Dear St Benedict’s Community,

**Congratulations on Term 2**
At the end of every term I want to say ‘what a big term it has been’, but really it is always like that for schools. Sometimes friends and family members poke fun about “what an easy life it is to be a teacher with all of those holidays”.

I know that many of you see that for 10 weeks at a time the school day never really ends, the weekend is spent preparing for the week ahead and that holidays are used to plan and prepare for the coming term because if you don’t, you will never really catch up once the first day of starts. We’re like middle distance runners rather than marathon runners. Schools ‘go hard’ for ten weeks at a time and then slow the pace right down for two weeks in between terms to recoup. I’m sure families appreciate the slowing down as well.

Thank you to all of our parents for your ongoing support for your child’s learning this term. We have had quite a number of publication celebrations, exhibits for research projects, presentations of student achievement, masses, exhibitions of art and drop-in times. It is always wonderful to have your support in recognising students’ achievements. The children really appreciate your interest and support.

**School Reports & Parent-Teacher Interviews**
I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the teachers who have spent many weeks assessing and writing reports about their students. It takes countless hours to collect the valuable data to make professional judgements about student progress. While it is an ongoing practice of teachers to assess how students are achieving it also takes a great deal of time and energy to collate, moderate and then communicate this to parents succinctly and effectively.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the extra time for Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 teachers who have met with almost all parents in their multi-age classes rather than just those in their home rooms. Most parents of students from K-6 with a Personal Plan (Individual Learning Plan) will have also had longer meetings with teachers at other times in recent weeks.

This extra time and attention for each child reflects the commitment and dedication of all our teachers to the students in their care.
Boorowa Touch Football & Netball Competition

The students who travelled as Netball and Touch Football teams to Boorowa last year had such a great time together. This year we have nearly enough participants to fill a Touch and a Netball Team for both Year 3/4 and Year 5/6. If there are any students that are in Years 3-6 that want to participate then please let Ms Rachel Smith know (Rachel.Smith@cg.catholic.edu.au) or print out an Expression of Interest Form from the school website and return it before the end of the week.

Results of the Communication Survey

Last night the School Board examined the data received through our Communication Survey. There were 23 responders. Thank you to the parents who did respond. Your feedback has been carefully considered by the School Board. Some of the results include:

Which of the current communication strategies used by the school do you use the most for obtaining information important to you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Website</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter (digital)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter (hard)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skoolbag app</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which of the following forms of communication would you prefer to use for obtaining general school news?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communication Method</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School website</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skoolbag app</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter (digital)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>56.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter (hard)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text message</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which of the following forms of communication would you prefer to use for obtaining last minute notification of changes?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communication Method</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School website</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skoolbag app</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter (digital)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter (hard)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Text message</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>60.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
After a very fruitful discussion the School Board has made the following suggestions:

- re-structure and re-design the school website with a greater focus on prospective families rather than current families;
- expand the skoolbag app to contain more information for current families for easy access;
- continue with producing a Newsletter as a rich source of information about the school;
- continue to provide a hardcopy of the Newsletter at the Front Office and email the link to the Newsletter; and,
- develop a school Facebook page to increase the connection between our school and the community.

I thank the School Board members for the time taken to review the current communication strategies and provide the parent perspective on ways that we can improve these for all.

I wish everyone a warm and cosy school holidays and look forward to seeing you all on the first day of term.

God Bless,

Matthew Garton
Principal

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE
First Communion

Sebastian
Teresa
Johny

Layla
Grace
Maxima

Claudia
Marcello
David

Brooke
John
Ventura

Joel
Jacinta

Congratulations to our students who received Communion for the first time last Sunday. May they always grow in love and be strengthened through the Eucharist. Thank you to all the families for your work in preparing the children and making Sunday such a special day.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday

