Dear Parents and Members of our School Community

This Sunday is an important event on the liturgical calendar. This Sunday is known as the Ascension. The Ascension is the time when Jesus was raised into heaven by the Father after spending some time on Earth after his resurrection.

This Sunday is also Mother’s Day. To help our community to celebrate this day our Pre-Primary students will be helping Father Phillip with a liturgy dedicated to our Mother’s at 9.00am in the church. A special morning tea for our mums will follow after the liturgy.

Thank you to our P&F for organising our Mother’s Day stall before school this week. I know business was booming.

Last night we were fortunate enough to hold an information session for parents of students who will be making their First Reconciliation in our Parish this year. Father Phillip spoke about the Sacrament itself. He told us about its meaning and significance and how we can make it real for young children.

Mr Will and Miss Houghton then touched on the classroom programme and how parents could help at home. Mrs Geldenhys then gave out important dates, times and instructions in regards to how the Sacrament preparation will run as well as the Sacrament itself.

Next Tuesday evening a similar session will be run for the parents of the students making their First Eucharist.

This afternoon staff are being treated to a 90 minute PD on the Making Jesus Real programme with Peter Mitchell, the founder of the programme. St Columba’s will be joining us. We are hoping that this will enrich our school MJR programme even further.

Next week our students in years 3 and 5 will be sitting the annual NAPLAN test. It is important to remember that this is one test done on one day during the year and is used to help schools know where to focus their teaching. It is important to keep normal routines at home, having students being well fed and receiving plenty of sleep. It is important that students are at school no later than 8.45am on these days, getting to school late may make them late for a test that will have already started therefore the child will have to wait for Friday to do a make-up test and this may cause anxiety. Our philosophy at St Benedict’s is that we do not teach to a test as it can narrow the scope of a child’s learning. We believe that if we are doing what we are supposed to be doing then NAPLAN takes care of itself and last year’s results certainly proved this. As each child is different we tend to put an emphasis on the growth of each child’s achievement from year 3-5 as an indicator of how they are learning.

Please note two flyers from Camp Australia advertising two of our pupil free days. It is important to register for these days as early as possible as Camp Australia need a minimum of 18 students to attend the day for them to be able to open to run it.

Today was the first day ‘Fresh Bites’ opened as our canteen. There were some orders but I think patronage could have been a lot better. ‘Fresh Bites’ catered for our staff PD day on Monday and we could not get enough of the delicious food on offer. So get on the ‘Fresh Bites’ train and have your orders into the Blue Bin by 9am each Tuesday morning. Children are allowed to bring money and purchase items at recess as well. Please patronise the canteen.

Next Wednesday the school board will be coming together for our first meeting of the term.

Next Thursday there is an information session in the library for prospective parents wishing to enrol their child into 4 year old Kindergarten for 2018. Letters have gone out to invite parents who have applied, but it is not too late to get applications in and attend the session. After the session our year 6 students will be running guided tours and will be prepared to answer any questions about their experiences at St Benedict’s. They are also using this opportunity as a speaking and listening assessment.

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 30 June 2018 to be eligible. Upon a successful enrolment interview positions for 3 year old 2017 will be discussed with parents. Please download our application forms from our school website for. 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,

Thank you to all of the families who attended our Parent Information Session on Protective Behaviours last week. The program has now begun in our Kindy and Pre-Primary classes. In Term 3, students in Years 1 & 2 will complete the program and our senior classes, Years 3 – 6, will participate in the program throughout Term 4. During the parent session there were some enquiries on where to find the Protective Behaviours Parent Handbook. This useful document can be purchased for $15 through http://www.protectivebehaviourswa.org.au/products/parent-handbook.

This Friday, 6 May at 9:00am, all Mums and special women of our community are invited to attend a Mother’s Day Liturgy being celebrated in the Church by our Pre-Primary classes. On behalf of the staff and students of St Benedict’s I would like to wish you all a beautiful Mother’s Day.

God Bless,

Michelle Christian
Assistant Principal

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**Principal’s Report continued…**

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.

Well done Eagles, but you didn’t have it all your own way. The Pies take on Carlton this week, the arch enemy. Anything could happen as Carlton seem to be a team on the rise and the Pies are very up and down. Go Pies!!

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**Important Dates to Diarise**

6 May  Mother’s Day Liturgy @ 9am in the Church followed by Morning Tea.
8 May  Mother’s Day Ascension Sunday
10 - 12 NAPLAN TESTING May
10 May Eucharist Info Night 7pm - Albert Lynch Room
12 May Prospective Parents Info Morning & Tour @ 10am

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**Assistant Principal**

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God Bless,

Michelle Christian
Assistant Principal

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**Little Bennies Blue News**

This week we welcomed four lovely new friends to Little Bennies Blue. We hope Mikayla, Isabelle, Levi and Ben enjoy their year with us. We read a funny story about a baby frog who liked to snap at, and swallow bubbles until his tummy stretched so much he floated away! Soon after, lots of our children were snapping at bubbles around our kindy, but luckily none of them floated away. We loved bubble stamping green frogs, and playing frog games, but best of all, we loved working on special gifts for our beautiful mums. Happy Mother’s Day this Sunday to all of our hard working, amazing mums!

