



St Benedict's Primary School

Tallara Parkway
NARRABUNDAH, ACT, 2604

Ph: 02 6295 8027

Email: Office.StBenedicts@cg.catholic.edu.au

 @StBenedicts2604

NEWSLETTER 5

7th March 2018

Let mercy live among us

PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parents and Carers,

Three Way Conferences

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to all the students, parents and teachers for making the Three Way Conferences such a success this week. As I spoke to parents or sat in the hall listening to the general talk it was great to hear laughter, joy and enthusiasm as we talked together about the students' engagement and learning. Effective communication with parents, especially in regard to children's progress at school, is a high priority at St Benedict's. At any time during the year parents are encouraged to request a meeting with class teachers to discuss their child's progress. Teachers ensure that parents remain informed about any issues that arise in the school context. We believe that it is much better to address concerns, celebrate successes and for parents to feel reassured and confident in what is happening in the classroom when there are open channels of communication between home and school.

Some of our planned forms of communication this year include:

- Class program overviews sent home each term.
- Interim Reports sent home.
- Three Way Conferences offered at the start of the year.
- Semester Reports provided at the end of each semester.
- Learning Celebrations on a termly basis.
- Optional Parent-Teacher Interviews offered after Semester Reports.
- General news through our emailed weekly School Newsletter, the school website, our School Calendar and our Skoolbag App.

Please do not hesitate to contact teachers as the need arises either in person or via email.

Growth Mindset

Hopefully your child is talking to you about having a growth mindset or being in the learning pit. We now know that the brain is constantly changing and growing. What helps it to grow is thinking. When we learn something new it creates new pathways in our brain. When we consolidate our new thinking or skill we strengthen the new connection in our brain and it stays there! We can grow our intelligence.

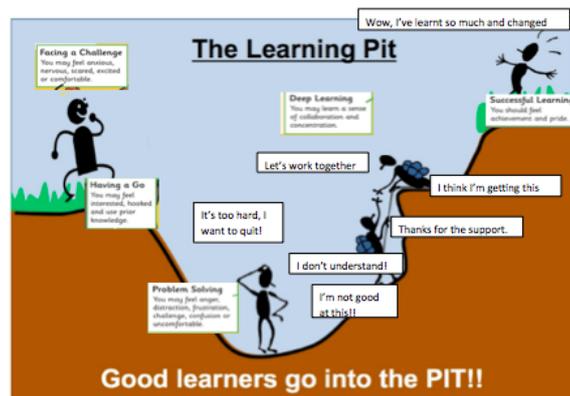
In the world of the growth mindset we replace no or you got that wrong with 'not yet'. This implies that at some time in the future they will get it. If students only complete work or tasks that they can do without

Nurturing personal and academic growth...

...a journey from Kindergarten to Year 6.

challenge they don't learn to keep going and work through the challenge. Using "Not Yet" honours the fact that you are focusing on the process and strategies and that if they keep going, they can get there.

In classrooms there are visual representations of this challenge – The Learning Pit. The idea is that in order to grow children's brains, students should find themselves in the Learning Pit every day. They should have hard problems to work on. There is a point when they may become frustrated, but in order to get out of the pit they have to find a strategy that works. This is what helps to grow their brain. They have to 'take risks', 'show resilience' and maybe 'work together' in order to get out of the pit. This metaphorical pit is where the learning takes place. We



We have introduced a 'Growth Mindset' weekly award for each class in order to celebrate this learning.

Sometimes parents find it hard to see their children challenged. It is natural for parents to want to help! Remember though the best 'help' you can give is affirming a positive attitude to learning.

ICT Issues

Apologies to our community for the recent ICT issues that we have been experiencing. These issues have affected our emails and access to the Skoolbag App. We believe the situation has now been rectified and any outstanding issues dealt with. If you sent an email to the school email address and did not receive a response please feel free to resend the email. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

Swimming Assembly

Students will receive ribbons at this week's Assembly. Ribbons will be given for those who placed 1st to 4th 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.

Uniform Sale

Barbra Cox, our P&F Clothing Pool Coordinator, will be holding a 'Clothing Pool Open Air Day Sale' on Thursday 22nd March from 3pm onwards. The sale will take place under the covered area and with the focus for this sale being winter uniform. Items range between \$4 and \$10, please bring the correct money.

