



St Benedict's Primary School

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NEWSLETTER 38

Praise the Lord

29th November 2017

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's that time of year in schools where we have our head in two places. We continue to operate in the present, working with families and students, ensuring learning and growth continue to the end. At the same time, we are planning and setting up all that is required for a successful 2018.

Mountain View Aged Care Visit

It is always lovely to hear the excitement from students when they return from an excursion, as they share what they have learnt and enjoyed about their outings, and today was no exception. This morning our Year Five and Year Six students walked to Mountain View Aged Care Home to participate in a healing liturgy and spend time talking with its residents. Our students showed great empathy and enthusiasm as they sat and talked with the residents through morning tea. Whilst the residents were appreciative of the visit our students gained so much more from the experience and were fascinated by the stories they had to share. I believe they cherished the wisdom of the older generation and were in awe of the sprightly 102 year old lady.

Giving Mass

This Friday we celebrate our Giving Mass at 10.00am. It is a perfect opportunity to demonstrate one of our school values, *Compassion*.

Before this Friday students can bring a non-perishable food item to donate to St Vincent de Paul. St Vincent de Paul will collect these donations and use them to assist families in need to have a well-deserved Christmas celebration and meal. Thank you for supporting your children to take action in caring for others in need. Our Liturgical Leaders and Mini-Vinnies group have been preparing for the collection and presentation of these gifts for others at Mass.

Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

Congratulations St Benedict's students on your work this year with the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge. Last Wednesday four students joined Ms Ellison at the National Library to receive three awards for the reading challenge. We have a great school of readers here! Well done! The four students who attended; April, Daniel, Sophia and Gabriella were excellent ambassadors for our school. We were very proud of them.

COSA Showcase

This Friday our school will be showcasing 2 areas at the Archdiocesan Collaborating on Student Achievement Showcase. Alana Quirk will be sharing our assessment, data and student feedback journey and Camille Ellison will be sharing our journey of growth in the areas KidsMatters and building a positive school community.

Staffing News

We are still finalising staffing for 2018. Next Monday, applications close for teaching positions and there will be a selection process and interviews following. We are hoping to announce teachers to classes by the end of next week.

Nurturing personal and academic growth...

...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.

Class groupings of students are currently being determined. Students will find out which class they will belong to in their school report on Friday of Week 9.

Our staff are looking forward to some very exciting work with students next year with the continued focus on an inquiry curriculum and the introduction of more STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) units of work. We look forward to sharing much more with you at the beginning of 2018 when we hold our Open House Information Evening in February.

Celebrate

The Archdiocese publishes a monthly e-bulletin highlighting the many achievements of the staff and students within our Catholic Schools. St Benedict's Primary School has been featured many times this year. This publication is now available to all families. Below is a link if you would like to subscribe to this magazine.

<https://cbrcathed.schoolzineplus.com/news?nid=1>



God Bless

Rachel Smith

Principal

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

Giving Mass

This Friday 1st December is our Giving Mass. This Mass is offered in prayer for all those in need in our local community. We also donate items for Christmas hampers that will, through our local St Vincent de Paul chapter, be given to people in our community for whom treats at Christmas will be an unachievable cost. Our Mini Vinnies group would like to make the following suggestions of items for the hampers:

tinned ham
Christmas crackers
dried fruits
chocolate biscuits
popcorn

tinned pineapple
chocolates
Christmas pudding
cordial
chips

Christmas shortbread
Bottles of softdrink
Christmas cake
gingerbread
lollies

This is by no means an exhaustive list but may help with some ideas of what we are looking for to make Christmas special for people in our local community who have less than we do. It makes it particularly meaningful if children are allowed to be a part of the decision making and purchasing of these items. Please send in all donations to your child's classroom where boxes are ready and waiting to receive your generous gifts. Please do not send donations to the Front Office as there is no space there for these. All Christmas hamper items will be presented to St Vincent de Paul at our Giving Mass on Friday 1st December. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Thanksgiving Morning Tea



Excursion supervision, in-class literacy and numeracy helpers, swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals... the list of things that could not be done without parent (and grandparent / aunt / uncle) support is endless. Our annual Thanksgiving morning tea will be after the Giving Mass on Friday 1st December. All families are invited to enjoy morning tea provided by the staff as our small way of saying thank you for your ongoing support and help throughout the year. St Benedict's is the wonderful community that it is because of the way in which people all pitch in and help out and enjoy being together, working for the good of all our children.

Advent Liturgy

Mrs Tomadini and Kindergarten are very busy preparing for our whole school Advent Liturgy on Friday 8th December. This liturgy will begin at 10:30am and be held in the School Hall. All of Junior Primary are helping to lead this seasonal liturgy. Families are most welcome to join us in the Hall for our Advent Liturgy.

Graduation / End of Year Mass

Our final whole school Mass is always a celebration of the academic year, an opportunity to farewell our Year 6 Leaders and bless the incoming School Leaders for next year. This year's Graduation Mass will be on Tuesday 12th December at 10:00am. We look forward to seeing as many families as possible at this very special Mass.