Michelle Higgs
Early Childhood Teacher
This term we have started learning more about the family that Jesus had and what kinds of things his family might have done together. You can see here some pictures that we drew of Jesus family altogether.

We are going to discuss this further and think about how Jesus family was the same as our families. So far we have discovered that Jesus family had lots of love and so do our families. It is such a blessing to be loved by our families!

IT has been a fantastic start to the 2016 school year for the Year 6 class. What an exciting three weeks it has been for Year 6, there is so much happening in class and out class! The Year 6’s have been displaying excellent leadership skill during the planning stages for our whole school MJR activities this year. Our MJR sessions are a great opportunity for the Year 6 students to lead their groups and develop different relationships.

During our Maths lesson we have been integrating the use of our class set of IPads to extend and enhance the topic of measurement. Students have been engaged and are looking forward to the introduction of the first 21st Century Project based around the topic of “House rules”. Keep an eye of this space because you are sure to be impressed with the creativity and high stranded of work that will be produced.

Literacy last term focused on Narrative writing and understanding the importance of getting each part of a story perfect before moving on. We looked at drafting, editing and publishing work and why it is so important to get each stage correct. During Literacy students have the flexibility to move around the room and work in an area that best suits them and their learning needs. Taking this 21st Century Learning approach helps to develop student’s independence and ownership of work, an important life skill. This term we shall be looking at informative texts and have just started to collected the necessary data to create an informative biography on our chosen classmate.

“A person who never made a mistake, never tried anything new.”

– Albert Einstein

**Book Club**

Issue 3 of book club has been sent home today. All orders must be completed by Friday 13th May.

If you wish to order online you may use the LOOP system. Please note that if you do use LOOP DO NOT send the order form to school as this will result in a doubling up of orders.

If you do not wish to order on line please send your completed order form with correct money or cheque made out to ‘Scholastic Australia’ to the class teacher by the due date.

Thank you - Mrs Noonan

**Late Arrivals**

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

Parents / Guardians please access the Administration through the front door on Alness Street.

School commences promptly for PP - Yr 6 at 8.45am each day.
Fresh Bites Canteen

Check the website for the menu and ordering details.

Volunteers needed - Please contact Admin to put your name down on the list. Mums, dads, grandparents all welcome.

Congratulations

To Last Week’s Merit Award Recipients

PPB  Toby, Vittoria
PPW  Noah, Amelie
Yr 1 W  Jed, Preseton
Yr 1 B  Valerie, Griffin
Yr 2 W  Vittoria, Calbe
Yr 2 B  Samantha, Noah
Yr 3  Thomas, Samuel
Yr 4  Kristian, Mikayla
Yr 5  Mathew V, Amelie C
Yr 6  Oliver N, Taryn

School Fees

There are still a number of families who have not yet contacted the school regarding fee payment plans. Arrangements do not carry over from one year to another. A new contract needs to be drawn up. Please could those families who have not yet put a payment plan in place contact Mrs Moltoni urgently so she can assist you with this process.

If you have any queries in relation to your recent statement, do not hesitate to contact Mrs Moltoni on 62173500.

Footy Tipping Winner

This week’s winner is Zak Biancuzzo possibly the youngest weekly winner we’ve ever had and tipping a perfect score 9/9!

Well done Zak!

We’re 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!

Payment options include: Cash, cheque or online.

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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!

Payment options include: Cash, cheque or online.

To all our St Bennies families,

Thank you to everyone that came along to enjoy our Afternoon on the Green, we can now confirm we raised over $1400!

This week we will be celebrating all the wonderful women in our lives. A reminder that invitations and raffle tickets for the Morning Tea were sent home with your eldest child last week. Please return all monies to your classroom teacher. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. There are fabulous prizes on offer in the raffle so get your tickets in! The morning tea is a lovely way to celebrate together, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes,
Tanya Dowse-Kerr, P&F President

Volunteers

Manager : Jodie Budiselik - 0403 330 828

Week 3  11 May  Colleen Morris  Christi Bates
Week 4  18 May  Guna Warti  Marree Hurrell
Week 5  25 May  Guna Warti  Help Needed Please
Week 6  1 June  Help Needed Please
Week 7  8 June  Colleen Morris  Eileen McKenzie
Week 8  15 June  Eileen McKenzie
Week 9  22 June  Help Needed Please
Week 10  27 June  Help Needed Please
Hi there, 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.

Protective Behaviours Morning Tea

Last Wednesday we held an information morning tea to present an overview of the Protective Behaviours Program and provide an opportunity for parents to ask questions. The event was well attended by many school families with a lot of positive support and interest in the program. For those who did not receive a handout of the presentation please contact me via email and I will be able to send through an electronic copy.