School Fees

Thank you to those families who have paid their school fees. Just a gentle reminder that school fees are now overdue and payable at the Front Office.

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

God Bless.

Rachel Smith

Principal

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY LIFE

First Friday Mass

Thank you to 1/2 Blue for leading the school in Mass last Friday. As we are in an important time of waiting and change, 1/2 Blue reminded us that during Lent we are called to fast from hurting words and actions, to instead say kind words and do acts of kindness whenever possible. Thank you also to families for providing delicious treats for the morning tea.



Year 5/6 Mountain View Aged Care Centre Healing Liturgy



Next Thursday, 15th March, Year 5/6 students will be visiting Mountain View Aged Care Centre to lead a Healing Liturgy with Father Dan. We pray that the presence and company of our students will bring much joy to the residents of Mountain View.

Sacraments



On Saturday students who are preparing to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation enjoyed a retreat day with their families. Here is what some of our candidates had to say about the day:

I had fun learning about the lost parables and doing my artwork – Edith

I had a fun listening to the stories about the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin and the Lost Son. –Joshua

I enjoyed responding to the stories by creating my own artwork.- Ari

I like how we gathered around the prayer space and created our own artwork using different symbols. - Lucia

I liked looking at the pictures when we were listening to the stories. It helped me understand what things would have really looked like in Jesus' time. - Zella

This week, students who are preparing to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation are encouraged to bring their Australian Children's Mass Book to Mass to guide them in the formal responses. Please keep these students in your prayers as they prepare for this important milestone in their sacramental journey.

Class Parish Mass



Year 4 will be joining the parish for Sunday Mass (18th March). We understand that some families celebrate Mass in other parishes most weeks but are asking families, particularly those who have children in Year 4, to make a special effort to attend the school's parish Mass. The parish choir will be singing at this Mass and warmly welcome anyone to join in singing. Morning tea will be provided after Mass.

Easter Liturgies



Please put these dates in your diary

Palm Sunday Liturgy	10:30am Monday 26 th March	Kindergarten
The Last Supper and Passion Liturgy	10:15am Thursday 29 th March	1/2 Blue and Year 6 Blue and Gold
Resurrection Liturgy	10:30am Tuesday 3 rd April	Year 4 Gold and Blue

Are You Handy with a Sewing Machine?



We are looking for some helpers to assist with making liturgical prayer table cloths. We need approximately 34 1 x 1m square cloths hemmed. If you are able to assist, please email natalie.zarb@cg.catholic.edu.au

Schools Clean Up Day

On Friday 2nd March St Benedict's Primary participated in school's cleanup day 2018.



The session started in the 5/6 Blue classroom, where we watched a few short videos to explain what the day was about. Each class had an assigned area to clean. Each student was given a plastic bag and set off towards their class area.



All of the students and staff made an enormous impact on the amount of rubbish in our school ground.

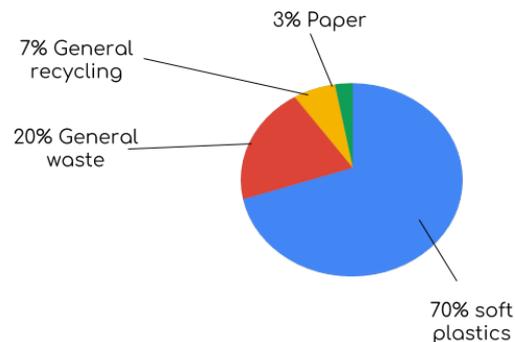
Our school grounds had a lot of rubbish. Consisting of

70% Soft plastic

20% General waste

7% General recycling

3% Paper



Everyone did a wonderful job and picked a gigantic portion of the rubbish on the school grounds. A big thank you to everyone that helped with that 70% of rubbish.

The Environmental Leaders

Julia, Imogen and Molly

Year 5/6 Camp 2018

The year is flying through quickly - and last week the year 5/6 students went on camp to the Birrigai Tidbinbilla nature reserve.

