Dear Parents and Members of our School Community

Thank you and well done to our Year 2 students and teachers for the way they brought the Gospel alive last Thursday at Mass. It was so good to see their confidence and joy while doing their parts of the Mass.

Year 2 White backed up again on Friday with our first assembly item for the year. Inspired by Dr. Suess’ “Places You Will Go” the students took us on a journey around the world incorporating culture and the performing arts through dance. They spoke and read confidently and really enjoyed presenting to the school. Congratulations and thank you Year 2 White!

Thank you to all our teachers and parents for taking the time to prepare and take part in our Parent – Teacher interviews on Monday. These interviews are really important at the end of the first term so everyone is clear on how a child is achieving and what is happening to help each child reach or even exceed their potential.

Yesterday morning I was fortunate enough to spend time with our interschool swimming team at our annual swimmer’s breakfast, organised and prepared by our parents and Mrs Sampson. Talking with them all the representatives - they are revved up and ready to go. They are confident with their preparation, have a positive attitude and are wanting to do their best today at the interschool swimming carnival. They have worked hard during the term at early morning trainings to prepare as best they can. Thank you to all the parents and teachers who have been able to make this happen. Well done to all students who have supported and made the team. I look forward to reporting the results in our next newsletter. Congratulations to Jessica and Shanae on being made our Swimming Captains for 2016.

Next term we will welcome back Mrs Allingame who will working in Year 5 on Fridays while Miss De Winnaar looks after duties pertaining to her special needs role. Thank you to Mrs Sampson for her work in year five during Term 1.

Also a big shout out to Miss De Winnaar who is getting married these holidays. We wish her and husband (to be) all the best for a wonderful day. Miss De Winnaar will be returning to school as Mrs De Winnaar.

Babies, babies everywhere! Mrs Lopez and Mrs Christian have just announced that along with Mrs MacKenzie they are expecting their first child later in the year. We are very happy for all these ladies and husbands during these exciting times. Timelines and plans for their replacements will be announced early next term.

Mrs Chapman is taking some well deserved long service leave during Term 2. Mrs Pip Crommelin will be running Reading Recovery during this period. Please make Mrs Crommelin feel welcome next term.

Congratulations to Mrs Jodie Budiselik is going to take on the Canteen next term. Mrs Budiselik has two children in our school so we look forward to our canteen going forward as a community canteen. She has asked me to let you know that the Canteen will be running on Wednesdays from week 2, Term 2. Menu’s and ordering processes will become available at the very beginning of term 2. She is also happy to accept any help from parents who would like to help her get the canteen started. People who run our canteen actually have to pay the school a fee to operate out of there so any volunteers would indirectly be helping the school. I hope everyone supports our canteen as it starts a new chapter.

Thank you to Lisa and Clayton Gardiner from Lunchbox Express for their time and dedication to our canteen over the past two years and we wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

Don’t forget that next term students are required to wear winter uniform. There is normally a two week transition phase from summer to winter uniform to allow for people to obtain new uniforms and to allow for the odd warm day that may occur. This time may need to be extended next term depending on suppliers ability to get new uniforms to our uniform shop as Fiji catches up from its horrific cyclone earlier this year.

Please see below important information we are continuing to run from previous newsletters.

We are currently taking applications for enrolments for 4 year old Kindergarten for 2018. Your child must be 4 years of age before June 30 2018 to be eligible. Upon a successful enrolment interview positions for 3 year old 2017 will be discussed with parents. Please download our forms from our school website for applications. Get them in early to avoid disappointment. Interviews will be taking place in term 2. If you know any families that would be new to the school please pass on this information.

Mr Ian Elder, principal of Santa Maria College, has asked me to notify our community of two items:

- All girls who attend a Catholic primary school will be guaranteed an interview for year 7. This of course includes St Benedict’s.
- Anyone wishing for their daughter to attend Santa Maria from year 7 onwards please do not engage in the enrolment process begun in year 4 for year 5 entry.