Sunday 3 July is Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. St Benedict’s Parish is fortunate to be hosting the Diocesan Mass for this special day. Bishop Prowse will be the celebrant for the 9:00am Mass, focusing on our Indigenous brothers and sisters and our shared journey of reconciliation. I understand it is the first Sunday of the mid-year school holidays but it would be a wonderful community building opportunity to make a special effort for our families of St Benedict’s School to attend the 9:00am Mass on Sunday 3rd July and be a part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.
**St Benedict’s Day**

Mass will begin at 10:00am this Friday to celebrate St Benedict’s Day. Students across the school are involved with different parts of the Mass. All students and staff, new to the school since last St Benedict’s Day, will receive their own St Benedict’s medal at this Mass. Many students often choose to wear their medals this day. Please make sure they are securely pinned to shirts or jumpers if you wish to wear you medal on Friday. All members of our St Benedict’s community are warmly invited to take part in our Feast Day Mass for 2016.

**Confirmation**

A reminder that all enrolments for Confirmation in St Benedict’s Parish in 2016 are due in by 21st July. Preparation dates for Confirmation are as below. Father Tony Percy will celebrate Confirmation in the St Benedict’s Parish on Saturday 17th September at the 6:00pm Mass.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Attending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 July</td>
<td>6:00pm</td>
<td>Confirmation Information Session</td>
<td>Father Greg Collins Wing</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 August</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Mass &amp; Confirmation Preparation</td>
<td>Church then Father Greg Collins Wing</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 August</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Mass &amp; Confirmation Preparation</td>
<td>Church then Father Greg Collins Wing</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 September</td>
<td>9:00 – 11:00am</td>
<td>Mass &amp; Confirmation Preparation</td>
<td>Church then Father Greg Collins Wing</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 September</td>
<td>6:00 – 7:30pm</td>
<td>Confirmation Mass</td>
<td>St Benedict’s Church</td>
<td>Candidates &amp; Families &amp; Parish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meaghan Younger  
*Religious Education Coordinator*

**SCHOOL EVENTS**

**Athletics Carnival**

Last Thursday we held our annual Athletics Carnival at the excellent facilities at the Woden Athletics field. While the weather was quite brisk, it was in our opinion the best Athletics Carnival in years. All students were up and kept active while participating in a range of events and activities. Our sports leaders, Reimer, Olivia, Lachlan, Dakota, Justin and Djanaya were exemplary in preparing and running games to engage our diverse range of students. The fantastic atmosphere and team spirit was well and truly alive all through the carnival and filled us with great pride to be a part of our St Benedict’s community.
Our day would not have been possible without the help of our families and we would like to thank the following people:

Robert Rajic  
Thy Buckland  
Hannah Norgrove  
Tim Smith  
Sylvie Du fault  
Sonia Domitrak  
Nadia Steel  
Nikki Baccon  
Jules Baggoley  
Karim Aravind  
Barbara Cox  
Ash Marriott  
Felicity Channing  
Tony Liston

Due to the timing of the carnival, we were conscious of the challenge in awarding place ribbons at the assembly on the last day of school. With the help of our Sports leaders we were able to complete the enormous task of having the ribbons ready to hand out at our Week 9 assembly. We apologise if this has caused any distress for families who had made plans to attend the advertised assembly in Week 10.