Everyone was extremely excited to get on the bus and get going. The bus ride seemed really quick, we were there before we knew it! When we arrived at Birrigai, we quickly got sorted into our cabin groups; with no time to spare we got straight into the first activity.

We went on this camp to experience the wildlife and learn about the history of the gold rush in Australia.

All of us went on wondrous bush walks, built a smoking fire and made damper, pitched up a tent without instructions, gazed at the night sky, went to school in an old classroom and finally panned for gold and participated in a simulation of a historical event.

This was a very special opportunity to learn and discover how it would be very difficult to be like a miner in those times.

'And for this camp, we describe the journey with one word - Unforgettable.' Hospitality leaders

The Hospitality Leaders

By: Lilly and April

Swimming Carnival



We held our annual St Benedict's swimming carnival on Thursday the 22nd of February at the Queanbeyan pool. As the Buses arrived everyone had nervous energy for the races. When we arrived at the pool we sorted ourselves into the house colours and everyone started chanting "Go team". As the races began everybody did a very good

job and there was a lot of close calls. In the chanting competition Tangara won first place, second place was Murramai and third place was Arakoola. Our mascot competition was very popular this year and we had a hard time choosing the winners. In the end April, Mia and Matilda all won first place. When it was time to go everyone was sad, but happy that they had accomplished so much in one day. Thank you for participating and we hope you had an amazing day.



The Sports Leaders 2018

Chloe, Carla and Matthew

Merit Certificate Recipients

KINDERGARTEN	Laura K and Nicolas B
1/2Blue	Rafael V and Mackenzie J
1/2Gold	Huxley N and Claire L
3/4Blue	Alain K, Mia N and Xavier A
3/4Gold	Natalija M and Ragsajan R
5/6Blue	Sophia M and Matthew S
5/6Gold	Shyla M

Growth Mind Set Awards

KINDERGARTEN	Alexander H and Isla Mc
1/2Blue	Frederick H
1/2Gold	Raphael D
3/4Gold	James N
5/6Blue	Daniel N

Lost Property

The lost property box and table are starting to fill up and we are only in week 5. Please take some time and go through the lost property items weekly. Any items left will be washed and either given to St Vincent de Paul or put into the clothing pool for repurchasing.

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.



Weekly Notes

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

- Spring Fair
- Mountain View Yr 5/6
– Due by Monday 12th March
- Disco – Due by Friday 16th March
- Three Way Conferences
- Class Parent Representatives Request
- Paint It Up – Due by Wednesday 14th March
- STEM – Girls Programming Network
(emailed Yrs 5 & 6)



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

Dates to Remember

- ✓ 12th March – Canberra Day Public Holiday
- ✓ 13th March - School Board Meeting, 6pm
- ✓ 15th March – Yr 5 & 6 Mountain View Visit
- ✓ 18th March – P&F Paint It Up
- ✓ 20th March – Parent & Friends Meeting, 6.30pm
- ✓ 23rd March - Disco
- ✓ 24th March – First Reconciliation & Yr3 Parish Mass, 9am (all welcome)
- ✓ 26th March – Palm Sunday Liturgy, 10.30am
- ✓ 29th March – Passion Liturgy, 10.30am
- ✓ 30th March – Good Friday (no school)
- ✓ 1st April – Easter Sunday

For Sale



First Holy Communion dress, veil and shoes for sale-\$150

Worn only once, in excellent condition. If interested, please enquire

at the front office.



Canteen

THURSDAY, 8th March 9.00am – 11.30am

HELPERS REQUIRED

11.30am – 2.00pm

HELPERS REQUIRED

FRIDAY, 9th March

9.00am – 11.30am

HELPERS REQUIRED

11.30am – 2.00pm

HELPERS REQUIRED



Dear Parents and Carers,

As so much of our food is made on site, a little extra help would be welcomed. I encourage you to drop by, have a chat, and become involved. No matter your skill level there is no shortage of learning opportunities for all of us and the kids get so excited when someone near and dear to them help out in the tuckshop.

The picture is of a small appetites snack box now selling at \$5, containing cheese and crackers in a lettuce cup with seasonal fruit.

Yours and Tongs

Cara Cook, Canteen Manager

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, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month