Other factors to be aware of here is that the primary section of Santa Maria has three streams of students, it then opens up more multiple streams in secondary leaving plenty of room for Girls from St Benedict’s.
Dear Families and Friends,

Every child has the right to feel safe at all times. Each year however, thousands of children across Australia experience abuse. It is estimated that 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 7 boys will be subject to some form of unwanted sexual activity before the age of 18. (Australian Institute of Criminology 2000).

Many parents focus on the issue of “stranger danger” when teaching personal safety to their children. Statistics show us however, that 96% of children who experience abuse know and trust the perpetrator. (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2000-2001).

Protective Behaviours is an internationally acclaimed personal safety and child abuse prevention program endorsed by the Department of Education in Western Australia.

The program is based on two themes:

“We all have the right to feel safe at all times” and
“We can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is”

Beginning in Term 2, our Social Worker and classroom teachers will be implementing the Protective Behaviours Program in our Kindy and Pre-Primary classes. The program will then be run in all classes by the end of the year.

The 10 main Protective Behaviours topic areas include:

- Theme One “We all have the right to feel safe at all times” & Feelings
- Early Warning Signs (the physical sensations we experience in our body when feeling unsafe or excited).
- Safety Continuum (safe / fun to feel scared / risking on purpose / unsafe) & Problem Solving (How could someone feel safe even if...?).
- Theme 2 “We can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is” & Secrets.
- Networks (Identifying adults that we can talk with and ask for help if we feel unsafe/scare/ worried).
- Persistence Expectation (Persisting in asking for help until you feel safe again).
- Body Awareness and Ownership & Private and Public parts of the body (including teaching and using the correct anatomical names for private parts of the body), Private and Public clothing / Private and Public places / Private and Public behaviours.
- Personal Space (social distance) & Safe and Unsafe Touch.
- Assertiveness (body language/ tone of voice / NO GO TELL).
- Theme and Program Reinforcement.

If you would like to learn more about the Protective Behaviours Program, I encourage you to attend our Morning Tea on Wednesday, 27 April at 9:00am in our Library. Our Social Worker will be on hand to discuss the Program and answer any questions. Furthermore Protective Behaviours Western Australia (PBWA) offers Parent Workshops and a Protective Behaviours Parent Handbook to find out how you can reinforce the Protective Behaviours messages, concepts and strategies at home. For further information view the PBWA website at www.protectivebehaviourswa.org.au.

Yours Sincerely
Michelle Christian
Assistant Principal

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Ian has stated to me that Santa Maria are more about offering a primary Catholic education to girls who are not already obtaining one from their current primary school rather than accepting girls from other primary Catholic schools.

The Pies opened their account with a last gasp win in the dying stages. Now the monkey is off the back let us hope they can show continued improvement against the Saints this weekend.

I hope everyone has a relaxing well earned break after an excellent term of learning at St Bennies. Thank you to everyone for what they do to make this a wonderful school for our students.

Hands say so much. On a cold morning in the Blue Ridge Mountains, a grandmother sits by the fire and holds her grand baby close to her heart, keeping the child warm and safe. The child sensing the “love”, reaches up and returns the love in kind. The infant can’t speak…but a simple touch of her hand on her guardian’s cheek says it all. The grandmother “heard” her well and snuggled her more closely.

Until next term, God Bless

“Celebrate what’s Right With the World”

Darren McDonald
Principal

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Assistant Principal

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Yours Sincerely
Michelle Christian
Important Dates to Diarise

8 Apr  Merit Assembly
END OF TERM 1

Term 2

26 Apr  School Commences
29 Apr  Merit Award Assembly
2 May  PUPIL FREE DAY

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**Uniform Shop**

Open on the first day of Term 2, Tuesday 26 April
From 8.30 - 9.30am.

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**Recycling Initiatives @ Bene's**

Don't forget to collect your recycling during the holidays - aluminium cans, batteries & toner cartridges.

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**Texting While Driving is DANGEROUS And Against the LAW**

It has been brought to our attention that alarmingly, many parents are using their mobile phones whilst driving through our school carparks / drive thru’s. Please note that the use of a mobile phone device whilst driving is not only very dangerous but against the law. Please refrain from using your mobile devise while operating a vehicle on our school premises.

