50pm to 3.15pm by appointment. Please inform Mrs McRae at the front office.



**Happy Birthday** to the children who celebrate their special day this week: Taylah G, Alain K, Amelia J and Mia B.



## Merit Certificate Recipients

<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Claire C and Bryce T
<b>1/2Blue</b>	Frederick H and Ruby S
<b>1/2Gold</b>	Celeste M and Mia T
<b>3/4Blue</b>	Ari B, Lucia M and Fionn L
<b>3/4Gold</b>	William C, Matthew S and Claudia K
<b>5/6Blue</b>	Gabriel D and Mia B
<b>5/6Gold</b>	Imogen B and Julia N Sports Leaders

## Growth Mind Set Awards

<b>KINDERGARTEN</b>	Claire C and Bryce T
<b>1/2Blue</b>	Isadora N
<b>1/2Gold</b>	Lalia D
<b>3/4Blue</b>	Olive J
<b>3/4Gold</b>	Claudia K
<b>5/6Blue</b>	Teresa D
<b>5/6Gold</b>	Lilly M

## Weekly Notes

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

- 1/2 Blue Class Mass
- Reconciliation Preparation & Celebration
- Year 5/6 Camp – Final Info
- School Calendar
- Class Parent Representative – Due by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March
- Infant Parent Reading Info Sessions

Notes on the website only:

- 40 Days of Lent -

**All notes can be found on the website, please check regularly.**

## Dates to Remember

- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Whole School Mass, 10am
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Interim Reports sent home
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> March – First Reconciliation Retreat
- ✓ 12<sup>th</sup> March – Canberra Day Public Holiday
- ✓ 13<sup>th</sup> March - School Board Meeting, 6pm
- ✓ 18<sup>th</sup> March – P&F Paint It Up
- ✓ 20<sup>th</sup> March – Parent & Friends Meeting, 6.30pm
- ✓ 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Disco
- ✓ 24<sup>th</sup> March – First Reconciliation & Yr3 Parish Mass, 9am (all welcome)

## Canteen

**THURSDAY, 1 March** 9.00am – 11.30am  
HELPERS REQUIRED  
11.30am – 2.00pm  
HELPERS REQUIRED

**FRIDAY, 2 March** 9.00am – 11.30am  
HELPERS REQUIRED  
11.30am – 2.00pm  
HELPERS REQUIRED



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your understanding with no canteen last week, I am now back on deck and all systems are go. So if you have anytime available I look forward to working with you.

Yours and Tongs

Cara Cook, Canteen Manager





## Attention Kindergarten Parents!



### Kindergarten Health Checks are happening this year!

All kindergarten students in the ACT are eligible to receive a FREE health check



VISION CHECK



HEARING CHECK



HEIGHT, WEIGHT AND  
BODY MASS INDEX (BMI)



If you have not returned your child's Kindergarten Health Check Consent and Questionnaire



**FIND** — Information packs will be sent home early in Term 1



**SIGN** — Complete The Kindergarten Health Check Consent And Questionnaire



**RETURN** — To your school by 7th March 2018

Your school can provide you with the date of the health check.



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[www.health.act.gov.au](http://www.health.act.gov.au) | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au) | Enquiries: Canberra 13ACT1 or 132281