Protective Behaviours Program begins in PP and Kindy

This week we launched the program in Pre Primary and Kindy Classes. Our aims for this week were:

1. Introduced Theme One: “We all have the right to feel safe at all times”
2. Introduce the concept of feelings
3. Students will increase feelings word vocabulary
4. Students will identify how they feel
5. Students will identify a place and a time they feel safe
6. Students will identify a person they feel safe with.

School home connection – what you can do at home

1. Complete with your child the “Today I feel” Activity Sheet
2. Ask them about the lesson – what did they learn? Can you draw a feeling face for me?
3. Let your child know that “We can talk to someone about anything no matter what it is”
4. Encourage your child to keep talking until they feel safe.

A Reminder - Protective Behaviours WA (PBWA) runs community parent workshops and their website has various resources available online including a parent handbook which provides information on how you as parents can reinforce the messages of the program.

[www.protectivebehaviourswa.org.au](http://www.protectivebehaviourswa.org.au)

Next parent workshop (City of South Perth, May 24th 6-8pm – see website for details).
FOOTBALL FUNDAMENTALS

Footy Fundamentals aims to prepare our kids for the future. Fundamental Movement Skills are patterns of movement that involve different body parts such as the legs, arms, trunk and head and include skills such as running, hopping, catching, throwing, striking and balancing. These skills are the foundation movements to more specialised, complex skills used in kids games, sports, dance and every day activities.

Fundamentals is a ‘pre Auskick’ program where we cater for two age groups, 3-4 year olds and 4-5 year olds.

For more information or to REGISTER please contact Emma Swanson on eswanson@wafc.com.au or 0439 717 316

Atom Stadium, East Fremantle – Thursdays
Starting 12th May - 16th June

Williams Skeet Reserve, Forrestdale – Fridays starting
Starting 13th May - 17th June

$90 for the full 6 weeks – or $15 per session
All sessions 9-10am or 10-11am
I'm Abseiling for kids at PMH

My name is Kym Hawkins and I have daughters Libby in Year 3 and Lauren in Year 1 and have attended PMH with both of my girls over the years. Thankfully our girls have been alright but we have had opportunity to talk to parents whose kids were being treated for various illnesses. The staff and doctor's do amazing work and we are always looking at ways to support them.

On Thursday at 4pm (yes tomorrow, but I am not thinking about it) I'm abseiling down 40 stories, and 160m, of the QV1 building in Perth to raise money for PMH Foundation. And I need your support to make a huge difference to the lives of sick kids and their families.

Princess Margaret Hospital will take care of over 190 sick kids today alone. I'm giving them one day of my fear, sweat, commitment and determination, so I can help some of those 190 kids by raising money to fund more research and better treatments.

You can really help me get to my goal by donating to my Abseil page here: https://abseilforpmh2016.everydayhero.com/au/kym

If you or someone you know would like to support this amazing charity please forward them this link.

Thank you for your time and help!

View from the top... aahhhhhhh
Pupil Free Day!
Friday 3rd June 2016

Come and join the fun with us at our upcoming Pupil Free Day

**When:** Friday 3rd June 2016

**Time:** 07:00 to 18:00

**Where:** The Before and After School Care Room at St Benedict's School

**Fees:** $53.88*

**Out of Pocket guide (with rebates)**: $8.29 to $26.94

**Bookings:** Must be made by Friday 27th May 2016. At least 18 children are needed in order for the day to run, so tell your friends!

There's lots to do and lots of fun to be had with your friends and the Camp Australia Team at the upcoming St Benedict's School Pupil Free Day.


We look forward to seeing you soon!

St Benedict's School Camp Australia Team.

*Notes on fees:
1. The Child Care Benefit (CCB) is income tested and scaled, resulting in payments of between 0% and 55% of the fees.
2. The Child Care Rebate (CCR) is not income tested and is available to almost all Australian families. It provides a rebate of 50% of fees after the CCB has been calculated and applied. Out of pocket expenses to be used as a guide only and are subject to change. Individual circumstances will vary.
Pupil Free Day!
Monday 5th September 2016

Come and join the fun with us at our upcoming Pupil Free Day

When: Monday 5th September 2016
Time: 07:00 to 18:00
Where: The Before and After School Care Room at St Benedict’s School
Fees: $53.88*

Out of Pocket guide (with rebates)*: $8.29 to $26.94

Bookings: Must be made by Monday 29th August 2016. At least 18 children are needed in order for the day to run, so tell your friends!

There’s lots to do and lots of fun to be had with your friends and the Camp Australia Team at the upcoming St Benedict’s School Pupil Free Day.

To book visit www.campaaustralia.com.au or call our friendly Customer Service Team on 1300 105 343.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

St Benedict’s School Camp Australia Team.

*Notes on Fees:
1. The Child Care Benefit (CCB) is income tested and scaled, resulting in payments of between 0% and 85% of the fees.
2. The Child Care Rebate (CCR) is not income tested and is available to almost all Australian families. It provides a rebate of 50% of fees after the CCB has been calculated and applied. Out of pocket expenses to be used as a guide only and are subject to change. Individual circumstances will vary.