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**HEAD LICE**

There have been several cases recently of head lice throughout the school. Please ensure that your child is checked and treated before they are sent to school. Signs of infection include a red rash and scratch marks on the scalp, especially behind the ears and nape of the neck.

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**Term Dates 2016**

**Semester 1**

**Term 1**
1 February - 8 April
Mid Semester Break 9 - 25 April

**Term 2**
26 April - 1 July
Mid Semester Break 2 - 17 July

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**Late Arrivals**

All late arrivals must be signed in through the front Administration Office by a Parent or Guardian.

Parents / Guardians to access the Administration through the front door on Alness Street only please.
It is hard to believe we are in our last week of Term 1 already!

A big Thank you to our Kindy parents for running the ice pole sale yesterday. The students enjoyed their lunchtime treat!

Our Yr 2 parents will be hosting the Mothers Day Morning Tea this year, to be held after the liturgy on Friday, 6th May. Please SAVE THIS DATE in your diaries!!! There will be lots of treats on the day starting with a glass of champagne, raffle prizes and a craft table for the little one’s. All St Bennie’s mum, grandmothers, aunty’s are welcome! There will be more info at the start of term 2.

Wishing you all a safe, relaxing and enjoyable holiday!

Best wishes,
Tanya Dowse-Kerr
P&F President

We're very excited to be fundraising with Entertainment™ this year. Order your NEW 2016 | 2017 Entertainment™ Books and Entertainment™ Digital Memberships from us today, and 20% of the proceeds contribute towards our School!

Order your new Entertainment™ Book or Entertainment™ Digital Membership before 4 May 2016 and you will receive up to $230 worth of additional offers that you can use right away!

Mothers Day Gift Stall

Do you still need to get a little something special for Mother’s Day?

Well then, come and get a bargain at the Mother’s Day Gift Stall. Tues 3rd - Thurs 5th May in the undercover area before school (or until sold out). All items are priced from 50c - $5.

PS: We are encouraging only one purchase per child and ask that you do not send more than $5 with each child.
Please join us for a
Mother's Day Morning Tea

IN HONOUR OF

our beautiful Mums
and other special women in our lives.

Friday 6th May
Following the Mother's Day Liturgy
ALBERT LYNCH ROOM - ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH

$5 per ticket
Includes a glass of bubbles on arrival!
Awesome Raffle and Door Prizes
Activity area for the little ones
All profits going to St Benedict’s School champion charity INKA Respite
Hosted by Year 2
PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS PROGRAM
MORNINGS TEA

The Protective Behaviours Program is an internationally acclaimed Personal Safety and Child Abuse Prevention Program endorsed by the Department of Education in WA.

The Program will be run at St Benedicts beginning in Term 2, beginning with Kindy and Pre-Primary Classes.

We are holding an information sharing Morning Tea. Please come along if you would like to hear more about the Program, ask any questions or view some of the books, activities and information that are presented to the children.

Wednesday, 27th April at 9.00 am

The Library

RSVP Tuesday 26th April
bolton.stephanie@cathednet.wa.edu.au

Coffee, tea and biscuits provided.
Community News

Holiday/Vacation Care Program

It is only 2 weeks until the first term ends and holidays begin. For the autumn holidays, the theme for our program is Jungle Quest. The program runs from Monday 11th April and ends on Friday 22nd April and is open from 7am-6pm. A more detailed program will be made available closer to the time but you are able to log on to www.campaustalia.com.au for information or to enrol/register.

Lost Property

A house key, necklace with a St Benedict’s medallion and a pair reading glasses (purple frames, black case - from Bullcreek Optometrists) have all been handed into Admin. If any of these items belong to you then please see
RUN CLUB

............ IS COMING TO
ST BENEDICT'S

EVERY TUESDAY
730 - 815AM
MAY 3 - JUNE 21

SHIRLEY STRICKLAND RESERVE*
*COACH WILL WALK KIDS BACK TO SCHOOL

COST - $70 PER CHILD
8 SESSIONS

"When we work with your child our primary aim is to increase their self confidence through bettering their running technique & having them reach a fitness level they have never experienced before"

SARAH JAMIESON
HEAD COACH PERTH RUNNING CLUB
TRIPLE OLYMPIAN

St Benedict's Primary School Running Club - REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Full Name: ____________________________

Child's Year Level: ____________________________

Parent's Name: ______________________________

Parent's Mobile: _____________________________

Parent’s Email Address: _________________________

Medical Conditions/Illness: ____________________________
Perth Running Club is excited to be coming to St Benedict’s Primary School in Term 2 to conduct an 8 week Run Club. Running is the easiest & quickest way to stay fit both for other sports & life in general.