Meaghan Younger
Religious Education Coordinator

School News

Student Leaders 2018

Congratulations to our Year Five students who soon will become our Student Leaders for 2018. They will be officially blessed and invested into their Leadership roles at the Graduation Mass on Tuesday 12th December. St Benedict's values the contributions made by our Year Six students and honours each as a Student Leader.

The Leadership Teams for 2018 are:

Hospitality	Sports	Liturgical
April	Carla	Lara
Lilly	Matthew	Zara
Taylah	Chloe	

Media	Peer Support	Environmental
Willoughby	Amshu	Molly
Daniel	Sophia	Imogen
Lindsey	Cara	Julia

Beach to Bush



On Friday the 24th of November, St Benedict's Primary took part in a class presentation about ocean and beach safety. In two groups, the Junior Primary and Upper Primary went to the Library before and after recess to learn more about being safe in the water. The library was

decorated with signs, flags and a slideshow on the board. The class was taught by Tarl and Sheryl, lifesavers based in Sydney. They told us about the different signs at the beach, which sea life not to touch while swimming and where you should swim. The lesson was very captivating, as they asked for volunteers. At the end of the lesson we all got to put on a variety of Zinc colours and patterns on our faces. Overall, the class was very informative and enjoyable. We all learned lots and came out with a smile and lots Zinc on our face. – Imogen

I loved “Beach to Bush”! It was very informative and encouraged everyone to understand the signs and about sun safety. They made it fun and interactive, and I enjoyed the fun zinc at the end. It was really fun and overall I had a great time! I know I would love to do it again! - Taylah



Any students who have an artwork entry for the Beach to Bush program, please hand it into the front office by the end of term.

Kindergarten Orientation

We welcomed our 2018 Kindergarten students for their 2nd orientation morning on Wednesday 22nd November. They enjoyed a range of activities and are excited about starting Kindy next year. They also got to meet their Year 5 buddies.



Weekly Notes

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

- Kindy Christmas playdate



Merit Certificate Recipients

Congratulations to those students at last weeks' assembly who were recipients of Merit Awards:

Kinder: Maria C and Abel d B

1 / 2 Blue: Joshua L, Hubert K and Ciru N

1 / 2 Gold: Marissa M and Alain K

3 / 4 Blue: Sam S, Jace C and Keira M

3 / 4 Gold: Juach G and David T

5 / 6 Blue: Carla C and Nandan T

5 / 6 Gold: Lilly M and Tomas C

Happy Birthday to the children at St Benedict's who celebrate their special day this week: James H.



Canteen

Dear Parents, Friends and Carers

Thank you to the parents who assisted in the Tuckshop last week assisting with Nacho Friyay! It was a spectacular success. There were in excess of 90 orders that day. As promised, here is the recipe for our amazing salsa. It will make a great addition to your table as a dip during these summer months I am sure.

St Benedict's Salsa

- 1 can diced tomatoes
- 1tbs olive oil
- ½ red onion finely chopped
- 1 clove of garlic
- ¼ cup of Coriander leaves (I used the partially dehydrated ones available in the fruit and vegetable section of the supermarket and about 1tbs per can of tomatoes), reserving some for
- ½ green capsicum diced.
- ½ cup of corn kernels (frozen is fine)
- 1 can of kidney beans
- Juice from one lime

Method:

1. Put olive oil in a large fry pan, add onion and sweat a little, make sure it is still a little crunchy and retains its beautiful purple colour. Add the garlic, stirring so it doesn't burn.
2. Add the can of tomatoes, corn kernels and kidney beans. Bring to a gentle boil and simmer for 5min
3. Add the green capsicum and coriander simmering for a further 2min.

4. Allow to cool by placing into a bowl, stir it slowly to get more air into it. Cover with a tea towel and put in the fridge for about 30min.
5. Add the lime juice, stir and garnish with spare coriander leaves.

Serve with vegetable sticks, corn chips or your favourite dippers.

As the term draws to a close, the menu will be limited so I can reduce the amount of food purchased and prevent waste at the end of the year. A further notice will appear in next week's newsletter, please keep your eyes peeled.

Enjoy the abundance of summer fruits and vegetables appearing in the shops. Summer really is a special time of year for fresh food in our country.

Have a wonderful week.

Yours in tongs.

Cara Cook, Canteen Manager

Dates to Remember

- ✓ 1st December – Giving Mass 10.00am – all welcome
- ✓ 5th December – School Board 6.00pm
- ✓ 8th December – Ways of Being Assembly, 2.30pm – all welcome
- ✓ 8th December – Semester 2 Reports
- ✓ 12th December – End of Year/Graduation Mass 10.00am
- ✓ 12th December – Yr 6 Revue, 12.00pm
- ✓ 12th December – Yr 6 Graduation Dinner 6.00pm
- ✓ 13th – 14th December – Yr 4 Camp to Sydney

Clothing Pool

Is available each Friday between 2.55pm to 3.15pm by appointment. Please let Belinda at the front office know what you are after. Most items are between \$4.00 and \$10.00.



Lost Property

The lost property box is now overflowing. Over the next two weeks the box will be checked. All labeled items will be returned to students while unlabeled items be washed and given to the clothing pool.



Parish News

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

Website: www.cg.org.au/narrabundah

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

