First Day Byte!

Welcome to 2016!
Welcome to the new school year. Welcome to all of our new families in Kindergarten and other year levels across the school.

This brief note is designed to give you all the essential information you need to get you started. More detailed information will flow through soon.

The staff and I look forward to meeting you and your children at the Open House and BBQ on Thursday, 11 February, from 5.00pm. Please don’t hesitate to contact our Front Office or the classroom teachers with any initial questions.

Matthew Garton
Principal

Term 1 Uniform
Students wear the summer uniform this term. We all know the general items. It also includes:
- Navy bucket hat (with crest).
- Mostly white sport shoes for sport days.
- Hair accessories that match the colour of the school uniform being worn.
- No necklaces.
- Plain studs or sleeper earrings.

School Times/Supervision
7.30am Before School Care opens (no school based supervision)
8.30am Children dropped off will be supervised in the courtyard by a teacher.
9.00am School begins.
11.00am Supervised play time.
11.15am Supervised eating time.
11.30am Classes resume.
1.00pm Supervised eating time.
1.15pm Supervised play time.
1.45pm Classes resume.
3.10pm Students dismissed to four areas:
  - Supervised transition to After School Care
  - Supervised transition to buses
  - Supervised car park pick up until 3.30pm
  - Supervised crossing of Jerrabomberra/ Sturt Ave

Sport Days
Students wear Sports Uniform to school on the following days:
Kindergarten, Years 1 & 2: Monday & Thursday
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6: Tuesday & Thursday

Communication
The St Benedict’s Newsletter will continue to be published every Wednesday.
It is published online at www.stbenedicts.act.edu.au
Should you want a paper copy you can drop into the School Office each Wednesday afternoon onwards.
Should you wish to receive an email prompt when the Newsletter is uploaded to our website then please let the Front Office (Office.StBenedicts@cg.catholic.edu.au) know your preferred email address.

Download our Skoolbag app to remain up to date with announcements.
Canteen Menu

The Canteen operates each Monday and Friday. Lunch and Recess orders are welcome on these days. A new Term 1 Menu will be sent home this week. Please see the school website for the most recent menu.

We are very much in need of assistance in the Canteen. If you can provide an hour or two on any Monday or Friday could you please let the Front Office know.

Important Dates

A few important dates to note for this term are:

1 Feb  School resumes K-6
3 Feb  Kindergarten rest day + assessments
5 Feb  Opening School Mass & blessing of student leaders, 10.00am
9 Feb  School Board Meeting, 6.00pm
10 Feb  Kindergarten rest day + assessments
10 Feb  Ash Wednesday, Mass 10.00am
11 Feb  Open House BBQ for families & teachers
15 - 19 Feb  PARENT PARTNERSHIP WEEK
16 Feb  Parents & Friends Meeting, 6.30pm
20 Feb  Reconciliation Preparation
20 Feb  Parish Year of Mercy Retreat Day
23 Feb  Swimming Carnival, K-6
23 - 27 Feb  PP (ILP) Meetings
28 Feb  Reconciliation Preparation
29 Feb - 2 Mar  Year 5/6 Camp
4 Mar  National Ride to School Day
4 Mar  First Friday Mass 10.00am
6 Mar  First Reconciliation
8 Mar  School Board Meeting, 6.00pm
14 Mar  Canberra Day Public Holiday
15 Mar  Parents & Friends Meeting, 6.30pm
20 Mar  Palm Sunday
21 Mar  Palm Sunday Liturgy, 9.15am
24 Mar  Holy Thursday Liturgy, 9.15am
25 Mar  Good Friday
27 Mar  Easter Sunday
28 Mar  Easter Monday
29 Mar  South Weston PSSA Swimming
29 Mar  Easter Liturgy, 9.15am
31 Mar  Michael Mangan Concert
3 Apr  Catholic Schools Soccer Carnival
5 Apr  Cross Country Carnival, K-6
8 Apr  Term 1 concludes

Staff

Kindergarten  Fran Tomadini
Year 1  Rachel Smith/Natalia Ciuffetelli
Year 2  John Siljeg
Year 3/4B  Amanda Basedow/Anne White
Year 3/4E  Camille Ellison
Year 5/6S  Melanie Stratford
Year 5/6Y  Meaghan Younger/Anne White

Principal  Matthew Garton
Assistant Principal  Rachel Smith
Religious Education Coordinator  Meaghan Younger

Teacher - Librarian  Sue Anderson
Reading Recovery  Margot Firth
Inclusion Teacher  Jeanette Skaff
Music  Cathy-ann Berry
Italian  Anna Marzano

Office Manager  Belinda McRae
Inclusion Assistants  Jennifer O'Shea
                        Kim Brice
                        Lina Christian

Canteen Manager  Nancy Lyons

Contact with staff can be made through:

- **Phone:** Please call the school and leave a message and the staff member will call you back at their next available time.
- **Email:** All staff members have an email address (firstname.lastname@cg.catholic.edu.au). Teachers will respond at the next available non-teaching period. (For Canteen messages please ring the Front Office.)
- **In person:** Feel free to see teachers before 9.00am or after 3.10pm. Make an appointment for important matters so they can be given the attention required.

The school calendar on the school website and in the Skoolbag app remains the most up-to-date with events.

@StBenedicts2604

www.stbenedicts.act.edu.au