When we work with kids, we aim to improve their self-confidence through bettering their running technique & having them achieve a level of fitness they may not have experienced before.

No matter what ability level a child may be, we design our running sessions so no one is made to feel slow or like they are holding the group up. We stress the importance of achieving your own personal best.

Our session with your child will consist of the following:
- Warm up & technique instruction
- Running session
- Warm down

Your children will be in good hands. Perth Running Club’s Head Coach, Sarah Jamieson, has coached children for over 20 years. Sarah developed a love for running at the age of 7.

Some of Sarah’s achievements are:
2. Commonwealth Games Silver Medalist.
3. Australia’s record holder in 1500m.

The team of Coaches at Perth Running Club are all well credentialed runners who love to run and teach others how to be the best they can be.

WHEN: Every Tuesdays, 7.30 – 8.15am  
May 3 to June 21

WHERE: Shirley Strickland Reserve

COST: $70/child (8 training sessions)

Register by April 27 to: info@perthrunningclub.com.au by completing the registration form below. Payment due by April 29 by EFT

Bank: NAB  
BSB: 086082  
A/c no: 579339109  
Account name: L S Bong  
Reference: StBen – Child's initial & surname

WHAT TO BRING CHECKLIST
- enclosed sports shoes  - Sport uniform  - water bottle  - towel  - sunscreen to be applied prior to session

So register now to reserve your spot. Spots are limited!
Hi there, my name is Mrs Bolton and I am the part time School Social Worker, working alongside staff to support the needs of our students and families. Together we aim to provide a safe and positive learning environment. I can see children individually (on referral) and in groups for discussions on various topics — so stay tuned for my page! If you think your child may benefit from some additional support please do not hesitate to contact me.

**St Bene’s to commence teaching Protective Behaviours**

The Protective Behaviours Program has been developed by Protective Behaviours WA(Inc) in consultation with The Department of Education WA and is taught in hundreds of schools across the State. The current program has reviewed the old “Stranger Danger” message and replaced it with interactive and fun lesson plans that provide students with the skills and strategies required to keep safe.

At St Benedict’s we are now fortunate enough to be able to deliver this valuable and important program within the classroom to all our students.

**The Protective Behaviours Program**

The Program relies on a 3 way partnership between School, Home and the Community so that children receive a consistent message. The two themes taught are that *we all have the right to feel safe at all times* and that *we can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is*.

In Term 2, Kindy and Pre-Primary children will be the first to receive the Protective Behaviours Program. This is delivered in an age appropriate way through the use of stories, games, songs and fun activities. The following topic areas are covered in short lessons over 9 weeks:

1. Theme One: “We all have the right to feel safe at all time” and Feelings
2. Early warning signs in our bodies
3. Safety Continuum and Problem Solving
4. Theme Two: “we can talk with someone about anything, no matter what it is” and Secrets
5. Networks
6. Persistence Expectations
7. Body Awareness and Ownership (private and public)
8. Personal space and safe and unsafe touch
9. Assertiveness

Information and activities will be sent home following each lesson and I encourage you to visit the PBWA website at [www.protectionbehaviourswa.org.au](http://www.protectionbehaviourswa.org.au) for any information you may require including information on parent workshops available throughout the community and the ability to purchase parent handbooks which can assist in reinforcing the strategies and concepts at home.

Contact: Stephanie Bolton
St Benedict’s Primary School (Monday and Tuesday 9-2:30)
Ph: 6217 3500, Email: bolton.stephanie@cathedner.wa.edu.au