



# St Benedict's Primary School

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## NEWSLETTER 39

*Praise the Lord*

**6<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

### PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last two weeks of the year are an extremely busy time for the staff as they finalise the school reports ready to be sent home with students on Friday and finalise the class lists for 2018. Add to that the organisation of end of year masses, liturgies, graduations, assemblies, camps and fun days. A big thank you to all the staff for the extra hours they are putting into finishing off the year on a high note.

#### St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper Drive and Giving Mass

I am always so thankful and touched by the ongoing generosity of our families when it comes to helping those in need in the wider community. Last week we were inundated by donations of Christmas hamper items which will help to make Christmas a little bit brighter for those in need this Christmas. The donations were given to members of St Vincent de Paul at last Friday's giving mass and they were extremely grateful. Thank you for your overwhelming support, kindness and generosity for those in need in our wider community. Thank you also to those who were able to attend the Giving Mass and morning tea last Friday morning.

#### Staffing

I am pleased to announce Ms Natalie Wright has been successful in gaining a leadership position at St Benedict's from 2018 as Religious Education Coordinator. Ms Wright, who holds a Masters in Theology, is currently a teacher at Good Shepherd, Amaroo and has had previous acting experience as a Religious Education Coordinator within the school. In 2014 Ms Wright received a Recognition of Excellence Award from Catholic Education for Religious Education and Faith Formation. In 2013 she was also chosen as one of two teachers to represent the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Catholic Education at the World Youth Day Pilgrimage to Chile and Brazil. In 2010 Ms Wright represented the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn Catholic Education and Sisters of St Joseph on the Rome Pilgrimage for the Canonisation of Mary MacKillop. I know you will join with me in welcoming Ms Wright into our community.

#### Kids Fight Cancer

Willoughby, Matthew and Julia, three of our current Year Five students, have been developing their own fundraising initiative to raise money for cancer research. Next Wednesday these students will be selling a variety of special treat food and holding a special raffle and guessing competition to raise money for the 'Love Your Sister' cancer charity. A flyer with more details about the day will be sent home shortly.

#### Fun Day

Fun Day will take place next Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at school with students from Kinder to year 5 being in a variety of fun activities for the day.

*Nurturing personal and academic growth...*

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

## Canberra Weekly

Make sure you pick up a copy of the 'Canberra Weekly' this Thursday, as St Benedict's and several other Catholic schools feature in it. This free magazine is available outside most supermarkets and shopping centres.

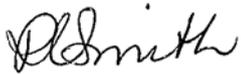
## Semester 2 Student Reports

These will go home with students on Friday. They are designed and written for parents, not students. We understand that students want to know how well they have achieved and we give them feedback throughout each and every week at school. As you read the reports and share the relevant sections with your child I encourage you to focus on the positive and celebrate successes and begin with skills and habits. They are far more valuable than we realise.

## Final Assembly 2016

Our final assembly for the year is this Friday at 2.30pm. At this assembly we will pass out our Ways of Being awards for this term. Next Friday at 12pm we will be holding a Christmas Carol Concert with each class performing an item.

God Bless



Rachel Smith  
Principal

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

### Giving Mass

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to our local St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers. Your thoughtfulness will see a happier Christmas for many in our community who are in need.



### Advent Liturgy

Our whole school Advent Liturgy is this Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> December. 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 from 10:30am.

### 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 next Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> 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

# Chief Minister's Reading Challenge

## 2017

## Congratulations St Benedict's



This year St Benedict's participated in the Chief Minister's Reading Challenge and we had 100% participation. This means that every child at St Benedict's read at least 15 books from February till September and there were many students that read many more than this amount.

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Ms Ellison took 4 students to accept our awards at the National Library on behalf of the student body. The children heard from special guests including author Irma Gold. The award ceremony was then followed by morning tea and a chance to meet and chat to some of the authors. What a great day for every St Benedict's student to be recognised for the awesome efforts with their reading!!



### Mountain View Visit

Last Wednesday the year 5 and year 6 students visited the Elderly at Mountain View. Previously they had made Christmas cards and decorations to give to the residents and they then handed the presents out. After talking with the residents of Mountain View the students then sang some



Christmas carols and helped serve tea and coffee. Overall, it was a great day and many students had a better time than they were expecting. All the residents at Mountain View thoroughly enjoyed the visit from the students.



### Images of God

Our exhibition is about our image of God. Everybody got to



to make their images of God using art. We got to use different materials such as paint, clay and whatever we could find.

### Dates to Remember

- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> December – Ways of Being Assembly, 2.30pm – all welcome
- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> December – Semester 2 Reports
- ✓ 12<sup>th</sup> December – End of Year/Graduation Mass 10.00am
- ✓ 12<sup>th</sup> December – Yr 6 Revue, 12.00pm
- ✓ 12<sup>th</sup> December – Yr 6 Graduation Dinner 6.00pm
- ✓ 13<sup>th</sup> December – Fun Day
- ✓ 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> December – Yr 4 Camp to Sydney
- ✓ 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Concert, 12.00pm
- ✓ 15<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of Term 4

### Merit Certificate Recipients

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

**Kinder:** Trinity M and Mia F

**1 / 2 Blue:** Miah H, Zella K and Violeta B

**1 / 2 Gold:** Clancy B and Piper de B

**3 / 4 Blue:** Gabriella S and Mia B

**3 / 4 Gold:** Grace L and Arabella S

**5 / 6 Blue:** Gabriella S, Elvy B and Bridie L

**5 / 6 Gold:** Chloe de J

## Weekly Notes

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

- Yr1 and Yr2 Christmas Party
- Thank you – morning tea



**Happy Birthday** to the children at St Benedict's who celebrate their special day this week: Thoreau S and Imogen B.



## Clothing Pool

This Friday is the last week of the year that the clothing pool will be open between 2.55pm to 3.15pm. Most items are between \$4.00 and \$10.00. So if you know that you need anything please come along.



## Lost Property

The lost property box will be cleaned out this coming Friday. All labeled items will be returned to students while unlabeled items be washed and given to the clothing pool or St Vincent de Paul. So please take some time to have a look through as this is your last chance.



## Parish News

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

Website: [www.cg.org.au/narrabundah](http://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 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays of the Month

## Canteen

Dear Parents, Friends and Carers,

There are only four days left of Tuckshop! Can you believe the year is nearly over?!!! As mentioned in last week's newsletter, because we make so much fresh food, I have limited supply of items like sausage rolls left. In fact, I only have four! As I prepare to wind-up for the year, I will NOT be making any more sausage rolls. However, for this week on Friday I will have available Shepherd's Pie. And do not despair, I have plenty of pies still available.

Next week, will see mostly sandwiches and pies available and whatever else I can make for the cherubs to enjoy, maybe even a sweetie or two may appear on the last day... It is Christmas after all. If you would like to contribute a Christmas-like slice (without nuts please), muffin etc, please feel free to drop me an e-mail on [cara.cook@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:cara.cook@cg.catholic.edu.au)

Have a wonderful week everyone!

Yours in tongs.

Cara Cook, Canteen Manager

