



St Benedict's Primary School

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NEWSLETTER 9

4th April 2018

Let mercy live among us

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next Thursday, 12th April at 2pm we will have the first of our *Learning Showcases* for the year. The Learning Showcases will provide an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom and look at the great work they have been doing. It will also provide you with the opportunity to sit with your child and revisit the goals they set during their Three Way Conference earlier in the term and work towards setting new goals for Term 2. It is also the perfect time to remember that your child thrives on praise from you. When you recognise the effort your child has put into their school work it boosts their self-confidence, which can result in better academic performance.

There are lots of different ways to give praise, but here are just a few ways that you may like to try.

Try to make some time to regularly talk to your child about their schoolwork. Look for areas they have put effort into and let them know what you like about their work. Make sure you praise the process and not the person. Instead of giving your child praise that is about them as a person, such as *'You are so clever!'* try praising the process they have been through – focus your praise on:

- the strategy your child used, such as *"You used some great descriptive words in that story!"*
- the effort they put into their work, such as *"I can tell you tried really hard to make your writing neat in your workbook."*

When giving your child authentic praise, one of the most important things to remember is to be specific. Try to pinpoint exactly what your child has done that you like rather than making general statements. For example instead of saying, *"What a great picture!"* you could say something like *"It was clever of you to make the koala have fluffy ears in this picture."*

Authentic praise means being genuine and sincere about what you are praising your child for. Try not to praise your child when you don't mean it, or give your child praise that is over-the-top, like *"That's the best writing I've ever seen!"* Instead, try to offer your child authentic praise for real achievements, for example, *"I like how you wrote the letter B, you've stayed on the line and you've written the letter in the right direction."*

Praise is most effective when it is given immediately – but try not to interrupt your child when they are concentrating on an activity, as that can make them lose their focus and reduce their motivation to continue on with what they were doing. Instead, wait until they are finished and praise them for their effort when they

Nurturing personal and academic growth...

...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.

are done, for example, *“Gosh, I could see you were really concentrating on your maths homework this afternoon. Well done.”*

Recognising your child’s efforts through authentic praise will help with your child’s self-esteem and help them to achieve the best possible learning outcomes.

God Bless.



Rachel Smith
Principal

Principal’s Notes

Congratulations

Congratulations to Breena Walshe, one of our teachers, who was baptized into the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil mass on Saturday night. Miss Walshe has been participating in the RCIA program through the parish over several months.

Holy Week Liturgies and Easter Liturgy

Thank you to all the staff and students from Years 1/2 Blue, Year 4 and Year 6 for their beautiful and reverent portrayal of the events of Holy Week and the Resurrection. The liturgies were prayerful and sacred experiences for all involved.

Working Bee this Saturday

Don’t forget our working bee is on this Saturday 7th of April, 8am-12pm. All help would be greatly appreciated. Please come along even if you are only able to help for an hour. Remember, many hands make light work!

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

Sacraments



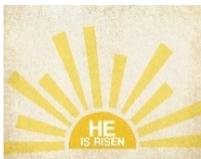
Students who are continuing the Sacramental Home Program in preparation for the Sacrament of First Eucharist are reminded to bring their completed Precious Memories Ribbons activity to Mass this weekend.

St Benedict’s Parish Mass Times:

Saturday 7th April, 8:00am or 6:00pm

Sunday 8th April, 9:00am or 7:00pm (Youth Mass)

Easter Liturgies



Thank you to all the students and teachers who presented the Easter Story through reflective and heart-felt liturgies. It was a wonderful spiritual journey of community prayer that deepened our understanding of the passion, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. We pray that this Easter season brings love, joy and hope to all.

Project Compassion



Please return your Project Compassion donation boxes to school by Friday Week 9 (6th April). Your generous donations will be used to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity for many people around the world. For more information regarding Project Compassion please visit

<http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion>

First Friday Mass



Year 5 Gold and Blue will be leading our school community in Mass this Friday 6th April. 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 5 Gold and Blue. Parents are invited to stay after Mass for morning tea and a chat with Staff in the Library. Parents of the hosting class are welcome to bring their child along to the morning tea.

Global School Partners



This Friday Simon Carroll, founder of Global School Partners, will be visiting our school to speak to students about our partner school Gesore Preparatory School. The purpose of this visit is to develop our student's awareness and understanding of the relationship between developing and developed nations. Our students will begin to gain an understanding of the life and culture of the students at Gesore Preparatory School and the realisation that they can make a difference to the lives of others. We welcome Simon as a partner in leading our school community in global mission.

For more information about Global School Partners please visit <http://www.globalschoolpartners.org.au/>

Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool will be open this Thursday and Friday by appointment only. If you require any items please let Belinda at the front office know.



Lost Property

This week and next week the lost property box will continue to be slowly cleared, so now is the opportunity to have a look before everything is taken cleaned and generously donated to either St Vincent de Paul or the school clothing pool for repurchasing.

Happy Birthday to the children who celebrate their special day this week: Joanna M and Violeta B.



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

- Free children influenza vaccine

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



Dates to Remember

- ✓ 6th April – Whole School Mass, 10.00am (all welcome – morning tea after in the Library)
- ✓ 7th April – P&F Working Bee, 8.00am to 12noon
- ✓ 8th April – Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival
- ✓ 10th April – School Board Meeting, 6.00pm
- ✓ 11th April – Cross Country – Whole school event
- ✓ 12th April – Learning Showcase, 2.00pm (all welcome)
- ✓ 13th April – Outdoor Education Day
- ✓ 13th April – Last day Term 1

Coles – Sports for Schools

Thank you to all the wonderful families and extended families that have bought up big at Coles and dropped their vouchers off. If you have any vouchers still at home could you please send them into school this week as we will need to send the vouchers off on Monday morning.

Canteen

THURSDAY, 5 April **9.00am – 11.30am**
HELPERS REQUIRED
11.30am – 2.00pm
HELPERS REQUIRED

FRIDAY, 6 April **9.00am – 11.30am**
HELPERS REQUIRED
11.30am – 2.00pm
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Hello everyone.

I have surfaced, survived the mid-semester exam and I am so grateful for the well-wishes from those who got in contact either directly or via the school. I actually walked out of the exam feeling quite good, so here is hoping I didn't do just OK on the Biology exam. The end of the semester is a little



way off, and will creep up on me before I know it. That will be three subjects...

My education journey has been fascinating, and one I am so pleased I have embarked upon at the start of 2017. Learning more about nourishing and feeding people of all ages is amazing. There is a significant difference between feeding and nourishing: Feeding sustains the person to continue with activities for the day; Nourishing feeds the soul. Although I feed, I aim to nourish the children and the staff at the school too.

As the term comes to an end, so will the lovely summery-styled foods that go with it. Never fear, they will be back in Term Four. However, the Winter Menu will be released in next weeks' newsletter with a twist on an old favourite and maybe one or two newish type things. In order to make this possible, I am wondering if any of you amazing individuals would be willing to assist in the preparation of the new items in the first week or two back at school? In order for me to continue making such delicious homemade/home style items I do need the occasional bit of help. If you have any capacity to assist, I would be very grateful and will make sure the coffee pot is on the stove ready to go to sustain and nourish us too.

Yours in tongs.

Cara Cook, Canteen Manager