We offer our warmest congratulations to the following students who received a place ribbon for their events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Matthew B</th>
<th>Lachlan O</th>
<th>Justin T</th>
<th>Reimer DG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amber T</td>
<td>Rose LB</td>
<td>Georgina T</td>
<td>Dakota K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoebe M</td>
<td>Alexander M</td>
<td>Tomas C</td>
<td>Nandan T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mason T</td>
<td>Djanaya B</td>
<td>Josephine S</td>
<td>Sophie B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alyssa T</td>
<td>Mia C</td>
<td>Bridie L</td>
<td>Lewis A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac D</td>
<td>Brendan M</td>
<td>Willoughby J</td>
<td>Sophia M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilly M</td>
<td>April AM</td>
<td>Amshu S</td>
<td>Chole DJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imogen B</td>
<td>David T</td>
<td>Jordan C</td>
<td>Sebastian B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cara H</td>
<td>Taylah G</td>
<td>Keira M</td>
<td>Carla C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcello M</td>
<td>Addison CH</td>
<td>Kyle Q</td>
<td>Samuel S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventura S</td>
<td>Obi O</td>
<td>Troy J</td>
<td>Teresa DP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabella S</td>
<td>Lailani A</td>
<td>Emily S</td>
<td>Brigid N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabriella S</td>
<td>Matthew S</td>
<td>Michael T</td>
<td>Fionn L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver J</td>
<td>Oliver M</td>
<td>James N</td>
<td>William C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jade C</td>
<td>Amelia C</td>
<td>Isobel R</td>
<td>Zella K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith B</td>
<td>Isabelle H</td>
<td>Ria C</td>
<td>Lucia M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archer B</td>
<td>Kavin A</td>
<td>Erik E</td>
<td>Zack W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruby S</td>
<td>Tessa P</td>
<td>Sophia M</td>
<td>Alannah C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amelia J</td>
<td>Jillian H</td>
<td>Shanae R</td>
<td>James H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua L</td>
<td>Grace L</td>
<td>Matthew S</td>
<td>Brooke L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith Q</td>
<td>Arran S</td>
<td>Anica K</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alain K</td>
<td>Mia B</td>
<td>Lara H</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mia N</td>
<td>Rose G</td>
<td>Johny M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia R</td>
<td>Christopher B</td>
<td>Maxime D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCHOOL NOTICES

Happy Birthday to the following children who celebrate their special day this week and during the holidays: Edith Q, Keira M, shanae R, Alyssa T, Kyle Q, Angus C, William C, David T, Sanuel S and Laia D

Weekly Notes
The following notes have gone home this week and are currently on the website.
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Mass
- Rostrum Semi Final 2016

Dates to Remember
✓ 1st July – Last Day of Term 2
✓ 18th July – First Day of Term 3
✓ 19th July – Rostrum Semi Final 6.00pm – 8.30pm

Merit Certificates Recipients
KINDERGARTEN Erik E and Lalia D
YEAR 2 Juach G, Hamish M and Claudia K
YEAR 3/4E Carla C, Amshu S and Cara H
YEAR 3/4B Zara S and Keira M
YEAR 5/6S Slade B and Lewis A
YEAR 5/6Y Lauren C, Reimer D, Madeleine G and Giselle M
ITALIAN Peter C, Edith B, and Mikayla T

Canteen
FRIDAY, 1 JULY 9.00am – 11.30am
 Helpers Needed
 Helpers Needed

11.30am – 2.00pm
 Helpers Needed

Thank you for all helpers that have given some time over the last 2 Terms your help has been invaluable. The Term 3 Canteen Roster will be sent home Week 1 of next term. All help is greatly appreciated.
Nancy Lyons, Canteen Manager

Lost Property
All lost property is now on display in the canteen area. Items not collected by Friday will be washed and returned to the Clothing Pool and available for sale in the Clothing Pool. Please take some time to have a quick look over the tables.

House Point Winners
The points for Week 9, Term 2 were Murramai 2,260, Arakoola 2,050 and Tangara 2,775.

At the end of Week 9, Term 2 the year totals were:
Murramai 29,473, Arakoola 28,499 and Tangara 31,375.

CONGRATULATIONS to this week’s winners: Tangara 2,775!

Well done to Year 3/4B who earned the most house points (2,750)!
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Parish News
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm
Phone: 62957879

Special Masses:
Sunday 3rd July 9.00am – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Mass with Archbishop Prowse and members of the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

Kingdom Kids Ministry: Next Mass 10th July. Families are warmly invited to the 9am Mass and children are welcomed and encourage to join in the activities of Kingdom Kids. Enquires can be made to Anita or email her on kingdomkidsministry01gmail.com. Remember the prayer wall for those intentions you want the children to pray for.

Life in the Spirit seminar: Activate the gifts of the Holy Spirit in your life! You are very welcome to attend this free, life-changing seminar each Wednesday evening from 6th July to 10th August. At St Peter Chanel’s parish room, Weston Street, Yarralumla ACT 7.00pm to 9.30pm. Presented by the Good Shepherd prayer group and guest speakers. For more information: text, WhatsApp or call Susanna 0419902293 or Gabriel 0432082642.

NAIDOC Week Celebration – Tuesday 5 July – 11.00am – 2.00pm
Marymead together with several other community organisations are celebrating NAIDOC Week (3-10 July) at Marymead. On 5 July from 11.00am – 2.00pm. NAIDOC Week is a time to recognise the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Come along with your friends and family and enjoy this free event, which will feature indigenous displays and stalls, entertainment and a BBQ lunch.

Woden Valley Youth Choir is honoured to be hosting, Grammy award-winning Pacific Boychoir from Oakland, San Francisco, California.

To celebrate this special occasion we warmly invite you and your family to a sound sensation as the two Choirs perform.

WHEN: Tuesday, 19 July 7:00pm to 9:00pm
WHERE: Woden Valley Alliance Church, 81 Namatjira Ave, Waramanga
ENTRY: $10 Adults, $15 Family, at the door.

Marymead
Monster Garage Sale –
Saturday 2 July – 9.00am – 1.00pm
Come along and snap up a bargain at the Monster Garage Sale on Saturday, 2 July from 9.00am - 1.00pm at 255 Goyder Street, Narrabundah. There will be plants, books, craft, toys, bric-a-brac and clothing for sale with all proceeds going to Marymead. Also enjoy the sausage sizzle with sausages proudly donated by our friends at the Griffith Butchery.

Cal BRUTON CLINIC-1 Day
Sunday 3rd July 2016
Venue: Queanbeyan Basketball Stadium
Time: 9-3pm     Cost: $75 includes T-shirt
-Special Guest CJ Bruton

Canberra School of Dancing

CHILDREN’S CLASSES
Latin & Ballroom 4 to 15 years
It’s not just dance we offer:
Children will also:
• Develop coordination skills
• Learn movement to music
• Improve fitness
• Enhance individual and team work skills
• Meet and socialise with others and make new friends.

Next term commences
Friday, 22 July 2016
For more Information:
Phone: 0412 528 436
Visit: www.canberraschoolofdancing1.com.au or Email: canberrarealofdancing@gmail.com

Your first lesson is FREE!!
Sydney Academy of Chess
Woden Holiday Coaching Clinic
Day: Friday 8th July
Time: 9:00am-3:00pm
Location: Canberra Academy of Chess Unit 4, 32 Dundas Court, Phillip ACT
Cost: $50 per workshop
To register - Go to [https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment](https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment) and enter the code 0ISZFKTOI0

Canberra Chess Challenge 11
Day: Friday 15th July 9:30am-3:00pm
Location: Melba Copland Secondary School Corner Copland Dr & Verbrugghen St, Melba
Cost: $30 per player
To register - Go to [https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment](https://sydneyacademyofchess.com.au/payment) and enter the code TKWTOS0JLI
23 June 2016

TO: PARENTS AND CARERS

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: 2016 NATIONALLY CONSISTENT COLLECTION OF DATA ON SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

Catholic schools along with government and Independent schools across Australia will again be participating in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). Our involvement in this process is crucial as it will provide valuable information about supports required for a broad group of students in our schools. The NCCD will enable National and State governments to better target support and resources in schools, this in turn will help Catholic Schools access the support for all students with additional needs.

The NCCD is not limited to students with diagnosed disabilities. It uses a very broad definition of disability, taken from the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, which includes a range of health issues and learning difficulties where schools implement strategies to support students in participating effectively in their learning.

The Data Collection will take place in August. No personal or identifying information about any student will be included, however, if you decide you do not wish information about your child to be included in the NCCD, you are asked to contact your child’s principal to discuss your concerns. If you are still concerned you should request and complete an opt-out form and return to the principal.

More information about the NCCD is available at: http://www.schooldisabilitydatapl.edu.au/

Yours sincerely

Patrick Kelly
Senior Officer Wellbeing & Diversity